

10. Minnie Nathalia (1891-1976)

Married John Blucher (- 1954)

Six children ... Frieda, Hazel, Fred, Joyce, John and Harold.



Frieda - dead 1907

Land Millers Thompsons Rd Newborough, 272879

Fred - Morwell or Moc 344132

Joyce ^{Tyrell (Tyrell?)} ~~Bayles~~ Station Rd Garfield

John

Friday 11th NOV

9.30

John & Sophie Blucher

Frieda, d. 21/9/1913 age 28

John Herman Blucher
d. 15.1.1928 age 70

Pet Draper
65 Hillcrest Rd
Frankleston
Stn. Bouvée & Mornington
Journal

her son Bill
has some info
on Wanke
family tree.

11. Edward Albert "Teddy" (1892 - 14.5.1958)
Died in Canada - I think he went to
the Yukon goldfields. Wrong. He was near Vancouver.



12. Theodore Herbert "Bertie" (1893 - 13.8.1978)

Married Ada Auvisch (b. 23.1.1899)

Two children ... Jean and Reg (in W.A.)

They later divorced, with Ada
re-marrying — O'Brien.

side.

on the

early



Bertie later moved to Powelltown, but was often back at Auntie Adelaide's in fruit picking season. I can remember him coming around to play 500.

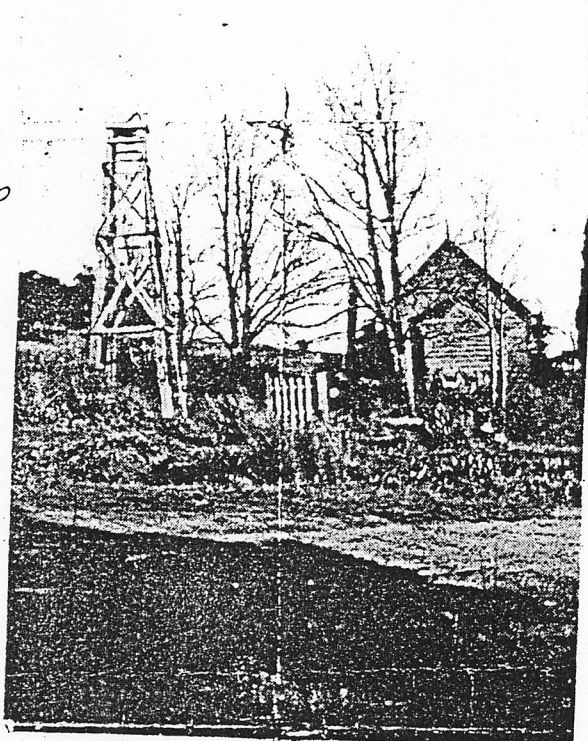
He fancied himself as a bit of a poet and some of his writings were published.

This is what the Poem looked like in the early

Memoirs of Harkaway

This Poem was written By Wallace Casin Bert Wauke so he sent me one he is very clever at writing Poems all his Poem refers to his Parents and to Grand Parents he himself is 45 years old so you can have a fair idea how many years back when the country here well be will you give this to Jennie when you are finished as I would like her to have it I forgot to put it in her letter to Mr Wauke

Settling day when they first came out here from Germany the cemetery looks a lot different now to those days



It's a hundred and twenty odd years
Since the settlers first came here to toil
At Harkaway, and make a living
By clearing and tilling the soil.

Privations those brave settlers suffered,
Though hardworking, honest and poor,
Built their homes out of daub and young wattle,
Shingle roofs, and hard earth for the floor.

On Sabbath days they would all gather,
And to God they would always give praise
In a church that they built with their labour
And money that others did raise.

Then as the community flourished,
Some prospered and others did well,
With offerings and their meagre savings,
They bought and erected a bell.

The bell tolled for worship each Sunday,
Which to them was their one day of rest,
For miles they did come to the service
Dressed up in their neat Sunday best.

The cemetery is close to the churchyard;
As was the custom when someone did die,
The bell would be solemnly tolling
As the hearse and the mourners passed by.

Father Time in his stride has marched onwards,
Those grand old folks now have all gone.
But some daughters, sons, and grandchildren
With these memories do still linger on.

The church where they all went to worship,
No signs of it now can be found,
But the churchyard and all its surroundings,
To us folks, it is still hallowed ground.

Standing high on its poles in its glory,
Still proud and defiant, the bell
Is a relic, and still in its grandeur,
If it could talk, Oh, what tales it could tell.

Like the cemetery's guardian Angel,
The bell, its lone vigil does keep,
Like a sentinel guarding and watching
O'er the graves where the pioneers sleep.

T. H. (Bert) Wauke, Powelltown

No 1697

S. S. Harkaway
July 10th /02.



To
The Secretary
Education Dept.

Sir

I have the honor to forward the following explanation as the reasons for punishing Norman Peterson Age 11 yrs.

On the morning of June 30th the class was standing round the fire reading to me. I was called away to attend to the 6th Class. He deliberately threw a cracker in the fire, and incited another boy to do the same. Such a flagrant breach of discipline had never occurred in my schools before. (a period of over 20 yrs)

The sparks and ashes were scattered about.

2. Some little girls were standing about 2 feet back, from the fire. There was the risk of sparks lighting on their pinafores, and setting them on fire. (See case in today's Age)
3. There was also the risk of sparks entering the eyes of children round

the fire and so causing blindness.

Word was sent to me that they hoped I would be strict with the boy. He only came 3 months ago. I believe that some time ago the parents had to send him away to some home as they were unable to manage him. He was last at the Foots-cray school.

Though not a believer in much corporal punishment, I certainly believe that when inflicted it should act as a deterrent. In such a case of larcinism I administered 6 strokes on the buttock. I also gave the other boy Bertie Wank the same.

The instrument used was as per regulations "a strap." The father said he thought we were compelled to use a cane. I gave 3 strokes at 11 o'clock and 3 at 12 o'clock. Total 6.

The strap used was part of a light buggy harness, as the contractors were employed round the school, & my usual strap was mislaid.

Measurements of strap

$1\frac{1}{8}$ inches wide: $\frac{3}{16}$ of an inch thick and grasped about $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the end.

The father is away all the week and only gets home occasionally. He came and saw me & when I pointed out the facts, he said I did right to punish him but he thought I was too severe. I still say that in my opinion the boy deserved all he got. The other boys

deserved all he got. The other boys

3

father says "His boy deserved it." I was
lucky not to get more.

The entries are in the punishment
book

Since Feb. 1899. there are only 4
entries in Corporal Punishment Book.

In March of this year I was
reported for lack of discipline by
Mrs Smith. The said lack being, that
I told a boy to stay in, & he went out,
and I took no notice.

How much more serious is the offence
for which I punished these lads.

If such an offence were allowed
to go unchecked then I had better
close the school. I would respectfully
point out that trouble only arises
when a boy of that character
gets into a small school.

I would also mention my long
service, & likewise the reports of
Mifs Swindley, Gamble, Curlewis &c
on my discipline

I have the honor to be, Sir

Your obedient servant

J. C. Harley

13. Emily Victoria (1894 - 23.10.1945)

Married William Robert Reynolds 5 Mar. 1917
Three children ... Robert (Deniliquin, NSW),
Thelma (died in car accident), Norma (Finley, NSW)

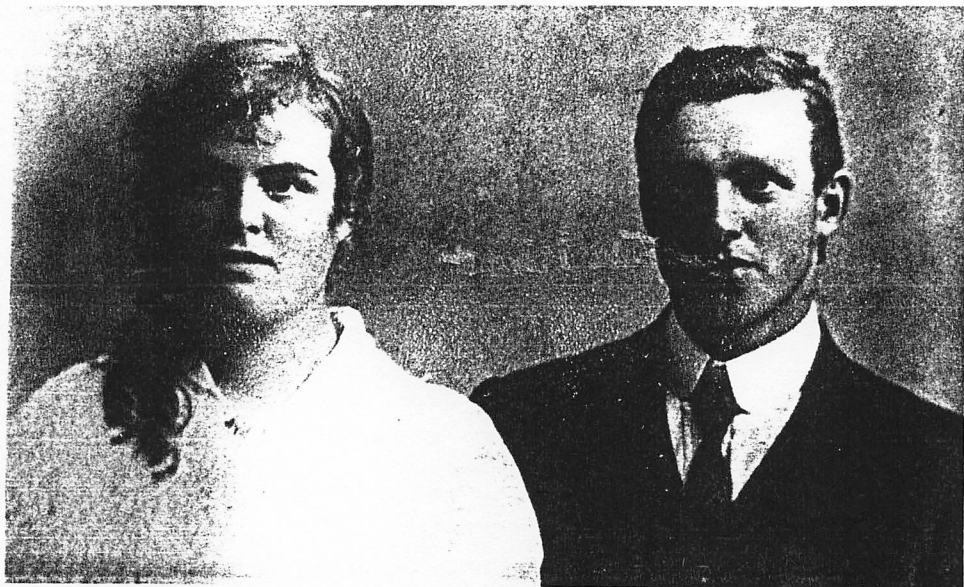


14. Harold Leslie (20.4.1897 - 19.1.1987)

Married Ruth Cornish (18.6.1912 - 1.10.1983)

Moved to Murray Bridge, S.A.

Four children... Kenneth, ^{died 1961, age 23} Stan, and
twins Don and Shirley.



15. Adelaide Freida (b. 24.12.1900)

Married William Blobel (23.10.1894 - 12.1.1965)
(see also Blobel history)

Four children ... Raymond William (died, aged
10 days), Gordon, Norman Arthur (died,
aged $2\frac{3}{4}$ yrs) and Evelyn.



In 1925 a shooting occurred at Hillcroft.

This did not involve the Wanke family directly, except that it happened on Immanuel's farm. It was more of a domestic argument between two of the farm hands.

Fred Wilson, 16½ yrs, had been given work on Hillcroft. He had quarrelled with Albert McCormack, 28, but the matter had been thought to have been resolved. However, Wilson had broken into McCormack's room, opened a locked box and took the bolt to McCormack's .22 rifle.

He had waited in the loft for McCormack, and shot him from close range. He then saddled 'Old Rooney' and rode from the farm, but turned himself in at Ferntree Gully later on.

Auntie Adelaide was in the house when all of this happened. The rest of the family were at market or out ploughing. McCormack had rushed past the house yelling something unintelligible and had collapsed some distance away. His chest wound was clearly visible.

The murder occurred on 1 Dec. 1925, and McCormack died a few hours later in Berwick Hospital. It transpired that Wilson's real name was Frederick Mervyn Newman. (1926, case #27)

He was tried at Melbourne Supreme Court on 15th Feb. 1926. The verdict, given on 23 Feb. 1926 was not guilty of murder but guilty of manslaughter.

Auntie Adelaide's recall of the incident is:-

About this shooting at 'Hillcroft' I think it was the year I got married - 1926, but may have been 1925, I can't quite remember. I know I was very frightened being the only person at home at the time. All the rest were away at Dandenong market and my brother Artie was down the paddock - harrowing I think - I was busy ironing when the kid came in with the rifle. He was only 15 and his name was Fred Wilson which was a lie, we found out later. (I don't know what his real surname was.) I said to him, "Fred you've got Albert's rifle. How did you get it?" (because I knew Albert always locked it up.) Fred just asked me if I knew where Albert was. I said I didn't, & he walked out, & not long after Albert came rushing past yelling out something I couldn't understand frightening the life out of me. (Later we knew he was running to the Dr in Berwick, telling me Fred had shot him.) He didn't get far & collapsed. You could see the bullet hole thru his open shirt. We took him to the hosp. where he died a few hours later. I don't know what his surname was.

— VPRS Index 3524/34 shows

27 Newman Frank Mervyn 22

— Witnesses for the crown were

Arthur Robinson

Percy Vance Langmore, MD

Crawford Henry Mollison, MD

Adelaide Wanke

Arthur Robert Wanke

James Humphries

John Frederick Blucher

Arthur Francis Andrew De La Rue, constable

Frederick Thomas Williamson, constable

— Newman was defended by Mr. Maxwell.

— Trial was presided over by Judge Schott.

— He was sentenced to five years imprisonment with hard labour.

— Newspaper clippings are attached.

— The following details were provided by Sur. Sgt. Starr, Berwick Police Stn., on 29.12.1987.

"Frederick Mervyn Newman was, on 1.12.1925, charged at Narre Warren that he (a) did, with malice aforethought, kill and murder Albert McCormack (b) did feloniously shoot with intent to murder.

Newman, who called himself Fred Wilson, was a 16 yr. 7 mth. old Ward of State. He was remanded to appear in Melbourne on 10.12.1925. He was committed for trial at the Supreme Court, Melbourne on 15.2.1926 by the Coroner B. Berriman. He was sentenced to 5 yrs. imprisonment on 26.2.1926."

"Argus," Wed. Dec. 2, 1925

FARM HAND SHOT DEAD.

TRAGEDY AT BERWICK.

BOY SURRENDERS.

Statement to Police.

Two hours after he had been admitted to the Berwick Hospital last evening, Albert McCormick, a farm employee, died from a wound over his heart inflicted with a pea-rifle. Preliminary police inquiries have led to the belief that McCormick's death followed a quarrel with a boy employed on the same farm.

The dead man had been working for about nine months on the dairy farm of Messrs. Immanuel Wanke and Sons, in Hessel's road, Berwick, about two miles from the township, towards Narre Warren. He was aged 23 years, and it is understood that his parents lived at Bushy Creek, Dandenong. About six months ago Mr. Wanke engaged a boy, aged 16½ years, to do light work on the farm, which is probably the best known of the dairy farms in the district. In addition to Mr. Wanke's several sons, two or three other farm hands were employed.

About 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon one of Mr. Wanke's sons, following a trail of blood from buildings near the house to a paddock several hundred yards away, found McCormick lying on the ground. McCormick appeared to be in great pain, and at the time was unable to speak. Mr. Wanke and his father had McCormick carried to the house, and afterwards was taken in a motor-car to the Berwick Hospital. When he had been examined by a doctor it was seen that there was little hope of his living. Arrangements were made by Constable De La Rue for the attendance at the hospital of Mr. G. L. Wilson, J.P., in case McCormick rallied sufficiently to make a statement of the manner in which he was wounded.

According to the police, McCormick said in a statement at the hospital that about six months ago he had quarrelled with a boy on the farm. The quarrel, he said, had not been continued since that time, and he had been on the most friendly terms with the boy. He had owned a pea rifle which the boy sold to him some months ago, but the bolt had been removed. It had been placed in a box at his quarters. About 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon he had found that the box had been broken open with a back-saw and the bolt removed. He had not spoken of the theft. Some time later he had been in the loft above the stables, obtaining fodder for the horses. He heard a rustling sound behind him, and turning, saw a youth pointing a pea rifle at him. No words were spoken, but the pea rifle was discharged, the bullet striking him in the chest. Although in great pain, he ran from the loft, through the stables, to the paddock in which he was found.

Constable De La Rue and Mr. Wanke's family searched the bunkings and paddocks on the farm, but were unable to find any trace of the boy. It was found, however, that a horse and a saddle and bridle were missing from the stables. In a loft about 20 yards from the house the police found a .22 calibre pea rifle. So far as had been ascertained last night no members of the household had heard a shot fired during the afternoon. Telephone messages were sent by Constable De La Rue to surrounding police stations, and later a message was received that a boy had been detained at Lower Ferntree Gully, 14 miles from Berwick. About 6 o'clock, the police saw a boy called at the Ferntree Gully police station and made a statement. The boy was taken by Senior constable Williamson and Constable Murphy to Berwick, and given into the charge of Constable De La Rue.

McCormick died in the Berwick Hospital at 9 o'clock last night. Frederick Newman, aged 16½ years, was detained at the Berwick police station. The police state that a serious charge will be laid against him this morning.

"Argus," Thurs. Dec. 3, 1925

BOY ACCUSED OF MURDER.

BERWICK FARM SHOOTING.

Newman Remanded to Melbourne.

BERWICK, Wednesday. — Charged with the murder of Albert McCormick, 23 years of age, a labourer, Frederick Mervyn Newman, or Wilson, aged 16½ years, a farm worker, appeared before the Police Court to-day and was remanded to the City Court on December 10. He was taken to the city on the noon train.

It is stated that Newman had been an inmate of the Royal Park Reformatory, from which he escaped six months ago, later obtaining a position at the farm of Mr. Emmanuel Wanke, about three miles from Narre Warren, under the name of Wilson. McCormick was found by Mr. Wanke on Tuesday afternoon with a bullet wound in his chest. He was taken to a private hospital in Berwick, where he died some hours later. Subsequently a pea-rifle was found in a loft near the house. Newman is said to have bought the rifle in Melbourne in Show week, and subsequently to have sold it to McCormick.

McCormick, in his dying denunciations said that a man in the loft fired at him when he went in to feed the horses. He staggered from the building and collapsed about 200 yards away. He did not know who the man was who fired the shot. He had had a quarrel with Newman some months ago, but thought it had been forgotten.

AGE, Wed. FEB. 24, 1926

MURDER TRIAL.

FARM LAD CHARGED.

The Berwick Shooting Case.

Another Manslaughter Verdict.

The fourth murder trial on the present Criminal Court list was disposed of yesterday, before Mr. Justice Schutt, when a farm lad, Frederick Mervyn Newman, 16 years, was charged with having murdered Albert McCormick, aged 23 years, a farm laborer, at Berwick on 1st December.

Accused, who pleaded not guilty, was defended by Mr. Maxwell, instructed by Messrs. Ridgeway and Schilling.

The Crown Prosecutor, Mr. Macindoe, in outlining the case, said the murder took place at the farm of Messrs. Emmanuel Wanke and Sons, at Narre Warren, on 1st December. Accused, who was a ward of the State, was employed at the farm, where McCormick also worked. McCormick owned a pea rifle, which accused got possession of on the day in question. During the afternoon McCormick was on his way to the chaff house at the farm, and he observed accused in the loft. Accused pointed the rifle at him and fired. Later McCormick was found lying in a paddock about 200 yards away from the chaff house. He was groaning, and had a bullet wound in his chest. He was removed to a private hospital at Berwick, where he died. After the shooting accused left the farm on a pony and rode to Fern Tree Gully police station, where he saw Constable Williams. He told him he had shot McCormick, and that after the shooting he had "cleared out." The constable asked him if the shooting was accidental, and he said "No; I meant to kill him." Accused was taken to the hospital at Berwick, where he was confronted with McCormick. Constable Williams asked accused if there was any reason why he should have shot McCormick, and accused replied no. He added that about six months previously McCormick had chastised him. They were cutting maize at the time, and he (accused) stood on the stack and would not get off. McCormick pushed him off, and because he said something to McCormick the latter had punished him. Accused later made a statement to the police, in which he stated that he had cut the padlock off McCormick's box in his room, and had taken out the rifle. He then waited in the loft for McCormick and fired at him. After the shot was fired McCormick put his hand to his chest and ran away.

Accused, giving evidence, said the reason he had shot McCormick was that the latter had asked him to act in an indecent manner on a couple of prior occasions, and he had resented his request. On the day of the shooting McCormick had made a similar suggestion. When he saw McCormick coming towards the stables he thought he was going to repeat his previous requests, and he fired the rifle, which he had taken that morning to shoot rabbits. He did not say anything about the improper suggestions made to him because he was ashamed to do so. He did not mention the matter to McCormick when confronted with him at the hospital, because he saw he was dying.

In reply to Mr. Macindoe, witness said he had never complained to anyone about the alleged improper suggestions.

Mr. Macindoe: Were you in a state of terror when you saw McCormick coming towards the stables?—No.

Mr. Justice Schutt: Are you a practical shot?—Yes.

Mr. Macindoe: You can hit rabbits on the run?—Yes.

You met some "pretty gentlemen" while you were in gaol awaiting trial?—Oh, no. I put it to you that this story of improper suggestions on McCormick's part was suggested to you as your only possible chance of a successful defence?—No.

The jury retired at 3.35, and at 5.10 returned to court with a verdict of not guilty of murder, but guilty of manslaughter.

Accused was remanded for sentence.

Immanuel died on 24.6.1934, following an infection from a cold.

Obituary

MR. IMMANUEL G. WANKE.

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Mr. Immanuel G. Wanke, which took place suddenly at his residence, Hillcroft, Narre Warren, on Sunday night last, 24th inst., at the ripe age of 78 years. On Friday the late gentleman contracted a cold, and despite the medical attention of Dr. Langmore, of Berwick, and careful nursing, his condition gradually became worse, and he passed peacefully away on Sunday night. The passing from our midst of Mr. Wanke removes one of the oldest and most respected pioneers of the district. He was the only child of the late Dr. E. G. and Mrs. Wanke, and was born on the Hillcroft Estate on May 24, 1856. He had lived on the property all his life. He married Miss Bertha Aurisch, who was born on the same property on May 22, 1857. Four years ago the old couple celebrated their golden wedding amidst the happy rejoicings of their family circle. The hospitality of the couple to their many friends will always be a pleasant memory.

In the early fifties, Dr. Wanke and his late father secured a large property, extending from the now Narre Warren main road east to the old Harkaway-Berwick road, and the eastern portion of the property now constitutes the chief part of Harkaway, which is closely settled. Deceased, when a young man, acquired Hillcroft which, with his industry, aided by his wife and family, has been converted into one of the leading farms in the district. When cheese was the staple industry in the district, he prided himself as a maker and commanded export trade.

For many years he was a member of both the committee of the Mornington Farmers and Dandenong Agricultural societies, and was always prominent among the prizetakers. His advice and help was often sought by those in trouble, and he had financially assisted many. In his young days his jovial manner made him many friends, especially on the cricket field. He was one of the first members of the old Berwick Band, was a talented organist, and often assisted in conducting the services in the Methodist church of which the only portion that remains is the bell. He was a trustee of the Harkaway cemetery, and acted as hon. secretary and treasurer, a position from which he will be greatly missed. A widow and grown-up family of six sons and three daughters are left to mourn their loss. A son made the supreme sacrifice in the Great War, and another was wounded.

The funeral took place to the Harkaway cemetery on Wednesday afternoon, and was largely attended. The service was conducted by the Rev. John Sinfendorfer, of Doncaster, and the funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. John Grant, of Berwick.

Grand Old Lady Celebrates 90th Birthday

Happy Gathering At Narre Warren

"HILLCROFT," Narre Warren, was the scene of a very happy gathering on Thursday, 22nd inst., the occasion being the celebration of the 90th birthday of Mrs. Wanke, Sr., and many relatives of this grand old lady attended to extend greetings to her.

With the exception of Harry, who is living in Sth. Australia, and Teddy, who is gold mining in Canada, all members of this well-known family were present, some coming long distances.

The spacious diningroom was tastefully decorated with chrysanthemums, the gift of two of the guests, and set with three tables. As Mrs. Wanke reached the head of the table all joined in singing "Happy Birthday."

This is not by any means the first birthday Mrs. Wanke has celebrated at "Hillcrest," as she was born there and has lived all her life on the same property, which is something to be proud of.

During the afternoon tea Mr. Paul Aurisch proposed the toast of his sister, whom he wished many more birthdays, and he also wished his brother, Mr. William Aurisch, many happy returns of the 11th, he being only a "youth" of 86!

After Mrs. Wanke had cut the lovely birthday cake, which was made and decorated by her three grandchildren, Gwen, Shirley and Beryl, several telegrams, cards, and messages of congratulation were read.

Although Mrs. Wanke didn't respond in the usual manner, all present could tell by her happy and contented look that she was enjoying every minute of the party, and no doubt wishing that she could have a 90th birthday every day.

There have been many joyous gatherings at "Hillcroft" over the years, but none more enjoyable than the one last Thursday.

Bell Tolloed at Harkaway Funeral

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE MRS. WANKE.

Friends and relatives from near and far attended the funeral of the late Mrs. Bertha Nathalie Wanke, which took place in the Harkaway Cemetery on Monday of last week.

As a tribute to this grand old lady the old bell at the Harkaway Cemetery was tolled until the cortege arrived at the gates.

The late Mrs. Wanke was born on the property where she died, and was aged 93 years and four months at the time of her death. She was a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Aurisch.

At the age of 22 years she was married at Harkaway to Mr. Immanuel Wanke, and she was the mother of nine sons and six daughters. Six sons, Herman, Oscar, Arthur, Teddie, Bert and Harold, and two daughters, Minnie (Mrs. Blucher) and Adelaide (Mrs. Blobel) survive, and the district mourns with them in the loss of a grand mother and citizen of such long standing.

A service was held at her late home, "Hillcroft," Narre Warren, by Rev. J. J. W. Scott, on Monday afternoon, and at the conclusion the lengthy cortege proceeded to the Harkaway cemetery, where a large gathering assembled to pay a last tribute to this grand old lady.

The casket was borne by grandsons, Bob Wanke, Bob Reynolds, Gordon Blobel and Fred Blucher, and pallbearers were Crs. A. G. Robinson, C. F. Greaves, G. F. Rae and Dr. Percy Langmore, Messrs. N. Beaumont, G. Wilson and A. Kleye.

Many beautiful floral tributes were received.

The mortuary arrangements were carried out by W. J. Garnar & Son.

"DANDENONG ADVERTISER" Wed. Evening, May 28, 1947

Mrs. B. N. Wanke

Mrs. Bertha Nathalie Wanke died at her home at Narre Warren on Saturday, at the age of 93.

Mrs. Wanke, who was born, lived and died in the same house, was the daughter of Mr. William Aurisch, who was one of the first settlers in the Narre Warren and Harkaway districts.

She had 15 children, of whom five sons and two daughters are still living.

Mr. G. L. Cameron has been elected president of the Hospital Officers' Association of Victoria. He replaces Colonel R. L. Elliot, who did not seek re-election.

CHINA
WANKE—On September 16, at her home, "Hillcroft," Narre Warren, Bertha Nathalie, the dearly loved wife of the late Immanuel Wanke and loving mother of Pauline (Mrs. Wieland, deceased), Emma (deceased), Magdalena (deceased), Herman, Ernst (deceased), Alfred (deceased), Oscar, Arthur, Friedrich (deceased, late 1st A.I.F.), Minnie (Mrs. Blucher), Teddie, of Canada, Bert, Emilie (Mrs. Reynolds, deceased), Harold, and Adelaide (Mrs. Blobel), aged 93 years four months. For ever with the Lord.

(Continued on Page 7).

We do not know who put this in the Age clearly paper

