



Williamstown High School

WILLIAMSTOWN, W.16

SPEECH NIGHT AND AFTERNOON

Williamstown Town Hall

MONDAY, 10th December, 1956, at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 12th December, 1956, at 2 p.m.

Chairman: J. C. COE, Esq.

Head Master: L. J. BOWE, B.A., Dip.Ed.

Conductor	Miss S. TIERNEY, Dip.Mus., L.A.B.
Orchestra	Miss B. BOARDMAN, M.A., B.Ed., L.Mus.
Dramatics and	Miss H. V. ORR, B.A., Dip.Ed.
Physical Education }	Miss V. HOPTON, F.P.C.V.
School Pianiste	Miss Patricia Ferne.

Programme

DECEMBER 12th, 1956

The National Anthem

1. The Chairman of the Advisory Council (Mr. J. C. Coe).
2. Massed Singing "The Road to the Isles" (Arr. Kennedy-Fraser)
3. Head Master's Report.
4. Address by Brigadier George F. Langley, D.S.O., E.D., B.A., Dip.Ed.
5. Presentation of Awards.
6. Vote of thanks by Mr. J. C. Coe, Chairman of Advisory Council.
- Interval (Five Minutes) —
7. School Choir.
 - (a) Silver (Armstrong Gibbs)
 - (b) Humming Chorus (Madam Butterfly—Puccini).
 - (c) I have a bonnet trimmed with Blue (Irish Song)
8. School Orchestra.
 - (a) Waltz (Coppelia—Delibes).
 - (b) Spring (Otho—Handel).
9. School Madrigal Group.
 - (a) Now is the Month of Maying (Thomas Morley, 1595).
 - (b) April is in my Mistress' Face (Thomas Morley, 1595).
 - (c) My Bonny Lass, She Smileth (Thomas Morley, 1595).
10. Physical Training Display Form III Girls
 - (a) Balance on Forms.
 - (b) Hungarian Dance.
 - (c) Figure Marching.
11. Massed Singing.
 - (a) Youth (Allitsen).
 - (b) Best School of All (Adamson).

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3. Head Master's Report.
4. Address by Cr. E. W. Jackson, S.M., J.P., Mayor of the City of Williamstown.
5. Presentation of Awards.
6. Vote of thanks by Mr. J. C. Coe, Chairman of Advisory Council.
- Interval (Five Minutes) —
7. Physical Training Form II Girls
 - (a) Health Exercises.
 - (b) Tarantella.
8. "In the Tram" Junior Dramatic Club
9. Songs Form II A

Grandma Grunts (North Carolina Mountain Song)
Warata Pai (Hill).
10. Physical Training Form I Girls
 - (a) Polka.
 - (b) Free-Arm Exercises.
 - (c) Ribbon Drill.
11. "The New Hat" Junior Dramatic Club
12. Massed Singing
 - (a) Youth (Allitsen).
 - (b) A Merry Christmas.
 - (c) The Best School of All (Adamson).

Head Master's Report

It is my privilege to present the 41st Annual Report of the Williamstown High School.

I would like to make an appeal to those who receive this report to give some time to the reading of it. It is perhaps not quite as interesting as it could be, but I am sure that a careful reading of it will produce some benefit to the reader. By this I mean that the School cannot proceed along the best lines unless it has the support of those who should be interested because their children are at the School.

ENROLMENT.

The enrolment for 1956 was 822, comprising 479 girls and 343 boys. This is a small decrease on the figures for 1955, due no doubt in some measure, to the influence of the new schools opened in the area. In passing through the period before these schools were opened, the classification of pupils in this school was necessarily thrown somewhat out of balance, but this will work itself out gradually. The classification figures for 1955-56-57 (estimated) given below, show this:—

	1955	1956	1957
Form V	51	79	83
Form IV	155	192	125
Form III	269	165	162
Form II	203	187	194
Form I	196	199	190
TOTALS	874	822	754

Two major objectives at present are the liberalizing of the Courses especially in the lower forms, and the establishment of a Matriculation Class. A start will be made with the former in 1957, but unfortunately room could not be found to start matriculation classes. This will be one of the aims for 1958, but it must be borne in mind that pupils commencing secondary education have first claim on the class-room space, while other arrangements for those completing are available, even if these arrangements are not ideal in some ways.

Towards the end of the year the School has been fortunate in obtaining the use of

the Navy Drill hall in Pascoe Street for School Assemblies. It is hoped that by next year more use of this fine hall will be granted to us, and that some seating accommodation will be available. The Williamstown City Council has sponsored this project for us, and we are all very grateful to them for their interest.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

This year a new Advisory Council was elected and appointed. Most of the former councillors were returned to office, and Mr. J. C. Coe was re-elected Chairman. Mr. McCoubrie and Mrs. Lambie retired after giving several years' sterling service to the School, and their places were taken by Mrs. Taylor and Mr. A. Claringbould.

This year the Council has been rewarded for its efforts over several years in seeing the School completely redecorated (interior and exterior), as well as other repairs, particularly to the plumbing, and as well as this, a small block of land at the rear of the school has been cleared, graded and gravelled, and adds to the playing area for boys.

EXAMINATIONS 1955

A summary of the principal academic achievements of the School in 1955 is given below:

Proficiency Certificates	221
Intermediate Certificates	123
Leaving Certificates	39
Mothercraft Certificates	39
Temperance Physiology Certif. .	108
Advanced Shorthand Theory	33
Advanced Typewriting	29

Goethe Prize:

2nd prize: Dietard Kottek.

Alliance Francais: L. C. Standard:

Hon. Mention: Marilyn Johnson.

I. C. Standard: Hon. Mention: Noja Leopold.

Swimming:

Junior	57
Senior	13
Bronze Medallion	13
Bars to Bronze Medallion	2

Scholarships:

Junior Government	18
Free Place	23
Teaching Bursaries	15
Nursing Bursaries	6
Williamstown City Council	14
Footscray City Council	5
Ex-students	3
C.I.S.	2
District Schools Scholarships..	54

FAREWELL TO MR. C. BROOK, M.A., Dip.Ed.

In April the School said farewell to its Head Master, Mr. Brook, who reached retiring age after spending the last ten years at Williamstown.

Farewell functions and presentations were tendered to Mr. Brook by the Advisory Council, the Parents' Association, the Ex-students' Association, the Staff and the Pupils.

The pupils' farewells took the form of a School Assembly completely organized and conducted by the prefects of the School, and a cadet march past. Both of these functions expressed very forcibly the affection and appreciation the pupils felt for their Head Master, and must have been gratifying to him as a passing out token.

STAFF.

At the end of last year, Messrs. Farmer, Wilson, Moore, McDonald, Sime and Walsh were transferred elsewhere.

During the Christmas holidays we were saddened by the news of the death of Miss M. Killeen, who with her sister was killed in a motor accident. Miss Killeen joined the staff in 1952, and was senior teacher of French at the School.

New teachers who joined the staff this year are Messrs. Forecast, Simmons, Meehan, Blazsanyik, Sidaway, Bastiaansen, O'Keefe and Miss Thomas. During Miss Boardman's absence on leave in the second term, Miss Orr acted as Senior Mistress. When Mrs. Wadds resigned in June from the position of Secretary, Mrs. Matthews was appointed. Mr. and Mrs. Grieve continue their service to the School, and have now commenced service under their fourth Head Master. Theirs is more than a job of work as they take a personal interest in all aspects of school life.

SOCIAL SERVICE LEAGUE

Under the leadership of Miss Orr, Forms have worked well to assist their chosen services, and cheques totalling over £168 have been forwarded to the following:—

Save the Children Fund,
Blind Babies,
Tally Ho Boys' Farm,
Melbourne Orphanage,
Berry Street Foundling Hospital,
Williamstown Hospital,
Williamstown Kindergarten,
Deaf and Dumb Children,
Spastic Children,
Footscray Kindergarten,
Methodist Babies' Home,
Brotherhood of St. Laurence.

As well as this a special appeal raised an extra £43/13/2 for the Spastic Children, and 1488 eggs were collected for the Williamstown Hospital.

The Leaving Certificate Form has continued to assist their "Adopted Child".

A cheque for £20 was sent to Red Cross for Hungarian Relief.

The Hospital Helpers Club made and collected articles for a stall which they staffed for the Williamstown Hospital, and raised £20.

All this reaches a total which is nearing £300, which is about 7/- per head of school population. The money raised does not count as much in my estimation as the spirit of service awakened in the youth of our community.

CADET UNIT

The Unit strength was maintained at well over 100 cadets. Owing to pressure of other duties, Lieut. Senior resigned as second-in-command, his place being taken by Lieut. Meehan. One hundred, all ranks, attended the annual camp at Mildura in May. An innovation this year was the week-end bivouac held at Point Lonsdale in October. Exercises, both in competition and co-operation with Hampton High School Cadet Unit, showed that junior leaders have reached a high standard.

An Intelligence Section was raised this year and a two-inch mortar issued to the unit. These have added further variety to the training programme.

A parade was held in April to farewell the retiring Head Master, Col. C. E. Brook. At this ceremony, which was attended by

Lt. Col. Hutchison, C.O., 3 Cadet Brigade, the new unit flag was flown for the first time.

Close co-operation exists between the unit and its parent H.Q., 23 Cadet Battalion. The O.C. of the Battalion, Capt. R. Greene and his A.R.A. Staff have been very helpful throughout the year.

ORCHESTRA.

Once again, new recruits have been trained at the School, a new group this year being the clarinet class. The orchestra would welcome recruits to its ranks. Senior members have been largely responsible for its success this year, especially the leader, John Heywood.

CHOIRS.

The School Choir continues to flourish and Form 2B provided a special choir to represent the School at the Secondary Schools Junior Festival. An innovation this year is the formation of a Madrigal Group, and there has been a very pleasing response to this specialised form of singing.

BRASS GROUP

Miss Tierney hopes to establish a group of players of brass instruments next year with a view to having a brass band for the boys at the School. Already a small group of players has shown a warm interest in the idea.

INTER-HOUSE CHORAL CONTEST

In an attempt to carry the spirit of friendly rivalry among the Houses of the School into cultural as well as sporting fields, this contest was inaugurated this year. It took the form of the massed singing by each house of two songs (one set and one free choice). Each house supplied its own accompanist and conductor, and the contest was staged in the Williamstown City Hall. Mr. P. Larsen, Mus. Bac., Music Master at Melbourne High School, adjudicated the contest which was won very narrowly by Koalas. The success of the contest was due to the enthusiasm of the House captains so ably assisted and advised by Miss Tierney, the School's music mistress. Thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Haskell who provided the cup for annual competition.

GIRLS' ACTIVITIES

It is pleasing to find so many girls taking part in those School activities which give opportunity for service. The Junior Red Cross and the Hospital Helpers' Club have given a lead to the whole school, and our Girl Guide Company continues to exert

a fine influence. The Dramatic Clubs, Floral Art Class, Choir and Hobbies Group provide opportunities for self-expression and leadership. The camping excursion to the Bright district was a valuable and happy experience for those taking part. A number of individual girls have carried out large and small responsibilities cheerfully and faithfully. This is traditionally characteristic of the girls of W.H.S.

Our thanks must go to the following ladies who have been leaders and helpers: Mrs. Trist (Guides), Mrs. Cordell and Mrs. Stewart (Senior Dramatic Club), Mrs. Ellice (Floral Art), Mrs. Caithness and Mrs. Lockman (Hospital Helpers).

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

To the men and women who attend regularly on Tuesday for R.I., the School is deeply indebted. Also to Mrs. Angus and Mrs. Magrath for their devoted service to the Inter-school Christian Fellowship for girls and boys.

EX-STUDENTS

These young people are an active group under the guidance of an enthusiastic committee. One very successful venture this year was the Ex-students Ball held at the Williamstown Town Hall, which proved to be a very enjoyable social occasion. It is hoped that this ball will become an annual event and will be the social meeting place of all ex-students. I commend this association to all students leaving the school. School days play a very important part in a student's life and continuing the ties and associations made in those years can be beneficial both to the individual and the School.

MAGAZINE.

Under the guidance of Editor John Hunt and a keen committee, our magazine "High Tide" has gone to press. Mr. Hughes again acted as Staff Advisor. Thanks are due to Diane Williams as typiste to the magazine.

JUNIOR RED CROSS

The branch with a small membership of 15 contributed flowers and magazines to the local hospital, three very large cartons of milk bottle tops to the Red Cross, and a cheque of £4/9/7 proceeds from two mannequin parades, together with a donation of £3/12/4 from Miss Orr's Dramatic Club, making up a total of £8/1/11. A special drive to assist Korean children resulted in a contribution of 133 useful garments and 54 attractive soft toys.

The social highlight of the Club's year

was a visit from Miss Taylor, the Director of the Victorian Division. She addressed a large group of students on the origin and work of Red Cross.

ART

To create an active interest in Art, a French Art Exhibition was arranged early in May. Many Melbourne business firms kindly provided an abundance of material for this show.

Two puppet shows staged in the Mechanics Institute, prior to the Term I vacation, realized £32. These not only increased the School's Art fund, but also provided enjoyable entertainment, and gave proof that the children and parents associated with this school are backing its efforts.

The Parents' Association generously contributed £50, which was spent on collapsible display frames suitable for exhibitions such as the one held just a week ago. Two parents, Messrs. Brooks and Conway, gave invaluable assistance as far as the lighting for this exhibition was concerned. Greenery was provided by the Williamstown City Council, and the response of the children in providing the paintings displayed was very encouraging.

SPORT

This year the combined Athletics Carnival of the Metropolitan High Schools' Association (Western Division) was held at Ballarat. This was attended by all the children who were taken there by special train. Schools participating were Ballarat, Belmont, Essendon, Footscray, Geelong, Glenroy, Sunshine and Williamstown High Schools. Our School came fourth in this competition.

The combined swimming carnival was held at the Olympic Pool, and resulted in Williamstown gaining third position.

Arrangements were made for 600 pupils to attend the Olympic Games at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Williamstown High School won the final of the combined High and Technical Schools' lacrosse competition, and three of our boys, G. Hill, K. Hope and J. Morrish, represented Victoria in the under 16 contest against South Aust. in Adelaide.

In baseball R. Ferris was chosen in the Victorian Schoolboys' team to play in Sydney and G. Rogers and K. Parker were selected for the Metropolitan High Schools' football team to play against the Public Schools. G. Rogers is also in the cricket team.

Results of Inter-House Competition

Swimming: Dingoes 1, Possums 2, Wombats 3, Koalas 4. Champions, Girls: 12 years, J. Packett; 13, S. Kerf; 14th, S. Cordell; 15, R. Hanger; Open, J. Ralph. Boys: 12 years, B. Ross; 13, B. Hill; 14, D. Godsmann; 15, D. Briggs; Open, J. Clements.

Athletics: Wombats 1, Possums 2, Dingoes 3, Koalas 4. Champions: Girls, 12 years, J. Pearce; 13, J. Hutchinson and A. Paterson; 14, M. Crellin; 15, G. Chalmers; Open, M. Clark. Boys, 12 years, G. Fenton; 13, B. Alcock; 14, B. Hill; 15, J. McConville; Open, G. Taube.

Inter-Form Basketball: Form V, second team.

I wish to thank on behalf of the school, all who have assisted our sport during the year; the Williamstown City Council for the use of the sports grounds, and the curators of these grounds for their assistance; also Holy Trinity, Liston, Newport, Williamstown and Central tennis clubs for the use of their courts, members of the Physical Education staff who assisted with swimming instruction at the Footscray Baths, the Williamstown Athletic Club which supplied equipment and coaching for the athletic sports, and the following ladies who assisted with the girls' sport: Mrs. McDonald and Mrs. Kitchen (hockey), Mrs. Stanton (tennis) and Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Hort (basketball).

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

This association takes a very keen interest in the School and has raised nearly £400 for the year, of which over £230 has come from the direct giving of the parents of children at the School.

I would like to place on record my appreciation of this Association's sympathetic interest and financial assistance to the School. It is a great pleasure to me to attend their monthly meetings, to report to them any achievements and aims, as I feel that they are eager to render encouragement and support in every possible way.

The social function tendered to the staff was an outstanding success in all ways, and friendliness was the predominant note of the whole evening.

During the year the Association has spent over £390 to improve the School for the pupils and staff. Among other things it has spent over £100 on tape recorder, tape reels, gramophone records and film rewinder, £37/10/- on sporting equipment, £60 on the library, over £25 on rest room equipment, £50 on display

cases, over £30 on paper towels for general use, and £50 on display frames for art work.

No request for finance falls on deaf ears, and personal service is rendered unstintingly. I commend this Association to all parents as one worthy of their active interest.

GENERAL

It cannot be disputed that a Secondary School is in a position to exert a very strong influence on the Community which surrounds it, and it behoves every citizen to exert as much effort as possible to strengthen this influence. This can be done by co-operation in as many ways as possible, keeping in mind always that the School takes second place only to the home in its formative influence on the rising generation, and to this end, the efforts of the both bodies should be pooled in every way possible.

One very important factor should be noted. The rise in the population of Secondary School students in recent years has been fantastic, but we are not nearly at the peak of it yet. In the early days of this School it was a district high school in the true sense of the word, serving a wide area. Next year the Form I intake of the school will be as large as usual, but will come almost exclusively from the six primary schools of Williamstown (2), Newport (2), Seaholme and Altona, and by 1960 the intake of secondary students from the area which the school served five years ago will be increased by over 600, which means another three new secondary schools. Where these schools are to be placed is unknown at present, but it is certain that the area from which this school draws must shrink in closer to it, and by 1960 it seems that few students in the school will travel more than three miles to reach it.

At present there are three State secondary schools in Williamstown, each with its own function in the community, and each complementary to the other. In the near future, the parents of the children in these three schools will all be citizens of the City of Williamstown, and the school will in a very real sense be a Williamstown school. The standards of buildings, playing fields, equipment and instruction will be as good as the citizens demand. A citizen's method of making himself an informed critic and selecting demands for his various governing representatives so that they will be constructive and logical, is to take a deeper interest in the all-important work of edu-

cation, to co-operate as closely as possible with his school, and above all, to actively seek avenues of service according to his talents and status on life.

I know some will say that this work is the responsibility of the State which collects the taxes, but experience has shown that this approach is too impersonal to produce the best results. Can you convince the legislators that the portion of the taxes allotted to this work is large enough unless you really know what is needed, and what shortcomings there are? What is needed is a flood of informed and intelligent public opinion which will come automatically from close personal co-operation with the school, and interest in its activities and aims.

In the short time that I have been associated with this school, I have found many parents who fit these descriptions well, but the ranks are too thin, and more of those standing on the outside looking in are needed to swell the numbers.

CONCLUSION

In writing a report of this kind, it must be realized that it is easy to overlook thanks to people who deserve it. I am sure that I have done this, but I hope those omitted will realize that the oversight is unintentional. Again there are many who help in ways that do not come to my notice in any way; those who say a word here and there or answer some unjustified criticism, who give a word of friendly advice to a boy or girl about their attitude to their school, and who help in countless other ways. To all of these people the school returns thanks for interest and appreciation.

I conclude by offering my thanks to a very loyal staff so ably led by Mr. Alexander and Miss Boardman. It is not difficult to realize that in the final analysis, the staff are the ones who do the real work, and the tone and standards of the school are really set by them. No words of mine could really express my appreciation of their willing co-operation.

LES. J. BOWE.