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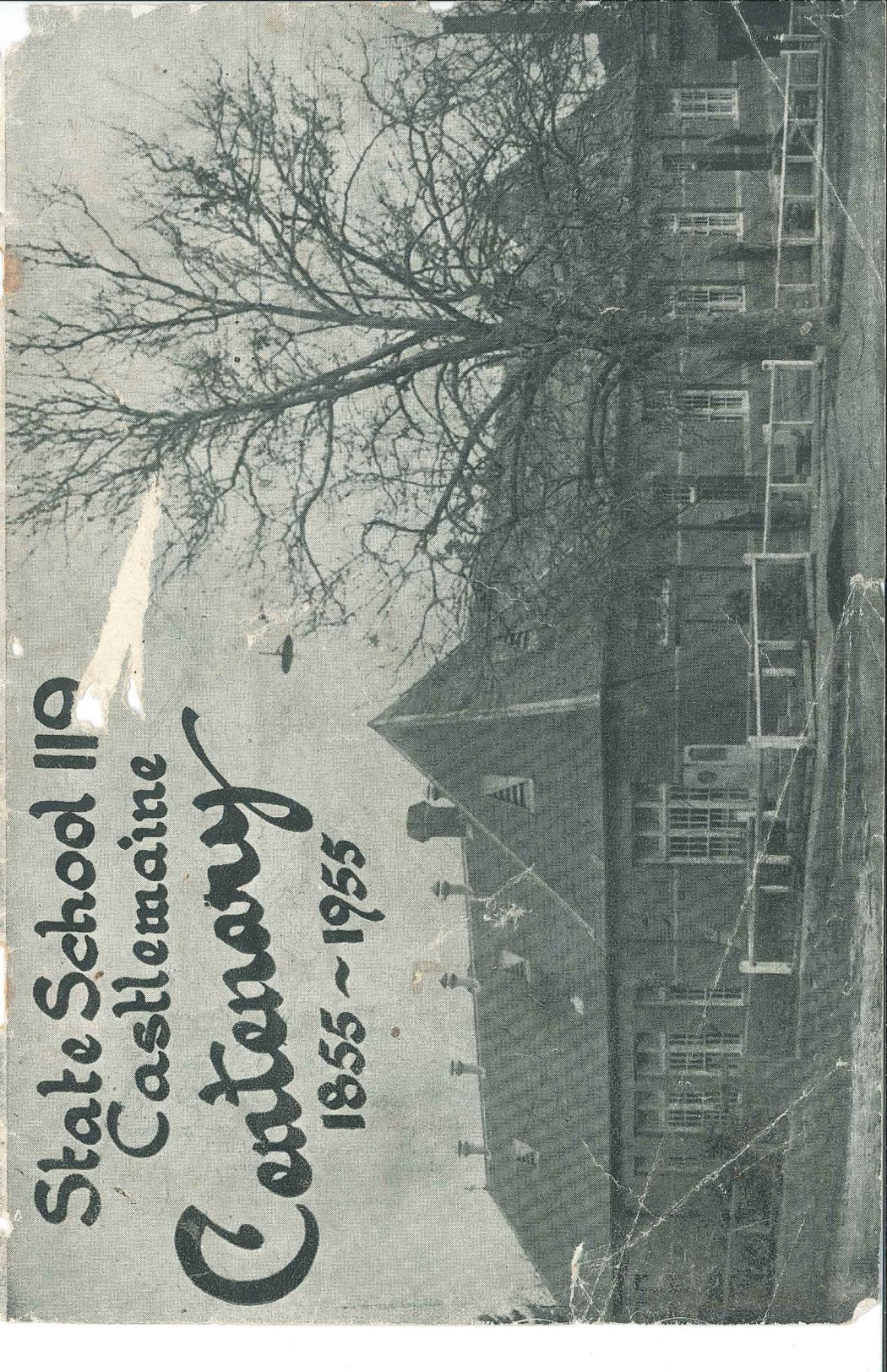
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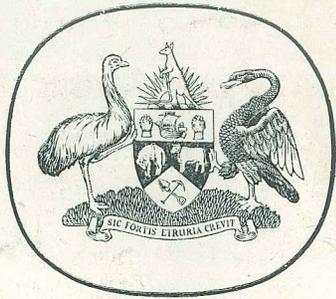
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State School 119
Castlemaine

Centenary

1855 ~ 1955





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SR.A5401B

Castlemaine State School No. 119



STAFF

Mr. W. L. Caldwell, Head Teacher
Mr. N. V. Cocks
Mr. A. Y. McCallum
Mr. J. L. Maunder
Miss J. A. Chapman
Miss M. B. Fox
Miss T. E. Hauser
Miss M. P. Humphris
Mrs. M. Fitzpatrick
Miss M. R. Rossell (Student Teacher)



SCHOOL COMMITTEE

A. V. Ireland, Chairman
K. L. Bouch, Secretary
C. E. Almond
W. A. Thorsen
H. E. J. Tingay
D. W. Morrison
J. M. Bouch



MOTHERS' CLUB

Mrs. A. V. Ireland, President
Mrs. H. Williams, Secretary
Mrs. H. Pitt, Treasurer
Member: 70

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HEAD TEACHER'S FOREWORD

This year marks the centenary of primary education in Castlemaine. For a hundred years a school has been conducted on this site, and here little children have assembled throughout the years to acquire their early training in future citizenship.

From the feverish gold rush days to the present year many changes and advances have been made in the field of education. In retrospect, I am conscious of the difficult conditions, frustrations and discouragements that my predecessors to this office experienced, and yet nobly performed their duties as "a guide, philosopher and friend" to all who sought their assistance.

Changed attitudes and relationships between teacher and pupil, and between home and school, have made possible more democratic classroom situations than were evident under the repressive discipline of former years. Pupils are encouraged to exercise their own initiative, and to accept responsibility for carrying out self-appointed tasks, in contrast to the imposed pattern of attack and behaviour, when the emphasis was on subjects and "results".

Advances made in radio, sound films, and communication have brought into the classroom a wealth of information and interest, undreamt of in the previous century. Science, too, plays its part in awakening public consciousness to the needs of developing children.

We can truthfully say, with a certain amount of pride in achievement, that the school is a happy environment, and that manifold opportunities exist for every child to obtain that liberal education, which has been declared the right of all for many years.

During its first 100 years S.S. 119 played many parts in the role of education, but its greatest role has been its share in moulding the lives of young Australians, many of whom have taken a leading part in the affairs of this young nation. As the Head Teacher, I congratulate the School on its past achievements, and express the hope that the future will hold many profitable and pleasant experiences for all who enter its precincts.

W. L. CALDWELL

**BEST OF LUCK FOR YOUR
CELEBRATIONS
BERT IRELAND**

FAMILY and STAFF



IRELAND & SHEEHAN

**THE MOTOR CYCLE
SALES AND SERVICE
CENTRE**

Mostyn Street, Castlemaine

DEDICATION

State School No. 119, Castlemaine, generally referred to today as the "South School", is one of the very few Victorian schools able to claim a century of continuous educational service. Publication of this brief history has been undertaken to commemorate this important occasion in the school's march of progress.

The school has played a major part in the development of Castlemaine from the earliest gold diggings days and through the town's transition to a centre of vast primary and secondary production.

Established during the hectic days when gold attracted people of all nationalities and creeds, it prospered through changing economic structures when the diggings were replaced by flour mills, tanneries and breweries. It saw these fade out and make way for the sound, nationally reputed, industries Thompsons Foundry and Castlemaine Woollen Co

From slashed earth and disfigured contours its pupils have developed vast areas of high producing orchards, dairying and grazing pastures, that today, help towards Australia's standard of living.

Through all these changes the school has kept pace with its people and their progress to send forth many thousands of young people fitted to take a full part in an ever advancing world.

To the school; to the pioneers who established it; to the teachers and to the men and women who have worked for its progress, this book is dedicated.



Grade V and VI Girls Folk Dancing

EARLY HISTORY



Castlemaine National School

1854 — The year of the Eureka Stockade, when bitterness of miners against the licence tax found a resounding echo among miners at Mount Alexander and rudiments of a township were already established at Castlemaine. After the initial tempest of the goldfields calmed down, permanent buildings sprang up with ever-increasing regularity, and the way was paved for civic advancement.

It was during this year that the thoughts of the more responsible citizens crystallized into establishment of publicly-owned schools. These schools were started by Church organizations with the help of Government grants allocated by the Denominational Schools' Board established in 1848.

However, many areas with mixed denominations were not provided with schools under this arrangement, so the National Schools' Board, with headquarters in Sydney, was established to help in the provision of schools, which became known as National Schools.

With the advent of National Schools, Castlemaine citizens became interested, and on June 6th. 1853, a public meeting was convened for the purpose of establishing a National School, the chairman being Captain Bull, Government official, Warden and Commissioner. Mr. Kane, a school inspector, attended and advised those present that the Government would pay two thirds of the costs, provided that the balance was found by residents. He also stated that books would be supplied to teachers at fixed rates, and would be sold to the children at the same rates. School hours were fixed — from 9 a.m. till 12 noon, and from 2 p.m. till 5 p.m. Adults could attend for one hour each night for tuition. Fees: under 8 years 1/- per week, under 12, 1/6, over 12, 2/-. Adults 6d. per lesson. All fees were payable in advance. The Headmaster's salary was fixed at £350 per annum, and was to be paid from fees collected. If these were insufficient the Board would make up the difference.

The meeting decided to establish a National School in Castlemaine, and subsequently elected the following as a School Board — Drs. McRae and Preshaw, Messrs. Kingdon, Hitchcock, and Highmore.

On August 1, 1855, a school tent, labelled NATIONAL SCHOOL in large letters was erected on a reserve, granted for that purpose, at the corner of Urquhart and Mostyn Streets — the northern half of the existing State School Reserve.

The unsettled character of the population and the uncertainty which forbade any conjecture on the future destiny of the auriferous districts, suggested moveable tents which should follow the diggers in their migrations.

When this tent school was open there were 72 children in attendance 36 boys and 36 girls. Mr. John Miller was the teacher in charge and his wife Agnes was the work mistress.



Honor Roll shows Dux of School each year from 1928 to 1954

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W. J. STONEMAN
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FOR YOUR
CELEBRATIONS

C. Stoneman.

S. Stoneman

Mostyn Street.

These tent schools, however, had become inadequate to meet the needs of the people, and, as the population became permanent in the chief localities, objection against the erection of suitable permanent buildings ceased. Eighteen months earlier, £61/15/- had been subscribed towards the establishment of a permanent National School in Castle-maine, so with this thought in mind, a public meeting was held in the public hall of the Albert Hotel on July 5, 1855. Charles P. Hackett took the chair, and Mr. Orlebar, a National Schools' Inspector, attended.

Explaining the workings of the National school system Mr. Orlebar said the grand object was to secure co-operation among all classes. To effect this, it was proposed by the National system to devote a certain number of hours to purely secular education and to provide opportunities for religious instruction, which might be availed of, or not, by parents as they thought proper.

In order to secure perfect fairness, and that each denomination be represented, the Board provided, that in the appointment of local patrons in whom the entire management of the school would be vested, care should be taken to prevent any one denomination having an absolute majority of voices.

Appointment of teachers would be in the hands of the local patrons, subject to the approval of the commissioners.

In fact, the whole details of management, he said, would be left entirely to the locality in which schools were established, and it was believed impossible to conceive any arrangement fairer than that.

It secured the presence of men of all denominations in the direction of the schools, and afforded a guarantee for perfect liberty of conscience to all — the only interference required by the Board being the periodical visits of the inspector to see that the regulations upon which the National system was based, were complied with.

And so, with the following resolution by Dr. Preshaw and Mr. Hitchcock

“that it is essential to the training of the young that there be a regularly built school for the sole purpose of teaching, and that there be one or more thoroughly qualified teachers appointed” and another by Rev. J. Low and Mr. Kingdon “that as the erection of such an edifice is necessarily expensive in this locality, and as the services of efficient teachers can be procured only by the inducement of emoluments commensurate with those obtainable in other professions, it is desirable that the public generally, without regard to denominational distinction, should, availing themselves of the facility for union, which the National School Board affords, endeavour to do, by combined efforts, that which experience has shown to be beyond the means of any one denomination of Christians in this district.” . . . S.S. 119 was on its way.

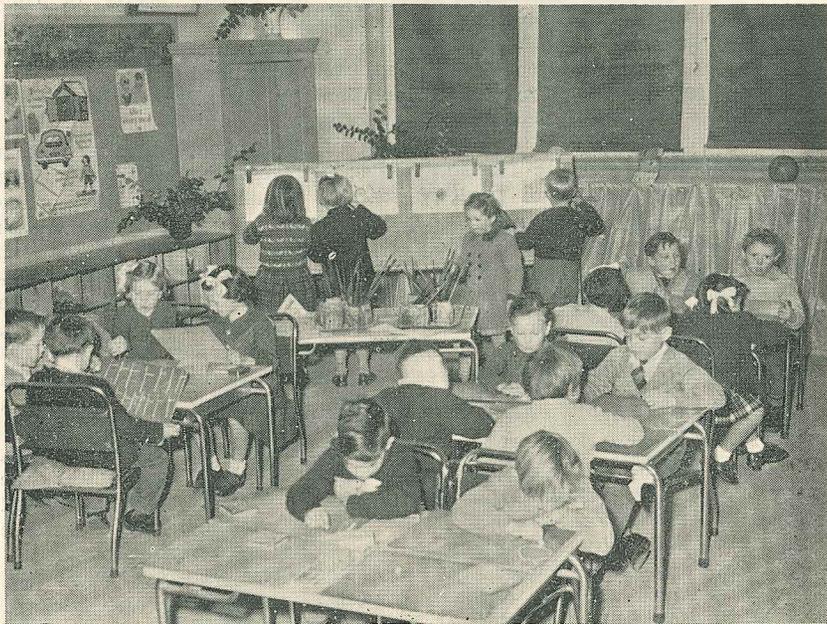
Dr. Preshaw, Messrs Thompson, W. B. Collyns, Hitchcock, Kemp, Kingdon, Joshua, Low, Taylor, McEwan, Palmer, McMillan and Locke were elected as patrons and the Bank of N.S.W. were appointed treasurers. Application was also made for the National School reserve together with the extension in section 18 — the present playground.

Nine members attended the first committee meeting when Dr. Preshaw presided and Mr. Locke was elected secretary. It was disclosed that a suitable building could not be erected under £1000 only half of which was available from the National School Board. The committee

determined on raising a like sum in one month. Fifty tickets to carry £10 each were issued to members of the committee and "friends of National Education". Anyone wishing to give £20 could take two tickets or one could be taken and filled up by contributions.

Less than twelve months later, April 15, 1856, amid great pomp and ceremony the foundation stone of the first permanent, publicly owned school in Castlemaine was laid. As the report in the "Mail" had much interest besides emphasising the ways and customs of that period, we publish sections of it verbatim.

"The ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the National School, to be erected in this town-ship; was performed on Tuesday last, under circumstances which augur favorably for the prosperity of the institution. The Local Patrons, in order to lend additional interest to an object that must appeal strongly to all who desire to promote the moral and intellectual improvement of the rising generation, requested the Mount Alexander Lodge of Freemasons to assist at the initiatory rite, and also invited the attendance of the local Odd Fellows Lodge, and the Town Council, and made arrangements for a public procession to the site of the future school. Shortly before twelve o'clock, the Odd Fellows joined the Freemasons in Kennedy Street, and, accompanied by the Local Patrons and Members of the Council, and by children from the National Schools of Campbell's Creek and Forest Creek (Chewton) marched thence to the reserve in Urquhart Street where the school is to be built."



Preparatory Class at Work

The following was the order of procession:
Children of Campbell's and Forest Creeks National Schools accompanied by their teacher.

Lodge of Odd Fellows

Band.

Mount Alexander Lodge of Freemasons.

The Chairman of the Municipal Council, Thos. Andrews, Esq., and other members of Council.

Capt. Bull, Resident Warden, and other Wardens of the district.

The local Patrons.

"The procession took its way through Campbell Street, Barker Street, and along the northern side of Market Square through Mostyn Street, and the appearance it presented was certainly gratifying, not only as evidencing the wealth and respectability of Castlemaine, but because it indicated a general disposition to encourage the cause of education. Both lodges approached the site with the usual formalities, and the Past Master, Richard Capper, (assisted by the Worshipful Master, G. Isaacs) took up his position by the side of the stone. The scene at that moment was particularly animating. Upwards of 1000 persons had congregated round the spot, regarding the proceedings with the greatest interest; and upon a platform erected for the occasion were a number of elegantly dressed ladies, who monopolised the admiration that might, in their absence, have been attracted by the glistening emblems exhibited by the brethren of the Masonic and Odd Fellow crafts. The portly form of the Masonic Treasurer, as suggestive of "plenty" as the cornucopæia he carried, . . . the terrors of the tylers' swords, the deacons' wands. It was exceedingly impressive throughout. The procession being ranged around the stone."

"The Rev. J. Low (Presbyterian) spoke as follows: 'As one of the local patrons of the Castlemaine National School, I have been appointed by my co-patrons to open proceedings on this interesting occasion, an honor conferred upon me, I believe, on account of my being the only clergyman in this district who has thought it his duty to support the national system, and from having expressed myself in its favor almost from the very day I came to this Gold Field.'"

"I may, therefore, perhaps be expected to say a few words in explanation of the reasons which induce me to support the National in preference to the Denominational system. But this I have already done so often, that it does not seem necessary to say more at present than that I do not consider denominational distinctions to be of such importance, that we should endeavour to perpetuate them from one generation to another by means of denominational schools. On the contrary, although I have a feeling of dislike to all violent and sudden changes, and would do nothing to hurry on prematurely the coalition and union of all Christian denominations, yet I do think it well that, with a remote view to this, the children of all denominations should be trained up and instructed according to one and the same system, provided the system to be a good one.' (hear, hear)."

"But here it is where difficulty meets us; for we are told that the National system is not a good one, — forasmuch as it excludes religious training, and demands the sacrifice of Christian principles on the altar of secular instruction. This, however, we do not admit. The National system does not require us to forgo instruction and training

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EXTEND THEIR GOOD WISHES
FOR A
SUCCESSFUL AND HAPPY
CENTENARY
TO
CASTLEMAINE STATE SCHOOL
NO. 119

in the essentials of Christianity. It does not say that the young shall not be taught to love the Lord their God, with all their heart, or that they shall not cultivate towards each other sentiments of kindness and affection as brethren in Christ Jesus. It only says, that the child of the Episcopalian shall not say to the child of the Presbyterian or the Wesleyan or of the Congregationalist, 'Stand back; for I am holier than thou.' (hear, hear)."

"It only says that there shall be no recognition of sects and denominations in teaching the ordinary branches of secular instruction, and in publicly imparting sacred knowledge. It says that all shall be instructed in Christian principles, not from the catechisms of this or of that church, but from the scriptures themselves or extracts therefrom suited to the understandings and capacities of the young."

"We are, therefore, little moved by what may be said against the National system, and are fully resolved in the strength of divine grace to pursue the even tenor of our way towards the establishment of National Schools wherever circumstances permit; and we feel thankful to Almighty God that we have the near prospect of a permanent National School in this township.' (Hear, Hear). 'In the name of the local patrons, I have now the pleasure of myself handing over to you, sir, as Worshipful Master of the Mount Alexander Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and to request that you will lay for them according to ancient custom, the foundation stone of this edifice; and as a memorial of the occasion, and of their gratitude for the service rendered, they beg that you will be pleased to accept this small, but appropriate gift of a silver trowel.'"

"The Past Master received the trowel and proceeded to manipulate on the stone, in accordance with the customs and usages that had existed from time immemorial, and deposited in a cavity of the stone, a bottle, containing parchment with the following inscription:

"NATIONAL SCHOOL"

"In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six, on Tuesday, the 15th day of April; Major-General Macarthur administering the Government of Victoria; the foundation stone of this building was laid by Brother P. M. Richard Capper, and the brethren of the Mount Alexander Lodge of free and accepted masons."

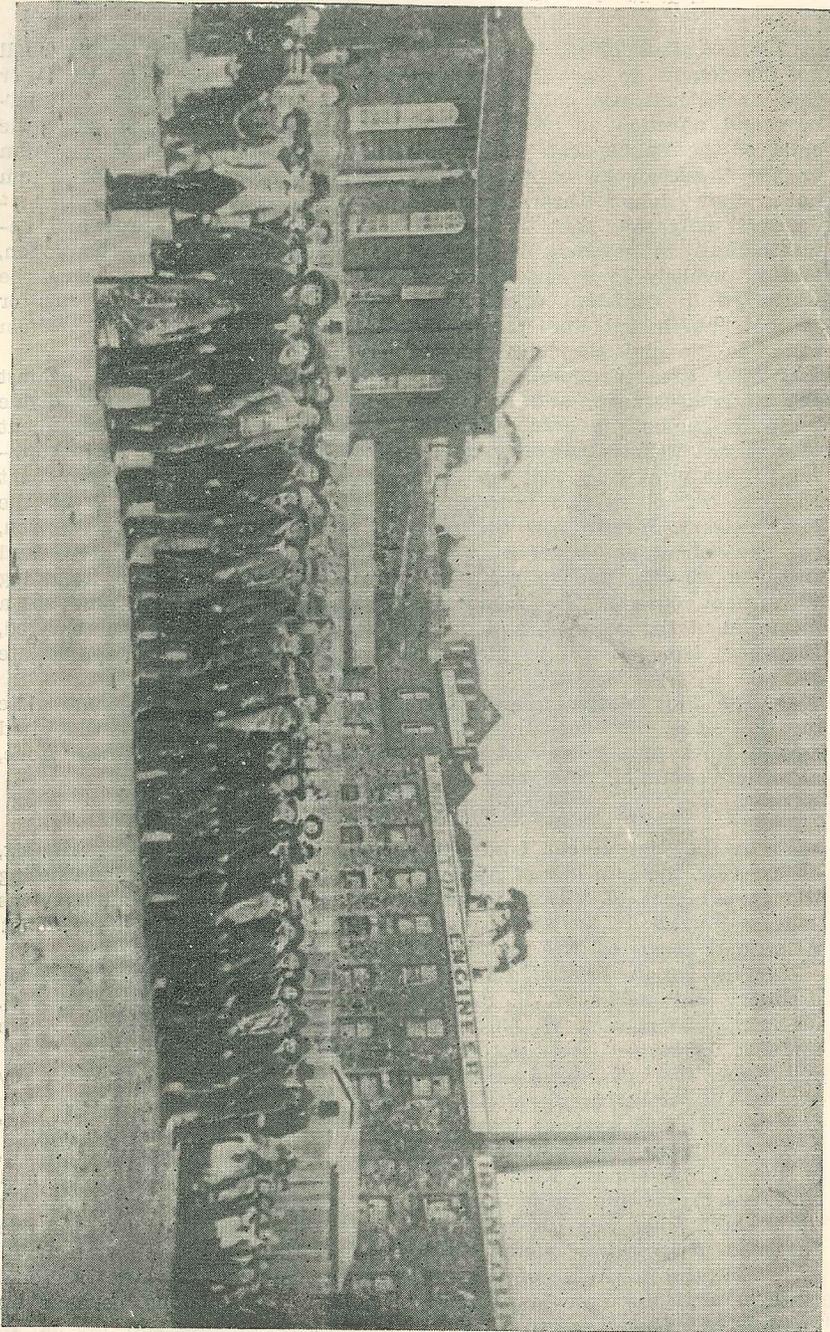
"The design of the school was presented by Frederick Poepel, architect and Messrs W. F. Preshaw, J. Lowe, Collyns, A. S. Palmer, S. Joshua, P. Thompson, W. Hitchcock, H. McMillan, J. R. McEwen, Kemp and W. Locke — local patrons."

"The cost of erection, exclusive of seats, as contracted for by Messrs. W. Roberts, H. McReedie, and G. McGrowth, builders, for the sum of £1248 sterling; the building to be completed in three months."

"The bottle also contained a copy of the Mount Alexander "Mail", a copy of the Miner's Right, a copy of the Black and White List, and sundry coins of the realm." (Unfortunately the bottle and its contents disappeared when the old building was demolished and thus a valuable specimen of historical interest to Castlemaine was lost.)

"On the lowering of the stone, the band played the National Anthem, and the Past Master having strewn on the stone, corn as an emblem of plenty, poured wine as an emblem of joy, and oil as an emblem of comfort.

Picture shows 1879 Pupils and School in background. Front two rows show the Cadet Force.



"After pronouncing that the stone had been laid in accordance with ancient usages, and expressing a hope that the superstructure to be raised would prove an honor and a blessing to those for whom it was erected, and to future generations, by whom its advantage would be used, he continued — I sincerely congratulate you in laying the foundation stone of this school in the district of Castlemaine, where, but two or three years ago, the aboriginal sought the opossum to obtain food and clothing. Now, you are surrounded with the civilisation and elegancies of modern life; but, in the midst of your prosperity, you show by the higher duties. In founding an institution devoted to the cultivation of the intellect, and the advancement of science, you are contributing to the good of the human race, and at the same time doing that which will tend to make you good subjects of the monarch under whose authority you live. It is pleasing to find that in the vast progress which the colony is making, men called together from all ends of the world are assisting each other in a work which would do honor, not only to Melbourne, but to any of the cities of Europe. And how gratifying it will be to the friends of learning in England, to know that we, in the midst of the Gold-fields, have not forgotten the privileges we enjoy, but that we have laid the foundation of a building to promote education; where not long ago there was nothing but nomadic barbarism."

A collection was made on behalf of the School, and nearly £43 was subscribed in a few moments.

"The procession was reformed, and marched along Forest Street, and via Market Square and Barker Street, to the Masonic Lodge, in Kennedy Street, where it dispersed, the whole proceedings having been conducted in the most satisfactory manner."

"The following is a description of the intended building: Length overall, 60 feet by 30 feet 8 inches; porch, 20 feet 9 inches by 7 feet 3 inches; school divided into two school rooms, by a movable partition, forming boys' and girls' school rooms; height to top of parapet, 22 feet; base course to front, and porch side of rustic ashler; to other side and end of the best rubble masonry; the walls of brick, of flat ruled joints, decorated with plasters; style, modern Norman."

**HALF OF THE CASTLEMAINE "MAIL" STAFF
EITHER ATTENDED "SOUTH" SCHOOL OR
HAVE CHILDREN ATTENDING**

They took pride in producing
this Historical Booklet

**THE SAME PRIDE THEY SHOW IN ALL THEIR WORK
FROM THE SMALLEST TO THE LARGEST JOB**

Your work is helping to keep them in good, sound and
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Castlemaine State School 119

FIRST ASSOCIATED TEACHERS TRAINING SCHOOL ESTABLISHED IN COLONY

National schools continued to meet with public approval throughout the colony and by 1856 (Mr. Frazer head teacher S.S. 119) their numbers had increased to 81, while pupils receiving National School education increased from 342 in 1851 to 4804. Salaries being paid to teachers amounted to £9585 and total school fees received by the Board in Sydney was £4811. Less than 1/- per scholar per week. By this time, schools had been erected at Ballarat, Castlemaine, Heathcote and Campbell's Creek. Each of these centres had raised liberal subscriptions towards erection of their schools, yet, according to reports, the goldfields compared to other centres were being "markedly neglected" with schools.

In 1862, Parliament had decided to replace the two boards — the National and Denominational — with one combined board, the Common Schools Board which was to supervise all schools receiving Government grants. So when Mr. Main resigned in 1865 twenty one applications were received for the position of head master of the Castlemaine Common School. At this stage it was thought that Mr. Binney of Sandhurst would be the most likely choice but the position went to Mr. W. Palliser.

The number, 119, for Castlemaine, first appeared in the Board of Education report to Parliament in 1863.

According to newspaper reports in the "Mail" of 1872, inter-denominational arguments over education still persisted and the Common Schools Board had not solved the problem of making adequate provision for the school buildings, and staffing was lamentably inadequate. So once more the school changed its name, when the Common Schools' Board was replaced later in the year by the Education Department, under a Minister responsible to Parliament.

On January 1, 1873, it became known by its present name, Castlemaine State School, No. 119, and education became free, secular and compulsory.

During this year the Board of Advice presented its first report, when it was pointed out that 210 scholars were attending, and Mr. Parnse was being assisted by female teachers and his female pupil teachers.

It also reported that, besides being in very bad repair, the school was very overcrowded. The school reserve was in an objectionable situation. Not only was the school built on low-lying ground but was in a neighbourhood of "low repute". The proprietor of the neighbouring iron foundry used the site as a dump, and directed the sewage and exhaust pipes from his steam engine on to the site. The drainage from Mostyn Street coursed through the grounds. The Board recommended the enclosure of the whole reserve, the erection of an additional classroom, a teacher's residence and a gymnasium. They also recommended that a wall be erected along Mostyn Street, together with a suitable drain to divert the water from the reserve.

The Board reported that Mr. Palliser was conducting a night school on the roll of which were 60 persons varying in age from 12 to 23 years, but that he was laboring under the disadvantage of de-

ficient light. School appliances were urgently required for the school. These included maps, slates, books, boards, etc. There was also no shelter of any kind to which the children could resort . . . this absence it was claimed was typical in all the state schools in this district.

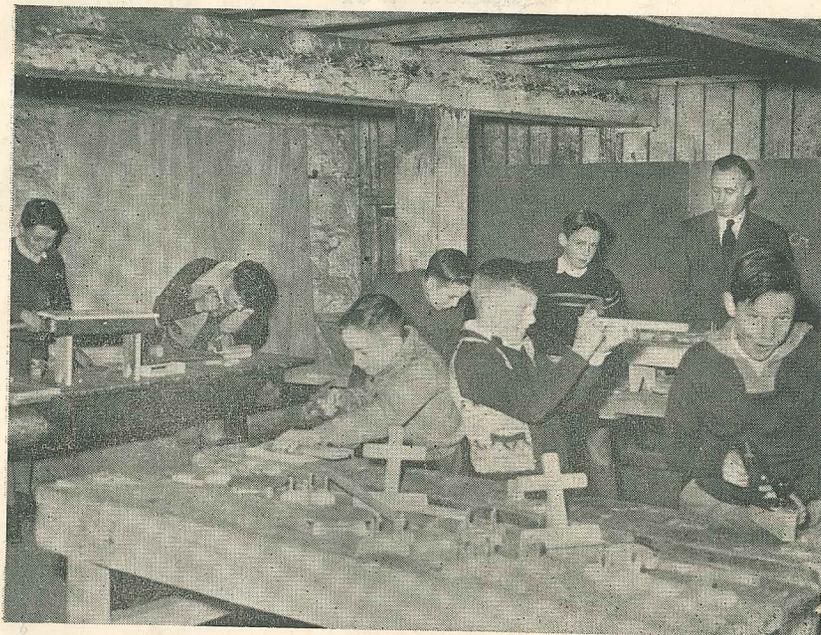
On January 1, 1874, Castlemaine S.S. 119 was proclaimed a Training School with Mr. Palliser still in charge as Head Teacher. This was the first associated Teachers' Training School to be established in the colony.

The Board of Advice continued to report unfavourably about the unsuitability of the 2 roomed building and pointed out that it was totally inadequate to serve the purposes of a training school for teachers. This agitation led to the erection of a larger and more suitable building, and so early in 1875, the school, as it stands today, was nearing completion. The new building was to be used as a Training School for Pupil Teachers — "one where persons of both sexes could be trained and fitted to fill the positions of State School Teachers."

On February 10, 1875, a meeting of the Board of Advice was held to discuss the opening of the new State School scheduled for March. Messrs McClland, Christophers, Wilson, Baker and Merrifield attended.

PRESENT BUILDING OPENED

This new School opened its activities on March 1, 1875 with Mr. Courtney as Head Teacher. Mr. Courtney had previously conducted a private school in the Christ Church buildings. At 10 o'clock he marched



Grade Six Boys doing Woodwork under supervision of Mr. McCallum

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all the pupils from the Christ Church School in procession along Forest Street. It was headed by the female pupil teachers, followed by a long line of girls marching two abreast, the male teachers and the boys bringing up the rear. A halt was made in the vacant ground between the new school and Forest Street, and both boys and girls were put into divisions.

The scholars belonging to the old building, formerly conducted by Mr. Palliser were ranged outside waiting the arrival of their new associates, to whom they gave a cheer of welcome. Very little time was spent in "putting the whole of them into their places" and commencing the lessons of the day. The rooms were all occupied except one which Mr. Courtney held in reserve for his class, and the old school was used also for infants.

At this stage no official opening had been arranged and the public generally objected. Very caustic criticism was levelled against the council and the then Mayor Mr. Geo. Greenhill for their lack of co-operation with the Board of Advice, and their failure to extend an invitation to the Minister of Education, Mr. Mackay, to perform an official opening ceremony.

Ratepayers and Press requisitioned the Mayor and council in an effort to have their wishes in this respect carried out, but these efforts appeared to meet with no success.

By April 14, 1875, the "press" was still asking when the school was to be officially declared a training school, stressing the fact that this was the first of only twenty similar teacher training schools to be established in the colony.

By July 1875 preliminary arrangements for the opening of public buildings, including the school, had been definitely determined, and the "Mail" editor stated, "so far as the school is concerned it would have given a more significant expression, as to the popular feeling entertained towards the educational movement, had there been an individual demonstration over its opening." This statement was made in view of the State Ministers opening several public buildings, including the Post Office, on the same day.

However on July 5, 1875, with Borough Band marching in procession, with a following of State Ministers, the official opening and naming of the school was performed.

Described in the paper as "a commodious building of seven apartments", the school was erected at a cost of between £3-4,000. There were then about 900 pupils on the roll of the School.

At the official opening, Mr. Merrifield, as correspondent of the Board of Advice, in introducing the Minister of Education and requesting him to perform the opening ceremony of the new school said "A great deal had been said about larrikinism by the old women of the colony, who were greatly exorcised as to how to cure it. Everybody knew that education would cure it; it would form the character of the youth of the colony, both for the present and the future. Many persons, opposed to the new act were terribly afraid of the expense of the system. Well, they would probably agree with him that one gaol was far more expensive than twenty schools. If the system was faithfully carried out he had no doubt they would have less occasion for gaols or policemen, but enjoy far more domestic and national happiness."

The Hon. A. Mackay, Minister of Education, supported the earlier

remarks and congratulated Castlemaine on the opening of the first training school in the colony. "Here," he said, "is a building the children can take a delight in. A commodious and comfortable building where there was everything to induce them to look forward for better things."

To conclude the official opening the children sang a little ditty in praise of their new school and were later given a treat to celebrate the occasion.

The visiting members of parliament and other visitors were entertained by the Mayor and Councillors at an official banquet at the Cumberland Hotel.

(An actual copy of the toast list is framed at the School!)

Before the end of the same month concern was expressed at a meeting of the Board of advice regarding the shortage of accommodation. It was stated that the school had only been designed to cater for 500 children. The meeting decided to apply for increased accommodation for the Wesleyan School, and to remind the Education Department of its promise to erect a second State school in Castlemaine, pointing out the urgent necessity for a fulfilment of that promise.

The outcome of these efforts was the opening of Castlemaine North State School in 1878. It was known for several years as Adjunct 2051 during which time the Head Master of South School acted in the same capacity for North.

The Pupils attended Castlemaine North School up to class IV and then migrated to S.S. 119 to complete classes V and VI.

While Mr. Courtney was in charge of the school he formed a town band which performed publicly on occasions, and was very well received by the public. He was also very interested in music and or-

*Don't go back
without your tin
of
Castlemaine Rock*

ganised several school concerts all of which were of a very high standard. After 8 years as Head Teacher he transferred to another school in 1883, and was succeeded by Mr. Shugg who had previously been in charge of Hamilton S.S. Mr. Shugg conducted classes for pupil teachers at his home, but still found time to follow up his engineering skill by planning several bridges. His daughter, Miss Shugg, still resides in Castlemaine.

During the years 1898 and 1899 the school and its adjunct S.S. 2051 was in charge of Mr. J. C. Rowe who still lives at South Caulfield and has reached the grand old age of 97½ years. After leaving Castlemaine he became an inspector of schools and had charge of 4 successive inspectorial districts.

He recalls his first male assistant teacher, Mr. John Taylor, father of Mrs. Gladys Hain, well known today as president of the Housewives Association.

There were 11 teachers under Mr. Rowe

The headmaster in those days, Mr. Rowe recalls, had to instruct junior teachers after school in subjects for promotional exams. The headmaster received a £10 bonus for each teacher — if they passed their examinations!

In those days too, headmasters depended for part of their salary on the success of school children at annual examinations.

Mr. Rowe tells how, due to widespread illness in Castlemaine during his 2 years here, attendances were badly affected and the exams were cancelled with no effect on the headmaster's salary.

The school average attendance then was just short of the 700 required to make it a first class school.

Castlemaine Old School Boys' Association

Are YOU A MEMBER?
IF NOT, WHY NOT?

Just get in touch with the Secretary, Old Boy Bill Hodgson, who will join you up right away.

RE-UNIONS ARE HELD EVERY YEAR — ALWAYS
THE SECOND SATURDAY IN OCTOBER. A MOST
ENJOYABLE NIGHT, AND YOU MEET THE OTHER
OLD BOYS.

W. J. Hodgson, Secretary, Phone 156

SECOND HALF OF THE CENTURY

For four months during the latter part of 1908 the school was being remodelled to suit the changing conditions of education. The galleries, which had accommodated a large number of children in a small area and had served their usefulness, were removed, and partitions were placed in some of the classrooms to make provision for extra grades. The old classification into 6 classes was soon to be changed into the new classification of 8 grades. One of the rooms was also converted into a staff room.

While these alterations were in progress classes were conducted in temporary quarters. Class V was taught in the Adjunct 2051, Classes VI, IV, and part of III in the Salvation Army Hall, and Classes I, II and III were housed in the Church of England Hall. At this time there were about 680 pupils at S.S. 119 and 280 at S.S. 2051. The District Inspector reported that the staffing was very inadequate.

About this period, too, filter beds were established on Monument Hill to provide the school with filtered water. Pupils were required to pay one penny per week towards the cost of this project, and lime used in the filtering was stored beneath the school in the basement, which is still referred to as the "cellars".

During these years the school was very proud of its companies of cadets, dressed in their Khaki uniforms with green trimmings, and under the leadership of Captain Taylor. These youths drilled, attended rifle practice and visited other centres, where mass displays and military competitions were held. It is believed that the Castlemaine cadet corp was formed during the time when Mr. A. T. Atkinson was Head Teacher.

By Act of Parliament dated January 4, 1911, Boards of Advice were abolished and replaced by School Committees, the first of which were appointed in that year.

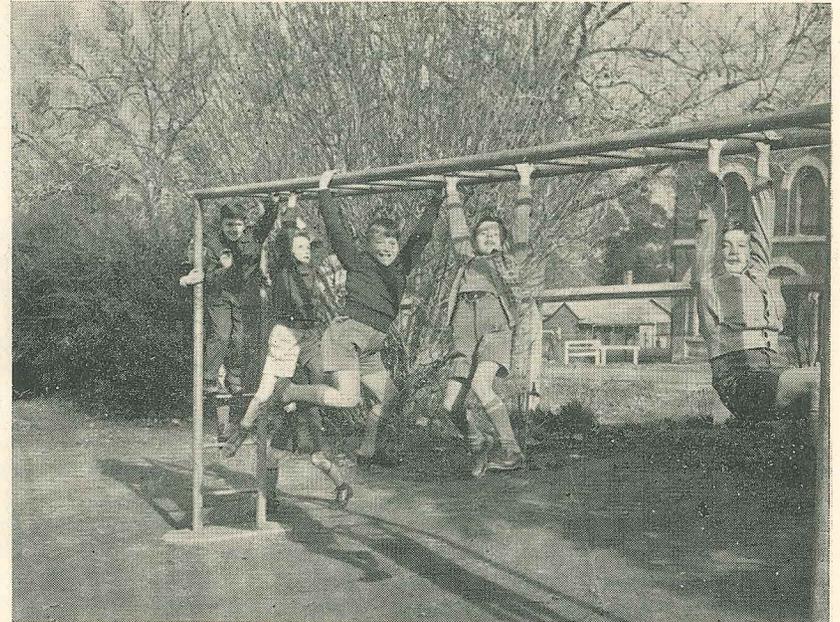
The first committee of S.S. 119 were W. Penney (chairman), H. H. Roberts (sec.), R. Taylor, Rev. Canon Pennicott, G. E. Jewell, W. J. Stoneman, C. Harris and J. Daniels.

In 1912, a piano and an organ were added to the school equipment, as a result of the combined efforts of the school Committee and staff who organised a bazaar, which returned a net profit of £131, no mean effort at that time.

In the same year the South School pioneered School Banks in the district, when the first deposits were made with the Savings Bank on November 11. South School was followed later by Chewton in 1919, Barker's Creek and Faraday in 1921 and most of the others including Castlemaine North, in 1922. Present Bank Manager, Mr. W. A. Freeman said that he can remember the opening of these accounts, as at that time he was a junior clerk at the Castlemaine Branch of the Bank, and it was his duty to go to the school each week to collect the money, and back again to return the receipt and bank books.

On June 30, 1913, the number of children's accounts was 97 with total balances of £24/8/9. The accounts and balances did not vary a great deal during the next few years and by June 30, 1919 the balances were £49/16/4 at the credit of 98 accounts. This year to June 30, the accounts number 470 (of these a number have been inoperative for many years) and the total balances are £2483/13/5.

A Sloyd Centre had been established at the Castlemaine North S.S., and for many years, the senior boys attended each week for woodwork lessons, while the girls attended cookery lessons at the High School, which at this time was accommodated in the buildings now occupied by the Technical School.



Grade Four Boys at play on New Giant Stride

TECHNICAL CLASSES

In 1913 Technical classes were commenced in one of the rooms at the school and the boys in Grades VII and VIII attended. They were conducted by Mr. Wilkins H.T. and Mr. R. Adams first assistant. In 1914 this branch of the school played a prominent part in the Castlemaine Exhibition, furnishing much work of a creditable character, 29 out of 31 mounts being chosen later for the Melbourne Exhibition.

Later, in 1915, the school and the Technical classes were in charge of Mr. Faravoni as H.T. under whom Mr. R. Adams continued to take the boys for English, Maths, and Civics. The boys attended classes at the School of Mines for woodwork under Mr. Moreton, sheet-metal work under Mr. Monot, and also classes in art.

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PHONE 156

In 1916, Mr. Faravoni was appointed by the Council of the School of Mines as the Head Teacher of the Technical School, while he still held the position of Head Teacher of S.S.119. In this year, there were 51 boys in attendance in the technical class, and a fine set of lockers was provided for the pupils by the School Committee and staff.

In 1918, district inspector, Mr. E. R. Davey reported "Mr. Adams is doing fine work with the J.T boys whose respect and co-operation he maintains. His teaching is practical, very informative and well presented. His management of the boys is creditable". In this and the preceding year Mr. Adams had charge of the second year boys while Mr. Smith taught the first year boys in a room in the Town Hall and later in an upstairs room in the Post Office.

The new High School building was opened in 1918 and the Junior Technical school established in the buildings previously occupied by the High School. Mr. Faravoni still played the dual role of H.T. of both schools. The opening of the new building made it possible for all children above grade VI to be accommodated in secondary schools: viz High, Technical, Girls Special and Registered schools. In 1919, twelve went to the High, 16 to Tech. and eight to the Girls Special.

From this time until the present year, there have been no grades above grade VI in the Castlemaine district schools. Mr. R. Adams was appointed Head Teacher of the Junior Technical School and held this office for many years.

In 1914 World War 1 presented a challenge to the children of the Commonwealth to do their part in support of the fighting forces who were defending the rights and liberties of all. The South school pupils played their part very nobly, encouraged at all times by their teachers. Knitted articles and comforts for the troops were dispatched at regular intervals, and by 1918, £600 had been raised for Patriotic Funds and £180 was invested in War Savings Certificates.

In addition to this direct school effort many of the school's ex-students enlisted in the forces. In memory of the gallant services to their country, and for those who made the supreme sacrifice, old and present scholars raised £160 to place a lasting tribute in the school grounds. This Memorial occupies a prominent position in the front of the school, and was dedicated in 1921. The surroundings of the Memorial were faithfully cared for by the late Mr. V. Ireland (Ex-A.I.F.) up to the time of his death in 1948. Each year, the school children place their tokens of remembrance around the base of the Memorial, as a perpetual tribute to those scholars who paid the supreme sacrifice.

Plans for the memorial were drawn up by Mr. Carew Smythe, art inspector and erection was in the hands of Mr. W. Redfern.

Several of the ex-pupils who enlisted brought renown on their old school by their service, including the late Colonel Field who passed away last year. He attended the school on the occasion of the opening of the present building in 1875.

Other scholars attending at the time of the new school's opening and still living in Castlemaine are Jason Hunter (92), William Seddon (86), and James Daniels (79). Mr. Daniels can recall helping to pull down a wall of the original building which was destroyed in 1888.

Again during World War II, the school children, another generation, played their part none the less nobly than their fathers and mothers had done during the previous world conflict. The school raised £388 for War Relief funds and invested £731 in War Savings Certificates. A large number of the former pupils enlisted in the services, many of whom sacrificed their lives in the cause of freedom.

For many years, swimming classes were conducted by teachers at S.S. 119. Although there was no recognized swimming pool in the town, every effort was made by the staff to ensure that pupils, before they left school, could swim. At this stage, only boys attended the swimming classes. In 1917, 18 pupils obtained their Senior Swimming Certificates, and 22, Junior certificates. This excellent effort moved the Schools' Inspector, Mr. Lowry, in 1922 to recommend the formation of a girls' swimming class. The response to these classes was so good that later in 1924 Inspector Green stressed the need for a town swimming pool to provide facilities for all pupils to learn to swim. In 1951 an Olympic Pool was provided by the Town Council and now it is possible for all school children (boys and girls) to attend swimming classes. The children in Grades V and VI are conveyed, during the summer months, by buses to the pool, where a member of the Educational Department's Physical Education Staff teaches swimming.

### GIRLS' SPECIAL SCHOOL

Early in 1919 a Girls' Special School was inaugurated at S.S. 119, and continued until 1924. The aim was to provide cultural and domestic facilities for grade VII and VIII girls who did not wish to proceed to the High School after grade VI. Subjects taught were Domestic Arithmetic, English (largely cultural), Geography, Domestic Science, Cookery Hygiene, History and Civics, Drawing and Design, Needlework and Housewifery and Singing.

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This school opened with 22 girls, the contributory schools being Castlemaine 8, Castlemaine North 6, Chewton 3, Harcourt 2, Yapeen, Guildford and Faraday 1 each. Four sewing machines were provided for needlework and the girls attended the cookery centre at the High School for cookery instruction.

This school was in charge of Miss Mitten who was assisted by Miss Atkins and Miss Duff (H.S.). Later, Miss Reid was in charge of needlework which reached a very high standard of excellence.

Thanks, largely due to the Ladies' Educational Committee, the attendance of pupils at this school increased to 36 pupils and included other contributory schools — Winter's Flat, Malmsbury, Glenluce, Walmer and Barker's Creek. In 1924 Miss Olive Storer, inspector of needlework and domestic arts visited the school and her report opens with these words — "The school opened with the singing of a little prayer. There is an atmosphere of refinement and a cheerful spirit of endeavour prevailing. The students are keenly interested in all branches of needlework which is up to a very high standard, covering a very full scope.

During November 1929 a meeting of mothers was called and resulted in the formation of a Mothers' Club. The first officers elected were: President Mrs. Scholten, Secretary, Mrs. Goode, Treasurer, Mrs. W. Gaulton. The Mothers' Club has proved a valuable asset to the school, and has grown in numbers and importance since its inception. The annual bazaars conducted by the club have become a social event in the town of Castlemaine and the school, and have been the means of providing many amenities and educational equipment for the school. The present membership of the club is 70.

The Centenary year of the school coincides almost with the Silver anniversary of the Mothers' Club.

With an active Committee, an enthusiastic Mothers' Club and the aid of ex-students, the school has been supplied in latter years with many modern amenities, and numerous improvements and renovations have been effected.

In 1936, new shelter sheds were provided for the boys and girls. In 1939, the new toilet block was sewered. In 1945, a sound system was presented to the school by the "old boys" Les Brown, Les Armstrong, Jack Gardiner, George Hume and the Mothers' Club. This provides for classroom broadcasts and an outside speaker is used for assemblies, marching and playground activities. The equipment includes a microphone. The set is still giving good service, although a new one will soon be necessary. The telephone was installed in the Head Teachers office. In 1947 portion of the basement was converted into a bicycle shelter and provides excellent housing for a large number of bicycles. In the same year, many classrooms were re-floored and the interior of the school was painted. A fine assembly hall was made possible by the removal of a partition between 2 classrooms. This room has since been of immense value to the school as it is used for infant assemblies, rhythms, folk-dancing, a projection room for films and for school concerts and public assemblies on special occasions. The need for an additional class room was emphasised this year when the enrolment advanced to 340, and portion of this assembly room had to be used for a classroom for beginners.

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QUOTES GIVEN ON APPLICATION

In 1949, the Mothers Club replaced the unsuitable pictures hanging in the classrooms with £60 worth of very attractive and well chosen framed prints.

In 1947, the P.W.D. improved the heating of the rooms by the installation of 6 stoves. Last year, the other half of the basement was converted into a woodwork room and the Committee provided benches and tools to the value of approximately £80. Facilities are now available for the boys to complete some very useful woodwork models.

For many years there have been a very active Junior Red Cross Circle and a Social Service League at the school. The former faded out of existence when the latter was established, but was brought back into being last year. Both these organizations render valuable assistance to all charitable institutions, and the children make regular visits to the hospital and the Benevolent Home.

The playing area, though small, has been divided into two sections, the northern section is used by the infants and all girls, while the lower part is the boy's playground. In recent years the planting of shrubs, lawns and flower beds has given the school ground an attractive appearance. In 1948, during the term of Mr. W. W. Norton as Head Teacher, the school was awarded the A.N.A. prize for the most improved school grounds in the Castlemaine Inspectorate.

Last year the dilapidated and dangerous fence along Mostyn Street, was replaced, and now the grounds are securely and neatly fenced. During the last 3 years playground equipment has given concentrated pleasure to both boys and girls. The following items of equipment, provided by the School Committee and Mothers' Club, have been installed in the grounds: 2 log swings for infants, 2 Giant strides, (one for boys and one for girls), a horizontal ladder (boys), and a new concrete cricket pitch with suitable guards (boys).

As this book goes to print, extensive renovations are being made by the P.W.D. The old trees along Mostyn Street have been removed and an attractive sandstone retaining wall is being constructed. The embankment, when graded, will provide an excellent setting for the planting of shrubs, which in later years, should make this portion of the ground very attractive indeed. The northern section is to be sealed and the lower section graded. When all this work is completed it will be a fitting improvement to a school ground that has served so many children during the past one hundred years.

Early history of the South School is summarised in the following framed announcement hanging in one of its rooms:

"This school was originally a National School, and was opened on the 1st. August, 1855, and carried on in a building on this site.

"HEAD TEACHERS: 1857-1865, W. F. Main; 1865-1872, W. Palliser.

"The school was conducted as a State School from the 1st. January, 1873, and proclaimed a training school from the 1st. January, 1874.

"HEAD TEACHERS: 1873-1874, W. Palliser; 1875-1883, T. W. Courtney; 1883-1890, James Shugg.

"This building was opened by the Hon. Angus Mackay, M.L.A., Minister of Education, on 5th. July, 1875.

"OFFICIAL PARTY: Hon. G. B. Kerferd, Premier; Hon. R. Ramsay, Postmaster General; Hon. T. McDermott, Solicitor-General; Hon. N. Fitzgerald, M.L.C., Messrs. J. Farrell and J. B. Patterson, M'sL.A.; Cr-



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"BUILDER: Mr. Charles Walker."

Today, with Mr. W. Caldwell in charge, the school continues to progress. The children are as happy, alert, and accomplished as any group of school children in the State. The Mothers' Club and School Committee work in close co-operation with each other, and both organizations' chief aim is to advance the interests of children, and to foster complete harmony between parent, teacher and child.

The school population has grown during the last few years, and the attendance at S.S. 119 is higher than it has been for a number of years.

At the close of the first century, there is a growing interest of parents, not only in improving the school, but in understanding the general problems of educating their children. Not only can the physical environment of the School be improved with the active assistance of parents, but the very content of its education can be affected by their special knowledge and co-operation. In this regard much remains to be done to bring about a closer relationship between parents and teachers. Now we enter upon the 2nd. century in the history of this school, and look forward to a greater expansion in educational facilities. S.S. 119 will continue to prosper and be an educational force in the years ahead.

## HEAD TEACHERS

SCHOOL OPENED AUGUST 1, 1855.

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| J. MILLER        | 1855—1857        |
| W. F. MAIN       | 1857—1865        |
| W. PALLISER      | 1865—1874        |
| T. W. COURTNEY   | 1875—1883        |
| JAMES SHUGG      | 1883—1890        |
| JOHN A. ATKINSON | 1890—1893        |
| ROBERT CRAIG     | 1893—1895        |
| JOHN STEWART     | 1895—1897        |
| J. C. ROWE       | 1897—1899        |
| LUTHER WILLIAMS  | 1900—1909        |
| S. G. RIGG       | 1910—1911        |
| W. WILKIN        | 1911—1914        |
| R. V. FAVARONI   | 1915—1921        |
| C. W. PHILLIPS   | 1922—1925        |
| C. V. CECIL      | 1925—1927        |
| S. H. WOOD       | 1928—1933        |
| D. BLACK         | 1933—1934        |
| C. S. OSBORNE    | 1935—1936        |
| R. J. KEDDIE     | 1937—1938        |
| C. J. LOWRIE     | 1938—1943        |
| J. P. FLYNN      | 1944—1946        |
| W. N. NORTON     | 1946—1950        |
| H. HUGHES        | 1951—1951 (July) |
| E. SPRIGGINS     | 1951—1953        |
| W. L. CALDWELL   | 1953—            |

# PROGRAM OF CELEBRATIONS



Saturday, October 1 to 8, 1955



Saturday, October 1st. Place — School.

12 (noon) Luncheon for Official Party.

1.30 p.m. Street Procession terminating at School.

Official Opening of celebrations by Minister for Education.

Children's Display in Schoolground.

Monday, October 3rd. Treat for school children.

Tuesday, October 4th. Place — Library Hall. Time — 8 p.m.  
Social Evening for Old Scholars.

Wednesday, October 5th. Place — Assembly Room (School) Time  
— 2 p.m.

Past and Present Members of the Mothers' Club —  
Social Afternoon.

Thursday, October 6th. Place — Town Hall. Time — 8 p.m.  
Concert — Past and present pupils of the school.

Saturday, October 8th. Place — School.

Back to School — "Old Boys and Girls" (Bell  
rings at 10 a.m.).

Presentation of "Old Boys' Prize to Dux of School  
(2.30 p.m.).

"Old Boys' Reunion" (TOWN HALL) — 8 p.m.

Wholly set up and printed at the Castlemaine "Mail"

To S.S. 119

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