

## Eighth Decade 1945-1955

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### CALF JUDGING

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



Cyril Murch photo

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



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

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

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

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

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

### 75th JUBILEE

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

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

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

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

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

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





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



Infant School Staff 1950

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

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

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

### MR WEBSTER RETIRES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Miss Mangin became Mrs Chapman and later resigned.

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

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

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

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

## PLANS

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

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

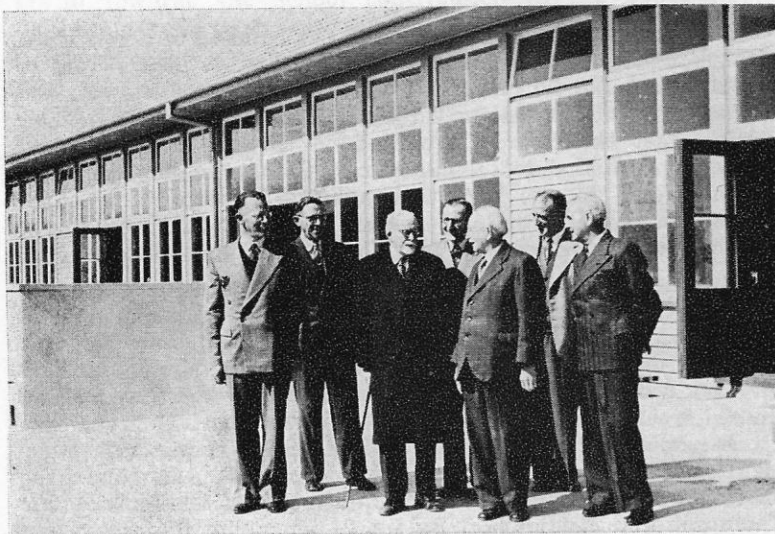
The children held a penny concert and raised £118.1 for plastic library book covers. In August Christina Eccleshall was in the basketball "rep" trials. A parent, Mr K. Hingston came and shot some movie film of Mr Strawbridge's demonstration Phys. Ed. class in action, to be shown later at a P.T.A. meeting.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

## LIGHTNING APPEAL

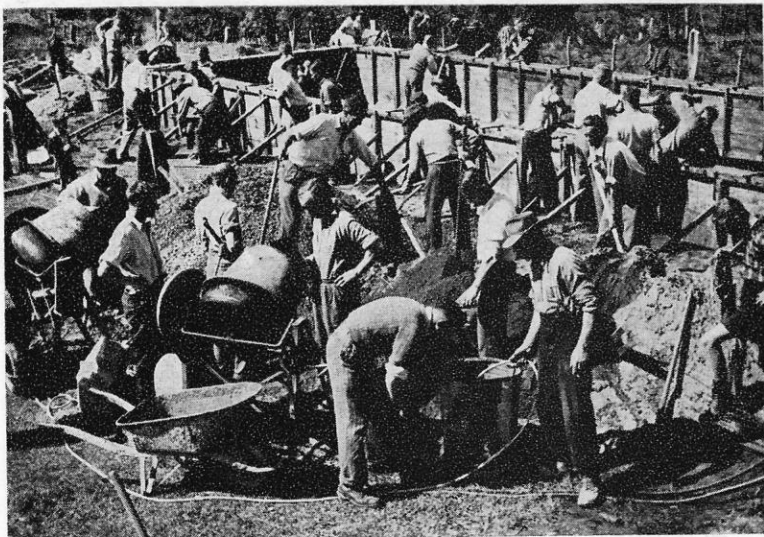
A very nasty shock hit this organisation—and indeed the whole district, when it was learned on August 17th that the hoped for Government £2 for £1 subsidy for school committees wishing to build their own assembly halls would no longer be available after August 31st. An extra-urgent meeting was called.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

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





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



The Big Pour. Construction School Baths 1953

## INFANTS MOVE AGAIN

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

## BATHS AT LAST

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

## LAST BREAK UP

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

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

## ANOTHER MOVE

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

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

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

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

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

#### TEACHERS OF THIS DECADE

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

#### PROBATIONARY ASSISTANTS (One Year)

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

#### RELIEVING AND SUPERNUMERARIES

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

## Ninth Decade 1955-1965

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Murray Patchett was elected chairman of school council.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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



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



**Mr Henry Sinclair, Principal**  
1953-1958



**Mr Jim Graham,**  
Principal (1963-68)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In October the infants held their Fancy Dress Ball.

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

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



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

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

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

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

### DIPHTHERIA BEATEN

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

Swimming: Marilyn Taylor became the Girls' District Champion.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

At the End of Year function a nativity play "A Christmas Journey" was performed and other items given. The DUX award went to Shirley Dingle. The Head boy, Paul Neal and Head girl, Josephine Walker spoke briefly. Mr R. Sorrenson was farewelled after four years at Hawera School.

The opening roll for 1960 was 459, Mr Hugh Bownes resigned to visit Great Britain and the U.S.A. Miss Wilmshurst came and Misses Page and Russell were the new P.A.s. In May the school lost Mrs Canavan, Mr Stewart, Miss Nicholls, Miss Aburn and Miss Auton who went to England.

The committee had a busy time and working bees laid paths from the road gate to both sides of the bicycle sheds.

The roll was 496 after the May holidays and Miss M. Webster began as Infant Mistress and Mr D. Morgan and Mr M. Stevenson were also appointed. An Australian exchange teacher, Mr Sinclair came to relieve as did Miss Kirk and Mrs Walden.

In winter the Rugby boys won the Linkhorn Cup. This was a popular win and only our second since 1934. The newspaper commented that in 1934 K. Milne was half back, and this time it was his son. Everyone felt very satisfied with the win as it was to be Hawera's last chance (with the Intermediate due to open soon). David Jones was selected a Rugby rep. Hawera also won the Ten-a-side Knockout competition for the Bhana Cup.

At the Competitions in August the school choir won several prizes and brought home the banner for the class open to both primary and secondary schools.

The P.T.A. continued to enjoy substantial support from the parents. They ran a "Father and Son" evening and also a "Mother and Daughter" evening and were very gratified with the attendance on these nights.

The roll got as far as 520 by the end of December but at the Break up, three classes were farewelled—one for High School and two for Intermediate. The Dux award was won by Michael Taylor and head pupils, Paul Veitch and Helen Walker spoke. Each member of the school council received the customary council photograph.

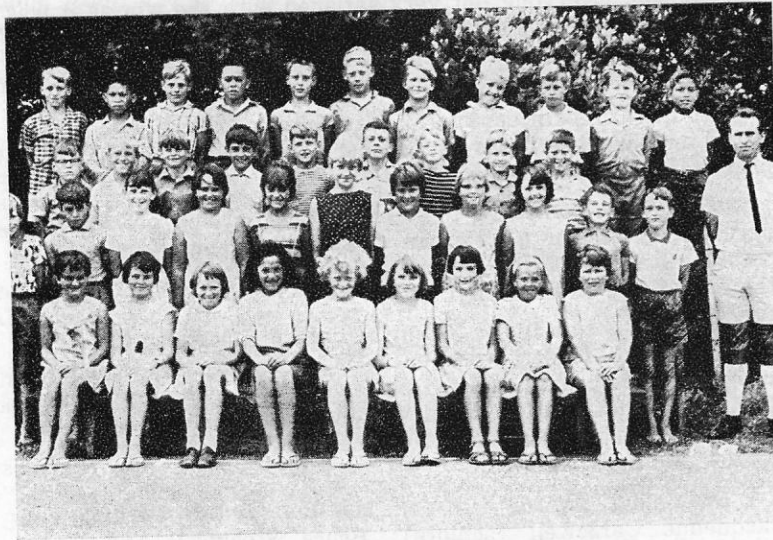
Swimming awards: Gordon MacRae, Judith Perkins and Jacqueline Careswell (seniors); Bruce Stockwell and Helen Walker (juniors). Dixon Banner: Champion of Champions, Raewyn Robinson. Tennis: Rose Milne and Margaret Taylor.

The Intermediate school was finished and a headmaster, Mr Tunnicliffe had been appointed. He was invited to come to the Hawera Break-up and when he spoke he extended a welcome to the 117 children who would be first day pupils of the new school. The 73 off to High School must have felt a little cheated.



**Staff in Mr. Hislop's Time: 1961**

Back row: Mr M. Stevenson, Miss J. Metcalfe, Mr D. Morgan, Mrs J. Woolford, Mr K. Peters, Miss J. Hoskins, Mr W. Mail, Miss A. Evans.  
Front row: Mrs Rowlands, Mrs J. McCallum, Miss M. Webster, Mr N. Hislop (Headmaster), Mrs A. Mail, Mr I. Doyle, Miss M. Wilmshurst, Miss N. McGuinness.



**Class Group 1968. Teacher Mr Nicholson**

Back row: Peter Broesma, Neville Robinson, Ross Craigie, Leslie Sole, Trevor Emeny, Carl Stent, Stephen Hurrell, Gary Davison, Wayne Darbyshire, Glenn Gray, Rajesh Govind.  
Second row: Robert Metcalf, Michael Johnston, Chris Barclay, Steven Robinson, Rauol Lealand, Robert Taylor, Martin Stevens, Michael Stockley, Grant Peters.  
Third row: Brett Goldup, Kevin Cochrane, Heather Learmonth, Judith Watson, Gail Thompson, Linda Boon, Carol Hill, Anita Foreman, Michelle Scott, Steven Beauchamp, Peter Hughes.  
Front row: Jan Smith, Ruth Casey, Carol Telford, Agnes Ropiha, Pam McKenzie, Susan Murfitt, Robyn Jones, Robyn Butler, Janice Bowers. Teacher: Mr. A. Nicholson.

## INTERMEDIATE OPENS

Well, there was a lot more room about the place in 1961. With only 355 pupils they could afford to shift all the library books out of the corridor and back where they belonged. To the surprise of everyone, the Standard 3 children of the previous year realised they were now the "Big kids" and rose to the occasion nobly. They assumed a new maturity, took on duties as traffic wardens and councillors and did them very well. Head pupils were Robert Filbee and Jennifer West.

The new P.A.s were Mr K. Peters and Miss J. Metcalf, and Miss B. McGuinness was the new speech therapist. During the year, Miss Webster, the Infant mistress conducted a series of experiments in Language Development and this attracted a steady stream of visitors from Taranaki and Wanganui.

There were eight new faces in the staffroom at the start of 1962. Mr John Lobb took up duties as First assistant, and Mrs A. Fryer as senior woman. Other assistants were Mrs A. Chapman (formerly Miss Mangin) (Infant Mistress), Mr C. Hedley, Mrs J. Barton, and the P.A.s Misses R. Dormer and J. Lawrence.

There was a bad 'flu epidemic in the winter. Up to a hundred children away each day and four teachers. Nurse Matthews gave each child born in 1956 an Audiometer test, and the Psychologist, Mr Callender tested children too.

## POLIO DEFEATED

In April and May 1962 the school children received their first and second doses of the "Sabin" anti-polio vaccine. At last it seemed as though this enemy of children had been defeated.

The committeemen enlarged the rear entrance paths with concrete slabs. In August the Standard 1 and Standard 2 held a real "Hangi" and were able to feed themselves and give everyone else a taste. Of course they had expert advice from Rev. Darville, Mr Whiti and Mr Davis. At the end of the second term four teachers left as also did the Headmaster, Mr Hislop who went to a position at Devon Intermediate.

## MR JIM GRAHAM

Mr Jim Graham came to Hawera at the start of the third term in 1963. He has been described as a patriotic returned soldier, a rugby enthusiast, an innovator and an inspiration to his fellow teachers. He did not believe in administering the school from the office and was frequently to be found around the classrooms.

In Mr Graham's time school concerts were organised usually about August and each class had to arrange an item. So there would not be any time lag between items the programme was arranged with front-of-curtain items on, while any scene shift took place. Children were timed with split second precision as they made their way from changing rooms, down the covered way to the stage for their items. He was enthusiastic about about reading, and every child was "Burt Tested" to determine



his reading age. Children were then grouped according to this reading age and special "Reading Rooms" set up. On three days a week children went to their reading rooms. Mrs Ihle took the 5½-7 year level with phonics, reading aloud and graded reader with special attention for weaker readers. Mr Graham took the 12 plus group.

At this time Hawera School helped as a pilot school on the "New Maths". Mr Graham offered the school and he organised a Maths Trolley with all the new equipment so that it could go to different classes. The authors of the new handbook, Mr J. J. Lee and Mr McFarland came and spoke on it. The staff experimented with the Grossnickle Mathematics books.

The new infant readers were analysed and evaluated in the Hawera infant classes by Mrs A. Chapman and her staff. (The N.Z. Readers written by Myrtle Simpson and now being published and used in England.)

The log records the death of a pupil, Robert Richard Moffat who drowned in the lake at the showgrounds. Mr Graham and the Committee Chairman visited Mrs Moffat to convey the message of sympathy from the school.

At the Break-up Mr Graham spoke to the parents about the pressures of modern life and how they affect children. He made a plea to parents, never to be "too busy" to make a stable happy background for each child. He deplored the all too frequent changes of teacher from which children often suffer, and he spoke of the resulting stress and setback.

Awards presented: Academic: Ainsley Johnson. Bhana Cup: Brian Drake and Patricia Clatworthy. Swimming: Jasper Buttress and Ainsley Johnson (senior); Neil Billington and Debbie Boon (junior). Athletics: Raymond Nairn and Karen Coulton. Padder Tennis: Chris Berry and Clarice Boylan. Lines Cups: Bronwyn Hoskin and Gregory Billington.

1963. The Shell Traffic Trainer was stationed at the school. The new school council was elected with G. Cambie as Head Boy and K. Butler as Head Girl. New staff were Mrs J. Henman (nee Metcalf) (Special class), Mr E. Betts and two relieving teachers, Mr Riley and Miss Garvey.

The Parent Teacher Association published a printed programme of the seven meetings planned for the year all on topics related to school work. These meetings were directed towards explaining the work of the school in each subject area. The President was Mr D. M. Harris with Rev. J. R. Battersby as secretary. The New committee chairman was Mr E. Terrill.

September. Secondary pupils came on a visit to see Education in action.

Parent evening. It was decided to go ahead with Filtration of Baths. Target £350 and to have a direct appeal to parents and a school concert. Parents supported this appeal very well and the following month a Wilkie Filter was ordered.

The planned concert took place at the end of year and was well received.

1964 began well and smoothly. Teachers attended one day before the children arrived and sorted out many things peacefully. The children knew their classrooms as this had been arranged before Xmas. The baths were filled and the new filter put into operation.

A new jungle gym replaced the broken one and was very popular.

Swimming: N. Billington, Debbie Boon (senior); D. Donaldson, Janice Powell (junior).

2-6 March. Head attended Headteachers' conference at Wallis House, Lower Hutt. April. Mr Savage, caretaker for 14 years moving to a position at Girls' College Tauranga. Committee short-listed eight applicants for the position. A special assembly later held to say goodbye to Mr Savage.

The June P.T.A. meeting was addressed by Inspector O. E. Johnson, who said it was the first opportunity he had had to do this. He discussed changes over the years and said "size of classes" was still the greatest impediment to education.

July. Parent interviews about reports arranged at fifteen minute intervals in school time. Most successful. 71% of parents were able to come. Education Board called tenders for alteration old block and enlarging. This work began in October.

Mr Betts represented Taranaki at Hockey.

In December parents arranged a roster so that school baths could be used and supervised over the holidays.

"The Smilie Construction Co. have been most co-operative. Buildings nearly ready". The end of year function had a decidedly "Scandinavian" flavour.

Awards: Academic, Margaret Thomson and John Hamer (equal). Bhana Cups: Neil Billington and Jeanne Wallis. Lines Cups: Shona Wilmshurst and Peter Colban. Athletics: Bronwyn Coulton, Graeme West. Padder Tennis: Janice Spalding and Graeme West. School Council: Neil Billington, Jeanne Wallis, D. McClenaghan, M. Williams, D. Donaldson, J. Hamer, D. Drake, Pam Cockerill, Christine Rowlands, Julie Jensen, Adele Wilton, Janine Collett.

1965 saw a smooth move into the improved classrooms. The staff day prior to the arrival of children was again carefully planned and put to the best use. The height of blackboards and their position was a great improvement. Staff very pleased indeed.

The swimming sports and Dixon Banner went off well.

In March the Minister of Health and Dr Blake Palmer visited concerning an I.H.C. Hostel.

The decade closed with over seventy parents turning out for the biennial householders' meeting and election which was taken as a fairly healthy sign.

## Tenth Decade 1965-1975

Many improvements fervently hoped for by parents and teachers of previous years had by the beginning of this decade, become a reality. Polio (Infantile paralysis) and Diphtheria which for so long played havoc with school life, were at last preventable and during this decade Rubella joined their ranks. Regular hearing and vision checks are carried out and children who are specially gifted or are emotionally disturbed now get the attention they need. This is the decade when class sizes have been reduced to thirty-five and may some day go lower. Teachers now spend three years in training college. No longer do children feel the need to play truant. In recent years a "Basic Equipment Grant" has largely replaced the parents' fund-raising ventures which were once so vitally necessary. The "New Maths" and the new Infant Readers which were introduced as pilot schemes at Hawera in the previous decade are now part of the school scene everywhere.

The School Donation Scheme which Mr Graham began, continues in operation today. This scheme guarantees the school an income for things not covered by basic equipment grants and most parents find it much easier than bazaars and stalls. Most families donate around \$2.50 a year, though larger gifts are not uncommon and one of \$50 was received.

The "Reading Rooms" operating to suit children of different reading ages did much to stimulate interest in reading which has continued at Hawera. The report interviews which Mr Graham began also proved very worthwhile. More than three quarters of the children had a parent who was able to come and talk over his progress. A steady stream of specialists continues to come into the schools as advisors. For the first few years of this decade regular courses on "New Maths" were held for the teachers.

### LOG NOTES

DECEMBER 1965. End of year Guest Speaker was Inspector Henry Sinclair, former Hawera Main Headmaster.

FEBRUARY 1966. The discovery of a large wasp nest in the back paddock resulted in a double burn operation by Mr Rodie which freed the school of a long felt nuisance. Anzac Day: Mrs Jean Drake again made a wreath for the school.

JUNE: Dulux Colour Consultants came about a new colour scheme for the school.

5 JULY: Special morning tea to mark the last official visit of Mr Sinclair.

AUGUST: A prototype infant blackboard was made and tried out and with two minor alterations it proved successful.

SEPTEMBER: The roll rose to 404. Committee donated twelve padder-tennis bats and nets and £25 for shrubs for the school frontage. Mr Blyth will supervise the choice and the planting of them.

OCTOBER: School concert.

NOVEMBER: Mrs Miles, an ex-librarian, is to advise on purchases and give some help with the school library.

1967. Swimming sports held separately for Infants and seniors. The sealing of the playground progresses slowly as the contractor works alone.

MARCH: Further parent working bees on the library, sorting, re-carding, plastic covering and accessioning new books. Head Boy and Girl and Mr Graham represented the school at the opening of the new Hawera Post Office.

MAY: Rooms 1-6 are to be painted over the holidays. It will mean a tremendous upheaval but the staff have tackled it willingly.

SEPTEMBER: We are disappointed that the grading roll is only 399. Speech therapist Miss Kinsella who married Mr Colin Hedley (also on the staff) has resigned. She will not be replaced this year.

OCTOBER: Staff disappointed that the Board decided not to paint the assembly hall as part of the routine maintenance.

DECEMBER: Unpredictably the roll is up to 415.

1968. STAFF: Mr J. Graham, Mrs Ihle, Mrs A. Chapman, Mrs Riley, Mrs Birrell, Mrs Campbell, Mr Baunton, (relieving) Miss Fryer, Miss Smith, Mrs Hagen, Miss Bell, Miss Davis, Mr Nicholson, Miss Minton, Miss Sanderson, Mrs Bleakley (relieving) and Mrs S. Powell.

Early in 1968 Mr Graham was notified of his appointment to Greerton School in Tauranga and he left after five years at Hawera.

### MR COLIN SMITH

The new headmaster was Mr Colin Smith, previously first assistant at Hawera Intermediate School. Mr Smith spent his early years at Opunake but was later Head Boy at Hawera Technical High School. His wife is a second generation Hawera School pupil. He taught at Hawera in 1950, 1954 and had been relieving First assistant in 1958. He had been a Taranaki Hockey representative.

1968 Notes: Mr Smith took up his duties in May. During the winter Hawera played Eltham at Soccer, Rugby, Hockey and Basketball. On Arbor Day golden Pohutukawa trees were planted along the South Road frontage and gaps filled in other pohutukawa hedges.

SEPTEMBER: Children took part in the Primary Schools' music festival and had a visit from the Childrens' Art Theatre.



NOVEMBER: Mr Watson's class paid a visit to the Wanganui Museum, the Putiki Pa and the Putiki Church. Ramanui School shared in the visit. About fifty parents of new entrants in Rooms 1 and 2 came along to hear the new-entrant work programmes explained and have any queries answered. Mr George Hill came to test pupils for intermediate school. Over a hundred parents came along for the athletic sports which were changed from February to November, in 1967. The recorder group trained by Mr Alan Tozer, performed for the November P.T.A. meeting.

As the warmer weather arrived parents organised themselves to supervise swimming out of school hours. Four Saturday "Learn to Swim" classes were arranged by the Hawera Swimming Club. A hundred and forty-four school pupils were accepted for the course and eighty had to be refused.

DECEMBER: Mr Watson absent to attend the Graduation Ceremony for Probationary Assistants. (Young teachers previously received their certificates in the post.) The Ministers' Association held a pre-Christmas Carol Service.

1969. A very expensive reshuffle was completed. We were thinking in dollars and cents by then and at a cost of \$18,000 the "special" classroom was converted into a new library which was to be carpeted, the library then in use was converted to a "Special" classroom and another new "Special" Classroom was built.

The roll stood at 414 and the staff was as follows: Mr C. Smith, Mr John Lobb, Mrs A. Chapman, Mrs A. Ihle, Mrs S. Powell, Mrs N. O'Donnell, Mrs Ann Fryer, Mrs Jo Campbell, Miss Lynn Roberts (P.A.), Miss Raewyn Campbell (P.A.), Miss M. Wright, Miss Cheryl Hall, Miss Brenda Shaw, Miss Joan Mills (Speech Therapy), Mr Andrew Nicholson, Mr B. McKenzie. and Mrs Eileen Dormer (hospital class).

The 1969 Swimming sports were held at the Town Baths.

FEBRUARY: A "Two-Hour Gala" arranged to defray the cost of the carpet for the new library. (It was held on 22 March and raised over \$500.) Inspectors Martin and Olson visited to see Year One teachers. Members of a team of Australian Gymnasts visited the school.

JUNE: Mrs J. Young who is organising librarian, Schools Library Service was at school for a week. A team of twenty-one mothers volunteered to help her with typing and sorting and the school library was changed over to New Dewey system of cataloguing for schools. The team of mothers had their photo in the "Hawera Star".

JULY: Two small children, William Jones (5) and Peter Lind (6) were run down while crossing the road outside the school. The crossing was being patrolled by the safety wardens at the time. The Headmaster, the committee chairman, Mr Stevens and Traffic Officer Watson inspected the area to see if visibility could be improved. This accident led to the development of the back entrance to the school for safety.

OCTOBER: The Cook Bi-centenary celebrations at Gisborne

were shown on Television and due to the kindness of J. B. MacEwan's Machinery staff it was made possible for children to view this long and memorable programme and join in the singing.

Seven staff members left at the end of 1969. Mrs Fryer, Miss Roberts, Miss Campbell, Mrs O'Donnell, Miss Hall, Miss Mills (speech therapist, now an N.A.C. air hostess) and Miss J. Lines, Senior Dental Nurse.

During the holidays the wall between the library and Room 8 was sound-proofed and louvres fitted over the top windows in the front block. Mr Smith's Newsletter at the start of 1970 appealed for help from any parents willing to type labels for journal boxes or varnish library shelves. It also asked for chocolate boxes for individual maths equipment boxes and spare underwear in case of infant room "accidents".

After nine years at Hawera, Mrs Ihle was farewelled early in March. The Log Book records that the School librarians have been appointed and are shaping well. They are named as: HEAD LIBRARIAN, Janice Rowlands; SENIOR LIBRARIANS: Karen Smith, Debbie Johnston, Anne Thomas, Alison Pepperell, Gordon Griffin; LIBRARIANS: Raewyn West, Leonie Boyd, Stuart Glass, Lyn Beauchamp, Cheryl Dombroski, Whaiora Savage, Robynne Lambert, Sandra Warner, Fiona Petherick, Kerry McClenaghan, Leslie Huffam, Steven Stockley, Barbara Knapman, Gaye Waters, and Jill Walker.

MARCH 1970: The "Special" Classes of Hawera and Stratford combined for a most ambitious Camp-Out in the Hawera School Grounds. Mrs Riley and Mrs J. Campbell of Hawera and Mrs Coull of Stratford were helped by specialist teachers Mr Lonsdale, Mr Capon and Mr Guild. Twenty-nine children took part in what was described as "an experiment in living and working together". Most of them slept in tents and the rest at their homes. They swam and had Sing-alongs and visited the "Lakes" and the Observatory at the Park.

Easter Saturday: The Fire Brigade summoned to a fire in the Pohutukawa trees. (It seems three boys from Primer 4, Standard 1 and Standard 2 were having an illicit smoko and were unable to put out the fire they caused.)

APRIL: Te Roti pupils visited for one day to see what it was like to work with a large class in a large school.

JUNE: Sickness struck the school affecting up to a hundred children and four teachers at a time.

JULY: Rooms 2 and 3 visited Wilson's Farm at Mokoia. Some Jaycees came to interest the children in their Milk Biscuit Scheme for children in under-developed countries. An excellent response from the pupils. Many petty burglaries at the school. (Keys and a few cents taken.)

AUGUST: Concert very successful. Over four hundred people crowded into the hall.

SEPTEMBER: We marked International Education Year, by having an Open Day at the school and an Evening Function. Parents were invited to join us for tea or coffee and then wander through the school observing the classes at work. (Visitors were asked NOT to strike up a conversation with teachers who would be carrying on as though no one was watching.) Second round of the Rubella (German measles) vaccinations. Several school trips made. One to Wanganui Museum and two to Ohawe.

NOVEMBER: Dixon Banner won by our team of T. Thomas, C. Thomas, M. Croad, M. Withers, S. Young, and A. Gibson.

1971. New staff, Miss T. Hurley, Mrs M. Glover, Miss J. Penney, Miss A. Tombs, Mrs J. McCallum, Miss J. Murray, Mrs G. Hunt, Mr T. Ryan, Miss M. Clough, Mr A. Drake, Mrs Bleakley, Miss Crutchley (speech), Mrs Hagen (teacher aid).

FEBRUARY: Headmaster attended an advisory committee meeting on "Gifted Children". A party of pupils were taken to the opening of the new Hawera Police Station. Room 10 held a camp. Swimming sports again held at King Edward Park Pool. Champions: Greg Parsons and Kerry Barclay (senior); David McCallum and Janine Cruden (junior).

MARCH: Rooms 13 and 14 held a blackberrying expedition to Te Kiri and Rooms 4 and 5 had a trip to Ohawe. Mr Lobb's class had a camp at the Eltham Presbyterian Camp site. Four mothers helped. The new library proves a popular venue for courses. Used for a Child Development course at which Mr Don McAlpine of Massey University was guest speaker.

APRIL: Biennial election results: Chairman, Mr R. Stevens; Secretary, Mr D. Lind. Forty-six attended the meeting. Heaters installed in Room 14 to boost the heating system. Miss Clough's class, Room 9 visited New Plymouth Museum and the Waitara Pa.

JULY: Parent interviews spread over a week of afternoon and evening sessions. School closed for a MID-TERM BREAK on July 12th. More class trips. Rooms 13 and 14 went to Mt. Egmont and the Plateau, Rooms 1 and 2 took a short railcar journey from Normanby to Hawera and Rooms 4 and 5 visited Te Roti School. Music course and a science course held in the library.

AUGUST: A Social held for combined staff, committee and P.T.A. Executive. The hall was absolutely packed with supporters when another "Two-Hour" Gala was held one morning. It was hoped to raise \$250 towards erecting a shelter at the rear entrance but twice this amount was raised in less than the two hours.

SEPTEMBER: The school recorder group and the choir performed at the Festival in the Little Theatre.

OCTOBER: A large tree fell across the baths. Mr Chittendon and his son removed it with a chain saw.

Over two hundred parents and friends visited on the "Open Afternoon to see the special displays set up on language, mathematics and writing, each showing how a pupil's work develops from year to year. Some teachers from New Guinea spoke in assembly. A music group from N.P. Boys' High gave a musical programme.

NOVEMBER: P.T.A. meeting took "Drugs" as its topic. Hawera won the Dixon Banner third time in succession. Rev. Len Willing was end of year guest speaker.

1972. New Staff: Miss Strauchon, Miss Melville (Scotland), Mr D. De Maine, Mrs E. Cairns, Miss J. Homer (speech), Mrs S. Tobin (dental nurse). On the staff day at the beginning of term, before the pupils returned, teachers heard about a positive approach to behaviour problems and the ways in which the school psychological service deals with the cases referred to it.

MARCH: Ninety at the P.T.A. annual meeting heard Mr Smith stress the need for varied pre-school experience and good oral language. Mr A. Dietschin replaced Mr B. Harding as president and Mrs J. Langford became secretary.

APRIL: Mr Menzies took an excellent workshop for parents on the school music syllabus but only forty attended. Mr Lobb's and Mrs Powell's rooms and the two special classes, entertained parents of their pupils at special afternoon teas at the end of term.

JUNE: Mrs Powell took a party out to entertain senior citizens. An Inservice course on audio-visual aids. Individual colour photos taken of the school children by Fotochrome Studios. Many teachers ill over the winter months. Relieving help given by Mrs Jean Smith, Mrs K. Wright, Miss Latimer and Mrs Cairns. The first unit classroom occupied.

1973. Cleaning of the school building was taken over by commercial cleaners. The dream of thousands of teachers became a reality. Smaller classes of not more than thirty-five children to a teacher became official. A second unit classroom arrived and the pupils using the hall as a temporary classroom moved in to it.

APRIL: Thirty at the Householders' Meeting. Mr A. Hughson became committee Chairman. Mr Lobb ill and in hospital for a time. A three day course on Gifted Children held.

JUNE: Mrs Margaret Young, local ward member on the Education Board visited the school.

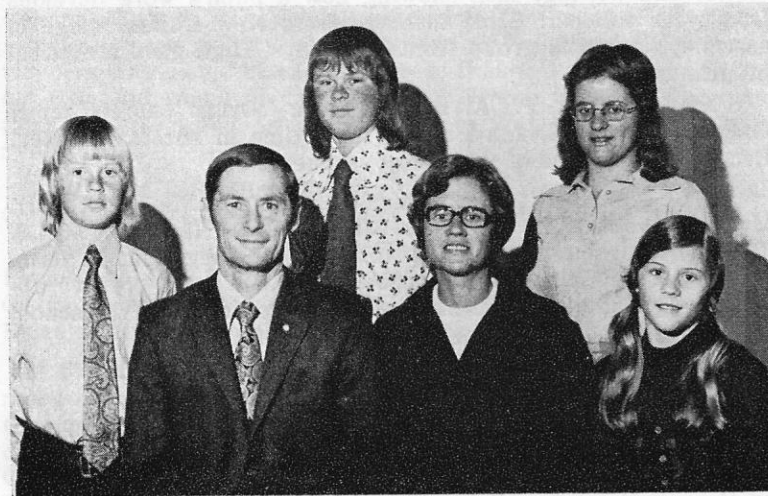
JULY: Messrs Davis and Phillips of the Egmont Power Board came and presented prizes to the placegetters in the recent Electrical Safety Competition.

NOVEMBER: Four student teachers from Palmerston North Teachers' College came for a weeks observation.

DECEMBER: A senior and a junior Fancy Dress Ball held.

During 1974 the third unit room arrived, the prefab was taken to Ohawe and work began in the new Speech Clinic on a quieter site. In April 1974 twenty people attended a meeting to





The Principal, Mr Colin Smith, Mrs. Smith (Jean Murch 1937-1944) and family from left Robert, Geoffrey, Jan and Barbara.



#### Centennial Year Staff

Back row: Miss S. Dryden, Mrs J. Smith, Mr W. Huffam, Mr D. Murphy, Mr R. Forsberg, Mr G. Hill, Mrs O. Bringans, Miss J. Clague.  
 Centre row: Mrs H. Moore, Mrs A. Chapman, Mrs J. Schurr, Miss C. Hall, Miss A. Matthews, Miss J. Averill, Mrs D. Christiansen, Miss S. Whitehead, Mrs D. Hagan, Mrs M. Bacon.  
 Front row: Mrs J. Walls, Mrs J. Sawers, Mrs J. McCallum, Mr C. Smith (Principal), Mr J. Lobb, Mrs J. Hughson, Mrs S. Powell, Miss M. Riley.

elect a 100th Jubilee Committee to plan celebrations. The Social Evening for staff, committee and PTA Executive was held in October.

As this decade finished and the school completed its first hundred years Hawera was beginning work on a pilot scheme, stage one, of a new music unit for infant classes. A great deal of planning work has been done for the jubilee celebrations and committeemen are working hard to ensure that the school will look its best. Three staff members, Mr Smith, Mr Lobb and Mrs Chapman were also on the staff when the last jubilee was celebrated in 1950.

Several families in Hawera have been associated with the school for three generations (the Headmaster's family are third generation) and the Chadwick family has had four generations attend Hawera Main School.

#### STAFFING 1975

|                       |   |   |                                |
|-----------------------|---|---|--------------------------------|
| Principal             | — | — | Mr Colin Smith                 |
| Deputy Principal      | — | — | Mr John Lobb                   |
| S.T.J.C.              | — | — | Mrs Jalna McCallum<br>(acting) |
| S.T.B.2               | — | — | Mrs Shirley Powell             |
| S.T.B.1               | — | — | Mrs Jan Sawers                 |
| S.T.B.1 Special Class | — | — | Mrs Jan Hughson                |

| Room | Teacher                | Class        | No. of Pupils      |
|------|------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| 1    | Mrs Alberta Chapman    | N.E.         | 21                 |
| 2    | Miss Catherine Hall    | J.1          | 17                 |
| 3    | Miss Anne Matthews     | J.1          | 16                 |
| 4    | Mrs Jalna McCallum     | J.1          | 22                 |
| 5    | Mrs Julie Schurr       | J.2          | 26                 |
| 6    | Miss Amanda Riley      | J.2          | 21                 |
| 16   | Miss Suzanne Whitehead | S.1          | 32                 |
| 17   | Mrs Jan Sawers         | S.1-S.2      | 35                 |
| 9    | Mrs Olive Bringans     | S.2          | 35                 |
| 12   | Mrs Shirley Powell     | S.2-S.3      | 35                 |
| 10   | Mr Russell Forsberg    | S.3          | 35                 |
| 11   | Mr Dan Murphy          | S.3          | 27                 |
| 8    | Mr John Lobb           | S.4          | 36                 |
| 15   | Mr George Hill         | S.4          | 37                 |
| 13   | Mrs Jan Hughson        | Junior Spec. | 12                 |
| 14   | Mrs Judy Walls         | Senior Spec. | 11                 |
|      | Speech Therapist       | —            | Miss Joy Averill   |
|      | Hospital Class         | —            | Mrs Margaret Bacon |



**School Council 1975**

Back Row: J. Kazubiernis, R. Smith, A. Chapman, V. Jones.  
 Middle row: M. Young, J. Porteous, S. Clancy, K. Savage, R. Armond, G. English.  
 Front row: C. Devadhar, L. Potts, B. Murch, Mr J. Lobb, Mr C. M. Smith, J. Stevenson,  
 J. Ranford, V. Westwood.



**A 1975 Class Group**

Back row: B. Burnett, M. Gudopp, D. Murray, K. Sandford, J. Savage, B. Cottle.  
 Third row: J. Kazubiernis, S. Batchelor, P. Bennett, R. Smith, G. Barnett, G. Ross,  
 M. Young, A. Dietschin, R. Sklenars, Mr G. Hill.  
 Second row: V. Jones, C. Kay, A. Keene, K. Savage, J. Hogarth, C. Jenkins, T.  
 Remihana, B. Murch, M. Toohill.  
 Front row: C. Chapman, J. Kelsen, V. Westwood, J. Berry, D. Kemsley, C. McColl,  
 G. Langford, S. Moore, P. Shortland, V. Patel.

|                     |   |   |                          |
|---------------------|---|---|--------------------------|
| Ancillary Staff     | — | — | Mrs Dorothy Christiansen |
|                     |   |   | Dora Hagan               |
|                     |   |   | Mrs Jean Smith           |
| Dental Clinic Staff | — |   | Miss Shona Dryden        |
|                     |   |   | Miss Janice Clague       |
| Caretaker           | — | — | Mr Bill Huffam           |
| Cleaners            | — | — | Crothalls                |

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE 1975**

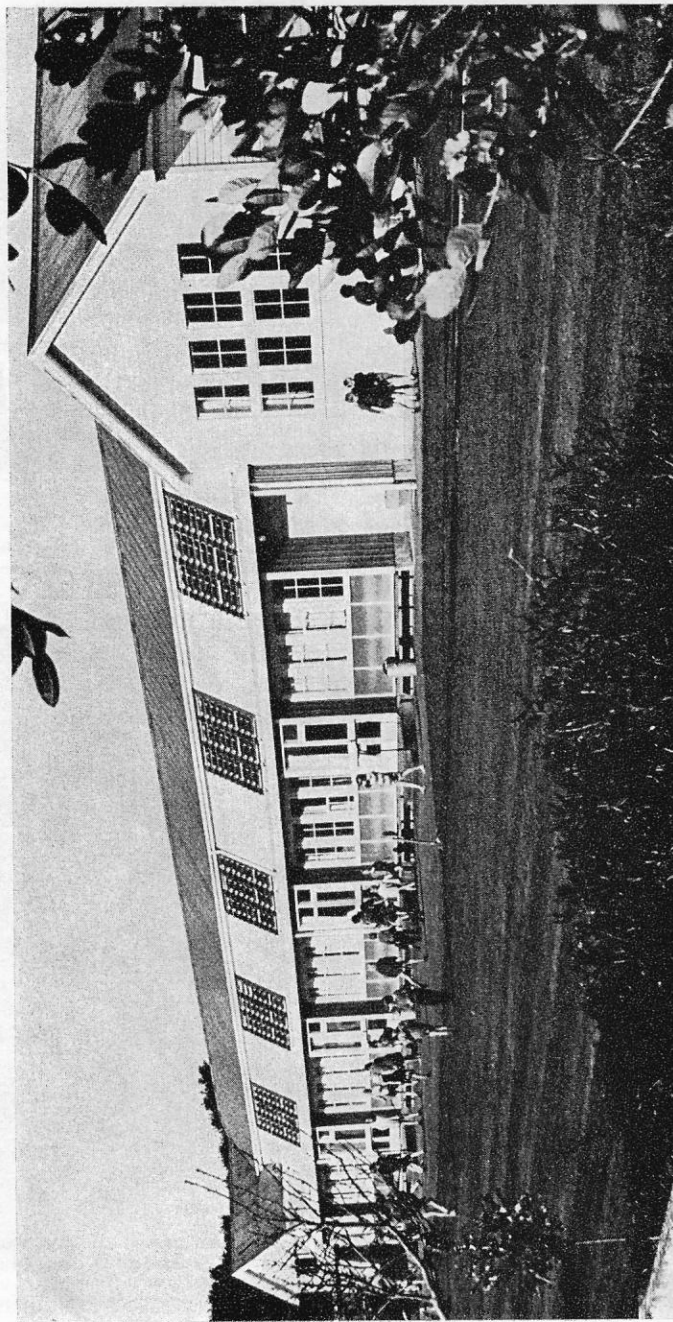
|   |   |   |                 |
|---|---|---|-----------------|
| Chairman  | — | — | Mr A. Hughson   |
| Deputy Chairman                                     | — | — | Mr J. McKnight  |
| Secretary/Treasurer                                 | — |   | Mr T. Kilmister |
| Mr S. Chowdhury, Mr A. Dietschin, Mr R. Murch,      |   |   |                 |
| Mr A. Nicoll, Mrs S. Spearman, Mrs E. Rayner, Mr R. |   |   |                 |
| Neale, Mr R. Allan, Mr D. Lind, Mr B. Duffy.        |   |   |                 |

**P.T.A. COMMITTEE 1975**

|   |   |   |                 |
|---|---|---|-----------------|
| President   | — | — | Mr A. Dietschin |
| Vice-President  | — | — | Mrs J. Walsh    |
| Secretary/Treasurer                                     | — |   | Mrs J. Langford |
| Mr C. Ekdahl, Mr R. Chadwick, Mr W. Jones, Mr M.        |   |   |                 |
| Willan, Mr I. Ross, Mr D. Dewar, Mr I. Robinson, Mr     |   |   |                 |
| J. Martin, Mr A. Nicoll, Mrs K. English, Mrs S. Watson, |   |   |                 |
| Mrs P. Hutchinson, Mrs B. Robinson, Mrs J. Thomas,      |   |   |                 |
| Mrs M. Counsell, Mrs D. Capewell, Mrs G. Parker.        |   |   |                 |



# The School Today



THE SCHOOL TODAY

Jubilee visitors who, like me have been away from Hawera for several years, will be astonished at the state of the old school today. It is now a Grade 7 school again and when I paid a visit soon after the 100th birthday I was shown the school by Mr Colin Smith, the Principal.

Colin began at the old school as a P.A. in 1950, the jubilee year, as the first male to teach in the primers. He was assistant again in 1954, and 1958, and since 1968 he has been in charge. He is obviously very proud of the wonderful school it is today.

The school entrance from South Road is on a wide sealed drive which at one time was part of Disraeli Street. On the right of the entrance is the dental clinic, and to the left is the senior classroom block which many will remember as the original "Infants' School" of 1928 while straight ahead is the new Infant Block.

We entered the older block on our left from a door opening off the car park which leads into a modern large staff room, centrally heated and decorated in gold and brown, with comfortable chairs and a large notice board. It has an adjoining kitchenette, and just down the corridor are offices for the Principal, the secretary and an interview room. A sick-bay and a storeroom complete what is called the "Administration Block".

This part is newer and where it joins the old "Infant School" hangs the old faded brown and gold Dixon Banner we knew so well.

We turned right at the banner and proceeded down a covered way towards the new block at the rear, but turned aside to have a look at the assembly hall. It is a most useful sized hall with a good stage and supper and changing rooms. We found someone busy working there and it proved to be Mr Jim Philip, now in retirement. Jim was president of the appeal committee when funds were raised to build the hall back in the 1950s but it is grand to find he is still as interested in the school as ever. He was replacing wall panelling with chip board to make a sturdier hall for sports activities.

He told us that many volunteers are currently working on the hall, rewiring it and installing heaters all by voluntary labour and putting a dark-room cum storeroom on one corner and a new roof over the renovated side rooms.

Near the hall is a detached room which was formerly the speech clinic. (This was "swapped" with the Education Board for a "Prefab room" which they needed for Ohawe.) Now decorated in pale blue it is equipped as a film room. This useful room also doubles as a practice room for after-school music groups. Behind it is a large sealed playground sheltered by mature pohutukawas and behind that again is the school baths. Here we found a 30ft

## EDUCATION NOW



## BEYOND BOOKS



## BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

x 15ft learner pool under construction. It is to have its own filtration plant. The playing field which stretches between the baths and the intermediate school is a little larger than it was, and a very happy arrangement for sharing it seems to exist between the two schools.

At the back of the school grounds is an area planted in shrubs and natives. The old karo hedge may be nearing the end of its life as a fungus disease has attacked its roots.

The third row of buildings is four individual rooms. Three are what are known as "Remountable" rooms, each with its own heated fold-away coat cupboards just inside the door. Two of these were acquired when the new 1:35 teacher:pupil staffing schedule came into force in 1973.

The fourth of these detached rooms is the Speech Clinic, where Miss Joy Averill has a roll of forty-two children drawn from the twenty-two local schools. As I was looking at her tape-recorders and telephones, a lad named Richard arrived from Turuturu School.

Behind the Speech Clinic is the new back entrance which reduces the dangerous traffic congestion on South Road. The observant will notice that this too was at one time part of Disraeli Street. It is now a wide entrance road with eighteen parking spaces and a double sided shelter or bus shed. It opens on to Manawapou Road where on each side of the gate a new concrete footpath runs to join up with the older footpaths further along.

The new Infant Block has six rooms and when I saw them each was gaily decorated with art and craft work and quite free from the old smell of chalk dust. The children were sitting in groups at six-man tables. In Miss Mandy Riley's room a display on "Winter" was most attractive. Toilet and cloakroom facilities open off a corridor which features display panels along its length. Right at the end of the corridor is a staff office and a storeroom made by using the old library shelves.

Back in the front block we found the rooms have been altered quite a bit to suit senior children. What used to be the hall for the infants is now a comfortable well-equipped library all carpeted, with lounge chairs placed in groups and even a rack of paperbacks. The library is frequently used for teachers' in-service course, in fact Mrs Jean Smith was moving chairs in readiness for one the following day. Above the bookshelves are two fine examples of Mrs Ngaere Riley's pottery classes and an ancient Maori canoe paddle. The classrooms open off an interior corridor along which are store rooms filled with the most interesting equipment . . . tape-recorders, listening posts with car-phones, class sets of percussion instruments and overhead projectors. When I expressed astonishment at so much equipment I learned that parent effort and generosity has provided much of it and the basic equipment grants the rest.

At the end of the corridor (the front left of the school), are two "Special" classrooms (Rooms 13 and 14). One of them



is the first of its kind specially built in Taranaki. Here the children drawn from twenty-two neighbouring schools have a rich and varied experience. Their interests range from woodwork to art and craft, from home cooking to the "Mona Blades Murder Enquiry". It surprised me to find both rooms equipped with modern electric ranges and plans were afoot to make soup and pikelets the following day.

Outside again I saw what a large playing field now exists on the right hand side of the school. Here a hundred dollars worth of hockey goals went up just recently. A newish Road called Kauri Crescent, formerly Pata Street cuts off the point of the triangle in the original education reserve section. In the front are golden pohutukawas which I am told are lovely at Christmas time.

### THE END OF A CENTURY

As we close our first century the Director General of Education is on the eve of his retirement as is Mr Glen Olson, staff inspector. Mr Olson commented recently:

"School leavers of today may not be able to recite the great list of facts their predecessors could, but they are certainly better equipped to handle the pressures of modern day society . . . Teachers today place more emphasis on the pupil than on trying to cram information into him. They strive for self-discipline rather than imposed discipline."

And that being the case we look with confidence toward the coming century.

ALISON ROBINSON



Newest pupils, on School's 100th Birthday. Left to right, Wayne Loveridge, Teena Pescini, Craig Bloor.

