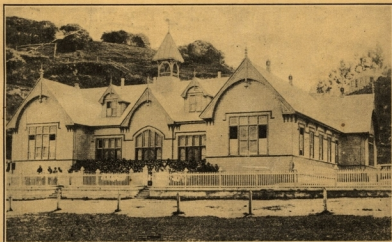


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(CENTRAL SCHOOL)

Diamond Jubilee

1879 - 1939



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Souvenir Booklet

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Editorial

A record of sixty years' service to the cause of education in Napier is the proud tradition of the Main (Central) School, which celebrates this month the sixtieth anniversary of its establishment as an important centre of education in Napier. To look in retrospect at the six decades of the school's existence is to bring back to mind its achievement not merely as a scholastic institution, but as an avenue through which thousands of persons have passed on the road to citizenship. Unlike a man, a school when it is entering upon the seventh decade of its existence is not approaching the final stages of life. Arrival at that point is merely a convenient pausing time to take stock of the past, to cast up the accounts, to make an assessment of past service and examine the prospects for new. Many schools are younger and more vigorous at sixty than at any earlier age. To the Main School, then, the advent of its diamond jubilee marks that point where it is "sixty years young."

H. K. STEVENSON.

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Dedication

THERE SHALL BE EDUCATION IN THIS LAND."

Such might well be taken as the motto of the early settlers, who even before the introduction of State Primary Free Education in 1878, maintained private subsidised schools to give to their children a better education than they themselves had had.

This Jubilee period should not only be one of retrospection, but a time of looking forward and planning for the future, whilst viewing the achievements of the past in their true perspective.

REMEMBER—

"Heaven doth wish us as we with torches do,
Not light them for themselves . . ."

Any review of the School for the past 60 years would be incomplete without mention of the services of members of the school committee during that long period. These men gave a service to the community of which we might well be proud, and to them and to members of the teaching staff, both past and present, is tendered sincere thanks for their outstanding services.

"Do not stand aloof, despising, disbelieving, but come in and help—insist on coming in and helping. There are glorious years lying ahead of you if you choose to make them glorious."

—Barrie.

May the period of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations be a happy time of social intercourse, a renewal of old and a making of new friendships, and, above all, a fitting acknowledgment of Him to whom we owe all things.

In these days of world unrest and insecurity, optimism is essential, but above all faith and courage, for as Dr. Johnson says: "Unless a man has courage, he has no security for preserving any other virtue."

C. DOUGLAS WILSON,

Chairman,

Diamond Jubilee Executive.

Napier, 31st August, 1939.

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The Hon. W. E. Barnard, M.P.

I am pleased to contribute a foreword to this Souvenir Booklet in celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of the Napier Central School.

New Zealand has reached a stage in its growth when it can look back over a long procession of nearly one hundred years; and we, her people, are beginning to realise that we have a history behind us—a history born of the toil and hardships of the early settlers; a history of resultant growth and development through the intervening years up to the present day, when New Zealanders are fortunate indeed in the enjoyment of a standard of living second to none.

Sixty years ago, in 1879, what was then known as the Napier District School—the first public school in the neighbourhood—was opened, at the foot of Milton Road. From then onwards, until the present splendid site was secured in Napier Terrace and a new building opened there in 1920, and still again, on to the present time, the school has had a continuous and honourable history.

Among those who have been instrumental, not only in building up the school, but in building up a School Tradition which has created a high standard of character among the children, the name of Mr. James Hislop must stand pre-eminent; and even the briefest foreword would be incomplete which did not bear high testimony to his forty years of devoted and successful service both as a Master and Headmaster of this school.

My earnest wish is that the future history of the Central School may eclipse even the fine record of the past, in passing on into the world boys and girls with a standard of character and a spirit of service which will make them ever worthier citizens of our splendid country and our great Commonwealth.

For therein lies the true test of success of this and every school in the Dominion.

THE HON. W. E. BARNARD, M.P.

I am glad of this opportunity of extending my congratulations to the Napier Central School on the occasion of its Diamond Jubilee.

The part played by the Schools and their teachers in the moulding of the minds and characters of the pupils is reflected in the activities of those pupils in after life. Many fine instances of school training are apparent throughout New Zealand, where pupils have gained the highest honours at school and followed on in the most important of positions.

Apart from this angle I have many pleasant recollections of School life associations and friendships and I can appreciate the opportunity given by this function for the renewing of such friendships and the making of new.

I desire to place on record my appreciation of the very fine work done by the teachers and committees in making the education of our children possible under the conditions as they are to-day.

T. W. HERCOCK,
Mayor of Napier.

It is a pleasure for me to make this contribution to the official Jubilee publication of the Napier Central School, a school that as a parent in the realm of education in Hawke's Bay, has, throughout the past 60 years, never failed in its good work of guiding and building the mental and physical well-being of thousands of our young citizens.

Its past pupils, strengthened and buttressed with a sound education have, and are to-day, occupying prominent positions in the social, economic, and recreational life of our nation. Year by year the traditions of "Central," by learning and by precept, have become enriched; and none can gainsay that the prosperity and advancement of Napier and Hawke's Bay are in a great measure attributable to the outstanding service of the members of the teaching staff and of the School Committees over this long period of years. And the work of the School must go on, for thinking men in all countries, are turning with renewed faith to education to counteract the mechanistic interpretation of life, and to still further raise the standard of living and the joy of life by self reliance and courage and by exalted leisure.

The hope of the future lies within the Schools, and I am sure this great institution will, in association with our schools throughout Hawke's Bay, continue to maintain the standard of its service to our country.

I congratulate whole-heartedly the Central School on the attainment of its Diamond Jubilee, and I earnestly wish the celebrations the utmost success.

I hope too, that past pupils will assemble on this occasion, to renew the friendships of boyhood and girlhood days, and to make a personal contribution to the School to which they owe so much.

With my personal good wishes.

G. E. MADDISON,
Chairman Hawke's Bay Education Board.

Programme

SUNDAY, October 22nd—

Assemble on Marine Parade (South of Sound Shell),
1.45 p.m.

March to Sound Shell.

Jubilee Church Service, 3 p.m.

March to Cenotaph and Laying of Wreath.

MONDAY, October 23rd (Labour Day)—

Civic Welcome: Municipal Theatre, 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, October 24th—

Jubilee Banquet, Foresters' Hall, 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, October 25th—

Jubilee Ball: Foresters' Hall, 8 p.m.

Cards for Non-Dancers.

THURSDAY, October 26th—

Monster Garden Party: Central School Grounds, 2.30 p.m.

Monster Jubilee School Concert, Municipal Theatre, 8 p.m.

FROM THE VERY BEGINNING

(By Mr. Jas. Hislop, former Headmaster).

Prior to the coming into force of the Education Act of 1877, the children of Napier had received their education at Church and private school. In February, 1879, however, the Napier District School was opened at the foot of Milton Road with a roll of approximately 500, and absorbed the pupils of the private schools in the vicinity, the teachers of these schools, namely, Miss Gascoigne and Messrs. Gush and Wright, becoming assistants in the new school of which Mr. A. B. Thomson had been appointed headmaster. In addition to the foregoing, there were on the staff Mr. W. Murray, first assistant, who afterwards became inspector, in Taranaki district, Miss Robottom, who remained in the School till 1903, Miss Stanley and several pupil-teachers.

Among the first pupils were the late Mr. Justice Oscar Alpers, the Rev. Charles Laws, now one of the outstanding clergy of the Methodist Church, and Mr. John Williamson, for many years headmaster of Taranaki School. On account of the steady rise in attendance, it was found necessary to provide increased accommodation, and the infant school was built at the corner of Clive Square and Carlyle street, where all the primer classes, and sometimes Std. 1 and Std. 2 were housed, Miss Robottom being in charge for a number of years. As the town grew so did the attendance, and the report of Mr. Hill at his inspection visit in 1889 shows a roll number of 708 in the main school and 395 in the infants, making a total of 1103, while in 1896 when the Premier, the Rt. Hon. Richard Seddon visited the school, he addressed 960 pupils, a remarkable attendance. The steady increase in numbers necessitated further rooms being built, the last additions being two upstairs rooms at the back of the main building.

CLASSES OF OVER 100.

The roll numbers remained at a high level for a number of years, and consequently teachers had very large classes to deal with, these numbering at times over 100. This state of affairs was improved when all the standard classes were accommodated at the Hastings Street School in 1903, and still more when Nelson Park School was opened in 1914. When the Intermediate School opened in 1933, a considerable drop took place, owing to about 160 Stds. five and six pupils having to be transferred there. The present roll number of the Central is about 400.

In February, 1892, Mr. T. Morgan, who had been headmaster of the Gisborne District School, succeeded Mr. Thomson as head, and with him started Mr. J. Hislop as third master. In 1904, Mr. Morgan died while still in harness, and Mr Hislop, who for nine years had held the position of second master, was appointed in his stead. On his retirement on January 31, 1934, Mr. H. Parker Smith took his place, to be followed on his appointment to Hastings Central by Mr. V. Parsons. Mr. Parsons was appointed head of Waipukurau District High School, and in February 1937, was succeeded at the Central by Mr. J. Daly. Mr. Daly was forced to retire owing to ill-health, and Mr. R. McGlashan, the present head, took charge at the beginning of this year.

THE OLD MAIN SCHOOL

As has been stated, the original school stood at the foot of Milton Road, being added to till it contained seven very large class-rooms, in addition to the gun room of which, I have no doubt, some of the boys have "painful" recollections.

In 1904, Napier was visited by a fairly severe earthquake which brought down the very tall chimneys, some of which were standing on the outside of the building, but otherwise no damage was done, and all the pupils were evacuated quickly without any mishap.

On December 5, 1916, a large part of the main building was destroyed by fire, the cause of which remained a mystery for a number of years, until a man on trial for setting fire to several places in Auckland, confessed that as a school boy he had been responsible for the school fire. With the Christmas vacation near at hand, many of the pupils were looking forward with glee to a good long holiday. In this, however, they were disappointed, for on the 7th work was resumed, the classes being accommodated in the infants' school, and in various Church school-rooms and halls near the Square.

This unsatisfactory state of affairs lasted for several years. Largely on account of the lack of playground space, as well as the greatly-increased traffic on the streets nearby, it was deemed inadvisable to rebuild on the old site. After protracted negotiations the present site on Napier Terrace—one of the finest school sites in New Zealand—was obtained and two fine brick buildings were erected. To these the primer classes were moved on April 1, 1920, and the standard classes on February 7, 1921, the total roll on the latter date being 585. On April 20 the school was officially opened by the Hon. C. J. Parr, K.C.M.G.

AND THEN FEBRUARY 3, 1931.

On February 3, 1931, the day after re-opening, the disastrous earthquake that visited the district destroyed both buildings. Very fortunately, the children had been given an extra quarter hour's play which just carried them over the commencement of the 'quake. A later examination of the rooms showed that had the pupils been at work 70 or 80 of them must have been killed or seriously injured. As it happened, there was only one casualty, a little chap who had entered school the day before having a leg broken by bricks falling from an outbuilding.

Again the pupils had to be accommodated in various buildings in the town until two modern wooden buildings were ready for this use. The first of these was officially opened on August 10 by the Hon. H. Atmore, Minister of Education, although some of the classes had still to be taught in other buildings.

If the lives of the thousands of pupils who have passed through this school, first known as Napier District School, later Napier Main, and now Napier Central, could possibly have been followed, what a number of interesting and gratifying tales would have been unfolded, and, alas, I am afraid, many tragedies.

No matter what part of New Zealand one may go into, one is almost sure to meet one or more of the old pupils, who, on the whole, look back with pleasure on the years they spent at their mother school. In fact one hears of them scattered here and there throughout the world.

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It is pleasing to note the large number of old boys and girls who have risen to high and honourable positions in the various walks of life they have taken up—professional, commercial and industrial, both government and civil. Among the many outstanding pupils we may mention the following:—Oscar Alpers, John Caughley and Percy Storkey.

Oscar Alpers arrived in Napier from Denmark in 1875, and was then not able to speak a word of English. He first attended a private school, and on the opening of the District School became one of its first pupils. As he says in his "Cheerful Yesterdays," "by October I had run through the standards and had passed through the highest class in the school." At the age of 12 years and 7 months he was appointed a pupil teacher in the school, and completed his training at Christchurch Training College. Later he was employed as a teacher and lecturer at Canterbury College. At the age of 38 years he was called to the Bar, and at 58 was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court, the day after he had been asked by the Government of Denmark to act as Consul for that country. Strange to say, his first sitting as a judge took place in Napier.

Percy Storkey, some time after he left school, having been educated at the Main and later the Napier Boys' High School, went to Sydney where he studied law and ultimately gained his L.L.B. degree. In 1915 he went with one of the Australian Reinforcements to France where he gained the coveted V.C. for valour in the field. On returning from the war he continued his work at the Bar, and much to the pleasure of those who knew him, word came a short time ago that he had been appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales, at the early age of 45.

John Caughley, after passing through the school, became a pupil-teacher in Hastings District School. On the completion of his apprenticeship he was, in 1892, appointed fourth master, and later third master in this school. After having had charge of several important schools in this and other districts, he became Assistant-Director of Education, to be promoted later to Directorship, and thus controlled the whole of education throughout New Zealand.

Eric Arnold, on leaving school, joined the Civil Service, and steadily rose in his branch of the service until he became Commissioner of the Government Life Insurance Department, a position he still holds.

The motto, "Mens sana in corpore sano"—a sound mind in a sound body—has played an important part in the education of the pupils, and a keen interest has been taken in physical training and sports of all kinds.

THE SCHOOL CADETS

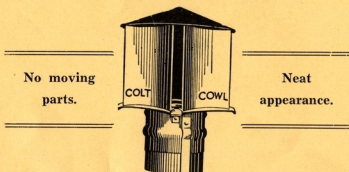
For a number of years the school had three cadet companies, and these in their neat uniforms took part in many military and public gatherings in the town, where they always made a very favourable impression. In 1901 two companies visited Christchurch to take part in a review of volunteers and cadets before the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York (King George V and Queen Mary) and His Royal Highness awarded pride of place in the march past to the Napier lads.

In 1907 the cadets again paid a visit to Christchurch, where a pleasant and profitable time was spent in military drill and visits to the Exhibition.

Swimming and Life Saving have long been a recognised feature of the school activities. In 1911 a Life Saving Class was started by Night McCartney, an old pupil, who had himself in 1904 and 1905 won the schoolboys' champion swimming medal for Hawke's Bay. Quite a number of trophies, won by both girls and boys, have come to the school, and every year quite a number have qualified for certificates for both distance swimming and life-saving.

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Football, cricket and basketball have also received their full share of attention, and time and again the competitions in each of these sports have been won by the school teams. A special word of praise is due to Mr. H. V. Phillips who, ever since he joined the staff, has taken a very keen interest in the foregoing sports, both land and water, and has devoted a great deal of his own time to coaching the children. Much of their success must be attributed to his good work.

In conclusion, I would call upon the present pupils "to play the game," and strive to emulate the many good examples that have been set them. May they remember that the school has always borne a good name, and may they by their diligence and uprightness try to maintain that good name, nay, to place it on even a higher level than ever before. As the motto on the gate says: "Lay well thy foundation."

"THEN AND NOW"

(By J. Caughley, M.A., formerly a pupil and a teacher in the Napier School, and later Director of Education).

It gives me unusual pleasure to join with other former pupils in commemorating the Jubilee, the old associations, and the splendid record of the original Napier School, which I entered as a pupil in 1883, and as a teacher in 1892. As "THEN AND NOW" covers 56 years, I propose to review some of the changes in school life that have taken place in that period.

First, in order to give present pupils a time-perspective, we may point out that in 1880 Napier, and other New Zealand towns had no wireless, radio, cinema, electric light, telephones, trams, motor-cars, safety-bicycles, typewriters, nor even lip-stick and permanent waves; while aeroplanes and submarines were still confined to Jules Verne's wonder-stories.

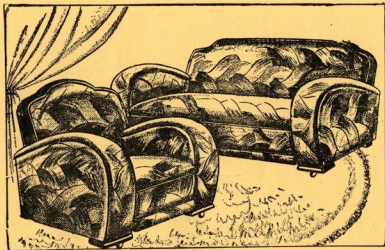
For very many years before and after 1880, every primary school pupil had to face an annual individual examination by the Inspector in almost every subject; and according to a fixed detailed New Zealand syllabus. Now, the rigid universal syllabus is largely replaced by the adapted school "scheme of work," and class-promotions are made by the Headmaster.

Before, and for about 24 years after 1880, only a very few pupils proceeded from Standard VI to a High School, as the fees were high and scholarships were few. In 1886, the Napier School, with about 900 pupils, had only 26 in the sixth standard, and of these, only two or three secured scholarships.

Since 1904, however, every qualified standard VI pupil may have a free place for secondary education; and now, in New Zealand, 99 per cent. of the pupils receiving Secondary education are free pupils. This represents the highest proportion for any country in the world.

THE TEACHERS, THEN

Up to 1901 about half of the school staff in Hawke's Bay were pupil teachers, nearly all of whom proceeded straight from the sixth standard to positions with £20 per annum for the first year to £45 for the fourth year. Then many of them were unable to secure a position as assistant at even £60 or £80 per annum.



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Since 1901, however, the staffs have been greatly strengthened and much better paid through the introduction of a Dominion scale of staffs and salaries. Further, through the introduction in 1916 and 1918 of the Dominion scheme of grading and appointing of teachers, all teachers have an open field for appointment over the Dominion, instead of being virtually restricted to one province as under the former parochial system.

Since 1906 also we have reaped very great benefits from the establishment of four Training Colleges, though before that event, Napier did some very good work with a small training school at Napier South. Now, every entrant to the teaching profession has had a secondary education at least up to Matriculation standard; and then for two or more years receives training and some University education, while receiving an allowance of about £100 per annum including board allowance. What wonderful advantages they have over the pupil-teacher of 50 years ago.

Space will not permit of more than a mention of other great advances since 1880. These include: Great improvement in school buildings, smaller classes, generous provision for conveyance of pupils, manual and domestic training, medical and dental inspection and treatment, correspondence schools, free milk supply, modern physical training, reduction of "home-work" and "keeping-in," and a marked relaxation of the sterner form of rigid discipline and control. Pupils and teachers alike, and of course parents, have thus inherited very great benefits from these numerous and valuable improvements, which leave us little cause to envy any country in the world with similar resources.

May I, in conclusion, make two comments. When looking back to the less favoured days of 1880 and thereabout, let us pay full tribute to the pupils, parents, teachers and officials who, in spite of, and often because of, the difficulties and deficiencies of fifty years ago did such splendid work for the town, the province, and the Dominion. Many of the Napier and Hawke's Bay teachers of 50 years ago would not suffer in comparison with the best teachers of to-day with respect to personality, breadth of outlook, wise training and education of children and to their influence among the community. Many parents and grand-parents of to-day will testify to this tribute.

BUILDING A NATION

The old pupils too, even without present-day advantages, have, in surprising numbers, borne splendid testimony to their teaching and training as well as to their own diligence, initiative, enterprise, capacity and character. In all walks of life they have done great credit to themselves, their teachers and parents. Naturally the individual cases are most noticeably those of youths and men in the outside world; but there is also abundant general evidence that the former girl pupils, few of whom engage in the outside world, have in the far more important and fundamental sphere of Home and Nation building, rendered unique service to the city, the province, and the Dominion, of a type and national value that even the most successful business man can scarcely surpass.

My last comment is that we can confidently hope to see the present pupils, parents and teachers realise, appreciate, and give rich evidence of their endeavour to utilise and make fruitful the wonderfully improved and beneficent conditions and facilities which they now enjoy. "Noblesse Oblige." Privileges carry obligations. We feel sure that the present generation will, through their present advantages, develop a wider, fuller, richer, more and more cultured standard of life and character, resulting in a capacity and a readiness for greater service, and in the provision and transmission of still richer opportunities for the next generation.

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THE YEAR THE SCHOOL OPENED.

Back Row: Mary Oliver, Mary Corbin, Alice Hamlin, Sarah Stewart, Adaline Baldwin, Louise Brenton.
 Middle Row: Ada Le Moignan, Lilly Corbett, Louise Berry, Maggie Leslie, Minnie Spriggs, Martha Grubb, Maggie Symonds.
 Front Row: Aggie Coulton, Priscilla Burton, Emmie Faulknor, Clara Schwabe, Kate Dunn.



STANDARD 3 IN 1879.

Mistress: Florrie Reed.

Back Row: J. Carruth, Mary Mortenson, Kate Grant, ———, Clara Hausen, Mabel Smith, Maggie Spratt, M. Murray, F. Baker, ———.
 Middle row: T. Watt, S. Lindsay, P. Sellar, Percy Bear, H. McLennan, F. Laws, H. Rymer, Percy Bridger, ———, V. Kelsale.
 Front Row: H. Bull, A. Wooden, T. Bear, Nellie Gilberd, —, Sculley, M. Jones, Annie Webber, ———, H. Hallett, Charlie Smith, Tom Limbrick.

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ANDREW J. ANDERSON———Managing Director.

"A PEEP INTO THE PAST"

(By A. E. Renouf)

My mind drifts down the "River of Years" to the day when, as a very small boy, I was gently led to the main District School at the foot of Milton Road, Napier, to be initiated into the mysteries of the three R's. The School had not long been built and at that time had no fence around it.

The Headmaster was Mr. Archibald Bruce Thomson, a strict disciplinarian but a very just man. He wielded a "nifty" cane in a manner all his own. Instead of the orthodox "swish," he used to "wiggle" the stick and connect with a sharp flip, and, oh boy! did it sting?

Nevertheless, Mr. Thomson was a splendid teacher and his old pupils will remember with gratitude the benefits they received while under his care. Many years after leaving school I met Mr. Thomson who was visiting Napier. He was pleased to see me and said: "It is nice to know that my old scholars are keeping my memory green."

The first assistant master was a kindly old Scot named David Murray, whose expression "Shut ye the door" will be recollected by old-timers. Later on his place was taken by Mr. James Smith, better known to his class as "Sprouty." Eventually he resigned to take up farming in the King Country. Only a few years ago I met him in Napier and he recognised me at once.

Then came Mr. David Sturrock, who, I am happy to say, is hale and hearty and at the age of 81 is still able to play a good game of bowls in Wellington where he now resides. It is hoped that he will be present at our Jubilee Celebrations and exchange happy reminiscences with the old-time pupils.

Other teachers that I remember in the olden days were Oscar Alpers (afterwards a Judge of the Supreme Court), Charles Heslin, — Wake, James Hislop (now in retirement) and John Williamson (chairman of Taradale Town Board).

The lady teachers that I can call to mind were Miss Robottom (infant mistress), Miss Corbin (now Mrs. Harris, residing at Greenmeadows) and the two Misses Brown. Miss Mary Brown had a rather extraordinary accent—so much so, that a dictation lesson she gave us over 50 years ago remains imprinted on my memory. Here it is:—"It is a circumstance of great significance that parts of animals which to superficial observers, might seem useless or even inconvenient, have been found in the progress of discovery, to serve the most important ends in the economy of life."

In those early days what is now the thriving suburb of Napier South, was known as the "Little Beach." In the hot summer weather we often went to bathe during the lunch adjournment or dinner hour as it was usually known, in a creek which was situated about where Macdonald Street is now. To get there we had to take off our boots and stockings and wade across the Little Beach. The water in the creek was about three feet deep and quite warm and it was there that most of the boys learned to swim.

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Among my fellow pupils in those early days were John Caughley (later Director of Education), Herbert Russell (late secretary Hawke's Bay War Relief Association), Robert Le Quesne (the famous Rugby full-back), Robert Holt (R. Holt and Sons), Harry Bull (Fraser and Bull), Wm. Fraser (late Daily Telegraph), Robert Magill (draper), and many others whose names I cannot recall at the moment. Many of these old scholars have gone West. Others have sought their fortunes in various parts of the world, while a large number have stuck to their home town and I am happy to say, have done well for themselves.

Occasionally one would find among the very early pupils a hefty lad with a full beard, which gained for him considerable respect from the small fry.

I have a keen recollection of the Tarewera eruption which destroyed the famous pink and white terraces in 1886. In Napier the sky was obscured by a dark cloud composed of ashes carried by the wind from the scene of the eruption. The gloomy effect was most weird and unearthly. Needless to say, very little work was done in the school that day owing to the prevailing excitement.

Old-time pupils will have happy memories of the annual school concerts when cantatas were produced under the able guidance of Mr. D. A. Sturrock. On one occasion I was cast for the part of the quarrelsome scholar and had to appear with a lovely black eye. I wonder how many old-timers remember little Katie Cantte singing to me in a sweet childish treble:—

Naughty Boy, Naughty Boy,
Always fighting, don't you know
You are bad, very bad
When you quarrel so.
If such wicked things you do,
None will ever play with you
Naughty Boy, Naughty Boy
When you quarrel so.

Charlie Hodgson was the tardy scholar and the words of the chorus sung to him still remain in my memory:

Tardy scholar is your name
You are scolded, whose to blame.
Always sleeping till the clock strikes eight,
Slowly creeping to the schoolyard gate.

What a memory, sez you. Maybe, but just ask my wife what happens when she tells me to be sure and bring home a pound of butter.

Heigh ho! It is a far cry to those olden days. Since then the happy shouts of successive generations of children have echoed through the school playground. The name of the old school has been altered and its location changed, but to us old-timers it still remains our Alma Mater.

We all retain happy memories of our old school days when such matters as the high cost of living and rates and taxes meant less to us than the dirt beneath our feet.

At our jubilee re-union old friendships will be renewed and many reminiscences exchanged.

And when the festivities have died down, let us with cheerful hearts continue to wend our way along the "Broad Highway which is Life" till the end of the journey, when the bell rings for the final assembly and the Great HEADMASTER calls the Roll.

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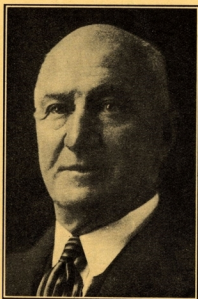
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MR. JAMES HISLOP A Revered Headmaster

With a record of service behind him, unchallenged in the history of Education in Hawke's Bay, Mr. James Hislop retired from the headmastership of the School in September, 1933, after having served as headmaster for some 30 years. Beloved of all the pupils who passed through his capable hands, Mr. Hislop was a man to whom no tribute could be too high, and his retirement came as a well-earned rest after a task which had carried him through times of stress and turmoil, war, depression and earthquake. Yet he continued to lead the school with an understanding and courage which only a man of his calibre could show.

Of a kindly disposition, Mr. Hislop ruled the school with a discipline which called for the best from his pupils—and the best he received. Right throughout his teaching career—it extended over some 50 years in all—Mr. Hislop took an individual interest in his pupils, an interest which has borne fruit in the great number of citizens of Hawke's Bay, in fact New Zealand, whom he can call friends. Those who were taught by Mr. Hislop retain happy memories of his helpful manner in the class. He was severe? yes he was severe! but with a severity which was met by admiration.

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Mr. Hislop originally commenced his career as a schoolteacher as a pupil teacher at the Williams Street School (now the High School) Dunedin, at the early age of 14 years. That was in 1883, and five years later he spent some time at the Dunedin Training College. A first assistantship was then granted him at the New Plymouth Central School, which position he held until he came to Napier as second assistant at the Main School. That was in 1892. Three years later he was promoted to the position of first assistant, and in 1904, on the death of the late Mr. T. Morgan, he was appointed headmaster, a position which he held until his retirement on 31st January, 1934.

When Mr. Hislop first came to Napier, there was only one school, the Napier Main School, with the White Road School (now the Hastings Street School) as a side school. The roll number was in the region of 1000, but in time Hastings Street, Nelson Park and Te Awa Schools were definitely established. It was in 1916 that the old Main School building was destroyed by fire, and had it not been for the prompt action of Mr. Hislop many of the records from which information has been gleaned for this issue would have been lost in that disaster.

In 1920 the new school was built in its present site, and to use his own words, Mr. Hislop says: "The position is ideal, and certainly one of the finest occupied by any school in the Dominion."

In addition to his interest in education, Mr. Hislop was closely associated with military activities in the province. As far back as 1888, he was a lieutenant in the New Plymouth Central defence cadets, and on coming to Napier was, in 1901, placed in charge of a defence cadet company which was formed in connection with the Napier guards.

The following year he was appointed adjutant with the rank of Captain in the Third Wellington (East Coast) Battalion of Volunteers and later appointed second in command with the rank of Major.

In 1910 Mr. Hislop, as Lieutenant-Colonel, took charge of the 9th Hawke's Bay Regiment on the inauguration of the Territorial system, which rank he held until 1920 when he was placed first on the reserve list and later on the retired list.

Mr. Hislop was prominent in sport in the province in the early days, and represented Hawke's Bay in Rugby in 1892. He was also a keen rowing enthusiast and for some years was a prominent member of the Napier Rowing Club. His interest in bowling was also keen until military duties precluded him from participation in this sport.

Mr. Hislop also took a great interest in swimming and for 13 years was the president of the Napier Swimming Club.

A man of many interests, Mr. Hislop has been popular alike with fellow teachers and pupils, and in his retirement has the very best wishes of all those with whom he has come in contact during the past 50 years.

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Seated: Mr. Phillips, Miss Burns, Mr. McGlashen (Headmaster), Miss Corbett, Miss Bailey.



THE STAFF IN 1881.

Back row: Mr. A. B. Thomson (Head.), Miss Robottom, Miss Gilroy.

Middle Row: Mr. J. Williamson, Miss L. Burden, Miss M. Spriggs, Mr. Chas. Heslin, Mr. D. A. Sturrock.

Front row: Mr. Jas. Smith, Miss M. Palmer, Miss M. Brown, Miss N. Renouf, Miss J. Monteith.

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1882—John Williamson	1912—Jessie Wilson
1883—Olive Townshend	Charles Ling
1884—Rosa Chegwidden	1913—Garfield Lovell
1885—Nancey Renouf	1914—Ernest Fossey
1886—Arthur H. Ferguson	1915—Reginald Downes
Helena Paulson	1916—Ruth Thompson
1887—Frederick Mitchell	1917—Madge Prentice
1888—Annie Magill	1918—Audrey Lake
1889—George McGlashan	1919—Zina Garry
1890—Harry Mayo	James Kwock
1891—Alice D. Kerr	1920—Douglas Kohn
1892—Ethel Dugleby	1921—Gilbert Stewart
1893—Percy King	1922—Britton Chadwick
1894—William Livingstone	1923—A. M. Bull
1895—Enid Dugleby	1924—Molly Metson
Eric Arnold	1925—Douglas Wilson
1896—E. Bourgeois	1926—Neil Macfarlane
1897—W. Jones	1927—Joyce White
1898—Alice Rauzi	1928—Peter McLean
1899—Ina Dugleby	1929—Dorothy Reeves
1900—James Rundle	1930—Bruce Ellison
1901—Rose Ashton	1931—George Reeves
Lillas P. Thompson	1932—Nancy Thorp
1902—Minnie Williamson	1933—Margaret Storkey
1903—Lilly Smale	1934—Peter Sinclair
1904—W. B. Marsh	1935—Ralph Ennor
1905—W. N. Thompson	1936—Joyce Baird
1906—Robt. McCartney	1937—Barbara Winstone
1907—Flora M. Ford	1938—Heather Cornish
1908—Florence Berrill	

An Appreciation

I have just heard from Mrs. Rossman of the Central School Jubilee celebrations. My husband spoke so often and with such affection of his old school, and particularly of Mr. Thomson, that I know he would have made every effort, had he been here, to attend, but as that is impossible I feel he would like his name and memory to be associated with the celebrations, so I send you, for his sake and in his name, a message of congratulation and good wishes, in which his children, my two sons and a daughter, would like to join.—Yours sincerely.

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EDUCATION TO-DAY

(By Mr. R. McGlashen, present Headmaster).

BECAUSE their contact with the schools is neither as close nor as frequent as it might be, many people overlook the fact that almost revolutionary changes in society are, to a considerable extent, reflected in the modern school-room. The actual methods of teaching have undergone radical changes even within the last decade, but even more pronounced have been the changes consequent on the revaluing of the social purposes of the schools. New outlooks on psychology and sociology have had a profound effect.

In the old days "subjects" were taught to the child. Now it is completely realised in theory and largely in practice, that the emphasis of teaching must be upon the personality of the individual child instead of upon the subjects with which he must grapple. The three "R's" though recognised as the essential tools of learning, and not made the "be-all" and the "end-all" of the child's education. Progressive teachers are more concerned to help children through the various stages of mental and physical growth. Modern psychology has shown the teacher that the old conception of children as so many receptacles for masses of facts is not only untrue, but definitely harmful. Children are more and more being regarded as the enquiring, vividly alive and active little human personalities that, to unbiased minds, they have always seemed to be. The teacher's object has become that of assisting in the development of healthy, shapely bodies and, alert well-balanced minds.

NEW SCHOOL CONDITIONS.

These changed attitudes have brought new conditions into class-rooms. Sitting passively with folded arms is wrong for children, and the 'sit-still' class-room has developed more and more into a workshop in which the children's needs for activity are the paramount consideration. The teacher places himself in the background in the role rather of encouraging assistant than that of class-room dictator. Social co-operation and creative activity are lending life and zest to the curriculum.

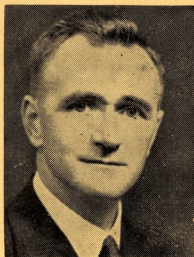
Those who are responsible for the administration of education have come increasingly to recognise the harmful effects of applying the industrial technique of mass-production to the guidance of children. Classes of 70 and 80 children have gone out of being as the new ideas have filtered into the education system. Even now, with top limits of 40 and 50 children, there is room for improvement, but there is a very decided progression towards a size of class, still smaller, which will permit the creative interaction of the personalities of teachers and children.

CHANGES IN SYSTEM

Those adults who look on at the work of the schools from the outside, as it were, still find the most obvious change to be in the examination system. The days when inspectors examined children at a fixed time and the results were published in the local press are fortunately no more. Nowadays promotion inside the school is rightly the professional concern



FIRST HEADMASTER.
The Late Mr. A. B. Thomsom.



PRESENT HEADMASTER.
Mr. R. McGlashen.

of the teacher. Sensitive children are no longer strained through a sort of educational sieve, but it is left to the teachers to see that their pupils work to the best of their varying abilities to the widely varied educational tasks that are set for them. Teachers have the assistance of standardised tests which enable them to give the sort of individual attention which is most likely to bring out the full potentialities of the child.

For various reasons, some of them obvious, the modern infant-room is among the most interesting in the school. There, playway teaching and modern techniques are used in a way that is interesting, even enthraling, to the intelligent adult. Busily engaged in a host of various creative activities, the children move about freely, at times apparently playing, but to those who see with the eye of real understanding, genuinely busy at work within the comprehension of the very young.

They are not driven like a chain gang, but are allowed to progress at the pace which best suits each individual child. Here in the infant room formality in teaching and in the activities of the children has been reduced to a minimum.

DROP IN SCHOOL ROLLS

The records indicate that the roll of this school was at one time 1000. At present it is under 400. The drop in numbers is partly due to the falling birth rate, but, in addition to that, the old-time standards V and VI no longer attend the school. In the re-organisation of the schools in Napier, the Central School has become a contributing school, sending its pupils at approximately eleven years of age, to the Napier Intermediate School. There, with the addition of children from three other schools, pupils of approximately equal ability are grouped together for teaching and for learning in a manner that is quite impracticable with a smaller school unit. A definite effort is made there, through the use of specialised curricula, to discover the individual aptitudes of the children.

Since this school first came into being, advances in general science have been made more quickly and, one might say, more overwhelmingly, than during any other period of the history of the world. Ex-pupils, who can look back over a long period of years, must be impressed by developments which, even so recently as the beginning of this century, must have appeared fantastic. The modern school with its quota of scientific equipment, with its sound reproduction system and its visual aids, such as the cinema, might easily be regarded by the old-timer as a place of entertainment rather than the fairly dull house of instruction that was the school of "our day."

IMPROVEMENT OF HEALTH

To a greater extent than ever before, the activities of those in authority have been directed towards the improvement of the children's health. Up-to-date ideas in architecture are gradually ridding the country of what someone has called "New Zealand Parallelism" and buildings are being provided which are well ventilated and open to all the benefits of sunshine and fresh air. Medical inspection, dental treatment, health camps and free milk are a few examples of the methods used to cater for the health of the children in the schools.

Because growth is fundamental to education, we must not allow ourselves to be content with the achievements of the past or of the present. We must reach out into the future to provide the best conditions for the greatest asset of any nation—its youth.

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Seated: Mr. A. E. Renouf, Miss M. Campbell, Mr. J. V. Ennor, Mrs. W. H. Shearer, Mr. A. J. Scheele, Mrs. R. A. Layzell.

Absent: Mr. C. W. Wilson (chairman).



THE LADIES' COMMITTEE.

Standing: Miss M. Cass, Miss Barnett, Mrs. Layzell, Mrs. E. Hyde, Mrs. J. Coddington, Mrs. A. Heiford, Mrs. Moody.

Seated: Mrs. Gebbie, Mrs. Steed, Mrs. Yates (secretary), Mrs. W. H. Shearer (chairman), Mrs. Highley, Mrs. Plested, Miss Tankard.

Absent: Mrs J. Gilberd.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

- Do you remember**—Blondin on the tightrope?
- Do you remember**—Sequah and his chariot, and did you have any teeth pulled by him?
- Do you remember**—The 1897 flood and the rowing boats in Emerson and Carlyle Streets?
- Do you remember**—The big fire in Emerson Street in 1866?
- Do you remember**—The wreck of the Northumberland?
- Do you remember**—Playing leapfrog over the posts in Clive Square?
- Do you remember**—The Imperial troops and the Indian troops?
- Do you remember**—The Brunner relief fund procession and the crowning of Alice Mahon (later Lady Herdman, now deceased).
- Do you remember**—The old boatsheds on the Tutaekuri river behind where the Intermediate School now stands, and the old river alongside Wellesley Road?
- Do you remember**—The old Caledonian sports on the Recreation ground?
- Do you remember**—Moncton's paddock (opposite the old Grammar school) and the football matches which used to be played there?
- Do you remember**—The old football days and the necessity of taking our lives in our hands when we went down to play the Port?
- Do you remember**—Billie Swanson?
-

SCHOOL LIFE SAVING

Life-saving has been an outstanding feature of Napier Central School's physical activity since about the year 1915, as far as can be ascertained from the records. In 1917 the school won the competition for the Vigor Brown Life-Saving Shield, the team comprising S. A. Hogg, L. Rolls, J. A. Andrews and W. Pocock. In 1919, A. Stewart, C. Lound, H. Marett and G. Coutts comprised the winning team, and in the following year C. Lound, R. Blewden, L. Russell and C. Higginson formed the successful team, C. Lound being successful in annexing the Cottrell Cup for the best individual boy.

In 1923 the school again won this trophy, the team consisting of W. Harvey, I. Buchanan, L. Williams and W. Hyde, the first-named also winning the Cottrell Cup. This cup has been subsequently won by W. Collings and H. Hildebrandt.

The Hawke's Bay Royal Life-saving Society lost most of its records in the earthquake and fire of 1931, but many old pupils can call to mind the prowess of M. Rydon, P. Bear, H. Gifford, H. Rush, N. McKendrick, C. Kelly, B. Brown and I. Hanlon, J. Johnson, L. Scarfe, T. and R. Longney, T. Gregg, M. Peake, in addition to those mentioned earlier. The first two girls mentioned above won the Knapp Shield in 1926, the first year for the competition.

Of exceptional merit was the performance of Hugo Hildebrandt in passing in 1928 the arduous test for the Royal Life-saving Society's Silver Medallion—a unique performance for a primary school boy. In this test the entrant, fully clothed, has to tow a person, and also swim, fully-clothed, a distance of 600 yards, using three different swimming strokes, undress on the surface of the water and in addition perform several evolutions and fancy swimming strokes.

VIGOR BROWN SHIELD

For the Vigor Brown Shield there was an age-limit, but the competition was not confined to primary school boys, and so it often happened that the Central School team would be runners-up to a team from the Boys' High School, and as this team often contained three of the boys of our previous year's team, and occasionally the whole four of them, it was a very difficult task for a primary school team to win the shield.

In addition to these competitions, in the ten years immediately prior to 1931, elementary and proficiency certificates and bronze medallions to the number of 40 or 50 were gained by the pupils annually and some were sufficiently far advanced to gain an instructor's certificate.

All the instruction given was out of school hours, and those teachers who were kind enough to give so much of their time are deserving of a word of praise for their voluntary efforts.

In the season following the earthquake the baths were closed from 8 to 9 in the mornings, but, so that the children would not lose their chance of instruction in this very necessary art, the teacher in charge of the school's life-saving, obtained the kind permission of the Napier Borough Council to have charge of the keys of the baths during that period to the enjoyment and advancement of our pupils.

The School Cottrell Cups, donated in 1928, have been won by E. Cray, L. Anderson, E. Hyde, R. King, J. Lane, B. Clark, J. Mist and A. Ferguson, and H. Hildebrandt, D. Brown, S. Josephs, A. Fitzgerald, T. Hamilton, J. Ferguson, S. Bull and D. Laing.

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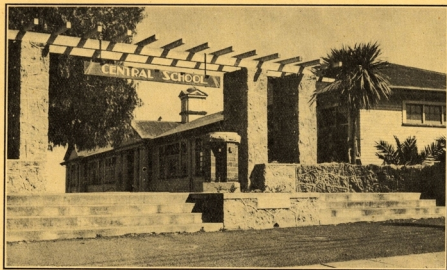
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OLIVER'S ARCADIA PRIVATE HOTEL

CAPTAIN P. V. STORKEY, V.C.

For most conspicuous bravery, leadership and devotion to duty when in charge of a platoon in attack. On emerging from the wood the enemy trench line was encountered, and Lieutenant Storkey found himself with six men. While continuing his move forward a large enemy party—about 80 to 100 strong—armed with several machine guns, was noticed to be holding up the advance of the troops on the right. Lieutenant Storkey immediately decided to attack this party from the flank and rear, and while moving forward in the attack was joined by Lieutenant Lipscomb and four men. Under the leadership of Lieutenant Storkey the small party of two officers and ten other ranks charged the enemy position with fixed bayonets, driving the enemy out, killing and wounding about 30, capturing three officers and 50 men, also one machine-gun. The splendid courage shown by this officer in quickly deciding his course of action, and his skilful method of attacking against such great odds, removed a dangerous obstacle to the advance of the troops on the right, and inspired the remainder of our small party with the utmost confidence when advancing to the objective line.—Official citation from a London Gazette, of the award of the V.C. to Captain P. V. Storkey, of Napier, ex-pupil of the Napier Main School.

Among those who joined the A.I.F., and contributed to its might and valour were many distinguished New Zealanders. Noble among this band is Captain P. V. Storkey, V.C., who served in the 19th Battalion, says the Australian Reveille.

Nowadays in civil life we find him as a judge of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth, his appointment having taken place in June of this year. Prior to his appointment to the judiciary he was Crown Prosecutor for the South-Western circuit of New South Wales and his duties necessitated his travelling about 30,000 miles a year.

But this travel obligation proved no hindrance to him when he was asked to become president of the Vacluse sub-branch of the R.S.L. on its formation, about 10 years ago. Thus he became its first president, and has remained continuously in that office ever since. His interest in the war veteran movement, particularly in the alleviation of distress among comrades who have fallen on hard times, has prompted him to make considerable self-sacrifices to further its progress. A well-knit figure, clean and clear-cut in appearance, always alert and on the job, he looks the real soldier, whether for the parade ground or for the line. A fellow-officer has said of him, "In any emergency he was always as cool as an Arctic iceberg, and always maintained a keen sense of humour—a priceless possession in war as well as in peace." Away from the round of official duties, his outlook on life is rather placid, and a turn in the garden or a caravan holiday sums up his main appetite for pleasure and relaxation.

THE NICE OF THE PACIFIC.



A view of the New Napier from the Bluff Hill, showing the beautiful Marine Parade and a section of the modern business area.

1879 : Napier Main (Central) School Jubilee Souvenir Booklet : 1939

The attractions of Napier, where Captain Storkey was born in September, 1891, are occasionally enlivened by earthquakes, but these command only minor notice from the locals. "How many shocks had you experienced there?" an interrogator once asked Captain Storkey, who had spent not so many years in that city. "About a dozen; but they were nothing worth bothering about," he replied. This is in proof of the fact that it was not because of earthquakes that Captain Storkey left Napier; any more than of his failure to make a name for himself on the football field. "I was weighted too much to acquire fleetness of foot necessary for a good footballer," he explained, apologetically.

From the Main School Storkey went to the Napier Boys' High School. He then went to Victoria College, Wellington, where he took his first year arts course, and then set out for Sydney, arriving there about 1911. His first job in Sydney was in the office of the Orient Steamship Co., and then he went to the administrative staff of the Sydney University, meanwhile attending lectures at the law school.

His law studies were interrupted by his enlistment, in May, 1915, but on his return he again picked up the threads, and passed his final examination while holding the position of associate to Mr. Justice Wade, of the Supreme Court, who previously had been Premier of New South Wales.

After a period of private practice, Storkey received the appointment of Crown Prosecutor for the south-western circuit, of which the presiding judge is His Honour, Judge Coyle, one of the most eminent jurists, one of the most lovable personalities, and one of the most eloquent speakers who has ever graced the N.S.W. Bench. In the atmosphere of the Imperial Service Club, many of us have come to truly know, appreciate and love the splendid qualities of Judge Coyle.

As the holder of the highest decoration within the gift of the King for bravery in face of the enemy, Captain Storkey has transplanted into his post-war career the ideals and responsibilities which the V.C. denotes.

AWARD OF VICTORIA CROSS

The operation for which Captain Storkey was awarded the V.C.—an operation in which reserve companies of the 19th and 20th Battalions were employed—took place at Hangard Wood on April 7, 1918. Zero hour for the attack was 4.55 a.m., and severe losses were suffered by the 19th in its dash towards the wood. A little later, Storkey came across a fellow-officer, Lieutenant F. N. Lipscomb. The former had been left with only six men and Lipscomb with four. They decided to rush a strong German machine-gun post as the only alternative to surrender, and with loud yells the Australians dashed toward the enemy, who, no doubt, thinking that they were the vanguard of a much stronger party, threw up their arms. There were more than 80 Germans in the post, of whom 30 were killed with bombs, bayonet and revolver. The machine-gun which was captured in

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this stunt is now in the possession of the Australian War Memorial. The conduct and control of this operation were in the hands of Captain Storkey, the company commander (Captain Wallach) having been killed earlier in the day.

After the heat and turmoil of the fight, and after having made their report at battalion headquarters, Storkey and Lipscomb lay down in a trench to have a sleep. Stretching himself out on the waterproof sheet, Lipscomb said to Storkey, "Sweet dreams, Perc," when just then a shell burst on top of the shallow trench which, together with a signaller named Barling, they occupied. Barling, formerly a P.O. linesman who came from Woollahra (N.S.W.), was killed, Storkey severely shaken, and Lipscomb severely wounded. It was the cruel irony of war that Lipscomb should have found this the end of things. He was a magnificent partner to Storkey throughout the gruelling encounter with the Germans, and the M.C. which he received for his work could not have been more merited. Lieutenant Lipscomb is known to many war veterans in Australia as a former State Secretary of the N.S.W. Branch of the R.S.S.I.L.A. His home is now in Goulburn, and as that city is within the south-western circuit he and Captain Storkey frequently meet there for a chat over old times.

ROUGH ON RATS

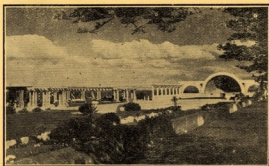
(By S. P. Spiller).

One of my recollections of the old school over 50 years ago, was when Mr. Waterworth, licensee of the old Provincial Hotel, used to bring out a rat trap during play-time in what is now Memorial Square, and after forming a ring of all the boys and girls, would open the trap and release the rats which ran in all directions. A free for all football match used to ensue when the unfortunate rats were kicked to death. This procedure did not last for very long, because indignant humanitarians wrote to the school authorities and the newspapers about this disgusting spectacle, and it was promptly called off; however disgusting it may have been, I well remember that all the small boys in my class thought it was the greatest experience we had ever had.

THE MARINE PARADE—NAPIER'S GREATEST ASSET.



A View of the Sound Shell.



The Shell from a different angle

NAPIER

(By the Rev. J. A. Asher).

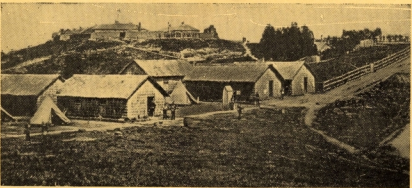
I lost my heart to Napier 40 years ago and have never been able to get it back again. Familiar as I am with all the cities and most of the towns of New Zealand, I have no hesitation in asserting that there is no other place at all like our own Napier, and it can never be mistaken for any other town.

It is beautiful for situation, with the Ruahine and Kaweka mountains, the lower hills and fertile plains as its background, the waters of the Pacific Ocean washing its shores, with Cape Kidnappers at the southern end of the wonderful Bay and Portland Island at the distant northern end. The course of the bay from an artistic point of view is altogether satisfying and well-nigh perfect. A distant view, say from the top of the Havelock hills, gives you the picture of what seems to be an enchanted island. Napier, looking out as it does upon the Pacific Ocean, is not only beautiful for situation, but beautiful in itself as anyone may discover who takes the trouble to daunder over the winding narrow hill roads, each turn presenting fresh glimpses of attractive views.

Then the climate is well nigh perfect. I have lived in Auckland for some months and there was too much rain there, in Wellington for two years and there was far too much wind; in Christchurch during most of last year, and in the Winter there was too much cold, but our town is not handicapped by any of these extremes. The climate is unsurpassed for its mildness and equableness, and can bear comparison with that of the Mediterranean or the Pacific Slope, or any other place in the world.

A GREAT HISTORY

It is just 100 years since a tiny white settlement, or trading station, was established by "Barney" Rhodes at "Owready," as Ahuriri was then and subsequently spelt and pronounced. The Rev. William Colenso, of the Church Missionary Society, arrived in 1844 and lived at Waitangi, but at that date there were no white people living in what we now know as Napier. The first resident was Mr. Alexander Alexander, who in 1846 opened a trading store at Onepoto. Someone in writing in the far off days about Napier, described it as "a precipitous island of barren, uninhabited ridges, covered with fern and rough grass, dissected by gorges and ravines, with a narrow strip of shingle skirting the cliffs, and joined to the mainland south by a five mile shingle bank. The main track along the shingle bank to the south was surfaced with limestone and became known as "White Road."



EARLY NAPIER

The first road or track made, however, was up the hill from Onepoto Gully and then down through what we now call Chaucer Road. With the sea on two sides, what lay beyond Scinde Island to the south and west were "everlasting swamps and ponds" and to tell the story of the district would be to relate how the enterprise and determination of the earlier settlers drained the swamps and filled up the ponds, and slowly but triumphantly extended the borders of Napier.

STILL A SWAMP

When I arrived here at the beginning of 1899, what we now know as Napier South was still a swampy pondy patch of country, but through the engineering skill of a company of clever men it was in less than 10 years made fit for occupation and habitation. It is needless to dwell upon what the earthquake in 1931 did for Napier in the way of extension. The Harbour Board dreamed that some day they might reclaim part of their endowment bordering the Taradale Road, and reckoned it would take perhaps 50 or a 100 years to complete the work. The earthquake in a few seconds accomplished what man would have taken half a century to do, and vastly added to the possibilities of Napier. So that whilst 40 years ago it was a cribbed, cabined and confined town, now it has plenty of elbow room and there is no doubt that in the course of time it will become as large as the 30,000 Club desires it to be, a town of 30,000 inhabitants, extending towards and taking in Taradale and other areas. May the day be not far distant when the name of the Club will be required to be changed from 30,000 to 50,000 club. All the portents point in that direction. The opening of the railway line to Wairoa has changed Napier from being a railway terminus into a railway centre, and the near completion of the Harbour Board's works at the Breakwater will undoubtedly add to the prosperity of the town.

PURCHASE FROM MAORIS

Mataroahou, the native name of what became known as Scinde Island, was purchased from the Maoris in 1855 for the sum of £50. Mr Alfred Domett arrived at Ahuriri in 1854 as Commissioner of Crown Lands and had a large hand in planning Napier that was to be. Being a man of letters, he called many of its streets after the names of British poets and writers. The first sale of town sections took place in 1855. In connection with Maori troubles a detachment of the 65th Regiment was camped in Onepoto Gully in 1858. Subsequently it shifted up the hill to the site of the present Public Hospital on which barracks had been erected, and the hill was long known as Barrack Hill.

Just over the way from the barracks a little street was named after the Regiment—65th Street.

The Borough of Napier was created in 1874, and the first Mayor was Mr. Robert Stuart, the first town clerk was Mr. Kentish McLean and he was succeeded by Mr. M. N. Bower, who held office for many years.

The Marine Parade, which provides one of the finest seaside walks in New Zealand, was completed in 1889. The earthquake, which raised the land levels about seven feet, created new possibilities for the Parade and already the beautiful garden, the Tom Parker Fountain, the Sound Shell, etc. have immensely added to the charm of Napier; indeed that stretch of the Parade is at night a veritable fairyland, and it is only fair and fitting to remember that it has been due very largely to the vision and enterprise of the 30,000 Club.

I should like to mention that in the early days there stood on the site of the present power house a hill, Puke-Moki-Moki, which was very dear to the Maoris because on it there grew the sweet scented small fern of which they were very fond. The hill was removed for reclamation purposes in Dickens and Munroe Streets. Nor would I like to omit mention of the fact that there existed small forests in the not far distant neighbourhood, and the tree tops were alive in the far off days with tuis, bellbirds, parakeets, pigeons, fantails, etc.

I make no further reference to the great earthquake of February 3rd, 1931, save to state that the spirit of neighbourliness, goodwill and courage which abounded at that period was wonderful.

NAPIER'S END IN 1931.

There was not lacking candid friends who lived away from Napier who prophesied that Napier had come to a full end. Little did they know the temper and spirit of our people for in a comparatively brief period like Phoenix from its ashes a new and more beautiful Napier began to spring up.

It would be impossible in any adequate fashion to name and to characterise the hosts of people who have made worthy contributions in the interests of our town.

I should like to do it, but must abstain being fearful lest I should forget men and women who have well earned a place in any record of names. Suffice it to say that we are grateful to the men and to the women who made the men for their service and sacrifice in the interests of the common weal.

In another place due appreciation will be made of the "Main" (now "Central") School. I knew and esteemed Mr. A. B. Thompson, the first headmaster and also Mr. Morgan, who was clothed with zeal as far as his work was concerned.

For many years I was associated with my dear friend Mr. James Hislop, both as a parent and as one of those who instituted Bible lessons in the school. From him the Ministers received constant encouragement and support and from the boys and girls nothing but the utmost courtesy and attention, so that I was in the habit of saying that there were no finer children than the pupils of the Central School.

May God speed those who teach to-day in the school and make this season of Jubilee a time of rejoicing and inspiration. May they and all of us take pride in declaring "We are citizens of no mean city."

School Staff and Pupils, 1939

STANDARD 4 (MISS G. G. CORBETT).

Boys.	Girls.	
Angus, Quentin	Anderson, Joan	le Geyt, Betty
Blackwell, Stanley	Bishop, Shirley	Mansfield, Patricia
Brabet, Eugene	Blake, Cara	McKenzie, Evelyn
Briasco, George	Burgess, Pauline	Morton, Joy
Coddington, Russell	Colbert, Noeline	Newman, Hilary
Cross, Ian	Dunn, Patricia	Ogden, Olive
Ennor, Frank	Hannah, Ngaire	Rhodes, Sylvia
Gordon, Colin	Hamtom, Lolita	Scarrott, Betty
Lewis, Evan	Hansen, Dawn	Scheele, Rae
McKenzie, John	Harris, Audrey	Sherbrooke, Mary
Mist, William	Hay, Margaret	Sanders, Vivien
Monrad, Graham	Johnson, Ngaire	Stewart, Marjorie
Pegram, John	Jorgensen, Joyce	Sutherland, Shirley
Templeton, Colin	King, Audrey	Taylor, Margaret
Willis, William	Larsen, Joyce	Wilson, Maire

STANDARD 4 (MR. H. V. PHILLIPS).

Boys.		
Dinwiddie, Peter	Price, Derek	McCusker, Margery
Durey, Fred	Ralph, Frank	Mann, Jean
Durey, Ronald	Welch, Fred	Martin, Ruth
Ertel, Brian		Pratt, Gladys
Exeter, Donald	Girls.	Sanders, Thelma
Franklin, Douglas	Fisher, Zoe	Sigglekow, Elizabeth
Hitchman, Bruce	Gordon, Helen	Spence, Novelle
Pink, Laurence	Haycock, Rosina	
	Lockwood, Sylvia	

STANDARD 3 (MR. H. V. PHILLIPS).

Boys.		
Campbell, Alex.	Lynam, Leo	Daly, Dorreen
Cornish, Brian	Marshall, Dennis	Denholm, Janet
Dagg, John	Smith, John	Frame, Colleen
Gunson, Robert	Werren, Douglas	Graham, Maisie
Larsen, Alick	Wilson, Joseph	Husheer, Diane
Leddra, Pete	Woodhouse, Clifton	Kavanagh, Dorothy
Lloyd, John	Logan, Peter	Newman, Pamela
McKay, James	Girls.	Smale, Marjorie
	Bate, Mary	

STANDARD 3 (MR. D. EDWARDS).

Boys.

Chubin, John
Cresswell, Neville
Dagg, Albert
Francis, William
Goddard, Gray
Harte, Jack
Henry, Clifford
Hill, David
Hill, Noel
Lewis, Graeme
Lewis, Ross
McKay, Colin
Melhuish, Hugh
Murray, Joseph

Simmers, Don
Stewart, Colin
Titter, Charles
Wilson, James

Girls.

Bruce, Barbara
Baker, Shirley
Cane, Julie
Codlin, Nina
Daly, Astrid
Dempsey, Ngaire
Ferguson, Nancy
Flutey, Jessie
Hamlin, Mary

Hawkins, Ngaire
Kennedy, Thelma
King, Alison
le Geyt, Peggy
Marshall, Marion
Northe, Jennifer
Ralph, Joy
Stokes, Audrey
Thomson, Kathleen
Walker, Christine
Walter, Nancy
Wetherall, Dorothy
Wickens, Jean

STANDARD 2 (MISS D. CARRUTHERS).

Boys.

Batt, Baden
Bilby, Noel
Coddington, Ian
Colbert, Alan
Duggan, Ray
Hildred, Ken
McArthur, Ian
McCusker, David
McKendrick, Maurice
Moore, Peter
Stewart, Ivan

Thompson, Robert
Wilson, Robert

Girls.

Clark, Lena
Gray, Vivienne
Dawson, Hazel
Downes, Frances
Duggan, Melva
Evans, Myra
Gunn, Audrey
Grant, Janet

Husheer, Ingrid
le Geyt, Pattie
Lockwood, Beulah
McFedries, Helen
McKay, Alice
Pollitt, Doreen
Pollock, Patricia
Simpson, Beverley
Simpson, Heather
Webster, Carinne

STANDARD 2 (MISS J. APPERLEY).

Boys.

Angove, Herbert
Atkinson, Derek
Baker, Ronald
Bryan, Robert
Creagh, Benjamin
Dempsey, Ronald
Driver, Donald
Dunn, Ross
Kerr, John
Larsen, Keith

McGregor, Norman
McKay, George
McKenzie, Murray
Monzari, Thomas
Pattison, Maurice
Pewhairangi, Jerry

Girls.

Bowland, Merrie
Ferguson, Margaret
Hall, Betty

Harland, Raema
Harris, Marian
McKenzie, Margaret
Mansfield, Una
Martin, Margaret
Minett, Shirley
Moody, Frances
Murray, Jeanette
Stinson, Constance
Winstone, Rosemary
Splitt, Noline

STANDARD 1 (MISS M. BAILEY).

Boys.		
Atherfold, Douglas	Newton, Keith	Cresswell, Betty
Beale, Athol	Oliver, Kevin	Davey, Sonia
Bothwell, Lowry	Olphert, Derek	Durie, Mairi
Brown, Peter	Peck, Garth	Ireland, Margot
Ferguson, Barry	Pope, Maurice	Lowndes, June
Foster, John	Prater, Barrie	Lynam, Shirley
Frame, Bernard	Rogers, Neil	Marsh, Kathleen
Gordon, Charles	Spackman, Michael	Sherbrooke, Barbara
Gordon, John	Spence, John	Skelton, Marie
Grant, John	Stokes, Roy	Springfield, Peggy
Gregg, Barry	Trenwith, Barry	Stinson, Evelyn
Hill, John	Weingott, Lionel	Stitson, Joy
Kenworthy, Robert	Wright, Geoffrey	Reid, Valerie
Kirk, Loxley		Taylor, Nancy
Lancaster, Lawrence	Girls.	Tremain, Ngaire
May, Michael	Bain, Beverley	Marshall, Lorna
	Burton, Rangl	

PRIMER 4 (MISS M. WILSON).

Boys.		
Clark, John	Evans, Ian	Atherfold, Margaret
Carson, Don	Turville, Peter	Boland, Jill
Codlin, Stanley	Wylie, Donald	Grant, Valerie
Douglas, Lindsay	Presland, John	Gurr, Marie
Eames, Hubert	Heares, Peter	Gunn, Barbara
Greene, Rodney	Smith, Eric	Gordon, Doreen
Ireland, John	Girls.	Howell, Jean
Thompson, Eric	Doak, Margaret	Reid, Hazel
Ashton, Seaton	Fulford, Hazel	Simmons, Lily
Cox, Tony	Harrowfield, Ruth	Titter, Cynthia
Gordon, Graham	Martin, Doretta	Smith, Pauline
Gordon, Graham	Murrow, Lula	Long, Dorothy
Hamilton, Walter	Nicholson, Joan	Brown, Ray
Johnson, Ronald	Smith, Margaret	Graig, Averill
	Graham, June	Lockwood, Shirley

PRIMER 3 (MISS E. FLEMING).

Boys.		
Angove, Neil	Marsh, Eric	Batt, Pamela
Bond, David	Meechan, John	Burton, Lucy
Boyland, Desmond	Melhuish, John	Dickson, Given
Bryan, Philip	Moody, Richard	Garnham, Marion
Burkitt, Samuel	Neilson, James	Hadley, Valerie
Coddington, Graham	Nelson, Pat	Hildred, Vonda
Craig, Frances	Rogers, Dawson	Houseman, Mavis
Donghi, Keith	Sanders, Fred	Long, Maureen
Duley, Ralph	Simpson, Robert	Martin, Margaret
Graham, Fred	Springfield, Peter	Olliver, Colleen
Hamlin, Donald	Sinclair, John	Shaw, Diane
Holt, Robert	Thomson, James	Smith, Connie
Jones, Ronald	Girls.	Smith, Maureen
King, David	Anderson, Margaret	Sauter, Elizabeth
		Tihema, Olga

PRIMER 1 (MISS E. H. M. BURNS).

Boys.

Abbott, Colin
Boyland, Kenneth
Bartlett-Wright, Brett
Bain, Ian
Breen, Barrie
Cane, John
Cording, Leslie
Curry, Desmond
Dempsey, Peter
Duggan, Denis
Fletcher, William
Gregory, Peter
Gunson, John
Heiford, Brian
Howell, George
Husheer, John

Holt, Alan
Lancaster, Arthur
Lowndes, Alan
Meachan, James
Monrad, David
Neilson, Brian
Northe, Barrie
Springfield, Peter
Smith, Thomas
Vannan, Ronald
Willis, Ian
Yates, Kenneth

Girls.

Boland, Jacqueline
Burton, Sarah
Boyd, Gwenda

Creagh, Barbara
Driver, Janette
Deere, Patricia
Gordon, Phyllis
Holder, Marie
Johnson, Nancy
Laing, Sunny
Morrow, Fay
Rogers, Ian
Simmers, Jean
Wilson, Ruth
White, Jennifer
Whyte, Elizabeth
Wilson, Valerie
Williams, Ann
Walter, Rosemary



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