

BALLANCE

TO BE CORRECTED

1891– Present. Another school still going (2019). Named after John Ballance, Prime Minister of NZ 1891-1893. 11 kilometres North West of Pahiatua. Close to Woodville, the Southernmost school of Hawkes Bay Education Board

1890

3rd February 1890 Pahiatua School Committee From settlers of Ballance, asking for a school to be erected at Ballance at once, and stating that there were 23 children of school age. Mr Vile moved that the secretary forward the letter to the Board on behalf of the settlers and pointing out the necessity of a school for the place, stating that it was nine miles from Pahiatua, and six miles from the Pukemiku schools, also that there were two rivers to cross. —Mr Greville seconded. [There is no Pukemiku School listed at this time and I suspect it was the Mangamutu school which is near the start of the Pukemiku Road]

11th April 1890 Pahiatua School Committee From Ballance settlers complaining about the delay in forwarding any communications from the Education Board in reference to their school.—The secretary stated that he had seen one of the settlers and seated the reason he did not forward the communication was that it was mostly of Pahiatua business. —Mr Sedcole thought the letter was quite uncalled for for. The settlers at Pahiatua were two years fighting for a school before they got it. From same, forwarding the names of parents who had children of school age and their ages.—Mr Reese moved that the Secretary write to Education Board urging them to have a school erected at Ballance as soon as possible and also forward the communication to the Board with the returns with a strong recommendation. —Seconded by Mr Moore and carried.

8th August 1890 Pahiatua School Committee . From J. B. Tait, Mangahao , forwarding return of children of school age asked by the Board.—The Chairman moved, and Mr Dawson seconded —That the Secretary again communicate with the Education Board, urging upon them the necessity of a school at Ballance.

1st September 1890 Mr McArdle. waited on the Wellington Education Board with reference to a school at Ballance. the Board stated the matter was under consideration and a committee had been appointed to make enquiries and report.

31st October 1890 (From Our Own Correspondent.) A largely attended meeting of settlers was held at Mr John Sinclair's re school for Ballance. The Chairman read all the reports from the Pahiatua School Committee and also from Education Board Wellington. After it was all talked over the committee thought it was best to build a room to start an aided school the Education Board said they had funds to start a school in Ballance now, so rather than let the children go without education the settlers thought they would try what they could do themselves towards building a school. It was proposed to hold another meeting as soon as they got. Word from the Education Board on what they would do for us. We thought we were

entitled to a public school as we have 25 children of school age and more than 30 under school age, and there is also a prospect of more settlers if we could get a school started, which we hope soon will be so,

5th November 1890 (From Our Own Correspondent.) A largely attended meeting of settlers met at Mr John Sinclair's re school for Ballance. The settlers are pleased that the Education Board have made a start at last in sending a teacher to Ballance, as Mr Sinclair has made an offer of one of his rooms for the children to meet in for the present. The school will be in full swing in a very short time as the committee are writing to the Education Board for the desks and all the furniture to start at once. Some of the settlers are very anxious to have their children at school as the children have been sadly neglected for some years and I hope they will get a fair chance now. We believe we have a very good teacher, a Mr Macintosh, who is recommended by the Education Board.

6th November 1890 A school is to be opened at the Ballance Special Settlement next week, It is expected the attendance will be from 20 to 26,

19th November 1890 Mr Tait then brought up the matter about the school appliances. It was proposed that the school be opened on Monday, the 17th, to get the children together and see what was wanted as the master did not know what was really wanting till he should see his pupils

12th December 1890 The Wellington Education Board have constituted school districts at Ballance', Kaitawa, Levin, Kereru, and Te Horo.

1891

1891	23	Ballance	Mackintosh	James		Master	£86	\$16,086	
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7th January 1891 Our Ballance correspondent reports a successful picnic there on New Year's Day in connection with the school. The picnic was held on Mr Sinclair's. There were between 40 and 59 present and an abundant supply of good things. A lot of prizes were awarded amongst the children. Great credit is due to the Committee; Messrs Eaton, Croad, Sinclair and Barnett for the success of their arrangements. .

28th January 1891 BALLANCE DISTRICT. Bounded on the north-east by the Manawatu River ; on the south-east by the Mangahao River ; on the south-west along the southern boundaries of Sections 61, 60. 75 and 77. and by a continuation of said line until it intersects the Oroua County boundary; and on the north-west by the Oroua County

26th February 1891 Wellington Education Board needs £250 to build the school

30th April 1891 Wellington Education Board The Board resolved to erect school houses at Mauriceville East and at Ballance, providing the Minister for Education gives a guarantee that the sites chosen on the Government reserves be handed over

6th May 1891 BALLANCE TOWN. (From Our Own Correspondent .)

The School Committee has been elected as follows;—Messrs Shaw, Cooper, Eaton, Barnett, Sinclair, Croad, and Tait. The defeated candidates were Messrs Heard, Eddy, and Prebensen. The distribution of prizes took place on the 1st of May. The examination passed off well; nearly all the children passed.

Is it legal for bachelors or for anyone who has no children attending school to be on the school committee? [Certainly, if a householder. — Ed. Woodville Examiner.].

22nd May 1891 Some of the settlers here think it is hardly fair to have the Ballance Town mail bag opened at the Mangahao, a distance of 2 ½ miles. There is likely to be more about it. Some of them say that children attending school are not the parties who should carry the mail as the mail has been left on the road more than once between Mangahao and Ballance.

19th August 1891 Ballance now boasts of a post office and school. Both are carried on in Mr Jas. Sinclair's commodious residence, which thus affords great public convenience. Services are held in connection with the the Methodist Church every second Sunday. There are 30 settlers in the block, and 26 children are now attending the school, which is doing good work under the able mastership of Mr J. Mackintosh,

Mr Foster is the father of the settlement, watching over its interests fully, and very little happens of interest to the community but Mr Foster knows all about it and takes steps to protect the interests of his fellow settlers.

2nd September 1891 A couple of acres in the centre of the township have been gazetted for school purposes, and also a suburban section of four acres. The latter adjoins the township, and when cleared will come in very handy for a paddock, site for teacher's residence, or some such purpose. The Education Board has plans ready for a school, so altogether school affairs are looking promising. We are fortunate in possessing an energetic local committee, the members of which take a keen and kindly interest in all matters connected with their office.

15th September 1891 The Education Board will we understand be calling for tenders directly for the erection of new school buildings at Ballance and Kaitawa, near Pahiatua, Whakataki, in the Taueru district. While these works are going on additions are to be made to the school at Pahiatua

21st September 1891 At a meeting of the School Committee a letter from the Board was read stating that they purposed calling for tenders for a school shortly. This is encouraging, and, as the roll number is gradually swelling, it will probably be in existence at just the right time. A very small addition to the number of pupils would inconveniently crowd the comfortable room in which school is held at present.

9th October 1891 Mr Anderson, of Ballance, is the successful tenderer for the new school, and in the course of two or three months we hope to see the building erected. That the work should fall to a local man is a matter for congratulation,, for while we have residents who can do it, and do it well, it would be, a pity that the capital should go elsewhere, Contracts of the kind are not over-plentiful in a locality such as this.

4th November 1891 The work which the settlers did at the recent logging bee in the school "rounds has been continued by Mr Macintosh and the schoolboys who have been hard at it keeping the fires up. The result will be a valuable sports and playground.

It was Mr K. Shaw whose house was burned while he was at the school ground. He will be a considerable loser.

1892

1892	25	Ballance	Mackintosh	James		Master	£175	\$32,461
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7th January 1892 Part of a long article in the Woodville Examiner on A ratepayers meeting at Balance and included About twenty-five of the ratepayers in the Masterton-Mangahao met at Mr John Sinclair's house at Ballance last evening to discuss the action of the County Council re thirds, pounding, &c. . Mr Cooper was voted to the chair, and stated that the meeting had been called together at the instance of the School Committee to arrange for a picnic, but since then it had been deemed advisable to take other matters into consideration ;

PICNIC. On the motion of Mr Tait, seconded by Mr John Sinclair, it was resolved to hold & picnic about the time of opening the new school, and the school committee were instructed to make the necessary arrangements, and appoint a day on which it will be held.

A subscription list was opened in the room, and was liberally responded to

1st February 1892 Woodville Examiner The residents of Ballance held a most successful picnic on Friday last, intended to inaugurate the opening of their new school. The building unfortunately had not been passed or taken over by the Board, although finished and ready for occupation. Consequently the teacher and scholars like will be at a disadvantage, seeing that the examination is rapidly approaching, and every day now is of the utmost import in order to get ready for that event. The school has only been established there for 15 months, and most of the children had been a long time away from school and out of standards, making it a difficult matter for Mr McIntosh to work up the lee way and get them into their proper classes. The school building itself is a compact and comfortable one, and most substantially built, the only thing wanting is a shelter shed for the use of the children in bad weather, together with the necessary fencing both to keep away stray stock and to allow for paddocking of scholars' horses.

Fine weather favoured the picnic, and there was a largo gathering from all parts of the district together with a number of visitors. At noon a sumptuous meal was provided by the ladies to which ample justice was done, and at four o'clock extra was placed on the tables, and was enjoyed by all present.

The committee worked with a will and made every provision for the amusement of the children, races for boys and girls, jumping, skipping, Ac., and in every event the competition was keen. It was intended to have a sowing competition, but that event was held over. There is not the least doubt but that as years mil on the Ballance picnic will be an event to be looked forward to and attended from far and near. The following are the results of the children's races &c.:—

Girls under 11, 100 yds.—Ethel Croad 1. Lizzie McLeod 2, Minnie Avery 15. Girls under 15. —Agnes Sinclair 1, Ethel Herd 2, Maggie Reid 3. Boy's Handicap Race, 3 events, 100, 200, and 300 yds : 1st event, 100 yds.—Charles Holdaway 1, Leonard Brown 2, E. Eddie and R. Croad 3.

2nd event, 200 yds.—Chas. Holdaway 1, Leonard Brown 2, J. Murphy 3. 3rd event.—Chas, Holdaway 1, Holland Croad 2, L. Brown 3.

Chas. Holdaway winning by 9 points, L. Brown, 0 points, 2nd, R Tairoa 3. Running High Jump.—J. Murphy 1, Holland Croad 2, Chas. Croad 3. Girls Skipping —Agnes Sinclair 1, Lizzie Sinclair 2.

Innumerable smaller events were run by the little children who thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

9th February 1892 Woodville Examiner The new school opened on Thursday, the 4th instant, nearly a fortnight after the proper time, as the architect would not pass the work. The contractor has been delayed in this contract by the ventilator not coming to hand. The School Committee is in a bit of a quandary, not being able to accept tenders for cleaning the school, from the fact of their being none sent in. Parents of the elder children object to allowing them to do it on account of their requiring their services at home

I hear the architect was in Ballance on Thursday, and pished the school contract, subject to its being in good order at the end of three months.

Special prizes are proposed to be given to the school children for the best attendance from to-day till the examination.

I understand a deputation is to wait on the School Committee on the 17th inst, to urge a reduction in the rent of the School for Church purposes.

11th February 1892 Woodville Examiner I notice that Mr John Sinclair is one of the progressive sort, having just finished painting his house, which I daresay will amply repay him in the future." I think I may safely record it as the first painted private house in Ballance. The children must be getting fond of attending school, the attendance having risen to thirty-four.

18th February 1892 Woodville Examiner A meeting of settlers was held in the Schoolroom last night (Monday) to consider what action should be taken to get the Pahiatua County Council to open up the road from Ballance to the Mangahao River, opposite Mr Campbell's sawmill

22nd February 1892 Ballance February 18th. Woodville Examiner. The usual monthly meeting of the School Committee was held in the school-room last night, the 17th instant. Present: Messrs. Croad (chairman), Tait, Sinclair, Eaton and Cooper.

CORRESPONDENCE. From Mr Bamfield, re payment for Well.

From the Education Board, enclosing voucher and cheque for £1; also requesting committee to forward voucher for December capitation. The Secretary stated the voucher had been sent immediately after its receipt,

master's report. Mr Macintosh reported the number on the roll to be 36—highest attendance 30, average attendance 31, since reopening. He requested the Committee's sanction to purchase examination papers for the children's use and drew the attention to the state of the outhouses.

GENERAL Resolved that the teacher's request for papers be granted. Mr Sinclair reported that Mr Anderson hail covered in the well gratis. Resolved that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded Mr Anderson. The secretary was instructed to call a special meeting, if a favorable reply was received from the Board re fence.

Messrs McLeod, Anderson and Heard waited on the Committee on behalf of the United Methodist congregation to ask for the use of the school for church service on Sundays, free of rent. —Resolved to grant the request on condition that the seats are put in place, and the deputation to guarantee in writing to sweep and dust the school after each Sunday service, to the satisfaction of the teacher.

Mr Croad was appointed visitor for the ensuing month.

ACCOUNTS. Accounts amounting to £1 -4s 3d were passed for payment.

3rd March 1892 Woodville Examiner A special meeting of the School Committee will take place on Wednesday evening to consider the Education Board's letter, as to the style of fence to erect round the school ground.

18th March 1892 Woodville Examiner Two daughters of Mr Reed were thrown from their horses while riding from school a week ago. They suffered a severe shock but nothing worse. Andrew Eddie, another child attending school, was thrown from his horse on Wednesday, and luckily escaped with bruises only.

1st April Wellington Education Board to call for tenders for fencing

25th April 1892 Special to the Examiner. Ballance, Saturday. An accident occurred to Mr Thomson, of Ballance, when driving past the school on Wednesday. His horse shied at some children on the roadside and ran the cart against a stump, capsizing the cart and breaking the shafts, one spring, and almost all the harness. Mr Thomson had a narrow escape from serious

injury, as in capsizing, the cart fell over him, he pluckily held on to the reins, and help arriving he was soon released from his uncomfortable position, unhurt. No nominations were received for the new school committee.

25th April 1892 Woodville Examiner The last ordinary meeting of the present School Committee was held in the schoolroom on April 20th. Present: Messrs Croad (chairman), Taite, Sinclair, Eaton, Eddie and Cooper (Secretary). CORRESPONDENCE. From Education Board requesting the Secretary of Committee to call tenders for fencing and shelter shed. From same notifying matters in connection with audit, election of new committee &c., also notifying the examination to be held on May 2nd.

TEACHER'S REPORT. The teacher reported the number on roll for the preceding month to be 35, highest attendance 35, average attendance 29. He begged to tender thanks to the Committee for their uniform courtesy and attention to his suggestions on school affairs. general.

Mr Eddie reported visiting the school, the work proceeding satisfactorily. Mr Eaton reported a donation of 14s from Mr Shaw for the prize fund. —Resolved that Mr Shaw be accorded a vote of thanks.

Resolved that the nominee of the Masterton Committee for a seat on the Education Board be recommended to the new committee. The allocation of prizes and scrubbing the school to be left to the new committee.

The annual report was submitted to the committee and approved of. The Chairman and Secretary were thanked for the services rendered by them for the past year and the meeting closed.

26th April 1892 School Committee Balance. E Brown, J Eaton, J B Tait, John Sinclair and H McLeod

29th April 1892 Inspector Lee is inspecting the Mangatainoka school to-day, The Ballance school is to be visited on Monday, and Pahiatua on Tuesday and Wednesday,

11th May 1892 Ballance, Saturday. The School Committee held their regular meeting on Wednesday.—Present : —Messrs Tait (chairman), Eaton, Brown, Sinclair, and McLeod. Mr McLeod was elected to act as secretary. CORRESPONDENCE. From Education Board, forwarding voting form with names of candidates for seat on Board.—Decided to vote for Mr Feist. From same, requesting committee to forward books for audit.—The secretary instructed to forward the books. From same, enclosing capitation for quarter, £2 10s. —Received. From same, accepting Barnett Bros, tender, £33 13s, for fencing and shelter shed, and instructing Committee to oversee it,—Received. Mr Sinclair appointed overseer. GENERAL. Messrs Barnett waited on the committee and signed the specifications. The prize fund was allotted to the different standards, and it was resolved to obtain books for prizes. An account for school cleaning was received and held over.

Resolved that the secretary apply to the Board for a division fence.

Resolved that the meetings take place on first Wednesday in every month, at 7.30 p.m. for winter months. Mr Brown was appointed visitor for the ensuing month. An account amounting to 3s was passed for payment and the committee adjourned.

5th May 1892 Woodville Examiner SCHOOL EXAMINATION. (Special to the Examiner.) Ballance, This Day. The school was examined on Monday by Mr Lee, and the scholars acquitted themselves well. Of nineteen presented in standards only one was not equal to the demands made on him. The following are the names of the pupils who passed in their

respective standards :—Standard VI, Elizabeth Sinclair ; Standard IV, Fred Heard and Agnes Sinclair; Standard 111, Leonard Brown, Michael Murphy, and Roland Croad; Standard 11, Robert Sinclair, Ethel Heard, and Harold Croad ; Standard I, Mary Sinclair, Leslie Holdaway, Annie Prebensen, Elizabeth McLeod, Helena Kayser, Karl Kippenberger , Charlotte Barnett, Christopher Eddie, and Lester Brown. Mr Lee expressed satisfaction with the quality of the work, telling the scholars that their work was good, and exceptionally so in arithmetic, which was often found to be the most difficult subject. He also paid them the compliment of praising their manners.

9th May 1892 Woodville Examiner Mrs Heard and Miss Tait attended the school last Thursday as a Ladies' , Committee to superintend the sewing competition. Eleven girls competed, and the result, decided by Mrs Cooper, was Lizzie Sinclair first, Agnes Sinclair second, Margaret Reed third, Mary Sinclair fourth, Charlotte Barnett fifth, five prizes having been kindly contributed.

11th May 1892 Special to the Examiner.) Ballance, Saturday, The result of the examination which took place on Monday was most satisfactory to both the teachers and parents, as all the children except one passed in their respective standards. Of twenty in the six standards, eighteen passed, one failed, and one was absent. In order to make it an easier task for the Committee to allocate the prizes, the Inspector kindly marked the names of the children according to their proficiency as under:—

Standard VI. Lizzie Sinclair.

Standard IV.—Frederick Heard, 1; Agnes Sinclair, 2.

Standard III.—Leonard Brown, 1; Michael Murphy, 2; Roland Croad, 8.

Standard II.—Robert Sinclair, 1; Ethel Heard, 2; Harold Croad, 3.

Standard I.—Mary Sinclair, 1; Lester Holdaway, 2; Annie Prebenson, 3 ; Lizzie McLeod, Helena Kayser, Karl Kippenberger, Charlotte Barnett, Christopher Eddie.

Class A Lester Brown, 1; Frederick Sinclair and Joseph Barnett (equal), 2 ; Ethel Croad and Frank Barnett (equal), 3; Margaret Reed.

Class B.—Herb.-rt Sinclair, 1; Bertha Cooper, 2; Basil Croad and Eleanor Cooper (equal), 3; Bessie Reed, Ellen Heard, Maurice Kippenberger, Ernest Croad, May Barnet

7th June 1892 The report of the Inspector on the Ballance school is most satisfactory, the number on the roll being 35, passed in standards 18, percentage on roll number 51. The percentage on class subjects was 73, additional subjects, omitting singing and needlework, 56. The Inspector was well satisfied with the work of the school. Mr McIntosh appearing to be a competent and painstaking teacher. He advocated that the ground should be fenced, and the playground subdivided.

1893

1893	36	Ballance	Mackintosh	James		Master	£195	\$35,328
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28th April 1893 The School Committee elections resulted in the return of the following gentlemen Messrs W.-Brown; Kippenberger, McLeod, W. Holstead, J. Sinclair, Jolly, and Anderson.' The new Committee elected Mr Brown Chairman and Mr Holstead Secretary for the ensuing year, A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the' teacher, Mr J. McIntosh, for his ability and zeal in all matters affecting the school generally, The same compliment was paid

the outgoing .Committee.: At the. General meeting of householders a resolution .was passed that steps be taken .to raise funds for the purpose of establishing a public library, and a Committee for the purpose of finding ways and means was appointed. This is a step in the right direction and-should : receive every encouragement, and I have no doubt but that the Ballance people will take the matter up in the proper spirit, It was also decided to establish a school library on a small scale, bearing in mind the trite proverb; " Great events, very of times from little causes spring

31st May 1893 Since last writing we have had the annual distribution pf school prizes to the children both for merit and attendance

Mr Brown the worthy chairman of the School Committee presided and also distributed the prizes which totalled over 10 including special prizes for drawing and sewing. The Inspector's report of last examination is to hand and is very satisfactory in all respects and a credit to the teacher Mr Mackintosh. A word of praise is also given by the Inspector to the last School Committee for the manner in which they have expended the grants received from the Education Board

In connection with school matters I would suggest that the present committee should take steps to get a sewing mistress appointed to give instruction in needlework at least once a week. Such an appointment is urgently needed and would prove of more real benefit to the girl pupils than the hypothenuse or isosceles triangle

Last Friday evening a Concert was held in the school in aid of a school library. A bumper house greeted your local amateurs and the various items on the programme were well received. The school was then cleared for dancing and the show was brought to an end at about 11.30

Abridged The performers included Two songs by the school children were much appreciated by the audience and testified to the ability and patience of their instructor Mr Mackintosh

31st May 1893 Wellington Education Board awards £5 to Ballance School for gravelling the school grounds

8th July 1893 The School Committee are improving the ground round the, building by " having it gravelled and other necessary work done. The Secretary (Mr Holsted) has received. from ; Messrs Lyon and Blair the first lot of books for the School Library, 45 volumes of good and suitable reading matter. _ This will no doubt be much appreciated by the children during the long winter evenings, and. it is to be hoped that the Education Board or Inspectors will supplement the Library with more books or a money grant, during the winter holidays.

8th August 1893 The School Committee had decided to plant a portion of the playground with shelter trees on Arbor Day, but the continuous downpour of rain for the last 48 hours effectually prevented them from carrying out their idea, Arbor Day being especially wet. I understand another attempt will be made next week,

1894

1894	41	Ballance	Mackintosh	James	Master	£195	\$35,137
1894	41	Ballance	Murphy	Mary Ann	Female Pupil Teacher	£20	\$3,604

28th February 1894 Wellington Education Board new clock was ordered to be sent to the school at Ballance, and Mr. McCardle was authorised to try and trace the old ono, which had been lost.

28th March 1894 THE FIRES AT BALLANCE. Mr Crawford, taking advantage of the holiday on Monday, drove over to Ballance through Girdwood's Road. A high wind having sprung up, fires were blazing away in all directions on the hills and down on the fiat especially. After crossing the Mangahao river it was impossible to keep the road, but through the kindness of Mr Tait he was allowed to cross his paddock to avoid the fires raging on the

road near his place. Reaching the township he found the whole place enveloped in smoke, and Mr Murphy and family vigorously assisting to carry out the stores and bury them in the garden for safety. The water in the well was drained to put out the fires round the store and dwelling houses, which they expected would catch fire and be destroyed. Fears were expressed for the safety of the school. The smoke was blinding and suffocating, the eyes of all being bloodshot.

11th April 1894 There are 52 children on the Ballance School roll, and the average attendance is 42. Woodville Examiner

16th April 1894 Woodville Examiner The school examination is lo he he'd On the IfSill insl.. win il it is ipc t .MI' Mackintosh will no u'de to uphold his too ! reputation os a siu-e Ini ieicl n r. i notic • t lso at on -da nee i ho Ay monming np, iv.i Ino.v s- 11 ts at over 50, so that-wo may shortly hop" to son mi assistant appoint nth A yvwinjj mistress is also bully wanto 1, anil it w.il lie ono of the first ihui'-s of the now Committee to sro that one is obtained. The election of a School Committee this year is likely lobe well (naiies-Cd. Some of the old hands intend anain combiy ihc front, and it is likely the onlyoin;' Committeemen will all stand for re-election,

The Ballancee people, c tiger to keep pace with the limes,have speculated in a new organ, and vest, d the same in tinstoes elected at a public meeting. The organ arrived a few weeks ago. and on the following Sal unlay night there was a largo muster at the School to hear the new instrument put on its trial. Mrs C. Say well officiated. and the gone: ad verdict was " Very good." The price i am told is .£'24, lo he paid monthly, and the people inland to wipe off that amount hv holding concerts during the winter. The first concert com, s oil on the 18th. and promises to be very successful, Mr Mackintosh, the secretary, having already a very lengthy programme prepared

23rd April 1894 Woodville Examiner From Our Own Correspondent.) Mr R. Leo inspected the school on Wednesday last, and I understand the result was very satisfactory, there being only two children who failed. A concert was held in the school on the same evening, when there uas the largest gathering ever soon at a concert here. The little school was full to overflowing. A great many had to be content with standing room. It was very evident that the school is getting too small for these gatherings, and the question of erecting a hall will have to ho faced before very long, in fact the subject has already been mentioned, but so far has not got beyond the talking stage. The concert was one of the most successful we have hud. A lengthy programme of twenty items was gone through without the slightest hitch. The Misses Yule and Brown, Mesdames Robinson and Crosbie, and Messrs Cooper, Robinson, Saywell, Udy, Turnbull, Harris, and Crosbie contributed songs. Recitations were given by Messrs Haigh, Lambert, and Crosbie, and last, but not least, we had Mr R. Smith and ids two i-'ns in f, li Highland costume. Mr Smith played the pipes, and the lads gave us a fine exhibition of dancing. They were called back time and again. The, audience seemed never to get enough of it. In fact it was the clued feature of the entertainment, and should they ever favor us on a future occasion they are certain to draw a crowded house. Mr A. Eddie occupied the chair, and at the close he called for three cheers for the visitors, which wrre given most hearth,y. The room was then cleared for dancing, which was kept up till about midnight. The organ tiustees have good cause to be proud of the success of this concert. It will not require many of I lie same sort to pay off'tor the organ.

14th May 1894 Woodville Examiner The monthly meeting of the School Committee was held on Wednesday evening. Present: Messrs Cooper (chair), Brown, Eaton, Heard, Tait, McDavitt, and Robertson. CORRESPONDENCE. From Education Board enclosing capitation for quarter £3 6s. The Master's report was read, showing number on roll 49, average attendance 42. GENERAL, The Chairman reported having visited the School and found everything satisfactory. He had examined the fences all round and found that in several places repairs were wanted. It was decided that the visiting member for the ensuing month should be empowered to have the fences put in thorough order. The allocation of prizes was then considered, and after a lot of discussion a sub-committee, consisting of Messrs Cooper, Eaton, and Tait was appointed to have full control of the purchase and allocation of prizes. The date of distribution was not fixed, but it was the intention to have it on the Queen's birthday if possible. The fund in hand for prizes was stated at £4 5s, and books to the value of 15s had been given by Mr McIntosh, the master, bringing the value of prizes up to £5. Mr Brown was appointed visiting member for the month, and the meeting closed.

4th June 1894 Woodville Examiner DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES

A good number of parents attended at the school on Friday afternoon to witness the prize distribution. Mr Cooper, the Chairman of the School Committee, gave out the prizes, and in his opening remarks he referred to the liberal manner in which the parents and friends had subscribed to the prize fund. He also complimented the children on the progress they were making in learning,

and hoped they would still persevere, particularly in making good attendances for the coming year.

After the books were all handed over to the successful ones, Mr Cooper called on the children to give three hearty cheers for Mr Mackintosh, their teacher, to whose efforts the good work done in the school was due.

Mr Mackintosh replied in a few suitable words, and called for three cheers for the Chairman. The pleasant proceedings were brought to a close by the Chairman declaring a half holiday for the children. The following are the prize takers : PUIZF. LIST. Standard V.—1st M. Murphy (Mr E. A. Liaggon's special). Standard IV.—1st, A. Jolly; 2nd, Lizzie Morrison; (Mr Mackintosh's specials, combining merit and attendance Standard I [I. —1st, A. Prebensen; 2nd, Mary Sinclair', 3rd, Charlotte Barnett. Standard II.—1st, Fred Sinclair; 2nd, Lena Kayscr; 3rd, Bertha Cooper; 4th, W. Morrison. Standard I.—1st, Nellie Cooper; 2nd, 3rd, C. Marriott. Class A. —1st, Nellis Hoard; 2nd Arthur Sinclair. Class B.—• Minnie Foster, May Barnett, and Ernest Croad, equal. Mr John Harris's special prizes were given to some dozen little ones counting upwards from the youngest. In addition to the above, attendance prizes were given to Joy Robinson (best in the school), L. Brown, J. Barnett, C. Kippenberger, M. Kippenberger, B. Croad, A. Morrison, W. McLeod, A. Eddie, and E. Croad.

20th June 1894 Woodville Examiner (From our own Correspondent.) The monthly meeting of the School Committee was held on Wednesday evening. Present: Messrs Cooper (chairman) Brown, Heard, McDavitt, Robinson, and Tait. An account for school cleaning (T2 15s) was passed for payment, and the credit balance in hand from prize fund was voted to the library funds. It was decided, on the motion of Mr Tait, seconded by Mr Heard that the library become a public lending library, subscription to be 1/- in advance, subscribers to deposit 4/- as security against damage or loss of books, or to give a book valued at 2/6 to the library. Mr

McDavitt, was appointed librarian, and Friday evening was fixed as the time for the exchange of books. It was decided to invite Mr E. A. Huggen, to give a lecture in the School room on the question of cheap money to farmers. Mr Brown reported visiting the School and made arrangements for the repairs to fences. Mr Cooper was appointed visitor for the ninth and the meeting closed.

16th July 1894 Woodville Examiner The usual monthly meeting of the School Committee was held on Wednesday evening. Present: Messrs Cooper (Chairman) Eaton, Drown, Heard, McDavitt, Robinson, and Tait. From the Education Board asking the Committee to recommend some qualified candidate for appointment as female pupil teacher. —Left to a committee consisting of Messrs Cooper, Eaton, and Tait to make enquiries and report to a special meeting to be held on the 19th inst. at 7 p.m. Two small accounts amounting to 17s were passed for payment. GENERAL. Mr McDavitt presented a new book to the library and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks. A vote of thanks was also passed to Mr Holdaway for giving stabs for repairing fence free of charge. The Secretary was authorised to post up notices of the lecture to be given by Mr E. A. Huggen in the schoolroom on the 19th inst, Mr Eaton was appointed visiting member for the month. It was decided to hold a working bee on Arbor day (August 1st) to clear up the play-ground. One of the members expects to have a stump extractor on the ground ; therefore with a line clay a large gathering may be expected. Softie tree planting is also to be done.

20th July 1894 The Ballance School Committee held a special meeting last night to appoint a pupil teacher. Two applications were received, from Misses Murphy and Kippenberger. It was decided to recommend the Board to appoint Miss Murphy.

8th August 1894 Woodville Examiner Arbor Day passed very successfully. The day proved a beautiful being bright and warm, and about 11 o'clock there was a fairly good muster on the school ground which was made the centre of operations. Headed by Mr Cooper (Chairman) and other members of the School Committee, the settlers set to work and planted something over three dozen trees of various sorts. Then Mr T. Murphy kindly gave some wire, and in a short time a fence was put up to protect the trees from the horses. A stir was then made to log up the ground, and it is wonderful the improvement made in a short space of time, fully showing that many hands make light work

There is no doubt a hall is badly wanted, the School being inconvenient, and besides it is getting too small to accommodate the growing population.

13th August 1894 Woodville Examiner The monthly meeting of the School Committee was held on Wednesday evening. Present: Messrs Cooper (Chairman), Eaton, Brown, McDavitt, Robinson, and Tait. Mr Heard was granted leave of absence.

CORRESPONDENCE. From the Education Board re the appointment of Miss Murphy as pupil teacher, and from the same enclosing capitation for the quarter £3 6s. Master's report was read, showing number on roll 53, highest attendance 48 average 40. The Report was considered highly satisfactory for midwinter. Mr Eaton reported visiting the school and found everything working satisfactory, and a good attendance. He stated that the shelter sheds required a few loads of gravel and he offered to supply the gravel gratis. Mr Eaton's offer was accepted with thanks. A vote of thanks was also accorded Mr T. Murphy for his gift of wire on Arbor day. It was decided to rescind part of resolution requiring subscribers to the library to deposit 4s. The rule now stands that books will be lent on payment of 1s per quarter

in advance. The Chairman stated that 27 new books had been added to the library. It was decided that Miss Murphy's duties as pupil teacher should commence on Monday the 20th. inst. Mr McDavitt was appointed visiting member for the month. An account of 10s for repairs to fences was passed for payment and the meeting, closed.

21st September 1894 The monthly meeting of the School Committee was held on Wednesday evening. Present: Messrs Cooper (chairman), Eaton, Heard, McDavitt, Robinson, and Tait. The master's report was read showing number on roll 48, highest attendance 48, average 40. Mr Dh Aliiy had visited the school and expressed satisfaction with the manner in which drill had been taught. He recommended the purchase of eighteen pairs of clubs for the girls*. Mr McDavitt reported having visited the school and found everything working satisfactorily. He suggested that a small shed be erected for storage of firewood, etc.

It was decided to procure 18 pairs clubs as recommended by the drill inspector ; to apply to the Board for a fireback for the chimney, to build a shed for storage of firewood (the Chairman and Mr Heard to see to the work being carried out), and to call tenders for school cleaning under fresh conditions. Mr Heard was appointed visitor for the month ; and the meeting closed.

23rd November 1894 Woodville Examiner The monthly meeting of the School Committee was held on Wednesday evening. Present: ~ Messrs Cooper (chairman), Eaton, Heard, McDavitt, Robinson, and Tait. Correspondence was read from the Education Board, enclosing capitation for the quarter i 3 6s; from the School Committees' Association, circular, and asking the co-operation of the Committee to assist the Association; from B. Morrison tendering for school cleaning at 3s per week, 6 The Master's report was read, showing number on roll 60, highest attendance 40, average 44. The Master reported the result of drawing examination, which was considered highly satisfactory. It was decided to accept the tender of Mrs Morrison for school cleaning, to the end of the Committee's term of office. An application for the use of the School on Wednesday, 28th inst., for an exhibition of the Phonograph was granted, at a charge of ss. The Chairman handed in ss, received for the use of the School for Robson's Panorama. After some discussion, in which members expressed their satisfaction with the manner in which the Committee had been treated by the Education Board, it was decided that the letter of the School Committees' Association be received.

12th December 1894 A meeting was held in the school on Saturday evening to consider the advisability of forming a cricket club. About 15 were present, and Sir Tait was voted to the chair. It was unanimously decided after a short discussion that a club be formed to be called the Ballance Cricket Club

17th December 1894 The usual monthly meeting of the School Committee was held on Wednesday evening. Present: — Messrs Cooper (chairman), Eaton, Heard, McDavitt, Robinson, and Tait. The master's report was read, showing number on roll 60, highest attendance 52, average 45. Correspondence was read from Salvation Army, asking for use of school for Tuesday evening. It was decided not to grant the use of the school for night services, but to allow the Army to use it at any time on Saturdays and Sundays that it is not required for other purposes. The Cricket Club wrote, asking for use of meetings, which was granted. Mr Cooper was appointed visiting member, and he was authorised to employ a man to saw and stack some rata logs in the boys' playground for future use for firewood, also to have a new lock fixed on one of the outbuildings. We are to have a tri-weekly mail,

commencing at the New Year. The mail is to arrive and depart at the same hour as at present, on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday

1895

1895	48	Ballance	Mackintosh	James	Master	£195	\$35,328
1895	48	Ballance	Murphy	Mary	Female Pupil Teacher	£20	\$3,623

20th February 1895 Woodville Examiner (From our own Correspondent). SCHOOL COMMITTEE. The usual monthly meeting of the School Committee was held on Wednesday evening, all the members being present. CORRESPONDENCE. From the Education Board, enclosing capitation for the quarter, £3 Get. From the Cricket Club, asking for the use of the school to hold a concert.—Granted. From several candidates for the vacancies on the Education Board, asking support, and enclosing circulars fully setting forth their views. —After the circulars had been carefully read over by the Chairman, and discussed by the meeting, it was unanimously decided to vote for Messrs Blair, Bradey, and Venn. GENERAL. Mr Brown reported visiting the school and finding everything satisfactory, and a good attendance of 54 present out of a roll number of 58. Mr Cooper was appointed visitor for the present month. It was decided to hold the annual picnic at the sheep bridge, Girdwood's Ford, and the Committee decided to meet again in a fortnight to make final arrangements, and to appoint a ladies' committee.

13th March 1895 Woodville Examiner (From our own correspondent.) The annual school picnic was held on Friday laM, on a very suitable piece of ground alongside the Mangauao River at Gird wood's ford. The weather was somewhat threatening but continued fine during the day till towards evening a rather unpleasant breeze sprang up. There was a very large gathering of parents and children and young people, and the School Committee have every reason to be proud of the success of the gathering. The food (provided by the ladies) was of first-class quality, and as usual there was abundance. A Committee of ladies had charge of this department, and right well they carried out their duties. Mr A. Cooper (Chairman) and the other members of the School Committee worked hard to make things run smoothly. Mr Macintosh, the schoolmaster, is also deserving of a word of praise for the manner in which lie superintended the various events on the snorts programme, and the distribution of tin prizes won by the boys and girls, borne 21 events were got off during the day, and in most of the races there was good, competition and very close finishers.

13th March 1895 Woodville Examiner Part of a long excellent description of Balance was this piece The school is a most successful institution under the able management and tuition of Mr Macintosh, assisted by Miss Murphy. Mr Macintosh is securing splendid results, and is a great favorite with both parents and children.

24th April School Committee Elections Mr C Robinson (chairman), Broome(Secretary) McDavitt, Cooper. Dowsett, Burke and Dunstall

13th May 1895 Woodville Examiner (From our own Correspondent). A most enjoyable concert rri 1 social was held in the school on Tuesday evening in aid of)\?. Organ Fund, and also by way of a farewell to Mr and Mrs Brown and family who are lea!' ; for the South Island. Mr R i occupied the chair, and .' following ladies and gentlemen too.. part with songs, readings, and recitations : The Misses Bird, Robinson, and Say well, Mrs Robinson, Messrs

Harris, Cooper, Say well (2), Haigh, Lambert and Davis. Several school children, ably conducted by Miss Murphy, rendered two very successful pieces, and were much appreciated. After the rather lengthy programme had been got through, and some very appetising refreshments disposed of, the room was cleared for dancing, which was kept up till a late hour.

13th May 1895 Ballance School.

This school was examined by Mr Fleming on 10th May. The following is the list of passes : Standard I.—Ernest Eddie, M. Kippenberger, R. Morrison, Arthur Sinclair (s), Bessie Reed, Nellie Heard.

Standard 2.—8. Croad, O. Marriott, Thomas Watkins (s), Nellie Cooper (s), Joy Robinson. Standard B.—1. Barnett, S. Hirst (s), E. Jolly, V. McCardle, W. Morrison (s), J. McDavitt, Herbert Sinclair (s), B. Cooper, Helena Kayser (s), Edith Shute (s). Standard 4.—H. Croad, K. Kippenberger, Lizzie McLeod (s), Annie Prebensen, Mary Sinclair (s). Standard 5.—A. Jolly (s), E. Shute (s), R. Sinclair (s), H. Morrison. Standard G.—Michael Murphy.

S indicates strong pass. The work reflected most highly on the care and attention devoted to the school during the year by the popular teacher, Mr Macintosh.

27th May 1895 Woodville Examiner A special meeting of the School Committee was held on Friday evening for the purpose of allocating prizes. Present: —Messrs Robinson (Chairman), Cooper McDavitt, Harris, and Revell. After considerable discussion, it was decided to leave the allocation to a committee consisting of Messrs Robinson, Cooper, and Revell, and to hold the next ordinary meeting on the second Wednesday in the month, when the date of the prize distribution will be fixed. Considerable dissatisfaction exists over the very irregular manner in which our mails are delivered at the local Post Office. The mail is supposed to arrive at 10 a.m., and depart at 11, but it is often 11 and sometime after before the mailman shows up. This is excusable when the rivers happen to be in flood, but such constantly occurring want of punctuality is becoming very annoying. It is to be hoped that our mailman will take the hint and come a little more up to time.

12th June 1895 Ballance School Committee.

The usual monthly meeting of the School Committee was held on Wednesday evening, all the member's being present. A cheque for £3 was received from the Board for quarter's capitation and the Secretary was instructed to write asking why the capitation had been reduced. A most hearty vote of thanks was passed to Miss Murphy for taking charge of the school during the illness of the headmaster, also to several ladies for judging sewing. Mr Revell was appointed visitor for the month and the meeting closed.

12th June 1895 Ballance School.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES. The annual distribution of prizes to the children attending the public school was held in the schoolroom on Friday afternoon, when there was a large gathering of children, parents, and friends. Mr C. H. Robinson, (Chairman of the School Committee), occupied the chair, and gave out the prizes. He complimented the children on the result of the examination, and also spoke very highly ai the manner in which the settlers had subscribed the money necessary to purchase such a fine lot of prizes. Many a town school could not show such a fine collection. Mr W. W, McCardle (a member of the Board) was present, and by request addressed a few suitable remarks to the children, urging those unsuccessful ones to renewed efforts. He also stated that the result of the examination showed

the Ballance School held a strong position among country schools. Mr Mackintosh, the headmaster, also said a few words of encouragement to the children. He was pleased to see so many prizes given for good attendance, Three hearty cheers were given for Mr Mackintosh, and the same for the Chairman. The prizes, which were a really excellent lot of books, were purchased from Mr F. G. Moore, of Pahiatua. Herewith is a list of the successful ones : ATTENDANCE. Boys.—Harold Croad, Karl Kippenberger, Joseph Barnett, Frank Barnett, Basil Croad, William McLeod, Maurice Kippenberger, Ernest Croad, Roy Saywell, William Foster. Girls.—Charlotte Barnett, Lizzie McLeod, Mary Sinclair, Bertha Cooper, Nellie Cooper, Nellie Heard, Ivy Robinson, Bessie Cooper, Minnie Foster, May Barnett, Gertie Barnett, PRIZE LIST—JIEBIT. Standard VI.—Michael Murphy. Standard V.—Alexander Jolly, 1 ; Ernest Shute. 2. Standard IV.—Lizzie McLeod and Mary Sinclair, equal. Standard III.—Edith Shute, 1, Herbert Sinclair, 2 ; William Morrison, 3, Standard II.—Thos, Watkins, 1; Nellie Cooper, 2. Standard I.—Arthur Sinclair. Infants.—Minnie Fester, Cissy Foster. SEWING. Infants.—Lily Morrison, 1; Bessie Cooper, 2; Cissy Barnett, 4. Class I.—Nellie Cooper, 1; Catherine O'Neil, 2; Class II.—Ivy Robinson. Class III. Mary Sinclair, 1; Nellie Brown, 2 ; Charlotte Barnett. 3. GX'1) CpXPUPf. Mr Cooper's special for girls—Helena Kayser. Mr Mackintosh's special for boys —Wilfred Shute

5th July 1895 The School Committee met on Wednesday evening. Present:— Messrs Robinson (chairman), Tait, Cooper, Broome, and Harris. A letter was read from the Education Board re (the reduction of capitation grant, stating that in order to retrench, it had been found necessary to go back to the old scale of payments. The Master's report was read showing number on roll 60, average 52, and recommending the giving of prizes in future for writing. It was decided to hold the matter over till next meeting. Messrs Robinson, Cooper, and Broome were appointed to purchase some books for the library. A donation of 10s towards the prize fund was received from Mr John Harris, of Woodville, and Mr Harris was accorded a vote of thanks. A vote of thanks was also passed to Messrs Harding and Adams for their kind gift of books for the library, and trees for planting the school ground on Arbor Day. Mr Harris was appointed visitor for the month.

6th September 1895 The usual monthly meeting of the School Committee was held on Wednesday. Present Messrs Robinson (chairman), Cooper, Broome, McDavitt, and Tait. The master's report was read, showing number on roll 9, highest attendance 50, average 50, The Chairman reported having superintended the drawing examination, for which ten pupils were presented. An application from the Salvation Army for the use of the school for a musical evening was granted. The visiting member reported that the trees planted on Arbor Day had nearly all failed, and that Mr Kippenberger erected the fence round the trees free of charge, Mr Kippenberger was accorded a vote of thanks. It was decided to write to the Education Board for permission to alter the floor of the school, to make the platforms removable, and to the Makakahi Committee asking for particulars of cost of alterations to the floor of their school. It was also decided to remove the calico covers from the first lot of books placed in the library. Mr Cooper was appointed visitor for the month.

1896

1896	62	Ballance	Anderson	Andrew	Headmaster	£215	\$38,741
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1896	62	Ballance	Murphy	Mary		Female Pupil Teacher	£22	\$3,973
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12th February 1896 Mary Ann Murphy passed her first year pupil teachers exams

15th February A Head master is required for Ballance school

27th February 1896 Wellington Education Board selects a Head Teacher subject to approval of the committee

2nd March 1896 At the monthly meeting of the Education Board last Wednesday the resignation of Mr James Mackintosh as head master of the Ballance school was accepted and another master was appointed subject to the approval of the committee,

2nd March 1896 Woodville Examiner the annual picnic of the Ballance school was held last Friday. Though weather in the morning was anything but inviting, heavy clouds banking up with a cold wind and occasional showers, it cleared up early in the day and the sun struggling slowly through the breaking clouds. The cricket ground, where the children and parents had assembled for their outing, presented quite a bright appearance, from far and near traps with ladies laden with good things came in numbers, and the parents seemed to have vied with each other in their liberality in providing for the little ones. The attendance was the largest yet seen at the annual picnics, and the iv suit was most satisfactory. The Committee all worked hard and, with the assistance of Messrs J. I. Eaton, Gr. Eaton, McLeod, and Macintosh, did all they could to make the day go off well. Though the ground was rough yet the times were good. The Committee are to be complimented on the promptitude with which they attended to the presenting of the prizes. Mr Macintosh and Mr J. B. Eaton acted as handicappers, Mr McDavitt as starter, and Messrs Robinson and Cooper attended to the prizes. Among those who assisted in providing the choice and dainty refreshments were Mesdames Robinson, Broom, Heard, Cooper, Barnett, and Miss Saywell, and several others whose names have slipped our memory—every praise is due to them. The following are the results in Div. I.—Boy's Race, of 200 yds.—S. Hirst, 1; James McDavitt, 2. Div. II.—Girl's Race, of 50yds.—Edith Cooper, 1; Alice Kippenberger, 2. Div. III.—Boy's Race, of 100yds.—R. McOnie, 1; K. Kippenberger, 2; W. Morrison, 3. Div. IV.—Girl's Race, of 100yds.—M. Sinclair, 1; Eliza lowers, 2. The Girl's Shipping Competition, for divisions IV., V., and VI., was a very close one. Div. III.—Boy's Race, of 125yds.—C. Marriot, 1; E. Croad, 2; J. Harper, 3. Div. I.—Girl's Race, of 125yds.—E. Jowers, 1; L. Morrison, 2. Divs. I, II, III.—Boys' Handicap, of 100yds., 150yds., and 200yds. 200yds event.—Robt. McOnie, 1; S. Hirst and W. Morrison tied for second place. This was a very good race, ten Starting and finishing well, * High Jump—C. Marriot, 1; S. Hirst, 2; R. McOnie, 3. Div. V.—Boys' race of 75yds.—E. Croad, 1; J. R. Quinlan, 2; J. Jolly, 3. Divs. I, II, III. A Competition for skipping was a well contested one. Long Hirst* 1; J. McDavitt 2. Div. III.—Girls' race of 80yds.—K. McOnie, 1; Bertha Cooper, 2. Divs. I., II, III.—Boys' Handicap.

150yds event —E. McOnie, 1; S. Hirst, 2; W. Morrison, 3. Div. IV.—Girls' Race. of 60yds—Nellie Cooper, 1; M. Foster, 2; M. Kippenberger, 3. Div. IV.—Boys' Race of 100yds—Maurice Kippenberger, 1; J. Lang, 2; W. McLeod, 3. Hop, Step and Jump—S. Hirst, 1; E. McOnie, 2. Div. V.—Girls' Race of 50yds—C. Foster, 1; Bessie Cooper, 2. Divs. I, II, III.—Boys' Handicap—200yds event —Jas. McDavitt, 1; E. McOnie, 2. This was the last event of the handicap and resulted in a really good race.

20th March 1896 Woodville Examiner The School Committee, in considering the applications forwarded to them by the Board, accepted Mr Smith, head assistant teacher in

the Carterton school, to succeed Mr Mackintosh. There were thirteen applications for the position. Tire

Board had accepted Mr Andrew Anderson. Mr Smith is a single man and holds good testimonials. Mr Anderson paid Ballance a visit last Friday in search of a residence. It is to be hoped there will be no friction between the Committee and the Board

25th March 1896 Wellington Education Board The Secretary was instructed to inform the Ballance Committee that the Board could not appoint Mr. W. C. Smith teacher in that district, Mr. Anderson having been selected.

13th April 1896 With reference to a paragraph in our issue of Friday last, notifying the appointment of Mr Anderson to the charge of the Pahiatua School against the wish of the local committee, we are asked to mention that the Ballance School is the one concerned, not Pahiatua as before stated. [Arthur Anderson was teaching at Tokomaru School in Horowhenua]

1st May 1896 School Committee elected A Cooper (Secretary). W Morriss, C Robinson, J V Eton, J Jolly sen, J R Tait, T Broome

31st July 1896 At the Wellington Education Board on Wednesday it was decided to have additions made to the Ballance School

23rd October 1896 Woodville Examiner A church social was held at Ballance on Wednesday evening, which proved a great success. The local choir, led by Mr Anderson, the school master, rendered some anthems very creditably

27th November 1896 At the meeting of the Wellington Educational Board on Wednesday, the matter of calling for tenders for urgently needed additions to the Ballance School,

1897

1897	53	Ballance	Anderson	Andrew		Headmaster	£215	\$38,354	
1897	53	Ballance	Murphy	Mary		Female Pupil Teacher	£32	\$5,708	

21st January 1897 Wellington Education Board Additions to Balance School A Thompson £102 10s

6th February 1897 Inspector Lee will visit Balance School on the 17th March

19th August 1897 Mr Anderson, teacher at the Ballance school, has met with a painful accident, having been thrown from his horse, with the result that his leg was broken. The relieving teacher, Mr Davidson, is to take up his duties until Mr Andersen's recovery.

1898

1898	48	Ballance	Anderson	Andrew		Headmaster	£215	\$36,830	
1898	48	Ballance	Murphy	Mary		Female Pupil Teacher	£32	\$5,482	

9th March 1898 Inspectors will visit Balance on the 16th March

29th June 1898 Woodville Examiner The Ballance School.

Perhaps the Ballance School serves to show the rapid progress of education in New Zealand as well as any other similar institution in the Colony. It is situated in a large clearing surrounded by the snug and prosperous-looking homes of some 40 to 50 settlers, the handsome building built by the Education Board standing upon what was once dense bush. The big trees of the forest have had to fall before the axes of the woodmen, and comfortable homes now stand upon the old time almost impassable tracks, and the school is, as it should

be, the most prominent feature of the township. In a once smooth grassy tree sheltered block, which forms a play ground, the school proper stands, and consists of a large building containing two class-rooms, and the usual accommodation for the children's belongings. The one room, under the immediate charge of Mr Anderson, the headmaster, can seat 48 children, and is fitted with every appliance that modern ingenuity has devised to assist the minds of our little ones in acquiring knowledge. The second one, controlled by Miss Murphy, can seat about the same number, and is also complete in all necessary fittings. Both rooms are lofty and well ventilated, and during the cold winter months are warmed by large blazing, cheerful wood fires.

While the comfort of the children has been well looked after, the mental capacities are being as well attended to, as the results of the examination show, the reports of the examining officials being exceedingly favorable. In connection with the school there is a public library consisting of some 150 useful and amusing volumes ; and also an organ, which is available for church purposes, services being held in the school building. Mr Anderson also instructs his charges in chemistry, this being the useful branch of science taken in hand by him.

27th October 1898 Wellington Education Board Balance granted £1 for repairs. A question of examination results at Ballance was referred to the inspector for report.

1899

1899	49	Ballance	Williamson	John		Headmaster	£225	\$39,924
1899	49	Ballance	Murphy	Mary		Female Pupil Teacher	£32	\$5,678

1st June 1899 It was decided that if the Ballance School Committee was agreeable, Mr Turkington, of Cross's, should-exchange with' Mr Anderson;, 'of 'Ballance.

3rd August 1899 Mr Andrew Anderson was appointed relieving teacher, at a salary of £200. and it was decided to advertise for a teacher to fill the position he had previously occupied at the Ballance School.

31st August 1899 Twenty-five applications were received by the Board of Education for the position of Head Master at the Ballance | School, at a salary of £185

9th September 1899 Featherston Notes . Mr J. Williamson, assistant master, has accepted the headmastership of the Ballance School and will leave at an early date to take up his new duties

1900

1900	62	Ballance	Williamson	John		Headmaster	£225	\$39,119
1900	62	Ballance	Murphy	Mary		Female Pupil Teacher	£42	\$7,302

1ST March 1900 Wellington Education Board An application from Ballance committee for £300 to purchase a school residence was refused.

24th April 1900 School Committee Messrs. J. Jolly (Chairman), J. B. Tait (Secretary), H. Croad, J. Sinclair. A. Anderson, T. Brown, and G. Atkinson.

7th June 1900 Wellington Education Board Ballance (£1) for gravelling;

Hamua and Ballance settlers and the respective local schoolmasters were empowered to erect, school residences on Education Board sites on certain conditions to be .set forth by deed

5th July 1900 Wellington Education Board Communication from Ballance residents in reference to teachers' residence

30th August 1900 The resignation of the Ballance School Committee was accepted.

1901

1901	70	Ballance	Williamson	John		Headmaster	£205	\$34,608
1901	70	Ballance	Murphy	Mary A		Female Pupil Teacher	£50	\$8,441

17th January 1901 Inspector Pender yesterday received a telegram from Pahiatua stating that a six-roomed house owned by Mr Cornelius was burned down on Monday night last at Mangahao. The contents were owned by Mr Williams, [Actually Williamson] schoolmaster, of Ballance. Both owner and occupier are away from the town, and, no particulars can yet be obtained as to insurance, value, etc.

21st March 1901 Part of a long list of salary increases for teachers included Ballance— Pupil teacher, £50 (£8) [£8 = a rise of]

2nd November 1901 Eleanor Cooper topped the scholarship for pupils of schools with a roll of under 100 with 398 marks

Miss Mary Ann Murphy went to Maku (Manuhara) School and taught there until 1905 When she Married Jas Mackay. Maku school was in the area of Horoeka Pukehinau area north West of Pongaroa

1906/1927	Mary Ann	Murphy	John	McKay
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1902

1902	74	Ballance	Williamson	John		Headmaster	£205	\$33,798
1902	74	Ballance	Cran	Elizabeth B		Assistant Female	£85	\$14,014

31st July 1902 EEB Job Applicants Mistress Balance 2

28th August 1902 Tenders were directed to be called for latrines at the **Ballance** and Konini schools,

19th September 1902 The University of New Zealand has issued certificates of proficiency in pure mathematics, jurisprudence, and constitutional history to Mr. J. Williamson, of ' the **Ballance** School

4th November 1902 Laura R Cooper finished 7 out of along list in scholarship exams for schools with rolls under 100. She got 388 marks and top scorer from Paraparaumu got 480

1903

1903	74	Ballance	Williamson	John		Headmaster	£215	\$35,623
1903	74	Ballance	Cran	Elizabeth B		Mistress	£95	\$15,741

11th February 1903 Woodville Examiner Woodville School Committee The Headmaster forwarded the names of 27 pupils agreeable to attend a high school if established in Woodville.—It was decided to apply to the committees of the Kumeroa, Heretaunga, Maharahara West, Ballance, Victoria, Mangatainoka, Makairo and Pahiatua schools, asking if they would join in with Woodville in the establishment of a high school, and, if so, how many pupils (giving names) would be likely to attend

22nd April 1903 Woodville Examiner Woodville School Committee Received. From the Chairman Maharahara West School Committee, stating that there would be no children from

there for the High School. —Received. From Ballance School Committee conveying the same notification.— Received.

1904

1904	83	Ballance	Williamson	John		Headmaster	£195	\$32,290
1904	83	Ballance	Cran	Elizabeth B		Mistress	£95	\$15,731

9th March 1904 New Zealand Mail Mrs-. J. Williamson, wife of the local schoolmaster, bias been suffering' for the past fortnight from a rather serious internal complaint, it was found necessary to place her in the Pahiatua Hospital She is now convalescent, and hopes to be well enough.to return home shortly. March 7th

13th April 1904 [These pieces are from a new correspondent of the NZ Mail] A little girl named Doris Falloon, aged 10 years, died last week of inflammation of the bowels. She was a bright and promising child, and .was .at school up to within five days of her death. This is the third death among children of school age within the last four years. Much sympathy was expressed with the parents in their bereavement. Most of the settlers and all the school children followed the little one's remains to their last resting place, where the Rev J. McCaw conducted an impressive ceremony.

20th April 1904 On Friday afternoon, the prizes will be distributed at the public school, when the parents of the children will be invited to attend. A large stock of blocks has been obtained as prizes, and also a number to add to the' library. Mr F. G. Moore, of Pahiatua , has kindly given a handsome sewing prize, and Mr Tait and Mr Sinclair have followed suit . The children are not wanting for encouragement in this direction. Upwards of £5 have been spent in order to obtain attendance prizes. They thus fare much better than the larger schools in this respect

27th April 1904 A pleasant and interesting ceremony took place at. the district school on Friday at 2.30 p.m., when a number of the parents visited the school, to witness the prize distribution by Mr Sinclair, chairman of the school Committee. From the number of visitors it is Quite evident that the parents desire to take an interest in the school and school work. Proceedings commenced by the children giving a song, which was heartldy [sic] rendered ("The Sea is England's Glory.") The headmaster, Mr Williamson,. briefly reviewed the year's work, showing an increase from 73 to 102. and an average for the year of 77, out of an average roll, of 88, or 87.5 per cent.. With an attendance like that good progress must be made, and was made, as evidenced by the recent examination, at which all the pupils were promoted. He made special mention of the harmony and good feeling existing between committee, teachers and parents. Such a state of affairs benefited the school in every way, and especially promoted the welfare of the pupils. Mr Sinclair having distributed the prizes, he exhorted the .children to increased efforts, and was especially pleased at the high standard to which the school had reached, this having been brought about by the good feeling existing between teacher, parents and scholars.

Fifty-nine prizes were awarded for attendance, and 6 for sewing. Three handsome prizes, given, by Messrs Moore. Tait and Sinclair foamed much attraction and emulation among the girls who worked hard all the year. These were competed for by Standards V., VI. and VII., while three books were awarded for sewing in the lower classes. Mr Moore has kindly given

two other magnificent prizes for sewing for the ensuing year. Mr Williamson thanked the visitors and likewise all the parents in the district for the kind and genial manner in which they had at all times treated him. He also thanked the school committee for cordial help, and Miss Cran for her able assistance during the past eighteen months

The children, in a vigorous and spirited style, rendered "Home, Boys, Home," which brought proceedings to a close, after votes of thanks had been passed

to the chairman, school committee, - teacher's, donors of gifts (Mr Moore especially), collectors, and, lastly, to Mr Barnett, for a bag of apples which he had sent for distribution, All children in the following list made 90 per cent, and; over of attendances, except a few beyond a two mile limit, who were allowed a minimum of 85 per cent.; — Class P.—Jessie Cassells. Sarah Woods, G. Atkinson. A. Crawford, R. Croad, N. Croad, E. Holdaway . R. Harris, L. Atkinson, H. Turner.

Standard I.—Margaret Woods (100), Mary Woods. A. Sinclair, R.. Holdaway. F. Crawford, E. Falloon, S. Falloon, A. Foster, W. .Anderson.

Standard II—O. Brotherstone (100), J. Harris, S. Avery, E. Atkinson (100), D. Foster, James. Jowers (100), J. Prebensen, John Tait. Thomas Woods.

Standard III.—L. Crawford, E. Holdaway, M. Jessop, M. Sinclair, D Falloon. I. Croad, T. Harris, R. O'Neil.

Standard IV.—Winnie Cooper, M. Jowers, J. Sinclair, A. Fester, L. Marriott, A. Tait.

Standard V.—M. Missen, M. Quillinan, A. Cooper (100), R. Croad, J. O'Neil. Standard VI.- —Cissie Foster, Robert Brotherstone, W. Croad, W. Foster, K. Holdaway, T. Miller. F. Marriott.

Standard VII.—G. Barnett, Ed. Cooper. M. Robinson. Liz Tait, Laura Tait.

Sewing.—Standard 1., Reme Holdaway; Standard 11. and 111., Jessie Harris ; Standard IV., Maria Jowers; Standard V.. VI. and VII., Cissie Foster 1, Laura Tait 2, Liz Tait 3.

11th May 1904 Last Monday the householders met in the Public School to elect the School Committee for the ensuing year, with the result that the following were elected: Messrs J. Sinclair (chairman), J. Tait (secretary), C. Robinson, G. York, A. Woods, F Heard, and W. Turner

25th May 1904 The school children and teachers have presented Mrs Falloon. with a handsome wreath as a token of the esteem in which the memory of her little daughter Doris (recently deceased) is held. She was a promising child and much loved by her playmates.

22nd June 1904 Mr Fleming, Inspector of Schools, is to meet the teachers at Masterton on Saturday next to discuss the new syllabus. Owing to the great difficulty of reaching the railway stations in the bad weather teachers in remote parts will be debarred from attending. Masterton is an awkward centre for bush teachers. There is a likelihood of the children at the school taking up cottage gardening' in connection with agriculture. This should prove a most suitable subject for a district like this.

1905

1905	72	Ballance	Williamson	John	B1	Headmaster	£206	\$32,587
1905	72	Ballance	Tuely	Catherine B	D3	Mistress	£95	\$15,024

13th February 1905 Much sympathy is felt for Mr and Mrs C. H. Robinson (Ballance), who lost their second daughter (Myrtle) on Friday afternoon. She had been suffering from measles and must have caught a cold at the lime she was out on the hills, when she suddenly fell down dead

21st February 1905 Mrs Baker-Gabb (Nikau) and Mr John Williamson (Ballance), school teachers, have received word from England that they have passed the final B.A. degree.

9th May 1905 The Education Board has promoted Miss C. Tuely, of Kohinui, to be mistress at Ballance. [Miss Cran had gone to teach at Martinborough School]

1st July 1905 Wellington Education Board and to close the Ballance school for a few days, on account of a case of diphtheria in the teacher's family.

1906

1906	72	Ballance	Williamson BA	John	B1	Headmaster	£206	\$32,053
1906	72	Ballance	Tuely	Catherine B	D3	Assistant Female	£95	\$14,764

30th March 1906 Wellington Education Board Mr Davies Agricultural instructor reported that Ballance School was applying for capitation for its classes in agriculture

30th March 1906 Wellington Education Board to pay half cost of rent of paddock

6th June 1906 The Ballance Church Choir presented their conductor, Mr. J. Williamson, with a silver-mounted baton last week in -recognition of his services during the past seven years.

18th June 1906 [Just for curiosity] There is on view at the Club Hotel a block of lignite from Mr E. W. Roddick's property on the Ballance road. This is from the seam which has been burning for the last 18 months.

1907

1907	63	Ballance	Williamson BA	John	B1	Headmaster	£195	\$30,570
1907	63	Ballance	Tuely	Catherine B	D3	Assistant Female	£95	\$14,893

30th August 1907 Wellington Education Board Wooden Gate approved

1908

1908	56	Ballance	Thompson	Fred G	D2	Headmaster	£195	\$30,570
1908	56	Ballance	Tuely	Catherine B	D3	Assistant Female	£95	\$14,893

24th February 1908 The annual show of the Bush Districts Association' is to be held at Woodville on Wednesday, and though it has been affected as regards entries by the season, still it promises very well.....the schools represented ranging from Ballance and Makairo, in the Pahiatua County, to Palmerston North and up to Dannevirke.

14th April 1908 At Ballance, a surprise party visit was paid to the residence of Mr. J. Williamson by the local choir of the Methodist Church. The invaders pleasurably paid for their intrusion by making "a handsome presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Williamson, who are leaving for, Hawke's Bay. Mr. Williamson has been conductor of the choir and singing classes for the past nine years.

14th April 1908 Mr. and Mrs. Williamson and family were tendered a farewell "social" at Ballance (telegraphs our local correspondent) prior to leaving for Taradale school, to which Mr. Williamson has. been appointed. Mr. Williamson has been head teacher at Ballance for

over nine years, and he and his family were presented with several valuable presents by the settlers.

16th April 1908 Mr. John Williamson B. A. , at present in charge of the Ballance school, who has been appointed headmaster of the Taradale school, near Napier, was chosen out of fifty applicants

‘13th May 1908 Mr F Thompson appointed to Balance Mr F G Thompson was assistant Principal at Newtown District High School when appointed to Ballance

30th May 1908 The head teacher of Ballance School applied for the use of four acres of the Board's property in the Ballance township. This was granted

1909

1909	52	Ballance	Thompson	Fred G	D2	Headmaster	£200	\$31,782
1909	52	Ballance	Tuely	Catherine B	D2	Assistant Female	£100	\$15,891

30th April 1909 School Committee Messrs F Cresswell (Chairman), J A Sinclair (Secretary), W J Foster, J E Jowers, T Hay, T G Jamieson, and J B Tait

29th October 1909 Wellington Education Board Leave of absence Miss C. Tuely, Ballance (one month from 1st February 1910) [On the 16th December she was on the Warrimoo SS travelling to Melbourne]

11th December 1909 Miss Tuely appointed assistant at Taita

Catherine B Tuely Started teaching in 1897 at Tane, then she was at Kohinui until 1904. Ballance from 1905 to 1909 and then at Taita for 3 years followed by 4 years at Tokomaru in Northern Horowhenua. By 1919 she was back in Wellington at Ngaio school as Infant Mistress and in 1923 was at Mount Cook Girls’ . This is the end of my records

1948/27127	Tuely	Catherine Bertha	75Y
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1910

1910	53	Ballance	Thompson	Fred G	D2	Headmaster	£205	\$32,138
1910	53	Ballance	Kerr	Kate		Assistant Female	£90	\$14,109

27th April 1910 School Committee F Cresswell (Chairman) A Sinclair (Secretary), W J Foster, C P Jensen, J Harris, T Hay, R Tanner, and M Hansen

1911

1911	55	Ballance	Thompson	Fred G	D1	Headmaster	£210	\$33,212
1911	55	Ballance	Kerr	Kate F	D4	Assistant Female	£95	\$15,024

5th July 1911 Mr A. H.. Vile [Member of Wellington Education Board] will present the Coronation medals to the children of the Ballance school this morning

1912

1912	53	Ballance	Thompson	Fred G	D1	Headmaster	£210	\$32,206
1912	53	Ballance	Kerr	Kate F	C4	Assistant Female	£95	\$14,569

1913

1913	45	Ballance	Thompson	Frederick G	D1	Headmaster	£210	\$31,500	£25.00
1913	45	Ballance	Ramsay	Lily M		Assistant Female	£90	\$13,500	

[The extra £25 is because no Head Teacher's residence is provided]

19th February 1913 Woodville Examiner The Ballance Committee wrote thanking the Woodville Committee for kindness and attention received by their children during the recent school excursion to Paekakariki

24th February 1913 BALLANCE NOTES.

From our own correspondent.

SCHOOL PICNIC AND PRESENTATION OF PRIZWS.

The event of last week was the picnic held on Friday in connection with the school This year it was held in a paddock belonging to Mr Sinclair. The attendance was not up to that of other years, but nevertheless a happy time was spent by those present. A long programme of races for the children was gone through and eagerly contested by the young ones. Miss A. Sinclair won the race for young ladies, Mrs Thompson and Mrs Tanner the race for married ladies, Mr Tanner the race for married men, and Mr B. Foster the race for young men. Nearly all the children received attendance prizes. Sewing prizes were won by Eliza Marriott (Standard VI.), Clarice Croad (Stan. V.), Eileen Martin (Stan. IV.), Lottie Jackson (Stan. III.), Pearl Creswell (Stan. II.), Kathleen Harris (Stan. I.), Violet Creswell (Class P), and a special prize, presented by Mrs Thompson, was won by Margaret Bremner. Miss Kerr's specials in the junior classes were won by Frank Marriott, Leo Jensen, William McCarthy, Sidney Tait, William Cruden , and Mollie Dorset.

Miss Miller's medal for good conduct was. was by Max Wainwright. To finish up the day in a proper manner a dance was held in the evening. The music was supplied by Miss Miller and her brothers, Mrs Thompson, and Misses Bibby, Cooper and Sinclair. Mr Chaytor acted as M.C., and Mr H. Martin sang several songs.

We are all very sorry that Miss Kerr, our school mistress, is leaving the district. She has been promoted to assistant at Newtown. [Miss Kerr went to Newtown School]

12th March 1913 Miss F M Chatwin appointed assistant [In 1912 Miss Fanny Chatwin was teaching at Maranui and in 1914 at Pahautanui]

22nd March 1913 Miss K. Kerr, who is leaving to take up teaching duties at Newtown, is to be fare welled by the residents on Friday evening, March 28th

28th March 1913 The farewell social to be tendered to Miss Kerr on the 28th promises to be one of the host that has been held here. A good concert programme has been got up, talent from Pahiatua and Woodville having promised to assist, besides our own vocalists. In order to allow the local players a tree night, Mi L. Nicholas, of Woodville, lias been engaged to play for the dance

4th April 1913 BALLANCE NOTES.

Farewell to Miss Kerr,
(From our own Correspondent.)

(Friday evening last the people here came in their numbers to bid , farewell to Miss Kerr. A number of visitors were present from the surrounding districts, including many Woodville folks. The hall was beautifully decorated and gave it a smart appearance. A concert opened the proceedings, at which the following Ladies and gentlemen contributed : Mr I Hill, "Thinking of Thee," " Roses," and " Star of Bethlehem." . This gentleman has a fine baritone voice and sings with much taste and feeling. Miss K. Miller, who has overcome nervousness, sang " The Birds go north Again " with effect. Mr H Martin, a youthful singer in his teens, has a pleasing tenor voice of the lyric type, and he gave " Asleep in the Deep " with good effect. In parts he was overweighted, but nevertheless his rendering was a pleasure from one so young. " The Lassie from Lancashire," his other song, suited him better. This singer would do well to choose songs of a lighter type. Mrs O'Dea and Mr Parker sang the charming duet " Nocturne," by Denza. Mrs O'Dea, who has a sweet lyric soprano, did not blend well with her partner, who has a strong bass voice, with plenty of temperament. " Three Little Maids," by Miss Cooper and Mesdames O'Dea and van Praagh, was one of the most popular items. The three singers possess sweet voices. Mr R. Bibby gave two humorous songs in good style. Miss L. Cordon. of Woodville, a pleasing and effective singer, sang " Ship Ahoy," and " Put on your la la."

Six Ballance ladies, dressed in striking Pierrette costumes, sang "Sweet and Low" remarkably well. The sopranos, Miss Miller and Mesdames O'Dea, Hirst and van Praagh, contraltos, Miss Cooper and Mrs Thompson. They also sang " Susie we," Mrs Thompson soloist, and the other members whistled and hummed the chorus .

The concert over, Mr Thompson, in a few well-chosen words, presented Miss Kerr with a solid silver mirror on behalf of the residents, and wished her all success in her new school.

Mr D Tanner also spoke a few words commending Miss Kerr's ability as a teacher and said her place would indeed be hard to till. Supper was provided by the ladies and was handed round and done full justice to.

The floor was then cleared tor dancing, which was kept merrily going till 2.30, when the singing of " Auld Lang Syne " brought one of the jolliest socials to a close. The school children gave Miss Kerr a silver-mounted brush and comb.

14th July 1913 In a long article in the Dominion from a Balance Farmer was No. I do not think the schools are satisfactory, I am- afraid there is too much cram; the children do not seem to have any real practical farming knowledge when they leave school.

14th July 1913 Woodville Examiner Miss Chatwin, who was recently appointed assistant mistress, has resigned her position, and is leaving in a few weeks' time. Mrs J. McKay is down from Maku, and is staying with her father, Mr T. Murphy

6th August 1913 Miss Chatwin was farewelled by members of the weekly dancing class on Monday evening. Mr Thompson presented her, on behalf of the members, with a silver mounted brush, comb, and mirror. Mr Norman Marriott replied on behalf of Miss Chatwin

12th August 1913 Miss L Ramsay appointed assistant mistress at Ballance

1914

1914	36	Ballance	Thompson	Frederick G	D1	Headmaster	£210	\$30,066	£25.00
1914	36	Ballance	Ramsay	Lily M		Assistant Female	£90	\$12,885	

18th February 1914 the school picnic—an event that is much enjoyed by our young folks—is to take place on Friday in Mr Sinclair’s paddock. A. good programme of events is arranged for the grown ups as well as the children. A dance is to be held in the the evening, as in former years.’

30th June 1914 Wellington Education Board Subsidy for ground improvements

18th November 1914 The school re-opened on Monday after a week’s vacation, when Mr Thompson went to Wellington to attend the University exams.

21st December 1914 The school broke up on Thursday for the Summer vacation. Mr and Mrs Thompson leave on Saturday for Plimmerton, where ! they' will spend the holidays. Mrs A. Barclay, who has been visiting Mrs Thompson, goes with them. I Mrs van Praagh is in Masterton, and Miss L. Ramsay has gone to ' Wellington.'

1915

1915	32	Ballance	Thompson	Frederick G	C1	Headmaster	£220	\$29,469	£30.00
1915	32	Ballance	Ramsay	Lily M		Assistant Female	£110	\$14,735	

22nd November 1915 e garden party arranged by Mrs Martin and Mrs Thompson at the school grounds on Saturday, to bid good-bye to some five young men who are going into camp shortly, was largely attended. The Mayor and Mayoress of Pahiatua (Mr and Mrs J. D. C. Crewe) attended, and during the afternoon Mr Crewe presented the young men on behalf of the residents with small tokens of goodwill, and he wished to see them all back in Ballance again after the war. The young men are: —Messrs F. Taylor (presented with a wristlet watch), F. Wainwright (safety razor and set of brushes), B. Bibby (wristlet watch), M. Say well (safety razor and and B. Hay (wristlet watch). Mr J. B. Tait also spoke, and said he was proud of the boys, and that he himself was a few years off 60 and he would go any time if he could be of any use. Three cheers were given for the boys and “ For they are jolly good Fellows,” was sung. The gathering then dispersed. Messrs Taylor and Wainwright left on Monday for Trentham.

GENERAL NEWS

Miss Ramsay went to Wellington last week to see her brother off with the 8th Reinforcements.

1916-1917

1917	37	Ballance	Ross B A	Hilda	Sole	B-90	£140	\$15,691	
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Note From 1915 The Government only published teachers every second year

Frederick G Thompson went to Mangatainoka School as head of a 3 teacher school and Lily M Ramsay went to Te Ore Ore school just East of Masterton as an assistant

5th January 1916 Written on 27th December 1915 Miss Ramsay, the schoolmistress, who is leaving for Te Ore Ore school, was also presented with a cable bangle during the evening.

25th February 1916 (From our own Correspondent Quite a stir has been caused in this district owing to a reported case of infantile paralysis. The patient is a young girl of 16 years and was taken to the Pahiatua Hospital on Wednesday. In consequence of the outbreak, the school has

been closed for two weeks, and Inspector Cairns from Masterton has arrived to take the necessary precautions to prevent infection.

28th February 1916 The girl of sixteen years of age, who died at Pahiatua last week from infantile paralysis, was the only daughter of Mr and Mrs F. A. Martin, of Ballance.

6th March 1916 It was reported during the week that another case of infantile paralysis was in the district, but that is not so, and parents need have no fear if they attend to the general health of their children.

22nd May 1916 'Mr F G. Thompson (Ballance) to be headmaster of .Mangatainoka School.

9th November 1916 Mr K Cumber appointed Sole Teacher (Possibly Cumberworth)

18th April 1917 Miss H Ross appointed Sole Teacher Hilda Ross started teaching at Dannevirke School in 1910

Hilda Ross in 1919 was at Masterton, in 1921 at Pahiatua DHS and in 1923 Head of Pirinoa School. She attended Waipatiki School of the Hawkes Bay Education Board which was only a few Kilometres North of Horoeke of the Wellington Education Board School in the Puketoi. She attended Dannevirke High School

1918-1919

1919	43	Ballance	Pryor	David C	Head	C-81	£255	\$23,037
1919	43	Ballance	McCardle	Alice C	Assistant	C-97	£185	\$16,713

18th January 1918 Mrs M J Wilkinson appointed head teacher The only M Wilkinson for the Wellington Education Board was a lady teaching at Blenheim School for the Wellington Education Board

17th July 1918 The offer of a section at **Ballance** for a school site at \$40 was approved.

22nd February 1919 Wellington Education Board An application is to be made for a grant for a teacher's residence at Ballance.

19th March 1919 Mrs M J Wilkinson resigns Wellington Education Board

9th May 1919 Wellington Education Board Mr D C Pryor appointed

16th July 1919 Wellington Education Board £885 for the erection of a residence at Ballance

5th September 1919 Woodville Examiner The Wellington Education Board is calling tenders for the erection of a teacher's residence at Ballance.

1920-1921

1921	37	Ballance	Pryor	David C	Head	C	£330	\$28,410
1921	37	Ballance	Reader	Ella R	Assistant	D	£230	\$19,801

4th May 1920 An unusual course was taken at the meeting of householders last week, called to elect a committee for the Ballance School. Mr. G. H. Bremner chairman of the outgoing committee, presided over a large attendance. After considerable discussion over the action of the Education Board in regard to the erection of the school residence, the following resolution was proposed by Mr. J. B. Tait, and seconded by Mr. Callaghan, and was carried unanimously: "That this meeting of householders decline to elect a school committee for the

ensuing year as a direct protest against the delay and inactivity of the board in having the school residence erected." The school is still without a committee.

14th May 1920 BALLANCE TEACHER'S RESIDENCE

Sir,—I would be pleased if you would grant me space in your columns in reply to a local appearing in your issue of May 4. This gave the reply of the Wellington Education Board officials to the action of the householders of Ballance in refusing to elect a committee in protest against the inaction of the board as regards the erection of a teacher's residence. The officials are reported to have stated that the contractors have asked for a six weeks' extension of time—hence the delay. They however, neglected to state 'when that request had been made. Perhaps a brief resume of the case will throw a different light on the action of the householders, It is, unnecessary to tell the full tale of the efforts made by the committee during the last three years, which resulted in a grant being made by the Department in June last, after the merits of the case had been fully investigated. The matter was then in the hands of the board. The first tenders received exceeded the board's estimate by about ,£100. Eventually a tender was forwarded by a local firm at the beginning of December last. Had that tender been accepted within a reasonable time the house would, have been, erected in January or February. However, it was necessary for the board to approach the Department for an increase of the grant. Consequently no. reply was received by the contractors until the end of January, when they were notified that their tender had been accepted. As they naturally had concluded that their tender was 'not accepted and' arrangements with sub-contractors had lapsed, they on February 12 wrote to the board stating that it would be six weeks before they could get the timber on and asking for that extension of time. Now, Sir, no reply whatever was received to that letter until the teacher wrote to ' the board at the end of March,' asking what progress was being made in the matter. Then the board wired the contractor to commence the work. Had they pushed the matter in December, when a likely tender was received, or later, had they notified their acceptance of the extension of time, or forwarded the- contract again the work ; would have proceeded. However, in the meantime, the price of material had risen, the road to the mill .where the timber had been ordered had become practically, impassable. ,, At the ' present time the contractors are willing to supply the labour. provided the board will supply 'the material. ' Now, Sir, it can be .seen from the above facts that the delay is entirely due to the. dilatory manner in-which. the board has carried out its business,'! and that the action of the householders was not the hasty, groundless action the board- officials would have ,our readers'! believe.—I am, etc.. J H. BREMNER, Ex-Chairman Ballance S.C Ballance, May 7, 1920.

1922-1923

				Marjorie U Mrs					
1923	33	Ballance	Tait		Head	E-141	£263	\$24,172	
1923			Houlbrooke	Vida E	PR2		£108		

By 1923 David C Pryor was an assistant at Hastings Street School Hastings as an assistant and Ella R Reader was married to William Saville Smith in 1923
Marjorie Urquhart Tait died in 1955 aged 74 ;';

National Archives: Buildings and Sites: Ballance 1891 240 square foot. 1897
200 Square Feet additions 1897 2 Square Feet Residence 1920 5 rooms Bathroom
Washhouse 941 Square Feet
School section 101,103 area 2 acres 1891 and Area 4 acres Site of residence Part Section 99
Township of Ballance area 3 roods
Garage 171 Square Feet
18th October 1918 Board is authorised to sell Section 23 4 acres and by the proceeds of sale
purchase section 99 3 roods. Board acquired 1922 132.134.138.140.3 acres 3 perches