

Fernridge

Masterton West School was the forerunner for the Fernridge School

Fernridge: 1878 to Present Frederick Gover was Head teacher in 1878 and lasted until 1905. 7 Kilometres up Upper Plain Road, West of Masterton.

Buildings

1876 Original school 479 square feet

1882 additional 604 Square feet

1893 Additional 609 Square Feet

1944 Remodelled as at 5th January 1951

Residence

1879 6 rooms

1930 Ministry approved sale and removal Payment of Housing Allowance to Teacher

1957 New House 1050 square feet Cost £3150

1951 Garage

Land 2 acres Part of Section 54 and 100

Small Farm settlement 350/127 Block 4 Tiffin SD



1867

9th November Provincial Secretary. West Masterton School District. PROCLAMATION. By His Honor Isaac Earl Featherston, Esquire, Superintendent of the Province of Wellington, in the Colony of New Zealand. THEREAS by an Act of the Second VV Session of the Provincial Council of Wellington, No. 6, initialled "An Act to promote the establishment of Common Schools in the Province of Wellington" it is enacted that for the purposes of the said Act it should be lawful for the Superintendent by Proclamation to divide the Province into Districts, and from time to time to subdivide such Districts and to re-unite any sub-divisions, and also by Proclamation to declare that such Act should come into operation within such district or sub-division at such time as he might appoint. And whereas it is deemed expedient to proclaim that portion of the province within the boundaries hereinafter set forth to be a district for the purposes of the said Act. Now therefore I, Isaac Earl

Featherston, Superintendent of the Province of Wellington, in virtue of the power and authority vested in me in this behalf, do hereby proclaim and declare that such portion of the said Province as is comprised within the following boundaries shall form and constitute a district for the purposes of the said Act to be called the West Masterton School District which said District shall be bounded as follows, namely Bounded towards the North East by the Western Boundary of W. Bowler's selection 183 acres, by the Whakamoekahi Stream, and by the Waipoua River towards the South East by that part of the North West boundary of the East Masterton School District, which lies between the Waipoua and Waingawa Rivers, towards the South West by the Waingawa River, and towards the North West by a line bearing 222 degrees from the North West corner of the aforesaid selection of William Bowler's 183 acres until it strikes the Waingawa River as delineated in the plan drawn in. the margin hereof or here- under annexed. PP

1869

11th September MARRIED.

Walton Kibblewhite. On September 4, at the house of the bride's father, Upper Plain, Masterton, by the Rev. John Ross, Mr Thomas j I Robert Walton, schoolmaster, West Masterton to Lucy, third daughter of Mr Richard Kibblewhite.

1872

Complaints are rife at Masterton at the delay in re-opening the school. Girls are now being sent to private schools where fees on the

former scale are charged. I have been repeatedly asked the reason why the school in Masterton East is closed while that in Masterton West has just had a teacher appointed to it. The only solution of the matter I could, or can, see is the lack of teachers. If the settlers were to bestir themselves a little there and elsewhere, see what their wants are, and make them known to the Board, or to the representatives of the several districts, these wants would soon be supplied, or at least hopes of their being supplied would be held out. As long as the people remain passive, and refrain from taking the initiative so long may they expect to see their school closed, and the children running about the roads. Though the control in education matters is now removed from the hands of the local committees, a little interest taken by the settlers in the education of their children cannot but have a beneficial result. If the parents are apathetic, so will the children, and if the teacher has not already lost much of his zeal, he must be something more than human if he can make any headway against the tide of discouragements that continually bar his progress. Foremost among these are, insufficient accommodation school furniture dilapidated and no longer available; irregular attendance; want of the moral support of the parent and, I might mention, inadequate salaries. This last desideratum is of such minor importance in the eyes of the teachers, through an excessive familiarity with it for many years, that they have not the slightest objection to an immediate severance of their former bosom friends

1873

4th February 1873 ,,,,,,,After describing the condition in which he found the schools in his own district, where out of 1400 children 1000 were unsupported, he depicted in a most graphic manner the deplorable condition of the schools in Wairarapa. Featherston (that can send near 100 children) had its closed. Kaiwairai had 15 attending. Tauherenikau and Moroa closed. Greytown with 50 or 60 attending Carterton closed, East Masterton closed West Masterton with an attendance of 15. Thus out of over 900 children in Wairarapa not 100 attending school PP

1874

16th May It was resolved that a bonus of £10 be given to Mr Jupp, of the West Masterton School, but in answer to the application for a female assistant to the school at Bulls, it was agreed to appoint; Miss Murphy at a salary of £50 a year. (*Area went right up to and Including Wanganui*)

1875

1st July began the school after recess on Monday 28th June having been too ill to attend during the previous weeks.

12th July paid Mr Evans 7 shillings for firewood for school

No date Extremely rough wet No attendance of children I attended Mr Vallance's funeral- School closed in the afternoon

Sent Postal Order to Chairman of Education Board £3-9-6 fees for quarter commenced 1st June 1875

1876

13th January Tenders were accepted for new schools at Mauriceville, Morrison's Bush, and West Masterton

24th January Miss Stephens

Opened school at half past nine, number present were seven boys and two girls. The greatest advantage the school an afford is plenty of air, I can scarcely realise being inside four walls. 1 O'clock 12 children present

25th January Number present thirteen paid glazier ten shillings for putting several panes of glass in

31st January Very wet admitted Phebe and Margaret Auketell

4th February Twenty one present. This school is exceedingly unpleasant I hope before long the new one will be commenced

7th February Admitted Caroline Evans age 16. Sarah Isabella Chamberlain. admitted. Augustine Valance (Vallance?) The weather is very warm and the want of water is felt very much by the children

11th February It has been a very trying week the poor children leave at times almost fainted for water although most of them bring some in bottles but the heat has been so intense that the water is warm; and therefore only aggravates their thirst. I only hope I may never again experience the want of water so much, how people so well off as some up here are do not dig a well, I can't understand 120° (48.8 Celsius)

14th February Mary McKenzie readmitted

18th February Short examination in Scripture, not a question answered correctly

21st February I have six children named Chamberlain all of one family attending and I was very much annoyed that they are coming

at 5 minutes past eleven this morning, and finding their lessons badly done

22nd February Chamberlain's late again 10-30. It would be no use my punishing them for it is not their fault when children are an hour an a half and sometimes two hours behind time it is rather puzzling how to engage. I hope there will be an improvement soon. The worst part of the business is that their father is one of the committee

25th February On Monday new desks were bought to the school, on Tuesday I had the pleasure of seeing the children exert their utmost power to sit in them that they managed after a while; but they will never manage to sit straight; I never saw such a clumsy set in my life; and hope I never shall again. This evening Friday I shall have the pleasure of dragging three at least outside and bringing back the original forms.

28th February Brought back the desks again; the exposure did them no good

2nd March Gave a holiday Opaki Races

6th March Several new ones admitted today. I don't expect one or two of them to stay long, they are come in order to see the "new teacher" at least I think so

10th March About 30 children present

13th March raining Only 21 children present

14th March The attendance is better. So very very backward these children are. There are about 32 children in the school. From the ages of 16 to 5 years and not one can do a simple multiplication sum right. I am trying to teach them singing, but it seems such a hopeless task, the dreary noises they make would dishearten a more patient

teacher than I am, it is all so different where children are taught to sing from their cradle; as they are in our infant schools at home. I little thought when the singing lessons at one time was the most pleasant use that I should ever find, it is a dreadful nuisance yet I would persevere. Perhaps one day I may be agreeably surprised and hear a sound something like music

Their knowledge of Geography is just as limited I have given them several lessons, but there are only one or two who do not describe a lake for an island; and when I ask what a mountain is or should I say when I asked to describe a mountain they looked as if thought I was making fun my first ? lesson

I suppose I ought to think quite a success; for they appeared quite delighted and so with scripture they appeared delighted with the history; but were sadly puzzled with the questions, However I have better success with it than anything as I always have in whatever school I teach.

I suppose I ought to stop grumbling and say something favourable, well they are fair spellers and they are well behaved and some of the older girls sew beautifully

16th March Received a visit form the chairman of committee Mr Dagg

21st March Inflicted corporal punishment severely on Henry Evans for disobedience and took away his place as monitor

22nd march Very wet, only thirteen present

31st March Very wet only two present who I intend to send home, for the schoolroom is wet and cold and I don't see the necessity of catching a cold for two children

4th April Visited Upper Plain school found it in good order- children under good control and apparently making capital progress. The school reflects great credit upon the school mistress *Signed Probably Robert Lee*

13th April Gave children today a holiday Good Friday and Easter Week by permission of Chairman of Committee Mr Dagg 14th – 24th 24th Reopened School

9th May Mr Bennett erected the stove this morning and one of the boys lit a fire, but the cold is far preferable to the smoke

11th May Received a visit from the Rev McKee he examined the children from the book of Exodus

15th May Robert Lee Inspector Wrote Out of 32 children on the books 18 present. The clock wants repairs. No timetable is suitable except that I think all should read twice a day and that mental arithmetic should be a definite lesson each day for at least 10 minutes. The desks (6) are very suitable and will be found very convenient when placed in a larger room.

Holes for ink wells 4 in each desk should be made. The under shelf seems rather too wide for the children to get in easily. I should be glad if the committee would fix upon another name for the school "West Masterton" is apt to be compounded with Masterton paper

The attendance register to be made up monthly. The cupboard wants a lock put in. A small table with drawer and chair may be provided for the new school

A closet can be put up in the area of the new school. When the school gets to a larger size another will be put up the opposite corner for the girls only. A double closet should not be built.

The school should as soon as possible be supplied with reading books

The mistress is not justified in sending home any children who come on a wet day. Although the matter has been raised on March 31st

A regulation of the board has been issued to that effect. The members of the Board can kindly see today in the matter of fittings for the new school. They suggest bracing the new building with tin iron rods

They will be necessary and will also serve as curtain rods when the school gets larger

The school is under good control, and, I hope, at the next examination will give evidence of efficient teaching

Robert Lee Inspector of Schools

15th May Admitted Annie McKenzie, very backward

19th May Scripture examination very disappointing

26th May Punished several children for stone throwing

5th June The number has diminished to twenty eight owing to bad weather and the comfortless condition of the school

15th June The work is dull,. The numbers small

29th June My sister taught today I took a holiday

17th July Opened school 27 present. The new building is very pleasant

18th July The hinges of the outside door were broken yesterday afternoon. The door was too heavy for the size of them, or else they were extremely bad ones

27th July Mr Bennett has been very kind in preparing many things beyond any strength, he kindly removed the desks from the old school to the new although he had to bring each one on a

wheelbarrow, he erected the fireplace and hung the maps and I feel infinitely grateful to him

1st August Only 28 present I am getting rather disheartened for there are more children in the district

31st August There has been nothing of importance to note during the past month

4th September 39 children on the books and I am very glad of the change. 35 present

18th September Admitted Mary Ann Lesley?

25th September Admitted E R Kibblewhite and Margaret Gillas

Commenced the Geography of England with the 1st class.

2nd October William Bennett has made considerable progress in arithmetic advanced to simple proportion

6th October Mrs Chamberlain made a complaint that the children were treated roughly by the older girls during the dinner hour. Mrs Walton formerly made a similar complaint and since has kept her children away in the afternoon because it is too far to come back after dinner hour. I could stay in school during the dinner hour but I cannot stand it, as it always gives me a headache, and therefore unfits one for afternoon work

12th October The geography is making but slow progress

There are 30 girls and 17 boys on the books, but several of them come irregularly the Daggs' especially, I cannot discover what makes them so; for it is anything but a busy season just now

16th October Several of the children are suffering from severe colds and coughs. I had to send one boy home, because he was crying with earache

28th October The coughs are increasing, several absent in consequence

25th Gave the 1st standard an extra word meaning session

27th October gave Henry Evans the cane and 12 verses of poetry to write

1st November Examined the 1st class in Arithmetic find I shall have to keep them hard at work to pass the 2nd Standard

6th November The attendance is not as good as I expected owing to the threatening appearance of the weather

17th November Commenced fractions with 4 of the older children

27th November Examined 1st class in Biography, well pleased with the progress they have made since Friday, it is a favourite study with a few of the 1st class and they are anxious to answer well in it on the examination day

2nd December Robert Lee inspector included

- a) Thirsty six for exam out of 45 in the books for November
- b) The children are as yet at various ages and attainments for their age. There being more than usual diversity in these subjects
- c) Only a very few have received any regular and consistent instruction
- d) The spelling throughout the school is satisfactory and the other subjects generally improved
- e) Six candidate passed Standard 7 and Four passed Standard II
- f) There were previously 12 passes in standard 1 and 1 in Standard II
- g) There are classes as unsatisfactory i.e.. they have been at school on and off for two years since passing the first

standard without being able to pass the first standard time of unofficial age- Annie Hercus and William Bennett were good candidates but I find Standard III did not succeed in passing

h) Robert Lee, Inspector

8th December The attendance during the past week anything but satisfactory

15th December Very bad attendance during past week. Dismissed for Vacation

1877

15th January Opened School 21 present

19th January The attendance still bad. I suppose I should expect very few until after the harvest

16th February Gave a holiday

22nd February Scripture examination unsatisfactory

29th February General examination dull and spiritless

3rd March Mary Aukiltill and Hilda Bennett an hour for drawing

30th March. Closed school for 3 days. The attendance is very bad, several children ill with diphtheria. W Hollings suggested all children to be sent home if complaining of sore throats

The committee has special orders that that none of the Evan's be admitted again for some time for fear of infection

Jessie Evans death (*6 Years old*) has frightened several of the parents from sending their children to school until the disease had passed away

7th May F Gover Took charge of the school this day, no children present

Found chimney pot broken, one window pane also, clock requires repairs. Lock off cupboard door

Miss Stevens closed school on 25th April: There has therefore been a considerable interval without school. The chimney broken very badly

8th May One child only present- Wet Morning.. No Fire

9th May Another wet day.. one child present no fire

The following figures speak for themselves

	1876		1877	
	November.	January.	N	J
No Present at All	44	27	14	13
Average Attendance	36	24	13	9

15th May The school is gradually coming together again. The children are very backward- particularly in arithmetic

Figures of such extraordinary shapes I never before heard. So far as I can see no progress has been made since last examination. In fact I have not the slightest doubt that the school has been going backwards for some months past

28th 29th May Chimney being rebuilt

4th June The new chimney is a great success

List of school property

6 desks

1 cupboard
3 large maps
3 small maps
8 blinds
2 tables
1 clock
1 log book
2 school rolls
1 admission register
1 blackboard and easel
9th July Reopened school after vacation
16th July. The numbers are gradually increasing
30th July Four of the Auketells have returned to school
6th and 7th August Unwell. No school Visited Masterton School on the 6th
13th August Arthur Joseph Chamberlain came to this school for the first time today. Formerly went to Masterton and passed Standard II at last exam Since which time he has not been to school at all
The Catts (John and Alice) returned to school after a fortnight's absence. It is very difficult to get them on. They are continually being absent and are frequently leaving in the middle of afternoon Beside this they never prepare their lessons well.
28 children at school today- the largest number that I have yet obtained
20th August Admitted two new children Alexander and Helen McKenzie
25th September Alice and John Catt have returned to school after an absence of six weeks

28th September The Auketells are kept away from school very much to assist at home and are falling behind in their classes
23rd October Very wet day Attendance small. Being unwell on 22nd I gave a holiday and kept school on following Saturday instead
25th October Maps of North and South Islands received from Mr Graham: but the map of the British Isles which I am advised has been forwarded has not reached me. This is a very important map and cannot well be dispensed with
26th October Commenced teaching grammar to all who have passed Standard 1
29th October Caned Samuel Liddington for playing the truant
1st November Mr William Kibblewhite and family have left the Upper Plain and are now residing at Masterton. I had made almost quite sure of passing his three children at the approaching examination and am very much disappointed at their being obliged to leave. They will attend Masterton School in future
Two families have left the neighbourhood within the last twelve months and 9 children have been withdrawn from the school in consequence
9th November The weather of the past week has been very stormy and boisterous and therefore unfavourable to children coming along distance to school The attendance has not been up to the usual mark
16th November Mr and Mrs Evans having gone to Wellington their three children are unable to come to school. They are occupied in earthing up potatoes etc and have already been absent from school for six weeks. Henry's chance of passing Standard 2 has been diminished

The Auketells have been absent for a fortnight. They are unable to come to school as they are required at home for farm work. This is rather a busy time with the farmers

22nd November Wairarapa agricultural and Pastoral association's show. Gave a half holiday

28th November Many children absent from school today. They have gone to the flower show at Masterton

30 November Arthur Chamberlain is required at home and will not attend school again

Elizabeth Wilton is a new pupil admitted today

5th December this is the first day of the Opaki races- several children absent

6th December The second day of the races. I gave a holiday and in the company with Mr Pilkington (headmaster of Masterton School) paid a visit to the school at Featherston where I gained many valuable ideas

10th December Mr Auketell inform me that he will require his children to assist him in farm work until after the holidays

12th December Mr Dagg's children have not attended school since notice was given that the examination was postponed

I am much inconvenienced by there being no map of the British Islands belonging to the school. I have made very many applications for one and have been promised one- but none have been received

18th December The school was visited by Mr Pilkington who tested the children in several subjects. Most of the children answered him intelligently and he seemed much pleased with the state of the school

19th December Broke up for midsummer holidays

1878

21st January Reopened School

On Wednesday the 16th instant there was a very violent hurricane in the neighbourhood. The closet was blown over, some of the spouting was torn off and the chimney was considerably cracked and damaged. It will probably fall, if we have another such storm, in consequence of the injuries it has sustained

22nd January Wellington Anniversary. Holiday

25th January Harvesting is going on. Many children will be kept from school for some time in consequence

29th January Robert Harvey and Mary McLauchlan left school for good at the end of the year. Both were capable of passing at the examination- In consequence of Harvey's leaving, Alexander and Helen Mackenzie- both very little children- cannot come to school. They cannot be trusted to come as far as they have to come, alone

6th February An extremely wet day. Only 6 children present

14th February A wet day. Only eight children at school The rain drives in under the shingles

Helen and Alexander McKenzie have returned to school. They have been two months absent

12th March The school was inspected. Nine candidates passed Standard 1. 5 passed Standard II- Mr Lee was well satisfied and gave a holiday for the following day

26th April 1878 Teachers' residences will be required for, Fern Ridge, PP

29th April Caned William Westbrook for throwing stones and hitting children returning from school on previous day

30th April The average attendance for the month is over 35. I do not think this average can be maintained throughout the approaching winter

17th May The weather during the past month has been wet and boisterous. The chimney has been much damaged. There were only 3 children present yesterday morning and in the afternoon none.

15th June Hitherto there has hardly been a day without rain during the month. It has been difficult for the children to get to school

18th June A meeting of householders was held last evening when the following were elected the new committee viz- Messrs Dagg, James McGregor, William Bennett, Thomas Wilton, R McKenzie, Giles Chamberlain and Daniel Walton

Before the end of the meeting the following vote was unanimously passed; That the thanks of the settlers are due to Mr Gover for the able and energetic manner in which he conducts the school

I was very much gratified at this expression of confidence in the teacher

8th July Hilda Bennett has left. She is required at home to help in the house

10th July Whooping cough is the cause of the absence of many children from the school

Mr Gillie's children have left- he has gone to live in Palmerston

15th July Albert Prentice has left school. His elder brother has left home so that he is required to work on the farm in his stead

30th July A very wet day- Only nine children could get to school

5th August Dora Dagg has finished her schooling. She is required at home to help in the house

30th September The Waltons have left. They have gone to live at Carterton

14th October Half Holiday. Opening of railway and on 16th (The day to which opening was postponed) full holiday

1st November Many children kept away by wet weather—Potato planting and hoeing will keep many away till the end of the year.

19th December The five Auketells have been kept away from school very much by their father's against their Mother's wish. The father who is insane has been removed to the asylum and they will probably now be able to attend more regularly

1879

20th January Reopened school after Vacation

The Kibblewhites have sold up and removed with family to Palmerston

25th January The Bennetts have sold out and removed with family to Whareama

3rd February Since the last examination five families sending their children to school have removed from the Upper Plain

28th March 1879 Fern Ridge Wrigley Bros 209 pound accepted
(*\$30,150.82 at Sept 2010*)

31st March Average for quarter 32

28th April The Auketells are away digging potatoes

6th May The Kibblewhites have left for winter

8th May John Dagg is away for potato digging

Ella Prentice absent- illness

9th June Mary Evans returned after long absence
24th July New lobby made use of for first time
29th August 44 at school
30th September Nothing of consequence to note. 44 at school today
17th October 52 at school
31st 57 at school
27th November Half holiday for flower show
19th December Broke up for holidays

1880

Pupil Teacher very much wanted
19th January Reopened School
20th January 64 at school
6th February 69 at school
13th February 71 at school
22nd February Anniversary day- Holiday
20th February Examination
25th February Holiday fooling examination
2nd March Lois Feist commenced duties as Pupil Teacher Aged 15 years 4 months
1st April Annual Pic-Nic and prize day
8th April Carpenters at work in school room- no school in consequence in the afternoon
17th May A little gravelling is required at front gates around school. Room Door
25th May Absent from illness as specially reported to Wellington Education Board

19th July Re-opened school- fine day- attendance 47. Shrubs planted in school grounds during holidays

13th August. Inspector Robert Lee writes. I paid an accidental visit to the school finding 18 children present

The morning was very wet, although the day turned out fairly fine. The school was in good working order. I examined the drawing books, time table and registers and inspected the work generally. I am satisfied that the school is efficiently taught and well managed. The pupil teacher is attentive to her duties but lacks animation.

1st November The committee gave children a Pic-nic and treat to celebrate the railway opening

5th November proclaimed General Holiday- Pastoral Show

7th December Proclaimed general holiday Opaki races

17th December I experience a great difficulty in working up the 4th Standard children for examination on account of the very irregular attendance of a large number of the children. It is the most unsatisfactory class I ever taught. The children in the other standards attend better and I consequently expect better results from them
Broke up for Christmas Holidays

1881

17th January Resumed work after holiday

25th January Called to Wellington. Science Exams

9th March I have noticed a great improvement in the Pupil Teacher's teaching since the inspection accidental visit on 13th August. She shows more animation than she did but is still teaching in that feature. She is very industrious and endeavours to do her best

10th March Examination Passes

Standard I Chas Kibblewhite, Alf Auketell, Janet McGregor, Alice Harrison, Elizabeth Wilton, Cath Chamberlain

Standard II Leonard Ashwin, Richard Kibblewhite, Penelope Chamberlain, May Kibblewhite

Standard III Martin Feist, Alex McKenzie, John Fuecher, Annie Kummer, Sarah Chamberlain, Anne Fuecher

Standard IV Charles Evans, Charles Ashwin, Mary Feist, Lois McGregor, Edittice Chamberlain, Maittice Auketell

Standard V Adolph Feist, Fritz Kummer

Lois Feist (Pupil Teacher)

1880/1415 Feist Hannah Elizabeth Jane William -

1870/20114 Feist Adoplhe Monad Jane William -

1872/20504 Feist Martin Luther Jane William -

1874/26047 Feist Edith Lydia Jane William -

1868/18308 Feist Mary Martha Jane William -

1868/18311 Feist Rhoda Ruth Jane William -

1866/14633 Feist Oliver Jane William -

Cromwell

1864/9718 Feist Alfred William Jane William -

1864/9721 Feist Lois Margaret Jane William -

1915/1142 Lois Margaret Feist Harry Edwin Fly

11th March Holiday following examination

14th March Re-arranged classroom

20th April Prize day

2nd May Pupil Teacher instructed to keep a list of object lessons given to Junior Classes on each day of week and to leave week's list on my desk every Friday Afternoon

27th June Severe earthquake damaged chimney of cottage

28th June The frosty mornings made many children late in arriving at school

8th August Quite a hurricane with rain. The rain drifts in between the window sashes and makes the desks wet

10th August Supplied Pupil Teacher with notes of two object lessons

16th August Robert Lee Inspector

At my surprise visit to Fernridge School today, I found forty seven children present out of eighty four on the books

This is not a high average attendance- The day was fine, the morning being cloudy, this afternoon sunny

The property is improved and generally in good condition. A chimney in the master's home is so badly cracked by an earthquake, that it will partly if not entirely taken down. The matter should receive attention of the School Committee without delay as much damage might arise if a gale of wind were to blow it down.

On my arrival I found the work of the school going on satisfactorily, and in accordance with the timetable in use. The school is well taught and well managed

The pupil teacher is more assertive and appears generally more efficient.

I recommend the headmaster to allow for at least ten short lessons a week in the duties of life, good manners and the teaching of what is right or wrong These lessons may take the form of short addresses, or explanations of moral stories from reading books

These lessons may take the form of addresses or explanations of moral stories from reading books Although our system of education is secular, there is no reason why every master should not make a point of bringing children to a sense of their moral duties.

A six inch globe may be obtained from the Education Office when an opportunity of bringing it occurs. I am pleased to notice that drawing, the elements of physics, and mental arithmetic receive due attention... The school library is evidently a useful and growing initiative

Robert Lee

21st September Caned Donald McKenzie, major, for using bad language on way home. Four strokes on hands (2 each hand)

25th October Caned Donald McKenzie, major, for setting Pupil Teacher at defiance and putting out his tongue at her. Three strokes on each hand

8th November Lucy Dagg is not working well. She is nearly always at the bottom of her class.

11th November Jas Fuecher very disobedient. 2 strokes with cane on shoulders

14th November Caned Donald McKenzie for being very impertinent to Pupil Teacher 4 strokes on each hand

28th November Caned James McKenzie for using bad language, breaking windows etc 8 strokes on back

5th December Caned Alfred Aucore for great disobedience- 4 strokes

9th December Caned Alfred Aucore and Donald McKenzie, major for impertinence and disobedience to Pupil Teacher 2 strokes each hand

11th Caned Dougal McKenzie for misbehaviour and stubbornness 6 strokes on back

1882

2nd March Caned Donald McKenzie, major, for swearing. Three strokes of the cane on each hand

6th March A wet day and not many at school

Leonard Ashwin for fighting 150 lines

28th March Caned Donald McKenzie, minor, for throwing stones at Pupil Teacher, Four strokes on back

29th March Thomas Yule Griffen 3 strokes across shoulders a piece

20th April Caned George Red? Five strokes with cane over back
 9th May Circulars about irregular attendance sent to Mr Allen, Mr Auketell, Mr Griffen, Mr Budd
 Requested Pupil teacher to introduce as object lesson a few moral subjects- such as truthfulness- stone throwing etc
 11th May Punished Donald McKenzie major for copying sums 3 strokes on each hand
 16th March Frank Stempa – John Rissington- Thos York- 1 stroke on each hand with cane for misbehaviour
 17th March Caned Henry Budd, 6 strokes on back for great misbehaviour and rudeness to pupil teacher
 19th march Caned Thos York 4 strokes on hands- 2 on each- for great misbehaviour
 26th May George Ridgeway on being remonstrated with told me to “shut up” he was therefore caned in 2 strokes on each hand

Punishments

From here on I have not recorded most of Frederick Gover's punishment log incorporated into the Log book. Sometimes whole pages only record punishments often heavy handed.

Have made a list of actions for punishments. Frank Gover was well respected, Inspectors came and accepted. Gover went onto be promoted to School Headmaster

	1882
Misbehaviour	20
Damaging Desks	2
Refusing to obey PT	11
Idleness	4

Spitting	1
Great Misbehaviour	1
Cheating	1
Breaking Fences	1
Washing Slate with Ink	1
Defiance	1
Annoying Girls	1
Not Specified	5
Carelessness	3
Hitting a Girl	1
Not Correcting	
Dictation	1

54

This was just from May to December From here on I will only fill in “different” offences and “punishments”

10th May The 7th, 8th and 9th were very wet days and scarcely any children could get to school

11th August The school playground is in a very dirty state in places where there is much traffic. From the gate to the door of the school room there is a succession of mud holes

The school floor is quite free of dust and dirt every morning at ½ past 9 but at the close of the day it looks as though it had not been swept for a week. Gravelling ought to be done at the beginning of winter. I believe it would save many children from chilblains because as things are they cannot help getting their feet wet

It might perhaps affect the average attendance. Between the front gates there is a puddle often 2 ½ yards in diameter

22nd August Served “absence notices” on Mr Auketell, McKenzie, Mr Griffen, Mr Budd, Mr Allen and Mr Price

25th August Had a letter from Mrs Budd saying Henry Budd had played truant for two days and was a very bad boy- and asking me to punish him. One dozen strokes across back and shoulders with cane.

2nd September Robert Lee Inspector writes. At my surprise visit today fifty three children were present the day being fine though cloudy.

The school is in good working order now and the discipline is good. I heard the two upper classes read passages of poetry. They were accurately read and with fair expression

I also examined Drawing and Exercise Books and made suggestions. The drawing work is very creditable. The general condition of the school is satisfactory and recent work with good results, which the school has produced for several years past. F Gover is an efficient master. I understand from Mr Gover that when the fine weather sets in, the school will be cleaned. The room today is fairly full and I should think if the attendance is larger increased accommodation will be required.

In that case I should suggest the addition of a classroom for 50 or 60 pupils in front of the present room, the porch of which being removed.

Robert Lee

At the next examination the 4th, 5th and 6th Standards will work sums on paper with pen and ink

The 3rd Standard will write dictation on paper

27th September Henry Budd wrote his copy book very badly and was kept in to write another- which he did worse. He refused to hold out his hands and received 8 strokes on the back

16th November Lois McGregor and her sister Janet are away with measles

13th December I have requested the Pupil Teacher not to keep children in at interval of 10 minutes in the middle of the morning as the interval is intended to prevent the necessity of children leaving the room during lesson time

18th December Measles have broken out and many are kept away from school

22nd December Broke up for holidays at 2 O'clock

1883

29th January Reopened school- wet morning only 31 present

15th February Today I had occasion to cane Henry Budd. I had to enquire about a ring which the children said had been stolen and given to him. He refused to come and I had to go to him and cane him about 12 strokes on the shoulders

5th March 1883 A little girl at the Fernridge School, named Lois McGregor, has just passed the sixth standard at the early age of 10 years and 9 months. Mr. Lee, the Inspector, according to the Wairarapa Daily, thinks this has scarcely been beaten. PP

17th March 1883 THE Wellington Board of Education invite Tenders until Tuesday, the 27th instant, for Erecting Additions to the Fern-Ridge School. Plans and specifications at my office, and at

the Wairarapa Daily office, Masterton. THOS. TURNBULL,
Architect to the Board PP

28th March 1883 Additions to school C E Daniell PP

18th April 1883 Two schools, Fernridge and Waihenga (*Martinborough*), which for several years past have produced good work, show a falling off this year. As the teachers are competent, and I believe industrious, it appears, at first sight, difficult to account for this, and such cases are certainly exceptional; but I think it arises in the former school from underestimating the work required, and, in the latter, partly from a preponderance of children of less than average ability, and partly from the continued ill-health of the teacher. The work in both schools was not bad in method, and the written work of the Waihenga School was very neat, but the pupils had not sufficiently covered and traversed the ground. I observe, however, that there is some danger of successful teachers becoming over-confident of continued success, not only in country schools, but in one or two of the larger schools ; and I will take this opportunity of reminding such teachers that no amount of experience or knowledge will avail in producing a return of good and improving work year by year, without the exercise of patient industry, combined with a careful study of the methods to be used, in order to meet the advancing requirements of the times Inspector Lee's report PP

30th May 1883 Chairman stated that the next matter for discussion was the action of the committee appointing an extra pupil teacher at the Fernridge School without the sanction of the Board. A letter from the committee stated that the appointment had been conferred upon Master Ernest Feast, who was under the proper age, the

attendance of pupils having increased. Mr. Hutchison thought the committee had not acted properly in taking such action. The Board decided that if the committee required an extra teacher an application in the proper manner must be made to the Board PP (*Can't find an Earnest Feast, My guess is that it one of the Feist family*)

8th June Robert Lee Inspector wrote in log

The day is cloudy but fine. Attendance only 50. School in good active work. The registers are fairly kept. The teaching of each subject is largely set aside. I think an effort should be made to teach Singing and Sewing and that the teaching of drawing should be revived. Sewing will count as a subject for girls at the next standard exam. Science also is not now being taught. The regulations (of which a copy should be posted in every schoolroom) require that these subjects should be taught in every state school

The playground will require gravelling when the building is finished. A blackboard and easel and maps of Europe, New Zealand and the World will be needed in the new room. The general working conditions of the school appears satisfactory. A new timetable should be posted, and this timetable will I hope that an attempt is made to use this as required by Regulation

27th June 1883 The Fernridge Committee wrote asking the Board to confirm the appointment of a pupil teacher who in under age. It was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the Chairman PP

1st August Miss Feist absent from illness

13th August Mary Dagg 30 minutes late. Lucy Dagg 40 minutes late

20th August Miss Feist is ill in bed from a severe cold

21st August Miss Feist is still confined to her bed. Lois McGregor is assisting and taking her classes

22nd Miss Feist resumed work today

12th September Adolph Feist appointed probationer at salary of £16 per annum Salary to date from 1st September

Very few at school this morning- Most have taken a holiday on account of the Governor's visit to Masterton. The day is a proclaimed holiday

The canings just keep on and on. Robert Lee inspector obviously approved.

1884

12th March Caned John Peterson for taking children's lunch out of their bags and eating it. Three strokes on each hand

17th March Elizabeth Cullen had the misfortune to break an arm and consequently has left school for a while

18th John Peterson has again been taking dinner from children's bags. So I had to give him a rather severe caning- four strokes on each hand and same number across back

21st March Alfred and John Auketell have been away from school for a long time but will probably be present at the examination. For years past they have been making about 150 attendances per year. No wonder they get on badly. The father never allows them to come to school if he can possibly find any work for them about the farm

Richard Kibblewhite has attended school for some years making about 150 attendances per annum. He lives nearly 5 miles off and unusually leaves school immediately after an examination and

returns about 3 months before the next one. This is called Leaving for the winter. He certainly has to travel over bad roads and there is more rain at the foot hills where he lives than here. He has no chance of passing Standard IV this year- last year he managed to pass Standard 3

An inquest was held on Saturday last by Mr Wardell, Coroner, at the house of Mr R. Kibblewhite, Fernridge, on the body of a boy named Herbert Kibblewhite aged eight and a half years, It appeared from the evidence that two men named Houchen and Burrell went out in the morning shooting with deceased and his elder brother;. The boys were returning home together (haying separated from the men), the younger one was in front, both on the lookout for pigeons, when the elder boy fell and the gun exploded, the contents being lodged in the right side of the boy Herbert. Houchen heard shots and within five minutes of the shot being fired came up to the boy and helped to carry him to the slip panels, where his mother and father met him, The boy recovered consciousness and asked to be killed, as he was in pain. The father was examined merely as to the age of the boy, The jury returned the following verdict, viz.— The boy Herbert Kibblewhite came to his death by a .shot from a gun accidentally fired by his elder brother through a fall PP

List of who passed Standards at the examination of 25th March

Standard 1 Boys

Frank Stempa, John Griffen, William Tankersley, Amos Auketell, John Remington, Edwin Dagg, Arthur Wilton, Thomas Chamberlain, Ernest Osborn, David Waugh, Herbert Kibblewhite ("Dead" before pass cards came

Standard 1 Girls

Florence Chamberlain, Margaret Kuecher, Laura Griffen, Gertrude Harrison, Connie Burnett, Mabel Kibblewhite, Jessie McKenzie

Standard 2 Boys Donald McKenzie, William Griffen, Kenneth Griffen, Thomas York

Standard 2 Girls Fanny Budd, Fanny Duckett, Annie Devonport, Agnes Griffen, Annie Vibert, Alice Harrison, Harriet York

Standard 3 Boys John Auketell, Charles Kibblewhite, Jas McKenzie, Stephen Tankersley, Francis Vibert

Standard 4 Boys Eric Chalmers

Standard 4 Girls Ada Crosbie Clara Crosbie, Kate Kuecher, Kate Hessey, Janet McGregor, Harriet McKenzie, Mary Dagg

Standard 5 Boys Martin Feist, Alexander McKenzie

Standard 5 Girls Sarah Chamberlain, Celina Chamberlain, Ruth Wilkin

Standard 6 Maittea Auketell, Mary Feist, Edith Chamberlain

97 % pass

23rd April Clara Crosbie has damaged the desk she sits at by scratching dates on it with the object of cheating at lessons

28th April Today being fixed as the internment of Mr William Feist a relation of the pupil teacher and probationer (and many school children also) very few children came to school in the morning. There was no school in the afternoon

29th April Miss Feist (The pupil Teacher) is absent from illness The attendance is poor later although we have been having fine weather. This state of things is caused by children being kept away to gather potatoes.

5th August The scarlet fever has broken out in several families whose children attend school causing quite a scare amongst the rest The number being present today is very small

11th August The scarlet fever scare has not at all abated though I hear on no fresh outbreak of the disease. Many parents intend to keep their children away for three or four weeks to avoid contagion. This is greatly to be regretted

Adolph Feist, the probationer is absent in consequence of an eye complaint called "blight"

The caning keeps on being recorded with pride

15th April Robert Lee Inspector wrote in the log

The day was very fine. For reasons already set forth by Mr Gover the present ordinary attendance is small Today only 49 children are present out of a total of one hundred on the roll. I am pleased to notice that attention has been paid to former suggestions, and that the school is now making an honest effort to meet the full requirements of the Education Act

The Times Tables posted are exceedingly good in plan and execution.

The teachers are competent and painstaking. Drawing is made an important subject throughout the school, and promise of good work is apparent. Excellent discipline is maintained. The registers are fairly kept but no summary is in use. One should be obtained and kept posted up.

The property is in very good order, and a useful addition appears in the form of a stable and coach barn. On the whole I am much pleased with the working condition of this school, which reflects credit on the Head Teacher, Mr Gover.

The results at the late examination were very good in number and quality; and the general condition of the school is very satisfactory During such times as the present sprinkling of the rooms with Dilute Carbolic Acid is advisable

25th August I desire to place on record my thanks to the Committee for their consideration in placing at my disposal a very convenient stable and coach house- I fully appreciate their kindness and heartily thank them F G

3rd October Miss Feist absent in afternoon with my consent as she wanted to go by train

14th October Ezekiel Price caned for waylaying a boy Ernest Crombie going home- throwing stones at him and dragging him through a puddle Seen by Fanny Duckett and William Tankersley

6th November Agricultural Show- special holiday given by chairman of Committee

18th November Agnes Auketell behaved very badly this afternoon. When sent by Miss Feist to wash her hands previous to sewing, instead of doing so at once, she stopped in the lobby and was jumping about laughing, talking, and making a great noise, which I could hear distinctly in my room. Miss Feist went to bring her back in the room, and when all the others came back, sent her by herself to wash her hands. In consequence of this, she had a fit of stubbornness for the rest of the afternoon- refusing to do a stitch of her sewing

Miss Feist said she would have to stop in till she did do it after school. I went in twice after school to see how she was getting on. She was still stubborn. After the second time of my speaking to her, she did use her needle, doing about two inches of hemming; but she

made the stitches as badly as she could on purpose no doubt, as she can sew beautifully.

The stitches, besides being most irregular in formation, were also eight or ten times as big as they should have been

At 5 O'clock I had to go to Masterton and left Miss Feist and Agnes Auketell still in the school room, where they remained till 6 O'clock at which time she was still stubborn and refused to work Shortly before 6 O'clock she threw her work down on the floor and stamped on it with her feet, therefore making it dirty- Making a great noise which Mrs Gover could hear in the house. Two of her sisters called for her at 6 and on seeing her work and getting an explanation of the circumstances, said she had been justly punished and that they would report the circumstances to their mother

A rather fruitless waste of time.

18th Nov 1884 The chairman recommended an increase of 20 pounds in the salary of Miss L. Feist, of the Fernridge School. Agreed to PP

2nd December 1884 Louise McGregor candidate for scholarship PP

11th December The McKenzie's have come late a good deal lately and I have had to complain about it. On speaking to them today I received the answer "Mother said if I was not satisfied with their coming late they couldn't come at all" As a punishment kept them in and gave time to write. They have half and three quarters of an hour late as a regular thing for some time.

1885

26th January Reopened school Miss Feist has to be absent for whole week at Wellington as she has gone up for examination. Adolph is taking her classes and Lois McGregor is taking Adolph's

Helen McKenzie has returned to school. She is very little better than when she left. Had 21 mistakes in dictation

29th January Helen McKenzie had 29 mistakes in dictation

17th February Ulcerated sore throat is very prevalent just now and is now interfering with the attendance- in my classes girls are away

5th March Some children are returning to school, having recovered from the Diphtheritic sore throat the disease however breaks out a fresh and other children are breaking themselves

1st April Robert Lee writes I examined the school today when 86 per cent passed the standards. The work was generally good, and on the whole , quite satisfactory- Helen McKenzie is a girl of good age, who did not pass. She had very many half day attendances and could not therefore be expected to pass. In such a short time no teacher could prepare a candidate for examination

List of all passes in log and listed below failures

Standard 1 Failed Thos McKenzie

Did not pass but does not count as a failure Ettice Price

Standard 2 Failed Thomas Chamberlain and John Griffen

Did not pass but....

Mary Harris and Marg Kuecher

Standard 3 Failed Donald McKenzie

Standard 4 Did not pass but don't count as failure

?? Chamberlain , Richard Kibblewhite, Helen McKenzie

Standard 5 Failed Ada Crosbie, Kate Hessey

Standard 6 Failed Celina Chamberlain

Standard 6 Passes Martin Feist, Alex McKenzie, Sarah? Chamberlain

9th April Mr Price paid today for children's books (7 shillings and 9 pence) an account which has been running on and which includes books supplied to his children since November 1883 a period of 17 months.

I have had great trouble in obtaining the money (as on former occasions) although the account has been sent in regularly every quarter and I have asked the children for it occasionally. I explained to Ezekiel a few days ago that I could not supply them with new books till the old account was paid

17th April Fanny Duckett was very stubborn and for a long time refused to learn eight facts written on blackboard that the others easily mastered in five minutes- the items were such as and included
4 crowns = £1

8 half crowns = £1

40 sixpences = £1

She had to stand before blackboard until the lesson was mastered, even if she should be all day over it, and took 1 ¼ hours to learn the lesson

28th April Kendrick Dagg who had asked to leave room, was walking across playground partially dressed- I went out and caned him 6 strokes across back

6th May gave Miss Feist permission to leave three quarters of an hour before time as she had urgent business to see to.

13th May The following is a list of them who have left school during the last 6 months with reasons assigned when known

Sarah Chamberlain	Passed VI
Martin Feist	Father Left
Edith Feist	“
Hannah Feist	Received
Ada Osborn	Mother Left Neighbourhood
Charles Osborn	Mother Left Neighbourhood
Thomas York	No Boots
Alice York	Gone to Service
Hamish York	No Bots
John Frasi?	Father Moved
Fred Green	Father Moved
Mark Stempa	Catholic School
Frauika “	“
Mary “	“
Helen McKenzie	
Alan McKenzie	Passed VI
Richard Kibblewhite	

15th May Clara Crosbie was laughing and misbehaving in class and thereby interfering with the lesson- she was kept in and wrote 50 lines.... she has been warned twice before using punishment

Continuing daily caning of boys

25th August Caned Alfred Chamberlain for cheating at arithmetic- two sticks on each hand

3rd September Robert Lee inspector

The day is very fine and mild. There are sixty four children present . Mr Gover is assisted by Miss Feist (PT) and A Feist PT. The school is in good order- new weather sheds have been put up since my last visit.

The last examination show very creditable work was going on in the school, and the working conditions on inspection shows that the good results are brought about by good management and diligent work

Mr Gover is always anxious to make improvements and year by year there is evidence of the introduction of new plans and new methods. For the teaching of drawing in the lowest classes a blackboard specially ruled with red lines in squares and a set of slates individually ruled will be required. I suggest that Miss Feist PT be accommodated so that the two classes may be taken at one time in arithmetic and also in writing and drawing

Each teacher should keep a record of the daily work of the classes under his or her charge

A few pictures on the walls are desirable. I have recommended that copy books be “Marked” and test composition lessons be given in describing objects placed before the eyes of the pupils. New reading sheets are required for the lowest class and a Ball Frame

The written work of this school is generally weak and the character of the instruction is well up to that of the average of our best schools 16th October 1885 A Wairarapa paper states that during the return of a school party from a visit to the Exhibition, ono little fellow of ten or twelve years of age, son of Mr. B. McKenzie, of the Fernridge was left behind at Kaitoke. The little chap ran after the train in rain and darkness, thinking to overtake it at the summit, and meeting no

one he continued his journey, went through all the tunnels, and ultimately arrived in Featherston, where he was found outside a hotel drying. He was taken in, and told his tale. A bed was found for him, but before the inmates were moving the lad got up and dressed himself, and was off along the line. He was overtaken by the Saturday morning train at Clareville, and taken in charge by the guard, who had been informed by the parent of the mishap, and brought on to Masterton. The boy was completely knocked up by the time he reached his home at Fernridge and was confined to his bed for a few days, but is all right now PP

23rd October Caned William Allen and John Griffen for having no sums right. Yesterday Allan had all his sums right through Osborn passing him a paper with the answers written down

6th November Caned John Griffen for not learning his night's lessons. His sister informs me that he never attempts to learn them

30th December 1885 The Board of Education Scholarships.

The Rev. W. H. West and Mr. Kenneth Wilson, who examined the papers in connection with the recent competition for the eight scholarships offered by the Board of Education, recommend that the City of Wellington scholarships should be equally divided between the candidates (both for the Thorndon School) the numbers of whose papers are 51 and 45. No. 51 obtained 539 marks, and No. 45 got 538. One of the scholarships is worth £30 and the other is valued at £20. The examiner's report that the scholarship set apart for the Wairarapa district has been taken by candidate No. 10, whose aggregate of marks is 503, and that the scholarship for the Wellington district has not been awarded. Both these scholarships

are valued -at £20 each. That known as the Wairarapa District Scholarship has been taken by a pupil of the Fernridge School The four scholarship's upon to pupils in the Wellington Education District have been won by boys Attending the Thorndon school Wairarapa— The prize for this district has been taken by Louis McGregor '(Fernridge). PP

1886

27th January 1886 An application was made on the part of L. McGregor, of Fernridge to the Education Board today that the amount of the scholarship she had won should be given to her at the place of her residence. The request was not acceded to it being pointed out that scholarships were given for the purpose of enabling pupils to attend the higher schools. The Board had no power to grant the application PP

10th February Caned Alf Chamberlain for swearing. 8 strokes

12th February Alf Chamberlain again swearing Punishment much more severe than the day before yesterday- 20 strokes on the back

25th February Lois McGregor Probationer absent from illness

26th February Ditto

17th June Caned Ernest Osborne and Donald McKenzie for setting fire to flax bushes on private property on their way home from school

1st July Thursday having to proceed to Wellington tomorrow in order to attend a drawing examination. I broke up school for the winter holidays today

2nd August Donald McKenzie asked William Tankersley to tell him the answers to a sum, and the latter was complying. William Tankersley had two strokes on each hand

Donald McKenzie received one on hand, but refused to hold out his hand again. I therefore administered the punishment on his back, whilst during which he kicked me on the shins and his punishment was consequently more severe. I gave him over one dozen strokes on back.

5th August This is the third day of very inclement weather (snowing) and very few have been able to come to school

13th September Mr Riley (Art Specialist) visited school in the afternoon and was well pleased. He thought the upper standards drew freehand so well that they might be at once taken as models. He said he certainly had not seen better drawing in any of the Wellington schools- if as good.

14th October Caned Herbert Hicks for swearing.. 2 shakes each hand

2nd November Miss McGregor absent in afternoon from illness. Elizabeth Wilton took her class.

22nd December 1886 The following are the only teachers in the service of the Board of Education who possess second grade drawing certificates :Including; Mr. F. Gover, Fernridge; PP

1887

Canings continued continuously

7th March Mr Riley visited school and saw the drawing. He was well pleased- in fact he said it was in advance of any other school

6th and 7th April School examined 85 % passed

13th April Inspector's holiday

14th Holiday instead of St Patrick's day Chairman consented

15th April Holiday as it was not worthwhile to reopen on a Friday. Chairman consented

16th April Caned Ernest Osborne, Don McKenzie, Osborne Harp, John Harp, Tom McKenzie for setting upon Kenny Dagg (who is of weak mind) on his way home- tormenting him and throwing saw dust in his eyes. Three strokes on each hand for every boy concerned

27th April William Allen who was kept in for sums, went to Florence Chamberlain's desk, took her slate; and showed her sums for his own work- caned him 4 strokes one each hand

25th May 1887 A Bonus of 15 pound given to Mr A Feist PP

25th July Caned John Price for lying and stealing. He took John Griffen's Knife and secreted it in his boot and all the time persistently denied having it. Mr Feist had his boot taken off and the knife was in it. Two strokes on each hand.

26th July Gave out drawing certificates- 18 were presented for model and 17 passed- 3 also passed in freehand

28th July Herbert Harrison and Annie ... have measles

17th August Kenny Dagg was troublesome during dinner hour- he was teasing girls

24th August gave a half holiday on account of the great football match. It is a half holiday declared by the Mayor Wrote to chairman to explain my action

Public Notice At the request of the Canterbury Football Team reception Committee I hereby invite the Burgesses of Masterton to observe a public half holiday on Wednesday 24th August inst from 1.00 pm

M Caselberg Mayor

7th September Schoolroom lent by Committee to Mr Geo Brittain for an address to electors. The desk occupied by Mr De Lisle was afterwards found disfigured- a figure being scratched on it and ink smudged about

26th September Election Day. Dismissed school an hour before usual time

28th September Home chimney caught on fire and caused me to be ten minutes behind time in ringing the bell

13th November 1887 It was decided to pay the sum of £3 2s 6d as extras in connection with the contract at the Fernridge School PP

17th November pastoral and agricultural show holiday. Chairman consented

9th December 1887 A discovery of a lode of jet (*A rapid stream of liquid or gas forced out of a small opening*): has been made near Fernridge, at the base of the Tararua Ranges, on the banks of the Waipoua River. Coal is supposed to exist in the same locality PP

1888

The school has rather fallen off in numbers lately owing to people moving about and houses in the neighbourhood being let to persons who have no children of school age. I here mention 15 residents and householders who have no children of school age

Actual List has 24 names

7th February The attendance is improving. Some new children have come and roll numbers has gone up to 100. Seventy five present today

13th April Hooping (sic) Cough is very much interfering with Attendance

20th April Nearly all the children are suffering from hooping cough consequently the rooms are very noisy- attendance is much reduced

17th May Mrs Devenport called about Annie a few days ago She wants her to become a pupil teacher some day. I don't think Annie seems adapted for it. I simply told her she had better let Annie remain at school for the present and consider the matter in a year or so. She is a great deal too young at present to think about the quarter
25th May The boys presented Mr Williams today with a silver mounted riding whip as a mark of respect

26th May PRESENTATION.

Mr Joseph Williams of this town has for many years past, unsolicited, taken upon himself the duty of drill instructor to the Fernridge School. His exertions in this direction have been fully appreciated not only by the School Inspector, Mr Lee, but also by the master and the scholars themselves. Yesterday Mr Williams on visiting the school as usual to put the boys through their drill, was agreeably surprised with a presentation by Master Alfred Auketell on behalf of the Fernridge cadets of a handsome silver-mounted buckhorn-handle riding whip accompanied by the following address
Fernridge School, 17th May, 1888,

To Mr Joseph Williams,

"Dear Sir,-We, boys of the Fernridge School, beg to offer you our most hearty thanks for the time and attention which you have bestowed upon our school-drill for a long time past, and we beg you to be so kind as to accept the accompanying gift, which we only regret is not more valuable, as a slight but sincere token of our

esteem and thanks. Your grateful pupils,—Alf. Auketell, Amo Auketell, Arthur Wilton, Thomas McKenzie, John Harp, W. Karaitiana, Donald Mackenzie, James McGregor, Ernest Osborne, William Allen, Hubert Harrison, George Devenport, Drummond McMaster, Osborne Harp, Donald Chamberlain, Thomas Chamberlain, Alf. Chamberlain, Leonard Moore, H. Chamberlain." Mr Williams thanked the cadets in suitable terms for their handsome present, and more especially for the kind address which accompanied it. The proficiency they had arrived at fully satisfied him that his services were appreciated, and it was to him a task of pleasure. It had given him great pleasure to find that Inspector Lee had given them credit for their smart appearance, and the creditable manner in which they had gone through their drill He hoped when the Russians paid New Zealand a visit, they would give a good account of themselves.

After three lusty cheers the corps was dismissed, PP

21st June Gave a holiday for the Wairarapa exhibition by Mr Dagg's permission

28th June The drawing examination was held today instead of yesterday owing to the papers from Wellington not arriving in time. Mr Dagg was supervisor. Nineteen sat for examination in Freehand

16th August Re-opened school after winter vacation with seven present. It was a most unfortunate day for reopening as the rain descended in torrents all day long with South East Wind. Probably the school will not now be properly got together this week.

20th July Herbert Harrison did not learn his lessons and was kept in. He then pretended to have a headache. This I was sure was merely an excuse. At eleven o'clock he went home without leave.

3rd August Miss McGregor transferred to Masterton School , left this day. Elizabeth Wilton is at present acting for her,

14th August Kendrick Dagg is a boy of unsound mind (in fact an idiot) who has been coming to school for the last five years, but who in consequence of his hardly understanding right from wrong had to be treated differently to other children. Many allowances have had to be made for him and other children have been given to understand that it was necessary to overlook things said or done by him (in consequence of his feeble mind) that would not be overlooked by others. He has always been given to eccentric and imbecile actions—such as wanting to shake hands with people two or three times over. His language has often been improper— but the bad expressions have been generally only grumbled out, so that the teacher generally only know, or could guess at, what was said. Stone Throwing is a thing that has had to be much dreaded in his case

He has of course always been a considerable nuisance who wanted much looking after, but never did anything sufficiently wrong to make it necessary to forbid his coming to school until Thursday last, then at the dinner time he mischievously micturate.. over a boy. I caned him seriously for this, but in going home on the same evening he attempted to micturate (*Urinate*) on a girl and used bad language. It therefore became necessary for me to take prompt and vigorous action, which I did by immediately placing his father in possession of the facts, and suggesting that he ought not to be allowed to come to school again. His father at once fell in with my views and the boy has been withdrawn permanently

The boy has always been a great trouble and guilty of immeasurable small offences— but never before of a serious offence— such is the one

above mentioned- and such as would justify a teacher is forbidding him from school

24th August I was told by a parent that Mr Dagg intended to send Kendrick to school again after an interval. I therefore enquired of Mr Dagg what his intentions were and he said the boy was removed permanently

29th August 1888 The question of appointing another teacher at Fernridge was considered, and it was decided to appoint a sewing mistress at a salary of £5 per annum. PP

31st August Applied to Major Bunny for the loan of 15 extra snider carbines for drill purposes

3rd September Wrote to Mr Hickson asking him to allow his children to attend school regularly

4th September Cautioned Gertrude Harrison about cheating

5th September Sent to Sergeant Major Rizai ten belts and pouches used in drilling. They were left for the sergeant at the shop of our drill instruction. Mr Joseph Williams by Alf Auketell who took them down in his trap

5th September Miss Wilton has received her appointment as "sewing mistress" from the board at £5 per annum. The letter says "should a vacancy occur for a P T your application will be fully considered"

10th September 15 rifles were today received from Major Bunny These with the ten we had before, make a total of 25. Two have damaged caps and chains

11th September Caned John Culling for being rude to Mr Feist in the road after leaving school Three sticks on each hand

17th September Football match with English Team today As both Pupil Teachers and children petitioned for a half holiday- I consented- I obtained chairman' permission

10th October Mr Kingdom spent half a day in overhauling the pumps. They didn't let the water down and appear in good order for the approaching hot weather

1st November Miss Wilton has gone to the examination of candidates for pupil teachership at Carterton

Elizabeth Wilton attended before the standing committee at Carterton as she wishes to become a P T

6th November First case of caning girls

Jessie Devenport for talking and denying the same 2 strokes on each hand. May Jenkins – talking- 2 strokes on each hand

Thomas McKenzie for having 9 mistakes in Dictation 2 strokes on each hand

23rd November Agricultural Show. Holiday given by Chairman's permission

18th December The attendance has been poor lately. Many are left away for potatoes, hay making and shearing

20th December. Broke up for Midsummer holidays on Thursday 20th as the P T examination was fixed for the following day Friday

1889

1st to 8th February Laid up during this week by severe illness. During this period my classes received no attention although the other classes of the school were carried on as usual. Pupil Teacher received no instruction

21st February Mr Williams came up to drill the boys. He has attended very irregularly of late

6th March Warned the children not to go into the neighbouring turnip field

11th March Began practical geometry

18th March St Patrick's day holiday. A general holiday throughout the district

22nd March Although we are so near the Examination Thos Chamberlain often stops away to take the place of a man at chaff cutting

25th March A wet day and very few at school Two new children present- Richard and Jane Field

11th April When we were drilling today Leonard Moore fainted and fell to the ground heavily on his face. He cut his lip and bruised his forehead- he is subject to swoons. He felt quite weak until the moment he was seized

25th April The school loses four children in consequence of the removal of Mr Jesse Wilton to Bideford

29th April When the school was opened this morning the boy's football was missing. Someone must have entered the school on Friday night or Saturday morning and stolen it. I found a lower sash of a window in the old school open on Sunday Morning

I found out from Thomas Allen that his brother William got in at the window and took the football. Geo Mckay, Thos Allen and John Mckay were not far off. They seemed to be afraid to tell about it.

1st May I find Miss Wilton departs from the timetable frequently and today requested her never to do so unless it cannot possibly be avoided.

7th 8th May Inspector's examination 92 presented 1 absent 1 excepted

3 failed and 51 passed in Standards

9th May Holiday given by inspector

10th May Holiday given by Committee Friday

27th May Miss Wilton omitted to put down the drawing copy for classes 1 and 1 and Standard 1 this morning. I have had to complain of the same thing before. I have fond her leaving out lessons that she should give so many times that I never feel some lessons are properly given. I have to be continually on the watch

24th July Examined Standard 1 in Infant readers part 2. The reading was better than spelling. Directed Miss Wilton to let them go through once more and then I will see if they are fit for the State Readers

29th July Miss Wilton Probationer- absent from illness

31st July Advanced four from class Prep 1 to Prep II

D Harp used bad language at football. I forbade his playing again for a fortnight- gave him 50 lines to write- and took away his position as drill- sergeant and gave it to another

19th August Half Holiday (unasked for) given by chairman for football match

20th August The curtain is now put up across the junior classroom and proves itself a great boon. It is easily managed and being much lighter in colour than the surrounding walls it reflects more light than they do and so lightens the room

We shall not now probably suffice from too drab a room on cloudy days as we have done

I announced a few days ago the Masterton Trust Land Trustees intended to give the committee a sum of money to be spent on prizes, and that Most probably two prizes would be given in each standard for best attendance – Mr Lee would be asked to award the prizes for the two best passes. I said however that a certain amount of doubt existed about the whole matter and I only wished to indicate what would probably be done. All prizes would be subject to good behaviour

26th August The new ventilators are at work in the junior classroom and answers admirably

There is now in log a bad marks register. To be considered when prizes are given

22nd October Miss Kelleher came to see the working of the school today- she is to be appointed as a Teacher probably and will look on for a few days

Copy of a letter to Miss Caroline Kelleher from Wellington Education Board

30th October 1889 The examination of the Fernridge School by Inspector Lee has resulted as follows :— Ninety-two children on roll, including 34 in the preparatory class. Standard VI., 1 presented, 1 absent ; Standard V., 8 presented 8 passed; Standard IV., 11 presented, 11 passed; Standard III., 10 presented, 2 excepted, 6 passed ; Standard II., 10 presented, 9 passed; Standard I., 18 presented, 1 excepted 17 passed Total 92 Presented, 1 absent, 3 excepted 3 failed 81 passed PP

To Miss Caroline Kelleher (5th November 89) you are hereby appointed a probationer in terms of the enclosed regulation for six months from 1st inst. Should the Head teacher then certify that you

are suitable and give promise of becoming a useful and satisfactory teacher you will then be appointed a Pupil Teacher from the 1st inst
Signed A Dorset –Secretary

27th November 1889 The Fernridge Committee asked for a vote of 24 17s 6d for the purpose of carrying out repairs. The Secretary was instructed to call for tenders. PP

1890

27th January Reopened after holidays

31st January Mary Culling had her slate mastered for mental arithmetic- Then- OR- but she altered the marks to 2r- 2 strokes on each hand

18th February Caned George Budd reported by Miss Kelliher for great misbehaviour. 2 Sticks on each hand

20th February Today I had to make enquiries in to the writing of bad language on the fences by the roadside by same boys going home from school last evening. Lewis Wilton, Robert Buick, Isaac Allen, and Herbert Chamberlain were proved to have done mischief
Herbert Chamberlain was not so bad as the others. He wrote one word in a stone and immediately rubbed it out again.

Buick didn't come to school today. When next here he is to receive 5 strokes of cane on each hand the same as Wilton and Allen. Herbert Chamberlain being not quite so bad received 3 strokes on each hand.

17th March St Patrick's day chairman sent down word that we could have a half holiday.

Still regular and constant recording of caning children. Often reported by Pupil teacher and Probationer

15th May At an examination in Grammar this afternoon Florence Chamberlain was detected with books spread out on her seat for reference- 100 lines given- also a bad mark

Memo The 100 lines were excused and a written apology of the girls' own composition accepted instead

30th April 1890 Mr A Feast appointed assistant 30th April 1890 PP

13th August Fred and Norman Wilton came an hour late- played on road- punished the elder Fred- a few strokes on back

5th December Election Day gave half holiday. I had no intention to giving a holiday, but on finding that most children had taken a whole holiday, I decided to give a half holiday in order that the average attendance should not suffer more than I could help

1891

28th January 1891 It was decided that no reduction should be made in the salary of Mr. F. Gover, of Fernridge School PP

17th February Gave Mr Feist permission to use the cane with John Culling

19th February Caned John Stempa for hitting the little Maori Girl. 3 on each hand

3rd March Gave a lesson to Standard 2 and 3 on writing- Imitated badly formed letters on the blackboard and put properly formed letters by the side etc.

13th March Robert Lee inspector writes

I passed the day in this school observing the work throughout. There are 106 children present- a largely increased school. The teachers are energetic and well qualified for their work. Much of this work is of excellent quality. I find modelling in clay colour teaching are satisfactorily begun in the junior classes- It now remains to introduce stick building and mat plaiting- materials for which can be supplied free on the arrival of the goods from England, probably in about two months time.

The drawing programme lately put forth by Mr Riley need not be met for the present in its entirety, but the drawing instruction in this school is so good, that existing methods are thoroughly satisfactory. Indeed this school has been for many years an unusually good school in administration and work.

I find Swedish Drill now a part to the regular instruction and that the use of Indian Clubs will soon follow.

These exercises are most useful in physical development. I was more particularly interested today in the science lesson given on Hydrogen by Mr Gover with the aid of very homemade apparatus

The gas was made to come off freely and collected easily- The experiment were all successfully performed- a flame was sustained- The gas was ignited at the mouth of a bottle- a taper was extinguished within the gas- Bubbles were blown and exploded- and the details of all the processes were explained, such as the evolution of heat in the action of the Hydrogen on Zn- and the method of granulating the zinc- and the formation of water by the combination of hydrogen in air. This truly scientific instruction is a distinguishing feature of this school. Another is the excellent drawing

Robert Lee

17th March St Patrick's day Only about a quarter of the children came this morning and I had to give a holiday to maintain the average attendance. The preceding day I told them there would be no holiday- and to be sure and come to school- But they took one. They knew that the Masterton School had a holiday- (Races, Sports, Catholic Picnic- on)

3rd April Mr Feist has been ailing for several days and today he was obliged to go home to lay up from quinsy

14th April Mr Feist is again ill with quinsy but has not yet laid up

17th April Miss Evans Infant Teacher (*Probably Fanny at Clareville went to Opaki*) spent the day in the school

5th May Mr Riley examined the drawing done throughout the school and spoke of it very favourably

14th May Examination holiday given by Inspector

15th May Holiday given by School Committee as it was considered undesirable to open for the odd day (Friday) and also because Mr Feist wanted to go to town on urgent business

18th M de May spent 2 hours in morning in teaching club exercises and military drill

15th June Sent Lucy Ngatuere home with a note to her mother stating that she must not come to school till she is in a clean state.

16th June She came back today but not sufficient time has elapsed in my opinion for a complete cure to have been accomplished and so I sent her back again with a message that a few days, perhaps a week, had better pass by, before she returned

Same day Her parents came and complained of my sending her back- I told them that in such a case a fortnight, or at any rate a week, ought to suffice. The father threatened to summons me

2nd May proclaimed by the mayor a public half holiday in the district

3rd May Distribution of prizes- afterwards closed school for the winter holidays

13th August I have asked Miss Kelleher to avoid striking or shaking them

8th 9th September The School Committee gave permission to Mr Feist to be absent on these two days in consequence of urgent family reasons

11th September Had a visit from Mr de May who came about 9.30 and left at 2.30. He spent the time on club exercise- military drill- deportment drill for the girls- and calisthenics- he expressed himself as being unusually pleased with the precision of movement displayed by the children'

22nd October At the dinner hour there was an accident at the girls' swing. A little girl Emily Burke was swinging another and was hit in the eye by the swing board. The eye seemed considerably affected- Fortunately the blow was a little above the eye

28th October A great many are absent in the Upper Classes although the day is very fine. This is due to the fact that tomorrow is the Agricultural Show day and preparations are being made

29th Gave holiday for Agricultural and Pastoral Show

4th December Influenza is now very prevalent and the attendance suffers- John Culling died last night

1891/5453 Culling John 11Y

Death Culling At his father's residence, Manaia, on December 4th, John, beloved son of Walter Culling aged 11 years. Deeply regretted PP

7th December Haymaking and Influenza are affecting the attendances, chiefly in the upper standards, quite seriously

1892

25th January Re opened Poor attendance especially in the Upper Standards boys- owing to broken harvest weather. Many are away Stooking, carting or stacking

Found George and Alice Budd in an unclean state and sent them home. Told not to return for a week or so- until quite fit to mix with others

12th February Maude Freeth in afternoon was eating an apple in school and shortly afterwards she was reading her library book- had to keep her in as a punishment

22nd February Mr de May came this morning at 9.30 and gave instruction and help in Military drill, advanced Swedish Drill for boys, club exercises and Calisenthenics for girls. He left at 12.00

10th March Drilling always makes Frank Hood ill and I have therefore excused him until he grows stronger

17th March St Patrick's day- a general and proclaimed holiday in district- Chairman authorised holiday

11th April Examined Jane Watson and Alice and Henry Vaughan and found their heads unclean. There was not much wrong with the boy. Sent them home and told them to return to school as soon as they got right

12th April The two last came back today attendance had been paid but I am not quite satisfied.

Muriel Hood has the same complaint I find. I have sent a message to her mother

19th May 1892 Assistant, Fern Ridge School. Salary £70 PP

7th June Mr Feist left Miss (Edith) Sage came from Masterton. Adolph Feist went to Clyde Quay School

21st June My assistant Miss Sage is seriously ill. Miss Kelliher is taking her classes at present and a passed sixth standard girl is looking after the little ones.

29th June 1892 The proposed alterations at Dalefield and Parkvale were agreed to, as also was an application from Fernridge for additions and land PP

18th July Reopened school after vacation

Miss Brock has been sent up by the board to take charge of Standard 2 and 3 till Miss Sage is recovered from her illness

1st August Mary McKenzie reported for keeping amongst the boys- reported by Flora McGregor- She went with the Trasses- Punished

12th August Repeated for same offence

17th August Robert Lee Inspector Wrote

The Fernridge School is under the management of Mr Gover, who has held this post for many years. He is now assisted by Miss Brock (acting during leave of absence from sickness for Miss Sage) and Miss Kelleher P T. The weather is very very wet. Only 56 present

I saw the new drill exercises gone through by the boys, and the girls taken in club drill.

I examined the copy books and drawing books

The school is well appointed and well ordered I gave a lesson in the application of geometry and the relations of similar areas.

The H T informs me that he had complaints of boys addressing girls on the way to and from school A teacher will of course consult parents in any supervision over the actions of pupils at distances from the school when it is possible to exercise any such supervision At the same time teachers can be held responsible for any misbehaviour

The master will use his personal influence before he rules in any matters as far as possible, but as fair as possible.

Miss Kelliher is an intelligent and painstaking P T and Miss Brock appears a fair teacher.

The last examination results of this school were very satisfactory

19th August Miss Brock who has been assisting during Miss Sage's illness, returned to Wellington today after being here for 5 weeks

22nd August Miss Sage resumed work after her illness

Since last examination Standard 2 and 3 have been much turned about from teacher to teacher

15th September Mr de May was here during the whole morning and took the girls in calisthenics and clubs and the boys in Military and Swedish Drill

He stated he was unusually pleased with the good style of the work in generally and he steadiness and precision of elementary drill

1893

31st January Caned John Mckenzie for leaving his work at the dinner hour and going to the rifles

9th February 1893 Pupil Teachers Adolph Feast, 5th Year Carolyn Kelleher 1st year (15th Feb 1890 4th Year 11 Feb 1892 5th year) PP

21st February Caned Norman Wilton for putting a large furnace brick across the road to frighten horses- he is a little boy- Two light strokes on each hand

20th February Mr de May failed to put in an appearance today as arranged- Visit postponed as I afterward heard by letter

23rd February Gave a half holiday today as the children petitioned for one on the ground that the Masterton School had one, and it had been proclaimed by the Mayor a half holiday for local sports

3rd March Mr De May arrived this morning about 10 o'clock and was busy going through the exercises till 12.30. The poles were used for the first time

17th March St Patrick's Day

2nd April The modulator which Mr Dorset (Secretary Wellington Education Board) said on 7th October was about to be forwarded has not arrived. I have sent a memo to Mr Dorset on the matter. I have applied for a modulator for the last 8 years

21st April Ernest Trass is a great anxiety to me. He is nearly always absent

8th May The examination is the day after tomorrow and Ernest Trass is still absent. He has been away about six weeks- Every year since he first came here he has been a constant trouble to his teachers- always very irregular.

10th 11th May School examined by inspector Lee 80 passed, 3 failed 3 excepted, 29 infants

12th May Exam holiday

18th May proclaimed half holiday in district on account of local sports. Many children were away in morning on this account and those who came to school petitioned for a half holiday- As they worked well for examinations and did well I thought it wise to grant

21st May 1893 The tender of T. B. Mitchell has been accepted for additions at Fernridge Tenders invited to build a shed at Fernridge and the removals of outbuildings PP

31st May 1893 invite tenders for the construction of a classroom at Fernridge PP

14th June On the 9th on going home from school, John McKay, Jas McKay, Frank Hood, Frank Gibson, Samuel Trass and John McKenzie threw turfs at Maria Osborne. All were punished except James MacKay a very little boy. They all say John McKenzie set them on, and he therefore received a more severe caning than the others..... For years past there has been a difficulty with the McKenzie and Osborne children in consequence no doubt of a family quarrel

The McKenzie's have been frequently reported as having said or done rude things to Maria Osborne on the way to or from school – rendering it very difficult for her father to send her to school at all. I do all I can to protect her. The McKenzie children- the boys particularly- have been repeatedly cautioned. Mr Osborne says he will have to remove his children unless the McKenzie's can be kept peaceful

19th June Frank Hood Standard 4 is a most unsatisfactory boy. He attends very irregularly. He has never yet made much over half time each year

20th June the Griffins who have been away for a month or more returned to school today They have been farming- digging out potatoes and carrots

21st June The Secretary to the Wellington Education Board has written giving me permission to close the school for the winter holidays on Wed the 20th instant One day before other schools on account of most urgent private business

17th July I open this new logbook on the assembly of the school after the winter holidays- Frederick Glover

20th July Measles have appeared in the school

24th July Ernest Trass has returned after a long absence

4th August With assistance of boys planted and fenced about 30 pine trees also planted 4 wattles and 2 sycamores

10th August Gave Miss Sage leave of Absence for the day on account of urgent private business (marriage of a sister)

16th August The attendance begins to improve. Many children have got over the measles

23rd August The measles still continue

24th August Miss Kelliher is absent from duty today. Yesterday she was unwell and was expecting to be laid up with measles

28th August Monday The day is very fine and I expected an improved attendance. The attendance is however worse instead of better. I hear that numerous fresh cases of measles have appeared amongst the scholars.

Miss Kelliher is very ill and not likely to be back for a fortnight or so, Kate Farmer to be back in school for a fortnight or so. Kate Farmer a Standard 7 girl is doing Miss Kelleher's work

The poor attendance interferes with the preparation of children for drawing examination to next week

31st August The rooms are nearly empty in consequence of the measles

6th September Fine day but a few at school... Miss Kelleher still ill and absent... Drawing examination held today and supervised by Mr McGregor Chairman... 15 papers were worked... Many of the best candidates were unable to be present at examination- being laid up with measles

11th September Miss Kelliher is back again today for the first time after her illness. She was away from 24th August to September 11th inclusive

Mr de Mey visited the school.... unfortunately there were only about 40 children at school... we could only muster 9 boys for military drill in which a new method of forming fours was explained. All exercises were gone through and Mr de Mey spent the whole day at school

20th September It is a very wet day and Miss Kelliher is absent. She had only recently recovered from measles and is not yet strong

21st September Miss Kelliher is better today and back again' The Governor opens the Boys' club today in Masterton and a request has been made to me by the officers of the club to give the school a half holiday. The Masterton School has a half holiday and I cannot very well decline although I very much regret losing half a day—the school having been thrown back so much by the measles—half holiday given

25th September This is the first day we have had a good attendance for the last two months

26th October Agriculture and pastoral show- whole holiday given

31st October Arthur Smith Standard IV is very backward in his work. He has been away for six days cutting firewood

15th November In muggy weather there is a most disgusting smell preceding from the closets – sometimes the smell can be distinctly noticed on the public roads. It is quite time the closets were removed to a more suitable sit and that some improved method was used.

16th November A very heavy downpour of rain came about 9.10 just as the children were approaching the school. About a dozen arrived almost wet through and it became necessary to send them back home again

23rd November When I was doing Mental to Standard V and VI today, Mary McKenzie a Standard 4 girl wrote down one of the questions (£29.2..4 ¼ x 10) and began working it in her areas for those around her doing mental. 3 on each hand

Ernest Smith Miss Sage today had trouble with Ernest Smith. The 3rd Standard were reading simultaneously and Miss Sage had to tell Ernest Smith to read about half a dozen times. As he refused she was compelled to call me- He has promised however- In Std3 several boys dropped the H's for instance

28th November School closed as the rooms were used for polling purposes in connection with the general election

8th December In consequence of severe illness Miss Kelliher was absent from her duties from 4th December to 8th December inclusive

11th December Spent the afternoon in the junior classroom and went into the matters of writing and reading

13th December very many children both boys and girls are absent from school as this is a busy time on farms

Haymaking, Potato planting and shearing are going on and children assist

1894

29th January Re-opened School

31st January The workmen are putting up the new room and the hammering, sawing etc are most distracting

21st February Monsieur de May has been at school the whole day and has seen Military Drill, Swedish Drill, Pole and Club exercises

28th February Miss Sage has a very bad throat and is absent from school under instructions from the Doctor

19th March St Patrick's day holiday- declared public holiday

21st March Licensing Election. School is polling booth

Holiday had to be given unfortunately

10th April The examination is fixed for Friday April 27th. This is three weeks earlier than last year

13th April The school was used last evening for a meeting of farmers re the "Creamery"

24th April Mr Riley visited the school this afternoon and examined the drawing.... He expressed himself as highly pleased with it. Two children only were marked in the schedules as weak

30th April and 1st May School examined by Mr Fleming on above dates. *(All passes listed in log book)*

17th May A proclaimed half holiday in district for Maori Sport, Akura

24th May Queen's Birthday

29th May A very wet day..... about a dozen at school

7th June Very many are away from school today- Whooping cough and bad colds have been very prevalent as of late and have affected the attendance lately. A balloon ascent today in Masterton today is responsible for the absence of many

20th 21st June Miss Kelleher absent from her duties through illness. As nearly all her children were away with whooping cough it was not of great importance

27th June 1894 Miss Caroline Kelliher was transferred from Fernridge to one of the city schools (*Mt Cook Girl's*) PP

16th July Reopened school after winter holidays. There was a very poor attendance as whooping cough is still very prevalent and many parents have decided not to send children who have been ill until the winter is over. In the infant room there are about 12 present- Miss Kelliher is leaving shortly and Gwendoline Powell who has been recommended by the Committee to succeed her was helping in order to get an insight into the work

21st July 1894 Miss G Powell appointed Pupil Teacher PP

1st August Arbor Day Holiday The boys met in the playground in the morning bringing spades trees and a crowbar and set to work planting... about 40 trees were put in and the wire protection around some pines was mended

They then set to work to drain four large water holes in the boys playground that interfered very much with football... holes 4 or 5 feet deep were dug at the water holes, filled with boulders and just topped off with sods.

13th August The day is perfectly fine but many children are away. Their absence is generally to be attributed to Whooping cough which has not yet disappeared and influenza, which has recently made its appearance

14th August Robert Lee inspector wrote

I paid an accidental visit to the Fernridge School today. Owing to the prevailing influenza the attendance was low and for some weeks past has been very low. I am well satisfied with the building as reconstructed and the whole property is now in excellent order.

The school work is generally very commendable and the school is conducted by Mr Gover with unfailing energy and industry. Miss Renall is not yet appointed, although she is attending with the view of succeeding Miss Kelleher when she is promoted

12th September Miss Kelliher left yesterday and Miss Powell took charge of her classes today

26th September Gave a half holiday for the Football Match Wairarapa V New South Wales

25th October Holiday for agricultural Show

22nd November Proclaimed half holiday for sports in the Park Generally petitioned by the children

29th November Proclaimed half holiday for races at rear of the school

1895

28th January resumed School

15th February About 20 children have given in their names as wishing to go in the Masterton school excursion to Wellington tomorrow

Holiday for the school excursion to Wellington

20th February The committee have granted the Reverend A C Yorke (Anglican Church) permission to give a bible lesson after school hours for half an hour once a week to such children as wish to remain for the lesson and have the consent of their parents

19th April Several children have been away or are away with chicken pox

30th April and 1st May Examination conducted by Mr Lee

2nd May Examination Holiday

John Stempa failed in standard 3 but is to work with Standard 4 and then he can go up to either standard at next examination

Harold Kummer was away from examination and so did not pass Standard 5- he is to work this year with Standard 6 and can then go for with Standard 5 or 6 at next examination

7th June Took a half holiday in order to help in preparations for the teacher's Conversazione .. permission given by the Board

13th June Mr De May visited the school the day and spent an hour in the infant room and showed Miss Powell some easy exercises for the little ones

7th August Arbor Day planted between 30 and 40 trees

15th August Mr Lee inspected the school today

The school was in active work all day. Miss Sage and Miss Powell Are improving in efficiency. I took the upper class in arithmetic and word building. Excellent drill was shown

The drawing exercises are a great feature of the school

Better work could hardly be looked for- the whole property in excellent order and reflects credit on the School Committee who appear to look well after all true interests of the school

1896

27th January Reopened school

Typhoid Fever has broken out in the Creelman family.... and there is illness in the McKay family but it is uncertain whether it is typhoid.

13th February Today is proclaimed a public holiday by the Mayor of Masterton on account of the Agriculture and Pastoral Society

5th March There is a school excursion to Wellington today. We have not closed school as our examination comes off soon, but a great number of our children have joined the excursion.

Tomorrow Friday then those have gone will be too knocked up that they can't attend school

It is unfortunate that we should have two days bad attendance from the excursion, and that our monthly and quarterly average attendance should be unfavourably affected by it.

17th March St Patrick's day.... a public holiday in the district.. as our examination is about three weeks ahead we can't afford to take a holiday today and so I have promised the children that I will let them have a day in the place of it soon after the examination

12th and 14th April Inspection by Mr Lee 12 failures

16th April Examination Holiday

17th April St Patrick's day was a public holiday in the district and came shortly before the examination. I promised the children that if they would do without it, I would replace it after the examination by another day. And this I have done today

20th April Railway Excursion to Wellington

11th May Prizes were given out today as awarded by Mr Lee. The chairman making the presentations, the names of the prize winners are

Standard	Prize	Name	Standard	Prize	Name	
1	1st	Thomas Elers	2	1st	Charles Devonport	
	2nd	Elizabeth McKenzie		2nd	Violet Dixon	Tie
					Daisy Sage	Tie
3	1st	Jessie McGregor	4	1st	Flora McGregor	
	2nd			2nd	Muriel Hood	
5	1st	Sidney Gover	6	1st	Clifford Gaivitte	
	2nd	Mary Mckenzie		2nd	James Clarke	

17th August Miss Powell came to school very unwell today and as I was afraid of diphtheria from her symptoms, I sent her home and she will see the Doctor. I have put Standard 2 in Miss Sage's room as a temporary expedient and Ginny Sage a Standard 6 girl is in Miss Powell's room

18th August Miss Powell has broken a small blood vessel in the eye and will be incapacitated for a day or two. May Farmer I have put in charge of her classes

28th August Thomas McKenzie reported by Miss Powell for bad behaviour, She finds him a most troublesome boy. Two taps with the cane on each hand

This is the first mention of any punishment for a number of years,

6th November Gave a holiday for the Agricultural Show. It was a general and proclaimed holiday in the district

3rd December School excursion to exhibition

4th December School closed on account of general elections

1897

9th February Mr Yorke was absent again today from his bible class. He very rarely puts in an appearance

24th March Mr Robert Lee examined the school

7th April By consent of chairman of committee closed school today as a mark of respect- It being this day of Mr Jackson's Funeral

14th April The great drawback is poor attendance. Now that the examination is over some seem to think that regular attendance is unnecessary

2nd June Caned John Stempa for doing mischief with crackers and Ebenezer Loader also... Willie Evans is also to be caned for the same but is away today. 4 strokes on each hand

Suddenly more caning is again being recorded

16th July Robert Lee I paid an inspection visit today- a very inclement day- Only 51 children were present

The school was in an active work in all classes. I pointed out a few ready methods of working in arithmetic. The written work is all carefully done- Generally the work is of a very satisfactory character, Mr Gover gave a well prepared lesson on Hydrogen with which I was much pleased, and by which the pupils were all interested

1st September Scale Drawing- Freehand and Practical Geometry were taken at the drawing examination today/

92 papers worked in all

Scale 33 Freehand 31 Practical Geometry 28

5th November Carterton Show holiday- Friday

8th November Intermediate Holiday given by order of Prince of Wales- Monday

9th November Prince of Wales Birthday Tuesday

Fernridge Public School was established about thirty-five years ago in a small building now used as a Sunday school. The first portion of the present convenient wooden building was built in 1871, and twice since it has been necessary to enlarge the premises, which now contain three rooms, each having accommodation for fifty pupils. There is a large play-ground and a comfortable six-roomed residence for the teacher, the land occupied being some two acres in extent. The school roll numbers 115, the average attendance being ninety. The headmaster is assisted by one certificated and one pupil teacher.

Mr. Frederick Gover, the Headmaster of the Fernridge Public School, is a Yorkshireman. Born in Skipton in 1844, and educated at Bath, Mr Gover came to New Zealand, per ship "Haddon Hall," in 1875, and joined the Wellington Education Board, his first appointment being at Taratahi School, from which he was transferred after a year to the position he now holds. In 1882 Mr. Gover was married to a daughter of Mr. M. R. Ashwin, of Eltham, Taranaki, and has two sons and a daughter.

NZETC. Cyclopaedia of NZ Wellington Provincial 1897

1898

24th January Reopened School after Xmas Holidays with a good attendance especially in the lower standards. In the Upper Standards many are kept at home for work in connection with harvest

23rd February 1898 Miss Edith Sage resigned PP

3rd March Holiday for railway excursion

4th March Very poor school..... railway excursion responsible

17th March St Patrick's Day Holiday. Holiday appointed by Masterton School Committee- understood that this school does the same. It is very necessary to give the holiday as there is a circus in town and children would not come to school

18th March Poor school today owing to the circus

13th April 1898 Miss Whelan, at present in charge of the Kaituna School, has been appointed first assistant at the Fernridge (Masterton) School, and will enter upon her new duties on the 24th inst. PP

18th 19th April School examined by Inspector Lee 113 children on the books

73 presented in standards 3 failed

Standard 7 passes Sidney Gover, Freda Nettleford, Beatrice Price Constance Sage

25th April Miss Whelan took charge of Standard 2,3,4

First typewritten Report using a carbon copy

Inspectors Report included

- a) All four candidates in Standard 7 passed well
- b) This is a thoroughly efficient school
- c) Drill- military squad – and other subjects are all good

d) Miss Sage who is now leaving has done commendable work during her period of service

e) Miss Powell P T is in a depressed state of mind owing to causes which need investigation

f) Robert lee

18th July Monday Miss Rose took Miss Powell's Place today

4th August 1898 At a meeting of the Masterton Town Lands Trustees, £25 to Fernridge School PP

2nd October Measles are effecting the average

5th November We are losing about ten children by the opening of the Matahiwi aided school

5th November Holiday for Carterton Show

16th November William Alfred Price the fifteen year old son of Mr S. E. Price of Upper Plain, died yesterday. Deceased was suffering from a disease of the kidney. PP

17th November William Price a sixth standard boy is to be buried today at 2.30 and the school will be closed for the afternoon as many are going to the funeral

14th December Break up today

1899

24th January Reopened school

30th January Three boys on going home found a cigarette on the road which they cut up into three pieces- The boys were Edward Creelman, James Mckay and Charles Devenport

They obtained some matches from Colin McKenzie and tried to strike- Claude Devenport dropped his match in the roadside grass

and forgot to put his foot on it- When they had gone on about 2 chains they looked round and found the fire had got into the furze (Gorse) hedge about 2 chains of which was burnt. As that none of them prevaricated in the slightest I considered a little talk to would do far more good than corporal punishment

The cigarette it appears was picked up by Colin McKay on coming to school in the morning

18th February Joined with Masterton School in the railway excursion to Wellington

22nd February Closed for agricultural show

6th 7th March Inspector Lee

Inspectors Report (Handwritten) included

- a) Roll 108, Examined 60 Passed 53
- b) 42 Primers
- c) Singing good and much improved
- d) All six pupils passed Standard 7
- e) The composition was good but commas should be more used
- f) Excellent drawing continues to be taught
- g) Condition of school commendable
- h) Robert Lee

30th March 1899 The erection of a shed at Fernridge was authorised PP

1st April 1899 FERNRIDGE The eastern boundary is extended to a line from the Waipoua River to the north corner of the Bishop's Reserve, along a road running on the boundary of the said reserve to Akura-Road, thence easterly along the Akura-Road to a public road through the middle of the Bishop's Reserve named the Ngamatawa-road, thence along the Ngamatawa -road and railway road southerly

to the Waingawa River. MASTERTON. The western boundary now extends to the eastern boundary of the Fernridge District as extended PP

10th May Truant Officer visited school and went to two houses

17th May Visit from Mr McDougall clerk of works. He inspected bell cock- some windows and new shed

18th May Truant Officer paid a second visit

The bad attendants are now to school well

15th June The accouchements for the drill squad arrived last evening- 32 sets @ 3/3 per set... officer's set £1-2-6

Boys set consists of cap- tan belt and haversack

31st July One of the Simonsens has the measles. Wrote to Mr Simonsen asking him not to send his children to school for the present

7th August Inspector Bakewell inspected the school today—112 children on the roll and 77 present- Being Monday the attendance of the upper standards was poor many being kept at home because it was washing day

9th August Supplied infant room with holders for slate pencils- free- Handed over 50 to Miss Rose

The clerk of works was here yesterday and recommended that the infant room be painted nearly white to make the room lighter

11th August Kathleen Evans has the measles I have written to Mr Kenny Evans asking him not to send his children to school as long as there is any danger of spreading the complaint

24th August The Simonsen's are back again after having had the measles- The McGregor's have the complaint now

6th September Drawing examination The chairman Mr Duncan McGregor supervised. Papers worked Freehand 12, Geometry 13, Scale 12

15th September Miss Rose so ill to be unable to get to school this morning.

18th September Miss Whelan absent today on my authority on urgent private business

26th September A large number of children now away from the school with the measles

Inspectors report of 7th August included

- a) Mr Gover Head-master
- b) Miss Whelan Assistant
- c) Miss Rose Pupil Teacher
- d) On roll 112. Present 77
- e) Though it was a beautiful day I found the attendance very low.
- f) The upper standards were being examined in drawing and doing very good work
- g) Miss Rose who has charge of the Primers and Standard 1 classes is giving every satisfaction to the headmaster
- h) She is very successful in her management of infants. In slate work care should be taken that the copy set on the board is of a length suited to the lines on the slate.
- i) Miss Whelan is an energetic teacher and Standard 4 and 2 to manage has ample scope for her energy
- j) She should simplify her work by grouping the standards as much as possible

k) The grounds were in a very good order and out offices in a satisfactory state

l) The lighting arrangements in the infant room were distinctly bad. The clerk of works recommends that the walls be painted a lighter colour as no alternative appears possible in the windows

m) F H Bakewell

4th October Gave Miss Ross leave of absence today in order that she might attend her brothers wedding

10th October There are many children away from school and the reasons for absence are unsatisfactory. One boy says his brother is away because he is cutting potatoes. A girl tells me she has been absent from school for four days because she was too tired after the wedding

1st November Miss Whelan was absent yesterday and the day before in consequence for the death of her brother. I gave her permission

11th December Miss Rose absent from illness

13th December Broke up for holidays by special permission- today- Wednesday- because Masterton School breaks up today Our children would not come if they knew the Masterton School had broken up. The average would be affected.

1900

23rd January Reopened school after Xmas holidays the day being showery and the Attendance poor. Miss Rose has applied for a month's leave of absence being ill. The Board has sent Miss Watson as relieving teacher

30th January Miss Watson absent with a bad cold. Mary Clark helping

8th February Public Holiday for the patriotic fair- school closed

10th February 1900 Assistant Fernridge 80 pounds PP

19th February Miss Rose's sick leave is nearly expired and she is still so ill that she is applying for another month

21st February Agricultural Show Public Holiday

23rd February Half Holiday for the relief of Ladysmith

22nd March Miss Rose is applying to get a further extension of sick leave.

21st March No school today the building being commandeered for the licensing election polling booth

22nd March Miss McLean received permission from me to be absent in the afternoon

14th April A List of all passes is in log

Standard 7 passes Jessie Evans, Jessie McGregor, Winifred Nettleford, Rose Price

6th April Miss Whelan Leaving and Mrs Baker Gabb taking charge

23rd April Miss Rose returned to her work today

8th May Elvery Pond came to school today apparently completely worn out – when he had been in school half an hour he began to cry, and asked to go out. As he did not return within half an hour or so, I sent another boy to look for him, and he was found fast asleep in one of the sheds. When roused he complained of pains all over. I put him in front of the fire and sent for some beef tea, which he drank- He explained that he was kept away yesterday to dig potatoes, and was up at half past three this morning to milk cows and do their work- he was quite done- Standard 5 is his class his age 12 years 5 months. If

children come to school in this state, they cannot do their work properly. He is a boy who has kept very much away- one who has given much trouble- and done poor work,

21st may Celebrated the relief of Mafeking by a holiday

1st June A very wet day. In infant room only half a dozen present and these were taught by Mary Clarke, Miss Rose who is still very weak, being afraid to face the weather and being absent with the consent of Head Teacher

5th June Mr Varnham Truant Officer was here today, there being a good attendance, the children knowing that he was coming. He served first notices on John McKenzie for three children

6th June Colin McKenzie son of above mentioned John McKenzie stated today that he intended to leave this school and go to Masterton school in consequence of the Truant Officer serving notices on his father--- The younger children remaining here as the Masterton School is too far away for them

26th July Inspector Bakewell here today

Class	Teacher	Roll	Present
Standard 7- 5	Mr Gover	20	15
Standard 4 to 2	Mrs Baker Gabb	40	36
Standard 1 to Primers	Miss Rose	47	31

Report included

- a) Timetable. Time may be spared from History and Geography and given to reading and composition
- b) The school is fortunate in the possession of a thoroughly experienced staff

- c) The new assistant Mrs Baker Gabb is giving every satisfaction to the Head master
- d) Miss Rose gave a good lesson on form. The answers being brisk and correct
- e) Answers in form of completed sentences will be found a great aid in composition
- f) Manners etc good The committee has fenced substantial seats round the trees in the girls playground. A new slide for Juniors has been added
- g) Cleanliness good with the exception of the Boy's urinal which overflows across path. New piping is needed
- h) The attendance 77% of roll number cannot be considered satisfactory in view of the fact that it was fine day when I visited the school
- i) I could find nothing to warrant the absence of many children
- j) F H Bakewell

2nd October Measles has broken out. First case today

2nd October Miss Rose has been granted 3 months leave of absence and Miss Watson is relieving

10th October Labour Day holiday

1st November Agricultural Show Carterton Holiday for the sake of the average. Children were coming into school but 50 being absent it was thought best to let the others go

21st December Miss Watson Relieving teacher was absent all yesterday and part today being at the teacher examination. Mary Clarke helped

1901

28th January Reopened school but gave a half holiday for the Proclamation of King Edward

11th February Caned Tom Mckenzie for leaving school on Friday without permission. He asked to go out at 3.20 and did not return

This is the first caning mentioned for a long period

10th February Imperial troops visit Masterton – Holiday

Monday May Instructed by Wellington Education Board to close schools for a fortnight owing to Diphtheria

Saturday 18th May School will not reopen on Monday as was intended. Diphtheria has attacked a second family and Albert Hutchings is dead. Closed indefinitely

20th May 1901 Fernridge School has been closed for a further fortnight as a consequence of another case of diphtheria in the district, last case proved fatal.

20th May 1901 Owing to an outbreak of diphtheria in their districts the midwinter holidays have been anticipated by the Fernridge and Matahiwi schools. As these schools will be at work again when the others will be having their regular holidays, the Chairman of the Board has authorised their closing on the 17th, 18th, and 19th June, the days during which the Royal party will be in Wellington PP

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1st July 1901 Owing to fresh cases of diphtheria being reported the opening of the Fernridge School has been further postponed PP

4th July 1901 Owing to a report that children from Fernridge School which has been closed on account of an outbreak of diphtheria, were attending Masterton School a special meeting of the Masterton School Committee was held last evening, when the head master reported that he had refused admission to the scholar PP

5th July 1901 It has been discovered that one child from Fernridge school has been attending Masterton School without the knowledge of the head master. The child was today sent home PP

22nd July Monday School reopened today after having been closed since May 3rd, a period of 11 weeks by the Chief Health officer to the Government for diphtheria. Five families (H Evans, I Evans, R Dagg, Hutchings and Ford are still debarred from sending their children till Monday August 18th

22nd August School has been open now for four weeks and it is unfortunate diphtheria has broken out in family of the Chairman of School Committee W Duncan McGregor. It is also reported in a Maori family close by

School Committee met at 10 o'clock this morning to discuss the situation. A deputation sent to wait on Dr Archer Hosking

5th September Mr Valentine, Health officer paid a visit to school today.

7th September Drawing exam held. Mr Pearce supervised

14th October All diphtheria cases are back again today for the first time

27th November Farm work is keeping many away

29th November Inspector Bakewell was at the school

4th December Miss Rose came to me about 9.00 this evening to inform me that she had a doctor's certificate stating that she must have six month's rest from teaching

6th December This morning Miss rose is absent and Rhoda Messenger is endeavouring to carry on her school. Miss Rose's application for leave forwarded by me to the Board

9th December I have put Standard 1 in Mrs Baker Gabb's room and Rhoda Messenger is teaching the P. Classes

20th December We break up for holidays today

1902

30th January 1902 Mary Baker-Gabb, present salary £80, colonial salary £95 PP

2nd March A good many children went with the Masterton School Excursion. School average spoilt thereby

2nd June Peace proclaimed half holiday

Inspectors report of 5th and 6th May by T R Fleming Included

- a) Roll 101 97 Present , 57 in the Standards
- b) Standard 7, 2
- c) The Fernridge district has for twenty five years had he services of an excellent teacher in Mr Gover
- d) Although the work of this year was handicapped by the closing of the school for eleven weeks and by irregular attendance both caused by the prevalence of Diphtheria yet by hard work and intelligent teaching the school has been again brought into good working order
- e) Mrs Baker Gabb is proving herself a capable assistant

f) Military Drill Good

11th August 1902 CADET CORPS.

THE NEW REGULATIONS. The headmasters of the public school and officers of the various school cadet corps met in consultation with. Captain Loveday recently on the subject of the new regulations applying to the cadet corps in connection with the Board Schools. Captain Loveday explained the effect of the proposed regulations and recommendations as to the uniforms to be worn, and they were discussed.

As regards shooting, the ranges fixed by the regulations are one to five hundred yards, inclusive, and the meeting suggested that the cadets should be allowed to fire in any position, and that ranges above 300 yards should not be compulsory. It was also considered that the cadet movement would have little chance of success unless competent military instructors were appointed, and the meeting was most emphatic on this point, recommending that it should be urged upon the Education Board And the Government. A number of applications are coming in from schools in all parts of the district for recognition. In the city, the Mount Cook Boys School has applied for two companies, and To Aro , Terrace, Clyde-Quay, and Thorndon for one each. From the suburbs and country districts applications have been received from Carterton, Fernridge , Johnsonville, Featherston, .Brooklyn, Greytown, Mitchelltown, Kilbimie, and Petone, and applications to establish corps at Mangatainoka and Eketahuna, The corps connected with the city schools are already uniformed, and the Minister for Defence has permitted them to retain these, but he has suggested the following as an appropriate uniform for the whole of the schools.— For officers-

Frock : Blue cloth, with stand-up collar ; plain cuffs;- shoulder-straps of same material as frock ; rank-badges in metal ; a patch-pocket on each breast; brass button on each pocket and shoulders ; five brass buttons down front of frock; buttons to bear the same design as the cap badge. Trousers of the same material as. frock; ±in of scarlet welt down outside team. For Rank and File.— Blue woollen jersey, blue cloth knickerbockers, and blue stockings. Head dress (for all ranks)— Glengarry cap, with diced border. Chevrons for non-commissioned officers to be in yellow braid on scarlet cloth : crowns and stars in yellow worsted to be worn above the chevron. Cap-badge— The Royal Cipher surrounded by a garter bearing the words "Public School Cadets, N.Z.," and surmounted by a Tudor crown. As soon as the badges, chevrons, waist belts, buttons, swords, sword-slings, and sword-knots are received in the colony they will be issued to recognised corps wearing uniform; and haversacks and caps will be on sale at the same time. PP

18th August 1902 OUR DEFENCE FORCES.

In the Gazette this week forty-seven additional public school cadet companies and detachments are officially recognised. They include eighteen in Wellington district at the following schools : — - Brooklyn, Carterton, Clyde-Quay, Eketahuna , Featherston, Fernridge , Greytown North, Johnsonville, Kilbirnie, Mangatainoka, Mitchelltown, Mount Cook (two companies), Petone, South Wellington, - Te Aro, Terrace, and Thorndon. A note published in the latest issue of General Orders to hand states that officers when applying for leave, with permission to be absent from the colony . during the period, should state the country they intend to visit whilst absent, . PP

g) 28th August 1902 It was reported to the Education Board yesterday that the following applications for cadet corps or detachments had been forwarded to Major Loveday, Commanding Officer of the Public Schools Cadets: — Mount Cook Boys, No. 1 Company, 48 all ranks ; No. 2 Company, 57 ; Te Aro, 53; Terrace, 58; Clyde-Quay, 72; Thorndon, 68; Newtown, 48; South Wellington, 64; Petone, 52; Carterton, 60 ; Greytown, 46 ; Featherston, 62 ; Brooklyn, 40; Johnsonville, 34; Mitchelltown, 31; Kilbirnie, 40 ; Fernridge 24 ; Karori, 36; Mangatainoka, 28; Eketahuna, 26 , Otaki, , 27 ; Levin, 25 ; Roseneath, 24; total, 983. Masterton - also has a cadet corps, and the question of forming one at Pahiatua is now being considered, so that when the applications are all forwarded there will be more than 1000 cadets in the Wellington district. As Major Loveday wishes to inspect the different companies at times suitable to the headmasters a circular has been sent to each headmaster asking him to forward to Major Loveday the day and hour when drill is taken in his school PP

1903

26th January Reopened School

29th January Many children came to school wet through and had to be sent home

3rd February Received permission to close on 3rd and 5th for band contest from Chairman of Board

Inspectors Report of 30th April 1903 included

a) Roll 88 Present 87

b) 59/ 64 passed

c) The general condition of the school is Highly satisfactory but drill, singing, and drawing deserve special mention

d) I have nowhere seen better work in brush work and design than he work done in this school

e) F H Bakewell

31st August Major Loveday drilled the cadets for three hours this morning

1904

16th January 1904 Mistress Fernridge 85 pound PP

25th January Reopened school. Since breaking up for the midsummer holidays Mrs Baker Gabb has been transferred to the Nikau School Miss M Young is to act as relieving teacher here

29th January Miss Young Left

1st February No relieving teacher to help this morning

2nd February No relieving teacher again to help me

3rd February No relieving teacher arrived

4th February Still no help. Sent Telegram Could not manage Drill and sewing today without an assistant

5th February No Help Miss Bewles? Came

List of examination passes

9th June Frustrated by insomnia and unable to rise from bed Miss Robinson dismissed my classes but carried on her own

Inspectors report 2nd and 5th May included

a) Roll 99 Present 95

- b) Cadet detachment satisfactory
- c) The school has been conducted very satisfactorily for more than 27 years by Mr Gover
- d) Last year's work was seriously interfered with by the presence of scarlet fever, measles, and mumps in the district and by several changes of staff in the infant room
- e) Miss Robinson who is now in temporary charge, understands her work, but the discipline requires strengthening
- f) Mr Gover reports that the attendance has materially improved owing to the efforts of Mr Easthope Truant Officer.

16th July 1904 Miss L I F Robinson

4th August 3 inches of snow on ground and still snowing when bell rang. Six Girls and four boys present

16th September Colonel Loveday inspected troops

1905

2nd February Flora fete for hospital. Half holiday

15th February Agricultural show whole holiday

17th 18th April Annual examination Mr Bakewell

A new form of examination

Standard 3 Competency Patrick Cummings, Walter Evans, Herbert Loader, James loader, William Wright, Nola Evans, Lily Gunther

Standard 4 Competency Jack Hines, Bert Hunter, Nellie Boyle, Mary Catt, Eileen Dagg, Nora Dagg, Ivy Ford, Leda Hood, Helen McGregor, Esmee Waddington

Standard 5 Competency Chas Loader, Flo Devenport, Ruth Evans
Standard 6 Proficiency Frank Fenwick, Cons Evans, Kath Evans, Grace Waddington, Evelyn Waddington

5th May Mr Gover ill and absent. Miss Rose got school in but dismissed my classes

Inspectors report of 12th October included from F H Bakewell

- a) Mr McGovern on sick leave his place being taken temporarily by Mr Morris who is managing school in a satisfactory manner
- b) I noticed that order and discipline showed a marked improvement.
- c) I made recommendations with regard to the lines on which the work of the school should be carried on while Mr Morris is on temporary charge

17th November 1905 Mr. F. Gover, headmaster of the Fernridge School Masterton, has to all intents and purposes already retired. Mr. Gover took charge of this school in May, 1877, and has spent nearly 28 years of the prime of his life in educating the children of the district, and has latterly, to a very large extent, been teaching the children his old pupils. PP

1906

13th March 1906 Head teacher MR R J Foss from Waikanae PP

27th 28th March Exceedingly wet and boisterous – attendance 50%

2nd April Mr Foss took charge of the school today. Attendance 73
Roll 85 Assistant Miss L Robinson

12th April Dismissed for the regular Easter Vacation. In addition to the regulation Easter Term of the chairman of the Committee has made the necessary arrangements by which the May vacation will be taken now, commencing from Wednesday 18th inst

25th April School resumed today, attendance 64 Roll 86

26th April 1906 The clerk of works reported that seventeen schools, at an average cost of £50, had the same claim to being furnished with septic tanks as had Fernridge ; the total cost would be £1350. The committee therefore did not recommend a grant at present PP

11th May Drew up Miss Robinson's work for the next term examination: also compiled a more workable timetable

21st May Acting under instruction from the Committee I have procured a maximum and minimum thermometer and a rain gauge in order to allow of the older pupils compiling metrological statistics as I requested

These have now come to hand and observations were commenced today and will be continued henceforth daily

The inspection and examination report is to hand. Roll 102 Present 92

Report included

- a) Mr Morris who was sent to take charge when Mr Gover obtained leave of absence is to be commended for his efforts to improve the tone of the school and the character of the work
- b) As the essential subjects still requires considerable attention

- c) Mr Morris will devote himself principally to these, leaving it to his successor who takes charge shortly to draw up a programme of work in additional subjects

- d) Certificates granted Proficiency 2 Competency 2

- e) Average age of above 12 years 7 months

- f) T R Fleming 20th March 1906

24th May Today was observed a holiday Empire Day

25th May This week has been an exceptionally rough, the attendance being under half on four occasions out of eight attendances. Average for week 71

On one occasion there were but four present in the Lower Room so I allowed Miss Robinson to go home. Took her work

A recent gale has blown down a tall pinus insignia which the Committee are clearing away. To minimise further danger and also to let more sun in the school grounds "topping" is being done
Repairs to the gate are also promised at an early date

22nd June The school resumed today after being closed for four days owing to the death of the Minister of Education (Premier Richard Seddon)

I took the scholars out into the field and observations of the altitude of the sun were taken by the upper standards

29th June The shadow stick has been erected this week

21st July 1906 The Trust Lands Trustees decided at its meeting last night to make the usual grants to schools (the sum being reduced by half last year), the amounts being : — Masterton High School £95, St. Patrick's £37, Fernridge £25, PP

31st August 1906 LOA R Foss PP

14th September I resumed duty today on August the 6th I met with an accident which necessitated my being relieved from further school duties

The school was closed on the following two days

On Thursday Miss Williams of the Masterton District High School staff was kindly allowed by Mr Jackson to carry on the school

Miss Williams remained in charge till Friday August 17th

On the 20th August Mr Gardiner reported himself and took charge of the school till work was resumed after the September Vacation

Inspectors report of 6th August T R Fleming included

- a) Roll 81 present 71
- b) Work was proceeding satisfactorily under improved discipline and there is every promise of a better result at the next examination
- c) The average for June Quarter is under 82% It should be higher in a district like Fernridge
- d) The teachers have hard work before them to make the school thoroughly efficient, but if they cannot secure a better attendance their difficulties will be increased
- e) The outside offices require attention

I am finding the work has gone back considerably during my absence

30th September The work in the infant room is not satisfactory. I had a special talk with Miss Robinson with reference to her discipline and made many suggestions

The upper classes have completed their charts showing their observations taken at the equinox

The School Committee have taken in hand the improvements suggested by me- repairing fire places, papering room in residence and reflooring portion of scullery

26th October 1906 Refused So, too, was' a request from Fernridge for £40 for a septic tank. PP

16th November The upper standards took an excursion in to Wellington. They were in charge of the chairman and myself

Arrangements had been made for their visiting the Houses of Parliament, the Parliamentary Library, The N Z Times printing works and the Meat Export's Company's Waterloo Quay premises.

An instructive day was spent

21st December Term reports have been issued to parents. The school closed today. Average for the quarter 76; For the year only 73

1907

4th February Resumed school today

20th February The school was closed for the Masterton A and P show in accordance with the customary practice here

21st February I take charge of my own and the Te Ore Ore school cadets who are making the "exhibition Camp" trip. We paraded 30 strong.

Miss Robinson has been given detailed instructions for carrying on the work of the school in my absence. I made out a special time table and show exactly what is the best to do in the circumstance

1st March Returned today from the South; all well

Found several windows broken in my absence

Wrote to the Secretary of the Board making application for the regular attendance at the school of the Board's Instructor of Agriculture

11th March Received from the board the following intimation " that there is no hope of your being able to obtain regular visits from the instructor; his engagements are so many that compliance with your request would render impossible the due performance of other duties

31st March After repeated efforts on my part arrangements have now been made by which the school will be in possession of a piano

8th April Received notification of the annual inspectorial visit on the 29th and 30th inst.

27th April Mr Fleming's note to hand advising me that he will be a few day's late owing to the Ohau inquiry

I have concluded my examination of Standard 1 to V

30th April Miss Robinson has a severe cold and is unable to attend today

30th April Inspector Fleming paid his annual visit to the school. At my request special attention was paid to the children in Miss Robison's charge

2nd May The chairman, Inspector Fleming and I discussed the question of Miss Robinson's unsatisfactory work

14th May Chief Inspector visited the school to inspect the Lower Division while it was in working order

24th May School closed today Empire Day- to resume on June 4th Including holiday

Inspection Report by Mr Fleming included

- a) Roll 75 Present 67
- b) Standard 6 Certificates of proficiency 4, Competency 2

c) Average age of above 13 years

d) Mr Foss's accident threw the work back a little

e) The efficiency of the school has improved very much under his management and better results may be looked for next year

f) The work in the lower part of the school is moderate in character. More energetic work and firmer discipline are required

g) All the children in this department should be kept fully employed

h) It is a mistake for a teacher to live too far from the scene of her work

i) Visits to the school have been paid by the instructor of Agriculture, the clerk of works and the truant officer

j) The picture forwarded by the Board has been framed

k) The back fence is in need of repair

l) The residence requires a bathroom.

m) The lighting of the rooms might be improved by a light paint when the inside is painted

n) The latrine accommodation of this school is now under special consideration of the board

30th June Working for school concert

16th August The garden has been dug and laurels planted on the road frontage. Miss Robinson's discipline is deplorably weak

2nd October Report cards issued today and I commented on the general work done. Infant room- moderate only

10th October Labour Day

14th October Inspector Fleming visited the school today. As a result of this visit Miss Robinson will ask the Board to relieve her of her duties here as from the first of February 1908

6th November 1907 Fernridge assistant mistress 95 pound PP

11th November The inspector's report received

The assistant mistress lives in Masterton For several years she has made a daily journey to and from the school and the strain has affected her work She has asked the Board to relieve her of the duties at the school at the end of the year and to place her name on the relieving staff. I recommend that her request be acceded to and that the position be advertised. The appointee to begin work in February 1908 and to reside in the district

The schoolrooms should be painted inside and the back fence is in need of repair.

The teacher's residence should be connected with the septic tank and a bathroom should be provided.

T R Fleming 24th October

18th November Miss Tasker assumes charge of the school today during my temporary absence in connexion with the University November Examination

21st November The school closed today Carterton show

25th November I resume duty

19th December The school closed today

A presentation was made to Miss Robinson today on the occasion of her severing her connexion with the school

1908

3rd February The school assembled today. Miss C A Clarke reported herself

17th February I left today on leave to attend a funeral; Left Miss Clarke in charge and instructed her to close the school on both days of the Masterton Show under the circumstances

20th February I resumed duty

6th March The annual excursion was held today when the older children took train to Wellington en route for Seatoun where an enjoyable afternoon was spent All went well. Credit balance of 1/8 on the trip

7th March The cadets took part in the Wairarapa Rifle Association contest at Papawai. Bugler Boyle won 5/- , Private Catt 4/-. Team score 200. Weather conditions boisterous

9th March 1908 The Wairarapa schools held their annual shooting competition at Papawai on Saturday, the challenge shield being won by the Greytown School, with a score of 253, Featherston who held it last- year, made 246, and Carterton came next with 236. Four other teams, including Masterton and Fernridge , competed. The championship, decided on the aggregate in. the Rifle Association's match, and the Shield match, was won by Private Lorriner (Greytown), Bugler Everton (Featherston) coming second, and Private Duncan (Featherston) third PP

11th March Mr W C Davies visited the school in connexion with "General Agriculture"

12th March Cautioned a boy of vicious tendencies. Walter Evans. This is the second time of cautioning in the course of twelve months.

First offence : immoral conduct displayed in the writing of filthy matter on the school building

Second Offence: Throwing a stone at the master and lying. I decided to give him one further chance before expulsion

6th April Inspector Fleming visited the school in connexion with the annual examination. The lower classes have already been examined by the Head. Report included

- a) Miss Clarke took charge of the lower classes in February Satisfactory progress has been made under her charge
- b) The work of the lower classes was of a moderate character when Miss Clarke (Mary A C) took charge. Better work may now be expected in that Department

25th May A half day was observed today. Empire Day

30th June Roll now 68

31st July 1908 Fernridge School sanitation and septic tanks came before the Education Board yesterday afternoon in connection-- with the Fernridge School, Wairarapa. The chairman of the school committee waited on the board, and described at length the state of his school. A report from the Public Health Department was also received on the subject. Dr. Mason mentioned therein that the place was suitable for a septic tank, A general discussion on the sanitary system followed. It was finally decided to go on with the improvements to the teacher's residence, and that fencing should be carried out, but that, the question of the septic tank should be deferred to the next meeting. PP

14th August Getting the garden into good order previous to planting

7th September Today the staff joined the roll of the Spring Agricultural School at Greytown. Arrangements have been made by

which two weeks attendance at the above course of instructions has received the sanction of the Board only one week being the usual term during which the school is closed

14th October A holiday was observed today, Labour Day

22nd October Inspector Fleming paid a visit today when 65 were present out of a roll of 74

17th November General election day

18th November Mr Larking reported himself, I am on leave of absence for the rest of the week this being the time of the November Examination in connection with the University of N Z. And Mr Larking will relieve me for the next three days

23rd November I resumed duty

12th November We entered the school gardens for the Masterton A and P Association's competitions. We received the maximum number of points under the heading "Educational Value"

Inspectors report included

- a) Standard 6-3 Mr R Foss Roll 27 Present 24
- b) Standard 2 Primers Miss Clarke Roll 47 Present 41
- c) The percentage for the year is only 80% much lower than the average percentage for the district
- d) There is a decided improvement in the management of the lower classes
- e) Improvements to the residence, offices, and grounds are now receiving consideration from the Board

14th December The Head teacher was too ill to attend school today

15th December As I much too unwell for attendance at duty I have on my Doctor's advice, obtained instructions from the Committee

and Board to shut the school today for the Xmas Vacation: This was done.

The examination results were made known and certificates of competency and proficiency were presented

Roll 73

Arrangements had been made for holding the picnic on closing but owing to my disposition the idea was abandoned till after resuming in February

1909

1st February Present 68 Roll 73

9th March 1909 An experiment of considerable importance to country schools, and one for which the Wairarapa School Committees' Association agitated for a long time, is now being carried out at Upper Plain School This is the installation of a septic tank for drainage purposes. The Upper Plain installation is costing about £150, and is being done under the supervision of and according to patents taken out by Dr. J. P. Frengley, District Health Officer for Wellington. It is predicted by competent persons (says the Age) that the experiment will prove a most successful one, and if so, similar installations in other schools will rapidly follow. PP

19th March The annual excursion was held today, the staff taking the older children to Wellington where an interesting four hour hours were spent

3rd April Mr Fleming visited school on the 1st and his report included

- a) Standard 6 – 3 Mr Foss Present 20 Roll 22

- b) Standard 2 to Primers Present 57 Roll 62
- c) Standard 2 will be taken in the upper room after Easter
- d) In the upper room the quality of the instruction is good
- e) In the lower the general work is satisfactory, but writing should be more uniform and comprehension of subject matter needs attention
- f) The rooms are somewhat dingy in appearance
- g) A rearrangement of the pictures is suggested
- h) The contract for the improvements recently authorised is nearing completion

24th May The school was closed today Empire Day

30th June Standard 2 is making satisfactory progress in the upper room whence they were transferred after Easter in term of Mr Fleming's suggestion

This course has relieved Miss Clarke considerably

30th September The good attendance of the school is maintained.
Roll 88

17th October Inspectors report included

- a) Standard 6 -2 Mr Foss Roll 30 present 29
- b) Standard 1 – primers Miss Clarke Roll 62 Present 53
- c) The large number in the infant department are due to recent admissions
- d) Should the department show further increases the headmaster contemplates giving further relief to Miss Clarke
- e) Very good work has been done in English and Arithmetic
- f) A distinguishing feature of the scheme of work in the treatment of Arithmetic not as the science of numbers merely but as the elements of Mathematics with the consequent

correlation of Arithmetic, Geometry and Mensuration, and the work is applied to measurement and calculations in the practical work of the garden

- g) The general work of the school shows improvement
- h) The Headmaster reports the septic tank is in good working order

1910

4th February Roll 95 As the school failed to qualify for the Grade 5 we shall be understaffed for at least six months

I shall bring Standard 2 into the Upper Room to relieve Miss Clark
22nd February 1910 There was a full muster of the Wairarapa cadets on the Masterton Show Grounds on Saturday afternoon 276 answering the roll call. Major Haslam was in charge assisted by Adjutant Bunting The following schools were represented : — Carterton, Captain Miller ; Greytown, Captain Kinsey ; Featherston and Eketahuna and Ballance, Captain Scott ; Fernridge and Te Ore Ore, Captain Foss ; Masterton No. 1, Captain Bell ; Masterton No. 2, Captain Sutton

25th February Recent admissions bring the roll up to 99 - Staff head teacher and infant mistress

26th February The Kitchener Review at the Hutt was held in very wet weather. No evil results have manifested themselves to date. The Masterton Suburbs corps under my command was represented in goodly numbers. *This was an army cadet rally*

Inspectors report of 17th March 1910 included

- a) Standard 6 – Standard 2 Roll 42 Present 38

- b) Standard 1 Primers Miss Clark Roll 56 Present 50
- c) A roll of number of 98 manifestly makes heavy work for two teachers, the same staff as for an average attendance of only 36
- d) However the attendance is good and there is a probability at the end of next quarter, the staff will be increased.
- e) This will not only ease the work of the staff but will render possible a more satisfactory organisation of the work
- f) At present owing to the preponderance of children in the Standard 1 and Primer classes the Head teacher has to take Standard 2 into his room

December 1910 Dux of School Margaret Catherine Gawith, Proximal Accessit Constance E A L Welch

Certificate of Proficiency Edith May Hunter, Douglas Roland Harding, Ross Stuart St John

Certificate of competency Martha Caroline Evans

Then listed full list of prize winners

13th December 1910 The new miniature rifle range at the Fernridge School was opened by Messrs. W. C. Buchanan and A. H. Vile, members of the Education Board, yesterday afternoon. Both gentlemen named and Messrs. D. McGregor Sen., and T. Evans (chairman of the School Committee) made speeches PP

1911

30th January School resumed today

3rd February Average for week 75 The school was declared closed yesterday by the chairman as all the district's schools were closing on the occasion of the Garden fete of the Borough

10th February For the year 1910 work was discontinued with a roll of 96. Since resuming various changes have taken place in the roll which now stands at 90, five to the bad on the exchange

15th February The school was closed on the occasion of the Masterton A and P Show

The following is the annual report to hand last year and omitted from insertion in the log Book

Date of Visit 10th 11th October F H Bakewell

I have not previously had an opportunity of examining this school while under Mr Foss's management and am pleased to note the complete reformation he has effected in the work, discipline and tone of the school since I last examined it.

The neatness and general setting up of the work in Standards 6-3 are specially commended

The average now entitles the school to an addition to the staff and it is to be hoped that there will be as little delay as possible in making the appointment

31st March A serious outbreak of measles has been responsible for the poor average attendance of 76 Roll 91

30th May Received Inspector's Report March 22nd 1911

S6 – S3	Mr R Foss	H T	34	28
S2	Miss H Andrews	P T	18	15
S1 – P	Miss Clarke	A M	38	

Owing to the limited accommodation provided by the two front rooms, it has been found necessary to place the P T with a class in the old room at the back, where she works under the supervision of the H T

Previous to the present outbreak of measles the attendance was very good

Miss Andrews entered on her duties in October last. The headmaster expressed satisfaction with her work so far

The general progress of all classes is satisfactory

The control and discipline are specially commended

Miss Clark is giving special attention to the slate work of Standard 1 and Primers

Tone of school manners of children and recess supervision, Very Good

Defective lighting of old room previously reported on

General cleanliness commended

The Pupil Teacher in preparation for the general J C S examination attends Masterton Technical School for two hours per week and in addition receives two to three hours instruction from the Headmaster'

30th June The ,measles attack has been virulent

16th October The Head Teacher absent on leave of absent to attend the terms examination. Inspector Grundy annual visit

20th October Inspector's holiday taken today while the H T was absent

23rd October The H T resumed

The attendance is now improving For the September quarter the record (for the year) of 90% was established

13th December Miss Andrews left the school's staff (Vide new regulations) Average for the year 80. Exemption from the penal clauses of the act claimed ?

Mr Grundy's report on October 9th and 10th October included

a) The school is in good order and the work of the Standards is satisfactory

b) The prevalence of measles affected the attendance

20th December 1911 Pupil Teacher transfer Miss Andrews to Mt Cook infant school PP

1912

29th February The school resumed. Miss Evelyn Elliott reported herself

She will have charge of Standard 2 and 3

16th February A serious outbreak of mumps has occurred

19th March The school attendance is still very low. 85% of the Roll was the report to the Committee today

27th March 1912 Discussing the difficulties consequent on the inadequate staffing of schools, particularly in grades five and six, the Wellington Education Board inspectors, in their report submitted yesterday to the board, referred to the growing disinclination on the part of certificated teachers to offer themselves as candidates for country positions. The last list of vacancies advertised by the board brought forth applications from fifteen certificated teachers for a position of £90 to £105 at Wadestown, while for a similar position at Fernridge there was not a single certificated applicant. It is very evident, commented the report, that some definite scheme of making

appointments is necessary, if the children in the country districts are to receive the benefits of the trained teaching capacity to which they are entitled. In a general discussion on the subject, Mr. J. G. W. Aitken ascribed the paucity of candidates for country positions to the fact that women teachers were disinclined to apply because they were not sure of getting suitable accommodation in the backblocks. In the speaker's opinion, the board should make itself responsible for seeing that accommodation was available before women were sent into the country. Finally, a motion by Mr. A. W. Hogg, "that in filling vacancies in city schools the board reaffirms its decision to give preference to applicants who have done service in the country PP 31st July 1912 Improved lighting removal of galleries PP

31st March For the March quarter of 2011 we registered an average of 76 Roll 88 Mumps

26th July The past two weeks have been extremely boisterous and wintry, water abounding. The attendance has been below half on no less than 10 occasions. Arbour Day was not celebrated. My committee has decided to defer planting till next autumn

26th July The chief Inspector's report on the working of the school is to hand and runs as follows:---

Standard 6 Standard 4 Mr Foss 22 on roll 22 present

Standard 3 Standard 2 Miss Elliott Assistant 29- 28

Standard 1 Primers Miss Clark 34 29

The desks in the school are of the oldest dual pattern and there are also a few of the old long desks still in use. New desks should be supplied

The old room in which the middle division of the school is located is too dark for children to work in especially during winter afternoons. If possible another window should be placed in the room or some other suitable alteration should be made

Some of the rooms in the residence require papering and painting I recommend that these matters be brought under the notice of the Clerk of Works.

T R Fleming

9th September The carpenters are not yet finished and their presence necessitated my closing of the school for one day

23rd September In accordance with instructions I closed the school today (Dominion Day)

8th October Yesterday and today the school has been visited by Inspector Fleming. Epidemics have mitigated against any specialisation of work

Work was arranged (During my subsequent absence in Wellington) to be carried out only by Misses Elliott and Clarke, the Chief Inspector Concurring

10th October Miss Elliott has Scarlet Fever

25th October As a result of the above epidemic spreading, the Secretary has authorised the closing of the school from the 14th inst. Mr Foss being in Wellington for one week

28th October School resumed

14th November During my absence on leave to attend University Examinations Mrs Foss has acted as a relieving teacher (5 days)

Inspectors Notes included

Notwithstanding the fact of epidemics has effected the working of the school, Mr Foss and his assistants have succeeded in maintaining

a satisfactory standard of efficiency The general work of the upper Standards is good

The improvements to the buildings, recommended in my last report are now being effected and the lighting of the rooms will be more satisfactory than in the past

T R Fleming

2nd December All examinations records forwarded to Wellington

19th December School dismissed for the long vacation. Promotions announced.

Made special application to the Secretary Wellington Education Board for special consideration of the conditions under which the school has been working as under normal consideration only the school must suffer loss of grade in 1913, the quarterly average being 76 only

Substitution was claimed on 4 quarters and documentary evidence submitted in a regular way

As the corresponding quarters substituted for 1911 were themselves substituted for in 1911 an unusual position arises

1913

3rd February School resumed with a moderate attendance only. Miss Elliott has not received notice to leave

19th February Masterton A and P Show School closed

26th February 1913 Library subsidies (up to 9d per head) were approved on the following amounts, subject to compliance with the Education Department : —Reikiorangi, £2 ;Fernridge , £5 0s Id ; Ohariu, £1 12s 3d ; PP

17th March Scarlet fever has reappeared in one family

31st March Miss Elliott has received notice to report herself to Mr Jackson Tomorrow (Masterton DHS) morning. She consequently left the staff of this school today

Average attendance for the quarter 77 Average Roll 88 Scarlet fever and other illnesses responsible

During the quarter the school equipment has been improved by the acquisition of:-

- a) Fairbanks personal scales
- b) 20 new desks
- c) 2 Maps
- d) 1 nature Study chart
- e) The customary 1st quarter stock of manual and technical material and school stationery

I have decided to add Miss Elliott's classes to my own, so that, for the future Standards 2, 3,4,5, and 6 will be under my immediate control

26th February 1913 Library subsidies (up to 9d per head) were approved on the following amounts, subject to compliance with the Education Department : —Reikiorangi, £2 ;Fernridge , £5 0s Id ; Ohariu, £1 12s 3d ; PP

21st April The school excursion in connexion with the visit of HMS New Zealand was held today, twenty five children and five committee men forming with the staff the numbers from the school

2nd May Inspectors Visit Mr F G A Stuckey

4th June School resumes after the May Vacation and Prince of Wales Birthday holiday

15th June Inspector Stuckey's report to Hand

Standard 2 -6 Mr Foss 45 on roll 32 present

Primers Standard 1 Miss Clarke 45 on roll Present 14

- a) Bad weather was accountable for the attendance
- b) The lower classroom needs painting inside
- c) A leak in the roof requires attendance and one of the shelter sheds need minor repairs
- d) The school having lost a grade the Headmaster has taken Standard 2-3 into his room for the purpose of equalising the numbers
- e) More hydroplate should be replaced in the Junior Room
- f) Owing to fall in grade the school had to be reorganised during the year added to which there has been an epidemic which has seriously effected the attendance
- g) In spite of these disadvantages however the work is of a very satisfactory nature

1st December Commenced the terminal examination

1914

2nd February School resumed

30th April Arrangements will be made for controlling the light from the skylight in the lower room

General conditions of buildings and cleanliness commended

The cultivations are in excellent order

12th September In pursuance of the authorised scheme of general improvement of the school premises I am able to record the following as having been dealt with, finally, or in part

- a) Ploughing and levelling the boy's acre

- b) Removing weeds etc from the school frontage and reforming the water tables
- c) Removal of divisional fence
- d) Renewal of spouting; sinking sumps for accommodation of storm water
- e) Gravelling the grounds
- f) Removal of Boy's shelter shed to a more convenient spot
- g) Cementing four sheds

15th September The school was visited today by Chief Inspector Fleming

30th September The roll has now reached 94 and I have hopes of being able to qualify for Grade 5 and an additional assistant

Good progress has been made with the school improvements It has been decided to concrete the western side of the school grounds, under the verandah

The improvement of the grounds at the residence is under consideration

10th October Chief Inspector Flemings Annual Report is to hand
T R Fleming Making a comment about the school

Roll 88 Two Teachers

The general work of this school is of a very satisfactory character. Intelligent class work is a strong feature in the upper standards, and the work of the lower division shows a decided improvement

30th October During the week the school was closed for Carterton Show and for Labour Day as in former years

2nd November The November examinations commence today I have obtained the necessary leave; Mrs Foss will take charge in my absence

10th December School closed for general election

17th December School dismissed for long vacation. Promotions were announced

The money usually spent in prizes will be handed to the Belgian Relief war Fund, by request of the winners.

Average attendance for the quarter 89 and for the Year 82, thus qualifying for grade 3B

A heavy wind has blown down the Western Hedge and also a fence at the residence.

The grounds towards the residence have been receiving attention

Various small jobs will be put in hand during the vacation by Hulme and Bristone the , joiners

1915

2nd February Miss O R Sutherland reported herself

17th February Masterton A and P Show

26th February The continued dry weather is responsible for a very high percentage, especially in the lowest division of the school

2nd March Mr Foss absent today owing to an infection of the eye

2nd March 1915 Cable advice has been received of the following successes at the November University examinations : — Mr. H. J. Nightingale, B.A., Dalefield, M.A. degree with second-class honours in history ; Mr. C. N. Haslam, Island Bay School, B.A. degree; Mr. C. A. Gumming, agricultural instructor, Masterton, B.A. .degree; Miss M. B. McKenzie, student of Victoria College, and formerly of Masterton, M.A. degree, with first-class honours; Miss O. R. Sutherland, Masterton, section of B.A. degree ; Mr. R. J. Foss,

Fernridge School, section of the Class "A" certificates; Miss Edith Murray, Masterton, Victoria College student, B.A. degree PP
 1st April Miss O R Sutherland the relieving teacher left today
 7th April Miss F M Strong, the additional assistant
 Balance Sheet of Picnic (held on March 5th)

Contributions	
£12.6.0	McLeod and Young Prizes £5-2-8
	Wickes £4-11-0
	Lemonade £1-10-3
	Fruit 18/6
	Groceries 5/6
	Balance 8/1

13th April Inspector Bakewell visited the school
 The school flagpole has now been erected Messrs Hubbard and Thomas Evans gave much assistance in the laying out of the ornamental base
 Front hedge trimming has now been completed
 The Manuka Hedge on the Western Boundary which had been affected by the wind has been attended to and 20 new posts put in.
 The incinerator has not yet been built, nor the septic tank vent been led away
 The roof windows in the infant room need removal frames and blinds
 12th May Inspectors report included
 Standard 4, 5 ,6 Mr R Foss roll 28 Present 27
 Standard 2, 3 Miss Strong roll 33 Present 32
 Standard 1 Primers Miss Clark 42 Present 39

Roll 103 Present 98
 All classes work industriously under good control
 Gardens are in good order. Considerable improvements have been made in the grounds since my last visit
 The new flagstaff is a decided acquisition
 31st May A fine Union jack has been presented by W Andrew Esq
 30th June Roll number 104 as compared with 85 for 1914 and 86 for 1913
 15th July Arbor Day celebrated
 16th July The ground improvement which the Fernridge School Committee. have had in hand for some considerable time were advanced another stage yesterday, when additional portions of the school grounds were effectively laid out by a working bee of committeemen, teachers and all the scholars. The tennis lawn laid down last year was looking very well, while the fine flag staff, dressed. with bunting in honour of the arrival of the wounded soldiers from the front, was much admired by visitors. A feature of the day's proceedings was the planting of a tree by two of the older scholars to commemorate the return of the wounded New Zealanders by the Willochra. The chairman of the school committee (Mr A. T. P. Hubbard) in calling on the two scholars to plant the trees, delivered a fine, rousing patriotic address, which struck just the right note. The ceremony concluded with cheers for the injured men and for their speedy recovery.
 4th August Declaration day and school closed
 3rd September The school closed for the spring vacation. Miss Clarke who has served on the staff since February 1908 to take up an appointment to Martinborough School A local gathering of

residents was hastily organised and presentation made to Miss Clarke testifying to her popularity.

Much needed gravelling has now been satisfactorily done. Roll 108 Average 99

13th September Miss A B Cooke (Relieving) reported

27th September Annual visit of Inspector Bakewell

12th October 1915 Fernridge Assistant 120 to 140 pound PP

20th October The contract for erecting fencing at house, tool house etc and for dismantling old shed well in hand

29th October The school was closed today for the Wairarapa show and also Labour Day

Mr Bakewell's report included

The work of the Upper Standards is commended. The lower classes have to some extent been affected by changes in the staff but are now making satisfactory progress

25th November Dr Elizabeth Gunn visited the school

6th December reported probable departure after the new year

16th December Annual announcement of promotions made

There were many parents and old boys and girls present

The prizes were distributed

In my official leave taking of the committee it gave me the greatest possible pleasure to be able to place on record my appreciation of the cordial relations which have at all times existed between the School Committee and myself in the dual management of the school's interests, as cordiality which has been reflected both in the harmonious management of the school's concerns and in the efficiency detailed by the board's various inspector's during the past

decade I wish the school every success in the future (*Mr Foss went to Eketahuna as Head Teacher*)

1916

1st February I P Iorns Relieving Head teacher

Received word from Secretary of Wellington Education Board that I was to transfer to Masterton DHS on Thursday

3rd February Unknown teacher. I took charge this afternoon having been asked by the Board to get them out of a difficulty as Mr Combs cannot come till after the 4th of March

I have charge of Standard 4,5,6. The first of these are a weak class few being able to work correctly Simple multiplication and division if the sums given are any length. All classes are weak in English- the fourth cannot pick out verbs, the fifth are unable to analyse a simple sentence which the sixth can just do. Composition is weak and round

29th February 1916 Resigned Miss G Flood Resigned again 18 July 1918 PP

16th March Holiday for Masterton Show

25th March Miss Flood went home in early afternoon

28th March Miss Flood sent message she was in private hospital and would be away for a week

Hearing that a Miss Evans was available I sent for her to take Miss Flood's Place, getting Mrs Foss to communicate with Mr Stewart and Mr Hubbard

29th February Miss Evans relieving. In afternoon got notice that Miss Murray would come on Wednesday

1st March Miss Murray came

2nd March Received word that Mr Combs would come on Monday next

3rd March The sixth have had lessons on the three subordinated sentences in analysis and are just beginning to know them. The 3rd and 4th have had simple analysis

In Geography one or two lessons on the motions of earth, zones and climate and a map of climatic industries. Owing to the very hot weather no physical drill has been taken, but the quarter of an hour has been added to the dinner hour, afternoon school beginning at 1.15 A recess of a quarter of an hour has been given in the afternoon

Unknown Signature

6th March I (F L Combs) took charge today. Mr Hubbard called in the morning and discussed various matters connected with the school

7th March Miss Murray left. Miss Flood will be here tomorrow

8th March Miss Flood resumed duty- Mr Hubbard wrote my concurrence in the granting of a holiday. A holiday will therefore be taken tomorrow with the Masterton carnival

17th March I have now had time to estimate the general level of the work in Standard 4.5.6. It is somewhat behind for the time of the year, but the children are highly intelligent and should be able to recover the ground lost

Standard 4 is a weak class

21st March Yesterday by Mr Hubbard the Chairman's advice the school was closed to permit of it to be disinfected. Mr Hubbard, Mr

Harcombs and myself scoured the floor with sheep dip. Mr Cairn's the Health inspector called in the afternoon and sprayed the school buildings with formalin (The spread of Infantile Paralysis is feared.)

A visit from Mr Cummings Agricultural Instructor

28th March Received note from Mrs Graham re her children and Miss Flood as her note to me are trivial and inclined to be impertinent I did not answer

7th April Mrs Standen called re his daughter Ivea whom I had placed in Standard 3 from Standard 4. I gave my reasons viz

In a standard 3 test I had set she had no sums right and 10 errors in spelling. While her work this month had seemed to me far below the standard required, she rarely having a sum right. For that reason the he desired her to be reinstated I was not willing to accede to her request

A half-holiday was taken yesterday in connection with the Masterton Queen carnival Coronation

12th April Mr R E Jones Plumber called under instructions received in a circular to inspect the water supply pipes

15th April School closed till Tuesday May 2nd as per instructions received in a circular from the Secretary of the Board

2nd May Resumed school after 2 weeks vacation. Attendance very good – added 7 to the roll

4th May Mr Cumming accompanied by Mr Freeman new agricultural instructor visited the school this afternoon

10th May 10 bags of coke (*Coke was a by-product of gas works where the gas was removed from coal and the residue in lumps was called coke*) were left for school use by Mr Perry

12th May Mr Stuckey Inspector visited the school. He instructed the Head teacher to draw up a programme in Temperance, Hygiene and morals

Handwork Programme should be prepared to show the work proposed to be done. Instructions have been issued to inspectors to report on the suitability of these schemes

Morals Health and Temperance A programme should be prepared. The Department has issued instructions that pupils are to be tested in their knowledge of temperance at the annual exam. Temperance lessons should be based on the three sheets issued as well as on the lessons in the Journal

12th May Mr Stuckey recommended that the pictures be put up. Indifferent ones being replaced by artistic reproductions

20th May Mr Burton called as requested by Mr Foss at the Solway Show to repair the lawn mower

24th May No holiday, Mr A Hubbard rang me up re a kissing game played in infant room- Miss Flood is discontinuing it as it may disseminate infection. . A cleaners cupboard has been placed in the corner of infant room porch. A spray pump for disinfecting school 2ce (twice) a week has also been procured

30th June On 27th inst attended a meeting re organisation of children's contribution to Belgian Fund and sale of work connected with it. Received 5 new dual desks

21st July Visit from Mr Cumming and Mr Just Garden and Drill instructors respectively

25th July Cash and Produce collection for Belgian Fund terminated today. Cash received £11-6-0 Produce valued at £3-8-0 approximately

Committee dispatched goods today

2nd August Measles and severe colds have impaired the attendance Inspectors notes The programme in the infant dept are good and a complete progress record is kept.

All teachers are present during recess

Provision will be made for the organisation of games in the intermediate and senior division. Organised games form a distinct subject.

Standard 4, 5, 6 Mr F L Combs 38 Children

Miss Strong Standards 2,3, 28

Miss Flood Standard 1 primers 39

A number of pages burnt by pipe ash

1917

5th July Only note form 1917. On separate piece of paper

Note to Miss Strong re retaining

- a) Class as a whole should be dismissed by 12.5 p.m. and 3.20 p.m.
10 Minutes interval
If it is necessary on any occasion to detain class longer please refer to Head teacher
- b) Individual pupils detained should be dismissed by 12.15 and 3.30 p m should get at least 5 minutes interval
A full interval is desirable in cold weather
Class as a whole means at 2/3 of the pupils in the room
Please keep a copy of this memo

c) F L Combs

17th September 1917 It. is proposed to establish swimming baths in connection with the Fernridge School. The Masterton Trust Lands Trust has voted £50 towards the project, on condition that the Education Board provides a similar amount PP

1918

1st June Visit from Mr G Sykes MP who addressed standard's on the work of parliament 1 ¾ hours

3rd July 1 new fire shovel

22nd July School closed 2 days 7 to 10th inst fall of (burnt)

17th September 1917 It. is proposed to establish swimming baths in connection with the Fernridge School. The Masterton Trust Lands Trust has voted £50 towards the project, on condition that the Education Board provides a similar amount PP

24th September M H Fellingham Relieving teacher arrived here today and took charge. Trees in playground are being cut down Weather fine but cold

7th October School closed today by order of Board Rejoice in Bulgaria's surrender

18th October Leave here today for Clareville

21st October Resumed duty today F L Combs

24th October Holiday Carterton Show

30th October Miss Cairns absent at funeral from her home

1 November Came to school at 10 a.m. Miss Cairns in charge of my room. Insomnia the reason

11th November Note from chairman to dismiss school on account of epidemic

Inspectors report for 8th – 10th 24th- 26th July

Teacher Mr F L Combs, Miss I McKenzie and Miss G Flood

A swimming baths has been erected

1919

4th February Resumed school. Completed promotions and classifications

Set up my own room Standard 4,5 and 6 to work to clean up gardens

The school has been well scrubbed during the vacation and the walls washed down

Owing to the extraordinary length of the summer vacation The first 2 months of the year February, March will be devotes to revision and the putting into a thorough state of the primary pass subjects

17th February Closed Masterton Show. Went to Wellington to select book for teacher Lending Library

25th February Mr G R Sykes and Miss Blissart (Chartauqua) advance agent. Adult education group, American based held meetings in Masterton

26th February Key of Committee's cupboard is missing. As a letter from Miss Flood in connection which I have written to the committee should be on file in the cupboard I have nailed the cupboard up

1919

5th March (F L Combs Teacher) With chairman's consent school closed 2.30 p m to permit children to attend Chataqua

Have emptied and refilled baths. The soakage pit was silted up and they took 26 hours to run dry. To fill them required 36 hours using both inflow and water supply

17th March Old log book partly burnt last night when being used to copy Inspector's drawing syllabus. Circumstances detailed in letter to Board 17th March 1919

18th March last night attended Committee meeting wishing to learn whether Miss Flood's letter to committee re refusal to carry out work detailed in syllabus was on the file. Key to committee cupboard has been missing since last meeting (See entry 26th 1 1919)

Only Messrs Allan and Hubbard (Chairman) were present. Mr Hubbard found one of his own keys to fit the lock

The cupboard being opened the letter was found on the pile. It had been placed there on an oversight having been withdrawn by Miss Flood. There was no mention of it in the committee minutes

Mr Hubbard with Mr Allen's consent destroyed the letter

I explained that having in matters affecting staff to refer to the inspector I could not at the same time submit on the same point to the committee enquiry

25th March Typed copy of above read at committee meeting Messrs Allan, Hubbard and I Evans present. No comment was made

29th March School picnic at Solway

Hon. J A Hanan (*M P Invercargill*) visited the school in company with Mr Forsyth chairman of Board and some public men of Masterton. Standard 5 and 6 questioned in arithmetic, grammar and history. Half holiday granted

Dr A Patterson visited the school and examined the children's mouths Reports sent to parents of children with defective teeth etc.

Mr Stuckey (Inspector) called to see me re transfer to position of 1st Assistant Newtown

School closed for liquor poll (School a booth)

Head Teacher with chairman of committee's consent takes a day's leave- business- goes to see Board's Offices re transfer to Newtown. Thus position declined on advice of Dr Mason. Grounds only partly recuperated health. A strain of overtime work to one in indifferent health . 'Unwell Sleeplessness absent from school in afternoon. Miss Cairns takes my room

13th May Inspector F G A Stuckey visits school

19th May General health much better able to resume classwork lessons, history, geography etc

31st May Sick Leave certificate for self from Dr Prior received hence

7th June Have withheld above as new regime and medicine have improved health

24th June 1919 Mr. F. L. Combs, M.A., who has been headmaster of the Fernridge School for some years past, has received the appointment of headmaster of the Featherston School PP

29th June Mr Gordon called spent 3 hours showing him about and discussing school business. Saw Mr Hubbard Friday evening 27th

and informed him of final arrangements for my transfer to Featherston on Monday 30th June

F R Combs H T

30th June Took charge today. Attendance fairly good though weather unsettled, C S Gordon

1st July half holiday. Peace signed

11th July received 3000 sheets each of white paper (blank) and of brown paper

21st July School closed children's day of peace celebrations

24th 25th Miss McKenzie absent at exam in Wellington

25th July Self absent through sickness

Applied to Wellington Education Board with approval of Committee, to close school from Thursday July 31st to allow of my attendance at Appeal Board meeting in Wellington on 1st August appeal against grading

19th August H G Hall I entered on my duties as Headmaster today, There was a good attendance after the holiday

20th August Mr Stuckey Inspector today visited the school for the Annual Examination. I had a long conversation with him regarding the future working of the school. The unsatisfactory state of the school fire places was pointed out to him; also the need for new desks. Mr Stuckey also visited the school residence and noted the dilapidated state of the rooms

3rd September Miss W E Evans today terminated her connection with the school as assistant in the Infant Room

1st October Miss C Evans took up her duties as a relieving assistant

31st October Roll is 93

5th November The committee and helpers today cleaned out the School Baths and placed everything in readiness for their opening next week

The boys have to hand the new cricket material- 3 bats and wickets and 2 balls supplied by the Committee

14th November The use of the school baths has been intermittent owing to the cold weather so far experienced

17th November A wet and dry bulb thermometer and rain gauge were today received from the Board

25th November The Committee this week erected concrete posts in the school garden to be used as stands for instruments employed in making weather observations

30th November The attendance has been good. The school garden has now been fully cropped

1st December The Standard 6 pupils today attended the Technical School Masterton to be examined for Proficiency by Mr Stuckey

5th December Miss Cairns Probationer was given a week's leave of absence in order to sit for the Matriculation Examination

7th December A small spray pump and together with Copper Sulphate, Washing Soda and Nitrate of Soda received today

15th December The school was closed today for the Christmas Holidays (Wednesday 17th is General Election Day)

16th December The school picnic was held today at Solway Showgrounds in delightful weather. A full programme of races etc was enjoyed by children, parents, school prizes (books) were distributed on the ground. During the holidays it is hoped that the new asphalt Tennis Court will be completed. Roll 97

1920

3rd February The school should have opened today after the summer vacation but owing to the influenza Epidemic the opening has been postponed

19th February The school opened today with a roll number of 89. Miss E Woodhouse the permanent teacher appointed to replace Miss McKenzie will not take up her duties till March 1st. Miss Smith is acting as relieving teacher

2nd March Miss Woodhouse arrived today and has commenced her duties in the junior room

Work has been completed on the new School Tennis Court, and the opening is now only waiting for the asphalt to dry sufficiently

17th March The septic tank and drains have been cleaned today. New down piping has been placed onto the infant room verandah

31st March The attendance has up to the present been good with an average of 85/90

Since the opening of the school the following material has been received from the Board

- a) 3 dozen cardboard modelling knives
- b) A number of continuous readers including 19 Little Nell, 27 A Little Norman Maid
- c) 6 lbs plasticene
- d) 2 boxes coloured chalk
- e) 250 sheets coloured folding paper 4 inches by 4 inches
- f) 500 “ “ “ “ 6 inches by 6 inches
- g) 2 Dozen kindergarten scissors
- h) 3 Dozen boxes of pastels
- i) ½ Gross sheets white pasteboard

j) 1 Dozen stout sheets cardboard

k) 3 Dozen metal edged rulers

l) 3 Dozen short Strawboard 16” X 12”

29th April Inspector visited the school without notice 87/90 present

3rd May Miss Evans Infant Teacher having informed me that her illness will probably keep her from duty for at least one month. I divided the children in the middle room Standard 3 going with Standard 4 – 6 and Standard 2 with the infants and Standard 1 under Miss Woodhouse. The Board have been informed of the position

5th 7th May The school was closed on the Occasion of the visit of the Prince of Wales. The school will be closed till 1st June for the 1st term holiday

5th May 1920 Fine lawn tennis court has been opened at the Fernridge School Messrs. A. W. Hogg and T. Moss, members of the Education Board, took part in the opening ceremony PP

1st June The children returned to school today: Miss Evans has sent her resignation owing to continued ill health.

Owing to still being without a third teacher the children were as before the holiday, placed in two classrooms

2nd July Miss Coutts relieving teacher (Infant Room) took up her duties today

The repairs to fire places, woodshed, etc, which the Board have repeatedly promised to execute, are still undone. Wood in the shed is saturated and the children find it difficult to make a fire. The fireplace in the senior room is a distinct danger. Miss Coutts left on July 30th

3rd August Miss Barnett permanent Infant Teacher took up her duties today

The attendance owing to the prevalence of whooping cough, mumps etc has been very poor, many children being absent for long periods
25th August Dr Paterson Medical Inspector of schools visited the school today. The teeth, throats and nazal (sic) passages were examined

Owing to the town schools being closed for the spring vacation the children did not go to Masterton today for woodwork and cookery

Mr Burns Inspector having sent notice that he will inspect the school during the 2nd week of the usual vacation the school will not close down till September 3rd instead of 20th August

3rd 4th September Mr Bakewell Senior Inspector inspected and examined the school on these days

Inspector's Report included

- a) Mr Hall Standard 4-6 , 29
- b) Miss Woodhouse Standard 2-3 23
- c) Miss Barnett Primers Standard 1 32
- d) The school is well managed by Mr Hall and it is regretted if the opening of the Cole Street School should affect the roll of Fernridge to the extent of causing a reduction in the staff
- e) Good grounds and garden plots, commended. Evidence of Committees energy in the new tennis court which will be a great acquisition

15th December The annual school picnic was held today and the Solway Showground. Fine weather prevailed. The school closed on the 14th for the Summer Vacation

16th December The District Schools' Sports was held in Masterton ; many of the School Children competed

1921

1st February The school reopened after the Christmas Vacation.
Number on roll 82

1st March The school was closed this afternoon to enable the children to witness the Cricket Match. Wairarapa V Australians

2nd March Miss Burnett has resigned her position on the staff to enter Training College. Miss Ramsay took her up her position today

24th March The school swimming sports were held this afternoon in the School Baths, many parents and friends attended

25th March Roll 81

25th April The Householders meeting held in honour of Anzac Day

The Householder's meeting held on the 17th elected the following Committee M Traill (Chair), Mr Harcombe, Mr Penistone, Mr Allen, and Mr A Taplin

30th April A hydroplate Board has been received from the Wellington Education Board

The roll is now only 77

31st May The school was closed for Empire Day and the King's Birthday

During the 1st Term vacation the school fireplaces and hearths were repaired

20th July The school was closed for a half day on the Occasion of the Football Match Springbok V Wairarapa

26th July The children visited the War Trophies Exhibition in Masterton

23rd August The school was visited for the annual inspection by Mr Bakewell, Senior Inspector

31st August The school was today visited by Mr Styles Physical Instructor and Dr Patterson Medical Inspector

1st September The third room of the school has been closed down, owing to the drop in attendance Miss Woodhouse 2nd assistant left yesterday

Copy of the Inspector's Report included

- a) Standard 4, 5, 6 Mr Hall Roll 19
- b) Standard 2, 3 Miss Woodhouse 22
- c) Standard 1 Primers. Miss Ramsay 25
- d) Roll 66
- e) Mr Hall Discipline Good. Singing all classes commended

24th October Labour Day

27th October Carterton Show

The Standard 6 pupils today attended the Masterton West School where they were examined for proficiency. Six pupils were presented and 5 passed

20th December Miss Blackburn, drill instructress, visited the school. She took the various classes in organised games and confirmed with the staff on that branch of Physical Instruction' 21st December School was closed for the Christmas vacation

22nd December The annual school picnic and sports were held at the Solway Show Ground in fine weather

During November the concrete work round the baths was completed and seats and a shower installed

The attendance during the past quarter has been very good, the general health of the children has been good

1922

7th February The school reopened today after the long vacation

15th February The school was closed for the Masterton Show

28th February The standard 6 girls attended a lecture given by Dr Truby King (*Founder of Plunket*) at the West School Masterton

10th March I received notice today of the Board's intention to transfer me to the Solway School and Miss Campbell of Solway to Fernridge as of the 1st of May

31st March The weather for the season of the year has been exceptionally wet but the attendance particularly in the higher classes has been very good. Roll 85

5 cords of Matai firewood has been received and sawn into 1 foot 6" lengths

6th April The annual school swimming sports were held today at the school baths in fine weather

28th April Today saw the end of my teaching duties at Fernridge School. On May 1st I take up duty as Head Teacher at Solway

1st May Kathleen Campbell commenced duties as Head Teacher today (*Kathleen was born as Kitty Campbell and died as Kitty but used Kathleen during her teaching career*)

3rd May One pupil in Standard 4 making a roll number of 41 in the senior classroom and a total roll of 90

A meeting of the newly elected School Committee was held last night. I attended the meeting in order to discuss with the Committee several matters in connection with the school

The following is the personnel of the Committee Messrs Mannell (Chairman), Barton (Secretary), Reynolds, Finlayson, and Keith

11th May Miss Ramsay took charge of the senior classroom today and I spent the day in the Infant Room.

30th May Reopened school today. Three pupils admitted in the Senior Classroom and One Donald Laing, promoted to Standard 3 from the Infant Room. This makes a roll number of 45 in the senior room

Infant room 46. Total roll 91

Windows and locks repaired by Committee during vacation

5th June received from the School Committee the following supplies

- a) 1 ream of duplicating paper
- b) 12 boxes of nibs
- c) 1 Dozen tins of ink powder
- d) 1 Box (10 packets) envelopes
- e) 1 parcel foolscap
- f) 1 Dozen boxes of white chalk
- g) 12 blotting papers

12th June Received from School Committee

- a) 1 Dozen rolls of toilet paper
- b) 3 door mats
- c) 1 bar soap
- d) 1 hammer and nails
- e) 4 boxes of slate pencils
- f) 1 set of progressive Arithmetic with Answers

14th June Mr Barton Secretary of School Committee kindly donated a football for the Junior boys

15th June Received from Rugby Union 1 football and 1 handbook of rugby rules

Mr Perry has kindly granted permission for the boys to use his paddock as a football field

23rd June Mr Barton Secretary of the School Committee this week inspected the chimney of the senior classroom in order to ascertain the cause of smoke issuing from between the boards at the back of the chimney. No defect was discovered. I has previously notified the Wellington Education Board and the Chairman of the School Committee (Mr Mannell) re an apparent defect in the chimney
Weather cold during week. Attendance rather unsatisfactory

26th June The school was scrubbed at the weekend. In order to facilitate the work of cleaning, all books were collected and the desks cleaned

28th June The weather has been bitterly cold for the last three days, and the hills are mantled in snow. Attendance low

Owing to an accident with her bicycle Miss Ramsay, assistant teacher was a little late for school today

3rd July Owing to illness Miss Ramsay was absent from school today
A window in the glass house was accidentally broken today by a small child who threw a piece of stick

5th July Miss Ramsay returned to school today after an absence of three days owing to illness

During Miss Ramsay's absence, Mr Gardner, Probationer, had to teach the Junior Room

14th July The course of lessons in woodwork and in cookery came to an end today

19th July As the papers mentioned that a half holiday was being taken in the Masterton Schools today for the All Blacks V Wairarapa Football Match, a number of children took it for granted

that this school also would close for the afternoon, and therefore came without lunch. Upon consulting with the chairman of the School Committee (Mr Mannell) it was decided that, in order to avoid a reduction in attendance, the school should be closed for the afternoon

26th July Mr Laughton, Truant Officer visited the school today

28th July Arbor Day observed Tuesday and Wednesday. Mr Norris addressed the senior classes on the Institute for the Blind

1st August The health officer notified that three cases of Diphtheria had occurred in the school district. The children of the family affected are not pupils of the school, but as they are near neighbours of the children who do attend, all pupils were reminded of the necessity to taking proper precautions in order to avoid infection

The senior class visited the Masterton Fish Hatcheries this afternoon, when an interesting and instructive hour was spent in observation and in listening to an address given by Mr Millar curator, who very kindly explained to the children the various processes in the culture of fish.

The class marched to the hatcheries and made its own pace on the return journey

An essay on the visit to be written

Received from the Wellington Education Board a supply of handwork materials

2nd August Mr Mannell chairman of the School Committee visited the school this morning, and accompanied the Head Teacher, inspected the residence, swimming baths, garden etc, and discussed various topics in interest to the school

9th August Mr Greenwood of the Agriculture Department and Mr Compton a Member of the Farmers Union visited the school today, and addressed the senior closes on the Boys and Girls Agricultural Clubs, which are to be established in this school

Received from the School Committee the following;- soap, slate, pencils, an axe handle, lamp chimney

Mr Barton Secretary of the School Committee repaired the school axe and brought back the two library boxes to the school

11th August Re the Boys' and Girls' agricultural clubs. The competition this year is to be growing of a plot of mangles size of plot to be 33 foot x 33 foot seed and manure to be supplied by the agricultural Department. Entries of Standard 5 and 6 pupils to be made before 15th August.

Re the above- Mr Mannell, chairman of the School Committee has kindly offered the use of land on his property to any children who wish to compete, but have insufficient land at their homes. One plot of mangolds is to be cultivated in the school ground

11th August Entries in the Mangel Competition are disappointing in standard 6 and 5 but good in Standard 4 and 3, though these two latter classes are ineligible

Standard 6 13 pupils 1 entry David Gillespie (Mr Mannell's Ground)

Standard 5 9 pupils 3 entries- Hector King, Mark Peters, Eva Graham

Standard 4 Lincoln Finlayson, Molly Peters, Jean Mannell. May Graham, Penny Cockburn

Standard 3 Clement Graham, Stuart Cockburn, Margaret Barton, Iris Wilton

18th August The term examination was held during the week.

25th September Until today the weather during the week has been cold and wet. Attendance especially low in the Infant Room. A number of pupils are absent on account of suffering from severe colds

Forwarded term reports to Parents

Advantage was taken of the fine day to complete trimming the hedges, to mow the lawn and to prepare the vegetable plots for seed sowing, which will be commenced immediately after the holidays

The Inspector's Holiday was observed last Friday, 15th Inst

12th September Reopened school today. Attendance low as severe colds are prevalent. One pupil absent owing to pneumonia, another suffering from congestion of the lungs

Received Inspectors Report for 10th August inspection included

- a) Standard 3 to 6 Miss K Campbell Class 44
- b) Miss Campbell graded 111
- c) Standard 2 to primers Miss Ramsay Class 44
- d) Miss Ramsay Graded 176
- e) The efficiency of the teaching is good
- f) Miss Campbell who has a good record of work in various positions, may be relied on to maintain a high standard of efficiency

1900	19	Wangaehu	Campbell	Kathleen
1901	22	Wangaehu	Campbell	Kathleen
1902	23	Wangaehu	Campbell	Kathleen
1903	20	Wangaehu	Campbell	Kathleen
1904	22	Mangamahoe	Campbell	Kathleen
1905	23	Mangamahoe	Campbell	Kathleen

1906	20	Mangamahoe	Campbell	Kathleen
1907	20	Mangamahoe	Campbell	Kathleen
1908	39	Kaipororo	Campbell	Katherine
1909	43	Kaipororo	Campbell	Katherine
1910	39	Kaipororo	Campbell	Katherine
1911	37	Kaipororo	Campbell	Kathleen
1912	34	Kaipororo	Campbell	Kathleen
1913	11	Kakariki	Campbell	Kathleen
1914	37	Kopuaranga	Campbell	Kathleen
1915	32	Kopuaranga	Campbell	Kathleen
1917	31	Kopuaranga	Campbell	Kathleen
1919	53	Solway	Campbell	Kathleen
1921	93	Solway	Campbell	Kathleen
1923	79	Fernridge	Campbell	Kathleen

- g) The school grounds in the usual excellent condition
- h) Games receive commendable attention
- i) In Miss Ramsay's class the pupils are cheerful and diligent workers
- j) Standard 2 is a good class
- k) Mr Gardner probationer carries out his duties very satisfactorily and gives valuable help with school games

15th September Roll 88. Weather exceptionally cold and wet during the week. Attendance very low

18th September Mr Gardner (John) has been granted leave of absence for this week to attend a military camp

22nd September Dominion Day Holiday to be observed on Monday. The children saluted the flag, sang the National Anthem, and were given a short address by the Head Teacher this afternoon

Mr McKay supervisor of the Mangel Competition Plots visited the school this week

28th September Received from Wellington Education Board the following supplies

- a) 7 lbs superphosphate
- b) 7 lbs blood manure
- c) 4 lbs sulphate of ammonia,
- d) 4 lbs Sulphate of potash
- e) 4 lbs of Nitrate of soda
- f) 10 lbs lime
- g) 2 sixpenny packets of peas,
- h) 3 sixpenny packets of beans
- i) 2 three penny packets of each of the following: carrot, parsnip, swede, turnip, beet, onions, mustard
- j) One packet each of cabbages and lettuces
- k) One three penny packet each of the following, pansy, coreopsis, candytuft, clarkia, phlox, sunflower, Antirrhinum (snap dragon) , sweet William, stock, sweet sultan, gaillardia, nicotiana and viola

2nd October Five pupils withdrawn as they are leaving the district. 2 withdrawn as they did not put in any attendance for the last quarter

Total roll 84

6th October Mr Lawton, Agricultural Instructor, visited the school during the week. He gave the senior classes a lesson on plant foods

A pupil in Standard 5- Hector King met with an accident at his home and is now in the hospital with a broken leg:

10th October The Senior Classes were taken for an outdoor lesson this afternoon to the reservoir. By kind permission of Mr Laing they also paid a visit to a piece of native Bush on his property

One family attending this school is at present in isolation owing to an outbreak of German Measles.

Received from the School Committee six new tennis balls

20th October Mr Greenwood, Mr McKay and Mr Herberton inspected the mangel Plots on 16th Inst. They were inspected by the Head teacher during this week

Special Lessons on Nelson Day were given during the week, but the weather today was too windy to permit of the Flag's being hoisted and saluted as intended

Next Monday (Labour Day) is to be observed as a holiday

24th October We could not open the swimming season today as arranged as no water flowed through the pipes

Mr Harcombe's sheep pushed over a part of the school fence, and destroyed the children's flower and vegetable plots

The boys have now nailed up the fence securely

27th October A holiday was observed yesterday for the Carterton Show. Notice was received today from Mr Burns, Inspector, that Standard 6 Proficiency candidates are to attend at the Solway School at 9.00 on Tuesday October 31st for their annual examination

There are thirteen candidates from this school and Solway is an extremely inconvenient centre for them to attend at

One pupil will have to cycle nine or ten miles and most of the others will have to walk from here to Solway a distance of three miles

30th October Examined Standard 6 Proficiency candidates in Geography, History, Science and drawing

The chairman of the School Committee Mr Mannell has kindly volunteered to carry the thirteen proficiency candidates to Solway School tomorrow for their examination

31st October The proficiency candidates were examined at Solway today. The results were disappointing. Thirteen candidates were presented. Five obtained Proficiency Certificates, Three competency certificates and five failed

3rd November owing to a sudden change of weather, which resulted in a fall of snow on the hills, the opening of the swimming season was postponed

Seeds and manure for the Mangold Plots (Farmer's Union Competition) did not come to hand today as expected, but arrangements have been made for children living near to get their supplies from Mr Mannell, chairman of the School Committee tomorrow

Pupils living a distance will not be able to get their supplies until Monday

Mr Andrew visited the school this morning and extended an invitation to the teachers and pupils of the school to be present at the opening of the Anglican Parish Hall near the school at a quarter to three this afternoon

As only children who went home to lunch had an opportunity of getting permission from their parents to attend, those obtaining

permission from their parents to attend and Children belonging to the Anglican Sunday School were permitted to attend. They were accompanied by their teachers and the remainder of the pupils were dismissed a quarter of an hour earlier than usual

19th November Annual examination held during the week.

Results very satisfactory

20th November Roll 89

Swimming season opened today in perfect weather Extra play hour given

22nd November Mr Strong Chief Inspector of Schools, visited the school today to inquire into methods of teaching Agricultural Science

23rd November Weather intensely hot

24th November Both boys and girls have had a daily swimming lesson during the week, one lesson being taken at drill and playtime and the other during the first half hour of the lunch hour

29th November Heavy rain caused a decrease in temperature after a period of intense heat. Completed seed sowing in school plots

Reports will be forwarded to parents next week

1st December The mildness of the weather has enabled the swimming course to be continued without interruption, and through a few of the children are holding back, the majority of them are keen on their daily swim, and are benefitting accordingly

The baths were emptied and cleaned today and there is now a good flow of water through the inlet pipes it is expected that they will be in readiness for Monday's Lesson

4th December Some of the desks that are in use at this school are a menace to the health of the children. They are of an obsolete pattern with narrow seats set widely apart from the upper part of the desk

We are obliged to use them as there are not sufficient of the newer type of desk to seat all the pupils, but I strongly object to their retention in the school

The school requires painting both inside and out as the walls are in a very dirty condition

4th December Weather today cold and wet. Swimming lesson not taken

5th December The children held a mock ballot today after a lesson given on General Elections

6th December The school is closed tomorrow for the general Election. The building is to be used as a polling booth

14th December This afternoon pupils of the school entertained their classmates at a concert which they had prepared and arranged themselves

15th December Mr Andrew who has kindly donated four prizes for gardening visited the school and judged the plots

Forwarded term reports to Parents

The Annual School picnic is to be held on Solway Showgrounds tomorrow. A sum of £18.15 has been subscribed and an energetic Committee of parents and friends of pupils is assisting the School Committee in making arrangements

The prizes won during the year are to be presented at the Picnic

- a) Dux of School Lena Woodley
- b) Proficiency Prizes Isobel McKenzie, Daphne Allen Lena Woodley, Marjory Woodley, David Gillespie
- c) Highest Class Mark
 - (i) Standard 5 Francis Traill
 - (ii) Standard 4 Jean Mannell
 - (iii) Standard 3 Margaret Barton
 - (iv) Standard Margaret Finlayson
 - (v) Standard 1 Margaret Mannell
- d) General Excellence Francis Traill
- e) Good Progress Jack Crawford, Jack Peters, Harold Taplin
- f) Good Conduct Jean Mannell and George Trail
- g) Arithmetic
 - (i) Standard 6 and 5 Isobel McKenzie
 - (ii) Standard 4 and 3 Jean Mannell
 - (iii) Standard 2 and 1 Murray Finlayson
- h) Drawing Senior Iris Wilton, Junior Archie Hubbard
- i) Writing Senior Bella Cockburn Junior Rose Graham
- j) Neatness Special Prize donated by the Head teacher
Senior Joan Allen: Junior Evelyn Phillipson
- k) Perseverance Senior (Special Prize donated by the head teacher – Joan Allen, Junior Evelyn Phillipson
- l) Sewing (Senior Silver Thimble donated by the head teacher)
,Teresa Wilton Juniors Gladys Harcombe
- m) Gardening (Prizes donated by Mr Andrew) Girls 1st Prize Emma Papps, 2nd Prize Teresa Wilton. Boys 1st Prize Jack Whiteman, 2nd Prize Noel Gouffe

n) Popularity (Vote of Pupils) Girls, Joan Allen, Boys Jack Taplin and David Carrick (Tie)

o) Athletics Girl: Nola Morgan, Boy Jack Whiteman

Attendance certificates were also issued

15th December This afternoon the children practised their school sports in preparation for tomorrow's picnic

Catalogued and repaired books in the school library

Closed school for summer vacation

A severe thunderstorm, accompanied by a torrential downpour of rain, occurred just after dismissal today

16th December The picnic was held as arranged; heavy rain set in at 2 O'clock, when an adjournment was made to the large produce hall. The Committee worked assiduously throughout the day, and a thoroughly enjoyable outing resulted

15th December Eleven pupils withdrawn. Roll number 78

1923

1st February Re-opened school today. Seven pupils entered, six withdrawn leaving a roll number of 79. Present 71

Mr Bates of the Agricultural Department inspected the competition mangold plots

2nd February The lawn mower which was missing yesterday was returned to the school before the opening today. But the wooden roller was missing from it, and the machine was in unsatisfactory order.

Extra Time was given today to endeavouring to tidy up the school garden, which presented a very neglected appearance after the long

vacation. The work was rendered difficult and progress slow by the unsatisfactory condition of the tools

Several panes of glass are broken in the glass house, and the cord on the flagpole has rotted and become detached

The key to the tool shed was mislaid by one of the children on the day that the school closed, and though we have searched thoroughly we have been unable to find it. Meanwhile we are able to enter the building through the window

5th February Roll number 81

10th February Received from the School Committee- Foolscape paper, 2 boxes slate pencils, 1 broom, washing soda

12th February Mr Mannell returned the lawn mowers to the school after they had undergone repairs. One is now in good order but the other is useless

13th February This afternoon was devoted to a tennis tournament amongst pupils of the school, and a very pleasant and instructive time was spent. Mr Gardner, probationer, made a very efficient umpire. After the tournament Mr Jaffray, a tennis enthusiast, and Mr Gardner gave an exhibition match which proved of great interest and I am sure will be helpful to pupils of the school

The girl champion of the school is Teresa Wilton, and the boy champion- Jack Taplin

14th February A photograph of the children was taken by Mr Wilton, Photographer of Masterton

By permission of the Secretary of the School Committee, Mr Burton, (The chairman, Mr Mannell, being absent from home). I left school today at 2 p.m. in order to be present at the opening of the Wairarapa High School

17th February Weather very hot during the week. Swimming lessons taken daily. The school bath is to be filled for Monday to enable the children to be instructed in, and to practice diving. The water is to be let down to the lower level on Monday night in order that beginners and smaller children may have a better opportunity of learning how to swim

22nd February A holiday was observed yesterday for the Masterton Show

23rd February Owing to cold weather swimming lessons were not taken on Tuesday and on Thursday

Received notification that Cookery and Woodwork Classes for pupils of this school are not to be held this year

23rd March A swimming lesson taken each morning from 11.30 – 12.30 in order to give extra practice for the swimming sports next Thursday

28th March two loads of stable manure for the school garden were delivered today

29th March The Annual School Swimming Sports were held this afternoon. The weather was all that could be desired, and there was a good attendance of friends and parents and friends of the pupils. The championship for the Girls was won by Peggy Hubbard and The Boy's Championship by Willis Hubbard. After the sports afternoon tea was served to the visitors, and the prizes presented the winners
The swimming season is closed

13th April An official from the Masterton Borough Council has been testing the water meter today

18th April A number of children are absent from school owing to illness. Severe colds are prevalent, especially among the junior classes, and one child is critically ill with pneumonia

23rd April Received one football from the Wairarapa Rugby Union

24th April Flag saluted and the children given a lesson on Anzac day. The school will be closed tomorrow

26th April Mr Cowles, Inspector, visited the school today. Owing to inclement weather and prevalence of colds the attendance was only two over half the roll number

1st May School Committee elected unopposed. Mr T R Mannell (Chairman), R J Barton (Secretary), A J Reynolds, D W Finlayson, ? A Keith.

Three pupils admitted. Roll number 90

8th May Attendance lowered through downpour of rain. Owing to roads being flooded Miss Ramsay was half an hour late for school

10th May Owing to an increase in flood waters, Miss Ramsay was again late

11th May A number of children unable to attend on account of floods
Roll 92

By permission of the chairman of the School Committee Miss Ramsay left school at 2.00

Special Practice of songs for the Masterton Competitions, have been held during the week and holiday practices have been arranged

29th May Reopened Roll 91

The children who took part in the singing contests at the Masterton Competitions last week practised well during the holidays. Unfortunately there was little competition in the school classes, but

the judge gave them good marks and awarded the Fly and Young Shield

1st June Owing to a severe gale raging this morning. I was unable to cycle, and consequently I did not arrive at school until a quarter past nine. Mr Gardner and Miss Ramsay were also late owing to the gale. Time was made up in the lunch hour

As a number of children are suffering from severe colds and one family from Yellow Jaundice the attendance during the week has been low

The children's' mangold plots were judged by Messrs Greenwood, Mckay and Smith on May 30th and their charts were completed today and forwarded to the Farmers Union Office Masterton

Lessons on the Empire, on the Flag and on our duties as citizens were given today, and the National Anthem was sung before the children were dismissed

Monday Next will be observed as a holiday for the King's Birthday
Received from the Wellington Education Board 1 school globe, 1 map of Europe,

1st June Commenced this week giving the children cocoa for lunch

11th June Received from Wellington Education Board Thermometer, mercury, pair of counter scales and from School Committee tea Towels, Nails, ink powder, foolscap, plain paper, blotting paper and scrubbing brush

15th June On the children's vote the following motto-United to Serve and the colours Grey and Gold were selected for the school

The children also decided to donate the prize money a sum of £3-12-0 won by the competitions to the school library

Roll number 89

22nd June Weather stormy, Snow fell during the afternoon

29th June Average attendance for quarter 44. Average roll 89, percentage of attendance 87%

The low percentage of attendance is disappointing as it makes the work extremely difficult and lowers the general of standard of work
Made up a school barometer

1st July The school was scrubbed and disinfected during the weekend

6th July The Playground is very muddy

20th July It has rained almost continuously throughout the week and the playground is a quagmire

The privilege of using Mr Perry's paddock as a football field has been withdrawn as the paddock is now required for sheep. Unless another ground can be obtained football practices will almost have to be discontinued

25th July A fine day after a months of rain. A small quantity of fire wood delivered. 100 sacks of coke were delivered to the school

Unable to take gardening as the ground is too wet

26th July Owing to wet weather we had to again postpone celebration of arbor Day as planned

27th July Weather exceptionally severe. Attendance only slightly over half the roll number

The chairman Mr Mannell visited the school to see if coke fires were proving a success. They are quite satisfactory except for boiling the fountain for the Children's cocoa. For this purpose more wood has to be used

3rd August As the probationer, Mr J Gardner, was ill today. I sent him home

6th August Mr Gardner is still absent through illness

Nearly every family attending the school is affected with influenza..

Today only 53 children were present out of a roll number of 88

7th August The school supply of firewood is exhausted

8th August As only 33 children out of a roll number of 88 assembled this morning the School Committee after consultation with the Secretary of the Wellington Education Board decided to close the school. This vacation will take the place of the usual term holiday

Before leaving six of the senior boys completed trimming the hedge

28th August School scrubbed during vacation

Roll number 92

Probationer absent attending Teacher's Certificate Examination

A load of firewood was delivered at the school during the vacation

6th September Roll 92. Mr Reynard , Inspector of Technical Schools visited the school today

14th September Received from School Committee during week a pot of paint and brush for tennis court

19th September A half holiday was given today by the School Committee to enable the children to attend the New South Wales V Wairarapa Football Match

21st September Eleggus hedge planted today to separate Boys' and Girls' playgrounds and to improve the appearance of the grounds

A Committee of members of the Farmer's Union and Others interested visited the school today at one o'clock to present prizes and certificates won by pupils of the school in the Schools Mangold Competition inaugurated by the Farmers Union. A very pleasant half hour resulted

The following was the list of Certificates and Prizes

School Plot 1st Prize

Pupils Plot Iris Wilton 1st (3rd in Wairarapa)

David Gillespie 2nd

Peggy Cockburn 3rd

Stuart Cockburn 4th

24th September A Tenant Mr Walter Watson took possession of the school residence on Saturday 22nd September

25th September The school was closed yesterday for Dominion Day. A short address was given to the children by the Head Teacher and the National Anthem was sung on the previous Friday Afternoon

27th September Roll 91

During the week a member of the police force visited the school to enquire about cupboard doors that had been stolen from the school residence. Entry had been made through a window, in which a cracked pane of glass had previously been broken by some miscreant in order draw back the window fastening, and thus secure admission to the building

Two members of the Masterton West School Committee paid a visit to the school to make enquiries concerning the school swimming bath and its control

2nd October Mr Cowles inspector inspected the school yesterday and today. Mr Barton Secretary School Committee attended to the school baths

4th October Miss Ramsay was absent from school this morning owing to illness in her family.

15th October Received from School Committee 1 cricket bat, 2 cricket balls, 1 tennis net, 1 small bottle oil

The School Committee also had four tennis racquets repaired

The School Committee has granted a holiday for the Wairarapa Show

23rd October A holiday was observed yesterday for Labour Day

Received from School Committee 5 shillings worth of garden seeds

Owing to supplies of seed coming to hand late, extra time was devoted to garden today

The School Committee has granted a holiday tomorrow for the Wairarapa Show

26th October In order to cultivate appreciation of good music, this afternoon was devoted to a gramophone concert. Mr W G Perry, Queen Street very kindly supplied a good Brunswick Gramophone, needles, and a number of records. The balance of the records was supplied by the Head Teacher. The programme was greatly appreciated by the children, many of whom remained after school hours to hear a number of items repeated.

Commenced practicing for a breaking up concert

Tennis and Cricket seasons opened this week

29th October One family absent suffering from German Measles

2nd November Received notice today from Mr Cowles that proficiency candidates are to be examined on Wednesday 9th November at 9 a.m. Candidates from Waingawa (*Kaituna*) and Solway are also to attend this school on this date

Accommodation has to be arranged for about 20 candidates

5th November Examined Standard 5 and 6 in Geography, History and Science. The annual examination of classes Ps to Standard 5 is to be conducted by the Head Teacher next week

Mr McKay supervisor of the competition plots arranged by the Farmers Union, delivered mangold seed and manures today. Swede seeds are to be delivered later

7th November Mr Cowles Inspector, examined this school, Proficiency candidates from Solway, Waingawa and Fernridge. Eleven candidates were presented from this school- six obtained proficiency, 1 endorsed competency, 2 competency and one was recommended for a free place in a technical school

12th November The swimming season was opened today

15th November Repairs made today to the roof and gutters of the school residence

16th November The lock of the back door had to be removed this morning as the key would not unfasten it. It has been out of order for months. The handle of the inner door to the infant door broken. The matter has been reported to the School Committee

Broken window cords in the infant room are also occasioning a good deal of inconvenience, as well as being a source of danger. This matter has also been reported to the School Committee

A pane of glass in a window of the Infant room was accidentally cracked by a junior boy during the week. This is the second window broken by the boy concerned and as the accident was the result of carelessness, he was reprimanded, and warned, that he will be expected to pay for any further damage resulting through carelessness

16th November Swimming Bath emptied and cleaned today

19th November received today one wall sheet of Wellington Education Board By- laws

The Wilson family returned to school, their period of isolation owing to measles having expired

Inspection Report October 1st Inspection included

- a) Head Teacher Miss K Campbell
- b) Miss K Campbell Grading 106 Roll 42
- c) L M Ramsay Grading 170 Roll 47
- d) Probationer Mr Gardner
- e) This school is under capable management
- f) The pupils are alert, careful and keen to work
- g) Instruction of Probationer satisfactory
- h) Ample provision is made for the comfort of children

23rd November Competition Mangold plots sown today

26th November The school piano was tuned by Mr Candy on Saturday November 24th. Arrangements have been made for Mr Candy to tune it twice a year. The cost will be £1-1-0 annum (*A Guinea*)

28th November The garden and lawn are suffering badly as a result of three week's dry weather, The children today watered the eleagnus hedge and the mangold plot from the water in the school bath

30th November Full list of promotions Two children in the senior classroom and one in the junior room failed to obtain promotions

A meeting was held in the schoolroom last Saturday Night to make arrangements for the annual school picnic. It was arranged that the picnic should be held on the Solway Showgrounds on Thursday 20th December

The school concert is to be held on Tuesday December 18th

1st December A Sunday School Concert is to be held in the school tomorrow (Saturday) night

3rd December The school swimming bath was emptied and cleaned. The work was delayed by the water from the outlet pipe soaking away very slowly

10th December Weather very hot and dry

A new handle was put on the Infant Room Door

14th December Swimming lessons taken regularly during the week Mr McCulloch visited the school in connection with the Swede and Mangold Competition plots

17th December The final practice for the school concert was held today. Mr Penistone improved the platform that had previously been erected, and all arrangements are now well in hand for tomorrow night's performance

18th December The children were sent home at two o'clock in order they might rest and be punctual for the concert at a quarter to eight tonight

Mr Mannell chairman of the School Committee brought seats out from the Methodist Sunday School Masterton arranged lights and a curtain, whilst the school staff, assisted by senior scholars, decorated the stage and arranged, wings, scenery etc

19th December The concert last night went off very successfully though arrangements were hampered by a lack of space, the building being crowded to overflowing

The children acquitted themselves very creditably

A collection in aid of the school library resulted in a sum of £7-8-10 being raised

At the conclusion of the programme presentations were made by the pupils to members of the teaching staff and the following prizes included

Dux of School Francis Traill

A huge list followed

The above prize list has been revised by the Head teacher in consultation with the Teachers

It is to be adhered to next year except that the attendance prizes are to be abolished and the special prize may not be given

Special prizes may be given by any donors who care to assist though they will not be especially invited to contribute

Today is our last school day for this year as the Annual School Picnic is to be held tomorrow

The school was cleaned up today after the concert, books were removed, desks scrubbed, and the garden put in order, as far as possible

The school sports programme was revised, entries were accepted and the children were given final instructions for tomorrow's outing

20th December the school picnic yesterday was a great success. The weather was ideal, and the members of the School Committee, parents and friends and members of the school staff worked assiduously to give the children a happy time

A sum of £16-19-1 was subscribed for the picnic

Mr J Gardner probationer severed his connection with the school today in order to enter the Training College

1924

5th February Reopened School today. Thirteen pupils admitted. Roll number 92 (Infant Room 47, Senior Classroom 45)

The school has been thoroughly cleaned during the vacation. A window in the spare classroom and two panes in the glass house have been broken

6th February Emptied and cleaned swimming baths

8th February Owing to insufficient supply of water, swimming lessons could not be taken until today

11th February On account of blockage in pipes water has ceased to flow into the swimming bath

21st February A holiday for Masterton Show

23rd February A boy in the senior classroom- Walter Watson has developed measles. As this is the first case of measles in the school, the family, who are living in the school residence are isolated

29th February The boys emptied and cleaned out the school swimming baths. No swimming lesson could be taken today

Received from Wellington Education Board 25 modelling boards and from School Committee nibs and soaps

7th March A commencement was made today with a bicycle shed for the boys

12th March Mr Dineen, Truant officer, visited the school today

Received from School Committee blotting paper, a hammer and nibs

14th March The school bicycle shed was completed during the week Owing to the severity of the weather swimming lessons could not be taken during the week and the Annual Swimming Sports which were to have been held next Saturday have been postponed

The Watson children have returned to school, their period of isolation has expired

Two boxes of books on loan from the District Schools Library were delivered at the school by Mr Jackson on 7th March

18th March Two carpenters were working yesterday and this morning repairing windows, doors etc, at the school The buildings now present a much neater appearance

A load of wood was delivered to the school yesterday

21st March A new axe handle was provided by the Committee Mr W H Jackson visited the school yesterday re school team entries in the Soldier's Sports

28th March The swimming sports were held yesterday in glorious weather. There was a good attendance of parents and friends of pupils

The girls championship was won by Mollie Evans. The Boy's by Mark Peters

At the conclusion of the Sports Programme tea was served to the visitors

The swimming season came to an end today

31st March The school is now graded a Class 3b school and will be entitled to another assistant teacher

Commenced practice of songs for Masterton Competition

4th April Miss Ramsay Assistant Teacher received official notice today of her transfer to Lyall Bay School. She is take her new duties on May 26th

Received from Wellington Education Board notice of alteration to school holidays

17th April By permission of the School Committee we made up time and dismissed the children at 2 p.m. to enable me to catch the afternoon train to catch the boat for the South

2nd May A telephone message was received a few minutes before three o'clock today notifying that the children's excursion to Wellington to visit the battleships Hood and Repulse would take place tomorrow

Received notice that Miss Stella Cairns and Miss McGrath who had been appointed to vacancies on the school staff would commence their duties after the Term Examination on 26th May

Monday is to be observed as a holiday in honour of the visit to Masterton of men of the fleet

5th May The excursion to Wellington on Saturday proved a great success notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather. Thirty eight pupils and 14 ex pupils made the trip and they were accompanied by two members of the school staff Misses Campbell and Ramsay and two members of the School Committee Messrs Finlayson and Reynolds

Mr W Andrew very kindly provided a motor lorry to convey children to and from the railway station

After inspecting the Battleship Hood a visit was made to the zoo. The children thoroughly enjoyed their outing

The annual meeting of householders is to be held tonight

6th May The following committee was elected last night. Messrs A Keith (Chairman) R J Barton (Secretary) A J Reynolds, D W Finlayson, T R Mannell

8th May Received from School Committee toilet paper

8th May Special singing practices held this week to prepare children for Masterton Competitions

9th May This afternoon a presentation of a travelling rug and an autograph book was made by the pupils and staff to Miss Ramsay who is leaving to take up duties at Lyall Bay

The presentation was made by Mr Keith, Chairman of the School Committee who on behalf of the Committee and parents expressed appreciation of Miss Ramsay's work during the three years she has been on the staff, and wished her every success in her new sphere. Messrs Mannell and Finlayson and the Head teacher also spoke in appreciative terms of Miss Ramsay's loyal service to the school. Miss Ramsay's successor, Miss Cairns and the new assistant Miss McGrath will take up their duties after the fortnight's Term Vacation which commences today. Roll number 27

26th May Miss Cairns Infant Mistress and Miss Hopkirk relieving assistant commenced duties today

Miss McGrath has been appointed to another position

Commenced giving children cocoa for lunch

At the Masterton Competitions held during the holidays our school was beaten in the shield Competition by 9 points

Solway School being the winning choir. The girls of our school won second prize for an action song.

2nd June The school will be closed tomorrow for the King's Birthday

6th June Received from School Committee 1 broom, 1 scrubbing brush, school nibs, 1 door mat

10th June Miss Blackburn and Mr Hopkirk Physical Training Instructors visited the school this afternoon and inspected and instructed the three school squads

11th June Mr Bates of the agricultural Department and several numbers of the local farmers' Union visited the school today in connection with the school Mangold and Swede Growing Competition. Competitors were motored during the afternoon to the various plots in the school district and the plots were judged and criticised

The yield per acre of each ascertained and helpful hints were given to the competitors

Three cords of manuka firewood which were delivered at the school last week, were sawn into two foot lengths today by Mr Millar

12th July This afternoon was devoted to the preparation of the charts in connection with the mangold and swede growing competitions

13th July Three children – The Power Family- are being withdrawn as they are being transferred to the Solway School

Very low attendance during the week in the week in the two junior class rooms owing to the epidemic of whooping cough

18th June Owing to the continuous wet weather the school playground is in a deplorable condition. Gravel or asphalt is badly required and numerous holes being required to be dug in

A defect occurred today in the drainage system in the boys' out office. The trouble, which has been developing for some time was not due to any carelessness on the part of the children

We are endeavouring to clear the obstruction

23rd June Plumbers are at work today at the septic tank system

25th June Repairs to the septic tank were completed today. The tank has been cleaned out and all the drains put in order, except one from the wash hands basins. Mr Joyce strongly recommended that this

drain should be connected with the septic tank system, in order to prevent water from flowing under the school as it is at present

27th June Miss Hopkirk relieving teacher left the school today in order to take up a position in Waverley

The Wellington Education Board notified that Mrs C Gibson is to commence relieving duties on Thursday 1st July

30th June School scrubbed in the weekend

1st July Mrs C Gibson relieving teacher commenced duties today

2nd July Attendance affected owing to children suffering from whooping cough, influenza and severe colds

Received notice from Wellington Education Board that Mr D Minogue has been permanently appointed to the to the school staff and is to take up his duties on 1st August

18th July Two loads of gravel delivered during week

23rd July A bookcase purchased by the School Committee was delivered today

Received thirty five shillings as prize money from the Masterton competition Society

24th July Returned books to Masterton District Schools Library

25th July Two further loads of gravel delivered spread by boys today

30th July A sum of £23-0-5 has been expended on school library books, a total of 169 books being procured. These books are now being catalogued and will be placed in the new bookcase.

Two boxes of books delivered by the mailman today from the District Schools Library

5th August I returned to school today after being absent on Thursday, Friday and Saturday owing to an accident when I was thrown from my bicycle and sustained slight concussion of the brain

5th August Mrs Gibson relieving teacher severed her connection with the school on Thursday and Miss L Weston who has been permanently appointed commenced her duties on Friday

5th August Mr Brockett agricultural instructor visited the school today

He brought supplies of seed for the school garden and the following tools: One pair hedge shears, 4 drag hoes, 3 push hoes.

8th August Weather yesterday and today bitterly cold and stormy Attendance low.

The senior classroom is leaking badly

11th August Attendance improving. Most of the children who were suffering from whooping cough have now returned, and the epidemic seems to have died away

Owing to illness Miss Weston was unable to attend school during this afternoon

The supply of firewood is exhausted

11th August At the Basketball Tournament held on the Wairarapa High School grounds on Saturday 26th August our school team was the winning team in the B grade

It has also proved itself the winning team in the B Grade competition team's round of matches

I presented the school with a new basketball

As Mr Perry required his paddock from the beginning of this month the boys are prevented from having regular practice in football. The children are greatly handicapped in their games owing to lack of sufficient playing space

12th August The school swimming bath which was left in order and full of water at the end of last swimming season was, upon inspection, today found to be empty though the plugs were intact

I was unable to ascertain how it became empty

21st August Dr Helen Bakewell and Nurse Patterson visited the school today. They spent the morning inspecting all pupils who were present

22nd August Notices were forwarded to parents of all pupils requiring medical attention

During the past month junior pupils of the school who require dental treatment attended at the Dental Clinic in Masterton

They were marked present on the school roll unless they were absent from school for more than a day

A supply of firewood 7 cords was delivered at the school today. It is to be cut and stacked in the shed on Monday

9th September School was scrubbed through the vacation

Roll number 94. Owing to her father's sudden death Miss Cairns is absent from school

10th September The School Committee has given permission to Miss Cairns to remain away from school until Wednesday September 17th Miss Weston and I can carry on during that period Standards 2, 1, Primer 1 classes being taught in the infant room

12th September received from School Committee the following, toilet paper, blotting paper, nails, soap, stable manure

19th September Two pupils admitted during weeks. Roll 96 Extra time given during the week to the school garden

24th September Mr Brockett, Agricultural Instructor visited the school today. Received medical certificates and instructions from Dr Bakewell

25th September Miss L Weston Assistant teacher, was absent from school today from a family bereavement

26th September Commenced treatment of children as instructed by Dr Bakewell

One family the Cockburns isolated as one of the children developed measles last weekend

29th September Another family the Grahams have developed measles. Strict isolation is being enforced

Roll 97

30th September A carpenter visited the school yesterday and today. He was acting under instructions

3rd October A carpenter acting under instructions from the Board is remodelling the boys shelter sheds. A new roof is being made to this and the woodshed

9th October Inspection report of 19th September included

- a) K Campbell graded 99 Head Teacher
- b) Roll 96
- c) A library of well selected books has been established
- d) The wall of the boys urinal requires attention

10th October received from School Committee 1 wrench, toilet paper

17th October Attendance this week exceptionally low as measles have now become epidemic

The carpenter completed repairs to the school buildings during the week, but the leak in the roof of the senior room has not been located

24th October Nearly every family in the school has now been affected but isolation according to the Health Department's regulations is still being enforced

Only five pupils of the 12 proficiency candidates are now able to attend school

24th October Owing to the bereavement in her family Miss Cairns left school a little earlier than usual

30th October Today only 36 pupils out of a roll number of 96 are present. A number have attended the Wairarapa A and P show and others are absent through illness

31st October Owing to children suffering from measles and from whooping cough the attendance on six half days out of the eight on which the school was open was less than half the roll number

Owing to irregularity of attendance our proposed school concert was abandoned

A carpenter inspected the roof this morning. It has rained heavily all day

7th November Examined Standard 5 and 6 in Geography, History and drawing

17th November Commenced annual examination of Standard 3 and 4

19th November Examined Standard 1 and 2 Junior Classroom

21st November Concluded examination of pupils who were present during the week, but a number who are still absent, will have to be examined at a later date

Two pupils from Waingawa and twelve from school are to attend proficiency examination at this school on November 26th

28th November As the attendance in the senior classroom today was low Mr Brockett's test in Agriculture was not set, as planned. It will be taken next Monday and pupils who were absent from the Annual examination will be examined next week

28th November The swimming season was opened on Monday 24th and lessons were given each day, excepting Wednesday the date of the proficiency examination

1st December Ten pupils in senior classroom absent today. Two of them absent through illness- the others were kept at home to assist in work

Mr Brockett's examination test in agriculture was set today

2nd December Examined today pupils who were absent from the annual examination in November

The Centre Level recently placed in the swimming bath by the Committee has given a much better depth of water for practising, and we find it of great assistance when giving lessons in swimming

5th December Mr Austin, Manual and Technical School Inspector and Mr Brockett Agricultural Instructor visited the school yesterday Practised school sports from 1 to 3 today

Received from School Committee two cricket balls

8th December Grass boy's playground was mown on Saturday

Weather today too chilly for swimming

11th December Special lesson in school garden taken today

Mr Candy tuned the piano today

Three pupils Standard 1 -3 failed to obtain promotion

15th December Arrangements are now well in hand for the Annual School Picnic which is to take place at the Solway Showgrounds next Saturday

18th December Owing to exceptionally wet weather during the week it has been impossible to complete the work planned in the school garden

19th December Closed today for the summer vacation

Owing to an exceptionally heavy flood Miss Weston and I were both unable to get to school at 9.00 today I was delayed by a taxi not arriving at the specified hour and Miss Weston had to wait for flood waters to subside

The chairman of the School Committee- Mr Keith- visited the school during the afternoon and as it was still raining heavily and the flood had not subsided, it was decided to hold the picnic tomorrow in the schoolroom. This necessitated altering the sport's programme previously arranged, and during the afternoon an hour was devoted to preparing the school for this change

Eight pupils withdrawn, leaving a roll number of 86

20th December The annual school picnic was held today in the school. Rain fell heavily and continuously but there was a good attendance of children and parents. The School Committee had the arrangements well in hand and they together with the parents and the school staff worked hard to make the day the happy one it was for the children

A sum of £17-19-9 was subscribed for the picnic and of this amount the sum of £7-16 was expended on toys, books etc as prizes for the winners of school sports

A sum of £6-4-11 (Not picnic funds) was spent on the Annual School Prizes

Included in the Annual Prize list

Was Dux Jean Mannell

Two pages of prizes listed

1925

Owing to the prevalence of Infantile paralysis schools throughout New Zealand did not reopen at the beginning of the month and they are to remain closed until further notice

The school staff spent the day at school in order to plan the year's work

Timetables were arranged. Schemes are to be completed in our homes but the Friday prior to the opening of school is to be spent at the school in order to have everything in order for the commencement of the year's work

23rd February A refresher course for teachers was held during the past week at the Masterton Central School

6th March An assignment of work drawn up by the local Head Teacher was published in the Masterton papers. A fair number of pupils responded and papers forwarded to me were corrected and returned

12th March At a meeting today the Lansdowne School a 2nd assignment of work was drawn up, but as the Wellington Education Board assignment was published this was withdrawn

16th November As it was notified that the schools were still to remain closed, we drew up a scheme today for our own school and decided to give the children individual work

20th March Mon and Tues were spent at the school. All papers were corrected and returned and the week's assignment of work was delivered to all students

Wednesday and Friday were devoted to visiting pupils who required help and giving them the necessary tuition

The Committee decided to purchase a duplicator to aid in getting out the assignments of work and to expend £15 in the purchase of books for the children

Acting on instructions from the chairman of the Committee I went to Wellington on Thursday to select the duplicator and the books

The following books were purchased

- a) 3 dozen Atlases
- b) 3 Dozen Dictionaries
- c) 2 Dozen English Composition (Pickles)
- d) 2 Dozen The Pioneers
- e) 2 Dozen Tales of the Maori

As the children are to be provided with the above books free the Committee scheme will give relief to parents and the books will be very helpful to the children

The school is being painted on the outside, and the outbuildings are being painted

23rd March Today spent in correcting work forwarded by pupils. Only two children failed to respond, and a visit will be paid to them during the week

27th March On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday work was corrected and returned with full explanations, new assignments of work and books supplied by the Committee were distributed

Thursday and Friday were spent in visiting and assisting pupils in need of guidance

The following handwork material was forwarded by the Wellington Education Board

Cardboard, 3 sheet 144, Coloured 144, 9 cutting boards, 1 lb gum Arabic, 3 coils tape (adhesive) Paper 4 inch 1500 sheets, brown paper, 500 sheets, 4 boxes coloured chalk

Mr Brockett visited the school on the 24th and delivered the Education Board's New Syllabus of Science. The school scheme for the year had been arranged but as it is expected that the new syllabus of work will be followed a fresh plan will be made out

27th March Yesterday a memo was received from the Wellington Education Board notifying that the inspectors had visited some schools and found them closed and advising that all teachers are to be on duty for the full school day

I am writing to the Chief Inspector asking for permission for members of the staff to be away from the school, during school hours, when visiting and assisting pupils in their own homes

When making such visits teachers do not enter the homes of pupils but instruct the children either on a verandah or outdoors

30th March All pupils belonging to the school are now sending in their work regularly and in most cases honest effort is being made

31st March Yesterday and today spent by school staff in correcting papers, writing helpful notes and preparing and delivering new assignments

The painter finished the outside painting today

1st April Received notice today in reply to my query that the interior of the school is to be painted

Also received a reply that the Board approve of my plan of visiting children in order to aid them in their work

3rd April As the painter was only temporarily disengaged and the inside painting of the school was likely to be postponed. I wired the Board and the painter was instructed to paint the interior of the school Accordingly we cleared the Infant Room in order that no delay might be occasioned

The school grounds now present a rather disorderly appearance, and one would hardly believe that everything was left in satisfactory condition prior to the closing of the school for the summer vacation

6th April The Education Board notified that teachers were to be released from the 7th to 14th Inclusive

The painting of the Infant Room was completed at noon

The school staff spent today moving back the furniture and clearing the other two classrooms

Papers forwarded by pupils were corrected and those of the senior classes will be returned tomorrow

14th April In order to have the school ready for the reopening tomorrow Miss Cairns and I spent this afternoon in putting the classrooms in order. The painter completed his work this afternoon Received from the School Committee disinfectant and sawdust for use in sweeping school floors

15th April Reopened school today. All pupils excepting two families who are afraid of the epidemic spreading have returned to school

Sixteen pupils withdrawn as they have left the district and eight admitted making a present roll of 78. It now seems certain that the school will fall a grade.

17th April The children are settling down well to their work after their long vacation

28th April Received from Wellington Education Board 40 coloured colour drawing books

1st May The school fences are in a very bad order and as a result sheep are constantly trespassing on the school grounds

The boys nailed up the fences on the day that school reopened, but as the boards are rotten the sheep in the adjoining paddock immediately pushed them off again. I have quite decided that it is a waste of time to permit the children to effect any further repairs as the whole of the fences require renewing

1st May A number of children attending the school are suffering from severe colds

On the present roll of 80 it will be quite impossible to prevent the school from falling a grade

Before sweeping the school floors they are now sprinkled with sawdust soaked in disinfectant and this method has proved very effective in settling the dust nuisance

4th May During the weekend sheep from neighbouring paddock trespassed in the school garden and very effectively cleaned up the children's mangold plot

5th May Owing to the exceptionally rough weather, there was only a small attendance at the Householder's meeting last night

The same Committee was elected. Mr A Keith, Mr R J Barton Secretary, Messrs Finlayson, Mannell and Reynolds

16th June, Special report of the Board's Architect on the school residence

- a) Six rooms (small), scullery, bathroom, washhouse and WC detached and was erected in 1879 So is now 46 years old
- b) The outside weatherboarding is fairly sound but the inside timbers are affected with borer The four back rooms were originally match lined and varnish finished but have since been scrimmed and papered
- c) The back portion of the building being a lean to is very low
- d) The construction of the roof, together with its age makes it difficult to keep weatherproof
- e) The windows are small and perished
- f) As a teacher's residence the building is an unsuitable one
- g) Three former teachers have complained that the residence e=was responsible for their furniture being affected by borer
- h) To remodel would cost about £700 † The building does not lend itself to remodelling Therefore I recommend that it be sold for removal and the area thrown into the girl's playground

11th November Owing to the death of the Prime Minister- Mr Massey- instructions were issued that all schools were to be closed today and on Thursday the day of the Funeral

Accordingly the children were assembled this morning, given a short address by the Head Teacher and then dismissed

Mr Barton Secretary of the School Committee repaired the school fences last Saturday

15th May The school was closed yesterday for the Prime Minister's Funeral. A number of the children, accompanied by their teachers, attended the memorial Service in Masterton

The school team played a Basketball match this afternoon and defeated the visiting tea from the Central School by 28-0

22nd May Children commenced putting lawn in order, trimming hedges, and weeding gravel round school. Pupil's mangold plots judged today

1st June Received from Wellington Education Board 50 lbs of modelling clay

4th June A holiday was observed today for the King's Birthday

5th June received from School Committee 1 bucket (for holding modelling clay), 1 enamel bucket (First Aid Equipment)

The dental nurse visited the school this afternoon and inspected the teeth of children in Classes Ps, 1,2 and 3

15th June Weather today exceptionally wet and cold. The senior classroom is still leaking badly

18th June Today the weather was bright and sunny, and as there had been continuously wet weather for about five weeks I gave the children an hour's play from 11 to 12 a.m. The time was devoted to organised games

19th June Received from Wellington Education Board 3 bundles of coloured raffia, 13 Copies "Stories from Andersen", 18 copies Swiss Family Robinson, 8 Copies Coral Island

26th June Weather during the week very wet.

The children attended well for their term examination

Two pupils who were absent through illness are to be examined when they return as they may be fit for promotion to a higher standard

One child in Primer 3 is being promoted to Standard 1 and one in Standard 1 to Standard 2. In both cases the children are old for their class. Very satisfactory progress has been made in all classes

Eight pupils withdrawn – roll number now 75

29th June The school was scrubbed during the weekend

The present method of sweeping using sawdust soaked in disinfectant is proving very satisfactory

Work in the school garden viz hedge trimming etc is being delayed by the continuously wet weather

The school fence is again falling over, and the garden fence is insecure

3rd July Herbert Wellington a Standard 6 pupil who had been selected as on the Wairarapa School Football Representatives; had the misfortune to break his collar bone whilst taking part in a practice match on the park oval yesterday afternoon. This will prevent his playing again this season

Heavy rain has fallen during the week. The senior classroom is leaking badly, and one of the boys' playsheds has been useless all the winter owing to a leaking roof

The children who entered completed and forwarded their Mangold Competition Charts

8th July Received from School Committee 2 boxes school nibs, 2 axe handles, 6 bars of soap

16th July Received from Wellington Education Board the following 6 test tubes, 2 ounces Iodine Solution, 4 ounces Nitric Acid (Concentrated) 1 bottle each Fehling's solution 1 and 2 28 lbs Lime, 6 lbs superphosphate, 6 lbs Sulphate of Ammonia, 6 lbs of Potash

And a huge range of plant seeds listed

17th July As today was the first fine day we had for some weeks I gave the children an extra ½ hours extra play

Received from Mr W Andrew three books to be awarded for competitions in Rugby between Solway and Fernridge Schools

17th July Department wants to know how much has been spent on the residence in the last 10 years Reply £130/12/6d

30th June The boys entering in the Football Competitions were judged this afternoon by Messrs and Scott The winners from this school were as follows

- a) Dribbling the ball Hubert Barton
- b) Place Kicking Stuart Cockburn
- c) Drop Kick Frank Gillespie

These boys have now to compete against three boys from Solway School

31st July Weather during the week beautifully fine. Advantage taken of this to celebrate Arbor Day and to do extra work in the garden Received from the Wellington Education Board a memo re falling attendance and a request for information in respect of this

The drainage of the boys' out office has been unsatisfactory during the week and I am reporting the matter to the Committee

5th August Mr Andrew notified that he had decided to give three extra prizes in the football competition. He therefore visited the

school in the afternoon and presented the winners from this school with a book each

Mr Andrews has donated a cup for the B Grade Basketball teams. As the Fernridge School team was the winning team in the season's round of matches it will hold the cup for this year

14th August Received from the Wellington Education Board seed potatoes

Received an offer from the Wellington Education Board of a transfer to Paekakariki School as this school is falling a grade

Received from Wellington Education Board 20 copies each of Westward Ho and The Gorilla Hunters

Inspection Report Received for 29th July

- a) K Campbell Ranked 94 Standard 4,5 6, 30 children
- b) L F J Weston , 221, Standard 2,3 23 children
- c) E S U Cairns, 192 Primers Standard 1, 26
- d) Buildings of old type but in a satisfactory state

31st August Reopened School today

Roll 86

I declined to accept a transfer to Paekakariki School and I have since been notified by the Board that unless the attendance recovers during the year I shall be reduced in grade three months from that date

We are making a special effort to enrol all pupils in the district of school age and to induce children to attend regularly whenever their health permits

14th September Messrs Barton and Reynolds, members of the School Committee cut back trees in the playground on Saturday to make a

clearance of electric wires. The children cleared away part of the Debris today

15th September Mr Brockett Agricultural Instructor, visited he school today. Extra lessons are being taken in the school garden this week as the work lately has been very much delayed owing to inclement weather

c The application to remove the residence is declined by the department because they think the Wellington Education Board wasn't a new one built

15th September Mr Mannell delivered two loads of manure for the garden the Committee supplied 25 flower pots for the glass house

25th September The weather has been exceptionally stormy during the past four days. A portion of the school fence was blown over by the wind. A number of children are still absent suffering from influenza

19th September Board respond they don't want to build another residence

30th September Low average due to epidemic of Influenza It is quite certain now that the school will fall a grade

14th October A family attending the school has developed chicken pox. The health Departments regulations regarding infectious diseases are being strictly observed as far as this school is concerned and school members of the family affected are not permitted to attend school

15th October Employees of the Wairarapa Electric Power Board cut back some of the trees in the school playground

This was necessary as the trees were in the way of the power line, but unfortunately whilst lopping them damage was done to the new bicycle shed

16th October A leak occurred today in one of the school water pipes and the water had to be turned off at the meter Owing to the prevalence of influenza and chicken pox the attendance during the week was very low.

Distributed seed, manure, and instructions to children who have entered in the Schools' mangold Crop Competitions

Cricket season and tennis season opened this week

27th October Yesterday labour day was observed as a holiday

30th October A holiday was observed yesterday for the Wairarapa A and P Associations annual show

Another family has developed chicken pox

3rd November Received from School Committee the following foolscap paper, toilet paper, 2 boxes nibs

The school closes tomorrow for polling day for the general election.

This building is being used as a polling booth

13th November Many children still absent through illness. Average attendance for the past week 70

18th November Members of the Farmers' Unions visited the school today and distributed prizes won by pupils who entered in last year's Mangold Growing Competition

23rd November News was received on Saturday that the Queen Alexandra has passed away

The Queen's death was alluded to at the opening session, but as the cord of the flagpole has not yet been renewed we were unable to hoist the flag at half mast, as is usually done on such occasions

Miss Weston received notice that she would be transferred to another school from February 1st; owing to this school having fallen in grade

I received notification that a case of scarlet fever had occurred in the district. The patient was under school age, but three members of the family who were attending school are isolated according to the Health Department

24th November Dr Barclay and a nurse visited the school today in order to record weights and measurements of pupils in Standard 2,3,4,5,6

27th November Work was suspended for 20 minutes at 11 O'clock today, the occasion being the funeral of Queen Alexandra. The children were assembled in the infant room and an address on the Life of Queen Alexandra was given by the Head Teacher

Extra time was devoted to the school garden this week

The swimming bath was cleaned and filled today in preparation of the opening of the swimming season next week

1st December The swimming season was opened today, Owing to changeable weather this is a month later than usual, and though the weather today was warm there are still small patches of snow on the hills

There are 62 children in the school swimming, comprising pupils in Standard 1 -6 and every pupil, when weather permits, has a daily swim

Miss Weston has been offered a position in Manakau

Mrs Gawith Senior has donated £1 towards the school prize fund

4th December Received Notice from Education Department that attainment tests were to be forwarded in time for pupils of standard 3,4,5 and 6 to commence work on them at 9 a.m. 9th December

4th December The proficiency examination was held at this school; by Mr Burns Inspector. This being a centre for Pupils of Waingawa (*Kaituna*) Fernridge and Matahiwi School. Ten pupils from this school were presented and of these six obtained proficiency two endorsed Competency and one competency certificate

9th December As the department's tests did not arrive by mail yesterday I called at the Post Office in the afternoon but I was informed they had not come to hand. This information was evidently incorrect for on examining the parcel I found that it had been brought forward to Masterton by the midday express. It was delivered at the school today by the mailman at 11 a.m.- too late for the children to work the tests today. I wired the Director of Education informing him of the delay, and that the examination would be held tomorrow

10th December This morning an accident occurred to May Graham who fell from a bicycle and sustained a rather severe cut on the knee. First Aid was rendered at the school, she was then taken home, the services of a doctor obtained and several stitches had to be put in the wound

This accident rather upset the children and it delayed work at the attainment tests until 10.00, consequently the children had to continue work until 4 p.m. in order to complete the tests

11th December Miss Cairns and I worked for five hours last night correcting and marking the Department's tests as instructed but failed to complete the work We were asked to post the results today,

but as the corrections kept us both employed for ten hours today, I was only able to post results in time to catch the mail train on 12th December

I wrote to the director of Education explaining the delay

15th December The weather is hot and dry, and swimming lessons are being taken regularly

Roll 86

15th December As there seemed no prospect of rain the children drenched their gardens with water from the school swimming bath. Next morning they loosened the soil and put on a mulch of manure from the wool scouring works. The gardens are left in good order for the holidays

16th December This afternoon a Christmas Tree was provided to the children by the members of the School Staff.

Every child was given a gift from the tree and the little folks thoroughly enjoyed the visit of Father Christmas. We are indebted to Mr Barton Secretary of the School Committee for supplying the tree for the occasion

17th December Arrangements are now well in hand for the Annual School Picnic which is to be held at the Solway Showgrounds tomorrow. A sum of £14:19:6 has been subscribed by Parents and Friends

A programme of school sports has been drawn up, and the children put through their paces this afternoon in readiness for the occasion

A sum of £5-13 has been expended on school prizes in addition to the following donations

Mrs Gawith £1, Mr Barton £1, Miss Campbell 5 books and a silver thimble, Miss Cairns 3 Books

A sum of £8-4 has been expended on prizes and gifts for the Picnic Sports

As today is really breaking up day so that the school was cleaned and the desks scrubbed

Prior to dismissal School Staff and the pupils assembled in the infant room where a short address was given by the Head teacher. The children surprised their teachers by presenting each of them with a very nice gift, and Miss Weston, who is severing her connections with the school owing to it having fallen in grade was farewelled with musical honours and hearty cheers

Dux of School Stuart Cockburn

All the promotions and other prize winners listed on three pages

Prizes normally donated by Mr Andrew for Best Gardens were not given this year though no notification was given of their withdrawal until the day before the presentation of prizes.

There was no apparent reason for the withdrawal and as I consider that the Prize List should remain unchanged unless the children are notified at the beginning of the year, I suggest that in future gardening prizes be not awarded

18th December The Annual School Picnic took place today at the Solway Showgrounds, Members of the School Committee, school staff, parents and friends worked hard to make the outing a pleasant one for the children and their efforts were crowned with success. In the school sports the winner of the Girl's Championship was Molly Peters and of the Boys' Championship Herbert Wellington

During the afternoon the annual school prizes and the Sports Prizes were presented to the winners by the chairman of the School Committee Mr A Keith

Present Roll number 78

As several pupils have intimated that they may be transferring to the Whatman Orphanage School after the holidays it seems probable that the roll number of this school may be reduced The school has fallen a grade and next year will be a two teacher school

1926

26th January Report of Department's architect and says in detail that the house should remain as soon as a married teacher is appointed there will be a demand for another house to be built. This report less severe though still critical than the Wellington Education Board report

1st February School reopened today Roll numbers 37 in the Junior Room and 45 in the Senior Room

A number of pupils absent as they made a mistake re the opening date

School reorganised under two teachers

2nd February All except 4 pupils returned today

5th February Six pupils withdrawn two admitted, roll number 78.

Received from School Committee paint for tennis court, a supply of sawdust for sweeping purposes, nails

The school swimming bath was cleaned and refilled

Weather changeable and cold so swimming could not be taken during the week

12th February Weather cold and wintry so swimming could not be taken

Received from the Wellington Education Board

- a) 50 brushwork books
- b) 50 boxes of crayons
- c) 3 boxes of white chalk
- d) 2 boxes of coloured chalk
- e) 144 sheets of white cardboard
- f) 144 sheets of coloured cardboard
- g) 9 cutting boards
- h) -1/s lb gum Arabic
- i) 3 spools of tape
- j) 1000 sheets of 6 inch paper
- k) 1500 sheets 4 inch paper
- l) 500 1,2,3,4,5, sticks
- m) 3 lb raffia

12th February The boys marked off the tennis court

Mr Finlayson Member of the School Committee renewed the cord on the school flagpole

18th February A holiday was observed yesterday for the Masterton Show

19th February The School Committee supplied a new clock for the Infant Room and a supply of nails

26th February Received from the Wellington Education Board – modelling clay

The work of re tarring the school tennis court was commenced yesterday

Roll 76

Swimming taken regularly during the past fortnight, excepting yesterday when the weather was cold. Good progress is being made, but as the nights are now growing chilly, the season promises to be a

short one. It is hoped that the fine weather will continue in order that swimming sports may be held early in March

5th March Emptied and cleaned the school baths today in preparation for swimming sports which are to be held next week

8th March As there was only a foot of water in the swimming bath and it was filling very slowly it was decided that sports could not be held this week

‘10th March The bath was filled today (Wednesday)

11th March Mr Bird senior inspector visited the school today

Strong winds have been experienced during the week and one of the trees which I reported on some time ago to the School Committee is now leaning in a dangerous position towards the school building

11th March The School Committee have supplied a number of books to save expense to parents

Included 4 Dozen nature study books, 3 dozen graph books, 6 copies of Tales of Maori

The school is now well provided with suitable English Books and this should materially assist in raising the standard of English throughout the school

12th March We had planned to hold our Annual Swimming Sports this week, but difficulty was supervised in filling the school bath

19th March The swimming sports were held yesterday afternoon, time being made up by working an extra half hour each night during the week. The weather was glorious and there was a good attendance of parents and friends

The children acquitted themselves very creditably, the winners of the championships being May Mannell the Girls and Alan Laing the

Boys. After the sports the children entertained their visitors to afternoon tea at conclusion of which the prizes were distributed

22nd March An error which unfortunately occurred in marking the competitors in the Championship Events at the swimming sports was corrected by the judge and in the Girl's championship the award was given to Joan Laing with 8 ½ points. May Mannell being runner up with 8 points

The boy's championship remained unaltered

26th March A lorry load of firewood was delivered at the school on Wednesday Night

31st March Wood sawn up and stacked in shed

Closed swimming season and filled school swimming bath for the season

Two pupils withdrawn temporarily under Doctor's orders

7th April A man began topping trees in the school playground

9th April An hour and a half this afternoon devoted to relaying the basket ball field, painting the lines on the tennis court, which was recently re asphalted and repairing the lawn We ran short of paint, and though the children worked hard, the work undertaken was not completed

The basketball and Football teams are very much handicapped owing to insufficient playing space.

Mr Andrew has offered 4 prizes for competitions in Football
Wairarapa Rugby Association donated a ball

16th April Roll 76

23rd April Miss Blackbourne, Physical Training Instructor, paid a special visit today and gave the children a lesson in folk dancing.
Anzac celebrations taken during the afternoon

30th April The man employed to cut back the school trees completed his work this week, but trees near the front of the school, close to the electric power line were not cut back

I had vegetation close to the school residence cut away. No injury was being done to the building by vegetation growing near though the Education Board instructed me to have vegetation removed

The building is affected by borer and is in a state of disrepair, but the Board has declined to dismantle it, or to give me any relief in regard to the £40 a year house allowance I am deprived. As a building such as this residence is would attract an undesirable class of tenant. I have given up all idea of letting it again

The only entry to it is through the school playground

Now that the Whatman School has been established, and its boundaries which curtail the original boundaries of this school, have been definitely fixed by the Wellington Education Board it is probable that this school will not rise in grade

30th April Mr Reynolds has kindly permitted the boys to use his paddock for football practice.

3rd May The Annual Meeting of Householders is to be held tonight (Weather exceptionally rough)

13th May Mr A Rigg gave the children a short address today on Loyalty to our town, our country, our Empire

14th May Strong gales, heavy rain and floods have been experienced during the last fortnight. The roof of the Senior Classroom still leaks
Sent out term reports to parents

1st June commenced supplying cocoa for children's lunch

2nd June Hoisted school flag and gave the children a short address on Empire Day

4th June Yesterday- the King's Birthday observed as a holiday.
8th June At the Householders meeting last night the following Committee Messrs Flannery, Horton, Welch, Graham and Jones
18th June Influenza and severe colds
25th June One family isolated as a case of measles occurred in the household
29th June The School Football Club presented Mr Hall, Solway School with a book as a small memento in recognition of assistance given to enable boys to compete in matches
Mr Andrew tested the boys and awarded prizes to the value of £1.5
The winners were Henry Jones 3 prizes value 15/-, Ray Gorringer 1 prize of 5/- and Murray Finlayson 1 prize of 5/-
5th July Weather bitterly cold Attendance improved, though a number of children are still absent owing to illness
Children's mangold plots judged today
9th July Received from School Committee 1 tin ink powder, 3 boxes nibs, 1 dozen marking pencil, ½ dozen writing pads, 5 quires of foolscap, 6 bars Barilla Soap, 1 dozen toilet rolls.
9th July At a meeting of the School Committee held last Thursday night Mr Horton was elected chairman and K Campbell (*Teacher*) Hon Secretary of the School Committee for the ensuing year
23rd July Miss Cairns spent part of yesterday afternoon at the Masterton Central School in order to observe Miss Hirst's lessons to in infants in Eurythmics. (*a system of rhythmical physical movements to music used to teach musical understanding (especially in Steiner schools) or for therapeutic purposes, evolved by Émile Jaques-Dalcroze*)
30th July Messrs Horton and Graham members of the School Committee topped trees close to the school building during the week

The epidemic of influenza has not yet died down and the attendance this week has been even lower than usual
9th August A pupil of the school is isolated owing to an attack of chicken pox
10th August Attendance very seriously affected by an epidemic of influenza
18th August The school reopened today after being closed for one week owing to both teachers being ill with influenza. About one third of the children attending the school have been absent daily during the past fortnight on account of the influenza epidemic which has now affected nearly all the children. The attendance has been exceptionally low since the May Vacation illness being the cause
Miss Cairns has been absent from school for six days and I have been absent for five
18th August Two loads of manure supplied by the Committee for the school garden
20th August Attendance during the past three days exceptionally low owing to illness
16th September A heavy fall of snow occurred today
12th October Mr Brockett spent the morning at the school. He gave a lesson on the composition of air.
13th October Received from School Committee 1 ½ dozen graph books and from the Education Board 6 packets of Mangold seed and 6 lbs of manure
15th October Miss Cairns was absent yesterday afternoon and this morning attending an examination
18th October The member for the District Mr Sykes, and representatives of the Farmers' Union, Agricultural Department and

ent Press visited the school this afternoon to present prizes won by pupils in the Mangold growing competition

Prizes were awarded to Iris Wilton, Hugh Millar and Frederick Skeet

19th October The senior pupils accompanied by their teacher paid a visit this morning to a local flower garden (Mrs Johnston) in order to a splendid display of choice tulips

The 42 pupils who took part in this outing, left the school at 10.30 a.m. and arrived back at Noon

20th October Miss Cairns was absent from school on the morning of 18th October the afternoon of the 19th and this morning to sit an examination

26th October A holiday was observed yesterday for Labour Day

29th October Received from the Agricultural Department mangold seeds and manures for competition plots

A holiday was observed yesterday for Wairarapa Show

1st November Roll 76

The severe gale which raged yesterday blew down several large limbs of trees in the school playground. One struck the girls' out office and damaged the roof of the building. The school fence on the Western side was blown over, a tank, belonging to the residence had the lid blown off and battered and a chimney in the residence, which has been in a state of disrepair for several years, is now in a very unsafe condition'

A partial blockage in the drainage of the boys' out office is giving considerable trouble and the caretaker has, so far, been unable to remove the obstruction

2nd November Dr Morgan, Medical Officer and Miss Wallace, school nurse spent several hours today examining the children

3rd November The plumber spent part of the morning attending to the school drains. He found a pine cone wedged in the drain and he considered that the obstruction had been there for several months. Evidently a small boy had lifted the drain cap and dropped the cone in. The boys have now been freshly warned that they must to in any way tamper with the drainage or water supply

5th November Mr Blackie Inspector examined the school yesterday Standard 6 proficiency candidates had their final examination but they are not to be told their results until the end of the year

21st November Mr Welch installed the new school letter box and Mr Horton had trees that were blown down by the recent gale removed

12th November The boys cleaned out the school swimming bath today in preparation for the swimming season, but the weather is till to changeable to permit the course to commence

22nd November Though water is flowing into the swimming bath at the usual rate, there is still at present only a foot of water in the bath and the level is not rising

Evidently there is soakage from the bottom of the bath

The weather today is glorious but it will now be impossible to open the school swimming season as arranged.

23rd November Whilst cleaning out the outlet trap of the swimming bath today, the boys discovered a small hole near the lowest outlet plug

A firm of plasterers inspected the bath today and reported that as well as water escaping through the hole discovered by the boys, there was evidence of abundant soakage through cracks in the

bottom of the bath and they recommended that the whole of the floor should be plastered. The cost of this would be about £17:10 and they were to discuss the matter with Mr Horton Chairman of the School Committee .

26th November a sum of £1:3 was forwarded to the organ fund of the Blind Institute in Auckland this amount being donated by the pupils and staff of the school for this purpose

29th November A cold snap set in on Friday when there was a hail storm. Exceptionally cold rough weather has been experienced over the week end it still continues

As a result 16 children were absent from school today

30th November A meeting of the School Committee is to be held tonight

An interesting book on 60 ships was donated by the Navy League

3rd December The school swimming bath was temporarily repaired today and it is to be filled on Monday

10th December The school bath was filled rather slowly, but the weather has not been suitable for opening the swimming season until today when only a small percentage of pupils indulged in the first swim

14th December Swimming taken today; also practice for school sports arranged for the school picnic next Friday

15th December The afternoon the children farewelled Miss Cairns who is severing her connection with the school as she is to be married shortly. Jack Peters on behalf of the pupils presented Miss Cairns with a silver teapot, a butter knife and jam spoon

General regret is felt at Miss Cairn's departure for she has endeared herself to all during her stay in our midst

A presentation of a picture was also made to the Head Teacher by the children

A number of the children have been visiting the dental clinic this week. Their absence from school for varying periods has caused a good deal of inconvenience, as prizes are being allotted, and sports practices are being held.

16th December The grass in the school playground was cut today and wood which was sawn up, was stacked in the shed by the children

The school is closing for the summer vacation this afternoon as the Annual Picnic is to be held tomorrow

Before dismissal each child was presented by the members of the school staff with a small book and a bag of sweets

Inspectors report of 4th November included

- a) Miss K Campbell ranked 91 Standard 3-6 40 on roll
- b) Miss E S Cairns Ranked 184 Infant Mistress Primers Standard 2 - Primers Roll 35
- c) Order discipline, tone very good
- d) The attendance on the day of my visit was very good; but for the previous two quarters the prevalence of epidemics has caused considerable irregularity
- e) Both teachers are earnest and thorough in their teaching and where the work has not reached the required standard the attitude of the pupils towards their work indicates that the fault lies with the attendance and not with the teachers
- f) A good feature in both rooms is the general neatness of written work
- g) W G Blackie Inspector

Dux of the School Jean Rose

Full list of prize winners in log

17th December The annual school picnic was held today on Solway Showgrounds

A sum of £20-10-5 was subscribed by parents and friends of the pupils. Milk and Butter were donated

A strong committee of ladies and gentlemen assisted by the Committee and members of the school staff in making the outing an enjoyable one

A lengthy sports' programme was put through the championship for the Girls being won by Lorna Shaw and the boys by Henry Jones

A sum of £10-7-6 was expended on sports trophies

1927

1st February School re opened today. Roll 68

Miss Beckett relieving Infant Mistress commenced duty today and Miss Thelma Major who has been appointed a probationer also reported for duty today

2nd February The school swimming bath was emptied and cleaned today

4th February As the inflow of water into the swimming bath is small we have been unable to get a sufficient depth of water for swimming lessons this week

7th February One case of influenza has occurred in the school and owing to the intense heat a number of children have been unwell

The swimming bath has so far only filled to the lower level but swimming lessons were taken today

Received from the Wellington Education Board an extension ladder

11th February The weather has been intensely hot during the week, the temperature in the senior room registering close on 90° .The swimming bath is being much appreciated

14th February Three children withdrawn in order to attend Whatman School

17th February Holiday for Masterton Show

21st February Received from School Committee 1 yard Broom, 12 bars soap, 2 dozen rolls toilet paper, 1 bottle raw linseed oil, 1 bottle neatsfoot oil, oil, 1 bottle liquid glue

25th February Miss Major has been absent from school this week on account an attack of influenza

26th February The Wellington Education Board notified that Mrs E E Wilson has been appointed to the position of Infant Mistress at this school

28th February Considerable interruption has been caused since school reopened owing to children attending at the dental clinic during school hours. Some of the children have paid a number of visits to the clinic and the work is not yet completed. Every time a child from this school visits the dentist, half a day's school time is lost. The rule made for the school is that the child when visiting the dentist is marked present for the half day, but it frequently happens that parents have to take the children to and fro and as they are often unable to return with the child immediately the dental work is completed, the child loses a whole day's work at school and is marked absent for a half day

1st March The school swimming bath has taken four days to half fill. Water is entering very slowly and evidently there is still leakage from the floor of the bath

2nd March Received notice today that Mrs Wilson a resident of the district and a parent of a pupil attending the school has been appointed as Infant Mistress of the school. Miss Beckett therefore, severs her connection with the school today.

3rd March Mrs Wilson commenced her duties today

4th March It was arranged today that the scholars in the senior classroom should take part in the children's demonstration of welcome tomorrow to their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York. The children are to be under the control of the Head Teacher, and each child will carry a flag provided by the School Committee

9th March Holiday given in Honour of the Duke and Duchess of York were observed on Monday March 7th and Tuesday 8th March

11th March Numerous interruptions owing to dental visits are still occurring

17th March Several children absent through influenza

Arithmetic tests forwarded by the Wellington Education Board commenced today

Children have been practising regularly all the week for their swimming sports to be held next Friday Afternoon

School work has been continued each night until 3.30 to make up time that will be taken for the sports. It was found impracticable to hold the sports on Saturday

18th March The weather today, though fine was too chilly to hold the Swimming Sports as arranged. The School Committee decided that they will take place on the first suitable day next week

21st March weather exceptionally rough and wet, over three inches of rain having fallen during the past twenty four hours

23rd March Mr Boden inspector visited the school today

1st Attendance improved but still affected owing to the prevalence of influenza. One pupil is absent with pleurisy

We have been reluctantly compelled to postpone our swimming sports until next December

A frost was experienced last night. The first of the season

8th April Our school football team was permitted to leave the school at two o'clock today in order to play a trial match with the Solway School team. I left the school at 2.30 in order to assist and supervise

13th April Roll 68

Closed today from the 14th to 20th (inclusive) to be observed as holidays for Easter and a special holiday for the recent visit of Duke and Duchess of York

21st April Influenza still prevalent Attendance low

22nd April Special Lesson on Anzac Day taken today. Senior pupils are to accompany their teacher on Monday at the combined service in Masterton

29th April Exceptionally severe weather experienced for the past three days, the hills being mantelled in snow. Attendance consequently low

3rd May School Committee Election Mr T Horton Chairman, T Flannery, R Jones, H Taplin and P Welch Miss K Campbell was appointed Hon Secretary

3rd May Mrs Wilson has been absent for three days (May 2nd, 3rd, 4th) observing Methods of Teaching at Te Aro Infant School

24th May Reopened school today. Attendance fair. Commenced coca for children

During the vacation Miss Major attended a Teacher refresher Course in Wellington. Special lessons taken today in honour of Empire Day 27th May A new fence is being erected on the three sides of the school boundary

Received from School Committee 18 copies Reading and Thinking Book 1 and Reading and thinking Book 2

Attendance still irregular owing to illness

1st June Messrs Brockett and Blake judged the plots in the schools' Mangold Competition today. Competitors accompanied judges to the various plots

6th June Received from School Committee 18 Copies of Blackie's History of England Book V

24th June Exceptionally wet weather experienced through the week Attendance poor especially in the Infant Room

The roof in the senior classroom is leaking very badly, and considerable inconvenience has been caused thereby during the past fortnight

30th June Took advantage of fine weather today so the children completed the work of hedge trimming and as the new boundary fence is completed, they cleared up all the boards nails etc.

Forwarded Mangold Charts to Mr Brockett

1st July Weather very wet. Football and Basketball matches consequently postponed. Illness still prevalent and attendance low Promotions in Primer Classes during the week

Miss Major probationer, is to work in the Senior Class Room for the month

4th July The school was scrubbed during the weekend

22nd July Several cases of mumps have occurred in the school

29th July Members of the Navy league visited the school yesterday and Mr Darroch Secretary of the Wellington Branch, gave the children a short but interesting address

1st August The epidemic of mumps is spreading and the attendance is in consequence seriously affected

1st August Commenced term exam today. Five pupils absent in senior room

4th August Examined Standard 2 ,1 ,primers today. Only 20 present out of a roll of 32. Irregular attendance owing to the prevalence of mumps

Mr Brockett called at the school yesterday, examined the tools, delivered onion and flower seeds

As we have only 5 spades for a class of 36 it is extremely difficult to carry out the work

12th August Attendance still low owing to mumps. Several cases of ringworm have occurred in the school

19th August Mumps still prevalent and attendances consequently low.

A storm today caused the attendance to fall to slightly over half the roll number

Received from Wellington Education Board through Mr Brockett, 1 spade handle and 1 hoe handle

25th August A plumber Mr Prescott repaired the roof today

13th September Received from School Committee 4 spades, 1 tin Olsina Water paint

Roll 72

Forwarded tools to W F C A to be repaired

16th September Manures- viz-Blood and Bone and Superphosphate (Mixed Manures) delivered by Mr Brockett for School Garden
School swimming bath emptied and cleaned during the week in order that it might be tested to see if leakage similar to that of last year will occur

18th September Two dental nurses visited the school this morning and spent ½ an hour charting the children's teeth. Only children in primer classes were charted and only those in Standard 1,2,3,4, who had previously been charted, examined

23rd September Ten children visited the dental clinic in Masterton this morning. They were marked present for the morning in order that they might have their teeth attended to, but all of them remained away for the whole day. Absence notices are being forwarded

One pupil seriously ill with pneumonia

Repaired tools were returned to school today

30th September Received from Ed Board 1 dozen magnifying glasses.

3rd October One child in delicate health withdrawn

A picture which the Committee had renovated was returned to school today

7th October Regular tennis practice held this week

Extra time devoted to garden

17th October Lawn mowers and tennis racquets repaired

Received yesterday Mangold seeds and manure

20th October Mr Boden inspected the school today and examined the Proficiency Candidates from Standard 6

Trafalgar Day and Animal Welfare Day celebrated today, special lessons on both subjects being given throughout the school

Attendance now back to normal

25th October A holiday was observed yesterday for Labour Day
Attendance low owing to extremely rough weather. Snow is lying thickly to the foot of the hills

28th October School closed for Wairarapa A and P Show

11th November Prizes for mangold plot competition presented during the week

1st Henry Miller, 2nd Hugh Millar, 3rd May Mannell

Summer time bill inaugurated Monday 7th November On this date acting on instructions from School Committee school was assembled at 9.30 and dismissed at 3.30. As this arrangement resulted in inconvenience, the chairman authorised me to resume usual hours on Tuesday Viz 9.00 to 3.00

Armistice Day observed today

23rd November Owing to changeable weather swimming was taken only twice this week.

Attendance irregular cause illness. A number of children are affected with blight in their eyes

29th November Dr Bakewell visited the school today and examined all pupils excepting Standard 5. Time did not permit of these being taken

9th December Annual prizes allotted during the week and special sports practices held

Committee meeting held last night to make arrangements for the Annual School Picnic on 16th December

A number of senior pupils visited the Industrial Exhibition in Masterton this morning

Swimming taken daily during week just ended

Owing to persons illegally using the school swimming bath the Committee is inserting in the local newspapers a warning to Trespassers. During last week the bath was tampered with

15th December The school closed today as the Annual Picnic to be held tomorrow

Miss Major, Probationer was successful in the Teachers D Certificate Exam and severs her connection with the school today in order to proceed to the Training College, 1st February

The children presented the Head teacher with a rose bowl, Mrs Wilson with a teapot and Miss Major with a box of Stationery

15th December A full list of prize givers is in log.

No good attendance certificates were won this year

Owing to severe weather conditions the proposed picnic at Solway had to be abandoned and the children entertained in the school.

Thanks to the efforts of the School Committee , friends and members of the School Staff the day was made a happy one for the children

During a lull in the weather the championship Sports events took place Lorna Shaw won the Girls and Jack Peters the boys

Roll 67

1928

1st February Senior Classroom Standard 3, 4, 5, and 6) 19 Boys 20 Girls Total 39

Junior classroom Primers Standards 1 and 2 13 + 13 = 26

One family- the Laings absent owing to illness a case of chicken pox has occurred and two school members of the family each having suffered a broken arm

Emptied and cleaned the school swimming bath. Owing to their being very little water in the race a difficulty is being experienced in refilling it. Consequently the swimming course is likely to be interrupted

Scarcely any rain has fallen during the six week's vacation the rivers are unusually low, the countryside presents a parched appearance and the school garden is a wreck

3rd February The low numbers on the infant room roll clearly indicate that this school is on a downward grade

6th February The school bath had sufficient water to permit of swimming lessons being taken

10th February Received from Wellington Education Board the following supplies 3 bundles raffia, 3 boxes white chalk, 2 boxes coloured chalk, 1 tin gum, 6 paste brushes, 4 packets modelling paper, 4 packets cardboard, 3 dozen colour drawing books

13th February Received notice that a probationer- Mr S B Smith had been appointed to this school, and that he was to report for duty tomorrow

16th February The school was closed yesterday for Masterton A and P Show

17th February Emptied and cleaned school swimming pool on the afternoon of Thursday February 23rd

The weather has been very intensely hot and dry since the reopening of school and it is proving very trying especially during the

afternoon. During the week several pupils have been absent daily owing to illness

Impossible to carry on the usual work in the school garden owing to heat and drought

23rd February Extra lessons in swimming taken during the week in preparation for swimming sports, which had to be postponed until tomorrow as we could not yet sufficient water into bath Considerable inconvenience has been caused owing to this shortage of water

24th February The drought broke last night and today is wet and cool, Sports therefore had to be postponed

Panes of glass which were broken during the holidays in the windows fronting the road partly by vandals and partly through window cords giving was were repaired, under instructions from the School Committee during the week. As the cords in all the southerly windows are perished, the School Committee is engaging a carpenter to replace them

29th February received from the School Committee

- a) 1 dozen writing tablets
- b) 6 quires blotting paper
- c) 4 tins Duckett's Ink Powder,
- d) 8 boxes school nibs
- e) 2 dozen graph books
- f) 40 Nature Study Books

No swimming taken during week as there was a cold snap and snow was lying in the hills

Emptied and cleaned school bath today

2nd March Every Friday afternoon a number of children bring messages from their parents asking that they may be permitted to leave school early in order to attend picture matinees in Masterton. Consequently these children do very little work on Friday Afternoon, and they pass off their restless excitement on to the other pupils so that the whole school is disturbed. I am circularising parents on the matter

5th March Re the Summertime bill- the period of trial for which had now come to an end- the experience of this school is that the children have been more tired, they have done little reading or any form of homework, and school tennis and gardening have both been interfered with owing to the intense heat in the afternoons- the sun being high in the Heavens at the hour allotted for these subjects

Many of the children like it, but the mothers do to, and it certainly it makes the work of the country teacher still more difficult

9th March Warm and beneficial rain has fallen all the week

Swimming lessons taken regularly, but it has been impossible hold swimming sports, as planned

Unfortunately muddy water has now entered the swimming bath

16th March After being postponed since February 23rd on account of unsuitable weather the school swimming sports were held in the afternoon

Boys won by Alan Laing and the Girls Joan Laing

The runners up being Joe Payton and Betty Payton

This year a prize for the girl runner up was donated, a prize was also awarded to the best boy runner up but this arrangement will not be made when future sports are held

23rd March Mangold Plots were inspected today

4th April Five Cords of firewood was supplied by the Committee during the week, it was sawn up by Mr Millar today and the boys under the supervision of Mr Smith, stacked it in the woodshed

5th April Attendance in the Senior Classroom very low for the past fortnight owing to an epidemic of influenza,

Took two hours outdoors today trimming hedges, gardening and general tidying up

11th April School scrubbed during weekend

13th April Children in the Senior Classroom still suffering from severe chest colds and many of those who attended school are very unfit

24th April At the Householders meeting last night the following Committee were elected- Mr Thomas Hector Horton, Chairman. Mr Donald Wemyss Finlayson, Mrs Hazel Gladys Laing, Mr William Gordon Laing, Mr James Robert Jones. Miss K Campbell was appointed honorary Secretary

A sum of £17 was credited to the School Committee account by the Masterton Trust Lands Trust for the purpose of free stationery for pupils of the school, it was decided to purchase supplies up to this amount. All school books will be then provided free from the Trust Account except Arithmetic Books

In honour of Anzac Day, the school flag was hoisted and saluted this afternoon, the children were addressed by the Head Teacher and patriotic songs were sung. Senior pupils who can arrange conveyance are to meet the Head teacher tomorrow morning (Anzac day) in order to attend the combined memorial service in Masterton Received from the Wellington Education Board a request that school holidays should be postponed until after the school inspection

26th April Fifteen pupils accompanied by the Head teacher attended the combined memorial service in Masterton yesterday

27th April New cord affixed to flagpole during the week

30th April Thomas Horton to be promoted to Standard 3 and Brian Anderson to Standard 1 at the end of this term

1st May Weather very wet. Attendance low Five pupils prevented from coming by flooded rivers

Received notice that the Inspectors would visit the school between the 7th and 11th May so that the school would close for the term holiday on 11th May

4th May Re supply of Masterton Trust Lands Trust funds

The books purchased

- a) Single lined exercise books
- b) Double lined ex Books
- c) Blank page ex books
- d) Chequered exercise books
- e) Drawing books
- f) Sixpenny notebooks
- g) Threepenny notebooks
- h) Rulers
- i) Rubbers
- j) Lead Pencils
- k) Slate Pencil

4th May One pupil absent through illness (Ringworm)The Solway football team and the Solway Basketball team played matches after school today against our school teams on the school grounds. The children afterwards entertained their visitors at afternoon tea.

11th May Roll 60

Mr Boden inspector visited the school today
Closed today for fortnights Term Holidays
Football and Basketball practice taken from 2 until 3 O'clock
Term reports forwarded to parents
Received from School Committee One Soccer Ball
28th May A cold snap has been experienced during the week and the hills are mantled with snow
27th June Received from Wellington Education Board a rain gauge measure
28th June A severe hail and snowstorm occurred this morning. As children and teachers were cold and wet folk dancing was taken for the first hour
2nd July The dental nurses visited the school this afternoon and inspected the teeth of the pupils in Primers, Standard 1, 2,3
3rd July The Probationer- Mr S B Smith absent through illness
9th July Mr Smith returned to school today
13th July School work has been disturbed during the week owing to children attending the Dental Clinic
19th July Plots entered in the Schools' Mangold completion judged today
20th July Football and Basketball teams left school early this afternoon in order to play matches at Solway. They were accompanied by the Head Teacher and Probationer
24th July Twelve loads of metal supplied by the Committee were delivered at the school and were spread by the boys
25th July As water was being wasted in the out offices a plumber was employed by the Committee today to remedy defects

27th July Extra work done in school grounds during the week and a series of lessons in connection with Arbor Day taken
Weather unusually mild for the past fortnight
3rd August Extra work taken in school garden. Girls received special coaching in preparation for the basketball tournament on Saturday
8th August Mrs E E Wilson Infant Mistress absent today owing to an attack of influenza
The school caretaker is also unable to attend to his duties owing to an attack of influenza, The children have volunteered to do the sweeping
13th August Mrs Wilson still unable to attend school Several children absent today suffering from influenza
Olga Gorringer met with an accident today, through her pony shying, slipping and rolling on her leg. She was suffering from shock, bruises and abrasions and was attended at the school by the Head Teacher
16th August Mrs Wilson returned today
17th August Discontinued cocoa for lunch from today
5th September Letter from Department to Wellington Education Board stating the Board had promised to repair house but had done nothing How much had been spent in the last 10 years?
In reply the Board said £57.13.0 even if it is repaired the teacher will not live in it. The Board's architect states it is much affected with borer Now the Minister of Ed is being approached by the Wellington Education Board 20th August 1930 the Minister states I recommend the sale of the residence for removal and the payment of a house allowance to the teacher

7th September Roll 61. Received from Wellington Education Board 1 parcel raffia and 33 continuous readers for Junior Classes

Attendance in senior class room afflicted by prevalence of influenza . This complaint has caused rather serious eye trouble.

School flag flown on 11th September in honour of the successful flight across the Tasman by Kingsford Smith and his three companions. Special Lessons on this event taken

19th September Mr Boden Inspector examined the school today Attendance in Senior Room very low owing to an epidemic of Influenza

8th October Head teacher absent on account of illness. Mr Smith teaching in Senior Room

15th October Mrs Ward reported for duty today in place of head teacher who is still absent from school. Clocks put forward ½ hour E E Wilson

23rd October returned to school today after a fortnight's absence owing to illness- a severe attack of influenza

The health of the children has improved as most of them have now recovered from the prevailing epidemic

A holiday observed yesterday for Labour Day

Distributed supplies to children who had entered the Mangold Growing Competition

24th October Several children absented themselves from school today in order to the Wairarapa Show

A holiday is being observed tomorrow for People's day at the Wairarapa Show

25th October Several children absented themselves from school for the two days of the Wairarapa Show. The excuse given being that they were exhibiting ponies etc

30th October Mr Darroch Secretary of the Navy League gave the children a short address this afternoon

Mr Smith, Probationer, received word that he had passed in all subjects for teachers Class D Certificate Exam

9th November Received notice that the Standard 6 Proficiency Candidates are to attend at the Whatman School for their examination

Inspection report for 19th September included

- a) Miss K Campbell Grading No 86 Roll 37
- b) Mrs E E Wilson Graded 157 Roll 26
- c) The school gardens and hedges present a very well kept appearance and are a credit to all concerned
- d) It is very pleasing to find that the teachers and their pupils take such a keen interest in the appearance of their grounds
- e) In general the pupils are making very satisfactory progress

13th November All schools throughout the district are being closed tomorrow for the general election. This school is being used as a polling booth

The Senior classes Standard 3- 6 held a mock ballot

16th November Weather wintry during the week and hills coated with snow

19th November Commenced Annual Examination Today. All pupils present

21st November A shop day in aid of school funds is being held in Masterton today

I permitted the Probationer Mr Smith to assist at the shop today, as a busy day there was anticipated

22nd November The shop day organised by the School Committee and a Committee of ladies was highly successful, a sum of £42 being realised. Expenses were almost Nil, thanks to the generous support of parents, friends and settlers generally. The success of the day was due to the spirit of cooperation which existed, and the Committee responsible for the arrangements has every reason to feel proud of the splendid results achieved.

Mr Foston Lecturer, visited the school today and spoke to the children for a short period. He has arranged to deliver a lecture in the school next Monday Night on the Maori Race. As a percentage of the takings is to be added to the school funds, the children are assisting in the sale of tickets

23rd November Emptied and cleaned the school bath

The weather is now gloriously fine and the hills almost free from snow so we hope to commence the season's swimming course next Monday

25th November Mr Foston's lecture last night realised a sum of £7.

10 Half of this fund were donated to school funds

The swimming season was opened yesterday

29th November Proficiency Candidate were examined at the Whatman School today by Mr Broden

There were eight candidates from this school/ I accompanied the children and Mr Smith probationer taught in the senior class during the day

30th November Dr Bakewell and Miss Blackbourne medically examined all pupils, who were present today. This was a special examination and it occupied the examiners all day.

Mr Smith took charge of senior school as it was advisable the Head Teacher should be present at the examination.

30th November Because of changeable weather swimming was only taken on 3 days this week

7th December Good progress made in swimming during the week

Mr Horton cut the long grass in the playground

Roll 63

18th December Members of the Farmers Union and officials from the Agricultural Department visited the school this morning on order to present to competitors prizes won in the schools mangold Growing Competition. The following were prize winners, Henry Millar, Sam Millar, John Coom, Fred Taplin

Dux of School Nancy Chamberlain

Long list of Prize Winners in log

Preparations are well in hand for the Annual School Picnic, which is to be held in Mr Laing's bush tomorrow

The children made a presentation to Mr A B Smith, probationer, who is severing his connection with the school in order to enter Wellington Training College in February

20th December The picnic held today was a great success. The rain held off until evening when it fell in torrents and pleasant gathering had to hurriedly disperse

The plumber improved the water supply to the school swimming bath today

1929

Reopened school today The roll number has fallen low, as a number of pupils have transferred to colleges, private schools and other public schools

8th February Three pupils admitted 8 withdrawn leaving a present roll of 22 boys and 31 girls. There are 25 pupils in the Junior Room and 28 in the Senior

The dental nurse inspected the children's teeth yesterday

An organiser of the Young Helpers League (to aid Dr Barnado's Homes) visited the school and addressed the children today

The school gramophone supplied by the Committee and the Department came to hand on Wednesday. Evidently the case containing it had been badly bumped as the motor keeps slipping and 1 record is broken

8th February The supply of water to the swimming bath has failed completely and the plumber seems unable to improve matters. This afternoon Mr Barton one of the voluntary workers, who helped to make the bath is endeavouring to remedy matters

The children assisted by the Head teacher cleaned the bath thoroughly. It was in a filthy state owing to the supply of water failing, and took some hours to clean

15th February Messrs Horton and Barton worked at the swimming baths on Monday until they got the pipes clear and the water flowing. The flow of water is very much increased but unless the water race (Upper Plain Water Supply) is kept clean, trouble in filling the bath is likely to recur

Swimming lessons were resumed on Tuesday 12th February. Four pupils withdrawn as they are leaving the district. Roll number now 49

A number of children visited the Dental Clinic today

Weather during the week intensely hot and dry.

19th February A holiday is being observed tomorrow for the Masterton Show

A number of children have been ill during the past fortnight with summer sickness, several stayed away on Tuesday the 1st day of the show as they were entering ponies and work has been disturbed by children having to attend the dental clinic

1st March Distributed new books which came to hand during the week. All books and other supplies are provided free for the pupils of this school from funds donated by the Masterton Trust Lands' Trust

A great deal of extra time has been devoted to swimming this week in order to train and to test pupils for the New Zealand Swimming Association's Certificates. Four pupils have qualified for the Certificate of Merit and a number of others for lower certificates.

The weather has been intensely hot and dry, so it was considered advisable to get these in while the conditions are favourable. The children have worked splendidly and a number of very young children have joined the ranks of those able to swim, whilst older pupils have greatly improved their standard of swimming

In previous years sports (swimming) have been held during February or early March. Owing to the greatly reduced school roll number it is not practical to continue these

1st March The school gramophone is now in perfect order, and the children had their first lesson or gramophone concert this morning instead of community singing

4th March Today Alan Laing swam a mile in the school swimming bath, the time being $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour. The first 88 yards ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile) was done in 20 minutes

Roll 50

During the summer holidays a window in the school residence containing four large panes of glass, was deliberately broken from the outside. I made full inquiries into the matter when school reopened and I feel convinced that none of the children attending the school are responsible for the damage Evidence points to it having been done by boys from town who frequently trespass on the school grounds while on shooting expeditions

8th March During the week Mr Prescott, Plumber, put in new water pipes to the school. The Masterton Borough Council owing to the pressure of work, has not yet put in the new pipes across the roadway to link up with the new school pipes, but notwithstanding this, the supply of water to the school is very much improved upon.

Though the water supply to the school residence is not to be renewed and has not been interfered with the new school pipes but notwithstanding this, the supply of water to the school is very much improved upon.

I had the tap attended to by Mr Gardner immediately

Weather still dry and hot. Swimming taken regularly not a day having been missed during the week for swimming certificates

13th March Masterton Borough Council employees laid the new piping (water) across the road and annexed it to the school pipes today

The supply of water is now very successful

14th March the weather still continues hot and dry. Swimming taken daily, The Head Teacher giving half the lunch hour in assisting the children. Excellent progress is being made.

Today Joan Laing swam 1 mile 26 yards in 52 minutes. The first half mile was done in 27 miles the second in 25 minutes. She was not at all exhausted

21st March Mr G R Sykes MP for the Masterton Electorate visited the school this afternoon and gave the children a very interesting address on Aiming High and thereby helping our Country

28th March Extra time had to be devoted to the school garden during the week as it is being remodelled owing to school roll number falling. Part of the garden is being laid out as a shrubbery in order to lessen the amount of work. Weather intensely hot and dry during the week.

28th March 19 swimming certificates issued

3rd April The drought broke during the week end and the weather is now wet and wintry

The school was scrubbed during the holidays

12th April Received from the Board another gramophone record

23rd April the meeting of Householders held last night was well attended, and some interesting discussions took place. Eight candidates were nominated for seats on the School Committee the result of the ballot

Chairman Mr Thomas Hector Horton

Secretary Mrs Hazel Gladys Laing

Members Messers Donald Wemyss Finlayson, William Hutchison Gordon, William Gordon Laing.

I have acted as Secretary to the School Committee for three years but withdrew because of the distance to travel

24th April Anzac Day celebrations were taken today from 2.30 – 3.30 p.m. The children saluted the flag, sang the National Anthem, Empire Day Hymn and Song for New Zealand Dear Land. A short address was given by the head teacher. A suitable gramophone item Oh Lord Hear My Payer was taken and the children dismissed

Senior Pupils and any of Juniors who are able to will attend with the Head Teacher the combined memorial service in the Masterton Park to be held at 11.00 a.m. tomorrow

3rd May Held term examination during the week Attendance very good.

Received from Wellington Education Board a garden rake

Received from the School Committee 3 garden seats

27th May received from Wellington Education Board the following science material, 7 small books and three garden rakes and from the Education Department 1 gramophone record

30th May Today 32 pupils (Standard 2-6) accompanied by the Head teacher journeyed to Masterton in order to visit the Arts Exhibition and the Industrial Exhibition. An all day outing was taken as by arrangement the children were shown over the Stocking factory during the afternoon The visit proved both pleasurable and profitable

31st May Empire Day and King's Birthday celebrations were held today, the Head Teacher giving a lesson to the combined school

4th June By permission from the Chairman of the School Committee- Mr Horton I was absent from school this morning. This enabled me to pay a hurried visit South and return on the early morning service car

4th June On Friday afternoon a pupil of the school Muriel Power- was thrown from her pony whilst proceeding home and received a fractured skull. She was taken to the Masterton Hospital where she is progressing satisfactorily

I made a strict inquiry as to the cause of the accident and found that none of the other children were in any way connected with it

6th June Two pupils were sent home today as they were contacts in homes where cases of chicken pox have occurred. One pupil is absent suffering from chicken pox

17th June A severe earthquake shock occurred at twenty minutes past ten o'clock this morning

19th June The earthquake which occurred on Monday was the most severe recorded since the great quake of 1855.

Serious damage is reported from Nelson and the West Coast, the towns of Nelson, Westport and Murchison all being badly shaken

A total of 13 persons in the South Island have met their deaths mainly through landslides caused by the earthquake. The North Island has come off lightly

19th June 4 cords of firewood have been supplied by the School Committee It was cut by Mr Millar and the boys stacked it in the woodshed

24th June Attendance low owing to the prevalence of influenza and chicken pox

28th June Weather during the week unusually severe, gales, heavy rain and electric storms being experienced. Owing to epidemics influenza and chicken pox the attendance on 16 days during the past fortnight has been less than $\frac{3}{4}$ of the roll number. This constituting excepted half days

5th July Mangold plots judged during the week charts forwarded today

Miss Kathleen Campbell was born as Kitty late in 1875 lived at 20 Villa St Masterton

1875/14025 Campbell Kitty Mary Jane John

1962/30734 Campbell Kitty 86Y

Born 1875 24th August

24th July Arbor celebrated today. Planted native trees in the newly made shrubbery in the school gardens

2nd August The girls basketball tournament is to be held on the High School Grounds, Masterton Tomorrow

23rd August Weather very wet and stormy during the week, so gardening operations were suspended

Forwarded term reports to parents.

This morning the Head Teacher and the pupils made a presentation of a silver hot water jug and a bread fork to Mrs Wilson, Infant Mistress who is severing her connection with the school as she is retiring from the teaching service

Miss Stoddart has been appointed to the school as Infant Mistress

10th September Miss Stoddart commenced her duties today

The school was scrubbed during the vacation.

11th September Mr Finlayson put a new iron roof on the bathing shed just before the holidays

During a recent week end damage was done to the glass in the school residence. I made full inquiries into the matter and as far as I can ascertain the mischief was done by several boys from town, who had been out shooting

19th September Mr Darroch, Secretary of the Navy League (Wellington Branch) addressed the children today and presented Jack Rose with a long service medal

20th September Doreen Laing fell this morning on the tennis court and broke her collar bone. No blame was attachable to anyone

23rd September Flag Ceremony in honour of Dominion Day

27th September Special time devoted to gardening during the week
Tennis season opened on September 24th

17 children visited the dental clinic today

4th October Afternoon devoted to lawn, hedges and general tidying up of school grounds. Owing to the decreased roll number, the work of keeping the grounds, gardens etc. in order is becoming increasingly difficult, and is proving strenuous for teacher and pupils, as well as absorbing a great deal of time.

23rd October On Tuesday 22nd Inst pupils from Standard 2-6 (inclusive) paid a visit to Mrs Johnston's garden Airlie in order to see a splendid display of tulips, probably the best collection in N Z
Attendance during the week is very satisfactory

Monday October 28th will be observed as a holiday. "Labour Day"

1st November A holiday was observed yesterday for the Wairarapa Show.

The swimming bath was emptied, cleaned and refilled during the week in preparation for opening the swimming season today, but

owing to a sudden fall in temperature the opening had to be postponed

4th November Commenced swimming lessons today

8th November Swimming taken on four days this week. Today the wind changed to the South and the weather was too chilly. The children, especially the girls have commenced the course of swimming lessons with the greatest keenness, and are already thoroughly enjoying the exercise

18th November Commenced Annual Examination Papers for the Synchronous Proficiency Examination to be held on Friday 22nd have arrived

22nd November Proficiency Candidates were examined today under the supervision of the Head Teacher. Papers were posted direct to the Wellington Education Board. As it was not deemed necessary to dismiss the rest of the school, Standard 3,4, 5 worked outside at a set programme arranged the previous day and Miss Stoddart carried on work as usual in the infant room

Emptied, cleaned and refilled the swimming bath

29th November Advantage was taken of damp weather during the week to thin out and do transplanting in the school garden. Extra time was given to this. As the work had been delayed by the unusually dry weather

29th November Roll 58

Changeable and unseasonable weather is preventing swimming from being taken regularly

13th December Practices for school sports to be held on December 19th taken during the week Annual prizes won during the year were

allocated during the week, a special test in conjunction with the years work being the deciding factors

Inspectors Report of 2nd August Included

- a) Miss K Campbell Grading No 86 Roll 26
- b) Mrs E E Wilson Grading No 170 Roll 23
- c) The quality of the work in the whole is very fair
- d) The ability to speak out does not appear to receive due attendance in the Upper School
- e) The garden work is a great credit to the school.

Lists of promoted children in log

18th December Preparations are well in hand for the Annual School Picnic which is to be held in Mr Laing's Bush tomorrow

20th December Owing to heavy rains falling yesterday morning the picnic was held at school The weather cleared at 11 a.m. when an adjournment was made to Mr G Perry's paddock, where a lengthy programme of school sports was carried out

Sports Champion Girls Daphne Gillespie. Boys Arthur Taplin

During the afternoon the school prizes and certificates and the Sports trophies were presented by Mr Horton, Chairman of the School Committee

A presentation was made by the pupils to their teachers

A sum of £13-11-3 was donated by parents and residents towards the picnic funds

1930

3rd February Reopened school Roll Number 53

4th February Emptied and cleaned school bath and did general tidying up work in the garden and school grounds

5th February Attendance is good and the children have settled down well in their class work

Numbers Senior Room 24. Junior Class Room 29

All school requisites and books are being provided by the Masterton Trust Lands Trust Grant (5/- per pupil) and Trust Lands Trust Subsidy to the School Committee

14th February received from the School Committee supply of free school books for the year. These were obtained partly from the Masterton Trust Lands Trust Grant of 5/- per pupil which this year amounts to £13.10

Books supplied free last year to pupils of this school were more carefully treated than when the children purchased their own

Forwarded lists of all pupils in primer classes to Standard 4 (inclusive)

14th February Weather during the week intensely hot and trying. Swimming taken daily- good progress made

Attendance good in Junior Rooms only fair in Senior

Received from the School Committee (Subsidised by Education Board) a table and cupboard for gramophone and records

20th February A holiday was observed yesterday for the Masterton Show

21st February Work was interrupted today owing to children visiting the Dental Clinic. Dental work is to be continued next week

28th February Weather fine though there is a distinct tang of Autumn in the air. Special Attention has been devoted to swimming and a

number of children qualified during the week for swimming certificates Betty Finlayson swam the half mile (880 yards)

Eleven children who were notified to attend the dental Clinic this week, required no attendance when they kept the appointments made. They each lost half a day from school and their parents were put to necessary expense and inconvenience through having to convey them to Masterton

I am drawing the attention of the dental nurses

7th March Eighty new library books (No's 388- 468) were purchased by the Committee and added to the school library this week

One set (10 Volumes) Children's' Encyclopaedias also added to the library

During this week (Matters are now well in hand for the school railway excursion which has been arranged for Thursday March 13th)

14th March A school excursion to Wellington (by rail) took place yesterday. All the pupils of the school excepting 8, a number of ex pupils and parents took part in it, the total travelling being 89

Members of the School Committee viz Messrs Horton (chairman), Finlayson and Gordon and the members of the staff worked hard to make the day a pleasant and profitable one for the children and their elders. The weather was gloriously fine, and the trip was in every way a success

The programme was as follows

- a) A special tram from Lambton station to the zoo where 1 ½ hours were spent
- b) A one hour trip on two sightseeing buses
- c) A visit to parliament buildings

d) A brief visit to the museum but this had to be abandoned because of lack of time

We are indebted to parents and teachers who provided the funds for a, b, and for refreshing drinks and ice cream, to the Railways Department for excellent arrangements re trains. To the Wellington City Council and Tramway Department for helpful advice and provision of tram and buses in each case promptitude and courtesy proving of great assistance and last but not least to the Member for this District Mr G R Sykes- who piloted the party through the House of Parliament and gave interesting descriptions of the building, council chamber etc. The hour spent in this way was appreciated by young and old alike.

14th March This afternoon the senior boys, burned off long grass in the playground. Arrangements for cutting this had been made by the Committee but they had not been carried out, and as the grass was now beyond the cutting stage, and had already caused considerable inconvenience we decided to help ourselves and burn it. Every precaution was used to safeguard school property. We intend to complete the work next week, in order to have a suitable playing area for the winter

17th March Burned more grass in the playground

18th March Today the senior pupils and six junior children were taken by the Head Teacher to Mr Gordon Laing's (1 ¼ miles distant) to hear Commander Byrd's address to the children which was being broadcast by 4YA Dunedin. We left school at a quarter to two and arrived back at 4 O'clock

The speech came through fairly clearly and the children listened attentively and were interested

Mrs Laing kindly entertained the children at afternoon tea

20th March Drs Bakewell and Moir and Nurse Wallace spent the morning at the school conducting a medical inspection

21st March This week one pupil, a girl aged 9 ½ years (Molly Johnston) qualified for the ½ mile certificate and Margaret Gillespie aged 6 years and Dorothy Laing aged 7 years qualified for the 220 yards. These performances are I think much above the average for children of their age, especially when this test is taken in fresh water.

31st March Tonight the senior boys under the supervision of the Head teacher, spent an hour after school burning off long grass in the playground

28th March Received from Education Board 5 lbs of blue lupin seed and 20 lbs mixed manure (½ superphosphate ½ bonedust)

Miss Stothart is resigning her position at the end of the term as she is giving up teaching

The school swimming season closed today

The nights are now frosty and the water chilly

9th April A light fall of rain occurred today after two months of drought

11th April Attendance during week rather irregular as several children have had dental and throat operations

Received from Education Department £5 worth of gramophone records purchased by the School Committee (Total 18)

Total number of records belonging to the school = 39

Three more records are to be forwarded.

17th April Four cords of firewood delivered by Mr Evans yesterday and cut into shorter lengths by Mr Millar today were stacked by the

senior boys this afternoon. The work took longer than we anticipated and the boys worked very cheerfully until 4.30 pm when the task was completed

The drought is still not broken so we were unable to complete the work planned in the garden

Two extra days holiday have been given at Easter, so we close today until Monday April 28th

Anzac Day ceremonies were observed at the school today when the head teacher addresses the combined school and songs suitable for the occasion were sung

28th April One child Ivy Bell fractured her skull during the holidays

One boy Harry Graham is in hospital having undergone an operation

29th April The Annual Meeting of Householders was held in the schoolroom

The following Committee were elected

Messrs Thomas Hector Horton Chairman

Donald Weymyss Finlayson

William Hutcheson Gordon

William Gordon Laing

William James Taplin

Mr Peter Charles McLaren is to act as Treasurer and Secretary

2nd May After a drought lasting nearly three months, heavy rain commenced to fall on Tuesday and the countryside has now had a good soaking

2nd May Roll 58. Notice received that Mrs M Allen has been appointed Infant Mistress and is to take up duties on 1st June

27th May 1930 Miss M Allen Infant Mistress PP

30th May Miss Stoddart severed her connections with the school today as she is to be married shortly. The children presented her with a silver fruit dish

2nd June Mrs M Allen took up duties today

Received from Education Board the following:- 1 evaporating basin, 6 test tubes, 2 glass filter funnels, 1 dozen corks, 1 Fahrenheit thermometer, ½ lb mercury

4th June A holiday was observed yesterday for the King's Birthday

25th June Children's Mangold plots judged today

27th June Bad lighting has caused inconvenience during the past few weeks

11th July The school was closed yesterday as a tribute to the memory of Sir Joseph Ward, whose funeral left Wellington for the Bluff on July 10th

16th July A severe storm raged throughout the district today. And covered the foothills

18th July Arbor day lessons were taken this week but tree planting which was planned for Thursday had to be postponed until Monday as the soil is too wet.

25th July Attendance low Weather conditions exceptionally severe, snow and sleet have fallen throughout the day

28th July A severe snow storm occurred today. Attendance exceptionally low.

1st August The intense cold has prevented the children from working as steadily as usual during the past week. The weather still shows no sign of improvement

8th August Lupin Crop for green manuring dug in today

14th August Received 1 copy of Physical Exercises and Games for Infants, evidently a copy of the new scheme of Physical instruction

15th August Term examination held during the week

18th August Today is a perfect spring day. Mr Alex Donald Member of the Education Board visited the school to inspect the residence and buildings and today at lunch time Mr W H Jackson, another member of the Education Board paid a visit of inspection for the same purpose

19th August General tidying up of playground was done today

21st August This afternoon at three o'clock members of the School Committee parents of pupils, and pupils and ex pupils of the school met in the Infant room in order to farewell me, as tomorrow I am resigning the charge of the school, owing to my retirement from the teaching profession.

Mr Horton Chairman of the School Committee presented me on behalf of the Committee and parents with a beautiful dressing table set and the children presented me with a French Clock and a bouquet of freesias. Ex pupils who are attending the High School arrived later with a huge bunch of violets. Afternoon tea provided by the parents brought a very happy afternoon to a place on record the splendid support that has been accorded me by members of the School Committee, parents of pupils and pupils of the school during the 8 ¼ years that I have been in charge, and I much regret having to sever my connection with the children

22nd August Roll 56 Percentage of attendance 93%

The school is to be scrubbed during the holidays as usual, cupboards are cleared and registers and all records up to date and in order for

my successor Miss Dawson who is to take up her duties after the holidays

I am presenting a framed copy of the school motto to the children The Senior Pupils and I are to meet at the school to hang this and to arrange the senior classroom prior to the opening of school

This school has been supplied by free books and stationery for the past three years. All text books at present being used by the pupils are the property of the School.

K Campbell

9th September Miss Dawson started

5th November Mr Burns visited school Proficiency exam held Betty Finlayson Proficiency

Arthur Taplin and Samuel Millar Competency

13th November Mr Darroch- Navy League visited the school. Donated 2 medals and eleven flags to be competed for by writing essays as his address

. Miss Sellars and Mrs Bunny accompanied Mr Darroch

21st November The Fernridge residence sold for removal for £ 25

26th November School residence dismantled

Sale of effects in school opened

5th December Following a huge amount of correspondence not recorded here the Department turn down a request to pay Miss Campbell a back dated housing allowance

9th December Closed school early so that children could go to the park to hear Lord Bledisloe

11th December Swimming lessons commenced

12th December Combined school sports in the Park. School closed

1931

2nd February Mrs Allen has resigned from January 1st as relieving teacher has not arrived she took the infant classes Monday and Tuesday

4th February Mrs Brelin (Relieving Assistant Arrived)

6th February Dr McIlwraith and other members of the Board visited school to discuss place names for transferring the children from Kaituna School to Fernridge

3rd February Violent Earthquake shook the building

16th March A long letter from a Wellington Lawyer arguing for Miss Campbell should be paid back pay for the housing allowance as she had been forcibly removed to Fernridge from Solway and the Board had advised that the school house was uninhabitable, and she couldn't use the house she is due a payment.

Reply Miss Campbell has a substantial grievance it is all the Department's fault (Paraphrased)

18th February Closed School Masterton Show. Three "refugee" children admitted Both parents lived in Hastings and they would have been refugee from the earthquake damage. Stayed a month at Fernridge

31st March Mrs Brelin relieving assistant left

1st April Mrs Wilson commenced duties

14th April Pupils listened to one hours lecture of the wireless by kind permission of Mrs P Welch

This is to be repeated every Tuesday

16th April Department borrows all of the Board's files on the residence Then a handwritten summary of findings in papers

5th August After Many papers and involvement of Solicitors and the Minister of Education

The Department writes to the Minister

Complaining that Miss Campbell caused the Department a great deal of trouble during the period she was at Fernridge by not occupying the house because it was infested with borer and that her furniture would be damaged

a) The building was broken into on two occasions

29th August Department writes to Crown Solicitor to get a legal opinion on the Crown's Liability

The Crown solicitors last paragraph said Miss Campbell will argue she was not provided with a house. The Department's argument that she was. *IN other words it doesn't matter in what condition*

5th October No payment will be made Department to Wellington Education Board

28th October Swimming Commenced

1st December Proficiency Exam held pupils were as follows. Thomas Horton, Arthur Barton, Samuel Millar, Dorothy Finlayson, Betty Ogilvy. All gained proficiency

19th December Parents Day. A short play was given by the children also solos, recitation

Prizes were distributed

School closed

1932

1st February Roll 57

13th July Mr Darroch lectured in Empire Productions

29th September Mr Boden Inspected the school his report included

- a) Seniors 31 Miss G (?) Dawson
- b) Juniors 28 Mrs E Wilson
- c) The grounds are tidy. The garden is very attractive at present and reflects great credit upon teacher and pupils
- d) In the senior school very good work is being done.
- e) Drawing and Singing merit special attention
- f) In the Junior School the standard of work is not higher than fair

17th August 1932 Tribute was paid at today's meeting of the Wellington Education Board to the memory of the late Mr Frederick Gover, who died recently in Auckland at an advanced age (*Aged 87*) For over thirty years Mr. Gover was headmaster of the Fernridge School Masterton PP

24th Oct School closed Labour Day

27th October School closed A and P Show

2nd November Mr Hipkins judge of the Drawings at the Carterton Show wrote asking for the exhibits of Doreen Laing and Ileen Wilton as he was so impressed by the expressive power as shown in their work and promising them a copy of his own personal work in exchange

6th December Proficiency exam held at Whatman School. Six candidates sat, all gained proficiency

1933

1st December Roll Juniors 20 Assistant Mrs Wilson

Senior 33 Head teacher Miss Dawson

School disinfected as a case of Infantile paralysis had occurred

27th February Kingsford Smith visited Masterton. School closed 1.30 to allow pupils to visit the aerodrome

15th March team of 4 girls entered the swimming relay race open to Primary Schools at the High School baths- Gained third place

1st June Mrs Wilson granted 2 weeks leave of Absence. Miss A Christian appointed relieving assistant

15th June Electric Light installed in school

13th November Measles epidemic Roll 22/49

22nd November Proficiency Exam held at Whatman School Joan James and Merle Langley gained certificate

22nd November Boys trimmed Laurel hedge

26th November Swimming commenced

1st December Tennis match played between Kaituna and Fernridge resulted in a win for Fernridge only one match being lost

5th December Calves judged

20th December School Closed

1934

5th February School reopened Roll Senior 32. Juniors 15

5th March 11.50 Earthquakes

6th March Chimneys dismantled

7th April a shop day was held £14 collected Funds required to repair swimming baths

14th April A concert was given in the Kaituna Hall
Proceeds for funds to repair swimming baths
5th May Chimneys repaired- Stove placed in Junior Room. Grounds improved. Fence erected
1st June Trees Topped
5th June Cocoa made for all pupils at 1/- per term
Laings to supply the milk
17th 18th Refresher Course at Central School
1st October School closed terrific Storm- flagpole uprooted. Trees uprooted, fence of swimming baths blown down
29th November Proficiency Exam held at Whatman School (pupils entered and all gained proficiency)
1st December The parents arranged a swimming and tennis party at school when the standard 6 children presented me with a picture as a token of their appreciation of their enjoyable term at Fernridge
10th December Began term as relieving Head Teacher Unknown
17th December Panes of glass in the hot house broke over the weekend Have put two notices of warning trespassers of prosecution
18th End of term .Relinquish duties today after a pleasant week.

1935

5th February Roll 43. Seniors 27 Juniors 16. Miss Dawson
7th February Received notice that half days are to be observed owing to excessive heat
24th February Full days commenced

12th March Meeting called at school to discuss of obtaining £8 owing to the Dental Clinic It was decided to hold a Social Evening in the school March 29th

23rd March A shop day was held in Scoullar's realising £15-6-3 net, £8 of which is due to the dental clinic

11th June 1935 A grant of £15 was also, made ,towards the maintenance of the museum at the Central School. Mr. A. Owen Jones was elected chairman for the ensuing twelve months. Tributes were paid to the services of the former chairman, Mr. T; F. Watson, who was defeated .at the recent poll PP

14th June 1935 ALLOCATION OF GRANTS

MASTERTON, This Day.' Contrary to general expectations, the Trust Lands Trust found, it possible under its estimates, which were adopted at last night's meeting; to make provision for grants, apart from those from the Scholarship Fund, amounting to £375. Capitation grants to primary schools total £210, while a Sum of £50 was allocated to the primary schools for the purchase of books and stationery for necessitous cases. The Wairarapa High School and the Technical School receive grants of £20 each for the same! purpose. The Dental Clinic will benefit to the extent of £35. and the Plunket Society receives £25.

The capitation grants to primary schools were as follows, the roll numbers being shown in parentheses

Central (558), £70;-

West and' Side (337), £45;

Lansdowne (243), £35;

St. Patrick's (172), £25

Whatman (105), £15

Solway (71), £10;

Fernridge (41), £10

The Education Committee recommended that twelve University Entrance grants be made from the Scholarship Fund, the total amount involved being £200. Included was a special grant of £50 for a student to go abroad. Seven of the proposed 'grants were for £10, two for £15, and two for £25 PP

7th August Arbor Day Mr Horton (Chairman) and Mr James planted shrubs to form a hedge to eliminate the unsightly boards which at present form the fence

12th November Proficiency Exam held at Whatman School. Robert Langley (Accredited) Mary James, Avis McKenzie. Reginald Wilkin (accredited) Jose Laing all gained proficiency

27th November School closed used as polling booth. Mr Robertson Labour elected

18th December A Christmas party was given to the children Mr Robertson MP for the district attended

1936

3rd February 42 Roll number

19th February School closed Masterton Show

4th April A shop day was held in Scoullar's shop (*Queen Street*) to obtain funds for improving school grounds £13 realised

6th April Maximum and Minimum thermometer arrived

10th August Report to Committee

Roll 44

The inspectors visited school 24th March and reported that a large number of seats in the desks needed adjusting as they were detrimental to children's posture

The library cupboard requires repairing as the wood was warped making it impossible to lock

The window in the spare room requires repairing

The inspector in July reported that a number of shelves were needed in the Primer room. This is urgent

A further supply of wood is urgently needed

An epidemic of Chicken Pox occurred during the term

7th September School reopened Mr James, Chairman School Committee inspected repairs that had been effected during the holiday

LONG SERVICE

24th September 1936 HEADMASTER RETIRING

When Mr. R. J. Foss retires at the end of the year from the position of headmaster of the Levin District High school he will have completed over 47 years in the service of the Wellington Education, Board,

Mr. Foss started as a pupil teacher at the Dalefield School On May 6, 1889; From there he went to the Carterton School, and subsequently was transferred to the Otaki School, where; he remained until he was appointed headmaster at Waikanae. Before being appointed in August, 1922, to his present position, Mr. Foss was successively headmaster at Fernridge , Carterton, Korokoro West, Eketahuna,, and for another term at Carterton.

The opportunity was taken by the Wellington Education Board last week to pay tribute to Mr. Foss's long service in - the teaching profession in the Wellington district PP

1st November Baths inspected by the Committee

It was decided to reline the bottom to prevent leakage

4th November Mr Watson Inspected school All Form II pupils were accredited for Proficiency Examination'

7th November Grass in paddock cut

25th November Mr Brockett and Mr Horton judged the calves- 5 entries

27th November Parents day- exhibition of Children's work

4th December Mrs E E Wilson tenders for bus run

a) £10 cheque enclosed

b) Insurances are very even and I can see no margin for myself under tendered price £180 per annum

11th December Letter to Mrs E E Wilson Head Teacher Fernridge
New tenders called for

15th December School closed a week earlier owing to an outbreak of Infantile Paralysis

1937

11th Jan Albert Woodley of Solway tenders 16/6d per school day for a year

29th January Two tenders E E Wilson tendered 18/- per school day for two years

Mr Woodley's tender accepted

Consolidation of Waingawa with Fernridge approved. Conveyance to start as soon as possible

1st March Woodley advised conveyance tomorrow

1st March School reopened. Closed February Epidemic

2nd March Kaituna children were conveyed by Mr Woodley and were entered in school room

Roll Girls 22 Boys 32

6th March Letter from EE Wilson to board stating that her cheque of £10 with her tender had never been cashed. She was paying interest on this money could she have cheque back

9th March Letter from Board acknowledging her tender and sending cheque back

6th April Mr Woodley wanted his £10 cheque back but Wellington Education Board said this is retained until the end of the contract

19th April School closed Infantile paralysis epidemic

Correspondence lesson

24th May School commenced

1 week holiday- 2nd week to be taken in July for Education Holiday

1st June Mr Woodley claims 6 pence per day for the extra child he is carrying. Contract was for 10 children

But Board replied contract was for all children entitled not a set number of children

Mr Woodley's conveyance was a car

26th June Supply of wood arrived

113th August Arbor day Scarlet Oak planted and native shrubs

18th August More shrubs planted- sent by Mrs Laing
6th September School reopened Mrs Wilson obtained one week's leave owing to the death of her mother, Mrs Dagg
7th September Mrs Payne appointed as relieving teacher. Maximum and Minimum thermometer arrived to replace the broken one
25th October Advice received that subject to the attendance being maintained during the term the school would again revert to 3b from
1st February
25th October Holiday Labour Day
28th October Holiday Carterton Show
16th November Four calves were judged in connection with the Girls and Boys Agricultural club. Mr Horton and Mr Brockett acted as judges
Joyce Percy gained two second prizes in the calf rearing competition (*Group*)
1st prize for Note book
17th December Breaking up evening
Gift and resented to each child
Certificates presented to 6 Form II pupils

1938

1st February 47 pupils on roll
Miss Brockett commenced duties as Temporary Probationer Assistant
29th April School closed Friday Afternoon. Demonstration of verse speaking held at Central School

2nd May Biennial election of School Committee Mr Welch re-elected Secretary and Mr James Chairman
27th July A householder's meeting was held to discuss the proposed consolidation of the school with Masterton West. The Board members Mr A Donald and Colonel McDonald were present
It was decided unanimously that the consolidation scheme be rejected and the Department be asked to modernise the present building
3rd August Members of the Committee and I visited Masterton East School- a model for alterations to the school
Arbor Day Mr James and Mrs Welch visited school and trees were planted
10th August Mrs Wilson (Assistant) absent Measles
11th August Mrs Pain appointed as relieving assistant
19th August School closed Term Holiday Attendance 0/49 Measles epidemic
9th September Stormy 13/49
22nd September Mr Fisher visited school organising P O Savings Bank
27th October Holidays Carterton Show
28th October Form II sent in exhibits to the local sketch club exhibition to be held November 1st and 2nd in Y M C A
31st October Mr Welch and Mr James called with a memo from Education Board saying that 161000 gallons of water had been used this term. This I consider an impossibility and conclude that the metre must be incorrect or the pipes need repairing
1st November Mr Brockett called to ear mark the calves and lambs in the competition

14th November Baths cleaned and filled
15th November Swimming lessons commenced
25th November Parents day Display of children's work
Judging of calves and lambs
Calf Rearing Joyce Percy 1st. Judith Laing 2nd, Noreen Kerins 3rd
Lamb rearing Gerald Laing 1st Nancy Welch 2nd, John Graham 3rd
6th December Further judging of calves and lambs at Solway
1st Prize Notebook Joyce Percy. 2nd Prize Notebook Judith Laing. 3rd
Prize Rearing for Lamb Gerald Laing
16th December Joyce Percy and Evelyn Thomas won the doubles
competition Primary Schools' Tennis
16th December breaking up concert was held. Every child received a
gift- trophies which had been gained during the year were presented

1939

1st February Junior Roll 26 Senior Room 22
Senior Boys painted the tops of the desks green this proved a great
improvement
10th February Junior Desks painted
13th February Mr Brockett visited school Visited the crops raised by
3 pupils. Balfour Wilton's crop received high praise
24th February A display of Folk Dancing tennis and swimming. All
parents invited
Mrs Wilton donated a case of pears
Mrs James supplied raspberry drink and ice blocks
Mrs Laing supplied the tea
A very successful and enjoyable morning

27th February cheque received £7-10-0 Grant from Masterton Trust
Lands trust for year ending 31st March 1939
15th April Shop Day held The sum of £14 collected
19th June Andrew Scott, Ngaire Scott and Ian Scott admitted from
Central School
23rd June 2 pairs of grass shears and a watering can received
8th 9th August Combined primary schools exhibition of work.
Selections made for Centennial Exhibition. 5 selections made from
this school made by Peter Laing (standard 2) Peter Evans Form 2
William Percy (2) Form 2 June Thomas Form 1
A concert was held in the Municipal Hall for which I was the
organiser- 4 playlets were given by this school
8th August Half Day Holiday opening of Exhibition
4th September England declared war on Germany
School reopened after vacation
4th September Balfour Wilton Form II gained first prize in Masterton
Group for his crop of carrots
Yield 53 Tons of carrots 16 lbs to the acre?
3rd October Balfour Wilton received advice that he had won a prize
value of 7/6d 1st Prize Carrot growing Competition
4th October Junior Red Cross Club Formed
Secretary Josephine Kerins
13th November Percy, John, Rae, Paula Logan admitted from
Waihakeke School Carterton

1940

February Roll Senior 19 Junior 25. This month was occupied in Health Activities such as swimming, tennis, baseball matches etc and excursions

16th February Children visited the gold fish ponds at Graham's

26th February 16 pupils conveyed by rail car to the centennial exhibition accompanied by Mrs Laing and Myself

27th March School reopened Mr Savage Prime Minister died

28th 29th March School closed funeral of Mr Savage

Easter The school was lent to the Methodist bible Class. The playground was littered with straw and many records broken also glass panes in the greenhouse

26th March Carrots grown in plot sold for 4/6d

3rd June No holiday this year (*Arbor Day?*) Pupils promise the following native cuttings Matipo 50, Totara 2 Lancewood 8 Rangiora 3 Kowhai 6 Ngaio 12 Lacebark 2 Whitewood 1 Karamu 6 Mr Evans called at school complaining that his mail box had been removed. I have made searching enquiries and find the culprits are not of this school It may be the individual who broke the school windows some time ago.

10th July A Bottle Drive held which realised 11/3d

A doll was donated by Mrs Griffiths which was raffled and realised £1

With this fund I purchased a Basketball £1-5-0. Further contributions will be donated to the Red Cross Fund

12th July Mr Brockett visited the school and removed all mercury Basketball match played against Solway. Result Solway 12- Fernridge 9

29th July Mrs Percy donated a worked apron which was sold, £1 was collected

17th September 1940 The Wellington Navy League has received word from the Masterton branch of the league that the Fernridge School has enrolled 100 per cent, of its scholars in the Navy League this year and is entitled to a presentation Union Jack. Arrangements are being made with the Education Board for its presentation with suitable ceremony. The Wellington Navy League presents a Union Jack, suitably inscribed, to any school which enrolls 100 school members when it has a roll number of over 100, or all its pupils when the roll number is under 100. In the last 25 years the league has presented hundreds of flags to schools, and renewed them at intervals. The schools earn a flag by the co-operative effort of all the scholars and teachers PP

25th October Letter from Miss B Dawson asking for Carterton show day, which was approved by the Board

7th November Tennis Court renetted and poles straightened
Flagpole repaired

Miss Evans donated Toy Rabbit to be sold for funds for sports apparatus – sold for £1-2-6

9th November Mr Broad canvassed the district for subscriptions to school funds £4-10-0 collected

22nd November Navy league presented a flag as a result of 100% membership. Sir Chas Norton Presided

Colonel McDonald represented the board

The pupils gave a display of the modern drill

Afternoon Tea was provided by the parents

25th 27th November School closed on occasion of the King's Birthday

School judging of calves and lambs

Calf Judging 1st Noreen Kerins, 2nd Rosalind Wilton 3 William Broad

Lambs pure bred Southdown 1st Norman Siemonek 2nd Joan Siemonek

Cross Southdown 1st Peter Kerins 2nd Malcolm Yates

25th November A day applied for school picnic

3rd December At the final judging of calves at Solway Show

Rosalind Wilton gained 1st prize notebooks

William Broad 3rd prize Notebook

10th December Fourteen pupils were conveyed to the Municipal Hall to visit the Coronation Picture and also an exhibition of N Z Art

A charge of 3d per pupil was made for admission

19th December Xmas party held in the school

1941

3rd February School reopened Roll 39

7th February 50 navy badges sold by the pupils

14th February A large quantity of produce donated to the Combined Primary School's Paddy market

A Blackberry picnic held in Mr McKenzie's property

27th February A demonstration was taken by Mr Heyhoe in honey extraction on his farm. A carton of honey was given to each pupil

28th February Misses Johnston and Sheppard dental clinic nurses visited school and addressed the children re cleaning of teeth regularly and eating suitable food

24th March A note was received informing me that Miss Spiers Physical Instructress would visit school every Wednesday afternoon

16th July Arbor Day A new escalonias hedge planted. Mr James Chairman School Committee attended to the planting

19th August Pupil and teachers presented two eversharp pencils to John Laing and John Welch (Ex pupils) on the occasion of a farewell given at Kaituna

20th August A gift was presented to Miss Spiers- drill instructress as this is the last day for her instructress, she is leaving to be married

25th September Sir Cyril and Lady Newall visited Masterton

The pupils assembled in the Park

A bouquet was presented to lady Newall by Jocelyn Broad

28th October Received carrot Seeds and Manure from Perry and Company

5th November Names and addresses of pupils to be conveyed to Fernridge School- Wairarapa College, St Matthews given to Mr Welch Secretary School Committee

5th November Forms were distributed to parents and householders asking for donations to the Western District Dental Clinic Building Committee

6th 7th November Mrs Wilson absent Motor Accident

12th November Reported to Committee vandalism at school previous evening

21st November Parent's Association held a meeting. It was decided to hold a picnic 16th December

1942

2nd February School reopened Senior 22 roll Junior 21

17th February Notice that a Physical Instructress would attend school every Tuesday Afternoon

3rd March Miss Sewell took Phys Instruction

Election of School Committee Chairman Mr James, Secretary P Welch, Mr Boyes, Mr G Laing, Mr Broad

25th June School Closed All pupils absent on account of violent earthquake the night before.

Mr James and Mr Laing inspected the chimneys, pronouncing them safe. No damage was done other than the breaking of a few vases and some crockery and a clock

26th June School reopened 15 pupils present

27th June Letter received thanking pupils for the parcel sent to H Allen serving overseas

20th July Progress cards of Siemoneks forwarded to St Patrick's

Request postcard sent to Whakataki for card of R Hayes

10th September Drains repaired

11th September Dick Welch farewelled and presented with an eversharp pencil

13th October Drains affected, School closed one day

12th November Gale damaged many trees and dislocated one of the strainers holding the flagpole. Also the fence surrounding the bath was flattened

20th November Parade of calves and lambs at school

24th November 10 shillings forwarded by Mrs James 5/ from Mrs Heyhoe 5/1 Mrs Wilton Subscriptions

1943

1st February School reopened Roll Senior 23, Junior 15

Further panes of glass have been broken during the holiday, also the fence surrounding the baths

Extra time has been taken working in the garden- weeding, harvesting potatoes and onions

Onions 96 lbs sold at 3d per lb

Potatoes 4/6d

23rd February Standard 3-4 boys visited Mrs James' Place to gather Briar berries (Rose Hip) to be sold to Plunket Society

24th February Further gathering of berries Amount collected 13/6 ½

2nd April Concert presented by senior children 1d admittance charges. Quoit Peg 10/6d bought with proceeds also 7/- worth of Ranunculi and anemone bulbs

13th June Senior girls organised a concert. Donations accounted to £2-0-9 with which two liberty Bonds were procured and given to Mr Welch Secretary of School Committee

6th July Senior Boys were conveyed to town. General Freyberg's visit

15th October Mrs Stewart examined Form 2 pupils for Junior Red Cross certificates, all passed

19th October Holiday applied for Carterton Show

25th October School closed for Labour Day

28th October School closed Carterton Show

29th October £1 in envelopes forwarded to the Secretary Wellington Education Board in aid of Otaki Health Camp Fund

19th November Calf Rearing Judge Mr Harcombe 1 Nancy Heyhoe Form 2, 2nd Peter Lang 3rd Peter Kerins

Lamb rearing Judge Mr Perry 1st Roger Laing Standard 4, 2nd Donald Laing Primers, 3rd Raymond Cundy primers

Afternoon tea was served. Plays were presented by the Primers and Senior pupils

22nd November Swimming commenced

The senior girls were invited to give a display of First Aid at the Women's Institute 5th Birthday. Elocution Items were given

29th November Cheque £7.10 received from Trust land Trust

9th December The Junior pupils were invited to be present at the Women's Institute meeting. Each received a Xmas gift

16th December Breakup ceremony held at school

Form 2 pupils received a gift

Presentations were made to Morgan Mulvaney and Donald McLaren who are leaving on active service

17th December School closed Xmas Vacation

1944

1st February Roll 33. Tenders called for erection of new school

25th February Miss Horner Dental Clinic nurse visited school and took tooth brush drill

28th February Junior Classes visited Mr Sutton's paddock to watch the threshing of wheat

Senior Classes visited Mr Heyhoe's bee farm

21st March First supply of apples received

28th April Mr H Evans died. He was one of the oldest pioneers of the district- helping to build the present school

A wreath was sent from Teachers and pupils

4th April Concert held in Kaituna Hall to obtain funds for equipment in new school buildings

22nd May School assembled but were dismissed as the plumbing was not completed

23rd May Memo received that Miss Laurie (*Infant Adviser*) was to arrange a demonstration of free activity as carried out on modern lines in the Whatman School Tuesday 30th May at 1 pm

The assistant Mrs Wilson was to attend

5th June Last case of apples delivered.

14th June An appeal was received asking for funds in aid of the children in destitute countries. A short concert was given this afternoon as a result 25/- was forwarded to Red Cross

21st June received from Wellington Education Board 1 yard ruler, a Map of Pacific Countries

Material bought for girls sewing 7 shillings and 3d

28th June Letter from 46 Albert St The current roll is 38. I understand from Miss Dawson that four children will be leaving at end of term and Three admissions. Because the roll will be only 34 at the beginning of term 3 that the assistant will be removed

Signed Lily A Crocker

4th July Three empty cases despatched

5th July Miss Lowry visited school to demonstrate activities in the Infant Room

19th July appointment of Miss L Cocker Grading No 62 28 years' service Presently at Masterton Central. Miss Cocker declined because of falling roll and Board decided to re advertise the job

28th July A concert was held in school The children presented the Broad pupils with a farewell gift

Mrs Broad responded and thanked the teachers for the interest they had taken in her family

1st August I have written the chairman Mr Dagg informing him of the condition of the paint in the Primer's porch

6th September Six Lawsoniana trees arrived

Three wallets were forwarded to Bill Percy, Keith Gilbert, and Desmond Gilbert who are leaving for overseas. These were presentations from the pupils and teachers

13th September Trees in playground felled

26th September The senior classes visited the fish hatcheries

9th October I have made application to join the Country Library

30th October Margaret Kerins gained 1st prize (Standard 3 Drawing) Carterton Show

30th October Letter from Mr H W Dagg Fernridge School Committee asking that school not be regarded as 5 new entrants will be entering in February

1st November Chalk and toilet paper received from the Board

22nd November The swimming baths were emptied and cleaned. The sump needs attention as the boys had to bail out a larger quantity of water

22nd February Appointment of Miss T Major as a sole charge teacher. Grading 117 17 1/2 years teaching Presently Sole Teacher at Te Whiti

23rd November Water turned on

24th November The calves and lambs were judged at school. There was also a competition for the best vase of flowers for the girls and

one for the best handwork for the boys. A display of pupil's work was given and concert items, after which afternoon tea was served.

The apron donated by Mrs Percy realised £1-14-0

29th November letter from Mr Harcombe Secretary of School Committee included

- a) A were surprised at appointment of Miss Majors as we were told it was to be readvertised
 - b) No objections to Miss Major
 - c) There is a higher graded teacher Mrs E Wilson already in the school
 - d) The school could rise to a grade of 37
 - e) We would be very sorry to lose Mrs Wilson
 - f) We suggest Mrs Wilson stays on until the grade of the school is determined next year
- 1st December Reply from Board

A) Miss Major is on transfer

B) Mrs Wilson will be found a relieving job nearer her home

C) Need 37 On roll to retain an assistant

1st December Bayonet gun was returned to Peter Evans by permission of the Committee

Swimming commenced

14th December A concert was presented in the Kaituna Hall. A presentation was made to me as I am severing my connection with the school being retired on superannuation

1945

26th January Mr Dagg writes roll will definitely be 37 On opening day

5th February School reopened Roll 34. I commence duty as sole teacher (*Miss Major*)

1908/8917 Major Thelma Alves Hilda Jane Arthur Cecil

14th February Letter from Miss Major opening roll 32 Am awaiting 2 more children Mr Dagg is trying to arrange transport for these children

Richard Holmes at present on correspondence is to come to Fernridge He has about 3 miles to come and has to learn to manage his pony first

Reply stated that roll has to be over 36 for four weeks before an assistant can be appointed

21st February School closed for Masterton Show

2nd March The children attended the combined school sports at the Masterton Park. Some of the children were successful at winning their events

5th March Captain Sutcliffe commenced religious instruction today

4th April Set of light woodwork tools and wood arrived from Education Board

9th April Two boxes of apples arrived today for apples in school scheme

10th April Miss Horner visited the school and examined the teeth of all the children

11th April AS no position has been found for Mrs Wilson she has been reappointed as additional assistant

16th April Mrs Wilson recommenced duties in the Infant Room Today

2nd May Mr Maloney judged two home gardens- John Graham and Roger Laing

3rd May A short service was held to mark the surrender of the German Armies in Italy. School will be closed on Friday May 4th to mark the event

21st May School reopened Five new pupils admitted

31st May Letter received today from Country Library Service advising that Fernridge could start receiving books on July 1st

1st June Mr Brown, Light woodwork supervisor visited the school and discussed wood work. He instructed the boys in the making of a letter rack

19th June Mrs Wilson reported sick- will be away till 25th June

28th June A carton of library books from Country Library Service arrived- our first issue

2nd July A small basketball and six small rubber balls arrived today from the Education Board

6th July Timber arrived from Daniell's for compost box.

13th July Mr Maloney came to school and made the compost box

31st July On Arbor Day we planted a hedge of Lawsoniana along the West side of the grounds. The Beautifying Association presented the school with an ornamental shrub.

11th August. The basketball team competed in the Tournament held at The College Grounds. They won 1 match and lost two. In the

afternoon they attended a Red Cross Afternoon given for the Polish Children

15th August The end of World War II was declared today. The school closed at midday. The school will be closed tomorrow too

17th September On Saturday night a most successful Fancy Dress Children's party was held to celebrate peace. Parents and friends turned up in great numbers.

21st September The septic tank which has overflowed for the last two days was dug up and repaired The trouble was due to stones being dropped down the air vent before it was mended some 18 months ago

26th September Miss Taylor- Physical education instructress was at school this morning. Suitable programmes for a drill display were suggested and discussed the various exercises tried by the children

26th September Mr Maloney spent the afternoon at school- gave the children a lesson on special kinds of stems. Looked over the garden plots etc.

1st October Kaituna Footbridge

- a) South Wairarapa County (*Based in Carterton*) wrote saying the Footbridge need urgent repairs up to £50
- b) As the bridge is used by children to get to the Bus stop for Fernridge the Board should pay a third
- c) The County did the job as it was urgent and the Wellington Education Board official stated it was now in a good state of repair
- d) 2 children use it at the moment and there will three others that will use it in the future

e) Board asking the Department for a grant

f) Department replies has no way of paying

3rd October Two rolls of brown paper, newsprint for art work and two pairs of scissors arrived from Education Board

15th October Mrs Stewart and Miss Cocker conducted a Red Cross, oral and practical test. Next day a written test was taken

A set of maps arrived from the Board

16th October Miss Horner Dental Clinic Nurse. Examined the children and made the required appointments

7th November Mrs Wilson was absent today with a severe attack of summer sickness

13th November Three returned soldiers. Mr Dellar, Mr Godley Mr Sparks from the Wellington Training College visited the school for a days' observations

16th November Today the lamb and calf Judging took place. Mr G H Perry judged the lambs and Mr Harcome the calves

The children brought their pets along too. There was a large gathering of parents and friends to watch. The children gave a drill display and had a stall of hand work articles and produce at which £11- 10 was made. Afternoon tea was served by the children

19th November Today the Masterton Group Calf and Lamb Judging took place at Solway School. Children in classes 1-6 attended. Mr Harcombe, Mr Trass and Mr Holmwood providing transport. Alan Trass won the first prize for dairy type and Ross Marshall got a second in the Pets Class

3rd December Mr E G Coddington (Junior) came to school to observe for a week

6th December The School Committee met in the evening at school

18th December went down to the West End Hall to practice concert. Went through it during Morning and Afternoon

19th December Closed school early this afternoon to allow children to go home for a rest in preparation for the concert tonight.

20th December A very successful concert was presented by the pupils last evening. Gifts were given to the children by the Committee Ice Creams and Drinks were served

1946

Roll 31- 25 being present

7th February Today was spent in town visiting factories – The Butter Factory. The Hosiery Mills and the Gas Works- a very interesting time was spent

15th February The weather this week has been extremely hot. Swimming has been taken twice a day

20th February School closed for Masterton Show- Peoples Day

21st February An excursion was arranged to take the children to Carterton to visit the Belvedere Cheese Factory, In the afternoon a visit was made to the Pipe (*Clay*) Factory

22nd February School closed today to enable teachers to attend Annual Meeting of N Z E I held in the Masterton Park

1st March Mr W R Keane started today under contract to drive children from Kaituna

Children attended combined schools sports at Masterton Park

29th March Mrs Wilson absent for three days- time allowed for her to travel to Auckland to Farewell her daughter who goes to U S A

2nd May The plumber put extra height on the chimneys

2nd May Four rehabilitation teachers visited the school and spent the day observing

9th May As above

24th April Today a short Anzac Service was held. Colonel Irving giving the children a short address

7th May Standard 3,4,5 and 6 paid a visit to the Wairarapa Times Age to watch the printing of the Paper. Afterwards a visit was paid to Central School Museum

10th May Mr Newman put in toy cupboards in Mrs Wilson's room a cupboard in porch and mended windows etc

27th May During the holidays the fence of the Horse Paddock was moved and repaired

Started milk in school scheme today- I am bringing 1 crate from Whatman School- hope to be able to get transport for full supply shortly

Started cocoa for lunch for winter term

4th June School closed Monday June 3rd for King's Birthday

10th June Mr Andrews- a returned teacher came today to spend a week observing

11th June Three returned soldier teacher spent the day here observing the work (Mr Fitzgerald, Mr Gunn, Mr Hodge)

23rd June Mrs Wilson Returned to school today having been very ill with a bad type of influenza

7th July 21 Native shrubs arrived today from New Plymouth and planted by children

24th July The school closed this afternoon so that those wishing to see the Kiwi Footballers in action might do so

13th August 10 ornamental trees and a Dozen hedge trees came yesterday

14th August Miss Major was granted a day's leave of absence to enable her to meet her sister who was returning from England

Mr Tovey The Arts and Crafts supervisor came to inspect the school with the idea of introducing the scheme next year

15th August The trees and Hedge were planted by the children today

23rd August A very successful Fancy Dress dance was held in the Kaituna Hall last evening. There was an excellent attendance of both children and parents and a very happy time was spent by all in games and dancing

24th September Miss Taylor Physical education Instructress spent the day at school. Ball work and tumbling taken with senior classes

3rd October The children (all classes) assembled at Wairarapa College at 11.30 to meet the Governor General Sir Bernard Freyberg V C and Lady Freyberg

4th October School closed Special holiday granted by Sir Bernard Freyberg

28th October School closed for Labour Day

31st October Received a further 3 library books on loan from Education Board

6th November Mr Dutton the Dr Barnardo Helper's Representative gave the children a short talk on the young helpers league

11th November Lieutenant Col Hancox and Major Hibbs presented a framed photo of the NZ VC Winners. to the school. A short ceremony was held. The presentation was made by Rotary Club

14th November Annual Calf and Lamb judging held. Mr L A Keats judged calves. Mr G H Perry, lambs, Miss G Moser flowers, Mrs W James cooking

A handwork stall realised £16.00 A most successful afternoon in spite of weather

26th November Mr Wareham physical education specialist spent the day at the school and took various exercises and games. Folk Dances, Maori stick games

27th November School closed for election day- School used as polling booth

12th December Mr Brown supervisor for woodwork (light) spent the afternoon inspecting the tools and showed the children how to construct a solitaire box

16th December Swimming has been in swing for a week now

19th December School closed today A children's concert and break up ceremony, presentation of certificates etc is being held tonight in the West End Hall

Gifts will be presents to the children and ice cream and drinks given

1947

3rd February School reopened

8th February Wing Commander T Horton visited the school and gave the children a talk on his experiences in the air force. Wing Commander Horton was a former pupil of the school

13th February Miss Steptoe and Mr Varnham physical education specialists gave the children a short swimming lesson

5th March The pupils of Standard 3-6 paid a most interesting visit to Waingawa Freezing Works 2 ½ hours were spent there. The chairman Mr Clement kindly brought his car and helped to convey the children there

15th March A school picnic in ideal weather conditions was held at Payton's Bush. There was an excellent attendance of parents and all the children were present. Games were played in the morning and a sports programme was run off in the afternoon. Lunch and afternoon tea, ice creams soft drinks and apples were provided by the Committee Funds were collected from the district

18th March Mr Elliott the health inspector came and discussed the condition of the water in the school baths and gave suggestions for getting rid of algae growth by chlorinating the water

21st March The school was closed to enable the children of Standard 1 to Form II to attend the combined Primary Schools Sports- all the children competed in some of the events and an excellent days outing was enjoyed.

26th March The school was closed for Wednesday and Thursday to enable the teachers to attend a two day art course at the Central School conducted by Miss B Borthwick

9th April Miss Wilson the school nurse attended school today to give the children of all classes a preliminary examination eyes, hearing and skin for the doctor's visit on April 23rd

16th April Mr Jenkins came today to make arrangements about art lessons. He is to come once a fortnight.

22nd April Mr Jenkins took 2 art lessons. One in each room

23rd April Dr McAllum and Miss Wilson visited the school to conduct their annual examination. All children were examined. Quite a number of parents attending'

24th April A short Anzac service held at school

1st May Miss T Major was granted one weeks leave of absence to attend the Girl Guide Commissioner's Conference Mrs H P Glen relieved during her absence

28th May School closed used as a polling both for licensing issue

14th July Mr Hood Traffic Inspector from Wellington today gave the children a talk on safety first and showed 3 films on traffic safety

6th August Arbor day planted a japonica hedge at horse paddock and a rhododendron (Alarm) The rhododendron was a gift from the Beautifying Society

21st August Last Evening the Annual Fancy Dress Dance was held in the Kaituna Hall all the children and their parents being present. It was a most successful function

19th September Mrs N Sellar Secretary of the Navy League (Masterton) brought lieutenant Commander Olphert to speak to the children on Navy League matters

27th October School closed Labour day

28th October 4 hand looms arrived today

14th November Children all attended a free picture show given by the Navy League- The school was presented with its first star for again having 100% membership. The pictures started at 3.30 p.m.

19th November School closed Polling Day. County Elections

20th November Calf and lamb judging, 10 calves and 9 lambs

1st December The school was closed today until further notice on account of the outbreak of infantile paralysis in Northern Parts of the

North Island. The two teachers reported to school and marked examination papers and generally cleaned up

4th December teachers attended discussion groups and refresher courses held at the Central School on Thursday and Friday 4th 5th

December 8th 9th December

12th December Work of clearing up was finished and forms and returns completed

Thelma A Major

1948

2nd February The staff reported for duty today. The children were absent by order of the Health Department on account of infantile paralysis

Day spent in discussion of correspondence course and work generally. A start on tidying up the school grounds was made

9th February The staff went to the Central School to meet Mr Bringans who spoke on the operation of Correspondence Lessons. In the afternoon Mr Littlewood spoke to sole charge and two teacher on Running a Sole Charge School

Last week workmen renewed our boundary fence of school grounds A partition was put up in the fuel shed to make a storeroom for Physical Education Equipment

17th February One low type 9 foot standard cupboard arrived from Education Board today

Mr Clement has been working at the school for the past fortnight and has made a 10' x 5' sandpit in the playground for the infants and built in the fuel shed a store room for PE equipment

17th February The assignment work that has been sent out appears to be being done in a very satisfactory manner

1st March The children reported back today with a roll of 36

15th March Miss Steptoe visited the school and took some physical exercises and ball throwing with the children'

3rd May The householders meeting for election of School Committee took place. Only 8 present

6th May Fancy dress dance held at Kaituna Hall at 7.30 p.m.

24th May Letter from Board to Mr E A Clement. Male teachers retire at 65 and females at 55 We give notice that Mrs E Wilson will be retired. She should have been retired at the end of first term 1947 but owing to the great shortage of teachers her retirement was deferred

25th May 5 primer 1 chairs and 4 primer 2 and 3 chairs were delivered at the school today

1st June Yesterday Mr W Keane terminated his contract of driving the school bus. Today there was no bus, Most of the Kaituna Children coming with their parents Cocoa for pupils having lunch started

2nd June Miss E McKenzie has accepted a temporary contract for the bus service and started today

7th June Kings Birthday. School closed

16th June 16 books to be used for Social Studies were delivered from Education Board

18th June The Matahiwi School visited Fernridge this afternoon. The boys played a football match and the girls played basketball. The

primers played rounders and skipping. Afternoon tea was served to the children by the parents present

28th June Half yearly survey began today and will be taken in all subjects throughout the week

2nd July A Robin Loom arrived from Auckland Education Board . This afternoon the whole school went over to Matahiwi for a return match

6th July Inspector Hood of the Traffic Department Wellington today visited the school and spoke to the children on safety first. He showed two films. One on safety on the bus and the other safe Cycling

8th July The Committee held a working bee and hedges were cut and cleaning up at the back of the tennis Court

10th July A combined seven aside rugby team from Matahiwi and Fernridge played at the annual tournament held at Wairarapa College

14th July Mr W B Evans Agricultural Instructor came to school today. He discussed the carrot crop- gave a lesson to the children on How Plants Feed. He showed a filmstrip- A Nature Study Quiz.

16th July Miss Blomhart and Mr Wilson hand work specialist, paid a short visit to the school- the correct method of setting up a loom and weaving was demonstrated.

6th August Box of handwork material from Education Board came today- 20 hanks of yarn 2 dozen crayons, 1 pair punch pliers and eyelets

Also 2 rolls of wire netting from Education Board delivered by WFCA to net in garden

13th August Matahiwi School had a sports afternoon here played 7 aside Football. Matahiwi won 6-0, 5 aside basketball Fernridge won 4-2 Afternoon tea was served

20th August The children this afternoon put on a concert of individual items and plays etc. To raise funds for their Red Cross Funds. It was most successful and an excellent number of parents being present. £3-1-0 was raised

4th October Today classes 3-6 paid a visit to N R Cunningham's Refrigerator Factory and inspected the exhibition of children's art at the YMCA

13th October letter from Board that as school with a roll of only 33 will lose its assistant next year

19th October Standard 3-6 visited the Masterton Central School to see their Social Studies Project Display. Afterwards visited the borough tip to see the composting work that is being done there.

5th November Guy Fawkes held at school- great success excellent attendance of parents and friends

28th October Letter from Education Department that roll is to be a two teacher for 1949

10th November Dr Barnardos representative Mrs Dutton called today and gave the children a ten minute talk on the work of Dr Barnardo Homes. Five new helpers we enrolled

2nd November Lamb and calf day Field day held There were 7 calves and 6 lambs

6th December Group Day of agricultural club at Solway School Standard III to Form II attended

16th December School break up festivities. A sit down meal at 6.15 p.m. followed by a short concert at 7.30 with Christmas tree and Father Christmas. A very successful function

16th December Appointment of Miss M Linton Grade no 38 Teaching for 6 years at present at Waterloo School

Note from Mr Roy Shaw asking for a man teacher. As the boys are getting older

17th December Mrs Wilson retired after eighteen years of service at the Fernridge School

1949

1st February School reopened Miss Linton newly appointed assistant reported for duty

28th February Swimming sports held 24 children out of 27 from Standard 1 up are able to swim. A successful afternoon. Poor attendance of parents

1st March Matahiwi came over for a game of cricket. Score Fernridge 36 Matahiwi 34. After cricket children had a swim and then were entertained to afternoon tea.

5th March On Saturday at Payton's Bush the Annual Picnic was held. Games and swimming in the morning. A programme of races in the afternoon. Committee provided meals

9th March School was used as a polling booth

21st March Mr Horsfall of traffic Department Wellington came to school at 9.00. Showed films to children on safety first, gave a talk on traffic rules

8th April During afternoon went to West End Hall to rehearse items for evening entertainment. At a social in the evening a presentation made to Mrs G Wilson of a silver tea service in appreciation of her long and faithful association with the school

30th May A working bee was held at the school. Hedges were cut and trench dug for hedge

24th June Measles very prevalent there being only a few pupils in Mrs Linton's room present

22nd May Leave of absence granted to Miss Major to attend Girl Guides Conference in Palmerston North

11th July Mr E W Evans and Mr McHarg visited the school. Mr Evans examined disease in Lupin and explained this to the children

12th July Half yearly survey begun today. It is being taken a little late owing to the very poor attendance due to measles

22nd July A dozen native trees and 36 hedge plants were supplied by the Education Board and were planted by the children- arbor day observed

26th July 12 copies of Form 1 English book delivered

28th July Mr Tooby Phys Ed specialist visited school for the last hour and took folk dancing in both rooms

3rd August School closed Polling Day Compulsory Conscriptioin Referendum

5th August Matahiwi School came for a sports afternoon of football and basketball. Results Fernridge 10 Matahiwi 5 Basket Ball Fernridge 0 Matahiwi 5

8th August. Miss Linton absent on account of home situation

Mrs M Allen appointed as relieving assistant in Miss Linton's absence

18th August A successful Fancy Dress Party was held for children at the school 7.30 to 10 pm. There was an excellent attendance of children and parents

5th September Milk being supplied by Willowbank Dairy Masterton

Mrs Linton still on leave of absence Mrs F Allen is relieving

8th September Large cupboard delivered at school

9th September The upper classes visited the Fish Hatchery

19th September Miss M Linton resumed duties today

23rd September Mrs Free, Dental Officer today examined the children's teeth and appointed for those requiring attention

26th September The Upper Classes 3-6 went to see Scott of the Antarctic

19th October Mr W Evans visited the school and brought an aquarium (12 gallon) and an insectariums- ordered compost for garden

21st October Miss Lowry- infant adviser- visited the school and spent the morning in the infant classes giving advice and information

24th October School closed for Labour Day

30th November School closed General Election. Polling Day

15th December School break up festivities. A sit down tea was given to the children followed by carol singing- presentations and a Christmas tree

1950

1st February The chairman had kept the grass cut (lawn) over the holidays. The baths had been used by outsiders during the holiday

and were not in good order for the children's use. In future I should recommend that over the Christmas holidays the baths be left empty
14th February School closed Teachers meet inspectors at Central School discussions

25th February School Picnic held on Mr G H Perry's property Totara Farm. A very successful outing. All children present

3rd march At the invitation of the children. Dr Archer Hosking came to the school and addressed the pupils on Early Masterton Neil Clarke conducted the meeting and introduced Dr Hosking. Betty Hayes passed a vote of thanks

7th March The School Swimming sports held today in lovely weather. The swimming has improved tremendously 25 out of 26 children are able to swim only B did not take part

22nd March The upper Standards went into town to see the picture The Empire Games 1950

29th March A combined schools (Country) sports day- was held at South Park- all the children taking part

31st March A cricket match was played against Matahiwi School on Friday afternoon Score being Matahiwi 21 Fernridge 43. Afternoon Tea was served to the visitors

20th April Mr B O'Connor- Physical Education Officer visited the school in place of Mr Tooby. He brought two balls for Phys Education work. He took both classes with work with a rope.

24th April Mrs Schofield terminated her contract as school bus driver. As no bus ran today the attendance was very poor only three of the bus children being present

24th April Miss Wilson district nurse visited the school. She showed the children a filmstrip The Lost Tooth

25th April School closed Anzac Day

28th April The Upper Standards visited the milk treating house at the invitation of Mr Hoy- owner- a very interesting hour was spent there

5th April There has been no bus for the past fortnight- attendance very irregular

22nd May School reopened today. A temporary bus service by Mr Stevenson is being maintained

Persons unknown have thrown 2 stones through a window in Primer Room. Breaking two panes

9th June Mr A Tatton accepted an invitation from the children to speak to them on Wapiti Hunting in Te Anau. He gave a very interesting address

26th June The pupils from the senior rooms went over to Matahiwi School for practice games at football and basketball and to pick teams to play against Gladstone on Friday

26th June Matahiwi and Gladstone played teams of basketball and football against Gladstone and Matahiwi- Results Basketball M F 11 G -1 Football M F 0 G 11

Bobby welcomed Gladstone and Neil Clarke thanked Matahiwi for their hospitality

28th July Mr L A Keats brought a calf to school and gave the children a talk on Choosing and Rearing a calf

1st August Mr Len Sissons Physical Health Instructor visited the school. Took ball skills with seniors and also took infants for a period.

2nd August Mrs W Free and a dental Inspectors visited the school and inspected the children's teeth- all have had up to date attention and the teeth were clean and good order

3rd August Arbor Day observed, Beautifying Society of Masterton presented five native trees to the school. These were planted in the Native Corner

9th August Fernridge and Matahiwi Schools travelled to Gladstone to play Football and basketball a delightful day and all games well contested – football team had improved considerably Results G 8 M F 0 Football; Basketball 2 all. Midgets G 0 F 3

12th August The basketball team took part in the annual Basketball tournament for the Wairarapa, held on the Wairarapa College grounds. They played C Grade and won two out of three matches

17th August The annual school Fancy Dress Dance was held at the school at 7.30 pm There was a record attendance of parents and friends and the accommodation was taxed to capacity- Next year may have to consider holding it in a hall

4th September Mr Snelgrove with a big blue bus- has taken over the conveyance contract and started today

5th September Three children Julie Duff, Betty and Doug Hayes are being kept at home by their parents, because the bus does not stop at their gate

11th September I was absent today- private business

19th September Miss Doreen Blumhardt Art and Craft Specialist visited the school and gave advice about craft work. She took a lesson on letter patterns in the senior room

20th September A sports afternoon held at Fernridge- Matahiwi combined against Gladstone

25th September Hayes children returned today- bus still goes only along main route

26th September Julie Duff returned to school today

14th November Senior Room went to Rangitumau for the Masterton Group Judging. About 50 calves and 30 lambs were brought before the judges

17th November A free Navy League picture was shown at the State Theatre at 3.30 to Navy League members. The school was presented with the 4th Star to their pennant

14th December The Christmas tree Party and breakup ceremony was held in the Kaituna Hall- all very much enjoyed by the children. Nearly all parents were present

15th December Clearing up was done and the school closed 1.30 pm
Mr G H Perry gave all the children ice creams

1951

5th February Roll 51 The grass is very long. The recreation ground requires cutting- the trees are in good order

28th February Miss Noakes, Field Organiser of Junior Red Cross. She showed them articles of handwork sent from other countries

16th March Fernridge combined with Matahiwi to play rounders and cricket against Gladstone. The games were played at Matahiwi School

20th March A combined country school sports gathering was held at the Park Oval- 23 schools competing.

18th April Mr W Evans Agricultural Instructor visited the school this afternoon. He looked over the garden and gave a lesson on Corn- the flower and root

20th April Mr Des Hillary, Phys Educational instructor visited the school during the morning. He took both classes for Phys Ed and instructed the children in the game of Continuous Cricket

27th April Mr Harbutt From school savings bank Branch of Post Office visited the school a short talk to the school on the value of opening school savings bank

2nd May The Annual Fancy Dress Dance was held at the West End Hall- Concert items were given by the children A presentation was made to Miss Linton who leaves at the end of the term- having resigned her position on account of approaching marriage

21st May School reopened after May holiday. No teacher available to relieve in Miss Linton's Place. So school carrying on without help
28th May Mrs Rutherford (Miss Linton) reported for relieving duty today

4th June King's Birthday

26th June Mr Robinson of Matahiwi brought his big children over for a practice game of football and basketball

27th June Appointment of Relieving teacher Mrs M Rutherford vice Mr Everitt

18th July Mr A K Everitt appointed 2 ½ years teaching Reliving at Rata Street

20th July The school journeyed to Gladstone for Football and Basketball matches. We went by bus £2-10/. The games were all well contested great improvement especially in football was noted
7 asides were played

30th July Mr Harbutt a Post Office official visited the school and talked to children on School savings bank.

31st July Mr Harbutt again visited the schools and opened 20 savings Accounts

3rd August Gladstone, Te Whiti and Matahiwi visited us for the afternoon

7th August Inspector Horsfall and Inspector Heaven from the Traffic Department visited the school this morning. Films were also shown to the children and practical safety first rules were taken in crossing the road and with bicycles

17th August Mrs Rutherford completed her relieving term

3rd September Mr Everitt newly appointed B Grade Assistant reported for duty. A change over was made in classes- Mr Everitt taking the senior room and Miss Major in the junior room

10th September Miss Simpson of the Inspectorial staff visited the school for the afternoon and discussed various problems with the teachers

14th September The school had a sports afternoon at Matahiwi School

2nd November School attend Navy League entertainment at State Theatre beginning at 3.30

15th November School calf club day most successful- 4 calves- 8 lambs- Floral work was especially good- pikelets and fudge- insect collections- stall realized £16.00

Mr Clark judge of stocks. Mrs A Keir flowers

Brian Strange made speech of thanks

27th November Masterton Group day at Te Whiti – 9 children took animals to the show. Keith Shaw won 1st pedigree and champion calf. Tony Wyeth Junior care and handling lamb- 3rd type. Geraldine Kerins – type 1st. Group of 3 calves Fernridge 3rd

30th November The senior room attended the picture The Lady with the Lamp at 2.30

18th December The annual school party and breakup was held at the Kaituna Hall. A sit down tea at 6.00 At 7.30 concert items presentation of School Certificates followed by father Xmas and a Christmas Tree

A presentation of a silver tea service was made to Miss Major by the parents in honour of her approaching marriage

Also a presentation of silver salad son was made to Mr Everitt in honour of his approaching marriage

1952

4th February School reopened today- Both Mrs Hollow nee Miss Major and Mr Everitt reporting for duty

7th February School Closed King George VI's death announced

11th February The assembled school listened in to the broadcast of the Proclamation of Queen Elizabeth II from the steps of parliament buildings

15th February The assembled school "Listened in" to a broadcast service in memory of the late King George VI and observed two minutes silence

In the afternoon Matahiwi came over the seniors played tabloid sports while the juniors played games and singing games

27th February Country Schools' Sports Day at Masterton Park. All children attended and took part in various events

28th February Two tons of coke delivered to the school

13th March Mrs Dutton representative for the Dr Barnardos' Homes visited the school and spoke to the children for ¼ an hour

15th March Annual School Picnic held at Solway Showgrounds a successful day- light rain fell but did not spoil the day. About fifteen children absent and not nearly as many parents as usual

18th March School closed. Teachers attended a gathering of country school teachers to discuss educational matters at Te Ore Ore School. Mr Hill and Mr McMillan of the inspectorial staff were present. A most interesting and successful day

20th March Mr Dutton came and collected donations from children who had decided to join the young Helpers League for Dr Barnardo's Homes

24th April A Short Anzac service was held. Mr H H Hollow being the speaker

25th April School closed Anzac day

30th April Mr Horsfall Traffic Department Mr Dunne Senior Education Officer of the transport Department and Inspector Locke visited the school and talked to the children and watched the children boarding the bus under the leadership of Graham Williams

9th May A short concert organised by the children themselves was held during the afternoon- silver coin admission- followed by a bring and buy. There was a good attendance of parents and £11/6 approximately was raised. This money was raised to help pay for football jerseys purchased this year

10th May A working bee was held- only six fathers being present. The laurel Hedge was cut around the tennis court. The hedge in the boy's playground arrived

3rd June Mrs Rutherford reported for relieving duties in place of Mr Everitt who is away on sick leave

13th June Mr Everitt resumed duty today

21st June A midget and junior teams- combined with Matahiwi played in the seven aside tournament

1st July Mr A K Everitt terminated his appointment at Fernridge. Mrs M Rutherford is relieving. Commenced duties in Infant Room. Head Teacher took over senior room

9th July Mr L Sissons Phys Ed Officer spent the afternoon at school Took a talk on posture with senior pupils. Also some ball throwing an catching skills- also two dances- Square Dance The Lady Goes Round the Gent and Durham Wheel

29th July visited Te Whiti School for football and basketball games.

Combined with Matahiwi against Gladstone and Te Whiti

30th July Visited N R Cunningham's Refrigerator factory Senior Room 2.00

20th August Visit paid by senior room to fish hatchery

4th September Mr Parkin starting as permanent assistant from Probationary Assistant Solway 2 years' service

8th September Mr Parkin started. Mrs Rutherford finished

26th September School fancy dress Dance West End Hall. Postponed from 19th August. Children dismissed at 2 pm to rest

15th October A cricket team from Solway School played a cricket team at Fernridge- a very interesting game- grounds and pitch in very good order the work of the boys under the direction of Mr Parkin

24th November Group Calf judging at Matahiwi- 4 calves and 4 lambs paraded at the show Only children with stock attended. There were seven successes

17th December The annual school breakup was held at the Kaituna Hall. 6 p.m. Sit Down Te provided by parents. 6.30 games 7.30 Concert items- square dancing and Nativity Play. 8.30 presentation of certificates and garden prizes

A presentation of gifts to teachers by children

8.45 Arrival of Father Christmas and distribution of gifts from tea provided by School Committee

18th December Clearing up of classrooms and scrubbing of desks.
Thelma A Hollows

1953

2nd February Total Roll 57

2nd March Mr Barnett Agriculture Inspector spent morning at school and discussed work with teachers

3rd March School Picnic held at Solway Showgrounds Fine Day All children bar one present a good attendance of parents

12th March Form 1 and II went to exhibition of embroidery at McGregor Hall of European Countries Mrs McKie took the girls

20th March While practising high jump Winston Williams fractured his left forearm Head Teacher took him to Dr Palmer and then to hospital for Xray He was admitted to have the arm set

31st March A simple swimming demonstration by pupils for parents

15th April Miss Hubbard District Health Nurse examined progress cards of children and sent out notices for booster for diphtheria immunisation

Standard 4 to 6 paid a visit to the Times Age to see the newspaper being printed

Miss Hubbard Public Health Nurse this afternoon injected children under 7 with booster does against diphtheria

27th April Meeting of Householders for election of Committee held at the school at 7.30 12 present

Chairman Mr O Wyeth. Secretary Mr A James, Treasurer Mr R Buick

Members A C Murray Mr D Johansen

28th May School closed at 2 pm to enable children to go home to rest in preparation for Fancy Dress Dance

Senior pupils and staff decorated the Kaituna Hall with flags and bunting- crowns and fleur-de-lis made by children – a very fine effort

All children were present a grand assembly of parents and friends A very happy time was spent by all in singing games- American Square Dancing

The pupils both senior and junior entertained with items of choral speaking and singing

29th May To commemorate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II a short ceremony was held at school

School listened in to wireless broadcast. A filmstrip on Queen Elizabeth II was shown

At conclusion God Save the Queen was sung

1st June School closed Queens Birthday

2nd June School closed Coronation Day of Queen Elizabeth II

8th June Men's working bee- 11 men- worked at the school all morning- cutting hedges and grass and generally cleaning up. Two basketball posts erected- movable in winter

19th June .First supply of infant equipment room equipment delivered today

Threading Beads: Square 25, Cylindrical 25, Round 25

Threading Lace 1, Counters 130, Construction sets 1, mosaic and pegs. Hanging measuring sets 1, Measuring strip Set 4, Rulers marking in inches 10

At 2.30 Mr L Robinson from Matahiwi brought four of his boys over to select a team for 7 aside rugby

30th June Bus came at 2.30 to take children home to Kaituna and then returned at 3.00 to those going to the picture A Queen is crowned at Regent Theatre at 3.30

3rd July Arrived today 1 4 ft nature Study Table, 1 insectarium, 1 wormery, 1 terrarium, all kitsets

From Agricultural Department Education Board

9th July School closed at 2 pm to enable staff to attend a service training course on Nature Study at Central School from 2 to 5

27th July 3 Book 7 Janet and John Series received from Education Board today

30th July The girls from standard 3-Form 2 went to West School to watch the representative matches in basketball between North and South Wairarapa Two girls from Fernridge Nancy Mann and Christine Brood were playing in the B Grade match. They were vice captain and captain respectively

3rd August 6 Janet and John readers received

4th August A sports afternoon was held at Fernridge – rugby and basketball being played. 4 football teams and 3 basketball teams played Matahiwi Fernridge combined V Gladstone Te Whiti combined

The newly formed Parents Association provided and served afternoon tea to children and parents

11th August Standard III to Form II visited the fish hatcheries

14th August Mr Faithful from the Art and Craft Department spent from 10-12 at school He worked with the senior classes- doing crayon and dye painting; wet papers with crayons- paste pictures- mask making- The class was most interested and worked well

15th August Saturday- Annual games morning at Wairarapa College Courts. Teams entered in B grade. Basketball Tournament postponed owing to inclement weather

17th September Mr Gubb Phys Education Specialist visited school. At request of teacher showed how paddle (*Padder*) tennis was played and discussed equipment

25th September Carpenters were at school mending windows and doing odd jobs- as they were working in school room opportunity was taken to have a day in the garden- lawns were mowed, edges cut and straightened- corners cleared and work done in the bush. Gardens weeded and tidied

16th September Six table and chairs D Type delivered at school to replace 3 dual types that were beyond repair.

5th September More tables and chairs D Type- delivered at school to cope with extra numbers

Also parcel of assorted hand work material. Punch, string, double knitting wool 8 skeins- 4 ply. 4 skeins and 8 skeins – packet eyelets- book binding material

16th October Standard VI pupils assisted parents association at their shop day at Y M C A Over £200 was raised

22nd October Governor Generals Visit. At 2.15 children were conveyed by Private Cars to Wairarapa College to hear the Governor General- about 3000 school children were present. A holiday on Tues October 27th was given to the children'

30th October Mrs D Cooper gave a demonstration on floral work to the senior children – a modern arrangement, a green arrangement and a nature piece

4th November Mr Jenkins building contractor started work on putting in concrete paths to girls and boys lavatories

6th November 42 members of Navy League attended a picture at the State Theatre Pennant and Stars were presented. Mr Parkin accompanied the children

12th November Annual Show day. 7 calves, 9 lambs, 4 hens and chicks

Flower display excellent

Cooking entries improved and very good

Standard 1 had model farm

Afternoon tea served by Parents Association

Concreting of paths to lavatories completed

16th November Miss Lowrie infant room adviser spent from 11.00 discussing infant room work with Mr Parkin

Seven pupils with their calves and lambs attend the Ag Group Day at Opaki No successes

15th December during afternoon whole school went to Kaituna Hall for a rehearsal of the concert items

16th December Children sent home at midday to rest for afternoon. Teachers and senior pupils went to Kaituna Hall to decorate Christmas Tree and prepare tables for tea

At 6.0 the children assembled for a sit down tea flowed by games till 7.30

Father Christmas appeared and presented each child with a gift from the Christmas Tree

17th December General cleaning up

Thelma A Hollow

1954

1st February 11 children from Norfolk Road area- transferred to Solway School. Bus runs now only as far as Kaituna Hall. Only 7 on bus. (*Children must have come across Waingawa River*)

Grounds very dry- a number of young trees died from lack of water

25th February Swimming stopped for the time being- by health department- on account of prevalence of colds and sore throat infections

2nd March School picnic held at Solway Showgrounds All children present Rain marred the day- outside sports programme unable to be held- an alternative inside programme held games etc. Lunch and Afternoon tea provided by Parents Ass

11th March Children reported that their desks had been interfered with and that various articles were missing- Coloured pencils 4 boxes, fountain pens 4, eversharp pencils 4. Also at least three books

Wild Life Everywhere, Book of Achievement, Book of Knowledge (Value 16/- each) The matter was placed in the hands of the Police

15th March The school attended the film Royal Tour at The Regent Theatre

16th 17th March Choir: ten children in choir attended practice for Centennial Concert on Thursday 18th

17th March Keith Shaw Form 1 won the essay prize on the History of the Wairarapa given by the Centennial Committee for the Form 1 and 2 group

The judge said that Keith did a very commendable piece of work for a boy in his group.

18th March Country School Sports Day held at Queen Elizabeth Park. All children present. Excellent attendance of parents. Children acquitted themselves well

Centennial Concert held in Town Hall in the evening. A very good performance

6th April Letter from H James Secretary of School Committee Mr M Parkin has resigned his position as infant teacher Reply included "Mr Parkin's resignation as Scale 1 Assistant Mistress"

21st April Mrs Hollow Headteacher absent on account of sickness. Mrs E Wilson commenced duties in a relieving capacity teaching Standards 2, 3, 4 Forms 1 and 2

19th May Miss M G Macdonald appointed 5 1/2 years teaching Hawkes Bay Board

24th May Mrs Hollow resumed duties

27th May School closed at 2 pm for Fancy Dress at Kaituna Hall

Opportunity was taken to farewell Mr Parkin. Presentations made by Mr O Wyeth on behalf of Parent Ass and by Clifton Hooper on behalf of children

28th May Mr Parkin terminates today his position as infant teacher

31st May Committee held a working bee- Hedges round garden cut and long grass. Also pipe to baths dug up

31st May No relieving teacher reported today

1st June Miss H Smith reported for relieving duty

2nd June Mr Lynford Health inspector called and inspected sanitary arrangements, cloak rooms classrooms and baths etc

1st July Miss M McDonald reported for duty

29th July Mr Buick from Education Department tested George Cashmore to ascertain whether he was a suitable candidate for the special class

14th August Basketball tournament at Wairarapa College. Team entered B grade- two wins and two loses. Team played very well

15th October Miss Bengé Art Specialist spent day at school She demonstrated collage

20th October Pupils of from one and two spent morning at Health Exhibition in Town Hall. Mrs McKie and P Shaw accompanied the children

2nd November Ten children from Ngaio School Wellington were the guests of Form 1 and 2 for the day

Visits were paid to the Dairy factory, Mr R Shaw's Farm and Mr O James's farm to watch shearing

The children were entertained by Lunch by Mrs Buick. Mrs Payton and Mrs Wyeth drove the children in their cars

3rd November Mrs Hollow granted one day leave by Committee for special dental treatment

4th November Mrs D Cooper came to school and gave the children a practical demonstration of floral work

11th November 9 calves, 18 lambs, 5 hens and chickens

12th November Mr Clark Superintendent of the Fire Station gave a talk on the prevention of fires and how to control it in the early stages

24th November Mr Wyatt Physical Instructor spent afternoon at the school- gave the cricket boys some hints

10th December Miss Macdonald left for four days special leave for her marriage in Invercargill on December 18th

13th December Mrs Wilson reported for duty

14th December At 2 pm school went by bus to Kaituna Hall to have a rehearsal of concert items

15th December Children released at 12 to enable them to have a sleep in preparation for evening

16th December School closed

1955

1st February during the holidays good progress made with painting the exterior of the school and outbuildings. Pastel green white facings

Painters still at work

Several renovation jobs completed. New door to baths area, door on lavatory in girls toilet, some board renewed in floor of senior porch

(very poor job). Mrs Coles (Miss McDonald) and Mrs Hollows reported for duty

2nd February New pump on bath not yet functioning properly- therefore no swimming as yet

23rd March The combined Country School sports were held at the Queen Elizabeth Park 30 schools took part

2nd May The meeting of Householders for election of School Committee was held – 18 present

Chairman Mr D Rowlands, Secretary Mr A James, Treasurer Mr G Duff, Members Mr Galbraith Mr Macdonald

Meeting passed a motion that the school colours continue to be gold and grey

5th May Fancy Dress party held at Kaituna Hall

Senior Room put on 6 puppet plays

Mr A James showed movie pictures that he had taken of activities of the school

6th May The inside of the school was stripped of pictures etc in preparation for painting

23rd May During the holiday the inside of the school was painted, the money do the same was donated by the Parent's Association who made arrangements for the work to be done The Committee has a working bee an hedges were cut. Sheep have been put into the boys playground to eat down the grass

26th May 17 chairs for infant room delivered today from Education Board

30th May The pupils of Forms I and II left today to spend 4 days as the guest of the Ngaio School a very full programme had been

arranged for them with visits to factories in the Hutt- Dominion Monarch, 2ZB, parliament, Zoo and Museum

Mrs Wyeth accompanied the children to Wellington

2nd June Mrs Coles today went to Wellington to escort the children home after their visit to Wellington (Ngaio)

31st May 17 Tables B Type arrived today for the infant room

Inspectors report of 20th April included

- a) Mrs T A Hollow 34 children
- b) Mrs M Coles 25 children
- c) The school has had the services of competent and sympathetic teachers
- d) All over supervision and conduct of affairs has been capably administered by the Head Teacher
- e) The acquisition of an electric pump for the swimming baths should prove a worthwhile asset
- f) An interesting feature of the year's operations was the visit of a group of children to Ngaio School. Such visits are valuable and commendable
- g) Tone and discipline are very good
- h) Character training receives close attention

13th June Mrs Coles absent owing to sickness of her husband

24th June Mr Horsfall spent morning at school talking to the children. He demonstrated a magnetic model which he used in giving a lesson to the children with one of the children as instructor

30th June A concert was given by the children at the school in honour of Mrs Coles who terminates her permanent employment. A presentation of a mirror was given by the children. 21 parents attended. Afternoon tea was served by all

1st July As no relieving teacher is available Mrs Coles has agreed to continue until 8th July

5th July Wairarapa Soccer, rugby and basketball tournament held in town 2 rugby and 2 basketball teams competed. School was closed for the day- Bus ran as usual and took the children to the playing fields

11th July Mrs Bredin (Carterton) was appointed to relieving duties but owing to an attack of Flu was unable to be present today

11th July Mr Morgan agricultural instructor spent the day at the school. The infant room had a ramble

12th July Miss Wilson district nurse called to check on children requiring booster doses for diphtheria

15th July There has been no relieving teacher all week.

18th July Mrs Bredin reported for relieving today

25th July Today Arbor Day was celebrated at the school. Mr N Tankersley addressed the children and two trees were planted, a sycamore and an acacia

29th July Mr Carmody Art Specialist spent the morning at school 9.15 to 11 He took cut out work dye work and paper folding

5th September Mrs Bredin reported for relieving duties

Six infants admitted

9th September Mrs Bredin completed duties today

15th September Mrs L E Johnston Audiometry Technician from the Health Department today tested the hearing of the children from Standard 2 to Form 2

22nd September Mr Buick from the Education Department spent afternoon at school testing three children from the junior room Jerry

Kirsling, John Ransfield and John Taplin to see if they were candidates for the Special Class

23rd September Mrs Rutherford completes relieving duties today

26th September Mrs Dering relieving teacher reported for duty today

20th October Mr Morgan spent morning at school- showed lantern slides of calves and lambs and demonstrated with a calf and lamb ringcraft

2nd November Mrs Cooper gave a demonstration of floral work, decorated vases- sand posies and floating bowls

10th November School show day

10 calves judged by Mr L Keats and 10 lambs Judge Mr Lawrence

Big crowd of parents. Bring and buy stall resulted in £11-1-1 being £5 for children's school fund. Remainder for Antarctic Funds

11th November Standard 1 to Form II paid a visit to the Come to Masterton Industries fair

14th November Senior room plus children entering stock in group show attended the Masterton Show (Boys and Girls agriculture club) at Solway Showgrounds

A very good and instructive day

1st December Miss Wilson school nurse tested eyes of children from Primer 4 to form II

2nd December Dr Greig Department of Health today examined two children with deafness- David Martin and David Gibbs

6th December Mr Morgan judged home gardens today- Two groups of children (5 in each) accompanied Mr Morgan. 18 gardens were judged

8th December Photographs were taken by Mr Alexander Hope-Cross Studio. 2 groups

15th December Annual Break up ceremony and Christmas party was held in the Kaituna Hall at 6 pm Certificates were presented to two Form II girls also garden certificates by Mr Rowland Chairman

16th December Mrs Dring terminated relieving position

1956

1st February Miss Walker reported for relieving duties

2nd March School picnic held at Solway Showgrounds- postponed from 1st March. A perfect day

7th March Country School Sports held at Queen Elizabeth Park

9th March Swimming sports were held in School Baths starting at 1.30 pm

20th April Parents Association held a shop day at the YMCA £145 approximately was raised

24th April A short Anzac Day Service was held at the school Mr George Rutherford was the speaker

3rd may Annual Fancy Dress Dance held in Kaituna Hall. Good attendance of parents

21st May School reopened today. Miss J Walker still relieving

22nd May Mr Wilton local member for the Education Board called at the school to discuss maintenance and improvements with the Chairman and Secretary

18th June Navy League Members attended a free picture entertainment given by the Navy League 3.30 at Ste Theatre

27th June School closed to all. Basketball and soccer teams to take part in Wairarapa Seven aside Tournament

Two soccer teams Junior (South Park) and Senior (Douglas Park) played and Two basketball teams Senior Wairarapa College B grade and Junior Convent C Grade

6th July Mr Doyle visited the school and held a bicycle inspection 2 bicycles were without brakes, 3 had defects and yellow certificates- the rest were in order and were given green certificates

A visit by the Upper Room was paid to the local gas works

31st July Senior Room attended Rugby Match at Solway Showgrounds- Springbox v Wairarapa Bush

3rd August Seniors visited the factory of N P Cunningham where refrigerators are made

7th August A party of thirteen children attended a ballet performance of the Community Arts Centre at the Municipal hall at 3 pm. Parents were in charge of party

8th August Four Boys R Johansen, T Wyeth, C Smith, L Ridgway went to Wellington with the annual under 12- Primary Soccer team to play a match against some Wellington representatives

9th August Mr Barker maintenance officer for Wellington Education Board spent an hour at the school discussing the condition of the school building and surroundings

14th August Junior Room under Miss Walker, presented a delightful concert, to which the parents were invited

17th August Miss J M Walker terminated her relieving duties today

3rd September School resumed today Miss H Smith reported for relieving duties

4th September A multiplex playground set arrived today
Some tables and chairs to replace old dual desks

13th September Mr Holmes Millar Deputy Leader of Antarctic Expedition came and spoke of the work. That both the New Zealand and English parties hoped to carry out at the South Pole. This was a most interesting address and greatly enjoyed by the children

17th September Mr Bowland Dr Barnardo Helper's league

24th September 14 9 year old children reported to West School for polio injection 1st Dose

10 children for combined choir attended Knox Hall for first practice at 1.30

Employees of Education Board today renewed the window cords of all double hung windows and left the windows in good working order

11th October Site for New School Residence 220 Yards east of Fernridge school on the left hand side of the Upper Plain Road
Owner of the Ground Lily Agnes Graham Settlement £110

18th October Children of senior room attended the musical festival Matinee in Town Hall at 10.30

Nine year olds had second polio injection at West School

8th November Annual School Calf Club day. 5 calves, 16 lambs presented for judging. Mr Keats was the judge

A decorative flower show was held. Mrs Cooper judged the flower show

Mrs P Welch judged the cooking

The Parents Association held a most successful Bring and Buy Stall. Afternoon Tea was served to everyone by the Parents Ass

12th November Group Day Agriculture Show at Solway. Judging started at 9.30

Fernridge this year were hosters

This involved serving a buffet luncheon to officials about 40- being responsible of the putting up and taking down of rings and for leaving the grounds tidy.

Children went to Solway by bus. Transport for children with stock arranged by parents

Fernridge gained 5 awards

13th November 7 boys under the supervision of Mr Gibbs went to Solway Showgrounds in morning to clear up the debris after the show- one of our duties as host

19th November Choir of ten was included in the massed choir at the music festival on Friday evening in the Town Hall

20th November Appointment of Mr E Gilbert appointed head teach 13 3/4 years teaching Present Position Wanganui

26th November Two hand basins- one in each toilet fitted by Mr J Curtain

1st December Letter from School Committee to Wellington Education Board asking about accommodation for Mr Gilbert as the site for the new school residence has not been selected yet and the owner of the land may sell it yet

14th December Letter from Wellington Education Board to Mr D T Rowland Chairman School Committee That the section should be finalised soon. The only matter is price. The Schoolhouse at Mikimiki is not occupied by Mrs Walker and Mr Gilbert has agreed to use that

17th December Christmas party held at Kaituna Hall at 6 pm
Sit down tea 66 present

Presentations were made to me as I was retiring on superannuation by the children and by the parents and residents of the district

18th December Mrs Smith completed relieving duties

1957

4th February E Gilbert took over school with Miss H Smith relieving assistant for the Junior Room Found school clean and tidy and children bright and responsive Roll 65

Concentrated on swimming instruction and conducted various tests for swimming skills and abilities

14th February Annual picnic at Solway Showgrounds A most successful day and behaviour of the children excellent

20th February Miss S J Churchill appointed assistant. 3 years' service. Relieving in Wellington

2nd March Miss S J Churchill commenced as Permanent Assistant

8th March Mr N Burgess Organising Teacher spent the morning at school

15th March Children attended the Country School Sports Meeting and succeeded in winning the aggregate points prize for the 27 schools competing

20th March I have entered the school in the town competition in softball and cricket and at the end of the season the girls had remained unbeaten while the boys have had four wins and two loses. A creditable performance for the first season in town competitions
Have organised a Doll Queen carnival to assist the Parents Association in raising funds for the school

This is being conducted entirely by the children in groups of six and each group set a goal of £1 to be raised by various efforts and little jobs in a period of four weeks. A barometer is being kept to show the state of the voting- a penny of vote- and the Junior Room have now entered a queen doll. Enthusiasm is high and already I have banked £12 of the children's efforts. This gives them a real feeling of contributing to school amenities and I feel a wonderful spirit of clean competition has been roused,

The parents shop day is to be held on 26th April

I attended the parents Association and outlined my policy for the school and the list of items I hoped someday to be seen being used in the school these included

- a) Banda duplicator
- b) A typewriter
- c) A Tape recorder
- d) Movie Projector

and a discussion was held on the various methods adopted in the using of the apparatus in modern education. I feel that at least one or two of the items will be purchased this year

20th March New site for residence purchased

9th April The Queen carnival came to a close today and the grand total of £58 has been banked in the name of Fernridge Class Committee Fund with E Albert as Trustee. This was a great effort on the part of the children who all worked very hard to raise the money

17th April The Parents Association held their annual Shop Day and £160 was raised to be used for school purposes

23rd April The children are publishing a weekly paper The Weekly Arrow. It is edited and compiled by the children and is serving as a

real organ of news and views for the district. They publish notices for meetings, working bees and local items of interest and is proving very popular with the parents

2nd May 9 tenders received for house Dixon and McKinlay over £1000 cheaper than next. After checking that their tender was correct job accepted

9th May Letter from Web to Department included

- a) Compassionate grant for Mr Gilbert for travel to and from Mikimiki School house
- b) The position was advertised as the house should be ready at start of year
- c) Tenders were not sent to the Department until 20th March
- d) It should be noted that he was under notice of transfer from his last job in Wanganui and this is a forced transfer
- e) The Committee did arrange for accommodation in a flat nearby but he now has to give up that tenancy
- f) The distance between Mikimiki and Fernridge is approximately 15 miles
- g) He accepted the position in good faith
- h) Could he be paid daily mileage while living at Mikimiki

31st May The first load of boxing for the new school residence was delivered today- just 18 months after the Board decided on erecting a school residence !!!

3rd July School closed today for Wairarapa Football and Basketball Tournament

10th July The Committee has purchased a motor mower for the school and a larger area of lawn is being set out for the children. The old horse paddock has been cleared and is now used as an infant playground

10th September During the August Vacation the Parent Association were responsible for the installing of a zip heater, sink bench and cupboard in the senior porch. This amenity has been long overdue in a school of this type and the children have painted it in attractive colours.

21st October The parents Ass have made money available for the purchase of a new electric sewing machine to replace the very old treadle models at present in the school

27th October A 16 mm sound film projector has been purchased for the school with funds raised by the Parents Association. This active body of ladies with their husband's support have done a magnificent job in providing amenities for this school and the staff would like to record their appreciation,

I feel sure that the pupils do appreciate what is being done for them and the results will prove that the equipment provided has been a sound investment for the betterment and progress of the school as a whole

31st October With two new entrants the roll is now 71 but no alteration of the grade of the school will take place this year

16th December There have been several changes in the district and the roll is now 79

The school year closed with a concert and Father Christmas distributing books and prizes

1958

3rd February The school opened with 65 on the roll

Swimming is taken regularly in the baths which have been painted pale blue

5th march Swimming instruction has been carried on regularly and the progress is such that 85% of the children in Standard 1 and above have passed their first tests in swimming and 27 children gained higher awards than they had last year

24th April Mr H A L Laing Public Relations Officer gave an excellent address on Anzac and the two prefects laid a wreath

3rd May Committee men and local residents made up a working bee and cleared the area behind the tool shed. The flagpole was re erected and hedges were cut

12th August The group scheme of grass cutting was commenced and the playing fields will be cut regularly in future

27th September Mr Doyle School's Traffic Officer visited the school inspected bicycles and awarded two patrol badges to our cycle and pedestrian monitors for good service No Complaints and some compliments had been passed about the road sense of the pupils

1st October Miss S J Churchill resigned yesterday to be married and Miss Grindey reported as relieving assistant

15th October Polio vaccination completed for all children in the school who applied for the injection

5th November 5 children tested by the Doctor for hearing deficiencies

6th November Gladstone children paid their first visit for many years to play softball and cricket

6th November The Board's carpenter came to effect the repairs approved in the 1957 estimates

9th November Miss J M S Harris appointed assistant mistress

16th December Miss Grindey resigned to take up a position at Manukau? School

19th December Miss H B Williams appointed as assistant

December Inspector's report included

- a) E Gilbert 46 on class roll
- b) Miss M Grindey Relieving 24
- c) The school is steadily being reequipped. A duplicator and recorder changer were purchased from children's funds
- d) Parent's Association has purchased a sound film projector, an electric sewing machine, a motor mower, a set of football jerseys
- e) The School Committee have the interests of school much to heart Hedges have been cut, the old garden area has been cleaned and levelled, a concrete apron has been placed round the asphalt area and the baths have been resurfaced and painted
- f) The grass being cut under the group scheme
- g) There are nearly 100 volumes in the school library

h) The general tone is good and the children are cooperative
The general standard of achievement is of a good standard

1959

21st January Miss Williams cannot take up position for health reasons and job will have to be readvertised

2nd February School reopened with a roll of 58 Miss Jill Austed appointed relieving assistant

9th February All windows were repaired today including those broken by stones flung by the group scheme's motor mower

17th February Miss M A Fell appointed

2nd March Miss Marion Fell appointed permanent assistant and commenced duties

10th May Committee working bee erected pipe poles for netting round hard court area

Inspectors Report included there are nearly 1000 volumes in the library

2nd June Mrs E Martin relieved in position of Head Teacher as Mr Gilbert was involved in a car accident and will be away for 2 or 3 weeks

22nd June Resumed work today

1st July Medical Officers inspected school and congratulated us on the cleanliness of the building, basins etc. And the equipment in the first aid cabinet Dr Roberts (*Mrs Doctor Roberts, Featherston*) stated it was the cleanest school and healthiest school yet visited in the Wairarapa

25th July A working bee of parents erected the poles round the court

1st August The netting was strung around the poles and the job nearly completed

14th August Received two white coats and plastic rain capes for safety patrol children

1st August Arrangements finalised for children to attend Lions match on 25th August and film evening on 27th

10th September Constable Jones and Sergeant Ford NZ police visited the school and gave very good talks and illustrated them with slides to both rooms. A very informative visit

15th September Senior Children paid Annual Visit to Bideford for sports afternoon. Four parents made cars available and the results of the games were Rugby Bideford 12 Fernridge 9 Basketball Fernridge 14 Bideford 1 .the day came to a close with afternoon tea

20th October Plumber came to erect new girls toilet authorised in the 1958 grant

12th November Agricultural Club day 4 calves, 14 lambs, 8 pets

A beautiful day with children as stewards controlling progress of the day very well

4th December Mr Stothart Physical Education Specialist showed a film and took the children for Holgar Neilson Resuscitation

7th December The senior children went to Wairarapa College to attend the reception to the Governor General Lord Cobham

11th December School closed for day granted by Governor General

1960

1st February School reopened with the same staff as 1959. No definite instructions regarding the children from this school going to Intermediate but four children wish to go

24th February Mr Stothart Physical Education specialist took swimming and artificial respiration tests

18th March Wellington Education Board building officers inspected and measured existing senior porch with erection of a staff room on the Eastern end of the building planned

28th March Our four children 2 Form II and 2 Form I who enrolled at Intermediate were accepted today and from now on may attend Masterton Intermediate on a voluntary bases providing they make their own travelling arrangements. This school will not become a full contributing school.

30th March The children from the Intermediate were sent back today awaiting the Department's decision regarding their attendance as with our children and those from Te Ore Ore. The intermediate roll is in excess of the 590 set down

5th April In view of the centennial celebrations to be held in the school it was decided to gather all the old records held in the school and deposit them in the Bank of New Zealand Masterton

6th April Mr R G McMillan Inspector of schools visited this morning regarding children of special class, Masterton

There were no likely pupils from here apart from Robert Carter who was already enrolled at Central School

22nd April Mr H A L Laing Public Relations Officer (Major) addressed the children on ANZAC. We honoured the flag and sang hymns

29th April Mr R Coleman plumber repaired chimney's in both rooms

4th May Miss Freeman District Nurse examined new entrants and discussed the children with their parents

1st June Mr Logan and Mr Nelson Inspectors visited the school today for teacher's Grading and the School Inspection

Report included

- a) Mr Gilbert 28 Standard 1 -6
- b) Miss M Fell 22 primers. Miss Fell takes sewing and Girls Sport
- c) This is a school which is functionally efficiently and happily
- d) The board's immediate plan is to provide a staffroom and new boy's toilets are noted

10th August New Boys' toilets commenced

5th September New Staffroom / sick room under construction.

22nd November Mr Stothart came and explained Mouth to Mouth resuscitation

7th December Form 1 and 2 commenced their Social Studies visits by a tour of the Masterton Fire Station and Telephone Exchange

8th December All children from the Junior room went to Masterton by cars to meet pupils from Te Whiti School They have been corresponding regularly and today met one another for first time. Games and competitions were held and this was followed by afternoon tea and ice cream provided by the two women teachers concerned. A very entertaining and profitable day of the club

9th December Forms 1 and 2 continued SS(*Social Studies*) visits to Police Station and Times Age

12th December Form 1 and 2 Completed SS visits to 2XB

13th December Standard 3 and 4 visited Cunningham's to watch refrigerators being made

14th December Miss Janice Elizabeth Sumbly appointed at present Probationary Assistant in Nelson

15th December School closed Miss Fell resigned her position to return to England Roll 52

No word regarding 1961 attendance at Masterton Intermediate School

1961

1st February Form 1 and 2 pupils enrolled at Masterton Intermediate School Fernridge now a full contributing school

Miss Janice Sumbly assumed position of Infant Mistress Roll 37

22nd February Mrs Thornton visited the school with the audiometer. No serious ear defects reported

1st March Mr Stothart and Mr Neely visited the school to take swimming. Very favourable report.

6th March Mrs Stothart came to discuss the year's programme in Nature Study

30th September New electric heater supplied by Parent's Association for staffroom

1st August Mr Macdonald, organising teacher spent some time in the junior room assisting with programmes and methods

7th September Couch and squab delivered to complete new staffroom furniture

14th December Annual break up tea and concert at the Kaituna Hall. 40 children sat down for tea. Presentation made to my wife and I as we are leaving for Hamilton

15th December Relinquished post of head teacher today. Miss Sumby returning next year as permanent assistant A grand five years in a wonderful community

1962

9th January Mr Maurice Ernest Gasson appointed. At present Assistant Master Te Kuiti

5th January Mr M E Gasson Commenced duties today as Head Teacher with Miss Sumby as Assistant. School is neat, tidy and well equipped. Roll 37

23rd February School closed. Committee holiday for annual picnic held at Solway Showgrounds

8th March Contractors arrived, and completed sealing undersealing in school grounds

19th March Twenty three children accompanied by Miss Sumby, and four parents went into town to see N Z Ballet Company Peter and The Wolf

11th April Miss Sumby resumed duties today after a week's absence owing to illness. Mrs Gasson relieved in the primer room for a week finishing yesterday

2nd May Mrs Margaret Hannon speech therapist visited the school. She examined four children Lois hall, Stuart Dagg, Robert Dagg and Christine Dagg. Miss Hannon indicated she was very pleased with their progress

29th May Polio team administered the second dose of oral vaccine today

5th June Visit by Miss Janet Studholme Organiser for Junior Red Cross. Miss Studholme spoke to the Standard classes about reforming the Junior Red Cross Group

7th June Mr Stothart took the Standard 1 to 4 class for folk dancing

13th June The inspectors visited the school to inspect both teachers and the school

13th June 1962 Inspectors report of J F Logan and R F Chappell included

- a) Mr Gasson 25
- b) Miss J E Sumby 12
- c) The new head teacher took up duties in February and has already shown a real interest in the school. He is supported by a loyal and conscientious assistant
- d) It was a pleasure to note their good behaviour
- e) It is pleasing to hear the transfer of senior pupils to Masterton Intermediate School has been successful and given community support

30th July returned to school today after four days illness. Mrs Wales relieved for three days

1st August School closed today for annual Primary Schools Spots tournament

13th August Fancy Dress evening held in the Kaituna Hall. The evening took the form of Folk dancing by the children. The Savage Club presented some Maori Items

The evening was due to finish at 9.30 but carried on until 10.00

20th September Today concluded Parents Week During the last three days, parents visited the school and observed it in action. No special programmes were prepared. The children continued with their normal work. During the three days about 24 parents visited the school.

23rd October All the pupils of the school attended the Wairarapa Country schools Sports at Queen Elizabeth Park Masterton today

9th November Calf Club 6 calves and 9 lambs

14th November Miss Sumby spent the day observing at the Mauriceville East school. Her class was taken by Mr Jack Cox, Organising teacher

18th December End of year function was held in the Kaituna Hall. The children presented a concert

1963

4th February School reopened today, teachers only attending Spent the morning with Miss Sumby organising exercise books and discussing organisation of Spelling for Primer 4- Standard 1

In the afternoon Country Teachers group met to discuss timetables and work plans

11th February School closed today to allow children to travel to Wellington to see the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh

26th February The school attended the Country Schools swimming sports at Memorial Baths Masterton Transport was provided by parents

7th March Dr Roberts spent the day at the school and examined the children from the Junior Room

4th April Mrs D White began duties today relieving in the Infant Room while Miss Sumby is ill

9th May The school fancy dress in Rigg's Hall (*Akura Road*) in town The children presented a programme of folk dancing which was well received by a large attendance of parents

10th May Roll 45

27th May Returned to school today. Miss Sumby is still away ill. Mrs White not available and so Mrs J more a parent is helping with the Junior Room

4th June Mrs White returned today Miss Sumby still away ill

17th June Miss Sumby returned to school today. The senior pupils Standard 2-4 attended an afternoon performance of the Amateur Theatrical Societies Where's Charley?

25th June A public meeting was held in the school to elect a School Committee to organise 100 years jubilee in 1965. The meeting was well attended and Committee of seven has been set up

15th July Today transferred the 5 Standard 1 children into the senior room. This leaves Miss Sumby with 21 infants and the Senior room with 28 children

15th August The children from Standard 2 to Standard 4 took part last night in the Combined Music Festival. The Fernridge children as well as singing in the massed choir, provided music for two folk dances. The Fernridge orchestra consisted of 5 recorders, 3 ukuleles and 9 chime bars

3rd October Miss Lenahin Infant Adviser today visited the school and spent time with Miss Sumby in the Junior Room

14th October Today I resumed duties after a four day absence to attend an in service training course organised by the Art and Craft

Section of the Department Mrs Gasson relieved for the four days in the senior room

25th October School closed for the day for holiday granted by the Governor General

8th November Today was calf club day. Very high winds and heavy rain caused the cancellation of the stock exhibits

Care had to be taken with the inside exhibits as when both school doors were opened, the wind carried off some of the Children's work

Finally the wind carried off the skylight in the Junior Room. Not a successful day

1964

3rd February teachers only day Teachers of the Opaki Country Teachers meet at Opaki in the afternoon to organise their years programme

Miss P Kirk arrived to take charge of the Junior Room. Miss Sumbly resigned at the end of last year

10th February Mrs Finlayson from the West School Dental Clinic visited the school to examine the children's teeth

11th February I took 14 children from Standard 1,2 and 3 to visit the Borough water works this afternoon, Mr Nicholls escorted us around and explained to the children how the water was obtained

I visited Solway School at 3.30 today to discuss swimming baths with the Head teacher Mr Parkin. Solway have received financial assistance from the Board to partly fill their baths making them more shallow and less dangerous, I hope to interest our own parents

and Committee to do something similar I consider our baths a danger or a potential danger to young children

18th February In the afternoon Miss Kirk took the children to Key's place to see some ducklings

24th February The school went into town to the memorial baths for Country Schools swimming sports

I took delivery today of an incinerator, supplied by the Board. As part of the equipment necessary for erection appears to be missing I have notified the Board so that it can be replaced before the contractor arrives to install it.

27th February The school picnic was held today at Payton's Bush. The Education Board gave permission to close the school

A School Committee holiday. The weather was fine, the children behaved particularly well and the day a marked success

2nd March I had cause today to call the Masterton Fire Brigade to deal with a grass fire, originating from the school incinerator.

It has been our rule since the advent of the dry weather, not to light the incinerator. today it was lit in error, by a pupil and I supervised a party of boys who apparently damped it out. However we obviously did not do the job properly as it broke out again about 3.30, setting fire to the neighbours grass.

Thanks to the prompt arrival of the brigade damage was confined to slightly burned batons on the boundary fence

I would commend Miss Kirk who first gave warning of the fire, and assisted in its control until the arrival of the brigade

11th March discussed the swimming baths with Mr Hedley building officer of the Board

He favours simply filling in the bottom of the baths to reduce their depth

24th April Mrs Gasson has relieved in the senior room during the last four days while I attended an inservice training course on the Arts of the Maori

22nd May A high wind today brought down a power pole outside the school .This fell into the school grounds breaking wires and making the telephone live. The fuses in the phone were burned out. Had this been a school day serious accident could have resulted.

The power board employees pointed out the danger in having power lines over the playing area

16th June The school was visited today by Mr Golding Senior Inspector. He discussed the matter of equipment, This matter was raised by Miss Kirk who indicated to Mr Golding that she thought the school could be better equipped. Miss Kirk has been asked for a list of equipment required

22nd June The school was closed today Miss Kirk and I attended an inservice training course on music

1st July I took the pupils of the Senior Room today to Wellington. We left Masterton on the 6.35 train and arrived in Wellington at 8.30 After having a cup of hot soup at the railway cafeteria we went by bus to the Museum (Dominion in Buckle Street) where we spent the morning. Lunch at the Basin Reserve was followed by a visit to the boat harbour and the waterfront. We then went to the top of the Kelburn Hill by the cable car. We returned to the Station where we left at 3.56 arriving back in Masterton at 5.35.

A successful day thanks to good weather. The party was accompanied by two parents, Mrs F Davidson and Mrs M Galbraith

15th July Mr J Logan Inspector visited the school today in order to inspect Miss Kirk. Again the subject of equipment was discussed. Mr Logan suggested that Miss Kirk list those items she desired in the Junior Room

19th August Beggs piano tuner tuned the piano in the Junior Room today. He pointed out the piano needed new keyboard, new pins and new felts. He estimated the whole job would cost about £25. No action is anticipated in the meantime

16th September The Health Department nurse Mrs B Griffiths today visited the school to show films

24th September Mrs Gasson has relieved in the junior room during the last two days while Miss Kirk has attended an inservice course on art and craft

7th October The children of the senior room today took part in a Maori Day held at the NZEI rooms in town. About 200 children from town schools participated. The programme included static displays, actual display of Maori Weapons, arts etc. A hangi was prepared and opened at 2 pm. A most successful day

22nd October The country schools today held their athletic meeting at the Solway showgrounds. The morning programme went well but the afternoon programme had to be abandoned because of the weather

5th November Calf club held today 4 calves and 6 lambs entered Mr B Patrick judged the lambs, Mr Parker the calves

17th December last night the traditional end of year function was held in the Riggs hall

1965

1st February Teacher Only day. In the afternoon the Opaki group met at the NZEI rooms and discussed the new infant programmes in number.

24th February The pupils of the school attended the Country Schools swimming sports in Town

3rd march A very cold day Wind from the south has brought rain and snow to the hills

15th March I took the children from Standard 3 and 4 for a brief trip into town to observe a produce auction, this followed a study of the bulletin. The Market Garden

15th April Nurse Griffiths from the Health Department visited the school to administer T B Tests to 10 of the children

28th April The biennial householders meeting was held in the school to form a School Committee .Ten people attended and nine allowed their names to go forward for election.

30th April Mrs Gasson has relieved in the Senior Room for the last four days, as I have been attending a reading course in town

4th June The school was closed today Miss Kirk and I to attend an education day

Teachers from most country schools attended

10th June A fancy dress evening was held in Riggs Hall. The children performed folk dancing and supper was provided by the parents Association

18th June Mr McGrath (*Bookseller Carterton*) brought a selection of books suitable for the infants and juniors £10 worth was selected for purchase under the library grant. The roll stands at 41

23rd June On perusing the entries in the school accession register it was noted that since the last school inspection in July 1962 major items of equipment purchased by the Committee are as follows

Object	Cost £
Library Books	84-1-4
Number Apparatus	23-7-0
Record Player	21-3-0
Auto harp	7-10-0
Percussion Band set	4-7-6
Chime Bars	4-0-0
Glockenspiel	5-19-0
Sports Equip	5-16-0
Pencil Sharpener	1-15-0
Filmstrips	7-6-8
Doll	1-5-0

One Pound in 1965 is equivalent to \$36.29 in June 1913. So the record player cost is equivalent to about \$771 .00

7th July Mr Kearney visited the school for the purposes of inspecting both the school and the Head Teacher

Inspection Report Included

- a) Mr M E Glasson 21 children
- b) Miss P M Kirk 21
- c) This school is functioning efficiently and the present head teacher and staff are applying themselves diligently
- d) The children are polite and well behaved

e) The buildings though old are well maintained and have been modernised in parts over the years

f) The room though small are adequate

3rd August Two bags of coal and two bags of coke were today delivered. Fuel consumption has been high this year

9th August Eighteen children from the Senior Room and twelve of the older primer children, today made a trip to Wellington. Mrs Ousey and Mrs Wilson accompanied the children and the head teacher. We left Masterton on the 9.21 railcar and visited the Zoo and the Frigate HMNZ Otago. After a rest and soft drink at the Seamen's Mission we took the children on the cable car and the escalator at D I C We returned on the train getting home at 7.05 The all inclusive cost per child was 11/- Roll stands at 42

24th September The children from the senior room presented three musical items at the Country School's Music Festival

30th September Very high winds last night blew down and badly damaged the football goal posts

16th December The annual break up function was held in Rigg's Hall The parents provided tea and Xmas gifts for all the children Miss Kirk will not be returning next year

1966

11th November Application to fill baths. Built 40 years ago is 40 foot x 15 foot x 6ft and no subsidy has been granted. The want to fill it in to 3 foot The estimated cost is £160 and asking for a 50-50 subsidy

1967

26th January Swimming pool floor poured today. Chairman of Committee poured N Trass directing job

1st February School reopened today with Teachers day

School pool has been losing water at rate of 580 Gallons per hour

Valve closed in swimming pool and water now completely retained

9th February Mr Gannaway from POSB visited school and spoke to seniors on saving

28th February School today took part in combined country schools swimming sports

21st March G Lee Sorry about not returning mail. My car has been in the garage for some weeks and some of my mail has been in the glove box unposted. I am concerned that this has occurred and hope this does not cause to much extra work by your staff

30th March As the Ashton Circus was in town the children were taken down to see the site. Much interest in the animals especially the elephants and seniors enjoyed seeing the circus people

17th April New School Committee elected at a good attendance of parents and householders (10 present) Resulting election Mr Frank Davison chairman, Mr Rob Johnson Secretary, Dennis Carey, Derek Wilton and Peter Simonek members for the next 2 years

24th April The school held its Anzac Day ceremony today. Sister Mary Major was the speaker and addressed the children on service

28th April An open afternoon for parents was held today. The central theme was based on the circus the children had seen some weeks previously and use was made of the new decimal coin sets during the project. Most parents voted the afternoon highly successful

22nd May Education Day was held in the Masterton Town Hall

24th July This morning the Standards assembled with four thousand other primary and secondary pupils at Wairarapa College to take part in the a farewell ceremony to their excellencies Sir Bernard and Lady Fergusson

26th July Primary Spots Tournament this pm. Fernridge won B section of seven aside and played with enjoyment in basketball

5th September Roll 45

21st November The school was visited today by two Colombo Plan students from the English Language Institute

15th December The annual Xmas party was held at Rigg's Hall there was a good attendance of parents and an informal but most enjoyable concert was given by the children after tea had been served

1968

5th February School reopened with a teacher only day. I attended a meeting to further plan for the school camp at Akatarawa on Monday 10th 15th March

6th February roll 36

26th February A Country School Swimming Sports was held today at the Memorial Pool. At present only one child has been unable to qualify for a certificate, owing to injury and several pupils have swum distances in excess of 220 yards

March 10th Sunday All but three pupils from the Standard three pupils departed for the camp at Akatarawa

15th March After 5 days away the combined Country Schools Camp has been a great success educationally

10th April A violent wind storm arose during the night causing widespread damage in the district and some superficial damage to the school buildings. Part of the toilet block roof was torn off and the swimming pool fence partially demolished

The flagpole succumbed, taking with it the power and telephone wires

Eight pupils arrived at school by 9.00 although an emergency message had been broadcast over Radio 2XD. These pupils were escorted home under difficult conditions. The vessel Wahine which the children had visited only a month ago was sunk in Wellington harbour with the loss of 50 lives

24th April Mrs B Pickering MBE spoke today to the children at their Anzac Day Service

20th May Education Day was held in Masterton West School. The main theme for the morning was centered on Team Teaching and Group Planning

The afternoon session was addressed by the Department's Senior Psychologist Mr R Dawson and he was followed by Mr Alan Hare of Wairarapa College who spoke on Exchange teaching in UK

7th June Girls visited Matahiwi for Basketball practice

4th July Senior Room visited UNESCO art exhibition in Town Hall

13th August Today advice was received From Riggs Zchokke that contract work will start almost immediately As both South walls of the classrooms are to come out they have agreed to do the one room at a time to allow one class to stay in residence

15th August The Rev Vernimore? Has arranged the use of St Matthew's Sunday School room Renall St (Corner Renall and Ngaumutawa Road) for the coming term. A period of three weeks has been agreed upon. No other Masterton School has a vacant classroom and only other alternative was the old West Side School (NZEI rooms)

16th August School broke up today our last task being the removal of furniture and books to St Matthew's

2nd September Work has progressed slowly on the renovations and the optimistic three weeks may be extended

Mrs Lory has stayed on the week as I am greatly involved with Earth and Sky the town schools music festival

9th September Mrs Lory has now gone on leave and Mrs G Brandon is relieving

26th September I have decided to return to the School with Senior Room. The remaining work consists of installation of cupboards, work benches, display boards and painting. Discussion with the Maintenance Officer (Mr Fred Wallis) this week centered around the redecoration of the interior of classrooms and storm damage repairs at swimming pool

17th October The contractors have finally completed all scheduled work. The appearance and workability of both classrooms is greatly improved

23rd October The combined country school's Athletic Sports was held today in good weather. Fernridge Pupils participated with enthusiasm and some success

7th November Calf Club 9 calves and 17 lambs

12th November A school party today went to the NZ Ballet performance of Coppelia. 23 of the children pupils went and enjoyed the ballet

20th November The School Committee today painted the swimming pool, this will make a big improvement as the plaster has become rough

26th November The triennial Inspection of the school was completed, the visiting inspector Mr C P Brice spending most of the day in the classroom

Inspectors report included

- a) Mr G Lee Roll 22
- b) Mrs G Brandon 19 Relieving
- c) The Head Teacher is to be commended for the firm tone in the school and for his efforts on children's behalf
- d) Pleasing efforts are being made to develop a well-balanced curriculum suitable for children in a rural school

1969

4th February Mrs Lory returned today

5th February Roll 39

26th February The Junior Room visited the Fire Brigade Station newly opened on the site at the Northern Approach

29th March Wairarapa Primary Schools Harrier Meeting held at Queen Elizabeth Park. This is our first year of entry The team of 5 gained 17th place on a field of 26

6th May Another severe windstorm today winds reported in the district as up to 80-85 MPH gusts

Both new walls in Senior and Junior Room show signs of movement to wind pressure

7th May Riggs carpenter assures that walls are sound

9th May Mrs Lory has resigned her position and will not be returning next term. As a function was held for her last year no formal farewell is planned

26th May Mrs Brandon (formerly relieving) has succeeded in winning the position as assistant Roll 40

16th June Masterton Trust Lands Trust has granted the School Committee \$30 to purchase library books

21st June Mr Farland Adviser to Rural Schools visited the school giving Mrs Brandon assistance

25th July the Governor General Sir Arthur Porrit attended a gathering of 4000 primary and secondary pupils at Wairarapa College this morning- a holiday has been granted which we will take in August. Weather conditions cold and generally unpleasant but their excellencies met many children. Spent some little time with pupils of this school

8th September Roll 50

17th September Les Bayley (Adviser to Phys Ed) addressed the combined School Committee and parent's Assoc meeting on Children's playground. The parents indicated willingness to go ahead with suggestion to use for end of Junior play area. This will be a valuable asset as we have so many juniors needing better play facilities

15th December The end of school break up ceremony was this year held at school

The programme presented by the children included a Christmas Pageant among the items, This departure from the Xmas Party at Rigg's hall has meant a saving of \$80. There was a large gathering of parents (37) and Road Safety certificates were presented and presentation books to Standard 4 pupils leaving for intermediate

1966

M E Gasson head teacher

1st February Mr D Plant began duties today as assistant in the Junior Room. This morning was spent in planning. Both Mr Plant and I went in the NZEI rooms in town to attend a meeting of The Country School Opaki Group

22nd February The school picnic was held today at Mawley park. A School Committee holiday was taken all the pupils attended together with about half the parents

3rd March The Country School's Spots Association conducted swimming sports at the town baths. All the pupils attended most of them participated

9th March Members of the School Committee spent two days at school on the weekend tidying the grounds in preparation for the Centennial celebrations on 11th- 13th of this month. Now that the painting is completed the school is looking as attractive as I have seen it. Roll 37

13th March School centennial held. Detailed notes in log

25th March I returned to school today after attending a four day course in Music. Mrs Gasson relieved in her senior room

28th March The school was closed today a special holiday given by the chairman to celebrate the school centennial

4th April The Committee decided today to seek a grant of £50 from the Trust Lands Trust to be spent in the following manner

Addis 100 watt Filmstrip projector £45

Permalite daytime screen £16

SRA Reading Laboratory £25-13

Reference Books £13-8

Less Board subsidy £50

19th April Roll 42

27th April Mrs C M Leywood visited the school to test hearing. All the children not previously tested were taken

6th May Received notification, not yet confirmed, of my appointment to Mamaku to begin after the holidays. The roll stands at 42

16th May Today I leave Fernridge for Mamaku The four years I have spent here have been very happy ones. I trust that whoever is appointed to the Head teachers position here will find the community as cooperative as I have

23rd May Mrs Lory began duties in the infant room. Mr Plant is back relieving in the Senior Room. Fires used for the first time this winter

25th May Both members of the staff attended a lively meeting of the Parent's Association held at Mrs Carey's House

26th May Winter must surely be here. Bournvita instead of milk, was issued to the children this morning. Children held a Japanese

evening at Mrs Galbraiths as a climax to their social studies unit on Japan

27th May Winter sports started today

20th June A school party was taken to see the stage show Showboat today . The show was held in the Regent theatre and 31 people attended

4th July Standard room visited Te Ore Ore to play sports

18th July We arrived at school to discover the lightning from the night before had struck the Board at the side of the school. No power, no telephone

27th July Two students from Wellington teacher's College at school to take Physical Education lessons and see Country Schools

Country Schools 7 aside tournament held at Wairarapa College

Mrs Brandon and Mrs Simonek relieved in the infant room

19th August School finished today. Mr Don Plant finished his relieving duties today. The parents came to see two puppet plays performed by the standards and a mime acted by the infants.

Middle Ages models were also on display

5th September G Lee Head Teacher Mrs Lory today observing infant methods at Central School

26th September Mr Wallace Board Maintenance officer visited the school today to discuss filling in of swimming pool to provide better level of water

16th October The swimming pool today half filled with 36 tons of boulders

Later the School Committee plan to re cement the pool floor raising the level suitable for smaller children

20th October Today television was first used at this school on the occasion of President Johnson's visit to NZ

26th October Calf and Lamb day

30th October G Lee Wrote I enter hospital today. Mrs Brandon relieving in Standard's room

10th November The school went to Mount Bruce Bird Reserve

1970

2nd February Roll 42

6th March Lion Walkathon today for funds towards swimming pool extensions Children from the school walked eight miles from the Kaituna Hall to the stadium. Many parents took part also. Total contribution by children amounted to \$90

This week also saw the return of the Senior Class from Riversdale Camp. We combined with the North Country Group to make a party of 120 children

The main theme was rock pool study with associated Phys Ed and Art theme.

Most successful and Fernridge took the opportunity on Wednesday to hold annual picnic on the beach An enjoyable conclusion to the camp with parents having a good look in on the occasion

23rd April Anzac service this morning arranged by children . Mr Robert Fowler. Territorial Captain of the local army group and science teacher at Wairarapa College addressed the children on the theme Why he was a teacher and a soldier too. Weather unpleasant for an outside service so last minute changes made

28th April Town School Sports Meeting Today. Decided to combine with Cornwall Street for winter sport to make additional teams. Our players will be able to compete in teams to suit level of ability

14th June School party attended MATS production of Camelot at the Regent

5th July Education Day at West School – some profitable discussion with colleagues a view of expressed at this meeting indicated that Education Days as such may disappear in favour of more Teacher Release Courses, Some support for Country Teachers Day for 1st day 1971

30th July Our new piano arrived today

5th August Parents day in our room to see our Social Studies Topic Africa. A central feature was the large grass (straw) hut built in the centre of classroom floor 8 foot by 6 foot and 7 foot high at the centre

17th September School today went to Cornwall Street to see Arabian nights a performance by children's art theatre- a most enjoyable theatrical piece for children One ex pupil of mine from Intermediate was star comedian

13th October To Opaki School grounds for country group practice for athletic sports

20th October Last country schools sports day of this type (tabloid Standards meeting) today. All groups involved are agitating for change. It would be a pity if groups separated as this is valuable social occasion for country children

3rd November Calf Club Day held today and bonfire at night. Lambs 17 and calves 5. Morning programme well carried out by children although not many flowers appeared available

Bonfire a great success and enjoyed by very large crowd about 150 parents and children

4th December Large trees at rear of grounds taken down today and burnt. A resident called out fire brigade from Masterton to attend the blaze at 8.30 pm but brigade persuaded to let fire continue

11th December Giant swing and balance beam installed today. Mr Donald Perry loaned his bulldozer to make a hill. Holes filled in playing fields with topsoil from new housing estate in Ngaumutawa Road

16th December Three of our 8 standard 4 children gaining entry into top stream classes at Intermediate

1971

1st February Teacher Only day. This afternoon learned that Matahiwi has definitely closed and pupils from this area will be now bussed to Fernridge

2nd February School opened with 38 on the roll. 2 from Matahiwi with another to come in March

25th February Our day at the Country Schools swimming sports.- first day yesterday- good quality in events. Fernridge pupils gained 7 places in championships- only 2nd in relay

Children very pleased with their performance

28th February to 5th March Combined with Standard 3-4 at Cornwall Street on a nature study camp at Akatarawa. Academically profitable and socially more so. Children returned tired but had an exhilarating period. Messrs Barnett (Nature Study) and Doig (PE) attended the

camp for a day each to deal with specific studies in science and bush craft

10th March Justin Taylor POSB spoke to children on saving accounts. Deposits for 1970 earned us \$27 for bonus account

11th March Three pupils competed in the Wairarapa Primary Swimming Championships at Memorial Pool. Murray Bond gained two places

11th March Inspectors Report included

a) G Lee 24

b) Mrs G Brandon 17

c) The very good school tone and pleasing pupil teacher relations are obvious benefits

d) The school grounds though difficult to maintain and cluttered with numerous small buildings are well kept

e) The proposal to install carpet should be of benefit

f)

18th March The school attended a performance of the New Zealand Ballet Company in the Town Hall

20th March A large number from the senior room took part in the Annual Cross Country Meeting at Q E park. We cannot achieve a high level of competition but those taking part enjoyed the afternoon Tonia Share did especially well in recording Fastest Junior Girls time over the course

22nd March There have been a number of reports about fighting on the bus. I have rung the Principals of the two Colleges registering my complaint re mishandling to the younger pupils by the older group

6th April We found a wasp nest near the incinerator today. There have been a great number about lately .

7th April Opened the nest up today after using petrol fumes on it last night. A most interesting structure

23rd April We held a short ANZAC service at school today. The pupils prepared this and a number of parents attended. The service for this commemoration is difficult to justify in this day as many of the children do not understand

25th May Mrs Brandon and I attended the Education Day programme at West School yesterday. A satisfying day in many ways most valuable is the opportunity for discussion with colleagues

8th June The painter has started in the maintenance work . Some difficulty is arising through his need to get inside to work . This seems to be the wrong time of the year for interior work

19th July The pupils attended a performance of Oklahoma presented by the local theatrical society in Regent Theatre

The Juniors went to a matinee performance and the Seniors I took to an evening performance. The heights of pupils artistic comments were reached "Real Neat"

2nd August Rehearsal Today in the Town Hall for our group music festival (Ian Holford Mikimiki School). A bright choice of programme material and the children very keen. Mrs Brandon is the accompanist

14th September A prolonged spell of wet weather to open the term. Strong winds have combined to make this uncomfortable, One pupil in the juniors caught a finger in the door blown shut by a great gust!!

28th September We have at last put the winds to good use. A classroom centre of interest has developed around kites. The largest construction is 15 feet across and flies at 200 feet altitude

We are attempting to lift our lightest pupil Sarah Brandon off the ground. The spirit of Richard Pearse and the Wright Brothers lives on

11th October Mr Glowaki from the Department Civil Aviation rang me today regarding our kite flying activities. We are now limited to height of 200 feet

3rd November A reasonable successful calf club was held again this year

Only three calves were paraded about 17 lambs

8th November Have filled the pool this weekend as the weather has been very warm and looks like continuing to be so

20th November The sudden death of Mr Barry McTamney the head teacher at Bideford has distressed us all. He was a fine person and much liked by all his pupils. The seniors have chosen a group to attend the funeral and \$10 has been donated by the pupils to the Pakistan hospital Appeal instead of sending a wreath. A sad loss to the profession

22nd November Mr Wallis Wellington Education Board Maintenance Officer came today. The inside painting has still not been finished. Major item will be the refurbishing of the school residence. It will be now 12 years since the last redecorating has been done

16th December End of year function held as school today

Weather very hot and conditions not the best in the Junior Room. We will either have to return to the use of Rigg's hall or find another venue with these large r number involved

1972

7th February Very dry hot conditions. Classroom Temperature 88° F at midday

Hot water cylinders now installed and system operates well Automatic control of temperature to handbasins

21st February School Picnic today at Mount Holdsworth. A great day- bush walks- dam building- sports and gold was found at Donnelly's Flat!. A Mountain rescue to bring Anna Paterson down from the cliff gallantly conducted by Murray Bond and Bevan Smith

13th March Great activity today on the road as the P and T (Post and Telegraph) Department were laying new cables with a large tractor. Reparations in the form of several large cable drums were offered.

20th March Wasps are again a problem this year especially at lunchtime. Cannot find the nest

24th March Wasp nest found. Almost right alongside last year's site. Playtimes and the Lunch period now safer periods for the children

17th April POSB has been very good. This last year has resulted in \$30 for sports gear

2nd May Frosty weather has made the asphalt areas very slippery first thing in the morning. Several children have slipped over

25th May Both paddocks next door to the school have been sold. The trend lately in the district has been for several small blocks to

change hands at very high prices. It seems the town population could be moving our way

12th June The playing fields are cutting up very badly. Porina Moth appears to be the cause. Patches of grass have very poor growth and this makes a mud problem inside

We have given up using coke this year and the wood is proving to be a much better fuel

Have decided to allow wearing of jeans in very cold weather

26th June Many children have been skinning hands and knees on the asphalt. The surface stones are lifting

8th August Our first broken window! The pupil remains nameless

Dental inspection This week Nurse Simon will do work on teeth. Teeth generally very well cared for many are having fluoride tablets

18th September Equinox weather again. The Britten springs on the doors have made a big difference

9th October Fighting again on the bus. There is considerable cramming of passengers and consequent demand for seats. Rang Mr Chatfield (Board Transport Officer) to see if anything can be done to alleviate this

27th October A most successful demonstration and athletic day at Opaki. A well balanced and interesting programme for all pupils

6th November Calf club. Only one calf Maryjane Lees- The Head Teachers Child. 23 Lambs paraded

A change in the afternoon to Tabloid sports.

A bonfire and barbecue held at night completed the affair. Few of these days are held now but Fernridge parents don't want to see it go

13th November End of year play is in rehearsal We plan to use St Mathews Hall this year

20th November Have decided to fill the swimming pool. Last year I filled it optimistically at this time but cool nights temperatures make day swimming to be Spartan

14th December The end of year function was much better as there was plenty of space at St Matthews. Returned to school for afternoon teas and presentation of traffic awards and Chairman's address

Mr Fearon from the Department of health called today to test pool water. There has been some bad publicity for the Borough Water Supply (Which we use) the Department Health gives it a poor rating for E Coli

^h February 43 on roll so far. There has been no rain now for nearly 3 months and conditions are the driest for many years. The playing fields are dry grass and dust. Classroom Temps 30° to 32° C. Difficult for children to concentrate in weather like this

28th February Went down to Cornwall Street to see Burton's puppets

26th March Harrier race this weekend 18 of our children took part. The new venue at Makora College is much better. Everyone has a good view of the course and this makes for better participation
The working bee to get in wood at Mr Paterson's was well attended and a large supply obtained and delivered

16th April School Committee elections Mr Kerins has given up the chair and Mr Patterson has been elected Only a fair attendance (9)

24th April A short service was held in the classroom today to commemorate Anzac Day. Emblems to wear supplied by RSA

The drought still continues. We are having to pack all school rubbish into paper sacks and having these dumped. There is a total district ban on fires outside

28th April A successful Bottle Drive. This week's total amount to \$70 for Committee. We have had to be quick this year as town groups are operating in our area

25th May An information day with Country Teachers to replace Education Day. This is a much better proposition to the somewhat heavy speechifying at past years functions

Most credit goes to Bob Hopkirk Adviser to Rural Schools for the good value of it.

28th May Wet grass and mud have become nuisances. The drought has certainly been broken. Uncomfortable inside on these wet days

16th June PTA Annual Meeting. A noticeable change has been alteration of the name and constitution of this group

16th July Much discussion last night at the school Committee meeting whether or not to hold a calf club day this year. As many schools are moving to alternatives and we had only one calf last year. There are elements of this day which no longer apply. The Committee don't wish to see the day lost. Perhaps 106 years of tradition are hard to break

23rd July I have had again to ask the principal of St Joseph's College to discipline pupils of his school riding on the bus. They have been a continuous nuisance for some time.

6th August I have made another complaint re the bus

9th August A highly successful Folk Dancing night at Kopuaranga, a real country dance

13th August The school attended a performance of NZ Ballet Touring Group at the Regent Theatre

10th September The North Country Teachers group meeting plans to repeat last year's effort at Opaki with a demonstration day Sports

14th September A Number of queen wasps about. 2 Children stung while eating lunch

8th October The Committee have delivered the pipe standards for Volley Ball and Bumble Puppy

These are proving popular playground games

19th October A very successful day at Opaki. Fine and mild with an excellent programme with all children taking part. A fine attendance of parents- many assisting in the running of the day

In the afternoon athletic section Fernridge pupils did well. Especially the younger Standard 3-4 pupils who competed in open events against Form 1 and 2

4th November Calf Club Day. The mornings programme went well but the afternoon programme run by the Senior Pupils went even better. They devised a series of activities based on use of metric measures and with the enthusiastic cooperation of the good number of parents attending a little difference was added to the day. No bonfire and barbecue this year. Decided to hold these about every two years

10th November School Committee and I went out to see Ngahape School today with view of buying building and transporting it to school. The building would serve very well as a library and recreation or activity room for Phys Ed, folk dancing and so on.

The room is very sound structurally but cost of transport may be prohibitive Mrs Prior (Our Ward Member of Wellington Education

Board) is sympathetic to the need for extra space. But offers little hope of Board assistance

12th November A Featherston firm quotes \$3000 to transport the building. Have decided to look elsewhere

3rd December Have started swimming in earnest now water is warmer. The proposal to install a new sump for disposal of school drainage has been agreed to by board

17th December Rehearsed today at St Mathews for end of year breakup

Last week's show at Cornwall Street proved very successful Children are very keen to travel around with their puppet theatre

1973

February y School reopened with 49 pupils. The largest opening roll for many years. Have had to turn down requests to admit pupils from outside our zone boundary

7th February School was closed Yesterday for 1st New Zealand National Day

28th February Went down to Cornwall Street to see Burtons Puppet Theatre- much enjoyed by our pupils (professional interest perhaps) Now their own Theatre is going again

11th March School Picnic today at Mount Holdsworth. A very fast trip to the lookout by the older children. The bush was most interesting with the quantity of low cloud. A good day and again well attended by parents

16th March Wood cut at the Patersons and delivered to school today.
16 father's turned up today

25th March Wasps again prevalent. Many of the children are being stung. We have looked in vain for a nest nearby but without success
30th March 16 of our pupils took part in the Harrier meet at Makora
Shaun Kerins doing particularly well gaining fastest junior time
Log Stops here

1974

2nd April Inspectors Report included

- a) G Lee 26
- b) Mrs M G Brandon 26
- c) The school has been fortunate to have had no staff changes over the last three years
- d) Although the classrooms have good lighting that are rather small and lack adequate storage space.
- e) There is a good working spirit in the school

1975

18th November Mr Lee advises that he wishes to vacate the school premises having purchased in Masterton

24th November A Year one S K Annear starting at East School
Where Geoff Annear was head teacher wanting the school house

Then followed a number of letters from various teachers asking to live in the house. Housing was clearly in short supply in 1975

1977

28th April Inspectors report included

- a) G F Lee 27
- b) Mrs M G Brandon 24
- c) This is a well-run school
- d) Roll increases have taxed the accommodation in the two rooms
- e) The buildings though old and due for replacement are well cleaned and heated
- f) The general atmosphere of the school was most pleasing

1978

10th January Letter from School to Wellington Education Board complaining of the appointment of a women teacher to replace who died of a "tragic Death"

Mrs Robertson has wide experience of teaching and then a full letter explaining why a male cannot be appointed

12th January Letter from J G Elliott to Wellington Education Board as he is managing a welfare home he is worried that Fernridge will be manned by three women teachers

Reply is unhappy then you could send the children in your care to another school

1878		Fernridge	Gover	F	Headmaster	£170
1879		Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Master	£150
1880		Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Master	£170
1880		Fernridge	Feist	Lois	Female Pupil Teacher	£30
1881	53	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Master	£190
1881	53	Fernridge	Feist	Lois	Female Pupil Teacher	£25
1882	53	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Master	£200
1882	53	Fernridge	Feist	Lois	Female Pupil Teacher	£30
1883	62	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Master	£200
1883	62	Fernridge	Feist	Lois	Female Pupil Teacher	£30
1883	62	Fernridge	Feist	Adolphus	Male Pupil Teacher	£16
1884	61	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Master	£200
1884	61	Fernridge	Feist	Lois	Female Pupil Teacher	£35
1884	61	Fernridge	Feist	Adolphus	Male Pupil Teacher	£16
1885	57	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Master	£200
1885	57	Fernridge	Feist	Lois	Female Pupil Teacher	£45
1885	57	Fernridge	Feist	Adolph	Male Pupil Teacher	£30
1886	58	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Master	£200
1886	58	Fernridge	Feist	Adolph	Male Pupil Teacher	£35
1886	58	Fernridge	McGregor	Lois	Female Pupil Teacher	£20
1887	59	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Headmaster	£220
1887	59	Fernridge	Feist	Adolph	Male Pupil Teacher	£40
1887	59	Fernridge	McGregor	Lois	Female Pupil Teacher	£25
1888	59	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Master	£195
1888	59	Fernridge	Feist	Adolph	Male Pupil Teacher	£40

1889	72	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Headmaster	£195
1889	72	Fernridge	Feist	Adolph	Male Pupil Teacher	£40
1889	72	Fernridge	Kelliher	Caroline	Female Pupil Teacher	£15
1890	73	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Headmaster	£205
1890	73	Fernridge	Feist	Adolph	Male Pupil Teacher	£60
1890	73	Fernridge	Kelliher	Caroline	Female Pupil Teacher	£15
1891	88	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Headmaster	£205
1891	88	Fernridge	Feist	Adolph	Assistant Master	£60
1891	88	Fernridge	Kelliher	Caroline	Female Pupil Teacher	£25
1892	83	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Headmaster	£205
1892	83	Fernridge	Sage	Edith	Assistant Female	£70
1892	83	Fernridge	Kelliher	Caroline	Female Pupil Teacher	£30
1893	59	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Headmaster	£205
1893	59	Fernridge	Sage	Edith	Assistant Female	£70
1893	59	Fernridge	Kelliher	Caroline	Female Pupil Teacher	£35
1894	67	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Headmaster	£205
1894	67	Fernridge	Sage	Edith	Assistant Female	£80
1894	67	Fernridge	Powell	Gwendoline	Female Pupil Teacher	£20
1895	71	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Headmaster	£205
1895	71	Fernridge	Sage	Edith	Assistant Female	£80
1895	71	Fernridge	Powell	Gwendoline	Female Pupil Teacher	£20
1896	66	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Headmaster	£205
1896	66	Fernridge	Sage	Edith	Assistant Female	£80
1896	66	Fernridge	Powell	Gwendoline	Female Pupil Teacher	£26
1897	74	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Headmaster	£205
1897	74	Fernridge	Sage	Edith	Assistant Female	£80
1897	74	Fernridge	Powell	Gwendoline	Female Pupil Teacher	£36
1898	76	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	Headmaster	£205

1898	76	Fernridge	Whelan	Elizabeth		Assistant Female	£80
1898	76	Fernridge	Rose	Florence E		Female Pupil Teacher	£42
1899	81	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick		Headmaster	£205
1899	81	Fernridge	Whelan	Elizabeth		Assistant Female	£80
1899	81	Fernridge	Rose	Florence E		Female Pupil Teacher	£42
1900	80	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick		Headmaster	£205
1900	80	Fernridge	Baker Gabb	Mary		Assistant Female	£80
1900	80	Fernridge	Rose	Florence E		Female Pupil Teacher	£42
1900	80	Fernridge	Watson	Jennie		Female Pupil Teacher	£25
1901	85	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick		Headmaster	£205
1901	85	Fernridge	Baker Gabb	Mary		Assistant Female	£85
1901	85	Fernridge	Rose	Florence E		Female Pupil Teacher	£50
1902	77	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick		Headmaster	£207
1902	77	Fernridge	Baker Gabb	Mary		Assistant Female	£95
1903	68	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick		Headmaster	£207
1903	68	Fernridge	Baker Gabb	Mary		Mistress	£95
1904	81	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick		Headmaster	£187
1904	81	Fernridge	Robinson	Lillie I F		Mistress	£85
1905	77	Fernridge	Gover	Frederick	E1	Headmaster	£204
1905	77	Fernridge	Robinson	Lillie I F	E4	Mistress	£95
1906	73	Fernridge	Foss	Reginald J	D1	Headmaster	£215
1906	78	Fernridge	Robinson	Lillie I F	E4	Assistant Female	£100
1907	70	Fernridge	Foss	Reginald J	D1	Headmaster	£215
1907	70	Fernridge	Robinson	Lillie I F	E4	Assistant Female	£100
1908	61	Fernridge	Foss	Reginald J	C1	Headmaster	£195
1908	61	Fernridge	Clarke	Mary A C	E4	Assistant Female	£85
1909	78	Fernridge	Foss	Reginald J	C1	Headmaster	£200
1909	78	Fernridge	Clarke	Mary A C	D5	Assistant Female	£100

1910	86	Fernridge	Foss	Reginald J	B1	Headmaster	£215
1910	86	Fernridge	Clarke	Mary A C	D4	Assistant Female	£105
1911	88	Fernridge	Foss	Reginald J	B1	Headmaster	£220
1911	88	Fernridge	Clarke	Mary A C	D4	Assistant Female	£110
1911	88	Fernridge	Andrews	Honorina		Female Pupil Teacher 1	£45
1912	78	Fernridge	Foss	Reginald J	B1	Headmaster	£225
1912	78	Fernridge	Clarke	Mary A C	D3	Assistant Female	£125
1912	78	Fernridge	Elliott	Evelyn M		Assistant Female	£90
1913	77	Fernridge	Foss	Reginald J	B1	Headmaster	£230
1913	77	Fernridge	Clarke	Mary A C	D3	Assistant Female	£120
1914	82	Fernridge	Foss	Reginald J	B1	Headmaster	£240
1914	82	Fernridge	Clarke	Mary A C	C2	Assistant Female	£130
1915	94	Fernridge	Foss	Reginald J	B1	Headmaster	£250
1915	94	Fernridge	Cooke	Alice B	D2	Assistant Female	£120
1915	94	Fernridge	Strong	Florence		Assistant Female	£110
1917	99	Fernridge	Combs M A	Frank	Head	A-49	£220
1917	99	Fernridge	Flood	Gertrude	Assistant	D-73	£120
1917	99	Fernridge	McKenzie	Ivy V	Assistant	D-102	£110
1919	85	Fernridge	Hall	Henry G	Head	C-53	£300
1919	85	Fernridge	McKenzie	Ivy V	Assistant	D-94	£185
1919	85	Fernridge	Evans	Constance M	Assistant	D-97	£150
1919	85	Fernridge	Cairns	Elizabeth S O	Probationer 2		£75
1921	72	Fernridge	Hall	Henry G	Head	C	£380
1921	72	Fernridge	Ramsay	Lilly M	Assistant	C	£240
1923	79	Fernridge	Campbell	Kathleen	Head	D-106	£353
1923	79	Fernridge	Ramsay	Lilly M	Assistant	C-170	£243
1923	79	Fernridge	Gardner	John	Probationer		£88

