

## Horoeaka:

1901-1999 I [Robin Carlyon, Researcher] taught at this school for 4 years from 1968 to 1972. This was a delightful experience with a very supportive School Committee. There was a large two roomed school with a modern small house. Even after Featherston the winds were terrific. One blew the front door in and it took some persuasion to have the Wellington Education Board believe it was a natural mishap. In earlier days the Waipatiki School in the Hawkes Bay Education Board was only about 5 Kilometres North of Horoeaka. We saw a number of swaggers still coming through. They used to sleep in Ian Frame's Woolshed 70 Kilometres from Pahiatua. The roads were bad. The best way to travel from Pahiatua was to go via Dannevirke and almost to Weber and then only the last few kilometres to home were off the tar seal

15<sup>th</sup> May 1897 Auckland Star Auckland Supreme Court list of trials included Elphinstone Ormsby Jackson alias Charles McPherson, theft

31<sup>st</sup> May 1897 Auckland Star Supreme Court E O Jackson found True Bills at the time of going to print

In 1896 E O was in the Egmont Electorate in Taranaki, In 1900 he was in Pahiatua Electorate at Horoeaka. In 1905 and 1911 he was in the Hutt as an auctioneer

I have no evidence it is the same person but there was a Charles McPherson before the courts for drunkenness in Wellington prior to 1897

A Word of warning: I am recording here more about the district as well as the school than I usually do.

## 1900

1900			Horoeaka	Jackson	E O		Master	£30	\$5,216
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9<sup>th</sup> September 1899 Mr Walsh, the local postmaster, is to go out to the Rising Sun block, a few miles from Waipatiki, next week, to arrange for opening a post office there, to be known as the Horoeaka office.

1<sup>st</sup> February 1900 Wellington Education Board The chairman was authorised to deal with an application from Horoeaka for a grant towards the erection of a building for an aided school.

1901	12	Horoeaka	Jackson	E O		Master	£75	\$12,662
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17<sup>th</sup> January 1901 (FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.) It is not generally known that there is such a place as Horoeaka. It is only a new district, but it is making great strides towards civilisation. Wide roads are being formed, and it has a tidy little school and a post office Now the settlers are talking about starting a creamery, and I hear on good authority that a sawmiller is bringing his plant in to start operations, which will be a great boon if the district at large. We are also trying to start a circulating library, which no doubt will be very beneficial to all during the long winter months.

The first annual picnic in connection with the school was held last Tuesday on the Waihi river near Mt -Lunt' s. It was a perfect day for such a function, and the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves, as well as the grown-up people. Races and different games were

indulged in.' Great credit and praise must be bestowed on the ladies for the way in which they provided the refreshments. The way the picnic was enjoyed by all goes to prove that the ladies' efforts were successful. To show the quantity of refreshments provided, although full justice was done, to the good thing, both at the picnic and the dance which followed, stacks\* of cakes, etc, were returned to the senders. The dance was also a great success, and the sun was fairly well up before it came to a close.

A largely attended meeting was held in the school on Saturday afternoon to discuss a circulating library. Mr Jacks-on was voted to the chair. On the motion of Mr Gillam, seconded by Mr Lewis, it was decided that a library be formed, and the annual subscription was fixed at ten shillings. At the same meeting, on the motion of Mr Lewis, seconded by Mr W. Lunt, it was resolved that a club be formed to be called ' The Horoeoka Farmers Association. Fifteen settlers gave in their names as willing to join. Mr W. Lunt was elected secretary pro tern. A general meeting of those interested in the Association is called for 4th February. Horoeoka, 6th Jan 1901.

21<sup>st</sup> February 1901 The weather has been very favorable for burning operations., and the settlers are taking full advantage of their chance. A better sight nobody could wish to set eyes on than what was to be witnessed last Thursday night. It is impossible to describe so glorious a sight, Talk about the beautiful illuminations of palaces or even whole cities. It would not equal Thursday night's sight. The sky was a dull leaden color, and as the standing dead trees were burning, they sent forth showers of sparks. ..The bush presented a mass of scarlet burning logs, stumps, and standing trees

The first marriage in the district was that of Mr Arthur Jones to Miss Harold, both local residents. Owing to the illness of Mr D. Harold, the bride's brother, the wedding was of a very quiet nature.

21<sup>st</sup> March 1901 Salary Changes Aided school. Horoeoka — Attendance 9, sole teacher, proposed salary £45, increase £11 5s.

2<sup>nd</sup> May 1901 In Horoeoka Notes from the Bush Advocate badly smudged was this piece on the roads. The necessity of traffic roads is sadly felt by the settlers of the district especially in time of sickness Yesterday was the third occasion we have been obliged to carry people out One of the earliest settlers Mr Percy Lewis being struck with rheumatic fever and as it is utterly impossible to obtain medical aid here there was nothing else but to call upon the settlers to carry him out to Coonoor a distance of 6 miles [Over The Rising Sun Road [Track]] The track is supposed to be six feet wide, but in places it is most certainly in depth but not in width. In one or two places, where it is dry and hard, the track would not measure two feet, so you will understand yesterday's undertaking which was so willingly and cheerfully performed. Mr Urquhart conveyed the sufferer to Pahiatua in a trap kindly lent by Mr Wilkes. Only the secretary and the schoolmaster put in an appearance at the householders' meeting on Monday night, so I am sorry to say we have failed to elect a committee. A commissioner will now be appointed by the Education Board of Wellington. After many months of weary waiting the timber for the Waihi footbridge « at last being, cut. Two months ago our energetic road overseer had about two thousand feet of totara squared with the understanding that the bridge was to be erected immediately, if not sooner. Now he has discovered that nix thousand more feet required will have the greatest pleasure IA letting you know when the first pile is sunk. The subject for discussion at the next Meeting of the betters'

association, which take place on May 6th, is the Tohi and North Range roads. I am pleased to hear that Mr Lewis is progressing as favorably as can be expected, and he was none the worse for his journey out.

30<sup>th</sup> May 1901 Owing to the scarlatina in the district the local school was closed for a fortnight and reopened on Monday 27th inst. A fair number of householders attended and the following gentlemen were elected -—Messrs Gillam (chairman and treasurer) Forsyth (Sec.), S. Hunt, and McQuinne. Mr Wilcox is to be asked to accept the fifth seat. The ' Committee have decided to hold a social and dance in aid. of the school funds about the middle of June

22<sup>nd</sup> August 1901 The second half-yearly meeting of the Library was held on August 5th. in the school, a fair number being present.. The secretary presented his report and balance sheet, which showed the library to be on a firm footing. It was decided to apply for the Government subsidy, which, if procured, will greatly assist the committee in getting most of the latest works. The secretary was instructed to make inquiries as to insurance. The following committee were elected—Messrs Hallam, Jackson (re-, elected), and James Norton. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the librarian and old committee, for which Mr Hallam briefly returned thanks. The Settler's Association then met: the vice-President (Mr Lunt) in the chair. Correspondence was read from Public Works Department, I Wellington, giving a detailed account of monies spent in the district for the last 3 or 4 years. A lengthy discussion followed. The statement was not altogether satisfactory as the trifling works done did not warrant the enormous expenditure. It also stated work done on certain roads that do not exist at all. This goes to show that there is a great mistake somewhere. Three new maps have just been placed in the school by the Education Board of Wellington. The school committee wish to acknowledge receipt of a lamp from Mr Green, of Weber. Owing to the unfordable rivers and shocking state of the roads the school attendance has been very low since the holidays, and not much progress has been made with the two swing bridges.

5<sup>th</sup> September 1901 The last one of the swing bridges is completed, and the other, that across the Waihi stream, only requires three or four more days work. The weather for the last week or so has been beautiful, and the- roads are beginning to show signs of drying up. . A most distressing accident occurred here last Monday morning. While three little sons of Mr S. Hunt were playing with an axe, one accidentally let the axe fall on his brother Lancelot's hand, severing the two 'middle fingers at the third joints. No assistance being handy his mother bound the hand up, left him at home, and picking her infant child up ran to the nearest neighbor, a distance of over a mile, for help.- This proved to-be no easy task owing to the bad state oi the road, the mother once or twice Being up to her knee's in mud. However Messrs Gillard and W. Lunt were quickly on the spot and rendered first aid to the injured.' Dr Ridd of Pongaroa was then sent for and arrived just at dark. He found the fingers just hanging together by the skin, and after setting them made the little fellow as comfortable as possible. On making enquiries I learn that the little fellow is making favourable strides towards recovery. It is very remarkable how brave Lancelot was, as he is only five. He bore his injury like a Briton, not even a wince out of him while the doctor was setting and stitching the fingers. Both Mr. and Mrs Hunt wish me to state that they are very thankful to their neighbours for their great kindness tendered to them, especially to Messrs Gillam and Lunt for the prompt action they took.

19<sup>th</sup> September 1901 Of late we have had excellent weather and the roads and district in general have greatly benefitted by it. Lambing is nearly over here, and everywhere are to be seen strong healthy lambs frisking and frolicking about, so a good per centage may be expected. I am very pleased to say that after so many months of weary waiting the two swing bridges are at last complete. They enable the children. over the rivers to attend school in safety. Talking about the school Messrs Lunt Bros presented the large hanging lamp, which they promised some little time back, to the school last Saturday. A most enjoyable . ' at home ' was given last Monday night by Mr Porteous in Mr Forsyth's woolshed. ; , The building was tastefully decorated with 1 nikau palms and other native evergreens. The dancing was under the command of our popular M.C., Mr Gibbert, and was kept up till past daylight. During the evening several songs and recitations were rendered by different guests, and the function was brought to a close by the singing of ' Auld Lang Syne.' Among those present I noticed Misses Porteous, Norton, Bunning, and Weavers, Mesdames Porteous, Forsyth, Douglas, Weavers, Messon, Hunt, Messrs Porteous (2), Forsyth, Douglas, McLean, Messon, Hunt, Hallam , Norton, Gilbert, Jackson, and others.

At a special meeting of the Settlers' Association held last Saturday night, it was decided to run a candidate for the coming Akitio County. Council election. Several names were submitted and on a ballot being taken Mr G. H Gillam was chosen. Mr. Gillam returned thanks and said if elected it would be his constant aim and endeavour to look after the interests of the ratepayers and see that they get fair treatment. It was also decided to apply for a polling booth here. Afterwards a committee of three, comprising Messrs Gillam, Ellingham and Hallam was. set up to make a few enquiries and gain particulars as to forming a branch in this district of the N.Z. Farmers union. Mr Hallam was chosen secretary pro tern, Several other' subjects were discussed and decided to be acted upon. Your readers will be pleased to learn that Lancelot Hunt, who met with a painful accident a few weeks ago to his right hand is progressing very favourably towards recovery

6<sup>th</sup> November 1901 The local school is rapidly growing. Already there are more children than there is seating accommodation for and the school is new not nearly large enough. At the last committee meeting the Master condemned the building as being totally unfit for a school. It was decided to point, out to the Board this unsatisfactory state, and that more children are likely to come shortly, and to apply for a new building entirely. Failing that, that the present one be enlarged and brought up-to-date

## 1902

1902	16	Horoeka	Jackson	Elphinstone		Master	£80	\$13,190
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16<sup>th</sup> January 1902 What promised to be a most enjoyable outing and school picnic was marred by the inclemency of the weather. The day proved totally unfit to "go to the Falls, so the picnic was held at the school. In spite of the •unfavourable weather, all the y-v , school children and a good muster of 'patents and friends found their way between the rain drops to do justice to the good things which were so liberally supplied. During the afternoon each child attending the school was presented with a prize for the work done during the year. The special prizes given fell to the following children:— Mrs Porteous'— Alan Hunt ; Mr E. Ormsby-Jackson's —Elsie Gillam ; Mr Gillum's - John Gillam ; Mr Urquhart's— Mary

Porteous and Hugh Harold; Mr Lewis' (Pahiatua)— Maggie Porteous ; Mr Wilcox's— -1st Ivy Wilcox, 2nd William Forsyth. , , Mr Wm. Lunt kindly acted with Mr. Jackson as judges to decide the -winners of the last prize. It was for the best recitation. All the children recited in the most creditable manner, - and it was no easy matter to decide who were the lucky ones. The dance held in conjunction with the picnic was also marred by the weather, but a most enjoyable evening was spent, dancing being kept up till long past day-break. Mr Hunt supplied the music, and Mr Gilbert acted as M.C. Great credit is due to both gentlemen, also the ladies, who supplied a capital supper

12<sup>th</sup> March 1902 Church service is being held monthly . in the school. So far the vicar, the Rev Mr Marshall, of Pahiatua, has had very large congregations.

7<sup>th</sup> May 1902 The annual school election was held on April 28th. Very little interest; was shown except by those who attended the meeting. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr Gillam the retiring chairman, for the untiring zeal he has manifested during his term of office, and the master was congratulated on the success of the school and receiving such a good inspector's report. The following committee were duly elected .'—Messrs Urquhart (chairman), Hallam (secretary and treasurer), Forsyth, Misson, and Lunt

10<sup>th</sup> June 1902 To The Editor.) Sir, — I notice in your issue of May 26th a grave (?)complaint by "Parent" against the Weber schoolteachers, .e., giving certain religious instruction at the school. In fairness to the teachers and school concerned, I wish to inform " Parent " that no such instruction has ever been given. The headmistress tells me that she gave the children several words to make sentences with. Amongst others was the word "immortal," and one child used it in a sentence as " immortal soul." As the word was used correctly, of course it was marked correct. Now, sir, I fail to see what grounds " Parent " has for complaint. — Iain, etc., E. Ormsby- Jackson, Schoolmaster. Horoeka, June 8, 1902.

29<sup>th</sup> July 1902 Dannevirke Coronation Committee The Maharahara East School Committee wrote accepting the invitation to the celebrations and the secretary of the Horoeka School Committee intimated that, owing to the bad state of the roads, his Committee could not accept the invitation.

13<sup>th</sup> August 1902 Tenders are invited for the erection of a new school at Horoeka. Tenders close with the Secretary of the Wellington Education Board on Aug. 25. Plans and specifications may be seen at the Advocate office.

13<sup>th</sup> August 1902 The local school was re-opened after the winter holidays on July 28th and although the weather has been anything but favorable since the attendance has been good. The school is steadily increasing ; two new scholars having entered during last week. The latest word from the Education Board with regard to our new school is that tenders are now being called for the work. Only two tenders were received for fencing the school ground. These of course had to be forwarded to the Board.

The roads are in a deplorable condition and as usual nothing is being done to them.

15<sup>th</sup> August 1902 It affords me great pleasure to report that our long-promised school is to be completed at last. By last mail the committee received from the Board the plans, etc, which can be seen any day at the school. According to the plan the buildings will be very convenient and compact and will meet the requirements of the district for Home time to come, although the school id fast on the increase. The tender of Mr S. Hunt has been accepted by the Board for fencing the school grounds, at 22s 6d per chain

10<sup>th</sup> September 1902 t is regrettable to hear that the tenders for the erection of the new |school were all above the Board's estimate, causing fresh tenders to be called.

27<sup>th</sup> September 1902 The Education Board has accepted the tender of James McMillan for building a new school at Horoeka

8<sup>th</sup> October 1902 Mr Hunt has completed the fencing at the school . in a very satisfactory manner, which adds greatly to the welfare of the district

It is rumoured on good authority that the contract has been let for the new school, although the local committee is still in the dark. We are -anxiously awaiting the next mail for this good news to be confirmed..

24<sup>th</sup> November 1902 Mr McMillan has not started the new school yet, which is a great disappointment to us. It was hoped that the building would be finished so that we could open school in it after the Christmas holidays, but there is very little chance of that being done now

3<sup>rd</sup> December 1902 Although the time is going by and the roads are in excellent condition, yet Mr Macmillan has not a stick of timber on the site of the new school. Perhaps he is waiting for the winter to return when work will be slack.

22<sup>nd</sup> December 1902 Mr Herrick has just had a; very fine house erected on his property, with large Italian windows in front. This is the' first house of its kind in the district, but others are to follow as soon as timber can be conveniently brought in. The local school broke up on Friday for the summer holidays and the annual is to be put off till the opening of the new school. Besides the usual merit prizes, which are to be- given then, the following gentlemen have kindly offered special prizes as follows:— Mr Ormsby Jackson (schoolmaster), best attendance for the year; Mr Urquhart, "most popular boy and girl : Mr Gillam, best progress; Mr McQuinn, most extra work done by the children in their spare time and at home.

## 1903

1903	17	Horoeka	Jackson	Elphinstone		Head	£80	\$13,255
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2<sup>nd</sup> March 1903 We have been experiencing summer weather of late and the settlers have taken the opportunity to burn their bush but owing to the heavy rain which fell during the week it is feared the burning season is past. The annual picnic in connection with the local school took place last Saturday at the Waihi Falls, and was a great success, over a hundred people being present. Visitors were present from Weber, Oporae, Waione, and Coonor. An interesting programme of races, etc., was provided for the children, and all the events were keenly contested. During the afternoon a competition for the best recitation took place, Miss Brabazon, of Weber School, acting as judge. Miss Sutherland, headmistress of Weber school, presented the merit prizes awarded to the children. The following were the winners : — ( Standard VI — Mary Porteous. Standard IV — Campbell Edwards. ' Standard III — John Gillam. Standard II — Walter Thompson. Standard I — George Gillam 1st, Elsie Gillam 2nd. Special prizes were also awarded. The headmaster's prize for best attendance fell to Alex. Gillam; Mr Urquhart's most popular boy and girl, were presented to William Harold and Nellie Wilcox ; Mr McQuinn's, highest marks for extra ! work, to Ruth Hunt ; Messrs Wilcox, Jackson, Urquhart, and Hallam's prizes for recitations on the ground were handed to Ivy Wilcox, John Gillam, Elsie Gillam, and "William Forsyth respectively, and Mr Gillam's, for the best progress, to William Forsyth. Great credit is due to the Misses Norton, Porteous and Mrs Gilbert for the arrangements they made, which contributed so largely to the success

of the affair. The ladies of the district also deserve praise for providing a liberal supply of refreshments. Before leaving the grounds, hearty cheers were given for Misses Sutherland and Brabazon, the committee, Mr Jackson (teacher), and the ladies of the district. In the evening a most enjoyable dance was held in the schoolhouse. In spite of the limited accommodation, some twenty couples took possession of the floor. The duties of M.C. were carried out by Mr Gilbert in his usual efficient style, and Mr Hunt kindly supplied the music. It being Saturday night, the dance was brought to a close, all too soon, at 12 o'clock. It is very pleasing to state that the first step towards the erection of the new school has been made. The clerk of the works and the contractor paid us a visit about three weeks ago and one load of timber is half way from the mill. This is very " gratifying," considering the contract was let last October. The old proverb aptly applies in this case : " Everything comes to those that wait." Road work is very plentiful here just now. No less than five contracts are being pushed on and the sixth one of a mile in length, is to be started as soon as men are available. The cocksfoot season has just terminated, and some very good returns have been obtained.

16<sup>th</sup> March The annual examination of the local school was held on Tuesday last by Inspector Fleming, three children being absent through illness. The results were very satisfactory to all concerned, only two of the whole school failing to be promoted. During the inspector's visit a deputation was to have waited on him to urge the necessity of a school at Waipatikaka, but only one member of the deputation put in an appearance. Mr Wolff, our genial road inspector and surveyor, was busy with his assistants in surveying a site for a bridge across the Waihi river, on the Waihi Valley Road, on Wednesday. This bridge will be a great boon to the settlers when the road formation is completed.

27<sup>th</sup> April 1903 Winter has been ushered upon us with very little warning, and if the weather of late is a sample of what we are to expect, it will be very severe during the next few months. What with heavy rains, hail and snow on the higher lands - and heavy traffic, the roads are getting in rather a bad state. To show the importance of the place and the need of wide roads, etc., nearly a hundred tons of merchandise is being imported to this district alone this autumn. All except a few tons has to be packed, the drays bringing it as far as they can. The erection of the new school is also " hung up " for the completion of a large culvert. The want of broad roads makes living very expensive, it taking nearly as much to land provisions from the merchants as the goods themselves cost. The annual election for a new school committee takes place on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> inst., but so far very little interest is being taken locally.

3<sup>rd</sup> June 1903 £86 cost of Horoeka School to Wellington Education Board

6<sup>th</sup> June 1903 This new district is rapidly coming to the fore, although it is terribly hampered by want of good roads and bridges. In spite of this, the settlers are in a very prosperous condition. We have a Settlers' Association, a Library, a bi-weekly mail service (the P.O. being kept by Mrs Hunt), and a school (under the mastership of Mr Jackson). The building, which is only a temporary one, is now being replaced by an adequate and handsome structure.

30<sup>th</sup> October 1903 Wellington Education Board The inspectors were authorised to make arrangements for a temporary teacher at Horoeka.

4<sup>th</sup> November 1903 Mr E. Jackson, Horoeka school, had resigned.

## 1904

1904	25	Horoeka	Barrett	Henry R		M	£114	\$18,877	
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Henry Barrett started teaching in 1902 at Te Aro school as a Pupil Teacher was at Carterton in 1903 then spent two years at Horoeka and went to Roseneath in 1906 and in 1907 was at Hokitika DHS

4<sup>th</sup> January 1904 The passing year has seen great changes here, and several familiar faces have departed for pastures new, but there has been a decided advancement in the district generally, and the credit of such obvious progression appears mutually shared amongst the settlers. There has recently been quite a buzz of excitement here, for have we not just had completed a new commodious school, and also a long felt want, viz.,---a creamery. The wise ones here, are endeavouring to keep step with the times, and a water wheel to work the creamery is resultant. The wheel in question is neatly fitted to take the concentrated force of a waterfall in the Waihi, some three miles above' the well celebrated Waihi Falls. One can form an idea of the effect one week of dry weather has on the streams' here, for the volume of water has been diminishing in the Waihi at such an alarming rate that it was reported two days ago that' there was scarcely sufficient power to drive the creamery machinery, and ( . that unless rain soon came the • machinery would needs be stopped

19<sup>th</sup> January 1904 H R Barratt appointed temporary teacher

3<sup>rd</sup> February 1904

Work was resumed at the local school last Monday week, this time under the tuition of Mr H. Barrett. The annual distribution of pusses, picnic, and dance is dated to eventuate on February 26th. The district for along radius has been during the past few weeks completely enveloped in smoke, but the unusual calmness had prevented fires from spreading, but, the westerly winds which sprung up on Friday seemed to\* pick-ftp, the scattered fires, and by midday large fires raged all around, and were of so severe a nature that communication was practically stopped for a time The Horoeka mail carrier was blocked, as one mass of fire raged on both sides of the main road for miles. Some of the children were unable to return to their homes from school on, account of the severity of -fire and smoke, and great credit is due to those settlers who so. willingly cared for the little ones. It was feared for a time that many of the settlers would have been rendered homeless, and it ":was not until noon on. Saturday that the true state of affairs was known. Mr D. Missen's house was burned on Saturday morning while a great number had their hands fall watching their homes, which they had to watch day and night,

4<sup>th</sup> March 1904 The annual school picnic was held on Friday last, the 26th February, in Mr Thomas' bush. The weather was perfect. By noon fully 200 adults and children had arrived, and all were ready to partake of refreshments, an ample supply of which had been provided by the settlers of the district. The committee, with the assistance of a few of the young ladies, were fully occupied for a considerable time, supplying the wants of each and all. After a rest and a friendly chat all round, the sports for the children were commenced, and were , entered into by the scholars and other children from the immediate neighbourhood with enthusiasm. There were races for big boys and small boys, big and little girls, hop step and jump, long jump for big boys and also for the small boys, sack race, three-legged race, and skipping for both big and little girls. One of the best races of the afternoon was that for young ladies. The



downfall of one lady, which caused the collapse of another, was very funny. In the meantime, lollies, etc., were being distributed by various members of the committee. The recitation competition was not quite so successful as in former years, a number of the scholars not entering for some unaccountable reason, although the prizes were well worth competing for. Mr Donald McLean, of Waipatiki, distributed the prizes to the winners of the various events at the sports in the afternoon, and also those for attendance and recitations, the former being given by Mr Hallam, and the latter by Mr Wilcox (for the big boys), and Mr Urquhart (for the big girls), and Mr Missen (one each for the small boys and girls). Tea and refreshments were again taken round, after which a few games were indulged in, which brought the afternoon's picnic to a close. A concert was held in the schoolroom in the evening, commencing at 8 o'clock. It was the first concert ever held at Horoeke, but it is to be hoped it will be followed by very many more. Mr Urquhart (the chairman of the school committee) in his opening address, expressed the pleasure it gave the committee to see so many present (the room being packed, with about 30 or 40 in the porch). Mrs J. Thomas and M. Barratt (the teacher) arranged the programme, which consisted of a pianoforte solo by Mrs Thomas ; songs by Mrs Ellingham, Mrs Thomas, Mr Barrett and Mr Clark ; vocal duet by Messrs W. and F. Gilbert ; recitations by Mr Hawkins and Mr A. Norton ; violin solo by Mr Clark ; violin duet by Messrs Gilbert Bros. ; and three plantation songs, the solos of which were sung by Mr F. Gilbert, Mr W. Gilbert and Mrs J. Thomas, with a chorus of nine voices, Mrs Ellingham, "Mrs W. Gilbert, Mrs Missen, Miss Norton, and Mr Barrett. Each item was received most enthusiastically by the crowded house, and there was a general wish that it will be followed very soon by another one and given a fine night I doubt if there would be standing room. After the Chairman had thanked all those who had so kindly assisted in providing the evening's entertainment, refreshments were handed round; after which the room was cleared for dancing. Messrs Gilbert, Clark and Hunt supplied the music, and Mr Harold Thomas acted as M.C. The room was so crowded all the square dances had to be repeated, in fact a room double the size would have been well filled. During the evening Mr Hawkins -again recited, With two intervals for refreshments, dancing was kept up till day light, when the most successful gathering ever held in Horoeke came to a close,

21<sup>st</sup> March 1904 The annual examination of the local school was held on March 3rd by Mr Bakewell, one of the Wellington Board's inspectors. Only 70 per cent, of the children presented passed, but a better result is fully anticipated next year. The present teacher, Mr H. Barrett, only took charge of the school after the Christmas holidays. The children, therefore, had only been five weeks under his tuition.

I understand Mr Barrett has been successful in taking his " D " certificate, for which he sat at the recent examinations held in Wellington, the results of which were received a Week or so ago

4<sup>th</sup> May 1904 The annual householders' meeting, to elect the School Committee for the ensuing year, was held on Monday evening, 25th April. Mr A. Urquhart (who has been chairman of the local committee for the past two years) presided. Unfortunately there was only a moderate attendance of settler's present, owing no doubt to the wet night. Mr Urquhart, in his opening remarks, dealt with the work of the past year, the erection and

opening of the new building being, of course, the most important. Mr E. O. Jackson, who had been in charge of the school for three years, resigned last Christmas, and Mr H. R. Barratt was given charge after the summer holidays and still holds the position. The number of children on the roll has considerably increased during the school year just ended, having now reached 30. After the report had been read the election of a committee for the next twelve months was proceeded with. Nine householders were nominated, the following being elected :— Messrs C. Lunt, A. Urquhart, W. H. Hallam, F. Gilbert and H. Thomas. A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the proceedings, A meeting of the newly-elected committee was held, when Mr Urquhart was appointed chairman, and Mr C. Lunt, secretary and treasurer, It was decided to hold a dance in the schoolroom on the 27th May, in aid of funds to convert the old building into a teacher's residence ; tickets to be 2s each. Given a fine night, a big turnout is expected. I hear there is some probability of several contracts for formation of roads being let immediately. The more the better, although it would have been much better had the work been done during the summer months instead of , n.id-winter.

4<sup>th</sup> June 1904 A very enjoyable dance was held in the schoolroom on Friday evening last. The proceeds are to be devoted to converting the old school building into a dwelling-house for the teacher. The weather was unfortunately very bad, but nevertheless a sufficient number to nicely fill the room braved the elements. An ample supply of refreshments hart been provided by the various settlers of the district and were handed round by the members of the School Committee. Mr Harold Thomas acted as MC, and Messrs S. Hunt, F. J. Gilbert and S. Clarice supplied the music. Songs were rendered during the evening by Miss G. Keegan, and Messrs H. R. Barrett, T. Transom, and R. Millett. Dancing was kept going until daybreak, when with the usual votes of thanks, a very lively little dance terminated.

24<sup>th</sup> August 1904

The monthly meeting of the School Committee was held on Tuesday evening last. Present— Messrs Urquhart (chair), Gilbert, Hallam, and C. Hunt (sec.) The tank, which was included in the contract for of new school, has arrived here at last, having been waiting at Waione for some considerable time. Mrs W J. Gilbert has undertaken the duties of sewing mistress and will attend the school each Friday afternoon for two hours. Owing to the bad state of the roads the timber to line and otherwise improve the teacher's dwelling has not been delivered, but nevertheless Mr Barrett has taken up his residence in the old 'school, having pitched a tent inside as a bedroom.

6<sup>th</sup> December 1904 Last week, at Horoeka, a little girl named Wilcox fell from a packsaddle off a horse she was riding. In the fall her leg caught on one of the hooks, resulting in a fearful gash.

16<sup>th</sup> December 1904 The monthly meeting of the School Committee was held on Tuesday evening last, Mr Urquhart (chairman) and Messrs F, Gilbert, W. H. Hallam, and C, Lunt (sec.) being present. ' A circular letter from the Board, suggesting alteration , of holidays to six weeks in the summer, commencing on -the Monday before Christmas, and one week in May and on© week in September was received, but the Committee considered the present arrangement of three weeks in the summer and five weeks in -mid- winter were better suited to this district, on account of the deplorable state of the roads. . The teacher reported a slight falling off in the attendance during the month, caused by several boys away on account of shearing and the regrettable accident to the girl Wilcox, who had the whole of her calf torn

off by falling from a horse, She was riding on a pack saddle and becoming unseated her leg caught on one -of the hooks of the saddle. I understand she is not improving as well as was at first thought. The annual picnic and concert is to be held on Friday, the 17th February. The picnic will be in Mr J. Thomas's paddock, where it was held last year, and the Committee and teacher will endeavour to give the children a good time. A programme of sports has been drawn up and some forty, prizes are to be competed for. Two ladies of the district will undertake the canvassing for refreshments and with, I am sure, the usual pleasing result. The concert to be held in the evening and the schoolroom is in the hands of Mrs Thomas and her sister, Miss G. Keegan. They will be able to rally all the "local talent" to their aid, and with the assistance of a few friends from other districts,^ very pleasant evening's entertainment will be provided. After refreshments have been handed round the room, will be cleared for dancing. The price of the tickets is a modest half crown.

## 1905

1905	24	Horoeke	Barrett	Henry R	D4	M	£130	\$20,560
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23<sup>rd</sup> February 1905 The annual school picnic was held on/ Friday last, in Mr J. Thomas' paddock. Although the early morning was very dull, and the prospects of a fine day here anything but bright, the attendance was good, and increased considerably after noon, when, the sky became less clouded and the sun appeared at frequent intervals. The arrangements were well in hand by the Committee, and the sports were commenced about 11 o'clock. In the meantime preparations, were being made for lunch by the ladies in charge of the refreshments, an\* \* ample supply of -which had been given by the settlers of the district. After lunch the sports were continued, games indulged in by the adults and the whole afternoon' was one of merriment. The prizes for the various events at the sports were presented by Mr EL Elling« ham. The member for toe district, Mr Hawkins, was present and had consented to distribute the prizes,, but through indisposition was unable to do so. /He however improved during the evening and was able to assist at the concert. About 4 o'clock tea was served, after which most of the settlers had to depart to attend to the ever-constant cow. The whole picnic was a decided success and increases in popularity each year. The only drawback is the deplorable hick of roads. "When the fact that every box, tin, and bag of refreshments, the prizes, •crockery, and indeed everything, -had to be either carried or-packed, it is surprising that such a successful gathering is possible. But the patient settler still hopes for a more convenient mode of carriage than the pack horse or his own shoulders. In the evening .! a concert and dance was held in the schoolroom. By the, hour appointed for the commencement of the concert the room was full and those unable to find seats, and they were many, were compelled to remain in the porch and immediately outside the door. The .arrangements for the concert were undertaken by Mrs Thomas and Miss Keegan, and a really high-class programme was provided. Each and every item was well received, and the applause was loud and long. As the programme was a lengthy one, however, it was decided that encores were not to be responded to, but several times it was impossible to satisfy the audience otherwise, and the singers had to re-appear. The general expression at the conclusion of the concert was one of surprise that a district so far back and of so scattered a population could provide an entertainment of such an order. The following was the programme :•— Quartette, "Oh, who will o'er the Downs," Messrs Gilbert Bros. ; song, "

Maid of Athens," Mr Hawkins, (encore) " The Bridge " ; song, "On the banks of the Wabash," Mr Arrow ; song, " The Old Rustic Bridge," Miss Boss ; violin duet, " Messrs Clark and Whitta ; song, " Alice, where art Thou," Miss Keegan, (repeated as an encore) ; song, " Dinah Doon," Mr Campbell ; song, "Poor old Joe," Mr W. Gilbert; violin solo, Mr Clark ; recitation, " The Charge of the Light Brigade," Mr Hawkins ; action song, " She wore a wreath of roses," Mrs Thomas ; song, " The Boys of the Old Brigade," Mr Barrett; song, " The Sleeping Camp," Mr Arrow; duet, " Mayest Thou Dream, of Me," Mrs Thomas and Miss- Keegan, encore, •" The Sea of Glass " ;. song, " Sunny Tennessee," Mr Clark ; song, " Island of Dreams," Mrs Thomas ; glee, " Now for Our Country." Before the audience left their seats tea and coffee and refreshments were handed round, after which the room was cleared for dancing, and had there been a floor double the size it would scarcely have been large enough to accommodate those presents Miss A. "Whitta (piano), and Messrs F. Gilbert, Clarke and S. Hunt (violin) supplied the music, and Mr Harold Thomas acted as M.C., and a most enjoyable dance terminated with the break of day.

29<sup>th</sup> March 1905 Mr Inspector Fleming paid his annual visit to the local school on Tuesday last, and, was, I understand, satisfied with the progress made during the, past year. His - report, however, has not yet been received by the committee.

The first picnic in connection with -the Sunday School was held on Friday last in Mr J. Thomas' paddock. The day was an ideal one for such a gathering, and practically all| the children' of the settlement, together with a majority of the ladies, responded to the invitation.....

13<sup>th</sup> September 1905 All the road formation contracts which were let some time ago are now nearing completion, and it is hoped a further vote will be made to widen the few miles of tracks, which still keep a great many of the settlers in an isolated condition. .

29<sup>th</sup> November 1905 .young man named Herbert Wardell was drowned in the Waihi river near Horoeka on Saturday. It is surmised deceased attempted to cross the stream when in flood and was washed down. His horse was drowned also. Wardell was a new arrival from England

## 1906

1906	21	Horoeka	Blake	Bertie N T	D4	Master	£130	\$20,203
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29<sup>th</sup> January 1906 A few extracts of a long article on the visit of Mr Seddon Prime Minister to Puketoi

Today, the Premier made the journey as the guest of the Pahiatua Chamber of Commerce, to the back districts in the Puketoi ranges. The party included Mr R. B. Ross (member for the district), Mr Hornsby (M.H.R.), Mr A. Reese (member of the Land Board), and the president (Mr W. Tosswill), and members of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr Seddon rode as far as Makuri, twenty miles from Pahiatua, where a halt was made for lunch.

Pongaroa ; that promises had been planted in the mud and had never come up ; that settlers at Horoeka had to sledge their stores in for half the year, and that the bank would not open a branch at Pongaroa until there was a daily mail service.

There were other roads under discussion—the Rimu-road, from Ngaturi to Rakanui, the Pongaroa to Wai-one-road, and the Towai-road, which locks up sixteen settlers at Horoeka

1st February During the absence of Mr Barrett, Mrs Bowden, of Woodville, is acting as relieving teacher at Horoeke

27<sup>th</sup> April 1906 Wellington Education Board accepted the resignation of Mr Henry R Barrett

28<sup>th</sup> April 1906 The annual school committee election was held on Monday evening last. The number of householders present was not large, but there was no scarcity of candidates, eight aspirants being nominated for the five seats. The following were elected.—Messrs H. Thomas, W. Lunt, E. Murphy, D. C. Nissen, and T. J. McQuinn. At a meeting held the same evening, Mr Thomas was again elected chairman and Mr Lunt secretary. Owing to the absence of Mr Barrett the school is still closed, a state of affairs that is very unsatisfactory indeed for both parents, and scholars, and the committee has written to the Board on the subject

25<sup>th</sup> July 1906 A meeting of the School Committee was held on Saturday night. Several small accounts were passed for payment. The voting for the election of the new Education -Board was proceeded with. . The school is still in charge- of Mr Blake, the relieving teacher, who has been here since the Easter holidays. It is expected that the appointment of -a permanent teacher will be made at the meeting of the Board on Thursday, next.

15<sup>th</sup> August 1906 Mr B Blake appointed teacher at Horoeke

17<sup>th</sup> August 1906 Bush Advocate: Chamber of Commerce The secretary :said\*he had been asked to impress upon the Chamber the necessity of having the road from Horoeke to Weber completed, including the erection -of a bridge over the Waihi river, which would give access to the Rising Sun block.

29<sup>th</sup> August 1906 The monthly meeting of the school committee was held on Saturday night. Several small accounts were passed for payment.

With regard to a sewing mistress the Secretary stated that Mrs C. Lunt was willing to undertake the duties for the benefit of the girls without remuneration. Satisfaction was expressed by the committee' at the matter being settled as the grant was very small, and it was decided to ask the Board to make .the appointment at once.

The matter- of a school library was brought forward by the teacher, Mr Blake, and it was stated by the Chairman that sufficient amount, with the Board's subsidy, to establish such a library could be- subscribed. The was left in the hands' of Mr Blake.

Another matter of importance which -was discussed, was the necessity of a further plot of land being added to the school ground, which is only one acre in extent, and it was decided to write to the Board with regard to it.

A meeting of settlers is called to discuss the Akitio County proposals for a loan for Saturday; next, at 7.30 p.m., at the Horoeke School. This is preliminary to the general meeting for the riding to be held at the Pukehinau School on Monday -next.

The welcome spring -weather of the last tendays has made the country look very green and\*he grass is making good headway ;

The roads arc -in better order for this time r of the year than they have ,ever been. The lambing season is now general

A start has been made with the erection of the bridge close.to. Mr Wilson's store, and the contractor expects to have it completed in about three weeks.

The appointment of Mr Blake, who has been relieving at the school since May last, to the permanent position of teacher has met with the approbation of parents and -others interested in the .welfare of the school.

In 1904 Bertie N T Blake was a pupil teacher at Horokiwi. 1906 to 1907; at Horoeoka In 1908 until 1910 then he was at Muhunoa in the Horowhenua. He came back to Wellington teaching at Mount Cook Boys' until 1917. He obtained a BA in 1914 and a MA in 1919. From 1919 until my list ends in 1923 he was teaching at the Kelburn Model school. The model school was designed to show Teacher College Students how to teach multi-level classes in small schools

1908/2393	Eva Jessie	Jones	Bert Newman Thornton	Blake
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1946/36492	Blake	Bertie Newman Thornton	62Y
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After the 1914-1918 war Mr Blake was reported in a number of important roles representing teachers on a number of bodies

30<sup>th</sup> January 1923 He was acting head of Kelburn Normal School [A Normal School was one attached to a Training College]

13<sup>th</sup> March 1924 Mr Blake was appointed assistant lecturer Wellington Training College

4<sup>th</sup> February 1925 B N T Blake was appointed Headmaster of Thorndon Normal School

He was listed on many teaching bodies and often quoted in the Wellington Papers

21<sup>st</sup> May 1926 Mr B N T Blake was elected President of the NZEI the teacher's union

12<sup>th</sup> May 1927 The question of married women teachers exercised the minds of delegates at the annual meeting of the New Zealand Educational Institute to-day. The following remits on the subject were received:— " That this annual meeting formulate a policy with respect to the employment of married women teachers for suggestion to the Minister of Education." " That this institute views with alarm the tendency of certain education boards to discriminate in appointments between married and single women in cases where such discrimination nullifies the grading list, which is the official index of efficiency."

" That the married state should not enter into the question of the employment of women teachers."

" That this institute takes strong exception to the action of certain education boards in instituting what amounts to an inquisition into the private affairs of married women teachers." The president, Mr. B. N. T. Blake, said it was time the institute declared a definite policy on the subject.

24<sup>th</sup> September 1927 Mr B N T Blake appointed an Inspector with the Auckland Education Board . Mr Blake had been teaching for 29 years

14<sup>th</sup> June 1933 Mrs. Philip. Phillips, Wellington, is staying with her mother, Mrs. B. N. T. Blake, Remuera, Auckland.

Then followed numerous reports of which daughter was staying with Mrs B N T Blake

24<sup>th</sup> January 1940 he Auckland Education Board was notified today that Messrs. B. N. T. Blake and C. A. Cumming, inspectors of schools in Auckland, have . been appointed senior inspectors at Wanganui- and Nelson respectively as from the beginning of March..

1<sup>st</sup> September 1906 Horoeka, that £6 8s 4d be paid to G. H. Gillam [A parent of the Horoeka . School]

15<sup>th</sup> October 1906 Mr Tennant, Inspector of . Schools, Wellington district, paid a visit to the school on Tuesday last. He was, we understand, well satisfied with the progress the school had made since the annual inspection.

## 1907

1907	22	Horoeka	Blake	Bertie N T	D3	Master	£130	\$20,380
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30<sup>th</sup> January 1907 On Wednesday last Bush fires, aided by a nor'-wester, occurred at Pukehinau. Starting at Horoeka the fire swept through Mr Gillam's property, and, besides destroying several head of cattle, did [considerable damage to fences, yards," etc. Messrs Gardner and Yeoman's sawmill had a narrow escape from being destroyed. Through the strenuous efforts of the settlers, and mill hands, "the mill was saved. A cowshed adjoining the mill, and belonging to Mr F. Giddens, was destroyed, and also the residence of Mr Fred Packer. Mr Wilcox's store was for a time in danger of being burned; About 1.30 o'clock next morning the wind dropped. Thanks to the efforts of Mr Cooper, the manager, the Waihi creamery was saved. The posts, etc., for the Pongaroa-Waioni [Waione]-Horoeka telephone line have been laid, and the work/of erecting the wires will no doubt be commenced shortly.

4<sup>th</sup> February 1907 The work of erection of the telephone between Waione and Horoeka is being pushed on with, and we hope very shortly to have telephonic communication with Dannevirke. The school has opened again after the holidays. The examination is expected to take place about the end of February. At a meeting of the School Committee it was decided to hold the annual picnic on 1st March in Mr Thomas' paddock and finish with a concert and dance in the schoolroom in the evening.

22<sup>nd</sup> February 1907 A new mail service has been established between Pongaroa and Horoeka twice weekly via Waioni. The telephone line is now finished to Horoeka A now telephone office has been opened at Mr Wilcox's Waimiro " store, and it is expected that a Post Office will be opened here in the near future. A construction party, in charge of Lineman Jackson, are now busy erecting the line between Pongaroa and Waione. The timber for the Waihi suspension bridge is now on the site, and the timber for the suspension bridge at Lunt's is to be delivered by the middle of May.

12<sup>th</sup> March 1907 Bush Advocate his has been a week of festivities among the schools. Picnics have been held at Waipatiki, Mangatuna and Horoeka. The weather was superb in each case, and very enjoyable meetings' were held,

13<sup>th</sup> March 1907 he annual inspection "of the school took place on Thursday last by Mr Tennant. The inspector found a very great improvement in the school and remarked that the children did their best, thus proving that the teacher had done his work, in earnest and careful manner and also that the conduct and manners of the children were very good. There were. - only two doubtful passes in the whole school, the rest going up to higher, standards with credit to : themselves and their teacher. The committee have been very fortunate to retain the services of Mr. Blake, who came; here last May as relieving; teacher. The inspection was fixed ; for Friday, the 8th, the date of -the. school picnic, but on representation being made\_

to the inspector he very kindly came on Thursday so that the children went to the picnic light-heartedly, and glad that the ordeal of an examination was - over./ : The day of the picnic was gloriously "fine, and \ a large number of settlers and their j children turned -out. • The picnic was held in Mr J. W» Thomas' paddock, where there is a beautiful piece of native bush' left standing. - Tie .children's - sports were . necessarily held in the open, but the elder ones gazed upon them from, under- the shade of tawa and rimu. The refreshments were also partaken of in the bush, which "as is. usual at Horoeka were both good and abundant. After the second sitting down there Was a hurried ' dispersal to get the cows milked and get back in time for the concert and dance. A very good programme was arranged by Mrs. J. W.. Thomas and Mr Blake, which was listened to by a large audience, the school being: quite full, whilst a good many had to stand outside/ The included Mrs Thomas, Misses Lane and Woodham, Messrs - Bert Blake, } T. J. Gilbert-F. Stafford, and N. O. "White. -The singing was! undoubtedly first-class : the songs beings well selected. ', Miss Lane .delighted . the audience with a selection on the" piano and the soloists were accompanied by Mrs Thomas. After the concert refreshments were handed round, and the room was then cleared for dancing, which was indulged in until the peep o' day. Up till 12 o'clock the room was uncomfortably crowded, but after that time many people left, giving; the younger and more enthusiastic dancers more room. Mr H. Thomas, the genial Chairman of the School Committee, presided at the concert and acted as M.C. at the dance. The. School Committee heartily thank all . those who contributed to the picnic and concert and helped to make it a great success. ' The telephone to Horoeka is now an accomplished fact, and there is also a public call office at the Waimiro store, where a post office will shortly be opened.

27<sup>th</sup> March 1907 he floods of last week, although very high, did not do much damage to the roads. A few slips came down but these- are nearly all cleared. At the School Committee meeting, held last Saturday night, the secretary made out a rough estimate of the result of the recent concert and dance. After payment .of all costs and sports - prizes, there will be close upon £3- in hand; Most of this will be spent in merit and attendance" prizes. Resolutions were passed thanking Mrs Chas. Lunt and Miss Porteous for organising the food arrangements, and Mrs Thomas for getting up the concert

The Rifle Club is now an accomplished fact. There are 16 or 17 members and a good range has been got on Mr John .Millar's property. The club had their opening, shoot on Saturday afternoon, at which there was also a ' good attendance of ladies:. The shooting was at the 200 and 300 yards ranges,

17<sup>th</sup> April 1907 A very pretty wedding took place at Mr J. Thomas' residence on Wednesday last, the happy couple being Miss Ellen Keegan and Mr Steve Whitta. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. J. Humphries, B.A., of Pongaroa. The bridesmaid was Miss Ada Whitta, whilst Mr Tom Whitta acted as best man. The bride was given away by Mr Jos. Thomas (brother-in-law). After the ceremony a reception was held. \_The Rev. J. Humphries proposed the toast of the bride and bridegroom in felicitous terms. After responding the bridegroom proposed the toast of the bridesmaid in a few happy words. This was replied to by Mr Tom Whitta, the best man, who afterwards proposed the toast of the "host and. hostess." The happy couple left amidst showers of rice and the hearty cheers of the assembled guests for Dannevirke, en route to Christchurch. The many presents were both valuable and useful. Mr and Mrs Thomas entertained the guests to a dance in the evening in the school.



Songs were rendered by Mrs Thomas and Messrs Stafford, Blake, and Gilbert. The music was supplied by Mrs Thomas, and Miss Whitta (piano), and Messrs Clark and Hunt (violin). Mr Harry Whitta acted as M.C. At the close of the dance a hearty vote of thanks, with musical honors, was accorded to Mr and Mrs Thomas for their kind entertainment.

[ I taught children from 2 families of Whitta's. Don Ferrick ran a trucking firm from Waione. I taught both Lunt's and Ellingham's]

6<sup>th</sup> May 1907 At the time of writing., what has perhaps been the highest flood since, this district was settled, is now subsiding. At about 11 o'clock on Wednesday morning the river was within two feet of the swing bridge over the Waihi river at Lunt's crossing. This means that at that place the river was 20 feet above its normal level. The swing bridge over the Waihi and the Omungoero had several narrow escapes. Timber at the mouth of the Omungoero. being backed up by the Waihi, was moving round in a circle, and some of it fouled the guy wires. These were cut by the road man, and the bridge got back into its original position. Another log with roots sticking well out caught the Waihi bridge, and this described a curve, and the decking was at a right angle to the water before the log got away. During Wednesday night the river rose again, and on Thursday morning it was evident that a bridge higher up the river had been carried away. Up to the present I have not heard which bridge it is. The river is now clown considerably. nnd.no doubt the Horoeke mailman will be able to get out with the mail on Friday. After the experience of the last few days the settlers will hail the contractor for the building of the Waihi traffic bridge with delight. He is expected to commence operations next week. The timber is also being delivered for the Omungeoro bridge. After so many years of waiting it seems almost too good to be true that the settlers will be independent of these rivers. The Akitio county dismissed all laborers, with the exception of permanent surface men and drivers of teams, on April 30th, as -they were out of funds. This is an unfortunate state of affairs, as the rains must have done a great amount of damage to the roads'. The householders' meeting last week passed off very quietly, only two besides the committee being present. The new committee are Messrs A. Urquhart (chairman), H. Thomas, E. C. Murphy, J .Millar, and W. I Lunt (secretary). The only change was that of Mr Millar, who takes the place of Mr Missen, who has left the district. The attendance at the school has suffered considerably during the last few weeks from a slight epidemic of chicken-pox, the average going clown from 23 to 14. The truant officer was well satisfied with the attendance for the preceding 12 months, on his last visit on April the 11th, the attendance being 87 per cent. When one considers the distance some of the children have to come to school, and the- roads they have to traverse in the winter time, 87 por cent, is mast creditable.

13<sup>th</sup> June 1907 A presentation of a handsome dressing-case was made to Mrs J. Thomas, of Horoeke, by the settlers, on Wednesday last. Mr G. H. Gillam made the presentation and referred to the kindness and hospitality and to the readiness of Mrs Thomas to assist in anything that was for the general welfare of the settlers in the district. The departure of Mr and Mr Thomas from the district, he' said, was very much regretted.

It is reported that a quantity of red lead [Paint] has been stolen from the site of the Waihi suspension bridge.

1<sup>st</sup> July 1907 n innovation in educational methods has been decided upon in connection with the Teachers' Training College at Thorndon by the organising of a winter School for teachers

from small schools in outlying ' country districts. The Steven Education Boards in what is known as the Middle District were invited by the Committee of Advice to nominate teachers for the three weeks' course of the Winter School, beginning on the 23rd inst. It was stipulated that the teachers chosen should be the most deserving, and those who were least likely to come into contact with city methods. Mr B Blake of Horoeke attended

18<sup>th</sup> July 1907 Owing to Mr Blake having been selected by the Wellington Board to attend the special course of training at the Wellington Training College the school will be closed. The course' is for three weeks and commences July 20th. Mr Campbell, Waione School, also attends the course. Mr- and Mrs H. Hunt and family, who have resided in this district for some years, left last week for Lichfield (Auckland), where they purchased another farm.

The local school committee are endeavouring to get a teacher's residence erected. It is to be hoped that they will be successful, as the fact that a house is attached to the school induces more applicants to apply for the position of teacher.

19<sup>th</sup> August 1907 Rain, rain, rain, is still the order f)of the day, and unless fine weather s:-ts in very soon the roads will not be fit for vehicles until nearly Christmas. The local storekeeper, Mr Wilcox battles against the elements undauntingly in his endeavor to keep | the district supplied. A 5-horse waggon of his, which has been isolated on the Horoeke side of the Waihi all winter, was got over with the aid of 12 bullocks, a wire cable, and the accessory blocks. It was necessary to haul the waggon some distance through Mr Gillan's paddock, lower it into the river down a bank nearly ' 50 feet high, and a grade of about 1 in 1, then haul it down the stream to where a straight track had been cut through the bush to the road above. ; It was the hauling of the waggon up | to the road that was very difficult, but ultimately after two capsizes and in the dark and rain, a fagged team of bullocks, three bad tempered men, and a boy—who couldn't get home because bullocks, cables and waggon blocked the road —were thankful that the thing was done. ' We understand that the Government Roads Department are now enquiring for carters to bring in from Dannevirke, the ironbark timber, tar, etc., which has hindered the commencement of the building of the Omungoero and Waihi bridges. It is fervently hoped that they will be done very shortly. The dray crossing over the Omungoero has gone altogether

The school has re-opened, and will have an uninterrupted run, except occasional day holidays, until Christmas. The Horoeke Circulating Library has been started again. Some 40 new books have been bought, and together with those belonging to the old library there are about 150 volumes. Mr Blake, the school teacher, is acting as librarian, and the School Committee as general committee until the annual meeting.

30<sup>th</sup> August 1907 One of the backblocks school teachers (Mr B. T. Blake, of Horoeke) who at, tended the recent winter school In Wellington, writing to the Education Board, says:—"The winter school cannot fail to do good. To come in contact with the spirit of enthusiasm that pervades the atmosphere of the Training College is to become infused with the same spirit nut-selves; to have new ideas, placed before us is to extend our knowledge, and to discover higher ideals is elevate our aims and to lighten the labours of our profession. Our stay at the Training College, though short, has been profitably employed, and I feel sure that the various Boards will secure a good return for their outlay in the improved condition of the-schools."

28<sup>th</sup> September 1907 A daughter of Mr Wilcox, the local storekeeper, had the misfortune- to have one of her legs broken on Friday last owing to a horse she was riding falling with her. The accident happened quite close to her home, whither she was taken with due speed and the doctor telephoned for.

A meeting of the School Committee was held on Saturday night. It was decided to approach the Education Board with a request to have a teacher's residence erected. The new school garden is beginning to look in better order. The committee desire to thank all those who generously helped with the fencing and clearing of the garden plot.

At the annual meeting of the subscribers, to the Library the following committee were elected:—Messrs A. Urquhart (chairman) H. Thomas, W. Lunt, S. Whitta and F. Stafford - Mr Stafford was appointed secretary and librarian.

## 1908

1908	20	Horoeka	Gayne	Violet Emily	D3	Female	£130	\$20,380
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16<sup>th</sup> January 1908 Fire and smoke have held sway the last few days in this district, and several settlers have had miraculous escapes from having their homes burnt. Bush burns have been good, but the fire was not content to go out at the end of the bush but careered over the grass and old logs with surprising rapidity and burnt a lot of pasture. In the Waione district it is worse than here. Three settlers there have lost their homes. Heavy rain is needed to check the progress of the fires, and to clean the grass. The School Committee have not yet settled the question of getting the necessary land for the purpose of the erection of the new school teacher's residence, and a school paddock. None of the settlers in the immediate vicinity of the school care to sell the 5 or 6 acres required, but are willing to lease the same. There is one offer to sell half an acre adjoining the site of the school, and to lease the remainder of the plot of land, which is bounded by a deep creek. This appears to be the best offer. No start has yet been made with the erection of the two bridges, Waihi and Omungoero, although all the material and the contractor's gear are on the ground. The eminent overseer experienced great difficulty in securing the services of settlers (the only men available in the district) to look after the bridge timber, etc., whilst the fire threatened. The presence of the contractor and his gang would obviate this. All the wool is not yet got out, but it certainly will not be taken over the bridges this season. The negotiating of the Omungoero crossing is a matter of great difficulty for the waggoners. The track is about nine to ten feet wide, and the grade is one in five. The cuttings converge in the bed of the creek, which is narrow at this place, and there is not room for the waggon and horses to stand across the creek. It is no wonder that there is a feeling of thankfulness amongst the people in the district that this is the last season that this sort of thing will have to be done. The loading and unloading and crossing with half loads takes a considerable amount of time. There have been a considerable number of visitors to the Waihi falls during the holidays. There is not much flow in the river now, and consequently the falls are not looking as pretty as they usually do.

25<sup>th</sup> January Education Board Scholarships Class C was for children in sole charge and Fred Stafford of Horoeka won a scholarship being 3<sup>rd</sup> on the list

27<sup>th</sup> January 1908 At a meeting of the School Committee it was decided that the purchase of half an acre freehold adjoining the present grounds for the purpose of erecting the new

schoolhouse thereon and the lease of about five acres opposite to the school was the best arrangement that could be made, the alternate proposal\* not being considered sufficiently convenient to the school. The annual picnic was fixed for the 11th February, but owing to the fires it has been decided to postpone it until the 21st. "We are pleased to know that Master Fred Stafford, a scholar at Horoeke school, was successful in passing the examination from which the Junior National Scholarships are Awarded.

1<sup>st</sup> February 1908 The resident farmers in the Horoeke Valley, between Waione and Makuri, deserve sympathy for the destruction by fire of the timber for the bridge over the Waihi river. Horoeke is bounded on the one side by the Waihi river and on the other by the Puketoi range.. which possesses a road hardly fit for a bullock-dray. Egress. was so difficult over the .ranges .in this way - that eleven years ago the Horoeke settlers constructed a wooden cage running on: a wire cable over the river and by these means the- wool was transhipped across the stream at a height of about a Hundred. feet. 'The hauling was done by horses, and: the 'wool was then placed in a waggon and taken to Dannevirke, a distance of about 32 miles.. It was decided by the Government some time ago to construct a bridge over 'the river, and the timber had been lying on the banks for the past six .months. It is understood that the work was' not commenced owing to the fact that .some, special kind of timber, required from Australia, had not arrived. The Horoeke farmers were, however, much .incensed . and the last words your 'correspondent heard when he left Horoeke ten days ago was " Put something in your paper and ask why .that' bridge of. ours is not yet constructed;

17<sup>th</sup> February 1908 Mrs Lunt, of Horoeke, with her four children, had a narrow escape from .being burned to death during the progress of the bush fires at Pongaroa. Fears being entertained that the dwelling would catch fire, she left her husband to fight the flames while she and her children fled to a place of safety. In order to accomplish this object, a sledge was brought into requisition, and the children, covered with wet sacks, were placed on it. then covered herself with wet sacks, harnessed herself to the sledge, and dragged it for a distance of five chains over country that had been ravaged by the fire fiend. The wind blew with hurricane force, and she was blown up against a bank, her shoulder being considerably bruised. That she reached her destination safely under such trying circumstances is, indeed, marvellous. The incident will serve to show the trials that settlers in the back blocks have to undergo in carving out homes for .themselves and children.

5<sup>th</sup> March 1908

The annual picnic and dance was held at Mr Urquhart's farm on Friday last. The day was brilliantly fine and brought out a large crowd of people, close upon 300 grown-ups" and children being present. It is wonderful. indeed where the children come from. Besides the Horoeke folk contingents came from Waipatiki. Weber, "Waione, Pongaroa, Pukehinau. and Coonor. It speaks volumes for the courage and self-sacrifice of the settlers in the backblocks that in the face of the trouble and losses and hardships which they have gone through during the last few weeks that, they can rally and make a success of the children's picnics as they have done so in the last few weeks at Waione. Pukehinau and , Horoeke, One corner of a piece of native bush behind Mr Urquhart's homestead escaped the ravages of the fire and afforded pleasant shelter from the burning sun. whilst the gratifying process of drinking; and eating was carried on, and from here a view of the children's races could be got. Racing and games were indulged in by all. and a weight-guessing competition for the married ladies of ;

couple of roosters which were the prize, afforded great amusement. ( This prize was won by Mrs Lunt. The nail-driving competition for married ladies was a distinct success and had to be hammered off in heats. The manner in which Mrs Malmanche drove, the four-inch nails was an eye-opener to the men. Mrs W. Gilbert was second. A large crowd again turned up to the dance, which was very successful, notwithstanding the small amount of room, which the 50 couples who were up at one time, had to turn round in. The proceeds of the dance were devoted to the prizes at the picnic and the merit prizes for the school work. The thanks of the School Committee; are, tendered to all who helped to make the picnic so conspicuous a success by cooking, subscriptions, and help in other ways.

Residents in the district will learn with pleasure that Mr Blake, our hardworking and painstaking teacher, for the last two years, has been appointed to Muhunoa, near Levin. This will also be viewed with regret by the parents. The school has progressed most satisfactorily since Mr Blake has been with us. and the fact that one boy (Fred. Stafford) last January was awarded a junior National Scholarship suggests the highwater mark to which the school has risen. Both scholar and teacher are to be congratulated. "We also desire to congratulate Mr Blake on having passed the examination for his C certificate.

The scandal with regard to the direction of the Waihi and Omungero bridges still drags along. A feature of the affair now which passes the comprehension of the settlers and all common-sense people is that everything is in readiness at the Omungero bridge site. and has been for some months, yet no attempt is made to push the contractor .to start the work, whilst the saw millers who are cutting the timber to replace that burnt at the Waihi bridge site, are under considerable penalty if the timber is not on the ground by a certain date. This contract is now-nearly completed, yet there is no sign of the bridge builder, who has had the contracts for nearly 12 months. The violent hurry to get timber and material on to the sites of the bridges and then the consequent neglect to see that they are worked is not creditable to the business acumen of the Government Roads and Bridges Department.

7<sup>th</sup> April Mrs Baker-Gabb appointed teacher

29<sup>th</sup> April 1908 Wellington Education Board reported that a new grant would allow a residence to be built at Horoeka

1<sup>st</sup> May 1908 On Monday night the annual householders' meeting was held. The chairman of the School Committee, Mr L. Urquhart, presided over a moderate attendance. The chairman reported on the work of the school during the past year, and the accounts were read by the secretary. These were adopted on the motion of Mr Gillam. A resolution appreciating the services of Mr Blake, the retiring teacher, and wishing him every success in the future, was moved by Mr Gillam and seconded by Mr H. Thomas and was carried unanimously. So far as electing a new committee was concerned the meeting was of no avail. Three names were put forward but were afterwards withdrawn. Miss Payne, the newly-appointed teacher, has arrived, and .will take up her duties on Thursday morning. Mr Blake was presented by the school children with a dressing case on the occasion of his cleaving. The bridge over the Omungaroa river has now been open for traffic for a fortnight, and good headway is being made with the Waihi bridge. The Omungaroa bridge is an imposing structure, 110 feet long; the main span (a truss) being 80 feet long and two short landing spans. The whole was completed within five weeks of the contractor coming. Mr Hewitt, of Dannevirke, .had the honor of driving the" first waggon over

1<sup>st</sup> May 1908 Wellington Education Board

A grant of £359 was made by the Government for the erection of a teacher's residence at Horoeke. After discussion, it was decided that the Committee be requested to endeavour to secure; an additional aero of-land.

17<sup>th</sup> June 1908

At last, the bridges are completed over the Umungaroa and Waihi rivers, the want of which has for so long kept the district back.

The Waihi bridge (suspension) is 144 feet from centre of 3 tower to centre of tower, and the decking of the bridge is 69 feet above normal level of the river. It is a most imposing looking structure, and singularly free from vibration. The building of both bridges reflects great credit on the contractor, Mr W. D. McCalmont, of Masterton, for workmanship and despatch. The work of making the necessary approaches has been put in hand.

Nothing more has been done as also the formation of a new School Committee. The second householders' meeting fell through, only four persons turning up, and these were the old committee. Such a lack of interest on the part of householders and especially parents is most reprehensible. The retiring committee have borne the small trials and troubles pertaining to the office for some years now and consider that it is the duty of others to take some interest and trouble in the affairs of the school and are fully decided not to act further.

The friends of Master Alick Gillam, a son of G. H. Gillam will be pleased to hear that he is recovering from the accident to his foot as well as can be expected, and will most probably be able, to return to his home from the — Dannevirke. hospital in about three weeks' time.

A series of dances or assemblies has been started on Saturday Night in the schoolroom.

The last one was very successful. Mr F. Stafford, of Horoeke, and Mr Fieldhouse, of Pukehinau, and others singing. Mr H. Thomas acted as M.C. and Mr Barker and Mr Hunt supplied the music. Refreshments are partaken of about 10.30, and the closure takes place at 11.30. These pleasant evenings make a most enjoyable break in the monotony of the winter nights in the country districts. One essential feature, however, is to have a fine night. In the course of a week or so we shall be losing one of the pioneers of this district, Mr C. R. Ross. Mr Ross is, unfortunately for the school and for his children, some five miles from the school, and "this has necessitated his looking for a farm better situated in this respect. Mr and Mrs Ross will have the earnest good wishes of the settlers for their happiness and prosperity in their new home. I hear Mr Ross has bought a farm at Tauranga, Bay of Plenty.

16<sup>th</sup> September 1908 Master Charles Stafford is the latest addition to the list of patients in the Dannevirke Hospital from this district. He fell out of a school window and came down heavily on his right arm and also on the side of his face. His face was badly skinned with gravel, but the injuries were not serious. With the arm, however, swelling set in around the elbow joint and it was decided to take the boy to Dannevirke to see the doctor, who immediately ordered him to the hospital. Latest reports with regard to him are very satisfactory. This is the third boy from this district in as many months who has been in the hospital owing to injury to the bones through knocks, etc.

23<sup>rd</sup> November 1908 On Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> inst. the children of the Pukehinau and Horoeke schools met at Mr F. Packer's paddock, Waimiro, for a friendly match at rounders and cricket. Two matches at rounders were played, and one at cricket, the games being won by the

Pukehinau children. Settlers from far and near rolled up to see the children's play, it being a splendid outing and picnic for all.

Service was held by the Rev. Father Cahill on Sunday last. The schoolroom was crowded with adults and children from all parts of the district. He arrived here on Friday evening, after a long journey of over 30 miles, and on Saturday travelled several miles, calling on all his people. He left on Sunday afternoon for Weber, where he was to hold vespers in the evening. I am sorry to have to state that Miss Annie Cruickshank met with a nasty accident recently. When riding she was thrown off her horse and had the misfortune of having two ribs broken, besides other injuries. We all hope to hear of her speedy recovery.

11<sup>th</sup> December 1908 Wellington Education Board agrees to build a residence at Horoeoka

24<sup>th</sup> December 1908 A cricket match was played on the 18th, between the Waione school and the combined Horoeoka —Pukehinau schools. ' Waione secured an innings and won the match.

## 1909

1909	21	Horoeoka	Bowie	William S		Master	£108	\$17,162	
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24<sup>th</sup> February 1909 It has been decided to hold the school picnic on Friday, the 8th March, the day following the school examination. The school committee have the arrangements well in hand and the usual dance will be held in the evening. A ladies' committee, consisting of Mrs Stafford (chair), Mrs W. Gilbert and the Misses Gayne, Porteous, Hunt, Wilcox and Gillam. has been formed, and this committee will have charge of the commissariat. It has been decided to hold the picnic this year on Mr W. Lunt's property.

19<sup>th</sup> March 1909 The annual school picnic was held on the 8th inst. The weather was beautifully fine and many visitors from the surrounding districts .put in an appearance.' The usual games and races for the children were indulged in ; an obstacle race for the boys produced great merriment. A 'hand-sawing competition and also a nail-driving competition . for the ladies\* caused much amusement. When one saw the workmanlike manner in which they squared and cut off the blocks (4 x 2) it made one think that most of them had handled a saw before. One lady even went to the length of annexing a piece of ham fat and greasing the saw and landed "the second prize. The nail-driving also saw a very large entry and had to be hammered off in heats. The final in this caused much excitement. The sports and general arrangements were very ably carried out by the committee — Messrs Urquhart, White, Gillam and Ellingham — whilst the catering was in the hands of Mesdames Stafford, Gilbert, and Misses Gayne, Porteous, Wilcox, Hunt and Gillam.

In the evening a . dance was held in! the schoolroom. There was a very large attendance; and the dances had to be gone through twice so as to enable everyone to take part. The music was supplied by Mr S Hunt, and he was assisted in his arduous duties by Mr W. Holden. The school was visited by Mr Tennant, the Inspector, on the 4th inst. He expressed satisfaction with the progress made by the scholars during; the past year. All the scholars in the lower school passed, and in Standard VI. Clara Wilcox, May Wilcox, and Charles Stafford gained proficiency certificates.[Proficiency entitled the children to free high school places]

23<sup>rd</sup> April 1909 Much regret is expressed by parents and children at the intended departure of Miss E. Gayne, schoolmistress at Horoeoka, which takes place on the 29th inst. She has been appointed to the Kohinui School (near Mangatainoka), where she takes up her. duties on May 3rd.

30<sup>th</sup> April 1909 Wellington Education Board let tender to G Benton: Horoeoka Residence £300

19<sup>th</sup> May 1909 Mr W S Bowie has been appointed Sole Teacher at Horoeoka

In 1906 William Bowie was at the Hinemoa [Near Kaitawa about 18 kilometres east of Pahiatua. Then in 1907 and 1908 at the [Te] Wharau. Then he moved in 1912 just up the road to Pukehinau School [The researcher taught Bruce Bowie who lived in the Pukehinau District]. From there he went to Greytown School for a year and in 1917 and 1919 he was at Upper Hutt . He was not teaching at a Wellington School in 1921 but by 1923 he was at the Dalefield school

1972/38698	Bowie	William Sander	9 June 1877
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30<sup>th</sup> July 1909 Wellington Education Board made grants to do repairs and painting throughout.

30<sup>th</sup> July 1909 Wellington Education Board subsidises Horoeoka Library by £2

## 1910

1910	20	Horoeoka	Bowie	William S		Master	£108	\$16,931
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4<sup>th</sup> April 1910 Much sympathy is felt in this district with Mr and Mrs H. Hunt, of Pukehinau, who lost their eldest son, a fine boy of five years, on Sunday last. The little fellow developed bronchitis, and inflammation supervened, and despite unremitting care passed away. He was laid to rest at Pongaroa on Tuesday.

13<sup>th</sup> April 1910 The annual distribution of prizes for school work during the past year took place in the schoolroom on Friday afternoon. Tea was provided during the afternoon by the parents. Mr A. Urquhart, J.P., the popular chairman of the School Committee distributed the prizes

Class Work—Standard ,IV.: Winifred Lunt. Standard III. : Earl Robieson. Standard II.: Edward Gillam. Standard I. : Hugh Gillam 1st, Dudley Robieson. 2nd. Primer II. : Gladys Lunt 1st, Richard Harold 2nd. Primer I. : Gordon Douglas 1st. Charles Lunt 2nd. • Needlework Prizes.—Ella Lunt 1st, Doris Lunt 2nd, Esther Wilcox 3rd.

Attendance Prizes.—Two miles and under: Harry Hunt 1st, Lance Hunt 2nd.

Over two miles : Maggie McLeod 1st, Charles Lunt 2nd.

Special Prizes.—For best composition on "How I spent my Christmas holidays": Lance Hunt. 1st, Dorothy Wilcox 2nd. For best collection of grasses correctly named : Ralph Hunt 1st, Harry Hunt 2nd. For best collection of ferns: Edward Gillam.

26<sup>th</sup> April School Committee There was a fair attendance and the proceedings were animated Messrs Urquhart (Chairman) Whitta (Secretary), Stafford, Hunt and Lunt were elected



25<sup>th</sup> May 1910 The comet has been a source of wonder to young and old, but the young got ahead of the old on Thursday about 2.30, when Mr Bowie, the genial teacher, with the aid of a pane of smoked glass, gave the children an observation of the comet as it passed between the earth and the sun. It was observed on Saturday night in the Western sky just after dark.

29<sup>th</sup> July 1910 The Arbor Day operations at the school, which were suspended owing to the wet weather, have been completed by Mr Bowie. This year a very nice lot of trees have been planted. The school children, under the conductorship of the "teacher, went the day before Arbor Day and got a fine collection of native trees and shrubs. Owing to the restricted area of the school grounds, a large number of trees were, by the kind permission of Mr Gillam, planted on his property adjoining the school. Messrs Urquhart and Ellingham kindly donated trees. The winter holidays ended yesterday, and the schools around this district, viz., Waione, Pukehinau, and Horoeke re-open on Monday, August 1

The concert projected by the School 'Committee in aid of the piano fund, which is being organised by Mr E. Stafford, gives signs of being a pronounced success. Mr Stafford is receiving much encouragement in his work by the willingness shown by the local talent and others to help. It is hoped to hold the concert early in September. The inevitable dance will of course follow. , The Library still keeps alive, though there are not many subscribers, it is a pity there are not more, as the Library is run absolutely without cost, and all the subscriptions are devoted to purchasing new books. The subscription is only 2s 6d per half-year. At the annual meeting of the subscribers, held recently, the following committee of management was elected for the ensuing year:— Messrs Urquhart, Whitta, Thomas, Stafford, and Bowie. Mr A. Urquhart, J.P., was re-elected chairman, and Mr W. S. Bowie undertook the duties of secretary and librarian.

School windows are broken very often, and the boys are generally to blame, though they give a variety of excuses; but, according to the schoolmaster's report to the committee at their last meeting, a kingfisher was the offender on one occasion. From the report it appears that on one of the very stormy days a kingfisher struck the school window with such force in its flight as to break a hole in one pane and crack another one. The bird went right into the schoolroom, and alighting on a desk, pecked at one of the children and then made for the windows, endeavoring to get out. It was eventually caught, and except that its beak was slightly damaged, seemed none the worse for its adventure.

24<sup>th</sup> August 1910 A meeting of the School Committee. was held on Tuesday evening last, there being -a full attendance. The schoolmaster's report for the month was read. The school roll number is 26, with an average attendance of 24. During the month three children, have left the school owing to their parents leaving the district. Correspondence was. dealt with and several small accounts passed for payment. The date of the concert and dance in aid of the piano fund has been fixed for the 16th September next Mr Stafford reported that matters in connection with the concert, programme were making good progress. It was decided to charge 2s 6d for gentlemen and 1s for ladies. Other matters in. connection with the affair, such as refreshments, seating accommodation, etc., were settled, and a further meeting of the committee was arranged for .Friday, the. 9th prox. A subscription list is being opened, and Messrs Whitta. and Urquhart, secretary and chairman respectively of the School Committee, were appointed to receive subscriptions in Horoeke, and it was decided to ask Mrs Sullivan and Mr A. Wilcox to do the same in. Waimiro, which district is served by the Horoeke

school. For the information' of the residents generally I may say that by resolution of the School Committee at a previous meeting it was resolved that the piano should be 'allowed free to all sections of the community for the public worship of God

21<sup>st</sup> September 1910 The School Committee was fortunate on Friday night in having such a beautiful night for their concert in aid of the piano fund. A very large number were present, and fully appreciated the first-class programme which was rendered. The school was very tastefully decorated under the direction of Mr Bowie, the teacher. The chairman of the School Committee, Mr A. Urquhart, J.P., took the chair, and in a short but happy speech explained the object of the concert.

The programme had been arranged by Mr F. Stafford, who also conducted the glee party. The glee party were Sopranos, Mesdames W. Gilbert, J. Gilbert, Stafford; contralto, Mesdames Ellingham and Lunt; tenors, Messrs Gilbert and Gillam; bass, Messrs Stafford and J. Gilbert These are to be congratulated on the highly efficient manner in which they rendered with beautiful harmony, "Sweet and low," and "Hail, smiling morn." Mrs Ellingham sang "Come back to Erin," which was encored, and "Lilacs," and also with Mrs W. Gilbert sang a duet, "Friendship." Mr W. Gilbert's song "Going from the cotton fields," with chorus by the choir, was well received, as was also Mr J. Gilbert's "The Mill Wheel," with chorus, which was encored. Mr. Stafford's "The wreck" and "Doreen" as usual were a pleasure to listen to. In clamouring for encores the audience requested him to sing "Asleep in the deep," and "Down in the depths." The instrumental items were also of a very high order of merit. Miss Ellingham's pianoforte solo, "The Storm King." Supper was dispensed by the accomplished style. Miss Gillam also gave a pianoforte solo in a very pleasing manner. As this is Miss Gillam's first appearance she is to be complimented on her performance. Mr G. Clarke's violin solos were as usual executed in a masterly manner, and he had to pay the penalty by being encored vociferously. Messrs W. and J. Gilbert's violin duet, "L'Amour Immortal," was also a delightful performance. The humorous part of the programme was supplied by the Rev. G. B. Stephenson, with his recitals of "Hope for the Bachelors," and "The Invalid's Confession."

The arduous task of accompanist was undertaken by Miss Ellingham and was performed in a very skilful manner. The following is the programme : Pianoforte solo, "Storm King," Miss Ellingham; glee, "Sweet and Low," choir; violin solo, "Home, Sweet Home," Mr S. Clarke; song and chorus, "Going from the Cornfields," Mr W. Gilbert; recital, "Hope for the Bachelors, Rev. G. B. Stephenson; song, "Come back to Erin," Mrs Ellingham; violin duet, "L'Amour Immortal," Messrs W. and J. Gilbert; song, "The Wreck," Mr F. Stafford; pianoforte solo, "William Tell," Miss Elsie Gillam; duet, "Friendship," Mesdames W. Gilbert and Ellingham ; song and chorus, "The Mill Wheel," Mr- J. Gilbert; song, "Lilacs," Mrs Ellingham; violin solo, "Carnival de Venice," Mr S. Clarke ; recitation, "The Invalid's Confession," Rev. G. B. Stephenson; song, "Doreen," Mr F. Stafford; glee, "Hail, Smiling Morn," choir. At the close of the concert, Mr Urquhart, on behalf of the School Committee, in a few felicitous remarks, thanked the performers for their valuable services, and also to Mr G. H. Gillam, who kindly lent his piano for the occasion. Refreshments were then handed round, after which the room was cleared for dancing, which was kept up until 4 a.m. Mr H. Thomas and Mr Packer undertook the duties of M.C, and Mr S. Hunt played for the dancing. The

catering was done by Mr Harrison, Dannevirke, in a manner which drew forth the praise of everyone.

Mr McHattie, of the Post Office staff, Dannevirke, was here on Friday for the purpose of opening the Money Order Office at Horoeka

6<sup>th</sup> October 1910 A meeting of the Library Committee took place on Saturday night, and decided on the purchase, of more books with the money in hand. Subsequently the School Committee held a meeting to settle accounts, etc., as a of the recent concert in aid of the piano fund. The net proceeds .after payment of all accounts amounted to £6 10s Id, which must be considered as exceedingly satisfactory, and which exceeded the most sanguine expectations. A discussion took place afterwards as to ways and means of further increasing the fund, which now amounts to £11. As it seemed at the .rate of progress. Which was being made that it would still take some time to 'raise the necessary amount one gentleman present made an offer to donate £0, if within twelve months five others would do the same. This splendid offer was of course accepted immediately, and .it was decided to call a. meeting in the schoolroom on Saturday, 10th inst., to lay before the public the position of the fund and offer made, and to do their utmost to secure the amount. Subsequently two others in the room announced their intention of subscribing, so that only three subscribers are now required. If these can be secured the fund is an accomplished fact. One stipulation was that the instrument must be a good one and of a certain value, which will be announced at the public meeting. \_ During the week metalling has been done around the schoolmaster's residence, and the shelter sheds and gateways, which will be a great convenience and comfort to both master and scholars. The school garden presents .a very orderly appearance, and" shows that under the direction of the master the boys are . being taught to do their gardening in a thorough manner. Experiments are being made this year with various kinds of fertilisers.

19<sup>th</sup> November 1910 The death occurred at Horoeka of Alan Hunt, the seventeen-year-old son of Mr S. Hunt, a well-known Horoeka settler. The deceased had been in ill-health for the past month, and being very popular in the district, his death is widely regretted

24<sup>th</sup> November 1910 A feeling of sorrow spread over the district when it became known.' that Mr Alan Hunt, the. eldest son of Mr Stephen- Hunt, of Horoeka post office, was so seriously ill that there was no hope of his recovery. The end came suddenly on Friday afternoon. Deceased was a fine manly young fellow, 18 years old, and had for the past three' years carried the mail between. Horoeka, Waimiro, and Waipatiki. He was consequently a well-known figure, and was very well liked, being very civil, obliging and reliable, and of a very cheerful disposition. The heartfelt sympathy of a very wide circle of neighbors and friends was tendered to the sorrowing parents and brothers and sisters. Mr and Mrs Hunt were amongst the earliest settlers here. The. funeral took place an Sunday at Pongaroa cemetery, and the- great respect in. which deceased was held was shown by the large number who attended. A large number of beautiful wreaths covered the coffin..

The school is now on half-time. This has been done on the advice of Mr Tennant, the inspector, who considered that as the epidemic of whooping cough Was going away, a week or two. on half-time would be better than, full time.

## 1911

1911	19	Horoeka	Bowie	William S		Master	£112	\$17,721
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18<sup>th</sup> January 1911 What might have been a serious accident occurred on Wednesday on the Oporae road near the rabbit gate Miss Hunt was returning to Horoeka with the mail when the horse shied' and backed the gig over the bank. Miss Hunt was accompanied by Miss Gayne, a former teacher at Horoeka, who was coming in for a holiday. Just when the gig was- going over the bank both ladies jumped: and managed to get clear of horse and gig, which were overturned in the creek below. Miss Haunt very pluckily unharnessed the horse (which was on its back), a dangerous proceeding, and managed to extricate it from its awkward positron. In the meantime Miss Gayne obtained the assistance of Mr Douglas, Oporae, who kindly drove the ladies on to Horoeka, none the worse for their adventure. Later on the gig was recovered, having received very little damage.

Mr Sullivan's daughter Eileen, whose -arm was badly broken on .Sunday last, was detained in the Dannevirke Hospital.

The district is now enveloped in smoke, libera having been several Largo bush burns to-day. The school re-opens on Monday next-

15<sup>th</sup> February 1911 The annual school picnic and dance were held on Friday last. The picnic was held in Mr W. Hunt's bush on the banks of the Waihi River. The day was fine but cloudy, and the attendance was not quite up to former years. This was no doubt accounted for to a large extent by the fact that quite a, large number of settlers from here and the surrounding district were at the Dannevirke Show. It was, however \_a most enjoyable picnic, and every one spent a very happy time, the young ones with racing and games, and the elder ones assisting and looking on. The games and races embraced nearly everyone. The nail driving and sawing competitions for the ladies afforded much excitement and amusement. The' sawing competition was won by Miss Maggie Porteous, with Miss G. Sounness second, whilst Miss Ellingham annexed the nail-driving competition in a remark ably efficient and workmanlike manner, with Miss Maggie Porteous hammering after her for second prize. After the competition prizes had been distributed, the hearts of the very young were made glad with toys and lollies. The prizes, which wore supplied by Mr Wilcox, of Waimiro, were a very good assortment. The commissariat, as is usual at the Horoeka picnics, left nothing to be desired, and Mesdames Stafford and J. Gilbert and the ladies' committee are to be congratulated on the capable manner in which the wants of everyone were attended to. Mr Urquhart, the energetic chairman of the' School Committee, and Messrs Whitta and Stafford, of the School Committee, worked like Trojans to make the whole affair a success, and. they were amply rewarded. In the evening a very sociable dance was held in the schoolroom. Dancing was kept going vigorously until nearly daylight. At intervals songs were rendered by Mrs Ireland, and others. The music was supplied by Mr J. Gilbert, and Mr Thomas acted as M.C.

. Mr Fred Stafford, son of Mr F. Stafford, has left here to take up his duties as a probationer under" the H.B. Education Board at Havelock. News has come to hand that Ralph Hunt, the 14-year-old son of Mr Stephen Hunt, met with an accident whilst wrestling with a schoolmate, a compound fracture of the arm being the doctor's verdict. The boy is away from home, staying with relatives at Greytown , where he attends school.

29<sup>th</sup> February 1911 A large congregation assembled here on Wednesday night last, when the Bishop of Wellington was to hold a confirmation service. The time for service arrived, but not the Bishop, and as time went on and still no appearance it was feared an accident had happened, as he was to come by motor through Pahiatua and Coonoor. The telephone offices were closed and no information could be obtained. The congregation dispersed at 9 p.m., to the great disappointment of the confirmees and people, many of whom had come long distances.....

31<sup>st</sup> March 1911 On Friday evening the many friends and neighbors of Mr and Mrs Gillam, of Pioneer Farm, were invited to a ball in the Horoeke, School, to celebrate the coming of age of their oldest son John.. The guests assembled at eight o'clock and were cordially welcomed by Mr and Mrs Gillam. Afterwards Mr Gillam, in a short speech befitting the occasion., called on Mr A. Harvey, of Canterbury, to propose the toast of the evening, Mr John Gillam. Mr Harvey, in a speech, referred to the well merited respect in which Mr and Mrs Gillam were held, and hoped that the young man just entering manhood would uphold the same and bring honor to his parents. The toast was enthusiastically drunk with musical honors. Mr John Gilliam suitably responded in a neat speech..

Dancing was afterwards indulged in merrily until 11.30, when a sumptuous repast was served in a large marquee erected for the purpose in the grounds. After supper, dancing. (interspersed at intervals with songs and glees) was carried on until 3. a.m., when "Auld Lang syne" was sung so heartily that Mr and Mrs Gillam must be satisfied that their guests 'had had one of the most enjoyable evenings yet held in this district.

The following were amongst those who accepted invitations:—Mr W. S. Bowie.....

8<sup>th</sup> April 1911 HOROEKA. Everyone will be pleased to learn that Miss Hunt came through the operation for appendicitis successfully and is now making good progress towards recovery. Miss Hunt will, however, be an inmate of the Dannevirke Hospital for some weeks to come. Mr T. J. Whitta, who underwent an operation for the same complaint, a few weeks since, is now almost recovered.

The flutter of excitement caused by the advent of the oil expert who was seeking options for boring, is now passing away. He was successful in obtaining practically all the options he required in the area mapped out.

Mr Cummings, Agricultural Instructor to the Wellington Education Board, visited the school on Tuesday. Garden work, however, has been at a standstill for some time owing to the continued dry weather, and Mr Cummings devoted the time at his disposal to an interesting lecture on studies in nature. The annual prize distribution will take place on Thursday next, when school closes for the Easter holidays

25<sup>th</sup> April 1911 By Telegraph In spite of the inclement weather there was a fair attendance. The following were elected Messrs Urquhart (chairman). Whitta (Secretary), Stafford, W Lunt and C Lunt

18<sup>th</sup> April 1911 A meeting of the outgoing School Committee was held prior to the annual householders' meeting, wheal the various school accounts were produced by the secretary. The teacher's report was adopted, also the Inspector's- report, it resolved that the teacher (Mr W. S. Bowie) be complimented on the report of the Inspector. At 8 o'clock the annual - householders' meeting was opened to a fair attendance. Mr A. Urquhart, chairman of the

School Committee, presided. In this course of an interesting speech he reviewed the work of the committee during the past year mentioning the various improvements to the school 'grounds, the efforts in aid of the piano fund, .and the -picnic, etc.

The secretary then read the balance-sheet, which showed a balance in hand at end of school year of £2 10s 10d. There is also standing to the credit of the piano fund in the Savings Bank £12 10s. On the proposition of Mr .S. H. Gillam, seconded by Mr Chas. Lunt, the thanks of the householders were accorded to the outgoing committee. Nominations were then proceeded with, and the following 'gentlemen were nominated:—A. Urquhart, F. Stafford, W. Lunt, S. E. Whitta and Charles Lunt; these being just the number required they were duly declared elected. Prior to the nominations the secretary read the report of the Inspector, which contained the following paragraph:—"A severe epidemic of whooping cough reduced the attendance to .below half for over a month, at the end of last year. This naturally affected the work of the classes most adversely. In view of this fact Mr Bowie has to be complimented on the good appearance the school 'has made."

Subsequently the newly-elected committee held a meeting, Mr A. Urquhart was elected chairman and Mr S. E. Whitta secretary. Arrangements were made for the meetings, and the various requirements as to 'lighting and firewood for the winter were attended to.

The annual meeting of the subscribers to the library was held after the close of the school business. The Librarian- and secretary (Mr Bowie) read the balance-sheet, which allowed receipts for the year of £5 3s and expenditure £4 15s, leaving a balance , in hand of 8s. The names of two new subscribers were added to the list. The election, of officers for the ensuing year was . proceeded with, Messrs A. Urquhart (chairman) Whitta, Stafford, C. Lunt and W. - S. Bowie (secretary and librarian) were appointed to the not very 'onerous duties of managing committee

31<sup>st</sup> May 1911 Wellington Education Board Application for a grant to Horoeka was declined 14<sup>th</sup> June 1911. A meeting of the School Committee was held on Saturday night, Messrs- Urquhart (chairman), Whitta (secretary),, Stafford and W. Lunt being present. General business dispensed with, a letter from the Rev. Mr Whibley, of Weber, was read, in , which he offered to give another magic lantern entertainment on June 15 on the same terms as before, half proceeds to Weber Church and half to Horoeka School Committee. The offer was favorably received by the committee, but the date was unsuitable' and the secretary was instructed- "'to communicate 'with Mr Whibley and try to arrange another date.

The Library Committee met afterwards and selected a 'list of books to be purchased with the money in hand.

Mr Ellingham was re-elected as a member of the Wellington Land Board -unopposed:

It is rumoured' that Mr Ellingham : will be a certain candidate for the Pahiatua seat in the Opposition interests, since Mr J. C. Cooper has definitely refused- owing to- business - reasons to contest the seat.

12<sup>th</sup> September 1911 The medical examination of young men, in connection with the defence scheme will, it is stated, be held in the Horoeka schoolroom- on Tuesday, the 12th inst. The school re-opens after the term holidays on the 18th inst.

9<sup>th</sup> October 1911 This morning Sergeant Black .received word that a fatality had occurred at Horoeka, yesterday, by which a 'lad named Charles Lunt, aged nine years, lost 'his 'life. It appears that the lad was driving' a horse In his father's paddock by means of -a rope. It is surmised that the boy became entangled in the .rope, and was dragged, the cause of death

'being fracture of the base of the skull, sincere sympathy is felt in the district with the parents of the deceased, in their sad bereavement.

11<sup>th</sup> October 1911 At the- inquest on Monday afternoon touching the death of Mr C. Lunt's son no fresh evidence was adduced. It was stated that the horse was a very quiet one. The verdict was "accidental death." Enquiries elicited the fact that putting a rope or bridle round- the body when leading horses was not uncommon. The funeral took place on Tuesday at the Weber cemetery, and a large number of persons attended, the school children leading the cortege. There was a touching spectacle when the school mates of deceased came forward and laid flowers at the foot of the coffin in the verandah.

13<sup>th</sup> October 1911 The gloom of the recent sad accident has been felt throughout the whole district. May the expressions of sympathy so sincere help the sorrowing parents to bear their heavy burden. The funeral was the most pathetic that has taken place in this country-side. The school children assembled at the school and after witnessing the hoisting of the flag at half-mast, walked to the home of their little schoolmate and laid their clusters of wild clematis at the foot of the flower covered coffin. The children then led the mournful procession some distance. A very large number followed to Weber and it was a very unfortunate incident that the friends in Weber had been under a misapprehension of the time and were too late. Mr Lunt, however, appreciated the kind intentions and respect of his old friends and mates. The school dance for November 10 has been abandoned.

## 1912

1912	16	Horoeka	Smith	Arabella	E4	Female	£120	\$18,403
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7<sup>th</sup> February 1912 The annual school picnic and dance was held on Friday last. The day, although rather cloudy in the morning, turned out beautifully fine, and a most enjoyable time was spent. As in previous years the picnic was held in Mr W. Lunt's bush on the banks of the Waihi River, an ideal spot for such gatherings. The usual racing by the children was indulged in and the ladies' events—hand sawing and nail driving—turned out, as in previous years, a great success, there being a large number of competitors. A weight-guessing competition, for which the prize was a goose, attracted quite a large number of guessers, Mr Urquhart being the winner. He afterwards sold it, and donated the proceeds to the piano fund, to which purpose the entrance fees were devoted. There was a large number of visitors from the surrounding districts, Pukehinau contributing the most-. The refreshments as usual were abundant and of first-rate quality. The table was in charge of Mrs W. T. Gilbert, J. Gilbert, Mrs C. Lunt, Mrs W. Lunt, and Miss Lunt, and they were assisted by a host of willing workers, who saw that everyone had" plenty. In the evening, prior to the dance, a concert was held in celebration of the purchase of the piano. . Mr A. Urquhart, J.P., chairman of the School Committee, presided, and in his opening- speech traced the history of the piano fund to its culmination. The following is the programme: Pianoforte solo, "Burning of Rome," Miss Ellingham; duet,. "Life's dream is o'er," Messrs Gilbert and Stafford ; song, "Roll on," Mr J. Ellingham (encored); glee, "Softly falls the shades of evening," glee party; pianoforte solo, "Mandolin," Mr B. Cornwall; song, "Pierrots," Mrs Ellingham; song, "This sunny land of ours," Mr J. Gilbert; song, "River of years," Mrs W. T. Gilbert; song, "Sleeping camp," Mr F. Stafford (encore, "Skipper of St. Ives"); duet, "Whispering hope," Mesdames Stafford and

W. Lunt; song, "Lost at sea," Mrs Ellingham; song, "Beautiful Isle of the Sea," Mr J. Gilbert; song, "The Skipper," Mr F. Stafford (encore, "Admiral Blake)); glee, "Hail smiling morn," glee party. The accompaniments were played by Misses Ellingham and Weeds. After the concert refreshments were handed round, after which the room was cleared for dancing, which was indulged in until the break of day. Mr H. Thomas acted as M.C. The music was supplied by Mr S. Hunt, and extras were played by Messrs Cornwall (piano) and W. T. Gilbert. Messrs Bull and Harrison (Dannevirke) did the catering, which gave great satisfaction.

11<sup>th</sup> April 1912 The annual prize-giving took place on Thursday afternoon. There was a good attendance of parents. Mr A. Urquhart, chairman of the School Committee, presided. Afternoon tea were dispensed by the ladies. One point calling for special mention is the attendance of the children, eight of whom made over 90 per cent. Doris Lunt made 404 and Hugh Gillam 402 attendances out of a possible 408. The following is the prize-list:

Standard V I.— Winnie Lunt 1, Ralph Hunt 2, Lance Hunt 3. These also obtained proficiency certificates.

Standard IV.—Dorothy Wilcox 1, Ella. Lunt 2.

Standard III. —Hugh Gillam 1.

Standard II Richard Harold 1, Esther Wilcox 2.

Arithmetic (special prizes presented by Mrs C. Lunt). —Best girl: Winnie Lunt. Best boy : Ralph Hunt,

Attendance—Doris Lunt 1, Hugh Gillam 2, Dorothy Wilcox 3, Esther Wilcox 4, Phyllis Hunt 5, Gladys Lunt 6, Edith Lunt 7, Edward Gillam 8.

Sewing.—Big girls: Ella Lunt 1, Dorothy Wilcox 2. Little girls: Gladys hunt 1, Esther Wilcox 2. Primers:.. Bessie Douglas 1, Gordon Jones 2.

Gift books were also awarded to Standard III : Eileen Sullivan. Standard II.: Gordon Douglas. Primers: Gordon Jones, Edith Lunt, Bessie Douglas.

Special prizes for recitation and writing are to be awarded later. .

Mr W. S. Bowie, who -has been in charge of the school! for close upon three years, has been 'appointed to the Pukehinau School, and will commence duty there on May 1. Whilst Mr Bowie has been in charge the scholars have made excellent progress, and the Inspector's reports have always been good ones. Mr Bowie is highly respected by parents and scholars, and he will take the best wishes of the Horoeka people with him.

On Monday the new rural mail route delivery will come into operation. The Horoeka. route is No. 4, Dannevirke. This will be a great convenience to the settlers on the route and obviate miles of travelling for many of them.

29<sup>th</sup> April 1912 The annual householders' meeting was held last Monday night. There was only a moderate attendance, over which- Mr A. Urquhart, chairman of the School Committee, presided. The chairman reported on the work of the year, and the secretary read the balance-sheet, which was adopted. On, the motion of Mr G. H. Gillam, a vote of thanks was accorded to the outgoing committee. Mr Gillam moved -and Mr C. Lunt seconded, a resolution showing the appreciation of the householders for Mr Bowie's services as teacher .and a resident of the district and wishing him success in his new school. The old committee were



re-elected, there being no ballot, viz., Messrs Urquhart (chairman), S. E. Whitta,' (secretary and treasurer), C. Lunt, W. Lunt and F. Stafford.

After -the householders' meeting a meeting of the Library subscribers was held. The balance-sheet was read .by Mr Bowie, secretary, showing funds in. hand of £2. It was decided to expend this .amount in new books. The School Committee were again appointed Library Committee for the ensuing year.

No appointment has yet been made of a teacher to replace Mr Bowie, .who leaves at the end of the present month.

The rural mail delivery, which has been in operation for the past three weeks, is .proving a great convenience to the settlers, and the late Postmaster-General is to be congratulated on the introduction of a system so simple and yet of such benefit to settlers and others adjacent to these routes.

[30<sup>th</sup> April 1912 Most of the pieces in the Horoeka review have come from the Bush Advocate which was published in DANNEVIRKE. Unfortunately on this date it ceased publication. It was great that so many years of copy has been preserved]

14<sup>th</sup> May 1912 Miss A Smith of Petone appointed teacher at Horoeka

27<sup>th</sup> November Wellington Education Board the following grants were deferred:— Horoeka, ground improvements (committee to give more definite information

## 1913

1913	16	Horoeka	Smith	Arabella	E3	Female	£125	\$18,750	Provided
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29<sup>th</sup> January 1913 Wellington Education Board Horoeka ground improvements half cost \$6

30<sup>th</sup> April 1913 The school committer elected at Horoeka, in the Hawke's Bay education, district, includes a Mrs Lunt, whose husband is also on the committee.[The Wairarapa Age was wrong. Still in Wellington Education Board as boundaries followed regional boundaries]

27<sup>th</sup> August 1913 Wellington Education Board Horoeka, residence, verandah break wind

## 1914

1914	17	Horoeka	Dickinson	William E		Master	£108	\$15,462	Provided
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29<sup>th</sup> May 1914 Wedding .at Dannevirke. The wedding took place very quietly on Wednesday at the residence of Mr H G clerk of The Dannevirke Magistrate's Court, of Miss Arabella Smith, youngest daughter of the late Mr. William Gilmore Smith of Westland, to Mr. Alexander' Urquhart. Both bride and bridegroom' are residents of Horoeka. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr. Grant. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr. H. G. Smith, wore a pretty cream frock .trimmed with silk 'and lace insertion and hat en suite. Her only. ornament was a . gold' brooch set With pearls, the gift of the bridegroom and she carried a bouquet of white flowers. Miss Lillie Cheetham, of Bunnythorpe, was bridesmaid and wore a frock of cream poplin with a white hat trimmed with ostrich 'feathers. Her gift from the bridegroom was a gold and greenstone brooch. Mr James Naughton was the best man. Mrs H G Smith. sister-in-law of the bride wore a tussore silk gown and hat to match., A reception was held after the wedding ceremony and later Mr. arid Mrs. Urquhart left for the north,, the latter travelling' in a. brown coat and skirt and brown, hat.

1<sup>st</sup> June 1914 Mr Ken Holdaway, who last year, qualified for a C certificate, has been appointed by the Education Board to' the position of sole teacher at the Horoeaka school. Mr Holdaway leaves to-day to take" up the position.

[Mr Ken Holdaway was actually appointed to Waione just over the hill from Horoeaka]

8<sup>th</sup> June 1914 Mr W E Atkinson now relieving at Newman to Sole Teacher Horoeaka. [There was no W E Atkinson working for the Wellington Education Board but W E Dickinson was working at Akitio in 1913 and after leaving Horoeaka he worked for the Wellington Education Board at a number of Marlborough Schools]

## 1915

1915	15	Horoeaka	Dickenson	William E	D4	Master	£130	\$17,414	Provided
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25<sup>th</sup> February 1915 Wellington Education Board Reinstating outbuildings and repairs. W Whittaker

## 1916-1917

1917	18	Horoeaka	Weitzel	Henrietta M	D-96	Sole	£135	\$15,131	
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1<sup>st</sup> March 1916 Wellington Education Board Horoeaka Extra Tank and grant for Teacher \$12

31<sup>st</sup> March 1916 In connection with an application, from Horoeaka for an aided school, Sir Walter Buchanan urged that details of cases of hardship to country settlers be collected and brought under the notice of the Government. The matter was left in the hands of the executive. [ I am not sure if this reference is correct as an aided school, where parents pay some of the costs, came in with much lower rolls]

29<sup>th</sup> March 1917 Mr. Stafford (a. returned soldier) has been appointed to Horoeaka, instead of Mr. Kennedy. Mr Fred Stafford an ex-pupil of Horoeaka is not listed as teaching in any primary school in NZ at the end of 1917

I can't Find Miss Weitzel being appointed to any school in NZ

## 1918-1919

1919	22	Horoeaka	Frain	Roderick J	Lic	Sole	£190	\$17,165	
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19<sup>th</sup> March 1919 Miss M H Weitzel resigns

3<sup>rd</sup> April 1919 Mr R J Frain appointed He was at Tane school in the in 1915 In 1919 at Horoeaka and 1921 at Pukenui (South of Martinborough) and in 1923 at Longbush in South Wairarapa

Mr R J Frain married in 1919 he had no children registered in NZ

## 1921

1921	13	Horoeaka	Day	Louise Mrs	B	Sole	£240	\$20,662	
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1921 Leslie Day was teaching at Pukehinau and Mrs L Day was teaching at Horoeaka

Leslie I Day married Louie Leitch in 1921. So probably that's a match. There was only a short distance between the two schools

## 1923

1923	16	Horoeka	Urquhart	Arabella Mrs		Sole	£215
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Marriage

1914/9229	Arabella	Smith	Alexander	Urquhart
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1916/3256	Urquhart	Alexander William	Arabella	Alexander
1917/11201	Urquhart	Harry Archibald	Arabella	Alexander
1918/15910	Urquhart	Ronald Stuart	Arabella	Alexander

## Post 1923

13th March 1928 Mr A W McSweeny appointed

30<sup>th</sup> November 1936 Mr C G Price ST

22<sup>nd</sup> October 1940 Mr G H Douglas appointed from Tiniroto Hawke's Bay

**National Archives: Buildings and Sites: Horoeka** 1903 1 room 500 square feet.

1951 One room 488 Square Feet added

School reopened 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1947 (No record of it closing Wellington Education Board comment)

Garage 180 Square Feet

Residence erected 1910 4 rooms 663 Square Feet added 11 square meters

Part section 30 Block II Mt Cerebus SD 1 acre

1956 Bus garage added Outhouses February destroyed by Fire March 15<sup>th</sup>

When the researcher went to Horoeka in 1967 there was a small recently built house built on the school site by the Wellington Education Board