

Dreyerton/Kopuaranga School

Writing in Times New Roman 12 black is School Log Book

Writing in Times New Roman 12 blue is School Committee Minutes

Writing in Tempus Sans 12 is from National Archives

Writing in italics are comments by Robin Carlyon

Writing with PP or WTPP is from Papers Past Website

JB = Jubilee Booklet

Dreyerton: 1885-1906 25th May 1903 Papers Past Mr Dreyer, who still survives in Carterton, their interpreter, counsellor, adviser, and registrar, conceived the idea of a township, hence the name Dreyerton. Wairarapa Times Age. A school on the Ruamahunga River Plains. There was a Scandinavian Community here the Southernmost one of the Forty Mile Bush. In 1906 school name changed to Kopuaranga

Kopuaranga: 1906-1975. Name changed from Dreyerton as Central Government changed Railway stations names to Maori names. Wellington Education Board changed name of school to make it easier for public if school and station had same name



Dreyerton

1879

23rd January 1879 On Wednesday next, the 29th, the Kopuaranga Estate of 1000 acres, which has been subdivided into 41 small farm allotments, will be sold at auction by Messrs. J. H. Bethune and Co. The property is situated about seven miles from Masterton, and the main road from Wellington to Napier and the West Coast passes through the middle of the block. The land is stated to be of excellent quality, and a large portion is under crop and laid down in English

grass. There is a homestead on one section, comprising a six-roomed dwelling house, stables, Ice. PP

1884

17th December 2 acres of land purchased from Mr Stewart by Wellington Education Board for Dreyerton School JB

1885

13th Jan 1885. School committee elections for Dreyerton Called for PP

18th March 1885 Teacher Dreyerton salary 140 pounds if certificated PP

25th March 1885 Giving information regarding repairs required to teacher's residence, the cost being estimated at £9 9s. This sum was voted.

With regard to fencing required at Dreyerton , it was resolved that tenders be invited for the work PP

25th March The School Committee erected the fences and on May 20th the school was duly opened. Mr Kenneth Mackay being temporary teacher JB

27th April School Committee meeting in schoolhouse. School already opened.

Moved the Wellington Education Board be written to stating that the schoolhouse would be finished on the 4th day of May and the committee wished that board to send W M Ray up at once.

One tender was put in for fencing school grounds but not being according to specifications the committee would not Except (Sic) But that the tender be sent to the Wellington Education Board

3rd June Letter from Wellington Education Board could not accept Mr Montgomery's tender for fencing school grounds

Moved that a chair, bucket, broom and brush be got for the school

Moved that someone be engaged to wash schoolroom once a week and that 2 shillings and sixpence be paid for each washing.

Moved that two cords of firewood be got for then use of the school and the wood be cut in two foot(60 centimetres) lengths

Moved that the committee get a supply of books for the school

Moved that the schoolmaster be instructed to keep boys and girls on separate sides of the school room

Moved that no religious instruction be given to children without parents consent

Moved that the Wellington Education Board be written to, for want of a shelter shed at school.

Messers Osborne and Elliott were appointed visiting members of the committee (*Visiting members were School Committee members who were scheduled to visit the school, no popping in by School Committee members*)

24th June 1885 It was decided to instruct the Belvedere, Dreyerton , and Wangaehu Committees to call for tender for fencing their respective grounds. PP

24th June 1885 The Board voted £10 for the erection of Shelter sheds at Dreyerton PP

15th July Moved that the shelter shed be proceeded with at once Shed to be 20' x 8' (= 1 Foot) (6 Meters x 2.4 Meters)building to be built of galvanised iron

That the chairman be authorised to spend 1 pound to form a path from the school house to the road

25th July Mr Mackay appointed sole teacher £263-4-0 (\$46,777.25 in July 2011) per annum PP

On the opening day 10 boys and 9 girls enrolled. There were 22 girls and 25 boys on the roll at the end of the first quarter JB

15th September. Moved that the account of £2- 2-5 being money expended for the school requisites

That the chairman be authorised to expend not more than 35/- in clearing the whole of the gorse and scrub out of the school grounds.

1886

25th January That the chairman be authorised to pay 5/- for the repair of the bell

It is of the opinion of the above committee that the school buildings are in good repair and that the school is in fair working order. Nothing wanted at present but what can be done by the committee with the funds in hand

27th April Committee elected. Simon Donahue Chairman, Hugh Jackson? Secretary and treasurer. Thomas Thrupp, Robert Elliott, Robert Blade, Owen Osborne

3rd May A dividing fence across the school ground between the boys and girls playground was built

20th May Payment of capitation fee for March quarter of £4/13/9.

That the schoolmaster be empowered to employ one of the School Children to sweep out the school every morning at the rate of one shilling per week.

Moved that a hair broom and dustpan be procured for use of the school.

14th May (*Dates as in minute book*) That the committee buy the books required for the use of the School Children out of school funds. And that the schoolmaster be empowered to sell the same to the children as required- charging 5% on the cost price

That the chairman be empowered to purchase the books and hand them over to the schoolmaster for the use of the school

12th July That Mr Jackson be respectfully requested not to resign his position as secretary.

Proposed that steps be taken to erect a shelter shed for the boys.

Proposed that Wellington Education Board be requested to erect a teacher's residence

Moved that in the event of Mr Jackson after being communicated with does not continue in office the chairman be empowered to sign cheques

A letter from Wellington Education Board indicating \$5/0/0 had been placed for the building of the boys shelter shed.

16th August From Secretary of Education Board . Indicating inability at present, to comply with request for teacher's residence.

Letter from K Mackay (Head Teacher) indicating want of firewood.

That a cord of wood be acquired for the school

Moved that the erection of a shelter shed for the boys be immediately proceeded with

20th September. That Mr Mackay be asked to attend the next School Committee meeting to give a detailed account of the school requisites obtained previous to the election of present committee

13th December. Correspondence from Mr Mackay re solid drawing models.

That at present funds are available.

That the Secretary be instructed to write to the Wellington Education Board re remark in inspectors report.

That placing the control of school requisites in the hands of the committee be rescinded and that the matter be placed in Mr Mackay's hands.

30th June 1886 The committee asked for shelter sheds PP

1887

17th January That a tin of carbolic powder be obtained for the use of the school.

14th February Moved that Mrs Finlayson wash and dust the school for the sum of 5/- each time it is done at the instance of The Schoolmaster

That four pounds be expended on gravelling approach to school grounds and shelter sheds.

30th March 1887 Mr K Mackay resigned PP

11th April Moved that Mr Mckenzie be employed to gravel the approaches to school to satisfaction of the committee.

27 April 1887 Master at Dreyerton Mr A Everiss at present at Hyde Otago. Salary 170 pounds, PP

28th April Special Meeting That the Secretary write to the Board urging an early appointment of a school master and that the master may be a married man if possible.

2nd May Special Meeting that the Boards nominee be chosen for the new school master (Being Mr Everiss)

Moved that Mrs Finlayson be engaged to scrub and clean the school every four weeks for the sum of 5/- each time while the school is in work.

5th May 1887 Mr Chatwin temporary teacher until Mr Everiss arrives PP

7th June Master Finlayson's account for sweeping school for 20 weeks at 1/- per week be paid

That Mrs Finlayson's cleaning school 5/- be paid

That the committee meet every 4 weeks on the Monday nearest the full moon commencing 4th July (*This was so they could travel home in the moonlight*)0

That the Secretary write to the Board urging them to erect a teachers residence

That a well be dug and a pump erected by the end of September.

4th July from Secretary of Wellington Education Board that a residence could not be entertained.

That the Secretary shall get all books etc for the use of the school whenever instructed with an order from the Master and the Master shall supply all the wants of the children with books at the usual retail price and that the surplus money from the sale should go towards the children's prizes

1st August That the school master be ordered to keep the children (Who don't go home for dinner) in the playground the whole of the dinner hour also that he keep the boys and girls separate.

That all election candidates be charged £1 (*General Election Candidates using the schoolroom to talk to voters*))

That a culvert shall extended in the school grounds

5th September. That all election candidates shall pay 10/- for use of the schoolrooms on the second time of hiring

That a sewing mistress be applied for, for the Dreyerton School

5th December From Teacher re resignation of G Bruce. Moved that G Bruce's a/c for firewood owing £1/12/0 be paid

1888

9th January That Secretary write to Wellington Education Board asking that a new master be appointed at once

That a private contract be let for a well be dug 12 feet deep and fix a No 4 Douglas Pump with galvanised iron Pipe and Totara From posts complete Price not to exceed £3-10-0 for the whole job.

27th January It was resolved the Secretary write to the board asking them to appoint a married man as master

26 January 1888 A residence allowed for 250 pounds PP

1st February Special Meeting Business to choose a new master

That Mr Skipper be appointed For 5 against 2

That Mr Collins be appointed For 2 against 5

3rd February 1888 Mr E J B Evans has been placed at Dreyerton pending appointment of new teacher PP

6th February That Donald McKenzie's a/c of £4.00 for providing pump and pipe and digging well be passed for payment

That a man be employed to cut all the gorse in and about the school grounds also on the south side for the sum of 7/6d

14th February 1888 The Dreyerton School Committee have confirmed the Education Board's selection of a teacher for their school, and Mr. William Mursell the gentleman who has been appointed, will enter upon his duties as soon as he can be relieved from his present position PP

30th April That 2 cords of 2 foot firewood be got for the school and delivered within 3 weeks at 16/- per cord delivered

21st May. Householder's meeting. Balance sheet be held over to next meeting. The adjourned meeting opened Friday 25th

That Mr Mursell take over £1-18-0 worth of books and that he gives us value for them in money or books at the expiration of our office and that we take over any other school stock which he has in hand. Outstanding Book debts £1-6-9

26th June That Mr Mursell be requested to send accounts and collect Book Debts

That we get a two lamp chandelier for school with requisites for fitting

That we get a chair for the Secretary.

That we write to Sir James Hector for some ornamental trees to plant school grounds.

9th October. Teacher going away. School Committee taking over book account That the committee take over £2-14-1 worth of books and material and that we pay him 16/1

Received from Mr Mursell One pound 5/- being balance from Lecture by Rev Rouse in aid of children's prizes.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr Mursell (Check spelling) for the manner in which he has conducted the school since he has been in charge, which was very kindly replied to.

22nd October . Resignation of Mr Mursell

Wellington Education Board wrote re residence.

Replacing Mr Mursell leaving and Mr Smith's appointment

31 Oct 1888 Resignation of William (*Berkley*) Mursell accepted PP *Came to Dreyerton following service at Taranaki Board Schools (Frankley Road) and an appearance in the bankruptcy Court*

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE OF AN INSURANCE AGENT.

Kumara, Dec 14. Berkley Mursell, Government Insurance Agent, cut his throat at Dilmanstown last evening. He was in a despondent state of mind owing to the illness of a child of whom he was very fond. He

was brought to the hospital, as his condition is very precarious. His wrists are also cut badly. PP

Mr W Mursell, who resides at Greytown, and is well-known throughout the Wairarapa, has been appointed resident agent in Christchurch, and district agent for Canterbury, of the Mutual Life Assurance Society of Victoria, He leaves shortly to take up his new duties, Mr Mursell, by his uniform courtesy in business and his good personal qualities, has made himself very popular in our district, and it is gratifying to know that although he will be missed here he is going to a superior appointment, PP

William Berkley Mursell was in New South Wales Courts in 1903 and was then living in Tasmania and Victoria

1884/6112	Mursell	Arthur	Clara	William Berkeley
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1887/15151	Mursell	Ida Berkeley	Clara	William
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1888/13699	Mursell	Ella Berkeley	Clara	William
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1889

18th February that the teacher stay at the school during the luncheon hour to supervise the children.

That the present well be dug 3 foot deeper

20th March Correspondence. From teacher acceding to the wishes of committee re supervising children.

The Dreyerton election fell through, as only the old committee turned up, and they refused to elect themselves. 26th April 1889 PP

19th June. That a vote of thanks be passed to Mr Smith for efficient manner he carried on the school since he has taken charge.

That three pounds be spent on buying and planting trees and levelling school ground.

That we meet once a quarter.

Moved that the school treat be held on the 17th July 1889

2nd September That a chair be got for the use of the school.

2nd December That the gorse in the school ground be grubbed.

That 5/- be paid for a chair for the school.

30th Oct 1889 A Sum of 2 pound was voted for repairs PP

1890

29 Jan 1890 Dreyerton were voted 5 pound towards a sewing teacher PP

5th February That Mrs Blade be appointed sewing mistress

That the committee desire the Wellington Education Board keep the school open and in the event of Mr Smith being appointed to another school that the Education Board appoint a married teacher if possible.

The Wellington Education Board be asked for a grant to build a woodshed to keep the firewood the amount be £3 10

10th February 1890 Mrs Blade appointed sewing teacher 26th Feb PP

10th Feb 1890 Waihakeke Mr J A Smith promoted from Dreyerton PP

21st February That Mr Henry A Parkinson be appointed teacher for the Dreyerton School

3rd March That the Secretary get one broom, one scrubbing brush for use of the school

31 March 1890 Miss Leighton who has been succeeded in charge of the Dreyerton School by Mr Parkinson started at Te Aro school today as an assistant

3rd November from School master re holiday for Masterton Show carried.

Re use of school for polling day.

1891

27th April that the shelter sheds be floored and painted with 2 coats of paint.

After considerable discussing re the correct reading of the new act the following gentlemen were duly elected. Mr Alexander Stewart, T E Blade, O Osborne, McKay and George Franklin.

1st June that this committee while sympathising with your (*Wellington Education Board*) question we are of the opinion that all scholarships be done away with all together.

15th June. Moved that the basis of scholarship stand as it is

Moved that the scholarships be abolished all together. And that the money granted for the scholarships be used to give better facilities for getting schools for outlying Districts

17th September The schoolmaster Mr Parkinson brought forward the question of a school library. That a school library be started, each gentleman of the committee to do all in their power to make the same a success

That Mr Osborne get a bag of lime for disinfection

1892

February That a hearty vote of thanks for the erection of Horizontal Bars etc

That Mr Dorset supply six loads of fine gravel for school paths at 2/6 per load.

7th March That Mr Parkinson be empowered to procure the necessary material for painting Black Boards and also for a supply of foolscap and to present bill for same at our next meeting

That the Secretary write to the Board if necessary for the use of the Board carpenter.

27th April 1892 The carpenter was instructed to construct cupboards at Dreyerton PP

7th November 1892 That Mr Osborne arrange with carpenter to erect cupboard and repair to bell.

That Mr Parkinson get clubs for use of school children

Moved by Mr Parkinson (Head Teacher 1st) That the treat was to be held in Mr Stewarts on breaking up day But in the event of wet to be held in school grounds.

1893

10th April That 7/6 be paid to F Donovan for repairing the boundary fence between the school grounds and J Stewart

That 3/10 be paid to the WFCa for one hair broom and handle.

That 5/- be paid to F Donovan for cleaning out school tank.

That a man be employed to grub the furze (*Gorse*) in the school ground

24th June That the chairman (Osborne) be paid 5/- to whitewash the latrines of the school.

19th July That P Madsen be paid 21/- for grubbing goss (*Gorse*)
 That not exceeding 20/- shall be spent in buying trees for planting in the school grounds
 20th October. That Mr Stone be paid 10/- in addition to the 20/- passed at the last meeting
 That G H Clark be paid 10/- for staking the trees in school ground
 That Charles Clark be paid 38/- for 38 weeks cleaning
 That the schoolmaster be granted 1 weeks leave for examination purposes.
 That a man be employed to clear the stones off the school ground
 That the school be granted for a polling place and that the charge be one pound one shilling.
 8th December that a man be got to clean the drain out through the school ground and clear the play ground
 That Wfca be paid 1/10 for glass.

1894

23rd April That the ensuing committee get the Gorse cut up in the school ground.
 14th June Correspondence on Mr Parkinson leaving on promotion and Mr Coles being appointed temporarily in charge.
 21st July 1923 Surely this is not Parky striding along Lambton Quay, H. A. Parkinson swinging his stick and as straight as a die, with his moustache no greyer than it was when this writer at both the Greytown and Newtown schools assisted -with other dunderheads to make his hair as grey as I am? Yet, it's Parky, all right, and yet he has boon retired on superannuation for over four years. It is H. A. Parkinson, MA., In fact, though Parky was the scant honour the lads

paid him for all the time and attention he gave their mostly unwilling selves as they bungled through the best days of nil, their school days. Parky started off in a small way under the Wanganui Board away back in 1880, and ten years afterwards we find him ruling in the shack which did duty as a school at Dreyerton Wairarapa,. In '94 he came as assistant to the To Aro school, Wellington, and, after five years there went to the Greytown school as headmaster. A stickler for discipline, somewhat irascible, but a kindly man at heart and very proud of the school footballers— and -Greytown has turned out a few good ones— Parky was at length elevated to the headmastership at Newtown, then the biggest school under the Wellington Board. The status of the school was also considerably enhanced at much the same time by the arrival there one morning of a whip top closely pursued and flagellated by a perspiring dishevelled youth, the writer of "Truth's" humble tribute to a man who was forbearing when forbearance 'would t>< impossible to another, who cultivated the school spirit. In his charge, "allured to brighter worlds and led the way.".. In 1919. Parky retired on superannuation, In Intellect and physically a 'younger man than many another of half his years. Pottering about a garden was impossible for a man of- this type, and fortunately he soon found, expression for his thoughts and an outlet for his abounding energies in the secretarial duties of the Educational Institute and the completion of the journal of educational pabulum turned out for consumption by the dominies. NZ Truth

Also reading last years balance sheet which had been passed. Correct balance £5-4-1 (\$959 in July 2011 terms)
 J Hovort be paid 19/6 for grubbing gorse

That the Board be asked for a pupil teacher also through the large increase in the number of pupils the board be asked to enlarge the school

That a back plate be got for the school fire.

That Mr Parkinson be paid 18/10 for Blackboard compass, T square, set of squares, class books

That Mr Bruce brings 3 loads of good gravel for school grounds @4/- per load

That the teacher be authorised to get books for infant classes

30th July Correspondence read re pupil Teacher.

That Mr Alexander Sutherland be appointed for the head mastership at the Dreyerton School

3rd of August Extraordinary meeting.

That the committee adhere to the appointment of Mr Sutherland as teacher at Dreyerton School. If not why did the board send his testimonials to the committee to choose from. Also that the Board will receive a deputation from the committee.
27th August Extraordinary meeting. Re deputation to the board. Re appointment of a teacher.

That Mr Osborne be one of the deputation. Mr Stewart be one of the deputation That Mr McKay become one of the deputations.

12th October. That the Board be asked to supply a set of Bacons Drawing Charts.

2nd June 1894 The appointment of first assistant master of the Willis-Street School has, with the approval of the School Committee, been conferred upon Mr. Henry Parkinson, who is at present in charge of the school at Dreyerton . Mr. Parkinson will assume his new position as soon as it is possible for him to do so PP

9th June 1894 Mr. W. Plunkett Cole, late first assistant at Te Aro School, has been placed in temporary charge of the Dreyerton School. Mr. Parkinson, who has just vacated the headmastership of the Dreyerton School, assumes the duties of first assistant at Te Aro on Monday 29th August 1905

11th July 1894 Wanted a head teacher at Dreyerton Advertisement PP
29th August 1894 It was resolved to expend a sum not exceeding £15 in repairing the teacher's residence at Dreyerton , the Chairman being empowered to see that the Board has a legal right to occupy the property for a period not exceeding five years PP

29th August 1894 The appointment of Mr. D. Wardlaw as teacher at the Dreyerton School was approved PP

1895

15th January That Whitcombe and Tombs be paid 13/9 for a set of Bacons Drawing Charts

That Mr G Bruce be paid 48/- for carting 12 loads of gravel for school grounds

15th February That the Secretary be empowered to spend up to £5.00 in fixing new entrance gates and clearing grass and gorse out of school grounds

That this committee supports The Children's Railway Excursions

22nd April That Minnie Blade be paid 24/- for 18 weeks sweeping and once scrubbing the school.

26th June 1895 Mr. O. H. Osborne wrote offering to give a lease for seven years of the house at Dreyerton now in the occupation of the local school master. The Chairman and Mr. McCardle were authorised to. inspect the house and report to the Board.

Consideration of this question of enlarging the Dreyerton school was deferred until the Board has more funds at its disposal PP

30th October 1895 It was decided to lease Mr. Osborne's house at Dreyerton as a teacher's residence for three years at £20 a year PP

M Walton pupil teacher passed her exams as a 3rd year pupil teacher

4th July 1895 8 applicants for replacement PP

22nd August That the Secretary write to the teacher wishing him to keep the girls in their own part of the playground in playtime.

2nd December. Mr Tait scrubbing and fumigating the school 6/6

Ella Blade 16/- cleaning

That the chairman interview the Head Teacher and beg that he keeps the boys separate from the girls in playtime.

Also that he uses his best endeavours to get the children to attend the school in the proper time in the morning.

1896

30th January Re Railway fares for school children

12th Feb 1896 3rd year Pupil Teacher M Walton Passed Exams PP

18th May 1896 Mr Wardlaw be authorised to purchase 12 geographical reading books

That the school be scrubbed every 6 weeks

That the Secretary write to the board re the state of the roof

That the Secretary write to the board re the overcrowded state of the school and asking the board to provide further accommodation

That tenders be called for cleaning the school.

27th May 1896,,The board decided they could not do the repairs asked for PP

15th June That the Secretary write asking for 4 new desks and for the Wellington Education Board to keep in mind the overcrowded state of the school

That 4 chimneys be obtained for the lamps in the school and 1 gallon of kerosene

6th July That the Board be requested to provide a pupil teacher as the committee knows of none suitable

That the Secretary write to the board asking for £2.0.0 for the purpose of roofing the boys shed

1st Aug. Applications for Pupil Teacher from Misses Boddington, Wallis, Gray, Easthope and Mckenzie were received. A Ballot was taken which resulted in Miss V Boddington being appointed

V Boddington appointed pupil teacher 26th August 1896 Resigned

13th Dec 1899 PP

1st August That Mr Osborne be authorised to get the gorse grubbed

29th October Correspondence was received from the Mangamahoe School Committee re excursion to Wellington

1897

Dreyerton, a small farming district in the Wairarapa North County, is seventy-four miles from Wellington, and seven miles from Masterton. The nearest railway station is Kopuaranga, and the conveyance thence is by road. In educational matters the wants of the rising generation are provided for by a public school, at which the average attendance is about forty. Mails for Dreyerton close at Wellington daily at 6.45 a.m., arriving at Dreyerton at 12.30 p.m. The return mail for Wellington closes at Dreyerton daily at noon, arriving

at Wellington at 7.50 p.m. The residents in the district are chiefly engaged in farming pursuits.

Cyclopaedia NZ 1897

9th January . That the Secretary be empowered to expend £1-0-0 in getting the closets clean

That Messers Stewart and Osborne interview the County Council re the drainage and that they be empowered to offer pound for pound up to £3-0-0 toward carrying out the work.

19th February That Mr Osborne get the closet shifted.

That the Secretary write to the Wellington Education Board that an addition be added to the school.

23rd February 1897

MASTERTON, THIS DAY.
Mr. H. A. Parkinson, who was recently transferred from the Dreyerton school to Wellington, has been presented by the settlers of Dreyerton with a handsome gold guard and pendant.

30th March That the School Committee get the drain through the school ground widened and deepened to correspond with the drain across the road.

26th April 11 men nominated for the School Committee at a Householders meeting 6 men were voted on.

7th June. That tenders be called for sweeping and cleaning school
Tenders close on 2nd August

That the Secretary write to Mr C E Daniell re carpenters using girls shelter shed and asking him to provide their accommodation for his men at once.

That two members be appointed as visiting members.

That Messers Stewart and D McKenzie take the coming month (*As visiting School Committee members, clearly School Committee members did not pop into the school uninvited*).

9th August That the chairman had accepted the tender of £3.00 from Phyllis McKenzie for cleaning at £3.00 also for sweeping same at 1/3 per week per annum

That the chairman employ someone to grub the gorse.

That head teacher be informed that it is the regulation that one of teachers must be on the premises within the school hours including the dinner hour.

9th October That head teacher be empowered to get Towels, Dusters and other necessary school requisites

That G Bannister's account of 6/6 for grubbing gorse be paid

That the Secretary write to the Wellington Education Board re teacher remaining at school during dinner hour, as he refuses to stay as he does not consider it his duty.

That £3-0-0 be paid for gravelling and draining the girls playground

Tenders to be called for the gravelling at a cost per yard of gravel (*1 cubic yard = .9144 of a cubic meter*)

That the Secretary writes to Wellington Education Board re shifting closets

25th October. That 2 drinking cups be procured That E Mckenzie, G Franklin and E Clarke be deputation (sic) in alteration of school grounds

That a vote of congratulation be recorded to the Head Teacher on the successful passing of the children at the drawing exam

8th November. That the boys; closet be placed directly behind the shelter shed but well back and the girl's closet to be shifted back to the fence.

That the shifting of the fence be part of the expenditure.

23rd December That all gravel be got by day labour and culverts be done at the same time the work to be superintended by the chairman.

1898

14th February That the Head Master be authorised to inquire into a reported case of lice among the children.

7th April Moved Mr J Stewart be informed that the School Committee are prepared to proceed with the repairs to the dividing fence if he is willing to do half of it that Geo Bunce is willing to supply posts (25) at the rate of £3 per hundred and that we appoint a deputation to wait on John Stewart.

That a bag of lime and 3 cords of wood be obtained.

That tenders be called for the whole of the fencing

That the Secretary write to Mr Daniel asking him to proceed immediately with the work he has in hand also to put 2 panes of glass in the windows

25th April That G Franklin be instructed to dig a drain sufficient to carry off the surface water from the school grounds

28th April Copy of Letter to Mr C E Daniel Masterton

Dear Sir, I am instructed by the Dreyerton School Committee to write and ask you whether the Lavs for the Girl's WC were included in your contract. And if so would you kindly forward them without delay as great inconvenience is occasioned by their absence

Record of Attendance of Board members 1898

Franklin 14/14, Jackson 14/14, Bruce 11/14, Clarke 14/14, D Mckenzie 9/14, E McKenzie 7/14 ,R McKenzie 11/14

2nd May A letter of complaint was received from Mr A Moje in which he complained that his daughter had not been presented for examination day by the inspector.

At the request of the Committee both Mr Moje and the Head Teacher attended the meeting. A very satisfactory explanation by Mr Wardlaw plainly showed that Mr Moje had laid his complaint on a misunderstanding and misrepresentation and he clearly saw that his daughter had received proper attention during the examination.

Report of Jackson and Franklin members of the School Committee to the full committee

The chairman and secretary have much pleasure in reporting to the committee the result of their visit to the school on Friday 20th May. The day was exceedingly wet and in consequence a few children were absent. The members were received by the Head Teacher and by his courtesy were shown the various workings of the school.

The writing of all classes was exceedingly good- it was neat, regular and free from blotches and did great credit to the scholar as well as to the teacher. The Arithmetic was also neat and concise

The children were then put through their singing and showed that they thoroughly understood and appreciated the excellent teaching of their master.

That the Secretary write to Mr G Manning re the Non Attendance of his children.

Copy of letter Mr G Manning re his son Willie

At a meeting of the Dreyerton School Committee on Monday 30th May it was decided that the parents of all children not attending the school regularly be written to calling their attention to the fact and

asking that they use their best endeavour in The future for the regular attendance of their children

As you son Willie has been absent for some time past the Committee would feel obliged if you could see your way to send him.

30th June The Head Teacher also mentioned in his report that Miss Boddington had delivered her resignation to the Board but as the committee had no intimations on the subject from either the Board or from Miss Boddington the matter was not discussed.

The inspectors report for the year showed a satisfactory result.

25th July Head Teacher report included the leaky condition of the school and the dilapidated state of the Boy's shelter shed.

The Secretary was instructed to write to the Wellington Education Board with reference to above

Moved that the gorse on the school ground be grubbed up.

21st November That a special meeting be held on Friday Night to inquire in certain charges made against Mr Wardlaw Head Teacher

That complainants be requested to attend the special meeting

Two letters impugning the character of Mr Wardlaw were received from Mr E Runnerstrum and Mr R McKenzie

That the letters be entered in the minute book

Mr D M McKenzie also complained verbally to the committee of Mr Wardlaw towards his daughter

Letter from Mr Roderick McKenzie

21st November 1898

Sir

My Daughter Isabella aged 14 years has made complaint to me of the conduct of Mr Wardlaw, school master, towards her, whilst at his

house on The 4th November 1898. In consequence of which she declines to go to school or attend private lessons

I have therefore to ask that your committee take such steps that will ensure proper protection to the girls having to take lessons from Mr Wardlaw

letter from E Rummerstrum

Kopuaranga Factory

21st November 1898

Gentlemen

I herewith put in my complaint against Mr T D Wardlaw as regards to his conduct to Miss Violet Boddington during the past year. He has during this time made Miss Boddington's life very miserable in many ways, but specially in trying to be too familiar to her i.e. in trying to kiss her etc etc. I may state at one time when his brutal intentions were worse than ever, Miss Boddington had to throw a great piece of wood at him in self defence (The wood hit him straight in the eye, some of you might have noticed this, as it did not happen so very long ago)

Besides he was kind enough to offer Miss Boddington to run away with her, but she declined the honour

So altogether by his behaviour you can draw the conclusion of the very worst intentions I or Miss Boddington herself are ready to furnish you with further particulars if necessary.

As it has lately come to my knowledge that the same of what has happened to Miss Boddington has happened to two other young girls who have been under Mr Wardlaw's control, I have decided it my duty to lay the matter before your gentleman, as I am sure you don't like anything like this to happen to your own children.

I have also consulted Mr H Boddington of Masterton. Who has asked me to place the matter in your hands. Our desire is to have Mr Wardlaw at once resign his position as school master for Dreyerton School, or else have the matter in due course before the Education Department. Trusting in you Mr Chairman and you gentlemen of the committee.

I remain Gentlemen

Yours Faithfully

Earnest Rummerstrum

Copy of letter to Misses Boddington, Isabella McKenzie and Bella McKenzie

As certain complaints were made to the Dreyerton School Committee at last night's meeting impugning the conduct of Mr T D Wardlaw the committee would deem it a favour if you would attend a special meeting of the Committee to be held on November 25th in the school

25th November

Special Meeting

The Misses Boddington and Bella and Izie McKenzie attended at the request of the committee to substantiate the truth of the letters of complaint against the conduct of Mr Wardlaw

After some discussion it was decided that Mr Wardlaw should be allowed to remain in the room during the hearing of the inquiry on the condition that he in no way interrupt the proceedings.

Miss Boddington was then called upon to give evidence before the committee she was then followed by Miss Izie McKenzie and Miss

Bella McKenzie. The evidence of each was taken carefully down by the secretary

Moved that the evidence as taken before the committee be forwarded to the Education Board for their perusal also that a letter be forwarded from the committee asking the board to take immediate steps in the matter or advise the committee what steps to adopt.

Copy of letter sent to the Wellington Education Board

Dreyerton

28th November 1898

The Chairman

Dear Sir

The committee of the Dreyerton School regrets the necessity of acquainting you with the certain complaints of misconduct proffered against Mr T D Wardlaw Head Teacher of the school from Mr E Rummerstrum on behalf of Miss Violet Boddington the pupil teacher and from Mr R McKenzie on behalf of his daughter Isabella a pupil attending the school.

The committee therefore held a special meeting on the 25th inst to inquire into the truth of the charges and now forward to you by same mail for your perusal the two letters of complaint and a report of the result of the inquiry.

As the misconduct is of a more serious nature than actually stated in the letters of complaint, the committee desires that your board take immediate steps to have the matter properly inquired into, to instruct them what course they are to pursue. Hoping to hear from you soon because many of the children now attending the school are being kept away on this account

I have the honour to remain

Yours obediently
George Franklin
Chairman

Undated letter received from the Board

Sir,

I very much regret to find that you have not had a reply to your communication with reference to the serious charges made against the Head Teacher Mr Wardlaw.

The papers were sent to me as chairman of the Board but not until the Boards business for November had been arranged

The matter was of such gravity that to have made it public would not have been advisable. I hope therefore to be able to deal with it in the true interests of all concerned and communicated direct to Mr Wardlaw. Mr Wardlaw called on me in response to my letter and having twice consulted a solicitor, has requests the Board to have the matter thoroughly enquired into. The board has appointed a committee to conduct an enquiry and I am endeavouring to arrange for a further enquiry at an early date

As I have said the charges are so serious to a Teacher that I decided not to allow the Board's Secretary to have communication with anyone and thereby avoid official publication of the Matter in any form. I have acted with the intention of suing the fullest justice done and trust that this explanation will remove from the minds of the committee any feeling that they have been treated discomtensely ?

Yours Faithfully

G R Blair

Chairman Education Board

Note Please look at Appendix for further about Wardlaw and Boddington

1899

25th Jan 1899 The Chairman, on behalf of the committees which enquired into charges against the head teacher at Dreyerton, reported that the committee recommended that the resignation of the schoolmaster be accepted, and that he be informed that he is no longer eligible for employment under the Board. The report, was adopted. There was a discussion as to the desirableness of publishing the report for the information of other Boards in the colony, but the weight of opinion was against it PP

4 Jan 1899 Teacher, Dreyerton School; average attendance, 34. Salary about .£165, according to certificate PP There were 20 Applicants for this position.

27th January. Letter paraphrased The committee to Wellington Education Board complaining about appointment of Mr Beaglehole because the Board had failed to forward the necessary papers and would not approve the appointment until they had been received

Moved that the School be opened with a picnic and that the committee endeavour to carry out the prizes promised by them but sadly neglected by the Head Teacher

Copy of another letter to Wellington Education Board accepting Mr Beaglehole as Head Teacher, who had been undecided whether to take up the position. Finished with Sincerely hope that with his

assistance the school will gain the confidence of the parents of the children attending the school

13th February Special Meeting Proposed that the children be granted a half holiday on the 16th inst to enable them to accept the invitation of the sports club to attend annual gathering.

That the children's tea meeting and distribution of the prizes be held on Friday 24th

That the following parents be written to Madaines, Stacey, Manning Scorrar and McKenzie asking that their children be sent regularly to school

20th March. A letter was received from the Hastwell School suggesting an excursion for the children to Napier and asking the Dreyerton School to cooperate in assisting the same.

That the Dreyerton School could not entertain an excursion to Napier. Mr Donald McKenzie tendered his resignation as a member of the committee. The resignation was accepted without comment

24th April. Annual Report for the householders meeting included.

- a) A tea meeting for children was held in Mr Evan McKenzie's paddock was a great success. Prizes were given to those children who had been successful in winning them
- b) £16-3-2 had been received in capitation fees and expenditure was £15-17-0
- c) The last capitation fee was reduced because of temporary absence of children
- d) The number of children attending is 26 boys and 22 girls. Total of 48
- e) Fourteen meetings were held by the School Committee during the year.
- f) Thanks to Mr Beaglehole and Miss Boddington

24th April The inspectors report of his annual examination was read which showed a fairly satisfactory result considering the circumstances which had recently happened

Proposed that the balance from the school picnic £1-10-0 be handed to the treasurer to be spent on procuring cricketing implements for the school

24th April Householders meeting. There were 13 candidates for the School Committee

22nd May That Sydney Thompson's offer to clean the WC's once a fortnight at the rate of £1-10-0 per annum be accepted

That 6/- be expended in grubbing the Gorse on the school ground and that the chairman be authorised to get the work carried out.

That the Secretary write to Wellington Education Board asking for monetary assistance in keeping the gorse from spreading on the school grounds

Average attendance for the month of May was 35 because of bad weather

That the Head Teacher had substituted chemistry in the place of botany.

The report was received with satisfaction.

Letter to Wellington Education Board re Gorse included

- a) Asking for assistance
- b) Capitation fee had been reduced £3-0-0 to £2-10-0 per quarter makes it impossible to expend any money in keeping the play ground in proper order
- c) The money is absorbed With the addition of the new room at school the committee finds that the whole of the money is absorbed in cleaning and purchasing school requisites

- d) Unless the Board is willing to assist the committee in eradicating this dreadful pest they fear it will spread to such an extent that in the near future the children will be deprived of their playground

26th June That 3 days work be done in the Girls' playground, metalling etc

1st June Dreyerton Wellington Education Board Allocates Gorse Clearing 2 pounds PP

14th June Inspectors report included.

- a) Mr Beaglehole Roll 21
- b) Miss Boddington Standard 2 –Primers 21
- c) There is the prospect of a roll rise after the winter
- d) There are two classrooms
- e) Mr Beaglehole started this year
- f) I recommend that the services of the Pupil Teacher be retained in the meantime
- g) Mr Beaglehole reports that Miss Boddington is working satisfactorily
- h) The lower room is somewhat dingy in appearance. The walls should be brightened with pictures suitable for infants,
- i) The outside offices were not clean and the boys urinal was in a dirty condition

17th July That condolences be expressed at the death of their comrade (*School Committee Member*) Mr Alexander Stewart and that a letter be sent to Mrs Stewart expressing their condolence's and an appreciation of her late husband's services

That the chairman be authorised to see that the schools WC's are thoroughly cleaned out once a fortnight and that Sydney

Thompson be written to and informed that his contract has been cancelled

14th August Letter to Wellington Education Board included

- a) Committee has held a concert in aid of school funds. The balance of £3-2-6 had been spent on cleaning the school and other necessary work
- b) The Board are asked to
 - i) Paint the old schoolroom
 - ii) Make necessary repairs to the boy's shelter sheds. It is exposed to the South
 - iii) Provide strainers for each of the tanks. It is found that a great quantity of rubbish accumulates therein.

That Franklin's account of £2-0-0 be paid for grubbing of gorse

18th September That a cricket pitch be made on school ground. That the committee meet on the ground at 2 pm 30th September to carry out the work.

1900

15th January Miss Violet Boddington pupil teacher tendered her resignation which was received with regret. The committee expressing regret at the loss of so popular and efficient a teacher.

That a very hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr and Mrs Beaglehole for the efficient manner in which they conducted the children's concert

February That prizes be given to the children for competition on the day of the picnic.

1st March 1900 Mr EW Beaglehole as Headmaster 10th February 1899 has been paid 30 pound over PP

26th March That a recommendation be made to incoming committee to appoint a sewing teacher.

That 5/- be subscribed to children's picnic fund

That the picnic be held Mr I Coffees ? paddock

23rd April The inspection report was very satisfactory

A very hearty vote of thanks be passed to Mr Beaglehole the Head Teacher for the very efficient manner in which he has conducted the work of the school during the past year and carried unanimously.

21st May That applications for a sewing teacher be called

That Mr Beaglehole take the school clock to Masterton and get an opinion of its condition and cost of repair.

That a holiday be granted to the school on the occasion of the relief of Mafeking, which was not held on the Monday set aside be the Government for the general holiday on Friday next.

28th May Two applications for sewing teacher were received. Mrs R Mckenzie and Mrs G Franklin On being put to the vote Mrs Franklin was appointed.

25th June Letter to Wellington Education Board that the School has failed to get the services of someone to clean out the WC's at a price offered by the committee.

30th July. Letter to Wellington Education Board re alteration of school boundaries and asking for a plan of the district.

That a letter be written to the committees of the surrounding school districts urging the Board appoint a person to periodically visit the various schools for the purposes of attending to the sanitary affairs of the school Hastwell, Mangamahoe, Kaipororo, Dreyer's Rock, Mauriceville East and West, Rangitumau, Upper Opaki (*Mikimiki*), Opaki, Fernridge and Te Ore Ore.

20th August That all matters referring to the alteration of the school boundaries be referred to a special meeting

3rd September Special Meeting That Mr Jackson and Franklin be Dreyerton's representative at special combined meeting and the meeting be held at the Mauriceville County Council Rooms.

1st October Moved that the gorse in school grounds be grubbed.

22nd October the results of the annual drawing examinations were received. The results proving a credit both to the children as scholars and to the teacher as an instructor.

A letter was received from Mr E W Beaglehole in which he applied for a fortnights Leave Of Absence and also stated he had already applied to the Wellington Education Board who were agreeable subject to the committee agreeable.

That the schoolroom and porch be scrubbed out during the absence of the teacher in November

1901

10th April That the chairman be empowered to effect repairs to the school gate, tank and fence. And also to purchase a pick-axe, a long handle shovel and wooden box for the use of the school

22nd April Special Meeting Householders meeting Nine men stood for School Committee. An election was had for seven delegates

20th May Correspondence from Wellington Education Board re Royal Visit. That this committee cannot see its way to do anything in the matter.

That tenders be called for sweeping the school

That tenders be called for cleaning the WC's

A letter was received from Mr Beaglehole asking permission to be allowed to graze his horse in the school grounds

That Mr Beaglehole be allowed to graze his horse in the grounds but he must take steps to protect the trees from destruction and that the horse must be kept off the grounds during school hours.

2nd June Received communication from Wellington Education Board suggesting to provide the school with a national flag providing the School Committee undertake the responsibility of erecting a flagstaff That the Secretary writes to the Wellington Education Board accepting the flag.

1st July A circular was received stating that the Education Department. were prepared to pay 20/- towards the purchase of a larger flag. That the 7 ½ x 3 ¾ foot flag offered by the Wellington Education Board be accepted.

15th July A budget of correspondence from various candidates soliciting support at the forthcoming election (*Wellington Education Board*) It was decided to support the candidature of the Bishop of Wellington and Messer's Feist and Field.

Proposed that the school concert be held on the 1st August, that 100 tickets be purchased and 100 programmes. That the charge for admission be 1/- (*There were 20 shillings in a pound.*)

25th July that Messrs. Hogg and Feist (*Wellington Education Board Members*) deal with an offer of the house used as a teacher's residence at Dreyerton PP

19th August That a pit 5 feet long, 4 feet deep and 2 ½ feet (*There are 3 feet in a meter*) wide be dug in the school ground for the purpose of receiving the refuse from the school WC's

That the Secretary write to the Masterton County Council re deepening the drain in front of the school ground

That the proceeds from the School Concert resulted with a net proceeds of £5-13-6 but was reduced to £4-8-6 after paying expenses. Hall 12/6, Programmes, 6/6 Tickets 5/-

Mr R D McKenzie was appointed to supervise the drawing examination

Mr Cross and Mr W H Hercock attended the meeting and asked the committee for an explanation why the children T and C Cross had been severely punished and expelled from the school.

Mr Beaglehole the teacher explained that the punishment was administered in consequence of gross misconduct and disobedience on the part of the children And he also explained that after an unseemly altercation that had taken place at the school consequent on the bad conduct of the children, he deemed it advisable, in the interest of the school that the two children should be expelled.

The committee concurred with the action taken by the teacher. Mr Hercock after threatening legal proceedings against the teacher for brutal assault on the children then withdrew.

24th September. Correspondence from city and suburban school committees re Inspector's dismissed.

That The Dreyerton School Committee strongly disapproves of the dismissal of chief inspector Lee.

That the Dreyerton School Committee endorses the resolution of the Mt Cook School in endeavouring to secure a standard and uniform set of school books as far as practical.

That the acting chairman write to Mrs Franklin and express to her the Committee's regret at the death of her late husband who had acted as chairman for this committee for the past 5 years.

28th October Letter from Wellington Education Board re purchase of residence for school teacher.

That this committee desires to place on record its disapproval of the purchase of Mr O H Osborne's House at Dreyerton by the Education Board as a residence for the school teacher.

That Mr George Bannister's tender to attend to the WC's for 6 months at £1-0-0 be accepted

18th November That the Chairman Mr R McKenzie and G Bannister be appointed a committee to inspect a flagpole and decide upon the matter.

21st December 1901 To the Secretary Wellington Education Board
Dear Sir, Your memo of the 19th inst together with a letter of complaint from Mr Wm Hercock duly in hand

In reply I have to state that the matter of the complaint was considered at the time of its occurrence some months ago. The committee approved the action of The Head Teacher. A summary of the facts of the case referred to are these. Two grandchildren of Mr W Hercock conspired with other children of the school to overpower, bind hand and foot, and thrash the Headmaster, not I Understand from any ill feeling but merely for the fun of it. In their attempt to carry this prearranged scheme into effect the two grandchildren apparently the ringleaders in this disgraceful proceeding were severely punished by the Head Teacher and subsequently expelled from the school.

An unseemly altercation took place at the school, through the ill advised conduct of Mr Hercock and his family. Mr Hercock then applied for the children to be readmitted to the school, But Mr Beaglehole for the future good conduct of the school as well as his authority therein, firstly refused admittance. The children were then

sent back to their parents in Carterton Lately one of them has returned to Mr Hercock at Dreyerton and he wishing the child to again go to school applied to Mr Beaglehole accordingly, but was refused on the same grounds that were given him when the first application for re-admittance was made. As the Head Teacher has control of such matters and is the best judge of what is best for the future good conduct of the school, the committee had every confidence in leaving the matter in Mr Beaglehole's hands

Chas C Jackson

Chairman of School Committee

1902

3rd February. Correspondence from Wellington Education Board enclosing a letter of complaint from Mr W Hercock re the Boy Cross being readmitted to the school.

That the action of Mr Beaglehole in refusing to readmit the child C Cross to the school be upheld by the committee

On appointment of sewing mistress. Mrs Franklin received 3 votes
Mrs McKenzie one vote

19th February That innocent piece of foolscap paper, with the ominous heading " subscription list," is again on the path of the settlers in this district. This time it is for the benefit of the children, and parents and others alike are always willing to assist in the welfare of their bairns. The Committee have on hand the erection of a flag-staff for the flag presented to the school by the Government; but as the funds of the school must not be utilised for this purpose, the Committee have no other alternative but a resort to the inevitable "list." However, money has been willingly subscribed, and before long we hope to see the Union Jack flying to the breezes of

Dreyerton. A substantial addition will shortly be made to the local school library, which should prove a blessing to those children who are fond of reading. The Committee will meet on Monday next. The sharpness of the air in the mornings and evenings is indicative of a change of season. Autumn is usually a beautiful season. WTPP
27th March Tenders were also to be invited for repairs to the residence at Dreyerton PP

28th April That Mr G Bannister was appointed to attend the WC's for £2-0-0- per annum from the 1st May

That the boy C Cross be readmitted to Dreyerton School with the concurrence of the teacher, upon Mr W Hercock sending a written apology to Mr Beaglehole and to the committee for the action he took on the 19th August in causing a disturbance at the school and also that he bring the said boy to school who shall in the presence of Mr Beaglehole and Mr Hercock, apologise for his past conduct and assure good conduct in The future, but that the boy T Cross cannot be readmitted

23rd June That the pine trees in the ground be topped

Three committee men offered to do it on Friday 4th July

16th July DREYERTON NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent),

.On Thursday afternoon last, the children of the Dreyerton School, together with their parents, were entertained at afternoon tea by Mr and Mrs Beaglehole at the school. Between 40 and 50 guests were present. In wishing the children good-bye, Mr Beaglehole regretted that the shortness of time prevented him from entertaining the children as he would like to; but as he had to commence his new duties in Wellington on Monday, it seemed to him that all his time had been taken up in " packing." After the children and others had partaken of afternoon tea and fruit, the Chairman of the School Committee (Mr Churchill Jackson) took the opportunity of presenting

Mr and Mrs Beaglehole with a case of handsome silver fish knives and forks on behalf of the residents of Dreyerton.

In making the presentation, the Chairman referred to the excellent teaching qualities of Mr Beaglehole, and whilst greatly regretting his departure from the district, he felt sure that all present extended to him a hearty congratulation upon his promotion to the first assistant mastership at Thorndon School, a position for which any man in the teaching profession would be proud to obtain. To a few other remarks he hoped that Mr Beaglehole would still continue to rise in his profession, and that some day he would return to Dreyerton not as a teacher, but as an Inspector, Three cheers were then called for Mr and Mrs Beaglehole, which were lustily given by the children.

In returning thanks Mr Beaglehole said whilst he was indeed sorry to leave Dreyerton, he was glad of promotion, and that he would always look back upon Dreyerton with pleasure. In accepting the presentation on behalf of his wife and himself, he said he was indeed pleased and gratified; he was taken by surprise, and could not return thanks in suitable words, however, in referring to school work, he said he had done his best, and felt glad that the children and parents had appreciated his efforts. He had always received great assistance from his Committee, and in this particular he felt that he was indeed fortunate. In conclusion he called upon the children to give three cheers each for their school , their School Committee, and their parents. These were heartily given, and a very pleasing afternoon tea was brought to a close. WTPP

22nd July Correspondence was read from Wellington Education Board re Mr Beaglehole's promotion to Thorndon School and the appointment temporarily of Miss Zorab as relieving teacher.

It was decided to attend the school on Friday Evening 25th at 7.30 to shift the desks etc into the next room. It was decided to open the school at 9 am rather than 9.30 during the winter months

12th September Mr H J Nightingale's appointment from Timaru School Committee in regard to the inadequate grant for the defraying of ordinary Local committee to write to local MP complaining of lack of money.

That the Secretary apply to Wellington Education Board for £2-0-0 for grubbing the gorse.

29th September . Wellington Education Board advised of paying of grant.

That B Clarke employed to grub gorse at 7/- per day. for 3 days

22nd December. The teacher forwarded a report in which he stated that the average roll for the last quarter was 34.

The measles throughout the district had interfered with the attendance He forwarded 1/- to repair window broken by one of the boys.

1903

16th February Letter from Wellington Education Board approving the granting of a holiday on Thursday 5th February on the occasion of the band contest and on the 18th February for the Masterton Show

The February capitation fee of £2-10-0 was received

Moved that Mr A Moje be authorised to get the school windows repaired.

It was proposed to hold a school picnic on the Inspectors holiday about the middle of March. The Misses Elsie Clarke, Millie Franklin, Minnie Bannister, Agnes Millar and Ettie Moje were authorised to collect donations and provisions for the picnic

15th March The annual inspection of the local school will take place on the 27th inst. Inspector Bakewell will conduct the examination. On the day following the examination, a school picnic will be held,

when the parents and residents will be asked to combine and ensure the success of a treat that is being eagerly looked forward to by the pupils of the school and their many friends. WTPP

27th April That the balance of the money raised for the school picnic amounting to 6/8 be voted in aid of the Flag-staff fund.

27th April. The chairman was authorised to have the WC's whitewashed and scrubbed.

The report from the Master was read. Roll 44. The master recommended taking the children of the Upper Classes to visit the garden work of the Mauriceville West School.

That the flagstaff be erected in time for the opening of school in January 1904

25th May DREYERTON OR KOPUARANGA

Suggested Alteration of name

Incidents of Early Days.

Settlers in the Kopuaranga district, about half-way between Masterton and Mauriceville, are beginning to discover that inconvenient blunders sometimes arise through more than one name being given to the locality. The postal name given to the village, in which a school, a church and an accommodation house have long existed is Dreyerton, while the name given to the railway station and appearing on the time tables is Kopuaranga. The latter is the title given to the survey district, and represents the name of the stream that flows from Mauriceville through a long valley between the hills, past the little township and empties into the Ruamahunga. Long before a highway was thought of and before the main road to Eketahuna was formed, the place was known as The Camp. It was the site of the late Mr Harvey T s store and accommodation house, and the halting place of the plucky Scandinavian families who ploughed their way through, mud and fern to their forty acre sections at Mauriceville. Mr Dreyer, who still survives in Carterton, their

interpreter, counsellor, adviser, and registrar, conceived the idea of a township, hence the name Dreyerton. A few sections were sold, but the colossal city which the founder pictured failed to realise his anticipations. The settlers now find that the difference of names between the Post Office and Railway Station causes a lot of confusion, and it is possible that a memorial will be prepared in favour of the postal designation being made the same as the railway PP

1904

22nd February That the chairman write to Wellington Education Board re WC Pans

That the committee meet at the school on Monday 29th at 10.00 to erect the flagpole.

29th March That Mesdames Stewart, Bannister and Nightingale be appointed to expend the money in connection with the school Picnic and to supervise the same.

That the picnic be held on Tuesday 5th April in Mr I Cottle's paddock, commencing at 10 O'clock in the forenoon,

Mr Moje to procure swing-rope from M Mannering

Mr Nightingale to provide two tins for boiling tea at the picnic.

Mr I Cottle to send the trap to cart table etc.

25th April The picnic earnt £6-0-0 and Expenditure was £1-7-8

That the Public School Teachers superannuation fund as proposed by the NZEI be approved of by the committee.

That the chairman be authorised to transfer the school account from the Bank of New Zealand to the Post Office provided the terms with the latter are favourable.

That Mr G Stewart be authorised to spend £2-0-0 in procuring metal forks for the school grounds

That the balance of the picnic money be handed to Mr Nightingale to expend as he sees fit.

That the chairman write to the board and point out that the urinals at the boys WC should be outside the building as suggested by Inspector Fleming.

30th May That Messers Jackson and G Bain be authorised to begin withdrawal notices from the saving bank on behalf of the Dreyerton School

The inspectors report was read. The school was in a satisfactory state of progress.

A letter from Mr A H Clarke calling attention to the state of the boundary fence between the Schoolhouse property and his own property and asking that some repairs be made.

It was decided to inform Mr Clarke that the Wellington Education Board are the proper body to apply to.

Mr W Diamond was authorised to arrange with Mr Osborne to alter the School WC so as to admit the new WC Pans

25th July Householders meeting

Head Teacher's report included

a) Roll 44, 21 boys 23 Girls

b) The teacher had spent the picnic money. Seven Citizen readers 12/3: Football 12/6: Bulbs for garden 2/6

19th September That the money with the Post Office be withdrawn and reinvested with the Bank of New Zealand Masterton

24th October. Letter from PO stating that no concession could be made with withdrawals.

From the Wellington Education Board indicating that the committee's casual employees have been covered under policy from the Board.

That £2-0-0 be spent on the back boundary. That is purchasing 50 totara Posts. ½ cwt (*1 hundredweight is about 50 kilograms*) of barb wire and staples Provided Mr A B Cottle the adjoining neighbour provide all labour in putting the fence in a thorough state of repair.

25th November 1904 Mr Buchanan, Member .House .Representatives . for South Wairarapa, in which district he has a station said that he had a boundary fence, the posts of which (heart of totara) had been in for 34 years, and he could not yet say how many more years they were good for. Mr. Field remarked that totara, like other native timbers, differed considerably in different districts. In some places along the West Coast it was not as good as other timbers generally considered inferior. On Mr. Buchanan's motion, the Board decided that the best was the cheapest, and that the fencing at Dreyerton should have totara posts. PP

1905

15th February Dreyerton School

The Dreyerton public school has been closed under somewhat unusual circumstances. It will be remembered that the earthquake of some months ago damaged the building, shaking down the chimney and leaving a big hole in the wall. The work of the school has since been carried on under great disadvantage and inconvenience both to scholars and teachers. During bad weather the children have often contracted severe colds as a result of this promiscuous ventilation, and the parents have expressed their feelings very strongly on the

subject. The Education Board has been repeatedly but vainly approached with requests to have the necessary repairs effected. The School Committee has now considered it time to interfere, and have closed the school, with the fixed determination not to re-open it until the chimney has been re-erected, so that the building may be considered suitable for ordinary requirements, WTPP

17th February DREYERTON NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent)

" We go from home to hear the news." It was a surprise to all of us to read that the Dreyerton School had been closed by the committee on account of some injuries received from the earthquake shock of a few months ago. As a matter of fact the school escaped with no damage whatever, and the chimneys are, to all appearances, as strong as when first built, The remarks may probably apply to the Dreyer's Rock school , the similarity of names frequently causing confusion WTPP

25th June DREYERTON NOTES.

[Special to Daily Times.) . The ordinary meeting of the school Committee was held on Monday evening. All the members but one were present. The inspector's report of the annual examination was read, and correspondence received-from candidates for vacancies on the Education Board. Several small accounts were passed for payment. Mr Murray's offer to deliver a lecture in, the school -room, half of proceeds to go to the school fund, was considered, and it was resolved to guarantee the rent of the hall as the school was unsuitable. The meeting then adjourned.. Another house, standing on the same site as the one destroyed on Monday night, was burnt about four years ago. The last building had been unoccupied for over two months. Rumour gives swaggers the credit for the fire. These gentry are more numerous than they have been for many months. WTPP

20th March A map of the Masterton County Council with the adjoining councils was received from the Board, price 2/6

That the board be written to with a view of a mistress being appointed to the Dreyerton School

That a maximum and minimum thermometer and a rain gauge be purchased to not exceed £1-0-0

22nd March 1905 DREYERTON NOTES.

[Special to Daily Times.)

The ordinary, monthly meeting of the School Committee was held on Monday night, Present—Mr C. C. Jackson (Chairman), Messrs Bannister, Bruce and Cottle, It was resolved to hold the annual picnic in Mr J. J. Cottle's paddock .on April 15th, and details in connection were arranged. As the .attendance at the school was now daily over 40, it was resolved to approach the Board -with the view of obtaining a mistress, Mr Jackson to interview the Board at their next meeting. Some science apparatus was purchased, and accounts in connection with school boundary fence passed for payment WTPP

6th April The annual examination of the local school was held on Monday, by the Inspector The usual holiday following the has been postponed till Friday, the 14th inst., when the school picnic will be held in Mr Cottle's paddock. Some of the old boys and girls are improving the occasion by a social in the hall during the evening.

17th April DREYERTN SCHOOL PICNIC

(Special (o Daily Times.)

The annual gathering in connection with the school took place on Friday in Mr J. J. Cottle's paddock The day was beautifully fine, and, as a result, advantage was taken by nearly everyone of the opportunity of enjoying themselves. The children, just through the examination mill, entered heart and soul into the amusements

provided, and several of the committee men were kept busy attending to their various contests. The older people amused themselves with the time-honoured games of picnics. Previous to the tea, Mr Jackson, Chairman of the School Committee, thanked those who had helped to make the gathering a success either by their presence there or their contributions of time and money, especially the ladies, on whose shoulders the major portion-of the work had fallen, and the children who had acted as collectors. Prizes were then distributed to the following children Attendance, Hetty Moje and Dorothy Bannister (a tie); sewing, senior division Milly Franklin, intermediate May Stewart, junior Maud Cottle; boy's gardening prize-, James Clarke ; girl's gardening, Milly Franklin; diligence, Henry Moje. Extra gifts were made to the girls who had attended every day in spite of the terrible weather of last winter and spring, by an admirer of their courage.

The social in the evening drew a large crowd to the hall, and the night was passed in an enjoyable manner with dancing, singing, etc. Messrs F. Clarke and G. Stewart acted as M.C.'s, and Mr F. Palmer as musician. The same ladies who had worked so hard during the day were again to the fore, attending to the catering. The gathering dispersed at a late hour, alter a long day's pleasure. PP

25th April That the master be authorised to procure a tin of kerosene(Also known as Paraffin Oil Registered 1854) and pump also lamp wicks.

14th July DREYERTON NOTES.

(Special to Daily Times.)

From present appearances we have turned the corner with the weather and do occasionally have a fine day now. Tuesday morning was the coldest we have experienced this year, the thermometer registering

below freezing point indoors. The winter has been rather severe on stock as the fields have been continuously flooded, causing the pasture to contain little nutriment and some of the animals already have a "tucked-up" appearance. A very pleasant little function took place at the school on Tuesday afternoon, -when the girls presented their sewing-teacher, Miss Nightingale, with a pair of epergnes and a handsome candlestick as a wedding present. Three of the elder girls each made a present and Miss Dorothy Bannister read an address of appreciation, wishing the recipient every happiness. Mr Nightingale, on behalf of his sister, thanked the girls for their gifts and good wishes and invited all the school children to afternoon tea on Tuesday next. WTPP

28th July DREYERTON NOTES

(Special to Daily Times.)

Final arrangements are under way for the purchase by the hotel proprietor from the Education Board of the triangular portion of the school residence site, now a portion of the hotel orchard. The ownership became involved as the properties passed through different hands and the Education Board became the owners of land they did not want and which, from its position, should have been a part of another section. The majority of the School Committee are supporting Messrs Lee, Buchanan and Vile for the Board election. More men are carrying their swags along the road at the present, than at any time this past twelve months. Some of them appear to be deserving cases, not belonging to the "sundowner" class, whom, like the poor, we have always with us. A day or two ago two unfortunates had robbed some sheep of a few turnips and were making a meal of that frugal fare the real "sundowner" knows too much to be reduced to such straits as that! WTPP

16th September OLD MAURICEVILLE.

An Object Lesson in Land Tenure

"The Freehold."

(By Our Travelling Contributor.)

A Royal Commission, costing the Colony a huge sum, has traversed the length and breadth of the land to find out which is the best system of land tenure--the result, a voluminous report which no one will read. Much trepidation exists among members of Parliament how to vote on the question of freehold -versus leasehold in the face of the coming election; and close at home we have Mr J.C. Cooper a candidate for Parliamentary honours, delving deep into history, ancient and modern, to prove his arguments in favour of the freehold, as instances by the prosperity of Denmark, Holland, Belgium and France. What an immensity of labour Why go so far afield when we have an object lesson, as it were, at our doors. In the year 1872 a band of hardy Danes and Norsemen left their native soil and arrived in New Zealand with the object of taking up and settling on land. Arrived in the Colony, they were brought to Masterton, and then nine miles further on to the Camp, afterwards called Dreyerton (now Kopuaranga), and there awaited the survey and allotment of the sections they were to occupy, these being some miles distant. At this time Dreyerton was the UltimaThule of civilization in a northerly direction. Dense forests in valley and upon hill stretched on and on, north, east and west. The locality of the proposed settlement was just as much in the "back blocks," and even more so, than Pongaroa and many other bush settlements are to-day.

Until the land was surveyed and allotted these pioneers were given employment under District-Engineer Munro in making the Forty-mile Bush road.

The land having been selected in areas of from -10 to 50 acres- -mark you, good reader, 10 to 50 acres, and all in dense bush—the future settlers proceeded to take possession. The building of slab whares, clearing of bush, and all the pursuits pertaining to the making of a home in the wilderness had to be faced. Hard, indeed, must have been their lot, even though inured, as most of them were, to unremitting toil, and cold in those northern lands from which they sprung. To the use of axe, saw, maul and wedge the most of them were novices—new chums, as they would now be designated and on this account were most heavily handicapped in splitting and preparing timber for their future domiciles, sheds and fences, to say nothing of the felling of the bush. Add to all these troubles the non-existence of roads; it was a luxury to even get a pack horse occasionally to take in stores most of the necessities of life were carried in on men's backs, and it is even said that women took part in this labour. Flour cost 27s per 100 lbs at Dreyerton, and 5s (*Shillings*) per day was paid men to carry it on to the settlement - bread certainly earned by the sweat of the brow. The land, mostly second-class hill country, covered with dense forest, was taken up under the Deferred Payment System, with the right to purchase the freehold, at 20s per acre an exorbitant price in those days. Time went on; many persons had to eke out a livelihood by taking work on the roads, or bushfelling for other settlers. Even after the bush was fallen it was many years before there was road access. And yet in the face of all these drawbacks that I have enumerated these hard-working, thrifty men and women subdued the wilderness, and literally carved homes for themselves out of the forest, and occupied the freehold of the land. What was the incentive that buoyed up the spirits of these people? Doubtless the knowledge that they could make the land their own, and for their descendents to

inherit hereafter. The freehold was their goal. They have become, if not wealthy, at least prosperous. If anyone doubts what is here recorded let him take the train to Mauriceville railway station and then journey a few miles by road to Mauriceville West and North, or, as I have called it, Old Mauriceville, and behold for himself. Snug homesteads will be seen dotting the landscape, each with its plot of garden, orchard and plantation, with cattle and sheep grazing on the hill sides. Poverty is not apparent, and the people are well dressed, and the rising generation robust looking and healthy. Two churches, a school post and telephone office, dairy factory and Foresters' Court are among the public institutions of the settlement. The opponent of the freehold will find that the capitalist has not mopped up the land, nor have these small 40-acre sections aggregated into large estates. But little land has changed hands, and holdings, small though they be, are still in the possession of the original owners or their descendents. The Land Purchase officials, under the Lands for Settlement Act, might, with profit, visit this neighbourhood, and they would see that it is quite possible for the right class of men to make a livelihood off land of a character of similar quality to that which they (the officials) have refused to purchase in other parts of the Wairarapa. Give settlers the right to acquire the freehold and it is wonderful what an incentive it is to progress and to make the utmost out of the soil. PP

1st September Mr Nightingale granted leave for examinations by Wellington Education Board PP

18th September That the chairman be authorised to apply to the Board for appointment of a mistress to the Kopuaranga School
That the cutting of the trees on the School House ground be left in the hands of Mr Nightingale

That the Wellington Education Board be written to and urged to roof with iron, on outbuildings attached to the school residence and also their attention to be drawn to the cracked state of the school house chimney.

23rd September At the meeting of the School Committee, it was decided to call the Board's attention to the dilapidated state of the schoolhouse buildings and the damaged state of the chimneys. Quite time, too; there are no shabbier buildings anywhere in the district. WTPP

11th October Dreyerton Mistress 80 pounds (\$12,900 in October 2011 terms) Job advertisement PP

23rd October Letter from Wellington Education Board re the appointment of Miss Hogg as Temporary Teacher to the Kopuaranga school

18th December Meeting Dreyerton School Committee.

Miss Mary Dynan as assistant teacher at the school.

The average Roll being 42.

The School Committee approved the appointment an assistant teacher to Dreyerton School

Thanks to Miss N Hogg for her work as Dreyerton School

That the chairman again writes to the Board and call its attention to the leaky state of the Dreyerton School

That Mr Cottle's offer to plough and harrow (3 strokes) portion of the boys playground for the sum of 30/- be accepted

1906

23rd January The inspectors report was received which disclosed a satisfactory state of school work but condemned the outside offices (*Toilets*) as unsanitary.

That Mr W Barber be instructed to procure material and repair the girl's shelter shed.

That Mr W Barber be instructed to procure material for and to erect a boys urinal on the school ground towards the ditch on the North Western Corner

That the board be written to and asked to provide the school with new window blinds (8) and One new roller

That a group of 7 ladies (named) be appointed to picnic committee and that Mr Bruce be appointed treasurer to the Picnic Fund

13th February Town people are not the only ones who have cause to complain of the depredations of wandering cattle. Three of these paid a visit to the school gardens, and, trampling the beds to pieces, devoured the greatest part of the vegetation above the ground. The solutions of agricultural experiments will have to be looked for in these animals' stomachs, where immoeulated and uninnoculated legumes are in one burial blend with nearly every species of known vegetable. The annual school picnic has been postponed, as a mark of respect to Mr Roderick McKenzie, and in sympathy for his bereavement, as he has been a member of the Committee continuously from the foundation of the school WTPP

26th February A letter was read from the Board at the Committee meeting, that repairs to the Dreyerton School and residence were being kept "steadily in view." If they remain in view much longer there will be no buildings to repair. They will have collapsed WTPP

27th February The friends of Mr Beaglehole, for years school teacher here, were pleased to see that he had passed the M. A. degree examination, with first-class honours in mental science WTPP

19th March The Secretary to write to the Board and ask for a clock to Assistant Mistresses Room

30th March A progress report from Mr Davies, agricultural instructor, was received. This showed that at two of the centres, Masterton and Greytown, preparations for carrying out agricultural instruction , in conjunction with the district high schools are in an advanced stage, and classes should soon be in full swing. The schools already recognised and drawing capitation for classes in agriculture are Mauriceville West, Kaiparoro, Rongokokaho, Makomako, Waione, and Dreyerton WTPP

23rd April Householders meeting included

Moved that the chairman write to the Wellington Education Board and ask that necessary steps to have the district altered from its present name of Dreyerton to Kopuaranga

That the matter appertaining to the Assistant Mistress Mrs Waldy be held over to next meeting for consideration, the committee not being in possession of any information in the matter from the Board

21st May 1906 That new approach from the entrance gate to the Boys shelter shed be planted with a hedge of Escalonia trees and that I Cottle and H Nightingale be authorised to purchase 100 plants and see to the planting of the same.

Arrangements for picnic 30th March (No Year)

- a) Cash subscribed £4-10-9
- b) Provisions subscribed about 40 Dozen
- c) 8 Women on committee

d) Above Committee will meet either in the school or hall at 3. pm Thursday 26th

e) Cup and Saucers 30 from Hall. Children to bring their own. Others to be hired

f) Copper Mr Moje

g) Ropes Mr Bannister

h) £2 to be allocated for prizes

i) £2-10-9 for provisions

j) Mr Bannister to boil the copper

k) The picnic to start at 10.30 a.m.

1st June The request that the name of the Dreyerton School be changed to Kopuaranga was agreed to WTPP

1907

2nd March 1907 **KOPUARANGA NOTES.**

(Special to Daily Times.)

Mrs Waldie , assistant mistress at the **school**, has resigned, relinquishing her position on March 31st. Rev. Miller, of the Presbyterian Church, gave an interesting lecture on foreign missions on Monday evening. The Kopuaranga district is sending away a line lot of fat lambs this season, several hundreds purchased by different buyers leaving this week, this being the second draft since Christmas. Wandering horses are a considerable annoyance to keepers of gardens about here, necessitating, as they do, constant vigilance in seeing that all gates are secured. One of these nuisances was seen doing a morning gallop in front of the early train, and the eyewitnesses, whose gardens had suffered from his depredations, will be excused for the passing wish that the train might win. WTPP

25th May 1907 Empire Day was celebrated at the local school where, despite the unpleasant weather, a fair number of children mustered and were entertained by some excellent selections on a phonograph, manipulated by the Chairman of the Committee (Mr O. O. Jackson). Addresses were also given by the Chairman, Headmaster, and Mr Clarke. The proceedings terminated with the saluting of the flag and the singing of the National Anthem. WTPP

16th September Mr Horton, of Pahiatua, kindly donated twenty stocks of fruit trees to the local school for experimental purposes in grafting and budding WTPP

23rd December A number of parents and others assembled at the school on Thursday, and were entertained by selections on the phonograph, interspersed with songs by the children. Advantage was taken of the occasion to make a present of a silver-mounted purse to Mrs Smith, who is probably severing her connection with the school. The presentation was made by the Chairman, Mr C. O. O. Jackson, who expressed the hope that the school would not suffer from the decreased attendance, due to epidemics, but that they would have their teachers back with them at the beginning of their new school year. WTPP

1908

27th May 1908 The annual school picnic was held on Friday, in Mr McKenzie's paddock, and despite the lateness in the season, a better day could not have been selected. The sun was warm and genial, the ground green and springy, while young and old the spirit of the occasion, to enjoy themselves. Under these circumstances an enjoyable day was the only possible outcome, and it was a satisfied

and well-pleased crowd of youngsters that wended their way home when the shades of evening fell and the nipiness in the air warned them of the danger of staying out too late. Races, games, wrestling, scrambles, and all the time-honoured items of such gatherings were in full swing during the day, and after tea Mr O. O. Jackson, Chairman of the Committee, distributed the prizes won during the past year. The following were the prize-winners:—Proficiency St. V., Ruby Franklin; conduct, Rebecca Cottle; gardening, Henry Rowe; attendance, U-. Franklin 1, F. Franklin 2; industry, Winnie Cottle; proficiency St. 2, Alexa Stewart; Std. 1, Laura Clarke; sewing, W. Hubbard junior, Beatrice Manning. The Chairman also announced that the individual members of "the Committee had promised prizes for competition next year, their value amounting to £3. Cheers for teachers and Committee concluded a pleasant gathering. The young men and women adjourned from the picnic ground to the Public Hall, where dancing was kept up till midnight.

5th June The school boys from Kopuaranga and Rangitumau indulged in a football match on Wednesday, the former winning by 12 points to 3.

4th December The School Committee have provided the school with a new Singer sewing machine from the proceeds of a school concert. WTPP

1909

22nd February KOPUARANGA NOTES.

(Special to Daily Times.)

At the School Committee meeting, the teacher was authorised to issue subscription lists for the annual picnic to be held on March

12th. It was resolved to invite the agricultural instructor to judge the garden plots of the children so as to allot the valuable prizes offered by local residents in encouragement of this branch of school work.

August The annual school concert will be held on Friday, 27th inst. The children have been practising assiduously for some time past, and hope to please their patrons on the eventful night. On Wednesday morning daylight broke on a snow-clad land, and during the day intermittent showers of snow and sleet rendered all surroundings disagreeable in the extreme. WTPP

1910

KOPUARANGA NOTES.

[Special I" Daily Times)

The annual school picnic was held on Saturday, when an enjoyable time was spent by those present, despite some inconvenient showers which drove the picnickers to the shelter of the Public Hall. The afternoon was taken up with the usual games, races and contests, and in the evening the hall was cleared for the wind-up of -every country gathering—a dance, which was kept going till nearly midnight. During the afternoon Mr Donovan, member of the School Committee, distributed the prizes allotted for school work and those won at the Masterton A. and P. Association meeting, when the school secured six firsts, two seconds and one third. The following is the prize list:—First-class attendance certificates, G. Franklin, A. Donaldson, F. Franklin, J. Nightingale, N. Franklin and W. Nightingale. Attendance prize for child over a mile from school, W. Cottle. Gardenia prizes, F. Franklin, H. Rowe, W. Nightingale, M. Cottle, A. Stewart, JP M. Douglas. Recitation prizes, A. Stewart! L. Clarke and J. Nightingale. Conduct, P. Marshall, R. Jackson. Neatness in school work, Y. Marshall, N. Cottle. Sewing. M. Cottle, E. Hibbard. Most

popular child, A. Stewart. The difficulty which the gardens have had to contend with in the matter of water has been surmounted by the erection of a windmill and pump. The land used to be baked with every spell of dry weather, and what a drawback this was to the plant life need not be told. Now the amount of moisture can be regulated with benefit to the gardens. The necessary money was raised by entertainments. WTPP

1911

4th February The public school re opened on Tuesday last, under the teachership of Miss White, who has been appointed relieving teacher pending the appointment of a permanent teacher by the Education Board. WTPP

KOPUARANGA.

VALEDICTORY SOCIAL.

(Special to Duly Times.) Mr Nightingale, who for nine years has presided over the school at Kopuaranga, has recently been appointed to the mastership of the Dalefield School. So good has been the work done and the influence exercised by Mr Nightingale, in and about Kopuaranga that it was at once felt that his leaving the district, should be marked by some tangible proofs of the esteem in which he is held. Accordingly, a committee was formed to arrange an entertainment. This came off last night, and was a complete success. Despite very unpromising weather, people came from far and near to take part in the valedictory reunion. The proceedings opened with a programme of music and dancing, after which refreshments (provided by the ladies) were handed round, and the chairman of the School Committee (Mr O. O. Jackson) reminded the audience of the principal business of the evening, and after paying a high tribute to the character and work of their departing guest, presented Mr Nightingale with a very handsome drawing-room clock, and Mrs Nightingale with a silver cake-dish, each article bearing an inscription. Mr Jackson's

remarks were received with hearty applause. He had had every opportunity of judging of the excellence of Mr Nightingale's work, having been chairman of the Committee for an even longer term than Mr Nightingale had been teacher.

The chairman's remarks were supplemented by Mr McKenzie, also a member of the Committee. He referred especially to the excellence of Mr Nightingale's teaching, and example and practical work in agriculture and gardening, for which the school has won not only high from the inspectors, but prizes at last year's A. and P. Show.

Mr Nightingale, in replying, dwelt upon the happiness of his life in Kopuaranga and sincerely thanked the residents for their many kindnesses to him and their present generous gifts. He thanked them fervently on behalf of his wife and himself. (Loud applause).

The proceedings, which were interspersed with music and dancing, came to an end at midnight, the entire company singing "Auld Lang Syne" with great heartiness. WTPP

1912

23rd March 1912 KOPUARANGA A meeting of the School Committee was held on Monday evening. All members were present. The principal business was the consideration of applications for the position of teacher. In all, twenty-six applications for the position were received, and the committee decided to approve the Board's recommendation for appointment of Mr A. W. Rose, at present head teacher at Pukehinou (*Between Horoeke and Pongaroa*)

28th June DISTRICT NEWS.

(From Our Own Correspondents.)

KOPUARANGA The weather for the last fortnight has been most trying. Last Sunday's snowstorm was perhaps the most severe for the last twenty years; the snow lay in places a foot deep, with an average

of at least four inches. The new time-table is being regarded with anything but favour, and an emphatic protest has been entered on behalf of settlers of this district against the disregard that has consistently been shown to passengers of this district. Through the mail train not stopping at Kopuaranga, either going up or returning, the train service is reduced to one train a day, up and down, between Masterton and Kopuaranga. A passenger coming from Wellington to Kopuaranga by the mid-day train will have to stop in Masterton until the next train goes north, which is at 6 p.m. a six hours wait in Masterton and then, again, a passenger going to Wellington will require to go to Masterton by the 9 a.m. train, and remain there until the 3.30 p.m. train. The extra train service will be of convenience to no one. The announcement that Mr. C. C. Jackson (chairman of our School Committee, and also chairman of the Mauriceville County Council) had consented to contest the vacant seat, on the Education Board in the interest of the Bush district schools and committees, has been received with general satisfaction, and quite a number of committees have either nominated him or signified their intention to support him at the election. The movement to form a Telephone Association for the purpose of establishing a line from Mangamahoe to Masterton, via Rangitumau, is being steadily proceeded with. Mr P. W. H. Kummer is the chairman of the Association, and Mr C. C. Jackson the secretary. A meeting is to be held on Wednesday next, when the estimates for the cost of the line will be gone into. Thirty settlers have signified their intention to join the Association. Mr H. D. McKenzie is making excellent progress with his big bridge across the Kopuaranga River. The bad weather and the flooded state of the river have retarded work somewhat WTPP

11th November 1912 BOARD OF EDUCATION.

MR C. C. JACKSON A CANDIDATE

Mr C. C. Jackson, of Kopuaranga, has definitely decided to contest the vacant seat on the Education Board, caused by the resignation of Mr Vile. Mr Jackson contested the seat with Mr W. Buchanan, M.P., last July, and although polling well for a "starter," he was defeated. Mr Jackson has been a member of the Kopuaranga School Committee for 15 years, and has been its chairman for the past twelve years. He has also been a member of the Mauriceville County Council for 14 years, and has on five occasions occupied the chair, he is at present the County chairman. Recently Mr Jackson was appointed a Justice of the Peace by the present Government.

Mr Jackson has always taken a keen interest in all local matters, and especially has he devoted much time to education. He took an active part in the formation of the Wairarapa School Committees Association some years ago (now defunct) It is understood that he favours the establishment of a High School in Masterton, with an agricultural tendency.

Mr Jackson has spent more than twenty years in the back districts, and is thoroughly conversant with the requirements of country schools, and School Committees. WTPP

21st November. For the past fortnight whilst the headteacher was attending the annual examinations in Wellington, the school was conducted by Mrs C. C. Jackson. The Education Board were unable to find a relieving teacher. WTPP

1913

13th May 1913 Mr D. Forsyth, head teacher at Kaitawa (Forty- Mile Bush) has been appointed head teacher at Kopuaranga WTPP

5th June The local school re-opens on Wednesday, after a week's vacation. The schoolmaster (Mr P. M. Jackson) has been away in Canterbury for a fortnight. WTPP

20th December 1913 KOPUARANGA SCHOOL

The "breaking-up" function in connection with the Kopuaranga School, which was held in the Kopuaranga Hall last night, was a very successful gathering. The prizes won for the year were presented by Mr C. C. Jackson. Music was provided by Miss Wrigley, of Rangitumau, and a dainty supper, was provided by the parents. Complimentary reference was made to the good work done by the teacher, Mr P. M. Jackson, who had worked very hard for the children's improvement during the year. Following is the prize list: — Dux of the School: Thelma Donovan. Certificates of Proficiency: Thelma Donovan, Nora Franklin, Sarah McPeak. First-class Certificates for Attendance.—Nora Franklin, Margaret Todd, and Lyle Donovan. Good Conduct (elected by the pupils) —Margaret Todd. Best-liked Girl: Sarah McPeak (elected by the boys). Best-liked Boy: Raymond Hibbard (elected by the girls). Cleanliness (elected by the pupils): —Margaret Todd. Standard VI. —Thelma Donovan, first in class, first for composition, first for recitation and reading, and first for arithmetic. Nora Franklin, first for geography, and first for sewing. Sarah McPeak, first for spelling and first for reading. Ethel Hibbard, first for sewing, first for writing.

Standard V—Charles McPeak, first for class, first for composition, first for geography, Ainsworth Donovan, first for reading, first for writing, and first for gardening. Albert Eagle, for gardening. Willy Cottle, for gardening.

Standard IV.—Robina Ellerby, first in Standard IV, first in composition, first in arithmetic, first in spelling. Olive Cottle, first in

sewing. Tyndall Jackson, first in sewing, first in geography. K. McKenzie, first in drawing. Arthur' Eagle, .for gardening.

Standard 111. —Roma Jackson, first in class, first for sewing.

Standard II. —Lyle Donovan, first in class. Allan McKenzie, first for arithmetic. Agnes Donovan, first for spelling. Victor Hibbard, for writing. Margaret Todd, first for drawing, first for writing, first for brushwork, first for plasticene.

Standard I.—Ernest Eagle;- Eunice Lett, sewing.

1914

11th May The election of a School Committee fell through for the want of sufficient householders attending, only three being present. It is a subject for regret that the education, of the children should occupy so small a place in the parents' attention that only three parents deemed it necessary to see to and attend the requirements of the school for the ensuing year. The sooner the schools are handed over to a committee of ladies the better for the education of the rising generation. It will be necessary to make another attempt to elect a Committee at a future date.

2nd July Eighteen settlers from the West Mauriceville, Mangamahoe, Kopuaranga and Rangitumau districts, are joining the Masterton-Mangamahoe Telephone Association, and will soon be connected up with the Masterton exchange. The membership of the Association will then number 42 WTPP

25th September The Education .Board has decided to sell the old school residence, if a purchaser can be found. The School Committee will meet on Monday evening. WTPP

1915

12th February. The school committee met on Friday night. The committee approved the appointment of Miss F. Isles as assistant infant mistress. Miss Isles takes up her new duties on March 1st. In the meantime Miss I. McKenzie is acting as relieving teacher. It was decided to hold the annual school picnic on Friday, February 26th. The surplus from the funds (if any) are being donated to the Belgian Relief Fund. Mr R. D. McKenzie has presented a fat lamb for a guessing competition for the school children. Subscriptions are coming in very freely to the fund. The Masterton County has just finished repairing the main road from its northern boundary, near Mauriceville, to Kopuaranga , a work the road was badly in need of. The metal used was fine limestone sand from the lime quarries at Mauriceville. The Kopuaranga portion of the metal was sent down by rail.

Pollard poisoning for the destruction of rabbits is being carried out on some of the farms with marked success. WTPP

1917

PATRIOTIC SHOP.

RESULTS OF COMPETITIONS

The Patriotic Shop to-day is being conducted by the ladies of Kopuaranga, Rangitumau, Mauriceville and Mangamahoe. The following prizes have been awarded in connection with the district school competitions: — Hastwell School for the best camisole, Hazel Seymour. Kopuaranga School , best Balaclava, Elsie McKenzie 1, Allen McKenzie 2, Lyle Donovan 3. Best child's frock, Bessie Ross and Rona Jackson. Best collection of plants, Ivan Jackson 1, Allen McKenzie 2. Rangitumau School, French apron, Olive Wilton 1, Leila Kjestrup 2. WTPP

1920

26th February Very wet day roll 15

16th March Temperature of 82° F (26.66 C)

8th April. 8 Present 21 ½ Inches of rain in 18 hours (*49 centimetres*)

28th April Owing to the railway strike I was unable to get to school
The weather being strongly cold and wet.

7th June. Admitted Doctor Greenland from Lansdowne School
(*Doctor is a Christian Name*)

11th June. Received brown paper, drawing books and pastels and raffia and cane

18th June. The steps in the school room have been removed and the porch roof mended.

29th and 30th June School closed teacher ill

28th July School closed for a week Teacher suffering from influenza.
Doctor Greenland has left school by the (*Real*) Doctors Orders

30th July All the McKenzie children are absent, their brother Quinton died this morning

14th October. Admitted Hyman Paku Roll number now 24

27th October. An aeroplane passed over the school today flying due South

29th October Mr Burns, school inspector, paid a surprise visit at the school and held the annual examination

8th November Maisie Wright obtained her proficiency aged 12

15th November Snow fell today and yesterday

23rd November Jack O'Connor sent home as his younger brother is thought to have measles

3rd December. Lord and Lady Jellicoe visited Masterton yesterday.
No holiday granted as the children did not wish to go to Masterton.

1921

1st February Roll number 24.

7th February George, Ken and Kathleen Sullivan are absent with measles

Walter Rimene is in Masterton Hospital

Result of Inspection Report 1920 Included

a) Teacher Miss Mary Power

b) Roll 23.

c) The workbook shows very little correlation and the programme in Geography has not been satisfactory.

d) A good course has been taken in health

e) Geography and History. Pupils were not responsive

This examination was taken without notice.

25th February Children absent with gastric influenza

14th March Many children still away with headaches

1st April New Temporary Teacher A H Abraham

Painters working in school

18th April Painters finished painting school.

2nd April A D McKinlay Opened school as relieving teacher.

2nd – 4th April Spent these days in organising school and getting cupboards etc into order

5th August Began schoolwork this morning.

8th August This afternoon told the children not to come again till instructed. Cannot continue relieving owing to ill health

12th August C O Whittington took charge. I found the outbuildings very untidy and the grounds disorderly The school room in good order, but the porch was not quite in order.

Boys 11 Girls 7 Total 19 Roll 2

August 16th August Took mainly revision work but attempted new work with all classes

19th August Received notice that I had been appointed to this school.

10th October. Received correspondence from Senior Inspector on alcohol.

31st October Received from Board circular re inculcation of loyalty.

4th November. Commenced ceremony of saluting the flag. This will be continued. The ceremony to take place at the end of the school week.

11th November Armistice Day observed 2 Minutes silence and saluted the flag.

6th December Received a communication re payment of railway fares for candidates who were attending centres.

1922

9th February Sent in resignation as Sole Teacher to board and chairman

27th February received notification from Board re reduction in salaries.

2nd March Catherine Gibson began work as relieving teacher

17th March. Received from Wellington Education Board re oath of allegiance with form to be filled in connection therewith

The teacher noticed a sore like ring worm on Earl Boustead's leg told him to remain away from school until it was healed

28th March Received for distribution from department of health circulars re school lunch

29th March. Miss Buckley school nurse visited today and made an inspection dental and of hearing.

20th April Mr Cumming visited the school and gave an interesting talk on the irrigation of soil

28th April Catherine Wilson left as relieving teacher.

1st May Miss A. O'Leary starts. Arrived at Kopuaranga at midday School work considerably below standard required and behaviour standard not what it might be

5th May. Attendance is very good but there are a number of habitual late comers attending the school.

12th May. School closed for first term holiday. Average attendance has been 25.6.

11th August Inspectors report included

- a) Roll 27
- b) Order, discipline and tone very good
- c) The school was not in good condition when Miss O'Leary took charge but there is evidence of good quality instruction.
- d) The gate of the horse paddock should be repaired
- e) The outside offices were in a dirty state
- f) Supervision during lunch hour is imperative
- g) Note must be made of the fact that an unusual number of pupils are distinctly below average intelligence
- h) Special methods are therefore necessary to meet these cases E.G. use of sticks or beads for concrete number work instead of the ball frame. Thorough drill in phonics and the correlation of handwork with other subjects where possible.
- i) The pupils are being well trained to work industriously with due attention to neatness.
- j) Reading throughout is lacking in expression
- k) Essays satisfactory in matter but weak in punctuation.

- l) Text books should not be relied on so much in history and geography.
- m) Nature study and singing in abeyance
- n) The primer classes are weak.

A N Burns

2nd November School closed yesterday. Teacher indisposed.

12th December My duties at this school terminate today

1923

5th February. Commenced duties as relieving teacher today
(Presumably, Miss Maloney)

12th March to 16th March. Teacher Ill. Acting under Doctor's orders, not allowed out.

30th April 5 Householdors present at Biennial Meeting all elected to the School Committee

At meeting following. That the grass in the playground be cut.

1st May. Miss Eveleynn R Aitchison. Commenced duties at noon today. Miss Maloney kept the school open until I arrived by the Wellington train.

10th May. Severe weather, school and road surrounded by flood, unable to enter school.

Mr F C Brockett Agriculture adviser. Report included

- a) Indoor work should be practical and experimental rather than lectures
- b) School gardens have been neglected for years and there is room for plenty of improvement here.
- c) For a beginning a flower garden might be made and grounds trimmed up generally

d) Hedges somewhat dilapidated and blanks could be filled in by putting in cuttings

e) The first thing is a general brightening up of the surroundings
27th June. Received a letter from Inspector Bakewell with reference to the sitting of the teacher's appeal Board. My case to be heard on Friday 28th

28th June. Absent at appeal Board

6th August Influenza very prevalent five of the McKenzie family are absent. All of the O'Connor's today, attendance 11

10th August Attendance still seriously effected by influenza epidemic. Average attendance 10. Only 1 child present out of Standards 4, 5, and 6

13th August The three Maori children are absent owing to the death of a Maori girl who had pneumonic influenza

15th August Inspectors report included

- a) Roll 23
- b) The school is well ventilated, cleaned and warmed.
- c) Control Good
- d) A considerable improvement in the general tone of the school has been effected.
- e) Reading Enunciation is faulty and the reading lacks expression
- f) Composition free expression of thought, written work shows considerable improvement
- g) Nature Study commended.

17th September. Commenced work on vegetable gardens. Mr G N Clarke has been assisting the boys in measuring out the plots.

18th September Vegetable seeds sown

21st September That the chairman take out an insurance policy on the property of the School Committee at the school.

That 50/- be spent in putting the gardens in order and for seed to sow the ground

24th September Having received no notice that today was Dominion Day holiday the children came to school and we decided to observe the day the following Monday

3rd October. Received word from Mr Wilton, Wellington Education Board, that all public holidays not observed on the correct day were to be forfeited.

16th October received supply of supplementary readers for junior division. Six copies of Little Folks in Far Off Lands” and Three copies of Little Pigs.

17th October. Weather very stormy 15 children present.

23rd October Received a supply of flower and vegetable seeds for the garden. Singer sewing machine representatives called and put the school sewing machine in order.

29th October At 10.15 Mr McKenzie took Standard 6 to Mauriceville. For examination. Doctor Greenland gained his proficiency and Ian McKenzie endorsed competency.

November. Doctor Greenland left school to go to work. And Ian McKenzie to attend Masterton High School.

12th November School tanks dry, also the well down at the garden

15th November A letter from Wellington Education Board was read re insurance. That the State Fire Office insure the School Committee’s property.

18th December The Secretary read a letter about installation of electric lights in the school.

That the blackberry and other weeds be cut in the Horse Paddock

After some discussion it was decided to have the tank at the windmill and windmill put into repair and a new wash basin be put in the porch.

1924

20th February Closed school for Masterton A and P show. 12/21 children attended the show

26th February A circular about first aid outfit was read and laid on the table.

That the well be cleaned.

That the school picnic be held in Mr Cottle’s paddock

7th March School picnic held in Cottle’s paddock

21st March. Received notice of proposed excursion to Wellington to see imperial squadron. (the world cruise of H.M. Ships "Hood," "Repulse", "Delhi", "Dana", "Dragon" and "Dauntless" and H.M.A.S. ship "Adelaide" November 1923 to September 1924)

17th April Owing to Railway Strike teacher unable to get back to Masterton until Thursday April 24th

2nd May Arrangements were made to get the children into Masterton for the excursion train on Saturday May 3rd.

3rd May Mr R D McKenzie motored ten pupils to Masterton to catch the 8.30 a m excursion train leaving for Wellington. We arrived at 1 pm and spent two hours on board the “Hood” As several pupils had not seen the sea before all visited the wharves and later took a tram ride to Lyall Bay to see the breakers. All reached home safely about 10 pm.

7th May. Joe Wright was thrown from his horse this morning and broke his ankle

8th May Inspectors report.

- a) A fine supply of teaching aids was secured by Miss Aitchison during her travels abroad. These aids should prove invaluable for educational purposes
- b) The timetable should be analysed and the entries in the work book should be made in advance

2nd June. Mt McKenzie bought up the subject of the teacher being present at the school during lunch hours. Mr McKenzie was instructed to write to the teacher re the matter

7th July That the teacher be granted a day off to attend the wedding of her friend

4th August Norma Warner (*Enrolled 23rd June 1924. Mrs Warner her mother was teacher at Rangitumau. Previously enrolled at Opaki School last day of attendance was on enrolment day. So after first day enrolled she didn't come back See Bideford School for detailed information re the Warner family*) Has a lame horse and has not attended school since June 23rd. She lives 6 miles away.

Measles have made their appearance in the district

15th August Removed from register Rhona and Valda Jackson who are to be taught at home. Roll 23

29th August. Three Maori children absent with Measles

29th September That the Wellington Education Board be asked to repair the outside offices.

Mr Clarke asked that the windmill in the boys gardens be put in repair in view of the approaching summer weather

That Mr B Knight be asked to put in a price for burying the night soil, and scrubbing the WC's

12th November Concert held in Kopuaranga hall to raise money for winter playground

Inspectors report included

Confidential to teacher.

The teacher uses modern methods and has an intelligent grasp of the underlying principals.

The children however are not as responsive, alert, and industrious as they should be. In consequence they do not profit as much as they might by the instruction

A vigorous effort should be made to raise the standard of work. Doubtless the home circumstances of some of the pupils add to the teacher's difficulties

N R McKenzie

5th December. School closed, children taken by motor cars to Masterton to take part in the Public Schools Sports in the Park Oval.

8th December. Kopuaranga School made the highest score in points of all country schools. Robert McKenzie won the pole vault at 7 foot 1 inch.

17th December. That school sweepers account of £3-1-6 be paid Mr Wright reported he would do the work (Night Soil) for 15/- per month and to be done twice a month.

18th December. Christmas tree and Father Christmas party held in Kopuaranga Hall. The weather was very stormy but 54 people gathered to enjoy the evening.

1925

11th February School closed on account of infantile paralysis

March. Still closed work set for children to do at home. Excellent work sent in by Norman Moje and the McKenzie children

27th March Moved that the school be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.

Mr Clarke moved that the chairman get the tank which serves the wash basins attended to at once.

Moved that 6 cords of the school firewood be sold

15th April School reopened. 19 children present

11th May. Death of Prime Minister. William Massey. School Closed.
–Flag half mast

14th School closed for PM's Funeral

7th May. Inspector Burns made a surprise visit

1st June That the committee protest against the 10% reduction on capitation grants and point out to the board that being a country school they would not be called upon to pay sanitary or water rates on behalf of this school.

Further capitation amounting to £ 5-12-9 was received

1st July Sent in resignation to Wellington Education Board.

6th July Miss Aitchison's resignation was accepted

Moved that 3 pans be secured for the outside offices

That the chairman procure a man to grub the wattle on the school grounds

The chairman agreed to get the window (pains) put in

7th August. Mr Brockett visited the school and left a supply of potatoes for seeds.

31st August Eveleynn R Aitchison finished work at the school

1st September. Commenced duties as relieving teacher this morning E J Kelly.

7th September That the School Committee appreciated receiving a report from Miss Kelly

4th September. The committee have had several loads of sand put down in front of the school

The Wellington Education Board carpenter is at work upon a new outhouse in the boy's playground.

Have tacked up 16 English and Arithmetic Charts. Object to aid the mind through the eye and as idleness devises

16th October Potatoes planted today. Experiments!. To note the difference in results from plants

1. placed two and one feet apart respectively.
2. Whole seed and cut seed
3. Unsprouted and sprouted seed
4. Dry and wet cut seed

19th October. On Saturday night the Upper Division played a Ping Pong (*Table Tennis*) match against the Local Winter Sports Club (Junior Division) They played 15 games out of which the school won 10 matches

23rd October That the teacher's offer with the Senior Scholars to clean and mop the school once a week for £2-10-0 per quarter be accepted

Ways and means for Bran Tub and picnic were discussed.

That the chairman interview the teacher with holding a breaking up social evening.

That the school be given a holiday on Carterton Show Day.

That wives of the committee be a committee to organise a shop day in Masterton for the purpose of raising money for the purchase of a piano and winter playing grounds for Kopuaranga School.

That Mrs Donald be asked to convene a meeting. The chairman to write to her requesting same.

28th October. Telegram from Inspector Burns notifying his inspection visit tomorrow. The committee have granted a holiday for the show (Carterton) but I have arranged for the children to forgo a holiday.

29th October Later Mr Burns arrived at school The examination was postponed till tomorrow

Notice from inspector Irwin for inspection visit on Friday 30th October

30th October The school secured three prizes at the Carterton Show. Laurie McKenzie 2nd prize for writing. Norman Moje Third prize for writing. Valda Jackson First Prize for scones.

Inspector Irwin examined the school today 23 present

14th November A letter received from the teacher re her permanent appointment and asking the School Committee to write to the Board before Tuesday.

That the board be asked to retain Miss Kelly.

That the School Committee protest against the new railway timetable. Which makes it most inconvenient for children from the country attending the Masterton Line and Wairarapa High School

16th November Last row of potatoes planted October 16th. This is the unsprouted whole seed. Experiment shows sprouted seed comes up first and cut seed comes up before whole seed.

20th November. A new thistle named. Carline thistle found in the school grounds

23rd November News cabled through of death of the Queen Mother Alexandra, which took place last Friday November 20th November. Flag flown at half mast as an expression of sympathy and loyalty

11th December Report from Miss Kelly stating she had written to the Inspector General re her permanent appointment

Also re the breaking up entertainment in the Kopuaranga hall on the evening of 18th inst.

Wellington Education Board wrote re Miss Kelly's appointment which they refused on account of age limit

21st December Letter from Wellington Education Board re appointment of Mr M M Hughes who has had 19 years service under Wellington Education Board. 7¾ years in present position. There were 29 applicants. Extending over many districts

Proposed that the School Committee write to Wellington Education Board stressing the advisability of retaining Miss Kelly for teacher at Kopuaranga School. This being the wish of the Committee and Parents.

That a letter be written to the district engineer of railways to the dangerous state of the well on the railway reserve at the Kopuaranga Railway Station.

18th December Average roll for quarter 22.39. Roll 23.4

Breaking up took the form of the social evening at the local hall. Children's programme of songs and recitations much approved by parents. Prizes were distributed. Children each drew a toy from Bran Tubs E. J Kelly

1926

22nd February Special General Meeting.

Letters were read from the Wellington Education Board re appointing Miss Kelly to the end of March.

Also notifying that Miss M M Hughes would not now be appointed as the school has gone down a grade

That the chairman write to Wellington Education Board pointing out the advisability of retaining Miss Kelly's services until the end of the present year owing principally so that several pupils now in Standard 6 who would suffer in their work to qualify for proficiency certificate with a view to higher education. Also to all scholars

Mr Avery brought up about the school well being left open. The committee agreed to inspect same.

1st March

- a) School picnic be held in Mr McKenzie's paddock
- b) Children to be in the grounds at 10.30 am
- c) Prizes to be paid out in cash
- d) That the provisions for the picnic be bought
- e) The chairman agreed to procure provisions

4th March School closed, teacher sick

5th March. School closed Annual School Picnic held in Mr McKenzie's paddock

8th March Received word from the "Buy in Masterton" Secretary that Valda Jackson had won 2nd prize in the Masterton Show essay competition. The Standard work in composition has benefited by the spur this competition has been to the pupils' efforts

15th March. Inspector Burns visited on a surprise visit.

Report included

- a) Miss Kelly (relieving Teacher) Roll 20 Present 19
- b) Work books and records in order
- c) Schemes as compiled by last permanent teacher in need of revision.
- d) The method of requiring pupils to give an oral account of what they have read silently is good.

e) They might also be required to write answers to questions on the subject.

f) Classification: Miss Kelly is doing good work and has been able to promote pupils who were previously very backward. Of the five pupils in Standard 6, three have been promoted from Standard 4 and one has been promoted from Standard 2 to Standard 4

g) Speech training will need attention as enunciation is poor and vowel sounds are not pure

h) Nature note books show the results of last year's potato experiment. As a rule the notes should be made by the pupils themselves

i) The results of Ballard's Reading Test were disappointing. One Standard 6 girl reached well over the normal and a boy topped the normal but all others were well below.

j) Control very good Children very industrious and good mannered

k) School room very clean

31st March. Obtained permission from chairman to close school at 11.30 am on 1st April to enable me catch the Auckland Express

23rd April. In accordance with instructions received from the Wellington Education Board today's programme was arranged to commemorate the Siege of Gallipoli and the Brave ANZACS who fell there. Mr McKenzie chairman of the School Committee in a short address made suitable references to the subject and impressed on the children their need to consider the example of their brave countrymen. The children sung the National Anthem and the National anthem. Throughout the day the flag was flown at half mast.

3rd May Commenced duties this morning J D Cunningham

11th May Received barometer tube and mercury from Wellington Education Board this morning

3rd May The chairman reported a credit of £23-1-11d for the year ending February

That the Wellington Education Board be asked to subsidise the above sum to purchase a piano

That a letter be sent to Miss Kelly thanking her for her services while in charge of Kopuaranga School

3rd May Householders meeting, 4 present

That the question of Black Boards be left in the chairman's hands
Miss Cunningham

- a) reported that some improvements were required as far as varnishing the school floor
- b) That a pipe from the school basin was blocked
- c) That the fences need looking to
- d) That better attention should be given to outhouses
- e) The chairman agreed to talk to the caretaker on this matter
- f) Also to Hurry Campbell re the boundary fence.

5th July Miss Cunningham reported

- a) The outhouses were not being attended to as they should
- b) She had a decided objection to washing out the school
- c) Requested that School Committee should procure some cardboard money
- d) And a bottle of machine oil
- e) And some blotting paper
- f) The clock was losing about 10 minutes per day.

That a fire screen be secured

That the items in Miss Cunningham's report be secured

The chairman was empowered to increase the salary of the caretaker provided they can make better arrangements and get better work done
2nd August That Mr C Wright's offer of £10.00 per year be accepted for cleaning and sanitary work

The chairman to notify Mr Wright that the outhouses be whitewashed once every three months. And the school be scrubbed every three months in a workmanlike manner . Also the sanitary work

School concert and dance left in abeyance to see Miss Cunningham whom we did not see.

7th September. School closed for 1 week and 2 weeks holiday.
Teacher ill with measles

29th October. Inspectors report included

- a) The standard of work in general is low.
- b) In some subjects the work being very weak
- c) Miss Cunningham has been in charge for only a part of the year and is fully aware of the deficiencies and is doing her best to effect improvement

14th September The Secretary was instructed to Write to Godfrey Powell again asking him to overhall (sic) the inside of school as per his letter of 14th June.

That inquiries be made by the chairman and Mr Avery with regard to fixing up the windmill.

The chairman was instructed to interview Mr Wright re the outhouses and cleaning

1st November Clarence Kjestrup be asked to attend to the outside offices and scrubbing the school each term if possible, and Mrs Donald if possible.

Agreed to see Mr James Clarke re the matter

8th December. Took part in Masterton sports. Beauty Brown won Junior Girl's Championships

16th December Clarence Kjestrup who agreed to attend to outside offices from November 1st 1926 for £10.0.0 per year. And the school to be cleaned out and scrubbed thoroughly every 3 months at £3.0.0 per year

Miss Cunningham's request for improvement to the desks in the Kopuaranga School was received . That a new table be asked for and some chairs.

1927

10th February Correspondence from Wellington Education Board on getting children to Masterton on the occasion of the Duke and Duchesses of York's visit on the 5th March

A letter re the inspectors report of the school of the 26th October was received from the Wellington Education Board pointing out that Miss Cunningham was in no way to blame for this. *That is the state of the quality of teaching*)

That the Secretary write to the Board pointing out that a house would be available in the near future in the event of a married teacher being appointed

The grubbing of the dry grass and gorse in the school grounds was left to the chairman to procure labour etc

5th March. 7 children taken to Masterton to attend reception for Duke and Duchess of York

7th and 8th March School closed in honour of visit of Duke and Duchess of York George 6th and Queen Mother later

4th April Correspondence from the Wellington Education Board re school accounts. Also appointment of a committee re the school picnic and funds, Requesting these to be kept separate from the ordinary school accounts

The question of getting a man to top the trees was left in the hands of Mr Avery.

A letter was received from Mr Welch of the Mt Bruce School (*The Mikimiki School was commonly referred to as the Mt Bruce School*) Committee with a request to call a conference of country schools . Moved that schools meet with the dental committee to be held in Masterton

The desks of Kopuaranga School are of a very old pattern quite unsuitable for present day use. The chairman agreed to write to the Board again.

4th July Correspondence from the Secretary of Wellington Education Board re hedge and fences and damage to mangolds in the school gardens

A letter was received from Miss Cunningham re the purchase of school books. That up to £5.0.0 for this purpose be spent

The church managers given permission to fell a tree into the school ground

4th July that the Secretary write to the Secretary Wellington Education Board re a subsidy for laying down winter playing grounds of asphaltting at an approximate cost of £80-0-0 (*\$7256 in July 2011 terms*)

14th July Excepted half day 12 present. School grounds flooded
22nd July. Mr Brockett visited school and gave lesson on pruning rose bushes

26th August School and local concert held in aid of funds for winter playground

7th December School children taken to industrial exhibition in Masterton

13th December The teacher wrote re removing a tree also enclosing inspectors report and the committee agreed to congratulate the teacher on the report.

Correspondence from Wellington Education Board re the winter playgrounds setting out the procedures and bylaws and act re the same.

Moved that tenders be called for laying down a patch of asphaltting for the school.

1928

1st February Resumed school. Winter playground (*Asphalt*) almost finished

11th February Mr Donald handed in a statement re the efforts on behalf of the people of Kopuaranga to assist the winter playing grounds at the Kopuaranga School which was very satisfactory. Showing receipts totalling £57-7-4 Also giving a cheque for £ 50-0-0 or promissory. Same from the Treasurer E M Donald

1st March Correspondence from Wellington Education Board re the tennis court. That a plan of the school grounds be procured and sent to the board

To trim up the trees and lay down a sand pit if time was available.

29th March. Letter from Wellington Education Board re return of £50-0-0 sent down in connection with the playing grounds.

8th March. Men from school held working bee in school grounds

12th March. Seven men from district working on netting- wire around tennis court

5th April 8 men from district put netting wire around winter playground

23rd April That the teacher Miss Cunningham be the convenor of the ladies committee to arrange afternoon tea at the opening of the winter playing grounds

4th June Letter from Wellington Education Board granting the sum of £15 which was promised in due course.

13th July A letter received from Wellington Education Board re final grant of £35.00 for the winter playing grounds.

Also from Miss Cunningham re some rings for basketball (*Netball*)

Also chalk and ink

That Mr Jarrett and Cottle interview the teacher re size of basketball rings.

That the Secretary write to Chas Begg and Co re prices of pianos

1st October Vernon Kenny admitted. Roll number 31

25th October Correspondence from Wellington Education Board re prevention of fires in schools was left on the teachers desk.

Letter from the teacher following the inspectors suggestion that the teacher ask the committee to provide historical and Geography and other books for the school.

That the teacher be written to telling her that until we have a thorough understanding of how the tennis court funds are to be spent.

The matter was held up.

That a tennis net and 4 racquets be secured for the school children.

That securing a piano for the school be left in abeyance.

That the teacher will assist in raising funds with the assistance from others

30th October. Secretary of Navy League visited school

1st November Floods in district. Vegetable garden under water

12th November Inspector's report included.

- a) The asphalt court is a great improvement to the grounds. Great credit is due to all those concerned in raising money for the improvement of the grounds
- b) The children are working well and are making very satisfactory progress

16th November. School closed. Election Day (Friday)

17th December. School closed several children took part in Wairarapa school sports

18th December. School Children taken to Wellington in order to visit wharf, zoo, museum, beach and parliament buildings.

1929

2nd February Letter from Miss Cunningham re picnic and suggesting that the School Committee favourably consider her when tendering for catering for the school picnics and suggesting she would get some of the young ladies in the district to assist with the cooking. It was decided to hold the picnic on Friday Next. The chairman was asked to arrange for food for the picnic. Miss Cunningham be asked to purchase the prizes.

9th April That a report be asked from the teacher re the complaint of Mrs C C Jackson inquiring why the parents and others interested were not invited to Xmas tree function

22nd April Householders Meeting

- a) Mr A Donald congratulated on being elected to Wellington Education Board
- b) Miss Cunningham wrote a letter re Xmas function "After a desultory discussion the matter closed"
- c) Mr R McKenzie resigned after 20 years service
- d) The winter playing ground was opened on 5th May 1928
- e) A dance was held in aid of the piano fund which now stands at £2-1-6
- f) Miss Cunningham tendered for picnic catering, any money saved going to funds to take children to Wellington. School Committee didn't want an excursion to Wellington but going into Masterton would be all right

21st May The tennis club was told to procure a box for the tennis net and leave it in the porch.

24th April New Flagpole erected

10th May School Holidays commenced one week later, I visited schools in Wellington

2nd July Children's mangold crops visited by Mr Brockett and Mr Freeman

8th July Reported unsatisfactory cleaning of lavatories. Chairman to see A McKenzie

A committee to arrange for a euchre party to be held in the schoolroom. Mrs Millar and the teacher Miss Cunningham were appointed to organise

It was left with the Secretary to procure a key for the school if not to obtain a Yale lock

29th July Teacher absent 24th 25th 26th owing to influenza

2nd August S000000000000000000000000ix excepted half days during week- influenza

9th August Eight excepted days Ditto

23rd August 6 excepted Ditto

23rd August. Visit by drill inspector

Work very good. Children were quick to learn and showed a keen interest in the work.

The posture of the children however needs careful attention. The teacher is stressing this side of the work, it is not advisable to give deep breathing exercises indoors.

11th September. Mr Brockett came and gave a lesson on digging in of Lupins and planting of seeds

14th October. Mr McKenzie desired to be relieved of his duties at the end of the year.

Christmas Function: That the teacher be advised to hold the Christmas function as usual to give every child the opportunity of participating and the committee will endeavour to arrange that the older children will be taken to the seaside during the summer season.

Teacher reported basin's leaking.

New towels being required the teacher was authorised to procure

That the Wellington Education Board be asked for a clock for the school

The cleaning of the windows is to be included in the next contract for school cleaning.

2nd November The Secretary was instructed to prepare subscription lists for the school picnic and Christmas Tree combined to be handed to the teacher for distribution and one placed in the store

The Secretary was instructed to see Mrs Armstrong re cleaning sanitation, gutters, windows and to offer £15 per annum for the work to be done by her children. Mrs Armstrong to supervise the work at least once a week.

Mr Moje promised to attend to the hinges of gate.

4th November Inspectors report included.

- a) Teacher Miss Cunningham
- b) Roll 28 Present 28
- c) The school is capably organised and managed
- d) The general quality of the work is very fair
- e) The range being from very Good in arithmetic and pencil drawing to fair in reading
- f) Buildings are in very fair condition
- g) Broken window panes need replacement

20th December Break up party. Each child received a gift from Christmas tree

1930

14th February The catering for picnic and procuring of prizes were left in the hands of Mr Donald and Miss Cunningham.

Arrangement of races was left to Miss Cunningham and chairman Messers Evans and Moje volunteered to transport necessary forms and crockery and hot water utensils to the grounds (Mr Miller's paddock).

28th February School picnic held in Mr Millar's paddock Each child received a prize

25th April Anzac service held in school. Service taken by Mr Garvie a returned soldier.

28th April Householders Biennial meeting. Annual report included

- a) Roll 29 Average 26
- b) Anzac Day last year Miss Cunningham spoke. The children were marshalled in due form and the flag saluted.

- c) A similar service was arranged this year with Mr Garvie speaking.
- d) General account has a credit of £4-16-2. Special Account £ 2-19-10
- e) Revenue has been short this year though no demands have made upon parents.
- f) The incidental expenses has been reduced by the Wellington Education Board by £1/-/-
- g) The cleaning and sanitary work of all schools especially country ones is always a problem. But the arrangement with Mrs Armstrong is being done most satisfactorily
- h) The committee is further going to develop the grounds in front of the school. The large pine tree in front has been cut down.
- i) If funds were available much could be done to make the school grounds more attractive. and incidentally cultivate in the children the athletic sense and lore of the beautiful which every child should have grounded in him
- j) There seems no reason why the children attending the country schools should not have the same conditions and environment as those attending the town schools
- k) The usual Christmas Tree function and picnic were held as usual .The Committee desire to thank Miss Cunningham for her painstaking efforts to make both a success.

E J Wright. Chairman

At the meeting of the householders a number of issues arose

- a) That all the members of the old committee be elected
- b) Then 3 other names were nominated
- c) 2 Scrutineers were appointed

- d) Then discussion was held who was eligible to vote if two from a household were present
- e) The chairman ruled the Senior Member only of the household could vote
- f) The Secretary challenged the ruling and stated he would get a ruling from a higher authority.
- g) Then a vote was taken Mr Miller got 19 votes .8 Candidates. Lowest no of votes was 9.

Then This meeting thanked Miss Cunningham the teacher for her conduct of the school and interest taken in the children. Carried with acclamation.

It was reported that several windows had been broken. Mr Moje to attend to.

3rd May. Broken window panes replaced. New sink put in place of two old wash basins in the porch

28th May. Committee have employed a man to dig area in front of tennis court preparatory to laying out school

30th May A letter from Wellington Education Board was received re householders meeting voting. Would be attended to at next householders meeting.

The Secretary reported the engagement of Mr M? McDougall a returned soldier through the patriotic Association to Trench Grounds That the fence be erected from end of asphalt to back of section for the purpose of segregating the boys and girls playground

19th June. Armstrong family left district, Mrs Kenny appointed caretaker of the school

4th July. Sent specimen of native plants to Wellington Winter Show

14th July It was resolved to hold card evenings at various homes and also the school. Mesdames Jackson, Wright and Donald were present to arrange functions on behalf of the school.

It was also decided to hold a concert. The Secretary promised to secure the necessary artists from Masterton.

It was decided to ask the teacher to organise an item to be given by the children.

22nd July. Euchre party held in hall to raise school funds

22nd August. Final match (*Presumably football, that is rugby not soccer*) for cup presented to schools, Opaki, Mt Bruce, Rangitumau, Kopuaranga Played in Mr Clarke's paddock Kopuaranga won 15-14. Thus winning the cup

26th August Concert party from Masterton gave concert in aid of funds for dental clinic- a most successful function at which £8-0-0 was raised.

.11th September. Euchre party again

7th October. Inspectors report

- a) Scale, Excellent, very Good, Good, Very fair, Fair and weak
- b) Roll 23. Present 17. Absentees attending dental clinic
- c) The school room is neatly decorated and kept clean

12th November. Mr Darroch, Secretary of Navy League addressed children on buying British Goods

13th November The annual report from Inspectors was received which reflected an improvement in the school The committee congratulated the teacher, who was informed.

A general discussion ensued over the question of certain players of the local tennis club playing on the school court on Sundays.. That the Tennis club be notified that the use of the court is given subject to the laws of the Wellington Education Board

Notice of this was authorised to be posted in the Kopuaranga Store, 28th November. Mrs Blackburn visited school and demonstrated country dances and ring games

It was very pleasing to see that practically all the new work demonstrated on previous visits was being successfully taken

A gradual but very definite improvement has taken place in this school during the past few years. The children now respond quite normally and show a real interest in their work The future is reasonably bright.

Miss Cave Dental nurse visited school and gave talk to children on care of teeth

9th December. Children of standard 3 to 6 taken to Masterton at 1.30 pm in order to attend the Governor Generals distribution of prizes to winners of the Mangold growing competitions

19th December Children were given a Christmas party in the hall each child received a present from the Christmas Tree.

1931

2nd February School closed Governor General's holiday

21st February The annual school picnic was held in Mr Miller's paddock. No prizes were given as the children had donated the prize money to the earthquake fund. (*Napier Earthquake*) A most enjoyable day was spent swimming and playing games

27th April A full report as in 1930 was given

"A new regulation just issued by the Department states that " no relieving teacher shall be sent to any school up to and including Grade 2 where the teacher is absent for less than two weeks. This

means that children attending such school may lose a fortnight's education through the want of a relieving teacher.

Your Committee registers its protest against such regulation as being another handicap on country schools.

The chairman introduced the subject of consolidation of country schools. It was moved That the incoming communicate with Hastwell, Mangamahoe, Mauriceville East and West, Rangitumau, Opaki and Mount Bruce requesting them to cooperate with the Kopuaranga Committee for a visit from Mr Atmore Minister of Education.

25th May The payment of the annual £5 fee to the Masterton Dental Clinic

The chairman and Mr J Westhead were appointed as delegates to a meeting to be held at Opaki to confer with delegates to a meeting with delegates from Mt Bruce, Opaki, and Rangitumau Schools to discuss the question of 7 aside football teams to compete for the Buick Cup.

The question of dogs being tied in the schools sheds was raised and left in the hands of the chairman and Secretary to deal with offenders.

It was decided to get into touch with the Secretary of the RSA re employing a man to cut firewood on the school grounds.

The Secretary was instructed to write to Wellington Education Board for advice in disposing of windmill.

27th May 1931 Minutes of School Football Delegates held 27th May 1931

- a) Winners of 1930-31. Kopuaranga
- b) After discussion it was agreed to play 2 rounds
- c) That the home team be responsible for providing a referee and whistle.

d) That the referee has power to prohibit any boy playing in boots likely to be dangerous for his opponents.

e) That games be played in the afternoon if possible

f) That delegates of the team holding the cup be responsible for having the cup on the grounds at the final game of the season

g) If the competition lapses the cup will be handed back to the chairman of the rugby committee.

h) First Round Kopuaranga V Mt Bruce at Mt Bruce Opaki V Rangitumau at Rangitumau etc.

7th August 1931. Letter from Wellington Education Board re subsidy's for library. That this committee take advantage of this application for subsidy by purchasing school books

From Wellington Education Board that the windmill could be disposed of and the School Committee could retain the money

An offer of £4 was received for the windmill. That in the event of a better offer not be forthcoming then the mill was to be sold at that price.

The purchase of a piano was discussed but was left over to get the general opinion of the district.

The Secretary was authorised to get permission to remove one of the raised platforms in one of the school rooms and the timber to be used in making a woodshed (*The platform was at the front of the classroom for the teacher to work from*)

6th September. 6th Euchre party held

7th September During the holidays a piano was bought for the school and the floor on the spare room was made level. Work of the committee.

12th October 1931. That Mrs Kenny be informed by letter that the work entailed in the cleaning of the lavatories was not of a

satisfactory nature and that more attention should be paid to them in the future

After a good deal of discussion That a fence be erected at the back of the asphalt playing area to divide the small children from the bigger ones.

That a letter be forwarded to the Agriculture inspector Mr Brockett protesting against the use of the front flower gardens as a plot for the growing of vegetables

1932

8th February It was decided to obtain new ridging for the school roof. The school teacher Miss Cunningham waited upon the committee to report on the dusting & general cleaning of the school & outbuildings. This report was very unsatisfactory as improvements could be made in sections of the work.

That a new contract be drawn up employing the rules and regulations as suggested by the Wellington Education Board for the cleaning of the school.

That the scrubbing of school desks be included in the contract. This work as well as cleaning tanks and gutters be done as soon as possible.

18th April Householders meet. Mr S J Clarke Chairman

- a) Roll 26 average 24.
- b) During the year a piano was purchased.
- c) The fence dividing the boys' football ground from the small children's playground has been completed.
- d) The gallery (*platform*) has been removed from one classroom

e) The old vegetable garden and orchard has been ploughed and sown in swedes.

f) The children did well with the flower gardens

g) A number of Euchre events and a dance were successfully held.

h) The inspector's report was read by the Secretary

6th May Mr Brockett visited and left with some packets for flower seeds collected by children. Lesson given on method of seed cleaning
27th May. School closed. Teachers drill class held in Masterton
7th June. Children listened to wireless (*radio*) lessons at chairman's house

14th June Children again listened to the wireless at Mr Clarke's house. Have been invited to attend from 2-3 every Tuesday

12th July Mr Darroch (Navy League) visited and gave talk on Empire Trade

19th July Mr Brocket visited school and discussed

- a) Calf Clubs
- b) Lesson taken on preparation and properties of oxygen
- c) About 70 packets of flower seeds collected by children were taken for distribution among schools of the district

1st August. Jack Millar absent owing to whooping cough

13th September The question of repairing the asphalt was discussed and left to Mr Millar to obtain expert advice on the matter.

After receiving a number of complaints from parents it was moved That the Secretary be instructed to write to teacher, after the examinations requesting her to allow the children to leave school at a more reasonable hour. It was also suggested the children should be taught the game of tennis.

That a returned soldier's services be obtained to clean up the school ground.

29th September. Children given medical inspection by Dr Anderson
8th October. Mr Brockett came. lesson given on saving seed from last year's onion crop

4th November The top dressing of the playing area by Mr Franks was passed. £10

1st December .Synchronous examination held in school Keith Donald only participant, passed.

16th December. Received permission from Wellington Education Board to close early in order to catch Sydney boat.

1933

28th January That in view of the number of complaints received from parents the Secretary be instructed to write to the teacher insisting that she keep regular school hours, the letter to also to include the ringing of the school bell and the winding of the school clock.

The Secretary was instructed to get a duplicate front door key for the use of tennis players after school hours.

1st February School reopened Roll 26

6th March. Mr Brockett visited. Talked on carrot crop (Types of carrot, good and poor shapes) and on the white butterfly and useful parasite insects. Over 150 packet of seeds collected from flower garden were taken to be distributed to schools of the district

25th April Anzac service taken by returned soldier from Masterton
The service was well attended by children and parents

22nd May Householders meeting 22 people present.

a) That a beautifying committee be formed to improve the school grounds.

b) A discussion took place about applying for timber for a car shelter and wood shed.

c) Mrs Evelyn Miller was elected chairman.

14th July an excellent Inspector's report was received

11th August. Car and woodshed erected in playground

22nd August Working bee held at school shrubs and rose bushes planted and rockery formed

11th October Mr Clarke presented his report on the Calf Club Committee meeting and proposed a parade of local calves be held at the school picnic.

That Mrs Miller write to Miss Cunningham thanking her for organising a concert in aid of school funds.

30th October Epidemic of measles in the school Two cases of chicken pox

7th December. School judging of 6 entries for calf rearing competition.

8th December That the transportation of the three prize calves from the school to the Solway show grounds be left in charge of Mr Clarke
After a discussion on the teachers proposal to hold a health camp at Riversdale the committee wishes to record their appreciation to the teacher of her offer to organise and take charge of the camp and hope that parents would consent to sending their children.

Arrangements were made with the Wellington Education Board for the provision of a car and woodshed, the Board finding the material and the committee the material amounting to £22-11-8

20th December. Concert by school children to raise funds for health camp to be held at Castle Point during holidays

1934

10th- 21st January Fifteen children attended the school camp at Castle Point beach. Transport was provided by members of the school committee and a charge of 5/- per pupil was made in order to cover expenses. The residents of Castle Point were most generous and helpful and a very enjoyable time was spent by all who attended the camp.

5th February Miss F Kerins commenced work as assistant under the new scheme for providing assistance for teachers

12th February School visited by members of the Wellington Education Board in reply to the committee's request for repainting of infant room

23rd March Mr Westhead was asked to supervise the work of altering the windows and painting of the classroom.

It was decided to recondition the library on the same day as the working bee.

Applications be called for cleaning the school and cutting the firewood in the school grounds.

That Mr Westhead purchase a scythe and take charge of same when not in use

7th April To get C E Daniell to erect a seat along the school on the tennis court side.

30th April Householders Meeting 14 present

- a) Roll is now 32
- b) Several ladies reconditioned the library.
- c) Congratulations to Miss Cunningham for promoting with the assistance of the parents a very successful health camp at Castlepoint.

d) Wellington Education Board has accepted C E Daniell's tender for the lowering of the windows and erecting a seat on the tennis court side.

e) Keen interest was taken in the Euchre tournaments

21st May. Miss R Brown commenced work as assistant in place of Miss Kerins who is relieving at Makomako

During the holidays the two rooms were painted. The windows in the main room were lowered. While the two windows in the southern wall of the infant room were moved to the Western wall.

7th June A Euchre party was held in order to raise money for school funds

7th June Correspondence from Wellington Education Board with permission to partition off corridor as a storage room for books, tools etc

3rd July Concert held to provide funds for Babies Milk Fund. School Children performed folk dances.

10th August It was decided to keep in mind the jubilee Celebrations next year and apply to Wellington Education Board for the painting of the school.

A letter from Wellington Education Board re letting Ed Board section to Mr S J Clarke

17th and 18th September. School closed while teacher attended refresher courses in art and physical education

1st October. Owing to the boisterous weather children were unable to attend school. Outside the church grounds the road to the North was blocked owing to pine trees being blown down. Several large branches of trees were broken off in school grounds and one of the outhouses was blown over.

1st December The Secretary to write to the teachers Misses Cunningham and Brown congratulating them on the good report from the inspectors.

That the cleaning of the school being unsatisfactory the caretaker be asked to terminate her contract at the end of the December.

It was decided to announce at the school picnic about holding the School Jubilee.

Dental Clinic. Letter was read asking the School Committee and Teacher to advertise a shop day to be held in Masterton and arrange the transport of produce, fancy work etc

7th December. Pupils of Standard 2-6 taken to Wellington for the day. The children were shown over the parliamentary building and went on a harbour excursion. They also visited the wharf and were shown over the Rangatira and watched boats being loaded with frozen meat, cheese etc.

10th December. Six children who had entered for the calf rearing competition were conveyed to Masterton in order to be present at the judging of the calves.

1935

5th February The school reopened with a roll of 38

5th February The Misses Westhead have agreed at the wish of the committee to do the cleaning for three months and M Clarke is to be asked to clean the outhouses.

Word was received from the Wellington Education Board that Miss Brown would not return till 1st March as she is required for relieving duties at Pirinoa School for a month.

1st March. Miss Brown returned to school

10th April Four friezes made by children in infant room sent to Wellington show

13th April Ping Pong (*Table Tennis*) and card evening held in hall to raise funds for jubilee gates.

25th April Anzac service in school taken by Rev Dickie of Masterton. There was a good attendance of children and parents

4th May. School holiday in honour of King's Jubilee

7th- 10th May About a Dozen men of the district formed working bees erecting new fence and posts for the jubilee gates.

17th May. Painting of outside of school and outbuildings finished.

22nd May Residents of district provided cars to take school Children to Waingawa where they were shown through soap factory and freezing works.

24th May. Jubilee Celebrations: Owing to the unfavourable weather the ceremony of opening the gates was very brief and assembly then adjourned to the Kopuaranga Hall where the programme was carried out. In the evening a concert and dance took place in the hall. Both functions were a notable success and were well attended by ex pupils and residents

5th June. School visited by Minister of Education and Mr Sykes Member of Parliament for Wairarapa. After a brief address to the men, the Hon S T Smith announced that a half. holiday was to be awarded at some future date.

5th June Correspondence re His Majesty the King's Silver Jubilee was read. The grant made by the Government for the entertainment of children was sixpence per child and is to be spent on a picture show.

10th June. Received word that Miss Brown would not return until 1st July as she was required for work at Nireaha for the next 3 weeks.

14th June Received watering can, two trowels and science equipment requested from Wellington Education Board

1st July Miss Brown returned

29th July Miss Brown received word she would be required for relieving work at Carterton till end of year.

31st July School closed for King's Jubilee celebrations. Money allowed by Wellington Education Board for jubilee celebrations was used to take children to moving picture "Sequoia"

9th September School reopened after term holidays with 16 children present. Epidemic of whooping cough.

30th September That the calves be judged at the school and that the School Committee present a prize to the child with the best calf. Mrs Miller promised a prize for the child with the second best calf.

After a discussion it was decided to meet the teacher at the school one evening and overhaul the old library, sell books not wanted and stamp those left- also to procure suitable new books. It was decided to buy a stamp, "Kopuaranga Jubilee Library"

That the school have a pencil sharpener for use of the children

27th November School closed for parliamentary elections School used as a polling booth

28th November Mr Brockett visited school and gave demonstration on method of wrenching young trees

1936

3rd February School reopened Miss Brown returned to school

17th February It was proposed to hold a working bee to cut the grass round the asphalt and playing grounds and to fix the lawn mower

The teachers request for a window pole was granted

It was left to the Secretary to interview certain people for school cleaning.

28th February School picnic held by Mr Moss's property by the river.

24th April Winifred Westhead who has reached the age of 14 left owing to bad health.

4th May Householders Roll 33

- a) School was painted inside and out in May school holidays.
- b) The outstanding event in 1935 was the celebration of the school jubilee held on Friday May 24th. The attendance far exceeded expectations and was generally pronounced a signal success,
- c) Balance of Jubilee account of £13-12-6 for Jubilee School Library
- d) A recommendation to the School Committee to call together the Hall and Church Trustees to discuss ways and means for raising money for the painting of The church, repairing the roof of the hall and the repairing of the playing area at school.

5th May During the term there has been 12 cases of chicken pox. Average roll 36.

9th May Received school football from Wairarapa Rugby Union

27th June Opaki Basketball team (*Netball*) visited

22nd June It was decided to have a Field Day to level front lawn, hang blinds, clean chimney and fill holes of Asphalt Playing Area with cement

15th July Basketball and football (*Rugby*) teams visited Opaki

8th August. Girls took part in primary schools annual basketball tournament

7th August. Received from Wellington Education Board a map of Ceylon (*Sri Lanka*) showing industries and products. This has been mounted on heavy brown paper and nailed up in classroom.

10th August Mr Powell from Wellington Education Board and members of school committee met at school to decide what could be done in the way of repairing asphalt playing area.

13th August Mauriceville East football and basketball teams visited. The visitors were entertained at afternoon tea by the local teams.

10th September Correspondence re cutting grass in school grounds.

15th September Forwarded to Masterton 5 entries for calf rearing competition and 3 entries for mangle growing competition.

21st September inspectors report included

- a) Miss Cunningham is handling this very large sole charge school with pleasing success.
- b) All indoor and outdoor activities are very well catered for.
- c) Modern methods of instruction are in operation
- d) While nothing calls for adverse criticism special mention must be made of the reading and recitation which had been very soundly developed through verse speaking.
- e) Order tone and discipline are very good indeed.

D M McCaskill

18th September. Received lawn mower from Wellington Education Board

19th September Received gramophone which had been in use at the Mangamahoe School

22nd September 1936 Mr Cameron and Mr Deveraux of Mauriceville East that a petition signed by a 100 people to the

Minister urging that Mauriceville East not be consolidated on Kopuaranga.

The Kopuaranga school is overcrowded consists of one room with between 50 and 60 children with 2 teachers.

5th November. Three Standard 6 pupils worked proficiency examination papers in history, geography, science and drawing. Waina Greenland was absent from school as she had not recovered from her appendicitis operation

17th November School Children attended dental clinic

27th November. Forwarded children's notes on calf rearing competition.

5th December. Received new map of New Zealand

11th December 3 calves taken to Solway for group Judging. Noel Cottle received a first prize,

15th December. School closed for Infantile Paralysis Epidemic

1937

26th February Correspondence from Wellington Education Board re concreting area it was decided to get prices for the laying of approximately 540 square feet with and without supplying the gravel. Also ask Mr Newman of Mauriceville for estimates of labour for boxing in preparation for concrete and laying down.

Correspondence re gramophone ex Mangamahoe School and shelves for jubilee library were read.

1st to 28th February School closed for infantile paralysis epidemic.

1st March School reopened with roll number 32

30th March. Received notification of appointment to position as assistant at Johnsonville

14th April Correspondence re milk Supply to children was read and left over to next meeting The School Committee was prepared to contribute £25 from their general account to concrete playground. Wellington Education Board to be asked for rest

That a social and presentation be given to the teacher Miss Cunningham who is leaving on promotion to Johnsonville after 11 years service at Kopuaranga The date was fixed for Monday 10th May and 4 lists are to be made out by the Secretary inviting subscriptions.

20th April School closed from today owing to the outbreak of Infantile Paralysis in the Wairarapa

30th May That the Highest Graded teacher Miss Kane of Otago be accepted to position of sole teacher at Kopuaranga be endorsed.

It was decided to present Miss Cunningham with a Travelling Rug, Pearl Necklace and Scent Spray.

The Wellington Education Board was prepared to pay a £ for £ subsidy for laying down a concrete area up to £30

12th May My duties at this school terminate today. Jessie D Cunningham

24th May. New teacher Miss M J Kane

School reopened after epidemic holiday 27 children present

3rd June. Forwarded the sum of 15 shillings to Wellington Education Board . This was a result of the King George Fifth memorial fund

21st June. Wrote to Wellington Education Board requesting a first aid kit

15th July Visited Opaki School for Basketball and Football matches

26th July Received wheelbarrow from Wellington Education Board

11th August Arbor Day. As the committee thought more trees in the ground would not allow children enough freedom in the playground we did not apply for any trees

At morning talk time tree recitations were said by individual children using extracts from “Our Native Forests” At 11.30 trees brought by the children were planted by children down by the stream. We planted a Matipo, Titoki, Thousand Jacket Hoheria Populnea and a Silver Birch and two baby pine trees. Some chestnuts and Kauri Gum Seeds were also planted.

The afternoon was spent in the garden

30th September Correspondence from Wellington Education Board re fencing damaged by fire was read.

After a discussion of the playing area it was decided to procure prices for cartage of metals and the laying down so that work can be done in the Christmas holidays.

7th December Calves were transported to Solway for group judging of calves

16th December A school concert was held in the Kopuaranga Hall. The school children provided the entire programme. At the conclusion of the concert a Xmas supper was provided by the committee. Mr A Donald, Wellington Education Board member was present and presented the calf rearing certificates and prizes.

13th December Proposed that books recommended by Miss Kane School Teacher be bought, value £7-10-0

The buying of 30 books for prizes for the school picnic by Mrs Miller was approved

That W Cottle interview C E Daniell re cost of 10 cords of pine firewood.

That the teacher be congratulated on an excellent report received from the inspector.

1938

1st February The school opened with a roll of 28. During the afternoon the weather being cool, the senior pupils tidied gardens paths and grounds.

4th February Morning school was taken this week in the playground. Desks were carried out and the usual morning work continued.

Swimming at the Kopuaranga Stream was taken on three afternoons this week. As only three children can swim the Masterton life Saving Club has been approached to see if arrangements can be made to teach children here to swim

10th February. Five children are now swimming and several can dog paddle. The children have all overcome their fear of water and the teacher is confident that great progress will be made next week when the Life Saving Club are to come out and help children.

18th February Children are progressing well in swimming under the tuition of local helpers. Unfortunately the life saving club instructors have not arrived to help us.

21st February Correspondence from an entertainer to produce a concert and give half the profits to the School Committee was read and accepted.

The following books were recommended by the teacher and chief inspector to the School Committee was read and accepted

- a) Everyman's Encyclopedia 12 volumes £4-10-0
- b) Wonderland of Knowledge 10/-
- c) Story Atlas 13/6

d) Modern Encyclopedia for children 10/-

e) NZ Year Book 8/6

Mrs Cottle's offer to do the school cleaning for £15 was accepted. Field Day. It was decided to clean up the school grounds- fix netting repair two windows, paint front gate etc one day after the picnic

25th February The annual school sports were held in Mr Millers Bush. Races were arranged for all classes. Three legged races, sack races, and flag relays, hop step and jump and high jump for boys. At the conclusion of the picnic every child attending school were given a gift book. These were paid for out of picnics funds which were subscribed very generously by all members of the district.

2nd March Two books the nucleus of the reference library were received from the committee. The New Zealand Year Bock 1938 and Collins Modern Encyclopaedia for Young Children

25th April Anzac Day. A service was held in the school at 9.00 Mr Millar was in the chair and Mr Hancock of Wairarapa College gave an interesting address to the children. Several Hymns were sung. Children recited "The Gift"

2nd May Biennial Report

- a) Roll 31
- b) Credit of £62-5-2 in General Account (\$5967 in June 2011 terms)
- c) Two school picnics were held
- d) The present teacher Miss Kane was congratulated on the very good report received from inspector last December.
- e) Ten cord of firewood were bought by the School Committee and sawn up by them. Thanks to Mr Cottle for use of his saw bench and Mr Miller for carting the wood to the school

- f) The chairman of Wellington Education Board inspected the school grounds and recommended that the School Committee present plans that Wellington Education Board would then submit to Public Works Department as urgent

A discussion took place re works of improvement around the school and out buildings. To procure doors for the carshed, a bicycle shelter and pictures for the school rooms was recommended to the incoming committee.

Eight householders present. 4 elected to School Committee with one more to be added.

23rd May. More books "Everyman's Encyclopaedia were added to the reference library.

During the holidays the committee visited the school and converted a high cupboard into library shelves

14th June. Twenty Three children with members of the committee and teacher visited the Palmerston Show. The journey by train was of great interest to the children as many had not made the journey through the Manawatu Gorge previously

On arrival the children were provided with hot pies and glasses of milk. A visit was made to Sole's circus after which the children were taken round by stewards to see the exhibits. At 3 pm. Mr Savage the Prime Minister visited the show and addressed the children.

17th June It was decided to apply to the Wellington Education Board for a bicycle shelter with 10 stands

Arrangements were made for the reception of the Right Honourable Prime Minister Mr Savage at 5.10 pm June 18th

17th June. A message was received that the Prime Minister would pass the school about 5 pm on Saturday 18th June.

18th June. The Prime minister visited the school at 5.15 pm. The children received an instructive address and were granted a holiday Mr Miller in welcoming the Hon Mr Savage stated that it was the first occasion on which Kopuaranga had been visited by a Prime Minister

24th June. Letter from Director of Education to Public Works department That the concrete assembly areas and paths can go ahead providing the Labour Department pays a subsidy to cover the costs of labour

30th June. The School Committee and Wellington Education Board paid £60 combined for their contribution.

7th July Letter from Mr J Robertson MP to Peter Fraser Minister of Education Asking him to expedite the job as the intention of the employment division is to take up the slack of the seasonal unemployment which is always a problem in winter.

18th August The work of concreting the tennis court is proceeding.

5th September Two families have measles. During the holiday part of the room and corridor have been refloored.

8th September At the invitation of the Women's Institute the children were the guests of the afternoon when they displayed all handwork articles. The parents were well pleased with the display.

During the afternoon the senior children read a History Play and three senior girls gave talks on national heroes

16th October The work of laying down a concrete tennis court and paths around the school, foundations for a shelter and bicycle sheds and diverting the drain around the school has been completed by the Public Works Department at a cost to the school of £30.00

Approximately one half of No 1 room and half of the porch nearest doors were laid down with new flooring by Mr Rose, builder, Masterton.

6th December. Arrangements have been made for the senior children to have tuition at Wairarapa College Baths This tuition is to commence next week if weather is suitable

1939

4th February 12 children went to Wairarapa College Baths for tuition.

6th February Kopuaranga children visited Masterton where the children were presented with a Navy League Flag by Earl Jellicoe. The school has a hundred percent membership. Earl Jellicoe addressed the children on the aims of the Navy League and stressed the importance of the navy in Britain's History.

22nd February Picnic: that the school picnic be held in the Masterton Park

3rd March. Annual school picnic was held at Masterton Gardens. All children were presented with a gift from the committee

31st March A shop day in aid of Kopuaranga Navy League was held in the school grounds Children bought farm produce etc. The amount of £4-6-0 was raised

5th April Mr L Donald resigned from School Committee. The chairman spoke in eulogistic terms of his long, efficient and faithful service of the Secretary Mr L Donald. All members endorsed the chairman's remarks and it was unanimously decided to place the service of Mr L Donald to the Committee on record

14th June. Mr Brockett visited school and taught the boys how to weigh root crops

9th August. Health inspector visited in connection with an outbreak of scarlet fever in the district. Only one family is affected so far.

1st December A parents day was held in the afternoon. There were over forty adults present. Mr Donald represented the Wellington Education Board.

The following was the programme

- a) Choral Singing
- b) History Talks by Standard 3 and 4. Abel Tasman, Captain Cook, The Maoris. The First Settlers, The Missionaries, The Treaty of Waitangi
- c) First Aid Demonstration; Fractures of the arm by girls
- d) Life saving demonstrations
- e) Debate: That the Country Schools are better for Education than the Town Schools. There were three speakers on each side. Mr Jackson judged the debate
- f) The handwork and all book work was displayed in the room
- g) The parents were most interested and voted the afternoon a great success

14th December. We made a Maori Oven and cooked a rabbit. Mr Piriaka supervised all opportunities

A hole was dug and pine set and lit after stones had been placed over the wood. After the wood was burnt to ashes and the stones huge cabbage leaves were laid down. A clean sack (damp) was packed on top of this and earth shovelled on top. The oven was left to steam for three hours. We found the rabbit over cooked but the children all thought it were delicious

1940

26th February It was proposed that school children be taken into Masterton on March 14th to observe the Centennial Parade.

Mr A R Cottle volunteered to clean rubbish from school grounds and the school children to cut down thistles. Mr E C Cottle is to see about repairs to windows. Secretary to purchase 1 gallon of dip for school cleaning..

11th March Children assembled at school in the morning. At 10.30 they were dismissed and all children were taken to the centennial celebrations in Masterton The displays in the shop windows were viewed before proceeding to the show grounds

18th March A party of 8 children joined the Masterton Children in an excursion to the centennial exhibition in Wellington . The school was closed for the day.

22nd April Householders Meeting

- a) Roll 15 girls 10 boys
- b) Christmas 1939 Miss Kane organised a school concert which showed a great deal of time and work as the performance of the children was excellent.
- c) Correspondence was received from Wellington Education Board with a request from the medical officer of health. To consider oiling of floors as dry sweeping was unsatisfactory. After discussion it was proposed to have floors oiled. The floors would need scrubbing before oil was applied.

24th April Thirty bags of pine cones which were gathered by the children and sold in town for Red Cross Funds realised £2-4-0

With 24 shillings of this money all children were made members of the Junior Red Cross

24th May. Blackboards were painted.

During the holidays the floors were oiled as recommended by the Medical Inspector.

3rd June The day was spent knitting for the soldiers

1st July 24 hot water bags covers were forwarded to the Red Cross
(*A page of the logbook has been cut out at this stage. It is unfortunate and I would love to know the secrets it would tell*)

26th October School Committee stood for 2 minutes in silence as a mark of respect to Mrs Miller (Chairman) in the loss of her husband a faithful friend and helper of the committee

The Secretary was asked to write to the Wellington Education Board accepting the appointment of Miss E E Tucker as sole teacher of the school Also to advise that neither the teacher or the School Committee had received any notification of the grade of the school having been lowered and were not aware there had been a vacancy. Miss Kane had not received any notification of a transfer for her. Also asking for Miss Kane to be left at school till end of the year.

The estimation for installing electricity at the school (3 lights and 1 heat plug) £10-8-0 was approved. Secretary to write to Wellington Education Board and ask if Wellington Education Board pay for installation

9th December Letter from Wellington Education Board saying that they would pay for electricity.

Miss Kane resigned from her position as she had been promoted to Paremata. That Secretary writes a testimonial for Miss Kane

Letters relating to school concert were received. Admission charge 1/- and ladies a basket. It was left in the hands of the School Committee to canvas the district for funds to make a presentation to Miss Kane. A suggestion as a gift was a travelling rug.

Mr H J Cottle was asked to be doorkeeper. Mr Jarrett was asked to erect a platform in the hall.

1941

17th May Home Guard That letter received from W H Mackenzie per E J Wright requesting use of the tennis court and permission to install an Electric 500 C P (*Candle Power*) Lamp be forwarded to Wellington Education Board for their ruling on the matter

1st July A new teacher started roll 21 (*Mr Gunn?*)

28th July Miss Hunter appointed as sole teacher

Letter from Wellington Education Board was fully discussed. The light having been already installed without the consent of the committee.. That now the light was installed that the Home Guard be given permission to use the court provided that no cigarette butts or empty packets be left around and that the court be left in a clean order. Also to ask the Home Guard to put a protecting frame around lamp to prevent accidental breakage by children. All costs pertaining to light be paid by the Home Guard. The O C (*Officer in Command*) be asked to keep a record of hours that light is used.

29th August 1941 Letter from Wellington Education Board re appointment of A A Dorreen as sole teacher.

The resignation of Mrs Jarrett as Secretary was read.

8th September School reopened. Alva Dorreen as sole teacher.

18th September Began school competition in baseball. School divided into two teams. Competition games Tuesday and Thursdays after school

24th September Green Pea Seeds planted for agriculture competition
2nd October Entries for writing and drawing competition at Carterton Show posted

20th October Lawn mower returned after being sharpened

30th October School closed for Carterton Show. We gained three firsts and a second

19th November That a letter be sent to Mrs Jarrett with its sincere appreciation of her work as Secretary of the School Committee.

3rd December. The load of gravel for school paths arrived today.

9th December. Mr Brockett greatly admired our garden

1942

2nd February Roll 22 School repainted outside and in

7th February Boys playground cut by committee

A short informal meeting was held in February before home guard parade in which the chairman asked the teacher to be present to discuss the annual school picnic.

The members met for 10 minutes and agreed to approach Mr Brophy to ask if School Committee could use his property again. The shade of the bush and river alongside made a delightful spot for picnicking.

26th- 27th February School closed Nancy Cottle being a subject of infantile paralysis

2nd March School reopened as case was negative but health authorities instruct that the Cottle family remain in isolation until 9th March

2nd March Sold our Ergot. We collected 11lb and received 8/-. Oxford Dictionary

- 1 [*mass noun*] a fungal disease of rye and other cereals in which black elongated fruiting bodies grow in the ears of the cereal. Eating contaminated food can result in ergotism.
- the fruiting bodies of the ergot fungus, used as a source of certain medicinal alkaloids, especially for inducing uterine contractions or controlling post-partum bleeding. (*This was collected by the children as part of the war effort. This was used in wound treatment*)

10th March The school picnic was held in the hall and the races were run in the school playground between showers

13th March Mr Jarrett finished digging the garden plot at the bottom of the playground. This is to be used for individual garden plots for onion growing competition.

16th March. First case of apples arrived

27th March. First bag of lime arrived for dressing the top of new garden

30th March. Sent parcel from school children to Laurie Donald In 1938 was living with George Lawrence a farmer in Kopuaranga. (*Presumably a soldier*) tin pears, cream, Pk's (*chewing gum*) , barley sugar, nugget (*Shoe polish*) handkerchiefs, cheese. Children also wrote letters. This was from ergot money.

10th April Children canvassed the district for buttons in response to an appeal for buttons. We collected a chalk box of buttons and donated same to Patriotic Committee

April Begin our stamp collecting competition. Children bring used stamps every Friday. These will be sorted, cleaned and sent to Dunedin. For Red Cross and Navy league

With the money collected we will buy wool to knit

17th April Planted 2 Dozen ranunculus, 1 Dozen anemones, 9 Dozen stocks, 4 Dozen. Wallflowers and transplanted 12 dozen sweet william plants.

20th April Householders meeting

- a) Roll 29
- b) Miss Dorreen appointed last August 1941
- c) The Anzac service was held and the address was given by Mr N Daniell who spoke on the young life of his fellow student General Freyberg
- d) Owing to the school being reduced in grade the district was obliged to lose the services of a very able teacher who was presented with a gift from the children and a travelling rug from the parents and committee
- e) Miss Kane has been promoted to Head Teacher at Paremata School
- f) Mr Gunn was relieving teacher until the appointment of Miss A Dorreen
- g) The school floors have been oiled and the school painted.
- h) Electric lights have been installed
- i) Only 5 householders present at the school. meeting
- j) An emergency precaution scheme was read.

At meeting after

That bandages be procured for the first aid kit

That the committee visit the school on Tuesday 26th at at 1.30 pm to interview the teacher re garden plot being worked by children

That toilet paper be procured by the teacher and a supply kept on hand

22nd April Sold our scrap metal which the children have been collecting

2nd May Major Williams (Navy League) and party came to present the pennant which we won. Major Williams spoke to us of his escape from Greece and Crete. Bruce Clarke thanked the visitors for coming. Gwen Cottle presented the 5/6 which we received from our metal sale to the Navy league Secretary.

5th May Parents Day The Mothers of the children came to see the school at work, and to observe organisation in a sole charge school Afternoon tea was served.

8th April Posted our used stamps to Dunedin. More than a thousand stamps of various kinds were sent

26th May. School Committee paid a visit to the school to look at the garden plots being cultivated for Patriotic purposes. Decided to put loads of river silt

15th June That Secretary see about coupons for sugar for children's cocoa Secretary to also purchase cocoa and sanitary paper. Secretary to write to Mrs Pirika to thank for her generosity in supplying cocoa to the school

Proposed that football and basketball be repaired by Elliott's

That a lock be purchased for the motor shed.

That a screen be purchased for the fireplace

That an electric plunger and a large jug be purchased for heating water.

That Navy League subscriptions be paid out of concert money

17th June. Paid 17/6 subscription to Navy League 100% membership. The money was taken out of the money the children raised at the concert.

18th June. New mats for floor, fire screen and immersion heater (*An immersion heat was an element plunged in a jug of water to heat the water*). Also first aid box has been replenished.

19th June Received 5/6 for stamps. This will pay our Red Cross Subscription.

24th June. Serious Earthquake

25th June. School closed

26th June. Teacher, committee and several children came to school to clear debris. . Bricks down from chimney in other room, desks tipped over, vases broken and a quart jar of ink spilt over the floor. We cleared everything and then the chairman decided to close the school for the day.

28th June .Mr Deavoll (*Secretary of Wellington Education Board*) and an architect paid a visit to the school on a tour of inspection. School declared safe.

29th June Reopened school. Several pupils absent. 19 Present

6th July. That 2 bags of lime be purchased for school garden
That as there were no blinds in the school that the Wellington Education Board be approached to supply curtains for windows before summer and to see Miss Dorreen as to quantity of material required

That painters' sugar of soap be purchased to try and remove ink from the floor.

14th July Serious flood covered school gardens

11th July Home guard spent the afternoon digging our patriotic garden and tidying up generally. Afternoon Tea was served

17th July. 3 bags of lime arrived. Children put lime on garden and painted the rocks.

4th August. Received a cable from Laurie Donald who is serving in the Middle East. "Greetings, Parcel and letters received. Many thanks. Writing. Laurie Donald"

18th August. We entertained 35 visitors and parents at the school

- a) Singing The Merry Peasant, Big Brown Bear, Early One Morning, Brown Pony and Silver ferns. All
- b) Dance. First this way, Betty at the party Tails The Ploughman, Standard 1 and 2 and infants.
- c) Talks. Animals in Canada- Gwen Cottle. The Red Indians- Joan Cottle Native Trees in NZ Mavis Cottle. Kingsford Smith Ray Rossiter. Eskimos/ Eileen White
- d) Debate. That summer is better than winter. Mrs Miller judged the debate.
- e) A Display of handwork was admired.
- f) Afternoon tea was served

20th August. Planted our onions and carrots in the patriotic plots and then limed them.

22nd August That mop and dip be purchased for cleaning.

That Miss Dorreen be asked to attend every fourth meeting. And to be asked to attend next meeting in October.

10th September. School reopened 3 days late as the teacher was unable to obtain a berth until Tuesday 8th September .The boats were commandeered by the army

11th September. The past two days school was continued until 3.45 in order to make up time lost in English and Arithmetic.

19th September Received 84 skeins of navy wool from Navy League. The children will knit these into scarves for the men in the navy.

22nd September received 5/3 for used stamps which we sent to Dunedin

23rd September. Planted 6 Dozen plants in garden

5th October Miss Dorreen stated that the piano required tuning Calf and Lamb Day Judging was fully discussed. That red, gold and blue ribbons be purchased. Each 1 ½ yards long.

That a gift be given to each child who has an entry.

Calf judging to be at 10 a.m. Morning Tea to be provided.

Miss Dorreen stated that the school had gone up a grade

10th October. Children and teacher ran a dance in the hall to get funds for parcels to be sent to ex pupils. We made £18.0.0 (\$1,496.12 in June 2011) and pupils were on the door, sold raffles, were responsible for supper and carried out M C Duties

14th October. Bought presents for boys overseas. Each parcel was worth 25/- (Worth \$103.90 in 2011)

10th November Lamb and Calf judging There were 34 parents and friends present. Mr Keats was our judge and the function was brought to a close with a cup of tea.

Prizes were presented and calves and lambs given ribbons.

Classes

- a) Pure Bred Champion
- b) Best Dairy Type
- c) Rearing and Handling
- d) Lambs (Long Wool)
- e) Lambs (Short Wool)

12th November. Windstorm blew our pine trees down and smashed the Motor Garage

Word received that Keith Donald a former pupil had been killed in action RNZAF, RAF buried in Malta. Air Gunner

7th December The chairman proposed a message of thanks be sent to Miss Dorreen for help & cooperation on calf judging day and throughout the year.

The curtains had come to hand and were erected by the School Committee

A letter was received from Masterton County Council re rubber salvage and it was reported that a good supply of waste rubber had been collected.

A report of school activities was received from Miss Dorreen.

After discussing the possibility of danger to the children by broken power lines it was proposed that Secretary write to the Power Board asking that the school fence be earthed during the Xmas holidays.

8th December. Children and teacher received card from Mr and Mrs A Donald in reply to the letter of sympathy which we sent on hearing of the death of their son Keith

14th December. Received Christmas Greetings from M Chisholm, matron of General Hospital in the Middle East. She also acknowledged the receipt of hot water bag covers which the pupils had sent through Red Cross.

16th December Teacher gave children a party. Had progressive games and “housie” followed by ice cream

18th December. Sent two more Christmas Parcels to Mr Hansen and Owen Jarrett Cost 26/6 each

18th December. School Closed for Christmas Vacation Roll 29

Signed A A Dorreen

1943

11th February School reopened for 1st Term. Teacher granted Leave of Absence while husband was in NZ on Furlough from Overseas.

12th February Inspectors report included

- a) As regards behaviour and general attitude to work pupils of this school created a very favourable impression
- b) Habits of neatness and accuracy are being inculcated
- c) Art and Handwork are especially pleasing
- d) Physical education of the pupils is being capably treated.
- e) The buildings are in splendid order and the grounds tidy
- f) Much credit is due for the interest displayed in the outdoor environment
- g) Signed A Bringans

22nd February Mrs Hatch now teaching. Present at School Committee meeting

School roll 28

That blackberry, gorse and broom required to be cleaned up in school grounds.

School Picnic at Mr Brophy's. Mrs Jarrett to order 30 dozen cakes and 4 loaves of bread. Mr Cottles car would be available to take food etc out to picnic. Than an application be made for tea and sugar permit for picnic. That orange drink be made up for children. 2 gallons (90 Litres) of ice cream to be ordered. Sack race to be included.

25th February Visit paid to school by dental nurse. Inspected all the children's teeth and made appointments for pupils to visit the Dental Clinic.

22nd March That Mr Cottle heap up the rubbish (blackberry etc) and that after rain Committee to burn rubbish

26th March A letter from Laurie Donald was received. He thanked us for our parcels which we sent and wrote an interesting account of the town of Tripoli.

27th March. Sent a parcel of scarves for the Navy League to Masterton .There were 15 scarves which had been knitted by the pupils

6th April Received a letter from Alex Kenny in Middle East acknowledging our parcel and telling us how much it was appreciated.

15th April Planted Oats in the Patriotic Plots.

22nd April Mrs Hatch reported that her resignation had been accepted by Wellington Education Board

Mrs Hatch reported that the onions in the Patriotic plots had been sold to Mr Westhead and money paid to Junior Red Cross Funds

Parcel of scarves had been knitted by children and sent to Navy League

Further parcels had been knitted by children and sent to Navy League.

That an afternoon be given to Mrs Hatch at the school on 6th May husband and wives to attend

22nd April Mr Brockett visited. Children gathered in the onions from their plots

1st May The children gave the teacher a farewell dance and presentation

6th May Committee met at the school for a farewell afternoon tea and presentation. A meeting was held to farewell Mrs Hatch. After

afternoon tea had been served. Mrs E C Cottle presented Mrs Hatch with a tray and ashtray as a token of esteem for her help.

7th May . School Closed for term holiday Roll 28

Signed A A Hatch

24th May Relieving Audrey Parker

25th May Miss Parker as relieving teacher Miss Murphy permanent Teacher.

Lime deposited near school door to be removed at first opportunity.

14th June. Evelyn Cottle hit her head on a post on the tennis court, cutting her head above the eye. Sent her home

29th June School closed teacher visited doctor in Masterton.

30th June Six children present. Some of the Cottle family are being inoculated against diphtheria in Masterton today.

5th July Eileen Murphy commenced duty today.

Closed 1st and 2nd as teacher travelling from Auckland District. School visited by health inspector and district nurse as child in district diphtheria suspect . Only contact Eileen White who is in quarantine.

26th July A football purchased by Mr Cottle cost £1 . That J Knight see about an inner tube for basketball.

Bar soap be purchased, Clever May and Lifebuoy

Thanks to Mr Jarratt for offer of table tennis table

27th July School Committee put up clock on the wall.

8th August. New fireplace and hearth completed. School scrubbed.

10th September. Holiday granted school holiday. Italy capitulated.

13th September Teacher asked to have gardens dug and a new garden dug for catch crops. *(A catch crop is one planted to prepare the soil for another crop)*

That someone be asked to dig the gardens. That Mr Rossiter be asked to do the work on Saturdays.

That the ping pong table be taken from the hall to the school

20th September Roll now 32. Table Tennis Table, 6 balls and 6 balls and 6 bats delivered at school

4th October Mr Rossiter would dig the gardens as soon as possible.

5th October Special Meeting. To put on record a discussion which took place after General Business on 13th September

- A) The chairman had received complaints from parents of children attending the school.
- B) That Hugh Miller had been behaving in a violent and improper manner at school and the chairman wanted to know if any injury happened to a child at school who would be responsible. School Committee, Mrs Miller or Wellington Education Board?
- C) That if Hugh Miller was acting as complained about he should not be at school
- D) The School Committee felt if injury should happen they should not be held responsible
- E) Chairman should interview Mr Donald, Wellington Education Board member and ask him who would not be responsible
- F) This ended the meeting
- G) In furtherance it was agreed that Mr E C Cottle was chairman and signed a letter to Wellington Education Board and Mr W J Cottle was not available. Mr W J Cottle agreed with this motion.

6th November Some of the men of the district dug the vegetable plots.

16th November Lamb and calf judging Day. There was a record attendance of parents and friends.

22nd November Made 9 water melon beds Started examinations.

15th December Children's break up fancy Dress Dance. Kopuaranga Hall. Concert programme by school children. Fancy costumes judged by Mrs Knight and Mr Jackson. Mr Brophy presented prizes and certificates. Peggy and Mavis presented bouquets to the two judges. Nita and Gwen made presentations to the two musicians. Nancy also made presentation to teacher from the children.

1944

1st February Roll 27

14th February The matter of holding a picnic was discussed

- a) Lists to be prepared and given to teacher for children to collect
- b) Milk donated by R Cottle
- c) Butter by E C Cottle 2 lb A R Cottle 1 lb W J Cottle 2 lb Mrs Jarrett 1 lb
- d) Owing to food being short at last picnic it was proposed to order 6 large loafs bread instead of 4
- e) Orange cordial to be made up
- f) Ice Cream Ordered
- g) Mr Knight to see if grounds at Mr Brophy's could be used.

That school be closed on 16th February for Carterton Show

29th February 2 children have chicken pox School nurse has been informed

6th March 12 children now have chicken pox

11th March 12 children attended Navy League Picture (show) in Masterton. (Saturday Morning) Pennant presented to Kopuaranga

School. A second star has now been added to pennant as this is the fourth year that school has had 100% membership.

14th March. *First mention in minutes of Commissioners meeting*
Balance sheets and books prepared for audit were also presented to this meeting.

All committee present

13th April Sent a sugar bag of carrots to be sold at Kopuaranga Patriotic Fund evening

April Biennial Report.

- a) Roll 28
- b) During 1943/44 Children made scrap books for children in hospital
- c) Children collected a large amount of rubber.
- d) Patriotic gardens at the school were planted in tomatoes, carrots, radishes, lettuce, maize and turnips
- e) 1942 7 Calves 9 lambs 1943 8 calves 7 lambs
- f) Best kept record on calf rearing also being won by Gwen Cottle against all group entries
- g) Too many changes of teacher (*Mrs Hatch, Miss Parker, Miss Murphy*) in one year is not beneficial and we hope our present teacher stays longer.
- h) The Gardens were dug by Mr Jarrett and later being dug by Kopuaranga Home guard. members and some parents prepared the grounds for the children.
- i) Fireplace has been repaired after damage by Earthquake
- j) The school fence has been earthed
- k) The resignation of the School Committee was sent into the Wellington Education Board in October but in February the

same five were reselected as commissioners to carry on till the Biennial meeting

- l) Breaking up ceremony Mrs Hatch held a mothers afternoon at school
- m) In 1943 Miss Murphy held a very successful fancy dress Dance. No effort had been spared in teaching the children how to dance The funds have gone to enable a radio to be bought for the school
- n) The commissioners retire at this meeting and are not seeking re-election

14th April School children gathered 55 bags of cones to be sold at shop day.

1st May Mrs Jarrett reported on the shop day held in conjunction with Mauriceville East and West to raise funds to fill Dental clinic quotas. had been a success and a credit £2-6-10 available each school after expenses

Only Mr M H McKenzie was nominated. A list of others were made and who was to approach them to stand for School Committee

The school teacher asked that

- a) Physical Education Equipment and
- b) Radio be purchased
- c) Roof was leaking in a couple of places
- d) Tanks and drains required attention
- e) Hot drinks of cocoa be provided to children in the winter months as previously
- f) New Secretary to interview Mrs A R Cottle re school cleaning
- g) Thanks to Mrs Jarrett for ensuring dental clinic fees being paid

h) Thanks was given to Mrs A R Cottle and family for the cleaning

4th May Present J Brophy, O O'Conner, H McArthur, F Hewitt and H McKenzie agreed to act as School Committee.

1st June That Miss Murphy, teacher procures cocoa and sugar. Also box of chalk, nibs, and exam papers to also be procured by teacher

That a dance be held to raise funds for a wireless (*Radio*)

2nd June 4 books received from Wellington Education Board June. on loan.

8th June Children invited to Women's Institute meeting to entertain members. School Children gave a Physical Education programme in hall. 4 children gave talks.

19th June received Map of Pacific and yard rule from Wellington Education Board

8th July School Committee cut hedges, trees, rose bushes in school grounds. Also helped children to remove old rockeries from lawns.

8th July. Pulling down rockery use of cart and horse to remove rocks 15/-

Procuring 2 door locks and one desk catch, one window pain (sic) and fitting same 15/-

Cutting gorse and blackberry 5/-

Negotiating with prospective buyers of macrocarpa trees 10/-

Note in minute book. A dance was on 13th July to raise money for special account returned a net profit of £4-19-9d Mr Brophy donated a lamb which was raffled.

17th July. School Committee fitted locks on cupboard and desk

4th August That 2 rail trucks of wood 10 cords be railed to State wood depot Wellington as soon as trucks available

11th September. 30/-(\$119 worth in June 2011) of new library books brought by committee.

17th October Parcels packed and dispatched overseas.

30th October Invitation received to attend Masterton West Dental Clinic opening.

That 6/4d be paid to teacher for the Country Library Service. That teachers list for school nail brushes etc and manure for garden be procured

4th December That grass be cut during the school holidays

1945

29th January Proposed by H Mckenzie that the whole committee work a day on school grounds, cutting grass and general clean up of grounds

That a holiday be granted for Masterton Show

5th February Gwen Cottle, Nita O'Conner and Maui Greenland attending college this year.

15th February Nurse Craig visited school. Agnes Pika to have tonsils out.

26th February The annual School picnic was held on Friday 16th in Mr Brophy's beautiful bush in delightful weather, a very enjoyable day was spent by all present

That oil for the school floors and disinfectant be purchased

The teacher wrote again asking if anything had been done re radio for school. It was decided to do all we could to procure a suitable set.

14th March. Children collected 357 buttons for Red Cross for UNRRA

9th April That Miss Murphy can purchase chalk and first aid essentials,

It was decided to give effect to the proposal of Mr Maloney to shift the garden site nearer to the school buildings and the 5 members of the School Committee to do the work necessary for the scheme.

21st May 20 new books received from Country Library service. 21 Books returned

Doll's bed received from Wellington Education Board

5th June That the Wellington Education Board be again written to re the very bad state of drainage from one of the two water tanks at the school. Also the state of the tank itself that leaks

That Milner and Sons be asked to deliver 3 yards of silt at the school for laying down part of a lawn between car gate and woodshed.

Trees to replace ones cut down due on the 18th June. School Committee to do the planting.

27th June One large ball and 6 small balls received.

5th July 50 Lawsoniana trees arrived. Planted temporarily in old vegetable garden

9th July That Wellington Education Board members be written to re Items mentioned in 5th June minuted.

That paint be procured for painting desks

That £5.00 be sent to Mr Maloney for work done. Fencing in and ploughing new garden, spreading silt, planting and protecting trees

3rd August Children collected parcels of warm clothes for Europe.

6th August Clothes packed and sent to Masterton . Two large cases

1st October Radio installed in school. Purchased by School Committee

12th October. 17 Children absent with measles, which are prevalent in the district. Roll 25

21st October. Mavis Cottle and teacher attended Junior Red Cross exhibition in Wellington.

5th November That admission be 2/- ladies and 2/6 gents. Supper to be bought.

9th November. Repaired tennis net. Began tennis. Teaching children.

12th November. Completed planting and sowing vegetables

a) Carrots, radish

b) Golden Bantam, Black Mexican Sweet Corn

c) Soya bean experimental crop

d) Lettuce, Tomato

e) In flower Gardens Asters, Candy Tuft, Nasturtium Larkspur

18th November Seed potatoes planted in new gardens

15th November Three returned soldier teachers on Refresher Course visited school for day.

5th December That the four new cups donated for Calf and Lamb Day be kept at school The four cups to be challenge cups. To be engraved by School Committee

That the Kopuaranga Tennis Club be allowed to play on school court in the weekends. Subject to any damage done to school property would be made good.

19th December Large tin of paint and 4 seats for lavatories received from Wellington Education Board

1946

7th January The annual cutting of blackberry and gorse and mowing was carried out by 4 members of the School Committee

4th February. Roll 24. Mavis Cottle is attending Wairarapa College.

17th February Gordon Saggars admitted to hospital- Legs badly burnt with boiling water at home

25th February Out of special fund account a swing has been erected for the pleasure of the children.

2nd April 3 Returned Soldier teachers visited for the day.

15th April That the Teacher be empowered to spend up to 30/- on a showcase.

30th April That wages for cleaning the school be raised from £6-10 to £ 7-10

That a letter be written to Miss Murphy thanking her for her congratulatory letter to members of the committee. Potatoes grown at school were sold to Mr Brophy for £ 1-0-0.

Biennial Meeting at school

- a) Roll is 23
- b) Cutting down the trees on the southern side of the school involved a lot of work and finance, nearly £100 was spent in felling and splitting the trees,
- c) No financial aid from Wellington Education Board for this work.
- d) A radio has been installed for £16-00 (*\$1,240.34 in June 2011*). Funds for same were raised by dances etc.
- e) The committee also went into having a septic tank installed and obtained the service of a “water diviner” at a cost of £5-0-0
- f) He advised that sufficient water would be procurable at between 25 and 30 feet. But owing to the shortage of labour and materials the scheme was left in abeyance.
- g) The vegetable garden was shifted.

h) 6 Nominations were received for School Committee and therefore a ballot was held

27th May. Received 1 Dozen large brushes, game of skittles and 4 boxes of chalk from Wellington Education Board

27th May 10 lb of Blue Lupin seeds received, to be planted in vegetable gardens

18th September. 2 children have mumps. School desks painted by teacher during holidays.

5th November The painting of the desks has been finished by Miss Murphy and has much improved the appearance of the classroom and the committee desires to record here their appreciation of her good work in that direction.

15th November. Received answer books to Standard 2 and 3 Arithmetic Books. School Committee sent lawn mower, wheelbarrow and Tennis Nets to be repaired.

27th November. School closed for general election

2nd December Thanks to Mr C C Jackson for loan of his lorry to transport calves and lambs into Solway Showgrounds for group judging.

1947

3rd February Roll 22

17th February Large tree on Front Lawn and Pine Tree at back of school uprooted by storm during weekend

Tree in front of school fell across flower gardens. Car shed door also blown off.

24th February That chairman and Secretary draw up detailed accounts of storm damage

It was decided to have the children taken into Masterton for two swimming lessons. That children travel in 3 cars

25th February Children taken swimming baths in Masterton by School Committee.

31st March That the chairman and Secretary be empowered to deal with well boring operations at the school

9th May School closed for holidays. Well borers and plumbers working at school

16th June Agreed to donate £1.00 from special fund for relief of children in Europe

That those children who can find their own transport can attend procession to be held in Masterton at 2 .pm.

20th June School Children collecting clothing, soap and gave donations for Children of Europe. Children marched in procession of combined schools in Masterton

25th June New Rugby Football supplied by School Committee, also two goal posts erected

4th July New basketball I(*Netball*) bought by School Committee

17th July. School closed at 11 O'clock owing to death of teacher's fiancée. No school on 18th

21st July school resumed today

24th July Inspector Hood of transport Department visited school spoke to children and showed three road safety. films.

4th August That it be recorded in the minutes the Committees sympathy for Miss Murphy in the loss sustained by the death of her fiancée. That a letter of condolence be sent to Miss Murphy.

2nd September That the committee support Miss Murphy in her endeavour to procure whatever leave she requires to restore her health.

22nd August schools holidays commenced today (Roll 20)

22nd September School resumed today after being closed for an extra fortnight because no teacher available. Commenced duties as a relieving teacher D D Fenemor

23rd September. Received 3 Standard 2 English Books

1st October That £1-1 be paid to Mrs R Fenemor for telephone rings. That a letter of appreciation and a cheque for £2-2 be given to Miss Fenemor for good services rendered while on relieving duty in Miss Murphy's absence

29th October Only 12 children present at school today. Rough Southerly

3rd November Recommenced duties today E Murphy

22nd November A discussion took place on the well digging and it was ultimately decided to leave investigations to the chairman as to the best means of getting the job done.

1st December All schools in North island closed today as a precaution against Infantile Paralysis outbreak in Auckland.

2nd December Reports sent to parents, marks taken on assessment of years work as Annual Exams were to have commenced on 2nd December.

4th December. Teacher attending refresher courses daily at central School Masterton.

Discussion Groups. Projects, Art Writing, Infant Method' Film Strip projectors.

Monday and Tuesday PE and Swimming

1948

2nd February Teacher returned to school No children because of infantile paralysis epidemic. Prepared work to be sent to children's homes

11th February Attended meeting of teachers and inspectors to discuss correspondence lessons etc.

13th February received large ball for PE

14th February That the cleaners wages be raised from £7.10 to £8.10

That a letter for thanks be sent to Mr, Mrs and Miss Fenemor for the refund of £3-3 as a donation

That the scheme to procure an electrical pump for the water scheme be done.

21st February. Well in school grounds completed. Electric pump fitted up to supply water for gardens etc. Pipes laid for taps in garden. Bulldozer levelling off school playground.

23rd February Received two embroidery books for children

13th March. {Saturday} School picnic held by the river on Mr Brophy's property

15th March. Health inspector took samples of water from new well for analysis

12th April Received from Wellington Education Board Book Binding Material.

16th April School Committee bought two long ropes for PE Divided one rope into 6 skipping ropes and the thick rope halved

27th April 2 lorry loads of soil and manure delivered to be spread over flower gardens by the children and teacher. 4 Dozen Polyanthus plants and some bulbs planted recently

27th April Balance Form arrived from Hastings

School Children sewed new curtains for library on sewing machine.

30th April Shed for pump and motor erected at rear of school

3rd May Householders meet

a) Roll 16

b) The major thing was the digging of a 20 foot well to provide water for the gardens

c) The services of a water diviner at a cost of £5.00 was obtained.

d) This entailed an electric pump and a subsidy from Wellington Education Board on an £ for £ subsidy

e) The Northern end of the playground has always been a nursery for gorse and blackberry and various other weeds. This has been cleared of weeds and rubbish and levelled with a bulldozer and sown with grass seed. This should solve having to cut and burn the weeds every year.

f) The school roof has been thoroughly overhauled by a competent plumber and is now in good repair.

Discussion took place re the campaign for starving children of Europe and it was decided to leave action until a general meeting of the community was held.

24th May That the stones on the newly constructed playing field be removed.

21st June members of the School Committee arranged for a wreath to be sent at the funeral of the late Mrs R D McKenzie as a token of sympathy as Mrs McKenzie along with her late husband as chairman of the School Committee were ardent workers for the school in days gone by.

30th July Iceland poppies, stocks, violas, carnations planted in flower gardens

6th August. Tempera coloured paint and paper received from Wellington Education Board

11th September. Vegetable gardens dug up.

15th September. Received 8 paint brushes from Wellington Education Board

15th September Battle of Britain Day observed at school

27th September Received from School Committee 2 bags of lime, lorry load of screened metal for paths etc also lorry load of river silt to be spread over garden.

8th October Vegetable Garden planted

- a) 1 Dozen. tomatoes
- b) 12 rows of carrots (James Intermediate, Chantenay and Altringham
- c) Flower Garden 3 Dozen petunia plants
- d) 1 Dozen stocks
- e) 1 Dozen Iceland poppies
- f) 1 Dozen Salvia Bonfire also
- g) Seeds of Nasturtium and Sweet Pea etc.

19th October. Standard 3 to Standard 6 visited Central School to see project "The World We Live In"

Mr Barnett Agriculture Instructor and boys planted tree seeds in boxes

1st November The present School Committee has been placed in a very serious position due to the failure of the previous School Committee to have a proper understanding of the financial position. It appears that the previous committee worked on an overall credit balance in the general account where as the true position at the end of the financial year ending 29th February 1948 was a debit balance of £14-3-6d. Wages Account £37-16-6 The wages account is set aside

solely for the payment of the cleaner and cannot be used for any other purpose.

- a) The cleaner had been short paid
- b) The surplus had been used in the general account.
- c) The Wellington Education Board demanded a refund of £20-17-8
- d) Leaving £2-00 for contingences
- e) Two board officials would visit in December to discuss the matter

22nd November That the Secretary write to Wellington Education Board asking if any repairs to the radio would be a charge on the general account

That the flagpole be taken down as trouble has been experienced on several occasions on putting up and taking down the flag.

That the Secretary to the Wellington Education Board thanking them for the special grant of £20

That a dance be held with the Christmas Tree. It was decided to have 5 raffles on the night, members of the committee to donate prizes

29th November Annual Examination started today.

17th December. School closed for holidays 14 pupils

20th December Mr A R Cottle moved that he interview Mr Knox of Kopuaranga to ascertain as to whether he could cut grass in school grounds for hay for himself, failing that it was proposed to ask Mr Fenemor to cut grass with a mower

That the caretaker be asked to water the school gardens once a week if needed.

1949

1st February Roll 13

7th February That the school would be used as a polling place on the 9th March 1949.

That repairs to radio could be charged to incidentals account says Wellington Education Board

9th March School closed for election, school was a polling booth

19th April That a new fire grate be purchased to replace current one burnt out.

That plans for the erection of flush lavatories and septic tank at the school and get Mr McNab, plumber of Masterton to give an estimate of costs

That the field be mowed by the committee, and that each member would get paid 1 pound that would be donated back to the school.

15th February Received tumbling mat for Physical Education from Wellington Education Board

6th June Miss Murphy suggested that the school purchase an atlas globe. Agreed

That a dance be held on Wednesday 22nd June in the Kopuaranga Hall as there was trouble getting music on a Saturday. It was proposed to run a bus from Masterton for the purpose.

9th June Mr Seddon, Mr Deavoll, Wellington Education Board secretary and Mr Drummond, visited school this evening. School Committee also present

27th June That the Wellington Education Board be written to re installing a telephone in the school and who would pay for the cost of installation

The dance lost £1-3-8 ½, the loss be covered from the special account.

That another dance be held on 23rd July

22nd July Received woodwork tools, box and benches and timber from Wellington Education Board. Also 6 balls of wool for handwork

27th July That the school was secured as a polling place for the roll on Military Training Referendum on the 3rd august 1949

- a) The Wellington Education Board didn't want this election in schools
- b) Kopuaranga had a hall next door
- c) Children would miss a day at school
- d) The teacher wasn't the only person in the district who could conduct a polling booth
- e) The returning officer be written to saying the hall is the right place.

A quote to be got for a table tennis table for use of the children (Asked for by Miss Murphy)

That the Secretary purchase an extension cobweb broom and a stepladder.

That a meeting be called at 8 pm on Monday 8th August for a meeting with Mrs A R Cottle re number of hours spent cleaning the school.

Notes from Special Meeting

- a) Mr O'Conner stated that complaints had been received stating that children had been seen cleaning the school
- b) Mrs Cottle should work 10 hours per week
- c) That Mrs Cottle could only fill the time allotted when able to.
- d) That the cleaner be supplied with a book to record times worked

- e) That the Secretary to be approached if there was doubt what work was to be done.

11th August At 2.30 children gave a PE display for parents in the hall. Afternoon tea was served.

2nd August. Ground at back of school ploughed up by School Committee to make a lawn

14th August Escalonia hedge planted at back of school. Ground levelled along front of property.

13th September. New stepladder and cobweb broom purchased for school.

13th September. Lawn planted behind school

19th September That the septic tank system was placed on the 1950-51 works by the Wellington Education Board .

That cricket bats, stumps and balls be purchased for the school.

To arrange for the teacher and children to have a group photograph of themselves taken before the end of the present year and the procedure be followed annually.

19th September. 13 flowering shrubs and trees planted in school grounds (Listed in log)

20th September Standard 4 to 6 taken to Masterton to see film Scott of the Antarctic

14th October Children sent a 10/- donation towards sweets for Hull appeal in Masterton

17th October That an excursion be held to Wellington and a school close by be asked to join in the venture. Travel to be by bus.

28th November Annual group judging of Calves, Lambs, Pets, and Ponies was held at Kopuaranga for the first time. About 8 schools in the group were represented. School Committee erected temporary

“hitching rail” to tie up stock. And also made a loading ramp and a new gate was erected along front fence to give access to playground.

1st December. Calf record books returned by Mr Evans Agriculture Instructor

7th December. Special Meeting with Mauriceville East School Committee

a) Date 12th December

b) MR K J Aplin’s bus for transport for the day cost of £16.0.0

c) Mauriceville East paid £8-10-0 and Kopuaranga £7-10-0

d) Four parents from each school to help teachers

8th December. Dallas Cup. This trophy competed for at Mauriceville District Sports is currently held by Kopuaranga and is to be competed for again during the vacation. Mr Cottle to return trophy and select a team to defend the trophy.

That a letter of seasonal greetings be forwarded to the teacher Miss Murphy and also to convey thanks to her for her willing cooperation in all ventures sponsored by the committee.

12th December. Kopuaranga and Mauriceville East children teachers and four parents from each school visited Wellington by special bus

a) Left Kopuaranga at 7.30

b) Stopped at Taita South for morning Tea

c) Zoo

d) After lunch went to museum (*Dominion*)

e) Wharves

f) Conducted over ship Port Auckland, arrangements to go over ship were made by Navy League to which we belong

g) Visited Parliament buildings where children inspected House of Representatives, legislative Council Chamber and Members lounges etc

- h) Railway Station where we also had tea
- i) Left Wellington at 5 pm
- j) We all had an enjoyable and instructive trip

14th December. Some of children wrote to School Committee thanking them for financing the trip. Bus Driver, Navy League, Ship Captain,

14th December . We visited Mr Cottle's farm to watch hay making press, bailing hay.

16th December. 4 Standard 6 children received leaving certificates.

1950

Roll 14. Margaret Greenland attending Napier Girls High School. Roddy Mckenzie, Feilding Agriculture School. Roy Cottle and Allen Willoughby Wairarapa College

20th February Roll is 14, 7 boys and 7 girls

Miss Murphy reported that some items in the first aid kit needed replacing

The Secretary reported that the excursion last year was a great success and was considered to be of great educational advantage to all children

That 1 large bottle of blue ink, ½ dozen sheets of white cardboard for infant charts and a piece of pinex board for a notice board be purchased at the request of Miss Murphy.

6th March. It was moved that ¾ axe handle be purchased

That no Anzac Service be held again this year,

22nd March School Children taken to Masterton to see Empire Games Film. (*The Empire Games were the forerunner for the Commonwealth Games held currently on a four year cycle*)

1st May Roll 12

Three yards of chip metal was placed at the entrance of the main gate and also on the paths in the garden

Thanks was due to the Masterton County Council for levelling the road frontage of the school with the grader.

A small sandpit has been provided for the smaller children.

Application for a septic tank and flush lavatories and the Board has placed this work in their 1950-51 programme of work

Miss Murphy was thanked for her service

24th May Received two letters from England thanking us for food parcels we sent through Junior Red Cross and Navy League

June Senior Boys attended British Isles V Wairarapa football (*Rugby*) match in Masterton this afternoon

5th June Question whether the next picnic be held at Riversdale. A bus to be hired for the purpose.

That a new hair broom head be purchased to replace the present worn out one.

It was decided to hold a dance on Wednesday 5th July in aid of the committee's special fund.

16th June PE Instructor visited school today. Gave us two drill balls and bladders.

2nd August A letter to Wellington Education Board asking when window cords would be repaired and the interior of the school be painted.

That the photo taken of the children and teacher be framed and hung on the wall.

It was left to Mr J P Cottle to make a set of scales for the use of the children at school.

3rd August. We sold potatoes we grew in school gardens. With the money we buy seeds and plants for the flower gardens

28th August That a gallon of dip be purchased for the purpose of cleaning the conveniences at the school

9th October That the annual interschool fancy dress dance be held at Kopuaranga on 30th November that Opaki, Mikimiki and Rangitumau be sent out.. It was also decided to invite Mauriceville East School to attend..

10th October. Traffic Officer attended school, talked to children, inspected bicycles, practised crossing road and also giving signals when making turns on bicycles

All window cords on school windows renewed

Bell on roof of school which has not been used for many years repaired.

23rd November School children from Rangitumau, Opaki, Mikimiki came to school this afternoon to practice fancy dress dance

27th November. We visited Mikimiki School with others to practice dance.

30th November. Schools above held a combined Fancy Dress Dance held in Kopuaranga Hall. Programme of folk dances and items contributed by school. The evening was a great success, the hall was crowded and about 100 children participated Fancy Dresses were judged by Miss Kemp and Mrs G Hopkins Masterton. Prizes were awarded to children. Bouquets and Button holes were presented to judges and teachers.

4th December That a letter of thanks be written to Miss Murphy for her full cooperation . Especially the way she coached the children at the Fancy Dress.

That a letter be sent to all the schools who participated in the Fancy Dress.

15th December . Roll number 14

1951

5th February Roll 14

8th January Whether the school committee could subsidise the building of a septic tank. And flush toilets.

19th January To ask Wellington Education Board whether they would subsidise the transport of swimmers to Masterton

That Mr O'Conner find a ground for the picnic.

17th March. School picnic held by Ruamahunga Bridge. Race programme in morning and afternoon followed by competitions and games for children and adults.

24th April Firewood for heating the school is almost exhausted .and the committee discussed ways and means of securing another lot of firewood.. Wellington Education Board advised that a bigger grant would be made for fuel

That an account £5-12-6 be paid for lowering the flagpole

That the contract for painting the school has been let.

No action was taken in holding an Anzac Service

4th June Wellington Education Board would not subsidise a septic tank. Claimed to have made an application to Department for full funding.

That an appropriate cabinet be purchased for the purpose of placing the School Committee financial and other records, therein, this cabinet to be placed in the school building

That another can be purchased for the boy's lavatory to replace the current one worn out

7th June. School Doctor and Nurse conducted medical examination of children

26th July .Provided school has a reasonable future A septic tank can be installed for £663

27th September School reopened after holiday. Roll 23

2nd October that the Secretary write to the board applying for a subsidy for a hand lawn mower for the school

2nd November Children travelled to Masterton after school. To see films shown by Navy League. School presented with a pennant to which star has been attached.

13th November Received message to come to Christchurch immediately as father seriously ill. School closed for 3 days

29th November Combined school fancy dress held at Mikimiki school. 8 Kopuaranga children received prizes for fancy dress

30th November Received hand loom and wool from Wellington Education Board

3rd December. Commenced annual examinations

18th December All garden tools and woodwork tools cleaned and oiled before holidays

1952

4th February Roll No. 21

7th February All schools closed today. Death of King George 6th. Flag flown at half mast each day until 15th February – King's Funeral

11th February Children listened to proclamation of accession of Queen Elizabeth the 2nd broadcast from Parliament buildings Wellington on school radio.

15th February Short memorial service for King George 6th. Children observed two minutes silence at 11.00

19th February To write to Wellington Education Board asking for one larger size desk. The two senior girls were rather cramped in the desk they presently occupied

Mr Ward offered to visit Carter's Reserve (Gladstone) to see if it was suitable for a picnic. Otherwise to use Mr Wilton's paddock used last year.

7th March. As unable to get sufficient transport to baths took children to river for a swim this afternoon

21st April That Wellington Education Board be reminded that they had not replied to a letter re drains.

That new mats at a price of £5-16-0 be purchased for the floor of the present classroom.

That when the mats have been placed on the floor the existing mats be sold.

9th May School saving Bank books sent to Masterton for audit.

19th May That the Wellington Education Board would send an officer out to look at the drains.

That a quote be got for a table tennis table for the school

That the local social committee be asked to run dances for the school

That the floor of the school be oiled once annually during the Christmas Holidays

That a letter go to Wellington Education Board asking what are the duties specifically of the cleaner to fulfil the assessed 10 hours per week.

29th May. After school this afternoon we went to special matinee of film Royal Tour of Canada in Masterton .

15th July To Wellington Education Board asking if there were biennial elections for School Committee this year as nothing has been heard about them.

To Wellington Education Board asking whether a Table Tennis table would get a subsidy.

From Wellington Education Board that a grant of £1-8-0 extra for fuel was made.

That the Masterton County Council had been asked to open the old watercourse through the school grounds

5th August Rescinded motion that old mats be sold.

That old mats, tables and forms be available for functions in the district if required.

22nd September That the Wellington Education Board be notified of the dangerous state of the bell tower on the school roof and ask that it can be remedied as soon as possible.

That a grass catcher be purchased for the hand lawn mower

24th November. Group calf and lamb judging was at Matahiwi School.

Combined dance.

Square Dances Red River Girl and Lady Goes round the lady

Dances. Cicassion? circle, Polonaise.

Juniors Paw Paw Patch Thread the Needle etc.

1st December. Completed census of Pre School Children for Wellington Education Board survey.

15th December The resignation of the school cleaner Mrs A R Cottle was received with regret

That a circular be sent to all residents asking for a cleaner

18th December. I am notifying the Wellington Education Board and School Committee of my intention of resigning from my position at Kopuaranga

1953

2nd February Mr Kaye Cunningham relieving teacher

11th February It was decided to make a presentation to Miss Murphy, late teacher who has left the district The value of the present to be in the vicinity of £3-10 and it was left to Secretary to purchase same

8th April Mr Cunningham finished

The school will be closed until a reliever is found. The new teacher will not arrive until 25th May

14th April School reopened. Brian Williams relieving

15th April Afternoon spent cleaning up grounds and mowing lawns

21st April Southerly Storm this morning. Started “spring” clean in the afternoon

27th April That from 1950 all school committees were elected for three years.

The painting of the school has commenced but is now held in abeyance pending the return of the contractor from another priority work

Miss Murphy had been at school 8 years

The committee has made application for the erection of a dwelling on the school property. Especially for a married person

Minutes included

- a) That the present vegetable garden be removed and replaced with a smaller plot

- b) Thanks to Mr A R Cottle a retiring member of the School Committee . Also a vote of thanks to Mrs A R Cottle who had been cleaner for 18 years

8th May Brian Williams finished

25th May New Teacher L A Bateman

Painters are still working on the school

27th May With regard to the coronation ceremony to be held at the school. That a suitable tree be planted to commemorate the occasion. That the Wellington Education Board member be invited. That residents be invited and that afternoon tea be served after the event.

That a letter be written to the board asking for a definition between a cleaner and a caretaker of conveniences that have to be emptied.

28th May School tower and bell were taken down owing to their danger risk

29th May. In the afternoon a Coronation Ceremony was held at the school. Mr Nichol raised the flag and the children helped to plant an English Chestnut Tree. Afternoon Tea was served. Thankful for a fine day. Drain at end of playground was reopened with a bulldozer
School closed four days for Coronation Holiday

11th June. Following two days of continuous rain, the whole district including the school grounds was flooded. Many families were isolated from school. Only 6 children arrived. School closed at 2 p.m.. Had to remove my shoes and socks before reaching the road

15th June That the Masterton group Agriculture Club AGM be attended by the teacher Mr Bateman and any Committee member that was available

That 25 feet of 8" x 1" timber be purchased for erecting shelves in the classroom

That Insurance cover be taken out with State Insurance for those who transport children to different functions in connection with the school.

That the following be purchased for the first aid kit. Bandages, Elastoplast in a roll, sticking plaster, Aspros and Vaseline.

18th June Robin and Dorreen Hood enrolled today. Blackboard space for primers is now very cramped.

1st July During the afternoon the whole school was taken into Masterton to see "A Queen was Crowned"

28th July That Mr Bateman furnish details of those children who are conveyed to school

That arrangements be made with Willowbank Dairies (Masterton) dairy to deliver the required amount of school milk.

That the committee were unanimously in agreement with proposal to conduct scripture lessons ½ hour weekly, that the teacher ask all parents re the matter by letter.

That the installation of a septic tank be pushed on with as this work has now been hanging in the balance for several years.

5th August. Erected a Milk stand outside front gate. Made from parts of the old tower

6th August First milk arrived today in half pint bottles

17th August News blackboards put up this afternoon

20th August. Pet Day entrants from all classes. Among the animals there included horses, sheep, dogs, a pullet, a goat and a kitten

10th August. School closed tomorrow to allow me to be present at the appeal board in Wellington

16th September That Mr Bateman ask the parents whether

- a) For local children to attend the fancy dress evenings run annually with the four schools

or

- b) To hold a fancy dress evening in conjunction with a Christmas Tree

That a letter be written to Wellington Education Board with children from Jackson's Line and asking about a suitable horse paddock at or near the school for the children's horses

13th October Mr Horsfall and Mr Christie from the Traffic Department Wellington displayed a model village and talked about the correct way of crossing roads

14th October That a letter re children's horse paddock be left over until the matter of Motor Transport has been finalised

It was decided to have a Christmas breakup on 17th December at 2 pm

6th November. Senior Pupils attended a Navy League film at Masterton. School was presented with a photo of H M N Z "Achilles" in recognition of the school's navy league work

27th October. School closed in recognition of Governor Generals Visit to Masterton

18th November. Drain across School Grounds deepened by drag line.

1954

7th January A letter of thanks be written to Mr Burnes, manager of Woolworths Ltd and Mr D Stuart of Rangitumau for the generous assistance given in connection with the recent Xmas function

That further letters be written to Wellington Education Board stressing the urgency of having a septic tank and a teacher's residence being erected as soon as possible.

Arrangements for Kopuaranga children to assemble at Wairarapa College for the visit of the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh

That £1 be donated to the Group Agriculture Club to help cover the deficit balance from the last group day.

1st February roll 25

9th February That the noxious weeds in the school grounds be sprayed by the Masterton County Council outfit

The committee was of the opinion that as the present cleaner's duties included the emptying of lavatory pans, he could be classed as a caretaker.

That the school picnic be held at Solway Showgrounds.

That the teacher purchase a set of rubber stamps for use at school.

15th February Children. This day was first swimming lesson today at Opaki

25th February All children go to Opaki for swimming carnival with Opaki, Mikimiki, Mauriceville West and Rangitumau. This was a very successful day with Kopuaranga being at a disadvantage in that there are no children in this school can swim.

2nd March Advice was received that tables and chairs from Wellington Education Board were at the Masterton Railway Station. That Mr W Lambess be asked to collect the same and deliver them to the school.

That the Secretary draft a history of the communications with the Wellington Education Board in regard to the building of a septic tank and also the residence for a married teacher.

That £2 be contributed to the Opaki Swimming Baths used by the children.

That £20-17-6 be asked from the Social Club for a Film Strip projector

6th March (Saturday) A very successful school picnic was held at Payton's Bush. This was very well attended by both children and their parents.

13th March. Milk was delivered on only one day this week (Monday)

16th March. School visited Masterton to see "Royal New Zealand Journey" film

22nd March Mr Robert Whyte a Wellington Training College student arrived at school today for his month's section.

5th April Mr Whyte will be in charge for the week while I am attending a refresher course for rural Teachers in Masterton

14th April That the Wellington Education Board be asked for a clock for the school.

That the charge for use of Opaki Baths would be £3-0-0

It was left to the teacher to conduct a suitable Anzac Day Service

7th May 1954. Application for school house

1952 roll 19, 1953 20, 1954 21, 7th May Roll 27

The teacher is going to get married at end of this year or beginning of next

Amount applied for £ 4,100 Teacher apparently resides in Masterton. School is 9 miles from Masterton 'Approval from Director Education 3rd August 1954,

15th May. School Committee meeting decided that throughout term 2 I will be responsible for making Milo for all children. Materials to be supplied by School Committee

24th May The new desk boards (*Small Blackboards*) arrived today and I am finding them very useful

25th May Thanks to Mr O Goddard of Wellington for showing films in the Kopuaranga hall in aid of School Committee funds free of

charge. The sum of £14.00 was raised The film was about his trip through Africa

That a letter be sent to Wellington Education Board asking for plans of the septic tank which had been advertised for tender

31st May Commenced provision of Milo for the children. Boiling of milk was quite satisfactory although the saucepan is not quite big enough. Rinso and a pot cleaner will have to be purchased.

Received note from Wellington Education Board to say that the matter of a zip heater will be considered in due course

1st June. 6 hoops arrived today from Wellington Education Board . I was told by the chairman that this was the first time in the history of the school that there has been any hoops at school. Indeed the children in Standard 5 and 6 have never even seen one in their lives

4th June. Received six recorders for recorder band today. Sent away for 6 more. The recorders will be purchased by the children from me.

7th June. I removed the wall alongside the sink today as I decided it was too much of an ugly eyesore. School Committee had approved the same.

2nd June That Mr J S Wareham install septic tank plumbing and that the Wellington Education Board carpenters would do woodwork as it would be much cheaper

14th June. Took whole school to Opaki today for football (*Rugby*) and Basketball (*Netball*). Combined with Opaki, Mikimiki and Rangitumau.

17th June A complaint was received by the committee from a parent regarding the treatment of a child by the teacher. Both the teacher and the parent concerned gave their views and after further discussion

the matter was cleared up to the satisfaction of both parties. Mr Grice present

5th July Board carpenters came today to commence work on new latrines. Due to the extraneous noise I have decided to discontinue the Survey until they have finished.

12th July A letter from Wellington Education Board saying they do not provide clocks for school. Moved that the Teacher Mr Grice obtain a price for the clock

Wellington Education Board replied to Mr Grice's letter re a zip water heater that the Wellington Education Board would pay half the cost.

The tender by Mr J S Wareham had been accepted by the Wellington Education Board for installation of a septic tank. The builders were on site getting ready for the installation.

Mr Grice reported that half yearly exams had been postponed because of the noise of the carpenters.

16th and 19th July School closed to enable me to attend my sister's wedding in Te Aroha

9th August That a 3 gallon zip heater be installed subject to a reasonable quote for installation.

2nd September That the Wellington Education Board be asked for a £ for £ subsidy on an Aldis Star 500 Filmstrip projector with a total cost of £ 39-01-0. To be purchased from Chas Beggs of Wellington.

21st September. Plumbers commenced work on septic tank today.

22nd September New Zip heater (3 gallons, *about 140 litres*) installed today.

27th September Received word from Wellington Education Board that approval has been made for a teacher's residence. Tenders will be called shortly.

27th September. Mr Pledger Wellington Education Board architect called. It was decided we should be given 16 new tables and chairs and 2 new wash basins.

We then decided the site for the teacher's residence and I was asked to find out what Mr J P Cottle would want for a half acre section bordering the school property on the South Western boundary.

28th September Mr Grice reported he had received advice from Wellington Education Board that a tender to be called for a residence that was to be erected.

The School Committee have asked Mr J P Cottle to sell ½ an acre for the dwelling to be erected on. It has long been considered to be the most suitable site. Mr Cottle attended the meeting and is definitely willing to sell the site for £ 25.00 subject to the Wellington Education Board meeting the charges usually associated with such a sale.

Mr Grice was asked to communicate Mr Cottle's decision re the sale of land .to the Wellington Education Board

1st October. School closed. Teacher having teeth extracted
Average roll 30. 18 Boys and 12 Girls.

21st October To write to Wellington Education Board asking for information re residence for Kopuaranga. Nothing had been heard from Wellington Education Board since first communication.

22nd October School closed for a shopping day

6th November. Saturday. The bonfire was a great success. Fireworks in abundance and almost every family in the district was in attendance.

12th November The school calf and Lamb judging day was held today. Thirteen Calves and Twelve lambs paraded.. The judge was Mr A D Stuart. Mrs C Jarratt judged a large competition in the flower

section and Mrs E Kempton judged the project work done by the children

17th November. Received Aldis Projector from Charles Begg (*Filmstrip projector. Chas Begg was a music/ projector store*)

19th November Mr Strawbridge Art and Craft specialist spent the morning in the school. Time was spent mainly on Collage and Greasy Crayon work.

25th November Mr Grice stated he wanted to start swimming lessons at the Opaki School. Travel to be by cars. Instruction needs to be on as many fine days as possible.

3rd December. 100% attendance has been recorded this week for the first time this year.

6th- 10th December Children taken swimming every day this week A great improvement has been shown

23rd December Application from Wairarapa Presbyterian Bible Class to use the school for a camp over Easter at Kopuaranga School.. That the proposal be rejected

1955

1st February Roll 28

2nd February Received six copies of new Standard 1 arithmetic book

6th February The Picnic to be held at Payton's Bush.

Mr Grice drew the committee's attention to the deplorable state of the woodwork tools and that after discussion an application be made to Wellington Education Board for a new set.

10th February Received new text books from Wellington Education Board. English 4 books Standard 2 1 Book Standard 1 Arithmetic 5 Standard 2 1 Standard 4

22nd February Surveyors commenced surveying the section for site for teacher's residence

14th March That the Wellington Education Board be asked for a progress report on the residence.

23rd March Wairarapa Country School Sports held in Masterton. Kopuaranga did quite well and 13 certificates were won from this school.

25th April School closed for Anzac Day. Teacher took a commemorative service for children on Friday and the flag was flown

2nd May Householders meet and report

- a) Roll 31
- b) Mr Bateman commenced teaching on 25th May 1953 and on his departure overseas resigned.
- c) That each child received ½ pint of milk each day.
- d) The septic tank has been erected
- e) Gorse plants were sprayed by the Masterton County Council
- f) The Social Club paid the Kopuaranga half of the Filmstrip Projector
- g) Several of the old desks have been replaced by tables and chairs and a new clock has been placed on the wall
- h) The purchase formalities of buying Mr Cottle's land has not happened. On completion of these the residence will be built

Minutes

That the old school bell should be erected permanently and remain there.

It was subsequently moved that the cleaning be left in the hands of the teacher until they have received a complaint.

23rd May The School Committee has brought some firewood into the school during the holidays. They have also erected a new football

post and trimmed the trees which were encroaching onto the football field.

27th May Mathew Clarke cut his toe very badly on a piece of glass today and with Mr J P Cottle's assistance I took him to Masterton to the doctor.

20th May Commencing today. John Jackson has to go to Masterton on Monday and Wednesday and Friday afternoons to receive treatment for injured leg muscles

2nd June Discussion was held on holding a concert or similar to raise funds for the purchase of a duplicator on a subsidy basis.

Mr Grice presented a plan to take the children to Masterton . The committee was enthusiastic.

A letter to be written to Wellington Education Board asking that the sink bench sitting at school for 6 months be installed.

7th June. I spent a day at Rangitumau School while Mr Burgess(*Organising Teacher*) took my school

8th June. Mr Farland teacher at Mikimiki spent the day here. We concentrated mainly on oral expression work.

9th June There has been a heavy fall of snow today. We built a snowman this afternoon- the first most children had ever made.

23rd June. Mary and Robina Jackson removed from roll today have entered correspondence school

24th June. Jane Jackson removed from roll She is attending Fernyhurst Road School

27th June. School Committee installed sink bench and cleaned out drainage system. This has been blocked for years

2nd July Saturday Flood waters have been lapping the school step

7th July Committee decided to install sink bench themselves. It was agreed to charge a sum of £ 30 to the Wellington Education Board for the labour and material supplied.

A new motor has been put in the water pump as the old one burnt out.

12th July. Took all children to Masterton today to see Hogarth Puppets

13th July Children Standard 2-6 taken to Masterton for social studies. Visits to Hansell's, Milk Treatment Station, Post Office, Telephone Exchange and Times Age

25th July John Jackson has been admitted to hospital for 2-3 months with a dislocated hip

30th July The School Committee ran a very successful variety show and produce auction and the sum of £30-10-0 was raised in the evening. Part of this money will be used to purchase a duplicator for the school.

1st August The concert held in the Kopuaranga Hall was a great success

27th September That the £2-10 extra on the duplicator be paid.

Write to transport department asking that a 30 mph (*48 Kilometres per hour*) restriction be put outside the school

That Mr McCallum approach the women's institute re selecting of material and making of curtains for the school

1st November That Mr Jarrett be asked to judge the guys at the forthcoming Guy Fawkes Night.

That a 150 watt light bulb be bought for the schoolroom

That a letter be written to the women's institute for selecting and making the school curtains

Guy Fawkes night was well attended by parents and children The weather was fine and an enjoyable evening was rounded off with a supper of Saveloys heated on the bonfire.

13th December That Mr Grice be granted £2-0-0 to start a petty cash account

To write to Physical Culture Supervisor re the cost size etc of a swimming pool

A discussion developed on the relation between the parents of the district and the teacher. The committee decided to hold the matter over until the first meeting in the New Year.

13th December Tender of Mr F A Clark to build residence for £4107 3-6d be accepted

1956

29th January *No mention of problems with teacher*

9th February To write to Wellington Education Board asking about progress on teacher residence. Six weeks had elapsed since calling of tenders

28th February Moved that levy for country sports be paid

That Wellington Education Board be asked to visit to approve site of swimming pool.

15th April. Write to Mrs Jackson assuring her that the holding paddock for horses has been repaired and is in a satisfactory condition.

Mr McCallum tabled an estimated cost of swimming pool. The total cost of materials was £450. To apply for a subsidy from the Wellington Education Board It was decided to ask the community for support with labour.

The Health Inspector approved of a coke type filter for the baths

21st April Subsidy of £450 approved by Wellington Education Board

That Mr Clarke be in charge of the actual building of the pool

That the Secretary organise labour.

That Mr McCallum supervise whole project and keep hours.

Mr Grice to advertise for labour in the paper.

That an accident policy be taken out to cover the men helping with swimming pool.

29th May Letter from Ben A Fenemor to Bert Cooksley MP asking that a section of Wellington Education Board land be past over the Kopuaranga Hall Society for a community hall

15th June That the meeting approve the chairman's action in having a telephone installed in the new schoolhouse.

27th June The Wellington Education Board has not applied for blinds in a number of houses because of a misunderstanding. One window was not suitable for Holland Blinds and Department changed the request for curtains back to blinds. Wellington Education Board thought that all blinds were banned, as well as curtains. They now want to rectify this at a cost of £20 per house. (20 houses including Kopuaranga)

11th September That we write to Mr Cooksley (MP for Wairarapa), Mr Wallace Wellington Education Board Member, Wellington Education Board asking them to do something about the speeding of traffic past the school

That School Committee pay half of the Telephone rental in the school.

7th November It is with much regret that Mr Grice's resignation be accepted.

That Mr Cooksley be invited to open the new swimming baths on 1st December.

That a Life Buoy be purchased. And testing gear.

That a letter be written to Mrs Knox thanking her for boarding Mr Grice. Mr Grice has now moved into the new house.

23rd November. The site of the residence is recommended to be transferred to the crown for disposal to Kopuaranga Hall Society

27th November Much thanks to Mr J L Grice for his services for the last three years and expressing regret at his leaving.

1957

1st February That no baths keys will be sold or lent to people residing outside the school district. People from outside may accompany locals. This rule along with others will be rigidly enforced

4th February Roll 29

13th February Mrs Steele, the new teacher was present

That the committee be responsible for mowing the school lawns and that the new motor mower be locked in the carshed.

8th March Miss Pemberton came to give swimming instruction, (*School pool been built?*)

19th March That two panes of glass be purchased and replace broken ones in North wall.

15th April Householders Meeting.

- a) Included a new pan and hotplate were purchased for the heating of milk.

- b) When the house was built the water pump could not supply lavatories, school and house. The Wellington Education Board had to replace the pump with a pressure system.
- c) An underground electric cable was run to the school well
- d) The girls lavatory floor was concreted and doors put on all the lavatories for more privacy.
- e) Since the road past the school was tarsealed the committee have been disturbed by the speeding of cars and heavy vehicles past the school The Committee have had signs painted on the road. The traffic department have agreed to send plain clothes Traffic Officers to the area periodically and also a microwave detector.

7th May That the social committee be asked for a grant of £25 to enable the piano be repaired. The estimated cost being £40

That a basketball be purchased.

That wash basins be placed in the small room and the plumbers be hurried along.

Owing to a power failure this concluded the meeting

25th June That a second hand wireless be purchased to replace the one that had a fatal fall. The old one to be brought back to school.

That the teacher should be asked to notify the parents in writing when any alteration to school timetables is to be altered because of sports etc

That the social club be thanked for their donation for repair of piano.

Other matters discussed were

- a) The supervision of children during the lunch hour and the keeping in of children during the lunch hour.
- b) That the plumber nominated by the Wellington Education Board will install the washbasins in the coming week

- c) That the water would come straight from the pressure pump rather to the Water Tank on the North side as at present.
- d) A letter from Kopuaranga social club received. Setting out rules for piano

26th July. The school was closed for a shopping day.

29th July Having received a complaint from a parent re a child receiving burns a resolution was passed and included

- A) The children should not be allowed to play with the fire
- B) Nor toast bread or interference with the fire in anyway.
- C) That only those nominated as monitors be allowed to attend the fire
- D) The children should also have lunch in the one room under the strict supervision of the teacher

Mr Clarke offered to talk to the parents of the child and regretted that the child had been named

Then a letter to Mrs Steele including statements

- A) In February during a drought Mrs Steele sent two of the children to burn paper in the incinerator
- B) Within a few minutes the tinder dry ground was on fire.
- C) If it was not for the fact that the Chairman and Secretary were working in the vicinity and were attracted to the blaze by the crackling of the flames it is hard to know where it would have finished
- D) The fire was extinguished a few feet from the boys lavatory
- E) In the meantime the teacher was taking children in the swimming pool and immediately left the pool with the children still in it.
- F) This breached the rules of the pool

G) The School Committee overlooked the rule this time as the teacher was new

H) On the 25th June 1957 the School Committee the Committee expressed concern about the teacher leaving the children unattended for some of the lunch hour

I) Discussion was also had on the children opening the fire to toast their bread and generally play with the fire

J) The chairman approached the teacher to insist she stay at school

K) The teacher kindly agreed to stay but thought the toasting was harmless.

L) During June the teacher wished to use the filmstrip projector and found that one wire was broken where it entered the switch. The children were allowed to hold the broken wire in the socket so that the teacher could carry on.

6th August That all business transacted by committee be done at a properly formed committee meeting.

That the committee thank Mrs Steele for her cooperation and that after hearing both sides of the story we feel that the whole matter was most regrettable but has served a useful purpose and that a motion of confidence be passed in Mrs Steele

That all correspondence relating to the incident be burnt

26th September. That inquiries be made about a fire extinguisher for the school

That we purchase timber for seats in swimming pool

Arrangements were made for a working bee on a Sunday.

7th August Arbor Day The School Committee came along and some of their wives and trees and shrubs were planted where the new lawn is to be sown

9th November A bonfire was held in the evening followed by a saveloy supper on the tennis court. The fireworks were much enjoyed by the children and a competition for the best guy was judged by Mrs Taylor of Opaki School.

25th November. There was a very strong wind, trees being uprooted and breaking power lines and blocking the road outside the school . A pane of glass was blown right across the classroom as the children were doing their annual exams. Fortunately none of the children was cut. They waited in school after 3 pm until their parents came to guide them home across the paddocks as the road was blocked to cars and dangerous

7th December. The school baths were officially opened for the season. The Physical Education Specialist coming out from Masterton to give a talk and demonstration of the Holger Neilsen method of life saving. The teacher and committee members their wives and other adults present all practised it under Mr Pemberton's supervision

20th December. The school closed with a roll number of 31. 22 Boys and 9 girls

21st December. The break up party and concert combined was held in the district hall. The children's items were much enjoyed.

1958

3rd February The school did not open as the interior walls are still wet from paint

4th February Furniture was put back and library books put on the walls

4th February That 12 Holgar Neilsen Books be purchased from Govt Printing Office (*Lifesaving Books*)

Than an incinerator be placed at the school and also the wireless be replaced. Ask Wellington Education Board

Picnic at Payton's Bush

30 Dozen Cakes, 30 Dozen Sandwiches, 20 Dozen 6d ice cream, 8 dozen ice creams 1 lb of tea and WFCA to be asked for a donation of lollies

That a copper be purchased for the school

7th February School closed in honour of the Queen Mother's Visit

26th February A Mr Cobb, an ex pupil of the Kopuaranga School paid a visit. He has been in England for the last 50 years. His teacher here was Mr Nightingale.

3rd March In the afternoon inter school swimming sports were held at Opaki. Kopuaranga relay team came second (First in First Heat) 25 of our children participated.

26th March. We had a visit from Constable Keith from Wellington Police Force. A sergeant came in during the constable's talk. The constable showed slides of dangerous objects like detonators, hand grenades, his baton handcuffs etc. He blew his whistle too. The children enjoyed it and gathered mushrooms for the constable.

27th March That a loan of £5 be given to Mrs Steele to purchase books, rulers, pencils etc for sale to the children.

14th April Dr (Mrs.) Roberts and district health nurse gave anti polio injections to some of the children. Mauriceville children were here to have them also.

6th May. A carpenter came and put new floorboards in the "spare" room and fixed the lock on the spare room door

29th May. The child welfare officer called at school. Commented on the fine looking healthy children.

12th May The school residence site is passed back to Government

4th June. The singer sewing machine man came and inspected our old machine. He recommended an electric model

10th June. The School Committee were working all day on the new brick incinerator

14th June Than an incinerator be built providing Wellington Education Board pay for material

That a new wireless be purchased from the Wellington Education Board on a subsidy basis. The cost being £22-10-0

That 10 bags of coke be ordered from Mr Lambess

24th June. A fire official came today and inspected the school and residence. He gave them as a fire unit number 186. He inspected the concrete base which has been laid for the new heater to be installed

27th June Mr Mercer moved that in future the whole of the committee would approach Mrs Steele on any matter relating to the school and school business

Moved that all business relating to the dog incident be burnt, this was carried out.

2nd July. A new drill mat received (Mattress)

8th July New Gulbransen radio received

8th July. Payment is withheld for wireless until guarantee etc is in the hands of the committee

That a letter be sent to Anne Taplin thanking her for her excellent job of cleaning the school for the 13 ½ months

11th August. Children washed floor of school room.

22nd August That the supplier of the radio was asked whether 2 months guarantee was correct. School Committee thought this was not good enough

15th September. Children went to in to Knox Hall Masterton in the afternoon for 2nd practice for music festival

17th- 19th September School closed because teacher was confined to bed with acute fibrositis following upon practice on Monday when she got a chill in Knox Hall.

29th September. That the chairman sign the statement by Mrs Steele to Wellington Education Board explaining absence

21st October That an application be made to the social club for £20 for paint to paint the swimming pool

Buy a new padlock for carshed

9th November. Special meeting on account of sudden death of Mr H Knox the committee decided to close the school on Tuesday the day of the funeral at 12.00

11th November Today was to have been calf and lamb day but postponed on account of the funeral of Mr Knox (Not the church)

25th November Application of £20 be increased to £30 to the social club

That the dressing sheds be painted pastel green.

December 1958 School report

- a) Teacher Irene F Steele
- b) Roll 30
- c) The school is well equipped. Library accessions is just under 1000
- d) There is a happy family atmosphere

1959

2nd February Roll 24

2nd February That Wellington Education Board be written to, as space heater not installed. Also the blackboard will have to be resited otherwise 1/3 of the board will be unusable

Saturday the school picnic was held at Rathkeale

20th February. The school was closed in the afternoon for the A & P Show

17th February The interschool sports were held in Masterton . Our children did very well

11th March Visit of Mr (Bob) Stothart PE Specialist Swimming instruction. Three boys did their water skills test satisfactorily and now qualify for a certificate of proficiency

2nd April That the secretary be allowed to burn accounts 1957-58

That residents and children of the district be permitted to use the school tennis court other than during school hours

6th April 3 men came and installed the heater in the classroom (Romesse?)

14th Mr (Bob) Stothart Folk dancing. Only 14 children present. Others away with colds and flu

15th June. Visit of Mrs (Margaret) Stothart Nature Study Specialist

23rd June. The health inspector came to look at the toilets

30th June. Bideford, Mikimiki Matahiwi Rangitumau and Opaki children all came for sport

1st July The district nurse came and tested the Children's eyes.

One Form 1 boy has poor eyesight and should wear glasses

5th August Visit of School Doctor Dr Roberts to see a Form 1 pupil and the nurse examined some of the children.

7th to 11th September. The school was closed for the week, the teacher being in hospital. Some of the choir members went in to Masterton in the afternoon on Monday to the practice for the music festival
20th September. The children went to the matinee performance of the music festival

1st October. The children took part in the evening performance

3rd December The School Committee went into committee to discuss school milk. After a full discussion re milk question being used by the teacher for domestic purposes and the general unsuitability of the teacher for a sole charge possession. It was decided to approach Mr Russell Wallace the Board Member with a letter to the Wellington Education Board requesting the replacement. of the teacher.

That the teacher be asked to come to all meetings 1 hour after the meeting commences.

7th December. Extraordinary meeting. Mr Russell Wallace met the committee at the school .to discuss relationship between teacher and committee. That a letter be sent to the Wellington Education Board asking for an inquiry to the set up at Kopuaranga School

1960

1st February School opened roll of 18

3rd February That the school have a holiday on the 19th for the show.

8th- 11th February Visit of Mr John McDonald Organising teacher, (*Rural School advisor*)

23rd February The senior children went to see the Ten Commandments

16th March. The children's hearing was tested/ All perfectly normal
Mr McDonald called in and tested IQ's of two pupils.

20th April A letter from Mrs Steele saying that she had married and was now Mrs I F Long.

Kopuaranga school entered into a group mowing scheme with 16 schools. The annual meeting was to be held at Masterton Central School

The chairman raised the matter of the lack of supervision by the teacher and the matter was discussed at some length.

Carried 3 votes to 1

30th June That we invite the teacher to committee meetings with 2 days notice in writing prior to the meeting.

Mr and Mrs Hood were welcomed to the meeting to straighten out a complaint about the committee by 3 parents. The meeting was aborted

8th July. Received facsimile of the Treaty of Waitangi also four copies of bulletin The New Harvest

3rd August. Visit Of Mrs Stothart. Children drew magpies and made a wall frieze

16th August. Mr Barker (*Wellington Education Board maintenance officer*) brought new red curtains for the schoolroom.

The choir went into Masterton for festival Rehearsal

7th September. Visit of Mr McDonald He discussed school publications with senior pupils. Were they meeting the children's needs?

8th September The teacher read a report on the school activities for July and August. In the report was a recommendation for a school garden. The committee decided to survey the grounds to find a suitable place for a garden but regret that a garden could not be made before the growing season.

We had discussion on a filter plant for the swimming pool and ways of procuring finance for such a project.

11th October That the grass cutter contact the school before coming so that the children could clear the debris off the field,. Social Club to be asked for £97-10 so we can apply to board for subsidy for the filter

19th October. The children from Standard 3- Form 2 visited Hansell's Laboratory and Plastalon the plastic factory on Dixon Street Masterton

1st November Films arrived (*First mention of*)

1961

1st February School opened Roll 18, 7 girls and 11 boys

2nd February That parents take own food to the picnic. The School Committee will provide ice creams, soft drinks and tea. There would be a donation of 1/- to cover the costs of same. Order of 10 dozen ice creams and 8 dozen soft drinks.

15th February Mr Stothart. He enthusiastically approved the new filtration plant.

21st February School closed for In service training. Dr Arvidson spoke on the teaching of spelling

28th March Householders Meeting

- a) School Roll is 19.
- b) The power meter had not been read for 8 months and then we wondered why bill was so high
- c) The jubilee committee handed over some profit towards the filtration plant.

- d) That the committee and the teacher have come to agreement and are getting on much better. This had involved a lot of meetings with outside parties including the Wellington Education Board, and NZEI.
- e) That the committee carry on the school picnic the same as the last one for the next 2 years.

6th April Senior pupils went for the first time to the Central School for woodwork and cooking classes. 1 pm to 3 pm

5th April Grant for Filtration plant of £166.58 from Wellington Education Board

4th June That 3 new keys be cut, one for the cleaner and two for the School Committee members can keep one each

That a shop day be held in the YMCA Masterton on Wednesday 4th October

16th June The children had a shop day in the afternoon. They raised £5 half of which they gave to Corso (*Corso was a group that sponsored groups in foreign countries*) and half to the Junior Red Cross

21st June 1960 Minutes of a meeting following a complaint from School Committee re Head Teacher Mrs Long.

Present

- a) 4 Wellington Education Board Representatives
- b) 4 Members of School Committee
- c) Mrs Long and Mr Tom Hardy (NZEI, Head Teacher of Carterton School)
- a) A frank and long discussion was held and both parties are not free of blame for the position which has arisen

b) Main complaint was lack of supervision over play and lunch intervals. Although Mrs Long gave an assurance to the inspectorate at the beginning of the year that she would follow the bylaw applying, this had not happened.

c) However following another visit by inspectorate it appears that she followed the by law

d) The School Committee alleged Mrs Long was taking school milk for her own use. Mrs long admitted that her methods of distribution left her open to suspicion and that all left over milk would be returned to the supplier.

e) The teacher then left

f) The School Committee read a letter saying they were still not certain they could retain the cooperation of Mrs Long.

g) On the evidence submitted the Wellington Education Board could not transfer Mrs Long .Even though the School Committee and district were not happy

h) An appeal was made to the School Committee to give Mrs Long another go

i) At 2.00 PM the School Committee agreed to carry on but if Mrs Long failed they would make an urgent appeal to the Wellington Education Board

11th July Inspectors report. That there was an improvement in the school work and tone.

22nd July 9 parents present

That the School Committee had tried for 4 ½ years to get teacher removed as being unfit to be in sole charge of the school

The Chairman undertook to inform the teacher of the resolution first thing on Monday Morning

23rd July Telegram from Mr A B McCallum Chairman of School Committee to Wellington Education Board

That a meeting was held of all parents of children attending Kopuaranga School. *A Copy of this telegram is also in the School Committee minute book*

It was resolved

- a) To whole heartily endorse the School Committee effort over the last two years in trying to have the teacher removed
- b) To forewith keep home the children until the teacher is removed
- c) To set up an action committee of parents to take any action it may think fit

The Wellington Education Board in a split decision decided to ask the Teacher if she would accept a transfer

24th July. School closed by chairman

24th July minutes of the Committee of Parents meeting held in the Kopuaranga Hall.

After discussion. The School Committee accepts the Wellington Education Board inquiry to be held on the 9th August and asks for full detail of procedures as soon as possible

The Board to be advised that the Committee of parents will send their children back to school under protest on the clear understanding that the board accept full responsibility for the safety and welfare of the

children . After that the Committee of parents recommend that the board appoint a supervising teacher immediately

21st August letter from Mr John Cox President of WAIRARAPA NZEI wrote a long letter complaining about the KOPUARANGA School Committee and Stating that the Teacher at the school and teachers in schools enrolling children from KOPUARANGA were upset. The editor of the Times Age apologised for the article published from an anonymous correspondent.

22nd August. It was resolved that it was useless to proceed with any inquiry. The chairman suggested that all parents be asked to remove their children from the school at the beginning of Term 3

Messers Bubb and Clarke said that if their children left they would not return

The chairman said he thought the committee was in a strong position but if Messers Bubb and Clarke persisted in their attitude the work he had done on the committee's behalf was wasted and he would resign

The Secretary said the chairman could not dictate to the committee by resigning.

After further discussion it was resolved to call a meeting to discuss the matter

It was to be clearly understood that a decision as to the future of the school must be made at that meeting

The chairman said he would delay his resignation until he saw the results of the meeting

24th August A meeting of 10 residents at Kopuaranga Hall

That the meeting be unanimous in the decision that the teacher be removed

That we remove our children from the school until such time that the teacher will be removed, when the teacher is removed we will return our children to the school.

That the parents of the school no longer considered an inquiry was of any use.

A brief discussion took place of transporting children to other schools when the parents present agreed to take part in such a scheme (Mr G Clarke again dissenting)

During the meeting it was suggested to Mr G L Clarke by one of the parents present that in view of opposition to the views of the other parents present he should resign from the school committee. This he agreed to do.

As he was leaving the chairman called for his resignation in writing.

25th August Letter to Wellington Education Board from Mr McCallam stating that 9 families would withdraw their children from Kopuaranga unless teacher is removed

4th September 4 children attending Kopuaranga School Mr Clarke had been forced by the chairman to resign because he opposed their action

14th September. Now 5 children are attending as per a letter from Mrs Long

15th – 17th September. Heavy rain More water about the school than I have ever seen before. Lawns covered in water. Lifted children over water at gate, quite a current. Had to wear gumboots to get to garage which was awash

20th October. Children dismissed at 1 pm. Teacher not well

25th October The grading of the school is retained for next year

27th 28th A relieving teacher in charge. Mrs Henderson.

3rd November at 8.15 pm. Following the discussion and acceptance of Mr Clarkes resignation the meeting was adjourned to allow Mr R Fenemor to be contacted. The meeting waited until Mr R Fenemor arrived.

Mr S Palmer then handed in his resignation.

The chairman then proposed that Mr E A Fenemor be contacted. The meeting was adjourned until Mr E A Fenemor arrived

Mr Mc Callum moved the P&T (*Telephone*) account be handed to the teacher as the School Committee had paid the last one.

7th November School closed Teacher Absent

7th November Letter from Mr Bubb Secretary School Committee member complaining against Mr McCallum not calling a meeting of School Committee since August

Then further claims about resignations and non resignations and appointment of new School Committee members when there were no vacancies

21st November Letter from Wellington Education Board to School Committee Main statement that if a School Committee meeting is not called within 7 days then the School Committee will be deemed not to exist,

30th November. Now Gooding and Watson Lawyers are involved. Letter from them to Wellington Education Board Stating that the actions of the School Committee chairman was legal and quoting various acts etc

12th December. Wellington Education Board meeting . Mr McCallum reported he had been assaulted by Messers Bubb and Clarke and that the matter was now in the hands of the police.

A phone call from the President of Wairarapa NZEI attaining that news of Mrs Long's resignation was received by the committee before Mrs Long had received notice of the acceptance of her resignation.

12th December. Wellington Education Board lawyers stating that the action of the Kopuaranga School Committee was legal and the Wellington Education Board actions were wrong.

12th December School Committee meeting That the teacher be informed that the party which the committee understands has been arranged at the school should be allowed to continue

1962

1st February Roll 8

During the early part of 1962. Further correspondence went back and forward especially from Mr Clarke and Mr Bubb to Wellington Education Board making claims and counter claims.

Then further claims from Wellington Education Board that the School Committee was wrong in appointing Mr J Taplin Treasurer of the School Committee because Mr Bubb had missed with valid reason the only meeting held in the meantime,.

Another new teacher. Relieving Mr J Newton

5th February. Roll 6. 4 boys and 2 girls

12th February a letter to Wellington Education Board from Bob Hopkirk Secretary of Wairarapa NZEI (*Principal at Opaki*) saying that school had been advertised with a roll of 12 when this was not the case. Someone from out of town would not have known of the circumstances

22nd February A letter from Mr Wallace Lawyer of Eketahuna stating that he had attended a meeting of the Kopuaranga School Committee and after discussion Mr Bubb was welcomed onto the committee and everything appeared to be good.

There was to be a school picnic soon and Mr Wallace invited a rep from Wellington Education Board to attend

22nd February Appointment of Leslie R Brady from South Auckland. Going to live in the school residence

23rd February. Mr Newton left. School closed for one week

21st February Meeting of School Committee

- a) Mr Wallace Wellington Education Board member and solicitor of Eketahuna and Mr Syd Bubb were present
- b) After a lengthy discussion Mr Bubb was asked to rejoin the School Committee and he agreed to do so.
- c) At this stage Mr Wallace thanked the meeting for their cooperation and said he was very pleased and left.
- d) That Steele and Bull call in and tune the piano first time past.

21st March A letter from Mauriceville East asking if we were interested in the prospects of amalgamation

After a lengthy discussion it was moved that we are opposed to Amalgamation but would be interested in attending a meeting to discuss options

Mr Taplin stated he was pleased so many turned up to the school picnic and make it a success. It was a lovely sunny day and approximately 42 attended.

As the relieving teacher was leaving for overseas he was thanked for the way he had cleaned up the very untidy grounds and thanked him for the manner had had worked in with the children and School Committee.

3rd April Mr L R Brady Took up duties Roll 9

17th April School Sabin vaccination for polio. Given by Nurse

30th April thanked the teacher for coming for the last 6 weeks of the term. If he had not then the teacher might have been appointed elsewhere as there was a serious shortage of teachers.

Would the Teacher pay the first 3 P&T accounts and the School Committee would pay the next three?

That the teacher and chairman buy a Tape Recorder MR1 at around £32-0-0 cost to the school

23rd May 1962 Visit by Board Maintenance Officer who inspected fire prevention facilities.

29th May. Children had second dose of Sabin Polio vaccination

6th June The teacher reported he had looked into Tape Recorders. The one on trial at the school was not suitable as it was a 5" and not available on subsidy. The Wellington Education Board was importing a few 7" tape recorders the price would be £25-0-0. That we write to the board tonight ordering a tape recorder

The children were going to the play King and I

That the Wellington Education Board were unhappy with the filtration plants on a whole. McEwen's stated they would upgrade the filtration plant at no further cost to the school to protect their name. The school's contribution would be £65-0-0

The chairman had talked with the teacher about a buffet tea party to raise funds for the school. When they went into it the cost of music, entertainment, hiring crockery and the supper would approximately 60 people paying 1 guinea (*A guinea was one pound and one shilling*) to pay the cost. The hall would hold 80 people.

A working bee for 9.00 Sunday to be held to cart firewood from Mr Cottle's

11th June School went to see the "musical" "The King and I"

19th July The cabaret was not as successful as hoped. Expenses were £89-0-7 and income £101-4-10. Because of the late notice many had made other arrangements. The patrons really enjoyed the occasion. The teacher did not have a suitable jug to boil milk for the children's drinks. After some discussion the teacher was authorised to purchase one.

7th August. Mr Hedley Board Maintenance officer visited the school for the yearly inspection.

3rd September Roll 9

5th September Received new Tape Recorder

12th September The swimming baths paint was peeling and the baths needed cleaning. A working bee arranged.

24th September. Mr Jack Cox (*Ex Marima School Teacher*) relieving organising teacher paid his first call at the school

15th October. Started filling school baths today.

23rd October Combined Country Schools Park at Elizabeth Park (Sic)

29th October The chairman said he would ring June Ward re the missing father Xmas suit

10th November New filtration plant put in for baths

1963

4th February Teachers Only Day Visited Opaki in the afternoon for group discussions on timetables and infant reading

6th February That McEwen's had come and fixed the filtration plant , there was a hole in sock. The extra earth paid for would be covered by McEwen's. *(The filtration plant had a white diatomaceous earth in them to filter the water. To clean the filter the water was backwashed through the filter)*

11th February School closed Queen visited Wellington

7th March. Took school to see Golden Shears

22nd April Biennial Meeting Notes

- a) Because of the baths the Kopuaranga school has become the social centre of the district during the summer
- b) Mr Les Brady was teacher for the 2nd year. The first year was best forgotten
- c) Mrs Brady is teaching sewing once a week
- d) During the year the School Committee went to a meeting at Mauriceville East to look at amalgamation of several schools in the district. Nothing came of this
- e) That the grass cutting group were trying to cut out two of the schools because of the distance and Kopuaranga was one of these.

8th May We had a successful stall in aid of Corso's Freedom from Hunger. The children manned it and collected £15 A very gratifying effort.

25th June Mr Chappell inspected the school today for my personal report and the school report.

30th July Hame and Lynne chosen for Country Schools Reps against town schools. *(Rugby and netball)*

13th August. Final Festival practice in the town hall. School opened for the third term with a roll of 13

18th September We emptied and scrubbed the school baths

15th October. I took the standard's in the afternoon to Opaki for a trial run through the athletic meeting at Solway showgrounds

30th October Baths fill after Mr S Bubb had spray painted them

9th December. The teacher had looked into having a Xmas tree and the only night the Father Xmas Suit was available was the 19th December This date was agreed to.

Changes were made to the rules for the swimming baths.

14th December. Children went to Mauriceville to see films shown by Lieutenant –Commander Grant on behalf of Navy League

18th December School (Home) Gardens judged by Mrs Jarrett. Ian Taplin the winner.

1964

3rd February Roll 13

6th April The Secretary pointed out we received from Wellington Education Board £12-11-3 per quarter and the accounts for this month almost amounted to that amount. The pool has cost the school £26-11-0 this year and the social club to be asked to pay £25-0-0 of this

4th June That the Tape Recorder be left at school and not be lent out.

18th August Took Children to Noah's Flood this years music festival

7th October. School joined with other members of our group for “Maori Day” at the NZEI Rooms (*Old West Side School in Victoria Street, In 2014 where Masterton Art clubrooms are*)

23rd October Mr Farland organising teacher visited the school. Showed slides of the Maori Day

1965

2nd February Roll 9

8th February

- a) Mr Bubb reported at 8 pm the baths door was open. The chairman to ask the teacher about it
- b) The rules and regulations for the baths were still not posted. The chairman had spoken to the teacher over the Xmas holidays
- c) The school door had been left open over the holidays and had the Chairman spoken to the teacher about it?
 - 1) Why didn't you do it, you have a tongue
 - 2) R Fenemor replied so have you, a long one.
 - 3) The chairman said I think that is a personal remark I think you should withdraw it
 - 4) Mr R Fenemor replied I don't think so
 - 5) The meeting was adjourned until the 17th Feb
- d) That Secretary purchase locks for 3 doors
- e) That the school door be kept locked unless the teacher or cleaner were present
- f) A Finlayson said he was not happy about parties being held in the school

g) That he was asked at short notice for a special occasion. He would not do it again.

17th March. School closed for afternoon. Teacher had to go into Masterton for an x-ray.

28th April Roll 10, 6 boys and 4 girls The district birth-rate is comparatively low.

The low roll means reduced Wellington Education Board grants. However by in large the expenses are still the same.

All the credit for the happy contented atmosphere in the school is due to our teacher, Les Brady and the support from his wife.

The Bubb family have cleaned the school in the last few years and for this we thank them

24th May Roll 8

28th June About 4 inches of snow fell last night. Children made their first real snowman

21st July There were only 17 calves at the group day. But there is nothing Kopuaranga could do about this.

A meeting was to be held at Opaki to discuss diverting the school bus through Mount Bruce and Mauriceville.

11th August. Went to Wellington with Children on railcar. Visited parliament buildings and Broadcasting House., Cable car and HMNZN Otago

Left at 9.00 returning at 7.30 pm

24th September. We combined with Mauriceville West to present an item for the North Wairarapa Country Schools festival held at St John's Hall Masterton. We did “The Three Little Pigs” a musical play

7th October 1965 Teacher reported he had made numbering blocks for the school and they were worth £9-15-0 and he suggested that they apply for a subsidy from the Wellington Education Board

18th November 1965 At the Xmas party instead of a concert each family was to bring a game.

16th November Children had their first swim of the season.

1966

2nd February Roll of 8

16th February 1966 Moved that we have Friday off for the Masterton show.

28th April Took children to see “My Fair Lady” in Masterton

7th June Bubbs Twins started, Roll 9

8th June. Took children to Mauriceville East for basketball and football

22nd June 1966 The teacher said there will be a 7 aside tournament on 25th July

17th October 1966 Insurance, The Wellington Education Board have now taken over insurance liabilities incurred by accidents sustained by pupils on organised tours or visits so the committee decided to let our policy lapse

5th December 1966 The teacher said the school will be without a motor mower when he leaves. The school mower broke about two years ago. He suggested we write to Wellington Education Board as the school mower is about 10 years old

The chairman thanked the teacher for the way he taught the school, he also said the teacher had arrived at an unfortunate time in the schools history and wished him well in his new position.

27th July. School took part in annual 7 aside football and basketball (Country Schools held at Wairarapa College)

16th December L R Brady finished at Kopuaranga

1967

1st February Paul T Puna began duties

Searching for particulars of attendance and birth date of Huia Hanita (1922 Mrs Kingston) who is applying for an old age pension.

2nd February Roll 10

6th February 1967 Welcomed the new teacher and wished him well.

Mr Bubbs went to the Boys and Girls Agriculture Club. There were 16 present and most thought the day was a waste of time. In most cases only a few attend from some schools but they all wanted their own school pet day

The teacher reported the roll was now 11. He is testing them for their classes.

He said the school was short of a brush and pan, toilet paper, waste paper basket, 2 light bulbs and first aid equipment. These were left for the teacher to procure.

16th February. 5 children at school this afternoon. Two parents requested permission to transport their 0 children to see the film “Born Free”

21st February Mrs Fairbrother (Speech Clinic) called in to test for speech defects.

6th March Mr Piotrowski (plumber) repaired the boys toilet and inspected the school gateway in preparation for work we will be doing to broken culvert

9th March. For our Nature Study we have coordinated our programme with the Rangitumau School. Today we had our first field day at Rangitumau. We collected many specimens from the stream

13th March The plumber had discovered the roof is leaking on the residence. He has removed the Malthoid (*Black lining paper placed under the iron*) above the washhouse and replaced it with iron.

21st March Mr Cundy and the Rangitumau Children spent another day with us on “follow up” programme for Nature Study

5th April 1967 A letter received that schools with filtration plants could get a free issue of hymine to put in the baths to stop the growth of Algae.

The teacher read a lengthy statement on the working of the school and how he had been giving the children individual tests.

17th April 14 people attended annual householders meeting. The following were elected Mr McCallum, Mr J Taplin, Mr S Bubb. Two other people were needed but all others declined nominations so that the committee will comprise of three members as has been for the previous years

17th April 1967 Biennial Report and annual meeting

- a) Roll is 4 girls and 7 boys. On current figures the roll should stay similar for the next few years
- b) Because the last two summers have not been the best the pool was not used as much as usual
- c) With the rundown of the social club and their fundraising, there will not be so much funding available from that source
- d) With the advent of TV the school and the Women’s Institute are the only things left that bring us together as a district

18th April We visited the Mt Bruce Reserve with Rangitumau to study bird life

18th April The district nurse gave the new entrants their BCG injection (*Against TB*)

22nd May Education Day held in Town Hall. Speakers were Dr Sutch and others

23rd May Linda Puna started. Roll 12

24th May P E Instructors took children for Gymnastics

7th June The Wellington Education Board said supplies of Hymin had not come to hand and there would be none this year.

13th June. Infants were shown over Mr McCullam’s piggery as part of their animal study

24th July Mr Bubb conveyed our senior pupils (4) to the Governor General’s farewell

28th July Our gymnastic teams attended the novice grade competitions 9-11.30 pm. Div 1 girls 5th .Div 2 Girls 13th

Div 1 Boys 6th Equal. Div 2 Boys 2nd

8th August There was a form on decimal currency conversion to fill in.. It was suggested a parent’s afternoon could be held so that parents could see the children’s work

The teacher said he had made the arrangements to travel with the children down South

20th September. Masterton Boy’s and Girl’s Agriculture Club decided to go into recess. Leaving Mr McCallum and The Chairman from Taueru to have the books and call a revival meeting

4th October Mr Gannaway from the Post Office Saving Bank spoke to the children about “Savings week and Sending Telegrams”

9th- 13th October Measles in the district. Six children at school

16th October. Mr Verboord (Health Inspector) inspected the well and dyed sewerage system at school and residence to see if there is seepage into the school water supply.

20th October. District Nurse spoke to the Children on the value of Fresh Vegetables for health

25th October. Mr Piotrowski began cleaning out the septic tank at the residence

30th October Mr Verboord taking samples of our water for testing
Today standard 1- form 1, Six pupils will leave on their South Island trip to view power stations etc. Infants will be left with Mrs Puna

31st October. Septic tank overflows dug up and replaced for better overflow (School and Residence)

2nd November Seniors arrived back from South island today. Tourists were Mr Puna (teacher) Mr McCallum (Bus Driver) Mrs McCallum (Chaperon) Heather and Andrew McCallum, Phillipa Bubb, Margaret Ann Clarke Kevin Fenemor and Philip Gleeson.

8th November. Mr B Cottle brought the children a case of apples

15th November Three PE advisers called in to deliver our baths testing equipment and to test our baths water.

21st November in the evening we attended a folk dancing Social with Mauriceville East as host. (Mauriceville East and West, Ihurara and Kopuaranga

28th November. Mr McCallum removed and took the Filtration plant Motor into town for repairs

12th December. We held a combined (Mauriceville West and Rangitumau) picnic, sports, nature study, at Mr Brophy's picnic ground

1968

6th February roll 11

8th February 1968 The teacher took the Motor Mower into Masterton to Wright Stephenson's. It would cost £16 to fix. S Bubb said he would look into it.

24th February (Saturday) Our school picnic was held at Mr Brophy's farm The day was fine and warm and enjoyed by all playing softball, pegball, swimming and relaxing in the shade. The committee provided 4 Dozen ice creams and 6 Dozen bottles of drink

10th–15th March. Kevin Fenemor, Philip Gleeson, Andrew McCallum, Margaret Clarke and myself journeyed into the Akatarawas for our combined camp

Infants journeyed daily to Opaki School where they were taken by Mrs Barnes and Mrs Campbell in a combined group with Te Ore Ore, Mikimiki and Opaki.

The school camp was successful Camping out, hiking, bush study, General Motors, living eating and sleeping together and of course a wealth of material for follow up work in their classrooms

25th March Mr Verboord (health inspector took another sample of water for testing.

29th March. Mr Gordon Tarrant arts and craft instructor spent the morning at school.

2nd April The Standard 2 pupils of Harley Street school visited Kopuaranga on their way to Mr Bubb's honey house.

10th April A violent storm hit the district this morning., uprooting trees, blowing over fences and causing wide spread damage to power lines.

At the school the residence lost its chimney pot. The wind blew in the a school gate. The shed door was blown off, netting around the tennis court blown down, a cabbage tree blown down across the entrance and many branches were scattered over the grounds. The baths are full of leaves and there was no electricity

No Children turned up for school as it was too dangerous to leave home.

11th April Still no power hence no water for flushing toilets etc.
 During morning interval the children cleaned up the playground.
 Carting away branches and picking up pine cones etc
 22nd April Mr Piotrowski repaired and renewed the down pipes and
 forty feet of spouting on the school roof.
 21st May. Mr Porter; Bird Proofed the boy's toilets
 26th May 1968 The teacher stated he had filled in a form for HTH for
 the swimming baths.
 That there was enough money in the school sports and education fund
 to get a 5 layer vaulting horse and a beam. There would be a subsidy
 of £ for £
 It was decided to purchase a new lawnmower for £57-00 with a
 subsidy from the Wellington Education Board
 8th June. "Work Day" at school postponed because of heavy rain. In
 spite of this Mr Hood and Mr Robert Fenemor turned up to do some
 work as they are unable to come next meeting
 15th June. Saturday work day at school .Messers McCallum, Taplin,
 Bubb, Hood, Fenemor and self cut up school wood, removed the
 hedge from the back of the swimming pool, cut back the overhanging
 branches from the trees and generally tidied up the grounds, using the
 chain saws and tractors.
 20th June The children and I spent all morning observing Harley
 Street school children at work. The children had the opportunity to
 work with children of their known level in maths, reading etc and
 thoroughly enjoyed the way they were received
 5th July. The school was burgled last night. A Mantle radio and
 filmstrip projector was stolen. Police and committee were notified
 8th July Committee delivered a new Morrison motor mower to the
 school

16th July Mr Scott Photographer took photos of the children
 22nd July. The whole school visited Masterton to see the movie Sound
 of Music
 29th July. The radio has been recovered by the CIB but there is no
 sign of our slide projector yet
 8th August. The slide projector has been recovered by the CIB
 13th August The senior children journeyed to Pahiatua this afternoon
 to see "Augustus Rodin and his contemporaries art show"
 2nd September 7 children
 19th September 12.30 Everyone at school visited Mauriceville West
 for the purpose of
 a) Having a combined agriculture day meeting
 b) Combined games afternoon
 School drinking water found to be contaminated. Health inspector
 took 2nd test and also a test in the old well as it is intended to go back
 to the old well for the school supply.
 1st October Board Maintenance Officer and Mr Verhaart and School
 Committee members inspected school (House is also connected to the
 same water supply.)
 a) Mr Verhaart thought the old well was also contaminated.
 b) Mr Wallis, Wellington Education Board was made aware that
 the 1967 and 1968 maintenance surveys had not been done.
 7th October The well water was condemned for drinking so
 Wellington Education Board would fix it .
 12th October Local Bodies elections held in school room
 8th November Throughout the year we have been seeing films once
 every month, using Rural Adviser's projector (Mr Farland)

25th November According to Mr Wallis maintenance officer 1968
The chairman said he had been in contact with the Wellington
Education Board about the water supply.

The teacher said he would like the children to go to the beach for a
sea study as part as Nature Study.

. 17th December. The trees along our road frontage are being removed
as they have been interfering with the P&T (Telephone) lines

19th December. Picnic at Castlepoint . We completed our study of the
Rocky Shore, Shown over the lighthouse,

School closed with roll of 12. 8 boys and 4 girls

1969

28th January a 5000 gallon tank for water was installed at the school
today. The School Committee and myself think that this is
insufficient water as the house toilet and outside taps are connected to
the tank also. The school toilets are on well water, along with baths
and showers

2nd March Over fifty parents friends and children attended our
Annual Picnic at Mrs Brophy's Farm

20th March 1969. Roll now 13

1st April Mr Porter completed the bird proofing of the toilets (Began
in April 1968)

21st April 1969 Biennial Report

- a) The Wellington Education Board is extremely slow in doing
agreed maintenance.
- b) Thanks to Paul Puna for keeping the grounds so neat and tidy.
- c) Thanks to Mr Bubb for taking the children to his honey house
and to Mr McCallum for having the children visit his piggery

18th June 1 inch of snow around the school and grounds

2nd July Snowing heavily all afternoon

11th June Residence wallpapered in 3 rooms

17th July The Governor General and his wife (Sir Arthur and Lady
Porritt) stopped at the school and met the teacher and children whilst
on the visit to the Wairarapa.

16th and 17th. Mr Farland and I have been experimenting with the
children on tape recorder (Interviews, news, sound pictures stories
etc)

23rd September. The school received \$20 as a donation from the
Wairarapa Manawatu Trustee Saving Bank towards our school
library.

24th September. Advised that Margaret Ann Clarke had won the
intermediate section of the national Art Competition She got \$4.00
and the school \$5.00.

1st October Entertained Mauriceville West by presenting our
Hawaiian concert to them in the morning and putting down a
Hawaiian Umu for lunch

The senior children hiked up to the Hidden Lakes for Social Studies.

The infants went through their athletics and read stories

2nd October Masterton East children came to see our Hawaiian
Display

3rd October Mikimiki School Hawaiian Display

6th October Parents came to see our Hawaiian Display

7th October Te Ore Ore

9th October Opaki Children

23rd October. Visited Opaki to see their Philippines Study and play
games

19th October Form 2 testing At Lansdowne School 9.00 to 12.00

29th November National Polling. 49 people cast their vote

2nd December 1969 The teacher said he taken the Perspex off the filter shed and replaced it with netting to stop the motor from sweating

That a visit to Castlepoint be held on the last day of school.

3rd December. Mr Alpe (Wellington Education Board Secretary), Mr Wallis and Mr McCallum and Mr Taplin and myself met in regards to our complaints about the unsatisfactory maintenance record All complaints were looked into and after much discussion all parted with the hope that future maintenance will be carried out correctly

6th and 7th December. Had Mr Fenemor bring in a mob of sheep to clean up unwanted grass in the playground

18th December. Janice Taplin and Kevin Fenemor will be going to Makora College next year

1970

3rd February 11 children

16th February 1970. There would be a holiday on March 13th given by the Queen

The teacher asked if the Church rang up asking for the grounds to be used for a picnic would it be all right. That the church be asked for a donation to use the grounds.

The trip to Riversdale Beach be on 8th – 10th March and the cost be \$4-00.

2nd March We travelled to Wellington by minibus

- a) Museum to see Captain Cook exhibit
- b) Zoo

c) American Icebreaker “Burton Island” and the tourist ship “Northern Star”

6th March we visited Golden Shears from 2 to 3 pm

8th March 9 children (Standard 2 to Form 2) left for our camp at Riversdale. Two Infants came out each day.

13th March. School holiday to enable the children to attend the Queen’s visit in Wellington

15th April The painters from Pahiatua inspected the roof of the school in readiness for a repaint as the painters from Masterton had failed to carry out a satisfactory job.

22nd Wellington Education Board assistant Secretary, Mr Brown Inspector and Board member visited Kopuaranga for the purpose of meeting the and School Committee members and children to discuss school problems

The main discussion was centred around the poor work being carried out by contractors employed by the Wellington Education Board With special mention of slowness and poor painting.

13th June The Chimney Sweep swept out the chimney at the schoolhouse

22nd July 1970 That there had been no maintenance at Kopuaranga School since the end of 1968.

The teacher told us he was leaving to become 1st Assistant at Greytown School . The teacher thanked the committee. It was decided after Mr Puna left to hold a farewell party at Mr McCollum’s

3rd August. Rubella injections given by Doctor and school nurse

20th August The children gave presentations to myself, wife and children An evening function and presentation was also given

21st August. Paul Puna finished. Mr Campbell new teacher. Mr I A Aitkenhead (Ivan?) didn't take up position as the Wellington Education Board wanted him to move from Balclutha too quickly

7th September Roll 12

11th September. A visit to a cave on Mrs Brophy's property between 1 and 2 pm. Our two vehicles were used.

14th September. Bob Hopkirk now rural adviser

22nd September Discussed Woolworths Shopping List for a Christmas Party with the children

Padder tennis nets were put up

28th September Spent the first half hour cleaning up the wind damage

5th October. The mower man came to cut the grass

15th October. The new teacher P Campbell was welcomed. The roll was 8 boys and 4 girls

That we hold a Guy Fawkes night on the 9th November Ladies a plate for both the Guy Fawkes and Calf day. That a bottle of cordial be got for each event

3rd December. While the girls had handcraft and sewing the boys and I did some tidying up the flower beds and gardens

1971

2nd February Roll of 12

3rd February All the children arrived with their stationery money which meant that we were able to start the first terms work today

11th February Took the children up to Abraham's strip from 1 to 2 pm to watch the topdressing plane in action

15th February Water in the baths still remained murky in spite of hand chlorination in the evenings

19th February Gave PAT (*Progressive Achievement Tests. These were national tests with New Zealand Norms, and were very helpful in a small school to find where children were at*)

Tests from children in Standard 3 upwards

3rd March Mr Blake the mowerman came to mow the field

9th March. Mrs Churcher took the children for bible training for half an hour

10th March 1971. That the Religious Instruction be held on Friday Mornings instead of after school.

5th April Took the football, netball and some pneumatic balls in for inflating

19th April 1971 Mr McCallum said he would not be chairman as he had been chairman since 1955

23rd April At approximately 2.30 an Anzac day service was held here. The guest speaker was Mr Bubb and nine parents attended, the simple but enjoyable service presented by the children

27th April A photographer from Fotochrome in Dunedin arrived to take photos of the children at 9.30

28th April From 1 pm to 2 pm we spent an enjoyable time watching the men at work deviating the Kopuaranga River near the first railway crossing going North. Mr Bubb offered to transport the children up

1st June Mr Blair spent the day in the school inspecting me for a personal report

9th June 1971 The teacher decided to continue on with a Shop day for the depleted school funds. There would be produce, meat, cake, jam, preserves and raffles. Each member said they would canvass a part of the district. The Secretary was left to collect the sheep from the

works, get plastic bags, change and put two advertisements in the Times Age

14th July School closed at 12.00 to allow the 8 boys and myself time to get into see the Lions Wairarapa Bush rugby match

29th July All the girl's are away today with various ailments

6th September Roll 13.

8th September. Owing to the adverse conditions we looked at filmstrips of Christchurch rather than doing PE

21st September School closed at 2.00 to allow those who were going to Christchurch time to get ready

15th October. The cleaning hour was spent cleaning up the front of the school

30th November 1971. That the chairman of the hall committee be contacted and directed to hold a meeting. The School Committee is concerned about the run down condition of the hall

1972

29th February. The boys have taken to playing cricket.

22nd March. Andy and Philip began the first of their Manual Training lessons at the training Centre opposite Central School

15th April 1972 Thanks to Mr McCallum for taking the Anzac service at the school.

The All Blacks were to play on Wed 31st May at Masterton and the teacher would take what children were interested.

Discussion was held on the report that Form 1 & 2 would go to Intermediate School. The committee were against the idea and as many as possible would go to the meeting at Mauriceville on Monday to voice our opinions against the move

24th April At 2.30 the school observed Anzac Day with Mr McCallum being the speaker and Mrs Jarrod providing the wreath

1st June !3 children present

No More Log entries until 1973

14th November Inspectors report Mr Pine Campbell
Roll 12

2nd November Nothing would be done about the taking of children to Intermediate until the middle of the year and then there would be consultation.

4th December 1972 Re combined Calf Group Day. Opaki said they would leave it this year and Mt Bruce they would have transport problems

The school could do with 1 yard of sand for the bell tower and drums for the barbecue.

The teacher said he would be away for a month and someone else would have to look after the baths during the holidays

1973

6th February Roll 11 8 Boys and 3 girls

11th -15th February Attended a week long course on Audio Visual Aids- Run by Mr Foreman of the inspectorate. Mrs Kempton who taught here in the early 50's relieved for me

13th March 1973 That we hold a meeting on the first Wednesday of every 2nd month. That the working Bee for firewood be on the 24th March.

16th April 1973 The Biennial Meeting of the School Committee included

a) Roll is now 9 boys and 4 girls

- b) The shop day raised \$178.00
- c) If the same support from the district is shown in future years the school should stay open for 100 years
- d) That Kopuaranga School is opposed to decapitation of Form 1 & 2 to Intermediate School
- e) A discussion took place on the future of the school. 1972 was noted as our worst year and that things look much brighter.

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6th June That half of the money for baths cleaning go to the teacher.

3rd October That we approach the garden circle to help the teacher in making a pebble garden around the bell tower

That the teacher buy a stapling gun

That Guy Fawkes Day and Pet Day would be held on November 5th

5th December Asked the teacher that the children write to the garden circle thanking them for the very nice garden arrangement

That we sponsor P Campbell 5 lengths of the baths at 50 cents per length in the swimathon

1974

13th February Roll now 11

16th April The committee accepted the \$5.00 donation from the Toll room social club for use of the school grounds

The teacher reported the roll at 13 and they would soon want some fire wood

7th August. A meeting of parents of the town (Masterton). Children are wishing to come to Kopuaranga but the lack of a driver it has been called off for the present.

There were two solo mums living in Dorset Road who take 3 children into town. Malcolm McCallam was to be asked to approach them about bringing the children to Kopuaranga

2nd October The committee decided on the 3rd November for a working bee to clean the baths

4th December That the Xmas Hangi would be on the 18th December at 7pm. Xmas tree gifts would be about 9.00

25th November Then a note saying the roll would be 10 and the school would remain open

No more entries. until A new teacher in for 1975

1975

Mrs Anne Goodwin Teacher

4th February Roll 10, 3 Boys 7 Girls

5th February Mrs Goodwin at School Committee meeting

That a Barbecue be held at 6pm rather than the usual picnic. The Secretary to get 6 dozen ice creams, tea and sugar

The Secretary to ask Mr Goodwin if he would clean the school baths

3rd April Mr Goodwin would clean the baths for an allowance

Wellington Education Board asked about the preschool roll after a discussion the School Committee decided to hold it over until the householders meeting

The meeting discussed getting an electric heater so the Secretary to write to Wellington Education Board and ask for same and also the matter of curtains

The teacher asked for something for the amusement of the children. J Taplin said he would get a tractor tyre. Cut in half and fill them with sand

The Secretary to write to P Campbell asking for entries to the log from 17th June 1973

11th March Inspectors came to school to find out about our roll numbers and expected New Entrants for the year

20th March. Note from Wellington Education Board saying that a permanent head teacher would not be appointed until certainty of Kopuaranga maintaining roll was in place

21st April 7 children spent two hours on a working bee at school clearing weeds pine needles etc.

23rd April A letter from Wellington Education Board saying they were unable to provide alternative heating.

That as long as the school retains its present teacher and its present roll that we continue to endeavour to keep Kopuaranga open, but should the situation change then the committee should review the situation.

29th April We all collected pine cones for the school this morning

16th May School reopened Roll of 9

10th June After School I purchased a soccer ball and 2 hockey balls from Doug Springers and 4 lb of rope for skipping from FCDC The money came from Trustee Account

13th June. Purchased a scrabble set, snakes and ladders, happy families snap, old maid with PO Money

8th July .Fire prevention officer came to check the Fire Extinguisher and Fire Exits

6th July A reporter and photographer from the Times Age came out to take photographs as the school is to close at the end of the year.

19th July Messers Gooding, Jackson, Gibson and Abraham spent the afternoon constructing a jungle gym for the children to climb in. School owes Mr Abrahams one shovel handle

9th July An internal note in Wellington Education Board That Kopuaranga School will close at end of year. We have in recent years great difficulty in finding suitable accommodation in Masterton . I wish for the house to be retained for teachers in Masterton

Someone else wanted the residence to be attached to Opiki (Near Shannon) I presume he meant Opaki

21st July Mr Hopkirk came today sorting which books to send to the dump

22nd July It snowed today twice. Children went outside to play in it. First time infants have felt snow.

17th July Article from Times Age included

- a) Decision made by School Committee to amalgamate on Opaki School
- b) Children will be transported
- c) Schools needed roll of 9 to have a certificated teacher
- d) District keen to retain building and baths
- e) Four children travel to Kopuaranga each day from Eketahuna They travel home each day on the late afternoon railcar
- f) The eldest of this family will attend College next year. And not fair that the youngest three travel on the railcar alone.
- g) "If you take the school out of the district you take the heart out of the school"

23rd July Mrs Churcher reported on a meeting at Opaki School outlining future transport. Bus leaves Kopuaranga for Opaki at 8.30 and returns at 3.45

Arrangements were made for a wood supply and materials for an adventure playground and for a working bee next Saturday.

1st August Wairarapa was hit by very strong winds today. The weather worsened at lunch time, pine cones, needles and small branches. Two large pine trees fell on the grass area and in case more fell closed the school down. I took the three children over to my own place and when the wind dropped a little the parents came to collect them

6th August Travelled to Greytown to visit Cobblestones Museum as part of our Social Studies topic on Early New Zealand. Mrs Churcher came with us.

15th August Wairarapa country schools winter sports at Wairarapa College. The girls played Netball and Hockey and the boys played Rugby and Soccer.

8th September School opened with a roll of nine. Five infants and Four seniors

3rd October. Senior children went to Mikimiki for a Cross Country Race.

21st October Guy Fawkes, one packet of fireworks worth \$1.50 per child

There would be two trips to Wellington.

It be put to the committee of the school closing function format

29th October. Children started cleaning the inside of the pool. Pool started to be filled.

6th November Fireworks had doubled in price so amount be halved to keep in budget

Opaki School to collect equipment they need on December 18th at 9.00

It was decided at the pets day to have a social function in the Kopuaranga Hall on Saturday 20th December at 8 pm to mark the closing of the school

18th November. Swimming started today.

19th November. We travelled by railcar to Trentham to visit the police dog training section. Mrs Churcher accompanied us.

Letter from School Committee to Wellington Education Board dated 15th November 1975. Included

- a) This letter is the views of the Kopuaranga School Committee and district
- b) It is the definite opinion that the Kopuaranga school remain open
- c) That the advantages of retaining our own school far outway all other considerations
- d) We believe that this district has an exceptionally good community spirit
- e) This community spirit will be lost when the children are taken to another school
- f) The Kopuaranga school is a natural extension of the family unit.
- g) Parents with children at Kopuaranga school are directly involved with their children's education for at least 8 years
- h) Inevitably there would be a tendency for parents to become less involved with their children's education
- i) In this day of TV and better communication by road with the local town it is a fact that the school has been the hub of the community

- j) The closing of a country school is another step in the urbanisation of New Zealand Life and the denuding of the rural areas of their amenities
- k) Listed all the occupations of the children who had been at Kopuaranga school for the last 20 years.
- l) Three members of the current committee have served for over 50 years. This is an in between time before the next generation take over.
- m) It seems to be a backward step to break up a community like ours.

Notes for Wellington Education Board Chairman and Mrs Helen Prior Wellington Education Board Member

- a) Roll projected is 9 but is suspect
- b) Our opinion children would get a much better deal at Opaki School
- c) Opaki only 5 miles away
- d) A bus to Masterton passes at 8.20 am and would Pass Opaki at 8.30
- e) Pick up time would be 3.45 in evening

1st December. Mrs Hair came out to give the children a demonstration of mouth to nose resuscitation with the manikin

18th December. Opaki School Committee came to remove desks etc from the school. Our children went to Opaki for a buffet lunch and a swim

19th December. Kopuaranga School closed for the final time with a roll of 9 children.

1976

January 1976 House occupied by Mr R C McConnell rural adviser

3rd March 1976

Letter from Wellington Education Board re removal of Romesse Heater

Discussion on school special account. Mr Abraham to send an account for \$40 for firewood.

Buildings

AS from National Archives

1885 School building 394 sq feet

1897 Addition of 618 sq feet. Total 1012 square feet

Still the same on 31st January 1951

Residence

Erected 1899 7 rooms arranged to be Sold 29th July 1914 9th August

1917 sold for £50

1956 New House was 1000 sq feet.

Swimming Baths erected 5th July 1954. Wellington Education Board contribution £450

26th March 1914. Letter from Wellington Education Board to Secretary of Education

- a) The building always inferior is now riddled with borer
- b) It has been in the hands of the Wellington Education Board since 1889, but there is evidence that prior to that it was used for other purposes

c) It was built of white pine the timber that was generally used in that district at a time of rapid growth in the expansion of that district

d) Although the board has used every diligence and has indeed spent more than ordinary residence, for instance it has entirely refloored it in an endeavour to make it habitable. The money really appears to have been unwisely spent.

e) The board then asks

(i) That housing allowance be paid to teacher from 1st January

(ii) That provision be made a grant for £450 for the erection of anew residence.

f) The teacher now in charge has declined to put furniture in it on the ground, which is admittedly reasonable, that destruction of the furniture would follow

4th April 1914. To Wellington Education Board would you please make your application for a residence on form G-6

20th May. Application on correct form made.

Accompanied by. The present teacher has lately had to live in lodging, the Wellington Education Board asks that a house allowance be paid

6th July Letter from Secretary of Education asking what has happened to the authority of the 12th April 1911 to expend £25 on a bathroom for the residence. I should also be glad to receive an explanation of the apparent discrepancy of the statements made in

your memorandum of the 16th September 1910 and in current correspondence.

Reply. No grants were made

22nd July 1914. Wellington Education Board now find house was built in 1884

29th July 1914. Secretary of Ed

a) Housing allowance paid

b) Wellington Education Board to dispose of house

c) The expenditure of pounds for bathroom has been written off

5th August. Application for new house has lapsed.

16th May 1917 Has the old house been disposed of? From Secretary of Ed

8th December 1916. Tauherenikau house has been sold. But suitable offers for Kopuaranga have not been received

26th July 1917 House has been sold for £50 (money paid back to Education Department)

24th May 1976. That school with the exception of the residence and garage be made available to the Kopuaranga Hall Society

20th August. 1976 That the school house and residence be retained by the Department

25th January 1983 Section to be sold after house is to be removed by Wellington Education Board

27th September 1983. R H Fenemor to get schoolhouse land at a cost of \$2700

APPENDIX

Below we can see information on Mr Wardlaw Teacher at Dreyerton until he left under a cloud in 1899 following allegations by his Pupil

Teacher and other girl pupils in 1897 .The pupil teacher Miss Violet Boddington followed The Wardlaw Family to Western Australia. So perhaps Mr Wardlaw was not as evil as the information showed

1894/3153	Wardlaw	Cecil Pender	Mary	Thomas Drysdale	-
1893/11092	Wardlaw	Mary Pender	Mary Russia	Thomas Drysdale	-
1891/4977	Wardlaw	Lillian Mary	Mary	Thomas Drysdale	-
1892/6542	Wardlaw	Caroline	Mary	Thomas Drysdale	-
Electoral Roll	Thomas Drysdale Wardlaw	1896	Masterton		Wellington

Violet Boddington married Albert E Stone in Pilbara Western Australia in 1908 .

Birth Certificate for Violet Boddington

1879/17059	Boddington	Violet Maud	Ellen Theresa	Joseph Compton	-
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Tracing the path for Mr Wardlaw in the 1890's

Eketahuna School	Assistant Appointed	5 th May 1890	WD	
Waihenga School <i>Martinborough</i>	Head Master	4 th July 1890	WD	
Residence Burned Down			7 th June 1894	WDT
Mauriceville East	Promoted to Head Teacher		29 th June 1894	WDT
Dreyerton School	Headmaster		30 th August 1894	WDT
Played Organ at Church Favourable Report			27 th October 1894	WDT
Takes Up Duty Early Next Month	Dreyerton		8 th September 1894	WDT
Wife Loses Greenstone Brooch Offers Reward			6 th May 1895	WDT
Sang at Church Soiree			10 th May 1895	WDT
Arranging Lectures and concert			7 th June 1895	WDT
Arranges concert in Dreyerton School Library			20 th January 1896	WDT
Lectures at Dreyerton Mutual Improvement Society			15 th August 1896	WDT
Furniture and Effects Auctioned at Dreyerton School			7 th January 1899	WDT

1885	33	Dreyerton	Mackay	Kenneth	Master	£160
1886	35	Dreyerton	Mackay	Kenneth	Master	£160
1887	29	Dreyerton	Everiss	Andrew	Master	£180
1888	31	Dreyerton	Smith	John A	Master	£175
1889	26	Dreyerton	Smith	John A	Master	£175
1890	27	Dreyerton	Parkinson	Henry A	Master	£175
1891	29	Dreyerton	Parkinson	Henry A	Master	£175
1891	29	Dreyerton	Blade	Ada	Sewing	£5
1892	12	Dreyerton	Parkinson	Henry A	Master	£185
1892	12	Dreyerton	Blade	Ada	Sewing	£5
1893	25	Dreyerton	Parkinson	Henry A	Master	£185
1893	25	Dreyerton	Blade	Ada	Sewing	£5
1894	37	Dreyerton	Wardlaw	Thomas D	Headmaster	£195
1894	37	Dreyerton	Walton	Margaret C	Female Pupil Teacher	£32
1895	41	Dreyerton	Wardlaw	Thomas D	Headmaster	£195
1895	41	Dreyerton	Walton	Margaret C	Female Pupil Teacher	£32
1896	47	Dreyerton	Wardlaw	Thomas D	Headmaster	£195
1896	47	Dreyerton	Boddington	Violet	Female Pupil Teacher	£32
1897	46	Dreyerton	Wardlaw	Thomas D	Headmaster	£215
1897	46	Dreyerton	Boddington	Violet	Female Pupil Teacher	£32
1898	40	Dreyerton	Wardlaw	Thomas D	Headmaster	£205
1898	40	Dreyerton	Boddington	Violet	Female Pupil Teacher	£37
1899	33	Dreyerton	Beaglhole	E W	Headmaster	£185
1899	33	Dreyerton	Boddington	Violet	Female Pupil Teacher	£37
1900	30	Dreyerton	Beaglhole	E W	Headmaster	£185
1901	36	Dreyerton	Beaglhole	E W	Headmaster	£175
1901	36	Dreyerton	Franklin	Agnes	Sewing	£5

1902	35	Dreyerton	Nightingale	Henry J		Master	£147
1903	37	Dreyerton	Nightingale	Henry J		Headmaster	£145
1904	39	Dreyerton	Nightingale	Henry J		Master	£149
1905	44	Dreyerton	Nightingale	Henry J	D1	Headmaster	£158
1905	44	Dreyerton	Hogg	Ellen C	E4	Mistress	£80
1906	42	Kopuaranga	Nightingale	Henry J	C1	Headmaster	£165
1906	42	Kopuaranga	Waldie	Mary Mrs	E4	Assistant Female	£85
1907	39	Kopuaranga	Nightingale	Henry J	C1	Headmaster	£165
1907	39	Kopuaranga	Smith	Sarah M		Assistant Female	£85
1908	35	Kopuaranga	Nightingale	Henry J	C1	Master	£165
1909	31	Kopuaranga	Nightingale	Henry J	C1	Master	£170
1910	33	Kopuaranga	Nightingale	Henry J	C1	Master	£175
1911	32	Kopuaranga	Ross	Arthur W	D2	Master	£150
1912	32	Kopuaranga	Jackson	Patrick M	C2	Master	£150
1913	33	Kopuaranga	Jackson	Patrick M	C2	Master	£155
1914	37	Kopuaranga	Campbell	Kathleen	D1	Female	£180
1915	32	Kopuaranga	Campbell	Kathleen	D1	Female	£200
1915	32	Kopuaranga	Isles	Flora M	D5	Assistant Female	£120
1917	31	Kopuaranga	Campbell	Kathleen	Sole	C-58	£220
1919	21	Kopuaranga	Power	Mary E	Sole	D-89	£200
1921	21	Kopuaranga	Whittington	Charles V	Sole	D	£220
1923	22	Kopuaranga	Aitchison	Evelyn R	Sole	D-157	£293