

# Ohau

## 1890-1891

1890		Ohau	Vacant
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1891	30	Ohau	Brown	Helen		Female	£116.50
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30th January 1891 Wellington Education Board The selection of a school site at Ohau and the question of the erection of a school at Tokomaru were left in the hands of the Chairman.

23rd February 1891 The Chairman of the Education Board (Mr. J. R. Blair), accompanied by Mr. J. Young, a member of the Board, and Mr. A. Dorset, Secretary, according to arrangements, proceeded up the Wellington and Manawatu Railway on Friday, their primary object being to inspect the State schoolhouse in course of erection at Kereru. The building was found to be rapidly approaching completion, and final arrangements were made for opening next month. Charge of the school will be taken by Miss Howan, who for some time past has been assistant teacher at Manakau. The party returned down the line the same afternoon, and during the trip called at Ohau, Levin, Manakau, and Otaki, at each of which places matters connected with the local schools were dealt with

25th February 1891 As the result of last week's visit of the officers of the Education Board to the districts of the West Coast, a grant of .£50 was made at to-day's meeting of the Board towards the erection of a small school at Ohau.

27th February 1891 The estimates includes the following amounts urgently required for new schools, viz : —Ballance, £250; Mauriceville East, £400; Kaitawa, £250; Te Aro Infants', £700 ; Te Horo, £250; Ohau, £250 .....

6th June 1891 The Wellington Education Board are erecting a school at Ohau.

16th June 1891 Teacher Ohau Salary £100

20th June 1891 The School at Ohau is completed and will be opened after the midwinter holidays. Soon the whole of the settlements along the line will be furnished with schools,

27th June 1891 No application was received for the position of head teacher at Ohau at a salary of £100 a year by the Wellington Education Board

16th July 1891 Teacher Ohau Salary £100

30th July 1891 Miss Helen Brown, at present one of the assistant teachers at the Thorndon school has been appointed to the charge of the new school at Ohau.

12th September 1891 The new school at Ohau, on the Manawatu me, was opened on Monday by Miss Brown, late assistant at Thorndon

Helen Brown started teaching at Tawa Flat as a pupil teacher in 1886. She continued from 1887 to 1890 at Thorndon Infants' School. From 1891 to 1894 she was at Ohau and didn't teach for the Wellington Education Board again in a permanent role.

## 1892

1892	38	Ohau	Brown	Helen		Female	£ 138.15
1892	38	Ohau	Jillett	Sabina		Female Pupil Teacher	£ 15.00

Sabina Jillett only taught for the Wellington Education Board at Ohau. In 1918 she passed her D certificate in teaching, but in 1917 or 1919 was not teaching in a state school in New Zealand

Sabina never married

1959/38158	Jillett	Sabina	82Y
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26th April 1892 Thorndon School The report express regret at losing the services of Miss Helen Brown, a most efficient teacher, who had been promoted to full charge of the Ohau school.

2nd June 1892 Wellington Education Board A grant of £15 was also made for the erection of a shelter shed at Ohau

31st August 1892 Wellington Education Board It was suggested at the meeting of the Board of Education this morning that the boys attending the Ohau school should form themselves into a working bee for the purpose of removing stumps from the playground. Mr. McCardle opposed the proposal. It might, he said, be possible to induce boys belonging to a city school to go in for that kind of work, because it would be new to them, but with boys in the country, whose spare time was taken up in clearing ground and otherwise working about their fathers' properties, a difficulty would be found in getting them to remove stumps from a school ground. The subject then dropped

31st August 1892 Wellington Education Board Ohau Committee for an additional room was deferred.

8th September 1892 Wellington Education Board Ohau. —The board resolved to postpone the consideration of the erection of an additional room, &c.

## 1893

1893	27	Ohau	Brown	Helen		Head Female	£ 138.15
1893	27	Ohau	Jillett	Sabina		Female Pupil Teacher	£ 20.00

9th February 1893 Sabina Jillett passed the second year pupil teacher examination

30th March 1893 Wellington Education Board The Ohau Committee applied for a classroom to be erected,—The application was granted, tenders to be called for by next meeting

12th May 1893 Mr W. Jillett warns trespassers on his land at Ohau that they will be prosecuted.”=

27th September 1893 Wellington Education Board It was decided not to make any additions to the Ohau school until it is decided whether the school can be removed to a higher and drier site than the present one.

25th October 1893 Wellington Education Board The Ohau School Committee recommended the Board to sell the present site and procure another on higher ground. It was decided to ask the Committee to submit a list of sites, and then the Board would send a committee to inspect them

27th October 1893 First grade Drawing Examination 4897 papers at by Wellington Education Board schools. Ohau 12 sat-12 passes: Manakau 17-10 Paraparaumu 22-6

15th December 1893 The scholars attending the Ohau School were given their annual treat on Tuesday. The site was Mr Gillett's property, opposite Mr Whiley's sawmill, and a very pleasant day was spent.

## 1894

1894	46	Ohau	Brown	Helen		Head Female	£ 143.15
1894	46	Ohau	Jillett	Sabina		Female Pupil Teacher	£ 30.00

2nd February 1894 Wellington Education Board An application for the removal of the school at Ohau was not granted, as the board saw no necessity for it. Mr Young thought the school should be removed to more elevated ground.

22nd February 1894 The Ohau School Committee have resigned because the Education Board, have refused to pay attention to their repeated requests for some improvement in the condition of the present school and grounds, or the removal of the school to a more healthy site.

28th February 1894 Wellington Education Board The resignations of the Manukau, Ohau, and Kilbirnie School Committees were received. Strained relations between the Committee and the teacher at the school in regard to the disposal of the school ground was the cause of the Manukau Committee's action, while the Ohau Committee resigned because the Board had not provided a better site for the school. The Kilbirnie Committee were dissatisfied with the Board's appointment of the head teacher. It was decided to reply to the Manakau and Kilbirnie Committees that they would continue to hold office until the School Committee elections, which take place next month. With regard to the Ohau Committee, the Chairman said he believed the present school site was approved by the residents and the teacher and it was resolved to reply that the Board was of opinion that the Committee's act was premature, and that a committee consisting of Messrs. Fitzherbert, Brady, and the Chairman would confer with the Committee on the matter

1st March 1894 As soon as the members of the Board return,[From Martinborough where the School Committee and the Teacher disagree] arrangements will be made for a visit to Ohau in regard to the school site at that place.

29th March 1894 Wellington Education Board It was decided not to remove the Ohau school, as proposed, and several improvements authorised.

25th April 1894 t A petition was received for a school at Kuku, near Manukau. The Chairman said there were two schools within two miles of the place, and the Ohau school was shortly to be enlarged and improved. The Board decided that it could not accede to the request, on the ground that there was already ample school accommodation in the district

25th April 1894 School Committee Ohau.— Messrs. J. Kebbell (Chairman), W. Bradshaw (Secretary and Treasurer), T. Gregory, L. Arcus, H. Rickard, T. Jakes, E. Laney, and E. Collinson.

5th May 1894 The Inspector either Mr Lee or Mr Fleming will visit Ohau school on May 23rd

30th May 1894 The Schoolhouse at Ohau will be better attended this winter, I should think, as the Road Board has metalled the road running in front of it, and the Education Board is taking steps to fence the frontage and stump and level a good part of the playground.

27th June 1894 The claims of Kuku, a small settlement situated between Manukau and Ohau, for a school, were brought before the Education Board to-day by Mr. F. Bradey, who suggested that the Board should vote a sum of £10 to assist the settlers, who would build the school themselves. There were about 20 children, European and native, in the settlement, who at present had to tramp a long distance along bad roads, and across the railway bridge, to reach the nearest school. The Board resolved to await a requisition from the settlers before taking any action. [There was never a Wellington Education Board school at Kuku as far as I know]

27th September 1894 Wellington Education Board Plans of proposed additions to the Ohau school were approved, and a grant for fencing and a new tank was made.

1st October 1894 TO THE EDITOR. Sir— By the report of the last meeting of the Wellington Education Board I see that body has granted a school at the State Farm at Levin. It is only a few months ago when an urgent request from the settlers at Kuku met with a decided refusal on the ground that two schools— Manukau and Ohau— were within the distance prescribed by the Board's regulations— viz , three miles. Are the members of the Board aware that the State Farm is within a mile and a half of the Levin School? It seems manifestly unfair to the settlers at Kuku that their application should have been refused, and that this Government fad should be pandered to. At Kuku the children when attending either school have to cross an unbridged river, while the state Farm children have a good road right to the Levin School. Is the Board, like some other departments of the Government, under the thumb of Ministers I am, &c., Mem.

31st October 1894 Wellington Education Board Additions at Ohau to cost £150

9th November 1894 Wellington Education Board it was decided to accede to the request of the Ohau Committee for £4 5s towards a water supply. '

The tenders of A. C. Bickwell [Maybe Bicknell a well-known family in the district] for the erection of a residence at Waihenga and of W. James for an addition to the school at Ohau were accepted.

## 1895

1895	66	Ohau	Collie	Robert S		Head Master	£ 195.00	
1895	66	Ohau	Jillett	Sabina		Female Pupil Teacher	£ 30.00	

25th January 1895 Bakewell—Brown.—On 24th December, at All Saints, Palmerston, by the Rev H. B. Harvey, Fredk. H. Bakewell to Helen Brown. [Frederick Bakewell started teaching for the Marlborough Education Board 1883-1885 as sole teacher to the Starborough School with 7 to 12 children

In 1886-1889 he had moved to Masterton for the Wellington Education Board In 1890 to 1895 He was at Thorndon School and had earned a MA. In 1896 -1898 He was Headmaster of Greytown School.

1st December 1898 it was reported that Mr Bakewell MA had been appointed third inspector of the Wellington Education Board.

1898/4775	Bakewell	Beatrix Helen	Helen Mary	Frederick Hadam	-
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1903/13957	Bakewell	Roger Anker Frescheville	Helen Mary Frederick Haslam Frescheville
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1935/23179	Bakewell	Frederick Haslam Freschville	76Y
1953/20958	Bakewell	Helen Mary	85Y

11th January 1895 Applications are invited by the Education Board for the positions of headmaster at Eketahuna, head teacher at Ohau and assistant mistress at Clareville.

12th January 1895 Head Teacher Ohau School ; salary about .£150. D certificate a necessary qualification.

26th January 1895 Thirty applications have been received for the position of headmaster of the Eketahuna School . There are 14 applicants for the head teachership of the Ohau School and six for the position of assistant at Clareville.

9th February 1895 Mr. R. S. Collie (at present in temporary charge at Eketahuna), headmaster of the Ohau School

13th February 1895 Sabina Jillett passed her 3rd Year Pupil Teacher examination

26th February 1895 The annual picnic of the Ohau School was held in Mr. H. Saint's paddock, a charming spot on the banks of the Ohau river, last Wednesday. In the course of the day a presentation was made to Mrs. Bakewell,[Nee Brown] teacher, who was severing her connection with the school. The school had been much enlarged to meet the growing requirements of the district, and in the evening a concert was held to celebrate its re-opening Songs, recitations and instrumental music were provided by the Misses Wilson, Misses Jillett and Arcus, Mrs. James, Messrs. Walkley, McKenny, James, and A. Williams. Mr. Arcus was musical director, and Miss L. Wilson presided at the piano. The Misses Wilson were unsparing in their efforts to entertain. After the concert a dance was held,

22nd March 1895 The new Ohau traffic bridge is complete. It has been designed to carry a full load of cattle or a 15-ton traction engine. The tender of W. Lawlor, £48 5s, has been accepted for the approaches to the Ohau Bridge.

25th March 1895 The school children of the little township of Ohau, three miles from here [Levin], were terribly disappointed on Wednesday. It was understood that an excursion would take them to the seaside for a day's picnic, and they assembled on the platform provided with kits of provisions and other accessories for a day's enjoyment When the train came in it was found that the prices were some 50 per cent, more than had been anticipated, and as the youngsters had only brought their shillings, they were compelled to remain behind. There was a great deal of whimpering for a few minutes, but the tact and kindness of the teachers soon smoothed matters, and I fancy those children spent a very happy time of it after all.

27th March 1895 Wellington Education Board Authority, was given, for eight chains [8 chains measurement is 160.934 metres] of fencing at Ohau,

14th May 1895 Mr. Lee, Chief Inspector of Schools for the Wellington district, will visit the following schools on the dates named :— Levin, 21st May ; State Farm, 23rd May ; Ohau, 4th June ; Tokomaru, 5th June ; Shannon, 6th June ; Kereru, 8th June.

Robert S Collie attended Limestone Plains school in Southland and Southland Boys' High School/ in 1888 He had a BA. By 1891 he was a Barrister and Solicitor in Invercargill  
 5th October 1894 Mr. R. S. Collie, B.A., LL.B., has been appointed temporary assistant teacher at the Masterton School in place of Mr. R. Darroch, who, on account of ill-health, has been granted six months' leave of absence, and has left on a visit to England.

1st December 1898 Resigns from Ohau School.

19th March 1901 Appointed assistant at Hawera School Resigned 22nd October 1901

10th November 1937 The death is reported from Sydney of Mr Robert Stuart Collie,/whose parents were well-known farmers in the Fairfax district of Southland 50 years ago. Another son is Professor John Collie, of the Theological Hall, Otago University. Mr Robert Stuart Collie was a man of brilliant intellectual parts, and after a distinguished university career he began the practice of law in Invercargill. He did not find the practical work of his profession congenial, however, and within two years closed his office and went on the land. A few years later he decided to go to Australia, and there he spent the remainder of his life. He died on October 19 at the age of 69 years. While Mr Collie was in practice in Invercargill the question of the inclusion of New Zealand in the Federation of Australia was widely discussed, and he figured prominently in an animated debate before a packed audience in the old theatre. The address in which he opposed the proposal that New Zealand should become an integral part of the Australian Commonwealth fully displayed his knowledge and scholarship and his capacity for reasoned argument.

## 1896

1896	54	Ohau	Collie	Robert S		Head Master	£205.00
1896	54	Ohau	Jillett	Sabina		Female Pupil Teacher	£41.00

12th February 1896 Wellington Education Board School District OHAU. Bounded on the south by the Levin District, on the north and east by the Kereru District. [As copied. Surely Levin is North as is Kereru and Manakau was South?]

12th February S Jillett passed her Fourth Year Pupil Teacher examination

15th May 1896 Mr T R Fleming to inspect Ohau School on the 4th June.

5th November 1896 Only Martha Crompton of Ohau passed the Freehand drawing examination by the Technical School for the Wellington District.

## 1897

1897	69	Ohau	Collie	Robert S		Head Master	£ 215.00
1897	69	Ohau	Dynan	Mary		Female Pupil Teacher	£ 20.00

Mary Dynan started her career at Ohau in 1897 and was there until 1899. In 1900 she was at Manakau and from 1901 to 1903 was at Levin still as a pupil teacher In 1904 to 1906 she was at Marima as Sole Charge. Marima is West of Mangamaire in the foothills of the Tararuas. The researcher was the last teacher at Marima in 1966

1908/3271	Mary	Dynan	James Patrick	Hanning
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23rd February 1897 S Tillett [Sic] qualified as a teacher]

17th May 1897 Mr Lee Inspector of schools to visit Ohau Thursday 3rd June

28th July 1897 Wellington Education Board It was decided to purchase a detached building erected by the teacher at Ohau and used by him for science classes.

25th August 1897 Education Board accepted the resignation of Miss Jillett (Opaki)'

21st September 1897. Job Advertisement. Wellington Education Board A Pupil Teacher is required for the Ohau School

5th October 1897 Mary Dynan appointed Pupil Teacher

6th October 1897 Miss Jillett, on leaving the school at Ohau, where she has been teacher for a considerable period, was entertained at a farewell "social," and presented by the committee with a writing-desk.

## 1898

1898	71	Ohau	Collie	Robert S		Head Master	£ 215.00
1898	71	Ohau	Glasgow	Jane T	D4	Assistant Female	£ 80.00
1898	71	Ohau	Dynan	Mary		Female Pupil Teacher	£ 20.00

1878/10179	Glasgow	Jane Thompson	Annie	James McClure
1908/5350	Jane Thompson	Glasgow	Felix Asherley	Morris
1971/39317	Morris	Jane Thompson	92Y	

MORRIS—GLASGOW.—On, April 18, 1908, at 330 George street, Dunedin, by the Rev, W. Hewitson, Felix Asherley, son of the late Edwin Morris, to Jane Thompson, daughter of J, M. Glasgow, of Wellington

Jane T Glasgow started teaching for the Wellington Education Board at Ohau in 1898 until 1901. She then taught at Mount Cook Infants until 1907

12th January 1898 Wellington Education Board Ohau School Assistant £80.00

23rd February 1898 The Ohau Committee wrote taking exception to the new assistant recently appointed by the Board, as she was not qualified to teach singing. The matter was left in the hands of the Chairman

30th March 1898 Wellington Education Board Miss Glasgow appointed

25th June 1898 . IT is hereby publicly notified that Meetings of Householdors for the Annual Election of the new School Committees will be held on MONDAY, the 25th day of July next., at 8 p.m., in the respective school buildings of the following districts :— Matarawa, Taita, Korokoro,- Ohau, Paikakariki, Horokiwi Valley', Takapau. [These schools failed to elect School Committees at the April meetings

28th July 1898 Ohau — Messrs. J. Kebbell (Chairman), Booth, Crompton, Drake, McLeavey, F. Walkley, and Arcus

1st December 1898 The resignations of Mr B. S. Collie (Ohau) received

1st December 1898 Head Master, Ohau School; average, 71 ; salary, .£215

## 1899

1899	71	Ohau	Feist	Adolph M	D2	Head Master	£ 215.00
1899	71	Ohau	Glasgow	Jane T	D4	Assistant Female	£ 80.00
1899	71	Ohau	Dynan	Mary		Female Pupil Teacher	£ 25.00

In 1881 Adolphus Feist started as Male Pupil Teacher at Fernridge School just West of Masterton as a male pupil teacher. He was there for 10 years. In 1892 he was at Clyde Quay school and then in 1893 to 1895 was sole teacher at Wainuiomata. In 1896 he was at Levin relieving and was not teaching in a state school in New Zealand in 1897. In 1898 he was at Reikiorangi and then in 1899 was appointed headmaster at Ohau where he was at until 1908. He then resigned from teaching because of poor eyesight and went farming. He moved around a bit in the Bay of Plenty and South Auckland areas mainly.

3rd January 1899 Mr. Feist, who has been connected with Clyde- quay School for some time past, has been selected to take the position of Head Master of the Ohau School. The salary is £225 a year.

26th January 1899 Wellington Education Board other appointment made by the Board and confirmed by the local committee was that of Mr Feist, of the Ohau School-

13th February 1899 . The school at Reikiorangi, near Waikanae, which has been closed since Mr. Feist was transferred to the Ohau School, was reopened to-day by Miss Holm, from the Newtown School.

29th March 1899 Wellington Education Board with regard to residences required at Te Ore Ore and Ohau, the Chairman undertook to bring the matter up at next meeting [ A house for the head teacher was not purchased until the Board purchased Mr Feist's house when he left.]

1st April 1899 A wedding that attracted more than usual interest took place in the Presbyterian Church, Petone, on Thursday last, the principal parties being Miss E. J. Chapple, late head mistress of the local State school, and Mr. A. Monod Feist. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. A. Thomson, assisted by the Revs. J. K. Elliott and J. Paterson, the church being crowded. Mr. O. C. Feist was best man, the bridesmaids being Misses M. Chappie, a sister, and Isa and Myrtle Chappie, nieces of the bride, who was given away by her brother, Dr. Chapple, of this city. After partaking of breakfast, which was served in a large room at the back of the church, Mr. and Mrs Feist departed, for their future home at Ohau. Miss Chapple was assistant mistress at Pitone [Spelling from 1892 and 1893, then Petone] from 1892 to 1898.'

17th May 1899 Mr Bakewell to inspect Ohau on the 30th May

1st June 1899 Wellington Education Board to undertake the erection of a residence at Ohau if the building vote next year is sufficient

27th September 1899 A deputation from Keruru [Later renamed Koputaroa] interviewed the Education Board to-day, pointing out that there were 89 children on their school roll, with an average attendance of 75, and increased accommodation was required. In discussing the position, the site for a, proposed central school 'came into question, also as to how far Levin was affected by the schools at Keruru and Ohau. The Board informed the deputation that the whole matter, including the definition of boundaries, would be gone into.

7th December 1899 Wellington Education Board The Wereroa and Ohau committees wrote in regard to the boundaries of a new district. The chairman was authorised to adjust the differences, if possible.



## 1900

1900	57	Ohau	Feist	Adolph M	D2	Head Master	£ 215.00
1900	57	Ohau	Glasgow	Jane T	D4	Assistant Female	£ 80.00

1st March 1900 Education Board Miss Dynan transferred from Ohau to Manukau

5th April 1900 Wellington Education Board Mr R. A. Rolston's application was referred to the Ohau School Committee. [No more information given]

3rd May 1900 Wellington Education Board . An application was received for the establishment of an aided school at Muhunua, about three miles from the present Ohau School. The Ohau committee wrote objecting to the proposal, urging that it would tend to weaken the present school. It was decided to suggest to the committee that it should subsidise a cart for the conveyance to and from the present school of children living at a distance.

28th June 1900 Wellington Education Board It was reported that parents on the Muhunua road declined to provide conveyances so that their children might attend the Ohau School... A small grant was made to Ohau, Brooklyn and Dreyer's Rock School

30th June 1900 A new teacher's residence is being built at Ohau. [This may not be correct as when Mr feist left it was reported that the Education Board purchased his house]

26th July 1900 [As part of a large review of teacher's salaries it as fond that the Wellington Education Board was not always following regulations in the placement and wages of its teachers J Glasgow was in excess of staff. [As were many others, presumably because the roll had dropped at Ohau a pupil teacher should have been employed]

## 1901

1901	58	Ohau	Feist	Adolph M	D2	Head Master	£ 195.00	\$ 20.00
1901	58	Ohau	Glasgow	Jane T	D3	Assistant Female	£ 80.00	

The figure of \$ 20.00 in the far right column is payment to the Head Teacher because a residence was not provided for him.

4th May 1901 Mr J. Kebbell, of Ohau, is to visit England shortly, and has been given six months' leave of absence by the Board of Education. [As a member of the Wellington Education Board]

31st October 1901 The question- of placing a school at Muhunua, near Ohau, was held over for enquiry.

## 1902

1902	62	Ohau	Feist	Adolph M	D2	Head Master	£195.00	£30.00
1902	62	Ohau	Newton	Emma A	E4	Assistant Female	£85.00	

Emma A Newton was a pupil teacher at Shannon from 1895 to 1901. She then taught for three years at Ohau first as an assistant female then as a Mistress.

1906/960	Emma Amelia	Newton	Frederick George	Roe
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17th February 1906 On Thursday of last week, a quiet wedding was celebrated at Newton Heath the residence of Mr. John Newton, the contracting parties being Mr. Fred.

G. Roe, of Levin, and Miss Emma Amelia Newton, third daughter of Mr. J. Newton, of Shannon

15th January 1902 Mr. and Mrs. John Kebbell, of Ohau, who have been on a visit to the Mother Country during the past five or six; months, leave England to-day for Paris, where, they will spend a few dd\s sight-seeing." Thence they proceed overland to Marseilles, where they will join the P. and O. s.s. China for Australia on their way back to New Zealand.

30th January 1902 Wellington Education Board in a long list of salary changes was Ohau, Emma Newton, present salary £42, colonial salary £85

14th February 1902 The Ohau School Committee has endorsed the appointment of Miss Newton, of Shannon, as mistress of the Ohau School.

31st July 1902 Wellington Education Board Mr. Field, M.H.R., introduced a deputation from a settlement near Ohau, which urged the Board to provide ft school nearer than Ohau, which is three miles away. The Board decided to give the children means of conveyance

25th August 1902 A very successful school concert was held at Ohau last night.

11th December 1902 Wellington Education Board Ohau school is to be painted.

### 1903

1903	73	Ohau	Feist	Adolph M	D2	Head Master	£ 195.00	£ 30.00
1903	73	Ohau	Newton	Emma A	E3	Mistress	£ 85.00	

15th January 1901 WANTED, for the country, a thoroughly qualified Governess, capable of teaching advanced pupils. Apply Mrs. Kebbell, Te Ranawa, Ohau. [Mr Kebbell was a member of the Wellington Education Board]

29th January 1901 Wellington Education Board Applications for the erection of schools at Mount Baker,[Waione in the Puketois], Korokoro, and across the river at Ohau, were referred to the inspectors to report at their next visit.

### 1904

1904	87	Ohau	Feist	Adolph M	D2	Master	£ 193.15	£30.00
1904	87	Ohau	Newton	Emma A	E2	Mistress	£ 95.00	

28th October 1904 Wellington Education Board recommend that the following works be carried out: Shed and painting. Tenders called on the 14th November

### 1905

1905	107	Ohau	Feist	Adolph M	D1	Head Master	£ 211.50	£ 30.00
1905	107	Ohau	Newton	Emma A	E2	Mistress	£ 95.00	
1905	107	Ohau	Hurley	Margaret M		FP3	£ 40.00	
1905	107	Ohau	Arcus	Elizabeth		FP1	£ 20.00	

Margaret Hurley taught at Shannon in 1903 and 1904. Ohau 1905 Levin 1907-1907 and Paraparaumu from 1908 to 1910

Elizabeth Arcus taught at Levin DHS in 1906 and 1907 and didn't teach again for the Wellington Education Board

12th July 1905 Wellington Education Board Ohau — Assistant; male, £100; female, £80. [I presume this was for the side school at Muhunoa East and wasn't filled.]

## 1906

1906	113	Ohau	Feist	Adolph M	D1	Head Master	£ 225.00	£30.00
1906	113	Ohau	Howden	Jessie E	D3	Assistant Female	£105.00	
1906	113	Ohau	Atkinson	Mary E		Assistant Female	£ 85.00	

7th March 1906 Wellington Education Board approved Fencing at Ohau

13th March 1906 female assistant at Ohau Miss Jessie Howden from Thorndon

12th May Wellington Education Board Ohau Assistant Female £ 90

31st May 1906 Wellington Education Board A deputation representing residents of Muhunoa East, inland from Ohau, interviewed the board in advocacy of the establishment of a school, capable of teaching up to standard VI., iv place of the present school. The chairman said that an inspector would report on the case, and the matter -would come up at the board's next meeting

29th June 1906 OHAU SIDE SCHOOL. The position of {he Ohau Side School was the subject of a report from the Chief Inspector, Mr. Fleming. The chairman explained that at present there were fifty children three and a half miles away from Ohau, and the question was whether or not the board should convey the children to Ohau or build a school on the spot. The chairman, secretary, and chief inspector were appointed a committee to make the best arrangements for the conveyance of children to the present school ; failing that, to erect a new school

27th October 1906 Miss Howden (Ohau) to be junior assistant at Mount Cook Infants' School

12th November 1906 Ohau Female Assistant £105

14th December 1906 Miss W Tew appointed Ohau

Jessie E Howden had a long career for the Wellington Education Board

1896	1897	Mount Cook Infants	Pupil Teacher
1898		Vogeltown	Pupil Teacher
1899	1901	Brooklyn	Pupil Teacher
1902		Te Aro	Assistant Female
1903	1904	Terrace	Assistant Female
1905		Kilbirnie	Assistant Female
1906		Ohau	Mistress
1907	1923	Mount Cook Infants	Assistant Female

Miss Howden resigned from Mount Cook School in December 1931

## 1907

1907	112	Ohau/Side School	Feist	Adolph M	D1	Head Master	£225.00	£30.00
1907	112	Ohau/Side School	Tew	Winifred E H	D2	Assistant Female	£105.00	
1907	112	Ohau/Side School	Atkinson	Mary E		Assistant Female	£85.00	

Winifred E H Tew started working for the Wellington Education Board in 1907. In 1906 she was teaching at the Kelvin Grove school which was a two teacher school in Palmerston North and in 1900 a Pupil Teacher at Campbell Street School also in Palmerston North. After Ohau in 1914 she spent from 1915 to at least 1917 as sole teacher at Mangarama About 2

Kilometres East of Pahiatua. In 1919 she was teaching at Mt Cook Boys School in Wellington. By 1921 she was not teaching in a state school in New Zealand.

Mary E Atkinson Started teaching at Mount Cook Infants in 1900. From 1901 to 1903 she was a pupil teacher at Thorndon.

1904 Waikawa Bay in the Marlborough Education Board with 6 pupils paid £25 and still there in 1905 with 7 pupils and paid £36. Waikawa Bay (1898-1905, 1907-1917). In Waikawa Bay French Pass. [Not the Waikawa near Picton] Then after Ohau she spent 1908 at Mitchelltown in Wellington before spending 1909 at Makomako West of Pahiatua. Then she was at Rangitumau, North East of Masterton from 1910 to 1913. Then in 1914 she came into Masterton and taught at the Lansdowne School where she was still at in 1923 when my records end.

4th March 1907 A difference of opinion has occurred between the Education Department and the Wellington Education Board regarding the provision of education facilities for the Dyer Settlement and Muhunua, each of which is distant about two and a half miles from Martinborough and Ohau respectively. The department takes up the position "that it would be better that the children should be conveyed to a central school, rather than the number of small schools should be multiplied, on the ground that such a course would be not only more economical, but more in the interests of the children, and it is stated that in each case the inspectors have reported in favour of the conveyance of the children. For the Dyer Settlement a school to accommodate the children would cost from £200 to £300, and for Muhunua the cost is estimated at £517, and in each case, of course, a staff would have to be provided. —The department has finally offered to provide for each place a specially-constructed van for the conveyance of the children, and there the matter rests at present. ‘

18th April 1907 Evening Post The State school at Ohau was totally destroyed by fire last night. No particulars are available.

26th April 1907 In response to the department, a committee was set up of the chairman and Messrs Field and Keble, to inquire into the cause of the fire at the Ohau School, and the school needs of the district generally.

2nd May 1907 An enquiry into the origin of the fire which destroyed the Ohau State School building was held before officials of the Education Department and the Wellington Education Board on Monday. The fire originated in a corner of the infants' room, but the evidence did not show how it originated. The commission will report on the matter to headquarters in due course.

22nd May 1907 Cabinet has granted the Wellington Education Board the sum of £750 for the reconstruction of the Ohau school buildings, which were destroyed by fire in April last.

31st May 1907 Concerning a grant of £750 for a school at Ohau, and of £37 10s for half-cost of site at Muhunua East, a sub-committee was appointed to pass plans and invite tenders, for the erection of a school at each place.

31st May 1907 A report of a committee which enquired into the cause of the fire which destroyed the school at Ohau was read yesterday at a meeting of the Education Board. The only theory to account for the outbreak was that some wax matches might have been swept in among some rubbish under a piece of furniture. The evidence was conclusive that the fire had

not been started from the outside, and no suspicion rested upon anybody. The Government has granted £750 for a new school. The board decided that tenders should be called for new buildings at Ohau and Muhunua East as soon as the specifications were prepared.

26th July 1907 Erection of school, Ohau, L. Arcus and Son, £566 14s 6d ; erection of school, Muhunua, I#. Arcus and Son, £353 17s 6d:

28th September 1907 Wellington Education Board The following allowances were made • to teachers and committees in compensation for losses by fire :—South Wellington teachers, £20: Hukanui committee £3, teachers, £5 10s; Alfredton, committee £1 10s; Ohau, committee £10. teachers £3 10s. The grants represent approximately half cost of books actually used in instruction

13th December 1907 On the motion of Mr. J. Kebbell, it was decided that the boundary between the Ohau and the Muhunua School Districts be as follows:— Commencing at a point on the northern boundary of the present Ohau District where the Arapaepae Road intersects it, the centre of the said road to be followed to the Muhunua East Road, thence along the boundary between sections 36 and 36a to the Ohau River; thence in a straight line to the southern boundary of the school district.

## 1908

1908	60	Ohau	Feist	Adolph M	D1	Head Master	£225.00	£30.00
1908	60	Ohau	Tew	Winifred E H	D2	Assistant Female	£105.00	

7th February 1908 Arrangements have been made by which the work of the Nireaha School will be promptly, resumed, notwithstanding' the destruction, by fire of the school building. Some school furniture in temporary use at ; Ohau, sufficient for the accommodation of about 80 .scholars, is being taken, by rail to Nireaha [Between Pahiatua and Eketahuna] and teaching will be recommenced on Monday in the public hall. Owing to the awkward position of Maku , forty miles from the railway, [Under the Puketois near Pongaroa] some .difficulty has been experienced in making arrangements to resume scholastic work there. A settler offered the- use of-a room at his house as a temporary substitute for the building, which was burned down, and this will enable the Education Board to again provide educational facilities for this remote district as soon .as school furniture and apparatus can be transported there.

26th February 1908. [Global Warming] The Ohau river is now practically dry, and trout are dying in hundreds. Water is also scarce at Manakau and Reikiorangi, and in these places it is being carried considerable distances. [No rain fell at Ohau in February]

29th April 1908 School Committee Ohau.— James McLeavey (chairman), F. Retter (secretary), Messrs C. Olsen, J. Davies, F. Walkley, J. Richards and Ramsbotham.

13th July 1908 'A concert is being arranged for Monday to take place at Ohau, in aid of the Ohau school library,' which was burnt a few months ago

19th August 1908 On Wednesday afternoon last Mr Richard Street, of Otaki, was married to Miss Elizabeth Arcus, daughter of Mr L. Arcus, of Ohau. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. T. Kennedy Elliott, of Wellington, at the Levin Presbyterian Church

28th August 1908 Mr Davies Agriculture Instructor for the Wellington Education Board had visited Ohau school [No comment was made on what he saw there]

## 1909

1909	65	Ohau	Henderson	George M	B2	Head Master	£190.00	\$25.00
1909	65	Ohau	Tew	Winifred E H	D2	Assistant Female	£110.00	

George M Henderson started teaching as a pupil teacher in 1900 at Mount Cook Boys. In 1902 he transferred to Te Aro School where he was until appointed to Ohau School in 1909 where he stayed to December of 1919

18th November 1919 Mr. G. M. Henderson, MA., head teacher of the Ohau School, has received the appointment of Inspector of Native Schools under the Education Department, and will take up his new duties after the school holidays. Mr. Henderson's new position will give him ample opportunity to exercise those powers of constructive administration with which he is so amply endowed; and the sympathetic study of the Native race and Native problems which has been one of his hobbies during his residence in Ohau should bear fruit in his handling of their education system. Mr. Henderson was tutor in industrial history to the Workers' Educational Association last year in Levin, and this year in Foxton.

20th January 1909 Grant for work at Ohau approved

28th April 1909 School Committee OHAU. Messrs A. Whiley (chairman), J. Richards (secretary), O. Olsen, S. McDonald, J. Davies, W. Clark, and F. O'Farrell

1st June 1909 Levin School second team met Ohau on the latter's ground on Saturday, when the visitors won by 8 points to 6, 0. Walton scored twice for Levin, and R. Broughton converted one of the tries, Rawiri and McDonald scored for Ohau.

20th July 1909 I regret to have to mention the death of Mrs Chapel, of Christchurch, which took place at her home on Friday. Mrs Chapel is mother of Mrs Feist, of the Ohau Public School.'

17th August 1909 Mr A M Feist granted leave of absence by Wellington Education Board

27th August 1909 Leave of absence Wellington Education Board Mr. A. M. Feist (H.T., Ohau). The last-named is retiring. '

1st October 1909 On I, Wednesday' a very , large, company assembled in the Institute, Ohau, for the purpose of saying farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Feist. For the past, eleven years, Mr. Feist has been in charge of Ohau School, but his eyesight, has not been very good for some time, and he has been .'compelled on that account to resign his post

The - gathering- on Wednesday testified to the respect and goodwill, in which he is held by the residents of Ohau. Mr. :Feist ', was presented by the members of the Institute with a silver-mounted walking stick; by the school children with silver-mounted military brushes and case; and by the old pupils with a silver inkstand and pen. The residents presented Mrs. Feist with a gold muff: chain; and the Papatonga Hockey Club gave her .a silver-top toilet jar. The presentations were made by Mr. Jas. McLeavey, chairman of the Horowhenua County Council, who is a resident of Ohau. It is Mr. Feist's intention to commence-farming, shortly.

1st October 1909 Wellington Education Board The committee further recommended the purchase of a residence for £250 at Ohau, and that improvements be effected to the amount of £50 ; [ The house was owned by Mr Feist]

1st October 1909 [Another report of the farewell] On Wednesday afternoon, Mr and Mrs A. M, Feist were the recipients of several tokens of goodwill from the residents of 'Ohau. Where Mr Feist has been schoolmaster for the past eleven .years. For some time past his eyes have been causing him a great deal of trouble, and he has been reluctantly compelled to resign his

charge, A large company assembled in the Institute, Ohau, where Mr Jas, McLeavey, chairman of the Horowhenua County Council, presented Mr Feist, with a silver-mount-ed walking stick from the members of the Institute, a pair of silver mounted military brushes from the school pupils, a silver inkstand and pen from the old pupils, while the residents presented Mrs Feist with a gold muff chain, and the Papatonga Hockey Club gave a silver-top toilet jar. It is Mr. Feist's intention to start farming. Mrs Feist is a sister of Dr Chappie, ex-M.P

13th November 1909 Wellington Education Board Head teacher, Ohau, Mr. G. M. Henderson first assistant, Kilbirnie

6th December 1909 On Friday afternoon members of the teaching staff at the To Aro State School farewelled the second assistant master, Mr. G M Henderson, who is taking up his new appointment as headmaster of the Ohau School today. Mr; Henderson was made the recipient of an oak-clock of the "grandfather" type

## 1910

1910	76	Ohau	Henderson	George M	B2	Head Master	£195.00	House
1910	76	Ohau	Tew	Winifred E H	D2	Assistant Female	£115.00	

11th February 1910 The annual picnic of the children attending Ohau Public School was held on Wednesday afternoon, writes our Levin correspondent, on the shores of Horowhenua Lake. The party included several members of the Ohau school committee and a . large number of adults. Games of all descriptions and sails on the lake were indulged in, and the outing was much enjoyed by all,

26th April 1910 At Ohau, last night, there was a large attendance of householders in the schoolroom, when the annual election of a school committee came due. A good deal of interest was shown in the proceedings, and fourteen nominations were made for the nine vacancies. The election [resulted as follows:—Messrs J. McLeavey (chairman), J. Richards (secretary and treasurer), C. Olsen, F. Retter, E. E. Smith, A. Whiley and L. Arcus

2nd May 1910 Mr J. Kebbell, of Ohau, whose interest in all educational mutters is widely recognised, .in condemnatory terms to a representative of "The Horowhenua' Chronicle" concerning the attempt of some Palmerston North residents to have a new Education Board constituted, to comprise all the localities between Otaki and Palmerston, and probably some of the north also, Mr Kebbell recalled the fact that this attempt was the second one made in Palmerston to break away from the . Wanganui Education Board, and to lead the

.Horowhenua district away from the Wellington Education Board his willingness to 'address the country juvenile members of the Navy 'League, who are coming down from Masterton tomorrow to inspect H.M.S. Powerful. It was anticipated that over. 1000 would be coming to Wellington by the "special," but the Railway Department has intimated that the number must be restricted to 500, on account of the stiff pull un the Rimutaka incline. Some 200 children from Feilding, , Palmerston North, and Ohau are arriving to-day for a similar purpose. As many of these children have , never seen the sea, let alone a modern ironclad, the trip will to these be a succession of wonders.

## 1911

1911	75	Ohau	Henderson	George M	B1	Head Master	£200.00	House
1911	75	Ohau	Tew	Winifred E H	D2	Assistant Female	£120.00	

Note: There is increased material available from this period as the first local newspaper the Horowhenua Chronicle is online at Papers Past

20th January 1911 Some very fine specimens of maize are to be seen in the school gardens at Ohau. Under the able instruction of the headmaster, the scholars have taken a lively interest in the rural work. There has been planted in small plots to different kinds of manures, and the various experiments are proving most interesting. Green peas and cow peas have also been grown with success

4th March 1911 A very pleasant day was spent yesterday by the children and parents of Ohau at Plimmerton. A committee of ladies consisting of Mesdames McLeavey, Heap and Hogg, and Misses Saint, Tew and Whiley, had collected a large sum of money for provisions and fares, and carried out all the arrangements in a most satisfactory and whole-hearted manner. The train fares of all the children were paid, and all hands were given two "good feeds." and there were apples, oranges, dates, nuts and lollies ad lib for the children. A long programme of sports was gone through in the afternoon. The following officiated on the course: Clerk of Course, Miss Tew; treasurer and paymaster, Mrs Heap; judges, Mesdames McLeavey and Retter; course stewards, Messrs Tameke Wehepeihana and Horo Karanti; starter and handicapper, Mr Henderson. The following events were run off:— Boys' Race (over 10): A. Wilson 1, W. Royal 2.

Girls' Race (9 to 10 years): M. Martin 1, Nora Wilson 2.

Girls' Race (10 and over): Ethel Wilson 1, Lucie Retter 2.

Boys' Three-legged Race: Willie Royal and Heke Koh 1.

Little Girls' Race: L. Hiwi 1, K. Roha 2.

Girls' Three-legged Race: Winnie Rawiri and Ethel Wilson 1.

Old Boys' Race: Teri Arapata 1, W. Saint 2.

Infant Race: Pat Arapata 1, Harry Drake 2.

Insects' Race: John Rawiri 1, Pat. Royal 2.

Pick-a-back Race: Norman Retter and Claude McLeavey 1.

Sack Race: H. Karanti 1, W. Royal 2.

Baby's Race: G. Hogg 1, S. Fair 2

Little Girls' Race: Phyllis Heap 1, L. Natana 2.

Wheelbarrow Race: H. Karanti and Heke Roha 1.

Ladies' Three-legged Race: Miss Misses Hiwi and Ransfield.

Married Woman's Race: This resulted in a tie for first place and a run 'off. Mrs Horo 1, Mrs Fair 2, Mrs Pone 3.

Old Girls' Race: M. Whiley 1, Miss Tew 2.

Ladies' Hobble Skirt This was the great event of the day. Elnvo.il of the weaker but longer suffering sex faced the starter. Mrs Johnny How. Mrs Heap Mrs Retter. Miss Saint-. Mrs Fair. Mrs O'Farrell. Miss Tew. Miss O'Brien. Mrs S. Whiley, Mrs W. Whiley and Miss Royal. Result Mrs W. Whiley 1. Mrs O'Farrell 2, Mrs Fair 3, Miss Saint 4.

26th April 1911 Some details of last Monday's meeting of the Ohau. householders for purpose of electing a School Committee appear in our local columns. Appended is the report



for the year 1910-11, presented to the meeting by Mr James McLeavey, chairman of the committee:—

1. Number of meetings: 8.

2. Working of school: (a) Inspectors' reports on school subjects range from satisfactory to very good ; (b) Three children passed the Sixth Standard out of three presented for examination—two of them "proficiency" ; (c) One girl gained an Education Board scholarship; (d) Attendance: The highest quarterly average was 77, the lowest 74. If the average attendance could be raised to over 80 the school would go up a grade. This would mean another teacher and: a slight increase in salaries. A number of children are still being conveyed out of this district. The conveyance of children from the Kuku was discontinued owing to the number of them being reduced to four. 3. The hedge round the playground was pruned in the winter, and a large hole dug and filled with stones to allow the water from the school roof to drain away.

4. About £16 was raised, by means of two concerts and Education Board subsidy of £6, for the improvement of the playground. A sub-committee, consisting of Messrs Smith, Rotter and Richards., was appointed to carry out the work of levelling a part of the girl's playground, and sow it with lawn grass. So far the ground has been ploughed; and harrowed: twice, the stones have been cleared off it, and the girls' shed has been shifted.

5. A branch of the Navy League was established in the school, about 30 members being enrolled. A party of these, together with their parents and others (about 60 altogether) proceeded to Wellington on the 9th of November and inspected the warships then in port.

6. Over £12 was collected by a committee of ladies for the school picnic. This committee was appointed by a meeting of householders and carried out all the arrangements for the picnic, which was held at Plimmerton. It was attended by over 100 persons and was heartily enjoyed by them."

7. A first-class football is to be provided for the school out of money voted for school football by the Horowhenua Rugby Union.

8. The thanks of the committee and teachers are due to Mr J. Kebell for liberal subscriptions to the school funds and for getting the £6 subsidy, before mentioned, from the Education Board.

31st May 1911 The Ohau Committee recommended that the date of the school committee election be the Monday nearest the full-moon. The board agreed to make a recommendation to the Government that the Act should be so altered as to leave the fixing of the date of the elections to the Education Board. ;

1st June 1911 Horowhenua Rugby Union The headmaster of the Ohau school wrote stating he could not enter a school fifteen for the competition this year, much as he would like to, owing to there being only about two boys in the school who would be any good in a third class team. The letter was noted.

17th June 1911 Ohau School Ball.—Tin's was the most successful function of its kind that has taken place for many years. The hall was beautifully decorated with nikau palms and Chinese lanterns, kindly lent by the proprietors of the Levin skating rink. The effect of these was admirably emphasised by the pretty dresses worn by many of the ladies present. A letter was received from Mr. Field, M.P., expressing regret at being unable to be present, and enclosing an acceptable donation to the school funds. The school, it is interesting to know, is

making steady progress, and some useful improvements are being carried out in connection with the playgrounds. Mr. Henderson, the headmaster, is being well supported by the citizens of the locality, and by the time the summer arrives some interesting transformations in the school domain will have been effected.

17th June 1911 A meeting of the Ohau School Committee, and others interested in the late dance, was held at the school yesterday, to settle accounts. The receipts, including Mr Field's donation, were £11 2s 6d, and the expenses £4 13s 3d, leaving a net profit of £6 9s 3d. To this will be added the contributions of several gentlemen who have promised to assist. Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the secretary, Mrs Heap, whose energy and tact so largely contributed to the success of the function. to Messrs Karauti and Wehipeihana who devoted a whole day to decorating the hall, to Mr Irvine, who lent crockery, etc., 'and especially to the Horowhenua Chronicle.

4th December 1911 Ohau School Fete

**HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL FUNCTION.** The new tennis and croquet ground at the above school was Opened by Mr Field on Saturday afternoon. A large crowd of people attended to take part in the proceedings. The affair went off with a swing from start to finish. The fine brass band from the Training Farm attended, by kind permission of Major Burlinson, and rendered a number of very tuneful items. Two tennis courts and the croquet green were in constant use throughout the afternoon until dark. Afternoon tea was served in the larger of the two classrooms. The three ladies (Mrs Heap, Misses Tew and McLeavey) who had charge of this important department had worked hard all the morning and the room was tastefully laid out- with small tables and was decorated with flowers and with coloured chalk drawings, done by the Maori children. They were ably assisted in the work of dispensing the refreshments by Misses Retter and Entwistle. A stall for lollies and cold drinks was run by Miss Robertson, assisted by the Misses Olsen. Notable among the guests were Mrs Kebbell, Miss Kebbell, and Miss Alison Kebbell. Mr Kebbell, who has always taken a kindly interest in the school, sent apologies for his unavoidable absence. Mr Field, accompanied by Mrs Field, and Mr Gardener, Mayor of Levin, arrived about 3 o'clock, and was met at the gate by Mr McLeavey, chairman of the school committee, Mrs McLeavey, and Mr Henderson, the headmaster. In introducing Mr Field, Mr- McLeavey said that the lawn had been laid out with money raised by-school concerts and dances held by the committee and teachers. Messrs Field and Kebbell had both contributed, handsomely in the past to this fund.

In declaring the ground open, Mr Field said that it had been his duty and pleasure, both as member of Parliament and as member of the Education Board, to assist in all the educational enterprises of the district. He considered that the boys and girls should have every facility for playing games so that they might be healthier and better men and women and might learn to "play the game" as worthy citizens of their country. The hand and eye training, obtained in these games, enabled our boys, when they became men, the better to hold their own in industry, commerce, and war against their foreign competitors. Besides raising the tone and esprit de corps of the school, this lawn would be an excellent effect on the social life of the district, and' form a rallying point for the young people who had left school to meet in friendly rivalry to the great benefit of their deportment and health He then declared the lawn open, and cheers were given for Mr and Mrs Field. The thanks of the committee are due to

Major Burlinson for lending his band; to Miss Saint for loan 'of a tennis net; to Messrs Irvine and Sheargold for donations of lollies: and' to the ladies Ohau who provided refreshments.

9th December 1911 Horowhenua County Council AN OHAU REQUEST. " As secretary of the Ohau School Committee, ' wrote Mr J. M. Richards, "I am instructed to apply to your council for the formation of a side-walk or footpath from the corner opposite the store at Ohau to the school gate. The side of the road in question is in a fairly rough state and a footpath would be much appreciated by pedestrians going either to the church or to the school." The County Engineer thought it was a very reasonable request to make. Cr. Kebbell moved, and Cr. Prouse seconded: That the request of the ' School Committee be granted, and that the engineer be instructed to carry out this work. The motion was adopted'

18th December 1911 Ohau School Concert.

The annual breaking-up concert of the Ohau School was held at the Institute Hall on Friday last, and was a brilliant success.

Mr J. McLeavey, chairman of the school committee, presided as chairman, and presented the prizes and certificates won by the children. Out of five children in- Standard VI, four obtained, proficiency certificates and one a competency certificate. The hall was crowded to its utmost capacity, and the audience was appreciative and enthusiastic throughout. Mr Eric Lyon and the Tahiwī family came up from Otaki to assist, and their items were received with most emphatic applause. Mr Lyon recited in his masterly manner "The Wreck of the Hesperus," with variations by Mel. B. Spurr, and, as an encore number, a delightful comic monologue, -purporting to be the moralising incubations of a loquacious gossip on the death and obsequies of a Mrs Hodson. The Tahiwī family sang twice and were encored both times. They possess very fine voices and the perfect blending of these makes their part-singing a great treat. Their numbers were "Yip-i-Addey," "Come Unto Me," "Annie Laurie." and "I'm Going to "back Racehorses till I Die." Mr Mortishead, from Weraroa, sang, by request, "Love Me and the World is Mine," which was received most enthusiastically.' Mr Stratton, from Muhunoa, sang in excellent broad Scotch, "I'm courting Leizie Lindsay," and received an urgent recall. Mr Irvine, of Ohau, who possesses a fine baritone voice, sang "Oh, for a Rail in a Piping Breeze," and as an encore number, "Bid Me to Love." Master Arthur McLeavey appeared in full Highland costume and sang: "That's the Reason now I wear a Kilt. , for which he was loudly applauded, and, in response to a recall, gave an Irish love song. The school children, who showed signs of careful training, contributed four items to the programme. The infants sang, with a 'two-part chorus, entitled "Drowsy Pickaninni." They reflected great credit on their teacher, Miss Tew. The older scholars sang two school songs "The Flower Gatherers" and "What are the Wild Waves Saying." They next appeared as a nigger minstrel troupe and sang six songs with three and four-part choruses. They were particularly happy in "Chiming Bells of Long Ago," and "In the Morning by the Bright-light." The voices of these children are excellent in tune and tone, and their singing would do credit to much older performers. Many of them are Maoris and they have their full .share of the artistic ability of that gifted race. They next appeared in fairy costume and sang two songs from "Oberon" and "The Fairies." This was a very pretty item and was much appreciated by the audience.

Miss McLeavey played the accompaniments for all the songs.

The chairman, in conclusion, thanked the visiting artiste for their generous assistance, and gave credit for the teachers of the school for the way they had trained the children.

Mr Henderson, then said a few words, in which he mentioned that it was a great advantage in getting up a school concert to have the assistance of a fine pianist like McLeavey. He also thanked Mrs Heap for her able assistance in superintending the refreshments for the performers. The list of prize winners is appended

INFANT ROOM. For Proficiency and Diligence: John Cameron, Patrick Kuiti, Walter Mudgway Phyllis Heap. Esma Hogg. Freda Retter, Lily Royal.

Special prizes presented by Miss Tew: Arthur McLeavey for reading. Olive Entwistle for spelling Victoria Manuriki for arithmetic.

UPPER SCHOOL. Anna Richards, prize for being "dux"; Eileen Smith, for conduct; Winnie Rawiri, for conduct; Nora Wilson, for conduct; Parewai Wehipeihana. for proficiency; Norman Retter, for conduct; Heke Roha, proficiency; Valentine Whiley, conduct; Leonard Barnes, writing; Gerald Retter, progress; Milly Martin, attendance.

## 1912

1912	85	Ohau	Henderson	George M	B1	Head Master	£205.00	House
1912	85	Ohau	Tew	Winifred E H	D2	Assistant Female	£120.00	
1912	85	Ohau	Henderson	Mary Mrs		Assistant Female	£90.00	

7th January 1912 Anna Richards finished 5th on the list of scholarship winners for schools with an average attendance of over 35 and under 200

28th March 1912 Necessary Works recommended by the respective school committee\* at Levin, Ohau, and Manakau are to be undertaken forthwith. This decision was come to by the Wellington Education Board at its meeting this week.

9th April 1912 At the beginning of the year a Tennis Club was formed at Ohau. The officers are: president, Mrs Henderson; vice-presidents, Mesdames McLeavey, Heap and Hanson; Secretary and treasurer. Miss Retter; committee, Messrs Henderson, E. McLeavey, Saint and Miss Robertson. Mrs Kebbell consented to act as patroness of the club and sent a donation to the funds. The club got permission from the School Committee to use the school tennis courts on payment of a small rental.....

25th April 1912 A meeting of the householders of the Ohau School district elected the following committee for the ensuing year -Messrs McLeavey (chairman), Thorley (secretary), Arcus. Retter, Cameron, Davies and Hanson. .

As chairman of the out-going committee, Mr McLeavey said that the books and showed a very substantial record of work done by his committee during the year just concluded. The total amount dealt with £56 3s 1d; there was a credit-balance on the general account of £1 7s 7d, and a special subsidy of £7 odd lying to the credit of the committee for permanent improvements to the school premises: £27 1s 10d had been spent on improvements to the playground and on materials for games. He congratulated the school staff on the favourable report the school had received from the Board's inspectors.

Mr Henderson, headmaster, said that he believed in making the playground of the school compensate the children in some manner for the restraint of the more formal indoor training. It was an excellent thing that their whole attention during recess should be occupied by interesting games of skill such as tennis, croquet and cricket. In this way not only were the

many dangers which attend on idleness avoided, but the teacher's work was made much more efficient by the increased alertness and nerve power of the pupils. He also recorded his great appreciation of the very hearty way he had been assisted in his work by the retiring committee.

On the motion of Mr Davies a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr J. Richards, the retiring secretary, was carried by acclamation. The new committee at once entered upon their duties and on the motion of Mr F. Retter, Messrs Cameron and Thorley were appointed a sub-committee to report on the condition-of the front fence and bring forward proposals for repairs at a meeting to be held in a week or so.

21st October 1912 At the annual meeting of the Ohau Tennis Club the following were elected officers: Patron, Mrs John Kebbell; president. Mr Henderson; vice-presidents, Mesdames Tew and Hanson, and Mr Wehepeihana; secretary and treasurer, Mr Retter.

27th May 1912 At Ohau on Saturday the Levin District- High School girls hockey club played the Ohau school. It was a fast and exciting match and resulted in a draw of one goal each.

17th June 1912 A team of school girls from Ohau .journeyed to Levin to play a hockey match against the Levin schoolgirls. A hotly contested and interesting game resulted in a win for the Ohau girls by two goals. The visitors were hospitably entertained at the school by Miss McLandress and the Levin girls. The Ohau girls played with a new set of sticks, to defray the cost of which a dance will be held in Ohau on "Wednesday, 26th inst.

11th July 1912 Sand drift Problem We have hopes, still, that by next year .some effective steps will be taken to procure the necessary seed from the Forestry Department and to organise the children of Levin, Ohau and Otaki public schools into a series of working bees to do some effective Arbor Day planting.....

12th November 1912 Miss E Hurrell appointed

27th November 1912 An excellent entry has been received in the school exhibit division of the Levin Horticultural Society's Show, which is being held to-day. Manakau and Ohau schools are represented—also Levin—but the- principal competitor is Foxton Public School, which also is competing in the flower classes. In all there are 54 entries from Foxton .School ,

5th December 1912 An excellent entry has been received in the school exhibit division of the Levin Horticultural Society's Show, which is being held to-day. Manakau and Ohau schools are represented—also Levin—but the- principal competitor is Foxton Public School, which also is competing in the flower classes. In all there are 54 entries from Foxton .School,

20th December 1912 The Ohau .Institute was crowded to its doors last evening when the children attending the Ohau by Roddie. .Chairs and forms had to be requisitioned to accommodate the audience, who, throughout followed the piece with the greatest attention, and loudly applauded the children's performances at the end of each scene. It was such a night as Ohau had not passed for years-probably never before, because highly interesting as the annual entertainment by the children is. last evening's function was a decidedly ambitious one. It was the first time in the history of the school that the production of an operetta had been undertaken, and the warmest praise is due to Mr Henderson. the headmaster. Mrs Henderson, and Miss Tew. upon the unqualified success of the performance. During the past four weeks the children have been busy rehearsing, and that they assimilated all they were

taught was strikingly evident, as throughout there was not a hitch, the boys and girls reciting their individual parts with a confidence that must have been pleasing to the headmaster, his coadjutors and the parents and friends. A most picturesquely designed stage had been erected by Mr Henderson. it had taken many hours to perfect, but it was done with considerable skill and taste. and very ' prettily arranged. The hats and dresses of the children were extremely artistic---in some instances they were gorgeous. They formed a distinct feature of the production, ' and the many hours, morning, noon and night, which their construction by Mrs Henderson & Miss Tew had ' involved, were abundantly rewarded in the happy results as seen on the stage. In the rehearsals the services of Miss McLeavey, who is always to the fore in helping on the work of the Ohau School ---in fact, in promoting the interests of every local work of utility proved invaluable, and last evening her light and artistic touch at the piano was a delightful feature of the operetta. The plot was given in extense in Wednesday's Chronicle and need not be repeated here. Suffice it is to say the children acted splendidly. The scenes of fairyland were charming in their simplicity and effect. and the children in their attractive dresses, the King with his crown, the Queen with her crown, the fairies with their wands, made up a very pretty picture. Some of the characters were: King. Miss H. Smith: Queen, Miss E. Smith: Princess, Miss W. Rawiri: court ladies. Miss Parewai, Wehepeihana, Miss Hori Manuriki, Miss Mairie Arapata, Miss Mara Peremere; fairy queen Miss Nora- Wilson: various fairies: .Fairy Protection. Miss Dorothy Henderson; Fairy Sunshine, Miss Olive Entwistle: Fairy Envy, Miss M. O'Donnell: Little Master McLeavey made a splendid "Man in the Moon.' , In this, character be made his hit of the evening. His quaint songs were inimitably done, and his make-up as the "Man in , the. Moon" was the cause of endless mirth. The character of Prince Luno was interpreted with refreshing candour by Claude McLeavey. It was a by no means easy part, and it was capitally performed. Valentine "Whiley made a commanding Chancellor and looked very well in his gorgeous robes of office. Sir Peter Poet, secretly in love with the Princess, was a very pleasing character. It was a pretty scene where; Sir Peter came on to the stage singing a dainty refrain, "Where the Winding Kuku Wanders," the composition of a local celebrity, Each participant really deserves a little chapter to him or herself. The charming way in which the King, Queen and Princess, the Court ladies, and her fairies performed their parts won the loud approbation of the onlookers, who throughout were delighted with the operetta. A few years ago it was difficult to induce a 'Maori--or for that anyone else--- clown Ohau way to sing a solo in public. Now there is the keenest friendly rivalry who shall be greatest in this role. Each individual's voice showed bow careful had been the training bestowed. while the choruses were admirably given, the voices blending perfectly. Altogether the production was a triumph from an artistic and scenic point of view. The cultivation of the. artistic is a feature in the school curriculum that is too often omitted. At Ohau it is an essential, and if all educational institutions insisted on the development of this trait it would be a distinct benefit to the whole country. Such functions as last evening's must exercise a refining influence upon the community at large, and what is most important upon the rising generation.

The operetta is to be given again tonight in the Ohau Institute. This will afford Levin residents and others an opportunity of witnessing one of the most successful school entertainments ever given in' Horowhenua county. The reception which the operetta met with last evening was most enthusiastic, rind there is no doubt that packed as the building -was

last evening, there will to-night be a still bigger "house"—that is if possible—than there was last evening. A report of to-night's function will appear in to-morrow's Chronicle, when details possibly, omitted in the first description will find a fitting, place, and other efforts not recorded here will be amply recognised.

23rd December 1912 PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES. In the sixth standard seven children sat for the examination, and of these five got proficiency certificates and two competency, Proficiencies: Gwen Saint, Winnie Rawiri, Willie Royal, Claude, McLeavey and Norman Retter. Competency: Hilda Barnet and Eileen Smith. Prizes.

Conduct: Gwen Saint, Nora .Manuriki, Arthur McLeavey, Violet Cameron. Progress: Winnie Rawiri, Gerald Retter, Parewai Wehepeihana, Harriet Kuiti, Mirika Wehepeihana, Willie Davies, Kitty Wehepeihana, Esma Hogg , Wahu Tahuri, Freda. Retter, Billy Williams, Eva Manuriki, Alice Walton, Ivy Devine, Betty Henderson, Bert Richards, May Drake, Frank Retter and Peter Kuiti Attendance: Valentino Whiley, Horatio Baylie, Victoria Manuriki, John Rawiri, Patrick Kuiti, Dorothy Henderson, Lily Royal, Mara Perenara.

•SLEEPING .BEAUTY."

#### THE SUCCESSFUL OHAU SOHOOI CHILDREN'S FUNCTION

The operetta "Sleeping Beauty" was repeated at Ohau on Friday night to another crowded house. Quite half of those present had been there on Thursday night, but being gifted with imagination and musical taste they would not miss the second production. The piece went without a hitch from start to finish and was better in some respects than in the opening night. Some of the two or three part choruses were a little out of tune with the piano on the first night, but on Friday this was rectified. The children keep perfectly in tune with one another, but the piano, being some distance away, they cannot hear it so well. Many competent musicians, including Mr Robert Parker, of Wellington, invariably take their chorus work without instrumental assistance.

Mr Henderson is proud of his pupils .and he has cause to be. For a small primary school they have put up a wonderful performance. It is a very unusual thing to see a succession of little children from six to ten years of age stand up with the utmost, confidence and sing solos or make speeches in the style these little ones do. There are 14 soloists in the cast, and six of them have to sing two or three times. Many of these sing with great feeling and throw all their nervous force into their parts. Some who had affecting parts sang with their face full of unbidden tears, and it was no uncommon thing for them to relieve their feelings by a short cry when they returned to the dressing room.

Miss W. Rawiri, as the princess, looked, acted, spoke, and sang her part to the admiration of everyone. She has put much thoughtful work into it and for a girl of 14. it is a triumph. Her three solos, "Happy, happy is my heart, ,, "In all Humility,, and "I've been sleeping," were rendered with the manner and feeling of an artist. This young lady should have a future before her.

The prince (Master C. McLeavey) was just as successful in his difficult and exacting part. His acting and speaking were particularly good. He was most amusing in the comic scenes "in the moon," , and performed his part in the final court scene; with the utmost good taste. His difficult solo "Princess Fair" was accurately rendered and his duet with the princess was loudly applauded.

Anyone who has seen Master Arthur McLeavey on the concert platform will be quite prepared to hear that he made a great hit as the rotund and bustling "Man in the Moon. His song "I'm the ruler of this land" was irresistibly amusing, and his acting all through had quite the professional touch.

Miss Wehepeihana as the chief court lady has a fine soprano voice and sang her two solos "Love, perfect love," and the dramatic "Princess fair listen to our call," remarkably well. She also took part with Miss M. Arapata, the leading contralto, in the duet "Our good and gentle Princess." She is particularly useful in the chorus work and her clear top notes are very telling.

Miss H. Manuriki, the second soprano, sang her solo "Truth, happy truth" very tunefully. Her voice although not so strong as that of the first soprano, is sweet and will gain strength in time.

Miss M. Arapata possesses a powerful contralto voice capable of filling a large hall. Her solo "My gentleness I give you" was rendered with the greatest confidence and ease of manner. She also took the alto part in the trio "Oh power supreme" with the queen and princess. This trio was very effective and was much appreciated.

The Queen, Miss E. Smith, and Miss M. Perenara, third soprano, each had a solo and sang it well.

One of the prettiest parts, that of Fairy Queen, was taken by little Nora Wilson, and she fitted it admirably. She sang her solo, "We Fairies All," well, recited her two long speeches in a pleasing and convincing manner, and marshalled her band of fairies like a general. Of the other fairies, Olive Entwistle as Sunshine sang and spoke well; and Dorothy Henderson, as Protection, and Esma Hogg, as Gentleness, also said their lines prettily.

Miss Miriam O'Donnell, the cast out fairy Envoy, had a striking part and excited much applause by the forceful way in which she interpreted it. On Friday night she had a bad sore throat and couldn't take the top notes in her two songs, but her acting and speaking were in no way impaired, and she drew rounds of applause in the spinning wheel scene in the cottage.

The part of the Prince's cat was performed in a pleasing manner by Betty Henderson, aged 5. There is a pretty scene between the prince and the cat in which they sing a duet.

The Princess wore a beautiful dress of heliotrope satin designed and made by Miss Tew, with a collarette of cream silk fringe and a tunic of purple net, trimmed with lace. The first soprano wore an empire gown of rich yellow sateen, trimmed with lace applique. The second soprano wore sky-blue silk with the fashionable flat ruchings of pale pink. The third soprano wore pale green sateen trimmed with applique lace and pink silk. The queen wore dark green silk and lace scarf.

All the dresses were made by Mrs Henderson and Miss Tew, and as there were 29 children in the cast some of whom needed two costumes the amount of work entailed may be estimated by the initiated.

After the final scene on Friday night Mr Irvine, of Ohau, proposed votes of thanks to Mr Henderson, Mrs Henderson, Miss Tew and Miss McLeavey for the work they had done in getting up the operetta, and to the children for the earnest way in which they had done their part towards the success of the undertaking. These were carried by acclamation.

Mr Henderson, in replying on behalf of himself, his assistants and the children, said that there was a general impression in the neighbourhood that the object of the annual school



entertainment in general and of this operetta in particular was merely to raise money for school purposes, and that it was foolish to spend so much energy and time in preparation when something much more slipshod would answer just as well. He wished to disabuse their minds entirely of this idea. The same amount of work, if used in some other direction, would produce much more money. His main object was the moral and artistic training of the children. Before a child could successfully perform an ideal part its mind must be in some measure attuned to that ideal. The individual work each child gave many opportunities of eliminating the flippant and the prudish from their minds. It produced "bond of sympathy between the teacher and the taught, which years of ordinary school work would not do. It gave the teacher a most useful insight into the characters of his pupils; and above all things, it taught the children that by perseverance and hard work they could produce something that was a work of art, and a memory to be treasured all their lives. He knew from certain foolish remarks and sniggers that he had heard from several members of the audience, which were more noticeable on account of the earnest attention and silence of the great mass of those present, that these offenders against decorum had never taken part themselves in any such work. If they had they would have had better taste. He considered that good music, such as they had been listening to, must, and did, have a refining influence on the minds of the children, which they would miss in this country place unless the school supplied it.

Mr McLeavey, chairman of the committee (we understand) also wishes to say that he is in entire agreement with Mr Henderson in this matter of school entertainments. He is of the opinion that in these entertainments the children learn to stand up and speak or sing to a crowd of people, and in this way lose that shyness and self-consciousness which is such a handicap on anyone wishing to take part in business or public life. "There is many a man," he says, "who would never have known his power to interest or entertain, had it not been for those youthful attempts; and many another who, through lack of them, is lost to the public life of his country."

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## 1913

1913	81	Ohau	Henderson	George M	B1	Head Master	£210.00	House
1913	81	Ohau	Tew	Winifred E H	D2	Assistant Female	£125.00	
1913	81	Ohau	Hurrell	Elsie	D4	Assistant Female	£90.00	

13th February 1913 Ohau School Picnic.

The above picnic was held in Mr Saint's place., beside the river. Almost the entire population of Ohau were present, As the weather was ideal for games and races, a. very enjoyable time was spent, and there were no down-hearted ones on the ground. The Training Farm Band, by permission of Major Burlinson, enlivened the proceedings by playing some fine selections of music. The great array of babies (white brown and mixed) suggested a baby show, which resulted in Mrs T. Wehipeihana and Mrs Rowland's babies being placed first.

A large sum of money had been collected for prizes by a committee consisting of Mrs Cameron, Messrs S. Royal. T. Wehepeihana. and E, Hogg. A programme of sports was arranged and carried out with enthusiasm. The following are some of the events:—

Boys' race.—W. Graham 1, J. Rawiri 2, N. Barnett 3.

Girls' race.—Winnie Rawiri and Marie Arapata tied for first place Hori Manariki 2. Ethel Wilson 3

Cigarette- race, —Luke Perowit 1. Rangi Hukiki 2. G. M. Henderson 3.

Single ladies' race.—Myrtle Whiley 1, M. Entwistle 2. Miss Hurrell 3.

Girls' three-legged race.—W. Rawiri and Mana 1, Nora Wilson and Mirika 2. Mariana and H. Manariki 3.

Thread the needle race.—Tumiki Wehepeihana 1. Willie Royal 2.

Thread the needle race.—H. Williams 1. G. M. Henderson 2. Drake 3.

Band bows' race.—N. Smith 1. T Davies 2. F. Ridle 3. A. Campbell 4

Married ladies' race.—Mrs Perowit i Mrs Rowlands 2. Mrs Ryrrie 3 Miss A. McLeavy 4.

Tug; of war.—Girls v. boys: boys won.

Tug-of-war.—Single and married ladies: Won by singles.

Tug-of-war.— Single and married ladies: Won by married.

Tug-of-war (final).—Won by married.

Married ladies.—Mesdames Periwiti. Rowlands, Ryrrie. McLeavey.

30th April 1913 OHAU SCHOOL COMMITTEE. The annual election of the school committee took place last night, in the school. After the meeting had been held a desultory debate of a highly technical character on the subject of "'Choppers." Mr J. McLeavy . the retiring chairman was voted to the chair and proceeded to give an account of the work and progress of the school during his term of office. He was pleased to say that during the year the school had gone up a grade and had in consequence got another teacher. The school year had been closed by the production of a high-class entertainment, which reflected credit on all concerned.' The inspector's report" was of the most satisfactory description. The school library had been increased by the addition of seven pounds ten shillings books showed a credit balance of about £12 on the year's working. He wished to thank the members of the retiring committee for the excellent spirit in which they had worked with him for the good of the school.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the retiring committee. On the motion of Mr A. "Whiley, a vote of thanks was accorded to the teachers for the way in which they had worked to produce the school operetta in 'December. In reply, Mr Henderson said that school time spent in preparing children for an operetta was well spent; that besides developing the artistic and aesthetic side of their character, it gave the teacher an insight into the inner workings of the minds of the children, which ordinary school work did not give. A bond of sympathy also was established between teacher and taught, which was a very great aid to good and elastic discipline.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of a new committee, the following being elected: Messrs McLeavey (chairman), Thorley ' (Secretary). Arcus, Hanson, Davies, Whiley, and Olson.

29th December 1913 The children of the Ohau School completed their season when they produced Princess Chrysanthemum at Otaki on Tuesday night. Although the weather- was threatening, there was a fair audience and the piece went off without any hitch. Applause was frequent, and at times enthusiastic. The comfort of the audience was somewhat marred by the unseemly conduct of certain Maoris, who, after going out during the intervals, insisted upon coming back to their places in a noisy manner during the progress of the play. Their action

was condemned by the better class of their own race, especially as the performers were Maori children. Mrs Gardener was kind enough to say in the course of her speech at the Levin performance. that the company must show again in Levin under more favourable circumstances. But Mr Henderson fears that this will be impracticable. He finds running an opera company a very worrying and exacting business, and he does not think he can put on another performance even in Ohau. The children have behaved splendidly throughout, and I Hit' success of the performances has been largely due to the work of the ladies, Mrs Henderson, Misses' McLeavey, Hurrell and Tew. On Miss Tew has fallen the brunt of the work of dressing and managing the children behind the scenes work not seen by the public, but highly appreciated by the stage manager. Mr Henderson wishes to thank heartily all those who helped him in his productions, and wishes especially to mention two Mr Harvey, who, as agent for the Dresden Piano Company lent him an excellent instrument for the Levin performance, and Mr Williams, of Levin, who provided a free supper for the children. .

1st October 1913 The Ohau Tennis Club held its annual meeting last night, when the following officers were elected Patroness, Mrs Kebbell: president, Mr Henderson; vice presidents, Mrs Hansen, Miss Retter and Mr S. Saint; secretary. Miss W. Tew.

26th November 1913 Wellington Education Board to paint Ohau residence

29th December 1913 The children of the Ohau School produced the popular operetta, "Princess Chrysanthemum," as a wind-up, to their school year. Mr. and Mrs. Henderson spent some strenuous weeks training and dressing the children. About two-thirds of these were Maoris, who make excellent Japanese, and who danced and sing splendidly. The scenery was a 'special feature of the performance, and in this Mr. Henderson was ably assisted by Mr. Lanchester. of Otaki. who designed and painted the back-cloth, a characteristic Japanese landscape. The piece was played in Levin, Shannon, and Otaki, as well as in Ohau, and, although the weather was very unfavourable on two occasions, it did not mar the artistic level of the production. Mr. Henderson was assisted by Miss Tew, who took charge of the dressing of the children, and by Miss Hurrell, who managed the finance. Miss McLeavey, of Ohau, presided at the piano. It was, for school children, a remarkable performance, and the audiences were enthusiastic in their Applause. '

## 1914

1914	82	Ohau	Henderson	George M	B1	Head Master	£220.00	House
1914	82	Ohau	Tew	Winifred E H	D1	Assistant Female	£135.00	
1914	82	Ohau	Hurrell	Elsie	D4	Assistant Female	£100.00	

1st April 1914 A scholarship of the annual value of £20, and available for two years, has been awarded to Winnie Rawiri, of the Ohau State School. This young girl, who is well known, throughout the district as a leading hockey player, has gone to Napier\*for purposes of study [£20 in March 1914 has the purchasing power of \$3285.02 at June 2020]

1st July 1914 Wellington Education Board Approved an extra tank and stand for Ohau

## 1915

1915	88	Ohau	Henderson	George M	B1	Head Master	£230.00	House
1915	88	Ohau	Hurrell	Elsie	D3	Assistant Female	£120.00	
1915	88	Ohau	Thomson	Annie E		Assistant Female	£110.00	

17th February Miss E Hurrell appointed Elsie Hurrell started teaching for Wellington Education Board in 1909 at Mount Cook Infants as a pupil teacher. In 1914 and 1915 she was at Ohau. Then she was at Waikanae until she resigned in Mid 1921

1921/7980	Elsie	Hurrell	Stuart Clyde	Saint
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21st July 1915 AT THE OHAU SCHOOL. An inquiry into the cause of the death of a little Maori girl, Katie Roha Wehipeihana, eleven years old, was held at Kuku at the house of Roha Wehipeihana, father of the child, yesterday morning, by Mr W. C. Nation, coroner. After hearing the evidence a verdict of "accidental death caused by Burning," was returned.

Roha Wehipeihana deposed: I am a dairy farmer residing at Kuku. Katie was my daughter. She was born on 1st January, 1901. She attended the Ohau school. On Friday July 16, 1915, she left for school as usual. About 11 o'clock I received word that she had met' with an accident at school. I went there and found that Katie had been burned. Dr Bryson 'was at school when he got there, and he suggested that Katie should go to the Otaki hospital, and he took her there in his motor car. On Sunday, 18th, I received word that she was very ill, I had been to the hospital the day before and she said she was getting along all right. On Sunday I went to the hospital and the nurse told me that Katie would not live. I asked if I could take her home and the nurse said the doctor would have to decide. She rang up the doctor, and then told me that if I would take the risk I could take her home. I had a motor car there so we got her and brought her home to my house at Kuku. She seemed alright when we got home. She did not say much but was quite conscious. We put her to bed and made her comfortable. She suffered much during the night. About 3 o'clock on the morning of Monday she grew worse and at quarter past seven had begun to sink, and at half-past seven she died. She did not say much towards the end. I thought if she was home with us she would pick up, instead of being amongst strangers. That is why I brought her home.

William Henry Joseph Huthwaite: I am a medical practitioner in charge of the Otaki hospital. Katie Wehepeihana 'was admitted to the Otaki hospital on Friday 11th. about midday. I found that she was suffering from extensive burns which, though not deep, involved a large extent of the surface of the body. Nearly all the back was burned, together with the shoulders and portions on, both arms. The child was also suffering a good deal from shock. On the Sunday she appeared much worse, and the matron sent a message to the father informing him of the fact, he came to the hospital and wished to remove the child. The matron informed me of this by telephone, and I instructed her to urge him not to remove the child; if he did so it would be at his own risk. The removal might accelerate death. The case, however, was a bad one. and there was a likelihood of the child dying under any circumstances. The burns were consistent -with the clothes catching fire.

To Mr G. M. Henderson, headmaster at the Ohau school; The condition of the child was very low, and the father was informed that it was possible the child would die on the way home.

Elsie Hurrell; I am assistant school teacher at the Ohau school. I know the child Katie Wehipeihana. She was in Standard III and was eleven years of age. On Friday, 13th inst. I went in to Mr Henderson's room and dismissed the children, it being playtime—about 11 o'clock. There were several girls standing round the fire when I went in. One of them asked if they could remain there during playtime. I said no, and they went outside. I returned to my own room and two or three minutes later a girl named Whau Tahuri came running to me and said, "Katie Roha is burning!" I went out and found Katie rushing across the playground with her clothing on fire. I ran after her and tried to smother the fire by pressing her against myself, receiving some burns to my hands by so doing. A rug was got and put round her, and she was taken into the school. Dr Bryson was sent for and he attended her at the school. Before the doctor arrived I applied oil to the burns and did what I could to alleviate the pain. Dr Bryson took the child to Otaki in his car, There is a fire place in my room and there is a fire guard for protection I cannot say if there a guard before the fire in Mr Henderson's room. We burn wood at the school The children from Standard III upward are located in Mr Henderson's room, and are old enough to know the danger of getting too close to a fire. That same morning Miss Thomson, the other teacher in my room, had occasion to caution Katie to keep away from the fire in my room. When caught the child in the playground she only cried and said she was hurt.

Whau Tahuri: My age is ten years and I go to the Ohau school. I knew Katie Koha. She was in the same class as myself. Last Friday morning, about 11 o'clock, Miss Hurrell dismissed the children for playtime. She told us that no girls were to stay in front of the fire, and we went outside. Katie, myself, and some other girls went back and stood in front of the fire, because we felt cold. Katie had her back to the fire and her clothes caught. She ran off outside and I ran to Miss Hurrell and told her. There was no pushing of each other when Katie's dress caught.

George McDonald Henderson, sworn--I am head teacher at the Ohau school. There is a fire-guard in my room. The wires are very close and keep the heat in, and to get the best heat the guard is set aside. The youngest child in the room is 9 ½ years old. In my experience fire guards are only used in infant rooms, I have never, objected to the children using the fire in cold or inclement weather. The child Katie Roha was scantily clad, and this may account for her going to the fire.

27th November 1915 The girls of Ohau school are getting up a bazaar to raise money for patriotic purposes. An enthusiastic committee consisting of Ivy Olson, Florrie Pickering, Lydia Hanlon, Miriam Herrick, Florrie Hanson (secretary), Gladys Davis, Olive Entwistle, Chrissie Greig, Esma Hogg, Marjorie McLeavey, Dorothy Henderson and Hilda Ryrie are hard at work making and collecting things to sell and doing the thousand and one things necessary for the success of the function. They propose to hold it on Saturday, December 4th, in the afternoon and evening. Many people of Ohau have already promised to assist and the sale of tickets is going on satisfactorily. Although the children are getting assistance and advice from some of the grown-up people they are managing the affair entirely by themselves. They propose to have four stalls, a refreshment booth and numerous bran-tubs, guessing competitions, etc. Musical and other items will enliven the proceedings; so it should be very agreeable as well as a useful function.

8th December 1915 This function, run exclusively by the girls of the Ohau school on Saturday, was a pronounced success. For three weeks the girls worked and canvassed and everyone who attended the show was delighted by the display they made

There were four stalls for the sale of flowers, sweets, produce and fancy goods respectively, refreshments were served in a screened alcove at one end of the hall, and there were the usual competitions, lucky dips, etc.

Those in charge of the stall were.— Sweets: Ivy Olsen and Miriam Herrick . Flower: Chrissy Greig and Kathleen Stratton. Produce: Florrie Hanson, and Marjorie McLeavey. Fancy goods: Olive Entwistle, Esma Hogg and Dorothy Henderson. Tea-rooms: Florrie Pickering and Lydia Hanlon, assisted by Mesdames Hornet. Hill and Hanson ant Misses Thomson and Burrell. These were assisted by a team of small fry consisting of Alice Walton, Betty Henderson, May Drake, Hilda Ryrie. Marjorie Hogg .managed the bran tub and three boys, Arthur McLeavey, William Sparkes and William Davies looked after the nail-driving and were generally useful. William Kuiti printed the notices for the stalls and Gladys Davies took money at the door.

At half past two Mrs Kebbell officially opened the bazaar indicating with a few well-chosen words the laudable object for 'which it was held. She was presented by a small girl with a bouquet of flowers and then the business of selling proceeded merrily.

Goods for the stalls were supplied as follows

Flowers.— Mesdames Pink, Rankin, Olsen, Arcus. Powles, Burnhard, Manuriki. Robert Bevan. Herrick, Ryne, Sheargold. Milne, Johnson, Mill. Patuaka, Hogg, Cameron, .S. Whiley, Collinson, Holland. Drake, Entwisle, Stratton, Hanson. Wehipeihana, Walton, Henderson and Horrobin, of Ohau, and Mesdames Pyke, Bryson and McIntyre, of Levin, the Levin school and Major Burlinson.

Sweets. —Mesdames Herrick. Sheargold. Arcus, Lemon, Hanlon, Davis, Powles, R. Brown. Hanson. Greig, Hogg, Misses Hurrell, Milne, Thomson and Wall, of Ohau; Mesdames Gardener, Williams. Whitaker, Dean, Ryder , and Messrs Haswell, Jhing Lee and Leong, of Levin

Produce.—Mesdames Kebbell, Sheargold, Merrick, Saint, Hanson, A. McLeavey, J. McLeavey, Davies, Greig, Horrobin, Olsen. Stratton, Pink, Campbell. Giles and Miss Boyer, of Ohau.

.Fancy work.—Mesdames Olsen, Morrah, Johnson (2). Allan, Hanlon, Henderson, Hogg, Young, Greig, Devine, Thorley, Stratton, Lloyd. Entwisle, Millie, Davies, Herrick, .Misses Radford. Harker. Milne, Hurrell. Thomson, Messrs Stiles and .Matheson, Aitken and Sims.

Timber and decorations.—Mesdames Stealey, Devine, Herrick Thorley, Messrs J. Crow, Sheargold and. Arcus.

Refreshments—Mesdames Olsen, .Morrah. Hanlon, Merrick, Cameron, Hansen. Crow, Lemon, Young, J. Brown, Greig, Stratton, Davies, Hill, Ryrie, Thorley, Horrobin, Sheargold, Milne, Collinson, Rowlands and .Messrs Dean and Rawson.

Competition.—Mrs Clark, table centre; Messrs Stiles and Matheson, Japanese box; \V. Walton (of Levin) iced cake.

The following assisted the girls by preparing and decorating the - stalls and Hall Mesdames Hill, Hanson, Herrick. Misses Hurrell and Thomson, -Messrs Hanson. Henderson, Bollinger.

Arcus. Collinson, Leitch and Sheargold. Mesdames Hanson, Herrick, and Hogg worked hard canvassing for contributions.

The following won competitions:— Ladies' nail-driving. Mrs Clark (four hits); men's nail-driving, G. M. Henderson (two hits); doll's name, Betty Henderson.

The total takings were 7s 6d less than £20 [ In June 2020 terms \$2954.25] and Messrs Roland Young 5s and Mr J. (Ohau) 2s 6d volunteered; to make up difference so that the Red Cross Fund will benefit to this extent from the girls' efforts.

Mr Henderson acted as unofficial master of ceremonies in the afternoon and Mr J. Hanson in the evening, when his energy and good humour made things go with a siring from start to finish.

## 1916-1917

1917	93	Ohau	Henderson	George M	B-49	Head	£250.00
1917	93	Ohau	Hayes	Ellen V	C-77	Assistant	£140.00
1917	93	Ohau	Campbell	Mary L	D	Assistant	£120.00

1st March 1916 Wellington Education Board Ohau residence papering £3

25th March 1916 HENDERSON.-On the 10th March, 1916, at her residence, Ohau, the wife of G. M. Henderson—a daughter

8th April 1916 Miss Hurrell assistant Ohau Leave of absence granted 1 Month. For health reasons Miss Hayes of the West Coast South island is acting as relieving teacher. In 1915 Ellen Reeves was sole teacher at the Roa School in the Grey district. She started teaching at South Wellington in 1908, From 1910 to 1912 at Tokomaru. Then back to Ohau by 1917 In 1919 at Levin and by 1912 back in Wellington at South Wellington where she was still when my records end in 1923.

15th June 1916 A. shelter shed is to be erected at Ohau public school. Tenders for the work are invited By the Wellington Education Board. Specifications may be seen at The Chronicle office.

18th September 1916 The children of the Ohau School held a fancy dress ball on Friday night. For some time the teachers and parents have been working to give the children a treat, and the result repaid all their efforts. Among the bigger girls, Miss Parawai Wehepeihana wore the costume of an Indian rajah, which suited her admirably. Miss Violet Cameron's costume as "Shuttlecock and Battledore" was most artistic, and beautifully finished. Dorothy Henderson looked very dashing as Sir "Walter Raleigh. Florry Hanson wore a very fine Indian-squaw dress. Esma Hogg was very effective, as a Christmas cracker, and Chrissie Grey as « Night. Olive Entwistle and Hilda Ryrie both Queens of Hearts, Lydia Hiwi as Princess Chrysanthemum. Victoria Manarika as Italian contadna, Kitty Wehipeihana as French fish girl, Rangi "Whiley and Lily Royal both Maori wahines, Wahu Tahuri as Japanese Prince. Marjorie McLeavey as Scotch lass, and Marjorie Hogg as hussif, were all exceedingly pretty and looked their part in every detail.

Among the smaller girls: Eva Manuriki was an enchanting gipsy girl and Betty Henderson, a very taking fairy queen : Gladys Hogg as pierette, Kathleen Stratton as Alsatian girl, Alice Walton as queen of hearts, Joyce Harkness as spring, May Drake as moonlight. Euphemia

Ryrie as roses, Winnie Walton as Little Red Riding Hood, Stewart Ryrie as pierette,- Mary Wehepeihana as gipsy girl and Jessie Ryrie as little Miss Muffett were very much "in the picture."

The best among the boys were: Pat Royal as Maori chief, Percy Drake as cowboy, Jack Cameron as clown and Arthur Molloy as jockey, with saddle and crop complete .ready to weigh in. Other good outfits were: Reggie Cameron sailor, Arthur McLeary and 'Harvey Drake courtiers, Bernard McLeavey college boy. William Sparks .naval officer. Hector Wehepeihana, Duke of Wellington, Billy 'George variety man. Pat Kuiti soldier and Peter Kuiti Japanese coolie.

The children had been taught to dance by the teachers and went through the quadrilles, lancers alberts and Caledonians with much propriety, as well as showing considerable proficiency in the reel of Tulloch, veleta. waltz, Berlin polka (not a German dance but the dance the Allies will perform when they get there), Washington Post and mazurka. The songs of the Allies were sung by the children between the dances. Miss Hayes recited a humorous sketch which was very well received. "Miss Parewai Wehepeihana sang the aria "Ah fors e lui," from La Traviata. with excellent effect. Miss Florrie Hanson recited "Aunt Tabitha," very nicely.

During the evening Mr Glachan, chairman of the school committee presented Miss Hurrell, who has been transferred to Wellington, with a gold bangle, a manicure set and a smelling salts bottle. Miss Hurrell was claimed with musical honours.

The school committee had intended to give four prizes for the best fancy dresses, but when they found that at least 16 or 20 children had excellent claims to these prizes their hearts failed them and they decided to make a grant of money to provide some treat for all the school children instead of attempting the invidious task of discriminating .between so many pretty and effective costumes. Miss Thomson and Mr ----- provided the music. The floor was in excellent condition, and the adults finished the evening with a dance. Mrs Hanson and Miss Glachan presided over the supper arrangements. The children had a right royal time, find every one expressed themselves thoroughly pleased with, the affair.

21st November 1916 Mrs Kebbell, of Ohau , has been asked and has consented. to open the patriotic bazaar which the girls of the Ohau school .propose to .hold on December 9th, IJM6. People are coming forward to help the girls in a most enthusiastic manner; among others, Mrs Gorrie, of Ohau, has presented a beautifully-dressed .doll which will be on view in Levin. .Miss Hayes has donated several oil-paintings , Which will be on view and with which an art union is to be held, the tickets for which will admit to the bazaar..

13th December 1916 A SUCCESSFUL FUNCTION. The lovely weather on Saturday contributed in no small measure to the success of the above function. The school and grounds assumed the holiday garb of a carnival for the occasion and from two o'clock there was a steady stream of people arriving. At 2.30 Mrs Kebbell opened the bazaar in a few well-chosen words, and Mr Glacken, chairman of the .school committee explained the objects for which the money was intended. The crowd then devoted themselves solidly to the business of spending money, relieving the exciting pursuit of bargain-hunting by an occasional visit to the archery-butts, the soft drink stall, or the ice-cream waggon. The school children in their fancy dresses added gaiety to the proceedings, and it was quite an unusual privilege to make selections from Sir Walter .Raleigh's large stock of second-hand goods, or to take a bow and



arrow from the dainty hands of the Rajah of Bangalore. The maypole dance was performed on the school lawn during the afternoon and was a pretty and strenuous sight. The Levin Dairy Company. Whose patriotism is proof against war taxation, nobly responded to the girls' request for assistance with a

box (56lbs [pounds weight] ) of their excellent butter. The Kuku cheese factory, although still somewhat sore about that "penny a pound," contributed a 10lb cheese Mr Sundgreen, of Lower Hutt, who has willow plantations at Ohau gave one guinea's worth of wickerwork and the people of Ohau all contributed to a greater or less extent. Besides the teachers of the school and the children, who worked early and late, the following deserve special mention: Mrs Hanson, who took charge of the afternoon tea; Messrs Davies and Walton who erected stalls and helped all day; Mrs Walton and Mr Leitch who sold raffle tickets; Messrs Gorrie, Olsen and Davies who did carting work ; Mesdames Sheargold and Blackburn and Misses Hurrell. Olsen and Wehepeihana who also assisted. The money raised has not all been brought in, but it will be little less than £50.

The following contributed materials for sale. [The long list was not copied]

22nd December 1916 The Ohau school children; by a special effort, have raised the sum of £50 for patriotic purposes.

3rd February 1917 Miss Thomson, of Ohau school, is attending a summer school which is being held in connection with the Training College, Wellington. The school will last one month.

20th March 1917 .Nurse Lewis's school children's effort in aid of the Maori Ambulance Fund was held at Levin Town Hall on Saturday afternoon and evening. Through thy efforts- of the children a fine lot of produce and handicraft had been got together for sale, and there was fair public patronage. The articles left on hand at 9 p.m. were submitted to public auction by Mr G. M. Henderson. headmaster of Ohau public school, with .Mr Jones, of Levin public school. as auctioneer's assistant. Bidding was spirited and a clearance was effected. it is estimated that a sum- of about £30 will result from the Levin effort. During the afternoon a flag was unfurled by Mrs N. Kirkcaldie, in the unavoidable absence of Mr Kirkcaldie from Levin.

29th May 1917 A most successful social gathering was held at the above-named spot on the night of Thursday last, to celebrate the departure on promotion of Miss Thompson, and to wish her success in her new sphere of activities.

The function was conducted by the school committee, assisted by a number of residents who 'were special friends of the guest of "the evening,

The program was to consist (in the words of Mr. J. D Brown, of Kuku), of dancing with songs between the dances, and, if things went slow, the game of "uhu," which he said was very popular at the Kuku, and which he would' teach to anyone who required assistance. Unfortunately for those whose curiosity had been aroused, the need for this mysterious game did not arise; for "all went merry as a marriage bell." Mr Glackin, of Ohau, on behalf of ,he committee and' people of the district presented Miss Thomson with a suit case and travelling-rug suitably inscribed and on behalf of the Wehepeihana family with a handsome metal tray. He made 'appropriate references to the benefit the district had received from Miss Thomson's musical clients; and concluded a happy speech by calling for cheers for her. They were given with musical honors.

Songs and recitations were contributed during the evening by Mrs Devine, Miss Hanson, and Messrs Brown Woods, Henderson and Lister.

Miss Pink played for the dancing and Miss Thomson played the accompaniments. A very enjoyable evening was spent and was concluded by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne.

16th June 1917 The Ohau Branch of the Red Cross Society has received in subscriptions, donations and proceeds from schoolchildren's bazaar the sum of £74 14s 9d, and have spent on wool, material for bandages, etc., and butter muslin for shirts .....

26th April 1917 Part of an article on Maori Children in Wellington Education Board schools: With the exception of Okautete, which has twelve Maoris out of a roll of fourteen, the proportion of Maoris to the roll is in most of these schools very small. In Gladstone, Kahautara, and Ohau about one-third are Maoris, in Waikanae about one-quarter, in Otaki one-sixth, and in such places as Levin and Greytown less than one-twelfth.

[Okautete: *Closed 2001*. AKA Homewood School. First Known as Kaiwhata School. This school for much of the time was run as a Native School and therefore not under the Wellington Education Board control, records for this part of the school are held in Archives Auckland.. Only from 1962 did it become a normal state school under Wellington Education Board Control. 60 Kilometres East of Masterton on the coast near Riversdale.]

30th May 1917 Miss A Thomson resigned

## 1918-1919

1919	108	Ohau	Henderson BA	George McD	B-46	Head	£335.00
1919	108	Ohau	Campbell	Mary L	D-101	Assistant	£175.00
1919	108	Ohau	Wehepeihana	Parewai		Assistant	£120.00

27th April 1918 Speaking at the meeting of householders at Ohau Mr Henderson, the headmaster, said that for the last 20 or 30 years Canada and the United States, Northern Italy and Southern France have been using their water power for industrial expansion. During all that time we have diligently talked of harnessing our equal or superior sources of water-power. The country was full of undeveloped minerals, but how many New Zealanders would know iron ore or phosphatic rock if they saw them? We had iron and coal in the country but were waiting till some American Steel Trust came and got options over our deposits of iron ore just as the British acquired the Persian oil wells.

27th April 1918 Upwards of 40 persons, a record number, attended the meeting for the election of a new school committee at Ohau. Mr J. McLeavey was voted to the chair. The balance sheet of the retiring committee was read and adopted without discussion. In his report of the school work for the year, the headmaster, Mr Henderson, said the school had had a prosperous year. The health of the children had been remarkably good. This was no doubt partly due to the thorough way in which the school was disinfected every day. The medical inspector had expressed surprise and satisfaction at the large proportion of the children who had had their teeth and eyes attended to. The inspector's reports showed a high state of efficiency in the scholastic work, the bulk of the work being marked "good" to "very good." Contrary to the usual custom, Mr Gould, the Education Board's new inspector, had at the end of last year gone round personally to examine the sixth standard. Mr Henderson was pleased

to say that of eight candidates presented, seven gained their proficiency certificate Continued on page 4.[Below]

27th April 1918 the solitary failure being a recent arrival at the school. Of these six were going- on further with their education, one being now at Levin District High School, one at Wellington Training College, one at Iona College, Hawke's Bay. one remaining to try for a National Scholarship, one to take a course at Wellington Technical School next year, and one with three others remaining at Ohau to sit for the Public Service Entrance at the end of the year. The attendance had been good, but there were a number of children of school age, who were not coming' to school in the district. Twenty-five children had been entered since the beginning of the year

The headmaster drew the attention of the meeting to the urgent need for more accommodation for the children. The present position was that one class had to be taught. entirely in the open air. Owing to the short-sighted policy of the Government in reducing the amount of floor space per child from 12 square feet to 10 square feet, [10 Square feet = 0.93 square metres] many of our schools were working under Black Hole of Calcutta "conditions, and the constitutions of the children were being undermined. Their plea was lack of money, but in the country, at any rate, there seemed no lack of money for motor cars, races and other luxuries, while things necessary for the health of the little ones were refused. At last annual meeting of householders a resolution had been passed urging the Board to build additions. The reply had been that the average attendance did not warrant any increase in accommodation. Mr George Glackin, who was then elected to the committee and was appointed chairman, had worked very hard and used his personal influence to get another room built, but he did not succeed in his well-meant efforts. The speaker had written to the Education Board this year urging the need for another room and had hoped to be able to tell the meeting the result of his endeavour. He had received no reply as yet. He said that on the departure of Mr Glackin for military service, a new chairman had been elected, then the committee had been divided and that he, as headmaster, had not been able to work with them satisfactorily. It was very necessary for the efficiency of the school that the. committee should work harmoniously with the headmaster and he had every confidence that the parents would elect a committee who would put the interests of the school and welfare of the children first He went on to stress the need for more and better education in New Zealand and to the movement set on foot by Professor Hunter, Mr F L Combs [Headmaster at Featherston School] and other far-seeing men for more and better teachers, better school buildings and playgrounds, more and better-equipped technical, science and trade schools, and extensive compulsory training. The Teachers Institute had taken up .this commitment and were urging the members to bring it to the notice of the public bodies. He concluded by moving three motions. all of which were, carried unanimously: (1) That this meeting of householders and parents is by no means satisfied by the reply of the Education Board to their request for increased accommodation in the school and urge that the children be afforded some protection, from the weather especially in the winter months.

(2) The motion forwarded to the Educational Institute requesting the Government to safeguard the national education system from attacks and to introduce such reforms into our system as may best cope with post war conditions. \_

(3) That this meeting of householders and electors hears with concern that grants of Government money have been made private (Church) schools and strongly condemns the policy of giving' grants from any public funds to private schools whether for scholarships or any other purpose

Mr Young, chairman of the retiring committee, denied that the committee had been divided except upon the subject of the appointment of an assistant to the school. He gave his reasons for the attitude he took up on this question.

Mr Harkness moved a vote of thanks to the headmaster for his staff for the very successful result of their years' work. This was carried by acclamation.

Mr A. Whiley asked whether the caretaker's pay had been raised since the war and he suggested that it be raised by the new committee.

The election resulted in the following gentlemen being elected to form for the ensuing year Messrs Harkness (chairman) Wall (Secretary), Cameron, Davies and Wehepeihana.

Each of the successful candidates thanked the meeting for his election

The Chairman (Mr McLeavey) suggested that a roll of honour should be got for the school.

The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.

27th June 1918 Mr C. I. Harkness, secretary of the Ohau School Committee, "has been nominated for the Horowhenua Hutt seat, now vacant, on the \_Wellington Education Board.

10th October 1918 Tenders are invited to-day for extensive additions to . the Ohau School The plans and, specifications may be seen at this office.

25th November 1918 [Influenza Epidemic]The Maoris in the Kuku and Manakau settlements have been seriously affected by the scourge, and quite a number of deaths have taken place. On Friday the Mayor (Mr Blenkhorn), in company with Nurse Gilroy, made a tour of the Maori settlements, and found a large number of cases at the Kuku. The worst feature was that the natives were destitute of help or advice, and as several deaths had taken place, some alarm was felt among the residents. The Mayor, during his tour, came in contact with Dr Howe, who has been sent up to Manakau by the Government to assist in the present trouble, and conferred with him on the matter, and it was decided to open a temporary hospital at the Kuku, in addition to the one already established at Manakau. A difficulty then arose to find some suitable person to take charge, but this was eventually overcome by Mr G. M. Henderson, schoolmaster at Ohau, offering his services. With the opening of the Kuku hospital, it is to be hoped that the ravages of the scourge will be checked. An arrangement has been come to so that the conduct of matters south of Ohau in connection with the epidemic will be left to the Otaki and Manakau residents, and the natives north of Ohau -will be treated from Levin.

30th November 1918 Out of ten candidates presented in the Sixth Standard at the Ohau school the following gained proficiency certificates : Ronald Clark, Percy Drake, (Bernard McLeavey, Walter Leith, (Dorothy Henderson. Marjorie Hogg. Mary Stuart and Eunice Wall. The following gained competency certificates: Marjory McLeavey and Kathleen Stratton.

24th February 1919 A very creditable educational record has been established by Miss M. Herrick, daughter of Mr E. M. Herrick, of Weraroa. At twelve years of age Miss Herrick obtained a junior free place whilst a pupil of the Ohau school, next year at the Levin High

School she won a junior national scholarship and joining the Wellington Girls' College has now been successful in annexing a Senior National Scholarship.

13th March 1919 The addition to the Ohau State School is practically complete and will be ready for occupation in the course of a day or so.

25th March 1915 The Ohau School Committee met on Saturday. Present—Mr C. I. Harkness in the chair, Messrs Davis, Wehepeihana, Cameron and Wall.

On the motion of the Chairman a resolution of condolence was carried with the widow of the late Mr E. Collinson, who for many years had carried out the duties of caretaker of the school in a most satisfactory and thorough! manner. The secretary was instructed to write to Mrs Collinson conveying the purport of the motion.

The Secretary, Mr Wall, announced that he had received notice from the returning officer, Mr Cork, that the school was to be used as a polling place in the forthcoming poll on the liquor question.

After some discussion it was decided to hold the school picnic at Mr Saint's place on April 2. Money is to be collected, the members of the Committee being responsible for the parts of the district in which they live. A meeting of householders is called for Friday, the 28th inst. to make arrangements for spending the money collected, and all the parents of the children and others interested are invited to be present. The committee empowered the headmaster to get a number of minor repairs to fences and outbuildings attended to.

The Secretary was instructed to order three tons of coal for the school fires.

In connection with the peace celebrations the committee empowered Messrs Harkness and Henderson to make what arrangements they thought necessary in order to co-operate with the Levin people in a joint effort.

17th April 1919 OHAU. At the annual meeting of householders, about 20 persons were present. -Mr C. I. Harkness, retiring chairman, presented the outgoing committee's report. It stated the householders were to be congratulated upon the past year, being one of the most successful in the history of the school. The committee had worked most harmoniously together. Through their untiring efforts the new room, which they had been working for, for over two years, was now an accomplished fact. This room was giving the parents, children and teachers entire satisfaction. The attendance had increased, the roll number being now 125, and a still further increase was expected. The teaching staff had quite come up to the committee's highest expectations. Miss Campbell, the second assistant, had now completed a year in the school and the results achieved by her pointed to the fact that she was thorough, hardworking, and understood her work in all departments. They hoped she would remain many years in the school. Miss Hayes, the first assistant, had always done splendid work for the school, her standard of work and discipline, as shown by the inspectors' reports, being of a high order. The headmaster had worked most harmoniously with the committee and, the whole work of the school, as shown by the inspectors' reports, reflected the greatest credit on him. The school picnic had been held at Mr Saint's place. The fixture had been an unqualified success, being one of the most enjoyable held under the auspices of the Ohau School Committee for many years. The thanks of the committee were due to the committee of ladies who worked so hard to make the event the success it was.

Mr Henderson, the headmaster, said that the most important event of the school year had been the election of the chairman of the committee, Mr Harkness, to the Education Board.

This had enabled the committee to get the new room. One feature of the addition that he didn't approve of was that the Board's architect had reduced the size of one room in the school by seven feet in order to save building a complete new room. Economy of this kind was false economy but was forced, upon the Board by the niggardly grants made by the Government- for education. As Mr Harkness had said in his address to the householders the only way to increase the liberality of the Government in this respect was to convince the public of the urgent need for larger grants. There was need for great changes in our ideas about education. New Zealand was, with Australia, a small section of the Empire tacked on to the skirts of Asia, and, isolated from the rest of the British race. The future prospects of New Zealand demanded that our civilisation, industry, and enterprise should be equal to those of the most advanced nation in the world.

The election of a new committee resulted in the following gentlemen being chosen Messrs Wall (secretary), Harkness (chairman), Davies, Cameron, Wehepeihana, Hogg and Hanson.

12th June 1919 Miss Hayes, who has joined the staff of the Levin High School, was entertained by the residents of Ohau prior to leaving there and presented with a silver tea service. Mr C. I. Harkness made the presentation and in a flattering speech prophesied a successful career for Miss Hayes.

22nd July 1919 A sum of £250 was voted by the Education Board at the meeting last week for improvements to the headmaster's residence at Ohau.

9th September 1919 In connection with the vacancy on the staff of the Ohau school, Mr Harkness, the chairman, said that "the Board had decided to advertise the position again. Miss Johnston, who had been acting as relieving teacher in the school, had been given relieving work at Brooklyn and the position on the staff would be filled by Miss Wehepeihana until a permanent appointment was made. The headmaster remarked favourably upon Miss Wehepeihana's work.

14th October 1919 Horowhenua County Council It was agreed to erect danger boards near the Ohau and Tokomaru schools.

18th November 1919 Mr G. M. Henderson, M.A., head teacher of the Ohau School, has received the appointment of Inspector of Native Schools under the Education Department, and will take up his new duties after the school holidays. Mr Henderson's new position will give him ample opportunity to exercise those powers of constructive administration with which he is so amply endowed; and the sympathetic study of the Native race and Native problems which has been one of his hobbies during his residence in Ohau should bear fruit in his handling of their education system. Mr Henderson was tutor in industrial history to the Workers' Educational Association last year in Levin, and this year in Foxton

18th November 1919 The monthly meeting of the Ohau School Committee took place last Thursday evening. There was a full attendance. The question of new fencing for the playground was gone into. Mr Cameron agreed to arrange for the purchase and erection of some concrete straining posts and a new post for the gate. Some discussion took place, on the question of keeping the committee's funds in a bank, so that money could be paid 'by cheque, the delays and inconvenience entailed by a savings bank account making that method undesirable when a competent and therefore busy man is treasurer.

Mr C. I. Harkness announced to the Committee that the headmaster, Mr G. M. Henderson, had recently been appointed to the position of Inspector of Native Schools under the

Education Department and would therefore be leaving Ohau at the end of the year. He was sure the committee would join with him in congratulating Mr Henderson on his well-deserved promotion. The high educational plane on which Mr Henderson worked bore [work bore?] immediate fruit in the excellent results obtained year after year in the school and the originality of his views and the clearness of thought which he inculcated could not but be of immense service to the pupils in after life. The children of Ohau had never had a better teacher and he feared it would be hard to find one as good to fill his place. Continuing, Mr Harkness said he was sure no one was better entitled to the position of Inspector of Native Schools than Mr Henderson. Those of his 'leisure hours' which were not spent in study for the improvement of his literary status, Mr Henderson devoted largely to the study of the Maori race, problems, history and language. While the people of the district would certainly regret the loss that the school was soon to suffer, still they would all be glad that Mr Henderson's hard work and perseverance had been recognised in high places."

Mr Henderson, in reply, thanked Mr Harkness for his kind remarks and said it was a great incentive to any teacher to have his work recognised and since Mr Harkness had been Chairman of the Committee, both as a parent and as a Committeeman had studied the interests of the children and the teachers. The conditions at Ohau School were almost ideal under his management and a teacher who did anything but his best work would, under those circumstances, be a very poor-spirited creature. It was a pleasure to teach the children of Ohau and he would deeply regret having to leave the district.

13th December 1919 At a meeting of the Wellington Education Board yesterday eulogistic reference was made to Mr Henderson, of Ohau, who has been appointed Inspector of Native Schools. Mr Henderson's ability was warmly commented upon.

19th December 1919 The announcement was made at the "breaking-up" of the Lyall Bay State School that Mr. L. H. Arcus, first assistant had been appointed to the position of headmaster at Ohau, and Miss F M Hind had received an important position at the Kelburn Training College. Both teachers received tokens of esteem from the school staff, with whom they have worked for a number of years. In making the presentation, the headmaster, Mr A. O. Blake eulogised the valuable services these two teachers had rendered to the school; they were especially to be commended for the interest they had taken in the children's sport. Mr Blake remarked that he thought more importance should be attached to a teacher's qualifications for the physical training of the children, and this could best be done by school games.

18th December 1919 If evidence had been wanting as to the popularity of Mr Henderson, headmaster of Ohau school, or to the esteem in which he is held in the district, it would have been found in the large and enthusiastic gathering who assembled in the Institute Hall on Friday evening to see the school concert and bid him and Mrs Henderson farewell. By 7.30 the hall was full, by 8 o'clock when the concert began it was packed, many people being unable to obtain seats.

Mr Proctor, a relieving teacher at the Levin school, played the opening overture. Then a troop of dainty little fairies, led by their queen, Miss Grace Wall, tripped on to the stage and delighted the audience with their performance. The stage had been tastefully decorated for this item, giving it the appearance of a fairy bower. Another children's item, performed by about twenty little Maori girls, was the Japanese Fan Song. The children sang well and looked very gay in their pretty Japanese kimonos, each carrying either a fan or a sunshade.

They received a well merited storm of applause. A dialogue entitled "Mrs Harkness's at Home," locally written for the occasion and performed by several school children, was listened to with great interest and much amusement. Master Joe Harkness, a small nine-year-old boy, who took the part of a cook demanding "union wages, 19s 6d a day," was particularly amusing. Other parts were taken by Misses Jean Wall, Olive Burnard, Betty and Zenie Henderson and Joyce Harkness. A number of Maori boys led by Master Peter Kuiti played a Takaro, a native game, and were heartily applauded.

During the evening solos, duets, and quartets, under Mr Henderson's direction, were rendered by Miss Parawai Wehepeihana, Kiti Wehepeihana, Hori Manarika and Marie Arapata, all ex-pupils of the school. These items were particularly successful and many thanks are due to Mr Proctor, who not only most ably accompanied the "singing at the concert, but also devoted several evenings to practising with the singers. These young ladies possess sweet, true voices and the ease and grace with which they sang added to the pleasure of their music.

Mr Muaso, a fine baritone, sang in Italian an Italian operatic solo, and was well received.

The second part of the programme was devoted to the performance of a farcical playette, (under Miss Campbell's direction) entitled "Covey versus Toosweet," the parts being, taken by local people. It took the form of a court scene in the year 2026 A.D., when women reigned supreme. This was an excellent performance and caused much merriment and laughter. The following was the cast: Judge, Mrs (. C. Neill; counsel for plaintiff, Miss E. V. Hayes; counsel for defendant. Miss L. Herrick; plaintiff Miss Tabitha Covey Miss M. L. Campbell; defendant Miss Olga Toosweet Miss J. Campbell; witnesses, H Rowland, Misses F Hanson, M. Hogg, I. Olson, G. Davies, D. Henderson, and Messrs "H. McLeavey and F. Campbell; clerk of the court," Miss .M. McLeavey, court crier, Mr G. Marriot. Miss Campbell. as plaintiff, a sour, vinegary and unsuccessful candidate for parliament, acted with the finish of a professional, while Mr Marriot, in feminine attire, made a most efficient and humourous court crier.

A presentation to Mr and Mrs Henderson of a pair of Morris chairs and a handsome silver tea service and jam dish, 'then took place. Mr C. I. Harkness, chairman of the school committee, in making the presentation, outlined Mr Henderson's career from his apprenticeship to engineering to his entrance into the teaching profession, and his recent promotion to Inspector of Native Schools. During his residence in Ohau, Mr Henderson had continued 'his studies and had succeeded in obtaining his M.A. degree and part section of the B. Sc.. Mr Harkness also spoke most enthusiastically\* of Mr Henderson's teaching abilities, the excellent reports the school had always had under his charge, and the 'high esteem in which he was held, by the Education Board and its inspectors. As Mr Henderson stepped on to the stage a school boy, Master Walter Whiley, stood up and called, "Ohau School," three cheers for Mr Henderson," to which call the children responded lustily\* Mr Henderson, in reply thanked the people for their very handsome and generous present to Mrs Henderson and himself, and spoke of the very pleasant time they had had in Ohau. He had made many valued and sterling friends, and, had always felt that the people of Ohau were friendly disposed to him and were confident that 'he had always endeavoured to act in the best interest of the school children. Mr Henderson spoke very sincerely of his Maori friends, and expressed the pleasure he had derived in studying the native children and having them as scholars.



After the entertainment -the 'hall was cleared -when social intercourse and dancing were indulged in till 2 a.m. The whole evening was an unbounded success, owing to a large extent to the untiring energies of the assistant teachers. Miss Campbell and Miss Wehepeihana. Miss Jessie Campbell also rendered valuable assistance. The committee is indebted to Mr Tisbury, whose excellent. dance music was much appreciated;

## 1920-1921

1921	122	Ohau	Arcus	Laurence H	D	Head	£390.00
1921	122	Ohau	Campbell	Mary L	D	Assistant	£240.00
1921	122	Ohau	Miles	Mary P		Assistant	£180.00
1921	122	Ohau	Wehepeihana	Parewai		Probationer 1	£95.00

21st January 1920 Mr L H Arcus appointed Headmaster. Lawrence H Arcus started teaching as a Male Pupil Teacher in 1902 at Mount Cook Boys' School. From 1905 to 1908 he was at Petone DHS as an Assistant Male. By 1910 he was at Maranui School as assistant A in 1919 at Lyall Bay school [Renamed from Maranui] And he was at Ohau to at least 1923 when my records end.

21st February 1920 The Ohau School re-opened on Thurs day, the now master, Mr H. L. Arcus, being in charge Mr Arcus was formerly first assistant at Lyall Bay, Wellington , and is regarded as. a teacher of exceptional promise.

20th February 1920 It was decided to re-advertise Ohau assistant position.

14th March 1920 At Monday's meeting of the Otaki School Committee it was reported that Miss Wehipeihana was being transferred to Ohau, and her place filled by Miss Neilsen.

27th March 1920 The school picnic in the Ohau District is one of the big events of the year, and the gathering which took place yesterday was no exception to the rule. The weather was all that could be desired, and the site was well chosen on Mr H .Saint's farm on the south side of the Ohau bridge. The picnic ground was on the banks of the Ohau River, and adjacent to some picturesque clumps of native bush The picnickers commenced to gather in the forenoon, and soon there was a merry party assembled, determined on an enjoyable time, and so it proved The members of the School Committee. Messrs E. Hogg, J. Cameron, J. Davis. T. Wehipeihana and R. Wall (secretary), with the assistance of willing helpers, quickly arranged preliminaries, and lunch was served in the picnic style." Afterwards a sports programme, Together with games of all kinds and. scrambles for the children, helped to pass the time pleasantly. In this connection Mr Arcus the headmaster, did good work, and he was ably assisted -by his staff. Miss Campbell. Miss Roberts and Mr Clark. The committeemen's wives, together with Mr and Mrs A. McLeavey, supervised the, luncheon arrangements, whilst the committee with its usual generosity supplied; an abundance of eatables. Tea was partaken of about 3.30. after which the gathering dispersed. The result of the sports events were as follows:—

Girls under 8.—Grace Wall 1, Jean Murray 2, Nola Parsonson 3.

Under 9.—Jean Murray 1, W. Thomson 2, Olive Royal 3, Mona Bishop 4.

Under 10.—Nola Parsonson, Ethel Burnard 2, Agnes McDonald 3, Thelma Parsonson 4.

Under '12.—Myra Moffatt 1, Jean Wall 2, Ellen Whiley 3.

Under 13.—Hazel Moffatt 1, Ellen Whiley 2, Olive George 3, Edie Drake 4.

13 and Over.—Gladys Hogg 1, Olive George 2, Marjorie Hogg 3  
 Three-legged Race.—Mary Tangata and Agnes McDonald 1, Jean and Gladys Wall 2, Mary Roha and Marj Wehipeihana 3.  
 Egg and Spoon Race.—Gladys Hood 1. Hazel Moffatt 2, Grace Brown 3.  
 Girls' Championship.- -Grace Brown 1, Dorothy Parsonson 2. Olive George' 3.  
 Boys under 6.—Rangi Paipa I Whara Tamihana 2. Jack Brown 3.  
 Under 9.- Tommy George I, Harry Bishop 2, Luxford Bishop 3.  
 Under 8.--Edward Perewiti '1, John Burnard 2, Harry Bishop 3.  
 Under 10.—Rameke Wehipeihana ' . Lionel Heremaia 2, Bertie Pink 3.  
 Under 12.—Luxford .Bishop 1. J McLeavey 2, Murray McLeavey 3.  
 Under 13.—Jim McLeavey 1, Willie Ruiti 2. Rameke Wehipeihana 3.  
 13 and .over.—Jim McLeavey I, Douglas Bengé 2, Lionel Heremaia 3.  
 Three-legged Race.—Rangi Paipa and Pakaki .Royal 1, Hector Wehipeihana and J. Young 2, Walter Whilcy and; Reg. Cameron 3.  
 Wheelbarrow Race.—H. Wehipeihana and T. Bengé 1. Tommy George and Tommy Horne L. Bishop and | W. Kuiti 3.  
 Long Jump.—B. Wehipeihana 1, .J Young 2. J. Cameron 3 –  
 Three Standing Jumps. —P. Wehipeihana 1, I. Young 2, J. McLeavey 3.  
 Hop, Step and Jump H. Wehipeihana 1. . 2. R. Cameron and R. Wehipeihana (tie) 3.  
 Sack Race.—D. Bengé 1, R. Wehipeihana 2, H. Murray 3.  
 Pick-a-Back Race. I. Young and H. Wehipeihana 1, R. Wehipeihana and L. Haeremaia 2. H. Murray and P Seymour 3.  
 Boys' Championship.—H. Wehipeihana 1, D. Bengé 2, I . Young 3.  
 Men's Hop Stop and Jump. —J. Bishop I, R.. Wall 2, P. McLeavey 3.  
 Committeemen's Race.—J. Davis 1, R. Wall 2, E Hogg 3.  
 Ladies' Race.—Miss Cameron 1, Miss Roberts 2.  
 Returned, Soldiers' Race.— Petersen I J. Ransfield 2, P. A. Page 3

31st March 1920 The annual picnic in connection with the Ohau State school was held on Friday and proved most enjoyable. A fine sports programme was gone through..... Miss Wehepeihana, [Not Parewai] of Ohau. has joined the staff of the Otaki sanatorium

20th April 1920 The monthly meeting of the Ohau School Committee was held in the school Inst night. Present: Messrs. E. Hogg, J. Hanson, J. Cameron and R. Wall (.secretary). In the .absence of the chairman (Mr C. I. Harkness), Mr J. Hanson was voted to the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. In view of the fact that, arrangements had already been made to take the senior pupils -to Palmerston North on the occasion of the visit of the Prince of Wales, the committee regretted that it was unable to accept the offer of the Otaki Town Board to participate in the welcome at Otaki. The secretary was instructed to write to the Education Board, regarding the insufficiency of the outbuildings, which are old and difficult to keep in proper condition. The buildings have already been unfavourably reported on by the Senior Inspector. The school cleaner was granted an increase of £6 per annum in salary, and the headmaster was requested to draw up a schedule of the cleaner's duties for submission to the next meeting of the committee The secretary was instructed to write Mr Perry, in charge of the children's library scheme under

the Wellington City Council, inquiring as to the possibility of the scheme being extended, to Ohau. The headmaster was authorised to obtain sports material for the use of scholars. As no reply had been received from the Education Board regarding a request for coal for the winter, the committee authorised the purchase of three cords of wood'

10th July 1920 The start of a long article on speeding The danger of the scorching motorist was brought under the notice of the Horowhenua County Council today by Mr L. H. Arcus of Ohau, who stated that there was considerable danger to the children attending the Ohau school from motorists scorching down the slope past the post office and store, and stated that he witnessed a remarkable escape from a serious accident at the cross roads, and reported in the Chronicle. The motorist, the writer stated, was doing well over 30 miles an hour. [48.28 Kilometres Per Hour]

28th July 1920 With the advancing settlement in the Kuku district, and the increasing number of persons taking up residence there, parents consider that the time is approaching -when a school must be established in the vicinity. The nearest school now is at Ohau.[I have found no records of a Kuku School opening]

29th September 1920 The concert given last week by the Ohau school children to raise funds towards improving their playground was a pronounced success, the hall being filled to the doors by an appreciative audience. Although all the work had: been done -within a fortnight, the children showed by the abandon with which they went through their parts showed that training had been very thorough , a result due in no small measure to the infant mistress, Miss Campbell, and her .sister, Miss Jessie Campbell, who rendered invaluable service at the piano.

The principal part in the "Amorous Goldfish," a .Japanese scene, was taken by Miss Wehipeihana, a former pupil and teacher of the school. The chorus was sung by the senior girls, who also presented another scene the solo in which was rendered, by Lui Royal. A band of fairies, led by Grace Wall, gave an item which was by many voted the prettiest of the evening. A novelty as far as Ohau is concerned was an exhibition of club swinging by the upper standard girls, who went through the many intricate movements with grace and ease. An item that appealed, to the audience was a song by the Clin Chin Chow boys, who, in characteristic costume, made the hit of the evening with their eccentric march. The adult portion of the program was thoroughly enjoyed and encores were frequent. Songs were given by Mrs Penton, Messrs Howard Andrew, Penton and Frank Campbell, and a duet by Miss McDonnell and Mr Hakaraia, of Foxton.

The Chairman of the Committee, Mr C. I. Harkness, thanked the public for their attendance and support and the contributors for their assistance. In acknowledging his remarks,

Mr J. Howard Andrew paid a tribute to the work of the children and the teachers responsible for their training and said Ohau was fortunate in having a chairman who took so much interest in education as Mr Harkness.

At a dance held after the concert the floor was crowded. Mr E. Hogg acted as M.C.. and Miss Jessie Campbell provided the dance music. Extras were played by Miss Miller and Mr Patuaka.

2nd March 1921 The monthly meeting of the Ohau School Committee was held on Monday evening. Present: Messrs Harkness (chair), Cameron, Wall, Hogg, Hanson and Bishop (secretary).

The Education Board's architect, in reply to a complaint about the ventilation of one of the classrooms, reported that the clerk of works would visit the school shortly, with authority to deal with the matter.

Miss Campbell, secretary of the Picnic Committee, forwarded the balance -sheet of the picnic and dance, which showed a profit of £10 0/3. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to . all the willing helpers who had worked so hard to make the picnic the success it was.

Since the previous meeting the playground has received further attention from the contractor, most of the stones and the loose turf having been removed. Mr Cameron was appointed to supervise the levelling of the soil, and the chairman was authorised -to procure the necessary seed and manure.

Accounts amounting to £6 18/ were passed for payment.

The treasurer presented the balance sheet for the past year, to February 28, to be forwarded to the Education Board for audit. A profit of about £22 was shown on the year's working, but this will be substantially reduced by payment for works in hand. •

The secretary was instructed to make inquiries as to the cost of asphaltting portion of the ground at the back of the school, which is very wet during the winter.

14th March 1921 At Monday's meeting of the Otaki School Committee it was reported that Miss Wehipeihana was being transferred to Ohau, and her place filled by Miss Neilsen.

6th May 1921 A much-needed provision in the form of a saddle-shed has been erected at the Ohau school for the use of scholars who ride in on horseback.

11th June 1921 The Wellington Education Board's Inspectors paid their periodical visit to the Ohau School yesterday.....A football match between the Ohau and Manakau schools was to have been played on the former's ground yesterday afternoon, hut Manakau failed to put in an appearance

12th September 1921 Horowhenua County Council From Mr W. G. Bishop, secretary of Ohau School Committee, complaining of condition of the footway from the school grounds to main road at Ohau. —Left to engineer and members for riding.

OHAU. School Committee Election Nineteen were present, Mr Walter Whiley being voted to the chair The following committee were elected; Messrs J. Cameron, Wall, Darkness, Hogg, W. Bishop, H. Karauti and H. Williams.

## 1922-1923

1923	140	Ohau	Arcus	Laurence H	D-83	Head	£390.00	
1923	140	Ohau	McLeavey	Mary L Mrs	D	Infant Mistress	£243.00	
1923	140	Ohau	Miles	Mary P		Assistant	£180.00	
1923	140	Ohau	Hogg	Esmā G		PT1	£83.00	

15th February 1922 The Ohau School re-opened after the holidays with a record roll number (146) and attendance (136), and these numbers will be increased very shortly. Last. year's attendance sufficed to raise the school to Grade IV., and Miss Christenson, pupil teacher, has been added to the staff, which now numbers five.

18th February 1922 A meeting of the Ohau residents interested in the' annual school picnic will be held at the school on Monday at 8 p.m.

30th May 1922 The large wattle trees that for so many years graced the front of the Ohau School have been removed. Planted about 27 years ago, while Mr Collie was headmaster of the school, the trees have outlived their period of usefulness, and will be replaced by a lawn and shrubs.

A meeting of Ohau residents will be held in the School on Thursday evening to further the interests of the Returned Soldiers' Association Carnival. As the School has a direct financial interest in the success of the effort, the School Committee hopes for a record attendance of parents, returned soldiers and others who are interested

5th July 1922 In a discussion at Levin school re transport of children was this: The chairman said he did not think the Board would put on a separate conveyance for Kimberley Board. In reply to Mr Bould, it was stated that- one or two of the families named were in the Ohau school district, and the earliest, the children were picked up was 8 o'clock. Members considered that these children were really better off than others who had to walk half a mile, as they were carried comfortably, and landed dry at school in wet weather.

7th July 1922 During last quarter the Ohau School reached the highest average attendance in its history, the figures being 135 present out of a roll of 146. The highest attendance is a creditable record for Ohau. The Ohau Tennis Club, in conjunction with the School Committee, is putting down two asphalt courts. The work, which will be carried out without cost to the Committee, will be commenced on Monday

28th August 1922 Wedding A very pretty and popular wedding took place at the Anglican Church, Ohau, on Wednesday, when Miss Parawai Wehipeihana, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs T. Wehipeihana, of Ohau, was married to Mr Arthur H. Holder, eldest son of Mrs E. Holder, also of Ohau. The Rev. W. F. Grove, vicar of Levin, officiated. The church, which was crowded to its utmost capacity, was very prettily decorated by the teaching staff of the Ohau School, of which Miss Wehipeihana was, until recently, a valued member.....

29th September 1922 The annual examination of the Ohau School is now being conducted by Mr Burns; of the Education Department

9th November 1922 The garden plots at the Ohau School were an object of interest to many visitors at the opening of the tennis courts yesterday. An enclosure along the back boundary is fenced off and subdivided into plots. These are planted with vegetables, which are looking in healthy condition, whilst the plots bear ample evidence of careful attention on the part of the youthful growers.

16th November 1922 The school children at Ohau are making good use of the courts recently laid down by the Tennis Club and are becoming quite proficient in the game. Some promise to develop into useful players

25th November 1922 The annual concert, of the Ohau School was held, in the Institute last evening. Favoured with a good night the attendance was greater than the hall could accommodate, and some of the late-comers had to be content with recourse to the windows. The chairman of the School Committee (Mr W. G. Bishop) opened the proceedings with a few brief remarks, thanking those present for their attendance and interest in the school, and intimating that the proceeds were to be devoted to the further improvements to be carried out in the school grounds.

The first half of the programme was presented by the juveniles, who performed their parts with such confidence and ability as to reflect the greatest credit on the teachers who had worked so arduously towards the success of the concert. The hearty applause which followed each item showed the appreciation of the large audience of the efforts of the children, and happiness and enjoyment fairly radiated throughout the hall. The individual performers were Leolo and Arnold Smith, overture most tastefully played; Harry Arcus, Hammond Murray, Jim Harkness and Septimus Stevenson, a most amusing and well-delivered dialogue entitled, "George Washington for a Day"; Edna Jeffries, Elsie Miller, Emily Jeffries, Winnie Mudgway, Leolo Smith and Connie Rowland, In a cute little episode, "How Girls Learn Their Lessons"; Luck Wereta and Pango Paipa, with little Stella Wereta at the piano, a vocal duet; Messrs. Nicholls and Wereta, a duet with ukulele accompaniment. Collective items were given by the school chorus, "The Blue Lagoon," and "The Barefoot Trail." while a most original recitation entitled "The Caterpillar's Journey" was given by a number of boys dressed to represent the little black fellow with, the yellow stripes on his back.

The second half of the programme was rendered by more mature artists from Levin and Ohau. The following contributed: Mrs Sawtell, song; Miss Ivy Middlemiss, musical monologues; Mr Mottershead, song; Mr J. D. Brown, song; Mr Howard Andrew, song; Mr K. Aitken, recitation. The accompanists of the evening were Miss E. Hogg, Miss Wehipeihana and Mrs Howard Andrew.

In a few closing remark.-, Mr Bishop extended the thanks of the committee to the staff who had worked so well towards the success of the evening, specially mentioning Miss Campbell, Miss Miles, Miss Hogg and Miss K. Wehipeihana; to the children for their entertainment, in the other performers who had assisted, and to the audience for their attendance. Thanks were due also to the ladies who had helped to prepare the supper for the dance, and to Mr Hogg for bringing seats from the school. The usual dance was held after the concert, for which a very large number remained. Although the floor was rather crowded, no one seemed to mind . Taken altogether the organisers are to be congratulated, and a very useful sum towards the school improvement fund should be the result of a most successful entertainment.

15th December 1922 ANNUAL PROMOTIONS, At the annual examination of Standard 6 by the Inspector, the following certificates were gained:— Certificates of Proficiency—Arnold Smith, Eileen George, Elsie Milieu (dux), Janie Te Hou. Endorsed Competency Certificates.— Hammond Murray, Robert Wehipeihana, Mary Wehipeihana..

On the results of the annual and term examinations, together with the general character of the scholars' work during the year, the following promotions have been made:—

To Standard 6.—James Darkness,, James 'McLeavey, Rameka Wehipeihana, Emily Jeffries, Winifred Mudgway, Dorothy Parsonson, Constance; Howland, Grace Wall. To Standard 5.— John Corner, Thomas George, Ian Darkness, Murray McLeavey , Richard Moses, Jack Murray, Peter Seymour, Henry Whiley, Colin Young, Agnes George, Bella Horne, Thelma Parsonson, Mary Roha, Joyce Howland, Alice . Wehipeihana, Mina Wehipeihana, Lucy Wereta.

To Standard 4—Robert Bishop, Eric Mudgway, Frank Mudge, Tura Tanga, Pakaki Royal, Norah Burnard, Phyllis Davies, Edith Drake, Lydia Ellison, Rea Mata Haere, Agnes McDonald, Jean Murray, Hazel Rowland, Bin! Royal, Effie Trim, Stella Wereta.

To-Standard 3.—Wallace Arcus, Gordon Arcus, Wilson Bishop, Ivan Greig, Edward Horne, James Healy, Ernest Hogg, William Kuiti, Koro Moses, Maxwell Penton, Norman Perawiti, Malcom Tantrum, Clive Wall, Lloyd Whiley, Governor Royal, William Campbell, Roxie Elliott, Jessie Greig, Violet, Mudgway, Evelyn Rowland, Ivy Russell, Olive Wehipeihana.

To Standard 2.—Charles Adams, Horton Coles, Arlun Collinge. James Elliott, Neville Parsonson, Neil Petterson. Jack Pink, Laelae Royal, Jack Seymour, Kenneth Smith, Rangi Campbell, Rang! Paipa, Nan Penton, Tangiora Perawiti, Elaine Richardson, Phyllis Russell.

To Standard I.—Jack Adams, Mervyn Cameron, Arthur Colpman, Martai George, Edward Perawiti, Robert Penton, Harold Rowland, James Tango Poutama, James Bishop, Joyce Bishop, Phyllis Burnard, Marie Coles,. Shirley Collinge, Freda Hart, Unice Seymour, Togi Tanga Poutama, Isabel Winiata.

2nd March 1923 The pupils of the Ohau School recently held their annual picnic on Mr Skerman's property, Ohau, and were fortunate in having a fine day. There was a very good attendance of parents and friends, and a pleasant outing, and enjoyed by all. The day was capped by a dance, held in the Ohau Hall last night, and proved a most successful and enjoyable function. Music was supplied by Mr Dave Nicholson. The prizes for the children's races were increased in value, and the trophies were the finest ever presented, for which the committee heartily thanks the many donors whose gifts made the day so successful.

#### CHAMPIONSHIPS. GIRLS.

75 yds.—Phyllis Davies 1, Edith Drake 2, Bella Hume 3.

120 yds.—Edith Drake 1, Bella Horne 2, Constance Rowland 3.

Long Jump.—Thelma Parsonson .1, Bella Horne 2, Winifred Mudgway 3.

The championship resulted in a tie, Edith Drake and Bella Horne each scoring five points.

BOYS. 100 yds.—P. Seymour 1, R. Moses 2, .1. McLeavey 3.

200 yds.—P. Seymour 1, R. Moses 2, S. Stephenson 3.

Long Jump.—P. Seymour 1, R Moses 2, H. Whiley 3.

High Jump.—R. Moses 1, H. Whiley 2, W. Campbell 3.

Throwing the Cricket Ball.—R Moses 1, H. Whiley 2, .J McLeavey

The boys' championship was won by R. Moses (12 points), with P. Seymour 9 point/ second and H. Whiley .3 points third.

Remainder not listed

3rd May 1923 At the householders' meeting at the Ohau school there was a record attendance of about 30 present Mr W. G Bishop was elected to the chair and Mr H. .T. H. Parsonson secretary.

The committee's report for the year showed that good work had been done and great improvements to the school grounds, a great asset being the asphalt, tennis courts laid down by the Tennis Club. The annual concert was a most successful function, showing a net profit of £10 10s, which carried a subsidy of like amount. The committee extended thanks to all those who assisted them in the R-S.A. Carnival, whereby they were able to get second prize for the school. The committee donated £1 in prizes to boys for the best vegetable garden. This was keenly contested and the results most favourable. They also thanked all donors of prizes and trophies given for the school picnic. These were greatly appreciated. The following were elected to the committee: —W. G. Bishop, T. Rowlands, H. .J. H. Parsonson, B. Hogg,

C I. Harkness, J. Cameron, and H. Karauti. Mr C. I. Harkness was elected chairman, and Mr W. G. Bishop secretary.

The headmaster's report stated the average attendance was 135 out of 149. He stressed the point that this should be better as they have not had any very serious outbreaks of children's ailments. The passes were very good, all standard VI gaining full passes and one a scholarship. The Inspector's report showed that the staff were doing good work and the progress and tone of the school was excellent.

17th July 1923 Horowhenua Cuntly Council The Ohau School Committee wrote asking the Council to put in a culvert in the water-table in front of the gate to the .boys.' playground at the school. Some provision was urgently needed to take away the water that accumulated there in wet weather,— On the motion of Cr. Harkness, the Engineer was instructed to have the matter attended to

'28th December 1923 In honour Of breaking--up" day, a novel entertainment was organised by the staff and the senior girls of the Ohau. School. It took the form of a Christmas tree for the children of the lower classes, while the. older scholars invited parents and friends to afternoon tea at the tennis courts to watch the finals in a series of games that they have been playing. The inclement weather prevented the latter part of the programme being carried out in. its entirety, and- an adjournment was made to the Hall. The Christmas tree was well decorated and Father Christmas received a hearty welcome from the children After the toys had been presented, afternoon tea was enjoyed by everybody.

Before the children were dismissed Mr C. I. Harkness, chairman of the School Committee, gave out Certificates to Standard 6, and prizes donated by Mrs Arcus to Constance Rowland (sewing) and Agnes George ,darning and patching).

The gathering concluded with cheers for Father Christmas and the teachers. The thanks of the school are due to the many parents who provided so well for the afternoon tea and to Mr Marriott, who contributed in no small way to the success of the function.