

Petone (Pitone)

1881-1882

1882	62	Petone	Joplin	Charles R	Master	£230.00
1882	62	Petone	Stevens	Ella	Female Pupil Teacher	£40.00

21st February 1881 A MEETING of Householdors will take place at Riddler's Building, Petone, on TUESDAY EVENING, 22nd February, at 7.30 p.m., to consider School Site.

28th April 1881 Wellington Education Board The Ven. Archdeacon Stock reported that he had written to the Hon. Mr. Dick on the subject of the Petone school site, and that he had received a very courteous reply, to the effect that there was no other piece of Government land that was suitable for school purposes ; all the remainder of the ground was either swampy or otherwise unavailable.

1st December 1881 Wellington Education Board A petition was received from twenty residents of Petone, praying that the district be declared a separate school district. The Inspector stated that the Hutt School Committee offered no objection. The petition was acceded to.

7th January 1882 Master for the new school in temporary room, Petone ; salary according to scale.

25th January 1882 A meeting of householders was held at Petone last night for the purpose of electing the school committee for that district. The following were elected :— Messrs. Manning, Jackson, Calvert, Buick, Curtiss, Park, and Kirk

4th February 1882 Wellington Education Board Petone: Mr C R Joplin appointed. (Promoted from Lower Hutt)

23rd February 1882 Wellington Education Board Petone, site and school, £600

25th February 1882 Wellington Education Board Wanted Pupil Teacher

8th March 1882 Petone School, Miss Archer (from Mount Cook Boys 1 School)

1st June 1882 Wellington Education Board Dr. Newman reported that the Committee appointed had examined the sites offered at Petone, and that he had come to the conclusion that that offered by .Mr Johnson was the most suitable. The section had 200 foot frontage by a depth of 100 foot, (60.96 metres x 30.48 metres)and it was offered with the building on it at £200. He moved that the offer be accepted. Agreed to.

29th June 1882 Wellington Education Board Messrs J. Billing and Robert Flint made offers to sell sections of land adjoining the Petone school, which were declined.

28th August 1882 Wanted a Pupil Teacher.

2nd September 1882 Wellington Education Board Several tenders were received for the erection of a school at Petone and of a masters residence at Kaiwarra, but their consideration was ordered to stand over for a month.

9th September 1882 The financial result of Mr Ashcroft's recent lecture on Egypt, as delivered at the Petone Schoolroom, has been the placing of the Treasurer to the Building Committee in a position to pay off all liabilities to date. A new series of entertainments is about being organised to provide means for the purchase of an American organ and books for the school.

20th December 1882 Wellington Education Board Mr Joplin, master at Petone, applied for leave of absence on account of an accident which he had met with, and forwarded a certificate

signed by Dr. Cole. The Chairman stated that he had inquired into the nature of the injury from which Mr Joplin was suffering and found that he had hurt one of his fingers. The board considered that, as the holidays were about to commence, it was unnecessary to grant the request.

1883

1883	66	Petone	Joplin	Charles R	Master	£210.00
1883	66	Petone	Stevens	Gertrude	Female Pupil Teacher	£20.00
1883	66	Petone	Tonks	Annie E	Female Pupil Teacher	£20.00

Gertrude Stevens and Annie Tonks only taught for the Wellington Education Board for this year

25th January 1883 The following householders in the district have been elected members of the Petone School Committee ;—Messrs D. Buick (chairman), Curtis, Carter, Henderson, Kirk (secretary), London, and Scholes.

1st February 1883 Wellington Education Board £500 for new school Petone

3rd FEBRUARY 1883 Wellington Education Board wo members of the and to report upon the subject at the next meeting of the board.

20th February 1883 Wellington Education Board Wanted Pupil Teacher for Petone

12th March 1883 At the School Committee meeting it was decided to raise funds by subscription to purchase prizes for those children in each standard who succeed in obtaining the highest number of marks at the annual examination, also, prizes for sewing and attendance. Great dissatisfaction was expressed at the want of a new school, as the present building is inadequate and unhealthy. Mr Joplin, the schoolmaster, said a thermometer, which he hung up in the school, read 85 Deg Fah [Degrees Fahrenheit 29.444 degrees Celsius]., although the windows and door were open.

17th April 1883 Wellington Education Board advertises for a pupil teacher for Petone.

26th April 1883 Wellington Education Board The resignation of Miss Ella Stevens of her appointment as pupil teacher at Petone was accepted. Miss Annie Tonks appointed Pupil Teacher at Petone

9th May 1883 The School Committee held their usual monthly mooring last night and resolved to call a meeting of the residents on Monday evening next, to consider the advisability of asking the Education Board to close the school during the winter, or until the new school is erected. Sundry remarks were made as to the unsuitability of the present building for school purposes, as it is damp, draughty, and injurious to the health of the scholars and teachers.

12th May 1883 THE Householders of Petone are requested to meet at the School-room on MONDAY EVENING, at 7.30, to consider the advisability of Closing the School during the Winter Months, or until completion of the new School.

15th May 1883 At a meeting of householders resident at Petone, held last night in the schoolroom, to consider the question of closing the school during the winter months, it was unanimously agreed to request the committee to lay before the Education Board the necessity of giving the teacher power to close it on unfavourable days. A committee was also appointed to draw up a petition and obtain signatures of the parents to urge upon the Board the advisableness of at once proceeding with the new school, the present one being anything but

suitable. One speaker incidentally observed that had the Education Board purchased the site recommended by the first school committee, the new one might have been erected long ago, and pointed out the unfairness of the law which gives the Education Board the power to ignore the recommendation of the local committee. The teacher and children, it was stated, have suffered in health more or less ; and now the winter has set in, it is more than time that something definite ought to be done.

18th May 1883 Tenders for the erection of School Buildings at Kaitoke, Park Vale, Petone, and Thorndon, will be received at the Education Board Office, up to noon of Tuesday, the 29th inst

30th May 1883 The master of the Petone School wrote applying for permission to close the school on wet days. Dr. Newman urged that the application should be granted and pointed out that in a few months a new building would be granted. He moved that permission be given. The Rev. J. Paterson and Mr. Bunny opposed the application. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Mason. A motion to the contrary was proposed, and this amendment was carried

7th June 1883 Wellington Education Board Tenders Petone school—Accepted : George Carter, £560. Declined : P. M. Reynolds, £560 ; T. Orr, £665 ; Murdoch and Rose, £675 ; J. Russell, £733 ; J. Ranson £760 ; J. Quin, £1200. (This was decided by the lowest tenderers.)

9th June 1883 Mr W. J. Kirk, Secretary to the Petone School Committee, writes to us with reference to our report of the last meeting of the Education Board, and desires us to correct the statement that Mr Joplin, the master of the local school, had applied for, permission to close the school during wet weather, as the application came from the Committee. Our report simply followed the statement made by the Chairman in bringing the matter before the Board, Mr. Joplin's name being distinctly mentioned. These being the facts, we cannot admit that our report is open to correction, though we willingly do Mr Joplin justice by stating that the proposal was never supposed to have been brought forward by him on his own responsibility.

16th June 1883 As Messrs Reynolds and Carters tenders for the new school were equal, the Education Board left it in their hands to decide what course to pursue, the result being that Mr Reynolds withdrew in favor of the latter, who hopes, weather being favorable, to have it completed in September.

8th September 1883 Mr Joplin, master of the Petone State School, was on Wednesday last presented with a handsome marble clock by the scholars and residents in the district, on the occasion of his marriage. A suitable inscription on a silver plate was attached to the clock, which was purchased from Messrs Littlejohn and Son. Mrs Calvert and Mrs Blake formed the deputation which waited on Mr Joplin.

29th September 1883 The new school was opened to-day. It is a fine building, and materially assists in ornamenting the district. The Committee thought it unnecessary to make any demonstration.

6th October 1883 Annual Examination of Pupil Teachers: First Year over 15 years of age G Stevens and Annie Tonks both of Petone passed

13th October 1883 The State school at Petone was examined on Monday and Tuesday last week by Mr Lee, when the children parsed with credit to themselves and teachers.

1st November 1883 Wellington Education Board Question as to Petone old school site was referred to a Committee of the Board.....Petone application for fencing was referred to the Boards solicitor, to arrange with adjoining – owners

16th November 1883 PETONE STATE SCHOOL. TENDERS will be received for Clearing JL Rushes and Gorse on school section up to Monday, 26th instant. For particulars apply to Mr. D. Buick or Mr. Scholes, Petone. W. J. KIRK, Secretary to School Committee

17th November 1883 District Board [Not School Related] also, one [letter] from the Petone School Committee, requesting a donation for allowing the Board the use of the old school to hold meetings in. The Board resolved to give two guineas. [A Guinea was 1 pound 1 shilling or 21 shillings]

28th December 1883 The proceedings in connection with the closing of the Petone School for the holidays took place on Friday, when the usual prize distribution and tea were given. The state of the weather precluding the indulgence of open air sports, permission to use the Drill-shed was obtained, where various amusements were indulged in. A feature at the tea was the excellent singing of the little ones, reflecting, as it did, credit on the teachers, Misses Stevens and Tonks, and Mr Joplin. Standards V. and VI.—Needlework : 1st, K Scott ; 2nd, C. Whit. Standards III. and IV.—1st, M. Ridler and A. Manning. Attendance. —Girls : E. Gegger and E. Johnson; boys : T. Gegger and N. Johnson.

1884

1884	153	Petone	Joplin	Charles R	Master	£270.00
1884	153	Petone	Allison	Somerset J	Assistant Master	£160.00
1884	153	Petone	Milne	Annie	Assistant Female	£90.00
1884	153	Petone	Olsen	Agnes	Female Pupil Teacher	£20.00

29th January 1884 A large number of the householders of Petone School District assembled yesterday, at the schoolhouse, to receive the report and elect a committee for the current year. The balance sheet presented showed receipts, £50 12s 10d; disbursements, £34 15s 6d. The following are the committee for this year :— Messrs. Calvert, Smith, Carey, Gibson, Manning (chairman), Whitcher and London (secretary). Votes of thanks were accorded Messrs. Buick and Kirk, the retiring chairman and secretary, for past services.

30th January 1884 Wellington Education Board estimates a house for the head teacher would cost £280

27th February 1884 Wellington Education Board An application from the Petone Literary Institute for the use of the old school was allowed to stand over for the present.

28th March 1884 Wellington Education Board The secretary was instructed to advertise for an assistant teacher at Petone.

5th April 1884 The Petone School Committee have decided to introduce the compulsory clause of the Education Act.

19th April 1884 Wellington Education Board Advertisement Assistant Teacher, Petone ; salary, £80

22nd April 1884 Advertisement: PETONE SCHOOL— FENCING. TENDERS for Erection of Fencing at the Petone School will be received at the Education Board Office, up to Noon of TUESDAY, the 29th instant. Plans and specifications to be seen at my office and at Mr. Johnston's Store, Petone.

2nd May 1884 Wellington Education Board A letter was received from the Petone master, complaining of the unteacherlike conduct of a pupil teacher employed at his school. The board decided to take no action in the matter.

26th June 1884 Leave of absence till September, without pay, was granted to Mr. A. Tonks, Petone, on account of ill-health. [Sic Miss A Tonks]

1st August 1894 Wellington Education Board he proposed appointment of an assistant at Petone was referred to the committee, appointed to deal with the pupil teachers examination report

29th August 1894 Wellington Education Board Mr Manning, the chairman of the Petone Committee, waited on the board for the purpose of requesting them to assist in erecting a fence and some sheds at the Petone school. The Chairman said he would see whether any money could be spared for that purpose out of the Government

24th September 1884 Wellington Education Board Mr. Alex. McBean and Miss Annie Tonks (the latter of whom is now at Petone School), Ghuznee-street School. Annie Tonks is not recorded as teaching for the Wellington Education Board after her stint in Petone

6th November 1884 At the usual monthly meeting of the Petone School Committee held on Thursday last, the third annual report and results of the recent examination was received. The headmaster, Mr. Joplin, states that with an increase proportionate on last year's extra attendance, further provision will soon have to be made for the school children, the number now attending being 137, as against 23 when Petone was created a separate school district. The following results of examination show a percentage of 97 passes: — Standard I., presented 14, passed 14 ; II., presented 18, passed 18; III., presented 17, passed 16; IV., presented 6, passed 6; V., presented 11, passed 11 ; VI., presented 1, passed 0

26th November 1884 A sum of £12 was ordered to be granted (as soon as the Board is in funds) to the Petone Committee for fencing,

27th November 1884 Wellington Education Board LI2 [L was used instead of £ if the typesetting machine didn't have the £ key] was voted to the Petone School Committee towards erecting wet weather sheds at the school, the amount to be paid as soon as the board was in possession of the recently voted building fund

1st December 1884 THE Petone School Committee invite tenders to Saturday, 6th December, for the Building of School Shelter Sheds at Petone. Plans and specification at Mr. S. R. Johnsons store. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. J. S. MANNING, Chairman.

18th December 1884 Two applications for bonuses were received from Mrs Evans of Mungaroa, for £20, and from Mrs Joplin, Petone, £10. The former application was received, and £5 was granted to Mrs Joplin,

26th December 1884 On Friday the Petone school children had their annual picnic in a paddock kindly lent by Mrs Epuni for the occasion. At 10.30 they assembled at the school, where the headmaster presented a beautiful volume of poems, given by Mr D. Clark, of Wellington, to the pupil who had shown the greatest ability and best behaviour, chosen by the class under his instruction. The school children then proceeded to the field, where they indulged in various games, the teachers and committee doing their best to make the children happy. The catering for dinner and tea was by Mr Cargill, who gave great satisfaction. After tea Mr Manning, the chairman of the school committee, distributed the prizes to those who had successfully passed the standards as follows :

Standard V.—Girls : E. Blake (also the taker of Mr Clarks prize), A. Olsen, K. Scott, M. Gigger, E. Gigger, E. Hollard. C. White. Boys : J. Gigger, J. Wood, E. Ridler, W. Wolland.

Standard IV.—Girls : A. Manning, M. Ridler, L. Smith. Boys : H. Johnson, H. Wolland, G. Pettett.

Standard III.—Girls : A. Cairns, K. London, A. May, A. Hollard, E. Scholes, E. Wolland, M. Wood. Boys : T. Rounsell, K. Barber, W. Haynes, G. Kirk, F. Mears, I. Olsen, J. Reston, G. White, F.. Walmsley.

Standard II.—Girls : A. Cairns, E. Curtis, E. Hurdman, C. King, A. King, E. King, D. Kirk, B. Morris, H. Manning, S. Olsen, B. Riddler, A. Reston. Boys: H. Clark, W. Hurdman, G. King, H. Kirk, G. Searle, G. Woods.

Standard I.— Girls : M. Epuni, M. Miller, J. Nicholls, M. E. Reston, M. Packard, E. Smith, K. Walmsley. Boys : J. Davis, J. Gardiner, A. Manning, C. Morris, F. Pettett, F. Riddler, H. Turner.

In the infant division each child was presented with a Christmas card.

1885

1885	131	Petone	Joplin	Charles R	Master	£250.00
1885	131	Petone	Archer	Emma	Assistant Female	£80.00
1885	131	Petone	Boulcott	Annie	Assistant Female	£80.00

30th January 1885 The following were elected members of the Petone School Committee for the current year : —Messrs London, Manning, Calvert, Herdman, J. Curtis, J. Smith, and Olsen. There were twelve nominated. Mr Manning was elected chairman.

26th February 1885 Wellington Education Board If additional accommodation was needed at Petone, a standard or two standards should be removed to the second school. [Presumably the original school now being used as a meeting place]

14th March 1885 Joplin.— On the 12th March, at Petone, the wife of C. R. Joplin, of a daughter.

1885/6284	Joplin	Alice Emma	Alice Maria	Charles Reesby
1886/10776	Joplin	Mildred Violet	Alice Maria	Charles Reesby
1894/5047	Joplin	Frank	Maria	Charles R
1895/11246	Joplin	Fanny	Maria Gooud	Charles Reesby

15th May 1885 Wellington Education Board Alterations to the Old School room at Petone.

24th June 1885 Wellington Education Board Plans of an additional room to the Petone School were laid on the table, and were approved

19th July 1885 The Education Board invite tenders for the erection of a new school at Mauriceville, and repairs to those at Petone and Karori.

29th July 1885 Wellington Education Board The following tenders were accepted :— Additions to Petone School, G. Findlay

18th August 1885 The following pupils of the State school in the Wellington Educational District obtained certificates of merit at the examination for their respective schools, held in June last. FREEHAND DRAWING. Petone — Alice Manning, Edith Hollard.

20th October 1885 The remainder of the children attending the Petone and Waihakeke schools will visit the Exhibition to-morrow. The whole of the schools under the control of the Board of Education will then have seen the Exhibition.

22nd October 1885 Fifty children from the Petone School, and most of those attending the Tauherenikau and Waihakeke (Wairarapa) schools, came down to see the Exhibition yesterday, and were much pleased at the entertainment which Messrs Seager and Keyworth provided for them.

4th December 1885 Ladies Page The pretty little township of Petone never before witnessed such a gala day and such crowds of well-dressed people, intent upon assisting at the laying of the foundation stone of the Woollen Factory, which will probably convert that little township into a prosperous, busy, and important big one.....

12th December 1885 PETONE FOR SALE, cheap, a 5-roomed House and Land (66 x 132); also, a Section (66 x 132) ; both lots in Richmond-street. Apply to C. R. Joplin, Petone. [Headmaster of Petone School] [I have found no explanation for this there are two options: A schoolhouse had been provided by the Education Board or more likely he was getting ready to move to another school.

21st December 1885 The Petone school children had their annual picnic on Friday in a paddock kindly lent for the occasion by Mrs Epuni. There were about 190 present, and the teachers and Committee worked assiduously to make it a success. Races and various games were indulged in, and the children, judging by their happy looks, thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The catering was done by Mr Cargill, who gave great satisfaction. Mr Fitzherbert, M.H. R., [Member of the House of Representatives-Parliament] addressed the children and their parents and pointed out the necessity of the latter taking full advantage of the liberal education provided by the State by sending their children to school until they had passed Standard VI. He was very pleased to say that, according to the Chairman's remarks, the school was satisfactorily managed by Mr Joplin, and though the percentage of passes at the late examination was only 80 as compared with 93 last year, yet good work must have been done, as it was seldom a school had a very high percentage in two successive years. It was not always safe to gauge work done in a school as being good by a high percentage, as a school might have but a low one, yet better educational work might be accomplished. He deprecated the cramming of standard subjects into children who were physically weak and wished to see mental and physical training go hand in hand. He thought that, as Petone seemed likely to be a manufacturing district, great benefit could be derived by lessons given on manufactures of various kinds, and hoped that the Colony would, in a few years, be able to undertake technical education in all large public schools. After Mr Manning, Chairman of the School Committee, had made some suitable remarks, Mr Fitzherbert presented prizes to the following :

Standard VI.—James Wood, Agnes Olsen, and Emily Blake.

Standard V.—Geo. Pettett, Chas, Martin, Herbert Johnson, and Alice Manning. Standard IV.—

Boys—T. Tyndal, J. Davidson, W. Haines, G. Kirk, J. McWhirter, J. Reston, R. Turner, G. White, F. Walmsley, and T. Olsen. Girls —A. Cairns, M. Davidson, A. May, A. Hollard, E. Scholes, E. Wolland, and M. Woods,

Standard III.—Boys—T. August, W. Herdman, H. Kirk, J. Searles, and G. Wood. Girls—A. Cairns, E. Curtis, J. Fraser, E. Herdman, B. Morris, S. Olsen, A. Boston, J. Roberts, C. Rushton, and A. Saward.

Standard II.—Boys—J. Davis, J. Gardiner, W. James, A. Manning, C. Morris, T. McWhirter, F. Pettett, and H. Turner. Girls—M. Miller, M. Packard, E. Heston, E. Smith, and K. Walmsley. Standard I,—Boys—P. Cairns, F. Davis, F. Packard, F. Tarrant, W. White, and M. Walmsley. Girls—A. Barber, E. Couchman, A. Carter, A. Davidson, E. Henry, E. Johnson, C. James, J. Miller. L. Morris, A. Reston, N. Sandiman, H. Searles, A. Smith, and F. Wood.

Mr D. Clarks special prize was awarded to James Wood, Standard VI.

Hearty cheers were given for the teachers. Committee, and Mr Fitzherbert.

1886

1886	153	Petone	Joplin	Charles R	Head Master	£270.00
1886	153	Petone	Allison	Somerset J	Assistant Master	£160.00
1886	153	Petone	Milne	Annie	Assistant Female	£90.00
1886	153	Petone	Olsen	Agnes	Female Pupil Teacher	£20.00

8th January 1886 Wellington Education Board Assistant, Petone, salary £80 to £100, according to classification.

21st January 1886 A Milne appointed £80 per annum

22nd January 1886 Wellington Education Board For assistant at Petone the following applications were received : A. Milne, trained in Wellington Training College, eight and a half years' experience, now assistant at Upper Hutt School, classification E 3 ; D. Hamilton, six years in service of Board, license to teach for two years; E. J. Howan, five years in Foxton School, classification E partial ; Marion Reese, eight months at Bingsland School, Christchurch, one year and two months at Ashley School, three years at Normal School, Christchurch, temporary assistant at Carterton ; J. Roberts, three years pupil teacher at South Canterbury, one year at Timaru, two years at Temuka, eight years in the Bank, no certificate ; Edith Manley, educated by Mrs Morrison and Miss Greenwood, of Wanganui and Wellington, cadet for six months at Wanganui High School, now at Auckland. Miss Milne was unanimously appointed.

28th January 1886 In a report to Wellington Education Board was the fact that a house had been built at Petone for the head teacher at the cost of £250 [Worth \$49 571 .80 in Inflation adjusted in December 2019]

8th February 1886 A match was played at Petone between the Petone and Willis-street schools, resulting in favor of the former by an innings and 1 run. Messrs Joplin and Matthews, teachers, played for their respective schools, but did not bowl. The scores were—Petone 86 and Willis-street 37 and 48. For the winners the headmaster (30), Olsen (7), and McGowan (7) were the only ones able to make a stand against the good bowling of Proudfoot, Richardson, and Ransom ; and for the losers Carney (9), Gamble (9), and Richardson (9.) Woods and Herdman bowled well for the Petone school,

10th March 1886 Part of A Visit to Petone The progress during the past four years may be indicated by the school statistics. In February, 1882, the school was first opened, the number of children in attendance being at that time 28, After four years the roll shows that there are 210 pupils, the average attendance last month being 153. Mr Jopling, the first teacher, is still in charge, an excellent school having since been built by the Education Board, capable of seating 230 pupils. There is, in addition to the headmaster, a pupil teacher and two assistants.

No doubt, when the Woollen Factory is at work, there will be a large increase in the attendance, and the present accommodation will have to be increased.

31st March 1886 Wellington Education Board A small gratuity was granted to the assistant pupil teacher at Petone

20TH April 1886 Wellington Education Board Assistant Petone Salary £120 male, £90 female

28th April 1886 Miss E Archer resigns as assistant Has 2 years away and then returns for 2 more years at Petone

29th April 1886 PETONE. The following were elected as a School Committee ;—Messrs Manning, Calvert, R. G. Kirk (chairman), London (secretary), Bailey, Olsen, and Herdman.

30th April 1886 Appointed by Wellington Education Board M. Ballingall, assistant, Petone, £90 At end of 1886 Mary F Ballingall was teaching at Te Aro

27th May 1886 Wellington Education Board An application that Petone should be constituted a Country School District was acceded to.

30th June 1886 Mr James Allison recently from England was appointed assistant at Petone at a salary of £160 subject to satisfactory proof as to character [Only taught for Wellington Education Board for the year at Petone]

1st July 1886 Wellington Education Board Several applications were received for the post of assistant master at Petone at a salary of £160 . It was resolved to appoint Mr James Allison, a late arrival from Home to Canterbury, subject to approval of certificates to character.

3rd July 1886 The football match Te Aro School v. Petone School, which took place at Petone this morning, was won by the Te Aro boys by two tries to love. Proudfoot and Jas. Ranson scored for the winners.

30th July 1886 The Board also appointed Miss Dowdeswell to the position vacated by Miss Grady, at a salary of £110 ; and Miss Ballingall, of the Petone School, to Miss Dowdeswell's position at a salary of £90. [Mary Ballingall was not teaching at any school at the end of 1885. She was teaching at Te Aro School in 1886]

13th August 1886 10 pupils from Petone School passed the Wellington Education Board Drawing Examinations

2nd August 1886 A football match was played at Petone on Saturday between the Newtown and Petone Schools, in which the Newtown boys were the victors by four tries to love. The tries were obtained by P. Clark (2), C. Campbell, and W. Claridge.

8th November 1886 The second term of the Misses Stevens preparatory school Petone commenced to-day.

4th December 1886

25th November 1886 Wellington Education Board Correspondence in connection with the suggested removal of an assistant teacher at Petone was read, and it was decided to give the teacher in question three months' notice.

4th December 1886 A petty burglary was lately committed by a number of small boys on the premises of their own school at Petone. The articles abstracted do not belong to the class of plunder usually the object of burglarious entry, as they consisted chiefly of a number of pens, pencils, &c, and a small quantity of sugar, the latter the property of one of the teachers. The delinquents have been summoned to appear at the Magistrates Court at the Lower Hutt, to answer a charge preferred against them by the police. The case will come on to-morrow

16th December 1886 Five boys, named John Wright, William White, George Meirs, and George and Arthur Oldham, were ordered to receive six strokes with a birch rod, for the theft of certain pencils and chalk from the Petone School.

22nd December 1886 Wellington Education Board The Petone Committee asked that the right-of-way in connection with the local school should be transferred to the owner of a street 40 foot wide which is proposed to be handed over to the Town Board. Agreed to.

1887

1887	219	Petone	Horne	James	Head Master	£310.00
1887	219	Petone	McIntyre	James	Assistant Master	£160.00
1887	219	Petone	Levy	Ellen J	Assistant Mistress	£90.00
1887	219	Petone	Cooke	Minnie S	Assistant Female	£90.00
1887	219	Petone	Jones	Ernest B	Male Pupil Teacher	£30.00
1887	219	Petone	Olsen	Agnes	Female Pupil Teacher	£ 25.00

21 January 1887 The Education Board Advertises for a head master for Petone £270

26th January 1887 Wellington Education Board One months , salary was voted -to Mr, Joplin, of Petone School, on the understanding that his connection with the Board now ceases

In 1892 Mr Joplin was back working for the Wellington Education Board at Tinui School until 1894. Then at Mauriceville West to 1900, before being appointed to Wadestown School until at least 1921

27th January 1887 Mr J Horne appointed Master of Petone. [James Horne was headmaster of Tawa Flat School with a roll in 1886 of 55. He had been there since 1878 for the Wellington Education Board and may well have been there before the Wellington Education Board was founded in its 1877 form. James Horne was to stay as head of Petone School until at least 1909

27th January 1887 Mr Joplin, late headmaster of the Petone School, who had recently obtained twelve months leave of absence from the Board, applied for three months' salary. After some discussion, the Board decided to give the applicant one month's salary. An application for bonuses from Messrs Haselden and Johnson, who had been employed by the Petone School Committee without the authority of the Board, was refused

19th February 1887 TENDERS for Additions and Alterations to the old Schoolhouse at Petone will be received at the Education Board Office up to 4 o'clock p.m. of Tuesday, the 22nd inst. Plans and specifications to be seen at my office. THOS. TURNBULL, Architect

12th March 1887 The following report from Mr. James Home [Sic Horne Head Master], teacher of the Petone School, has been laid before the School Committee Gentlemen— I beg to report that the last monthly return shows 281 scholars on the books, and an average of 207. This entitles the school to two more pupil teachers, and I believe the Education Board is trying to fill up the vacancies as quickly as possible. Several things are required for the use of the school, viz., the maps of the world, Great Britain, Asia, Africa, and America j some tablets to put into the hands of the pupil teachers ; a few science readers, and some stationery, such as foolscap paper, etc. Some small repairs might be done to the play-ground, viz., a few loads of gravel put under the girls swings, and the swings repaired, and the securing more effectually of the storeroom for firewood. M. De Mey the gymnastic instructor, has visited the school lately, and has put the children through several movements. He recommends the getting of

three pairs of parallel bars and from 30 to 40 pairs of Indian clubs for the use of the scholars, I would propose that the committee keep in view the establishment of a school library. Many of the children are of the reading class, and I believe a library of suitable books would be a great boon among them. The best thanks of everyone connected with the school is due to Miss Milne and Miss Olson for the way they have worked during the temporary deficiency in the staff; also to Miss Alice Manning and Master Herbert Johnson for the generous way in which they have acted as monitors during the same period. The committee has assented to Mr. Horne's proposals re improvements, and will have them carried out, and will also institute a school library at an early period.

22nd March 1887. Mr Turnbull calls for tenders for an additional classroom at Petone School.
30th March Wellington Education Board The tender of Mr. James Ransom for repairs to the Petone School, was accepted.

31st March 1887 Wellington Education Board The resignations of A. R Warren and W. H. Draffin (Petone), [A R Warren was at Vogelstown in 1886 and I couldn't find a Draffin teaching for Wellington Education Board.]

1st April 1887 It appears that the successful tenderer for the contract for the alterations to the Petone School was Mr. W. Ransom, of Lower Hutt, and not Mr. James Ransom.

26th April 1887 The annual meeting of the Petone householders was held at the Schoolhouse. Mr. J. S. Manning occupied the chair. The following committee were elected :— Messrs. Couchman, London, Davidson, Kirk, Bowman, and Ashcroft. The report of the retiring committee was read and adopted. A vote of thanks was passed to the retiring committee. At the first meeting of the new committee, Mr. McGowan was elected chairman, and Mr. London, secretary. It was decided to hold the regular meeting on the first Tuesday of the month.

27th April 1887 Wellington Education Board Assistant at Petone Mr. J. McIntyre, at present at Masterton salary, £160.

4th June 1887 There was a large attendance this morning at the meeting of the Wellington Educational Institute. Mr. Home (Petone)

1st July 1887 Wellington Education Board Mr F. Fairbrother, of the Petone school, asked to be appointed to a first assistantship. The matter was referred to a Committee, consisting of Dr Newman, Messrs Young, Brown, and the Chairman. [Mr Frederick Fairbrother was not at Petone school at the end of any year, There is a gap in 1886 and 1887 when he was not permanently appointed. May well have been at Training College at that time]

24th August 1887 Wellington Education Board Advertise for an assistant at Petone salary £90

30th August 1887 Wellington Education Board Eight applications have been received for the appointment of assistant teacher in the Petone School.

1st September 1887 Miss Levy assistant teacher Petone appointed.

6th September 1887 Miss Ellen Jane Levy, who at the last meeting of the Board of Education was appointed assistant in the Petone School, has entered upon her duties. Miss May, the newly-appointed assistant in the Johnsonville School, will not be able to sever her connection with the Marlborough Board of Education until the end of the month, and cannot commence duties in her new sphere of labour until the 6th proximo. In the meantime, Miss Feist, who was in temporary occupation of the assistant teachership at Petone, will discharge the duties of assistant at Johnsonville.

28th September 1887 Miss A. Milne, assistant at Petone, tendered her resignation, as she is going to Auckland

20th October 1887 The attendance at the meeting of the Philosophical Society last evening was small. Dr. Hutchinson occupied the chair. Mr. J. Home, headmaster of the Petone School, was elected a member. Dr. Hutchinson was nominated, for the third time, to represent the Society on the Board of Governors of the New Zealand Institute. Mr. E. Tregear read a paper on Polynesian Polk Lore, which elicited some discussion.

27th October 1887 Applications for the positions of _ headmaster of the Kaitoke school, assistant teacher at Petone, and assistant at Masterton were considered in committee by the Education Board yesterday morning after the ordinary monthly meeting. Fourteen applications were received for the first position, and seven each for the other two. With regard to the two former appointments selections were made, and they will be submitted to the local committees.

1st November 1887 An interesting ceremony took place in the Petone School yesterday afternoon, when Mr. Homo, the head teacher, on behalf of the scholars and teachers, presented Miss Milne, who has been for some time an assistant in the school, with a pair of handsome gold bangles, as a mark of esteem. The present was accompanied by a written address, expressing kind wishes for Miss Milne's future welfare.

4th November 1887 Miss Cook [Sic Cooke], late of the Port School, Nelson, has been appointed assistant at the Petone School, vice Miss Milne, who has left for Auckland.

17th December 1887 The distribution of prizes took place at Petone School yesterday, the 16th instant. The room was decorated with ferns, nikau palms, and flowers. A goodly sprinkling of the parents was present, particularly the mothers. Mr McGowan, Chairman of the School Committee, introduced Mr Manning, who distributed the prizes. Mr Horne, head-teacher of the school, made a statement in regard to the school. He reported that a considerable increase in numbers had taken place since last year—about 80—and the average attendance had been good for some months, some weeks averaging as many as 260 and 270 out of 318 on the books. The results of the examination were good, but the scholars had had two months longer teaching than usual. The following are some of the chief prize-takers :—Standard V. —Boys: 1st, Ernest Akroyd ; 2nd, Alfred Renall; 3rd James L. Shaw ; 4th, Harold McGowan; 5th, James Alex. Hone. Girls: 1st, Maggie Puller 2nd, Annie Holland; 3rd, Clara Rushton; 4th, Mary Wood ; 5th, Jane Frazer. Standard IV.— Boys : 1st, Harry Kirk ; 2nd, Arthur Manning; 3rd, John Vincent. Girls: 1st, Hilda Manning; 2nd, Sophie Olsen ; 3rd, Esther Curtis. The 6th Standard receives no prizes until it has been examined by Mr Lee. Mr McGowan and Mr Manning took great interest in the children, distributing Christmas cards amongst the infants and those who received no books. Three cheers were given for Mr Manning, who may be said to be the father of matters scholastic in Petone, having taken a lively interest in the school since its earliest beginning. Mr McGowan asked for three cheers for the teachers, and said that although Mr Horne, the head teacher, had conducted the examination, he believed it was fairly and honestly done; and the results had been good, not only on account of the two months extra teaching, but also on account of the painstaking work of the teachers, from the head-master downward. Three cheers were also given for the Chairman and members of Committee for the strenuous exertions they had made on behalf of everything connected with the welfare of the school. The ceremony was enlivened by the singing of several songs by the scholars.

19th December 1887 NB There was a paper fold in this piece and there is some distortion in parts

The prizes at this school were distributed on Friday, by Mr. Manning. Mr. Homo, headmaster, reported that for some weeks past the average attendance had been 260 and 270 out of 317 on the books, and the results of the examination had been good. The following is the prize list : —

Standard V.— Girls : M. Pullar, A. Hollard, C. Rushton, M. Wood, J. Frasor. Boys : E. Ackroyd, A. Renall, J. Shaw, H. McGowan, J. A. Horne, G. Wood.. S, Valentine, A. Stansell. J. Searle ,

Standard IV.— Girls H Manning. S. Olsen, H. Curtis, C Lee, M. Packard, D. Kirk, A. Luke. Boys : H. Kirk, A. Manning, J. Vincent, J. McGill, W. Horne, H. Turner, W. Coulter

Standard III.— Girls : E. Henry, E. Wolland, E Johnson, A. Bennett, M. Higgins, A Carter, L. Morris, E. Smith, M. Miller, A Reston, A. Smith, J. Miller, E. Couchman, F. Wood, A. Howe A. Davidson. ;Boys : H. Tolan, C. Venson, J. Gardener D. McWherker, P. Pettit, H. Greville, G. Selwood, H. Cates, P. Cairns, G. Oldham, P. Backard, Heoegist Greville.

Standard II— Girls : M. Collett, M. Kirk, K. Dodd L Ambler,, M. Smith, M. Davidson. J . James, R. Rushton, J- Horne ? ; B Fraser , M, Elder, J. Taylor ? :L. McIntyre* G; Croft, M, Garter, McGill, N Carter, ?, D. Morris, I May, L Wray, A Cales., L. ?, ? . Boys: H. Croft, G McWhirter , ? J. Wright, H. Morrison, ?? A. Olson, B. Blake, B. Kerr, R. Heppleston , W. Luke, G. Gardiner, J. Frasi, F. Tarrant, H. Herdman, A. Werner, T. Riddler, T. Carey, C. Pettett.

Standard I.— Girls : E. Mundle, E. Woods, L. Calvert, G. Kelly, A. Pilling, A. Whitcher, J. Beaton, J. Bassett, A. Packard, N. Atkinson, L. Whitcher, E. McGowan, S. Curtis, M. Silver, H. Mallinder, P. May, G. Wray, L. Bush, E. Mears, A. BurrIDGE, A. Gardiner, M. Oliver, A. Gigger, H. Mallinder. Boys : W. Bailey, C. Bassett, A. Selward, P. Dodd, I. Burnby, C. Bush, ; J. Cairns, O. Upton, W. Wakelin, H. Green , T Ambler, J. Stewart, W. Croft, C. Herdman, C. Hollard, J. Patterson, B. Haines, ! P. Couchman, B. Searls, G. Lusty, W. King, A. Tarrant, L. Manning, L. Stansill, T. Vincent. G. Tarrant, J. Benson, H. Renai, F. Olson, S. Luke, C. Jonathan.

Cheers having been given for M. Manning, the headmaster and assistants, and the visitors, the proceedings terminated.

29th December 1887 Death Joplin.— On 19th October, at Stamford, Lincolnshire, Alice Maria, wife of C. R. Joplin, late of Petone, and eldest daughter of C. J. A. Haselden, of Wellington, aged 24 years,

1888

1888	265	Petone	Horne	James	Head Master	£ 295.00
1888	265	Petone	McIntyre	James	Assistant Master	£150.00
1888	265	Petone	Cooke	Minnie S	Assistant Female	£ 85.00
1888	265	Petone	Levy	Minnie S	Assistant Female	£50.00
1888	265	Petone	Jones	Ernest B	Male Pupil Teacher	£30.00
1888	265	Petone	Olsen	Agnes	Female Pupil Teacher	£25.00

26th January 1888 Wellington Education Board still asking government for money to build a teachers residence at Petone £250

12th March 1888 The following are the returns of the late examination of Sixth Standard scholars of the city and suburban schools by Mr. Lee, School Inspector:— Thorndon, 23 scholars presented, 21 passed ; Terrace, 20 presented, 19 passed; Mount Cook Boys, 17 presented, 6 passed ; Mount Cook Girls, 21 presented, 11 passed ; Te Aro, 26 presented, 19 passed ; Newtown, 17 presented, 14 passed ; Karori, 5 presented, 5 passed ; Pahautanui, 5 presented, 5 passed ; Judgeford, 1 presented, 1 passed ; Johnsonville, 5 presented, 5 passed ; Tawa Flat, 2 presented, 2 passed ; Kaiwarra, 1 presented, 1 passed ; Porirua, 1 presented, 1 passed; Hutt, 5 presented, 4 passed; Taita, 3 presented, none passed ; Petone, 6 presented, 6 passed; Upper Hutt, 2 presented, 1 passed. Two scholars from the Mount Cook Girls School were presented for the Seventh Standard, both of whom passed.

19th March 1888 Part of a long article on using Petone or Pitone as the name of the town: Now that the worthy people of Pitone have determined to be incorporated as a borough, we hope that they will make a good beginning in the way of accuracy by spelling properly the name of their town. It should be Pitone, not Petone as it is now generally spelt, or Petoni, as it used to be put. In its original shape it was Pito-one, meaning the end of the beach. We are always glad to see the good taste shown of retaining original native names of places instead of substituting such expressions as Smithtown, Jonesville, or Robinsonia; but when the former is done it is always advisable to preserve the accurate orthography. We noticed with satisfaction that this was done, in the case of Pitone, in Hansard last session, but the Railway Department always persist in misspelling the word Petone, which newcomers naturally pronounce pet one. While on this subject we may remark that curiously enough all the native names of places along the Hutt line are carefully and systematically misspelt. Kaiwarra, with its double r, is of course, a Maori impossibility—it should be Kaiwhara, or more strictly Kaiwharawhara. We might drop the repeated syllables to avoid excessive length, but at least let us not perpetuate such a hybrid monstrosity as Kaiwarra.....

24th April 1888 The Petone meeting was held in the Schoolhouse, Petone. There was a very small attendance, which the Chairman (Mr. McGowan) attributed partly to the weather and partly to the lack of interest in school matters. The report for the past year showed that there had been an increase of 50, the figures being 216 against 265. The reduction of the capitation from .£L5 to .£L8 had materially restricted the operations of the committee, but despite this they had been able to make some improvements, and they had now 360 names on the roll. Mr. V. J. Kirk said the report and balance-sheet were most favourable, and they were, as householders, indebted to the committee for what they had done. The report and balance-sheet, as read, were adopted. Nominations for the new committee were then taken as follows— E. Battersby, W. Ashcroft, C. Couchman, E. J. Chatwin, W. Walsh, V. Greville, and J. Wright. As there were no other nominations, the persons named were declared duly elected. A suggestion to do away with the annual treat was made, with a view of increasing the amount available for prizes. The suggestion was opposed by Mr. G. London, who urged the continuance of the picnic. After discussion, resolutions were passed recommending the incoming committee to abolish the yearly picnic, and to devote householders subscriptions to the purchase of prizes to be awarded according to merit, instead of indiscriminately, as had hitherto been the custom. A vote of thanks to the committee, in which special mention was made of the late secretary, Mr. Geo. London, concluded the business. At the meeting of the committee held subsequently, Mr. C. Couchman was elected Chairman, and Mr. F. Greville Secretary.

29th August 1888 Wellington Education Board An application from the Petone Committee for a vote of £15 for drainage, was not granted]

15th September 1888 The following are the dates fixed by Mr. Lee, Inspector of Schools, for his examination of schools before his departure for the Wairarapa : — Karori, 17th September ; Makara, 19th September; Kaiwarra, 20th September; Upper Hutt, 24th September; Mungaroa, 26th September; Taita, 27th September ; Hutt, 1st October ; Petone, 3rd October.

8th October 1888 The annual examination of the Petone and Lower Hutt schools has been completed by Mr. Lee, the Inspector. The results are at follow:— Petone School: Below Standard I. — Number presented, 137: Standard I.— 57 presented, 5 absent, 1 failed, 51 passed ; Standard II.— 61 presented, 4 absent, 4 excepted, 8 failed, 45 passed ; Standard III.— 52 presented, 4 excepted, 11 failed, 31 passed ; Standard IV.— 28 presented, 3 excepted, 3 failed. 22 passed ; Standard V.—13 presented, 3 failed, 10 passed ; Standard VI. 10 presented, 4 failed, 6 passed ; Standard VII. —3 presented, 3 passed

12th December 1888 A public presentation of prizes is to be made in the Oddfellows Hall, Petone, to the children attending the State school in the borough, Sir James Hector will be asked to make the presentations. Friday week next is the date fixed, and the parents and friends will be invited, as the committee are anxious to awaken some interest in the affairs of the school, which are in a bad state financially.

22nd December 1888 PETONE. Sir James Hector distributed the prizes won by the scholars of the Petone School last evening as follows :— Standard VII — G. Kirk, 1 ; A. Manning, 2 ; B. McEwan, 3 Standard VI.— M. Pullar , 1 ; H. McGowan, 2 12 1 A. Renall, 3 ; E. Akroyd, 4. Standard V.— H. Manning, 1; S. Olson, 2; H. Kirk, 3 ; A. Manning, 4 j W. Home, 5. Standard IV. -C. Benson, 1 ; E. Henry, 2; E. Couchman, 3 ; H. Greville, 4 ; K. Johnson, 5 ; G. Oldham, 6. Standard III.— M. Collett, 1 ; M. Kirk, 2 ; M- Smith, 3; T. Bassett, 4 ; A. Bethune, 5 A. Oldham, 6. Standard II.— A. Bailey, 1 ; T. Ambler. 2 ; A. Whitcher, 3 J. Naylor, 4; M. McKie, 5: K. Blakemore, 6. Standard I.— B. Sladden, 1; H. Thompson, 2; B. Piper, 3; H. Sladden 4 ; K. Lusty, 5 ; E. Brown, 6 ; T. Grant, 7 E. Battersby, 8 ; E. Wray, 9.

Attendance prizes. Standards VI. and VII. — J. Vincent, A. Home, G. Wood. Standard V.— T. McWhirter, J. Miller, G. Selwood. Standard IV.— D. Morris, G. Ring, J. Home. Standard III.— L. Manning, G. Lusty, N. Atkinson. Standard II.— A. Gigger, J. Benson. G. Carter. Standard I. and infants. — W. Wright, C. Rouse, J» Cargill, B. Percy, W. Morris, N. White, A. Nuttall, S. Wakelin, S. Upton, W. Werner, M. Walsh, G. Hartley.

Sewing prizes. Standard VII.— A. Manning. Standard VI.— M. Pullar. Standard V. —P. Brocklehurst. Commended—S. Olson and H. Manning. Sewing Prizes. Standard IV. — A. Rowe ; commended, E. Coachman, E. Johnson, and E. Henry. Standard III.—K. Collett ; commended , L. Campbell, M. Kirk, and R Rushton. Standard II.— A. Pilling ; commended, M. McRae, K. Blakemore. N. Atkinson Standard K - Lusty; Commended, L White, E. Brown, R. Edmunds. A vote of thanks to Sir James Hector was proposed by Mr. VV. J. Kirk, and seconded by Mr. K. J. Chatwin, who asked the children to give three cheers for Sir James, a call to which they most heartily responded. The singing of the National Anthem by the children concluded the proceedings.

1889

1889	320	Pitone	Horne	James		Head Master	£295.00
1889	320	Pitone	Pringle	Graham		Assistant Master	£150.00
1889	320	Pitone	Cooke	Minnie S		Assistant Female	£85.00
1889	320	Pitone	Levy	Ellen J		Assistant Female	£85.00
1889	320	Pitone	Jones	Ernest B		Male Pupil Teacher	£55.00
1889	320	Pitone	Olsen	Agnes		Female Pupil Teacher	£25.00
1889	320	Pitone	Manning	Alice		Female Pupil Teacher	£15.00

13th February 1889 Agnes Olser [Sic Olsen] classed Second Year Pupil Teacher

18th March 1889 A match was played on Saturday Petone between a team from the Upper ° Hutt School and one from the Petone School. The Upper Hutt team won by nine wickets and two runs. The return match is to be played next Saturday at Upper Hut

27th March 1889 Wellington Education Board . The Chairman reported that the committee appointed last month had visited the Kaiwarra, Ngahauranga, Petone, Hutt, and Taita Schools, and inspected the buildings. The Petone School was found to be in good condition both inside and outside. There was no dividing fence, and the Committee thought that one should be put up. They also considered that two* clocks should be provided. [Playgrounds had a dividing fence to keep boys and girls separate in the playground in the larger schools]

26th April 1889 erecting dividing fence at Petone, and partition in one of the large rooms of the school, W. H. Edwards, .£18

28th August 1889 Wellington Education Board Fire guards and coal scuttles were agreed to be given to the Petone school.

8th October 1889 School Examination. —The result of the examination of Pitone School by Mr R. Lee is as follows: —417 presented,, including 157 infants, 214 passed. Standard 1., 57 presented, 3 absent, 53 passed ; Standard 11., 66 presented, 2 absent, 1 excepted, 62 passed; Standard 111., 66 presented, 4 absent, 6 excepted, 38 passed; Standard IV., 37 present 1, 1 absent, 2 excepted, 30 passed ; Standard V 22 presented, 1 absent, 21 passed ; Standard VI., 18 presented, 1 excepted, 8 passed; Standard VII., 2-presented, 2 passed.

31st October 1889 Wellington Education Board Application. —Mr Ernest B. Jones, of the Pitone School, applied for promotion. The Chairman explained that the applicant was a passed pupil-teacher, and it was resolved, on the recommendation of the School Committee, that as soon as he completes his certificate he should be appointed to a vacant position in the School.

12th December 1889 Petone residents are reminded of the Amateur Dramatic Clubs performance tomorrow evening. Apart from the attraction of the piece chosen, namely, that popular domestic drama, The Chimney Corner, there is the consideration that the proceeds will be devoted to the purchasing of prizes for the children attending the Petone School.

14th December 1889 The second performance of the Petone Amateur Dramatic Club took place last evening at the Oddfellows Hall, Petone, when H. T. Cravens The Chimney Corner, was produced. The piece was well cast, and an opportunity to appear at their beat was afforded the members of the Club, and it is no exaggeration to say that the result was satisfactory to an eminent degree. The acting of Mrs. Dunn, as Patty Probit, Miss Beaufort, as Grace Emery,

and Mr. T. Wrigley, as Peter Probity, deserves special mention ; but the whole of the performers acquitted themselves with credit. The piece was very nicely staged, and the characters appropriately got up. The music was supplied by Messrs. Hotop and Manning. The children's prize fund (those attending the Petone School) will undoubtedly receive substantial augmentation by last evenings performance, the hall being packed throughout. The School Committee desires to thank the Dramatic Club for their services—services voluntarily offered and given at material sacrifice of time and money to themselves.

19th December 1889 Wellington Education Board Country scholarships, of L30 each, tenable for two years—James Prenderville, Makara, 368, Harry Kirk, Pitone, 330, [L was used instead of the £ sign as some typesetting machines didn't gave a £ key]

21st December 1889 The annual distribution of prizes in connection with the Petone School took place yesterday afternoon, there being present over 300 children, and a number of parents and friends. Sir James Hector occupied the chair, and in his remarks stated that the number on the school roll at the end of last year was 347, and this year 414 The average attendance was also better. Regarding the Inspector of Schools (Mr. Lee) examinations, Sir James Hector pointed out that the school had done exceedingly well and had secured a percentage of 90. One of the pupils of the school (Harry Kirk) j obtained one of the two Wellington Country District scholarships, this making three years in succession that the school has been successful in regard to scholarships. Sir James Hector drew attention to the fact that parents should be careful not to take away their children from school too soon. He observed that with reference to those between 13 and 14 years of age, there was only 21 on the roll at the end of the last quarter, which was very small compared with the total number on the roll, and he feared that, this being a manufacturing community, there was a tendency to put the children to work too soon, which he viewed as a mistake, as their characters had first to be formed at school. At the conclusion of the distribution of the prizes, Sir James Hector called for three cheers for the headmaster and teachers, which was vociferously responded to. The headmaster congratulated the School Committee on their management, and on his invitation their services were also recognised by three cheers. The Secretary (Mr. D. P. Fisher) responded, and in the course of a few remarks pointed out that additional school accommodation was necessary, but in reply to the Committee's request the Education Board had been unable to do anything in the matter. The Secretary concluded by calling for three hearty cheers for Sir James and Lady Hector, which was taken up with great zest by all present. Misses Graham and Speedy contributed two duets. The following prizes were distributed : — Merit prizes.— Standard VII.— M. Pullar, 1 ; H. McGowan, 2. Standard VI.— H. Manning, 1 ; H. Kirk, 2 ; A. Manning, 3 ; G. Wood, 4. Standard V.— E. Henry, 1 ; A. Piper, 2 ; E. Couchman, 3 ; P. Graham, 4 ; A. Carter, 5. Standard IV.— M. Collett, 1 ; R. Atkinson, 2 ; A. Barber, 3 ; M. Kirk, 4 ; P. Cairns, 5 ; L. Ambler, 6. Standard III.— A. Witcher, 1 ; S. Curtis, 2 ; H. Renai, 3 ; W. Bailey, 4 ; N. Atkinson, 5 ; L. Wray, 6 ; J. Cairns, 7 ; C. Quinton, 8. Standard II.— B. Sladden, 1 ; H. Thompson, 2 ; H. Sladden, 3 ; G. Carter, 4 ; A. Percy, 5 ; E. Wray, 6 ; S. Sikes, 7 ; G. M Arthur, 8 ; E. Brown, 9. Standard I —P. Ryan, 1 ; A. Quinton, 2 ; H. Jenkins, 3 ; K. Tetley, 4 ; L. Sherwin, 5 ; A. Burrridge, 6. Attendance prizes. — Standards VI. and VII.— E. Curtis, 1 ; W. Home, 2 ; G. Oldham, 3 ; G. Selwood, 4. Standard V.— D. Brocklehurst, J. Wright, A. Cates, J. Home, H. Ashcroft. Standard IV.— L. Manning, 1 ; J. Naylor, 2 ; T. Vincent, 3 ; G. Lusty, 4 ; T. Ambler, 5 ; A. Werner, 6. Standard III.— D Brocklehurst ; E. Morrison, 1 ; R. McWhirter, 2 ; K. Lusty, 3 ; G. Ashcroft, 4 ; J. BonBon,

5; T. Nuttall, 6; J. Patterson, 7. Standard II.— C. Rouse, W. Morris, F. Beard, P. Carey, M. Wilson, J., Wright. Standard I.— W. Cargill, W. Wright, W. Bennett, W. Carter, A. Bush, A. Nuttall, A. Battersby. Infants —J. McWhirter, A. August, A. McWhirter, W. Patterson. W. Miller, J. Sinclair, C. Couchman, S Powceby, H. Taylor, A. Brown, L Edmunds, A. Vincent, W. Home, E. Godber, J. Price, J. Percy, A. Satire, J. Batie! L. Wray, J. Curtis, G. Wrigley, G. Fraser. #. Whicher, L. Naylor, A. Hebband, C. Bailey, E. Lusty, F. Laury, E. Lusty, A. Windelev. Sewing prizes.— Standards VI. and VII.— M. Pullar, 1 ; H. Manning, 2 ; commended, E. Curtis and A. Luke. Standard V. — A. Robson, 1 ; A. Smith, 2 ; commended, E. Couchman and J. Miller. Standard IV. — M. Kirk, 1 ; M. Collett, 2 ; commended, R. Rushton and B. Price. Standard III.— X. Blakemore, 1 ; M. McRae, 2 ; commended, E. find Ackroyd, E. Mears. Standard II.— L. Oldham; N. Ridler commended, L Hamer and A. Percy. Standard t--B. Percy, 1 ; F. Rose, 2-, commended, B Windsley and A. Quinton. Writing prizes (presented by Mr. Baker).— M. Miller and A. Home.

1890

1890	323	Pitone	Horne	James		Head Master	£315.00
1890	323	Pitone	Pringle	Graham		Assistant Master	£150.00
1890	323	Pitone	Jones	Ernest B		Assistant Master	£100.00
1890	323	Pitone	Cooke	Minnie S		Assistant Female	£85.00
1890	323	Pitone	Levy	Ellen J		Assistant Female	£85.00
1890	323	Pitone	Olsen	Agnes		Female Pupil Teacher	£30.00
1890	323	Pitone	Manning	Alice		Female Pupil Teacher	£20.00
1890	323	Pitone	Hutchen	Helen		Female Pupil Teacher	£15.00

29th April 1890 At the School Committee meeting at Petone last evening, the Chairman (Mr. W. J. Kirk) said it would be a good thing if, daring the current winter, householders would volunteer to plant a few trees in the front of the school, and provide them with shelter until they were a year or two old, intimating that he would lead with planting three. Several gentlemen in the room promised to follow suit, and it is hoped that during the winter quite a plantation will be the result of the suggestion.

5th May 1890 Football [Rugby] A match was played on Saturday at Petone between teams representing the Te Aro and Petone Schools. The game resulted in a win for Te Aro by 6 points to 1 McKenzie, Barr, Lothian, Petherick, and Drummond played well for the winners.

22nd May 1890 A mild excitement was caused at Petone yesterday by the school children delaying their return to their duties for half an hour after the assembling boll had rung at the expiration of the dinner hour. It appears that M. de Mey, who had been giving drill instruction before dinner, had kept his class nearly half an hour after the usual time for breaking up, and the youngsters, thinking themselves wronged, took the popular way of putting things right. The movement took the form of a strike later on, when the ringleaders were severely caned by the master.

28th May 1890 Wellington Education Board Petone School Committee applied for £14 with which to arrange a drainage scheme to carry off the water from the new artesian wells. The Board preferred that tenders should be called, and ordered that this should be done

13th June 1890 WANTED, a thoroughly well-trained Governess, Apply, by letter, to Mrs. Dillon, Lady Hectors, Petone.

14th June 1890 TENDERS are invited for the Laying down of about 300 feet of Earthenware Pipes and Fittings, &c , at the Petone School. Tenders to be in not later than Friday, 20th June. Specifications may be seen at the office of Mr. G. London, Jackson street, Petone. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. W. J. KIRK, Chairman Petone School Committee.

9th July 1890 At the last annual meeting of the Petone School Committee, the Chairman (Mr. W. J. Kirk) advocated the planting of trees in the school grounds, and invited contributions of trees and shrubs, with the result that a number were promised, together with monetary assistance. Next Saturday afternoon has been set apart by the committee for the planting, and there is to be quite a little ceremony. It is intended to plant the frontage of the school ground only, a distance of about two and a half chains. [1 chain = 66 feet. 6 feet = 20.1168 metres] The Chairman of the committee informs us that they will be glad to receive contributions of suitable trees ; also that they will be glad of offers of assistance in the work to be done on Saturday afternoon

4th August 1890 Football A team from the Petone School were defeated at Petone on Saturday by a team from the Mount -Cook School, by three tries to love

24th December 1890 PETONE SCHOOL. The distribution of prizes took place In the Oddfellows Hall on Friday afternoon. The presentation was made by Mr R. C. Kirk, Mayor of Petone. There were also present Mr London (secretary), Rev Thomson and S. V. BurrIDGE, members of the School Committee. Mr Kirk briefly addressed the scholars before presenting the prizes. The prize-takers were : Merit prizes.—Standard VII—William J Horne. Standard VI—Ethel Henry, 1 Emily Couchman, 2; Percy Graham, 3 George Oldham, 4, Standard V—Mabel Collett, 1; Elsie Carter, 2; May Kirk, 3 ; Robert Atkinson, 4. Standard IV—Nellie Lodder, 1; Arthur Selwood, 2 ; Alfred Bailey, 3 ; Louie Beard, 4 ; Eliza Wood, 5. Standard III—Bernard Sladden, 1; Edgar Riley, 2; Herbert Sladden, 3; Louis Oldham, 4; James Finlay, 5; Horace Thompson, 6; Kate Lusty, 7 • Nellie Riddler, 8 ; Annie Percy, 9. Standard II—Leonard Ackin, 1; Archibald McMillan, 2; Ethel Gamble, 3; Ethel Carter, 4; Walter Kerr, 5; Cyril McGowan, 6 ; Albert BurrIDGE, 7. Standard I.—Florence Riley, Alfred Nuttall, 2; Annie McKenzie, 3 ; William Bennett, 4; May Atkinson, 5 ; Rose Reading 6; Minnie Couchman, 7. Attendance prizes— Standards VI and VII—Delia Brocklehurst 1; Harry Ashcroft, 2; Arthur Oldham, 3; John Wright, 4. Standard V—Esther Atkinson, 1 ; Llewellyn Manning, 2; George McWhirter, 3; Daisy Morris, 4; George Lusty, 5. Standard IV—Emilio Renai, 1 • Harry Taylor, 2 ; George Ashcroft, 3; Robert McWhirter, 4; Dinah Brocklehurst, 5 ; Ada Jones 6; Thomas Nuttall, 7; Herbert Herdman, 8; Daniel .Fraser, 9. Standard III—Maud Wilson, 1 ; William Morris, 2; James Wright, 3 ; William Henry, 4 ; Fred Beard, 5 ; Charles Hall, 6 ; William Werner, 7. Standard II —Willie Ackin, 1; Tom Taylor, 2; Ernest Gamble, 3; Willie Cargill, 4; Frank Carter, 5; James Cargill, 6; Willie Wright. Standard I—Frank Taylor, Vera Bennett, Wilde Horne, Hercules Herdman, John Cairns, Albert McWhirter, Walter Nuttall, Ernest Collett, Willie Taylor, William Miller. Infants—James Grigger, Willie Taylor, Ettie Hartley, Agnes Harkness, Fred Hebbend, Joseph Price, George Fraser, Harry White, Annie Laury. Lizzie Curtis, Ernest Lepper, Alice Gough, Sissy August, Amy Pounceby, Ali e Ryan, Kate Ryan, Howard BurrIDGE, John Batie. Sewing prizes— Standards VI and VII —Emily Couchman, 1; Alice Luke, 2 ; commended, Maggie Miller and Ethel Henry, Standard V—Elsie

Comment [RC1]:

Carter; May Kirk, 2; commended, Mable Collet and Rebecca Rushton. Standard IV— Bertha Price 1; Nellie Lodder, 2; commended, Agnes Whitcher and Eliza Hall. Standard III—Alice Hall, 1; Beatrice Carter, 2; commended, Lucy Hamer and Daisy Morris. Standard II —Ethel Carter, 1; Betty Windelev, 2; commended, Violet Kirk and Kate Hushes. Standard I —Florence Riley, 1; Nellie White, 2; commended, Sarah Edlin and Annie Barlow.

At the close of the presentation cheers were given for the headmaster (Mr Horne) and his staff, the Committee, his Worship the Mayor, and the lady examiners of the sewing. His Worship the Mayor announced that special prizes had been promised for next year by Sir James Hector for best collection of floral native plants and essays on specimens of natural history, and Lady Hector for best patching on tweed,

1891

1891	365	Pitone	Horne	James		Head Master	£315.00
1891	365	Pitone	Pringle	Graham		Assistant Master	£150.00
1891	365	Pitone	Jones	Ernest B		Assistant Master	£100.00
1891	365	Pitone	Cooke	Minnie S		Assistant Female	£85.00
1891	365	Pitone	Levy	Ellen J		Assistant Female	£85.00
1891	365	Pitone	Olsen	Agnes		Female Pupil Teacher	£35.00
1891	365	Pitone	Kirk	George		Male Pupil teacher	£35.00
1891	365	Pitone	Manning	Alice		Female Pupil Teacher	£ 20.00

6th February 1901 Agnes Olsen passed 5th Year Pupil Teacher Examination and Helen Hutchen First year

4th March 1891 A very gratifying amount of interest is being displayed in the autumn show of the Wellington Horticultural and Florists Society, which opens at the Skating Rink to-morrow. The general entries so far are good, and there is likely to be great competition for the special prizes offered for school children, most of the city schools, as well as those of Lower Hutt and Petone, furnishing competitors.

6th March 1891 Inspectors report for 1890 included. Petone: Presented 410 Passed 263 [Infants were not counted as passing the examinations. First examination was in Standard 1. Discipline and order Good. Manners Good

1st May 1891 School Committee Petone. —Rev Andrew Thompson, Messrs George London, E. B. Horne, James Gaynor, R. Brown, John Lowry, C. W. Johnston

6th June 1891 The monthly meeting of the Petone School Committee was bod last evening, when, among other business, it was decided that proceedings should be taken against a parent for neglecting to send his children to School

7th July 1891 The Petone School Committee intend to have an .Arbor Day of their own on Saturday afternoon next, the object being to plant a portion of the school grounds with trees, &c. Parents and others are invited to help with contributions of trees, which will be received by Mr. London, chairman of the committee.

14th November 1891 The following- is the result of the first grade* drawing examination in connection with various public and private schools. E means excellent and G Means Good Petone.— Nellie Atkinson g, G. Ashcroft c, E. Battersby, J. W. Barlow, Louie Beards g, Hannah B. Carter g, J. Cairns g, D. G. Fraser, J. Finlay g, Alice Gardiner, C. Hollard, Ada Hartley, Gertrude Kelly, G. W. Lusty, R. T. Lyttle, Emily Levy. F. A. Mason, G. McWhirter ,

L. Manning g, J. McKenzie, J. H. Naylor, Kato Nicholas, F. Olson, T. Vincent c, Nina M. Piper g, Bertha Price, B. K. Piper, Anna Packard g, T. Riddler, W. Riddler, E.M. Riley. Emily Renar. H, Renar, B. Sladden , H. Sladden, J, Stewart, Mary J. Silva, A. Selwood, H. Thompson, H. Taylor, O. Upton g, W. Windeley, Lily Whitcher , Bertha Whitcher.

17th November 1891 Wellington Education Board Tenders for the erection of additions to the schools at Petone, Dalefield and Shannon, and new school at Whakataki, are called for by the Secretary of the Education Board, Plans am) specifications are to be seen at the offices of Mr Thomas Turnbull, F.R.L.B.A., and Son.

11th December 1891 Arrangements are being made by the Petone School Committee to have swimming taught to the pupils attending the school. They have decided to find half the money, provided the remainder is furnished by the parents of the scholars. Prizes for competition amongst the scholars have been promised by Dr Whitehead and others, and. the schema should turn out a complete success.

1892

1892	391	Pitone	Horne	James		Head Master	£325.00
1892	391	Pitone	Pringle	Graham		Assistant Master	£150.00
1892	391	Pitone	Jones	Ernest B		Assistant Master	£100.00
1892	391	Pitone	Levy	Ellen J		Assistant Female	£85.00
1892	391	Pitone	Chapple	Emma J		Assistant Female	£70.00
1892	391	Pitone	Carter	Elsie		Female Pupil Teacher	£ 50.00
1892	391	Pitone	Olsen	Agnes		Female Pupil Teacher	£40.00
1892	391	Pitone	Kirk	William George		Male Pupil teacher	£40.00
1892	391	Pitone	Manning	Alice		Female Pupil Teacher	£25.00

28th January 1892 Miss Minnie S Cooke resigns

19th January 1892 Ethel Henry won a country scholarship from the Wellington Education Board finishing 2nd to a Vogeltown Girl

15th February 1892 Wellington Education Board Assistant wanted £60

26th February 1892 Wellington Education Board There were 2 applicants for the headmastership of the Petone School [I can find no other reference to this position James Horne still being at Petone in 1893]

7th March 1892 Wellington Education Board Miss Janet King to be assistant at Petone.

16th March 1892 The girls attending the Petone School will hold a series of swimming races at the Petone Baths on Friday next, and on following day similar competitions will take place amongst the boys Both affairs should, and no doubt will, attract large gatherings, as children cannot be too much encouraged to perfect themselves in the useful art of swimming.

16th March 1892 SATURDAY, 19th MARCH. SWIMMING EVENTS BOYS ATTENDING PETONE SCHOOL. On SATURDAY, 19th March, the Scholars attending the Petone School will meet at the School at 1 p.m., and will march up Jackson street, headed by the Petone Brass Band, to the Petone Baths, where 12 Events will take place. Admission to Baths -.—Adults, 6d; Children (not attending School), 3d. On FRIDAY. 18th March, five Events, open for the Girls of the School, will take place, commencing at 2 p.m.

30th March 1892 Wellington Education Board Miss Janet King resigns

1st April 1892 PETONE BOYS SWIMMING RACES. On Saturday last the Petone School Committee, favoured by the clerk of the weather, were enabled to finish the swimming competitions, at the Petone baths, of the boys attending the school. There were a number of events, and all were keenly contested, being witnessed by a large number of parents and others interested. During the afternoon an exhibition of swimming was given by a Mr Langley. The proceedings were enlivened by the Petone Band, under Bandmaster Moore. The last event on the programme having been decided, Lady Hector, assisted by Mr J. Horne presented the prizes to the winners of the various events. Three hearty cheers were given for Lady Hector, and another one for Dr Whitehead who, from the first mention of the idea, took great interest in carrying it out. The Committee are to be congratulated on the success of their efforts, and certainly have set an object lesson for other committees to study. Following is the list of events and winners:

Swimming Race, two lengths of baths, 13 years and over—First, Wm. Allender (a book from Dr Whitehead) ; second, Henry Naylor (a knife) ,

Diving for Plates, under 12 years—First, Reginald Piper, five plates (award a bat) ; second, David Silberry, three plates (award schoolbag).

Swimming Race, 66 yds, 11 and 12 years old—First, Hedley Allenner (box of paints). Diving for Plates, 12 years and over— First, L. Manning (a school bag) ; second, Wm. Allender (cricket ball).

Swimming Race, 9 and 10 years old— First, David Silberry (draught board and draught-men from head teacher) ; second, George Parrant (a knife).

Long Dive, 12 years and over—First, Wm. King (a pair of vases from Mr Ralph, through Mr Gamble) ; second, L. Manning.

Long Dive, under 12 years—First, Reginald Piper (a ball) ; second, David Silberry (a knife).

Swimming on Back, one length of baths, 12 years and over—First, L. Manning (a cricket ball and knife) ; second, Wm. Allender (a ball).

Swimming on Back, one length of baths, under 12 years—First, Charles Herdman (cricket ball) ; second, David Silberry (knife).

Rescue Race—First, L. Manning ; second, Peter Cairns.

Champion Race—First, William Allender ; second, Hedley Allender. Best style of swimming on Breast — L. Manning (a book from Dr Purdy)

[I didn't find a report for the girls races]

2nd April 1892 Tenders for the erection of a shelter shed at Petone School are called for by Messrs Thos. Turnbull and Son, architects to the Education Board.

6th April 1892 Wellington Education Board appointment Miss Chapple, late of Otago, assistant at Petone school

13th April Miss McGill, assistant at the Petone School has been permanently appointed to the Clareville School

16th April 1892 Wellington Education Board Mr T Ryan awarded contract for shelter sheds at Petone

21st April 1892 . The following nominations have been received for the Petone School Committee The Rev A. Thomson, and Messrs J. Gaynor, R. Brown, E. Horne, H. Thompson, J. Leadbeater, and C. W. Johnston.

28th April 1892 Wellington Education Board He also proposed that if the attendance at the Petone school at the end of the year warranted the school being placed on a footing with the City schools, that the salaries of the teachers be increased to £70 and £50 respectively. The proposals were adopted, and will come into force at once, with the exception of that relating to the Petone school.

30th April 1892 The newly-elected Petone School Committee held its first meeting last evening, when the Rev. A. Thomson was appointed Chairman and Mr. C. W. Johnston Secretary for the current year.

23rd May 1892 Petone School defeated the Terrace boys by 9 points to 4. King, Atkinson and Carter scored tries for the winners, the latter player kicking a goal from his try. Wright and Wighton scored tries for the losers.

7th July 1892 Wellington Education Board communication from Messrs Ballinger Brothers relating to the water supply for drainage at the Petone school was referred to the local School Committee..... Two assistant teachers at Petone wrote asking that the status of the school should be raised to that of city schools at once. The Board having previously decided that the status of the school should be raised from the beginning of next year, it was decided to take no action.

20th September 1892 PETONE PUBLIC SCHOOL. A GRAND ENTERTAINMENT WILL BE GIVEN TO-MORROW (WEDNESDAY), at 5 p.m., IN THE ODDFELLOWS HALL, PETONE, To obtain funds to procure the use of Swimming Baths for the School Children,

13th October 1892 Number of pupils sitting scholarship examinations by Wellington Education Board Country schools, allotted two scholarships of the annual value of .15 or .£30 according to distance from Wellington — Kilbirnie, 5; Vogeltown, 5; Karori, 3 ; Mackara, 2 ; Kaiwarra, 2 ; Johnsonville, 4; Porirua, 1; Levin, 1; Petone, 3, Hutt, 3.

1st November 1892 Cricket Petone School was beaten, by Newtown by 19 wickets. The former school scored 11 and 36 (Carter 19) and the latter 54 (King 14), and four without the loss of a wicket. Cowan, for the winners, and Bryce, for the losers, bowled well

2nd November State School Drawing Examination Petone— G. Ashcroft (good), J. Barlow, E. Battersby (excellent), B. Carter (excellent), J. Cairns (excellent), D. Fraser, J. Findlay, A. Gardiner, G. Gardiner (good), A. Hartley, J. Horn, G. Kelly, E. Levy, F. Mason (good), L. Manning, J. Naylor, F. Olsen, A. Packard, It. Piper, N. Piper (good), T. Vincent (good), E. Renai, H. Renai (good), T. Riddler, N. Riddler (good), P. Sladden, B. Sladden, J. Stewart, H. Taylor, B. Taylor, H. Thompson (good), W. Windeler (good), A. Whitcher (good), L. Whitcher, B. Whitcher.

5th November 1892 Scholarship Examination Country Schools 4 Issued and Petone Had the first three winners

Maximum number of marks —Reading, 50 ; writing, 50 ; English, 150 ; arithmetic, 150 ; science, 150 ; history, 100 ; geography, 100. Total, 750.

Bertha Taylor, Petone — Reading, 36 ; writing, 48 ; English, 103 ; arithmetic, 63 ; science , 70 ; history, 63 ; geography, 63. Total, 451.

Mabel Collett, Petone — Reading, 38 ; writing, 45 ; English, 116 ; arithmetic, 84 ; science, 47 ; history, 40 ; geography, 60. Total. 436.

Robert Atkinson, Petone — Reading, 32; writing, 45 ; English, 95 ; arithmetic, 84 ; science. 56 ; history, 55 : geography, 68. Total, 435.

Phoebe Lancaster, Karori

13th December 1892 The annual distribution of prizes in connection with the Petone School takes place on Thursday afternoon. Dr. Newman, M.H.R., is to preside. The annual treat to the scholars will be given on the Show Grounds on Saturday

16th December 1892 The annual distribution of prizes of the Petone School took place in the Oddfellows Hall at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The Rev. A. Thomson, Chairman of Committee, presided, and Dr. Newman, M.H.R., presented the prizes. Dr. Newman congratulated Mr. Home, headmaster, and the teaching staff, not only on the high percentage of passes for the year, but on having carried off three out of the four country scholarships, and he advocated an honour board being put up in the school, with which the Chairman of the Committee at once coincided. The distribution was enlivened with songs by the pupils, the accompaniments being played by Miss Levy. Cheers were given for Dr. Newman, the members of the committee, and the teachers. The warmest thanks are due to Lady Hector and Mrs. Sladden for their handsome prizes for darning, and to Mrs. McGowan and Mrs. Thomson, who assisted Mrs. Sladden in awarding the sewing and darning prizes. Dr. Newman promised two special prizes for next year and Mrs. Sladden one for the best patching. Mr. Lindsay, who has supplied the Dux prize for this year, also promised one next year. The following are some of the principal prize-takers : — St. 7.— Girls— B. M. Taylor (Dux of the school, highest scholarship winner, marks 451, handsome volume by Mr. Lindsay), 1 ; M. Collett (second scholarship winner, marks 436), 2 ; M. L. Kirk, 3. Boys— R. Atkinson (third scholarship winner, marks 435), 1 ; A. Carter, 2 ; P. Cairns, 3. St. 6.— Girls— E. Atkinson, 1 ; G. Kelly, 2 ; A. Witcher, 3. Boys— I. Burnley, 1 ; H. Renai, 2 ; T. Harper, 3. St. 5.— Girls— E. Levy, 1 ; J. Mace, 2 ; A. Jones, 3. Boys— B. Sladden, 1 ; H. Sladden, 2 ; C. Hollard, 3. St. 4.— Girls— X. Tetley, 1 ; E. Carter, 2 ; E. Gamble, 3. Boys— L. Atkins, 1 ; M. Mace, 2. T. Grant, 3. St. 3.— Girls— M. Atkinson, 1 ; J. Cook, 2 ; C. Fisher, 3. Boys— F. Carter, 1 ; F. Taylor, 2 ; E. Sladden, 3. St. 2.— Girls— A. Vincent, 1 ; G. Hartley, 2 ; V. Bennett, 3. Boys— J. Curtis, 1 ; W. Bryan, 2 ; W. Miller, 3. St. 1, Girls— D. Coleman, 1 ; M. Croft, 2 ; E. Bennett, 3. Boys— T. Sparks, 1 ; V. Maynard, 2 ; E. Collett, 3. Sewing prizes. Standard 7— M. Collett, 1 ; M. Kirk, 2 ; com., E. Atkinson, A. Witcher. St. s— B. Carter, 1 ; E. Levy, 2 ; com., K. Lusty, E. Renai. St. 4— E. Carter, 1 ; L. Schuster, 2 ; com., May and Mabel Schuster. St. 3— E. Sherwin, 1 ; B. Percy, 2 ; com., L. Fuller, J. Peters. St. 2— L. Parrant, 1 ; E. Collett, 2 ; coin., M. Guvnor, A. Rugg. St. 1— M. Carter, 1st E. Bennett, 2 ; com., E. Packwood, J. Curtis. Darning — M. Kirk, 1 ; M. Collett, 2 ; com., B. Carter, A. Hartley.

1893

1893	353	Pitone	Horne	James		Head Master	£325.00
1893	353	Pitone	Pringle	Graham		Assistant Master	£220.00
1893	353	Pitone	Jones	Ernest B		Assistant Master	£150.00
1893	353	Pitone	Levy	Ellen J		Assistant Female	£ 85.00
1893	353	Pitone	Chapple	Emma J		Assistant Female	£70.00
1893	353	Pitone	Kirk	George W		Male Pupil teacher	£45.00
1893	353	Pitone	Olsen	Agnes		Female Pupil Teacher	£40.00
1893	353	Pitone	Manning	Alice		Female Pupil Teacher	£40.00
1893	353	Pitone	Carter	Elsie		Female Pupil Teacher	£20.00
1893	353	Pitone	Allender	Elizabeth		Female Pupil Teacher	£15.00

23rd February 1893 Wellington Education Board Ellen J. Levy, assistant, Petone, applied for two months leave of absence, which was granted.

10th March 1893 SATURDAY, 13th MARCH, 1893. SWIMMING EVENTS For Valuable Prizes, For Girls Attending Petone School, At Petone Baths, commencing at 1.30 p.m. Parents cordially invited. Admission free. C. W. JOHNSTON, Secretary

27th March 1893 The swimming sports in connection with the Petone Public School, which were originally fixed for the Saturday on which the flood occurred, were held in Mr. Jackson's restored baths on last Saturday. — As the weather in the morning, when the girls' contests were decided, was not good, the number of spectators was small, but by the afternoon it had cleared, and the baths were crowded during the boys' performances. The Petone Band played during the afternoon. The following were the results :— Girls. — Distance, twice the length of the baths (championship)— Louie Parrant, 1 ; Annie Parrant, 2. 2. Across the baths (6 to 8 years of age)— Annie Taylor, 1 ; Annie Naylor, 2. 3. Length of baths (8 to 11 years) — Gertie Pounceby, 1. 4. Length of baths (11 years and upwards) — Kate Lusty, 1. 5. Girl to get on trapeze, take one swing, drop into water, and swim to end of baths — Eva Brown, 1; Louie Parrant, 2. Mrs. Whitehead's prize— Eva Brown, 1 ; Lottie King, 2. 7. Race after ducks — Grace Hartley, 1 ; Alice Jigger, 2. Duck hunt — Louie Parrant, 1. Boys. — 1. Length of baths (under 10 years) — Q. Parrant, 1 ; H. Piper, 2. 2. Two lengths of baths (over 12 years)— W. Allender, 1 ; J. Burns, 2. 3. Diving for plates (under 12 years) —J. McKenzie, 1. 4. Swimming under water (over 12 years) — T. Manning, 1 ; T. Carey, 2. 5. Three lengths of baths (championship) — W. Allender, 1 ; F. Manning, 2. 6. Diving for plates (over 12 years) — T. Carey, 1. 7. Rescue race— L. Manning, 1 ; G. Naylor, 2. 8. Best high dive— J. Burns, 1. 9. Best breast swimming— G. Naylor, 1 ; L. Manning, 2. 10. Across the baths (under 10 years)— Parrant, 1 ; Curtis, 2; Carver, 3. 11. Polo match — Won by Allender, Naylor, McKenzie, and McWhirter. 12. Duck hunt— Barlow, 1 ; Allender, 2

22nd April 1893 Last evening Dr Newman met a deputation of the Petone School Committee, who brought under his notice the disadvantages under which the scholarship holders in the district were placed in having to pay their railway fares to and from Wellington and requested him to bring the matter under the notice of the Education Board. This the doctor promised to do. The Rev A. Thomson and Messrs Gaynor and Leadbeater comprised the deputation.

28th April 1893 Wellington Education Board The Chairman suggested that the scholarships held by children outside Wellington should be increased sufficiently to enable the holders to pay their railway fares. The suggestion was agreed to, and the amount of the scholarships at the Hutt and at Petone was increased by £2, and those at Porirua by £4.

30th August 1893 Wellington Education Board Messrs. D. Sladden and A. Burns and the Rev. A. Thomson waited on the Board and asked for assistance towards the improvement of the Petone school ground. The Board decided to give a subsidy of £ for £, provided the total expenditure was not more than £55.

25th October 1893 First Grade Drawing Examinations in 4 categories Petone did very well

	Papers Sat	Passed	
Petone	175	131	75%
Hutt	78	45	58%
Clyde Quay	414	281	68%
Masterton	195	137	70%

29th November 1893 Scholarship Examinations

SUBUBBAN CANDIDATES

John Burns, Petone, 13 years.—Arithmetic, 94 ; English, 100 ; science, 99 ; history, 73; geography, 64; reading, 40; writing, 40. Total, 510.

Isaac Burnley, Petone, 14 years 2 months. — Arithmetic, 71 ; English, 105 ; science, 110; history, 59; geography, 60; reading, 38 ; writing, 45. Total, 488.

Fred Bead, Vogeltown, 11 years 1 month. — Arithmetic, 87 ; English. 84 ; science, 90 ; history, 74; geography, 43; reading, 50; writing, 15. Total, 443.

Hubert Sladden, Petone, 12 years 2 months . — Arithmetic, 69; English, 97; science, 75; history, 50; geography, 47; reading, 38 ; writing, 35. Total, 411

29th December 1893 PETONE PUBLIC SCHOOL. *~ MR. JACKSONS Baths will be open free to children attending the above school as under : —

Girls — Mondays and Thursdays, 3.30 to 4 30 p.m.

Boys— Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 3.30 to 4.30

Mr. Langley attends Saturdays, 1.30 to 3.30, for instruction in swimming.

C. W. JOHNSTON. Secretary

1894

1894	434	Pitone	Horne	James		Head Master	£345.00
1894	434	Pitone	Pringle	Graham		Assistant Master	£220.00
1894	434	Pitone	Jones	Ernest B		Assistant Master	£150.00
1894	434	Pitone	Chapple	Emma J		Assistant Female	£90.00
1894	434	Pitone	Olsen	Agnes		Assistant Female	£80.00
1894	434	Pitone	Kirk	George W		Male Pupil teacher	£60.00
1894	434	Pitone	Manning	Alice		Female Pupil Teacher	£50.00
1894	434	Pitone	Carter	Elsie		Female Pupil Teacher	£32.00
1894	434	Pitone	Player	Mary		Female Pupil Teacher	£32.00
1894	434	Pitone	Allender	Elizabeth		Female Pupil Teacher	£25.00

16th March 1894 The Petone School Committee having decided to give the scholars a picnic in lieu of the usual distribution of prizes, have selected Lowry Bay as the spot. A steamer has been engaged to take the party across and will leave the wharf about 10 a.m. on Wednesday next.

20th March 1894 . PETONE PUBLIC SCHOOL PICNIC. THE Boat will leave Gears Wharf for Lowry Bay at 11 am. TO-MORROW (Wednesday), weather permitting. Adults, One Shilling. C. W. JOHNSTON, Secretary.

23rd April 1894 Clyde-Quay School defeated Petone School by 11 points to 10. For the winner 3, Walker scored three tries (3 points each), and Page converted one

14th May 1894 Rugby The Terrace School defeated the Petone School by six points to love. Morris and Johnson scored.

31st May 1894 Wellington Education Board Messrs Ballinger Bros wrote offering the Board two sections adjoining the Petone school at £17 each. Consideration of the offer was deferred.

8th August 1894 Very strong comments were made at the last meeting of the Petone School Committee upon the action of the Education Board in ignoring the representations of the Committee as to the necessity of urgent repairs. During the year the householders had

contributed the sum of £60 for improvements to the grounds and buildings, and the neglect of the Board was very unfavourably compared with this effort. It was decided to again write the Board, asking that its carpenter should inspect and report on the requirements of the Committee.

21st September 1894 The examination of the Petone School will be commenced on Monday by the Board Inspectors

25th September 1894 There were 21 applicants for the position of first female assistant

28th September 1894 Wellington Education Board Recommendations by the Petone Committee for the promotion of Misses Chappie and Olsen, assistants at that school, were agreed to.

29th September 1894 Miss Levy, head mistress of the Petone State School, severed her connection with school yesterday afternoon, after Boven years' service, to take up an appointment at Mangaone, and was presented with a handsome marble clock and tea-service by her fellow - teachers and pupils. Mr. Home, headmaster, spoke in eulogistic terms of the many services Miss Levy had rendered during her residence in Petone, and the regret felt by both pupils and staff at her departure. Miss Levy, who was much affected at the parting, feelingly expressed her thanks The Roy. A Thomson, Chairman of Committee, said it is the intention of the Committee to present Miss Levy with an address, suitably engrossed and framed.

3rd October 1894 The Petone School Committee has decided to have the school disinfected every evening, On account of the occurrence of diphtheria in the town ; also, to have information's laid against the parents of truant children.

22nd October 1894 Petone. School defeated the Kilbirnie School by an innings and six runs. Mace of Petone, did the hat trick.

29th October 1894 Petone School was defeated by Te Aro School by 149 to 18. Thompson and Atkins were top scorers for Petone, and Jackson (70) and Hickey (52) for Te Aro.

23rd November 1894 Wellington Education Board Scholarships results included Country District ; four scholarships of .£ls each annual value.—George Rose, Vogeltown, 561; Emily Oliver, Vogeltown, 464 ; Esther Atkinson, Petone, 448; Llewellyn Manning, Petone, 437. The next in merit are —Thirza Caverhill, Hutt, 428; Cornelius Fraser, Petone, 416; Edith Mogenie, Hutt, 408; Leonard O'Connor, Shannon, 352; Walter Judd, Hutt, 318.

3rd December 1894 Thorndon school defeated the Petone school by 9 wickets and 3 runs.

14th December 1894 At the meeting of the Wellington Education Board on Wednesday letters were read from the Carterton and Petone School Committees suggesting that truant officers should be appointed. The Board decided to reply, that it was in the power of committees to lay information's against people who did not send their children to school.

14th December 1894 SS Wairarapa hit Great Barrier Island with much loss of life Petone School contributed £1 14s 7d to the collection

17th December 1894 The Petone School picnic at Lowry Bay on Saturday was Very successful. The steamer Duco ran several trips from the Gear Company's wharf to the Bay. The Petone Band was in attendance^, and the youngsters appeared to enjoy their outing, all concerned in the management being given hearty cheers on their return to the wharf.

1895

1895	478	Petone	Horne	James		Head Master	£45.00
1895	478	Petone	Pringle	Graham		Assistant Master	£20.00
1895	478	Petone	Jones	Ernest B		Assistant Master	£150.00
1895	478	Petone	Chapple	Emma J		Assistant Female	£90.00
1895	478	Petone	Manning	Alice		Assistant Female	£80.00
1895	478	Petone	Kirk	George W		Male Pupil teacher	£60.00
1895	478	Petone	Carter	Elsie		Female Pupil Teacher	£32.00
1895	478	Petone	Player	Mary		Female Pupil Teacher	£32.00
1895	478	Petone	Cooper	Harriet		Female Pupil Teacher	£25.50
1895	478	Petone	Allender	Elizabeth		Female Pupil Teacher	£25.00
1895	478	Petone	Collett	Mabel		Female Pupil Teacher	£20.00

12th February 1895 The number of pupils at the Petone School has increased very rapidly during the past few months, and the accommodation has become quite inadequate. The number on the roll is 579, and there is now a weekly average attendance of 461. Yesterday afternoon the Chairman of the Board (Mr. J. B. Blair) visited Petone in company with the Assistant Inspector (Mr. Fleming) and the Boards carpenter, for the purpose of ascertaining the best means of relieving the congestion, and it is probable that the present premises will be enlarged, or another school erected.

1st March 1895 With respect to the overcrowding of the Petone School the Chairman reported that he and Inspector Fleming had visited the school, and that he had satisfied himself that the representations of the committee were fully borne out. He concurred with the recommendation of the committee that the Board sell the surplus site with the building by auction, and five sections, on one of which there is a, room of no great value. It was expected, .that this property would realise about £300. He further recommended that an infant school be built on the present school ground, but apart from the main school, with the proceeds of the sale of the land, and that a section at the extreme southern boundary be purchased to give access to the school from that portion of the township. The report was adopted.

15th March 1895 In a long article on school libraries was this: Greytown : School heads the, list in the number of books, 638; followed by Te Aro, 500; Clyde quay, 480; Masterton, 450; Terrace, 380 ; Thorndon, 372; Fernridge, 350; Mount Cook Girls, 343; Petone, 316; and Mauriceville West, 307.

28th March 1895 Miss Mabel Collett appointed as a pupil Teacher at Petone

26th April 1895 PETONE. The now School Committee at Petone consists of the Rev A. Thomson (chairman), Messrs E. B. Home, R. Mothes, W. Parrant, T. Oxenham, J. Gaynor, J. Renai, W. J. Hagan. Mr C. W. Johnston is secretary and treasurer.

26th April 1895 The question of purchasing an adjoining section to the school at Petone was left in the hands of the chairman.

31st May 1895 Miss Olson, who has been a teacher at Petone school for the past eight years, leaves to-day. The committee are to present her with a letter expressing regret at her resignation

3rd June 1895 Miss Olson, who has resigned her position at the Petone School, and who is about to be married; has been presented by the Rev A. Thomson, on behalf of the committee, with a framed address, and by Mr Horne (head-teacher), on behalf; of the teaching staff and the scholars, with a handsome tea service and butter-cooler,

4th June 1895 From the Education Board we learn that the appointment of Miss Manning as assistant in the Petone School has been confirmed by the Petone School Committee. Alice Manning had been a pupil teacher since 1889 at Petone School

21st June 1895 The Education Board have completed arrangements for the sale by auction of those parts of the school sites at Petone and Otaki which they do not require. A strip of land adjoining the Petone, School has been purchased for the purpose of giving access to the back of the school.

3rd July 1895 The Petone school team has protested against Te Aro being adjudged the winner. of the championship, on the ground that the time was exceeded by seven minutes in the deciding match, and during the extension the winning score was made.

5th July 1895 THE SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP. At Newtown Park on Monday morning one of the toughest and most stubbornly contested games seen on the ground for* some time past was played between the Te Aro and Petone School representatives. The match was the final for Messrs Davis and Clatter's trophy, and the spirit and determination exhibited during the progress of the game showed that the honour at stake was highly prized.

The interest taken in the struggle was manifested by the attendance of spectators, youths of all ages to the number of several hundred being present, and the pitch of excitement to which those juveniles worked themselves must be a happy augury for the future of football in this centre. They yelled and screamed their encouragement and approval with a power and frequency

entirely disproportionate to their insignificant stature, and when shouting failed to relieve their feelings they found a safety valve in mud-slinging. Each team had its man of note, Te Aro boasting a juvenile Jumbo styled by admiring friends The Bumper, a youth of large frame and fierce mien, rendered still more fierce by an encounter early in the game with an opponent glorying in the title of The Banger. This second youth stood almost as high as six pennyworth of coppers and had earned his name by a habit of never tackling his opponents higher than the ankle, the result usually being that the person tackled came a Banger on his cranium. In the case of The Bumper, however, it was his nose that first struck mother earth, and the flow of gore that followed the concussion speaks with telling force for the solidity of the turf recently laid on the Park.

But this was only one of many desperate encounters. The Petone boys, who were by far the lighter team, in the first spell treated the spectators to back play such as is seldom equalled in junior matches here. At times they got on passing rushes that would have brought down the house even in a senior championship contest, and their kicking was surprisingly good. They had all the best of the play this spell, and a youngster named J. Wright secured a try, the kick at goal, however, being a failure. In the second spell the Te Aro boys livened up, and, keeping the play among their forwards, made use of their superior strength in this department, and ultimately gained the day. On one occasion Smith snatched up the ball about a yard from the line and scored, and on the second Geary scored after a short dash. The kicks at goal were unsuccessful. The Te Aro boys secured the victory by two tries to one.

Among the winners, Geary was far and away the best of the backs, Smith also playing fairly well. The forwards, who really won the game, were a strong lot of boys, Campbell, Tingey (2), Wright and Woodman being perhaps the pick. The Petone backs all played remarkably well. Sharpe at half did yeoman service, and Chivy, Cargill, McGowan, Carey and Naylor cannot be

overlooked, all playing splendidly. The last-named, a small, quiet-looking youth is, from an opponent's point of view, most annoyingly cool-headed. Nothing would fluster him, and he always got his kick. The forwards played pluckily, but their opponents were too good for them. The play of McWhirter, Carley and Fraser stood out prominently during the game. Mr Lewis had a difficult task as referee and acquitted himself remarkably well. A regrettable feature of the match was the very one-sided barrack of the spectators. The Petone boys could do nothing that was right, and on one or two occasions were hooted in a most cowardly and uncalled-for manner.

9th July 1895 The Chairman (Mr. J. R. Blair) and Architect (Mr. T. Turnbull) of the Education Board went out to Petone to-day to fix upon the position of the new Infant School, which is to be erected as soon as possible.

16th July 1895 TENDERS for the Erection of an Infant School at Petone will be received at the Education Board Office up to the 30th inst. Plans and specifications at my office. THOS. TURNBULL, Architect,

5th August 1895 Mr. W. J. Raven, of Petone, has presented a handsome double silver star, made by himself, for the best player in the Petone School football team. The trophy is on view at Messrs. Mills Bros

6th August 1895 Inspectors to visit Petone School on 16th: 17th and 18th September

15th August 1895 The disposal of Mr. W. J. Ravens trophy for the best all-round player in the Petone School football team, was decided yesterday by a ballot of the team, which resulted in favour of Master M Sharp.

3rd October 1895 Yesterday afternoon the chairman and secretary of the Education Board with the Boards architect paid a visit to Petone for the purpose of fixing on the site for the new infant school.

24th October 1895 Wellington Education Board AN Assistant Teacher is required for the Petone School. Salary, £80 per annum Applications, which must be made on printed forms, will be received at this office up to Monday, 28th instant. A. DORSET, Secretary.

30th October 1895 Miss Florence Tabor was appointed assistant at Petone. It was decided that Miss Banks, at present in charge of the Pencarrow School, should take Miss Tabors place at Newtown [At the end of 1895 Florence Tabor was still at Newtown as a Pupil Teacher and in 1896 was assistant teacher at Johnsonville].

12th November 1895 Education Board Scholarships COUNTRY CANDIDATES.

1. Francis Mason, Petone, 14 years 3 months. — English, 97 ; arithmetic, 128 ; science, 91; history, 80; geography, 62; reading, 32 ; writing, 40. Total, 530.

2. Amelia Prenderville, Makara, 13 years 4 months.— English, 119; arithmetic, 95; science, 60 ; history, 72 ; geography, 41 ; reading, 38 ; writing, 30. Total, 455. 3.

George Moore, Petone, 14 years 8 months.— English, 109 : arithmetic, 90 ; science , 83 ; history, 75 ; geography, 35 ; reading, nil ; writing, 45. Total, 437.

Next in order. — Charles List, Petone, 4% ; Alice Carr, Hutt, 410 ; Emma Renai, Petone, 405; Lizzie Honour, Tawa Flat, 383 ; Thos. Campbell, Karori, 381

11th December 1895 Wellington Education Board The Board approved of the Chairman's action in transferring Miss Slater to Petone and Miss Tabor to Johnsonville [Miss Jemima Slater came from Shannon School and was at Petone school until at least 1919]

27th December 1895 Miss Slater, who has been assistant teacher in the Shannon School for over two years, has received a similar appointment at the Petone School. While we are glad to see this young lady's talents as a teacher recognised by the Education Board, says the Farmer, we feel sure the children of the school where she has been labouring will sorrow at her departure. Gifted with rare tact as a teacher, ever ready to help her pupils at their duties, or join with them in their amusements, she has shed a genial influence that they will ever remember. Every parent will also regret Miss Slater's absence from the Shannon School. Before leaving Shannon, Miss Slater was presented with a Japanese cabinet and a tea set by the parents, and with an album by the teachers.

1896

1896	503	Petone	Horne	James		Head Master	£ 345.00
1896	503	Petone	Pringle	Graham		Assistant Master	£220.00
1896	503	Petone	Look	Edward J		Assistant Master	£ 150.00
1896	503	Petone	Chapple	Emma J		Assistant Female	£ 90.00
1896	503	Petone	Manning	Alice		Assistant Female	£ 80.00
1896	503	Petone	Slater	Jemima		Assistant Female	£ 60.00
1896	503	Petone	Kirk	George W		Male Pupil teacher	£60.00
1896	503	Petone	Burns	John A		Male Pupil teacher	£38.00
1896	503	Petone	Carter	Elsie		Female Pupil Teacher	£37.00
1896	503	Petone	Allender	Elizabeth		Female Pupil Teacher	£33.10
1896	503	Petone	Cooper	Harriet		Female Pupil Teacher	£30.10
1896	503	Petone	Collett	Mabel		Female Pupil Teacher	£22.10

21st January 1896 Position of Caretaker and Cleaner at the Petone State Schools. Applicants to state monthly salary required. Conditions to be seen at the office of Mr. E. Mothes Petone. All applications to be delivered; addressed to Secretary, Peel-street. Petone not later than 7 p.m. on Friday, 24th inst C W. JOHNSTON, Secretary.

30th January 1896 Wellington Education Board The Chairman, Dr Newman and Mr Fitzherbert were appointed to confer with the Petone Committee regarding the sanitary arrangements of that school.....Miss Player applied to be transferred from Petone, or that her fare to Wellington should be paid in order to allow her to attend the Saturday classes. The Board decided to pay her fare to Wellington. [By the end of 1896 Miss Player was not teaching for the Wellington Education Board In 1897 she was teaching at the Rintoul Street School in Wellington]

5th February 1896 The scholars and teachers of the Petone Public School, accompanied by some members of the Committee, are holding their annual picnic at Days Bay to-day.

6th February 1896 Wellington Education Board he Chairman, Dr Newman and Mr Fitzherbert were appointed to confer with the Petone Committee regarding the sanitary arrangements of that school

26th February 1896 Wellington Education Board Dr Newman, and Mr. Fitzherbert recommended the alteration of the arrangement of the outbuildings at the Petone School; that new shelter sheds be put up for both the boys and the girls, at a cost not exceeding £11 ; that an artesian well be sunk, at a probable cost of .£9 ; and that a sum of £25 be voted for the

purpose of obtaining blinding material for shifting sand in the school grounds. The report was adopted

28th April 1896 School Committee PETONE. The Rev A. Thomson presided over the meeting. The report stated that 640 names were on the roll and that 342 passed the various standards, the school being again successful in obtaining two scholarships, and 147 certificates for drawing. The balance-sheet showed the receipts to have been £120 19s 3d, and there was a credit balance of £3 0s 10d. The following were elected a Committee for the year :— Rev. A. Thomson, Messrs. Hill, Brown, Hagan, Renai, H. Thomson, Mothes, Oxenham, and Inglis. The Rev. A. Thomson was re-elected Chairman and Mr. C. J. Johnston Secretary. Votes of thanks were given to the retiring Committee and to the teaching staff

28th April 1896 In a long article on School Committee elections and candidates who supported religious instruction in schools was this piece: At the meeting of Petone householders for the purpose of electing a School Committee, the Rev. A. Thomson (chairman) stated that the outgoing Committee had been unanimous, in the desire to maintain the present system of education, and he considered it would not be unreasonable at the present time to obtain an expression of opinion as to the view of candidates for Committeeship on the question. Acting on the suggestion, after receipt of the nominations, the question Are you in favour of maintaining the present education system? was put to each of the candidates, and in every case it was answered in the affirmative.

18th May 1896 A concert was given at Petone last evening in aid of the school funds. Standing room only was obtainable. Items were contributed by Misses Bethune and Chappie, and Messrs. G. Kirk, T. M. Wilford, and E. B. Jones. The principal portion of the programme was filled by children, in the shape of pole drill by the girls, Swedish drill by boys, a dialogue, songs with chorus, recitations, and a Japanese fan song in costume by infants. The performance reflected credit upon the staff. Misa Carley played the accompaniments.

28th May 1896 Constable Cox has been appointed truant officer for Petone.

28th May 1896 Wellington Education Board Miss Cooper granted 1 month leave of absence

10th June 1896 Wellington Education Board Assistant Master, Petone School. Salary, £150.

There were 11 applicants for the position

18th June 1896 Mr E B Jones for some years second assistant in Petone School, has resigned that position to enter into partnership with Mr G. M. Yerex, the well-known cycle and typewriter agent.

4th July 1896 Mr. E. B. Jones, the second assistant of the Petone School, has decided to leave the schoolroom and enter the wider field of commerce. After being connected nine years with the Petone School, he now intends to join Mr. G. M. Yerex in business. Yesterday afternoon, in the presence of the school children, Mr. Jones was presented by Mr. J. Home, head master, on behalf of the school, with a gold albert and a silver paper-cutter. The Chairman of the School Committee, the Rev. A. Thomson, was present, and spoke in terms of high praise of Mr. Jones's teaching and other abilities. It is slated that the Committee will present Mr. Jones with an engrossed testimonial.

9th July 1896 The Petone School Committee has approved of the Education Boards selection of Mr E. J. Look (at present third assistant at Newtown school) as second assistant of the Petone school.

9th July 1896 When schoolboys voluntarily subscribe a nice little gift for a departing master, it is a sure sign of that teachers popularity. Such an instance has occurred at the Newtown School, when Mr. E. J. Look, who has had charge of the Sixth Standard, and has been promoted to be second assistant at the Petone School, was met by his class boys and presented with a black ebony walking stick, mounted with silver, and then an illuminated address. As a memento of the good feeling of the staff towards her husband, Mrs. Look was presented with a silver cake-basket.

22nd July 1896 The question of alleged excess in home work is receiving some attention at the hands of the Petone School Committee, and a sub-committee has been appointed to report on the matter.

30th July 1896 The Khandallah School Committee has written to the Board of Education asking it to take into consideration the disadvantages •which the country schools suffer from in having to compete against the Petone School, which is the third largest school in the Wellington District, and which the Committee thinks ought now to be classified with the city schools in the annual scholarship competitions. The letter goes on to say that reference to the results of the examinations for the past three years shows that out of the 38 schools entitled to compete for the scholarships allocated to the country schools, Petone secured one-half of the scholarships awarded, and no other country school obtained more than one during that period, thus leaving 32 schools which were unable to annex any of those scholarships. This, the Committee considers, shows clearly that Petone School, by reason of its large staff of teachers (thus allowing separate teachers for the upper standards) has so great an advantage over the smaller schools that it is almost hopeless for them to compete against it, and the children of the great majority of, the country settlers are practically handicapped out of the competition to obtain higher education. Further, the committee also thinks that the Board would create a greater interest in the competition for scholarships, so far as the country schools are concerned, if the latter were divided into two classes, as follows : — Class A, schools with an average attendance of 100 and upwards; Class B, schools with an average attendance below 100, say two scholarships being allotted to each division. On this basis eight schools, representing 1002 children, would come under Class A, and 29, representing 1262, under Class B. This appears to the Committee a very fair division, and by adopting the suggestion all the smaller schools would be thrown together (as also the larger), and the competitions would thus take place on more even terms. The Committee believes the Board will admit that the larger schools, with a staff of three or four teachers, have an advantage over the small ones with only one teacher for all the standards, and it thinks the fact that the latter, class of schools, numbering 29, have only captured two scholarships during the last four years is sufficient proof that the basis of distribution is not an equitable one. The Board has referred the letter to its Finance Committee and the Inspectors for a Report. -

15th August 1896 THE Concert advertised to take place in Petone on Wednesday next in aid of the School Funds, is not given in aid of the Petone School. C. W. JOHNSTON, Secretary School Committee

20th August 1892 At a meeting of the Petone School Committee held early in the week, a charge of undue punishment preferred by a resident against a teacher was considered, and it was decided to write a letter of caution to the teacher in question.

21st October 1896 The Secretary of the Petone School Committee has been instructed to write to the Education Board, asking for information as to what books are to be used in the school. A complaint from a resident of a pupil being punished for not having a book has been referred by the 1 Committee to the head master for enquiries. We are requested to explain, in order to remove a misapprehension, that no order for a change of books in the schools has been recently issued by the Board

24th October 1896 We are authorised by the head master of the Petone School to state that the only change in books in the school is the introduction of the Literary Reader instead of the one formerly used. This was authored by the Boards officials a year ago, and the books were ordered from England. None of the old Readers are now in Wellington, and the price of the new ones is the same

8th October 1896 The annual scholarship examinations for the Wellington district,) will take place on 1 Tuesday and Wednesday the 20th and 21st instant. The city and suburban, candidates Will be examined at the Education Boards building, and the Wairarapa candidates in the Masterton School. The following are the entries : — Thorndon School, 14 ; Te Aro, 16 ; Terrace, 16 ; Mount Cook Boys, 12 ; Mount Cook Girls, 10 ; Clyde-quay, 17 ; Newtown, 28 ; Masterton, 13 ; Petone, 8 ; Grey town, 5; Vogeltown, 4; Pahiatua, 3; Hutt, 3; Kaitara, Cross's Creek, Otaki, Kilbirnie, and Johnsonville, 2 each; Taueru, Mangatainoka, Hamua, Gladstone, Carterton, Dalefield, Upper Hutt, Taita, Judgeford, Khandallah, Karori, and Rintoul-street, 1 each

23rd October 1896 Many parents at Petone are very much exercised at an order which has been issued for a change of school books in that district. The order was not issued by the Board of Education, and the School Committee professes ignorance of the matter. One parent has had to pay no less than £1 4s for a set of new books for his children. The matter is to be investigated at the meeting of the Board on Wednesday next.

5th November 1896 Drawing Examination results included . Petone. Annie Armitage, Mary Brian, Frederick Box, Charles Couchman, Ernest Collett, Joseph Crofts, Charles Carberry, John Cairns, May Carter, Rosina Donovan, W. Donovan, W. Denby, Mary Finlay, E. S. Gibson, Haldane Griffiths, Herbert Heberley, F. F. Maynard, John Miller, Lily Morris, George Nelson, T. Oxenham, George Parrant, James Rogers, John Ryan, M. Ryan, Kate Silva, A. Simpson, John Simpson, H. Vogel, W. J. Wakelin.

5th November 1896 Wellington Education Board On the motion off. Mr. Young, it was decided to accede to a request from Petone for an additional special grant.

7th November 1896 The concert held at Petone last evening in connection with the State school was very successful, the Hall being full to the doors. A programme of 20 items was submitted, including songs by Misses Hollard and Birch, Messrs, Sims, Rowse, Haybittle, Young, and G. Kirk, and Master Wood, a recitation by Mr. Haybittle, Swedish drill and dialogues by the school boys, and pole drill and the Japanese fan dance by the girls.

12th November 1896 The troubles of a candidate for Parliamentary honours are many. Mr Wilford addressed a meeting of ladies at Kaiwarra on Friday afternoon, the 39 present forming themselves into a committee to secure his return. He then caught the train to the Lower Hutt, addressed a crowded meeting there, presided over by Mr J. Cudby, J.P., receiving a unanimous vote of thanks and confidence on the motion of Messrs Collett and Welsh. Proceeding afterwards to the school children's concert at Petone, he sang, and was encored.

18th November 1896 Educational Scholarships Country Candidates. — Emma Renai, Petone, 464; Stanley Brown, Vogeltown, 454 ; Amy Clark, Otaki, 415 ; May Atkinson, Petone, 391; Frank Carter, Petone, 390; Herbert Freeman, Otaki, 379; Bertha Price, Kilbirnie, 355. The first three will probably get scholarships of £15 each, and an additional £15 to Amy Clark, as board allowance, as it will necessitate her living in town.

9th December 1896 Amongst those to whom the Board of Education recently awarded a country scholarship was Stanley Brown, a pupil of the Vogeltown School. Since then it has been ascertained that Master Brown is a, resident of the city, and is consequently not qualified to accept the country scholarship, and the , Board has accordingly decided to award it to May Atkinson, of Petone, the candidate next in order of merit. She received 391 marks, while the number Obtained by Master Brown was 454. At the meeting of the Board this morning Mr. W. Bradey said he considered it unfair that the Petone School should be classed as a country school for scholarship purposes. The Chairman agreed with that view and explained that it was proposed to amend the regulations next month so as to place the Masterton and Petone schools in the list of town schools.

10th December 1896 The primary drawing scholarship examinations for the 50 scholarships available were held at the Technical school yesterday. There were 229 candidates from the following schools :—Petone, 14 ; Khandallah, 1; Wadestown, 3 : Cross Creek, 1; Thorndon, 19 ; , Newtown, 27; Rintoul street, 8; Terrace, , 34 ; Mount Cook Boys, 27 ; Taita, 2; Te Aro, 50 ; Kilbirnie. 7 ; Mount Cook Girls, 29, and Clyde quay, 27.

1897

1897	564	Petone	Horne	James	D1	Head Master	£345.00
1897	564	Petone	Pringle	Graham S	D1	Assistant Master	£220.00
1897	564	Petone	Look	Edward J	D4	Assistant Master	£150.00
1897	564	Petone	Chapple	Emma J	D2	Assistant Female	£90.00
1897	564	Petone	Slater	Jemima	D2	Assistant Female	£80.00
1897	564	Petone	Ryder	Alice E		Assistant Female	£ 80.00
1897	564	Petone	Manning	Alice M	E3	Assistant Female	£80.00
1897	564	Petone	Carter	Elsie		Female Pupil Teacher	£ 42.00
1897	564	Petone	Cooper	Harriet A		Female Pupil Teacher	£42.00
1897	564	Petone	Burns	John C		Male Pupil teacher	£38.00
1897	564	Petone	Collett	Mabel E J		Female Pupil Teacher	£32.00
1897	564	Petone	McKibbon	John		Male Pupil teacher	£25.00
1897	564	Petone	Atkinson	Esther		Female Pupil Teacher	£20.00

28th January 1897 PETONE STATE SCHOOL. THE Annual Picnic will be held at Days Bay on SATURDAY, 30th Jan., 1897. Boats leave Gears Wharf — Children, a.m.. ; Visitors, 2 p.m. sharp. Hot water and milk provided. Return fare — Adults, Is. C. W. JOHNSTON, Secretary.
30th January 1897 The Petone School picnic, which was to have taken place to-day, has been postponed until Monday.

1st February 1897 Mr. G. W. Kirk, of the Petone School, has been appointed to the vacancy on the staff of the Terrace School

1st February 1897 The annual picnic of the Petone State School is being held at Days Bay today. The children and teachers, to the number of about 400, were taken from the Gear Company's wharf in the Duco.

24th February 1897 The Petone School Committee has decided to invite tenders for new gymnastic apparatus and for metalling a portion of the school ground, also that arrangements be made to hold the annual swimming contests on Saturday, 13th March.

25th February 1897 Wellington Education Board With regard to the Petone school, an application was received for the appointment of an assistant in place of Mr Kirk, transferred to the Terrace. Mr Lee could not recommend any addition to the teaching staff beyond the regulations. A male assistant instead of a female assistant might be appointed, but this possibly would be no gain. Consideration of the question was deferred till next meeting.

11th March 1897 A complete and well-bound edition of Shakespeare's work, in six volumes, together with Plutarch's Lives, in two volumes, was presented to Mr. J. W. Kirk on his leaving the Petone school to join the staff of the Terrace School. The presentation was made by Mr. Horne, head master, on behalf of the teachers and scholars

31st March 1897 Wellington Education Board The appointment of Miss Atkinson to the Petone School staff was approved under the circumstances, but it was pointed out that the Committee had no power or authority to place Miss Atkinson on the school staff without the express sanction of the Board.

1st April 1897 Wellington Education Board The chairman was asked to make arrangements regarding the payment and appointment of Miss Atkinson at the Petone School.

1st April 1897 Wellington Education Board Accommodation article included The new infants school at Petone has relieved the pressure at the main school, but the question of a more adequate and suitable school for the Hutt is one calling for an early settlement.

27th April 1897 There is a report in the NZ Times headed Petone School and the new School Committee but it was actually about the Hutt School Committee with Mr Barry as Head master\29th April 1897 Pupil Teacher Elizabeth Allender resigns

19th May 1897 The Rev. A. Thomson, late Chairman of the **Petone School** Committee, while a strong opponent of any alteration in the present system of education and especially the introduction of religious instruction into the schools, still holds the opinion that the children should not be brought up without such instruction. With that in view he has established a service for children on Friday afternoons at 3.15. For economic reasons these services are at present held in the vestry of the Presbyterian Church, but are absolutely undenominational

26th May 1897 Wellington Education Board New Scholarship awards Three scholarships of the annual value of £30, open to all children attending schools beyond the boundaries of the city of Wellington, where the average, for the quarter preceding the date of the examination, shall exceed 200 — six schools, viz., Masterton, Hutt, Petone, Greytown, Carterton, Pahiatua

3rd June 1897 The Petone Committee wrote asking that the playground be refenced. It was decided that the work should be gone on with as soon as the section-holders surrounding had contributed their share of the expense.

3rd June 1897 [See 26th May Report] List B of schools referred to therein : —Masterton, 490; Hutt, 225; Petone, 515; Greytown, 203; Carterton, 259; Pahiatua, 249.

12th August 1897 Football [Rugby] news included It, has been decided to include the Petone school with the Wairarapa schools in their annual representative football match with Wellington this season

School.	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drn.	for.	agt.	Pts.
Mount Cook	10	10	0	0	261	0	20
Petone ..	10	8	2	0	37	13	16
Rintoul street	10	4	4	2	94	65	10
Clyde quay ..	10	3	5	2	33	72	8
Newtown ..	7	3	4	0	43	77	6
Terrace ..	7	3	4	0	39	96	6
Te Aro ..	7	1	6	0	6	126	2
Thorndon* ..	7	0	7	0	0	66	0

28th October 1897 Wellington Education Board An offer of some land adjoining the Petone School was made by Mr R. C. Kirk, but it was declined owing to funds for its purchase not being available.

25th November 1897 Wellington Education Board Consideration of an application for the painting of the Petone School was deferred till next meeting.

9th December 1897 Wellington Education Board Miss Alice Rider resigned as Pupil Teacher

16th December 1897 At the Petone School yesterday afternoon the teachers and scholars bade good-bye to Miss Manning, who has resigned her position as a teacher, and presented to her a handsome gold cable bangle. Mr. Home, Head Teacher, made the presentation, and stated that Miss Manning had been connected with the Petone School since its inception, 15 years ago — at first as a scholar, and for eight years as a teacher. Her father was the first Chairman of School Committee in Petone, and for years exercised an influence for good on the School Committee. Mr. Mothes, Chairman of the School Committee, expressed the Committees regret at losing Miss Manning as a teacher, and testified to her excellent record. [Alice M Manning didn't marry until 1906 to a Mr Travers]

1898

1898	557	Petone	Horne	James	D1	Head Master	£345.00
1898	557	Petone	Pringle	Graham S	D1	Assistant Master	£220.00
1898	557	Petone	Look	Edward J	D3	Assistant Master	£150.00
1898	557	Petone	Mead	John J	D3	Assistant Master	£100.00
1898	557	Petone	Slater	Jemima	D2	Assistant Female	£90.00
1898	557	Petone	Chapple	Emma J	D2	Assistant Female	£90.00
1898	557	Petone	Burns	John C		Male Pupil teacher	£45.00
1898	557	Petone	Carter	Elsie	E3	Female Pupil Teacher	£42.00
1898	557	Petone	Cooper	Harriet A	E4	Female Pupil Teacher	£42.00
1898	557	Petone	McKinnon	Charles J		Male Pupil teacher	£38.00
1898	557	Petone	Collett	Mabel E J	E4	Female Pupil Teacher	£36.00
1898	557	Petone	Atkinson	Esther		Female Pupil Teacher	£25.00
1898	557	Petone	Mason	Francis		Male Pupil teacher	£25.00

1898	557	Petone	Carter	Ethel		Female Pupil Teacher	£20.00
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26th January 1898 The Petone school children are to have a picnic at Days Bay on the 26th February.

31st January 1898 At a special meeting of the Petone School Committee on Saturday afternoon the appointment of Mr Mead, of Clyde quay school, as third assistant of the Petone .School was confirmed.

2nd February 1898 Phenomenal Storm article included The dust was so thick in one of the rooms of the Petone School that the children had to be removed pro tem.

3rd February 1898 Mr Graham Pringle, one of the masters at the Petone State School, has been granted fix months leave of absence for the purpose of enabling him to take a sea voyage for the benefit of his health, a medical man having recommended this course, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, pupil teacher, has also been permitted to suspend her work for a similar period. [Lilian Braithwaite was actually at Carterton School in 1897 and by December 1898 was at Greytown school]

26th February 1898 The Petone State School is fortunate in having fine weather for its annual picnic, which is being held at Days Bay to-day

4th March 1898 There's hardly a child attending school in the borough, of Petone who cannot swim, thanks to the efforts of the school teachers, assisted by the municipal authorities, said Mr. Kirk at his Choral Hall meeting last night.

26th April 1898 At the Petone meeting of householders, Mr Mothes in the chair, the following committee was elected: Messrs W. Hill, R. Mothes, G. Renal, W. Hagan. A. Silverwood, P. Carter, P. C. Emery and the Revs Russell and Thompson. A vote of thanks was passed to the out-going committee and the teaching staff. The new committee was recommended to take steps to appoint a deputation to wait on the Education Board to urge the claims of the Petone School in regard to more scholarships. At a meeting of the new committee the Rev Mr Thompson was chosen chairman and Mr C. W. Johnston secretary.

27th April 1897 PETONE. About 60 householders were present, Mr. B. Mothes presiding. The report stated that there were 710 [Sic probably supposed to be 510] scholars on the roll. At the last examination the Inspector favourably commented upon the results shown, and commended the work done in the infant school. The Committee, in its report, stated that it had tried to enforce the provisions of the School Attendance Act, but its efforts were not seconded by the Education Board. Another matter for complaint was the allocation of scholarships — viz., £15 at Petone as compared with £30 at Masterton. The school buildings had not been painted for 12 years, and during the past seven years the Inspector had regularly pointed out the need of the work being done, and the past Committee had vainly endeavoured to get it carried out. In these and other matters the Committee expressed the opinion that the sooner the district was represented on the Board the better. The following were elected the Committee: — Rev. J. D. Russell, Rev. A. Thomson, Messrs. W. Still, R. Mothes, W. Hagan, J. Silverwood, T. Carter, J. Renai, and W. Emeny. The- Rev. A. Thomson was elected Chairman, and Mr. C. W. Johnston Secretary. _ Votes of thanks were given to the outgoing Committee and the teaching staff. It was decided to recommend the Committee to take steps to form a deputation to interview the Board upon the scholarships question and other matters.

27th April 1898 Wellington Education Board Mr. Edward Look made application for extra remuneration while acting as first assistant at Petone. Some discussion took place on this

subject, and eventually the request was refused. [This meant he wasn't paid any extra for his relieving work while Mr Pringle first Assistant had six months leave]

25th May 1898 Miss Elsie Carter has been appointed pupil teacher at the Petone School.[Elsie Carter had taught at Petone as a Pupil Teacher since 1892 and as the period for a pupil teacher was five years she was apparently allowed to stay on as a Pupil Teacher. By 1898 Elsie was an assistant Female teacher at Petone and stayed there until 1915 when the Petone West school was started and she was there until at least 1921]

27th July 1898 Wellington Education Board decided that it could not compel the teachers of the Petone School to live near the school

28th July 1898 Wellington Education Board A request from the Petone Committee that assistant teachers should reside near the school was answered by the following resolution That the Board is unable to see its way to interfere with teachers as long as they are doing their duty.

12th September 1898 There is, we are assured, no ground for the statement which has been published that the Petone School Committee is in financial straits. It is true that there is a sum of £17 at issue between the Committee and the Borough Council as to accumulated, sanitation service charges, which previous Councils have been asked to remit as being of a semi-public nature and have never seriously attempted to collect. These the Council now decides not to write-off, as requested, but we are informed that the Committee is quite able to meet its regular engagements.

15th September 1898 It would appear that the Petone School Committee is in a rather bad way financially The Town Clerk of the borough last week asked the Council for instructions with regard to the sanitary account owing by the committee (£17). It was stated that the committee are unable to meet their engagements on the capitation grant which they receive from the Education Board. They have had considerable trouble in effecting various necessary works in and around the school, which is said to be in a dilapidated condition and has not been painted for 14 years. After discussion, the Council decided to enforce payment of the amount owing.

29th September Wellington Education Board Decided to inquire as to the drainage required at the Petone School.

11th October 1898 Petone Borough Council: that as the Petone School Committee has omitted to comply with the Councils demand for settlement of a sanitary account, that action be taken to compel payment.

8th November 1898 At last night's meeting of the Petone School Committee it was decided to ask the police to investigate the matter of larrikins forcing the door of the Infant School and damaging kindergarten requisites ; also to furnish the Truant Officer with a list of absentees and ask him to take proceedings at once. The annual picnic will be held on 17th December

1st December 1898 Wellington Education Board The Chairman was asked to enquire as to the cost of drainage work at the Petone School,

1st December 1898 Wellington Education Board The Petone Committee wrote stating that the cost of necessary drainage would be £41 15s 2d. Left in the hands of the chairman. It was decided to refer to the committee a complaint from the Petone Borough Council that they had refused to pay a nightsoil [Nightsoil is emptying the bucket under each toilet and carting it off site] account, with a request for an explanation

19th Dec 1898 The scholars of the Petone State School to the number of nearly 800, accompanied by parents and friends, picnicked at Bays Bay on Saturday.

1899

1899	645	Petone	Horne	James	D1	Head Master	£345.00
1899	645	Petone	Pringle	Graham S	D1	Assistant Master	£220.00
1899	645	Petone	Look	Edward J	D2	Assistant Master	£150.00
1899	645	Petone	Slater	Jemima	D1	Assistant Female	£100.00
1899	645	Petone	Mead	John J	D2	Assistant Master	£100.00
1899	645	Petone	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D5	Assistant Female	£90.00
1899	645	Petone	Carter	Elsie	E3	Assistant Female	£80.00
1899	645	Petone	Wilkinson	D J	D4	Assistant Female	£80.00
1899	645	Petone	McKinnon	Charles J		Male Pupil teacher	£45.00
1899	645	Petone	Collett	Mabel E J	E3	Female Pupil Teacher	£42.00
1899	645	Petone	Cooper	Harriet A	D3	Female Pupil Teacher	£42.00
1899	645	Petone	Mason	Francis A		Male Pupil teacher	£38.00
1899	645	Petone	Atkinson	Esther		Female Pupil Teacher	£32.00
1899	645	Petone	Carter	Ethel		Female Pupil Teacher	£25.00
1899	645	Petone	Duncan	Stuart		Male Pupil teacher	£25.00
1899	645	Petone	Renai	Emma		Female Pupil Teacher	£20.00

62	66	153	131	153	219	265	320	323	365	391	353	434	478	503	564	557	645
1882	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	1899

Shows the growth of Petone School in 18 years of schooling

17th January 1899 The Education Board has accepted the following tenders for painting work: Mount Cook Girls School, E. G. Bathurst; Mount Cook Boys School, Watkins and Taylor; Mount Cook Infants School, D. Owens; Clyde quay School, Moore and Lodge; Kilbirnie School, Atkinson and Taylor; Kaiwarra School, A. W. Palmer; Petone School, G. H. Jackson.

13th February 1899 The long-standing dispute between the Petone School Committee and the local Borough Council as to charges for the sanitation service is to* be discussed with the Council by a deputation from the Committee this evening About £20 is claimed by the Council, and, as neither Committee nor Education Board acknowledged the claim, the service was discontinued last week, so that the Chairman of the Committee had to employ labour to keep the premises sweet. Should the Council prove inexorable, it is intended to call a public meeting to consider the situation.

21st February 1899 NB Boys and girls are swimming at the same sports

The annual swimming competitions of scholars attending the Petone State School were held at the local fresh water baths on Saturday afternoon, and were witnessed by a large number of residents. The results are as follow:— Girls under 11\$; distance, across the baths.— Florence Clemens, 1; Evelyn Heberley, 2 ; Ada Burrige, 3. Girls under 13, one length of baths.— Rose Tetley, 1 ; Isabel Thomson, 2; Minnie Sungren, 3. Girls over 13, two lengths of baths. — Maud Fisher, 1; Amy Pounceby, 2: Muriel Carley, 3. Long Dive for Girls— Maud Fisher, 1 ; Muriel Carley, 2; Amy Pounceby, 3. Duck Hunt. — Amy Pounceby, 1. Race for Boys, age 10.— Sam

Hanford, 1 ; T. Nuttall, 2; A. Scrimshaw, 3. Boys, age 11, one length of bath.— John Parrant, 1 ; Tasman Dawson, 2; Murray Johnston, 3. Boys, age 12, two lengths of bath.— W. Ballinger, 1; James Ryan, 2; Arthur Kelly, 3. Boys over 12, two lengths of bath.— Joseph Crofts, 1 ; George Eraser, 2 ; Harry Shardlow, 3, Diving for Plates.— Harry Shardlow, 1; Joseph Crofts, 2; Arthur Kelly, 3. Long Dive.— Joseph Crofts, 1; Harry Shardlow, 2. Neatest Header.— Arthur Kelly, 1 ; Harry Shardlow, 2. Duck Hunt. — George Eraser and Chas. Smith. Champion Swimmer of School, award given by head teacher; distance, three lengths of bath.— George Eraser, 1. Obstacle Race.— George Eraser, 1; Joseph Crofts, 2. Football Competition. — James Ryan, 1,

23rd February 1899 Wellington Education Board Letters of resignation from Miss Chappie, Petone, and Miss Killery, Bideford, were read and accepted.....Miss Slaters (assistant teacher. Petone) application for an increase of salary was granted [To bring her salary up to the recognised allowance].....Petone sanitary expenses. The Board declined to recognise any liability in this matter. PETONE DEPUTATION RE SCHOLARSHIPS,. - The consideration of this matter was postponed pending receipt, of legal advice.

11th March 1899 Petone Borough Council. that the Education Board having refused to accept liability in regard to the night-soil service at the Petone school, the committee he informed that the account must be paid.

20th March 1899 The following are applications received for vacancies under the Board of Education : — Pupil teachers for various schools, 41 ; head teacher at Brooklyn vice Miss Browne,, who is about to be married (salary £265), 27 ; assistant at Masterton, vice Mr. Darroch, transferred to Te Aro School (salary £150), 17; assistant at Petone (salary £80), 11; teacher for Mount Wolff School [Waione School near Pongaroa] (salary £90), 11 ; assistant at Karori, vice Miss Lockett, resigned (salary £90), 11 ; pupil teacher at Carterton, 9 ; ditto at Hastwell, 5 j ditto at Porirua, 4.

22nd March 1899 Miss, Chappie, who for the past seven years has been teacher at the Petone School, is on the point of leaving that position in order ,to enter the marriage state. Yesterday she entertained about 70 of her friends at the Masonic Hall, when one, and all joined in wishing her every -happiness. Miss Chappie has been intimately associated with the Presbyterian Church and in social matters generally during her residence at Petone, and those who have been associated with her are greatly pleased that her marriage will not necessitate her leaving the town. —

12th April 1899 Wellington Education Board Miss Carters promotion from pupil teacher to an assistantship at the Petone School, has also been approved.

25th April 1899 PETONE. About 40 householders were present, the Rev. A. Thomson presiding. The report stated the number of children on the roll was 738. The report showed that 146 first grade certificates were obtained in the drawing examinations. During the year two Board Scholarships and one of the Victoria- University College Scholarships were gained, making a total of 19 scholarships won during the past 10 years. Overtures had been made to the Education Board to start cookery classes under qualified teachers, but so far without result. The Committee expressed its appreciation of the manner in which the teaching staff had carried out its duties and trusted that parents would assist by sending their children regularly to school, the attendance having been far from satisfactory. The balance-sheet showed receipts £131 7s 1d, expenditure £123 8s, credit balance £7 19s 1d. Considerable discussion ensued over matters

contained in the report, which was ultimately adopted. Resolutions were passed to the effect that a public meeting of ratepayers be called to discuss the question of whether the Council should charge for sanitary services or not ; that the attention of the .board be called to the unsatisfactory manner in which the Truant Officer had carried out his duties in Petone, he having paid only one visit during the past year ; that representations be made to the Government as to the manifest weakness of the Act in the clauses relating to attendance, and requesting that it be so amended as to render attendance really compulsory ; that the attention of the Board be drawn to the desirability of a uniform set of books being used in the district. The following were elected a Committee : — Revs. Thomson and Russell, Messrs. Hill, Renai, Hagan, Mothes, E. B. Home, Hebden, and Emeny. Votes of thanks to the staff, retiring Committeemen, and the Chair, concluded the meeting

27th April 1899 Wellington Education Board Miss Carters promotion from pupil teacher to an assistantship at the Petone School, has also been approved.

27th April 1899 Wellington Education Board Miss Emma Reinard was appointed a pupil teacher at Petone. [Actually Emma Renai]

1st June 1899 Wellington Education Board Complaint from Petone that the Truant Officer had not satisfactorily attended to his duty was mentioned at yesterday's meeting of the Education Board. The Chairman said the officer would be given an opportunity of replying when he returned from the country. The speaker, however, was satisfied that Mr. Varnham had been out there, and had tried to carry out his duties to the best of his ability, and he must use some discretion. Two other matters from Petone also came before yesterday's meeting. One was a request that cookery classes should be established there. This question, the Chairman said, was under consideration, and the request would be acceded to if it were found possible. The Petone Committee further asked that a uniform series of school books should be adopted. That, the Chairman said, was almost impossible. But two new sets of books were coming out, one locally printed and the other imported — and when ready would be placed before the Board.

8th June 1899 Wellington Education Board It was decided to intimate to the Petone Committee that the question of establishing cooking schools at that place was under consideration, and that the Truant Inspector would again visit the neighbourhood.

8th June 1899 At the Magistrates Court, Lower Hutt, yesterday, before Messrs W. R. Haselden, S.M., and J. Wilkin, J.P., four small boys were charged with throwing stones in Udy street, Petone. It appeared from the evidence of other boys that after a football match fought out in a paddock near Udy street, there was some mud-throwing by youngsters who had been playing on opposite sides. Two boys said they were hit by stones whilst this throwing was going on in the paddock. The youthful defendants were dismissed, with a caution not to misbehave in this way again. [I don't know which school the boys went to]

26th June 1899 Football [Rugby not soccer] In the public schools competition on Saturday, Petone beat Thorndon by 6 points to nil ; Clyde-quay beat To Aro by 26 points to nil ; Mount Cook beat Newtown by 3 points to nil ; Rintoul-street beat Terrace by 19 points to nil.

30th June 1899 Wellington Education Board Tenders are invited for painting the inside of (ho Petone School.

20th July 1899 Arbor Day A large number of trees were planted in the grounds of the State School, Petone, yesterday by Mr Horne (headmaster) and some of the teachers and pupils. It is to be hoped that protection will be provided for the trees during their earlier years.

15th September 1899 At the Magistrates Court yesterday morning, Mr W. R. Haselden gave his decision in the case in which, the Petone Borough Council claimed £22 10s from the Petone School Committee for the removal of nightsoil, which was an action stated for decision on tile questions of law involved therein. Having expressed the opinion that neither plaintiffs nor defendants were properly described, the Magistrate went on to say that a judgment against the Petone School Committee would be incapable of being enforced, as it had no property and no funds. It had only the moneys entrusted to it by the Education Board for certain specified purposes. No debt was ever created from the Board to the committee, so that no moneys could be attached. He did not think he could decide whether a committee succeeded to the liability of its predecessor. It was unnecessary to decide the question in this case, and on the other findings he thought it would be impossible to do so. As to the question whether the defendants, if they could be sued as The Petone School Committee, were liable for the cost of removing nightsoil when the service was performed by the municipal Corporation under the powers given them in the Municipal Corporation Acts, he thought the right to recover such costs from householders was in lieu of a rate to be specially made for the purpose, and the school land and buildings were exempt from borough rates, but were not therefore exempt from being charged for the cost of removing nightsoil. He did not think the committee was a householder in respect to the school property, as it was neither owner, tenant, nor occupier. If there was a dwelling house which was exempt from rates, but occupied by a person, such for instance as a schoolmasters residence, then he thought such occupier would be liable to pay the cost of the removal of night soil when such service was performed by the Municipal Corporation under the powers above mentioned, but that was not that case. Judgment was therefore given for defendants with costs, as agreed by the terms of the case, with £3 3s Court fees.

12th October 1899 Pahiatua, Petone, Carterton and Masterton were the 4 schools in the B grade scholarship examination

30th November 1899 Wellington Education Board. A long discussion took place as to the appointment of a pupil teacher for the Petone School. Some confusion prevailed as to which candidate had been appointed at a previous meeting. No conclusion was arrived at in consequence of the absence of a member of the Board.

30th November 1899 Wellington Education Board deputation from the Petone School Committee was heard as to the appointment of an assistant teacher, to that school. The Boards Inspector gave his opinion as strongly in favour of a candidate nominated by the Board, whom he considered a stronger teacher than the one nominated by the Committee. There was considerable discussion on the subject, and the Board ultimately decided to adhere to its previous decision. Further consideration was promised a complaint by the same deputation as to changing and transferring pupil teachers from Petone to Wellington, and vice versa. Some misunderstanding had arisen as to which candidate had been appointed at the previous meeting to a pupil teachership at the Petone School, and after some discussion, no further action was taken because of the absence of Mr. Hogg, who had proposed one of the candidates. The matter will come up again.

13th December 1899 The annual concert of the Petone School will be held in the Oddfellows Hall, Petone, on Friday evening. A varied and attractive programme has been prepared for the occasion, and the entertainment merits patronage

14th December 1889 Miss Horne was appointed as a pupil teacher

16th December 1899 A concert arranged by the teaching staff of the Petone School was given last evening in the local Oddfellows Hall, which was crowded to excess. Items were given by the Petone Band, Misses Fraser, Murphy, and Hartley, Messrs. J. Burns, and McKinnon. The bulk of the programme consisted of items given by the scholars, which reflected credit upon their teachers. The proceeds were in aid of the fund to purchase a piano for the infant school

16th December 1899 There was a capital attendance at the Petone School concert held in the Oddfellows Hall, Petone, last night. . A programme consisting of tableaux, dialogues, songs, etc., was presented and showed a considerable amount of ability and energy on the part of the teachers and pupils. Songs were contributed by Misses Fraser and Murphy and Messrs Burns and McKinnon. An exceedingly amusing minstrel performance was given by the boys. About £20 was received during the evening. This sum will be devoted to providing a piano for the school.

22nd December 1899 Scholarship CLASS B. H. O'Leary, Masterton, 544; H. Ayson, Masterton, 534 ; Louise Smith, Masterton,. 474 ; G. Castle, Petone 467 ; W. Bennett, Carterton, 450 ; H. Jackson, Masterton, 449; R. Griffiths, Petone, 393 ; Olive Iorns, Masterton, 365 ; A. Cairns, Petone, 329 ; W. Reeve, Pahiatua, 279 Three scholarships of the annual value of £35 are awarded in this class, and they all fall to the Masterton School

1900

1900	677	Petone	Horne	James	D1	Head Master	£345.00
1900	677	Petone	Pringle	Graham S	D1	Assistant Master	£ 220.00
1900	677	Petone	Look	Edward J	D2	Assistant Master	£150.00
1900	677	Petone	Slater	Jemima	D1	Assistant Female	£100.00
1900	677	Petone	Mead	John J	D2	Assistant Master	£100.00
1900	677	Petone	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D3	Assistant Female	£90.00
1900	677	Petone	Carter	Elsie	E3	Assistant Female	£80.00
1900	677	Petone	Mason	Francis A		Male Pupil teacher	£45.00
1900	677	Petone	Collett	Mabel E J	E3	Female Pupil Teacher	£42.00
1900	677	Petone	Cooper	Harriet A	D3	Female Pupil Teacher	£42.00
1900	677	Petone	Renai	Ethel		Female Pupil Teacher	£36.00
1900	677	Petone	Carter	Ethel		Female Pupil Teacher	£32.00
1900	677	Petone	Duncan	Stuart		Male Pupil teacher	£25.00
1900	677	Petone	Pearce	Irene		Female Pupil Teacher	£20.00
1900	677	Petone	Horne	Jessie		Female Pupil Teacher	£20.00

4th January 1900 Scholarships Wellington Education Board Masterton School on the three scholarships G Castle Petone was 4th

2nd February 1900 The success of the Petone School concert held recently has secured to the school a fine piano, in the purchase of which the Dresden Piano Company met the School Committee in a liberal manner.

7th February 1900 Wellington Education Board Mr. McKinnon, now pupil teacher at Petone School, to go to Mangamaire School [South of Pahiatua].

5th April 1900 At the request of the Wellington Education Board, the Government last year issued on loan, 460 model rifles, which have been served out. as follows: —50 to each of the seven city schools, 40 to Petone, 30 to Fernridge and 20 each to Kilbirnie and Johnsonville.

24th April 1900 The annual meeting of the Householders of the Petone school district was held last night. The attendance was meagre, only fourteen persons being present. The balance-sheet showed a credit of £18 and the report recommended an addition being made to the main school to provide for the increased attendance. £10 had been spent on new books for the library, and on pictures suitable for the school walls. The following were elected a committee for the year:—Messrs G. Renai. A. Bailey, R. Mothes. E. V. Horne. M A Hedden, J. G. Castle, J Pettitt, Rev A. Thomson, Rev .J. D. Russell. The Rev A. Thomson was re-elected chairman, and Mr C. W . Johnston was re-elected secretary at the salary paid previously.

24th April 1900 Less than 20 householders were present at the meeting and the Rev. A. Thomson presided. The annual report showed that the years' work at the school had been very satisfactory, 87 per cent, of passes being recorded at the annual examinations. The balance-sheet showed £18 4s 6d cash in hand. The following were elected a Committee for the ensuing year: — Revs. Thomson and Russell, Messrs. Renai, Bailey, E. B. Home, Mothes, Hebden, Pettett, Sen., and Castle. At a meeting of the new Committee the Rev. A. Thomson was re-elected Chairman, and Mr. C. J. Johnston Secretary

8th May 1900 It is understood that J. Alec Horne, a son of the Head Master of the Petone School, has received a commission in the Imperial Army, and has been appointed to a cavalry regiment. Young Horne, who has many friends in this district, was formerly a sergeant in the Heretaunga Mounted Infantry, and went as a Corporal with No. 1 Company of the First New Zealand Contingent to South Africa.

23rd June 1900 A concert was given at the Skating Rink last night, in aid of funds to send a school football team to Christchurch. His Worship the Mayor (Mr J. G. W. Aitken) presided. There was a very large attendance. The programme consisted of an overture by Miss Sewell, Masters Sewell (2) and Coyle; drill, the Te Aro Cadets; choruses, Rintoul street school; fan dance, Miss Zilla Tabuteau; dumb-bell drill and club swinging, Clyde quay school; cornet solo, Master D. Coyle; Nigger minstrels, Petone school; Scotch reel, Miss Trask; hornpipe, Miss G. Foley; comic song, Master L. Ashbolt - clarinet solo, Master Sewell; recitation, Master Lambert; physical drill, Mount Cook Cadets; and a football tableau.

21st July 1900 At a concert held in the Petone Drillshed last evening, an excellent performance was given by the Petone School Minstrel Company. each item being well received, The proceeds will be devoted to the Peace Demonstration Fund

26th September 1900 Master W. Bennett, formerly of Petone, who at short notice left for South Africa as one of the grooms in charge of remounts sent to the contingents, has written home to say that as soon as his charge had been handed over to the authorities he enlisted in Kitchener's Horse, and went at once to the front. At the time of writing he was doing well. Young Bennett makes at least the sixth old boy of the Petone school who is now on actual service in the Transvaal.

1st November 1900 A request was received from the Petone Committee that in all future appointments of Petone teachers made by the Board, a stipulation of residence at Petone should

be made. It was pointed out that five teachers at the Petone school at present resided in Wellington. The request was acceded to

2nd November 1900 As the children, of the Petone State School were playing yesterday morning in the school playground, A little boy named Ramsden, a son of Mr. Ramsden, manager of the Petone Woollen Mill, fell, and sustained a fracture of the right arm. He was attended by Dr. Ross.

16th November 1900 Yesterday afternoon a boy named Burrige, son of Mr Harry Homage, of Petone Woollen Mills, fell from a tree with the result that both his thighs were fractured The little sufferer was immediately attended to by Dr Perry, who set the broken limbs.

29th November 1900 Wellington Education Board A deputation from the Petone School, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. Thomson and Russell, and Mr. R. Mothes, waited upon the , Board in connection with the appointment of a successor to Mr. Look, first assistant, who had been promoted to the Brooklyn School. The deputation, voicing the opinion of the Petone Committee, protested against the teacher the Board had appointed to the vacancy, and reviewed the qualifications, of the several candidates who had applied. The Committee advocated the appointment of another person rather than the one appointed. The Chairman and members of the Board combatted the views of the deputation and declared that the choice made was a wise one and was not against the best interests of the school. The appointment had been made in keeping with the Boards system of promotion, and in this case was well deserved. The Board promised to consider the matter at its next meeting.

8th December 1900 The question whether our State school-teachers should be allowed to undertake private coaching was introduced to the notice of the Wellington Education Board last week. From the remarks of the Rev. J. D. Thompson, who appeared before the Board as a member of a deputation from Petone, it appears that it is a common practice with teachers to take payment from parents for privately preparing pupils for different examinations. If that is so, the principle is absolutely indefensible. • « * Were it sanctioned it would open wide the door for all sorts of curious innovations. Just as well might the Solicitor-General, for instance, out of office hours receive clients and charge private fees for legal advice or conveyancing.

13th December 1900 In the working of the scholarship system under the present regulations, it is worthy of notice that in Class B the results of the last two years show that Masterton and Petone have greater advantages than other schools in this class. Last year only four schools presented candidates in this class, and again this year only four schools competed

13th December 1900 With regard to requests made by the Karori and Petone Committees, that the Board should alter its select-ions of masters for the schools in those suburbs, the Board decided to adhere to the appointments already made

18th December 1900 The committee of the Petone School announces a concert in aid of the School Piano Fund

21st December 1900 The children of the Petone School, assisted by several ladies and gentlemen, gave a very good entertainment in the Oddfellows Hall on Wednesday evening. The programme, which was a lengthy one, consisted of part songs, drills, dances and action songs by the children, which were all gone through with credit to both the children and teachers. The Petone Brass Band assisted, and played a selection, and Miss Cairns and Miss B. Price, and Messrs Adams and Zachariah each sang songs. The proceeds are to be devoted to the picnic fund of the school.

1901

1901	667	Petone	Horne	James	D1	Head Master	£320.00
1901	667	Petone	Pringle	Graham S	D1	Assistant Master	£220.00
1901	667	Petone	Lynskey	James H	C3	Assistant Master	£150.00
1901	667	Petone	Slater	Jemima	D1	Assistant Female	£130.00
1901	667	Petone	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D3	Assistant Female	£100.00
1901	667	Petone	Kean	Balfour	D3	Assistant Master	£100.00
1901	667	Petone	Carter	Elsie	E3	Assistant Female	£90.00
1901	667	Petone	Carter	Ethel		Female Pupil Teacher	£50.00
1901	667	Petone	Caverhill	Thirza M		Female Pupil Teacher	£50.00
1901	667	Petone	Renai	Emma		Female Pupil Teacher	£50.00
1901	667	Petone	Mason	Francis A		Male Pupil teacher	£50.00
1901	667	Petone	Duncan	Stuart		Male Pupil teacher	£32.00
1901	667	Petone	Horne	Jessie		Female Pupil Teacher	£30.00
1901	667	Petone	Pearce	Irene		Female Pupil Teacher	£30.00
1901	667	Petone	Griffiths	John H		Male Pupil teacher	£25.00
1901	667	Petone	Williamson	Amy		Female Pupil Teacher	£20.00

28th February St. Augustine's Church, Petone, was crowded on the 19th inst., the occasion being the marriage of Mr J. C. Burns to Miss Nora C. Shove, of Petone. Mr Burns was a former teacher at the Petone School, but is now -on the staff of the Terrace School, Wellington

John C Burns had a long stint of teaching for the Wellington Education Board Starting at Petone as a pupil teacher and was there until 1898. Then 2 years at the Terrace School, 1 at Reikiorangi, 7 at Levin, 3 at Mt Cook Boys. By this time he had a BA. In 1914 to 1917 he was at Newtown School when he now had a MA In 1919 He was Headmaster at Karori and 1923 he was Headmaster of Petone West.

7th February 1901 Teachers salaries There were a lot of anomalies in the payment of teachers as the Wellington Education Board had at various times made ad hoc payments to selected teachers so that there was no scale of salaries

The First Column equals current salary. Second column indicates proposed increase

Petone —J. Horne, £295 ; £50 7s

Petone —G. Pringle, £220 ; £5 14s

Petone—J. J Mead, £100 ; £10

Petone —J. Slater, £100 ; £80

Petone —E. A. Stanton, £90; £79 4s

Petone —E. Carter, £80 ; £20

Petone —F. Mason, £45 : £5

Petone —E. Carter, £32 ; £8

Petone—E. Renai, £36; £14

Note £10 in 1901 is equivalent of \$1897.62 at December 2019

18th February 1901 Since the re-opening of the Petone State school, the committee has been much concerned at the unnotified absence of the third master ; enquiries, however, elicited the fact that the Education Board had transferred the missing teacher to a Masterton school. At last Fridays meeting of the committee, the Secretary was instructed to request the Board either to reinstate the teacher or appoint another without delay. [By the end of 1901 Edward Look was at Brooklyn School not at a Masterton School]

28th February 1901 Wellington Education Board granted a scholarship to Alfred Silverwood of Petone School

7th March 1901 Mr. Balfour Kean, of the Taueru School, has been promoted to be third* assistant master in the Petone School, to succeed Mr. Mead, who has been appointed headmaster of the Rangitumau School. Mr. Herbert Price, of Brooklyn School, has also been promoted to be third assistant master in the Clyde-quay School, taking the place of Mr. Lynskey, transferred to Petone

21st March 1901 Revised teacher salaries from the Education Board. Petone — (654), first assistant, £230 (£ 5) ; second assistant, £160 (£10) ; first female assistant, £155; second female teacher, £105 (£5) ; Two pupil teachers, £50 (£8 each) ; pupil teachers, £55, £47, £41, £37, £30, £30 (each an increase of £5).

2nd April 1901 Wellington Education Board Pupil Teacher wanted for Petone

12th April 1901 Miss Aldrich, at present assistant at the Upper Hutt School, will take charge at Kereru on the 1st May. Her place at Upper Hutt will be filled by Miss M. Cooper at present at the Petone School.

23rd April 1901 School Committee Elections: Petone.— The Rev. A. Thomson presided. The report stated that the school had been credited with a successful year. The balance to credit was £12 12s 8d. The following were elected as committeemen—Revs. Thomson and Russell, Messrs Mothes, Renai, Bailey, Watson, Pettett, Arcus, and Platt. The Rev. A. Thomson was re-elected Chairman, and Mr. C. W. Johnston Secretary

25th April 1901 The retiring Petone School. Committee recommended the new committee to institute a Petone School Scholarship, tenable for-two-years.

10th June 1901 About forty boys of the Petone School are expected to leave for Christchurch next week, to take- part as cadets in the review to be held in Hagley Park.

2nd May 1901 Miss Griffiths appointed Pupil Teacher Petone [I presume that is John H Griffiths]

29th August 1901 Education Board Mabel Callet [Actually Collett] resigns from Petone

1st October 1901 Miss M. Collins [Sic], of -the Petone School staff, was yesterday afternoon, on the eve of her marriage, presented with a silver teapot by the teachers and scholars. The Rev. A. Thomson, Chairman of the local committee, was spokesman for the donors, and congratulatory speeches were made by Mr. Home, the headmaster, and the Major of Petone

2nd October 1901 Miss M. Collett is the teacher of the Petone School who received a presentation on Monday afternoon on the eve of her marriage.

5th October 1901 Scholarship Examination B List (three scholarships of the annual value of £35, open to schools beyond the city boundaries with an attendance of over 200)— Pahiatua, 4 Carterton, 2; Masterton, 7; Petone, 8 ; Brooklyn, 5

24th October 1901 Marriage EVANS.—COLLETT—On October 23rd. at St. Augustine's Church, Petone, by the Rev J. Delacourt Russell, and the Rev Joshua Jones, William Grant Daville Evans to Mabel Elizabeth Jane Collett.

1st November 1901 Class B, for children attending schools beyond the boundaries of the city of an average attendance exceeding 200. Three scholarships. The following is the complete list : — Elsie Johnstone, Petone, 553; Rupert Sutton, Masterton, 480; Ethel Greenwood, Masterton, 475 ; Ivy Iorns, Masterton, 475; Leonard Daniel, Masterton, 464; Charles Andrews, Petone, 455 j Bertha Reeve, Pahiatua, 453 ; Florence Rose, Brooklyn, 450; Fred. Mothes, Petone, 421; Sylvia Wakeman, Pahiatua, 396 ; Charles Fairbrother, Carterton, 307

7th December 1901 The annual concert by scholars of the Petone School was given last evening, and again proved the need of a larger public hall than that now available, which was full before the performance started, while numbers of residents were unable to obtain admission. The programme consisted of action songs, recitations, scarf drill, Dumbbells, and tableaux by the scholars; and other items were contributed by the Petone Band, Mesdames Cooper, Young, and Burns, Miss Fraser, Mrs. Adams, Messrs. Adams and Babington

7th December 1901 In another column it is announced that in consequence of the crush the performance will be repeated next Monday evening.

17th December 1901 The annual picnic in connection with the Petone school took place at Days Bay on Saturday. There were about twelve hundred children and parents present.

1902

1902	682	Petone	Horne	James	D1	Head Master	£348.14
1902	682	Petone	Pringle	Graham S	D1	Assistant Master	£240.00
1902	682	Petone	Slater	Jemima	D1	Assistant Female	£175.00
1902	682	Petone	Lynskey	James H	C2	Assistant Master	£150.00
1902	682	Petone	Kean	Balfour	D3	Assistant Master	£130.00
1902	682	Petone	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D2	Assistant Female	£115.00
1902	682	Petone	Carter	Elsie	E3	Assistant Female	£110.00
1902	682	Petone	Duncan	Stuart		Assistant Master	£81.00
1902	682	Petone	Holm	May E		Assistant Female	£80.00
1902	682	Petone	Caverhill	Thirza M		Assistant Female	£80.00
1902	682	Petone	Carter	Ethel K		Female Pupil Teacher	£40.00
1902	682	Petone	Pearce	Irene		Female Pupil Teacher	£40.00
1902	682	Petone	Horne	Jessie M		Female Pupil Teacher	£40.00
1902	682	Petone	Williamson	Amy		Female Pupil Teacher	£40.00
1902	682	Petone	Griffiths	John H		Male Pupil teacher	£30.00
1902	682	Petone	Thomson	Isabel		Female Pupil Teacher	£20.00

15th January 1902 The Education Board having neglected to connect the Petone school buildings with the local drainage system, the Petone Borough Council has decided to write to the former body pointing out that the school holidays are going by without anything being done, and threatening proceedings.

29th January 1902 Wellington Education Board An application was received from W. H. Chapman, a scholarship holder from Petone, for leave to attend the District High School at Palmerston, where he now lives. The Board decided that it had no power to grant the request.

30th January 1902 Teacher salary adjustments Wellington Education Board Petone, Jemima Slater, present salary £100, colonial salary £175; Graham Pringle, £220—£240; Balfour Kean, £100—£130 ; Elizabeth Stanton, £90—£115; Elsie Carter, £80—£110; Appointments to be made *£80; £85

8th February 1902 Free Lance That there was great rejoicing in the ranks of the female school-teachers when the colonial scale of salaries was published last week.

27th February 1902 The members of the Education Board will visit Petone and Lower Hutt on Wednesday. It was yesterday reported to the Board by Mr T. R. Fleming, Inspector, that additional accommodation for at least 200 children was required at Petone. The object of the visit to Lower Hutt will be to inspect the school, which is very old, and also to see how certain land belonging to the Board will be affected by some proposed roadworks.

28th February 1902 Our country readers are reminded that school swimming sports, open to all scholars attending public schools in the Wellington, district, will be held tomorrow afternoon at Petone under the management of the local school committee. A programme of eleven events has been arranged, for which suitable prizes are offered.

1st March 1902 In consequence of the effect of the southerly wind on the sea, the Petone School Committee decided this morning to postpone the school swimming sports till next Saturday

10th March 1902 Afternoon off the Petone beach, under the auspices of the local School Committee who, however, with the exception of the chairman, gave no assistance in carrying out the programme. The Rev. A. Thomson (Chairman) and Mr. J. Home (headmaster) acted as judges; and Mr. Lynskey, of the teaching staff, was starter, assisted by Mr. Duncan. The races for boys were entered into with great spirit, and some fine exhibitions were given, but the girls swimming showed a lamentable falling off from the excellence displayed in former years, a result clearly due to the loss of the local fresh-water bath, the use of which was at one time open to scholars. The prize fund was derived from a grant of £4 5s from the Education Board, -which was supplemented by the sum. of £2 from the School Committee. The following were the results : — Boys Races. —Championship —Christophus (Petone), 1; Rutley (Hutt), 2. 13 years and under —Broad (Hutt), 1 ; Ledbrook (Hutt), 2. 12 years and under—Bentley (Petone), 1; Hickson (Hutt), 2. 10 years and under—Harold ! Hickson (Hutt), 1; Martin (Hutt), 2. Neatest Dive —Dalgleish (Petone), 1; Ashcroft (Petone), 2. Diving for plates —Rutley (Hutt), 1; Christophus (Petone) 2. Consolation Race —Ryan, 1; Angus, 2. Boys just left school —Ryan (Petone), 1; Kelly (Petone), 2. Old Boys Griffiths, 1; Fraser, 2. Girls Race Julia Trainer (Petone), 1; Ivy Scrimshaw (Petone), 2.

27th March 1902 Wellington Education Board The Chairman remarked that if the Petone School could be added to and altered so as to make it available for a year or two longer, the Horowhenua School might be gone on with if funds permitted.

It was decided to call tenders also for a new school at Horowhenua and additions to the Petone School.

29th April 1902 School Committee About 35 householders met in the school, the Rev. A. Thomson, Chairman of the committee, presiding. The report stated that 882 scholars were on the roll, an increase of 56 for the year. The Inspector had reported favourably on the result of the annual examinations. Two drawing scholarships and 125 certificates were obtained, and one Queens Scholarship and one Board Scholarship were won, the marks obtained in the latter being the highest for the Wellington district. The school was much crowded, and representations had been made to the Board on the matter. Through the efforts of the teaching-staff there only now remained a small debit balance on the piano. The balance-sheet showed receipts £165 17s 1d, and a credit balance of £22 9s 6d, with liabilities of about £4 10s. The report and balance-sheet were adopted. Votes of thanks were passed to the retiring committee and the teaching staff. The following were elected a committee for the ensuing year:— Revs Thomson and Russell, Messrs. Findlay, Adamson, Hope, Evans, Jenkins, Donaldson, and Platt. Mr. H. Findlay was elected Chairman, and Mr. C. J. Johnston re-elected Secretary

1st May 1902 Plans have been prepared for considerable additions to the Petone School and are designed to provide all the accommodation that is necessary. Tenders will be called for, said the Chairman of the Education Board yesterday, as soon as it is known where the money is to come from

4th June 1902 The Petone School Committee, which was entrusted with the carrying out of the children's portion of the Coronation Day proceedings, met last night, and decided on its programme. The children will assemble in the school grounds in the morning, salute the flag, and sing the National Anthem and patriotic songs. As they file out of the gates each child will

receive a bag containing nuts, cake, an orange, and lollies. The Government memento card will also be presented if it is available. The children will afterwards join in the procession. The committee decided to ask Mr. Q. Chapman, of the Hutt, to give a lantern entertainment in the evening at the Drillshed for children only.

10th June 1901 Rugby It is likely that a match will be arranged this season between Petone School and the Napier Main School, to take place during the Coronation holidays.

26th June 1902 About nine hundred children, including many who do not attend school, assembled at the Petone School this morning, and each was presented with a paper-bug containing cake, lollies and fruit. Every child belonging to the infant classes also received a medal struck by the railway employees at Petone to celebrate the attainment of peace. Later on the whole of the children were marched to the base of the school flagstaff. The Rev. A. Thomson gave a short address and offered up prayer for the recovery of the King. The children were then dismissed.

31st July 1902 Wellington Education Board A motion by the Chairman that the Masterton and Petone Schools be placed in Class A for scholarship examinations was deferred until next meeting.

14th August 1902 The banner which Messrs. Davis and Clater presented for competition by the public schools of the Wellington district was presented to the Petone schoolboys, this season's champions, yesterday. The winners have a year's record to be proud of. They played seven matches, scored 256 points, and had only six recorded against them. The banner was won in 1898 by Mount Cook, in 1899 by South Wellington, in 1900 by Clyde-quay, and in 1901 by South Wellington. Kelly, the Petone School captain, was presented with a medal as the best all-round player, Olsen and Ashcroft were given caps as the best forwards, and Green as the most improved player was also given a cap. A presentation was afterwards made by the boys to Mr. Lynskey, coach of the team.

14th August 1902 Mr Davis, of Davis and Clater, who presented the banner for competition by the city and suburban football teams, visited the Petone School yesterday, and presented the banner to the school team. Several of the boys were presented with caps, and Kelly, the captain of the team, was presented with a medal, he being the host all round player. The boys handed Mr Lynskey a silver-mounted umbrella in appreciation of his services as coach. Speeches were made by the Mayor (Mr Mothes), the Rev A. Thompson and Mr H. Findlay (chairman of the School Committee). Hearty cheers were given for Mr Davis.

28th August 1902 It was reported to the Education Board yesterday that the following applications for cadet corps or detachments had been forwarded to Major Loveday, Commanding Officer of the Public Schools Cadets: — Mount Cook Boys, No. 1 Company, 48 all ranks ; No. 2 Company, 57 ; Te Aro, 53; Terrace, 58; Clyde-quay, 72; Thorndon, 68; Newtown, 48; South Wellington, 64; . 52; Carterton, 60..... ;.....

25th September 1902 THE PETONE SCHOOL.

EDUCATION BOARD IN RKPLV

Dr Valentines report on the sanitary condition of the Petone School (already published) was read at a meeting of the Education Board yesterday, and reference was also made to the charges of neglect which had been levied against the members of the Education Board in that connection. Mr F. Bradey (acting-chairman) pointed out that though position had not been fairly stated. It had been said that the Board had done nothing towards putting the playground in a proper state

of repair. As a matter of fact a grant of 10 pound had been made mouths ago lo the committee; to bring the surface up to the common level, but the committee had neglected to make use of the mo.my, and in the meantime the adjoining owners had filled up their sections, thus preventing the surface water from finding exit. As regards overcrowding, plans had boon drawn for months and tenders had been called for additions to the Petone School, but the Board had been unable to obtain a grant for the purpose. The chairman (Mr Blair) had gone out at the beginning of the year, and after inspecting the existing accommodation, had authorised the schoolmaster to make provision elsewhere for some of the children until the school was enlarged, but no advantage had been taken of that. Mr Loo: Docs tills expenditure give an enlargement of the school as well as re-construction?

Mr Fleming (Chief Inspector): It gives two more class-rooms and an increase in size of some of the classrooms already there.

Mr Lee: Do you think that when the additions are complete the school will comply with the regulations in regard to air-space ? Air Fleming: It would comply with the air-space requirements of the school according to the attendance at the beginning of the year, but the numbers are increasing, and coming in very fast. Air Leo: Don't you think we had better reconsider its plans before allowing the proposed building to be erected, so that provision can be made for future, as well as present, requirements?

The Chairman: It seems as though we shall have to consider whether we shall not have to build a new school altogether. What is the provision as to air-space? Mr Fleming said provision had been made for ten square feet, or two feet more than the departmental requirements. Now the department had no regulation but referred them to the Health Departments regulation of 12 square feet. Mr Leo: If wo cannot afford to reconstruct the school and also give increased accommodation, we had better give the additional accommodation without reconstruction.

Mr Fleming said the architects instructions had been to provide a maximum of accommodation at a minimum of expense. Mr Hogg thought it would be a good idea, to ask the architect to furnish the Board with alternative plans and estimates of a now school in wood and brick for consideration at next mootung. After further discussion is was decided that the Board should inspect the school on the Tuesday prior to the next Board meeting.

29th September 1902 Petone School TO THK EDITOR. Sir,— In justice to the Petone School Committee, after what has appeared in the pie-s as emanating from the Wellington Education Board re the admitted grievous condition of that school, will you publish this letter in. our defence?

Mr. £. Hendry (Acting- Chairman), at their last meeting,, evidently treating the subject knowing but little about it, pointed out that a grant of £40 was made us some months ago ; that we neglected our chances ; landlords filling in their land around causing pools to appear on the playgrounds. The facts are as follows: Aa a result of two deputations waiting upon the Board the sum of £40 was granted when we pointed out that after ram water lay from 6 inches to 1 foot over by far the largest part of the around* as a consequence of landowners filling in months before, and partly by a natural depression of the grounds, in desperation, we accepted, this money, knowing« that it was perfectly inadequate; the Board stipulating that any balance required would be raised locally by means of concerts. A tender was accepted from estimates and levels given by their nominee. The work is now in hand, and w* unfortunate committee have yet to find the balance required to settle the contract—a balance that we should never

have been saddled with. At our request the Health Officer came and afterwards condemned the school as being insanitary. The Board now pretends that it has done its duty nobly by shelving the question and blaming an unfortunate committee without adequate funds. I ask you, sir, after words like the following used by the Health Officer, such as poor unfortunate infants and little short of scandalous, what will be the position of someone should an epidemic break out through, overcrowding and neglect of a school with 890 scholars and what term could be used?

Trusting that you will oblige, — I am, etc., HENRY FINDLAY, Chairman Committee, Petone
13th October 1902 AN OVERCROWDED SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS AT PETONE.

The District Health Officer (Dr. Valentine) has forwarded a report upon the sanitation of the Petone School to Mr. H. Findlay, Chairman of the School Committee. The report urges the immediate draining of surface water from the playground, the prevention of storm-water lodging in a hollows under the school, and the necessity of improving the drainage of the school lavatories. He states that the worst feature by far is the small amount of cubic space allowed each scholar. In the face of the present arrangements this scarcity of air-space is little short of scandalous. Certainly not less than 200 feet should be allowed when natural ventilation alone is relied upon, for the changing of the air of schoolrooms. Without making any deduction for the space taken up by furniture, etc., the following is the amount of cubic space per scholar: Main room, infants, 90 cubic feet; First Standard, 150; Second Standard, 99; Third and Fifth Standard, girls, 84; Sixth Standard, 194; Seventh Standard, 220; Third Standard boys, 129; Fourth Standard, boys, 135; Fifth Standard, boys, 164. The Third Standard boys room is a very bad one and has been condemned. It is very badly lighted. The averages of space have been taken on the daily attendance—not on the full roll of the school. Had the latter been taken the amount of air-space allowed unfortunate infants in the main room, instead of 99 (which the doctor says in all conscience is bad enough), would be only 68 feet. At a meeting of the School Committee held last evening, the Mayor (Mr. R. Mothes), Mr. H. Findlay (Chairman of Committee), Rev. A. Thomson, and Mr. Hope were appointed to wait upon the Minister for Education and urge the necessity of increased school accommodation being immediately provided. Mr. T. M. Wilford, M.H.R., is to be asked to arrange for and introduce the deputation.
4th November 1902 Class A Education Board Scholarships. Frederick Mothes from Petone topped the list with 616 Marks

5th November 1902 A special meeting of the Petone School Committee was held last evening to consider the appointment of a male and a female junior assistant. The Board had notified the appointment of Mr. Duncan and Miss Flux. The committee confirmed the appointment of Mr. Duncan, but for the other vacancy decided to recommend the appointment of Miss Young, the Rev. Thomson, who moved that the Board's appointment be confirmed, dissenting. Some discussion ensued respecting the Board's delay in commencing the much needed additions to the school buildings. The matter was held over until the next ordinary meeting of the committee.
28th November 1902 Wellington Education Board The secretary was authorised to call for tenders for work at Hutt, Petone, Brooklyn and Worsley Bay.....reported that Messrs Bradey, Feist, Keibell and Lee, together with Mr Bakewell, Inspector of Schools visited the district on Tuesday, 25th October..... having visited Petone, it was satisfied with the improvements being made to the grounds, and with the proposed alteration and extension of

the school building. It recommended that the addition to the school building be now proceeded with. The report was adopted.

29th November 1902 Wellington Education Board Mr Duncan and Miss Flux were appointed to the Petone School [Gladys Flux came from Newtown School and Stuart Duncan was a pupil teacher at Petone. By the end of 1903 he was sole teacher at Waione, North of Pongaroa]

17th December 1902 While Parliament was in session during October last, Mr T. M. Wilford, M.H.R., introduced a deputation to the Minister for Education, to point out that the Petone School was considerably handicapped through lack of accommodation. The fact that a misunderstanding as to the urgency for increased room in the school existed between the Petone school committee and the Education Board was also mentioned to the Minister by the deputation, and in consequence of the friendly mediation of the Minister a better understanding was later on arrived at between the two bodies. It is satisfactory to be able to now state that the Education Board has decided to spend £1300 on the betterment of the school accommodation at Petone.

1903

1903	680	Petone	Horne	James	D1	Head Master	£351.00
1903	680	Petone	Pringle	Graham S	D1	Assistant Master	£240.00
1903	680	Petone	Slater	Jemima	D1	Mistress	£175.00
1903	680	Petone	Lynskey	James H	C2	Assistant Master	£150.00
1903	680	Petone	Kean	Balfour	D2	Assistant Master	£130.00
1903	680	Petone	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D2	Assistant Female	£115.00
1903	680	Petone	Carter	Elsie	D2	Assistant Female	£110.00
1903	680	Petone	Ludecke	M A Mrs	E3	Assistant Female	£85.00
1903	680	Petone	Caverhill	Thirza M	C4	Assistant Female	£80.00
1903	680	Petone	Flux	Gladys M		Assistant Female	£80.00
1903	680	Petone	Horne	Jessie M		FP4	£50.00
1903	680	Petone	Pearce	Irene		FP4	£50.00
1903	680	Petone	Williamson	Amy C		FP4	£50.00
1903	680	Petone	Carter	Ethel K		FP3	£40.00
1903	680	Petone	Griffiths	John H		MP3	£40.00
1903	680	Petone	Thomson	Isabel		FP1	£20.00

21st January 1903 The Petone School will open on Monday at the gymnasium, Tory-street, the Infant School at the usual place.

28th February 1903 the meeting of the Petone School Committee last evening, a deputation was appointed to act with the local Borough Council in interviewing the Minister of Education in reference to the formation of technical classes in Petone. During the discussion the inconvenience of the railway time-table was mentioned. Under present arrangements students attending classes in Wellington are obliged to leave their ordinary work at 4 p.m. in order to catch the 5.20 p.m. train. This causes a wait of an hour and a quarter before the class rooms open, and there is a further wait of an hour, after class, before the 10.15 p.m. north train leaves. It was decided to hold the annual school picnic at Belmont on Saturday

2nd March 1903 Miss Flux has received the appointment at Petone

7th March 1903. Mr. J. L. Parrant wrote, offering a cup for a boys handicap race to be won twice in succession, or three times at intervals: The offer was accepted, with thanks.

9th March 1903 The annual picnic of scholars attending the Petone State school was held at Belmont on Saturday, about 900 children and 600 adults attending. The committees arrangements were excellent, and, assisted by the Petone Band, and splendid weather, the outing proved more successful than was anticipated.

13th March 1903 TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR PETONE.

Petone, being an artisan community, and being sufficiently removed from Wellington to make night attendance at the Wellington Technical School (with the present railway service) difficult, and inconvenient, wishes to have technical classes of its own. Petone has also a section of land, which was bought chiefly by means of voluntary subscription and public concerts with the original idea of building a boys institute combined with a place of technical education. This section is valued at £150 and is vested in trustees. Some representative men of Petone propose to devote the section to technical education purposes, and are now confronted with the question of how the cost of the necessary building is to be raised; out of which arises the subsidiary question whether the Government is in favour of the establishment of such an institution so close to Wellington, and, if so, how far the Government can, under the Act, financially, assist.....

18th March 1903 A deputation from Petone waited on Thursday on the Hon. W. C. Walker. Minister for Education, regarding the establishment of technical classes for that suburb. The Rev A. Thomson represented the trustees of a section in the borough, Mr J. Castle the Petone Borough Council, Mr H. Finlay the School Committee (of which he is chairman). Messrs R. C. Kirk and G. London were also present. The Rev Mr Thomson said the deputation wanted to know whether it was possible to have a technical school or a branch of one at Petone. Some years ago a movement was started there to establish an institute, and the trustees now had a section of land valued at £150 and about £10 in the bank. As the community was one of artisans, they thought it particularly necessary to have technical classes there. The Minister advised the deputation to call a meeting and discuss the subject, and see exactly what were their requirements, and he would send down the inspector, Mr Brown, to interview them. He had no objection whatever to the formation of classes so near the city. It depended on the mode of control of the classes whether the Government would pay for the buildings or not. In the case of the Board of Education taking it up, the Government would find all the money for the erection of the buildings and would exercise the right to be strictly careful as to what plans were approved. The deputation finally decided to do as the Minister suggested

1st April 1903 Wellington Education Board A deputation from Petone, headed by Mr R. C. Kirk, asked the Board to interest itself in starting technical instruction classes at Petone. _ A similar request, it had been pointed out, was made to the Minister of Education, who had given a sympathetic reply. It was pointed out by members that the Manual and Technical Instruction Act had placed the administration of such matters in the central department. The deputation urged that the Board did have power under the Act to do as the deputation wished it; to do, and eventually the Board promised to give the matter careful consideration.

8th June 1903. The Petone School Committee met on Saturday evening, and spent an extremely lively two hours in an endeavour to clear up the tangle into which it seems to have drifted. The position was fully discussed, some members speaking with much heat. After several vain

attempts the Rev. A. Thomson succeeded in pouring oil on the troubled waters, by moving that individual members of the committee should tender their resignations in writing. It was obvious, he said, that as at present constituted no good work could be done by the committee. The Rev. Russell then wrote the following form of resignation We the Undersigned members of the Petone School Committee hereby beg to tender our resignations as members of such committee in order that you may be able to call a meeting of householders to elect another committee. After further discussion the form of resignation was signed by the Revs. Russell and Thomson, Messrs. Findlay, Adamson, Hill, Jenkins, and Donaldson. Mr. Brocklebank (acting secretary) refused to resign, and Mr. Evans was not present. A motion that they now proceed to business brought out another protest as to the right of Mr. Donaldson occupy the chair. This was settled by a resolution that Mr. Donaldson occupy the chair for that meeting. It was decided that the Revs. Thomson And Russell attend at the next meeting of the Education Board and explain the present position. The appointment of caretaker was referred to the new committee, the present caretaker to retain the post until his successor is appointed. Mr. J. Home was instructed to pay all accounts in connection with the recent concert and report to the new committee.

20th June 1903 Free Lance An invincible team of Te Aro school boys went forth last Saturday to do battle with the Petone youngsters. The result was a foregone conclusion. So dead easy did the victory seem to the gallant Te Aros that they took a pigeon with them. At the conclusion of the match, when the Petones were taking their dead and wounded off the field and the score stood Te Aro 25, Petone nil. they would let that pigeon go into the blue empyrean, to acquaint the waiting world with the result. Hello, what did you bring the pigeon back for? asked an, interested person on the Wellington platform as the Te Aros landed on their native heath. What was the score? Nineteen to three! Who got the nineteen? Petone!

1st July 1893 Mr Walter Scott recently from Dunedin appointed truant officer for Petone and Hutt

7th July 1903 Wellington Education Board Part of a long piece on school expenses by Wellington Education Board among the building contracts entered into by the Board during the current year are included the following : Muritai School £550, Epuni School £778, Seatoun School (Worser Bay) £479, Brooklyn School £987, and Petone School £2600, making in all £5394. On these the following sums have already been paid : Muritai £300, Epuni £200, Seatoun £455, Brooklyn £937, and Petone £1750, or a total of £3642. These are all schools which were referred to by the Hon. Mr. Walker, and yet we understand that up to the present the Board has not received any special allowances for these in spite of its applications.

24th July 1903 Last night's meeting of householders at Petone for the election of a School Committee proved to be a record one. Fully three hundred persons were present, the Mayor (Mr. G. T. London) presiding. In opening proceedings the Chairman stated that in view of the publicity given in the press, of circumstances which led up to the resignation of the last elected committee, it was unnecessary for him to say more than that the meeting was called for the purpose of electing eight members of the committee, there being one member of the last committee (Mr. Brocklebank) who did not resign. Mr. J. Piper pointed out that the Petone Committee, so far as he could ascertain, was the only one in the Wellington Education District that enjoyed the luxury of a paid Secretary. He moved that it be a recommendation to the new committee that their secretarial work be done as by other committees — by a member of the

committee, and without salary. Mr. A. Bailey seconded the motion, which was agreed to by a large majority. Nineteen nominations were made before the ballot papers were completed. The Chairman intimated that candidates might, if they were disposed, speak in support of their candidature, the time limit being* live minutes. Messrs. Findlay, Adamson, Evans, Hill, Donaldson,, and the Revs. Russell and Thomson, members of the last committee, briefly addressed the meeting. Mr. C. W. Johnston, late Secretary, also spoke. Messrs. Mothes, Hope, Millar, Cook, and Austin were appointed | scrutineers. During the hour and a half taken to make up the result many of those present indulged in songs and recitations, which made a pleasant change from the previous lack of harmony. Soon after 10.30 Mr. Mothes gave the result of the ballot, ,the eight highest being: Rev. Russell 109, Rev. Thomson 107, W. G. Evans 75, H. Findlay 74, H. 70, J. Donaldson 62, W. Hill 597 J. Cotton 44, who were declared duly elected, the ninth member being Mr. Brocklebank, With the exception of Messrs. Brooks and Cotton, the remainder were on the last committee. The new committee afterwards elected the Rev. Thomson Chairman, the question of secretaryship being held over until next meeting. Mr. Johnston, the late Secretary, in view of the resolution agreed to by the meeting, handed in his resignation.

20th August 1903 The Gear Meat Company has given a donation of £50 towards the fund for establishing a technical school at Petone. In a letter to the Petone Technical School Committee, enclosing a cheque for that amount, Mr. Millward, Managing Director of the company, says: — The company already has a large quantity of machinery at Petone, and is constantly adding to the same. Such being the case, the number of artisans will naturally therefore be increasing, and it is to be hoped that Petone boys will qualify themselves at your Technical School, as the desire is to employ as far as possible those connected with the district in which our institution is so much interested. We wish your project the greatest success

27th August 1903 Financial Position of Education Board included The Petone School had, at the end of December, accommodation for 445, with a roll number of 854 and an actual attendance, at the time of the last examination, of 807. This building had been gradually built up to meet the needs of the district and would not readily admit of extension, rooms having been added where most could be done at the smallest cost, which meant classroom alongside of classroom without adequate corridor or passage space, the entrances to several rooms being through other rooms. The importance of Petone urgently called for more up-to-date provision • for the healthy education of children, and it became a question of reconstruction or rebuilding, either of which would be a work which could not be expected to be undertaken out of ordinary revenue. The building has been practically rebuilt at a cost of £2730 and is now fully providing convenient and adequate room for the present attendance — 895. This building had been very seriously reported on by the Health Officer, as you will see by the attached report, and the Inspectors had called the Boards attention to the necessity for renting additional rooms to ease the unhealthy pressure imposed on the children

1st September 1903 Mr Murray, of Petone, has been selected as caretaker for the Petone School at a salary of £80 per annum. Among the other twenty-four applicants was one of the heroes of Rorke's Drift, and who was wounded in that memorable fight [Boer War]

2nd September 1903 Petone school granted £8 [Equivalent of \$1452.42 in 2019] for Library Subsidy

5th September 1903 Mr. Home, headmaster of the Petone State School, is indisposed

29th September 1903 n Wednesday evening the Petone School Committee will hold a meeting, at which the local school team will receive the trophies they are entitled to as winners of the Schools* Championship. The school will receive Messrs Davis and Claters banner for another year, and also a handsome one, presented by the Melrose Football Club. In addition the individual members of the team are to receive medals presented by the Wellington Rugby Union. The donors of the trophies have accepted the invitation of the School Committee to be present

4th November 1903 Wellington Education Board It was agreed to recommend the Education Department Ho approve the establishment of a technical school at – Petone.....It was decided to consult the committee at Petone regarding the appointment of an assistant teacher for that school.

4th December 1903 PETONE SCHOOL BAZAAR.
SPEECH BY THE PREMIER.

A bazaar promoted by the committee and teaching staff of the Petone School was opened by the Premier yesterday afternoon. The proceeds are to be devoted to paying off the debt upon the school piano and tennis court.

The Premier, who was accompanied by the Mayor and Sir James Hector, was welcomed by the Rev. A. Thomson, Chairman of the local School Committee, who also expressed his pleasure at the presence of Sir James Hector, who, he said, had always taken a lively interest in school matters.

Mr. Seddon expressed his pleasure in responding to the call from Petone to open the bazaar. When inspecting the school that afternoon he was surprised to see by the merit board that Petone children had done so well. The record proved that they possessed ability, had application, and had a first-class teaching staff. In the various positions in connection with education which he had enjoyed for the past twenty years, he had had every opportunity to note what was required, with the result that higher education was now within reach of all. Petone, generally speaking, was a workingman's community, and the children would to a large extent follow their parents calling. Therefore a technical school in Petone should flourish to a greater degree than in any other part of the colony. Heaven helped those who helped themselves, and although averse, to making promises, he was prepared to deal liberally with Petone in the matter of technical instruction. During the last session provision had been made for the sum of £4000 payable to school committees and the Petone Committee would benefit by this to the extent of about £35, which, with the proceeds of the bazaar, should take them clear of financial difficulty. The colony owed a debt of gratitude to the teachers, whose position was, like that of the Prime Minister, an unthankful one. He had pleasure in declaring the bazaar open and called for three cheers for the teachers. Cheers were also given for the Premier.

The stalls were in charge of the following ladies : — Cut flowers and flowering plants, Mrs. H. Morris; plain and fancy goods, Mesdames Caverhill and Arrowsmith; sweets. Misses Bennett (2), Allender, and Carter} -cake stall, Misses Barber and Caverhill; Christmas-tree, Miss Pearce; infants requisites, Miss Slater. An old curiosity shop, which, however, contained a variety of charming modern Roods, was in charge of a number of Old Girls,

In the evening the building was packed, the entertainment being almost entirely provided by the children. It consisted of piano duets, songs, and dances, recitations, and fan, club, dumbbell,

and rifle exercises. The bazaar will be open this evening, when admission will be half price for adults.

1904

1904	745	Petone	Horne	James	D1	Head Master	£352.60
1904	745	Petone	Pringle	Graham S	D1	Assistant Master	£210.00
1904	745	Petone	Lynskey	James H	C2	Assistant Master	£190.00
1904	745	Petone	Slater	Jemima	D1	Mistress	£185.00
1904	745	Petone	Kean	Balfour	D2	Assistant Master	£140.00
1904	745	Petone	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D2	Assistant Female	£120.00
1904	745	Petone	Carter	Elsie	D2	Assistant Female	£ 115.00
1904	745	Petone	Combs	Frank L	D4	Assistant Master	£ 95.00
1904	745	Petone	Caverhill	Thirza M	G4	Assistant Female	£ 85.00
1904	745	Petone	Flux	Gladys M	D4	Assistant Female	£80.00
1904	745	Petone	Griffiths	John H	D4	MP5	£50.00
1904	745	Petone	Campion	Marion		FP2	£ 40.00
1904	745	Petone	Horne	Jessie M		FP5	£ 40.00
1904	745	Petone	Thomson	Isabel		FP2	£ 30.00
1904	745	Petone	Webster	Agnes		FP1	£ 20.00
1904	745	Petone	Isherwood	Vera		FP1	£20.00

3rd February 1904 Petone, Misses Agnes Webster and Marion Thornton were approved as pupil teachers. Marion Thornton taught at Clyde Quay School in 1904 and Kaitawa School in the Wairarapa before having a three year gap where she probably went to Training College Before spending From 1909 to at least 1921 at one of the Normal Schools in Wellington. [Normal Schools were ordinary schools that catered for Training College students to get classroom experience. Agnes Webster taught at Petone in 1905-1905 and after training college 1 more year at Petone

2nd March 1904 The Petone Public School is holding its annual outing to-day at Days Bay. The party, from 500 to 600 strong, arrived in town by train, accompanied by a band, and crossed the harbour in the Duchess.

3rd March 1904 There was an attendance of about 1400 at the Petone State Schools annual picnic at Days Bay yesterday, and the outing was a success in every respect, the rain that threatened fortunately holding off till very late in the day. Mr. Parrant's Cup was again competed for by the boys and was won for the second time in succession by Clem Green, so that it now becomes his property. Green secured seven points, and T. Donovan was second with five, thus winning the medal presented by the Head Master, Mr. Horne. A violin given by Mrs. Hyde for competition among the girls was won by Edith Scott. The winners were presented with their trophies by Mr. Home today.

17th March 1904 The new Convent School at Petone, which started with 60 pupils at the end of January, now haw an attendance of 100, and the number is increasing every week

28th March 1904. Wellington Education Board Annual Report included: The Petone School, which in December, 1902, had accommodation for 445 pupils, and a roll number of 854, had been gradually altered and enlarged till it would not readily admit of further extension. The

Chief Health Officer had seriously reported on the school, and the Inspectors had recommended that extra accommodation should be provided in the interest of the children's health. It became a question of reconstruction or building, neither of which could be expected to be undertaken out of ordinary revenue. The building, which has been practically rebuilt at a cost of £2730, now provides convenient room for 895 pupils

29th April 1904 A meeting of the committee of the Petone Technical School was held last night. The Rev. A. Thomson presided. The committee discussed the best means of starting the classes, and also of obtaining the Government grant. The chairman considered that for the first year the fees obtainable would not amount to much and would afford very little inducement to the teachers. He suggested that the fees and capitation grant should be given to the teachers. Mr Lodder suggested that the fees should be put on the same level those in town. Mr Mothes urged that the Government should be approached at once for a subsidy, as some considerable time might elapse before the subsidy would be obtained. Mr Castle (secretary) explained that the Government grant could not be obtained; unless each class contained twelve pupils; It was decided to start classes in English, Latin and mathematics at once, and Mr Lynskey was appointed lecturer in these subjects. The classes will open in a fortnight. It was decided to ask the Borough Council to dedicate one acre of the Recreation Ground as a site for the Technical School. Mr Duncan was appointed treasurer.

17th May 1904 The Technical School at Petone opened last evening. Over sixty pupils attended. The classes and attendances were—English, Latin and arithmetic (instructor Air Lynskey), 32; carpentry (Mr Hooper), 22; shorthand and typewriting (Mr Gifford) 9; dressmaking (Miss Stewart), 9. At a meeting of the committee, it was decided to send a deputation to the Secretary of Education to urge upon him the necessity of at once providing appliances for the conduct of the school, and the necessity of erecting temporary premises for carpentry class.

6th July 1904 PAHIATUA, July 5. The Petone School boys defeated the Combined Schools team by 38 points- to nil.

8th August 1904 Miss Isherwood appointed to Petone School as a Pupil Teacher.

19th September 1904 PETONE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

A PEACE TABLET. At a meeting of the committee on Friday night, the Rev J. D. Russell occupied the chair. There were also present—Rev A. Thomson, Messrs Mothes, Findlay, Marsden, Donaldson, Cotton, and Evans (secretary).

A report was received from Mr H.[F] Bakewell, inspector, on the condition of the school. He thought that the latrine accommodation could be improved but could make no recommendation on account of the state of the Board's finances.

The Rev A. Thomson thought the way in which the Government neglected education was a scandal.

Mr Mothes referred to the motion he had given notice of at last meeting, concerning the erection of a brass tablet in the school to commemorate the celebration of peace after the Boer war. He began to recount the history of the movement in this direction a few years ago, when

The Rev A. Thomson wanted to know if Mr Mothes was reading from an authentic document.

The chairman ruled Mr Mothes in order.

Then Mr Mothes proceeded to read newspaper extracts relating to the celebration of peace and pointed out that Mr Thomson had had nothing to do with it. It had been decided to erect a tablet,

and the place suggested for it was the Post Office, afterwards the band rotunda and subsequently the school. He particularly emphasised his objection to the names of the Rev A. Thomson and Mr J. Piper appealing on the tablet; and he moved that the motion for the erection of the tablet on the school be rescinded. —Mr Findlay seconded the motion.

The Rev A. Thomson stated that he was not present at the first meeting for the celebration, but he subsequently attended six meetings. He did not see his name on the tablet and knew nothing about it appearing until the tablet was finished. Mr Mothes was in error when he stated that he (Mr Thomson) was not present at these meetings.

The chairman read extracts from the minutes made by Mr Piper to show that Mr Thomson had attended six meetings as chairman, and Mr Mothes had only attended the first one.

Mr Findlay wanted to know if the names were to be put on the tablet for good attendance.

The chairman explained that there had been a little money left over from the celebration of peace, and it had been decided to erect the tablet with that money.

Mr Thomson thought the Celebration Committee had nothing to do with the first celebration. He was absent from the meeting which arranged for making the tablet and inscribing the names on

Mr Donaldson thought the Government Workshops Committee should have had a say in the disbursing of the funds left over, as they were mainly instrumental in getting up the display.

Mr Thomson pointed out that representatives from the Government Workshops were on the Celebration Committee.

Mr Findlay wanted to know if the School Committee had power to erect the tablet in the school.

The chairman thought they had.

Mr Donaldson wanted to know if the introduction of the Chinese into the Transvaal would be also inscribed on the tablet.

Mr Mothes pointed out that the tablet had practically gone a-begging before being offered to the School Committee.

Mr Mothes motion was put and lost.

The Rev A. Thomson then moved, That the Mayor (Mr London) be asked to unveil the tablet. —This motion was carried.

5th October 1904 Wellington Education Board A deputation consisting of the Rev Messrs Russell and Thompson, of Petone, waited upon the Board to lay before the members a resolution that had been passed, to the effect that the time had arrived when Petone was entitled to a district high school. The Rev Mr Russell said there was urgent need of it at the present time, they had sent round a letter to sixth and seventh standard scholars and had received thirty-eight replies from those desiring secondary education. There would possibly be more than that now in Petone, and also many more in the valley. They had three boys, who had won scholarships, who were unable to get into the Wellington secondary school. Most of the people at Petone were of the artisan class and could not afford to go for secondary education at a distance. The place was growing fast. They had over 5000 inhabitants, and there were 950 children on the school roll, so he thought the time had come when they would like to ask the Board to push the thing forward. There was one room in the building that could be used for secondary education, but as the other classes were becoming crowded he was of opinion that a separate district high school should be established. The Rev Mr Thompson covered the same

ground and emphasised the fact that the boys who had- won scholarships were being deprived of what the law provides for them.

The chairman said the matter would receive consideration. They had an application already in from Lower Hutt. The inspectors report had to come before the Board that afternoon. He was in full sympathy with all that had fallen from them.

The inspectors report was then read. This agreed with the need for a high school in the district. The Petone school was overcrowded in two rooms, but the Hutt school had ample accommodation for primary education. But it had to be distinctly understood that no district high school could be established where it was detrimental to primary education. The inspector was in favour of the establishment of a district high school in a separate building. He was quite sure it would do the Wellington schools no harm. The inspectors report was adopted.

5th October 1904 The seeming intention of the Education Board to give prior consideration to the Lower Hutt's requests in the matter of a High School was criticised at last night's meeting of the Petone Technical School Board, and a resolution was passed, on the motion of Mr. R. Mothes, seconded by Mr. W. G. Lodder, affirming that it is absolutely necessary in the interests of the secondary education that a District High School should be established at Petone. It was stated that Petone's request had gone before the Hutt's. Further, the Rev. A. Thomson averred that Petone had gone through all the necessary statutory formalities and gone to the Board with full and reliable data — steps the Hutt had not taken at all. There were 1100 children attending school at Petone, as against 300 at the Hutt, but the idea at the Hutt apparently was : We must get in ahead of Petone. As a result of representation made by him (Mr. Thomson) since last meeting of the Education Board, the Chairman of the Board (Mr. Robert Lee) and the Chief Inspector, (Mr. T. Fleming) had inspected, with him, Mr. T. Prices property at Petone, which was in the market. They were greatly struck with its suitability for a High School, and a splendid offer had been made the Education Board to sell it the large house and land. The opportunity was an exceptionally good one and should not be allowed to pass by. During the discussion last night it was suggested that a protest should be made against the Hutt being given the preference over Petone, but Mr. Lodder urged that an emphatic affirmation of the absolute necessity of a High School in Petone would be better, and in this view the meeting concurred.

7th October 1904 A public meeting convened by the Revs. J. D. Russell and A. Thomson, of the local School Committee, was held at Petone last night, on the subject of the establishment of a District High School. The Rev. J. D. Russell presided, and in the course of his remarks referred to the statement published in last night's Post by the Chairman of the Hutt School Committee. He emphasised that Petone's first steps towards applying for the school to be established locally had been taken before the Hutt bestirred itself in the same direction with the view of getting a High School at the Hutt. On the motion of the Mayor, Mr. G. London, the meeting passed a resolution endorsing the action the Petone School Committee had taken in asking the Education Board to establish a High School in Petone and emphasising the need for such a school. The question of obtaining Mr. T. Prices house for a High School was discussed. The Rev. A. Thomson submitted a plan of the house and gave other particulars. The place, he said, was in every way suitable for a High School. On Mr. Thomson's motion a deputation, consisting of the Rev. Russell, Father Maples, Mr. G. London, Dr. Ross, Messrs. Sladden, R. C. Kirk, Lodder, Mothes, and Findlay, was appointed to wait on the Minister for Education on

the matter, and it was also resolved to further deputationise the Education Board at its next meeting.

22nd October 1904 Dissatisfied, apparently, with the action of the Education Board, which, on the advice of its inspectors, decided that one central High School for the Hutt district would meet the needs of the case, a Petone deputation yesterday interviewed the Minister for Education and asked for assistance in the purchase of a property for the purposes of a High School for Petone. It was urged that the Petone School was overcrowded, and that there were sixty-five pupils ready to receive higher education. Mr. Seddon said he was willing to assist in giving all the facilities for higher education provided for by Act, and he asked to be supplied with details of the proposed scheme of acquiring property, in order that he might bring it before Cabinet.

28th October 1904 HIGH SCHOOL FOR PETONE.

PURCHASE OF A BUILDING. . Mr T. M. Wilford, M.H.R., has received the following letter from the Premier :—In regard to the application for £200 towards the purchase of a building for a high school at Petone, I have to inform you that the amount has been placed before Ministers, and the Government has decided to grant the sum of £200 asked for by the High School guardians. This amount will be payable in due course. It is, of course, distinctly understood that there is no further commitment on the part of the Government beyond the £200. In consequence of receiving this promise, Mr Wilford yesterday led a deputation of the Petone School Committee to the Education Board. The deputation explained that it had received an offer from Mr H. Price of a building at Petone for £2200, which would suit admirably for a school. The offer was to be accepted by a deposit of £200, to be paid to-day. This amount the Government had promised, and the deputation asked the Board to take the school over as a high school. A new building was absolutely necessary, and the deputation asked for a grant of £50 a year for rent. They would undertake to pay the balance.

A message was received from the department stating that the question of a high school for Petone could not be considered until after the New Year. The chairman said there were no funds cut of which the Board could pay for high school buildings. The Rev J. D. Russell said the deputation wished to know what the Board preferred, a high school or a district high school. They were prepared to accept either. Mr Wilford said they would, at any rate, endeavour to close with the offer of Mr Price. The question of a high school or a district high school was immaterial to these negotiations. The Board argued the matter at great length, the deputation pleading merely to receive the Board's approval for a high school. The chairman expressed reluctance to allow the Petone proposals, which came later, to prejudice the claims of Lower Hutt. Mr Feist moved That the Board approve the establishment of a district high school at Petone, and that application be made to the department for an annual rental of £100. The motion was seconded by Mr Allan. Mr Hogg and Mr Kebbell moved an amendment to make application for £200, so as to be more sure of getting the amount required. This was lost, and the motion carried.

5th November 1904 PETONE DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL. In connection with his efforts to secure a district high school for Petone, Mr Wilford has received the following letter from the Rev J. D. Russell, chairman of the committee:—As chairman of the Petone School Committee, I am delighted to inform you of the unanimous resolution carried at a full meeting of the committee—That the very hearty thanks of this committee be given to Mr T. M. Wilford,

M.H.R., for his valuable, help in securing the assistance of the Government towards the purchase of Mr T. Prices property for a district high school for Petone—I may say that the committee thoroughly appreciate the time and trouble you have taken and the tact you have displayed on our behalf.

17th December 1904 After the breaking-up at the Petone School yesterday afternoon presentations were made to Mr. Graham Pringle, who is severing a long connection with the school. Miss Horne, who is also leaving, was given a handsome present by the staff. The services of both teachers were highly eulogised, and regret expressed at their departure. Neither of whom taught in New Zealand state schools in 1905

1905

1905	827	Petone DHS	Horne	James	D1	Head Master	£356.10
1905	827	Petone DHS	Bedingfield	D S	D1	Assistant Master	£240.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Slater	Jemima	D1	Mistress	£185.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Kean	Balfour	D2	Assistant Master	£175.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Mason	Francis A	D3	Assistant Master	£160.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D2	Assistant Female	£120.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Carter	Elsie	D2	Assistant Female	£115.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Arcus	Lawrence H	D4	Assistant Master	£110.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Caverhill	Thirza M	G4	Assistant Female	£90.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Sullivan	Margaret	Lic	Assistant Female	£80.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Armit	Katherine N	E4	Assistant Female	£80.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Campion	Mary		FP3	£45.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Thomson	Isabel M		FP3	£40.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Olson	Walter		MP3	£40.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Mothes	Frederick W		MP3	£40.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Webster	Agnes		FP2	£30.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Isherwood	Vera		FP1	£20.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Arrowsmith	Doris		FP1	£20.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Alaquoque	Gaynor		FP1	£20.00
1905	827	Petone DHS	Lynskey	James H	C1	Secondary	
1905	827	Petone DHS	Myers BA	Phoebe	B2	Secondary	

25th January 1905 The Petone and Lower Hutt District High Schools started yesterday the former with a roll of 47 pupils, and in latter with 26 pupils. Mr. Eustace King M.A. has charge of the Petone class and Mr. Yeats, Headmaster at the Hutt School, is taking charge temporarily of, the local secondary class. It is understood that the Petone School Committee is endeavouring to get the members of the Education Board to visit Petone tomorrow morning to inspect the Stat< School — where Mr. Horne is said to be finding great difficulty in housing his large army of children — and also Prices building, which is advocated as being suitable for the purposes of the District High School.

27th January 1905 In another long article was this QUESTION OF FINANCE: Mr. T. M. Wilford, M.H.R., wailed on the Education Board yesterday in connection with the difficulty in obtaining money for the rental of the District High School at Petone, and suggested that the

Board should apply to the Department for £100 per year for ten years, to be granted to it out of the technical Grant. The money was required as rental, but it could not be granted out of building grant. The Board would apply for the grant he would endeavour to obtain an early reply from the Department. This course would surmount all difficulty in connection with the Petone High School.

Members wanted to know if Mr. Wilford would guarantee that Mr. Seddon would grant the money when applied for, but this Mr. Wilford was not prepared to do.

Mr. Robertson said that though the Board was anxious to get the money, he had been asked why it could not get it through the proper channels, instead of through the member of the district. This was a matter for the Board itself to deal with.

Mr. Wilford's reply was to the effect that owing to the multifarious duties of the members of the Board, it was not to be expected that they could give up hours of their time to a small matter such as this must be in their large curriculum.

It was decided that the application should be made. ,

Later on the Chairman stated that if an expenditure of £100 was made on the building purchased at Petone, it could be made suitable to accommodate 150 children. This would relieve the pressure at the main school.....

28th January 1905 A public meeting was held at Petone last night to discuss the appointment by the Education Board of Mr Bedingfield as senior master at the Petone school. A resolution was passed, regretting that the Board had refused to appoint Mr James Lynskey, whose qualifications the meeting considered superior, and urging the School Committee to insist upon having a voice in the appointment of headmaster, and to refuse to accept the Board's decision. It was further resolved that a deputation consisting of the members of the School Committee, the member of Parliament for the district, and the Mayor wait upon the Board, and lay before it the wishes of the meeting. Another motion was passed that representation be made to the Minister of Education of the necessity for legislation vesting the appointment of Education Boards in the hands of the people.

24th February 1905 Part of a long article It is very much to be regretted that, owing to a difference with the Board of Education over the appointment of a first assistant teacher, the Petone School Committee has taken the extreme step of resigning in a body, by way of protest against the Board's policy in the matter. This regret is tempered by the consideration that the action of the committee may lead to a most desirable reform in connection with the Board's interpretation of the obligation laid upon it to consult the committees regarding the appointment of teachers. The present difficulty seems to have arisen out of the change by which the Petone School was given the status of a district high school. An additional teacher had to be appointed, and the Board fixed upon Mr Bedingfield, a country schoolmaster, for the position. The Board's consultation took the form of submitting the name of Mr Bedingfield and that only, to the committee. The committee had a decided preference for Mr - Lynskey, who has had charge of the Sixth Standard for six years, and it objected to his having to give up the teaching of that standard, in which he has shown conspicuous ability—two of his pupils having last year gained scholarships. The Board, however, appointed Mr Bedingfield, with the result that the members of the committee feel aggrieved ; and to mark their sense of the scant courtesy with which they have been treated, and the injury which they believe will be done to the cause of education in Petone, have handed in their resignations..... [Douglas S Bedingfield was at Hamua School

between Eketahuna and Pahiatua and came to Petone and was appointed first Head master of Petone West when it started in 1909]

1st March 1905 At a meeting of the Petone Technical School Hoard In. it evening, the Rev. A. Thomson presiding, it was decided to start all classes on Monday next except the continuation class, for which a teacher is to be advertised. Mr. Lynskey having been unable to accede to the Boards request to continue to conduct this section.....

2nd March 1905 RESIGNATION WITHDRAWN. A meeting of the committee was held last night. Present—The Rev J. D. Russell (chairman), Messrs J. Donaldson, J. Cotton, W. Hill, R. Mothes, Rev A. Thompson, Marsden, Findlay, and Evans (secretary). The chairman reported that the committee had waited on the Education Board and had protested against the appointment of Mr Bedingfield instead of Mr Lynskey as first assistant at the Po[etone] school. The Board, however, confirmed Mr Bedingfield's appointment, so he had formally tendered the resignation of the committee, as a protest. He had done so in the belief that every member of the committee was with him in the matter. He understood that no formal motion to that effect had been put to the last meeting, but he did not think that was necessary.. He was, however, disgusted to see that one member of the committee had taken away the whole effect of the resignation as a protest by writing to the public press to say that the resignation was not unanimous. He had also found that the same member had inquired from the Education Board whether the resignation was legal, and what was the position of the committee.

11th March 1905 Free Lance That the Petone School Committee are not altogether a happy family. There was warm language at the last meeting, and one member threw a cigar-butt at another

16th March 1905 The Petone School pupils had a most enjoyable day yesterday, when they held their annual picnic on the local recreation ground. Sports and games were indulged in, the Committee and teachers working hard to ensure the enjoyment of the children. The big event of the day, the School Championship, was won by Donovan, with Wright second. Johnston and were first and second in the Hurdle Race. The days pleasure was concluded by an excellent open-air limelight entertainment in the evening, the Petone Brass Band assisting

31st March 1905 In reference to the dispute between the Wellington Board of Education and the Petone School Committee, the committee has withdrawn its resignation, on the grounds that one member had failed to act with the others in resigning, and that sufficient protest has been made against the autocratic conduct of the Board, in view of the fact that it is better that an experienced committee should remain in office at Petone. In a long letter received yesterday by the Board, committee protested against the farcical method adopted in the consultation. of committees, and announced that every committee in the colony, and every member of Parliament was being communicated with, with the view that the existing law should be amended, Mr Buchanan and other members considered the letter offensive. The chairman regretted that a fair statement of the case had never been made by the Petone Committee and said that had the people of Petone been acquainted with the real facts of the case, they would have formed a Very different opinion as to the action of the committee. It was decided to send a letter to the committee setting out the facts, and, pointing out that the tone adopted by the committee was extremely discourteous.

12th April 1905 The Petone School Committee has approved the appointment of Mr. L. Arcus as male assistant at the school. Lawrence H Arcus Taught at Dalefield School in 1901 as a

pupil teacher, then 1902 to 1904 at Mt Cook Boys then after four years at Petone went to Maranui School until at least 1917. By 191 he was at Lyall Bay school and from 1921 till my records end in 1923 he was head of Shannon School in the Horowhenua

12th April 1905 FORMAL OPENING. The formal opening of the Petone District High School in its own home took place in the recently-acquired building last evening. The Rev. J. D. Russell, Chairman of the School Committee, presided, and the guests included Mr. J. Robertson, Acting Chairman of the Education Board members and officials of the Board, Mr. T. M. Wilford, M.H.R., the Mayor and Councillors of Petone, members of the Petone Technical School Board, Rev Father Maples, and others.

The Chairman, in briefly tracing the steps leading to the establishment of the school, paid a high tribute to the Rev. A. Thomson, who first moved in the matter, and first thought of the present building as suitable, for the school. He also expressed the indebtedness of the district to the Premier, to Mr. Wilford, to Messrs Robertson and Allan, of the Education Board, to Mr. Pirani, and to those local gentlemen who so generously came forward and purchased the building, putting down their own cheques in the meantime, in order that the opportunity of obtaining the premises on the favourable terms offered by Mr. Price might not be lost. The school had already 55 pupils, and he had little doubt that next year the attendance would be doubled.

Mr. Wilford said the establishment of the school was chiefly due to the firm determination of the Committee that it should be established. It was undoubtedly needed and was another instance of the great advance the district was making.

The Mayor, the Chairman of the Education Board, and Father Maples joined in the congratulations. Mr Robertson remarked that a word of praise was due to parents who, self-sacrificingly in many cases, allowed their children to further their education, when they might put them to work, and have the assistance of their wages.

The Rev. A. Thomson emphasised that there was a great debt owing to Mr. Seddon for his action in the matter. There was no doubt that had not the Board faced the question of purchasing the building it would have had to immediately deal with the question of providing another large school in Petone. That question had been postponed for the present, but it would have to be faced ere long. He was still of the opinion that it would have been better to have had one large Central District High School to serve the whole valley, instead of one school at the Hutt and another at Petone. He could assure the Education Board that the Petone School Committee intended to keep a sharp eye on the districts educational requirements and intended to get its just right.

Mr. Dilnot Sladden, representing the local trustees who purchased the building, said that the reason why such support was given the Committee was because of the whole-hearted way in which it worked to attain its object. It was because of their faith in the Committee, that he and the other local gentlemen had consented to act as trustees and found the money immediately necessary.

Mr. Horne, Headmaster of the school, referred to the great successes that had been won by Petone scholars, whose scholarship records alone they might all well be proud of. He mentioned, incidentally, that the number of pupils sixteen years ago was 276, and it had now increased to 950.

On the motion of Mr. Pirani, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the School Committee, Rev. Messrs. Russell and Thomson being specially mentioned.

Those present were then entertained at supper by the wives of the School Committeemen. Enjoyable musical items were contributed by Mrs. Perry, Messrs R. C. Kirk and Eustace King

18th April 1905 The school committee of Petone, as a result of its recent dispute with the Wellington Education Board concerning the choice of a teacher for the Petone school, has sent a circular letter to the other committees throughout the colony, asking for their cooperation in an appeal to Parliament for legislation giving school committees greater power in the selection of teachers.

25th April 1905 In view of the opinion of its solicitors, and of other authorities, that the provision for consultation between Education Board and School Committees amounts to no more than a piece of useless courtesy to the Committees, the Petone School Committed is taking steps to have the Act made more explicit, so that both Boards and Committees may have an equal voice in the appointment and removal of teachers. In acquainting the Wellington Education Board of this fact, the Committee writes : — This we have been doing and have already received the unanimous support of 230 School Committees under every Board in the colony, while only twelve have declined to sign our petition. Several members of the Legislature, including one Minister of the Crown, have consented to join a deputation to the Premier to support the petition. This shows at any rate, that there- is a widespread feeling of dissatisfaction among School Committees at their powerlessness in the important matter of the staffing of their schools, and that, while they desire to retain the Boards broader knowledge of the teachers in their district, they also desire that their own intimate knowledge of the special requirements of their own schools should be given equal weight and authority in the matter.

28th April 1905 Members of the Wellington Education Board yesterday expressed themselves as being weary of the Petone school trouble. When the committees lengthy letter in reply to the communication from the secretary of the Board was reached, it was agreed that the letter lie on the table, without being read. Members hoped that they had heard the last of the dispute

26th April 1905 Some sixty householders attended the meeting at Petone, the Rev. J. D. Russell presiding. The annual report stated that the year had been a most eventful one in the annals of education in Petone, the two most important events being the commencement of technical classes and the opening of the District High School. The work done by Mr. Horne and his staff deserved more than a passing comment. The committee was pleased to report the great success of Petone scholars in taking high places in examinations. The boys again won the football banner, and the thanks of the committee. were warmly given to Mr. Lynskey, and also to the lady teachers who so thoroughly attend to the physical side of the children's recreation. The committee extended a cordial welcome to Mr. King, M. A., master of the District High School, and to Mr. Bedingfield, first assistant. The balance-sheet showed receipts amounting to £143 9s, leaving a credit of £8 9s. The report and balance sheet were adopted. The meeting unanimously endorsed all the committees actions in regard to its treatment by the Education Board and affirmed the necessity of legislation to enable a teachers superannuation fund to be created. The following committee was elected: W. Evans, Rev. A. Thomson, W. Hill, D. Moore, A. Marsden, J. MacDougall, J. Donaldson, J. Abrahall, J. C. R. Isherwood. The Rev. A. Thomson was elected Chairman and Mr. Evans Secretary. Votes of thanks were passed to

the retiring Chairman (who did not stand again, as he is about to visit England), the committee, and the teaching staff.

2nd May 1905 Mr King, M.A., has been appointed from the Petone High School to the Terrace High School. Mr Lynskey, of the Petone State school, is to succeed him in charge of the high school.

3rd May 10-5 Wellington Education Board In regard to the Pahiatua and Petone district high schools, capitation allowance is to be made on attendance in separate buildings.

20th May 1905 A meeting of the Petone School Committee was held last night, the Rev. A. Thomson presiding. There were also present Messrs Marsden, Donaldson Hilt, Evans, Abrahall, McDougall and Moore. Mr McDougal asked why Mr Lynskey had been appointed to the High School before other applications for the position had been considered. The chairman stated that the Education Board had appointed Mr Lynskey to the position, and previous experience had shown the futility of objecting to the Boards nominees. The Board had acted upon a previous recommendation of the committee. Accounts amounting to £1 14s were passed for payment. The headmaster reported that the attendance at the school was good. The Petone Dramatic Club offered to give a performance to aid the committees funds. The offer of the club was accepted with thanks.

30th June 1905 Wellington Education Board A deputation from the Petone District High School, for which the Rev Mr Thomson acted as spokesman, urged the Board to consider the matter of erecting a new building for technical workshops at Petone. The lease of the present premises was up, and as they were quite unsuitable and the Board was paying £10 a year rent, it would be advisable and much more convenient to erect a new building, which would cost, say, £1000. for five or six years the Petone school had had no cookery classes, which was unfortunate, seeing that the town was purely a manufacturing one. If classes were continued in the present building, a falling off in the attendance might be expected. The chairman assured the deputation that the matter would receive the Boards sympathetic consideration, and the inspector and secretary were appointed to ascertain under which heading the money could be obtained for the building

30th June 1905 Wellington Education Board A deputation from the Petone High School waited on the Board and stated that two classes of the Technical School were housed in a building which did not suit requirements and it was now sought to erect a building on the ground attached to the High School. He asked that the Board should approach the government and ask for a grant of £400 towards the cost of the building; this would be a saving in time to come, as the Government, through the Board, was paying £40 a year rent for the present building. There was no cookery class at Petone, and he suggested that these classes could be held in the proposed building. The matter was referred to the Secretary and Inspector to report upon.

15th July 1905 The Rev. A. Thomson, Chairman of the Petone School Committee, has received 345 signed petitions, representing as many school-committees all over the colony, supporting the petition drawn up by the Petone committee for presentation to the Minister for Education asking that the Education Act be so amended as to make the consultation between Education Boards and Committees re appointments of teachers real consultations. Mr. Wilford has been asked to arrange for a large deputation (including members of Parliament) to wait on the Minister to present these petitions

28th July 1905 Wellington Education Board AMALGAMATION. Consideration was given to a report by the Board Inspectors, in which the Board was recommended to confer with, the Petone School and Technical School Committees, with the view of making application for a grant for buildings for the purpose of teaching practical work in science, cookery woodwork, etc. These could be placed on the grounds of the District High School and could be utilised - by the scholars of the Technical School, and of both departments (secondary and primary) of the District High School. After discussing the recommendation, the Board set up a Committee to go into the recommendations and report- thereupon.

1st August 1905 Petone Borough Council A request from the Petone School Committee for the erection of a lamp at the corner near the District High School was granted

2nd August 1905 Wellington Education Board discussing schools in Hutt and Petone: It was impossible to think of enlarging the Petone School, and the time was not far distant when another school would have to be provided. Petone, he thought, should have precedence over the Hutt in the matter. Mr Hogg supported Mr McDonalds idea. He thought there could be no objection to getting a report on the matter. Mr Allan said the idea was a good one, hut where was the money to come from? The Board was certainly not in a position to purchase land.

8th August 1905 A special meeting of the Petone School Committee was held to consider the recommendation of the Education Board to appoint Mr. Francis Mason as assistant master in the local school. After a full consideration of the different qualifications of the various applicants, it was decided to support the Boards nomination. The question of additional accommodation at the High School was alluded to, as it is expected about fifty additional scholars will join after the next examination. This matter will be more fully considered at the next meeting of the committee.

16th August 1905 The Education Board has appointed Mr F. A. Mason, of Kakoriki, to be assistant at the Petone School.[Actually Kakariki School in the Western Hills between Eketahuna and Pahiatua West of Hukanui .in 1911 Mr Mason became head of Porirua School
22nd August 1922 Wellington Education Board Miss Flux has been transferred from the Petone School to the Mount Cook Infants School.

9th September 1905 he following appointments have been made by the Education Board:— Miss Phoebe Myers, B.A., of the Thorndon School, to be assistant in the secondary department of the Petone School ; Miss K. Armit, mistress of the Kaitawa School, to be assistant in the primary department of the Petone School.

27th September 1905 Petone Flower Show in Bad Weather included A very proud and important squad of Petone School Cadets felt t-he full responsibility of being a guard of honour, and fulfilled the duty gravely and smartly, to the admiration of the onlookers. It is such good education for our boys to be taught to do this sort of thing, and for them to take a pride in looking their best for it.

29th September 1905 Wellington Education Board PETONE HIGH SCHOOL. The committee of the Board, appointed to confer with the Petone School Committee and the Petone Technical School Board, reported having visited Petone on September 7th. After friendly discussion, it was decided to recommend the Board that, on being supplied with the necessary data, plans be prepared and application be made to tie Education Department for the cost of two rooms to be erected on the school site, for purposes of instruction in woodwork and cookery. Representing the Board at this meeting there were present the chairman, Mr Allan, Mr-McDonald, the chief

inspector, and the secretary.—Adopted, the matter of accommodation being referred to the inspector.

30th September 1905 Miss K. N. Armit (formerly of Wellington), who is leaving the Kaitawa School, near Pahiatua, to join the teaching staff of the Petone School, was entertained at a social and presented with a gold watch. The school children at Kaitawa also made Miss Armit a presentation.

4th October 1905 The Petone School Committee will be told by the Education Board that it is not entitled to any representation on the Petone Technical Board. The Education Board is entitled to representation by virtue of its payment of rent for the class-rooms, and it may probably appoint a member of the Petone Committee to represent it.

20th October 1905 Centenary of Trafalgar At Petone School the flag was unfurled with as great enthusiasm as was shown at the city schools. An enterprising and patriotic Petone business man gave away several hundred flags to the school-children.

15th December 1905 The members of the teaching staff of the Petone School made two presentations to two of their number yesterday afternoon — to MY. B. Kean on the eve of his marriage, and to Miss M. Campion ,on the occasion of her retirement from the staff. Only taught for 2 years at Petone Once Under Marion and then Mary

1906

1906	868	Petone DHS	Horne	James	D1	Head Master	£380.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Bedingfield	D S	D1	Assistant Master	£245.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Slater	Jemima	D1	Assistant female	£205.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Kean	Balfour	D2	Assistant Master	£195.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Mason	Francis A	D2	Assistant Master	£175.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D2	Assistant Female	£150.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Carter	Elsie	D2	Assistant Female	£135.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Arcus	Lawrence H	D3	Assistant Master	£125.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Caverhill	Thurza M	D3	Assistant Female	£110.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Armit	Katherine N	D3	Assistant Female	£100.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Thomson	Isabel M		Assistant Female	£85.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Thomas	William W		MP3	£ 55.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Olson	Walter H		MP4	£ 55.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Webster	Alice		FP3	£45.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Mothes	Frederick W		MP3	£45.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Arrowsmith	Doris		FP2	£35.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Gaynor	Alacogue E		FP2	£35.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Isherwood	Vera		FP2	£35.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Watt	Christina		FP2	£35.00
1906	868	Petone DHS	Lynskey	James H	C1	Secondary	
1906	868	Petone DHS	Myers BA	Phoebe	B2	Secondary	

30th January 1906 Miss Elsie Johnston, who has just secured a high position on the list of Junior Scholarship winners, and was a former winner of a Queens Scholarship and dux of the Girls High School, has received on appointment of the teaching staff of the Petone State

School, where she was formerly a scholar, [Elsie Johnston was not teaching at any Wellington Education Board school at the end of 1906 and never taught for the Wellington Education Board]

9th February 1906 The annual picnic of the Petone State School will be held at Days Bay tomorrow. Special trains will leave Petone at 9.5 a. m, and 1. 38 p.m. [Trains to Wellington and then go by boat]

10th February 1906 The arrangements made for the Petone School annual picnic to-day will hold good for Monday, the Weather having of course necessitated a postponement.

14th March 1906 The start of a long article is copies: the trouble in connection with the appointment of a teacher for the Petone school some months ago gave the Government a cue for legislation last session, and the law was so amended as to make clear the functions and powers of Education Boards and school committees respectively. The new law has come into operation, but, according to the Minister of Education, some Boards are showing an inclination to ignore it. Speaking here to-day, Mr Seddon said he believed a conflict was going to arise over the matter. Some Boards were not carrying out the law in the proper spirit. He was not sure whether in some cases there had not even been technical breaches. The law said wherever there was a large number of teachers offering for a position the Board should send six in their respective order to the school committee. If there was not a large number, presumably the Board should send four, stating the relative order, and the committee should recommend, at all events, two out of the four. It would then be for the Board to appoint one of the two recommended

6th April 1906 Mr. Frank Gamble and Mr. George Castle, who have been appointed assistant teachers at the Waitaki High School, are both old boys of Petone School. They entered the Petone School when five years of age, about the same time. Mr. Gamble won the Education Board Scholarship and also a Queens Scholarship, Mr Castle losing this position only by a few marks. They attended Wellington College together, also the University College classes. Mr. Gamble has taken his B.A. degree, and Mr. Castle the first section of same.

24th April 1906 School Committee Elections: The outgoing committee reported to the well-attended meeting that the year had been one of steady progress. The total number of scholars present at the last visit of the inspectors was 946, including 53 in the secondary department. There were 966 children on the roll. The work of all teachers was reported as satisfactory, the only subject requiring more supervision and room for improvement being reading, the enunciation being imperfect. Several changes and promotions had been made in the teaching staff. The committee owed a debt of gratitude to the Petone Comedy Club, assisted by the band, who helped the funds to the extent of £8 10s, and to Mr. Lynskey and his pupils for raising by a concert the sum of £10 towards asphaltting the playground of the secondary school. The board would contribute £35 to this work, which would be commenced immediately. The report also referred to the steps taken in the direction of getting a suitable technical school building and concluded by expressing appreciation of the excellent way in which the teaching staff had worked during the past year. The chairman, in speaking to the report, congratulated two Petone boys — G. Johnston and R. McConnell — on winning scholarships last year. At the next civil service and matriculation examination several of the secondary schools pupils would sit. In technical education they had made splendid progress despite many obstacles, and when the new buildings were erected, Petone educational facilities would be as good as

Wellingtons.. The election of a new committee resulted in the following being appointed : Rev. Thomson (re-elected chairman), Mr. W. G. D Evans (reappointed secretary), Messrs. R. Mothes, W. Hill, J. Abrahall, D, McKenzie, J. Donaldson, and J. C. R. Isherwood.

26th April 1906 Wellington Education Board The Works and Finance Committee recommended that grants be authorised as follows : —Petone, ventilation of additional room, district high school

1st June 1906 Wellington Education Board Petone —Recommendation of committee that site be purchased.

29th June 1906 Wellington Education Board that the secretary be instructed to communicate to the department the necessary statistics as to increasing school attendance at Petone, and to request that immediate steps be taken to provide the purchase-money of a, second school site.

1st August 1906 Wellington Education Board Negotiations proceeding for acquirement of land Petone 2 ½ acres

28th August 1906 The Hon. G. Fowlds yesterday received a deputation from the . Petone School Committee, consisting . of - the Rev. A. Thomson (chairman), Messrs Evans, Mothes, McKenzie, Donaldson) and Abrahall. In introducing the deputation, Mr Wilford said - there were a thousand scholars at the school, and the infants were being taught in a shed. The deputation asked the Minister . to, assist the Board and the district by providing the means for securing-an acre of land well situated in the west end of the borough, which could be obtained from the Maori owner for £1500. , Mr Donaldson urged the Minister to revert to the system of issuing pass certificates for each standard instead of only for the Sixth. The department had been unable to give the committee any reason, for following this undesirable policy. The deputation held that the annual certificate : created interest in both scholars and parents by marking the progress of the children.

The Minister promised to go fully into the matter of a site. He was of opinion, that- a thousand pupils was quite enough for any school, and it would be better to have another school than to erect additions to the present one. Replying to Mr Donaldson's representation, he said it was a mistaken policy to cram children and measure their capacity by means of an annual examination. That system was no longer recognised in modern education, and New Zealand was only following the trend of educational reform in other countries by abolishing it. He could hold out no hope of a reversion to the old method. Mr Donaldson said he would like to debate the question with the Minister.

24th September 1906 A good deal of interest was taken in a match played on the Petone Recreation Ground on Saturday between the Petone School team, assisted by the masters, and the Old Boys of the school. The combination of the school team was too good and resulted in a score of 29 against 8. Isherwood scored four tries, I? .Mason 1, B. Kean 1, and Riddler 1, and the major points were added on four occasions by McKenzie, Cliff. Ramsden, and J. Lynskey (2). For the losers, T. Proebstel and Parrant scored and W. Ryan converted one.

28th September 1906 Education In The Hutt Valley the committee set up by the Education Board to enquire into the question of increased school, accommodation in the Hutt Valley yesterday presented the following report: — The committee, having visited the district in company with the Minister of Education and the Inspector General of Schools, and also having met the chairman of the Petone and Hutt School Committees, reports: (1) That a, new school should be built on the Wilford Estate, at the end of Whites, Line, as a second school for Petone;

(2) that a new site be acquired on the East side of the Hutt bridge, as a side school for the Lower Hutt. This the committee recommends as provision for the future educational needs of the valley. The main school at the Hutt will eventually be built on the site to be acquired for a side school, and the present Hutt school be converted into a high school for the Hutt Valley. The chairman said the committee- was looking to the future of the valley as a whole, although, he added, local feeling ran pretty high on the subject. Mr. Allan asked if the proposed site on the Wilford Estate had been surveyed and reported upon by an expert. He was informed that it was low-lying and could not possibly be drained. The chairman : That is not so. Mr. Allan : That is the report of an expert in the district. The chairman : It is close to the protecting bank at the end of Whites Line. Mr. Buchanan said that in that vicinity the tide banked right up. Mr. Allan said the report leached him through a member of the Petone School Committee from the Petone borough engineer, and he ought to know something about it. The board ought to go very carefully into the matter. They had a great deal of difficulty in establishing a high school at Petone. In the Hutt Valley there was a population of about 12,000, of whom 8000 were within the boundaries of the Peotone school district. In a very few years there would be 11,000 or 12,000 people in Pitons, and they Would be entitled to a high school for themselves

28th September 1906 Wellington Education Board The department intimated that it would pay the rent of £1 a week of the hall at Petone, which is now being used as an additional school

4th October 1906 This morning his Excellency the Governor, accompanied by the Minister for Education (Hon. G. Fowlds) motored out to Petone and the Hutt for the purpose of visiting the local schools. The later part of the morning was occupied in visiting the Petone State school, the district high school, and the convent school. On arriving at the first-mentioned institution, which had been elaborately decorated, his Excellency was greeted by the massed children singing The National Anthem, after which he was formally welcomed by the chairman of the local school committee (the Rev. A. Thomson) and thanked for his interest in local educational matters. Miss Alice Troup then read an address of welcome from the children, to which his Excellency briefly replied. After the singing by the children of The Red, White, and Blue, an inspection of the school was made under the guidance of the headmaster (Mr. Home) and the committee. The district high school was then visited, Mr. Lynskey showing the visitors over the building, after which the party went to the convent school, where they were received by the Rev. Father Maples and the children sang an appropriate verse of the song Steer My Bark to Erin's Isle. In the course of his reply, to- the welcome, the Governor thanked the children for the thoughtfulness which had prompted the choice of the song, urged the children to work hard to show their gratitude to those who had done so much for them in the way of providing schools and opportunities for education. At each of the schools, visited, at his Excellency's request, children were given a half-holiday;

5th October 1906 Part of a long article ROPOSALS BEFORE THE EDUCATION BOARD. PETONE PROTESTS VIGOROUSLY.

Petone residents interested in educational matters rose in vigorous indignant protest at a public meeting Presided over by the Mayor last evening, against the recommendations brought before the Education Board ,at its last meeting regarding the Hutt Valley schools. The main points of those recommendations, so far as-, they affect Petone, are: (1) The erection .of- a second primary school at the eastern end of Whites line in Petone —a locality only just beginning to be built upon on the Petone side r— and; (2) the conversion of the present main school at Lower

Hutt into a district high school for both Petone and the ~ Hutt, thus doing away with the present High School at Petone. „\ * The Mayor remarked that it had long been evident that a second primary school in Petone was urgently needed, for the attendance at the main school exceeded 1000, and the accommodation was sorely taxed. The site recommended by the School Committee was a piece of land with frontages both to Jackson-street and the Hutt-road, in the congested western end of the town. That site was apparently approved by the Education Board until the recent recommendations of Messrs. Lee and McDonald, both Hutt residents. It was unfortunate that there existed a~ feeling of antagonism in certain .quarters to the advancement of the interests of education in Petone. It was most unjust to suggest taking the district high school from Petone. The present building — obtained through the enterprise of leading residents — had suited the purpose admirably, and, recognising that it would not do for ever, the Government was being urged to acquire an area adjoining .the Technical School site, near the recreation ground. The boundaries of Petone were likely to be extended, and the time was not far distant when the Hutt River would be bridged at Petone, and the centre of the district for the- purposes under discussion must be the -place where the population was largest. A number of resolutions were carried (as appended later), but the various points made in the lengthy discussion by the Revs. A. Thomson (Chairman of the School Committee), and J. D. Russell, and Messrs. J. C. R. Isherwood, J. Piper, J. Austin, J E L Findlay, McKenzie, W. B. Nicholson, R. W. Short, and others, may be summarised first. - , Although only two years established, the Petone District High School had now no fewer than 105 pupils, or about twice as many as the Hutt D H.S. Yet it was proposed to send those 105 children of a- less wealthy class of parents right to the Hutt. . The injustice was 40 apparent.- Petone- people were an artisan community, and it was proposed to rob them of a secondary school and place their children at a serious disadvantage in their equipment for the battle of life.....

6th October 1906 A parade of the Third Wellington Public School Cadet Battalion was held at Johnsonville yesterday afternoon. The corps represented were Hutt, Petone, Johnsonville, Otaki, Levin, and Weraroa. The muster was 350, and Major Burlinson was in command. Lieutenant-Colonel Loveday, officer in charge of the public school cadets of the colony, was present. At the conclusion of a number of movements, which were satisfactorily performed, the cadets were supplied with refreshments .

9th October 1906 The action of the Petone School Committee and the public meeting of householders in protesting against the removal of {he Petone District High School to the Hutt, and in urging the need for a new school at the west end of Petone. was unanimously .endorsed by the local Borough Council last night.

16th October 1902 Miss I. Thomson, junior assistant, Petone. Appointed from being a pupil teacher at Petone.

25th October 1906 Wellington Education Board A deputation from Petone waited on the Board with reference to several matters exercising the minds of the residents of the district. The Rev. A. Thomson, who headed the deputation, protested against the proposal to establish a second school at the end of Whites line, and urged that it be erected on the west end of the town. He said that both the Hutt and Petone School Committees had condemned the Whites line site and mentioned that the inspectors of the board had recommended the west end site. He then referred to the question of secondary education in the district. He said there were 105 children in the secondary school and pointed out that a great injustice would be done if the school was removed

to the site of the present Hutt primary school. If the present building was to be vacated, then the deputation suggested that a site should be acquired by the board along, side the present technical school. Finally, he urged that the technical school should be proceeded , with without delay. Mr. Geo. London, Mayor of Petone, and Mr. McKenzie also spoke. The chairman, in reply, said the deputation was early in the day, as the report of the committee which had been considering the question raised had not yet been considered by the board. The question would be viewed from a broad standpoint, and the remarks of the deputation given every consideration. The chairman pointed out that there was a larger overdraft than last month by £1000, but aa against that the board had due to it £5150

26th October 1906 Part of a very long report on a deputation from Petone to the Wellington Education Board The chairman said the Petone School was full. It was, however, generally admitted that it would not be desirable to increase the accommodation there, it followed, therefore, that a second primary school was a necessity for Petone. The Commissioner of Lands (Mr J. Strauchon) had indicated that he might arrange to set apart two acres of land on the Wilford estate. Since that he had offered a site of one and three-quarter acres on the Wilford estate, half a mile nearer to Petone. and more in the centre of the Valley. The committee now recommended that this last offer should be accepted, and a second primary school erected on the site. With regard to the secondary school matter he considered it would be belter it one thoroughly equipped school were erected to suit the requirements of the whole Valley. Mr McDonald said the only question exercising the minds of everybody was the locality of the site for the second school. He moved— That the Board. commends that the Government at once acquires the one and three-quarter-acre site on the Wilford estate, being sections 1 to 13, for the erection there of a second primary school for Petone. Mr Hogg was willing to second this if the mover would add, That, in the meantime, a building be erected at Petone West (on the Maori reserve), in accordance with the wishes of the deputation.

29th November 1906 Mr W H Olson and Miss A Webster were granted leave for examinations. Both were pupil teachers

10th December 1906 The annual concert of the Petone school children, which was held in the local Oddfellows Hall on Friday evening, was so successful, many being unable to get into the packed building, that the programme was repeated on Saturday evening. The action songs by the infants were the leading feature of the entertainment and the standard of perfection attained by them reflected credit on the teaching staff of the Primary school. Some of the elder children also contributed excellent items of various kinds to the programme. Assistance -was also lent by Messrs. Rattray, F, A. Mason, R G. House, W. G. D. Evans, Delahunty, and Miss Alice Troup. The Wellington public schools banner was handed to Roy Proebster, the captain of the Petone School Football team, and each member of the, team received a medal

14th December 1906 Report re educational needs of Hutt Valley was one of the items on the order paper before the Wellington Education Board yesterday. When this matter was reached the chairman, Mr R. Lee, moved that consideration should be deferred until the January meeting. This was agreed to. The chairman also gave notice that he would move at the next meeting that the question of the site for the second primary school for Petone, which had already been decided by the Board, should be reconsidered. . The matter of education in the Hutt came up again in the report of the Sites Committee. The committee recommended that the question of the site for a secondary school at Lower Hutt should be held over till the January

meeting. Mr T. W. McDonald objected to further postponing this matter. It had been before the Board now for about twelve months.....

1907

1907	839	Petone DHS	Horne	James	D1	Head Master	£380.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Bedingfield	Doug S	C1	Assistant Master	£245.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Slater	Jemima	D1	Assistant Female	£205.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Kean	Balfour	D2	Assistant Master	£195.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Mason	Francis A	D2	Assistant Master	£175.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Carter	Elsie	D2	Assistant Female	£135.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Horne	James	D1	Head Master	\$385.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D2	Assistant Female	\$155.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Armit	Katherine N	D3	Assistant Female	\$115.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Arcus	Lawrence H	D3	Assistant Master	\$115.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Cook	Ada M	D2	Assistant Female	\$105.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Thomson	Isabel S M	D4	Assistant Female	\$90.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Arrowsmith	Doris		FP3	\$90.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Law	Doris		FP5	\$60.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Webster	Agnes		FP4	\$55.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Watt	Christina		FP2	\$50.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Gaynor	Alacogue E		FP3	\$45.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Printzen	Doris K		FP3	\$45.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Pickering	Eva M		FP3	\$45.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Parkinson	A E H		MP3	\$45.00
1907	839	Petone DHS	Lynskey	James H	C1	Secondary	
1907	839	Petone DHS	Myers	Phoebe	B2	Secondary	
1907	839	Petone DHS	Ross	Christina M		Secondary	

9th January 1907 Mr. J. H. Lynskey, the head teacher of the Petone District High School, and well known in local football and general sports circles, was married at Hampden this afternoon to Miss Nora Joyce. Mr. Lynskey recently received a presentation from his pupils, and several other presentations are pending from institutions with which he is connected.

21st January 1907 Parts of a long article headed Indignation meeting: PETONE AND THE EDUCATION BOARD. THE RIVAL SCHOOL SITES. OVERCROWDED CLASSES. .

An indignation meeting was held at Petone on Saturday night as the outcome of a notice of motion given by the chairman of the Education Board in regard to a site for a second primary (school at Petone. The Petone Primary School has been overcrowded for some considerable time; and at present a building apart from the school has to be rented to accommodate one of the standards. Over a year ago the School Committee applied to the Board of Education, for the erection of a second school at Petone.....The Petone School Committee still held that the west end site was the most suitable for the second school, this opinion also being backed by resolutions of the Hutt and Korokoro School Committees. The Board then carried a motion requesting the Education Department to take the necessary steps to secure the west end site. The Petone _ School Committee were _ now happy _in the thought that their end was gained

and the trouble was ended; but, alas the chairman of the Education Board at a recent meeting, in disregard of the opinion and expressed wish of the people, gave notice that he would move the rescinding of the Board's previous resolution in the matter. Hence the battle of the sites continued, the outcome being an indignation meeting, the proceedings of which are chronicled below.

The meeting was held in the open air. Addresses were given by the Mayors of Petone and Lower Hutt, the chairman of the Petone School Committee, and others from the balcony of the Municipal Buildings. Prior to the opening of proceedings, the Petone Brass Band played a programme of selected music, in order to draw a crowd to the meeting place. The Rev. A. Thomson outlined the negotiations which had taken place between the School Committee and the Education Board and said he could not understand why the chairman of - the Board had acted as he had done in regard to the site. The wish of both the Petone School Committee and the Education Board should not be brushed aside in such a manner. The present meeting would be asked to carry two resolutions—one reaffirming Petone's desire to have the second school at the west end of the town; and the other protesting against the action of the chairman of the Education Board for the stand he had taken.....

23rd January 1907 Petone Borough Council Mr Thompson, chairman of the Petone School Committee, was granted permission to address a public meeting from the balcony of the Municipal Council Buildings, to protest against the action of the chairman and certain members of the Education Board in regard to sites for a school at Petone.

1st February 1907 Part of another very long article entitled New School for Petone: the proposal of the Education Board to erect a new school at West Petone was the subject brought before the board by a deputation from that town yesterday afternoon. It was introduced by Mr. Wilford, M.H.R., and consisted of Messrs. G. London (Mayor), R. C. Kirk, A. Coles, and R. Mother. The deputation urged that effect should be given to that resolution, and Mr. Wilford declared that the people of Petone were united in their opinion on the subject. The proposed school on the Wilford Settlement would not fulfil the requirements at present, although it might be valuable in time to come. Mr. London stated that settlement was progressing at a very fast pace in the westward direction at Petone, and he had no hesitation in saying that during the next twelve months progress would be greater in that direction than in any other part of Petone.

And finished with He moved: That this Board renew its application for the purchase of the western site for an additional school at Petone and urges the necessity of the case and the united desire of the people of Petone. Mr. McDonald : That is my motion. Mr. Allan: Well, I will second yours. He rather deplored what the chairman had said about the meeting at Petone. It was held in the open air because there was no hall available, and it was scarcely fair to call it a saturnalia. He further urged that Petone, by reason of its population, required a second school, irrespective of the claims of the district as B, whole. Mr. Vile opposed the motion, and Mr. Hogg and Mr. Field supported it. On being put to the meeting the motion was carried. -

25th February 1907 Mr. J. Lynskey, of Petone, who was recently married, was entertained by the Members of the Petone Junior Club, of which he is president, and given a handsome presentation.....The public complimentary social and presentation to the Rev. A. Thomson in Appreciation of 18 years public service in Petone will take place in the local Oddfellows

Hall on Wednesday evening next. A capital concert programme has been arranged. [Mr Thompson was going back to Scotland for six months]

7th March 1907 THE MINISTERS DECISION. WESTERN SITE BARRED. The secretary of the Education Board has received the following letter from the Secretary for Education : — With reference to your memorandum of the 4th inst. conveying a resolution of the board that the application for the purchase of the western site for an additional school at Petone, be renewed, I am directed to say that the Minister recognises the necessity of additional school accommodation at Petone, and is prepared to make a grant for a new school on the Wilford Settlement site. If this is not satisfactory the Minister is prepared to consider suggestions regarding a new site east or north of the existing school, but he considers that the purchase of the suggested western sits and the building of a school on it would be a waste of public money. Mr. Fowlds visited the district in company with the chairman of the board, who agreed with the judgment us intimated above, and the Minister can only conclude that the board has decided, in accordance with its resolution, without having examined the position or the spot, as he did.

20th March 1907 Wellington Rugby Union Annual report included: The Public Schools Banner was won by the Petone School, the players for whom were presented by the union with the usual medals.

9th April 1907 The tender of Messrs. Lowen and Bull has been accepted for the erection of a new shelter shed on the Petone School grounds.

23rd April 1907 School Committee Elections. PETONE. _ Here there was a record meeting, the large infant schoolroom being filled to overflowing. The Chairman (Mr. D. McKenzie) presided. The report stated that the only question of prominence during the year was the effort to get a second primary school in the west end. The teachers were thanked for their splendid work. The balance-sheet allowed a small credit of £2. On the motion of Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Caverhill, the report was adopted. On the Rev. J. D. Russell's initiative the meeting passed a vote of thanks to Mr. W. G. D. Evans, the retiring secretary, who had rendered valuable service for several years. The Chairman expressed the hope that the new committee would endeavour to secure Mr. Evans's services at a small remuneration. In the polling for committeemen there were 10 candidates, and the largest number of votes ever given at a similar meeting was recorded, totalling 115. The Committee elected consisted of : — Messrs. U. McKenzie (Chairman), Rev, J. D. Russell, J. List. A. Marsden, R. Mothes. T. J. Buckton, J. Abrahall, W. Hill, A. Bailey. The new committee appointed Mr. W. G. D. Evans its secretary. Votes of thanks were passed to the retiring officers

26th April 1907 Another very long article started with deputation consisting of about thirty residents or Petone and Korokoro waited on the Hon. G. Fowlds, Minister for Education, last evening in connection with the agitation which has for some time been rife in those districts for an additional school. There were also present Messrs Wilford, Field, and Fisher, M.H.R.s, Messrs Allan and Kebbells, members of the Education Board, and Mr G. London, Mayor of Petone. Mr Wilford introduced the deputation and pointed out at some length the urgent need for another school, and urged that the suggested site, on the western boundary of Petone, was most suitable. There was another, at the Wilford Settlement, more to the north; but this at present was not in a populous neighbourhood and could not be of such use as the first one mentioned.

26th April 1907 What is claimed to be a record in the way of petitions was achieved by^ the Petone document presented to the Minister for Education last night. The Mayor (Mr. London) stated that the estimated number of adults in Petone was 2260, and of that number 2037 had signed the petition. He thought it unlikely that in any other town in the colony had so large a proportion of the adult population contributed to a representation of the kind. It was mentioned that the Chairman of the School Committee (Mr. D. McKenzie) had personally secured 1500 signatures and had had only one refusal. The last speaker in support of the deputation request for a school at the western end of the town was Mr. Fisher, M.H.R., who said he had never before seen such an irresistible volume of evidence laid before a Cabinet Minister. He undertook to bear testimony inside or outside the House that no sane man could possibly refuse such a sensible demand.

31st May 1907 Wellington Education Board . PBTONE SCHOOL SITE. A recommendation to acquire under the Public Works Act the western school site at Petone, the department contributing half the cost, and the Board the remainder—about £700 each—met with some opposition, the chairman believing the matter should be further considered by the Finance Committee.

Mr McDonald and Mr Field emphasised the urgency of the case. Mr Allan said it had taken the Board four years to get into a good financial position, and if they were not careful they would lapse into the old state. They had for a long time past been trying to see a way of rebuilding the Mount Cook Girls School and had not been able to do so. The Petone case should be reconsidered by the Finance Committee. Mr Hogg said the need of a second school at Petone was the most urgent in the district. Mr McDonald said if, after the definite promise of the Minister, the question were further shelved, the Board would get before it another deputation as strong as that which went before the Minister. The difficulty was compromised by referring the matter to a special meeting of the Finance Committee, with power to act.

28th June 1907 Mr. F. Mothes, who left Petone yesterday to take up the position of sole teacher at Matahiwi School, received presentations before leaving from the Petone School staff — for whom Mr. Home acted as spokesman — and from the sixth standard pupils, on whose behalf Mr. Bedingfield expressed the regret felt at the departure of Mr. Mothes, who is an old boy of the Petone School. [Matahiwi is west of Masterton]

29th June 1907 The Rev, Alex. Thomson is enjoying a holiday in the Old Country after 25 years in New Zealand, 17 of which have been spent in Petone as minister of St. David's Church. Mr Thomson has come hither for rest and change, and to see again the friends that still remain in the Homeland. He travelled by the Mooltan from Sydney, to London, via Suez. As a keen educationalist, being chairman of the Petone school committee for 14 years, and chairman for three years of the Petone Technical School, Mr Thomson intends to see and learn all he can while in this country in regard to school matters. He intends also to study the social conditions of the working classes here and to compare his experience of 25 years ago with the present. He also takes commissions to the General Assemblies of the Church of Scotland and the United Free Church meeting this month in Edinburgh. After seeing Scotland Mr Thomson will cross to Ireland, returning to London about the end of July. He leaves again for New Zealand on August 30th by the Mooltan.

29th June 1907 The prevalence of measles at Petone has greatly reduced the school attendance. There were yesterday upwards of fifty cases of the disease. Mr Mason, the Chief Health -

Officer, has advised that ail unaffected children should be allowed .o attend school as usual, for keeping them at home in an affected house he regards ns the surest way for them to contract the disease

8th July Question of School Sites included Minister of Education complaining at Education Board: Of course, he did not always find that he got the assistance from Education Boards to which he thought he was entitled in resisting unreasonable claims. They had a case in point in regard to the Petone school, where the Board was throwing away hundreds of pounds and was not getting the best site to supply present and future requirements

17th August 1907 Free Lance: Jimmy Lynskey, the Petone football pedagogue,[a teacher, especially a strict or pedantic one] was an interested spectator at Saturdays match. That .stands to reason, but the play of Green and Tilyard, the respective halfbacks of the Petone and Poneke teams, caused a pleasant smile to cross his features at different times. Why, do you ask? Simply that both of these lads have been under his direction for many years, and many of the things they know and practise are the outcome of the teachings of the best schoolboy football coach we have, or have ever had, in Wellington. What do you think of them, Jimmy? Oh* they're good lads, both of them, but the fat one (Green) is a bit the best l Oh, that is natural. He has had the more experience. Granted, but I have got another boy that is coming on that will take the shine out of both of them Surely not a half-back? Oh, no, not a half, but a five-eighth — Joe Hooper's boy, that you noticed playing for the school representatives last year. If in a couple of years' time a five-eighth of the name of McKenzie shows exceptionally good form in the Petone team, the conversation I have mentioned above will be remembered, for Lynskey is a fine judge of the possibilities of a boy.

31st August 1907 Rugby Representative team The schools the boys are drawn from are as follows — Petone, 6 , Technical, 7 , Hutt, 1 ; Terrace, 3 , Brooklyn, 1 ; South Wellington, 1

28th September 1907 Wellington Education Board PETONE SCHOOL SITE. Captain McDonald, Mr Vile and the chairman reported that they had carefully inspected the portion of the Petone Western school site which the Board had been advised to purchase and were of opinion that the back portion was quite unsuitable for a school ground. They recommended that the Board should acquire a sufficient area of dry land on the side abutting the main Hurt road, including the whole of the frontage to the road. The report was adopted, and it was decided to take the necessary steps to acquire the land recommended.

1st October 1907 Miss Caverhill was presented with a handsome gift yesterday by the teaching staff of- the Petone School: on her retirement from teaching. (Mr. Horne, head teacher, who made the presentation, spoke in eulogistic terms of Miss Caverhill as a teacher, and wished her every happiness in her new sphere of life.

1907/6398	Thirza Mildred	Caverhill	Walter Peter	Pringle
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22nd October 1907 The main street of Levin presented a gay appearance yesterday morning, when the Hon. G. Fowlds, Minister for Education, presented to the Third Wellington. Cadet Battalion the shield given by Captain Kebbell for competition by the companies of the battalion. A platform had been elected opposite the Post Office, and among those who occupied it were Messrs. Hardy, A. Kidd, Budde, and Field, M.H.R.s. The Mayor (Mr. Gardener), on behalf of the citizens, welcomed the visitors to Levin..... afterwards spent in visiting the Levin Lake and the Recreation grounds, where the cadets were put through some battalion drill

by Major Burlinson. The cadet corps on parade, with their numbers, were as under: — Petone cadets (Captain Lynskey), 63 ; Johnsonville cadets (Captain Bethune) 33 ; Levin High School cadets (Captain Burns), 48 ; Hutt cadets (Captain Ballancey), 53; Training Farm. cadets (Captain Eggleton), 63 ; and Otaki cadets (Captain Burns-Smith), 25. The Levin Training School Cadets Band was in attendance and played n. number of selections in a commendable style.

26th October 1907 Free Lance One day last week, before the House met, Mr. Wilford led into the House a crowd of the senior boys from the Petone schools — his future constituents if they live long enough, and if Tom lives long enough The member began to expound to the boys the forms of the House, and to point out to them the seats of the Government and Opposition parties. Tom was observed. Ngata quietly stole into Mr. Speakers chair, and when, his voice, in perfect imitation of Mr. Speaker, rang out suddenly with the demand: Will hon gentlemen please resume their seats Tom Wilford got the shock of his life For one brief moment he thought he had been caught out.

25th October 1907 Wellington Education Board The question of making additions to the Petone school was left in the hands of a committee.

14th December 1907 The Petone School concert was repeated last evening to a fairly large audience, and the. children, under Miss Slater, gave the various items mentioned last. week, with great credit. The first item was The Garland of Flowers. Mr. Evans recited Tim O'Hara's Wake; Mr. Mason sang - Admiral .Broom ; Mr. House recited in a way. that pleased the boys well; Mrs. Sherwin. sang. Sunshine and Rain.; Mr. Gray was also well received in his various items. Mr. McKenzie, in thanking the performers and the audience, stated that over £20 had been obtained by the two concerts.

20th December 1907 Parents, pupils and teachers of the Petone District High School gathered at the school grounds yesterday afternoon, on the occasion of the breaking up for the summer vacation. The ceremony took the form of a garden party, which, however, was marred to a certain extent by the unfavourable weather. The tennis matches were therefore unavoidably postponed. During the afternoon the various prizes won during the year were distributed. The prizes given by Mr. Wilford, M.P., for the best essay on n, visit to Parliament House were allotted as follows : — Senior division.: R. McConnell 1. A. Thomson 2. Second division : R Clapham 1. R. Collins 2. Most diligent workers : Vera Cowan and Edna Greatbatch. General proficiency in drill : A. Thomson. General proficiency in gardening : Linda Edy and Ivy Young. Shooting : Cliff Ramsden. Meteorological records Edwin Jackson. The next presentation was of especial interest, Mr. James Lynskey, head of the secondary school, being the recipient. Mr. James Horne, headmaster, in making the presentation on behalf of the matriculation pupils, as a token of appreciation for extra help afforded them, referred in eulogistic terms to Mr. Lynskey's value, as a master, both in and out of school. Mr. Lynskey, in replying, impressed upon, the pupils about to leave the necessity of leading a straight clean life. The Rev. A. Thomson, of the school committee (which body was well represented), also gave a short address. At the conclusion afternoon tea was dispensed.

1908

1908	887	Petone DHS	Horne	James	D1	Head Master	£385.00
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1908	887	Petone DHS	Bedingfield	Doug S	C1	Assistant Master	£245.00
1908	887	Petone DHS	Slater	Jemima	D1	Assistant Female	£205.00
1908	887	Petone DHS	Kean	Balfour	D2	Assistant Master	£195.00
1908	887	Petone DHS	Mason	Francis A	D2	Assistant Master	£175.00
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1908	887	Petone DHS	Kydd	Maude		FP1	£55.00
1908	887	Petone DHS	Watt	Christina		FP3	£55.00
1908	887	Petone DHS	Gaynor	Alacogue E		FP4	£55.00
1908	887	Petone DHS	Pickering	Eva M		FP4	£55.00
1908	887	Petone DHS	Printzen	Doris K		FP4	£55.00
1908	887	Petone DHS	Parkinson	A E H		MP4	£55.00
1908	887	Petone DHS	Hall	Lily E		FP3	£45.00
1908	887	Petone DHS	Marsden	Joseph S		MP3	£45.00
1908	887	Petone DHS	Lynskey	James H	C1	Secondary	
1908	887	Petone DHS	Myers BA	Phoebe	B2	Secondary	
1908	887	Petone DHS	Ross BA	Christina M		Secondary	

1st January 1908 In our issue of yesterdays, date, there appeared a short article, in which it was-stated that owing to the action of the Government in refusing to advance more than £750-towards the cost, of a school site for the western portion of the Petone district and in view of -the fact--that the site in question could not-be purchased for £1500, the Board, in-consideration of the state of its finances, was unable to proceed further. The educational needs, of the district were ,in danger of being shelved, and the Minister is now with another deputation. A representative of the Dominion interviewed the Secretary for Education, Sir E. O. Gibbes, yesterday, and asked for a statement of the actual position. It appears that when the former deputation interviewed the Minister with reference to the question .of site, and the cost; of the same it was distinctly stated that the. necessary land could be purchased for £1500. On these terms the Government made-a -grant of £750, half cost of the proposed site. The Board subsequently decided on the recommendation of a sub-committee which had -inspected the site, to acquire an additional portion, in area about one and a quarter acres, abutting on the selected site, as the back portion of the same, being low lying and wet, was considered to be quite unsuitable for a school ground. This decision brought the Board face to face with a contingent liability of anything from £2500 to £3000, which means that the Government is asked to practically double its original grant. In the meantime, the Board has diplomatically suggested-to the Petone residents that they take whatever steps they consider necessary to enforce their claims.

10th January 1908 The question of providing scholars in the schools of Petone with swimming baths was considered at a meeting of the school committee,, and it was resolved to ask the trustees of a section, purchased in Beach-street some time ago by public subscription for a boys

brigade, and not used since, to hand the land over to the committee, so that swimming baths may be provided for the pupils of both schools.

14th January 1908 Petone Borough Council A letter was received from the New Zealand Amateur Swimming Association advising the Council to consider the question of the erection of public swimming baths in Petone. The Petone school committee asked whether in case of the erection of swimming baths by the committee on the Boys Institute section, between Beach street and the school grounds, the Council would supply water free, as well as inlet and outlet connections. It was decided that the question of baths should be held over for some time.

16th January 1908 More than one hundred people gathered in the Petone State schoolroom yesterday afternoon to witness a practical exhibition of gas cooking by Miss C. Wolfe. The Mayor (Mr. J. W. McEwan), in introducing Miss Wolfe, stated that she had been engaged by the Borough Council to demonstrate the superiority and practicability of cooking by gas over the older methods. Miss Wolfe commenced shortly after 3 p.m. Cakes and scones were baked to perfection, and a variety of other articles cooked — from the substantial meat pie to the light blancmange — was a clear proof to any doubters of the cleanliness and efficiency of the gas stove. The cooking was followed by a short explanatory lecture by Miss Wolfe.

31st January 1908 Wellington Education Board A report upon proposed sites for a new school at Petone was considered, and it was decided to take steps for the acquisition under the Public Works Act of the site recommended by the School Committee, a piece of Maori land near the railway station

4th February 1908 Wellington Education Board Scholarship Robert W McConnell Petone DHS Finished 2nd in a long list

15th February 1908 At a meeting of the Petone School Committee last evening, all matters pertaining to the annual school picnic, to be held on the Hutt Park at an early date, were finally arranged. Mr. Moore, [Sic] headmaster of the school, reported that £25 had been collected by the children towards the general fund. The secretary (Mr. Evans) intimated that seven railway carriages would be at the schools disposal for conveying the general public to the grounds. To give some idea of what it means to have to cater for about a thousand children at a picnic, it is of interest to note that the Petone School Committee is arranging for the supply, amongst other things, at the annual picnic of about 180 loaves. 100 lbs of cake, 1400 buns, and little- items like one cwt of nuts, and 4 casks of ginger-beer

17th February 1908 In view of the fact that several members of the Education Board advocate the establishment of a central district high school at the Lower Hutt, it is interesting to note that the number of scholars at present attending the secondary school at Petone, is sixty-four (including twenty-three boys), while forty-two pupils are at present receiving instruction at a similar institution in the Lower Hutt. This time last year, however, the attendance at the Petone High School numbered seventy seven. The headmaster (Mr. J. Lynskey) attributes the falling off to the large demand for boy labour from all quarters

22nd February 1908 The Petone School committee met, last evening in the High School when arrangements were made; for the picnic, to be held next Saturday at the Hutt -Park-. It was also decided to obtain; a merits-board for; names of scholars winning scholarships.. The Committee placed on . record -its appreciation of the Petone Cadets, who the Kebbel Shield for shooting,

2nd March 1908 Thanks largely to the liberal donations on the part of the residents, the result of the Petone State School picnic, both financially and otherwise, quite exceeded the committees expectations. Nearly 1000 picnics, young and old, journeyed to the Hutt Park, where sports and games were indulged in till shortly after 6 p.m. The youngsters were well provided for as regards lollies, nuts, etc ; the facilities for bathing in the Hutt River attracted many while the sports events were keenly contested. Results :100 yds. championship, Wilkinson 1, Aitken 2; 100 yds. open, Haseman 1, Aitken 2 ; 100 yds., under 14, Thompson 1, Wilkinson 2; 100 yds., under 12, Thompson 1, Platt 2 ; 80 yds., under 10, Cowie 1, Jones 2 ; three-legged race, Wilkinson and Parrant 1, Webster, and Newland-and Marsden and Andrews, dead heat, 2 ; wheel barrow race, Webster and Parrant 1, Wilkinson and Boyd 2. The swimming championship was won by W. Taylor. Several other races have yet to be decided Numerous competitions were also held among the infants.

25th March 1908 THE NEW SCHOOL AT PETONE. Petones much needed and long-delayed second school has had to be strenuously fought for, every inch of the way. The most suitable site was only comparatively recently adopted by the Education Department after repeated representations which in common justice could have been dealt with in but one way; now further trouble seems likely in consequence of what the local school committee alleges to be a lack of foresight on the part of the authorities. Plans have been prepared for a school on the Hutt road site to accommodate 600 pupils, but it is proposed to erect only enough of the building to accommodate 250 pupils at present. The report of the Education Boards inspectors — already published in our columns — shows that the number of children of school age in the district to be served by the new school is over 400. The present school has been in an overcrowded condition for a long-time past, the number on the rolls has averaged about a thousand, and temporary rooms apart from the school have had to be secured. In the face of these facts the school committee considers it has a strong case on which it has based its urgent request to the Education Board that, accommodation should be provided in the new school for 400 pupils.....

26th March 1908 The Rev. A. Thomson, ex-chairman of the Petone School Committee, and one of the keenest fighters for the West End site, which was adopted in the end considers that the provision of accommodation at that school of 250 children will be ample at present

27th March 1908 Wellington Education Board The request of the Petone School Committee that the accommodation for the new school, in the district, be increased from 250 to 400 was, on the motion of Captain McDonald, granted.

13th April 1908 His Excellency the Governor laid the foundation stone of the Petone Technical School on Saturday afternoon The school, which is now well on towards construction, will be completed in about five months. It occupies a prominent position in Buick street, to which it will be a decided ornament.

29th April 1908 Education Board is forwarding to the Department, with a request for grants, the plans of a proposed additional school at Lower Hutt (to accommodate 250 pupils), and one at West Petone to accommodate 350. The buildings will be of wood, The section selected for the West Petone school is owned by Maoris, who will not accept the price which is offered. They have been asked to appear before the Board to discuss the matter. If no agreement is come to there the necessary steps will be taken to acquire the land under the Public Works Act

28th April 1908 The best attended school : committee meeting ever held in Petone took place last evening in the infant school, the capacity of which was severely taxed, to accommodate householders. The following Committee was elected for the ensuing year:—Messrs. G. McKenzie, J. Lift, W. Hill, J. McDougall, Revs.- Thompson and Russell, A. Marsden, and C. Brocklebank ..

28th April 1908 Bible in Schools At the meeting of householders of Petone last evening, Air Piper proposed that in consequence of a certain circular referring to biblical instruction in schools, each candidate for the now committee be asked to signify his intention or otherwise of upholding the present educational system, The Rev. A. Thomson deprecated any action that would lend countenance to an irresponsible document that advocated what would be a deliberate and dishonest method of getting behind the law. He urged that no reputedly honorable man should even be asked to state his views on so disreputable a matter. The meeting concurred in this opinion, and the subject was dropped.

8th April 1908 Outstanding features of the retiring committee's report at Petone were the healthy state of the finances, the great success attained by pupils in recent scholarship examinations and the fact that the long-needed school at the western end of the borough was now fairly within sight. This last result, it was made, very clear by the chairman (Mr. D. McKenzie), had not been attained without a great deal of hard work ; Mr. McKenzie himself had had numbers of interviews with the authorities, had written 67 letters, and sent 15 telegrams. This was in addition to the work of the secretary and members of the committee. The report mentioned that during, last year 40 boys were taught how to swim, and the hope was expressed that the incoming committee would continue to endeavour to obtain swimming baths for the school. On the motion of the Rev. A. Thomson, seconded by Mr. Hollis, the report and balance-sheet were adopted. Eighteen candidates were nominated for positions on the committee, All the following were returned in the order named : — Messrs. D. McKenzie, J. List, W. Hill, Marsden, Rev. J. D. Russell. James McDougall, C Brocklebank, Rev. A. Thomson, and P. Cairns., Messrs. Cairns. and W. H. Hewson each polled 111 votes, and the former was given the chairman's casting vote, There were about 300 present at the meeting, and 260 voted

1st May 1908 THE SCHOOL SITE. Several natives interested in the land proposed, to be taken for a school site at Petone wrote to the Wellington Education Board objecting to being deprived of land which had been the home of their ancestors, and had been bequeathed to them, by a chief who wished it to remain in their possession as a homestead. It was practically all that remained of the Maori holdings in Petone. The secretary informed the Board yesterday that the natives were being left in possession of their homestead and a frontage to the road. The Board's solicitors had reported that there were no historical associations with the spot, so that while the feelings of the natives were worthy of great respect, they did not constitute a well-founded objection to the taking of the land. The Board appointed a small committee to hear the objections of the natives.

16th May 1908 The Hutt District School football team played a Petone school team at Petone on Thursday afternoon. The game was evenly contested, the first spell producing no score. The second, spell, was devoid of score up to within a few minutes of time, when Hanson (Hutt) got across the line, the game ending: Hutt 3. Petone 0

19th May 1908 Public Concert The physical manual exercise by the Petone School Cadets was an interesting display.

16th May 1908 PETONE SCHOOL COMMITTEE. (From Our Resident Reporter.) The newly elected Petone School Committee held its first general meeting last evening. Those present were the chairman (Mr D. McKenzie), Revs A. Thompson and J D Russell and Messrs Brocklebank, Cairns, Hill, Abrahall, and McDougall. The headmasters report showed that the number on the roll was 979 with an average attendance of over 90 per cent.

The secretary was authorised to arrange for stationery supplies for the year, the three local stationers to have [the opportunity of quoting. The Petone brass band was granted permission to use a room in the school for practices. A request from the headmaster for gravelling- was referred to the works committee, with power to act. Messrs Hill, McDougal, and Cairns were elected a works committee. It was decided to apply to the Board for a new bell for the school. It was decided, on the motion of Rev. A Thompson, to renew the application to the Board for the appointment of a teacher of cookery. Provision was being made in the new technical school building the mover pointed out. for cookery classes, and it was desirable that girls attending the primary school should be afforded an opportunity of benefitting.

The Rev. Russell said it had been brought under his notice that a local girl, who was eligible, had been waiting for ten months for an appointment to the pupil teacher staff and had been passed over in favour of outsiders. He considered that local girls should have preference when vacancies occurred. It was decided to bring the matter under the notice of the headmaster.

Replying to a question, the chairman stated that no notification of a resignation from the teaching staff had been received from the headmaster. Mr Brocklebank complained that the committee appeared not to be kept in touch with what was going on in the school. He thought the headmaster should attend the meetings occasionally. It was decided to request the headmaster to see that his log-book was available at each meeting.

A letter was read in reference to the non-attendance of Elsie Dent, whose parents had been fined for a breach of the Truancy Act, notwithstanding that the child was under medical attendance. The magistrate had refused to accept a doctors certificate as sufficient excuse in the absence of an exemption certificate. The mother claimed that she had received no absent notices from the teacher, and that no notice whatever had been served on her by the truant inspector of the intended proceedings. It was resolved to issue the exemption certificate and to draw the headmasters attention to the alleged failure to notify the parents.

23rd May 1908 Miss Arrowsmith, one of the junior teachers on the Petone school staff, on retiring from teaching, was presented by the staff with a handsome set of silver mounted toilet brushes as a token of their esteem, accompanied by hearty good-wishes for her future welfare. Mr. Home, head teacher, made the presentation.

1st May 1908 A MAORI- PROTEST. Ever since the Education Board decided to establish a school at the western end of the Petone district obstacle after: obstacle has arisen to retard the achievement of that much-needed addition to the educational facilities of the district. Finally, a site was Secured on the Main Hutt Road, the freehold of which was held by Native owners, and as certain difficulties were placed in the way, it was decided to acquire the land, leaving the settlement of the claim for the amount of purchase money to be settled by arbitration.\

The Native owners through their legal advisers, have now formulated a series of objections to this a summary of these, was laid before the Education Board at . its meeting yesterday. The Maoris object on the following grounds:—

- (1) That the land was the home of their ancestors,
- (2) That Matene Tauwhare, of Petone, deceased, had specially declared in his will his wish that the land should not -be sold but should be retained by his descendants as a native home.
- (3) . That the land in question represented practically; all that was left of the Native holdings in Petone, and that the Natives earnestly desired to be left in the undisturbed- enjoyment of this old homestead.

In the discussion which followed, it was pointed out that it was a question for settlement whether the objections set forth in the foregoing constituted reasonable objections, and a sub-committee consisting of the Chairman (Mr. Robert Lee), Captain McDonald Messrs. J- G. W. Aitken, M.P., W. H Field, M.P and A.. B. Vile, was set up to investigate the points raised.

29th May 1908 Wellington Education Board Resignations: Miss D. F. Arrowsmith Petone: and Miss A. Webster, Petone.

29th May 1908 Wellington Education Board Four protests against School Committee elections was this: Similar .-protests were received from Petone, Martinborough,, and Pongaroa. In the case of Petone it was decided that the protest against the return of one of the candidates be upheld,, and that the next highest on the list be selected to take his place.[Question was whether candidates lived in the school district] Another Newspaper stated that there was no change at Petone

11th June 1908 Residents of Petone are anxiously awaiting developments in connection with .the erection of the new school on the western site. Difficulties and delays over the acquisition of this particular site from the Native owners concerned, together with the congested state of the main school in Jackson Street, have brought about-much dissatisfaction. The site at the western end is to be taken under the Public Works Act, and the necessary processes will probably extend over several weeks. Present indications, it is stated, show that it. will be Quite six months before the school building will be ready for occupation.

17th June 1908 Taking the average attendance figures given in the annual report, of the Minister for Education in New Zealand, it appears-that, for-large schools, Canterbury is easily first, the Gloucester Street School, with its side, department, averaging 1155 Christchurch West District High School has an .average attendance of 969. Newtown District High School (Wellington) comes third with, 885, followed by Petone (Wellington) with 868

22nd June 1908 On Saturday afternoon last, at the invitation of the chairman of the Petone School Committee (Mr. D. McKenzie), Mr. T. W. McDonald, of the Education Board, paid a visit to the Petone School to enquire into the unsatisfactory state of the school grounds. After being shown round by Mr. McKenzie and several of the School Committee, Mr. McDonald appeared to be quite satisfied of the disgraceful state of the grounds, and he also considered more and better shelter accommodation was required for the children in wet weather. Mr. McKenzie also took advantage of the occasion to point out to Mr. McDonald that all the doors in the school opened inwards, and this constituted a danger to the children should a panic take place. Mr. McDonald promised to use his best endeavours to get the required improvements made.

23rd June 1908 The Petone school committee is taking in hand the organising of a concert to provide funds for replenishing the supply of books in the school library. Captain T. W. McDonald has been nominated by the Petone school committee for re-election on the Wellington Education Board.

26th June 1908 Wellington Education Board . A request was received from the Petone - School Committee, that action be taken to improve the condition of the school grounds, which were stated to be in a very unsatisfactory condition. Captain McDonald said he had visited the school recently and was of opinion that the request of the School Committee was an urgent one —the state of the grounds as regards drainage, etc., was, disgraceful. It was decided to refer the matter to the Finance Committee, with a recommendation that the Clerk of Works be instructed to inspect the grounds, and report upon requirements:

20th July 1908 Some time ago Mr. D. McKenzie, chairman of the Petone, School Committee, suggested that a continuous flow of fresh water through the main and intersecting drains of the borough should be secured ; in order to minimise the smell coming up through the manhole gratings ; that elevated ventilators should be erected, and that the- extended drainage channels into ; the sea, a number of which had been so damaged by the waves that in some cases the outflow was above the low- water mark, whereas it had been originally thirty or forty yards further out, should be repaired. . In the course of a reply to that opinion, the Chief Health Officer (Dr. Mason) . enclosed a report from the District Health Officer (Dr. Frengley). This authority gave an opinion that no further expenditure for structural alterations or additions to the Petone sewerage system should be incurred, save with the intention of making it serviceable for the conveyance of all sewage, including night soil.[Solid toilet matter] Mr. McEwan, Mayor of Petone, stated to-day that as soon as the first cases of r diphtheria were reported he interviewed the district health officer. Dr. Frengley expressed his opinion that there was no cause for alarm.....

30th July 1908 Petone, which, according to the Rev. A. Thomson, claims that it played the principal part, several years ago, in securing the right for school committees to have a voice in the selection of teachers, seems determined to protest strongly against the proposal in the new Education Bill to take away that power from the committee. It seems, said Mr. Thomson to a Post reporter to-day, that the Teachers Institute and the department have made up their minds that they are virtually going to revert to the old order of refusing to give the committees any say in the selection and appointment of teachers. I can say that the whole move on the part of the institute and the department is simply centralise the appointment of teachers in the hands of the department,.....

20th August 1908 Wellington Education Board the following grants were received from the Government: —Petone —new school, in brick, £3790 18s.

22nd August 1908 In a letter to the Petone School Committee last evening, the Education Board said it hoped that instruction would be given in cookery classes in Petone after the completion of the new local technical school.

31st August 1908 Following on a case of alleged excessive caning of a child in the Petone school, the local school committee last night passed a -resolution that the caning of scholars —

except by the headmaster—be abolished. With the exception named, the strap only is to be used in future

21st September 1908 At a meeting of the South Wellington School Committee, it was decided to unanimously support the resolution of the committee of the Petone school, expressing disapproval of certain provisions of the Education Bill now before Parliament

25th September 1908 Wellington Education Board Petone, school bell, chairman and secretary to arrange for supply on report by clerk of works

25th September 1908 Lower Hutt Schools report included The Department recognised that the Eastern Hutt school must be gone on with. The chairman, Mr R. Lee, remarked that if his suggestion had been followed in the first instance, the present state of affairs would have been very much better. The trouble was that the Petone school was put in the wrong place

28th September 1908 The Wellington Education Board, according to the wish of the Prime minister, has decided to close the Otaki Levin, Petone, Hutt, and city and suburban schools today, in order to give the children a whole holiday, to mark Sir Joseph Wards appreciation of the conduct and bearing of the scholars on Dominion Day

1st October 1908 This week representatives of the Education Board, in company, with Mr. D. McKenzie, chairman of the Petone School Committee, visited the new Technical School building, Petone, for the purpose, of arriving at some conclusion regarding the adaptability of the building for; the secondary classes in the daytime, in addition to accommodating the classes for which it was erected The visitors, it is understood, were agreed that at least two class-rooms might easily be utilised for both day and night classes, without disturbing either.

Upon a Post reporter mentioning the subject this morning to the Rev. A. Thomson, chairman of the Technical School Board, and also a member of the local School Committee, Mr. Thomson, strongly reiterated his objection to the, proposal, which he believed was opposed by all others interested in the educational welfare of Petone. Neither the School Committee nor the Technical School Board had been consulted about the matter in any way, he said. He did not think a single member of either institution would for a single moment look upon the suggestion as at (all) feasible. There was only one room in the Technical School building that would be available, and that was in the upper story on the left hand side. He and others were very indignant that such a move should have been made in this manner. He, as chairman of the Technical School Board, knew nothing about the tiling; he was absolutely in the dark, and any proposal of the kind would, in Petone, be strenuously contested. Mr. Thomson also complained that when the deputation was out, the chairman of the Technical School Board was simply ignored in the matter. He added that there were nearly three times as many pupils attending the Petone High School as there were at the Hutt institution. We had, he concluded, a big battle to get Mr. Prices house (the present school), which was virtually given to us by the late Mr. Seddon, and when it is no longer large enough to hold the classes in, our intention will be to ask the Education Board to sell it and erect a new secondary school alongside the Technical School building.

10th October 1908 There has of late been considerable rivalry between the lighter-weight sections of the local and -Petone schools; In Petone, by the way, the green-bay tree is not in it with boxing as a flourishing concern, and the intention of the

association is to match up a Petone and town representative in each class, and so hold a town v. suburb tournament.

17th October 1908 The monthly meeting of the Petone School Committee was held last night, Mr. D. McKenzie being in the chair. There were also present :—Messrs. W. Hill, McDougall, Cairns, C. Brocklebank, Marsden, J. W. List (secretary), and the Rev. A. Thomson.

A request from Mr. Mothes, Registrar of Electors, for the use of the school on polling day was granted.

The question of the hour of closing the school gates was brought up by some friction that had arisen between the custodian and some of the pupils who played tennis up to 7 p.m.; It was decided that the custodian take his instructions from the headmaster.

Mr. Brocklebank referred to the presence of school children in Jackson Street at noon, and he suggested that they be released from school at five minutes to twelve. The secretary remarked that it was a wonder that more accidents did not happen. The suggestion was adopted.

20th October 1908 r. David McKenzie, chairman of the Petone District High School, writes as follows:—In your excellent report in Saturday mornings paper, of the school meeting at Petone on Friday night, permit me, sir, to make a correction of the speech, which says: Literary men are literary cowards. They shelter behind a screen, and the likes of myself have no chance of replying at all. It should read Some literary men are literary cowards, etc.

22nd October 1908 WESTERN PETONE SCHOOL. After more than three years of agitating Petone is to have a second school. As far back as August, 1905, the school accommodation was found insufficient, and a deputation, headed by Mr. D. McKenzie, waited on the then school committee urging the necessity for a school in the western part of the borough. At present, there are over 1100 pupils on the roll at Petone, and the gymnasium at St. David's Church has to be called into service, for which £1 per week is paid, and some classes have to be taught in the playground sheds of the Jackson Street school. The Committee has experienced the usual hard fight to get what they required; mass meetings were held, and last year a petition 63 feet long, containing 2037 signatures, was presented to the Minister. All efforts, however, were without avail until about January last, when the Education Board decided to take a suitable section of land under the Public Works Act. This course was adopted with the result that one acre three roods and three perches, owned by Maoris, was acquired on the Hutt Road, there being 150 feet of frontage. The price was estimated at £1500, the Department and Board paying half each. The value has since increased, and the price will be fixed by arbitration.

The building will accommodate 400 pupils, but provision is made in the plans so that room can easily be added for 200 more. [There will be six class-rooms, four measuring 26ft. x 24ft. and two 30ft. x 24ft. ... The structure, which will be entirely of brick will face the Hutt Road, and will present an attractive appearance. Special rooms are provided for the headmaster and teachers, and a 9 ft. corridor intersects the building. There is a new level playground, and, as the soil of the lower portion is very suitable, the Committee will endeavour to get the pupils to take an interest in horticulture. A tender for the erection of the school is to be accepted by the Education Board at its meeting on Thursday next, and the building should be ready for occupation in about four or five months' time. The Minister for Education will be invited to lay the foundation stone. ... PETONE TECHNICAL SCHOOL. The new Technical School at

Petone, which was opened by His Excellency the Governor on April 11, has been completed, and should be handed over to the board of managers. before the New Year. -The first quarter* for 1909 will commence in the new. Building. .At, present, technical education ,is being carried on in the High School, and it is considered certain that there will then be a large influx of pupils.

30th October 1908 There recently appeared in the columns of The Dominion, under the headings of Petone High School—The Thin End of the Wedge, an account of a difference between the Petone School Committee and the Wellington Education Board concerning the latter's proposal to accommodate the secondary high school classes in the now Technical School building. Referring to the article in question, which enunciates the Petone School Committees, side of the case, the secretary of the Education Board complains that the Petone Committee has evaded the main points at issue, and desires that the full text of the boards .arguments be given publicity. The negotiations, let it be explained, were entrusted to a sub-committee appointed by the Education Board, which conferred with the chairman of the Petone School Committee, and the proposals were subsequently embodied in the following suggestions :—

The suggestion of the board was that an endeavour be made to arrange with the managers of the Technical School for the occupation of the Technical School by the secondary pupils of the Petone District High School during the day. The following considerations were pertinent to the question—

1. The larger size of the class rooms, and the fact that they are built for class purposes, ensures greater additional comfort to the pupils than is afforded .by the present class-rooms.
2. The appliances for manual and technical instruction are at hand, and consequently there would be a vast economy ,of time and effort in. travel to and fro, and in the. greater ease with which the teacher, if located in the building, could make preparation for, say, the science experiments of the day—often these require an hour or two in preparation. The great advantage of the juxtaposition of class and manual and technical rooms is very evident,.
3. There is immediately a.t hand a fine playground area for recreation.
4. The course of instruction in a town like Petone will naturally fall rather along commercial and industrial- than along old grammar School lines, and hence the association of thy secondary department with the Technical School is natural and is on exactly the plan contemplated by the board elsewhere, e.g., at Pahiatua. The arrangement hero suggested . obtains almost universally in Germany and other progressive Continental countries.
5. It is to be noted that the conjunction of the secondary school with the Technical School almost invariably • has the result that the junior school acts as a feeder to the Technical School.- This result is being happily experienced in Wellington, where it is notable that the calibre and preparedness of the students at the evening classes have undergone a marked improvement owing to the better initial training gained in the. day classes prior to outering the evening classes.
6. Not only, then, would there be a reasonable expectation of increased efficiency, but the great saving in administrative cost is well worthy of consideration, It costs less to maintain ono than two establishments, and, while the respective administering,, bodies would save half cost, the country would be saved the interest on the largo capital cost of the present District High School building. Under this head the board stands to gain nothing, so far as I am aware, -but the country will.

It may be said, wrote the boards secretary, that it, will be difficult to carry on in the same building the work of day and evening students, but no difficulty is in practice encountered. The day classes at Wellington, for occupy the same rooms as the evening classes, but no difficulty is experienced. The board would, of course, provide for the secondary pupils* necessary seating accommodation, which would be available for evening students. Further, lockers and cupboards will contain the things used by the former would be provided, so that the rooms should be clear for the use of the latter at night. On the ground, then, of undoubted gain, in efficiency, of economy, of improved health conditions for the children, of gain to the secondary department, of gain to the Technical School, the board presents the above proposal to your committee with the full hope that it will receive the consideration its importance merits. No reply to the above had, at the date of the boards meeting yesterday, been received from the Petone School Committee. In the Wanganui district, it is stated, three technical schools are now used in the manner suggested to the Petone Committee.

4th November 1908 At a meeting of the Petone Technical Board last evening the chairman and Messrs Coles and Finlay were appointed a committee to confer with Mr La Trobe, director of the Wellington Technical School, respecting the equipment of the new school. A letter was read from the department inquiring whether the proposed furnishings and apparatus for the cookery, carpentry and science rooms would provide for day classes from the primary school as well as for the evening classes. Further inquiries were ordered.

26th November 1908 The Work of erecting the new school in Western Petone is well under way. The building will be ready for occupation on classes resuming after the holidays

1st December 1908 The Hutt Valley candidates for matriculation at the examination commencing at Wellington to-day include nine scholars attending the Petone district high school.

1st December 1908 Petone parents and school children alike will learn with pleasure that the school committee has been able to complete arrangements with the Ferny Company whereby steamers will call at the new wharf on 19th December to convey the children across to Days Bay for the annual picnic

1st December 1908 School Tennis Annual Championship

GIRLS SINGLES, Senior.

First Round—Kath. Moore (Ter.) beat Elsie Gunter (Hutt), default; V. Curtis (Petone) beat S. Jenkins (New.), 30—20; H. Andrews (Tech.) beat McColl (Ter.), 30—25; O. Caverhill (Petone) beat E. Still (Ter.), 30—9. Second Round—N. Curtis (Petone) beat Amy D'Emden (New), 30—8; V. Curtis (Petone) beat K. Moore (Ter.), 30—13; O. Caverhill (Petone) beat H. Andrews (Tech.), 30—9; A. Warren (Tech.) beat G. Worboys (Ter.), 30—11. Semi-Final — N. Curtis (Petone) beat V. Curtis (Petone), 30 —24; O. Caverhill (Petone) beat A. Warren (Tech.), 30—18.

Doubles Semi-Finals —V. Curtis and N. Curtis (Petone) beat O. Caverhill and L. Udy (Petone), 30—23

2nd December 1908 Native Judge Rawson has awarded the native owners of the Western School site at Petone a sum of £2150. The Education Board it will be remembered, acquired the site under the Public Works Act. The Government has contributed a sum of only £750 towards the purchaser The Education Board, will, therefore, be called upon to find £1400

10th December 1908 Yesterday the 3rd Wellington Battalion Public School Cadets, comprising Weraroa, Levin District High School, Johnsonville, Petone District High School I. and II., and Hutt District High School corps, arrived at Johnsonville by train from their respective centres, and on arrival of the camp equipment at 1.30 proceeded to pitch tents, erect cook house, etc. By 2.30 all was snug and comfortable. Major G. M. Burlinson is in command with Captain Bethune, Adjutant, and Mr. A. L. Bennet, quartermaster. The officers of the Weraroa corps with Captain Eggelton and Lieutenant Watt ; Levin corps, Captain Burns, Lieutenant Wood • Johnsonville, Captain Bethune, Lieutenant Bowles ; Petone No. 1, Captain Lynskey ; Petone No. 2, Captain Bedingfield; Hutt, Captain Ballachey. Dr. Robertson, of Johnsonville, has kindly consented to act as honorary medical officer. The routine, of the camp is:— Route 6 a.m., wash and company drill; breakfast, 7.30; commanding officers parade, 10 ; dinner, 12.30 parade, 2.30 ; t s a, 5.30; first post, 8.00 ; second post, 9; lights out, 9.10 p.m. During the week battalion work in attack and defence will be carried out. On Saturday afternoon sports will be held. On Sunday there will be a church parade in the morning, and in the afternoon the battalion, band will assist at Hospital Sunday at Johnsonville. On Tuesday evening a concert will be held in the Johnsonville Town Hall. Tents will be struck on Wednesday, and the various units return by the afternoon trains.

15th December 1908 The following is the text of a resolution passed by the Petone School Committee, and which will be forwarded to the various school committees in the Wellington district, and also to the members of Parliament for Manawatu, Otaki, Suburbs, and the Hutt : That, when cadets are in camp, parents find it considerable hardship when called upon to contribute money for their keep, and as the boys are giving their services for the good of the country, we ask that they have the same concessions and privileges as given to volunteers. The Mayor of Petone, Mr. McEwan intends to enquire from the Government the reason why ordinary and special mail trains do not at present stop at Petone.

21st December 1908 PETONE SCHOOL THE ANNUAL PICNIC.

The novelty of embarking on a ferry steamer at their local wharf was fully appreciated by some 1000 Petone children and 600 adults on Saturday. The occasion was the annual picnic of the Petone State School, which was held at Days Bay, and proved one of the most enjoyable on record, as splendid arrangements had been made. The various competitions resulted as follow :— High School — Boys championships (100 and 220 yards), S. Cowan ; three legged race, W. Duncan and S. Cowan ; 100 yards race (senior), Wynyard 1, Collins 2. 100 yards race (junior), Naughton 1, Caverhill 2. Consolation race (junior), Rushton, 1. Wrestling (catch-as-catch-can), Mills 1. Girls— Mrs. Hyde's trophy, Ella Arrowsmith. Under 15, Curtis. Three-legged race : Nancy Curtis and Ella Arrowsmith. Hopping : Ivy Huggins. Handkerchief race : Nancy Curtis and Edith Coulter. Consolation race: Lila Maynard 1, Doris Leadbeater 2.

Primary School — Blindfold walking race : Simpson 1, Pere 2, Cowie 3. Relay race : Senior, Stanford, Savage, Simpson, 1; Webster, Boyd, Newland, Parrant, 2; Price, Curtis, Wylie, McClure, 3. Wheelbarrow race -. Price and Boyd, 1; Simpson and Stanford, 2; Webster and Parrant, 3. Throwing cricket ball: Udy 1, Davis 2, Southgate 3, Wright 4. Boys championship and cup : Webster 1, Thompson 2, Wright 3. Standard VI., 100 yards: Webster 1, Boyd 2, Paul 3. Standard V., 100 yards: Parrant 1, Davis 2, Thompson 3. 120 yards: Colquhoun 1, Wright 2, Gough 3. Standard IV., 100 yards -. Curtis 1, Crawford 2, Haseman 3. Standard III, 100 yards: Eiffe 1, Thomas 2, Watford 3. 120 yards : Davis 1, Eiffe 2, Thomas 3. Three-legged race :

Simpson and Miller 1 ; Webster and Parrant, 2; Howe and Newland, 3. Dressing race : Newland 1, Parrant 2, Price 3. Girls^-Standard VI.: Hetty Parker, Muriel Hamilton, Violet Walsh. Standard V. : Laura Webster, Ada, Chandler, Clarice Workman. Standard IV. : Rose Davis, Emily Smith, Harriet Lawrence.

1909

1909	842	Petone DHS	Horne	James	D1	Head Master	£410.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	King	Eustace	B1	Assistant Master	£270.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Slater	Jemima	D1	Assistant Female	£215.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Kean	Balfour	C2	Assistant Master	£205.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Mason	Francis A	D2	Assistant Master	£180.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D2	Assistant Female	£165.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Armit	Katherine N	D3	Assistant Female	£125.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Thomson	Isabel S M	D3	Assistant Female	£125.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Mothes	Frederick W		Assistant Master	£121.10
1909	842	Petone DHS	Hunt	Margaret L	C4	Assistant Female	£90.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Ross	Fanny L	C4	Assistant Female	£90.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Young	Mabel F	D3	Assistant Female	£90.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Thompson	Laura E		FP4	£60.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Hall	Lily E		FP4	£55.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Gaynor	Alacogue E		FP5	£55.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Parkinson	A E H		MP4	£55.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Marsden	Joseph S		MP4	£55.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Kydd	Maud		FP2	£35.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Curtis	Vera		FP2	£25.00
1909	842	Petone DHS	Lynskey	James H	C1	Secondary	
1909	842	Petone DHS	Ross BA	Christina M		Secondary	

6th January 1909 It is understood that the Kebbell Challenge Shield for rifle shooting,- open for competition among the cadet companies of the district high schools in the Wellington-education district, has been won by- Levin District High School. The trophy, which is now in its second year of competition, was won previously; by Petone District High School.

16th January 1909 PETONE SCHOOL COMMITTEE! The monthly meeting of the. Petone School Committee was •!.held.; last; evening. Mr. D. McKenzie presiding. There , were also present:—The Rev. A. Thomson, and Messrs. Cairns, Hill and Marsden.

It was decided to ask the Education Board for a new bell for the .school.

The secretary (Mr List) reported ,that the balance on the. recent school picnic amounted £16 19s 9d. This was considered very satisfactory and the report was adopted

An account for £4 -10s from the Technical Board, for gas, etc., . was .passed for payment.

Mr. Thomson moved that £5 worth of new. books be obtained for, the school library, which was greatly in. need of additions, the £5 to come from the picnic surplus; Mr. Hill complained that the library was used as a lumber room. Mr. Marsden pointed out that the donation to the library would carry a Government subsidy.. Mr. Cairns and the chairman spoke in favour of the proposal, which was carried

Mr. List remarked that there were a number of old coats, etc., in the library, and they could be given to a charity. Mr. Hill proposed that they be handed to the Salvation Army. This was decided upon, providing that notice was given so that none required would be lost.

Complaint was made that certain children damaged some trellis, work and interfered otherwise, with school property. It was decided, to write to the parents on the matter, pointing out that further action would be, taken if the offences were continued.

The question of obtaining another half-acre of land for the erection of a high school was referred to by Mr. Thomson, who moved: That in view of the probable move on the part of this committee towards getting a secondary school erected, that we ask the Petone Borough Council to take steps to secure another half-acre of land for the purposes of a high school alongside the present Technical School. The chairman heartily concurred and seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A sub-committee, consisting of the Revs. A. Thomson and J. D. Russell, was set up to watch the matter, and report to next meeting.

16th January 1909 The monthly meeting of the Petone School Committee was held last evening. Present—Messrs D. McKenzie (chairman), Cairns, Kill, Marsden, Leet (secretary), and Rev. A. Thomson.

The balance-sheet in connection with the recent picnic was read and adopted. The total receipts had been £72 7s 11d, an amount of £116 19s 9½d remaining in hand.

It was resolved, on the motion of the Rev. A. Thomson, to apply £5 out of the profits towards replenishing the school library. The amount will be subject to the addition of a £1 for £1 subsidy.

The Education Board wrote, declining to supply a new bell for the school, as the old one was not cracked. It was decided to renew the application, members expressing the hope that when the bell became more cracked than it is they would not be there to hear.

The Rev. Thomson introduced the question of moving in the direction of having the present secondary division of the District High School erected into a high school proper. He recapitulated the advantages which such an institution, if erected in the vicinity of. The new technical school would be able to offer pupils and pointed out that the capitation would amount to £12 10s per pupil. This would enable attractive salaries to be paid, as, without the inclusion of the twenty odd pupils attending the Lower Hurt District High School full eighty pupils could be counted on—twenty in excess of the required number. He moved that the Petone Borough Council be again invited to consider the question of acquiring a half acre section adjacent to the technical school and vesting it for high school purposes, and that the chairman, Rev. Russell and himself be a committee to go minutely into the whole question of the establishment of a high school, and report to next meeting. The motion was carried.

20th January 1909 PETONE TECHNICAL SCHOOL. Matters pertaining, to the proposal of the Education Board to accommodate the pupils of the High School in the building recently erected to serve the purpose of the Technical School classes; were discussed at a meeting of the Technical School Board last evening; the Education Board submitted that classrooms in the Technical School unoccupied during the day should be utilised by the day classes of the District High School. The board's proposal added that dual control was not likely to cause friction between bodies so sincerely desirous of the welfare of education as were the managers and the board in an industrial centre like Petone the course would be directed along industrial and

commercial, rather, than along grammar school, .lines, and time and Energy would, be saved through: practical; and scientific departments being adjacent to the class-rooms. A similar arrangement was proposed at Pahiatua and other towns. It was, of course; that if the; managers were in general agreement with the proposition submitted the board would , provide the necessary seating accommodation for the secondary pupils. . After a heated discussion, during which considerable- opposition to the proposal was displayed % the Rev. Mr. Thomson and Mr. Findlay, it was. decided to set up a subcommittee, consisting- of three members of the Technical School, ; three members of the Education Board, and three members of the , Petone School Committee, to-furnish all details respecting the proposal at some future meeting.

26th January 1909 Petone Borough Council: The Secretary of the Petone School Committee applied to the council for half an acre adjoining the recreation ground. The land was at present, the letter stated, in the hands of the Public Trustee, and as the council had power to donate a site for High School purposes the committee asked the council in the interests of education to procure the same. The letter was received and dealt with in committee.

29th January 1909 Petone School some time ago stood in need of a new- bell. The Education Board with an eye to economy supplied a second-hand instrument, with which the School Committee. was not- satisfied. They protested and they are now to have an entirely new one.

8th February 1909 Four names of assistant teachers were submitted by the Education Board to the Petone School Committee to fill two vacancies on the staff of the District High School. Misses F. Ross and K. Hunt were finally selected.[Neither of whom were teaching at Petone at the end of the year]

20th February 1909 PETONE SCHOOL COMMITTEE. Last night's meeting of the Petone School Committee was attended by Messrs. D. McKenzie (in the chair), Cairns, Brocklebank, Hill McDougall, and this . Rev. A. Thomson. .

The requisition. signed by the _ parents of those attending the District High School, .asking that the institution be converted into a. high school proper was discussed. _ There were fifty-five signatures to the petition; On the motion of the chairman it was resolved that the requisition be forwarded to the Education Board, with the request that the application be granted. It was also decided to ask Mr. T. W. McDonald to present it to the board.

A letter was received from .the Education Board, asking the committee to set up a subcommittee in conjunction, with those of the Education and Technical Boards to deal with the proposed accommodation of high school pupils in the Technical School.. Mr. Thomson said that. the matter had been before the Technical Board, and he objected tb it as it had been dealt with by the School Committee, which was the body controlling the secondary classes.; To .open the matter, a previous resolution would have to be rescinded.

The chairman dissented.

Mr. Hill- We, had a big fight to get the Technical School, and. We should retain it at- all costs The chairman considered it a step in the right direction to have the committee set up He would not sacrifice .anything they had, but he would certainly be courteous to the Education Board It was considered that it was not necessary to give a direction to the. committee, as the members were opposed to the proposal.

Mr. Cairns. moved that the committee be set up and to consist of. the chairman and Messrs. Hill and List. This was carried.

20th February 1909 The Petone School Committee last evening passed a motion of condolence with the relatives and friends of the victims of the Penguin disaster.

20th February 1909 In a long report on the School Committee meeting additional pieces have been selected from the Evening Post: PRIZES FOR ESSAYS. A suggestion by Mr. P. Cairns was adopted at last evenings meeting of the Petone School Committee, viz., that the secretary should write to the various large business establishments in the districts, asking them to donate prizes for the best written essays in the school. The donors of trophies will have the option of choosing subjects.....The Petone School Committee does not think highly of the Governments system of distributing free school books among the children of the infant classes. The committee contends that the scholars should be allowed to take the books home with them after school hours. According to the chairman Mr. McKenzie, at a meeting of the committee held last evening, it was silly to talk about the danger of contagious diseases being spread if children were allowed the forbidden privilege. The little children took great pride in the books, and he was sure the parents would see that the books were carefully kept.....

3rd March 1909 Part of a long article At last night's meeting of the Petone Technical School Board, the following letter was read from Mr. J. W. List, hon. sec. of the Petone School Committee: I am instructed by my committee to ask your managers to erect baths on the section in Beach Street, adjoining the school grounds. The section is at present lying dormant, and, should your managers fall in with the wish of the committee, the latter will give whatever assistance lies in their power. The Government gives 2s. 6d. a year as capitation to children attending those classes, and as large classes are assured if baths are erected, the capitation earned by the children attending the primary and secondary schools will more than pay the interest on the capital required for the erection of the baths. Should your managers think it advisable, they would have the best wishes and help of the whole of the people in Petone. A similar communication was received from the Seddon Memorial Model Fund Subscribers, Railway Workshops.....

4th March 1908 The Vivian-street Skating Rink was once more a scene of busy animation last night, when the fourth concert was held in aid of the funds for providing uniforms for the First Battalion of the Wellington Rifle Volunteer Band. There was an excellent attendance, and a bright programme was gone through. A number of cadets from the Petone High School gave a creditable exhibition of rifle-drill, their smartness and ready execution of commands being much appreciated.

10th March 1909 Some handsome volumes were presented at the Petone School yesterday to Misses Pickering and Printzen, two of the staff, who are relinquishing teaching for a time—Miss Pickering to prosecute her studies at Victoria College, and Miss Printzen to enter the Training College. The presentations were made on behalf of the staff by Mr. Horne, head-teacher, who recalled the fact that Miss Pickering entered the Petone School as a five-year-old pupil 14 years ago. In 1903 she won an Education Board scholarship, in 1905 a College Governors scholarship, In 1906 a Senior National scholarship, and has now passed the first section of her B. A. degree.

12th March 1909 A conference was held at the Petone Technical School last evening between a committee of the Technical School Board, three representatives of the Wellington Education Board, and three members of the Petone School Committee. The subject of discussion was the proposal to use the new Technical School to accommodate pupils of the District High School.

The visitors were shown round the building and discussed its suitability for the purpose. The Technical School Board will again discuss the proposal at its meeting next. Tuesday. Some of the members are strongly opposed to granting the new school for the use of District High School pupils

19th March 1909 . Eighty-nine. girls attending the Petone District High School, have stated their intention of joining the classes in cookery to be formed,, whilst fifty four boys have .offered for the -woodwork class. Mr. Howe. Was a visitor to Petone yesterday in the latter connection, and it is expected that both classes will soon be under weigh[Sic]. Mr Howe will ask the Education Board to provide certain additional conveniences in. connection with the class he is interested in. the equipment of the .cookery room; is complete

20th March 1909 HIGH SCHOOL PROPER WANTED. At last .evenings meeting of the Petone School Committee a report was received from several members bearing upon the discussion by a conference of representatives from the Education Board,. the Technical School Board, and the School Committee, in regard to the proposal to utilise the Technical School in the day-time for high school classes. The report stated that after a thorough inspection of the building the conference had decided almost unanimously that »t would not be satisfactory to take the secondary classes into the Technical School building. Following on a general discussion concerning the matter, the following motion was carried, on the motion of Mr. McKenzie, seconded by Mr. Cairns : Seeing that the parents of proficiency pupils have petitioned the Wellington Education Board to have a High School proper established in Petone, the committee of the Petone District High School respectfully ask that the present building (known as Prices building), where the secondary subjects are taught, be proclaimed a high school proper. Further, the technical classes having created Prices building, there is now ample room, quite suitable for the higher subjects, and if the board is anxious to sell Prices building, and to devote the proceeds to the erection of a new up-to-date structure on the section of land to be given by the Petone Borough Council, adjacent to the present Technical School, this would have our approval, but at the present moment we simply ask that our present secondary building be proclaimed a high school proper.

26th March 1909 he residents of Petone wish to have a properly-constituted high school, and to dispense with the district secondary classes which are at present being conducted there. But there are statutory difficulties in the way. It is specifically stated that no high school proper may be established within five miles of a district high school unless the population of the district reaches 30,000. Petone has not yet a population of this size and considerably less than five miles distant is the Hutt District High School. Hence it follows that a high school proper can only be effected by the disestablishment of the district high schools at Petone and the Hutt. This was the question which the Education Board had before it at its meeting yesterday. The consensus of opinion was to the effect that the time was not yet ripe for the establishment of a high school proper anywhere in the Hutt Valley. For its future guidance, however, the board decided to obtain a legal interpretation of the statutory provisions governing the establishment of such institutions.

27th March 1909 School Proficiency Swimming Examination: Petone—Albert Parrant, Reg. Pointer, each 880 yds ; John Parrant, Albert Jones, Eric Hewson, Wilfred Blakeley, Jack Mockbridge, Roy Lowry, William Thompson, Francois Martin, Arthur Thomas, Roy

Nankivell, Rae Cowie, and Cedric Davis, each 440 yds; William Haseman, Frank Little, Harold Nicholls, Alex. Miller, Chas Piper, and Victor Hewson, each 220 yds.

31st March 1909 Petone Technical Board: Petone School Committee wrote asking that the section of land in Beach Street, owned by the Boys. Brigade be handed over to the committee. If the request were complied with, the committee would take steps to erect baths thereon for the use of children attending the primary school. Consideration was deferred

26th April 1909 Close on twenty nominations are expected, for the Petone. School Committee. The following have so far been received:—Messrs. J. Mackenzie, J. W. List, P. Cairns, W. Hill, A. Marsden, K. Brocklebank, J. Macdougall, Rev. J. D. Russell, W. Burd, J. Abrahall. All but the two last-named are members, of the retiring committee, and Mr. Abrahall. is an excommitteeman. In connection: with the election which takes place this evening, a musical programme of a varied nature has been arranged in order that householders may have something to occupy them, while awaiting the announcement of. the scrutineers. The committee election in-Petone usually arouses great interest. At /the last. householders meeting two of the large schoolrooms, were crowded

26th April 1909 The western Petone school district being not yet constituted, all householders are entitled to vote at the election of district high school representatives tonight

27th April 1909 PETONE SCHOOL. The. householders meeting for the election of Petone School-Committee was held last evening. . Mr. W. Hill was chairman.

In the . annual report the committee congratulated, the headmaster. (Mr. Horne) and the teachers on the: excellent progress made during the. year. . The new western - school would be ready for occupation shortly; Mr. McKenzie(chairman) had been largely responsible for pushing this wok ahead. The committee had asked the Education Board to establish a high school proper in Petone, but their request had-been refused. The committee hold that the land owned by the Boys Brigade should be handed over to be used as a site for school, swimming baths. The balance-sheet showed a credit of £12 10s. 8d.. as against £7 6s. Id. last year.

The_ following are the : members of the new committee of the Petone School:—Messrs. D. McKenzie (chairman, re-elected), J. W. List (secretary, re-elected), W; C. Burd, W. Hill.; J. Abrahall, P. E. Cairns, J. McDougall, arid Revs. J. D. Russell and A. Thomson. . A motion by the Rev. A.; Thomson, protesting against the action of the Education Board in refusing to establish a high school at Petone, was carried unanimously.

30th April 1909 Wellington Education Board A HIGH SCHOOL PROPOSAL. The boards solicitors, Messrs Brandon, Hislop and Johnston, to whom had been submitted legal points regarding the proposal to establish a district high school at Petone, submitted their opinion, which will be sent to the Petone School Committee and the Education Department. The solicitors were of opinion that it might be open to the Minister to establish a high school in the Petone district notwithstanding the existence of Hutt District High School. But this interpretation was open to question because of the ambiguous use of the word place in two distinct references in the Act to school districts. They were also of opinion that school property, when once vested in the Education Board for secondary education must be permanently appropriated for that purpose, and if such property were first vested for primary education, then for a district high school, and latterly for a high school proper, it would ultimately pass from the control of the board to the control of the High School Governors. They doubted whether the board had power to expropriate any site acquired originally for primary education.

1st May 1909 Miss G. Ross, on retiring from her position as a teacher in the secondary school, Petone, was yesterday the recipient of a presentation from her scholars and fellow-teachers. Mr. Arcus, who has been promoted to the first assistantship of the Maranui School was presented with several handsome volumes by the staff of the main school. Both presentations were made by Mr. James Home, headmaster.

7th May 1909 Many months ago the Education Board, after repeated requests, voted the sum of £80 for the purpose of grading and metalling the Petone school playgrounds. The work is still undone, and the grounds are now, as they were for the greater part of last winter, little better than a quagmire. Such neglect is grossly unfair, to the children.

Instruction in cookery is nominally a branch of the Petone Technical School Boards activities. A spacious room in the new building has been elaborately fitted up, and all that is wanting is the ingredients and the cooks. It is not the fault of the school board that too few ex-school pupils are offering to justify the engagement of an instructress, but it is surely somebody's fault that eighty nine day school scholars have been eagerly awaiting the inauguration of a class for their especial benefit since the beginning of the year. The Education Board was apprised more than two months ago of the fact that these pupils, at the boards own expense, had enrolled, but the only evidence it has given of its cognisance of the fact has been to dispatch an officer to inspect the appliances. Teachers and parents and school committeemen are wanting to know how many more weeks are these eighty-nine lassies to remain the victims of official dilatoriness. A similar question might be asked regarding instruction in woodwork, for which some two score lads (in neither case is Lower Suits probable quota taken account of have given in their names

11th May 1909 PETONE SCHOOL APPOINTMENT. COMMITTEE AND BOARD DIFFER. Mr. D. McKenzie presided over a full meeting of the Petone School Committee last evening. The Education Board submitted for the committees consideration the name of one applicant for the first assistantship—a vacancy caused by the transfer of Mr. Arcus to Maranui. The committee did not object to the applicant selected by the board (a candidate trained at Petone School), but declared that, in forwarding only one name, the Education Board, was defeating the spirit of the Education Act in relation to the powers of selection on the part of school committees. The committee refused to confirm the selection, determining to ask the board for a list of names: for their consideration.

17th May 1909 THE STAFFING OF SCHOOLS. UNINTELLIGENT METHODS. Owing to the arbitrary regulations governing the staffing of schools a lull complement of teachers is among the boons for which scholastic Upper Hutt must look wishfully into the future. On last quarters and present attendance the school is entitled to five teachers. It has perforce to make shift with four and has two classes crowded into one room, whilst one room remains empty. The mysterious lines on which departmentalism proceed produce some anomalous results. A little more common sense and a little less red tape would not be amiss in this matter of school stalling. Another case in point is the board's action in dispensing with the services of an assistant in the secondary department of the Petone District High School, notwithstanding that the falling off in last year's attendance on which the reduction was based has been more than recovered, and that all requirements in connection with the establishment of a high school proper—a step which would necessitate the appointment of still another assistant—have been

complied with. Why should the school in its most important branch be understaffed because of a temporary falling off in attendance last year.

21st May 1909 Though the Petone School Committee, its amour proprio offended, has elected to make the appointment of Mr Fritz Mothes to a vacancy on the staff of the Petone District High School the occasion of a dispute with the Education Board, the public generally is much gratified that one who graduated in the school and after a most successful scholastic career has given proof of more than ordinary ability as a teacher should have received the appointment. During the two years he has had charge of the Matahiwi School Mr Mothes has achieved conspicuous success both in the ordinary school curriculum and in extramural departments.

22nd May 1909 UNBUSINESSLIKE;. Mention was made at Petone School Committee meeting last evening that - Miss F. Hunt,;- Whoso appointment as assistant teacher, at .- Petone. School was to have taken effect on April 1, had not yet taken up her duties, .but was still teaching at Lower Hutt. The Rev. J. D. Russell stated that he had learned that; Miss Hunt's place at the Hutt could, not be filled at once He understood that she had. Been kept on because of the illness of ;the teacher, who was to- have relieved her. It was evidently a private arrangement entered into; with the board, who had, not ascertained whether the Petone School would be inconvenienced;. . Members looked upon the arrangement as an unbusinesslike proceeding,. and the committee resolved to ask the board why Miss Hunt had not taken up her duties at the school on the date fixed. .

A meeting of, the . Petone School Committee held last evening, was attended by Mr. D. McKenzie (chairman), Rev. A. Thomson, Rev. J. D.- Russell, Messrs; J. W. List, W. Burd, J.: Abrahall, W. Hill. J. McDougall and P. Cairns. . The Education Board wrote expressing regret that delay had occurred in , the establishing of a cookery class. Arrangements had been made with an instructress to. take up the work on June . 1 but, she had since declined to take up the: engagement. However the board would attend to the matter at their next meeting. :It was proposed to establish the cookery and woodwork classes simultaneously. Major McDonald in a letter to the chairman on the grading of the, school, playground stated that consideration of this work had been postponed for want of funds. The board had decided not to do the work, but to consider it in the. fall of the year He would bring up .the matter at-the next .board meeting, and, hoped to have, something done. Mr. Cairns submitted a motion, the intention of which, was to amend the Act in regard to committee elections, so that, inter alia, nominations could not lie received on the night of the election. It was proposed to ask the co-operation of the school committees of the Wellington district in putting the suggestion; before . the Minister.- . The Rev. A Thomson moved an amendment protesting against any change in the Act.. The motion was carried,, and the committee decided to forward a copy to the Minister for Education,- but not to the school committees. Another resolution adopted as that of Mr. Cairns was that the committee should obtain from the headmaster a list of scholars entitled to good attendance certificates, in order that the committee might make awards in deserving cases. It was also resolved-to apply for a subsidy on money .spent on books for the school library-

24th May 1909 A MODERN SCHOOL. Within the past few years teaching methods have undergone many changes, and the necessity for sound primary training of children has been emphasised. It has been realised that, to obtain the best results a modern, well lighted, and properly-ventilated school building is an essential. The Western Petone School, now all but

ready to fulfil its purpose, is an institution of this type. It faces the Hutt Road and is conveniently situated for scholars resident west of Nelson Street. The building consists of six classrooms, the exterior being of pressed brick, with cement facings. The main entrance faces east, and sufficient room has been left at the rear for enlarging to the extent of two large classrooms and a concert or lecture hall. The building has been put up by Messrs. G. T. Croft and Son, of Lower Hutt, the contract price being about £3500. The school is of a recent design and built throughout on hygienic principles. The only other, school of this type in the Wellington district is that at Lansdowne, which is a smaller building. All the corners inside are rounded to prevent the accumulation of dust, and the old blackboard and easel has been done away with. The new blackboards are of cement and writing surfaces are provided both for teachers and scholars. The preparation used for these surfaces is a mixture of black sand, cement, and vegetable black, and is trowelled off to a glass finish. The windows are so placed as to give the required left-hand light. The interior is finished with putty and plaster, but the corners, to offer greater resistance, are of Keene's cement, and the ceilings are composed of American wood pulp plaster. The lofty passages are 9ft in width, and a large ventilating cowl over each room ensures healthy ventilation, the building having cavity walls. The school will be able to accommodate about 350 children. The building should be out of the plasterers hands in a weeks' time, and for occupation

28th May 1909 ZEALOUS ADVOCATES. Mr. David McKenzie was the chief spokesman of a deputation from the Petone School that waited on the Education Board yesterday afternoon. The deputation was concerned with the status of the High School there but considered that the board had power under the Act to proclaim it a high school. It was not a question of Hutt or Petone — it was a question of Petone. They were determined to keep this matter before the board until they secured their high school. They had fulfilled all the requirements of the Act. Mr. Hogben had said that Petone was the only place in New Zealand at present where they could command the conditions of a high school. His committee had a desire to centralise education in the Hutt Valley — at Petone. If the Hutt wanted a university, let them have it; Petone wanted a high school, and hoped the board would give it to them. They hoped the board would think of Petone, and not of the Hutt Valley. (Laughter.)

The Rev. Alexander Thomson added a few words to the appeal. The creation of two district high schools in the Valley was not the work of Petone; it was the work of the board. Petone was a town of working people mostly. Parents could not afford to send their children to Wellington.

Mr. Vile: Could they afford to send them to the Hutt?

Mr. Thomson: It would be a hardship to send them to the Hutt. Mr. Thomson spoke also of cookery classes not being established, and other grievances.

The chairman (Mr. R. Lee): What you say is only a repetition of what we have heard over and over again. If you have anything new, we are prepared to hear it.

Mr. McKenzie: Might I ask if the board carefully considers correspondence from Petone? Mr.

Lee: This board gives every consideration to all its correspondence, whether it concerns 6d or £6000. Your suggestion is not only improper; it is false.

The chairman further informed the deputation that negotiations were at present on foot, but that the Education Department was the important body in this matter. Representations had already

been made to the department, and legal advice had been taken. He thanked the deputation for their zeal, but he thought as much good might be derived by letters.

Mr. Buchanan deplored the eternal Petone-Hutt business.

The deputation withdrew. It was finally decided that a committee of three members and the chairman should consider the matter, and report at the next meeting.

2nd June 1909 In July, the new school for Western-Petone will commence work, and already inquiries have been made by parents desirous of transferring their children to the new establishment. The school will be found all too small, no doubt, and parents of Eastern Petone will not be able to change from the main school if it is found that the available accommodation is required for pupils resident west of Nelson Street. The drafting of scholars will be a quiet process.— When the staff has been appointed and the opening day arranged, the registers and the western school will be made up from the present smaller roll of the main school. Announcement will be made in the classes as to which scholars shall withdraw from their old haunts and betake themselves to the model institution, provided for them. The work of the present school will go ahead uninterruptedly and the curriculum of the western school should be entered upon without the loss of more than one day's lessons to the pupils. A committee for the western school will be elected this month by residents of that part of the town lying west of Nelson Street,

4th June 1909 THE NEW SCHOOL. Even with the opening of the newly erected west-end school at Petone, it is not likely that there will be a very noticeable amount of unoccupied space in the old schoolhouse, from which some of the pupils will be drawn. In the infant*, school alone, owing to the former extensive overcrowding that existed, even if a hundred children were taken away at once, there would still be a sufficiency left behind to fill the building. Then, again, the 60 odd children at present receiving instruction in St. David's Schoolroom will go to help fill up the blanks in the central school. Also, as was pointed out to a Post representative by a local educational authority there are large numbers of children just about the eligible age, who have yet to commence their schooling days, and these will take up room. In connection with school matters generally, the same speaker expressed the opinion that the next school to be built, whenever the time came, would of necessity have to be situated in the extreme eastern end of the borough. The completion of the connecting link with the east, the new bridge across the mouth of the Hutt river, and the consequent close settlement of vacant lands would, he added, in a comparatively short time justify another building, it is in this vicinity that the Government some time ago acquired about 80 acres of land— some of which is already built upon — for workers dwellings. Touching on another matter, he said that although it would always be comfortably filled he did not think the population in the west-end would increase to such an extent as to warrant any extension of the new school.

17th June 1909 WESTERN PETONE SCHOOL. The Western Petone School is practically finished, and almost ready for occupation. The brickwork and plastering, for which Messrs. Southgate and Melhuish had the subcontract, has been completed, and all the building, which was included in the work of the contractors (Messrs. Croft and Son), has been done; The men are now engaged in grading the playground, and in that connection, Mr. McDougall, the Education Department's architect, visited the site yesterday and decided the levels. A tender for the erection of a boundary fence between the school and the road on one side and the Maori property on the other has been accepted.

17th June 1909 Householdors in the Western Petone School District will meet on Wednesday next for the purpose of electing a school committee

17th June 1909 The Wellington Education Board requires tenders for improving the grounds at the Petone main School

19th June 1909 At the monthly meeting of the Petone school committee last evening a committee* too was appointed to draw up a reply to the Education Boards representations regarding the establishment, of a High School. Intimation was received that Mr F Mothes would take up his duties on the staff on July 1st. Mr Kings, tender for supplying coal was accepted.

24th June 1909 Miss McIntosh, one of the Education Boards cookery instructresses, will inaugurate a day class for school girls at the Petone Technical School this week. Upwards of eighty scholars have signified their wish to join the class. Mrs J. M. Jansen and Mrs D M. McCrackett have consented to stand for election on the committee for the new Petone school, which will take place on the 30th inst. We have every reason (says the Chronicle) to believe that these ladies are capable and will rise equal to the occasion should they be elected.

25th June 1909 ARBOR DAY AT HUTT PARK The chairman of the Petone. School Committee- thinks the-idea of inviting the scholars to participate an excellent one, provided the planting is carried. out under proper supervision. The day might be made a field one for the. school children. They. would take a pride at having each a tree of his or her own

25th June 1908 Wellington Education Board On the motion of Major T. W. McDonald, it was agreed to support the proposal to establish a High School at Petone, under t section 94 of- the Education Act, 1908, provided that such does not affect, or mean the disestablishment of the District High School at the Hutt. It was stated that Prices Buildings, at Petone, •could be used temporarily. The motion was seconded by Mir. Field. The proviso was added on the recommendation of the chairman.

26th June 1909 Parents and scholars are rejoiced at the prospect of the playgrounds or the,. Petone State school being a. last delivered from the continual state of sloppiness which, save - in. the driest weather, has so long distinguished them.- The proviso that the committee must find £50 wherewith to re-lay the tennis courts causing some perplexity. The Petone committee doesn't recollect ever having had such an amount to its credit. It may be doubted whether the extent which the children avail themselves of the courts warrants the expenditure.

30th June 1909 PETONE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Sir,—In Petone there is quite ,a spice of excitement, and all because two well-known Petone ladies, have agreed to nomination for. Election in other parts of the Dominion ladies have been and why should Petone be left behind in this important . matter This ought to be very near to a:mothers heart. These ladies are interested in the children's welfare, so do not fail to attend on Wednesday; 30th, and show your appreciation by voting the ladies in. Both have had a good training adults and are. quite capable: and .practical.—I am, etc WELL DONE ,June 29

30th June 1909 The election of the School Committee to administer the affairs of the West Petone School will take place. this evening at the Main School,, at 8 o'clock. It is probable that about 30 candidates, including two ladies, will offer themselves for- election. A ticket is being promoted in the interests of the Bible-in-Schools. The Education Board has requested Mr; D. McKenzie, chairman of the Main School Committee, to attend: Songs, recitations, etc., will be given while the balloting is. being proceeded with.

30th June 1909 The chairman of the Petone School Committee, Mr D. McKenzie, has received formal notification of the Education Boards approval of the establishment of a High School in the town. An accompanying petition will require the signatures of not fewer than sixty proficiency pupils who purpose attending the institution

1st July 1909 School Committee elections in Petone always excite considerable interest, and last night's election in connection with the new West-end school was no exception. When proceedings commenced there, was standing room only! Mr. D. McKenzie, chairman of the Main School Committee, presided.

At the outset there was a slight misunderstanding in regard to the demarcation of the new district,, one candidates name being struck out on that account, while several persons were in doubt as to whether they could legally exercise their voting powers. The matter, however, was satisfactorily explained by the chairman.

The (secretary of the Main School Committee read a letter from the Mount, Cook School Committee, protesting against the refusal of the Board of Governors of the Wellington Girls College to admit scholarship girls from the primary schools for tuition in advanced education. The same committee advised that it intended calling together a meeting of delegates to discuss the question. In the course of some remarks on the free place system, Mr. McKenzie urged that the college should not be allowed to be a class institution. He also sought to prove that the college was by no means without funds, being in possession of endowments of 13,945 acres, valued at £195,315. The following motion, proposed by Mr. W. G. D. Evans, met with the unanimous approval of the meeting : — That this meeting of householders emphasises the necessity of allowing every scholar to reach the highest limits of education, and pledges itself to support the two Petone committees in endeavouring to bring this to pass.

The election of nine candidates for the committee resulted in the return of Messrs. L. Parrant, 33 votes ; J. Cotton, 76; T. Maynard, 74; S. Burrige, 67; A. Marsden, 63; G. Davis, 54; W. G. D. Evans, 50; J. G. Castle, 48; R. McCrackett, 43.

The other candidates were Mesdames McCrackett and Jansen, and Messrs. Elder, Snow, Harris, Hollis, Leibzeit, Withington, Beyon, Colquhoun, Finch, Wilson, Hodgson, Coles, Shardlow, and R. Matson. Mr. Castle was appointed chairman, and Mr. Evans secretary.

The Education Board has directed the committee to meet without delay to consider the applications for positions on the permanent teaching staff. During the evening, musical items were contributed by the following : — Miss Davis, and Messrs. G. Barnett, Rutherford, Wheatley, and H. Ralph.

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the meeting.

2nd July 1909 The names of four candidates for the headmastership of the new Petone West School have been submitted to the committee, which has not yet considered them. Meanwhile the names have been published. It is regrettable that more discretion is not exercised by those to whom the boards confidential communications are wont to be directed. Candidates have a right to expect this.

Parents who waded through the Petone State School playground on Wednesday night to record their votes at the School Committee election (held in the infants room) will know in future to what to attribute a good many of the children's ailments. To cross the ground it was impossible to avoid great_ pools of water two inches in depth. This is their normal condition. Indications beside the main building itself were that a plumber could alleviate the evil somewhat.

5th July 1909 WEST PETONE SCHOOL: - The first meeting of the newly-elected West Petone School Committee was held on Saturday night, Mr. J. G. Castle -presiding over a full-attendance – of members. : It, was decided to recommend the Education Board, to appoint the following teachers Headmaster, Mr. ;Bedingfield : (late- first -assistant at the Petone School) first assistant -master, Mr.-Eustace King (late; master at the Terrace Secondary School)first -assistant mistress; Miss Carter late second - assistant. at Petone); and second assistant mistress, . Miss Cook (late of, Petone School). ... A male junior: assistant .is .wanted and it ._was decided to ask the board to readvertise that position as only one name was submitted. The attendance is- expected to, be about 300- If further, additions to the staff will have to be made.. It is expected .that the new school, will be opened early next, month. The furniture is being put in now.

10th July 1909 At last evenings meeting of the Petone School Committee, it was unanimously resolved to nominate Rev. A Thompson (Petone) as a candidate for the vacancy on the Education Board (Hutt and Manawatu Ward), brought about by the resignation of Major McDonald.

Reporting to the Petone School Committee last evening, Rev. A. Thomson stated that a cookery class for day school girls had been started in the Technical School buildings under the direction of Miss Alexander. Four classes, comprising some 88 pupils, are at present receiving instruction twice a week, The young cooks are very enthusiastic, and one and all have to perfection acquired the art of tasting. The instructress speaks highly of the room and appurtenances provided, describing them as the most up-to-date she had yet seen

12th July 1909 The retirement takes place at the end of the year of Mr. James Home, headmaster of the Petone District High School. Of some 36 years' service, Mr. Horne has spent 23 years at Petone. During his term of office he has seen the number of names on the Petone School roll gradually increase from 315 to 1015. Mr. Horne was born in Stirlingshire, Scotland, in 1844, and was educated at the Glasgow High School. He first chose mercantile life and was for some two years in a -counting-house. In 1862 he arrived in Australia on a Visit to some distant relatives, remaining with them for three years. Leaving Australia he came to New Zealand following- a station life and attaining the position of manager. In the year 1873, Mr. Home became first assistant to -Mr. Holmes's well-known school at Te Aro, Wellington. Severing his connection with Te Aro School, he was appointed headmaster of the Tawa Flat School in the following year and retained that position till he was transferred to Petone in 1887.

22nd July 1909 As was to be expected, the Arbor Day observances at the Hutt Park were marred to a certain extent by the inclement weather, nevertheless, over seven hundred trees and shrubs were planted, which, situated where they are, should be of lasting benefit so far as sheltering and improving the park are concerned. The labours of the adult workers were made less arduous by the assistance of two or three hundred Hutt and Petone school children. Some two hundred larches were received from the Agricultural Department, while other substantial gifts of trees, etc., were donated by Messrs. Waugh and Cooper, Major McDonald, and Mr. W. H. Baldwin. As he was unable to be present, Mr. F. J. Pinny intimated that at some later date he would personally attend to the planting of his promised consignment of trees. During the afternoon Mr. Robert Lee [Chairman Wellington Education Board] spoke to the children concerning the true observance; of Arbor Day.

27th July 1909 Mr George London has accepted nomination as a candidate for the Wellington Board of Education. Mr London, besides serving terms as chairman and secretary of the Petone School Committee, has been Mayor of Petone, and is a Hospital Trustee. It is understood he is opposed to the restriction suggested by certain members of the board in the selection of teachers, holding the opinion that a review of the qualifications of applicants by committees conduces to the best interests of education.

4th August 1909 The headmastership of the, Petone Main School one of the most desirable plums., in the Wellington Education district. The position will; become vacant at the end of the year but the appointment will be made this month. It is stated that the local committee is being diligently canvassed-by various candidates just now. One member of the committee, it is reported, has been canvassed by no fewer than three of the candidates while his fellow-members have not been entirely neglected in this respect.

5th August 1909 The Rev. Mr Braddock continued his mission to Petone State School scholars yesterday, a gathering of girls being addressed in the infant room. One method by which he sought to acquaint the children's mind with the transforming influence of sin was to introduce a discolouring substance into a small vessel (containing water), the face of which bore a likeness of Queen Victoria. Having been blackened, the effigy was restored to whiteness by the introduction of another substance. Asked what reason the lecturer gave for choosing Queen Victoria as his subject, one of the little girls present said : Oh, I think she was naughty, or something, when she was a little girl!

6th August 1909 Major T. W. McDonald, officer commanding the school cadets, paid a visit of inspection to Petone yesterday, and watched the parade of about 250 cadets from the primary and secondary schools. He expressed himself as generally satisfied with the displays given

21st August 1909 PETONE SCHOOL COMMITTEE Last night's meeting of the Petone School Committee was attended by Messrs D McKenzie (chairman), P Cairns, J. Abrahall, J. W. List J. MacDougall, B W Burd the Rev, A. Thomson and the Rev J D Russell.

The resignation of Mr; D Bedingfield, B.A., who has been appointed headmaster of the Petone west School, and Mr. Horne who is retiring as well as those of Misses- Cook, Carter and Myers were received. The chairman moved that a letter of Appreciation be forwarded to Mr. Horne. Mr. Cairns. seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously after complimentary speeches made by Messrs. McKenzie, Cairns. Thomson and Russell. It was also decided to tender him a social.. On the motion of Mr. Cairns, seconded by Mr. Russell, it was decided to thank the other teachers for their service during their, respective terms.

A letter was received from Major T.; W. McDonald, the committees late representative on the Education Board, expressing his thanks to the committee for their support and consideration in the past.

In the inspectors report, a high tribute was paid Mr Horne, the retiring, headmaster, and the School was stated to be in a state of excellent efficiency

The conditions to be complied with in connection with the miniature rifle range, which the committee desired established at Petone, were contained in a letter from the Secretary of the Education Board The question was left in the hands of Mr Abrahall, Lynskey and Bedingfield

23rd August 1909 The Petone School committee is applying to have the legality of the Education Boards action in submitting the name of only one candidate for a vacancy on the

teaching staff, thereby withholding from the committee the opportunity of making a final choice, made the subject of a decision under the Declaratory Judgments Act. The committee is moving in the matter of the establishment of a school committees association for the Wellington district. Commenting on the work of the Petone District High School the inspectors, in their annual report, said the general tone and efficiency were good, and good work was being done by the teachers. One or two of the classes were becoming a little unwieldy, but that no doubt would be altered when the new school was opened.

1st September 1909 Petone District High School boys, in charge of Mr J. H. Lynskey, to the number of twenty odd, will journey to Hastings on Saturday, and be billeted out at the homes of parents of the Hastings D.H.S. lads during vacation week. A series of athletic contests will take place between the two schools. A similar visit was paid to Petone last winter by the Hastings boys. The essay - writing competitions amongst scholars attending the Petone District High School, the outcome of a suggestion by Mr P. Cairns, and for which prizes were contributed by various local manufacturing firms and institutions, resulted in Merle Jacobson and Edward Wild, Iris Woodhouse and G. Findlay obtaining first awards in Standards IV. and V. respectively. In Standard VI., Alba Greening was awarded the first, and Ethel Cleaver the second prize

3rd September 1909 TO THE EDITOR. Sir, — As the Petone School Committee is considering the question of starting an agricultural class, I beg to suggest that the members write to the Otaki and Masterton School Committees, where agricultural classes are conducted with great success. In Canadian and French schools the scholars are taught agriculture (each school has a plot of land). The Ontario Education Department at Toronto would, I am sure, forward as a sample its school agricultural text, a copy of which is supplied for a few pence to every scholar. Napoleon said that agriculture was the very soul of a nation. Therefore, the French spend large sums in educating the rising race to go on to the land.— I am, etc., COLONIAL.

4th September 1909 At the new State School, Petone, yesterday afternoon, Mr. James Horne, headmaster, made presentations to Mr. Bedingfield and Misses Carter and Cook, all of whom have been promoted to positions in the new West-end School. Mr. Home remarked that Miss Carter had been about eighteen years in the Petone school. She was one of a number who had commenced as brilliant scholars in the school, become pupil teachers, and for years held prominent positions on the teaching staff. Mr. Arcus, Mr. Mason, Mr. Mothes, and Miss Thomson were other instances. Mr. Home tendered his best thanks to the staff for their loyalty in working cordially and with unanimity for the common good of the school. Without this the school could not have attained the great success which has attended it. The Rev. A. Thomson, who was present, mentioned that he had been a member of the committee for twenty years, and stated that he could not remember any friction between the head teacher and any member of the staff. Mr. Home then congratulated Mr. Bedingfield and Miss Cook on their promotion. Mr. McKenzie chairman of committee forwarded apologies for being unable to be present.

4th September 1909 At last evening's meeting of the Petone School Committee, it was decided to recommend the appointment of Mr. Foster, headmaster of the Mount Cook Boys School to the vacant headmastership of the main school. Miss C. Ross, B.A., was selected for the position of female assistant. [Only Ross listed at end of 1909 was Fanny L Ross]

4th September 1909 The Petone District High School Committee met last night to consider the lists of names submitted by the Education Board of candidates for prospective vacancies on

the teaching stall. -Mr Home, the headmaster, retires on superannuation at the end of the year, whilst Miss -Myers is under transfer to Lower Hutt. Four names were submitted for the Headmastership, and the committee decided to recommend the appointment, of Mr Foster, headmaster of the Mount Cook Boys' School, to the position. For the position of female assistant, Miss Christina Ross, B.A., was selected.

6th September 1909 The deadlock between the Wellington Education Board and the Petone School Committee anent the appointment of a first assistant to the staff, of the main school continues. The board has declined to have the legal aspect elucidated by stating a case for .submittal to the Attorney-General under the Statutory Declaration Act, whilst the committee is obdurate in its refusal to sanction any appointment without its having had a choice of candidates. Meanwhile the vacancy will require to be filled by Monday next. On that day the Petone West School is to be opened.

6th September 1909 Ex-pupils of the Petone District High School are meeting to-night to consider plans for fittingly' acknowledging the twenty-three years' service of Mr James Home, the retiring headmaster.Mr William H L. Foster, M.A., head-master-elect of the Petone District High School, holds a B.I certificate, and as had thirty years' teaching experience. His work as headmaster of 'the Mount Cook Boys' School has been subject of flattering tributes by the inspectors.

7th September 1909 The Petone District High School boys, under charge of Messrs.' Lynskey, and Finlay, arrived hero on Saturday night, and are billeted with the'. Hastings schoolboys. This morning the boys' visited' the Frimley Canning Factory, and were welcomed by, Mr. Basil Jones, manager, and shown over the establishment: ' A 'football match with the Hastings' boys was played to-day and resulted in a win for Hastings by nine .points to six. Colquhoun scored a try, and ticked a .penalty .goal for/ Petone, while H. Monteith and Girton scored .for Hastings, and! ;the latter, also' kicked a penalty goal. A concert ,in connection with the trip was held to-night in St. Matthew's Hall and there was: a large attendance: To-morrow (weather permitting) a shooting match will take place, and prominent-volunteer officials have promised assistance.' A return football match' takes, place on. Wednesday,' and at night a social is to be held in St. Matthew's Hall. Thursday is to be devoted. to sight-seeing in Napier, and the boys leave for home on Friday morning.

7th September 1909 Last evening a number of Petone State school old boys and old girls met in the Ranfurly Hall, when a committee was set up for the purpose of canvassing for subscriptions and organising a concert and social in connection with the approaching retirement of Mr James Home, headmaster. Mr. H. R. Johnson occupied the chair. Mr. J. Olson was appointed treasurer, and Mr. J. Dewhurst secretary.

8th September 1909 the following appointments by the Wellington Education Board have just been finally approved. —Petone District High School, Mr W. Foster, M.A., at : present of the Mount Cook Boys' School, to be headmaster; Mr D. lung, M.A., B.Sc., at present first assistant at Petone West, to be first male assistant in place of Mr I). Bedingfield, who becomes headmaster at Petone West; Miss C. Koss, B.A., to be assistant in the secondary department in place of Miss Myers, B.A., who is to be transferred to the Hutt.

17th September 1909 At tonight's meeting of the Petone School Committee, the chairman, Mr. D. McKenzie, will move in reference to the latest interpretation of the Education Act: That the Minister for Education be asked to amend the Act, so as to give to committees the power of

selection of applicants who are called by advertisement for appointments to school vacancies, and also regarding these teachers it is proposed to transfer. The committee desires four names to be submitted in each case.

SCHOOL-MATTERS IN- PETONE. Despite the fact that Petone has already two large schools those entrusted with the care of educational matters in the town have their eyes, on a site for a third school. The question was mentioned to our representative by Mr. D. McKenzie, chairman of the Main School Committee, who remarked that seeing that the Western Petone School was practically overcrowded, before its doors were opened, he was going to move that the committee ask the Education Board if it has secured three acres of land in the Wilford Settlement, which was set aside for a school in the eastern portion of the borough, because only a brief period would elapse before another school would be required.

Is there not room at the main school, now : that the new school has been opened? asked the reporter. Yes, for the present, replied the chairman, but the thing is to see that the site is secured. It will not be very long before it will be necessary, Another matter to come before the committee this evening is an application it is proposed to make to the borough council for a grant of a quantity of tar, to dress the playground at the main school. The Education Board has spent nearly £200 on grading and metalling the ground, and the tar is required to finish the work properly. If the council will grant the tar; it is proposed to get up a working bee during the vacation and arrange for the children to do the work. School committees, said Mr. McKenzie are always short of funds, and I hope that the council will make us this grant

18th September 1909 PETONE SCHOOL COMMITTEE;: Matters of more than usual interest were discussed at last night's meeting of the Petone School Committee. Those present were:- Messrs. D. McKenzie (in the chair), J. W. List, J. Abrahall, W. Hill, W. Bird, and the Revs. - A. Thomson and J. D. Russell.

An apology, for absence was received from * Mr. P. Cairns.

It was reported that owing to the opening of the new school, the use of St. David's Church room has been discontinued.

Reporting on the proposed agricultural class, Mr. J. Lynskey stated that it was not intended to apply to Petone, but to country schools, and he did not think that the class would prove a success. As this was an industrial centre, and likely to remain such, it would be advisable to specialise on industrial classes. The report was adopted.

The Petone West School Committee applied for the use of a room at Price Buildings for meetings. A member: Why do they not meet at their own school? The chairman: That's what I cannot understand. Mr. Thomson: There is no objection to their having the room if they pay expenses. It was decided to grant the request, £1 per year to be charged for lighting, firing, etc. Mr. Thomson moved: That this committee heartily concur with the proposal to establish a school committees association for the Wellington district. This was seconded by Mr. Abrahall, and carried.

The chairman referred to the third school proposal, mentioned in yesterday's issue, and moved: That it is desirable to make means to secure, if it be not already secured, a school reserve of at least three acres for the purposes of education in the eastern portion of the Borough of Petone, such area being a portion of the land known as the Wilford Settlement, which was understood to have been offered by the Lands Department for School extension. A member: The board will be saying... eternal Petone again.

ho motion was carried.- It will be forwarded to the Wellington Education Board.,
The chairman moved: That application be made to the Petone Borough Council for a grant of a subsidy, or its equivalent -in tar. ; , for the purpose of . improving the school grounds , the improvement to be carried out by means of a working bee.-Carried.

Mr. Abrahall moved that the names of old pupils who had won scholarships, Service examinations, and- matriculated be placed on the merit board.—Carried,

It was decided to hold the committees annual concert before the the year.

When an account from Mr. Skerrett for a legal opinion, recently given, was read,, Mr G. London's name was mentioned.

Mr. Hill stated that he did not think that any letter was ordered to be sent to Mr. London asking him to wait upon Mr. Skerrett on the committees behalf.

Mr. Thomson also entered a protest Were not the members of the committee, he asked,; ;;; competent to interview Mr, Skerrett

The chairman explained that he had sent a letter to Mr. Skerrett but had received no reply for nine days. When conversing with Mr. London on other subjects, he mentioned the incident, and Mr London offered to speak to Mr. Skerrett on the matter, as he went to Wellington every day. He would also add that the committee be let down lightly in the matter of costs. The quoted a letter from Mr. London.in support of his statement. After further discussion, it was decided, that the members should divide the cost of the opinion (£3 3s.) among themselves..

28th September 1909 Petone Borough Council he secretary of the Petone School Committee wrote asking if the council could see its way to make a grant, or its equivalent in* tar, for the improvement of the school grounds ; failing that, ho suggested that the council might reduce the price of. the material required. — It was decided to write asking the purpose for which the work was required. — The Mayor said the engineer's estimate was £180 for tarring the whole of the ground.

30th September 1909 Miss Phoebe Myers B.A has been appointed principal of the Lower Hutt District High School. Yesterday the head master of the Petone District School presented her, bn behalf of her former fellow-teachers and pupils, with a set of standard works, expressing at 'the same time his high opinion of her work while she was teacher at his school. [Phoebe Myers was the only secondary teacher at the Hutt DHS in 1909. Duncan Yeats was the Headmaster]

6th October 1909 Petone Technical School Board Application was received from the Main School Committee for permission to erect a miniature rifle range at the rear of the Technical School. After discussing the matter for some considerable time, the board resolved to recommend the committee to endeavour to arrange for the use of the Morris-tube range in the Drillshed, instead of utilising the suggested site.....The chairman remarked upon the fact that pupil teachers not able to obtain free tuition at Petone Technical School were in a habit of journeying (on a free railway pass) to the Wellington Technical School, where the necessary instruction was imparted free of charge. That being the case, he failed to see why they should be forced to go out of Petone for instruction. — The director was requested to go into the matter, and report to the board

14th October 1909 Both in his official and private capacities, Mr. James Home, retiring headmaster of the Petone School, has always enjoyed popularity and respect, and this fact was amply testified to last evening by the gathering of such a large number of his ex-pupils and friends to participate in the complementary social tendered to him in the Petone Drill Hall. Mr. G. London, an. ex-Mayor of Petone, after apologising for the absence of Mr. T. M. Wilford,

M.P., and Mr. Joplin, a former headmaster of the school, said his own position as president of the evening's function was due to the fact that he was a member of the School Committee some 23 years ago, when Mr. Home first came to Petone. The fact that Mr. Home had carried out his work faithfully and well, was to be seen when they considered the number of his ex-pupils who were now playing a worthy part in life. Mr. Johnson then handed to Mr. Home and Miss Home, on behalf of the citizens of the town, a gold watch and » pair of silver-mounted perfume bottles. In the course of a few highly complementary remarks, the Rev. A. Thomson said that there was no school in the Dominion that had had a more worthy master. Eulogistic references to Mr. Horne's sterling character were made by Mr. D. McKenzie on behalf of the School Committee, Mr. J. W. McEwan (Mayor), and Messrs. Lynskey and Bedingfield, of the teaching staffs. Mr. W. Foster (Mr Horne's successor) also spoke, conveying the good wishes of city teachers to their retiring friend.

19th October 1909 At last meeting of the Petone Main School Committee, Mr. D. McKenzie presiding, a sub-committee to whom the question of erecting a miniature rifle range was recently deputed, reported that the most favourable site was on the Technical School section to the north of the building.

Referring to the same matter the manager of the Technical School wrote stating that the managers could not see their way to grant permission for the range, as they considered it would be dangerous to pupils attending day classes.

The committee resolved to again make application for the use of the ground. Rev. A. Thomas and Messrs. Cairns and McKenzie were appointed delegates to the meeting of the newly-formed School Committees Association on 26th October. The meeting approved of the draft rules of the association.

Authority was given to Mr. F. A. Mason to organise a concert for the purpose of obtaining funds for the school cricket club.\

1st November 1909 A social held recently-in connection with the presentation by ex-pupils to Mr. Jas. Horne, the retiring, headmaster of the Petone District High School, has-.resulted' in. a movement to establish an -.Ex-Student's Association; A meeting will; probably be called at. an .early date, when 'suggestions to make the association a. live one will be discussed

3rd November 1908 Mr. Eustace King, M.A-.who is leaving the Petone West School to take lip the position of first 'assistant at-the Petone Main School, has been presented ,by the pupils with a. silver mounted walking-stick as a token of esteem

20th November 1909 The Petone School Committee last night considered a communication from the Bible in Schools Association inviting support in an endeavour to obtain the Education Board's sanction to a weekly Bible lesson during school hours. The committee decided to take no action.

11th November 1908 Last evening, in the Oddfellows' Hall, Petone, a highly successful minstrel entertainment was given > under the auspices of the Petone State School. The performance, which created much diversion among the audience, is to be repeated this evening

20th November 1909. Petone school children will be interested to learn that the Main School •Committee has decided to alter the afternoon school hours from 1.15 to 3.15 o'clock, to 1 to 3 o'clock. With the advent of an additional school, the children at the West end have not so far to travel, so that less time is taken up during the lunch hour

1st December 1909 Petone parents and school children alike will learn with pleasure that the school committee has been able to complete arrangements with the Ferry Company whereby

steamers will call at the new wharf on ,19th December to convey the children across to Day's Bay for the annual picnic.

1st December 1909 School Tennis Senior Girls Singles semi-finals| . Semi-Final —N. Curtis (Petone) beat V. Curtis (Petone), 30 —24; O. Caverhill (Petone) beat A. Warren (Tech.), 30—18.

Senior Girls Doubles Semi-Finals —V. Curtis and N. Curtis (**Petone**) beat O. Caverhill and L. Udy (**Petone**), 30—23. There were no other results with a Petone School Player in it

11th December 1909 PUBLIC SCHOOL CADETS

CAMP AT JOHNSON VILLE. The 3rd Wellington Battalion Public School Cadets (Weraroa, Levin D.H. School, Johnsonville, Petone D.H. School first and second, and Hutt D.H. School Corps) are in' camp at Johnsonville. Major G. M. Burlinson is in command, with Captain Bethune, adjutant, A. L. Bennett, quartermaster. The officers of the Weraroa Corps are Captain Eggelton and Lieutenant Watt; Levin Corps, Captain Burns and Lieutenant Wood; Johnsonville, Captain Bethune and Lieutenant Bowles; Petone No. 1, Captain Lynskey ; Petone No. 2, Captain Bedingfield; Hurt, Captain Ballachy. Dr Robertson, of Johnsonville, is acting as honorary medical officer. During the week battalion work in attack and defence will be carried out. On Saturday afternoon sports are to be held. On Sunday there will be church parade in the morning, and in the afternoon the battalion bands will assist at Hospital Sunday at Johnsonville. On Tuesday evening a concert will be held in ,the Johnsonville Town Hall. Tents will be struck on Wednesday.

19th December 1909 All yesterday afternoon school teachers, school committeemen, and their wives and senior scholars were busily employed at the Petone State School preparing the viands with which the multitude which is expected to take advantage of the harbour excursion to Day s Bay to-day is to be fed. The sum collected by the scholars and others toward the expenses of the picnic exceeds that collected in any other year, and ensures the catering being on a liberal scale The outing, given line weather, promises to be an extremely enjoyable one In the, event of the weather proving unfit to permit of the excursion, it is probable that a postponement until Monday will be decided upon. the first boat leaves the Petone Wharf at 9.30 a m., and the second at 2 p.m.; return fare (for adults) one shilling-.

21st December 1909 PETONE SCHOOL PICNIC. (From Our Resident Reporter.) Considerably more than a thousand children and parents embarked on board the Duchess and Admiral on Saturday to be conveyed to the Petone State school picnic at Day's Day. The outing, though a stiff nor-wester was blowing and rain fell in the early morning proved thoroughly enjoyable. A glance at the numerous go-carts and prams and the scores of mothers piloting their young progeny, over the gangway was. a reminder that, whether the new wharf prove a success as a commercial undertaking or no it has brought within reach of many who previously were practically debarred from such a luxury, a means of healthful change and recreation whose value is not to be measured in pounds, shillings and pence. Harbour excursions from Petone pier are bound, in view of the success attending Saturday's initial venture, to become very popular. The teaching staff, from the willing young pupil-teachers up, and the chairman and members of the committee rendered yeoman service throughout the day, everything that was possible being done to ensure the enjoyment of the children. The provisions were abundant while there was no lack of prizes in connection with the long succession of running events.

Toys were distributed among the infants in the evening. The principal running events resulted as follows :

High School Boys Championship (100 and 320 yds): S. Cowan; three legged, W. Duncan and S. Cowan; 100 yds (senior), Wynyard 1, Collins 2 ; 100 yds (junior), Naughton 1, Caverhill 3; consolation (senior), Mills 1; consolation (junior), Rushton 1; wrestling (catch-as-catch-can), Mills. Girls— Mrs Hyde's trophy, Ella Arrowsmith ; under 15. Nancy Curtis; three-legged, Nancy Curtis and Ella Arrowsmith; bopping, Ivy Huggins; handkerchief race, Nancy Curtis and Edith Coulter; consolation, Lita Maynard 1, Doris Leadbeater 2.

Primary School, boys.—Championship and cup, Webster; 100 yds, Standard VI. (Mrs Hyde's special), Webster 1, Boyd 2; Standard V.. Parrant 1, Davis 2; Standard IV., Curtis 1, Crawford 2; 120 yds, Colquhoun 1, Wright 2; three-legged. Simpson and Miller. Girls—Standard VI., Hetty Parker, Muriel Hamilton, Violet Walsh; 'Standard V., Laura Webster, Ada. Chandler, Clarice Workman; Standard IV., Rose Davis, Emily Smith, Harriet Lawrence.

21st December 1909 Mr Kean, of the Petone district high school teaching staff, is taking a dozen of his lads to the Orongorongo Valley this week with the intention of spending portion of the holidays under canvas in the wilds. The whole journey will be done on foot. The lads will be rigged out in scout uniforms.

1910

1910	654	Petone DHS	Foster	William H L	B1	Head Master	£370.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	King	Eustace	B1	Assistant Master	£270.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Slater	Jemima	D1	Assistant Female	£220.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Kean	Balfour	C2	Assistant Master	£210.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Mason	Francis A	D2	Assistant Master	£180.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D2	Assistant Female	£165.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Mothes	Frederick W	D4	Assistant Master	£150.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Armit	Katherine N	D3	Assistant Female	£130.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Thomson	Isabel S M	D3	Assistant Female	£120.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Ross	Fanny L	C4	Assistant Female	£95.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Young	Mabel F	D3	Assistant Female	£90.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Mills	John E		MP4	£55.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Marsden	Joseph S		MP5	£55.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Kydd	Maud		FP3	£45.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Udy	Linda A		FP3	£45.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Martin	A Muriel		FP3	£45.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Curtis	Vera		FP2	£35.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Hitchings	Gladys		FP1	£20.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Maynard	Leta		FP1	£20.00
1910	654	Petone DHS	Lynskey	James H	C1	Secondary	
1910	654	Petone DHS	Ross BA	Christina M		Secondary	

22nd January 1910 A meeting of the Petone Main School Committee was held last night, when there were present the Rev. Mr. Russell, Messrs McKenzie, Hill, McDougall, Abraham and List. In reference to the establishment of school baths; it was mentioned that a section 'in-close

proximity to the school grounds (the property of the Boys' Brigade Trustees) would be most suitable for the purpose.. It was consequently, decided to ask the, Technical School Board 'to furnish particulars of the ground in question. The Petone Borough Council offered 100 gallons, of tar for the purpose 'of improving the school ground. The matter was left in the hands of the chairman, and' secretary, -to'. organise, a bee, to 'carry, out the work. It was decided, to add the names of all who were successful in 'examinations. last year to the school merit board Education Department stating on the subject of. The Petone High School, that the Government was not prepared to approve' of the establishment of a separate high' school proper for Petone since the matter could only be considered from the. position'-of the Hutt Valley as a whole. a petition from' Petone- showed that if ,the high school there were approved there- would be an attendance of 67. It was decided .to send a copy of .the-'Department's letter to the petitioners. 3rd February 1910 The more money, we: spend on education, the. less you will want, for the police, suggestively remarked Mr. R. W. Short to the Minister for Justice (the Hon. Dr. Findlay), when the latter observed to the Petone High School site deputation that he could not afford to be generous, even to the Education Department.

16th February 1910 Petone Technical School Board: The Petone School Committee wrote suggesting that the site in question, which is situated alongside the school, should be utilised . for the purpose of erecting swimming baths for the use of primary and secondary scholars. Without discussing the matter a member moved that the communication be simply received. Mr. Mothes: I second that. Mr. McKenzie: I rise to a point of order. Mr. Mothes is not a member of this board.....

Mr J Lynskey Secondary School Teacher was also the Director of the Petone Technical School Classes.

19th February 1910 The Petone District High School committee , met last evening. Present: Messrs McKenzie (chairman). List (Secretary), Hill, Abrahall, Cairns, Bird, and Revs. Russell and Thomson.

The Rev. H. Braddock wrote, asking for permission to complete the course of after school addresses to scholars commenced last year. The chairman, the Rev. Russell and

Thomson and Messrs Cairns and List spoke approvingly of Mr Braddock's work.. The latter said that he understood three more addresses -would complete the course. The request . was granted.

The headmaster's report stated that the aggregate number on the roll was 601, of whom 99 (57 boys and 42 girls) were attached to the secondary department. He submitted a list of articles required for the two buildings. It was decided to make application! to the Education Board for certain of these.

The Education Board notified that further consideration would be given the request for the establishment of a high school proper in Petone, when an application was received from the Board in conformity with the requirements of the statute. The Rev. Thomson said that apparently- what the department required . was that the application should be minus the footnote relative to the necessity of disestablishing the Lower Hutt District High School. which the board had seen fit to attach to it. On the motion of the chairman, it was decided to write to the board, requesting it to conform to this requirement.

Misses Curtis and Udy, reported the headmaster, had been promoted to be pupil teachers. Mr Mills had been transferred to Khandallah, and Misses Hitchings and Maynard had been appointed probationers.

21st February 1910 Explaining his presence at the tuning of the school piano by the headmaster and one of his assistants, the chairman of the Petone school committee stated on Friday night that he happened to be passing at the time and thought he heard Mr. Foster at the typewriter. The headmaster claimed, nevertheless, that his assistant had made a good job of the tuning.....To pitch tents and make all snug for their confreres from north and south who will come pouring in by train and steamer on ' Thursday the Petone School Cadets, No. 1 company, sixty-five strong, and in charge of Captain Lynskey, will march to Hutt Park this morning, and remain there under canvas till the great event has come to pass.....Mr Foster, headmaster of the Petone District High School, purposes appointing a Wednesday afternoon in each quarter upon which to invite parents to come and see and hear their young hopefuls being taught

24th February Miss M L Hunt appointed assistant at Petone Margaret L Hunt with a C4 qualification Only taught for Wellington Education Board in 1909. A Margaret L Hunt was a secondary teacher at Gisborne in 1908

24th February 1910 Wellington Education Board The establishment of a high school at Petone was referred to, and it was decided to refer the matter to the Finance Committee, Mr. Allan holding that as Petone had from time to time gone beyond the board to the Minister, it was time the board should know where it stood.

1st March 1910 Before striking camp then Petone District High School Cadets held a social evening. One of the items, which caused some amusement was a sham court-martial. On behalf of the officers and cadets Captain Lynskey presented Bombardier Just with an email token of esteem. Lieutenant Mothes contributed several Bongs during the social. Camp was struck to-day.

19th March 1910 The monthly' meeting of the Petone School Committee was held last evening. Present: Messrs. D. (McKenzie, chairman)J. W. List (secretary), W. Hill, Burd, Abrahall, and the Rev. Thomson.

Major Macdonald wrote expressing his thanks to the committee for the assistance given during the Kitchener encampment, and also for allowing the school to be used-for housing the cadets. The secretary of the Technical School Board wrote stating that the board could not hand over a certain section in Beach Street for, the purpose of erecting swimming baths, as 'the section was not the actual property of the board.

Mr. W. Foster (headmaster) reported that the number of pupils on the roll in the primary department was 601. The number admitted during the month was 33, and withdrawals were 13, thus making the total number on the roll to date 621. The average half-daily attendance was 575, or 93.4 per cent. In the secondary department the number on the roll was 79; admitted during the month nil; withdrawn 1; total number on the roll to date 78; average half-daily attendance. 75, or 96.1 per cent.

The resignation of Miss M. L Hunt was accepted, and the secretary was instructed to forward, a- letter to Miss Hunt-conveying the committee's appreciation of her services,, and also one to her sister, who has also resigned her position

23rd March 1910 Wellington Education Board The two Petone School Committees asked the board to support an application to the Minister for a special capitation fee of 9d. Mr. Aitken moved that the request be forwarded, and endorsed by the board, with, the intimation, that the same was desired for all schools. • A member: The grant for free school books would have, more than covered it. ' Mr. Aitken: But it would not be such a good, advertisement.

30th March 1910 The start of a long long article on Hutt versus Petone in the High School battle: HUTT V. PETONE THE HIGH SCHOOL QUESTION DISCUSSED. There has always existed a sort of undefined opposition to the movement for the granting of a high school to Petone, and the present -attitude of the Lower Hutt school committee, condoned as it is by the borough council, comes as a matter of small surprise to those who have been aware of the trend of local sentiment. But hitherto the fact that the question was at bottom one of Hutt versus Petone has not been openly acknowledged in any quarter, and the committee, by frankly advancing Lower Hutt's claims in opposition to Petone's, has, apart from the merits of the question, taken a stand which should materially assist toward bringing about finality. The issue now is clear, and presumably the borough which can make out the better case will obtain the boon which each is now striving after. A statement of the position from the point of view of each borough was sought by a Times reporter yesterday.

The Rev. A. Thomson, who has been the prime mover in the agitation on behalf of Petone, declared that Lower Hutt was, under statute, out of court and had no legal standing whatever in the matter. There was, he said, only one party to the question at present. The conditions governing the erection of the secondary department of a district high school into a high school proper require that the school applying to be so erected shall have a minimum of sixty students enrolled. The number of students enrolled in the secondary department of the Petone district high school is eighty. In the case of Lower Hutt it is twenty-seven only.....

16th April 1910 The monthly meeting of the Petone School Committee was held' last evening, Present: Messrs McKenzie (chairman), Abrahall, Rev. A. Thompson, Hill, Cairns, Burd. McDougal, list, and Rev. J. D. Russell. The headmaster (Mr. Forster) in his report stated that during the past month the attendance in the primary department had increased by seven, whilst, in the secondary department, a decrease of three was shown. The quarterly returns showed that, at the end of last December, the attendance of primary scholars was 622. Of the 68 discontinued after Christmas, so that the actual attendance at the end of 1909 was 554. One hundred and seven scholars were admitted during the year, and 41 withdrawn. The total number on the roll at the end of March was 620, and the average half-daily attendance 560. In the secondary department last December the roll number was 49 Of 'these 13 did not attend after the Christmas, so that the actual attendance at the end of 1909 was 36. The total number on the roll at the end of March this year was 78, and the average half-daily attendance 74. The secretary presented' the annual report, which congratulated the committee on the satisfactory state of the past year's work and the finances, the year finishing with a credit balance, of £13 11s. During the year £7 10s. had been expended on library books and improvements to the grounds. The report paid a tribute to Mr. Horne, the late headmaster. The caretaker was granted a bonus of £4 10s.

15th April 1910 In addition to members of the outgoing committee, Messrs. Kirk, Feilding, Town send, Brocklebank, Pickering, Cox, E. Pointon, and the Rev. T. A. Williams will be

candidates for the Petone School Committee, the election for which takes place at the school this evening.

26th April 1910 Wellington Education Board A letter was received from the Petone School Committee advocating uniformity of school-books throughout New Zealand. Even the free books meant a great burden to parents shifting from the district.

The chairman did not think that uniformity of school-books would be beneficial. There was not the competition in New Zealand to produce the class of books needed. Educationists were opposed to uniformity. The greater variety the better. The School Journal was the one publication that could be done in the Dominion to advantage. It would put education back to have uniformity, even if it would save money to parents.

Mr. Hogg expressed his opposition to uniformity but did not like the idea of different books in different schools as a source of expense to parents moving about the Dominion. The population was to a certain extent nomadic. The board should see that only the best books were used. It was resolved that the letter be received.

26th April 1910 School Committee elections: PETONE EAST. A great deal of interest appeared to be taken in the election at Petone East. The schoolroom was crowded, a large number of ladies being present. Mr. D. McKenzie (chairman), explained that only those residing on the eastern side of Nelson Street were entitled to vote. After the secretary's and headmaster's reports had been received, 16 nominations were made, the subsequent election resulting as follows:—Messrs. D. McKenzie, chairman (re-elected), W. Burd (secretary), E. Townsend, Rev. J. D. Russell, W. Hill, H. Kirk, Rev. A. Thomson, T. Cairns, W. Abrahall. Messrs. Cairns and Cox received the same number of votes, and the chairman's casting vote was in favour of Mr. Cairns. During the evening songs and other items were given by Messrs. Hope, Townsend, J. McEwen, J. List, and Mrs. D. McEwen.

27th April 1910 Wellington Education Board Once more the Wellington Education Board has made a pronouncement on the proposal to establish a high school at Petone. It was yesterday decided, on the motion of Mr B. Lee (chairman of the board) to inform the Petone school committee that a high school cannot be erected because it could not be done without disestablishing the Hutt school, to which both the board and Education Department were opposed. The motion was seconded by Mr A. W. Hogg, M.P.

3rd May 1910 At the meeting of Petone residents last night, held to consider further action with regard to the Petone High School question, some discussion took place on the subject of the proposed four years' course for matriculation. The actual position with regard to that is that the University Senate proposes to accept, as an equivalent to the matriculation examination, a certificate from the principal of a secondary school that a particular candidate has covered a four years' course of study in the subjects prescribed for matriculation. But there is nothing to prevent a candidate from matriculating in a less period by examination in the subjects prescribed—if he can cover the work. Several of the speakers at the Petone meeting spoke of the four years' course as being compulsory for all candidates for matriculation, and a resolution was carried condemning the proposals of the Senate. The Rev. A. Thomson thought that an injustice would be done by such a system, the children of the poorer people especially being affected. Another speaker condemned the proposal as an attempt by the upper classes to oppress the working classes.

3rd May 1910 Miss L. Hall (Petone). commences her duties at Koputaroa [North of Levin] school on Monday next.

12th May 1910 Miss Muriel Martin, of Lower Hutt, has succeeded Miss Hall on the teaching staff of Petone District High School. Miss Martin had for some time occupied the post of pupil teacher at the Newtown school. [Only spent one year at Petone before returning to Newtown School for one year]

21st May 1910 The first meeting of the newly-elected committee- of the Petone District High School was held on Thursday there being present: Messrs. D. McKenzie (chairman). Cairns, Hill, Townsend, Kirk, and. Bird (secretary),

In reference to a high school proper for Petone, the Education Board wrote stating that it would mean the disestablishment of the Hutt District High School, In discussion it appeared that the majority of the Petone committee does not wish this to happen., and, on the; motion of Mr. Bird, it was resolved to endeavour to arrange a conference with the Hutt School Committee on the first Friday of next month. The proposal is that the conference shall go fully into the question of a High school for the Hutt Valley.

The Hutt and Petone Ministers' Association requested the committee to allow them to impart religious instruction after school hours for half an hour on one day per week. The request! was granted. . _

Mr. McKenzie was appointed to act as the committee's representative on| the Petone West School Bazaar Committee.

A letter from the citizens of Petone asking the committee to be present at a- deputation, which is to wait on the Education Board, and discuss the matter of a high school proper for Petone caused considerable discussion.

Mr. Cairns moved: That, as the indignation meeting recently held re high school for Petone was an irresponsible one from the standpoint of this committee, and, seeing that the committee have received an official reply from the Minister, and have decided on a different course of action, they, therefore cannot take any part in. the deputation.

The motion was carried.

An application is to be made to the(Education Board for certificates of merit for high school pupils attending the cookery classes at the Technical School.

The headmaster reported that the average roll attendance in the primary department for the month was 630; J average half-daily attendance, 583.1 half daily percentage on average roll, 92.5. Secondary department: Average , roll number, 72; half daily attendance, 63; half-daily percentage on average roll, 94.1.

As Friday, May 27., will be the commencement of the first term holidays, a' parents' day will be held on that date. The headmaster requests as many, parents as possible to to present.

27th May 1910 To-day is set apart at the Petone District High School a-s Parents' day. The headmaster invites parents and the public to visit the school during the school hours and see the children at. their every-day work. Added to the ordinary lessons there will be cadet drill, woodwork, cookery, chemistry, and needlework

6th June 1910 PETONE DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL. On Thursday and Friday openings an entertainment will be given by the Mascotte Picture Company in the Oddfellows' Hall, Petone. The proceeds will augment the High School's funds. A capital programme has been arranged.

10th June 1910 Despite the very wet weather the entertainment by the Mascotte Picture Company in aid of the Petone District High School funds, was well attended in the Oddfellows' Hall last evening. The films were both instructive and humorous, the best amongst the many being A Corner in Wheat and Foolshead Reports a Wedding. Songs were given by Mr. Fred Hicks and Mr. E. Wiseman. The Picture Company will repeat their entertainment for the school funds this evening

18th June 1910 Members present at the monthly meeting of the Petone District High School Committee, held last evening, were- Messrs. D. McKenzie (chairman), Kirk, Abrahall, Burd, Rev. A. Thomson, and Rev. J. D Russell. The headmaster (Mr. W. Foster) reported that the number on the roll at the commencement of the month was 632; admitted during the month, 22; withdrawn, 12; total on the roll at the end of the month, 610; average half daily attendance, 544 or 85 per cent. This average is low, this being due partly to illnesses incidental to winter, and partly to the bad weather. The playground, it was reported, was in a very unsatisfactory state, having little or no drainage, and the school building and offices are unapproachable except at the cost of wet feet. The committee resolved to write to the Education Board pointing out that the school ground had not been properly graded since the playground has been put in order and ask them to do the work as speedily as possible. The unsatisfactory state of the secondary school was also mentioned by a member of the committee, and it was resolved, on the motion of the Rev. Mr. Thomson, that the chairman ask Dr. Ross to furnish a report on the sanitary condition of the building (classrooms, etc.), and that his report be sent on to the board. It was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Abrahall, that the committee join the School, Committees' Association. Messrs. Townsend, McKenzie, and the Rev. Mr. Thomson were appointed the committee's delegates to the association. Permission was granted to the Petone Brass Band to use the schoolroom for practice purposes. Mr. Austin was granted the use of a right-of-way to his residence through the school grounds, The secretary (Mr. Burd) announced that the proceeds from the Mascotte Picture Company's entertainment were approximately £6 6s

24th June 1910 A meeting of those interested in forming a Petone State School ex Pupils Association will be held in the Ranfurly Hall on Monday evening next. The conveners are Messrs. H. Johnson, I. Olsen, Holling, and J. Dewhirst.

4th July 1910 A SUCCESSFUL CADET CORPS. PRESENTATIONS TO PETONE SCHOLARS. There was a special night parade of the Petone District High School Cadets at the Infants' Schoolroom on Saturday evening on the occasion of the presentation of the Kebbell Shield, won by a squad of marksmen from the secondary division. An inspection of the company on parade was made by Major McDonald, Commanding Officer of the Cadets for New Zealand, accompanied by Lieut. Stevens, Captain Lynskey (Adjutant 4th Battalion), and Mr. D. McKenzie, chairman of the Main School Committee. Other officers on parade were Captains Bedingfield and Keans and Lieutenants Mothes, Marsden, and Mills. Prior to making the presentation, the Major briefly outlined the cadet system as recently revised by the new Defence Act. In expressing pleasure at the presence of so many parents at that night's function, the speaker emphasised the fact that the whole success of the junior cadets very largely indeed depended upon the fathers and mothers of the boys undergoing training.....

16th July 1910 There were present at last night's meeting of the 'Petone School' Committee: Messrs. McKenzie (chairman), Abrahall, Cairns, Hill, Townsend, Kirk, Burd, and the Rev. J. D. Russell.

The headmaster (Mr. Foster) asked what arrangements the committee proposed to make in connection with Arbor Day which falls on Wednesday next. He suggested the planting of trees, if any were available.

It was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the headmaster, chairman, and secretary. The Rev. Mr. Russell, in reference to the Bible-in-Schools; question, moved that the committee support the Dominion League in its desire for a referendum. Mr. Townsend moved as an amendment that the committee, without pledging itself to support Bible-reading in schools, favours the people themselves directly settling the question by a referendum. The amendment was carried.

A letter was received, from the Department of Agriculture to the effect that it had no trees available for planting in the school grounds on Arbor Day.

The headmaster reported that the number on the roll in the primary department at present was 643, and in the secondary department 70.

A set of a dozen historical pictures has been received from the Education Board.

26th July 1910 Part of a long article on school rifle ranges at Petone Concert and Petone DHS On the motion of Mr. Cairns, it was resolved to take into consideration ways and means for the erection of a miniature rifle range for the use of the Petone District High School. A letter is also to be forwarded to Major McDonald informing him that the committee intend to establish a rifle range on their own ground.

10th August 1920 UTT DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL. Apparently the Education Board's attempt to bring about an amicable settlement of the question of a site for the proposed District High School for the Hutt Valley by asking for a conference of the school committees interested is not likely to succeed. When the matter of the conference came up before the Petone High School committee last evening, the chairman, Mr McKenzie, said any conference on the basis suggested would be preposterous. It would give Lower Hutt an overwhelming advantage, inasmuch as nearly all the other parties to it would take the side of the Hutt committee, and Petone would lose everything. The matter concerned the Hutt and the Petone High School committees alone and had nothing to do with outside committees. It was decided that the committee could not agree to a conference with the representation as proposed, but would agree to one to which each committee in the valley would be entitled to send, one delegate for each two hundred scholars on their rolls, in addition to two representatives from each borough council

20th August 1910 The meeting of the Petone School Committee last night was attended by Messrs. McKenzie (chairman), Burd, Abrahall, Kirk, Townsend, Cairns, and Rev. Russell. A letter was received from the Department of Lands in reply to the committee's letter of the 15th inst., re the planting of trees in the school grounds at Petone.

It was stated that there were no native trees grown in the State forest reserves at Whakarewarewa, the only trees raised by the department being raised for forest purposes. The Education Board forwarded a letter asking the Petone and Hutt Committees to call a meeting to discuss the question of erecting a high school for the Hutt Valley and at the same time supplied a scale of representation.

It was resolved to forward to the board the following resolution : — That the Petone District High School Committee cannot agree to the suggested representation of the board, which does not appear an equitable one, but considers that, as the Hutt and Petone District High Schools and Borough Councils are the parties most interested, they are the ones who should confer for the best site to recommend to the Board. The committee, however, considers that as the Petone

schools have such an over whelming preponderance of pupils, the Petone District High School should have a larger number of representatives than the Lower Hutt.

20th August 1910 PRESENTATION. The business of the Petone District High School Committee having been disposed of last evening the chairman, Mr. D. McKenzie, presented Mr. J. List, retiring secretary, with a handsome silver cruet and sugar scuttle. The chairman, in making the presentation remarked that Mr List had been a valued worker for five years and had been secretary of the committee for five years. An enjoyable evening was afterwards spent. Refreshments were provided by Mesdames Burd and McKenzie and the Misses Burd and Cody

2nd September 1910 Twenty-seven Hastings High School boys, accompanied by eight of the teaching staff, left for Petone this, morning. They will devote Saturday to sightseeing in Wellington, and next week, at Petone, football, hockey, rifle-shooting, physical drill, and a sports meeting will be indulged in.

3rd September 1910 Yesterday afternoon the primary department of the Petone District High School was open to parents and others interested in school work. A good number of people attended (chiefly mothers), who had the opportunity of seeing their children at the various lessons.

17th September 1910 SCHOOL COMMITTEE IN DIFFICULTIES.. During a discussion on ways and means, some strong remarks were passed by members of the Petone High School Committee last evening on; the parsimony which they declared, at present characterises, the system of financing the School Committees.

The Rev. A.. Thomson denounced the system as a scandal. Committees, he said, had actually to put their hands in their own pockets to make ends meet. Preferential treatment; had been shown by the board to certain committees which had been unable to carry on. The chairman (Mr. D. McKenzie), said that, the loss of the special grant was the trouble it has since been announced that; this grant would be restored, but -it would be another twelve months before they got it! The board had taken exception to the salary paid by the committee to its caretaker. All he could say, in reply to that, was that though they paid more than; was paid in Wellington, it could hardly be called a living wage.

Mr. Hill suggested that the committee should resign and inform the board that it would have to get another committee to, do the work on the money available. The present committee could not do it

On the motion of the Rev.: A.. Thomson, it was resolved that a letter be sent to the board, with a statement of the committee's financial position asking that the committee be placed upon a better footing. As things stood at present said the mover, the committee had to choose between

Subsequently, when the accounts were being considered; the settlement of certain claims called for some action. There was first as instalment of the caretaker's salary. The secretary remarked that he had already paid one account out of his own pocket. • I can't pay everybody, he said plaintively.

I'll pay it, said the chairman,

I'll give you a hand with it, chimed in; someone, else

We'll be getting sued one of these days, remarked a third.

Having-arranged a -modus vivendi for the meantime;' the committee then passed on to more congenial business.

17th September 1910 The monthly meeting of the Petone , District High School Committee was held last evening, there being present: Mr. D. McKenzie (chairman), and Messrs. W. Hill, G. Kirk, P. Cairns, the Rev. A. Thomson, and W. Burn(secretary). The report of the board's inspectors on the recent annual examination (marked confidential) was read. The general tenor of the inspectors' remarks was of a commendatory character, and on the motion of the Rev. A. Thomson the committee recorded its gratification that the work of the school had been so satisfactorily reported upon. The chairman commented upon the time which was given to such subjects as brushwork and woodwork, to the detriment of the more essential subjects of primary education. He would like to see more time given, to arithmetic

17th September 1910 THAT CIRCULAR TO PARENTS. After the ordinary business had been dealt with at last night's meeting of the Petone High School committee, Mr Cairns stated that a number of householders had complained to him. of the action of the Ministers' Association in issuing a circular through the school asking I parents to sign a form and return it if they refused to consent to their children remaining for religious instruction after school hours. Mr Cairns said the committee had not authorised the issue of this circular, and he held it should have been submitted to them before being sent out. The impression he received about the matter was that the children of parents who failed to sign the circular could be compelled to remain to the instruction class. The chairman (Mr McKenzie) agreed that the ministers had no right issue the circular to the parents by medium of the school. The headmaster was to blame for permitting the circular to go through. But it was erroneous to suppose that any compulsion could be exercised on the children, who remained to the religious instruction entirely at their own or their parents' free will. However, he did not think there \had been much harm done, but the ministers should be informed that they had acted wrongly. Mr Cairns proposed, and Mr G. Kirk seconded, that the Ministers' Association be informed that the committee considered the circularising of the parents through the school to have been a breach of etiquette, and the headmaster be instructed to allow no circulars to be sent through the school without the committee's instruction. The motion was earned without dissent.

' A MINISTER'S VIEW.; In the course of a conversation with a Times reporter, the Rev. A. Thompson, chairman of the Petone Ministers' Association, stated that he did not consider the objections that had been raised to the circulars were worthy of serious consideration. The objectors were a noisy few who continually sought excuses for making themselves heard. Similar circulars had been issued at the Thames and had been well received. The object of the Petone ministers in issuing the circulars had been purely to prevent any. parents from feeling that they had not been consulted in the matter, As a matter of fact, the children were not, and could not be compelled to attend Bible instruction classes unless they wished to do so. The classes did not meet until after the children had been dismissed. With regard to the classes themselves, they did not last more than about twenty minutes. He himself had conducted the class at the Petone West School on Tuesday, and it had been entirely successful, the attendance being so great that they had to remove to a larger room. He was present at the school committee meeting but left to attend another engagement * before the matter of religious instruction came up .for consideration.

Comment [RC2]:

27th September 1910 Neighbours with a difference, the Petone and Hutt boroughs, have kept their troubles over the siting of a high school for the Hutt Valley well before the Wellington Education Board at almost every meeting since the beginning of the year. The board has talked to either neighbour like a father. Both boroughs offer sites, and the board at a recent meeting asked the two to come together and call a meeting representative of the Hutt Valley to decide the whole question. A suitable basis of representation was suggested by the board in each borough to have two delegates, each school over 200 two delegates, each school under that number one delegate, the Upper Hutt Town Board one delegate. The Petone District High School Committee disapproved of the basis, while Hutt approved. Petone thought its population justified a larger representation. It was decided by the Board this afternoon to write to Petone, asking it to reconsider its decision.

7th October 1910 PETONE SCHOOL CONCERT. The distressful condition of the Petone School Committee's finances led the teaching staff to come to the rescue by organising a series of entertainments, the first of which was given at the Palace Theatre last evening. The large hall was crowded by an appreciative audience, and those responsible for the programme, which was prepared at short notice, received the best possible reward in the pronounced success with which every item was received. Amongst those whose efforts were instrumental in achieving this end may be mentioned the Headmaster Mr Foster and his staff, And Misses Armit and Slater. A second concert will be to-night, and another to-morrow evening.

7th October 1910 The new Palace Theatre at Petone was utilised for the first time (apart from skating) as a public hall last evening, when a most successful and interesting concert from every point of view was given under the auspices of the Petone Main School. School children figured in all of the items, the mass singing and the costumes of the performers coming in for very favourable comment. A feature of the programme was the excellent display (in various turns) of detachments of the District High School Cadets, for whose training Mr. J. Lynskey was responsible. The performance, which will be repeated this evening, concludes with a strikingly effective tableau scene

10th October 1910 HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT. The final concert of the Petone District High School on Saturday night was as successful as the previous ones. The net proceeds amounted to £45 8s.; this with the Education Board's subsidy brings the total to little over £90 [£90 in 1910 is equivalent to \$15,514.47 in December 2019]

October separate

19th November 1910 The Petone District High School met last night, those present being: Messrs. McKenzie (chairman), Abrahall, Kirk, Bird, and Hill. The Education Board forwarded a statement, which intimated that the subsidy on the funds accumulated at the school's recent concert would be forwarded immediately. In regard to the school's annual picnic, it was resolved to hold it on December 10 at Belmont, arrangements to be left in the hands of the chairman and secretary, Mr. Bird. It was decided to expend a sum of £10 on the school library, the secretary and headmaster to select the books. The chairman dealt at some length with the question of establishing an agricultural course, and subsequently moved:—That an agricultural course be started at the district High School at the beginning of the school year 1911, and that the board is notified of the committee's intention. The headmaster (Mr. W. Foster) reported that the attendance returns in the primary department showed that the number in the roll at the beginning of the month was 677; admitted during month, 25; withdrawn, 19; total roll at end

of the month, 683. Averaged roll number during the month, 677; average half-daily attendance, 611, or 90.2 per cent, on the roll number. This comparatively low percentage was attributed to wet weather. In the secondary department the figures were:—Number on roll at the beginning of the month, 63; withdrawn, 3; Roll number at end of the month, 60; average roll number 62; average half-daily attendance, 58.7; percentage of half-daily attendance on roll number, 95.4.

22nd November 1910 special meeting of the Petone District School Committee was held last evening: for the purpose- of discussing the question raised by the chairman (Mr. D. McKenzie). at the committee's last meeting—that of introducing an agricultural course in the High School curriculum. Mr. Foster, headmaster, reporting on the matter, stated that 'frequent changes in the school syllabus were, on the whole, undesirable, yet before deciding on this change it would be necessary' to thoroughly discuss the existing course, and the proposed course, and the demands of the district, and then, after due consideration of these three matters, if he (Mr. Foster) thought that a change was necessary he would recommend it to the inspectors. No inquiries had come to hand for an agricultural course from parents/ but he had known of cases where parents had inquired as to the possibility of their boys being equipped so as to become commercial men. It would be well within the mark to state that 75 per cent, of the pupils passing from the Petone secondary department were migrating to in commercial and industrial life. Summing up, the report stated that the course in the secondary department is satisfactory. I think (said Mr. Foster) that the establishment of an agricultural course is inadvisable in the interest of the district as a whole, and of the secondary department of this school in particular. Mr. McKenzie moved that an agricultural course be introduced into the school curriculum. In speaking to his motion Mr. McKenzie said that such a course was very desirable, and would be to the best interest of the boys and girls. Rev A. Thomson was of opinion that to introduce such a course would be an absolute farce. The district was an industrial district, and there were no farms in Petone. In Reply to the Rev. Mr. Thomson, Mr. McKenzie said that it was only reasonable to allow a course such as the one proposed, so that when the call came to go on the land their boys would at all events have some knowledge of what was needed. After the matter had been further discussed, the motion was carried.

30th November 1910 Wellington Education Board A proposal from the committee of the Petone District High School with reference to the introduction of a rural course was referred to the inspectors for report

3rd December 1910 the committee of the Petone Western School have decided to throw in their lot with the Petone High School in the annual picnic, to be held on Saturday, December 10. A meeting of the High School Committee was held last evening, when arrangements were made to ensure a successful day

17th December 1910 The Public School tournament was finished on Monday, Petone winning the senior championship, and Kilbirnie the junior. Miss N. Curtis, of Petone, showed herself to be the making of a very good player, and, with some good coaching and some care on her own part, she should become an acquisition to Petone. [Third time she had won the championship]

1911

1911	672	Petone DHS	Foster MA	William H L	B1	Head Master	£375.00
1911	672	Petone DHS	King MA B Sci	Eustace	B1	Assistant Master	£275.00
1911	672	Petone DHS	Slater	Jemima	D1	Assistant Female	£225.00

1911	672	Petone DHS	Kean	Balfour	C2	Assistant Master	£210.00
1911	672	Petone DHS	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D2	Assistant Female	£165.00
1911	672	Petone DHS	Mothes	Frederick W	D3	Assistant Master	£165.00
1911	672	Petone DHS	Armit	Katherine N	C2	Assistant Female	£135.00
1911	672	Petone DHS	Thomson	Isabel S M	D2	Assistant Female	£125.00
1911	672	Petone DHS	Ross	Fanny L	C3	Assistant Female	£100.00
1911	672	Petone DHS	Kydd	Maud		FP4	£55.00
1911	672	Petone DHS	Udy	Linda A		FP4	£55.00
1911	672	Petone DHS	Curtis	Vera		FP3	£45.00
1911	672	Petone DHS	Boyd	Kate		FP3	£45.00
1911	672	Petone DHS	McCaw	Peter		MP2	£35.00
1911	672	Petone DHS	Castle	Constance V		FP2	£25.00
1911	672	Petone DHS	Hitchings	Gladys		FP2	£25.00
1911	672	Petone DHS	Maynard	Leta		FP1	£20.00
1911	672	Petone DHS	Lynskey BA	James H	B1	Secondary	
1911	672	Petone DHS	Ross BA	Christina M	Lic	Secondary	

30th January 1911 The Petone public schools will re-open for the first term of 1911 to-day.

Mr. Foster and Mr. Lynskey will be in attendance at the Petone District High School (secondary school) from 7 to 9 o'clock to consult with parents as to the various courses.

1st February 1911 Petone's much-agitated-for High School is still in the air, so to speak. The subject appeared on the order paper for yesterday's meeting of the Wellington Education Board but was again deferred for further consideration.

2nd February 1911 MAYOR OF PETONE OFFENDED.- ' At the monthly meeting of the Wellington Education Board on Tuesday, last, it fell to the board to appoint for the ensuing term two representatives on the Petone Technical School Board. The board's representatives for the previous term-were the chairman (Mr. Robt. Lee) and Mr. J. W. McEwan, the Mayor of Petone. In proposing that Messrs. D. McKenzie, chairman of the Petone Main School Committee, and G. London, should represent the board for the new term, Mr. Lee said that he himself would be unable to act, and indicated that Mr. McEwan was fully occupied with his public duties. Messrs. D. McKenzie and G. London were accordingly appointed, and Mr. McEwan was accorded a ' vote of thanks for his past services as the board's representative.

Yesterday, Mr. McEwan, in the course of a conversation with a representative of The Dominion, referred to this, and said that he had never even been asked by Mr Lee or any other member of the board whether he would be able to continue to act as the board's representative on the Petone Technical School Board. It was true that he was a busy man, with a great many calls upon his time—so many, indeed, that he would have to ask to be relieved of some of his minor obligations—but he had certainly not contemplated withdrawing his active interest in the educational affairs of the borough. As Mayor, he considered that to be, part of his civic responsibility, and he regretted that the Education Board should have acted towards himself as it had done.

11th February 1911 RURAL EDUCATION. A special meeting of the Petone High School Committee was held last evening for the purpose of discussing further the question of introducing an agricultural course of training, into the school curriculum. The members present were Messrs. McKenzie (chairman), Burd, Kirk, Abrahall, Hill, Cairns, and the Row

.A. Thomson. There were also in attendance Messrs. Fleming, Tennant, and' Bakewell, school inspectors, and Messrs.. Forster, ,and Lynskey, headmaster and first assistant of the secondary department, respectively. . Mr. McKenzie said that Inspector Fleming had suggested certain alterations, and it- was thought advisable to meet the inspectors. Mr. Fleming said that in discussing matters connected with the District High School, the conclusion was arrived at that a course of- matriculation (was not satisfactory for all scholars. The 'best course for country schools was a rural course. From the school roll today it appeared .that there were 23 scholars who would take this agricultural course. That would mean about 20 pupils. There was a number left, and what was to become of them? One requirement was provision for practical demonstrations in the agricultural course. The first question that must be answered the board was: Where is your land? 'Petone was more of an industrial district and the question was which was the best course for Petone. If a rural course was adopted for' Petone, would it be treating those other children, not taking agriculture, fairly? 'Was the committee prepared to introduce agriculture to the detriment of both courses which would naturally be crowded out?.' . Mr. Bakewell said that as far as was known it was impossible .to carry on a rural course and a matriculation course satisfactory together.' Was the committee prepared to forgo matriculation and go eyes out for a rural course? If it was possible to carry out the two courses in one High School the inspectors would not have the slightest objection. In answer to a question as to what Would become of pupils who at the start did not take a rural course, Mr. Fleming said-that it would be compulsory for pupils to take a rural course in their first and 'second years The Rev. Thomson asked if this agricultural course was adopted, could the children who did not take it apply to the Wellington College for a place?

Mr., Fleming said he could not answer the question as he had nothing to do with Wellington College. _

Mr. Fleming, continuing, said that the inspectors would want a longer guarantee than 12 months, as laid down by the committee. Mr. McKenzie said that there would ho no difficulty about the ground for the course fts the Mayor had given assurance in this direction The inspectors would know' definitely where the ground was at ft Inter date.

Mr. Hill wanted to know how the names of pupils at the Hutt and Taita got on the list, handed to the inspectors. They must- have been canvassed.

The chairman.: .They were not canvassed. They were waited upon and handed a circular. I will go to 'Wairarapa to make this class a success, concluded the chairman.

Mr. McKenzie, on behalf of the committee, thanked the inspectors for the information they had proffered; He would say that if such a course were established it would be the best on the school syllabus.

Mr. Bakewell said that an idea was abroad that the inspectors were not in favour of the rural course. That was not the case. The inspectors were. entirely in favour of this course.

1st March 1911 [Note: Petone West and Lower Hutt schools opposed strongly the setting up of a rural course at Petone School]

At yesterday's meeting of the Wellington Education Board the board's inspectors reported in regard to the rural course at the Petone District High School. On 10th February the inspectors met the school's committee on the matter, and explained to it that, owing to staffing and financial difficulties it was, in their opinion, inadvisable to introduce this additional course unless the committee was prepared to forego the matriculation ,and Civil Service junior

(competition) course, to meet the Requirements of which the present programme of the District High School was framed. So far, said the report, the committee had given no indication that it was prepared to do this. The inspectors further expressed the opinion to the committee that technical instruction more in sympathy with the local industries of Petone could be made available by an extension of the programme of the present Technical School. The lines on which this could be done were indicated. During the conference it was pointed out by the Chief Inspector that with adequate staffing and sufficient funds a good programme (for Petone) might very well provide for both industrial and rural courses. The report was adopted.

18th March 1911 At last night's meeting of the Petone District High School Committee, the headmaster reported that it was impracticable to give full effect to the committee's recommendation with regard to swimming lessons. There were, stated Mr. Foster, difficulties of organisation that rendered efficient instruction of swimming in a school such as that under his care impossible. Arrangements had been made, however, whereby all children desirous of doing so were allowed half an hour each morning for swimming.

22nd April 1911 The final meeting of the present committee of the Petone District High School Committee was held last evening. Mr. Barlow complained that surface water from the school ground was an annoyance to his tenants.—It was resolved to notify the Education Board that they were responsible for the grading of the ground, and the committee would therefore look to them to rectify this trouble. The annual report and balance-sheet to be presented at the meeting of householders on Monday evening states that steady progress and careful administration of the finances had been features of the year, and considerable improvements have been made to the school. The balance-sheet shows the total receipts to be £332 los. 7d.; expenditure, £319 7s. 9d.; credit balance. £13 7s. 10d. ... The headmaster in his report thanks members of the committee for past considerations.

25th April 1911 The following were elected to the committee of the Petone District High School for the ensuing year:—Messrs. D. McKenzie (chairman), W. Burd (secretary), W. Cox, J. Abrahall, W. Hill, W. Hewson, Rev. A. Thomson, R. Church, and A. Medhurst; Prior to the election, the following motion was carried:—That this meeting endorses the action of the committee regarding its attitude in reference to the agricultural classes for the Petone District High School.

22nd May 1911 At a meeting of the Petone High School committee on Friday evening a complaint of excessive punishment said, to have been administered to a child led to a wordy discussion of the chairman's action in dealing personally with, the matter instead of referring it to the headmaster.

The headmaster (Mr Foster) forwarded a letter protesting against one of his assistants being called upon to answer a charge of unscrupulously punishing a child, which charge had not first of all been referred to the writer in his capacity of headmaster.

After all the letters bearing upon the case had been read the chairman remarked, Of course the press will take no notice of the complaint.

It was moved and seconded that the headmaster be asked to give his version of the matter. The chairman said the headmaster should only be allowed to speak on the point raised in his letter of protest. He ought not to go into the merits of the case.

'Mr Hill thought the matter should have been dealt first of all by the headmaster. If the latter was going to make a statement now he should certainly be allowed to tell all he wanted to of the matter. ,

The chairman: That is your opinion, is it? Well, it's a mighty poor one

The Rev. Mr Thomson urged that the committee must act judicially in the matter. All the correspondence should have been sent in the first place through the secretary to the headmaster,, who alone was responsible to the committee for the conduct of his staff. It was a most irregular thing for the chairman to have held the parents letter and to have acted upon it as he had.

The chairman retorted that there was absolutely nothing in the regulations to show that his conduct was irregular. Everything that I do he went on, is irregular, according to the Rev. Mr Thomson; but he himself is the most 'irregular man in Petone.

Mr Thomson with some asperity; You have no right to say that here! As to the procedure, there is a minute in our books to the effect that all complaints against teachers must be referred to the headmaster in the first instance.

The chairman: And yet when you were chairman the committee used to deal directly with the teachers

Mr Thomson: Quite likely. I do not hold myself up to be perfect.

The chairman: I am very glad to hear you say so, for you are far from it!

Mr Kirk here broke in with a remark about the headmaster's authority to deal with the case. His letter to the chairman was a piece of bumptious bluff.

The chairman was proceeding to discuss the headmaster, when the Rev. Mr Thomson once more rose and said: I have stood a great deal from you, Mr Chairman, in the way of personal taunts, but if you are going to cast, and allow to be cast, these innuendoes about the headmaster, I am not going to stand it any longer. If this kind of thing is allowed to proceed I will move a vote of no confidence in our chairman **

The chairman (hotly): You yourself always have more to say than anybody else. you are ____

Mr Bird: I rise to a point of order. I don't see the need of these personalities. There is a motion before the meeting, which I would like to see put, The motion that the headmaster, be asked to make a statement of the matter complained about was thereupon put and carried. As Mr Foster was about to commence his statement a newspaper reporter asked if the meeting was being held in committee.

The chairman replied in the affirmative, whereupon another reporter pointed out that no motion had been put that the meeting should go into committee, and that everything that had hitherto passed was therefore publishable.

Mr Kirk: Well, I will move that we are into committee, and that will settle it.

The motion was carried.

It subsequently learned that Mr Foster had demanded and received an apology from Mr Kirk for characterising his letter as a piece of bumptious bluff; also that the teacher who had punished the child had been exonerated from all blame.

25th May 1911 An effort is being made to provide an assembly hall for the Petone District High. School. A special meeting of the committee will be held to-night to discuss the scheme.

27th May 1911 A special meeting of the committee, of the Petone Main School was held on Thursday evening, for the purpose of considering the advisability of arranging with the

teaching staff and others to organise a concert to raise funds for an Assembly Hall in the school grounds. The chairman (Mr. D. McKenzie) stated that he had mentioned the matter to the headmaster, and he was willing to arrange the concert. Within the next month would be the most suitable time for him. The hall, if erected, would be used for science and exhibition lectures, for the annual meeting of householders, and such-like matters. All money raised would be subsidised by the board pound for pound. A friend of the school had also offered to organise a bazaar after the concert, to supplement the proceeds, so that, with the money they raised and the board's subsidy, they would have a very substantial sum to begin operations with. The cost of the building would be about £400 or £500. Mr. Hill was of the opinion that other more important things were required for the school than an assembly hall. He would, for instance, rather see them go in for swimming baths. It would be little use holding a bazaar this year, as already there were two or three bazaars contemplated by other bodies. Other members of the committee favoured the erection of a hall. After further discussion it was decided to ask the headmaster to proceed with a concert on an elaborate scale, and to await results before proceeding further in the matter.

7th June 1911 Miss Nancy Curtis, the school tennis champion, of Petone, has gone to Nelson
10th June 1911 Considerable stir was occasioned at Petone recently in connection with the punishment of a boy at the District high school. The complete facts of the whole case have not yet been before the public, as the circumstances under when the subsequent inquiry by the committee was held made it impossible for the whole of the proceedings to be reported, part having been taken in camera, and part in open meeting. The result was that the case was presented to the public in such a fragmentary condition that various constructions have been placed upon it. Since the inquiry was held, through the courtesy of the parent concerned (Mr. C. H. Manning), the chairman of the committee (Mr. McKenzie), and of the headmaster (Mr. Wm. Foster), the editor of the School World has been given, an opportunity of looking through the evidence of the various parties, and is satisfied that no good purpose would be served by reopening the case, and reciting the evidence. In view of the misconception which appears to exist with regard to the finding of the committee, which was not fully reported, it has been suggested that, in fairness to the complainant, the full text of the resolution might be made public. It is as follows:— That this meeting, having carefully considered the complaint of Mr. Manning regarding his boy, and after taking into consideration the state of the boy's health, as revealed by his father, sympathises with the parents in bringing their complaint before the school committee; further, we consider, in the case of a delicate child, different punishment should have been given, but inasmuch as the state of the boy's health was not reported to the headmaster, we do not consider any blame attachable to the teacher, as the punishment would not have been excessive in the case of a healthy child;—however, we, as a committee, regret that Mr. (the teacher concerned) did not immediately report the matter to the headmaster.

17th June 1911 meeting of the Petone District High School Committee was held last evening. Present: Messrs. McKenzie (chairman), Medhurst, Hewson, Abrahall, Kirk, Hill, Burd, Cox, and the Rev. A. Thomson.

Mr. Foster (headmaster) intimated, in reply to a communication, that there would be no difficulty in organising a school concert this year. He, however, would like a definite date decided on by the committee. He himself would suggest that the concert take place during the last week of the second term.

A member suggested September, and, with this recommendation, the matter was left in the headmaster's hands.

The Petone Council wrote stating that 'the piece of land near the gasworks had been granted to the committee for rural course purposes.

Mr. McKenzie remarked that he was glad that the council had come to such a decision. He did not intend to say anything further about the matter, as it had been well aired. The Petone Borough Council had been unanimous in favouring this scheme. He would move that the Education Board be asked to establish a rural course at the school starting at the beginning of the year 1912.

Mr. Hewson seconded.

Mr. Medhurst supported the motion. It was a wise one, and figures from Christchurch had shown its advantages. When the Government were retrenching, the cry was go on the land. The labour markets in the towns were glutted, and nothing could be wiser in the general interest than the movement contemplated.

Mr. Thomson was surprised that the question had come up again. It would however, do no harm to fully discuss it. He would oppose it, as it was utter nonsense. In his opinion the best way to make a successful farmer was by giving practical knowledge. The headmaster ought to give his views. How much of this course was taught now? Those boys who did not want this course, what of them? It would do them harm, and eventually kill the High School.

Mr. Cox asked what course or courses would be dropped if this one were introduced. Mr. Thomson moved that the headmaster give his views.

The Chairman: I object to this.

Mr. Thomson: How can you object to my motion?

Mr. Hill: I'll second this motion. We don't want to waste time. The question has been chewed over long enough.

The motion was then carried.

The headmaster said that, if the rural course were adopted, matriculation and junior civil service preparation would have to be waived. The reports on the school had been excellent, and he would advise the committee not to alter a syllabus of a school which was a credit to the town.

Mr. Thomson moved, as an amendment:—That this committee is not in favour of changing the syllabus at the present time.

The amendment was lost, and the original motion carried.

28th June 1911 That much-discussed proposal, the question of establishing a rural course of instruction at the Petone District High School, is to be the subject of a conference between the members of the Wellington Education Board and the Petone School Committee, which has been fixed for the Monday evening preceding the next monthly meeting of the board—that is to say, on July 21.

1st July 1911 The Petone District High School Committee's decision to ask the Education Board to institute a rural course at Petone at the beginning of next year was the subject of a meeting of householders and residents of Petone on Thursday. The meeting was called so that parents might give an expression of opinion on a proposal, which the chairman said, would undoubtedly concern them. There was a large attendance. The Mayor (Mr. McEwan) in the course of his remarks said that the matter was one which should be taken up seriously, but better results would be obtained through the Technical School than through the High School,

The chairman of the High School Committee, on being invited to speak, said that the main purpose of the rural course, would be to inculcate into the minds of the children a love for the soil, not necessarily to make farmers of them. Other speakers maintained that the subject was one which interested all Petone, and finally a motion was carried to the effect that the Petone West School should be represented at any conference likely to be held with the education authorities.

24th July 1911 THAT RURAL COURSE. The Petone District High School Committee (by resolution on Friday evening) resolved to invite the West School Committee to attend the conference with the Education Board to-night, in respect to the proposed rural course for Petone.

25th July 1911 A. M Marten Pupil Teacher resigns from Petone School

26th July 1911 Part of an article on Rural Course At a conference, held last evening between delegates from the Education Board and Petone District High School, the question of a commercial versus a rural course Was discussed. Mr. Robert Lee, chairman of the Education Board, who^ presided, said the board would consider whether it was not possible to meet both parties— those who favoured a commercial course, and those who Wanted a rural course. The Rev. A. Thomson said that the High School Committee was by no means unanimous about the rural course; it was only carried on the vote of the chairman (Mr. D. McKenzie). Inspector Fleming stalled that when the course was worked with properly qualified teachers it would not, in his opinion, interfere with the preparation for matriculation; but to make it absolutely more perfect the course required more hours per week than were now allowed for it.'.....

19th August 1911 The monthly meeting of the Petone District High School Committed was held last evening. Present: Messrs. D. McKenzie (chairman), Medhurst, Hill, Thomson, Hewson, and Kirk. The headmaster reported that the number on the roll at the beginning of the month was 737; admitted during the month, 18; withdrawn, 13; on the roll at the end of the month, 742 average attendance, 587. The low attendance was due to measles. On the motion of Mr. McKenzie, it was resolved to draw the Education Board's attention to the fact that the attendance had gone down owing to the epidemic mentioned, and also, to a certain extent, to the bad state of the playground, and to ask that there be no alteration in the school capitation. On the motion of the Rev. Mr. Thomson, the secretary was instructed to write to the secretary of the Education Board, and endeavour to procure further information as' to what was the position in reference to representation on the board. Mr. Thomson stated that the schools in the Hutt Valley were practically disfranchised. The small schools in the Manawatu outvoted them every time.

19th August 1911 A rather interesting statement regarding representation on the Wellington Education Board was made by the Rev. A. Thomson at last night's meeting of the Petone High School Committee. Mr. Thomson said that virtually the Hutt Valley was disfranchised, and he proceeded to give argument in support of his contention. The Valley, he said, was really in the Manawatu ward, but in the election of members to the Board the school committees had no say. They were outvoted every time by the Manawatu committees. This came about because of the fact that there were only nine in the Hutt Valley (serving a population of over 13,000), while in the Manawatu district, from Khandallah up past Levin, there were seventeen school committees. Certainly the schools were not so large, but here was the anomaly of the position. Take the Petone School, for instance, he said, There were 700 pupils attending mid the number

of committeemen was nine was nine, giving the school nine votes, But all the small schools in the Manawatu, even if there was only a roll number of thirty, had a committee of seven. It would, therefore, be seen how the Hutt Valley was out-voted two to one. By way of further illustrating his point. Mr. Thomson drew attention to the fact that the three elected members of the board now were all Manawatu men. Members of the committee agreed with Mr. Thompson that some change should be made, and it was decided to instruct the secretary to write to the board, asking for full information regarding representation, with the view of taking some united action.

29th August 1911 The Petone District ' High School is holding a concert in the Palace Theatre, Petone, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings of this week, commencing at 7.45 o'clock. Over 350 pupils will take part, and of these 200 will appear in fancy costume. The first part will be of a varied character, including school songs and drill, gymnastics, coon songs, and ballets. The second part will be in the nature of as Empire Pageant, closing with a tableau Rule Britannia.

31st August 1911 PETONE SCHOOL CONCERT. A capital entertainment ' was afforded the Petone public last evening by teachers and scholars of the District High School. The Palace Theatre was filled

31st August 1911 The Palace Theatre, Petone, presented an animated appearance last night, the occasion being the District High School's pageant and concert. Every seat was occupied, and many people were standing Undoubtedly the star turn was the Empire Pageant, in which there were one hundred children. Supporting Britannia, which is the leading character were the Rose, Thistle, and Shamrock, which were surrounded by representatives of all the British colonies. These went through national dances. The Canadian girls went through a skating figure, and the New Zealand boys impersonating Maori chiefs, danced Hakas. The tableaux concluded with a grand march, which was very striking and was met by very hearty applause All the other items were also well received, especially the action songs by the infants. There were also ballets by little girls, flower dances, physical drill, gymnastics by the school cadets, and coon songs by a negro troupe. All told, there were a little over 300 children taking part in the programme. The proceeds, which should amount to a large sum, will be devoted to the school funds. The pageant will be repeated to-night, and for the last time on Friday night.

29th September 1911 Mr. P. Mothes has been appointed to the vacancy caused at the Petone school by the promotion of Mr. F. Mason to Porirua. [Frederick Mothes started teaching at Petone in 1905. By 1907 He was at Matahiwi as sole teacher before coming back to Petone. In 1914 he was on war duty and his listing then stopped in 1915]

4th September 1911 For the last two performances the Petone District High School concert was largely attended. The gross proceeds amounted to .£65, which with the .£ for .£ subsidy from the Education Board will place the committee in a sound financial position.

16th September 1911 LONG FOUGHT FOR. A meeting of the Petone District High School was held last evening. The Education Board wrote agreeing to establish a rural course in Petone, provided that suitable arrangements could be made with the Technical School managers. Mr. McKenzie moved: That this committee desire and agree with the housing of the High School scholars in the Technical School, provided that the Education Board, safeguard the interests of secondary education. An amendment by the Rev. A. Thomson, dissenting from the, proposal to remove the scholars, was lost, and the motion carried.

26th September 1911 DOMINION DAY. The only celebration in connection with Dominion' Day in the Hutt Valley, was the saluting of the flags at the schools. At the Petone District High School several members of the committee gave addresses, and at Lower Hutt and Petone West short speeches were also made by the headmasters

21st October 1911 PETONE HIGH SCHOOL. The monthly meeting of the Petone District High School Committee was held last evening. There were present:— Messrs. D. McKenzie (chairman), Abrahall, Medhurst, Hill, Kirk, Cox, and Thomson.

Mr. J. Donaldson wrote drawing attention to the action of the responsible authorities in making it compulsory for pupils going up for matriculation to put in four years at a secondary school. He pointed out that the injustice of such a regulation would be apparent in an industrial community like Petone, where few, if any, would be able to comply with the conditions. It simply meant that the children of the working classes would be debarred from the universities. He did not see why any restriction should exist and considered that as long as a pupil was qualified he should be given every facility to sit for his examination as early as he cared to go up for it. The writer suggested that the committee should bring the matter under the notice of the Minister for Education.

The chairman thought that Mr. Donaldson was in error in asserting that the four years was compulsory. A clever boy or girl might get through in two or three years.

Mr. Abrahall thought that it was compulsory now that a boy or girl should put in four years at a secondary school before sitting for the matriculation examination. There being some doubt in the minds of the committee as to whether the four years' term was compulsory or not it was resolved that the matter be referred to the headmaster for a report.

The headmaster's ordinary report stated that the number on the roll at the beginning of the month was 731; admitted during the month, 25 withdrawn, 17. The total on the roll at the end of the month was 739, and the average attendance 679,

13th December 1911 PETONE HIGH SCHOOL. Celebrations in connection with the closing, for the summer vacation, of the Petone District High School took place yesterday. A very large number of prizes won by the scholars during the past year were distributed. In the evening a successful concert was held in order to secure funds for the schools' annual picnic

13th December 1911 The Petone public schools broke up for the mid-summer holidays yesterday. In the evening the children and teachers of the District High School gave a successful entertainment at the Palace Theatre, the proceeds from which are to be devoted to the annual picnic to be held next Saturday. Some regret has been expressed at the High School committee fixing the picnic for a day so far into the holidays. The teachers and scholars are thereby obliged to stay in Petone six days longer than they would otherwise have required to.

14th December 1911 The following pupils attending the Main School, Petone, were awarded certification at the close of the school year yesterday. Proficiency—Eric Ambler, Morton Allan, Archibald Bond, Ernest Cooper, William Godber, Frederick Goodland, Eric Hogg, William Kirk, Harold Manning, George Martin, Ronald McKenzie, Augustus Neich; Harry Proebstel, Ralph Pickering, Robert-Smith, Harry Snell, Arthur Thomas, Bertram Thomas, Archibald Thomas, Edward Wild, John Wild, Hubert Wylie, Lucy Bale, Alice Bowater, Ida Burd, Alice Edmeades, Mabel Lusty, Dulcie Matthews, Grace Ross, Victoria Southgate, Doris Tovey, Adella Wilson, Elizabeth Wilson, Ethel Wilson, Edith Woolford.

Competency—Alfred ' Griffiths, Wesley' :McDonald , Raphael McArthur, Arthur Mullis, Water Thomas, -Violet BurrIDGE, Hilda Cargill, Elsie Leatham, Marion Moore, Doris Simpson, Viola Thomson, Alice Workman.

1912

1912	669	Petone DHS	Foster MA	William H L	B1	Head Master	£380.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	King MA B Sci	Eustace	B1	Assistant Master	£280.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	Slater	Jemima	D1	Assistant Female	£230.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	Kean	Balfour	B2	Assistant Master	£210.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D2	Assistant Female	£165.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	Mothes	Frederick W	D3	Assistant Master	£165.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	McKenzie	Christina	D1	Assistant Female	£150.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	Thomson	Isabel S M	D2	Assistant Female	£130.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	Ross	Fanny L	B3	Assistant Female	£120.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	Webb	Alice	C5	Assistant Female	£90.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	Thompson	Clarice V		FP3	£55.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	Boyd	Kate R		FP4	£55.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	Kydd	Maud		FP5	£55.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	Waddington	Edith G		FP1	£50.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	McCaw	Peter R		MP3	£45.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	Wynyard	Clinton H		MP3	£45.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	Castle	Constance V		FP1	£25.00
1912	669	Petone DHS	Lynskey BA	James H	B1	Secondary	
1912	669	Petone DHS	Ross BA	Christina M	B3	Secondary	

20th January 1912 The monthly meeting of the Petone District High School was held last evening, and was attended by Messrs. McKenzie (chairman), Cox, Abrahall, Howson, Kirk, Burd, and the Rev. A. Thomson. On the recommendation of the Works Committee, it was resolved to carry out certain repairs to the school buildings. A donation of £1 10s. was passed to the Petone Salvation Army band for services tendered at the picnic. The chairman moved the following resolution That this District High School Committee urges the Minister for Education to amend the Technical School code so as to include (wherever practicable) that the apprentices of any trade or calling, shall attend a technical day school, and receive the latest instruction and knowledge pertaining to their avocation, whether it be in commerce, industry, or science, for two half days during each week. Such shall count as actual time and form part of the apprenticeship. (2) That it be a recommendation from this committee to the Government to confirm and allow all apprentices in the various Departments of the State to comply with this resolution. (3) That trade schools, for the training of our boys and girls, are much wanted, and would be of great benefit. This could be effected by broadening the scope of our technical day schools, by spreading learning and disseminating technical knowledge to those who wish to obtain proper instruction. Mr. Cox seconded the motion. The chairman said that it was not necessary to speak to the motion at any length, but he would like to say that such proposals as were suggested would reduce the over-strain on young minds. The Rev. Mr. Thomson said that he was quite in sympathy with the spirit of the motion, but he was afraid that employers would

oppose it. After a brief discussion, the motions were carried. A copy is to be sent to the Prime Minister, the Minister for Education, and the Minister for Labour.

17th February 1912 In an interesting report presented to the committee of the Petone District High School last evening, the headmaster (Mr. Foster) stated that thirty-one boys and twenty-four girls were taking the rural course in the secondary department. The same number were preparing for the Junior Civil Service examination ; twenty-one boys and fifteen girls for the matriculation examination while twelve boys and nine girls were taking the commercial course. The rural subjects are being taught by the ordinary staff, with the exception of a visit once a - month from Mr. Davies (agricultural instructor). The number Of pupils taking '.matriculation had made it necessary for the teachers to work with the class beyond the ordinary hours. The number of pupils on the roll at the beginning of the year was 676 primary and 40 secondary. Several pupils had been added and some- withdrawn since the holidays and the roll now stood at 668 in the primary department and 55 in the secondary, as against 691 and 60 respectively in 1911. The report was adopted, and the staff congratulated on the successful working of the school.

6th March 1912 TECHNICAL SCHOOL MANAGERS. The monthly meeting of the managers of the Petone Technical School was held last evening and was attended by the Rev. A. Thomson (chairman), and Messrs. McEwan, Castle, Roots, McKenzie, List, and Hope.

In view of the establishment of a rural course in the Petone District High School, the Education Board wrote asking the managers if they would grant that portion of land adjacent to the Technical School for garden plots, and further, that it would be necessary to establish a laboratory in the Technical School. The chairman said that, to his mind, the Education Board should show some evidence that business was meant. They had started this course- when they were not prepared. He would point out that the ground asked for was given for technical education by the Petone Borough Council. It would be folly to allow the board to imagine that they had granted the use of this ground for a rural course.

Mr. McEwan. said that if pupils were already using this ground, why this application ? The director explained that only two pupils were using the ground at present. Mr. McKenzie said that the chairman had opposed this rural course all along. • The chairman: I object to this. Continuing, Mr. McKenzie said that the rural course had been established for over a year and was going on nicely. The chairman: Wo are not going to have a discussion on this question; it is simply Sir. McKenzie's opinion against mine.

Mr. McKenzie: I rise to a point of order. Wo are discussing the letter. Mr. Castle could see no reason why the land should not be offered for use. Ho would move that the request be granted (luring the board's pleasure. Mr. List said that he would support the motion, but at the same time he was surprised that the chairman should discourage this rural course. The chairman (heatedly): I will not allow you to make a statement like that. You are quite out of order, sir. Mr. List: You can't cry me down. You be careful what you say. The chairman: Gentlemen! Is he to be allowed to carry on like this?

Mr. Ewan said that he would like to see a plan submitted of what was proposed to be done. The motion was carried.

In regard to the removing of the pupils of the High School to house them in the Technical School, Mr. Hope moved that this should be done, provided that the Education Board first submitted plans of the alterations and additions proposed by them. In speaking to the motion

Mr. McEwan said that the Education Board was responsible for education in Petone, and this board could only deal with the application. They should know their business, he added, and we should know ours. This motion was also carried. The director reported that most of the classes were in working order, and there were more pupils now than had been on the roll last year, particularly in the electricity class, where more apparatus was necessary. Some of the pupils in the woodwork class were senior cadets, and their drill might clash with school work. This, however, only affected four of the pupils.

6th March 1912 Petone Technical School: In the continuation classes (English and arithmetic) there were forty students present on some nights, while there were only thirty single desks installed. More apparatus was required for the chemistry class. The number of pupils who attended the school altogether last week were 318. This was made up as follows : — Monday 61, Tuesday 76, Wednesday 37, Thursday 51, Friday 75, Saturday 8; -total, 318. The position of the school was very satisfactory. An application was made by the committee of the Petone District High School for the use of typewriters for the purpose of giving instruction. The director spoke against the proposal. The board decided not to grant the application until such time as there is an effort on the teaching staff capable of looking after the machines.

[Note: Mr Lynskey was both Director of the Technical School and Secondary teacher of the Petone District High School]

23rd April 1912 As is usually the case, considerable interest was taken in the meeting in connection with the Petone Main or District High School. There was a large attendance of householders. The report showed that the number on the roll at the end of the respective quarters was June 664, September 680, December 682, March 679. The average attendances were June 615, September 578 (due to an outbreak of measles), December 638, March 611 (due to a mumps epidemic). At the secondary school the number on the roll at the beginning of the year was 59, admitted during the year 37, withdrawn 42, leaving roll number at 54. The average attendance was 50. The report showed satisfactory examination results. The committee stated that there were under-, consideration several improvements to the school generally, including up-to-date heating arrangements. The balance-sheet showed that the receipts had amounted to £386 8s 9d, against an expenditure of £328 8s 6d. The committee, was elected as follows : —Messrs. McKenzie, Kirk, Medhurst, McDonald, Taylor, Townsend, Abrahall, Cox, and List A vote of thanks to retiring members was passed, special reference being made to the retirement of Mr. Burd, who had acted as secretary

25th April 1912 Mr William Murdock. R.N. R., who was chief officer of the ill-fated Titanic, was a brother-in-law of Mrs William. Foster, of Petone. He held a captain's certificate. [Mrs Foster was the wife of the Petone Headmaster]

30th April 1912 Miss V Curtis resigned from Petone DHS

30th April 1912 Wellington Education Board The annual report of the Education Board contains the following reference to District High Schools: — The number of District High Schools remained as in 1910, with but slight change in the attendance. Owing to the enlargement of the Girls' High School to accommodate free place pupils, the 'Newtown District High School was disestablished as from 31st December., The board's inspectors report an improvement in the quality of the work done by the pupils who undertook the Rural course. They write: The Rural Science Course inaugurated in 1910 has fully justified its establishment, and good work has been done and this year there was keen competition for the board's Senior

scholarships, reserved for those taking the Rural course. ' We were specially pleased to find the general improvement in the practical work, as evidenced in these scholarship examinations.' A movement at Petone for the introduction of the rural course into an industrial centre, and a second movement for the establishment of an Agricultural College for the Wairarapa, so that the District High School Rural course, may be continued to a satisfactory conclusion, are clear evidences of the favourable impression created by the rural work already accomplished."

22nd June 1912 At last night's meeting of the Petone District High School committee, Mr C. Burd, retiring secretary, was presented with a silver spirit kettle and a case of carvers from the members of the committee, in recognition of his excellent services. Mr McKenzie, chairman of the committee, made the presentation

24th June 1912 The basis on which members of the Education Board are elected has once again been brought under discussion by the refusal of the Rev. A. Thomson to permit the Petone school committees to nominate him for a seat on the Wellington Boards He explained his attitude to a Post reporter to-day. He fully appreciated the action of the committees, but he saw -that under the present system there would be no chance of his election. The smaller schools in the Wairarapa district and the upper part of the valley outnumbered the Petone and Hutt schools every time and had only need to combine to defeat any opposition. As soon 'as an alteration is brought about and the election carried on in a democratic manner. said Mr. Thomson, my services will be available.

4th July 1912 The suggested transfer of the secondary **school** at Petone to the Technical School buildings was again brought up at the last meeting of the Technical **School** Board. The Wellington Education Board asked for a copy of the plans of the building, in order to ascertain what additions would be required, and it was decided to ask the Education Department, which is in possession of the plans, to forward them to the board

20th July 1912 Mr. McKenzie, chairman of the Petone District High School Committee, remarked on the excellent attendance-roll submitted to the committee at its monthly meeting last evening, and added that, in view of the bad weather of late, it was all the more creditable. The numbers on the roll at the beginning of the month were 697 in the primary department, and 54 in the secondary. At the end of the month there were 695 primary and 51 secondary scholars while the average during the month had been 700 and 52 respectively. The averages of the half-daily attendances were 88 of primary and 82 of secondary. For the quarter ended 30th June, the report stated that at the commencement of the quarter, in the primary department there were 679. and at the conclusion 694. The average roll had been 694.

20th July 1912 The monthly meeting of the Petone High School Committee was held last evening. Mr. McKenzie presided. It was moved that the caretaker's attention be drawn to the unsanitary state of the school grounds and that it should be attended to. The secretary was instructed to write to Mr. Waugh, thanking him for his generous gift of rose trees for the school. Intimation was received that the inspector's annual visit would be paid on. 7th August

17th August 1912 At the monthly meeting of the Petone District High School Committee last evening a letter was received from the chairman of the Hutt District High School (Mr. H. Baldwin) enquiring whether the Petone committee would be favourable to a conference for the purpose of discussing the question of representation for the Hutt Valley on the Education Board. It was mentioned in the letter that Mr. T. M. Wilford had stated his intention of moving in the matter of altering the present system of electing representatives for the Education Board.

It was resolved to inform the Hutt Committee that the Petone Committee would be favourable to a conference. The headmaster reported that the- playground had been beautified by planting a number of trees. Several hundred shrubs had been planted, and there were a number of other trees yet to come. It was also stated that a wire netting fence is to be erected round the playground.

21st September 1912 The monthly meeting of the Petone District High School was held last evening. Those -present were Messrs. D. McKenzie (chairman), McDonald, Kirk, Cox, List, Medhurst, Townsend, Abrahall, and Taylor (secretary). The local Salvation Army Corps waited on the committee and presented a framed photograph of the late General Booth, this to be hung in the corridor of the main school. The chairman, speaking on behalf of the committee, thanked the donors. The headmaster (Mr. W. Foster) reported that the number on the roll at the beginning of the month was 699 in the primary department and 53 in the secondary classes. Scholars admitted during the month totalled 21 in the primary school; withdrawn, 14. The roll number at the end of the month was 706. The average attendance was 655 primary and 48 Secondary, On the motion of Mr' Abrahall, seconded by Mr. Macdonald, !t was resolved to forward a letter of appreciation to the headmaster regarding the excellent report received from the inspectors on the work of the school in the past year. , It was further resolved to ask the headmaster to convey the committee's appreciation to the rest of the staff and especially to Me. E. King MA for achieving such an excellent results from such a large class. It was also resolved to send letters of appreciation to Miss Ross and Mr Aynsley teachers in charge of the Secondary Department

27th September 1912 Delegates from the Hutt District High School, Petone District High School, Koro Koro and Normandale, met this week at Lower Hutt to consider the question of separate representation on the Education Board for the Hutt Valley. The chairman, Mr. H. Baldwin, said that it had been the feeling for some time that the Hutt Valley was not represented, and the time had arrived when they should have somebody to keep in touch with the committees, occasionally attend their meetings, and see for themselves what the requirements of the schools really were. Mr, Baldwin also pointed out that the number of children attending the schools in the Hutt Valley was 2250, as against 1894 children attending the schools in the Manawatu district. The cost per head for teaching the children was £3 17s for the Hutt Valley, and £4 4s 7d for the Horowhenua district. The number of representatives on the School Committee was 118 for Hutt Valley, and 141 for Horowhenua, thus showing that the Hutt Valley was outvoted in the matter of educational representation. Eventually the following resolution was passed : — That a deputation of delegates from all schools interested should wait on Mr. Wilford and ask him to take steps to have a separate ward formed for the Hutt Valley, so that they could have their own representative.'

1st October 1912 Petone Borough Council The Education Boards Advised that it had agreed to alter the main entrance doors of the Petone , School and Infant School, so that they would open outwards. The letter, was received, and a copy of it is to be sent to the Petone District High School Committee

19th October 1912 The father of ten children wrote to the Petone High School Committee complaining of the need of universal class books in the State schools of the Dominion. He had to supply his children with a complete set of new school books upon going to a new district from Petone. Being a working man the expense was found oppressive.....At a meeting of

the Petone District High School last evening the following resolution was carried, to be forwarded to the Minister of Education : That this district high school committee views with alarm and apprehension the contemplated taking away from State schools certain free books that are now allotted to them. Instead of curtailing the number of free books we have expected to see pupils in the infant, primary, and secondary departments provided with all the necessary books and materials, so as to make it free education in reality. Educationists in the past have striven and have gradually built up a free system so as to lighten the burden that is already far too heavy on working people. We therefore strongly urge the necessity for a universal set of free books. That none of the existing free books be taken away, and that the school journal be retained.

16th November 1912 The usual monthly meeting of the Petone District High School was held last evening. There were present: Messrs. D. McKenzie (chairman) Taylor, Cox, Medhurst, Macdonald, and Abrahall. The headmaster (Mr. W. Foster) reported that the number on the roll at the beginning of the month was 701, primary department; -48 secondary department. Admitted during the month, 19; withdrawn, 12. On the roll at the end of the month: 711 in the primary department, and 48 in the secondary. The percentage of half-daily attendance of average roll was 86 per cent, (primary) and 93 per cent, (secondary). The attendance of the primary department had suffered considerably through sickness, caused chiefly by the unseasonable weather. An improvement- was noticeable this week, but the school was still far from its normal condition. The attendance had come at an important time, so far as; the children's work is concerned. Dr. Elizabeth Gunn, one of the medical inspectors, recently appointed by the Education Department, visited the school on November 1 and 8. and examined 60 children in Standard II. The annual examination of Standard VI will take place on Tuesday, November 19. It was resolved to request the Education Board to have the school rooms at the secondary school. put in proper order, repapered, and the windows and blinds attended to. The committee also suggested the repapering of the rooms during the vacation.

12th December 1912 The annual picnic in connection with the Petone District High School was held at Day's Bay yesterday. The weather was perfect, and practically every scholar took the opportunity of making the day's outing. Sports of all descriptions were carried out all day.

21st December 1912 The monthly meeting -of the Petone District High School. Committee was held last evening. There were present Messrs. D. McKenzie (chairman), W. Taylor (secretary), Kirk, List, Townsend, and Abrahall, The secretary of the Wellington Education Board advised that 28 new dual desks were being supplied to the school, and during the holidays preparations would be made to alter the desk to a design, which has given satisfaction in other schools. On the motion of Mr. McKenzie, it was, resolved to draw the Education Board's attention to the state of the lighting in the infant schoolroom, and request the board to have the gas installed in the infants' school.

21st December 1912 The 'monthly meeting of the Petone High School committee was held last night- Present: Messrs McKenzie (chairman). List, Abrahall. Kirk, Cox, and Taylor.

A hearty vote of thanks was extended to the Gear Company's picnic committee for their generous donation of toys to the children attending the school picnic at Day's Bay.

It was proposed to write the Education Board with regard to lighting the main school with gas. The chairman (Mr McKenzie) of the High School committee pointed out that recently a kerosene lamp in the infant school fell down without any warning, and the room was

surrounded with flames. Several-persons got their hands burned, and it was astonishing that the lamp did not fall on some of the children's heads.

The annual picnic was voted the best yet held. The receipts and expenditure are expected to about balance. The finances of the committee being at a low ebb, some accounts that had not been rendered for twelve month* were held over until such time as the committee have money in hand to meet them.

1913

1913	704	Petone DHS	Foster MA	William H L	B1	Head Master	£385.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	King MA B Sci	Eustace	B1	Assistant Master	£285.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	Slater	Jemima	D1	Assistant Female	£235.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	Stephens	James T	D1	Assistant Master	£235.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	Mothes	Frederick W	B3	Assistant Master	£170.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D2	Assistant Female	£165.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	McKenzie	Christina	D1	Assistant Female	£155.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	Thomson	Isabel S M	D2	Assistant Female	£135.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	Ross	Fanny L	B3	Assistant Female	£125.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	Webb	Alice	C4	Assistant Female	£95.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	Thompson	Clarice V		FP4	£60.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	Waddington	E Grace		FP2	£55.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	McCaw	Peter R		MP4	£55.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	Wynyard	Clinton H		MP4	£55.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	Castle	Constance W M		FP2	£35.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	Scott	Isabella		FP2	£35.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	Lewis	Gwendolyn H		FP2	£35.00
1913	704	Petone DHS	Lynskey BA	James H	B1	Secondary	
1913	704	Petone DHS	Ziman	Rachel L L	C3	Secondary	

29th January 1913 Wellington Education Board Petone District High School, infant department, installation of gas (half cost up to £5 25

29th January 1913 Wellington Education Board Tenders Petone District High School Papering Price's Building, as above,

29th January 1913 GWENDOLYN Lewis appointed pupil teacher Isabella Scott appointed from South Wellington to Petone

5th Feb 1913 The Petone Technical School Board has for long been confronted with the question of providing additional accommodation at the Technical School. For months past the High School pupils have had the use of the Technical School on two days of the week and the Education Board has considered the question of the advisableness or otherwise of closing up the High School and making additions to the Technical School, so as to accommodate secondary and technical pupils under the one roof. At last night's meeting of the Technical School Board a letter was received from the Education Board. The letter stated that the board was willing to co-operate with the Petone body. Some discussion ensued, and it was finally resolved, on the motion of Mr. J. W. McEwan, to set up a special sub-committee and invite the

Education Board to do similarly, the two committees to confer. The Rev. Mr. Thomson and Messrs. McEwan, McKenzie, and Castle were appointed the Technical School Board's sub Committee.

11th February 1913 Mr J Stephens appointed First position for James T O Stephens for the Wellington Education Board was at Petone. In 1917 he was teaching at Petone West and by 1921 He was Head master at Roseneath School In 1912 he was at Weber School for the Hawkes Bay Education Board near to Pongaroa

22nd February 1913 Mr. Robert McConnell, of the law office of Messrs. Wilford and Levi, has received information that he has passed his LL.B. degree. Mr. McConnell, who is only twenty years of age, is, with one exception, the youngest Bachelor of Laws in New Zealand. He was educated at the Petone District High School, winning an Education Board Junior Scholarship in 1905 at the age of twelve, and in 1907 topping the Senior Board' Scholarship list for New Zealand. In the same year he passed the Civil Service and matriculation examinations but was compelled to wait until he was sixteen before he could enter the University. He took his LL.B. in the minimum period in his University career

24th February 1913 At the meeting of the Petone District High School Committee was held on Friday evening. Those present were: Messrs. D. McKenzie (chairman), Taylor (secretary), Cox, List, Medhurst, Kirk, Abrahall, and McDonald. The headmaster reported that the number on the roll at the beginning of the month was 704 primary and 47 secondary scholars; admitted during the month, 85 primary and 34 secondary; withdrawn, 88 primary and 22 secondary. This left the roll number at the end of the month showing 701 primary and 59 secondary pupils. The secretary of the Wellington Education Board' advised that the grant for free school-books has been discontinued; Mr. McKenzie said that it had taken four years to build up the system of free books, and now it had been discontinued. He would therefore move:—That the Petone District High School Committee strongly objects to the discontinuance of free school-books and stationery,' and they respectfully protest to Mr. Massey." It means, said the speaker,, another increase in the cost of living. The motion was seconded by Mr. Townsend, and carried

26th February 1913 Wellington Education Board granted leave of absence for Miss C Ross [Probably Fanny Ross]

4th March 1913 Petone Borough Council The secretary of the Petone District High School made application for spares books or magazines for the use of the school libraries. The librarian is to be instructed to hand over any such books that are of no use to the library.....The secretary of the Petone High School Committee made application for the installation of gas in one of the rooms. In this connection the manager of the gasworks reported that the installation would cost £5. It was resolved to connect up to the meter free of cost as soon as possible.

31st March 1913 Miss Boss, of the Petone District High School teaching staff, leaves next Friday on a visit to England. The girl pupils of the secondary department presented her on Friday with a travelling rug.

16th April 1913 H M S New Zealand Shortly after 6 o'clock yesterday evening the grim battleship New Zealand was transformed into a thing resplendent—hundreds of electric lights biased out from main truck to waterline clearly defining the lines of the ship. It Was a pretty sight, and the brilliancy on the ship was added to by the fine night and smooth water in which the lights were thrown back as if from a mirror.....The date of the visit of the Petone children has been altered, and they will now go on board on Friday. A special train will run from Petone,

leaving at 9.50 a.m. and returning at 3.55 p.m. The children will be transported to the warship by the Tutaneikai

17th April 1913 Petone School children visit the Dreadnought to-morrow

18th April 1913 School excursionists to the warship are requested to note that they must pay punctual attention to the steamer signals preparatory to leaving the warship, viz., one whistle fifteen minutes before the time of departure, two whistles ten minutes before, and three whistles five minutes before

25th April 1913 A delightful little concert—the first of a series during the winter—was given in the Petone Main School by the scholars last evening. There was a packed house and a feature of the programme was the Christy Minstrels. The proceeds will be devoted to the school sports fund,

29th April 1913 PETONE MAIN SCHOOL. There was quite a large attendance at Petone Main School Committee election, which resulted as under:—Messrs. McKenzie (chairman), Kirk, Townsend, List, McDonald, Taylor, Wright, Lockwood, Hooper. Mr. Kirk was elected secretary

29th April 1913 PETONE MAIN SCHOOL. Considerable interest was taken in the annual election for the Main School at Petone, and the schoolroom was crowded to the doors. The following were those selected out of the eleven candidates proposed :— Messrs. D. McKenzie (chairman), H. R. Kirk (secretary), T. Townsend, J. List, J. A. M 'Donald, W. J. Taylor, A. E. Wright, F. Lockwood and L. Hooper. The headmaster (Mr. W. Foster), in his annual report, stated that the number of pupils on the roll at the beginning of last year had been 734, and that during the year 358 pupils had been admitted and 327 withdrawn, so that the number on the roll on the 31st March stood at 765. The average attendance had been 93 per cent. The report of the schoolwork was of an exceptionally satisfactory nature. Thanks were due to the earnest and willing work of the staff. Physical instruction had also received considerable attention. [Numbers of children admitted and withdrawn as printed]

16th May 1913 The monthly meeting of the Petone Main School Committee was held last evening. The headmaster reported that the number on last month was 723 in the primary department, and 55 in the secondary department. The number admitted during the month was.—Primary 16; withdrawn: primary, 16; secondary 2, The average attendance was 649 for the primary department, and 51 for the secondary' department. The appointment of a caretaker was held over.

30th June 1913 The condition of Mr. William Foster, headmaster of the Petone High School, who has been laid up the past week or two with an attack of pleurisy, has greatly improved, and he is expected to be about again in a fortnight's time

1st July 1913 Mr James Horne, who was for many years in charge of the Petone District High School, died yesterday afternoon at the residence of his married daughter, Oakland-road, Mount Eden, Auckland. The deceased gentleman was born in Stirlingshire, Scotland, in 1844, and was educated at the Glasgow High. School. On completing his education/he entered the service of a large mercantile firm in Glasgow, but, disliking the routine of a counting-house, he sailed in 1862 for Melbourne in the Maid of the Mist, a famous clipper in those days. Some relatives were large runholders in Victoria at that time, and for three years after his arrival in Australia Mr. Horne was on their station. He then left for New Zealand, and for some years was connected with a station in Canterbury, eventually filling the position of manager. In 1873

he came to Wellington and was employed for a year as first assistant in the late Mr. Holmes's private school at Te Aro. He then secured the appointment of master of the Tawa Flat School, a position which he retained until 1887, when he was transferred to Petone, where he remained as head master until December, 1909, when he retired on superannuation. Later, he went to live in the Auckland district. A considerable portion of his time since then was spent at Rotorua. His successor at Petone was Mr. W. Foster, who is just recovering from a serious illness. The late Mr. Horne was a gentleman who was respected while at Petone by all classes of the community, and he endeared himself to his pupils. He identified himself with the interests of the children who were under him, and parents recognised in him an able teacher, who was genuinely anxious to promote the welfare of the boys and girls. Deceased was a member of the Masonic body, and a lover of outdoor sports. His wife died about twenty years ago, leaving him with a daughter (wife of Mr. W. H. Fee, solicitor, 'Auckland) and two sons, one of whom (Mr. James A. Borne) is in the Civil Service in Wellington, the other (Mr. John Horne) being explosives expert in Australasia for Kynock's, Ltd., Birmingham.

The flag at the Petone High School is being flown at half-mast, out of respect for deceased's memory. The body is to be interred at the Taita Cemetery on Thursday afternoon.

17th July 1913 here has been a very noticeable falling off in the attendance at the Main School, Petone, during the last few days — due, apparently, to parents having the false impression that, owing to the smallpox scare, their children may be endangered through mixing with other children. There is not, however, states the headmaster, a trace of any infectious disease in the school, nor has there been for some time past. The case of chicken pox mentioned at the Borough Council meeting last Monday has apparently been the cause of alarm among parents. This case however, is one that occurred about six weeks or more ago. The headmaster points out that parents would be much wiser to let their children go to school, where a strict eye will be kept on them, than allow them to roam about the street, where any disease is much more likely to be contracted

22nd August 1913 At a meeting of the Petone District High School Committee last night a resolution urging the Wellington Education Board to approach the Government, asking for a universal set of free books, stationery, and requisites for the use of pupils attending the infant, primary, and secondary departments of the State schools of the Dominion was carried. A case of alleged ragging? was reported by a member. It appeared that a lad had been badly treated by his class, arriving home with his clothes torn, and being severely mauled and even kicked 'while others had held him down. Two boys, it appeared, for playing marbles in school hours, were handed over to the class to be dealt with, with the result stated. It is stated that other cases of the kind have occurred, and the committee intend making searching inquiries into the matter.

23rd August 1913 The Petone High School Committee is not the least insistent in the agitation for the Government to supply the schools with free books. At Thursday's meeting of the committee a resolution was passed urging the Wellington Education Board to approach the Government asking for a universal set of free books, stationery, and requisites for the use of pupils attending the infant, primary, and secondary departments of the State schools of the Dominion

26th August 1913 ALLEGED HAPPENINGS IN PETONE. Inquiries made in regard to the alleged of pupils attending the Petone District High School point to the fact that a boy who had recently undergone an operation for appendicitis was subjected to drastic treatment by some of

his classmates. It appears that two boys were misbehaving during a lesson and the master of the class informed them that they should be punished, then giving them the alternative of receiving a whipping or being left to their classmates to be dealt with.

They, so it is alleged, decided to leave the matter to their mates. One boy gave as much as he received, but the other little fellow was not physically strong enough to retaliate. The headmaster, when he heard of the occurrence, remonstrated with the teacher for his indiscretion, and an apology was given. The facts were placed before the school committee's secretary, who wrote acknowledging (so it is alleged) the prompt action taken by the headmaster, and the matter was deemed to have been satisfactorily closed. In fairness to the master concerned, It is reported that he admits making a mistake. A special committee is holding an inquiry, and evidence is to be called in respect to the alleged, ragging.

29th August 1913 There was 'a. full attendances, at a special meeting of tile Petone District High School Committee last night to inquire into two alleged cases of ragging. The. headmaster and one teacher were present. , The headmaster entered a protest against the committee for refusing-to supply copies-of the complaints to him,' and he considered this most unfair. He stated that he knew of one case. of ragging only, and had the committee asked for his report on, the matter they would have received it. However, lie had made inquiries, and this was the result': A-teacher discovered two boys playing marbles in the grounds during school hours, and asked them (in connection with an incident in it) if they thought that this was playing the game. Later, in speaking again to his own- class, with the two boys with him he recounted the incident and again expressed the opinion that these boys were not playing the game. One of the offenders was a pupil of his. The teacher said: Shall' I hand you over to the tender mercies of the class? never-realising that the boys might come to a wrong conclusion from these words; On receipt of a complaint from the parents, he investigated, and replied that the complaint was substantially .true, and he regretted the matter very much. He added that he had admonished the teacher, who also was sorry, and promised that there would be no recurrence of. the matter. It was not; the practice to allow the school to take the law into its own hands. He certainly had the parents' letter, saying that the boy had just recovered ,from an operation. .He afterwards received- further correspondence ' from the boy's father, who said that he realised that the headmaster- had done his best to-clear the matter up. The headmaster said he then concluded that the incident had closed. Regarding the second case where it was alleged a boy was ducked, he gave an emphatic denial.

When questioned by the chairman regarding this case, 'the headmaster declined to answer, and challenged the right-of the committee.

When asked by the secretary of the committee (Mr. Kirk) if bullying was sanctioned in the school, he replied in the negative.

Mr.' Kirk (heatedly) : Well then I tell you it exists now If you say you do not know of it, it is time'-you did.'

A heated-dialogue between the chairman and the headmaster followed "regarding other cases of a similar nature and ended by the headmaster remarking he ought to retire from the room.

After discussing the matter the. committee passed the following resolution: That having 'investigated these cases' of ragging, we are of opinion that the headmaster and-staff gave no .sanction to the .case, but' consider 'that the teacher in question acted indiscreetly.

29th August 1913 [There are 2 further long articles re the ragging I have selected one of them from the Evening Post]

PETONE PUBLIC SCHOOL LAD ROUGHLY HANDLED, SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S ENQUIRY.

It is alleged by some parents of pupils attending the Main Public School at Petone that their boys have been subjected to a system of ragging by their class-mates, the lads in question having in two cases been severely handled. Complaints to this effect were made at a meeting of the School Committee last Thursday, and as a result a special meeting of the committee was held last night to enquire into the cases and obtain from the teachers concerned statements as to what they knew of the matter.

There was a full attendance of the committee, Mr. D. McKenzie (chairman) presiding. There were also present Mr. W. Foster, headmaster of the school, and the schoolmaster, as the result of whose remarks the ragging was in one case alleged to have taken place.

In making a statement of the case, Mr. Foster remarked at the outset that he wished to enter a protest as to the refusal of the secretary (Mr. H. R. Kirk) to supply him with the copies of the complaints to be investigated. Twice he had written asking to be supplied with the information, and each time he had received evasive replies. This was most unfair. - In fairness to the other teacher who had been asked to attend he (Mr. Foster) had instructed that teacher, who was entirely ignorant as to why he should attend, not to be present, and it was for that reason that he was not there that evening. In this protest he was supported by Mr. Townsend.

In answer, Mr. McKenzie stated that the committee was quite within its rights in what it had done. There was something going on at the school that should not go on, and the committee accordingly had a right to investigate. Before going into the cases, it was decided to withhold from publication the names of the teachers concerned.

In assuring the committee that there was only one case of ragging that he knew of, Mr. Foster asked if the committee intended going into any other alleged case besides this one?

Mr. McKenzie: We will not go into any specific case, but into the matter in general. Mr. Foster: Well, if that's so, I decline to go into the matter.

After more discussion, however, Mr. Foster continued.

The case, he stated, was that of two lads discovered during school hours outside playing marbles. They had been brought back to the class by the master, and there the master had said: What do you think you deserve, do you deserve to be caned or to be handed over to the tender mercies of the class? As the result of the remark made, one boy had been drastically treated by his school fellows. The master admitted that his words had been foolish and regretted it, and in no way expected his words to be taken up by the class as they were. A letter had been received from the parent of the child about the matter, and in reply stating that the case had happened and apologising for it was sent. The boys concerned in the affair had been told of the serious results of their action, and had expressed sorrow for it, while the teacher had been admonished. He (Mr. Foster) had thought the incident concluded when he received a final letter from Mr M'Donald, father of the lad, stating that he fully recognised that the incident was one that could not be foreseen, and that the main blame lay with the thoughtlessness of the teacher. The Writer thanked him for dealing with the matter as he had done.

The teacher concerned, in explanation, stated that he had not the slightest idea that the words, which were intended to appeal to the lad's manliness, would be taken up as they were. He admitted it was a foolish remark and regretted it.

At the conclusion of the evidence, Mr. M'Donald rose and stated that he fully recognised that Mr. Foster had done everything he could under the circumstances and had met the case fairly and squarely.]

ANOTHER CASE.

As to the other case in which it was alleged that another lad had been handed over to the class to be ducked, Mr. Foster stated there was not a tittle of truth in the statement. The case alluded to was one of common ducking of a boy by his own school fellows because the boy by his absence had precluded his class mates from a short holiday which was the reward at the school for a certain percentage of good attendances. The ducking had no possible connection with the teacher of the class. The boys concerned in the ducking had admitted that it was not done at the direction of the teacher.

Mr. McKenzie remarked that the ducking should not have occurred, and in answer Mr. Foster remarked that if the committee were going to enquire into every case of ducking at the school it would have a very busy time.

The boys thought the whole case a joke, and so did I, stated Mr. Foster.

Mr. McKenzie made some remarks to which Mr. Foster objected. You doubt my word, stated Mr. Foster, and I refuse to answer any more questions.

Mr. McKenzie: Very well, we have our own opinions. .

BULLYING RIFE. According to statements made by some members, of the committee bullying was pretty rife at the school at present, and there were plenty of complaints from parents in this respect. Cases of alleged pricking with pins on the end of sticks, of knocking pupils about during drill were mentioned, while the Chairman read a letter in which it was alleged a boy had left school owing to being kicked by the lad in charge at drill.

In answer, the headmaster stated that bullying was put down firmly at the school, and in the few cases that had come under his notice he had caned the offenders. As to the latter case, he had a written statement to the effect that the boy in question had left school as his parents had shifted nearer the West School, at which place he was attending now. I protest against these statements, stated Mr. Foster, and from the evident tone of the committee you want boys brought up in a namby pamby fashion.

The enquiry was at length concluded, and after- Mr. Foster and the teacher had withdrawn. Mr. Townsend moved as follows :— That, after having investigated the cases of alleged ragging, the committee is of opinion that the cases referred to have happened without the knowledge of the teachers or headmaster

Mr. McDonald seconded the motion, which was lost, however, Mr. List being the only one who voted with the mover and seconder.

After further discussion, Mr. Wright moved : That, after having investigated the case of alleged 'ragging,' this committee is of the opinion that the headmaster and staff gave no sanction to it, and the committee considers the teacher in question acted indiscreetly.

The motion was carried unanimously.

15th September 1913 The effort that is being made by ex-pupils of the Petone District High School to raise funds for the erection of a memorial to their late headmaster,' Mr J. T. Horne,

is meeting with success. Already the sum of over £25 has been collected, and further donations have been promised

20th September 1913 The proposed disestablishment of the Petone District High School and the , inauguration of a day school in its stead was spoken against very strongly- by Mr. D. McKenzie, chairman _of the High, School Committee, at this week's meeting of the committee. Mr. McKenzie moved as follows; —That the Wellington Education Board I endeavour to secure by combined efforts the establishment of a properly equipped and fully staffed secondary college, to be near a railway stopping place, centrally situated, and with ample ground space for recreation and school garden purposes, thus securing higher education, both technical and secondary, for the whole of the valley. The motion was carried. Mr. McKenzie stated that the householders of the district were behind the committee, and they were decidedly against the disestablishment of the High School unless there was something- very superior installed in its place. [Following a move by the Petone Technical College to start up a day school]

17th October 1913 At a meeting of the Petone District High School Committee last evening, a resolution to the effect that the committee regrets that the Wellington Education Board has been unable to bring forward the matter of supplying free school books for scholars, was carried. The Chairman (Mr. McKenzie) remarked that ever since the Government had taken away the capitation of 9d per head the committee had had a hard struggle to keep things going. The amount the committee received every year was insufficient for the needs of the school. As it was he thought the committeemen would have to pay the caretaker's wages out of their own pockets. It was suggested by Mr. List that all committees should refuse, to act and so compel the Government to shoulder the responsibility.

13th December Linda A Udy has been appointed to Kakariki School {East of Hukanui half way between Eketahuna and Pahiatua]

19th December 1913 Proficiency certificates were gained by the following pupils of the Petone District High .School: H. Allan, H. Ashby, F. Bargh . P. Bond, H. Burd, B. Dowsett, F. Eiffe, R. Haddy, S. Hogg, T. Holliday, A Jones, J. Little, W. Little, L. List, C. Martin, H. McKenzie, C. Olson, S. Reid. R. Rowse, H. Saunders, R. Smith, N. Taylor, W. Watkinson, O. Cooper, A. Curtis, N. Foster, R. Gough, A. Griffiths, C. Hebbend, M. Johnston, M. King, E. Martin, M. Mothes, L. Naughton, I. Robson, D. Ross, E. Ross, G. Smith, I. Stephens, J. Thomson, N. Tovey, and S. May.

Certificates for attendance were awarded as under: —

Secondary Department. — First class : D. Wild, W. M. Mather, A. Lockwood, W. Monks, E. B. Hume, H. H. Wylie. E. S. Carey, and K. L. Cowie. Second class: M. Olson, D. O. Naughton, I. Powell, J. Dalglish, and J v . Wild.

Standard VI— First class: H. Ashby, A. Jones, E. Moore, C. Olson, N. Taylor, W. Watkinson, O. Cooper, N. Foster, M. Mothes, J. Thomson, S. Udy, and F. Bargh. Second class: E. Martin., H. Allan, B. Dowsett, R. Haddy, L. List, C. Martin, H. McKenzie, H. Millward, R. Rowse, H. Saunders, and R. Smith.

Standard V.— First class: I. 'Wilson, K. Fowler, O. Genet, P. Hay ward,' I. Bentley, K. Rodger, H. Boden, N. Kirk, and J. Martin. Second class: I. Preece, N. Whittaker, F. McEwen, M. Smith, A. Flowers, L. Hebbend, W. Haddock, P. Martin, S. Norris, R. Greenwood, J. Walters, L. Parrant, A. Maxwell, H. Nankivell, H. Davie, and H. Cargill.

Standard IV. A'. — First class: J. Palmer, R. Pawson, D. Redd, N. Fowler, M. Udy, and B. Kirk. Second class: M. Ashby, R. Carson, G. Gardiner, D. Griffiths, and G. Wallis.

Standard IV. B.— First class: H. Childs, D. Wilson, K. Ridge, A. Roberts, E. Quayle, M. Norris, and E. Dalgleish. Second class: J. Shanks, H. Goble, H. Sampson, W. Kyle, F. Cooper. V. Martin, and H. Eason.

Standard III. A.— First class : I. Finch, M. Finn, S. Humphreys, A. Jamieson, ' and A. Collins. Second class : N. Rowse and M. Wood.

Standard III. B.— First class : L. Ansell, W. Hart, M. Hope, R. Palmer, J. Philp W. Rodger, F. Steinmuller, and L. Martin. Second class: F. Clark, I. Cody, K. Francis, L. Jowett, W. Philp, and E. Wellington.

Standard II. A.— First class : B. Bowden, I. Smith, H. Wiseman, W. Quayle, and G. Medhurst. Second class : N. McEwen, J. Morris, A. Maud, P. Ansell, H. Medhurst, E. Smith, and J. Udy. Standard II. B.— First class: R. Hayward, E. Monks, M. Quayle, F. Hills, and M. Wilson. Second class : E. Horton, M. May, A. Cashmore, J. Gardiner, D. Collins, J. Davie, S. Mothes, and A. Wilkes.

Standard I. A.— First class: O. Sheppard and O. Hunter. Second, class : H. Styles, J. Flodd, E. Whittaker, H. Townsend, and J. Smith.

Standard I. B. — First class : L. Hunter. Second class : F. Steinmuller, K. Townshend, W. Jowett, H. Smith, N. Coker, and W. Kearns.

Infant School. — First class: O. Medhurst, Coker, and D. Sheppard,. Second class: J. Norris, A. Dixon, D. Finch, and R. Stant.

22nd December 1913 The primary department of the Petone District High School closed with total of 731 pupils on its roll, the average daily attendance being 657. The increase in the number of pupils entitles the school to an extra master, who is to be appointed before the school reopens after the Christmas vacation.

1914

1914	735	Petone DHS	Foster MA	William H L	B1	Head Master	£395.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	King MA B Sci	Eustace	B1	Assistant Master	£290.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	Slater	Jemima	D1	Assistant Female	£240.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	Stephens	James T O	B2	Assistant Master	£210.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	Beaglehole MA	Edward	C1	Substitute	£180.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	Mothes	Frederick W	B3	War Duty	£180.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D2	Assistant Female	£170.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	McKenzie	Christina	D1	Assistant Female	£165.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	Thomson	Isabel S M	C2	Assistant Female	£140.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	Ross BA	Fanny L	B3	Assistant Female	£135.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	Tremewan	Maurice A	C4	Assistant Master	£120.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	Webb	Alice H	C4	Assistant Female	£105.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	Hitchings	Gladys	C5	Assistant Female	£100.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	Lyons	Thomas		MP3	£55.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	Castle	Constance W M		FP3	£45.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	Lewis	Gwendolyn H		FP3	£45.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	Scott	Isabella		FP3	£35.00
1914	735	Petone DHS	Lynskey BA	James H	B1	Secondary	
1914	735	Petone DHS	Ross BA	Christina	B3	Secondary	

7th January 1914 Mr D. McKenzie, chairman of Die Petone District High School committee, who has been on a holiday visit to Rotorua, has returned to Petone

28th January 1914 The rural course included in the programme of the Petone High School has evidently not-been very successful, for at yesterday's meeting of the, Wellington Education Board, the .Chief Inspector. (Mr. T-R. Fleming) reported that the headmaster had 'sent in an amended programmer which he asked leave' to substitute, during the coming year for that laid, down by the-board.

It will be remembered' that in 1912, at the request of the Petone School Committee, the Education Board decided to give a trial to a. rural course, but, after a year's operation, the inspectors do not think that results warrant its continuance, , . It appears that, formerly, excellent work was done by the. staff in Civil Service and matriculation work, but since the adoption of the agricultural course this .work has been interfered with, and a number or scholars who -would desire to sit for the matriculation-examination have gone to other schools. The headmaster's proposal practically meant reverting to the old programme, substituting physics and chemistry for the agricultural course

28th January 1914 Mr Thomas Lyons appointed to Petone

28th January 1914 Part of a long article NOT GOOD FOR THE SCHOOL. Now for the latest phase. At yesterday's meeting of the Education Board, the headmaster of the Petone District High School (Mr. W. Foster) wrote for permission to revert to the original course. This will probably give the subject a second life, and it is quite likely that the rural course will once again be an important topic at Petone. In place of agricultural science, Mr. Foster wished physics and chemistry. That means that instruction in practical farming now given to the boys would be clone away with. The girls would continue to take hygiene, cookery, and dress-making, which is meant to fit them for after life. INTERESTING COMMENTS. The Chief Inspector (Mr. T. R. Fleming) accompanied the reading of the request with some interesting comments as to the effect of the course in the Petone District High School. In the first place he thought the ground available at Petone was quite unsuitable, and thorough instruction could not be given on it. Before the course was adopted excellent work was done by the staff in Civil Service and matriculation subjects, but many scholars now go to schools other than at Petone. In some cases the Department had granted transfers for this purpose. Mr. Fleming spoke favourably towards a resumption of the old syllabus.

31st January 1914 The proposal to discontinue the rural course at the Petone District High School finds very little favour in Petone. It is argued in some quarters that the classes have not yet been given a fair trial, while many ridicule the assertion that the examination results have proved unsatisfactory since the course was introduced. The whole matter will probably be discussed at the next meeting of the school committee.

3rd February 1914 special meeting of the Petone District High School Committee will' be held on Wednesday evening to consider matters' connected with the appointment of two assistant teacher's.

10th February 1914 Mr M Tremewan appointed. First position for Maurice A Tremewan for Wellington Education Board By 1917 was in Shannon and by 1921 Back to Wellington Normal School

20th February 1914 Mr. J.. Lynskey. of Petone Technical School,-has offered to start a technical (evening) at .Upper-Hutt-School if twelve scholars are guaranteed to attend as a. minimum. - 'As no less than forty senior scholars left school' .during the summer vacation, .it is expected that no difficulty will be experienced in taking advantage of Mr. Lynskey's offer.

[Note as well as the Technical School he was also teaching still in the secondary department of the Petone School.

20th February 1914 At the monthly meeting of the Petone District High School Committee last evening the following were present : — Messrs. McKenzie (in the chair), McDonald, Lockwood, Harper, Taylor, and Wright. Provided satisfactory arrangements are come to, it was decided to allow the school children to take part in the coming Citizens' Carnival in Wellington. It was resolved to write a letter to the Education Board thanking that body for the improvements recently made in the school desks.

9th March 1914 Very great regret will be felt at the news of the death of the Rev: A. Thomson, minister in charge of the St. David's Presbyterian Church, Petone, which took place at the Kensington ~ Street Private Hospital' between 5 a.m. .. and 6 a.m. on Saturday. The late Mr. Thomson only took ill a few days ago, and not many of his friends in the Hutt Valley had even heard of his indisposition prior to learning of his death. Deceased was born in Glasgow fifty-six years ago and came to New Zealand in 1882. For some years he was stationed- at Patea and Martinborough, mid, after being ordained as a minister some twenty-five years ago, was appointed to the charge of St. David's, Petone, in which district he had been a prominent figure for many years. His determination and enthusiastic spirit were the chief factors in bringing about the erection of the fine church in Britannia Street, and its later equipment with a pipe organ. In educational matters Mr. Thomson was a fighter for Petone, and members of the Wellington Education Board knew him as one of the most tenacious of deputationists. It was largely due to his efforts that a technical school was established in Petone, and for years he was chairman of the controlling board and was only recently re-elected to that position.- He also occupied the position of chairman of the Petone District High School Committee; Mr. Thomson is survived by a widow and family of four sons and four daughters. The funeral will take place this afternoon.....

17th March 1914 Petone Borough Council: It was decided that the reserves committee report on 'the question of securing a suitable piece of ground for the Petone District High School for gardening purposes.

20th March 1914 At a meeting of the Petone District : High School Committee- held last evening, the headmaster's report stated that the attendance had been as follows;—On roll at 'beginning of month, 737 primary, 53 secondary; admitted during month 34 primary, 53 secondary: withdrawn during Month, 33 primary, 53 secondary; on roll on March 13, 738 primary 53 secondary average roll, 742 primary. 53 secondary; average half-yearly attendance,, 692 primary, 515 secondary' percentage of attendance, 93.2 primary, 97 secondary. The report further stated that the roll number was slowly increasing. There was ample accommodation for pupils in the main building, but pressure was telling on the space in the infants' school. Though 40 scholars had been drafted from the latter department there still remained 300 pupils in the infants' department. Dr. Elizabeth Gunn, Departmental Medical Officer visited the school on March 3 and examined 50 scholars in Standard II and 42 other classes. It was decided to ask the Education Board to erect an open air class-room to meet the difficulty of over-crowding in the infant department. The secretary (Mr. Kirk) reported that a gas account for £1 had been presented, although the school, had been, closed for more than four weeks. It was resolved that the attention of the gas- manager be called to the fact, It was decided to raise, the caretaker's salary from £70 to £80 per annum, the increase to commence in April, The chairman (Mr. D.

McKenzie) referred' feelingly to the death of the late Rev. A. Thomson. and stated that a letter expressing the condolence of the committee had been forwarded to Mrs. Thomson.. A motion of sympathy was passed.

31st March 1914 Wellington Education Board PETONE SCHOOL. The Petone School Committee again applied for the re-establishment of the rural course. The Chief Inspector (Mr. T. Fleming) read an inspector's report in favour of the proposal, and it was decided that the present system of instruction be agreed to. The Petone Technical School managers sent in an amended application for workshops and classes. The request was approved, and it was decided to send it on to the Department.

17th April 1914 The Petone District High School Committee held its final meeting for the school year, last evening, those' present being: Messrs. D. McKenzie (chairman), W. Taylor, A. E. Wright, T. Townsend, F. Lockwood, and G. Hooper. The Rev. H. Braddock was granted the use of a room at the Main School for the purpose of giving Biblical object lessons after school hours to voluntary scholars. These lessons will be delivered once or twice a week, and about half an hour will be occupied by each demonstration.

A communication from the Wellington Education Board to the effect that the rural science course would be continued at the school was received.

The chairman stated that some time ago it was said that very few scholars desired this course continued. An investigation, however, had disclosed that out of 41 pupils in rural science, 40 spoke favourably of it and desired its continuation.

Arrangements were made for the annual meeting of householders on May 7, when the new committee will be elected. The nominations of Messrs. Townsend, Hooper, and Wright for re-election were received.

8th May 1914 The necessity for an immediate improvement in the staffing of the schools of the Dominion was emphasised by Mr. W. Foster, headmaster of the Petone District High School, in the course of an address to householders last evening. After referring particularly to the Petone School, Mr. Foster said that in the interests of their children parents should make such representation to the Government as would ensure an immediate alteration in the staffing of our large schools. The speaker quoted statistics to show how New Zealand lagged behind other countries in this 'respect.' Following on these remarks, the meeting unanimously adopted a resolution, on the motion of the chairman (Mr. D. McKenzie), calling the attention of the Minister of Education to the very large classes that obtained not only 'in the Petone School but in schools throughout the Dominion, and asking him to take immediate steps to have extra teachers placed in the schools affected.

8th May 1914 As is invariably the case interest ran high at the Petone District High (Main) School election. The meeting was held in the infant schoolroom, which was packed to the doors. The attendance, numbering several hundred, included a large proportion of women, and not a few children. Mr. D. McKenzie, chairman of the retiring committee, was in the chair. The annual report disclosed that the receipts during the year were £217 5s 10d, and the expenditure £177 8s 2d, leaving a credit balance of £39 17s 8d. The average attendance for the year in the primary department was : —Boys 355 girls 310 ; secondary 'school : Boys 26, girls 26. Forty-two pupils gained proficiency certificates, and seven competency certificates. The headmaster's own examinations had been satisfactory. Seventy-one scholars gained good attendance certificates, and 81 second-class certificates. , The health of the school generally was good, and the year had been marked by the absence of any serious epidemic

amongst the scholars. All the old desks had been remodelled, and the roll number of the primary school was slowly increasing. There was ample room in the main building but on account of the overcrowding in the infant department the committee had made application to the Education Board for an open-air class-room or shelter. The committee was pleased to know that it had the support of parents in the important work of agricultural chemistry. The committee had unanimously come to the conclusion, that a Technical Day School would not serve the best interests of the community, and it had moved in the direction of securing a properly-equipped secondary college for the whole of the Valley. Any interference with the present school would be eminently unwise. The establishment of day classes in the Technical School, if effected, would not compensate the school for the closing of the doors of Wellington College to Petone pupils. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Headmaster for his instructive address. Of seventeen candidates the following were elected: — Messrs. McKenzie, Kirk, Taylor, Lockwood, Townsend, Wright, Pawson, Anderson, and Brice, ,

20th May 1914 the Home Memorial-Committee, has decided to-transfer its fund to the headmasters of Petone District High School (Mr. W. Foster) and the Petone West School (Mr. D. Bedingfield), for investment by them. The annual interest is to be equally divided between the two schools, for the purpose of providing a prize for each, to-, be known as the Horne Memorial Prize. The allotment of the prizes is to be left to the discretion of the headmasters of the respective schools. A statement of the funds will be submitted by the secretary (Mr. G. Miller) in about a fortnight's time

23rd May 1914 Medical report to Wellington Education Board Petone District High School. —The classes in some of these rooms are much too big—an open-air schoolroom, or several of them, would be of tremendous advantage to this school. A great many of the children examined and reported on last year in the Petone High School, Petone West, Lower Hutt, and Eastern Hutt schools had had no treatment. [Report included Dr. Elizabeth Gunn, submitted her report on the inspection of nineteen of the schools under the board's jurisdiction. She showed that in the case of some schools 50 per cent, of the pupils suffered from malnutrition, in other words, from starvation. This, of course, was due to the ignorance of the parents. It was pointed out at the meeting that many children hurry over their breakfasts, eat their lunches on the way to School, and are practically condemned to eight or nine hours of fasting. The report disclosed an extremely serious state of affairs]

23rd May 1914 Wellington Education Board Metalling and Grading site approved

26th May 1914 Gift of Boxing Gloves: gloves are to be given to the Petone School, Te Aro School, St. Anna's, Boys' Institute, St. Patrick's College, and Victoria College classes

29th May 1914 The Petone District High School committee is to be informed, in reply to its request, that some protection should be placed on the side of the new Hutt pipe bridge, that the City Council will be prepared to enter into joint liability with the Petone Borough Council for such work, the cost of which is estimated at about £65.

29th May 1914 The new committee of the Petone District High School met last night, Mr. D. McKenzie presiding.

A report received from the headmaster showed that at the beginning of the month there were 737 names on the roll in the primary department, 54 secondary department on roll at end of month, 756 primary department. 54 secondary department average roll number

758 primary department, 54 secondary department; average attendance, 686 primary department, 51 secondary department.

The Rev. H. Braddock wrote stating that about 60 children were attending the voluntary Bible classes held under his supervision after school hours. He asked that the householders be circularised on the matter. Some discussion took place regarding the classes and a motion to the effect that- they be discontinued was put and negatived. It was resolved that the committee refrain from circularising the parents. It was also decided that Mr. Braddock's term should end on 30th June.

1st June 1914 The net amount that has been received in Petone towards the cost of the memorial to the memory of the late Air J. Horne, who was headmaster of the Petone public school for a number of years, totals £24 16s 6d. It has been decided to deposit the amount with the Petone Borough Council in trust.

4th June 1914 Quite a number of scholars journeyed to Hutt and Petone Schools yesterday to discover to their agreeable surprises that there was no school. It seems that the holiday was observed on Monday last, and the children were told to attend on Wednesday, but apparently so few responded to the order that -the schools did not open.

19th June 1914 A meeting of the Petone District High School Committee was held last evening- Members present- wore: Messrs. D. McKenzie Kirk , Pawson, Brice, Anderson,. Townsend, Taylor, and Wright. ,

The St. Anthony's Sunday School was granted the use of a room at the Main School

A notification from Mr. D. M. Yeats, late headmaster at, Lower Hutt High to the effect- that he. would be a candidate for a seat on the Education Board, was received.

A discussion took place regarding the funds needed for a school library,' and a motion by Mr. A. Wright to the effect that the Hutt Valley Dramatic Society be asked to produce a play, in aid of the library, or other funds was carried. The chairman' expressed the Opinion that he considered it inadvisable to be continually begging from the public.

Other members also stated their opinions, some considering that the state should provide a library Subsidy

It was eventually decided on the motion of Mr. Anderson, That the attention of the Minister of Education be drawn to the fact that a) owing to the impoverished state of the school funds, the committee' was compelled to resort to diverse methods of raising money for library and other purposes; b) That this committee again calls on the present Government, which, withdrew the free school books, to immediately restate them', .

18th July 1914 The Bible-in-schools question occupied the attention of members at the meeting of the Petone District High School Committee on Thursday. The Chairman (Mr! D. McKenzie) moved as follows :— That the Petone District High School Committee appeals- with confidence to the members of Parliament and of the New Zealand Legislature to deferring legislation that will interfere with the conscientious convictions of a very large section of the community who are against, any movement to alter the present free, compulsory, and secular system of education, believing that the Sunday school and the home are the proper spheres for Scripture teaching ; a minority has no right to be the tool of a majority, and no one has any right to control the opinions of a minority upon religious questions. The mover contended that, as there was a, movement to alter the present system, of education* the time had arrived when the committee should take some stand in the matter. Some members considered that the committee had no jurisdiction in the matter, while another opposed it on its merits. Eventually, however, the motion was carried by a two to one majority

Comment [RC3]:

20th July 1914 Members of the Education Board are on the lookout for a suitable site in Petone for the proposed high school. The chairman of the Petone High School Committee, Mr. D. McKenzie, recently inspected a number of sites, in company with members of the board, and the latter were particularly impressed with the land known as the Percy Estate. Although this property is somewhat expensive, Mr. McKenzie considers that the very best site available should be procured for the high school.

18th September 1914 A meeting of the Petone District High School Committee was held last evening, there being present Messrs. McKenzie (chairman), Pawson, Lockwood, Kirk, Brice, Anderson, Townsend, and Wright. The inspector's annual report showed that a high state of efficiency was being maintained at the school. In this connection the committee decided to forward a letter of appreciation to the headmaster (Mr. W. Foster). It was resolved to ask the Borough Council to set aside a piece of land at the Recreation Grounds for agricultural purposes for 'school children. It was reported that several windows had recently been broken, wilfully at the Main School, and as the offender was known, it was resolved that the matter be left in the hands of the chairman and secretary, with a view to having the damage made good. The Rev. H. Braddock applied for permission to deliver addresses to children after school hours, and Mr. Anderson moved that the request should not be granted, suggesting that Mr. Braddock might have the use of the school on Sundays instead. The motion was 'lost,' Messrs. Brice, Anderson, and Townsend _ voting for. and the remaining five against it. A further motion that the request be acceded to up till October 31 was then moved by Mr. Pawson, and carried by 5 to 3

28th September 1914 Mr. W.. Foster, headmaster of the Petone Main School, has been taken suddenly ill, and has been removed to a private hospital,

12th October 1914 Mr W. Foster, headmaster of the Petone District High School, who is ill in a private hospital in Wellington, is progressing favourably.

28th October 1914 Wellington Education Board £2 for repairs to walls in cooking room

13th November 1914 Belgian Children's Fund The amounts collected by the Petone schools for the Belgium Fund are as follow:—Main School,- £27 6s.; Petone West, £20 2s. 11d. Koro-Koro, £2 7s.; a little girl, 3s. 7d.; total, £49 18s. 6d. Three sympathisers have since brought this up to £50. [\$7,871.73 in December 2019 Value]

20th November 1914 A meeting of the Petone District High School Committee was held last evening', there being present Messrs. McKenzie (chairman); Kirk. Lockwood, Anderson, Wright, and Taylor. The chairman intimated that the Returning Officer for the district (Mr. F. London} had requested the use of the main school on election day and had been granted permission. This action of the chairman was endorsed by the committee. Regarding a request by the Gear Company s Employees' Picnic Committee, that the school should be closed on November 25, in order that the children might attend their picnic, the chairman stated that the headmaster (Mr. W. Foster) had expressed the opinion that the closing of the school would not interfere with the examination. The Picnic Committee had, offered to convey children under seven years of age free, and scholars over that age for 6d., and any profits thus secured would be handed over to the Belgian Relief Fund. It was agreed that the school should be closed for the event. Permission was granted the Rev. Stevenson to place an organ in the infants' classroom, for the benefit of Sunday School scholars.

-The Education Board intimated that a special allowance of 7d. per capita, during the September quarter had been made and forwarded the amount of £55 1s. 9d. It was decided to

expend £10 on library books, and £10 on school stationery, the selection of which was left in the hands of the chairman; the headmaster, and Mr. F. Lockwood.

24th November 1914 Mr. Wm. Foster, headmaster of the Petone High School, who has been seriously ill, has suffered a relapse, and is again the inmate of a private hospital.

27th November 1914 The results of a tennis match, played between the girls of the Lower Hutt and Petone. District High Schools were as follow (Hutt players mentioned first} :— Phyllis Waugh and Doris Hickson beat Sylvia Mather and Winifred Mather, 20—16; Rhoda Gibbons 'and Alexa Osborne beat Lillian Rodger and Ella Brocklebank, 20—19; Jean Macaskill and Annie Mellvride lost to Vera Humphries' and Dorothy Wild, 19—20; Myrtle Edwards and Doris Smith beat Winifred Monks and Florence Waugh, 20—18. The match will be continued on Monday.

Two pupils of the Petone District High School are sitting for matriculation and 21 out of a roll number of 44 have entered for the Civil Service examination. '

30th November 1914 No improvement is reported in the condition of Mr W. Foster, headmaster of the Petone District High School, who is at present seriously ill

18th December 1914 Mr. William Foster, headmaster of the Petone District High School, who for the last month has been in a private hospital in Wellington, is making slow progress towards recovery.

19th December 1914 The following is the result of the year's work at the Petone District High School:—

Certificates of Proficiency: Hilton Boden, Frank Clemmens, Harry Davie, James Finn, Raymond Grimwood, William Haddock, Ian Inglis, Noel Kirk, George Leatham, Stanley List, Henry Millward, James Martin, Percy Martin, Samuel Norris, Kenneth Rodger, Ronald Sharpe, Norman Wilson, William Watt, Tora Barrow, Ivy Dunford, Ada Flowers, Gladys Flowers, Kathleen Fowler, Olive Genet, Hilda Huskisson, Freda McEwen, Madge Melhuish, May Nankivell, Amy Ogg, Margaret Phyn, Maggie Smith, Elsie Sydow, Iris Wilson, Ellen Whittaker, Janet Reid.

Certificates of Competency: Ivan Bentley, Hector Cargill, George Hebbend, ; David Leatham, Norman Manning, Hector Nankivell, Ruth Griffiths, Ruth Lawford, Ivy Preece .

Attendance Certificates.—Standard VI, First Class—P. Martin, J. Martin, O. Leatham, R. Grimwood, K. Rodger, I. Inglis, W. Haddock, I. Bentley, J. Waters, I. Dunford, I. Wilson, N. Whittaker, H. Davie. Second Class— F. McEwen, R. Griffiths, K. Fowler, A. Ogg, M. Smith, H. Nankivell, N. Kirk, H. Cargill, J. Finn, A. Ludlam, L. Hebbend, N. Wilson, H. Boden.

Standard V, First Class—Netta Fowler, Georgia Wakelin, Muriel Udy, Dorothy Griffiths, Mary Norris, Eileen Quayle, Rita Creek, John Shanks, D. Wilson, Albert Roberts, Kilvert Matthews, William Hobbs, James Palmer, Norman Nicholls, George Gardiner, Wilhan Carey, Hector Childe, Fred Mockridge, Ronald Ridge, Howard Goble. Second Class—Elsie Newland, Gwen Wallis, Alice Humphreys, Stacey Hill, Ronald Ogg, Roy Pawson.

Standard IV, First Class—Sylvia Humphreys, Eva Wellington, William Hart, John Haseman , Clifford Ross, William Rodger, Frederick Steinmuller, Frederick Willis, Leslie Wellington, Malcolm Woollett. Second Class Evelyn Cates, Mabel McMillan, Eileen Tapp, Evelyn Watson, Frederick Clark, William Dixon, Henry Hoskins, Leslie Jowett, David Little, Robert Styles.

Standard IV (B), First Class—Lily Martin, Vera Martin, Enid Dalglish, Alice Watkinson, Ivy Finch, Millie Wright, Ivan Body, Horace Martin, Robert Palmer, James Cload, Arthur Jamieson, Ronald Hamilton, Allan Collins, Noel Rowe. Second Class —Millie Weston, Vera Arnold, Richard Smith, Oscar Rowe, Kenneth Francis. Standard III (A), First Class—Beryl Bowdon, Eileen Nicholls, Irene Smith, Gavan Allan, George Medhurst, William Quayle. Second Class —Amelia Collinge, Emma Smith, Clarence Haseman, Leslie Pawson, Eric Goble, Kenneth McKay, Percy Ansell, Ralph Hollick, Henry Wiseman, James Morris, Hylton Medhurst.

Standard III (B), First Class—Mona Quayle, Marie , Quayle, Masie Wilson, Lloyd Ansell, Douglas Collinge, James Davie, Rolfe Hayward, Albert James. Eric Monks. Fred Pitcher. Second Class—Jean Gardiner, Phyllis Godber, Marjorie Hebbend, Flora Wilson, Percy Dodsworth, George' Jamieson, Stacey Mothes, Harold Pettet. Standard 11 (A), First Class Certificates—Lily Arrowsmith, Vera Cates, Nellie Coker, Jean Robson, William Brough, Albert Hounslow, William Kearns, Maurice Kinder, James Robertson, Hugh Smith, Frank Steinmuller, Leslie Stokes, Keith Townsend, Ronald Wearne, Fred Williams. Second Class Certificates—Doris Dixon, Joyce Hill, Fanny Hunter, Evelyn Spence, Irene Millar; Winston Jowett, Douglas Sampson, Charles Wilson.

Standard II (B), First Class Certificates—Gilbert Parker, ' Ernest Whittaker, Olive Hunter, Emily Martin. Second Class Certificates —Jack Bowles, Jack Smith, Walter Styles, Harold Townsend, Walter Watt, Dorothy Wilkes.

Standard I (A), First Class Certificates—Gordon Clark, Edgar Nicholls, Thelma Carey, Olive Medhurst. Second Class Certificates —Lawrence Bowater, Royston Kent, Huia King, Melva Hart, Jessie Norris.

Standard I (B) First Class Certificates—Dora Finch, Violet Pratley, Leslie Brough. Second Class Certificates Edith Watson, Ernest Wallace, Alec Davie, William Bowles. Infants, First Class—William Williams) Harold James, Arthur Kent, Esme Coker, Florence Finch. John Hunter. Second Class—Frederick Dixon, Stanley Rodger, Josephine Weston.

Secondary School Classes. —First Class—Ethel Hume, C. Goddard, W. Hamilton, J. Daniel, H. Wylie, W. Watkinson. Second Class —E. Ambler, H. Allan, L. Price, S. Reid, A. Lilly, V. Humphreys, W. Monks, M. King, S. Finch.

The following pupils were awarded the Royal Life-Saving Society's elementary, certificate:—Oscar T. Rowe, Leonard C. Parrant, Iden H. Gould, Milton, L. Ashby. Mr. H. E. Bird acted as instructor.

30th December 1914 A shooting competition was held at the Petone District High School boys' camp at Rona Bay [Eastbourne] during the holidays', the results being:—M. Olson, 1; B. Thomas, 2; and Ambler and Wylie, after three trials, wore bracketed for third place. ...

1915

1915	732	Petone DHS	Foster MA	William H L	B1	Head Master	£410.00
1915	732	Petone DHS	King MA B Sci	Eustace	B1	Assistant Master	£320.00
1915	732	Petone DHS	Slater	Jemima	D1	Assistant Female	£250.00
1915	732	Petone DHS	Stephens	James T O	B2	Assistant Master	£250.00

1915	732	Petone DHS	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D2	Assistant Female	£190.00
1915	732	Petone DHS	Strack	Conrad H E	B2	Substitute	£190.00
1915	732	Petone DHS	Mothes	Frederick W	B2	War Duty	£190.00
1915	732	Petone DHS	McKenzie	Christina	D1	Assistant Female	£175.00
1915	732	Petone DHS	Thomson	Isabel S M	C2	Assistant Female	£140.00
1915	732	Petone DHS	Ross BA	Fanny L	B3	Assistant Female	£140.00
1915	732	Petone DHS	Tremewan	Maurice A	C4	Assistant Master	£120.00
1915	732	Petone DHS	Webb	Alice H	C3	Assistant Female	£115.00
1915	732	Petone DHS	Hitchings	Gladys	C5	Assistant Female	£110.00
1915	732	Petone DHS	Lyons	Thomas		MP3	£55.00
1915	732	Petone DHS	Castle	Constance W M		FP3	£45.00
1915	732	Petone DHS	Lewis	Gwendolyn H		FP3	£45.00
1915	732	Petone DHS	Scott	Isabella		FP3	£35.00
1915	732	Petone DHS	Lynskey BA	James H	B1	Secondary	
1915	732	Petone DHS	Ross BA	Christina	B2	Secondary	

13th January 1915 Mr. Wm. Foster, headmaster of. the Petone District High School, is now at his home and is slightly improving in health

1932/2689	Foster	William Henry Leider	65Y
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4th February 1915 The Hutt and Petone Schools reopened on Tuesday, after the vacation, the attendances being as follow: —Eastern Hutt 293, last average 184; Main Hutt 430, last average 545; Epuni School 77, last average 88; Petone West 307, last average 345. It is reported that at the Petone Main School the attendances will be greater this year than last

8th February 1915 The Petone District - High r School Committee intends to communicate with the three councils that control the Hutt Park, namely, Petone, Hutt, and Eastbourne, asking that they - favourably consider the application of the Wellington Education Board for a grant of 10 'acres on the park for a site for a high school, and that the full area applied for be given. The communication will add .that in- the event of the council's and that in the event of' the council .favouring the application, they give effect .to the recommendation through their representative on the Hutt Park Committee. It is also intended to acquaint the School Committees of Hutt and Eastbourne of the Petone Committee's intention, with the request that they act in a similar manner

19th February 1915 A meeting of the Petone District High School Committee was held last evening, the chairman (Mr.- D. McKenzie) presiding.-, Messrs. Lockwood,'. Anderson, Pawson, Kirk, and Wright were also present. .The headmaster (Mr. W. Foster) . reported ..that the attendance to February 12 had. been as follows On roll at December 31 1914, primary department, 754; secondary department; 44; total, 798; withdrawn, primary department, 92; secondary department, 21; total, 113; admitted,' primary department, 78; secondary department, 36: total, 114; on roll February 12, 1915, primary department,- 740; secondary department, 59; total, 799. Average half day attendance, primary department, 694; secondary department, 58; total, 752. . The results of the recent Departmental examinations were as follow:— Matriculation, W. Mather; Public Service, E. Ambler, B. Thomas, R. McKenzie, C. Goddard, R. Lusty, L. Price, W. Olson, H. Wylie; intermediate,' W. Monks, E. Hume, W. Mather, S. Davis, E. Brocklebank, L. Rodger, V. Humphreys, G. Meldrum, D. Wild; Junior

Board Scholarship.' C. Olson ; S.. Reid, K. Fowler (qualified); Senior Board Scholarship, H. Wylie (qualified).. The' report added that in view of-the fact that pupils for the examination had received no other instruction than that given in their respective daily classes, the successes were. gratifying. . The committee decided to forward a congratulatory letter to the headmaster on the satisfactory results.

It was decided to apply to the hoard for the full capitation of £5 10s. in respect to those pupils who had been successful in the examination, having undergone a course of rural science, and to ask for proper appliances for the boys and girls to use on the ground.

A reply was received from the Petone Council to a communication from the committee (in which the latter had requested that the Education Board's request for a high school site on the Hutt Park might be given effect to stating that no decision had been arrived at. Mr. Wright stated that as the council appeared to be doubtful regarding the site chosen, he would ask that the letter on the subject be read as. considerable time was being taken up in discussing the question as to the most suitable site for a high school. The secretary read a letter from the board dated September 17, 1914, in which it was made clear that after inspecting 'five sites, the committee set up for the purpose was unanimously of the opinion' that the Hutt Park was the most suitable for a high school. It was resolved that the position should be explained to the council.

23rd February 1915 Part of a longer article: Matters in connection with the proposed establishment of a high school in the Hutt Park have developed in such a way as to make it seem highly improbable that the reserve mentioned will, after all, be used for the purpose. When the question came before the Lower Hutt Borough Council last evening, in the shape of a letter from the Petone District High School, councillors generally expressed themselves emphatically against the proposal. Councillor Ball was strongly opposed to the idea of taking any portion of the park, which was vested in the three councils for recreation purpose

11th March 1915 he question of the site for a high school or secondary college on the Hutt Park, recommended by the Education Board, although not supported by the Lower Hutt Council, and practically treated in the same manner by the Petone Council, is, however, to be reopened by the Hutt and Petone District High School Committees.

The first-named' committee recently carried a resolution favouring the site, and appointed a sub-committee to take steps to expedite the matter, whilst the Petone School Committee has forwarded ,the following letter to the Petone Council Dear Sir.—I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 16, in-which you state that my letter of February 6 (in regard to an . area on the Hutt Park for a High School site) was placed before your council, and no decision was arrived at. I am further instructed to write, respectfully requesting your council to re-open the question, as apparently (according to Press reports of the meeting, at which the matter was discussed) some _ slight - misunderstanding of the question exists, and perhaps an explanation at this stage may afford some light to councillors on . the matter. Councillor Anderson, who is a member of the School Committee, is in possession of all the particulars in connection with the subject, and my 'committee will be pleased should your council accede to the request.—R. Kirk, secretary, Petone District High School Committee.-

19th March 1915 The Petone District High School Committee met last evening, Mr. D. McKenzie presiding, and there were also present: Messrs. Pansen, Kirk, Taylor,. Anderson, (Wright, Brice, Townsend, and Lockwood. The headmaster's report stated that the attendance

in both departments had been, somewhat affected during the month by sickness. The Petone Borough Council advised that the question, of the site for a high school on Hutt Park could not be reopened, as the standing orders prevented a defeated motion being reopened unless a request to that effect was signed by five councillors. After some discussion it was decided to ask Mr. Anderson, to take the necessary steps to reopen the matter in the council.

The offer of the Dominion'. School of. Radio-Telegraphy to conduct a series of lectures on Wireless in Warfare, and asking the committee to make the necessary arrangements, was accepted, and a sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. McKenzie, Taylor, and Townsend, was appointed, to deal with the matter.

It was decided to ask the Petone Council to take steps to establish a free library for children, to be called the Petone Public School Library, and it was agreed to ask the Petone West School Committee to-assist in the matter .

6th April 1915 The stall holders at the bazaar held in Petone Main School were : — Refreshments, Miss Slater; gift stall, Miss McKenzie; fancy stall, Miss Ross; sweets, Miss F. Ross; produce, Mr. J. Lynskey; ice cream, Mr, M. Tremewan. Mr. E. King was treasurer, and Mr. Stevens supervisor. The following were the winners of the various competitions : Mrs. Hall (ham), Master Eiffe (doll), and Master Seymour (parrot).

Expenses were practically nil, and over £40 will be handed over to the Belgian Relief Fund. Mr. Waugh, nurseryman, of Lower Hutt, considerably swelled the funds of the bazaar by donating some choice pot plants.

23rd April 1915 The final meeting of the Petone District High School Committee was held last evening, there being present: Mr. D. McKenzie (chairman), and Messrs. Anderson, Pawson, Kirk, Taylor, Lockwood, Wright, and Brice. The following report prepared by the chairman was approved for presentation to the householders:—The roll numbers in the primary department were: On roll, March 31, 1914, 378 boys, 359 girls, total 737; admitted during year, 157 boys, 162 girls, total 319; withdrawn during year, 159 boys, 165 girls: total 324; On roll March 31, 1915: 376 boys, 356 girls, total 732. The average roll numbers were Quarter ended June 30, 1914, 398 boys, 357 girls, total .755. The average roll numbers for the year' ended March 31, 1915: 390 boys, -360 girls, total 750. Average half daily attendance for the year ended March 31, 1915: 360 boys, 323 girls, total 683. In the secondary department the number on the roll on March 31, 1914, was: 27 boys, 27 girls, total 54. On roll March 31, 1915; 41 boys, 19 girls; total 60. Average attendance for year: 27.3 boys, 22.6 girls; total 59.9. The report referred to the illness of the headmaster, but it was hoped that before the year closed he would be in robust health. A reference to the value of swimming -was made as being a most healthy exercise, and the opinion expressed that it should be encouraged in all State schools. Mr. Fitz Mothes, the assistant master, was granted leave of absence, having volunteered for service in Egypt.

The chairman was warmly congratulated on his report, and votes of thanks to Messrs. McKenzie and Kirk (secretary) for their zeal throughout the year were unanimously carried. Arrangements were made for the annual meeting of householders to be held on May 3.

4th May 1915 School Committee ELECTION Mr. D. McKenzie presided over a meeting attended by about 45 householders, at the Petone District High School last evening. For the first time for many years no election was held, as the number of nominations did not exceed

the number of vacancies. The committee consists of Messrs. McKenzie, Pawson, Kirk, Brice, Barnett, Davis, Palmer, Watson, and Whittaker.

21st May 1915 The initial meeting of the newly elected Petone District High School Committee was held last evening, there being present Messrs. McKenzie (chairman), Kirk, Harnett, Whittaker, Palmer, Davis, Pawson, Watson, and Brice. The headmaster's report stated that the attendance for the month ending May stated that the percentage attendance was: Primary, 91 per cent; secondary, 96 per cent. During the month Mr. Strack, who was appointed to Mr. Mothe's position during the latter's absence with the Expeditionary Forces, reported for duty. The report suggested that a roll of honour should be prepared for the school, in order that ex-pupils who have joined the Expeditionary Forces might have their names entered thereon. It was decided to adopt the suggestion.

30th June 1915 Wellington Education Board It was resolved that the gravitation sewage system be introduced at Petone School as soon as necessary fittings now on order are to hand.

31st July 1915 Mr. W. Foster, headmaster of Petone District High School, was to-day elected chairman of the Headmasters' Association.

6th September 1915 The Public Schools' Rugby football tournament began at Petone on Saturday, and interesting exhibitions of the game were witnessed. The results were:—'Petone District High School defeated Wellington by 19 to 14, the latter putting up their score near the end of the game, Wanganui defeated Manawatu by 9 to nil; Reeves (2) and Hamilton scoring tries; Mr. E. Smythe was referee in the first-mentioned game, and Mr. E. Tregear in the latter. A Wellington player, named J. Arnold, sustained a fractured shoulder blade, whilst playing against Petone.

7th September 1915 Word has been received that Sergt. F. Mothes, [Petone School Teacher] of Petone, who was wounded in the early stages of the Dardanelles campaign and was sent to England for treatment, is now engaged by the military authorities in light clerical duties.

16th September 1915 [Presumably children from Petone School] Complaints have been common at Petone of late regarding the damage done to borough and other property by boys throwing stones. Yesterday four boys, whose ages range from seven to thirteen years, were brought before Mr D. G. A. Cooper, S.M., in the Juvenile Court at Petone for damaging sheets of asbestos belonging to the Borough Council, and for breaking insulators on the telephone posts. The boys pleaded guilty to the offences, and after being admonished were convicted and discharged. Their parents were ordered to pay for the damage done.

26th October 1915 Wellington Education Board Petone D.H.S., plumbing, etc., for closets, T. Thomson, £100 [To convert toilets to be able to be flushed]

27th October 1915 Applications from Masterton for a special subsidy, and from the Petone District High School for the continued control of Price's Building were declined. It was decided that the drainage work in connection with the Petone District High School be carried out by the council plus 5 per cent. [Petone West had been allowed to use the Price's Building]

2nd November 1915 On Friday next an effort is to be made by the Petone West and District High Schools to raise patriotic funds. Last year's effort resulted in approximately £700 being received for the relief of Belgian children. The schools will be open to visitors from 10.30 a.m. to noon, and from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

6th November 1915 Petone DHS had raised £30 for the Belgian Children's funds

22nd November 1915 At a meeting of schoolmasters and teachers on Saturday in connection with the recent Fifth of November appeal by the schools for funds for the Belgians, Mr. William Foster (Petone) said he thought it would be an excellent idea if some philanthropic movement could be assisted every Fifth of November by the school children after the war, so that the poor children of New Zealand in the hospitals and orphanages might benefit. Guy Fawkes Day had, he said, lost most of its significance now, and the children could collect and spend money in a much hotter way than on fireworks.

16th December 1915 PETONE DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

Proficiency Certificates.

Girls.—Ada G. Bond, Gretta E. Burd, Rita Check, Netta M. Fowler, Dorothy I. Griffiths, 'Alice K. Humphreys, Sylvia E. Humphreys, Jessie M. Jones, Mina M. Lawrie, Phyllis E. Melhuish, Muriel G. Mockridge, Elsie S. Newland, Mary Norris, Beryl E. Sharpe, Bella F. Smith, Eileen A. Tapp, Francis M. Thornton, Muriel E. Udy, Georgia N. Wakelin, Gwen M. Wallis, Alice Watkinson, Grace M. Wilson, Julia F. Woolford.

Boys.—Milton L. Ashby, Trevor Beard, Malcolm Bell, John H. Bucknell, William Carey, Hector R. Childs, Ernest H. Cload, Robert F. Corson, Harold C. Eason, Leslie Edlin, William E. Eiffe, George Gardiner, Gordon H. Griffiths, Leslie Hebbend, Stacey E. Hill, William Hobbs, Arthur J. Jamieson, Frederick H. Kirk, William Kyle, David Leatham, Mossley L. Manning, Kilvert L. Matthews, Gordon MacDonald, Frederick H. Mockridge, Hector C. Nankivell, Norman C. Nicholls, Ronald H. Ogg, James W. Palmer, Roy W. Lawson, Douglas B. Reid, Ronald Ridge, Albert Roberts, John Robertson, William M. Rodger, 'John E. Rogers, Noel H. Rouse, Huddart B. Sampson, Leo. L. Sharpe, Joseph J. Walters, Percy Watt. Neal Ward, Douglas Wilson, Ernest Wilson. Competency Certificates. Howard I. Coble, Albert Rutherford, John A. Shanks, Enid I. Dalgleish, Elsie Huskisson, Agnes C. Tancred. \

Secondary Department. . First School.—Wallace Hamilton. Kenneth Rodger, John Stanhope Reid. Samuel Henry Norris, John Henry Roche. William P. Watkinson. Second Class.—May Mothes, William Watt. Standard VI. First Class.—George, Gardiner, Milton Ashby, Hector Childs, Douglas Reid. Ronald Ogg, Albert Roberts, Mary Norris, Muriel Udy, Muriel Mockridge. Netta Fowler. Ada Bond, Leslie Hebbend, Howard Goble, Harold C Eason, Arthur Jamieson, Stacey Hill, Douglas Wilson. Second Class.—Roy Pawson, William Carey, Ernest Cload, Robert Corson, Neal Ward, Noel Rouse. Mina- Lawrie, Rita Check, Beryl Sharpe, Elsie Newland, Enid Dalgleish, Sylvia Humphreys, Eileen Tapp, Huddart Sampson, Norman Nicholls. Standard V. First Class.—Kenneth Francis, Arthur Bryan, Allan Collins, Ronald Hamilton, John Haseman, Horace Martin. Alfred I Melrose, Robert Palmer, Frederick 'Steinmuller, Gordon Telbutt. Ivy Finch, Vera Martin. Mollie Weston. Vern Arnold. \

Second Class.—Frank Chilcott, Alan Clark, Ivan Cody, William Dixon, William Hart, James Lawrie. Ian McDonald Oscar Rowe, Roy Senior. Richard Smith. Frederick Wallis, James Cload. May Finn, Elizabeth Wight, Millie Wright, Francis Abrahall

First Class Rolfe Hayward, Ralph Hollick, Albert James, Albert Maud Stacey Mothes, William Quayle, Arthur Watt, Enid Horton, Irene Smith, Joyce Udy Percy Ansel, Fred Pitcher, Eric Monks, Beryl Bowden, Kenneth McKay, Mona Quayle, Eileen Nicholl, Avis Woodham, Maisie Wilson, Emma Smith

Second Class—Gavin Allen, Lloyd Ansel, Stanley Bond. Douglas Collins. James Davie, George Jamieson, Edward Mills, Malcolm Parrant. Hazel Ashby Lily Childs, Marjorie

Hebbend, Bessie Mullis, Elizabeth Reid, Christina Young Zeta Willoughby, Phyllis Gobber, Flora Wilson, Jean Gardiner, Eric Goble Hylton Medhurst, Albert Wilkes Henry Wiseman
 Standard III First Class.-John Bowles, William Brough, William Genet, Frank Stein muller, Harold Townsend, Lily Arrowsmith, Nelly Coker, Elizabeth Hunter Agnes Maud, Mavis Quayle, Edna Thompson, Olive Hunter. Second Class.—William Binns, Joseph Horton, William Kearns, Thomas Lawrie Andrew Mills, Douglas Sampson, Hugh Smith, Walter Styles, Ernest Whittaker. Charles Smith, George Medhurst, Emily Eiffe, Ivy Finn, Phyllis Hamilton Emily Martin, Irene Meller

Standard II. First Class.—Royston Kent, August Liebezeit, Owen Tregear, Leonard Turvey Jane Bennie, Jean Bentley, Dora Finch' Berna Reid, Joyce Hill, Garnet Reid Rose Edlin, Olive Medhurst, Winnifred Tebbutt. Second Class.—William Bowles, Arthur Dixon, Stanley Featherston, Frank Hartley, Huia King, Jessie Norris, Effie Vincent,. Eileen Andrews Melva Hart Vera McCarthy, Alma- Sampson, Leslie Brough Gordon Clark, Alec Davie, David Henry William Humphreys, Hermann Mothes"

Standard I. First Class.—Stanley Rodgers, Fred Dixon, Alan McKay, Harold James. Frank- Ward, Edith Hunter, Mary Rodger, Ellen Terry, Josephine Weston

Second Class.—Alan Woodham William Williams.. Willie Calvert, 'Marcia Bryne, Ivy Melrose, Madge Eason, Alice Scotson, Rita Thompson, Doris Watt Albert Muir, William - Skinner, Leslie Woolford

Infants. First Class.-Robert Calvert, Thomas Watson, Jack Hunter, Gavin Wilson Minnie Arrowsmith, Mercy Steinmuller ' Second Class.—Leonard Burn, Kenneth Hall, Leon Riddler, William White Eva Bell, Christina. Rodger, Flossie Finch

1916-1917

1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Haslam BA	Charles N	B-18	Head	£410.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	King MA B Sci	Eustace	B-38	Assistant	£320.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Suisted	Florence M A	D	Assistant	£190.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Slater	Jemima	D-45	Assistant	£250.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D-58	Assistant	£230.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Thomson	Isabel S M	C-74	Assistant	£190.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Udy	Linda A	C-70	Assistant	£150.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Blacker	Henrietta	C-95	Assistant	£120.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Hitchings	Gladys M N	C-96	Assistant	£120.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Scott	Isabelle	D	Assistant	£120.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Castle	Constance W M		Assistant	£110.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Hughes	Maggie		Assistant	£110.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Kydd	Maude	C4	Assistant	£110.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Bird	Arthur E		PT3	£55.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Dyer	Grace A		PT3	£55.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Hunter	Eileen		Probationer 2	£35.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Matthews	Dulcie E		Probationer 1	£30.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Udy	Sylvia V		Probationer 1	£30.00
1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Braddock MA	Catherine C	A-88	D	

1917	701-55	Petone DHS	Lynskey BA	James H	B-41	D	
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Note: From 1916 list of teachers and schools was only published from 1915 to 1923 Biennially by the Government.

19th February 1916 Petone's great asset—the, safest beach in New Zealand—was being fully utilised yesterday afternoon, when the scholars of the District High School entered upon exhaustive swimming tests for the purpose of being awarded the certificates' presented by the Wellington Swimming Association. A large crowd of interested spectators gathered early.in' the afternoon in the vicinity of the bathing-shed, and the beach was packed with hundreds of children in bathing attire. A special feature of the afternoon was a splendid display, of the natatorial art by Mr. Thos. Shields. Mr. Shields, who was introduced by the headmaster (Mr. Foster), and was greeted with cheers, gave a short address on the importance of swimming. He considered it the duty of every municipality, every Government, and every school committee to teach the art of swimming.-. It ought to be part of everyone's, education to learn to swim,: and further, to learn the art of life-saving. He would guarantee to teach any lady to swim in ten minutes if only' she had confidence. He emphasised the point that no person, whether, they could swim or not, need sink if only they kept their wits about them, and kept as much o' the body as possible under water. Mr. Shields then gave an exhibition of what could be done in the water,' which was a revelation to most of those present. He was heartily thanked. The following are,, the names of' the 'children who passed the various-distance tests [Names not copied]:

29th February 1916 Miss C McKenzie resigned from Petone DHS from 30th June

Christina McKenzie had a long teaching career for the Wellington Education Board

1878-1882 Pupil Teacher at Masterton DHS

1884-1890 Sole Teacher at Wangaehu Just east of Masterton

1891-1894 Head female at Makara school

1895-1900 Head female at Mitchelltown School in Wellington as Head Female [Head teacher]

1901-1907 Head Teacher at Hastwell School [South of Eketahuna]

1908 1911 Assistant at Newtown District High School

1912 to early 1916 Assistant at Petone DHS

1st March 1916 Wellington Education Board Tn the circumstances existing, the board cannot undertake the work of asphaltting at the Petone School on the basis suggested but will be prepared to undertake it on the basis of a £ for £ subsidy on the money raised for the purpose.

11th March 1916 In connection with the preventive measures being 'taken at Petone in connection with infectious diseases the Main School was to-day thoroughly fumigated by the Sanitary Inspector. This should allay any fears that parents may have had and which have caused them to keep 'their children from school.' [A Fear of infantile paralysis]

15th March 1916 Note: I have not copied most of the notes of the Petone Technical school even though it was administered by Director James Lynskey who was also employed in the secondary department of the Petone DHS as this would have taken up too much time.

The director (Mr. J. . Lynskey) re-ported that the number of pupils attending the various classes was as follows:—English, ' 45; arithmetic, 45 drawing, 18; building construction. 11 • wool-classing 11; matriculation, 19 • electricity, 9; shorthand, 62; art, 4' plumbing, 4; book-keeping, 35; . carpentry, 12; cookery, 17; mathematics, 26; chemistry, 11. The classes, generally speaking, are an improvement on last year's (the report adds), and although the

Saturday half-holiday had to some extent interfered with Friday evening's classes, this was made up by the general increase.;.....

17th March 1915 Miss H (Henrietta) Blacker appointed

8th April 1916 Anzac day report included Invitations have been accepted by the Prime Minister, Sir Joseph Ward, 'Hon. W. H. Herries, and other members of the Cabinet. Mr. T. M. Wilford, M.P., Mr. Hiley (General Manager N.Z.R.), the Mayor of Wellington (Mr. J. P. Luke) and councillors, the Mayor of Petone (Mr. J. W. McEwan) and councillors, and the Mayor of Lower Hutt (Mr. H. Baldwin) and councillors are also to be invited to attend the ceremony, which takes place at 3.30 on Anzac Day. The Petone School children, to the number of 1100 under the direction of Mr. Foster, head master of the District High School, will take a prominent part in the function.

10th April 1916 The Petone District High School flag was flying at half-mast to-day as a mark of respect to the memory of Gunner Cyril Hebbend, who was killed in Flanders on 25th March. Gunner Hebbend was on a health recruiting trip to Australia, and while there joined the forts from which 400 men volunteered to man a siege battery which was sent to .England. On 2nd March, after recovery from a further illness in England, he was sent to the front, and now his relatives have received news of his death.

17th April 1915 The annual report to be presented at the householders' meeting this evening, in connection with the Petone District . High School, states that the average attendance for the year was as follows:— On roll at May 31, 1915, 732; primary department;, 60, secondary department; total, 792 admitted during year; 289 (primary); 56 (secondary); total, 321; with, drawn during year, 279 (primary); 45 (secondary) ;!total, 324. Roll at 31 March, 1916—742 (primary); 71 (secondary); total 813.' '. The average weekly roll was 744 (primary), and 53 (secondary); total, 797; and the average daily attendance, 686 (primary); 50 (secondary); total, 730; percentage: attendance, 92.2 (primary), 94.5 (secondary); average, 92.3. In the primary department, 9 pupils obtained junior free places' on .the scholarship .papers, and in the secondary department, 5 were successful in the Public Service examinations, and 3 in the senior free places. Two gained national scholarships, and two were successful. in the intermediate examination. At the inspectors' annual examination in November,, 66 obtained their Sixth Standard proficiency certificates, and 6 secured competency certificates. During the year 98 pupils did not. miss a single half day's attendance, and are entitled to first-class attendance certificates, whilst 108 were' not absent more than five half-days, and are qualified, to receive second-class certificates. Reference-- is made to the number of£ ex-pupils who have enlisted, and in. some cases were not spared a return home, and a tribute is paid to the courage of those who landed at the Dardanelles, , the words of. the Greatest that ever spoke to man being quoted: Greater love hath no man than this— that he lay down his life for his friend. The report adds that the health of the school is good, in' spite of the present epidemic, and the scrupulous cleanliness of the children was a most 'encouraging feature of the school. -Every possible attention was given by the headmaster (Mr. W. Foster) .to the health of the children, fresh air and sea-bathing forming a prominent part .of the school routine during hot weather. It was satisfactory to note the number on the school roll that could swim. All the classrooms had been fumigated and were constantly disinfected. The playgrounds were also similarly treated by the .council's water-cart. Needlework has become a pleasant and instructive part of the child's education. Household science was now beyond the experimental stage, and its value was being recognised, the singing of the children has vastly improved, and drawing and colour work, and geometrical drawing, which was taught at the school, were important subjects, and were loved by. the children The report expresses thanks to all who

have assisted in the work and life of the school throughout the-year, and records appreciation of the efficient manner in which the school has been conducted by the headmaster and staff.

18th April 1916 At the Petone District High School the following were elected (unopposed):— Messrs. McKenzie, Pawson, Abrahall, Spurr, Wight. Seddon, Schofield, Haddy, and Campbell. The report has already appeared

19th April 1916 Miss I Thompson and F L Ross appointed

31st May 1916 Views of the Petone School Committee in regard to accidents to pupils were before the Education Board yesterday. The board decided, on the recommendation of the Works and Finance Committee, that while thanking the committee for its views on the matter, it was unable to accept liability in the circumstances described on account 'of an accident to a pupil, nor could it see its way to approve the creation of the proposed fund.

16th June 1916 The pupils of the Petone District High School intend holding a bazaar in the Main School at the latter end of next week, the whole proceeds of which are to go to the fund which the Navy League is inaugurating for the relief of the dependents of sailors of the Royal Navy who have fallen since the outbreak of war.

7th July 1915 Sailors' Dependents Funds pupils Petone District High School, £70 7s 6d

24th July 1915 At the last meeting of the Petone District High School Committee it was resolved that after the new members of the Education Board are elected, the local representatives be invited to visit and inspect the playground at Petone Main School. A framed portrait of the late Earl Kitchener was presented by Mrs. C. Barlow, and the committee decided to forward a letter of appreciation to the donor. The headmaster's report stated that the number on the roll at the beginning of the month was 744 primary, 53 secondary; admitted, 29 primary; withdrawn, 25 primary, 4 secondary. On the roll, July 14, 748 primary; 59 secondary; average attendance, 873 primary; 58 secondary; percentage attendance, 91 primary; 93 secondary. The report added that the bazaar held in the school in aid of sailors' dependants resulted in the sum of £70 7s. 6d. being handed over to the Mayor of Wellington. An effort was also being made in the school to raise funds for the starving Belgian children. Many of the children were active supporters of Dr. Barnardo's homes, and money boxes devoted to this cause, which were recently opened, contained over £9. The report was adopted, and the committee decided to forward a letter of appreciation to the staff and the children for the excellent results of their efforts to assist others.

26th July 1916 Amongst the works authorised by the Works and Finance Committee were asphaltting at Petone School at an estimated cost of £100

9th August 1916 The director of the Petone Technical School reported to the board last evening that the conduct of some of the junior free place scholars was not what it should be, and he was given full power to expel or otherwise deal with pupils not amenable to discipline.

6th September 1916 In a football match yesterday at Carterton, the Petone schoolboys defeated Carterton by 25 points to 17. The Petone District High School team defeated the Wairarapa District High School by 354 to 5. The match between the Wellington and Wairarapa school representative team was won by the former by 30 points to nil.

18th October 1916 Petone Court: J. Barnes was fined 10s, with 7s costs, for not sending his child to school regularly, and T. Scorringer, similarly charged, 5s and costs. The Truant Inspector (Mr. Dineen) took the opportunity of paying a tribute to the assistance given in truancy cases by Sergeant Foster, who has received notice of his transfer to Timaru.

20th October 1916 at last night's meeting of the Petone District High School Committee,' the following resolution, on the motion of the Chairman (Mr. D. McKenzie), seconded by Mr. J. Wight, was carried unanimously : That the Petone District High School Committee protests against the Minister for Education hardening the proficiency and competency examinations. We wish to respectfully point out that there is far too much competition and stiffening of examinations, which we look upon as being against the interests of the children of the masses, inasmuch as it means .closing the free entrance door of secondary and technical education to a large number of pupils who wish for higher education. Primary children who have gained proficiency passes and have attended college sitting during their term for a further examination and qualifying in junior scholarship, were refused as free scholars and had to pay fees. :

The Minister is catering for one class of the community, the well-to-do paying pupils. One-fifth of the net revenue from secondary endowments is expended 'on proficiency and scholarship pupils, while four-fifths go to the well-to-do to the exclusion of scholars from the primary schools. The Minister is making it as hard as possible for working people's children; such a state of things should be deemed impossible. The children of the poor should be allowed free entrance, irrespective of proficiency or scholarship. The parents have to make the sacrifice. The stiffening is mainly done to keep boys and girls of working people from entering our secondary colleges, which will be a means of keeping them workers and slaves all their lives. We wish the doors of all State-endowed institutions to be wide open to allow those who wish to enter to have the knowledge they require, irrespective of whether they are holders of proficiency certificates or not.

23rd October 1916 One of the most spectacular displays ever witnessed in Petone passed down the main-street this morning, when the procession organised by the energetic committee in charge of the Labour Day Carnival proceeded from the Railway Station to the Recreation Ground. The procession was headed by the Trentham Camp Band, which kindly gave its services for the day. The band was followed by the united fire brigades of the district, the new Petone motor fire cart lending a touch of colour. Then came what was undoubtedly the chief item in the procession, a tableau arranged by the employees' of the local railway workshops, entitled Britannia. The children who took the parts had been trained by Mr. W. Foster, of the Petone District High School. The following were the characters represented : Britannia, Miss G. Simons; England, Miss J. Millward; Scotland, Miss L. Woodhead; Ireland, Miss K. Walsh; Wales, Miss G. Parrant; India, Miss V. Hunter; Canada, Miss B. Andrews; Australia, Miss E. Walsh; New Zealand, Miss M. Pollock. The guard of honour was composed of Masters. J. McDougall, E. Silby, G. Midhurst, D. Sheppard, I. McDonald, R. Pawson, and W. Quayle. Following the tableau were decorated cars, tradesmen's vehicles, mounted competitors, and then a fine body of Boy Scouts, headed by the Lower Hutt Scouts' Drum and Fife Band, and the competitors in the fancy dress class. Many of the latter showed originality, and the judges had a difficult task in allotting the places.

25th October 1916 The amalgamation of the Hutt and Petone District High Schools was advocated in a letter received from the Education Department by the Education Board to-day. It was suggested that such a step would mean a saving in salaries. Inspector Fleming explained that at the Hutt District High School there were only thirteen scholars, and they might be transferred to the Petone District High School. If no extra teachers were required it would mean a saving of £200 a year,, but in any case a saving of £50 or £60 a year would be effected.

He was in favour of amalgamation. The board decided in favour of the scheme, only Mr. Rishworth voting against it. On Mr. Rishworth's motion it was decided that the Chief Inspector and the Chairman go into the question of obtaining a site for a district high school for the Hutt Valley

25th October 1916 Wellington Education Board A letter was read, from the Petone School Committee covering resolutions complaining about the rules relating to savings banks in public schools. The Chairman stated that the board was still in communication with the Post Office on the matter.

26th October 1916 At yesterday's meeting of the Education Board a letter was received from the Petone School Committee conveying resolutions with regard to the rules relating to savings banks in public schools. The chairman (the Hon. J. 6. W. Aitken) stated that the difficulty seemed to be that the Post Office authorities were unable to find the regulations on the subject. Mr London ' 'They have been printed in the local paper, at any rate. (Laughter.) Mr A. W. Hogg; Refer the postal authorities to the proprietor of the paper. (Renewed laughter.)

30th November 1916 Lower Hutt is' agitated considerably over the decision of the Education Department to close up the Hutt District High School and centre the high school training in the' Petone High School. A protest was received at yesterday's meeting of the Education Board against this action from the High School and Eastern Hutt School Committees, which, boiled down, meant that a trifling economy only would be effected, and that at the expense of the children of the Hutt district.....

12th December 1916 PETONE DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL The following are the proficiency, competency, and attendance results of the Petone District High School
PROFICIENCY Boys.—B. F. Appleyard, A. W. S. Bryan, A. W. Clark, E W. Clemens, A. D. Collins, J. H. Cload , A. W. Freeman, K. A. G. Francis, H. I. Goble, R. G. Hamilton, W. J. S. Hart, W. Hope, R. Jowett, T. W. Laurie, T. W. Locke, A. E. Melrose, D. E. Harris, I. W. McDonald, J. T. H. McDougall, K. D: S. McKay, 13. Silby, P. Steinmuller, G. Tebbutt, I. Thompson, F. Wallace, A. Wright. V

Girls.—Frances Abrahall, Hazel Ashby, Beryl Bowden, May Finn, Lily Flowers, Hilda Garrett, Hinemoa Heberley, Nora Hill, Elsie Huskisson, Dorothy Kay, Lily Martin, Jessie Milward, Mona Sharpe, Irene Smith, Joyce Udy, Elizabeth White, Christina Young, Molly Weston.

COMPETENCY. Boys.—Ivan C. Cody, William R. Dixon, John J. Haseman, Frank, T. Hooper, Horace L. Martin, Malcolm A. Parrant, Leslie A. Pawson, Oscar T. Rowe, Albert Senior, Roy Senior.

Girls.—Enid Dalglish, Melba Duncan, Eva Kinross, Constance Luxton, Amy Ramsay, Marguerite Senior, Evelyn Watson, Marion Welsh.

GOOD ATTENDANCE. Secondary Department.—Frances Thornton, Harold Eason, Stanhope Reid, Ernest Cload, George Gardiner, Sefton Parrant, Roy Pawson, William Price, Noel Rowse, Claude Olson, Vivian Chivers , Arthur Jamieson, Malcolm Leadbetter, Douglas Reid, Andrew Warden, Olive Gill, Alice Watkinson, Maggie Smith.

Sixth Standard—Allan Clark, Allan Collins, Howard Goble, Ronald Hamilton, William Hart, James Lawrie, Horace Martin, Alfred Melrose, Frederick Steinmuller, Gordon Tebbutt, Frederick Wallis, Malcolm Parrant, Frances Abrahall, Enid Dalglish, May Finn, Elsie Huskisson; Beryl Bowden, Frank Chilcott, Ivan Cody, James Cload, William Dixon, Ian Macdonald, Kenneth McKay, Lily Flowers, Hazel Ashby.

Fifth; Standard.—Marjorie Hebbard, Gladys Lord, Annie Towers, Elsie Ludlam, Mona Quayle, Kenneth Hollis, Albert Wilkes,, Oswald. Sheppard, Henry Wiseman, Ralph Hollick, Albert James, Louis Clark, Ralph Hayward, Gavin Allan, Edward Mills, Eric Monks, William Quayle, Albert Maud, Alice Hobbs, Emma Smith, Jean Gardiner, Flora Wilson, Maisie Wilson, Eric Goble, Thomas Gregory, Clarence . Haseman. Arthur Watts, Malcolm Woollett, Hylton Midhurst, Victor Clutterbuck, Fred Pitcher, Percy Russell, Maggie Coulston.

Standard IV.—Lily Arrowsmith, Nellie Coker, Emily Martin, Mavis Quayle, Evelyn Spence, Phyllis Hamilton, Anna Hogg, Olive Hunter, Jack Bowles, Stanley Clark, Frederick Flowers, Gilbert Parker, Frank Steinmuller, Cyril Woolford, George Medhurst, Douglas Sampson, Hugh Smith, Frederick Williams, Donald Hope, Thomas Lawrie, Stacey Mothes, James Bell, Maurice Kinder, Frank Millar, James Robertson, Charles Smith, Walter Styles, Ronald Wearne, Gwendoline Byrne, Ivy Finn, Agnes Maud, Janet McDonald, Dorothy Wilkes, Margaret Bucknall, Doris Dixon, Emily Eiffe, Phyllis Godber, Jean Robson.

Standard IIIA.—Kate Watson, Beatrice Wight, Eileen Andrews, Rose Edlin, Gordon Clark, Edward Pawson, Herman Mothes, Frank ' Hartley, Jessie Morris, Daphne McKay, .Joyce Hill, Doris Pettet, Victor Cargill.'

Standard IIIB.—Lawrence Bowater, David Hay, Leslie -Hunter, Owen Tregear, David Henry, Dora Finch, Olive Medhurst. 'Berna. Reid, Spencer Ambrose, Donald Bell, William Bowles, Arthur Dixon, James Hobbs, August Liebezeit, Leonard Turvey, Ernest Wallace, Dorothy. Hay.

Standard. IIA.-Harold James, Stanley Roger, Alan McKay, Charlie Couchman, Walter Gough, Edwin Hoskins, William Skinner, Rowland Spence.

Standard- IIB.-Edith Hunter, Alice Scotson,. Moab Lepper, Horace Gurvey, Willie Williams, Leslie Woolford, Lyle Pettit, Arthur Kent, Pearl Gough, Alice Mullis, Ellen Terry, Vera Avison, Raymond Hewitt, Peter Hewitt, Vivien Wilson, Cyril Edwards, Frank Ward. –

Standard IA.—Keith Stephens, Phyllis Howard, Elsie Hay, Mercy' Steinmuller, Alfred Horton, Kenneth' Hall, Terence Bait, May Bowater, Eva 'Bell, Leah Mills, Doris Watson.

Standard IB.—.tack Hunter, Victor Kent. Noel Liebezeit, Thomas Watson, Charlie Wight,. Minnie Arrowsmith, Phyllis Cramp, Christina Rodger.

Infants.—Alice Cramp, Ruby ' Styles. Ray Hunter, Mary Terry,. Archibald Spence, Oka Liebezeit, Alfred May, Kathleen Henry.

16th December 1916 Mr. W. H. L. Foster, at present headmaster of the Petone District High School, has been appointed to succeed Mr. W. T. Grundy as headmaster of the Clyde Quay School. It is understood Mr. Foster was selected by the board from about thirty applications. .Mr. Foster, who is among the best known educationists in the district, holds a Class B1 certificate, and is a master who has obtained good results' wherever he has been in charge. He worked himself up through all grades' in the Canterbury and Wellington districts, had country experience At Paraparaumu and Manakau, and was afterwards an assistant master at the Clyde Quay School when it was in its infancy. ' He was later appointed headmaster of the Mitchelltown School, from there was promoted to the Mount Cook Boys' School and has been for the .past six years master of the Petone District High School. Mr. Foster is the chairman of the Headmasters' Association in Wellington and was for some years secretary of the 'New Zealand Education Institute.

25th January 1917 Mr. W. H. L. Foster will assume the duties of headmaster ' at the Clyde Quay School when it reopens on Tuesday next. Applications to fill the position he has vacated headmastership of the Petone District High School —will close to-day

13th February 1917 A letter was received from Mr W. Foster, late headmaster of the Petone Main School, acknowledging receipt of library books for the schools, and expressing the opinion that the books were admirably suited for their purpose, and reflected much credit on Mr Perry, of Newtown Library, who selected them. —It was decided that a letter of thanks be written to Messrs Foster and Perry.

16th February 1917 At the Petone District High School meeting- last night the undermentioned motion, by Mr. D. McKenzie, chairman, seconded by Mr. J. Wight, -was carried unanimously:—"That it be a recommendation from* the Petone District High School Committee to the Wellington Education Board to consider a proposal for the establishment of a store depot in each school, to supply school children, at -wholesale price, with books and other requisites that are required for their learning- in their respective classes. The board, by being its own shopkeeper, would be an aid to parents, . masters, and scholars by being supplied-readily and economically with the necessities required for school work. Since the Government made the big change and took away free books and stationery (the idea of Mr. Fowlds and the people of the Dominion), the effect has told considerably on the pockets of the workers, .particularly those whose families are large and their incomes are small. With the ever-increasing cost of bread, butter, meat, boots, clothing, and rent, etc., ' the need for a wholesale supply store should appear manifest to the members of the board."

16th February 1917 At the instance of the Petone District High School, a meeting of local residents will be called at an early date to take steps to recognise the services to the community of Mr. .W. Foster, late headmaster

22nd February 1917 A meeting was held in the Mayor a room at the Petone Council Chamber# last night to arrange for a presentation to Mr w. Foster, headmaster of the District High School. A social evening will be held on a date yet to be fixed, when the presentation will take place. Subscription lists will be sent to the schools, as it was thought better not to make a house-to-house canvass. Mr Foster, who has been seven years in Petone as headmaster has been transferred to Clyde quay, and it was decided to, make him a presentation' as a token of esteem. Mr Powles was appointed secretary and Mr Abrahall treasurer for the scheme.

22nd February 1917 "I have been much struck, when seeing Mr. Foster leading a child along the street, by the absolute confidence the children repose in him," was the eulogistic remark made by Mr.. Bedingfield last evening, with reference to the late headmaster of the Petone District High School. "The children," he continued, "seemed to absolutely fear the master's displeasure, and this as an ideal to be j sought by all teachers.

31st March 1917 Mr. C. N. Haslam, headmaster of the Island Bay School, who has been promoted to the headmastership of the Petone High School was farewelled yesterday afternoon by the teachers and scholars of the school. Mr Ivory, who was chairman of the committee when Mr. Haslam was first appointed, referred appreciatively to the latter's work on behalf of the school. Mr. J. O. Sharland, the present chairman, referred in similar terms \o the, good feeling that had always existed between Mr. Haslam and the scholars. On behalf of the children up to the Fourth Standard, he presented Mr. Haslam with a gold watch chain. The Fifth and Sixth Standards also presented him with a gold sovereign case. In returning thanks Tory the

presentation, Mr. Haslam expressed his regret at severing his connection with the school and said he would always look back with pleasure on his stay at Island Bay. Mr. and Mrs. Haslam and visitors were then entertained by the staff at afternoon tea. A farewell will be tendered later by the residents and committee.

1st May 1917 There was a big attendance of householders at the annual meeting of the District High School last evening. Mr D. McKenzie presided. The annual report revealed a very satisfactory condition as regards school matters for the past year. The new school master, Mr W. J. Haslem, was present, and was introduced to the householders. The following committee was elected Messrs McKenzie, Kirk, Arraball, McCallum, Mathews, Tilbury, Bowles, Forsyth, and Beard.

1st May 1917 Petone parents who find the cost of school material a considerable drain on their pockets, especially during the war period, will find a friend in- Mr. F Haslam, the new head master of the local District High School. He declaimed last evening his desire to change school reading books as little as possible, and said he was prepared, ..during the period of the war, to go back to the use of slates in place of the more expensive paper.

1st May 1917 IN THE SUBURBS PETONE DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

A largely-attended meeting of householders presided over by Mr. D McKenzie (chairman of the outgoing committee) was held in the Petone District High School. The annual report and balance-sheet were adopted, the latter showing a credit balance of £34 17s 3d. The following were appointed the committee for the ensuing year : —Messrs. D. McKenzie, H. R. Kirk, J. J. Abrahall, D McCallum, J. Mathews, O. Silbery, J. F Bowles, W. E. Forsyth, and F. Beard. ' .

12th May 1917 Mr P McCaw appointed assistant [There was no Mr McCaw teaching for the Wellington Education Board at the end of 1917]

26th June 1917 It was proposed to have one central secondary school for the Hutt Valley

There are at present two district high schools in this locality, distant less than 1 ½ . miles from -each other one at Petone 'With an average of 60 last quarter and one at -Lower-Hutt with an average of 31. There are .also about 110 secondary .pupils travelling daily to Wellington,, in order to attend the Boys and/Girls and Technical Colleges. The present secondary schools-in Wellington are overcrowded.....

3rd July 1917 The Petone District High School Committee was granted permission to call upon the services of Mr J. Smith, the supervisor of the .borough reserves, to teach the .scholars of the school how to prune and plant trees and shrubs.

16th July 1917 The Petone District High School celebrated Arbor Day to-day. The ground fronting Jackson-street had previously been prepared by the scholars. This morning the services of Mr. Smith, caretaker of the local Recreation Ground, were granted by the Borough. Council, and under hie superintendence a large number of native trees and shrubs were planted. The scholars were given a half holiday this afternoon.

21st July 1917 At last night's meeting of the Petone District High School, the following motion by Mr. D. McKenzie (chairman), seconded by Mr. H. R. Kirk, was, after discussion, carried unanimously:—"That the- Petone District High School Committee protests to the Government for not re-introducing the free school books and stationery which were taken away from the State school children. Strong disapproval was expressed at the time to Mr. Massey, Prime Minister, and a, protest made that none of the free school books be discontinued,' but rather that the system be extended, so that a universal set of books be given to the pupils attending'

the infant, primary, and secondary departments' of the State schools of the Dominion. It seems that the just protests of the people are of no avail, and that the scheme and the ideal of the Hon. George Fowlds and the people of the Dominion have been destroyed. The finding, of the Royal Commissioners, that the free school books should be abandoned, was not the true opinion of the working-class people; whose children overwhelmingly predominate in the State schools of the Dominion. In the personnel of the Royal Commission Labour was not represented—a very regrettable thing—which, undoubtedly, would have protected the people by safeguarding and retaining the books they have lost. The Government, by their big change, have placed a further burden of taxation upon the shoulders of the least able to bear it—i.e., the man with the large family. We ask the Government to give us free education, not the Government grant to pupils whose parents are in necessitous circumstances, but books as a right, not as a charity."

10th August 1917 Miss C C Braddock Secondary Assistant Catherine C Braddock taught at Petone West 1909 to 1914 and then came to Petone school in 1917 with a MA. C C Braddock is not registered in the Marriage Register or in the death's register

15th August 1917 The Petone Technical School Board last evening had before it a letter from the secretary of the New Zealand Educational Institute requesting the board to endorse its action in asking Parliament to restrict the hours of sale of intoxicant liquors, on the ground that some children were being inefficiently educated owing to their homes being impoverished through drink. Mr. W. Cox moved that the board endorse the action of the institute and forward the resolution to the member for the district. It was quite evident there was going to be a reduction, and the arguments adduced by the institute were too solid to be put aside. The motion was seconded by Mr. J. McDougall, and supported by Mr. J. W. McEwan and Mr. D. McKenzie, the latter stating that the committee of the District High School had already endorsed the institute's action. The motion was carried with one dissident.

18th August 1917 Mr R. Stout, headmaster of the Belvedere school, Masterton, will take up an appointment at the Petone school shortly [Belvedere School was out of Carterton and Robert Stout was there until at least 1923]

14th September 17 Mr F Mothes appointed to Petone School [He didn't appear to take up this position, Elizabeth Stanton assistant (War Appointment) [Elizabeth Stanton was at Petone from 1899 and started teaching for the Wellington Education Board at Clyde Quay in 1894. And was still at Petone when my records end in 1923]

21st September 1917 At the Petone District High School Committee meeting held on Thursday night, the following motion, moved by Mr. D. McKenzie, chairman, and seconded by Mr. F. L. Matthews, was carried unanimously.—"That the Petone District High School Committee disapprove of the suggestion that primary education should stop at 12 years of age, and respectfully ask the Wellington Education Board the reasons for agreeing to the proposal that primary education cease when the pupil reaches the age of 12, and that they be compelled thereafter to attend a secondary school." In an explanatory note the mover adds:—"The proposal for the change has been brought forward by directors of technical schools who wish to swell the importance of their system, particularly in regard to vocational training, and in increasing their capitation grant, which, at present, is bordering on extravagance in comparison with primary education allowances. The primary schools were laying a very fine foundation on which to build a very fine superstructure—the higher grade school. General secondary

education on grammar school lines is most important to the child, and the State should be responsible and see that nothing stands in its way.....

27th September Wellington Education Board Part of a long article: The subject of the establishment in the Hutt Valley of a Central High School, which would displace the whole of the secondary departments of the District High Schools, came before the Education Board yesterday in the form of the following letter (dated August 30) from the Education Department:—"The question of establishing a High School for the Hutt Valley to replace the £ resent secondary departments of the district High Schools at Petone and Lower Hutt, and to provide for the pupils at present travelling by train to Wellington College and Technical College, was considered at the recent meeting of the Council of Education, when the following resolution was passed: 'That as soon as opportunity offers the two District High Schools at Petone and Lower Hutt should be disestablished and a High School established for the Hutt Valley, provision being made in the scheme of control for suitable courses of a vocational character.' As, however, the cost of site, buildings, and equipment will be so large as to be prohibitive at the present, time, it has been decided to postpone further consideration of the question for the present. In the meantime the two District High Schools are to be allowed to continue.....

2nd October 1917 Petone Borough Council: It was decided to accept an ,offer from the Wellington Automobile Club to provide' notice boards to be erected in the vicinity of the public, school, Petone, warning motorists to beware of children. A letter of thanks was ordered to be sent to the club for the consideration shown for the children.

15th November 1917 Miss G Hitchings appointed assistant. Miss Gladys Hitchings had been at Petone School since 1910 and left after 1919

17th November 1917 At the Petone District High School Committee meeting, held on Thursday night, the following motion by the chairman (Mr. D. McKenzie), seconded by Mrs. t. L. Matthews, was, after discussion, carried unanimously :—"That the Petone District High School Committee directs the attention of members of the Wellington, Education Board to the inadequate and miserable remuneration given to pupil teachers and probationers in the service of the board. The salary given to pupil teachers (£35 per annum) and to probationers (£20) is far too low and is not a living wage. We would be obliged if the board will communicate with the hon. the Minister of Education, and have this injustice rectified, so as to give the young teachers a respectable allowance for their labour when starting life. It is the bounden duty of representatives of the people to use their whole influence to make- this sweated labour wage impossible in our land." [Note. —At the present time there is not a single applicant on the Education Board's list for the position of pupil teacher or probationer, although applicants have been called for by advertisement. Why is this ? Simply because the salary to start with is too small, there being no inducement and no encouragement given for the best boys and girls to enter the teaching profession, and consequently they are making for other professions, with better prospects. There is also an anomaly in the allowances for pupil teachers and probationers if obliged to live away from home. The paltry pittance allowed does not pay for board and lodging. It is rather a strange and remarkable system that young teachers should receive allowances only when obliged to live away from home. The teachers should receive the allowance for board and lodging whether they are obliged to live away from home or not. At present the father and mother have to slave and keep them for nothing; surely this warrants immediate attention.]

20th November 1917 Part of a long article on school libraries Appreciation of tile services of the Petone Borough Council in connection with the provision of free reading matter to the Petone schools has been expresses in a letter sent to that body by head school teachers. The Petone Council has forwarded the letter to Mr. Perry, o» the Newtown Municipal Library, who selected the books for the school libraries, and has asked him to again assist it next year in the purchase of another supply. The letter is as follows:— "Oil behalf of the children of the Petone schools and personally, we. the undersigned head teachers wish to thank you very cordially for providing free reading matter for the school children during the past year. The books provided were admirably selected and have been read with pleasure and profit by a great number of the children.....The letter is. signed by Messrs. Douglas. Bedingfield. . heat, teacher, Petone West School: C. N. Haslam, head teacher, Petone. District High School; and-Marie St.. William, prioress, . Convent, Petone..

6th December 1917 Miss Hughes, who has been teacher at the Waikanae State school for .soma considerable time, has accepted a position on the staff of the Petone High School. Miss Hurrell has been appointed to Waikanae. Maggie Hughes was actually at the Shannon School before coming to Petone. By 1919 she was at Mangarama School for the Wellington Education Board

20th December 1917 Honours List published but not copied

1918-1919

1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Haslam BA	Charles N	B-13	Head	£480.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	King MA B Sci	Eustace	B-36	Assistant	£390.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Finlayson	John H Mc	C-55	Assistant	£335.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Slater	Jemima	D-44	Assistant	£315.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D-57	Assistant	£280.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Buyers	Mary H		Assistant	£270.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Udy	Linda A	C-68	Assistant	£220.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Hitchings	Gladys M N	C-92	Assistant	£195.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Peart	Elvira S	D-93	Assistant	£175.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Rich	Florence V	D-96	Assistant	£165.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Castle	Constance W M	D-98	Assistant	£165.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Newlands	Barbara M	D-102	Assistant	£165.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Hansen	Ingebong M	D-101	Assistant	£150.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Kydd	Maud		Assistant	£140.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Rains	Catherine M		Assistant	£140.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Bedingfield	Esther B		Assistant	£130.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Olson	Claude H		PT2	£100.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Davis	Iris E		Probationer 1	£65.00
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Denham MA	Fanny R	B-62	D	
1919	697-40	Petone DHS	Lynskey BA	James H	B-41	D	

23rd April 1918 The report of the Petone District High School committee showed that receipts for the year were .£181 11s 3d, the expenditure £150 10s 9d, and the bank balance £30 3s 6d. C. H. Olsen, who is not yet sixteen years,- gained a senior scholarship for the second year in succession, also a 'higher leaving certificate which entitles him to three years at the University. The following were elected to the committee:—Messrs P. McKenzie (chairman), Oscar Silbey

(secretary), J. J' Abrahall, D. McCallum, Thomas Ashby, H. R- Kirk, I. A. Armstrong, J. Kyle, and F. L. Matthews.

18th July 1918 The Navy Leagues Bottle Committee wishes to thank the residents of Manakau for contributions of bottles, also Petone and the Petone School for a cart load, which arrived in excellent order, not one bottle being broken in transit.

26th October 1918 Wellington Automobile Club It was suggested that the school danger boards lately erected at Petone should be placed in a more suitable position, further away from the schools, in order to warn approaching motorists.

4th November 1918 At Petone there was a scene of indescribable enthusiasm in the Grand Theatre, which was packed to the doors. The whole of the school children were present. The Mayor (Mr. J. W. McEwan) presided and was accompanied by Mrs. McEwan. Other speakers were the Rev. A. McVean, Councillor D. McKenzie (chairman of the District High School Committee), and Messrs. W. Haslam and D. Bedingfield (headmasters of the District High School and West School respectively). The dominant notes struck by the speakers were gratitude to God and "thankfulness" for "the splendid achievements of the British Navy and the sacrifices made by the men who had fought on the field."

15th November 1918 Copied because the researcher was bound in his room March 2020 A large attendance of residents was present last evening to consider the best steps to take to combat the prevailing epidemic. The Mayor presided and reported that three men were making a house-to-house visit of inspection. To ascertain how many families were affected; if receiving medical attention, - and if in want of medical comforts or food. Four hundred houses had been visited that day, and influenza was found to exist in 137—seven serious cases. * "It was decided to ask the Public Health Department to fit up the Technical School as a hospital, Drs. Boss- and Harding promising to assist." A number of ladies promised to act as nurses, and Mrs. Collett, superintendent of the Nursing Division, will take charge of the arrangements for nursing.

13th December 1918 PETONE HIGH SCHOOL

The following is the list of winners of Proficiency and Competency Certificates in the various classes for the year: —

Standard VI.—Proficiency Certificates: William Binns, Morris Buckley, Frederick Flowers, Thomas Gould, William Hounslow, Winston Jowett, John Millward, William McDougall, Stanley Ramsden. Douglas Sampson, Oswald Shephard, Frederick Williams, John Bowles, Cyril Dixon, Percy Ford. Donald Hope, Herbert Ibell, Thomas Lawrie, Ronald Moss, Gordon Rock, Albert Scotson, Frank Steinmuller, Margaret Bucknall, Gwendoline Byrne, Irene Campbell, Lily Childs, Lucy Cox, Doris Dixon, Rose Duff, Emily Eiffe, Jean Gardiner, Alice Hanam, Melva Hart, Anna Hogg, Fanny Hunter, Vera Hunter, Elsie Ludlam, Leila Olson, Verena Pointon, Mavis Quayle, Jean Robson, Evelyn Spence, Edna Thompson, Ethel Vine, Hilda Wood, Dorothy Wright. Endorsed Competency Ernest, Christie, Eric Gregory, Joseph Horton, William Martin, Charles Wilson, Walter Watt, Lily Arrowsmith, Doris Campbell, Irma Clark, Nellie Coker, Ivy Finn, Lilian Forsyth, Phyllis Godber, Olive Hunter, Emily Martin, Agnes Maud, Edith Wainwright, Myrtle Wilmshurst. '

Competency: Frank Hartley, Henry Hogg, George Medhurst, David Sheppard, Thelma Carey, Phyllis Hamilton, Gertrude Smith, Winifred Trebbutt.

14th December 1918 PETONE HIGH SCHOOL

The following is the list of the promotions in the various classes for the year :— Promoted to Standard VI.—Boys : R. Beale, D. Bell, S. Bird, L. Bowater, W. Bowles, VV Brough, A. Davie, J. Duncan, S. Featherstone, A. Flux, J. Hobbs, W. Humphrey, L. Hunter, E. Kent, H. King, T. Lambert, C. Lambert, E. Lambourn, A. Liebezeit, G. London, L. Minifie, H. Mothes, E. Pawson, G. Rowse, J. Sharpe, C. Smith, C. Smith, O. Tregear, L. Turvey, E. Wallace, H. Wenham. Girls : E. Andrews, J. Bennie, D. Bryan, G. Burd, B. Carver, R. Edlin, K. Freeman, M. Golden, M. Greer, R. Hannam, D. Hay, E. Heberley, J. Hill, E. Lambourn, A. Leatham. J. McArthur, D. McKay, M. McKay, M. McEwen, J. Norris, D. Pettett, N. Pointon, V. Pratley, B. Reid, A. Sampson, J. Sharpe, G. Selby, E. Singer, M. Stone, O. Stubbs, E. Turner, E. Vincent, B. Wight.

Promoted to Standard V.—Boys :L. Binns, D. Brown, F. Bush, L. Brough, V. Cargill, W. Calvert, G. Clark, C. Collins, C. Couchman, F. Diack, F. Dixon, C. Edwards, J. Fox, N. Gamble, H. Hall, E. Hoskins, M. Hope, E. Hallett, E. Hewitt, P. Hewitt, S. Haddon, H. Inglis, H. James, C. List, C. Liddle, L. Marshall, G. Muir, T. Macauley, A. McKay, V. Nelson, V. Nelson, R. 'Hepburn, L. Pettett, S. Roger, L. Ridler, R. Spence, J. Sharpe, H. Turvey, R. Tebbutt, C. Vio, F. Ward, A. Welsh, W. White, W. Williams, G. Wilson, L. Woolford. Girls : K. Abbott, M. Abbott, G. Ashby, D. Burn, M. Byrne, H. Brocklebank, E. Buckle, G. Beard, D. Bond, D. Corbett, M. Cargill, C. Driscoll, W. Douglas, B. Downes, C. Dick, M. Eason, D. Finch, D. Flowers, M. Forsyth, V. Gange, E. Gray, J. Haslam, M. Kirk, M. King, M. Lepper, M. McDougal, E. McCarthy, A. Mullins, E. Newland, O. Ogg, I. Pickard, R. Pratley, M. Roger, I. Smith, M. Smith, G. Smith, A. Scotson, S. Stokes, T. Senior, R. Thompson, E. Terry, B. Vine, G. Weston, D. Watt, D. Wray. Promoted to Standard IV.—Boys : N. Bice, A. Cox, D. Corser, A. Daly, W. Entwistle, R. Freeman, J. Hunter, A. Kent, P. Moore, A. Pickard, E. Phelps, T. Rait, G. Sykes, R. Trethewey, *T. Watson, T. Wilson, H. Wood, W. Wood, C. Carline, P. Clemens, D. Cleland, R. Crowther, G. Davis, L. Flowers, J. Flux, R. Ford, W. Gough, K. Hall, J. Hannam, A. Horton, B. Hounslow, K. Ibell, W. Lambourn, N. Liebezeit, J. Martin, M. Marshall, A. Morris, R. Sharpe, S. Scott, W. Skinner, K. Stephens. Girls : B. Beard, E. Bell, I. Dick, H. Dunnett, P. Howard, K. Harlan, F. Heberley, D. Johnston, C. Rodger, A. Tegs, D. Watson, P. Cramp, K. Cox, L. D'Postine, V. Gange, R. Hasem.in, A. Henry, E. Hunter, T. McGrath, M. Steinmuller, D. Wight, D. Arnold, M. Arrowsmith, R. Bowater, V. Clemens, E. Farrow, I. Gregory, B. Hogg, L. Lockyer, G. Medhurst, L. Smith, L. Vincent, E. Winter, M. Bell, O. Burridge, V. Croft, P. Gough, S. Hay, G. Jones, Z. Lord, G. Mellar, G. Strong, M. Young. Promoted to Standard III.—Boys: J. Arthurs, A. Cowell, I. Duncan, F. Evans, R. Greer, C. Humphrey, W. Troms, J. Kelly, V. Kelly, M. King, H. Kilkelly, E. Smith, E. Richardson, N. Keating, J. Arnold, L. Burn, C. Burd, R. Bowater, R. Calvert, H. Christie, R. Corser, C. Crooks, A. Carpenter, J. Douglas, E. Dunstan, R. Johnston, V. Kent, A. Labourne, A. Lambert, G. Markland, L. Money, H. Mockridge, G. Smith, T. Skinner, B. Smith, W. Wearne, E., Wild, C. Wilmshurst. Girls: L. Armstrong, V. Burns, M. Cardno, M. Cleland, T. Collett, S. Coulston, A. Cramp, D. Christie, E. Hartley, M. Haggett, K. Henry, W. Jones, M. Kirkus, A. Kyle, R. May, J. Matthews, E. Millward, J. Rait, G. Sharpe, P. Selwood, H. Smith, M. Terry, B. Welsh, D. Whittaker, V. Wallace, E. Woodhead, V. Armstrong, P. Brady, C. Cumming, B. Cashmore, L. Clemens, E. Farrow, D. Ferguson, I. Forsyth, K. Gillen, R. Healy, J. Hamilton, A. Harlan, E. Hobbs, G. Kirkwood, M. Monk, M. Milne, L. Millward, M. MacBride, E. Marshment, B. Sykes, O. Stokes, P. Schofield, H. White, D. Watson, S. Wylds, W. Whelan.

Promoted to Standard II.—Boys: R. Bell, R. Cox, S. Davis, J. Healy, P. Jamieson, R. King, A. McBean, A. Reid, V. Sharpe, R. Steer, E. Steer, C. Watt, S. Wood, R. Cleland, T. Gooch, R. Hunter, F. Hale, L. Jenness, R. Kelly, H. Lacey, O. Owen, C. Pawson, A. Reeves, C. Wright, R. Bacumgren, G. Diack, J. Hannam, J. Hepworth, L. Kilkelly, A. May, C. McCarthy, E. Rowse, E. Smith, F. Trethewey, A. Wray, W. Wilson, L. Carpenter, W. Griffiths, C. Hay, H. Hoskins, W. Johnston, C. Lockyer, J. McIntosh, C. Phelps, O. Reynolds, M. Stephens, F. Weston. Girls: P. Abrim, B. Armstrong, M. Burn, J. Carver, G. Coachman, S. Croft, V. Dixon, N. Gregory, I. Jamieson, E. Jonas, J. McCay, V. Pointon, D. Reid, R. Styles, T. Skinner, M. Sharpe, H. Strong, M. White, B. Watson, M. Ashby, J. Bowie, E. Buckley, A. Calvert, M. Douglas, G. Ford, M. Gamble, P. Lewthwaite, O. Liebezeit, E. Minifie, M. Money, M. Melhuish, V. Price, F. Rule, O. Rock, A. Scott, A. Towers, E. Wearne, M. Watson.

Promoted to Standard I.—Boys: P. Abbott, J. Bowie, J. Barton, F. Cook, J. Corbett, E. Gough, G. Hogg, B. Hope, E. Jones, L. Lambourn, A. Medhurst, D. McBride, A. McKenzie, A. Milford, F. Morah, J. Ogg, E. Russell, J. Sass, J. Scotson, A. Selwood, M. Smith, I. Trethewey, B. Wainwright, J. Whittaker, T. Wood, R. Woolford, G. Abbott, I. Alty, A. Arthur, W. Baumgren, G. Clark, J. Diack, N. Donaldson, G. Freeman, Raymond Gough, Alan Hall, V. Heathcote, J. Harlen, B. Henry, G. House, N. Little, B. Price, H. Rule, L. Terry, J. Tetley, H. Thompson, M. Weston. Girls: L. Bice, A. Burridge, L. Cload, T. Cramp, O. Coulston, A. Dixon, M. Francis, J. Gosney, E. Harman, P. Jenkins, E. Marshall, I. Merah, R. Rosevear, I. Sycamore, R. Mornton, I. Reynolds, J. Pointon, I. Wild, M. Beard, E. Cook, M. Crooks, M. Farrow, V. Flowers, E. Gillen, J. Green, N. Hogen, I. Howard, M. Johnson, E. Looney, J. Ridler, D. Stevens, B. Udy, T. Wiechren, H. Williams, F. Wright, J. Wright.

18th February 1919 In addition to Malcolm Leadbeater, who headed the list at the National Scholarships examination, the following Petone pupils also gained scholarships:— Marjorie Cook, Norman Nicholls, and Etta Fowler. The former received her primary education at the Petone West School and the two latter at the Petone District High School.

19th February 1919 The usual monthly meeting of the Petone District High School Committee was held last evening. There were present Messrs. D. McKenzie (chairman), Kirk, Levey, McCallum, Ashby, Matthews, and Kyle (secretary).

The Education Board advised that it had, under consideration a proposal to establish the woodwork class in the Petone West School. It was resolved that a reply be sent to the effect that if the woodwork class is to be removed from the Technical School it should be housed at the District High School.

Mr. H. Braddock applied for permission to give religious instruction to the school.— Declined.

12th March 1919 The monthly meeting of the Petone District High School Committee was held last evening. Mr. D. McKenzie presided, and there were present Messrs. J. Kyle (secretary), Ashby, Abraham, Matthews, McCallum, Kirk, Levey, and Armstrong.

The headmaster (Mr. C. N. Haslam) reported that a good average attendance had been maintained. Owing to the caretaker leaving the door of the office unlocked some person had entered and broken open with a spade the drawers of his table and the doors of the store cupboard. The property so far found to be missing consists of four football jerseys, office stamps to the value of Is. 10 ½ d., and a leather brief bag. The matter had been handed to the police for investigation. The report was adopted.

The chairman (Mr. D. McKenzie) moved: "That the Wellington Education Board be requested to communicate with the Hon. J. A. Hanan, Minister of Education, so that he may negotiate with, the Hon. Minister of Lands to arrange for the transfer to the Education Department of a suitable area of land as a site for the Hutt Valley Secondary College, situated on the Wilford Settlement, which is on the boundary line of the Hutt and Petone. The Wilford Settlement comprises 61 acres, and it should be part of a town-planning scheme for educational requirements. The land is good and the environment could be made beautiful with very little outlay. The Council of Education, the Education Board, and the District High School Committee having approved and decided-upon the Secondary College for the Valley, the committee would be pleased if the board would ask the Minister for a grant for the immediate erection of the building. The Wellington Colleges being overcrowded, the committee suggest that 'before any additions are made to the Wellington institutions the erection of the Hutt Valley College be given a preference.'" The resolution was seconded by Mr. Abrahall and carried.

13th March 1919 In attempting to leave tile 5.27 p.m. tram from Lambton as it drew 'into Petone Station, Harold James, aged 11, whose parents reside at 62 Richmond Street Petone > missed his footing- and fell between the rails. The train passed over him, and he was killed instantly. It appears that the lad had visited Wellington along with a party of schoolchildren to see the picture of the German naval surrender screened. He was returning, with the others, under the care of Messrs. C. N. Haslam and E. King, masters at the Main School, Petone. It is alleged that he had left the party and had gone to another carriage before he made his fatal attempt to quit the moving train. An inquest will be held at Petone to. day.

18th March 1919 In the swimming tests held at Petone yesterday, under the auspices of the N.Z. Amateur Swimming Association, the following 'competitors from the Petone District High School qualified for certificates :—'

1510 Yards, G Villas; 1540 yards, E. Nankivell, Gladys Curtis, L. Marshall, D. Shepherd; 680 yards, Bessie Gardner, L. Mothes, C. Wilson, F. Ward; 580 yards, Joyce Hill, G. Medhurst, Ella Singer, E. Wearne; 440 yards, Rose Edlin, Alice Scotson, Marjorie McKay. Isabella Senior, B. Spence, .I. Duncan, J. Tregear, H. Turvey, J. Sharp J. Hobbs, R. Inglis 350 yards, W. Watt; 300 yards, Ina Smith, K. Ibell; 230 yards, H. Cashmore, B. Albrim, E. Hunt, Rose Duff, Hazel Brocklebank, Lita Pointon,. Maisie Stone; 200 yards, T. Wilson, Thelma McGrath, P. Moore, S. Burd, Daphne McKay; 150 yards, Marcia Byrne, W. Skinner, L. Bowater. L. Wilford; 100 yards, Agnes Maud, Berna Reid, Betty Carver, Marjorie McEwen , A. McKay , C. Carllne, E'. Hoskins, Gwen Burd, Madge Eason, 7. Hartley. K. 'Pawson, A. Daley, S. Rodger, W. Millward.

19th March 1919 Miss L A Brasell resigns

2nd April Mr J Finlayson appointed assistant came from Levin and by 1923 was at South Wellington. Miss N P Norman appointed secondary assistant. By December was Te Aro School and in 1921 at Martinborough DHS

10th April 1919 The final meeting of the Petone District High School Committee! was held last evening. There were present: Messrs. D. McKenzie (chairman), Ayla (secretary), McCallum, Leavey, Kirk, Ashby,' Matthews, and Armstrong the secretary of the Education, Board advised that Miss Norman had been appointed assistant in the secondary department, and Mr. S. H. M. Finlayson assistant master. Mr. Finlayson would commence duty as soon as possible after his return to .New Zealand. The Education Board advised that owing to the large

number of schools being required for the referendum, it had been decided to close the schools throughout the district to-morrow.

The Education Board forwarded a copy of letter received by them regarding the supply of some hot refreshments to supplement the cold lunches brought to school by the children, and before dealing with the matter had decided to send a copy of the letter for consideration by school committees.—It was resolved that the matter be left to the incoming committee to attend to. The Education Board, in reply to the committee's recommendation for the .setting aside of sufficient area in the Wilford Settlement for a secondary college to serve the needs of the Hutt Valley, advised that after considering the matter the board had decided to refer it to Messrs. London and Rishworth, with a view to their conferring with representatives of the school committees interested in the matter, and subsequently report to the the board.

The headmaster, Mr. C. N. Haslam, reported that the average roll of the secondary department for the quarter ending March 31 was 48, the average attendance -46. The average roll of the primary department for the same period was 783, the average attendance 718. The chairman reported that Mrs. Foster had donated a number of "Bibby's Annuals" for the school library, and that as Mrs. Foster was leaving shortly for England, he had written on behalf of the committee thanking her for her kindness and wishing her a pleasant voyage. The chairman's action 'was approved. 'The balance-sheet for the year ending December 31 was received, the receipts for the year amounting to ,£215,185. 9d., and the expenses to ,£193 5s. 5d., leaving a credit balance of £22 13s. 4d.

15th April 1919 Mr. -D. McKenzie presided over n very large attendance of householders of the Petone District .High School district last evening. The chairman's and. headmaster's report, on the work of the committer and school for the year was read and adopted. It was decided to ask the Education Board to assist the committee in obtaining a. uniform sot of school books to be given free to the children attending the infant, primary, and secondary departments of the State schools in the Dominion. On the motion of Mr. Gough the following resolution was carried:—"That this gathering of Petone. citizens held at the annual meeting of householders of the Petone District High School electors congratulates' the New Zealand Educational Institute upon its endeavour to keen free our present national system of education.

The following nominations were received for the committee:—Messrs. ,T, .T. Abrahall, .T. A. Armstrong, T. Ashby, ,T. Ash. W. B. Gough, H. R. Kirk. .T, Kyle, D. McKenzie, C. J. Pa toy. O. Silbery ' .T. S. Wright, and the ballot resulted in the election of Messrs. H. R. Kirk, .T. Kyle , ,T. .Armstrong, T. Ashby, J. ,T. Abrahall, O. Silbery, D. McKenzie, J. Ash. and J. S. Wright. At the conclusion of the .householders' meeting. A meeting of. Hie new committee was held. Mr. D. McKenzie was reelected chairman, and Mr. ,T. Kyle reelected secretary.

7th May Miss E S Peart and C M Rains appointed assistants

21st May 1919 he monthly meeting of the Petone District High School Committee was held last evening. There were present: Messrs. D. McKenzie (Chairman), Kyle (secretary), Ash, Ashby, Silbery, Wight, and Armstrong.

It was decided to send n letter of condolence to the mother and relatives of the late Dr. M.W. Ross.

The Education Board advised that a conference of Hutt Valley school committees had been arranged to be held in the Council Chambers, Lower Hutt, to meet Messrs. Rishworth and

London to discuss the most suitable location for a high school for the Hutt Valley.—Messrs. McKenzie, Kyle, and Silbery were appointed to represent the committee at the conference.

It was resolved, on the motion of the chairman, to ask the Education Board to arrange for Dr. Ada Patterson and School Nurse Willis to visit the Petone District High School and give instruction and demonstration to the senior girls on the principles and practice of home nursing, and that each girl be supplied with a thermometer, so that in the event of an epidemic she would be of use to the people of her neighbourhood.

The headmaster, Mr. C. N. Haslam, reported, that the number on the roll in secondary department was 48, and the average attendance 44. In the primary department the roll number was 746, and the average attendance 705

5th June 1919 School Committee Meeting included: the Education Board advised that Mrs. F. R. Denham had been appointed assistant mistress at the secondary department.

The headmaster (Mr. C. K. Haslam) reported that the average attendance was fairly well maintained, although there had been a number of severe colds due to the recent cold snap.

The Education Board advised that it was favourable to the erection of a woodwork room and also a cooking room at the District High School, provided a grant can be obtained for the purpose, and asked the committee to indicate on a sketch plan the position they would like the building erected assuming it would be financed. It was resolved that the sketch plan asked for be submitted,

8th July 1919 The train for Wairarapa: which leaves Lambton Station at 8.5 a.m. did not stop this morning at stations between Lambton and Kaitoke, in accordance with the Railway Department's decision as announced yesterday. In consequence, teachers and scholars in the Hutt Valley who depend upon this train for their transit suffered considerable inconvenience. Several teachers -of the Petone District High School commenced to walk the distance and were kindly picked up by passing motorists and others. Scholars living distances away from the school, who have to return home by train, find the afternoon train arrangements awkward. They have to travel home by the train which leaves Lower Hutt at 5.40 p.m., a long wait after school hours: The Lower Hutt School Committee is meeting the situation by supplying those pupils who are obliged to wait with hot drinks and something to eat, which consideration is highly appreciated.

10th July 1919 The school teachers of the Hutt Valley on Tuesday morning, found that the train that usually leaves Lambton Station at about 8 o'clock for Petone who, on account of the races, making its first stopping place Kaitoke. Nothing daunted, the teachers reason obliging motorist gave them a lift to Petone. They arrived about twenty minutes late for school. Mr. Haslam (headmaster of the Petone District High School) stated that it had caused a complete disorganisation of the school timetable in the Hutt Valley. At the Petone District High School there was one teacher for the infant school, no teachers for standard 111, one for standard V (instead of two), one teacher for the High School, and there was no cookery mistress for the secondary department.

10th July 1919 Peace celebrations: It is therefore recommended that in every possible case celebrations shall be local in connection with the above, the Mayor said that the intentions of Cabinet were obvious in respect to the conveyance of children, and this was a policy dictated solely by the dislocation of the railway service consequent upon the shortage of coal. The Ministerial dictum meant that in the case of Petone (where celebrations were to be held) the

school children would not be conveyed to Wellington, and if there were no celebrations at the Lower Hutt, the children would attend the Petone celebrations, if the controlling authorities approved.

16th July 1919 At the last meeting of the Petone District High School Committee the headmaster reported that the average attendance for the month had been Secondary department: Boys, 19; girls, 23. Primary department: Boys, 351; girls, 313. During the quarter several members of the staff had resigned. Miss C. C. Braddock, M.A., left last month to take advantage of an Arts Travelling Scholarship awarded her by the New Zealand University. Miss IT. Blaiker and Miss Thomson had also recently resigned, Miss Thomson having secured a position in the staff of the Wellington South School, and Miss Blaiker joining the staff of Thames High School. Another member of the staff, Miss Scott, it was stated, would be leaving shortly.

22nd July 1919 T PETONE. Children's Day at Petone was marred to some extent by the bad weather, but it would have taken much to have damped the ardour of the children. After assembling at their respective schools the pupils from the Petone, West and Koro Koro Schools marched to the Empire Theatre, and those from the District, High School and the Catholic School to the Grand Theatre where patriotic meetings were held. - Short -addresses were delivered by the Hon. T. M. Wilford and the Mayor. (Mr J. W. McEwan) at the conclusion of which the children at the suggestion of the Mayor took part in an impromptu concert. At 12.00 o'clock as each child left the respective they were given sweets, nuts and fruit. In the afternoon the children again assembled and marched to the picture theatres, where they were entertained by a free screening of pictures.

20th August 1919 web A letter was read from the Petone High School Committee urging that the salaries of probationers should be increased so as to assist those who dwell in the suburbs, and who are severely penalised during the University session owing to having to come in to Wellington and stay here for the night.—It was decided to refer the subject to the Education Department. .

5th September 1919 At a meeting of the Petone District High School committee on Wednesday night the following resolution moved by the chairman, Mr D. McKenzie, and seconded by Mr J. Kyle, was carried unanimously:—"That the Petone District High School committee regrets the continual delay in the movement for the erection of the secondary college for Hutt Valley, and we suggest to the members of the Wellington Education Board that they immediately invite the Hon. Sir Francis Bell, Minister for Education, to visit Percy's Gardens, the site approved by the Education Board, and local representatives of school committees. By meeting the educational authorities on the grounds, and by seeing the beautiful environment which has a magnificence of its own, the Minister may be convinced to persuade Cabinet to place a sum on the Estimates for this very valuable object during the present session of Parliament. The opportunity may be missed by any further delay of securing what is considered by all sections of the community the most desirable property in the district, which should be procured for the important and necessary purpose of secondary education for our children, and that the board ask Mr T. M. Wilford, M.P., to co-operate in the endeavour,'-

19th September 1919 very interesting-and to the residents of -Petone a memorable-gathering took place at the Grand Theatre yesterday afternoon, when the Petone District High School, the 'Petone West School, and the Koro Koro School, were presented with Blue Ensigns- on

the occasion of each school obtaining one hundred or more new- members for the Navy League. The Petone schools had succeeded in obtaining over 400 new members in less than one week. There was a good attendance of children and the public at the theatre, and Mr D McKenzie, chairman of the Petone District High School Committee, presided. Among those present on the platform were: Lieutenant-Commander de Salis, of H.M.S. New Zealand Mr. T M. Wilford (member for Hutt) the Mayor (Mr. J. W. McEwan) and Mayoress Lieutenant-Colonel Roberts (Hutt Valley representative- of the Navy League). Messrs. N. E. Haslam. D. S. Bedingfield, J. H. Lynskey, Head, and Shardow

The proceedings opened with the singing of the National Anthem, after which the Mayor delivered a short address eulogising the work done by the Navy during the war. He also touched on social unrest, and at the conclusion of his address recited the "Psalm of Life. The children then sang "The Boys in Navy Blue," and cheers for the Navy followed.

Mr Wilford said that such an occasion as this would be a "red-letter" day in the history of Petone. He spoke of the part played by the Navy and the mercantile marine. After singing "Rule Britannia," Lieutenant- Commander de Salis spoke on "Tradition and Duty and gave example of the same.....

11th October 1919 The Minister of Education is being asked by Mr T M. Wilford (Hutt) if he will this session place upon the Estimates a sufficient sum of money to purchase a site for a high school for the Hutt Valley. Hutt. and Petone, he says, have agreed on a site which is deemed eminently suitable and convenient.

22nd October 1919 Pupils of the Petone schools yesterday afternoon attended a matinee at the Grand Theatre, where appropriate naval pictures were screened. Addresses were given by the Mayor (Mr. J. W. McEwan) and Mr. C. N. Haslam, and a letter from the secretary of the Wellington branch of the Navy League concerning the distribution of badges to school members of the league was read. Mr. McEwan also announced the names of the successful candidates in connection with the trades alphabet writing competition, held recently, as follows:—Petone District High School: Standards V and Clarence Haddon, Mavis Kirk. Standards III and IV—Eunice Kenny, I.; Jack Arnold, Highly commended. Standards I and II—Eileen Watson, I; A. Spence, I.; Skinner, F. Cashmore, F. McIntosh, highly commended. Petone West : Standards V and VI—Violet Unwin, Norman Ashman. Standards III and IV—Maurice Cook, I; Gladys Daniel, Mildred Rising, highly commended

21st November 1919 The Petone District High School is, making a final appeal for the names of all young men who fought in the great war, and who were educated, at the school, so that same may be entered on the school roll of honour. Names should be sent to the secretary, Mr, John Kyle, or to the headmaster.

16th December 1919 The following results of the proficiency and competency examinations held at the Petone District High and the Petone West Schools, were announced yesterday :—PETONE DISTRICT HIGH. Proficiency.—S. Bird, L. Bowater, W Bowles, W. Brough, S. Featherstone, A. Flux, W. Humphrey, F. Hartley, R. Kent, E. Lambourne, A. Liebezeit, G. Medhurst, E. Nankivell, E. Rawson, J. Sharpe, O. Tregear, G. Villais, H. Wenham, R. Wearne, C. Wilson, Eileen Andrews, Gwen Burd, Thelma Carey, Betty Carver, Lilian Forsyth, Kathleen Freeman, Ivy Finn, Marie Golden, Ena Heberley, Phyllis Hamilton, Agnes Maud, Daphne McKay, Margaret McEwen, Jessie Norris, Violet Pratley, Berna Reid, Joyce Sharpe, Alma Sampson, Winifred Tebbutt, Edna Turner.

Endorsed Competency.—D. Bell. H. King, C. Smith, _E. Wallace, Elsie Moore, Myrtle Wilmshurst.

Competency.—J, Duncan, H,, Henry, L. Minifie, G. Rowse, O. Smith, Jane Bennie, Jessie McArthur, Maisie Stone.

Winners of prizes presented by Mr. T. M. Wilford for the best account of the Navy League gathering of 18th September last. Essays judged by Messrs. Downie Stewart and C. J. Parr, M.P.'s : —Secondary department—Class A: D. L. Bedingfield 1, Joyce Udy 2. Class B Leone Wright 1, Vera King 2. Primary department—Standard VI. : Alice Leatham 1, Ena Heberley 2. Standard V. : Flora Heberley 1, Ina Smelt 2. Standard IV. : Phyllis Howard 1, Vera Clemmens 2.

Home Memorial Prize : Rose Duff first in merit in Standard VI

Note: I did not copy Attendance Certificate recipients published on the 17th December

18th December 1919 Amongst the old hoys of the Petone District High School who gave their lives for Empire-was a. young man named Jack McConnell, who represented his school at cricket.- In the-desire to perpetuate his memory and encourage cricket his brother, Mr. Robert. McConnell, himself an old Petone boy, who was then practising law in Auckland, offered to present his brother's bat. with the annual sum of .£2 25., to the school, the bat to be held by the best cricketer, and to be called the Jack McConnell memorial bat. . Before the bat could be presented. Mr. Robert McConnell himself lost his life during the epidemic last year. The Young men's mother has since presented 'the bat to the school, and two comrades of the boys, Messrs. A. Pere and R. Collins, have undertaken to donate annually to the fund £1 Is. each.

1920-1921

1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Bedingfield BA	Douglas S	B	Head	£530.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Higgins	Vivian	C	Assistant	£400.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Finlayson	John H Mc	C	Assistant	£390.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Macalister	Ria	C	Infant Mistress	£350.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D	Assistant	£330.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Rhodes	Percy H	D	Assistant	£280.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Harvey	Charlotte	C	Assistant	£270.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Halliwell	Isabella E C	C	Assistant	£210.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Ullmer	Frederica	C	Reliever	£210.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Brassell	Lena A	C	Assistant	£200.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Bedingfield	Esther B	C	Assistant	£200.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Mutter	Nell D A	C	Assistant	£200.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Kydd	Maude		Assistant	£180.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Rains	Catherine M	D	210	£165.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Presants	Evelina A		Reliever	£140.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Crowe	Margaret J		Probationer 1	£125.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Gifford	Aileen		PT1	£125.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Hankin	Fred G S G		PT2	£125.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Udy	Joyce		Probationer 2	£90.00
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	Denham MA	Fanny R Mrs	B	D (Secondary)	
1921	664-39	Petone DHS	McLeod MA Bsc	James H	D	D (Secondary)	

4th February 1920 For some years past it has been the intention of the Education authorities to establish a high school in the Hutt Valley and disestablish the present District High Schools in Petone and Lower Hutt. The great difficulty in the way has been the choice of a site, which has naturally been a burning question among the various local institutions concerned. Various sites have been suggested, among others the Hutt Park, Wilford Settlement, a site in Eastern Hutt, Waiwhetu road, Woburn-road, Percy's Estate, Petone. Local interests were fairly unanimous in the choice of Percy's estate, which was close to railway access and occupied a commanding view with pleasant surroundings. This site was, however, condemned by the Education Department because there was not sufficient flat ground for the necessary buildings. As the refusal of this area seemed likely to create a deadlock so far as local interests were concerned, the Department took the matter into its own hands, and the Minister of Education and his officers made their own choice, which is of an area of some 18 acres of the Woburn Estate on Woburn road, adjoining the Bellevue Gardens, not far from the site purchased for the erection of technical classrooms for Lower Hutt.

5th February 1920 PETONE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PROTESTS The news that the Education Board had purchased a site for a High School in Woburn-road Lower Hutt, was the subject of considerable discussion last evening by the members of the Petone District High School Committee, to whom the announcement in The Post was the first intimation they had received that the site had been definitely fixed. Members were unanimously of the opinion that those responsible had been wanting in courtesy in not consulting the committee before committing the residents of the valley to the site, which they considered unsuitable, to the needs of the large population of Petone. The action of the Authorities was described as a "hole and corner method" of doing business, and the Director of Education was severely criticised. It was contended that, the Percy Estate site was by far the most suitable, and that the statement that the building area was too small could not be sustained. Mr. D. McKenzie and Messrs. Kirk, Wright, Ashby, and Silbery each made a vigorous protest, and the following motions were unanimously carried: — "That the secretary be instructed to wire the Minister of Education, Prime Minister, and the member for the district protesting against the purchase of the site, and asking that proceeding be stayed until a meeting can be arranged, and that a protest meeting be held on a date to be arranged. "That an indignation meeting be held on Monday night in the Council Chambers to protest against the Education Board purchasing the site for the High School, and that the Mayor, councillors, and citizens of Petone and all interested in education be invited to attend."

Note that there were a lot more clippings of Petone's indignation. I have not copied them all.

10th February 1920 "Dr. Anderson, Director of Education, has all the say in the Education Department, now a very obsolete branch" of the Government," said Mr D. McKenzie chairman of the District High School Committee, at the indignation meeting at Petone last night. "The director should not have so much power as to over-ride a high school committee, when, such a body submitted information at the request of the Education Board."

19th February 1920 Miss C T Harvey appointed assistant Miss N D A Mutter appointed to a junior position

5th March 1920 The monthly meeting of the Petone District High School Committee was held on Wednesday night, the chairman (Mr. D. McKenzie) presiding. A deputation from the Women's Temperance Union, waited on the committee to ask that temperance literature be

placed in the school. A sub-committee was, appointed to ascertain the headmaster's views on the matter. –

Miss F. Reiche , a member of Hie teaching staff, tendered her resignation. It was decided to send her a letter expressing the committee's appreciation of her services.

Advice was received from the Education Board of the appointment of Miss N. D. Mutter to the staff of the school.

The committee resolved that the headmaster should arrange, if possible, for the instruction of the pupils in swimming.

The report of the headmaster showed that 26 boys and 30 girls were on the roll of the secondary department, the average attendance being 26 boys and 25 girls. The roll number of the primary department was 361 boys and 372 girls, with an average attendance of 337 boys and 349 girls. 17th March 1920 Wellington Education Board the Department wrote to inform the board that the Hutt and Petone District High Schools would be disestablished from the end of the year. Details concerning the preliminary arrangements in regard to the opening of the new Hutt High School were supplied, and the Department explained that the controlling 'board would be composed of three representatives' from the Education Board, two appointed by the Governor-General, and one by the Hutt Borough Council. The board appointed Messrs. London, Rishworth, and the Mayor of Petone as its representatives.

[Petone DHS was still operating in December 1923. Hutt Valley High School did not Open until 1926.]

3rd April 1920 RESULTS OF DISTANCE TESTS. The results of the distance swimming tests, held in connection with the Petone District High School for the present swimming season, are as follow: [10 yards= 9.44 metres]

20 Yards.—'Charlie Burd, Charlie Wilmshurst, Nancy Hadecke.

25 Yards.—Dorothy Bond, Nellie Farrow - , Alice Murdis, Christian Gunning, Marie Cleland, Peter Hewett, Clarence Crooks, Ralph Moore, William Wood, Dorothy Wray, Muriel McBride, Myra Kukus.

50 Yards.—Doris Watson, Edith Hunter, Eva Bell, Edna Newland, Daphne Eagles, Mavis Kirk, Madge Young, Rita Bowater, Dorothy Martin, Doris Toomath, Donald Bell, Grace Weston, Mary Cargill, Bob Philp, Rupert Johnston, Bernard Hounslow, Leslie Minifie, Robert Corser, Edwin Dunstan, George Smith.

100 Yards. —Dorothy Flowers, Winnie Tebbutt, Eva Gray, Charles Collins, Harold Hall, Alan McKay, Max Marshall, Rata Crowther.

150 Yards.—William Calvert, Mary Rodger, Agnes Maud, Richard Ford, Tom Macauley , Vivian Nelson. . ‘

200 -Yards. —Leslie Binns, Oswald Cleland, Terence Rait, Raymond Howett, Effio Vincent.

210 Yards.—Betty Hogg:.

220 Yards.— Ernest Wallace, William Williams. \

250 Yards. —James Martin, William Humphrey, Edwin Hoskins.

300 Yards. —Jean Haslam, Mavis Abbott. 330 Yards. —

Ellen Terry. 350 Yards. —Emily Sittauer.

400 Yards. —Myrtle King. 440 Yards.—William Millward, Thomas Wilson, Albert Cox, Arthur Kent, Bert Abrim, Arthur - Pickard, Robert Freeman,. Lawrence Bowater, Herbert Kay,. Kenneth Ibbell, Gwen Burd, Berna Reid.

480 Yards.—Leonard Flowers, Stanley Rodger.

500 Yards.—Robert Inglis.

520 Yards.—Isabel Senior.

530 Yards. —Harry Reynolds, Robert Kerr, Sylvia Stokes, T. McGee, Marcia Byrne, John Duncan.

530 Yards.—Arthur Cowell.

550 Yards.—Robert' Clark, Percy Moore. \

630 Yards.—Leslie Woolford.

640 Yards. —Frank Hartley.

660 Yards.—Ina Smith, Horace Purvey.

880 Yards.—Ruby Philp, Edmund Hallett, Douglas Cursor, Robert Tovey.

1100 Yards.—Ainsworth Daly, Gordon Davis, Gordon Clark—

1760 Yards.— Rowland Spence, Frank Ward.

2000 Yards. —Leslie Marshall.

2050 Yards:—Joyce Hill, Alice Scotson; Hazel Brocklebank.

29th April 1920 There was a very large attendance at Petone District High School. The following committee was elected:— Chairman. D. McKenzie; committee, Messrs J. Kyle, H. B. Kirk, L. Towell, O Silbery . W. J. Taylor, E. M. Tregear, J. J. Abrahall, and Mrs Margaret Burd. The question of the site for the proposed District High School was discussed briefly, and a resolution favouring the purchase of the Percy Estate- was approved. It was then resolved that the incoming committee be instructed to wait on the Prime Minister to recommend the Percy site and to request him to pay a visit of inspection.

19th May 1920 Miss G Hitchings resigns

23rd June 1920 Part of a long article on the Hutt High School: A letter from the Petone District High School Committee asked that the question should be reopened and that one of three other sites, preferably Percy's Gardens, should be chosen. Mr. London urged that the fact that a new Minister had taken charge of the portfolio of Education gave the board tile chance of reopening the matter and rectifying a mistake. He recounted the history of the negotiations and maintained that the Woburn site would not give the complete satisfaction desired. . If the Department persisted in ,its decision to put the school at Woburn, he feared many Petone parents would find it much more convenient to send their children to Wellington, and thereby swell the attendance at the already overcrowded city schools. It was most unfortunate that the Department should have flouted the opinion of the majority of the people of the Hutt Valley. ..

24th June 1920 Miss C M Castle resigns

27th July 1920 Petone Borough Council The hon. secretary, Petone District High School Committee, asked that the council consider the question of extending the present rail before the school gate in Jackson street to the boundary of the school on either side preferably with a double rail; that the warning boards at present erected at both boundaries of the school to the corners of Beach and Queen streets respectively, be removed, as the committee was of opinion that it would be an additional safeguard to the children; and that the council grant the use of the Boys' Institute section ns a playing area for the children of the infant school—The first two matters were referred back to. the School committee for consideration, coupled with a suggestion that they be sent on to the Education Board. In respect of the third request it was resolved to reply that the council, did not possess the necessary authority.

31st July 1920 Following a number of articles this was copied. Respecting the controversy about the Woburn site at the Hutt, the Hon. C. J. Parr, Minister of Education, when asked the position, said that he had been requested by the Mayor of Petone to receive a deputation against the Woburn site. The Minister had written to the Mayor declining, pointing out that the site had actually been purchased, and the purchase money paid by the Department some time ago. Further, the Education Board at its last meeting had re-affirmed its approval of the Woburn site. In these circumstances, the Minister felt that he could not reserve a decision arrived at by his predecessor and his Department after careful consideration. To do so might mean the opening up of controversy on dozens of similar decisions already acted upon by the Department. It would be a serious precedent. The matter was definitely settled and could not be re-opened. [There was a lot more correspondence on this matter. Petone School Committee continued to dispute the placement in a number of angry protests met by full replies by various people including the Minister Of education.]

16th September 1920 The monthly meeting of the Petone District High School Committee was held last evening, the chairman (Mr. D. McKenzie) presiding. The headmaster's report showed that the numbers on the roll at the secondary department were:— Boys, 24; girls, 21; attendance, boys, 21; girls, 18; primary department, boys, 379; girls, 366; attendance, boys, 343; girls, 313.

Mr. Kirk said he would like to hear discussed the advisableness or otherwise of linking up with the Wellington School Committees' Association. The association was a live body, asserted the speaker, and was doing good work. He moved that the committee associate itself with the organisation. The proposal was favourably received by the meeting, and, after discussion, the Motion, which was seconded by Mr. E. Tregear, was carried.

'On the motion of the chairman, the following three resolutions were carried: (1) "That in the election of members for education boards, the franchise be extended to adults on the same lines as municipalities. The present method does not voice the wish of the people, being merely confined to a few school committeemen. The public want a broader franchise, the present voting power for members of education boards being unsatisfactory." (2) "That the Government in all its Departments show by example and bring in legislation and encourage outside employers to give time off during working hours to their employees for advancement in theory and practice in their work at the various educational institutions. The instruction should be by day and not by night." (3) "That free school books be given to the State primary school children. Failing that, will the Government supply to parents all school books and requisites at the lowest possible cost?"

16th December 1920 Petone District High School

Dux Of the School, Jean Haslam. Mrs. Hyde's prize for most popular boy, Frank' Ward. 'Most popular girl, Jean Haslam.

PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATES. Boys : R, Beale, D, Ball. W, Calvert, C. Collins, D. Corser, F. Bush, F. Dixon, ~A. Daly, J. Duncan, R. Ford, L. Flowers, K Hall, P. Hewett. R. Hewett, E. Hoskins. M. Hope, E. Hallett, R. Inglis, H. King, C. Liddle, T, Macauley, ,L. Home, G. Muir, L. Minifie, A. McKay. "V. Nelson, L. Pettett , S. Rodger, L. Ridler, G. Rowse, R Spence, H. Turvey, R, Tebbutt, F. Ward, W. Williams, L Woolford F. Wilkinson, W. White, G. Wilson, E. Wallace, C. Halford, R. Kerr

Girls : Mavis Abbot, Gladys Ashby, Gladys. Beard, Dorothy Bond, Rita Bowater, Hazel Brocklebank , Dorothy Burn, Marcia Byrne, Winnie .Caley, Mary Cargill, Dorothy. Corbett, Violet Croft, Beryl Downes, Madge Eason, Dora Finch, Dorothy Flowery Eva. Gray, Jean Haslam, Gwen Hawken, Dorothy Hay, Flora Heberley. Joyce Hill, Betty Hogg, Eileen Howison. Daisy Johnston, Mavis Kirk, Myrtle King. Alice Mullis, Edna Newland, Carla. Pallesen, Irene Pemberton, Irene Pickard, Ruby Pratley, Mary Rodger, Lucy Saunders, Alice Scotson, Ina Smith, Mavis Smith, Sylvia Stokes, Ellen Perry, Rita Thompson, Phyllis Tompkins, Doris Toomath, Bertha Vine, Doris Watt. Grace Weston, Ethel Winter, Dorothy Wray.

COMPETENCY, CERTIFICATES. Boys : V. Cargill. H. Cashmore, G. Clark, O. Cleland, G. Davis, G. London, V. Muir, J. Sharpe, D. Henry, J. Sittaner.

Girls: Esine Coker.

Note: Did not copy attendance certificates

17th December 1920 With a view to raising funds for the furtherance of the sports at the Petone District High School, the girls of-Standard VI held a concert yesterday morning. The infant building was taxed to its utmost, and a pleasant entertainment was provided. Among those contributing to the programme were' the following:— Pianoforte solos, Misses Dorothy Bond and Irene Pickard; songs, Misses Beryl Downes. H. Brocklebank, Dorothy Bond, Mavis Kirk. Joyce Hill, and Edna Newland; recitations, Misses Dorothy Hay, Ina Smith. Ethel Winter and Grace Weston; chorus Standard VI girls; dialogue, scene from Uncle Tom's Cabin. Misses D. Wray, G. Ashby, and J. Haslam.

18th February 1921 Infant Mistress Miss R Macalister appointed. Miss E A Stanton appointed 4th Assistant

10th March 1921 The Director of the Petone Technical School (Mr. Jas. H. Lynskey), who 'has been appointed headmaster to the Eketahuna District High School, tendered his resignation to the Technical School Board last evening. In doing so, he said he did it with great regret and that the severance would mean a wrench to him. The Chairman (Mr. D McKenzie) said it was with deep regret that the resignation was accepted. Mr. Lynskey had given his best services to the school. He had always been ready to help the backward child and had become very prominent in educational matters in Intone.

24th March 1921 The Petone Palace Theatre was crowded to the doors last evening with citizens and their children gathered to do honour to two school teachers who are relinquishing their local duties —Miss Slater to enjoy a well-earned retirement, and Mr. J. H. Lynskey, to take up the position of headmaster at the Eketahuna District High School.

The Mayor (Mr. J. W. McEwan) presided over the gathering, and accompanying him on the platform were : Mr. T. j M. Wilford, M.P., and Mrs. Wilford, ' Mrs. McEwan, Miss Slater and her mother, Mr. and Mrs. Lynskey, Mr. Slater, Mr. G. T. London, Mr. W. McKenzie, Mr. Jay, Mr. W. H. Foster, Mr. C. N. Haslam, Mr. D. S. Bedingfield, and other school teachers, also ' Major W. Hardham , V.C., and other , representatives of the Rugby clubs. The*' Salvation Army Band was present, and during the evening rendered several selections. Other items were contributed by Misses Joyce Morris, Gladys Davis, the School Girls' Choir (encored), Mr. Foster Cotton, and Master Pollock. A pleasing ceremony was the presentation of bouquets by tiny children to the 'quests of the evening. Apologies were* received from the Mayor of Lower Hutt (Mr. E. P. Rishworth) and Mr. F. H. Bakewell (Chief Inspector of Schools). Mr. Bakewell

in a letter expressed his belief that Petone was losing two sterling teachers. Mr. Lynskey was not only a capable manager, but a highly skilled teacher. Miss Slater, to his knowledge, had for 20 years given unrelenting devotion to her duties. He knew of no teacher who had exercised a more splendid influence on children and parents than Miss Slater. Her teaching capacities were great, but there was a still greater influence exerted by teachers, and that was in character building—training in right thinking and doing; and in this service Miss Slater had a record of which any teacher might be proud. The Mayor said he could not estimate the loss Petone would experience at the retirement of Miss Slater after 35 years' service. The elevating character of the atmosphere of the school under Miss Slater was most pronounced. On behalf of the town he presented her with a solid silver tea service on an oak tray. • Mr. Slater, on behalf of his sister, cordially thanked the people, and also expressed her gratitude for the past kindnesses of Petone parents, the Education Board, School Committee, and fellow teachers. The children she specially desired to thank for their eagerness to please her. The kindness of one and all would never be forgotten.

Mr. McEwan said he had known Mr. Lynskey for a long period as, in every sense of the word, a real teacher of girls and boys. Specially would he like to mention Mr. Lynskey's help to individual boys, and more especially to the dull children. A sincere desire to help in every way was one of Mr. Lynskey's strong characteristics. Petone had gained renown from its footballers, and these had in most cases received their grounding from Mr. Lynskey, who had a large capacity for honest work. On behalf of the citizens, Mr. Lynskey was presented with a handsome oak roller-top desk.

Mr. T. M. Wilford expressed his admiration for the work accomplished by the guests. Miss Slater had been a tower of strength to the school, and her value would not be truly appreciated until she "was gone. A good teacher was of inestimable value. It was not the school but the teacher which produced the scholar. It was not Oxford, but Jowett, the teacher, who made men. It was not the Petone School but the Petone teachers who produced the citizens. Miss Slater was going loved, honoured, respected, and regretted by all who knew her. As for Mr. Lynskey, he had had a wealth of influence on the boys.

Mr. Wilford; on behalf of the citizens, presented Mrs. Slater with a rug, and Mrs. Lynskey with a salad bowl.

Mr. D. McKenzie (chairman of the Petone District High School Committee) paid his tribute to the guests, and specially mentioned Miss Slater's winning ways with the children, and her devotion to duty in walking from Wellington during the railway strike. The town was much honoured by the presence of Mrs. Slater, who was 86 years of age. Mr. C. N. Haslam, headmaster, said the gathering was proof that the teachers had passed the acid test. He specially mentioned the services of Mr. Lynskey during the epidemic.

Mr. W. H. Foster, a former headmaster, mentioned the wholesome fear and the great love which Miss Slater inspired. Mr. Lynskey was his life-long friend, who had made his mark in Wellington before he had come to Petone.

Major W. Hardham, V.C., in the unavoidable absence of the President of the Petone Football Club, Mr. A. Coles, presented Mr. Lynskey, on behalf of the club, with an illuminated address and a cheque for a handsome sum. The teaching profession, he said, carried greater responsibilities than any other profession. Mr. Lynskey had not only taught sport but had made the boys "sportsmen." That had been proved in the great war. Mrs. Lynskey's unselfishness had

given Mr. Lynskey time to devote to the training of the boys. Mr. Lynskey expressed his thanks on behalf of Mrs Lynskey and himself. Mr. Slater thanked the gathering on behalf of his mother, who gave the children the following message : "Be as kind and considerate to my daughter's successor as you have been to her."

After the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," opportunity was given those present of bidding a personal farewell to the guests.

1st April 1921 Mr. J. H. Lynskey on the eve of his departure from Petone was on Wednesday last presented by his fellow teachers in the Petone District High School with a Petone rug.

1st April 1921 Yesterday Miss Slater, who is retiring from the position of mistress of the Infant Department of the Petone District High School, was given an opportunity of saying farewell to over 700 scholars of the school, practically the whole of whom each presented her with flowers and other gifts. The function took place in the open air, the scene being made gay with flowers. At the close of the day, teachers, past and present, who had known Miss Slater, assembled to the number of about forty, and entertained her. Mr. C. W. Haslam presented her on behalf of those present with an electric kettle and Doulton rose bowl. Among those present were Misses Duncan, Carter, Scott, Hanson, Matthews, and Maynard. and Messrs. W. S. Bedingfield and F. Mason.

12th April 1921 There will not be an election for the new committee of the Petone District High School, as only nine nominations have been received. They are as follow :—Messrs. T. Ashley. J. Kyle, T. W. Ashman, W. L. Powell, O. Tilbery, W. J. Taylor, J. G Wright, and Mesdames C. Jones and G. Wallstrom.

15th June 1921 Wellington Education Board In. one case—an application for a teachers' room at the Petone school, the Department wrote that the work was not on the list of works set down as urgent and must be deferred in the meantime. The board decided that as the teachers' room is badly needed, the Department should be asked to reconsider its decision.

20th June 1921 Mr. C. N. Haslam, the headmaster of the Petone District High School, who has been appointed inspector of schools, is a native of Wellington, and was educated at the Mount. Cook Boys' School and the Wellington College. He entered the service of the Wellington Education Board, and progressed to the position of, headmaster. He took charge for many years of the Island Bay school, and succeeded Mr. W. Foster at the Petone District High School. Mr. Haslam is going to Canterbury.

8th July 1921 A largely-attended meeting of Petone citizens was held in the Municipal Buildings last evening to the suitable recognition of the services rendered to the community by Mr C. N. Haslam, headmaster of the District High School, who has received an appointment in Canterbury. The Mayor (Mr. J. W. McEwan) presided. Appreciative mention was made of the activities of Mr. Haslam, not only in educational matters, but in the general affairs of the community, and it was decided to tender him a public farewell and presentation on a date to be arranged. A strong committee was set up to arrange the details.

23rd July 1921 Mr. D. S. Bedingfield, headmaster of the Petone West School, has been offered the position of headmaster of the Petone District High School, now vacant through the resignation of Mr. C. N. Haslam. It is understood that Mr. Bedingfield will accept the offer

27th July 1921 The seating capacity of the Petone Palace Theatre was not sufficiently large to accommodate the citizens and children who assembled last evening to Bay farewell to Mr. O.

N. Haslam, who has recently been promoted from headmaster of the Petone District High School to inspector of schools in the Canterbury district.

The Mayor, Mr. J. M. McEwan, presided, and associated with him on the platform were Mr. O. N. and Mrs. Haslam, the Hon. C. J. Parr, Minister of Education; Mr. Forsyth, chairman of the Wellington Education Board; Mr. Blake, president of the N.Z.E.I.; Mr. : Bakewell, chief inspector of school; Mr. G. T. London, a member of the board; and Messrs. D. S. Bedingfield and J. Fanning, headmasters of the Petone West and Korokoro Schools. Mr. Haslam's appearance on the platform was the occasion of rounds of applause from the children.

The Chairman said Mr. Haslam had now been in Petone for four years and had proved himself not only a good teacher but a good citizen. There was never an occasion on which Mr. Haslam had failed to give of his best for the good of the community. During the war Mr. Haslam had been in constant demand for the various patriotic movements, and since then he had assisted very materially in other directions. On behalf of the citizens he presented Mr. Haslam with a Morris chair.

The Hon. C. J. Parr thanked the Mayor for giving him an opportunity of honouring a good teacher. He had come in contact with Mr. Haslam as a member of the executive of the New Zealand Educational Institute and had formed a very high opinion of him. He was a man of good judgment, a man of tact, a good citizen, and a good teacher who had won his way to the top by sheer hard work. The speaker mentioned the day when the inspectors were men who were feared, but now inspectors were no longer dreaded. Mr. Haslam would make an excellent inspector. Mrs. Haslam, he had been assured by his colleague, the Minister of Health, had done great service to the district in the interest she had taken in Plunket work, and he had great pleasure in presenting her, on behalf of the citizens, with a mission chair.

Mr. Haslam was a man who struck out from the ordinary rut and had done great service in the cause of education. He was one of Wellington's own boys, graduating through from the infant school to his present position. The school was losing a good man, but was securing the next best in, Mr. D. S. Bedingfield.

Mr. Bakewell said inspectors were accused of having friends among the teachers. When he went through a school and found all things satisfactory and nothing to worry over, the teacher of that school was his friend, and such a friend Mr. Haslam had always proved. Mr. Haslam had proved himself the best of teachers in one of the most important schools in the Dominion. Mr. Blake said Mr. Haslam had always done -with all his might with what his hand found to do, and was a man with mental and moral backbone. The two years he had filled the office of president of the Teachers' Institute were perhaps the two best years in the history of the institute. Mr. D. S. Bedingfield addressed his remarks to the boys and girls, who he was glad to say had originated the movement to honour Mr. Haslam. The spontaneous greeting the children had given their late teacher had been most remarkable.

Mr. N. J. Panning also added words of praise.

Mr. Haslam asked to be pardoned if he could not adequately express his feelings for the reception which had been given him. Mr. Parr, he said, was deserving of the greatest thanks for finding time, not to honour him, but the teaching profession. Mr. Parr had done deep and abiding work for the children and the teachers, and he (Mr. Haslam) was proud that he was taking up a position as one of his officers. Mr. Bakewell he had known; for twenty years, and held him in highest esteem as a guide, philosopher, and friend. Mr. Forsyth, as chairman of

the board,' had done great service for education in Wellington, in which district he (Mr. Haslam) had gone through his educational course from the Mount Cook infant school to Wellington, College. The Education Board had always treated him more than handsomely. Mr. Blake was a friend of long standing, whom he thanked for his presence.' There was no need of the people giving him the tokens they had to show their kindly goodwill; from the time of his arrival he had always had evidence of that. He desired to thank Mr. D. McKenzie, who had served for fifteen years or the School Committee, for his assistance and 'help, also ex-committee-men, Messrs. Taylor, Abrahall, and Kirk.' To the present committee he 'also gave his best thanks. His staff was the finest body of men and women any headmaster could be associated, with. In the work he was going to he would always have kindly memories of Petone and would miss the little children very much

On the call of the Mayor, the audience sang, " For They are Jolly Good. Fellows." ' During the evening' the following programme was rendered: Selections by Petone Band, and vocal and elocutionary items were contributed by Mrs. Green," Misses Violet and Lily Armstrong, Dulcie Collett, Sylvia Udy, and the scholars.

27th August 1921 Rugby The final was won by Petone, and in this match the suburban team was unable to keep up its record of having no points scored against it during the season, Wellington College obtaining six points. However, Petone's record was one which will stand comparison with the best registered by any club team. A total of something like 500 points was scored, and until the final there were no points against. Matches played on the 30th July did not count in the competition.

30th August 1921 Petone Borough Council At the request of Mr. D. McLeod, of the Petone District High School staff, it was decided to again grant to the scholars the privilege of playing on the municipal tennis courts this coming' season on afternoons, except Saturdays and holidays, up to 5 o'clock, providing no adults were waiting for games

1922-1923

1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Bedingfield	Douglas S	B-17	Head	£520.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Williams	John F	C-95	Assistant	£405.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Macalister	Ria	C-104	Infant Mistress	£353.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Stanton	Elizabeth A	D-106	Assistant	£343.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Atherton	Gwendoline E		Reliever	£290.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Harvey	Charlotte T	C-148	Assistant	£263.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Wyatt	Ida	D	Reliever	£233.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Halliwell	Isabella E C	B-188	Assistant	£215.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Brassell	Lena A	B-148	Assistant	£195.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Bedingfield	Esther B	C-199	Assistant	£195.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Mutter	Nell D A	B-200	Assistant	£195.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Cuddy	Agnes		Reliever	£185.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Erickson	Dagny E E	B-217	Assistant	£175.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Lockwood	Amelia	B-203	Assistant	£175.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Kydd	Maude		Assistant	£160.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Hankin	Fred G S G		PT1	£118.00

1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Budden	Ernest D		PT2	£113.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	McFarlane	Alexander M		Probationer 2	£83.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Bucknall	Margaret		PT1	£83.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Heberley	Ena		Probationer 2	£78.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Ross	Mavis J		PT2	£78.00
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	McLeod	David	B-118	Secondary	
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Park	Jean G	C-130	Secondary	
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Loftus	Mabel U	B-175	Secondary	
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Williams	Kate		Secondary	
1923	697-75	Petone DHS	Gifford	Grace E		Secondary	

14th January 1922 The public meeting called for last evening by the local school committees of Petone lapsed, as only about half a dozen attended. The object of the meeting was to protest against the decision of the Board of Governors of the Wellington College to debar children from the Hutt Valley who had gained proficiency certificates this year from, attending the' college

7th February 1922 The board of the Petone District. High School met 'last -night. . There, we've. present: Messrs! O. Silbery (chairman),' L. Powell, J:-Wright, J: Ashman, T. Ashby (secretary), and- Mrs. Jones. Application was made by the manager of the local picture- theatre for permission for -the children to leave school one day next week in order that,' they might view an educational picture but the application was refused.

It . was reported that the Education Board had made alterations to the exits to the . school in order to avoid the likelihood of accident-to pupils. The-Education Board advised that arrangements, had been made to convey children from Lowry and York Bays to the school at Muritai. In the- circumstances, the children in question would not go to .Petone. in future. An offer by B. Tremain to repair the school fence, at the contract price of £10 was.- accepted. It was decided to hold the annual picnic on Friday, 3rd March

7th February 1922 It is not certain yet whether Hutt and Petone pupils can be enrolled at Wellington College A notification will be made later in the week. Meantime Hutt and Petone pupils who have been enrolled without prejudice should not attend

7th March 1922 The Petone High School , Committee last night received a letter from the Education 'Board stating that the board had been unable to arrange for Bliss Anderson, one of the English teachers who recently arrived in New Zealand, to temporarily fill Mr., Rhodes's position on the staff. The board also stated that Miss Ullmer was to be transferred to, the temporary charge of the school at Reikiorangi, and asked that she be released. It was decided to notify the board that the committee strongly protested against the repeated transfers, which .were considered detrimental to the education of the children

26th April 1922 Mr. O. Silbery presided at the Petone D.H.S'. householders' meeting. It was decided to forward an emphatic protest to the Education Board regarding the lack of accommodation in the infant department, and the urgent need for a rest room for teachers School Committee elected unopposed .—Mesdames Jones and Crowther, Messrs. F. Ashman, J. Ash, T. Ashby, O. Silbery, J. "Wight, L. C. Wray, W. Little.

26th April 1922 Opening of the new war memorial on Petone Waterfront the report included: Perhaps the most impressive services held in connection with the celebration in Petone were those by the school children. At 9.30 the children of both the main school and Petone West

assembled and held short services. For some weeks past the children had been practising the hymns, and yesterday morning their voices gave full vent to the rendering of such hymns as "O God, Our Help," "Hark, Hark, My Soul," and "God Save the King." The effect was splendid, and the children who had been instructed in what Anzac meant, "seemed to put their little hearts and souls into the inspiring words. The Mayor made an interesting speech and reminded the children that Anzac stood for all that was noble and brave. The men of Anzac had gone forth at the call of duty, and many had made the supreme sacrifice, so that all would live in a land of freedom. The children should always remember that it was noble and brave to do one's duty," not only on the battlefield, but in the daily battle of life. As the children grew older he hoped they would learn, and profit by the lesson of Anzac. Prayers were offered up by the Rev. Mr. Radford. The children in the afternoon took part in the unveiling ceremony and placed numerous wreaths/and flowers on the monument.

20th September 1922 Minister of education to Wellington Education Board included: Teachers' rooms: Levin D.H.S. £286; Carterton D.H.S., £189. The Minister added that he, was willing to consider a grant of half cost of teachers' rooms at the Petone D.H.S. and-Hutt. D.H.S., but the amounts asked for by the board, £505 and £430 respectively, were too high, and he asked the board to reduce the estimates.

17th October 1922 The Petone, Borough Inspector (Mr. W. B. Gough) last evening presented the following report to his council on the District High School:—"I feel it my duty to bring under your notice certain matters in connection with this school. At the infants' department, in one room there are 127 children and five teachers of several classes. One does not need to draw on his imagination to be convinced that this state of overcrowding is detrimental to the health of the children and teachers alike. I am informed that all the teachers of this room are periodically on sick leave, and the children complain of headaches, and no wonder. The conveniences at the whole school are quite inadequate for the number of children attending, and at the infant department the teachers have not the slightest privacy.

' "The roof in the main building leaks, the spouting's and downpipes on the shed are out of repair and discharging the storm water in pools on the ground, thereby causing a nuisance and unpleasantness for the children. The floor of one of the sheds is badly broken." It was decided to send a copy of the report to the Education Board, the Public Health Department, and the Department of School Hygiene. Councillor Bedingfield stated that the report was undoubtedly correct. In the over-crowded room an average of thirty scholars were absent each day, against five in other rooms. All the teachers were suffering. The trouble was that the floor space was calculated on the average attendance, and this was always low, because of sickness.

18th October 1922 A report in last evening's "Poet" came before the Education Board to-day with reference to alleged overcrowding and unsanitary conditions at Petone High School.

The chairman (Mr. T. Forsyth) said it was regrettable that the headmaster a member of the council which dealt with the matter, had not written to the board; nor had the school committee brought the matter forward before it was made public. The matter called for immediate attention. The secretary said the headmaster had seen him. 'The school had sufficient space according to the "regulations; but the classes, could not be distributed properly. What appeared to be called for was a remodelling of the infant department. Several teachers had to teach in one large room. " Mr. G. T. London said the committee had, he believed, been particularly energetic. It was really a matter of keeping the Government up to providing for in- created

attendances. ") "Mr; White said the chairman should be more guarded.' The committee made representations several months ago. ; The Chairman: that is quite right. However, the main, point is the charges of unsanitary buildings and ground, due allegedly to' neglect. That is a new aspect." He did not know that there ' had been any applications on the ground of the buildings being unsanitary.

A committee consisting of Messrs. Forsyth, London, and Rishworth was set up to go into the matter.

,The report on the overcrowding of the Petone District High School presented to the Petone Borough Council by its inspector was mentioned by the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives to-day. Mr. Wilford asked, the Minister of Education whether he would send to Petone one of his responsible officers to make inquiries. The Minister replied that he had seen the report, but so far had not had an opportunity of investigating it. The school was not on the list of overcrowded buildings supplied by the Education Board. He was not. prepared to' 'admit, for the time being, that the statements of the borough inspector was correct, but he would certainly have an investigation made

24th October 1922 PETONE HIGH SCHOOL

TO THE EDITOR . * Sir, —In the discussion arising in the House of Representatives from the question put to the Minister of Education by the Leader of the Opposition concerning the condition of affairs at the. Petone District High School, certain remarks were let fall by the" Minister which I cannot, in justice to myself, allow to go unchallenged. The Minister states that the organisation of the school is apparently at fault, and that the headmaster cannot be held blameless. One would. imagine that a conclusion of this kind would be come to only after due investigation.

The organisation of a large school entails more work and thought than the mere division of the floor space by the number of children in attendance, whether average attendance or roll number is made the basis of the calculation. As a matter of fact, no room in my school contains less than forty-four children, and only three contain less than fifty. This is greater than the number generally recognised as that which the average teacher should be called upon to teach, though I admit that many teachers have to teach considerably larger classes.

To one sitting in an office in Wellington, merely poring over sets of figures, it is easy to overlook the fact that a human element is involved, and thus to come to the conclusion that the organisation of a school is at fault. The headmaster of a school, however, can never get away from the fact that lie is dealing with flesh and blood. Now, with a school of 750 children, I have at the present time only one male assistant on my staff, consequently, I have to put one half of Standard VI. in charge of a- lady teacher who, excellent as she is in other respects, is .not physically strong. With 44 vigorous Standard VI. children under her charge and taking into consideration the amount of marking and correcting she has to do,; she is already, -working under too great a strain. She has told me that she will try to go on until the examination is over, and I am hoping that she will be able to carry on for the short time that is left, but nothing would induce me to increase the size of her class.

The. Minister's criticism of my organisation can, mean nothing except that I should promote some Standard V. 'children and put them into her room. There would then be room in Standard V. for a few Standard IV. pupils., Standard IV. at present has a roll of 68, so that, even if I were to put,, say, 10 up, the class would still be too large, and I should not be justified in putting

Standard 111. pupils into Standard IV. room consequently very -little relief would eventually be afforded as far as the infant department is concerned. ' The interests of the children themselves must also be taken into consideration. Standard IV: children cannot work satisfactorily with children just completing a Standard V. course. > I must not trespass too much upon your space, so I will. Just remark that difficulties crop up all along the line. There are other teachers on the staff who, for various reasons, must not be subjected to too great a strain. As a matter of fact, several teachers on the staff have had to apply for leave of absence during the year, medical certificates having been submitted to the Education Board showing that they are suffering from anaemia and nervous strain.

If the remark of the Minister means that I have not put 60 children into each room capable of accommodating 60, I plead guilty to his indictment, but if he means more than this, I feel quite competent to refute his charge. I know that all of us from the Minister downwards have had difficulties to contend with during the past few years, and I have shouldered my share of them. Under the circumstances, I regret that the Minister should, without investigation, see fit to assert publicly that I am lacking in organising ability, especially in view of the fact that his own expert officers have recently reported more than favourably on my management of the school. —

I am, etc., DOUGLAS BEDINGFIELD. "21st October.

15th November 1922 Wellington Education Board Authorises additions

24th February 1923 In an article on overcrowding at Wellington Boys and Girls Colleges was this Wellington College has now an attendance of 812 boys, against 767 at the same period last year, and if all the boys were taken whose parents desire them to attend this College, the number would be very largely increased. Congested conditions naturally exist with this number present. The Board of Governors has taken steps to make big improvements. There are 776 girls at the Girls' College, against 755 at the same period last year. This is excluding the Hutt and 'Petone' pupils who desired to attend.

16th March 1923 At Lower Hutt there is a site for a high school, which will serve the whole of the Hutt Valley, but the Government has not taken any definite steps in the direction of providing a building. A big deputation from the Hutt and Petone districts to-day waited upon the Minister of Education (the Hon. C. J. Parr) and strongly urged the necessity of erecting a school immediately. The Minister, in reply, gave a forecast of the big bill the Government, would have to meet in satisfying the requirements of secondary education in Wellington.....

20th March 1923 For some years the Petone District High School has been endeavouring to have the accommodation and 3 conveniences of its infant department improved. One of the rooms, according to a statement made to "The Post's" Petone correspondent by the chairman of the School Committee, is shockingly overcrowded, and rest-rooms for the teachers and better sanitary conveniences are badly required. Some time ago the whole school buildings were the subject of a report from the borough sanitary inspector, who stated the frequency of the absence of teachers in infant departments through illness. The borough at that time carried out some necessary repairs, promised other improvements, and held other matters in abeyance. The promised improvements, which were to have been carried out during the Christmas holidays, have not yet been put in hand, and the extensions asked for in the infant school have been refused. In consequence of this the committee has determined to place the whole matter before the parents, and a public meeting is being held this evening in the school. The member for the district, Mr. T. M. Wilford, and the Mayor of the town, Mr. J. W. McEwan, will address

the meeting. The contention of the Education Department is that, taken over the whole school, the average space available for each scholar is sufficient, but the headmaster, Mr. D. S. Bedingfield, points out how impossible is the task of arranging the classes, irrespective of the ability of the scholars, so that each class has a given number of pupils. Briefly put, the attitude of the Department, according to those who are complaining, is to fit the children to the building, and not the building to the children.

21st March 1923 In a paragraph which appeared in 'The Post' yesterday the Petone Borough Council was credited with carrying out certain improvements to the Petone District High School. 'This was incorrect. The work, of course, was done by the controlling authority, the Education Board.

1st May 1923 There was an attendance of 96 at the meeting of householders interested in the Petone District High School. A resolution was carried protesting against the action of the Education Department in refusing £ for £ subsidy on school libraries under the City Council library scheme. The committee for the ensuing year was elected as follows: —Mesdames Crowther and Cleland and Messrs. Ash, Hughes, Davis, Scott, Wray, Crowther, and Gilbert. Mr. Gilbert was elected chairman and Mr. J. Scott secretary and treasurer.

17th May 1923 The death occurred yesterday, at Mortimer terrace, of Mr. Vivian Higgins, first-assistant master at the Petone Boys' High School, and formerly a lieutenant in the Machine Gun Company, N.Z.F.F. The late Mr. Higgins, who was 45 years of age, was born in Amberley, Canterbury, and had been in the service of the Wellington Education Board for nearly 27 years, lively interested in all forms of sport, he took an active part in teaching school rugby teams and had also served as a football referee. He was also a prominent bowler, and, with the exception of the time when he was away at the war, participated in all the tournaments of the Dominion Bowling Assn. As a member of the Wellington Bowling Club, he played in the rink which won the Eastern Suburbs tournament last. Mr. Higgins went to the front with the 13th Reinforcements and took part in some of the big engagements in France and was afterwards invalided suffering from the effects of gas and shellshock. Since his return from the war he had never enjoyed the best of health, and last year was incapacitated for some months with a severe illness. He returned to duty at **his school** just before the summer vacation, and continued fairly well until just recently, when he suffered a relapse, from which he never recovered. Highly popular and esteemed by all who knew him, the late Mr. Higgins was a member of the Masonic craft and when he was stationed in Carterton was a member of Lodge: St. Mark. He was also an Oddfellow, and formerly belonged to the Loyal Eketahuna Lodge, Manchester Unity. Deceased is survived by his mother, Mrs. C. Higgins, of Miramar, and several sisters and brothers. His sisters are Mesdames J. Delahunty, Mortimer terrace, S. Parsons, Miramar, W. Williams, Napier, and G. B. Young, Auckland, and his brothers are Captain C. J. Higgins of Glasgow, a master in the Clan line of steamers, A. W. Higgins, Seatoun, and Messrs. G. and H. Higgins, who are farming in Taranaki. The funeral of the late Mr. Higgins will leave the mortuary chapel of Mr. A. McL. Wilson, Willis street, at 10 a.m. to-morrow, for the Karori Cemetery, and the Rev. Feilden Taylor will officiate at the graveside. As a mark of respect to the deceased, the flag at the Wellington Bowling Club was flown at half-mast to-day.

Vivian Higgins started as a pupil teacher in Eketahuna in 1895 where he was until 1901. From 1902 -1903 he was at Mangaone School, then he was at Alfredton until 1905. In 1906 he was at Carterton. In 1915 he was listed as having been on War Duty.

By 1919 he was back teaching at Levin and by 1921 he was teaching at Petone DHS
6th July 1923 Yesterday a deputation from the three schools at Petone asked the Minister of Education (the Hon. C. J. Parr) for a grant of £30 as a subsidy from a similar contribution from the Petone Borough Council, to meet a quotation by the Wellington City Council to supply 800 books annually on loan from the Municipal Library for the use of the schools at Petone.

The Minister said that in the event of a contribution by the Petone Borough Council, the Education Board must make an endowment from its general fund, up to £5 per school, or £15 in all.

Mr. T. M. Wilford, M.P "They have refused, saying that the books do not become the property of the board."

The Minister and the Director of Education (Mr. J. Caughley) both agreed that the proposed scheme was preferable to one under which the books became "the board's property."

The Minister agreed to supplement the board's contribution of £15 by a like amount.

24th July 1923 Mr. J. F. Williams, of the Clareville School, has been appointed first assistant at the Petone District High School

31st August 1923 The annual exchange/of visits between the Petone and Eketahuna school boys takes place during this week-end. On this occasion the visit is being made to Petone, at which place twenty of the Eketahuna boys arrived last evening under the charge of the Eketahuna District High School master, Mr. J. Lynskey. The principal reason for the visit is the annual football contest held under the auspices of the Petone Football Club. The first match will be played on Friday, and the second on Monday, both at the Petone Recreation Ground.

A full programme of entertainment has been arranged at Petone for the visitors

1st September 1923 Yesterday, for the first time in the history of the annual contests, the Petone school boys proved their superiority over the Eketahuna boys at football, the score being 9 to 5 in favour of Petone. For the victors, R. Love scored three tries, while for the losers J. Read scored a try, Henderson, converting. Mr. M. Nicholls was referee.

14th December 1923 Evening Post: The log of the present Petone District High School shows that Mr. Joplin was its first headmaster, and that it was commenced in 1882 in Johnson's Hall, with an attendance of 28.

The two first entries are: "School started in Johnson's Hall,; attendance 28," and the second entry, dated 2nd and 3rd February, "school closed for Hutt Races." So evidently in those early days Petone supported a sporting public, The late Mr. James Home, honoured throughout the district, became headmaster in February, 1887, a position he occupied till February, 1910, when Mr. Foster took over the duties, retaining them till April, 1917, when, on his transfer, Mr. Haslam was appointed. In 1909, during Mr. Home's period, the school had grown till it had an attendance of 1009, and classes were held in various rented buildings in the town. In September, 1909, the new West End School was established, which relieved the main school of 320 pupils. In 1905 the school was made a district high school, Mr. King taking over the secondary department, which numbered 45, the primary classes numbering 735. To-day, after the relief given in 1909 by the establishing of the West End School, the members on the roll are 857, being 781 primary and 76 secondary scholars. In connection with the secondary department the name of Mr. James Lynskey will always be associated with the school. The present headmaster is Mr. D. S. Bedingfield, who has brought the school to a high pitch of efficiency along with his staff of 26 teachers; Mr. McLeod being in charge of the secondary

department, which now holds its classes in the Technical School buildings. Up till now the school has been greatly cramped for accommodation, but additions are now being made to the infant department, which will improve matters next year. Owing to the refusal of the authorities to allow pupils to attend the Wellington High Schools, and the absence of a high school proper for the district, greater provision is necessary for the secondary department. Recently the public greatly assisted in this matter through a bazaar, and greatly needed equipment was purchased. The Education Department is being requested to proceed as early as possible with the Hutt Valley High School building, to be established at Lower Hutt.

The scholars of the Petone District High School have the Petone sporting spirit and are holders of the junior cricket cup donated by the Petone Railway Workshops; the W. L. Jenness tennis championship cup; the "Chronicle" junior football cup, and both the senior and junior basketball cups donated by Mr. J. Brasell and Mr. W. T. Strand respectively. All these competitions are in connection with the Hutt Valley Schools Association.

21st December 1923 PETONE HIGH SCHOOL

Dux of School: Stanley Wood.

Horne Memorial Prize: Stanley love.

Miss Hyde's prize for improvement made and diligence in work for year: Jean Burrows.

Record Attendance: Jack Hunter, not absent in ten years.

As this is the end of Teachers' records from the Wellington Education Board I have not gone passed 1923 for the Petone School