

Pongaroa

1896-Present. Pongaroa was a thriving little town, headquarters of the Akitio County Council and the Puketoi Rugby Sub Union of the Bush Rugby Union and had the local pub. In 1968-72 [When the researcher was teaching at Horoeka] Pongaroa School was the centre of activity for Waione, Horoeka, Akitio and Tiraumea Schools. Hugh Hughes was Principal and was excellent at organising the younger Head Teachers in the area. 91 Kilometres from Masterton to Pongaroa. 54 Kilometres from Pahiatua and 60 Kilometres from Dannevirke. The road to Dannevirke was the best driving surface

Pre 1897

19th February 1896 Applications for aided schools have been received by the Education" Board from the following localities :— Dreyer Book, Upper Opaki, Ngatitipu, Pongaroa, Coonoor, Otohuia, Makuri, Kaipororo, and Kaitawa. Mr. T. B. Fleming, Education "Board Inspector, will make a trip to the Forty-mile Bush to enquire into the applications and report to the Board.

20th March 1896 Mr Fleming, School Inspector, has visited our district, and also the school at Rakanui. By all accounts there does not seem much likelihood of a school being started here, as some of the intended scholars are too old to count in for a grant. It seems a great shame, as in one family of eight children not one knows the alphabet through. The parents inform me that if something is not done soon they will engage a governess of their own, and not trouble the public school.

20th March 1896 West Coast Times The rapid growth of settlement in the up-country districts of the Wellington Province has (says the Post) led to a demand for more schools. Mr T. R. Fleming. Inspector to the Wellington Education Board, has just returned from an inspection of a number of districts concerned, including Makuri, Kaipororo, Rakanui (perhaps better known as Dogtown), and Otohuia, where the settlers have already started small aided schools', which they now wish the Board to take charge of. Otohuia, which is a young settlement situated on the summit of the Puketoi Ranges, 1300 feet above the sea level, has just built a school, and ten children are attending daily Mr Fleming also visited Dreyer's Rock, Ngatitipu. Pongaroa, Tiraumea Valley, Coonoor, and Upper Opaki, at each of which the Board has been asked to establish schools. He will make a report as to the results of his enquiries at next the meeting of the Board.

24th June 1896 Pongaroa A school has at last been granted for here, but will not be started before spring

10th August 1896 The contract for the school has been let to Mr Northcroft, who no doubt will soon start operations. The school site is to be, I hear, on section 10, block I.

30th October 1896 t the meeting of the Wellington Education Board on Wednesday, on the motion of Mr McCardle, it was decided to refer the question of procuring suitable sites for schools an Coonoor and Pongaroa to a committee consisting of the mover and the chairman

9th December 1896 Education Board It was decided to constitute new school districts included Pongaroa

14th December 1896 Mr McCardle, a member of the Education Board, was waited upon by the acting school committee with regard to the school site, the site which has now been chosen on the V. S. side of the river near the Government office.

1897

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|------|----------|--------|------|--|--------|-----|----------|
| 1897 | Pongaroa | McCann | Mary | | Female | £80 | \$14,271 |
|------|----------|--------|------|--|--------|-----|----------|

11th January 1897 The schoolhouse is now in course of erection in the township. It is being built on the original site pending the reserve of five acres for a school reserve on the opposite side of the river

20th January 1897 It is surprising what a team of ten bullocks and two men can accomplish in a short space of time. The men stopped their team outside the original school site, loaded up the timber, carpenter's tools and the whole box and dice, and shifted the lot across the river on to the 6-acre school reserve overlooking the township, and in very quick time. It is hardly safe where it is, so the carpenter begins to think.

29th January 1897 The schoolhouse is now steadily getting towards completion. It will be quite a nice addition to the township.

15th February 1897 Animals are protected to some extent as regards overcrowding, but as regards school children they can be packed tighter than sardines and nothing is said. The schoolhouse would remind one of a good sized kennel, but yet it is expected, to accommodate about 40 scholars. They will not be able to find standing room in the present building. It is nothing but pure waste of public money to put up such ridiculous buildings as the present one in such a growing district. There is a lot of wailing and gnashing of teeth about the sale of Education Reserves in this district. Nobody here knew about the sale until this evening, not even the usual poster could the Education Board send to this district. I am personally acquainted with half a dozen likely purchasers of these reserves if they had known of the sale on the 11th inst.

1st March 1897 Part of an article: In a number of oases the land has been forfeited or surrendered, but in every instance as soon as thrown open the sections have been readily taken up by genuine settlers. Pongaroa, the central township of the district, is gradually attracting business residents and apparently the only thing required is good roads to make it quickly acquire the magnitude of a prosperous inland town.

12th May 1897 Teachers are required for the Mangaone and Pongaroa Schools

14th May 1897 A meeting of settlers was held last Saturday for the purpose of electing a school committee of five, Mr T. O'Brien in the chair. Owing no doubt to the wet weather, only about 20 persons put in an appearance. The following gentlemen were nominated ; Messrs W. A. Burling, A. Meech, T. O'Brien, H. Smith, W. Coe, W. Spring, Sounnes, and Kelly. A ballot taken (Messrs Berry and Norman acting as scrutineers), which resulted in the first five gentlemen being elected. A vote of thanks to the chair concluded the meeting. The Committee is to meet next Thursday, when no doubt they will push matters forward.

28th June 1897 SUCCESSFUL SOCIAL. The social and dance in aid of the school funds eventuated last night. The night being fine, a large number turned out, and a most enjoyable and excellent programme was got through without the least halt. This was owing no doubt to the energetic secretary and committee, who had spent considerable time in decorating the school, and getting everything ready for the auspicious occasion. Dancing commenced at 7

p.m. and continued until 7 next morning. Over 70 persons put in appearance, including 25 ladies. An extra floor had been put down, which was in splendid condition for dancing, and the walls of which had been tastefully decorated. Everything was seen to great advantage under a blaze of light, which showed up the ladies' gowns to perfection, and formed a wholesome and delightful contrast to the semi-darkness which does duty for lights at many upcountry socials. Mr Berry officiated as M.C. This gentleman has the happy knack of keeping even the largest company provided with an exceptional programme up to quite the end. An excellent supper had been provided by Mesdames Much, Coe, Smith, and Kelly, who are deserving of the highest praise, Messrs McMillan and Bayers gave some excellent Scotch reels and Irish jigs during the evening, and they were encored every time. The music was supplied by Messrs Smith, McMillan and Sayers, and was enjoyed by all. The following ladies and gentlemen contributed songs :—Mrs Eustace rendered “ Poor old Jeff ” very pathetically; Miss Eila Binding, who was in excellent voice, sang “ There is no one like mother to me ”; Messrs McMillan and Spring were much applauded for their dinb'guo “ Rodney and the Bull ”; Mr Newcombe was heard to advantage in “ The cricket on the hearth ”; Mr W. Spring was applauded for “ Our Jack's come home to-day ”; Mr Kingsberry's Hinging of “ Take me in your arms, love, ” was well received; Mr Sayers sang “ The hat my father wore ” in his usual faultless style; Mr A. Spring recited “ Eily's wedding, ” earning much applause; Mr McMillan was enthusiastically encored for his rendering of “ Jelly company, ” and responded with “ Huggins you ought to know. ” Several other songs were sung, and all were well received, Mr Welsh concluding this portion of the programme with “ The two orphans. ” Miss Nellie Hayes, who was acknowledged the “ Belle of the hall, ” looked charming in green and lavender trimmed with Bruskel's lace, and who was responsible for some sighing. Following is a description of a few of the most lovely dresses worn, and everybody agreed that it was a “ beauty hall, ” and that the dresses were in keeping with the wearers : Mrs H. li. Smith, white cambric with green sash and gold buckle; Miss Lila Burling, cream muslin and pink sash, with tender floral adornments; the Misses M:cl. black cashmere; Mrs Kelly . click serge trimmed with cream satin; Mrs Roberts, white muslin a: I black cashmere; Mrs J. Hayes, cream and black; Mrs T. Eustace, maroon and cream satin; Miss Roberts, white muslin and green cashmere; Mrs O'Brien, white muslin and pink silk; Mrs Sampson, navy blue serge and pink; Mrs J. McLean, dark lavender; Mrs Coe, black cashmere trimmed with jet. The sensation of the evening was left to Messrs McMillan and Spring, who appeared as niggers, and wore the “ Coins of the realm ” dress. They created much diversion. Mr Coe rendered valuable assistance throughout and was largely responsible for the extra refreshments supplied at intervals. The following gentlemen comprised the committee:—Messrs Berry (hon. sec.), W. Spring, Coe, Smith, O'Brien, McMillan, Carolan, and Sayers, who are deserving of the warmest praise for the success of the social. Just before breaking up, Mr Berry in a few well-chosen words thanked all who had helped towards the success of the function, he called for cheers for the ladies who had provided such excellent refreshments, which were given with great gusto, and cheers were also given for the M.C. The singing of “ Auld Lang syne ” brought a most enjoyable reunion to a close, everybody being thoroughly tired and well satisfied.

26th July 1897 Sections at Mangahao and Pongaroa are permanently gazetted as school sites.

1st November 1897 It is not every day that a pig is killed in Pongaroa, which may account for the exceptionally large company which assembled at the schoolhouse on Friday last at the invitation of the bachelors, who gave their annual ball to the benedicts.....The delay in the opening of the school is causing a lot of dissatisfaction. There have been four different teachers appointed, but not one has yet shown up. I am informed that the fault lies with the Education Board. It does not reflect much credit on that institution if such is the case.

17th December 1897 There are at present 29 scholars attending the Pongaroa School, which is to be enlarged during the Christmas holidays. Bush fires have been started, It is a great pity that this fire-raiser could not be put away for six months

[There is no mention of Mary McCann's appointment or of the school opening which is strange]

1898

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|------|----|----------|--------|------|--|--------|------|----------|
| 1898 | 26 | Pongaroa | McCann | Mary | | Female | £110 | \$18,843 |
|------|----|----------|--------|------|--|--------|------|----------|

19th January 1898 A PLUCKY SCHOOL TEACHER. "Writing of schools brings to mind an instance of pluck shown by a young school teacher, Miss McCann. She had promised to reopen the Pongaroa School on Monday, and, notwithstanding the alarming reports appearing in the "Wellington papers, left the city on Saturday with the intention of fulfilling her promise. On arrival at Pahiatua it was found that the coach had gone, but, although she was warned that the road was impassable owing to the fires, she hired a special conveyance and proceeded to Makuri. Before (Teaching that township her driver had had his hair and beard singed by the fires encircling the country through which they passed, and he says that he would not go through the same experience again for something. . Pongaroa is some distance from Makuri, and on Miss McCann's arrivals at the latter township she was told that it was impossible to go further, the road being blocked by trees burned down by the fire. At last advised she was enquiring for a conveyance to take her through, but it is unlikely that the school will open on Monday.

9th February 1898 A meeting was held at the school house last week for the purpose of finding way and means for the building of a Town Hall. The meeting was a very representative one, which went to show that an interest was to be taken in the matter.

2nd March 1898 Pongaroa: A lot of building material has arrived for the enlargement of the school.

9th March 1898 The two inspectors of the Wellington Education Board will visit Pongaroa on the 15th March

5th April 1898 The juvenile population of Pongaroa is growing rapidly. Some time ago the Education Board erected a school to contain about thirty children. Now additions to accommodate three times that number are needed, and the parents are calling out lustily. Timber from the mills cannot be carted, and the Board will have to secure, timber hand sawn on the spot.

27th May 1898 The new chairman of the school committee seems to be pushing school matters on. I notice some of the timber for the new school already on the site.

13th June 1898 The new school when built will accommodate 60 pupils, so said the Chairman at the last meeting.

15th August 1898 Our schoolmistress has met with an accident, scalding herself rather badly. The school is closed until further notice

2nd September 1898 At the monthly meeting of the Wellington Education Board on Wednesday, the application of the Pongaroa School Committee for £5 to clear the reserve was left in the hands of the chairman to deal with.

5th October 1898 The additions to the school are shortly to be proceeded with, and a start with the Town Hall may soon be looked for, which I hear is to be opened with a fancy dress ball.

16th November 1898 Mr J. McMillan is the successful tenderer for the school additions

7th December 1898 A meeting of those interested in sports was held in Mr Coe's boarding-house, a large number of persons being present. Mr J. H. Berry, J.P., was voted to the chair. The Chairman read the balance-sheet, which showed a credit balance of £4 13s. The sum of £2 was handed over to the school committee for the children's picnic which takes place about the 17th of this month

30th December 1898 The Pongaroa Town Hall was opened by a concert and dance on Boxing night, the building being packed.

1899

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|------|----|----------|----------|-----------|--|--------|------|----------|
| 1899 | 14 | Pongaroa | Rowntree | William W | | Master | £175 | \$31,052 |
|------|----|----------|----------|-----------|--|--------|------|----------|

4th January 1899 In a long article on the opening of the Pongaroa Town Hall and a sports Day was the measurements of the Town Hall

| | Hall | | | Changing | Rooms |
|--------|--------|-------|--|----------|-------|
| | Length | Width | | Length | Width |
| Feet | 40 | 20 | | 10 | 8 |
| Metres | 12.19 | 6.09 | | 3.05 | 2.44 |

11th January 1899 Part of a long article: The town of Pongaroa is still in its swaddling clothes. These consist of two accommodation houses within a couple of chains of each other, a store and post office, an abbreviated schoolhouse built on the extension principle, and a public hall on the eve of completion. The town is situated where the two main roads of the district—the Makuri-East Coast or Aohanga road and the Alfredton Weber road—intersect each other. The soil is of no great depth and rather poor in quality. The site of the township is a natural clearing, through which the Pongaroa river runs, but we cannot speak highly of the water, for it is of the colour of weak tea blended with black lead.

25th January 1899 Mr McMillan, the contractor for the school additions, has made a start, and shortly the scholars will have more breathing space.

22nd February 1899 Owing to the unsatisfactory report of the Visiting Committee the man of the School Committee, Mr Souness, J.P., has made arrangements for the carrying on of the school business in the Town Hall until such time as the school is finished. The contractor is stopped through want of timber.

27th February 1899 Inspector Fleming will visit Pongaroa School on the 7th March

8th March 1899 The average attendance at the Pongaroa School for January last was 39 with 52 on the roll

22nd March 1899 The school children went through their examination exceedingly well considering the irregular attendance of several of the scholars, The result speaks volumes of the capabilities of the the teacher, Miss McCann.

29th March 1899 A small quantity of metalling is being done not far from the schoolhouse, but the weather looks at present very gloomy. The Government seems to think the best time to start metalling is when winter sets in

2nd May 1899 The annual meeting of householders took place on Monday in the Town Hall, for the purpose of electing the School committee for the ensuing 12 months. It is surprising, if not to be deplored, what little interest is taken by parents in school matters in this locality. Only seventeen householders were present. The Chairman read the report of the doings for the past year. The Chairman then received nominations, The following gentlemen were nominated : Messrs Souness, Norman. ?, Gosling, McIntyre, Cowie, O'Brien Kelly and Shadbolt. Messrs Norman, Cowie and Shadbolt tied. The Chairman gave his casting votes on the two first letters in the alphabet, thus leaving the former gentlemen elected. The Committee met afterwards, and elected Mr NY. Souness chairman, and Mr T. O'Brien secretary and treasurer for the ensuing year.

3rd May 1899 Miss Mary A. McCann has resigned the teachership of the Pongaroa School, bub will remain in charge until the Education Board makes another appointment.

25th May 1899 Teacher Pongaroa Salary 155 Roll 27

26th June 1899 Wellington Education Board the Education Board will make several appointments at its meeting, on Wednesday next. Applications have been received for the following head teacherships; Pongaroa School, 32; - Makomako, 30; Parkvale, 19.

30th June 1899 The Education Board are to be complimented on the manner they attend to the wants of the country schools, if Pongaroa school can be taken as an example. The Board either wants new machinery or more ile(as written). A Pahiatua nurseryman has offered to supply shelter trees gratis for the grounds, and the committee want a wire fence to protect them from stock, but the Board appears to know the art of "single stick" fence better, for no fence goes up.

28th July 1899 The new school is to be opened with a social and dance in a few weeks' time.

14th August 1899 Mr. Rowntree, second assistant in the Rintoul-street School, is to be promoted to the charge of the Pongaroa School vice Miss McCann, resigned

28th November 1899 McMillan— McCann.— On 28th November, at St. Mary of the Angels, Boulcott-street, by the Rev. Father Devoy, George McMillan, of Blenheim, to Mary McCann, of Addison's, West Const. Westport papers please copy.

1st December 1899 At the meeting of the "Wellington Education Board on Wednesday it was decided to call for applications for a pupil teacher for the Pongaroa school.

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|-----------|---------------|--------|--------|----------|
| 1899/4820 | Mary Angelina | McCann | George | McMillan |
|-----------|---------------|--------|--------|----------|

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|------------|----------|--------------|---------------|--------|
| 1903/3891 | McMillan | Thomas James | Mary Angelina | George |
| 1904/10234 | McMillan | John William | Mary Angelina | George |

Mrs Mary McMillan taught in 1915 at Eketahuna School

[I can't find any more information about this family]

14th December 1899 Wellington Education Board decided to do in the holidays a brick chimney and fencing at Pongaroa

1900

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|------|----|----------|----------|-----------|--|----------------------|------|----------|
| 1900 | 35 | Pongaroa | Rowntree | William W | | Master | £175 | \$30,426 |
| 1900 | 35 | Pongaroa | Milner | Mary | | Female Pupil Teacher | £20 | \$3,477 |

12th Jan 1900 Pongaroa can now boast of a lady barber. Verily we are keeping ahead of the times.

24th January 1900 Pongaroa school has 2 applicants for the pupil teacher position at £20 a year pay

2nd February 1900 Telegrams Miss Mary Milner has been appointed pupil teacher of the Pongaroa School. Napier, Thursday.

1st March 1900 It was decided to inform Messrs W. W. Rowntree (Pongaroa), D. Bedingfield (Hamua) and J. Kay (Mauriceville) that the board could not pledge itself to take over buildings erected by teachers on the board's property.

1st March 1900 Wellington Education Board in a discussion on salaries said Mr Rowntree was being over paid by £85 a year but as the roll has since gone up he will be paid at the old rate

1st March 1900 The Board decided that it could not give a bonus to the pupil teacher at Hamua for having acted as head teacher, and that it ' could not accept offers to erect residences at Pongaroa and Hamua

26th March 1900 The newly-appointed assistant mistress of our school, Miss Milner, was highly spoken of in the Inspector's report at the examination of the school, and if parents will only do their share by sending their children to school, the teaching staff can be relied on to do theirs.

20th April 1900 The school ground has now been fenced in, and no doubt the incoming committee will take advantage of this autumn to have an arbor day celebration, and do some tree planting, &c.

26th April 1900 Wellington Education Board It was derided to procure an additional tank for the Pongaroa School

27th April 1900 The following gentlemen were elect d as a School Committee on Monday last ; Messrs Souness (chairman), T. O'Brien (secretary), W. Gosling, H. R. Smith, Hodder, C. Reid, and Cowie

22nd June 1900 Chicken-pox having broken out amongst the children attending the Pongaroa school, it has been deemed advisable to close the school until after the winter holidays.

26th July 1900 The contractor for the school, Mr McMillan, has commenced the building of the school.[Though the heading is Pongaroa not sure this is about the Pongaroa School]

26th July 1900 Wellington Education Board states Mr Rowntree's wages should be increased £20

15th October 1900 . On Friday evening, last week, we had a very pleasant " Social " in the Town Hill in aid of the school funds, and notwithstanding the great inclemency of the weather it was well attended and financially successful. This says a great deal for the interest

taken in matters educational, not only by the settlers in the district one and all, but also by many strangers from a distance who had come through miles of mud on our terrible roads in what afterwards turned out to be one of the severest storms of wind and rain experienced for some time. On leaving next morning they unanimously declared they had enjoyed the function thoroughly. How the success was achieved under the adverse circumstances can be told in a very few words. Our enterprising School Committee with Mr Souness as Chairman, and our no less energetic and deservedly popular headmaster Mr Rountree, having first carefully put the arrangements into shape, the ladies then took the matter up, and here lies the secret of success in a 'nutshell. It would seem superfluous to say more on this point, but it will long be remembered by those who enjoyed the treat, the abundance of the good things, substantial, sweet and piquant so amply contributed by the ladies of the district. Hot tea and coffee in abundance were also provided under serious difficulties from wind and rain. Mr J. Berry officiated as M.C., and did his duty to perfection, through a lengthy and varied programme. During the evening Miss Sinclair contributed three songs, "Daddy," "The Hazel Dell," and "Good old Geoff" in a charming unaffected style to her own accompaniment, and was heartily applauded. Mr Gould (Waione) sang "Island of Dreams" in splendid style, his rich baritone voice showing to great advantage. The applause which greeted this gentleman decidedly expressed a desire to hear him again. Miss Bambry in a clear sweet voice, and true to the letter, sang, "The Empress of the Waves," a most appropriate song in these times, which was very much enjoyed and applauded. Mr Coe, who kindly lent his piano for the occasion, also brought his graphophone, and gave several records, which were duly appreciated by old and young, although the effect was slightly marred by the roaring storm outside.

Mr Rountree gave a humorous recitation with several local references, which thoroughly pleased the audience. Regarding the duet by two dear, pretty mites, Misses Annie and Grace Burling, there was but one verdict, "It was wonderful." The song was "The Soldiers of the Queen," and its rendering by the two little ladies, both in time and tune, reflects the highest credit on Miss Milner, their teacher, who played the accompaniment in her usual excellent style.

The dance music was ably supplied by Mr Exley (melodion), whose musical ability is well known and highly appreciated here, assisted by Mr Ligartwood (piccolo) and Mr T. Eustage (violin), and gave the utmost satisfaction both in quality and quantity, to the votaries of the light fantastic. Of Miss Milner's playing of the dance music (piano) of which she took an ample share at intervals, it is not flattering to say that the unanimous verdict as to her perfect time and execution was "It was first rate." Looking at all the many difficulties to be contended with, our fearful roads (will they never be metalled?) and the great inclemency of the weather, the late social must be regarded as an unqualified success, and speaks volumes for the energy and tact of the management. Every one of the 50 odd couples enjoyed, the dancing and the very few wall flowers who were all men had an air of supreme happiness about them at once amusing and instructive, for, mark you, they were all engaged in nursing the babies, till next dance. . . .,

The hall was very artistically decorated all round with evergreens consisting of nikau palms, cabbage trees and ferns in abundance, with lovely festoons of clematis in full bloom, nothing being left undone to make the scene attractive, and the pretty dresses of the ladies as their

graceful figures glided through the intricacies of the dances (and they can dance here in the true sense of the word) made a very pleasant picture to the eye of the onlooker.

31st October 1900 Pongaroa The wind has been playing havoc in Pongaroa. It blew the chimney down at the school, besides nearly unroofing both Messrs Groves, and Hennessey's residences on the Pongaroa road.

12th December 1900 A presentation is to be made to Miss Milner, our teacher, who is severing her connection with the school to enter the holy state of matrimony. Every parent will be sorry to lose such a painstaking and energetic teacher, and all will join in wishing her every happiness for the future.

13th December 1900 Miss Milner pupil teacher Pongaroa Resigned from Wellington Education Board

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| 1900/5425 | Mary Milner | John Denis | Murphy |
|-----------|-------------|------------|--------|

1901-1902

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|------|----|----------|----------|-----------|--|----------------------|------|----------|
| 1901 | 40 | Pongaroa | Rowntree | William W | | Master | £175 | \$29,544 |
| 1901 | 40 | Pongaroa | Bairstow | Jane | | Female Pupil Teacher | £20 | \$3,376 |
| 1902 | 48 | Pongaroa | Rowntree | William W | | Master | £175 | \$28,852 |
| 1902 | 48 | Pongaroa | Woodward | Elizabeth | | Assistant Female | £80 | \$13,190 |

27th February 1901 Carterton, This Day. I learn that Miss J, Bairstow, of Clareville, has accepted a position at the Pongaroa school

7th March 1901 Wellington Education Board Salaries W Rowntree Pongaroa Salary £195 Deficiency £120 [The salary is actually £175 but Mr Rowntree got an extra £20 because no school residence was provided

27th March 1901 Wellington Education Board re salaries again Pongaroa £195, increase £25, and pupil teacher £25, increase £5 Attendance 37

23rd April 1901 School Committee Pongaroa. — Messrs. H. R. Smith (Chairman), Berry, Brenton, Cowie, and Gosling.

1st November 1901 The application of the Pongaroa School committee for a school residence, which came before the Wellington Education Board on Wednesday, was deferred

26th February Elizabeth Woodward passed the D Examination for Teachers in the Wellington district. Elizabeth Woodward had a distinguished teaching career with the Wellington Education Board

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|------|-----|---------------------|----------|-----------|----|----------------------|
| 1898 | 671 | Clyde Quay | Woodward | Elizabeth | | Female Pupil Teacher |
| 1899 | 494 | Mount Cook Girls' | Woodward | Elizabeth | | Female Pupil Teacher |
| 1900 | 456 | Mount Cook Girls' | Woodward | Elizabeth | | Female Pupil Teacher |
| 1901 | 462 | Mount Cook Girls' | Woodward | Elizabeth | | Female Pupil Teacher |
| 1902 | 48 | Pongaroa | Woodward | Elizabeth | | Assistant Female |
| 1903 | 363 | Mount Cook Infants' | Woodward | Elizabeth | D4 | Assistant Female |
| 1904 | 392 | Mount Cook Infants' | Woodward | Elizabeth | D4 | Assistant Female |
| 1905 | 22 | Matahiwi | Woodward | Elizabeth | D3 | Female |

| | | | | | | |
|------|-------------|----------------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|
| 1906 | 17 | Matahiwi | Woodward | Elizabeth | D3 | Female |
| 1907 | 140 | Mitchelltown | Woodward | Elizabeth | D2 | Assistant Female |
| 1908 | 143 | Mitchelltown | Woodward | Elizabeth | D2 | Assistant Female |
| 1909 | 166 | Mitchelltown | Woodward | Elizabeth | D2 | Assistant Female |
| 1910 | 180 | Mitchelltown | Woodward | Elizabeth | D2 | Assistant Female |
| 1911 | 207 | Mitchelltown | Woodward | Elizabeth | D2 | Assistant Female |
| 1912 | 213 | Mitchelltown | Woodward | Elizabeth | D2 | Assistant Female |
| 1913 | 241 | Mitchelltown | Woodward | Elizabeth | D2 | Assistant Female |
| 1914 | 757 | Te Aro / 2 Side Schools | Woodward | Elizabeth | D2 | Assistant Female |
| 1915 | 768 | Te Aro / 2 Side Schools | Woodward | Elizabeth | D2 | Assistant Female |
| 1917 | 461/139/201 | Te Aro / Mitchelltown/Infants | Woodward | Elizabeth | D-60 | Assistant |
| 1919 | 486/166/182 | Te Aro / Mitchelltown/Infants | Woodward | Elizabeth | D-59 | Assistant |
| 1921 | 707 | Lyall Bay | Woodward | Elizabeth | D | Assistant |
| 1923 | 857/13 | Newtown /Hospital | Woodward | Elizabeth | D- 118 | Assistant |

And she may have taught after 1923

4th March 1902 J. Bairstow, Pongaroa to To Aro.

Jane Bairstow started her teaching career at Pongaroa From there she spent 4 years at Te Aro school in Wellington before going to Kaori for one year and from 1908 to 1910 she taught at South Wellington school. Though she taught in Wellington Schools she appears to have sat all her teaching exams in Masterton

Jane Eleanor Bairstow was registered in the Wairarapa Electorate for three of the 4 registrations The last in 1914

13th June 1911 At St.' Mark's .Church on Thursday last Miss Janey Bairstow, eldest daughter of Mrs Bairstow of Clareville, was married to Mr Percy- H. Hughes, of Auckland. The Rev. E. Young .was the officiating minister. A reception was held later at the residence of the bride s mother. Clareville.

17th March 1902 Messrs. Fleming and : Bakewell, the Education Board's Inspectors, returned on Saturday from a tour of three weeks in the back country. Mr. Fleming's work was among the schools in the Wangaehu, Alfredton, Tinui, and Castlepoint districts. Mr. Bakewell . worked in the Pongaroa district, which lies 40 miles beyond Pahiatua. They found the country was in. a very dry state, and in need of rain. The Inspectors return to the country again this week to continue their work.

27th March 1902 Urgent applications for enlargement or improvement of buildings, so as to put an end to overcrowding, were received from the Horowhenua, Petone, Shannon, Pongaroa, and Kaituna Committees. The Board decided to call for tenders for the necessary work in all cases but that of Shannon, concerning which the Clerk of Works is to report

29th March 1902 Wellington Education Board has left the appointment of a teacher for the Pongaroa school in the hands of the chairman.

30th April 1902 [from our own correspondent] . Pongaroa This day. The Pongaroa householders failed to elect a school committee on Monday.

30th April 1902 THE LETTER BOX. Pongaroa, April 20th 1902 Dear Uncle Toby,—The roads are getting very bad now. We are very glad there is to be such a big surplus this year,

and father thinks a little of it might be spent on the roads in the backblocks. People are busy ordering and getting their stores in for the winter, as the roads will soon be quite impassable for vehicles. My little brother has a very bad cold and is very patient with it. Good-bye.—I am, your loving niece, ‘ ’ M. WINTER

Pongaroa, April 20th, 1902. Dear Uncle Toby,—May I become one of your nieces? I go to school, and I am in the fifth standard. Three of us go -to school. Sometimes we ride an old horse named Mac; he is very stubborn. One day we were going to school, when Mac ran away with my brother and I in the “tea-tree.” We have twelve fowls, six Plymouth Rocks, and six Minorca’s. and I feed them every night and morning. Good-bye.— I am your loving niece,
LILY WINTER.

Certainly: Your letter is well written, as also is your sister’s.

4th June 1902 UNCLE TOBY’S LETTER-BOX. Pongaroa, May 25, 1902.

Dear Uncle Toby,—I have not written for a long time, because I have not been at home. We have a black bull calf named “King Edward”; he is six months old. We are not going to school now, as the roads are too bad. Our flower garden is looking very green now. There are not any flowers out, but there are some wall-flowers and violets in bud. This is all I have to say. Good-bye.— I remain, your loving niece, LILY WINTER. Aged 10. Pongaroa,

May 25th, 1902. Dear Uncle Toby,—We have had very wet weather here just lately. Some of us went to hear a lecture about “India ’ which was conducted by the Rev. J. H. P. Lang. There were about one hundred there. We were shown how the sexes were dressed in India. We have two cows I in milk, but they are not giving much now. Hoping you may have more correspondents, I will say good-bye.—I am, • your loving niece, M. WINTER. Aged 13.

[Uncle Toby is pleased to hear from his little correspondents at Pongaroa.—

20th August 1902 A case of alleged starving of a child in this district comes before the Dannevirke S.M. shortly.

1903-1908

| | | | | | | | | |
|------|----|----------|-----------|------------|-----|------------------|------|----------|
| 1903 | 46 | Pongaroa | Gould | William H | | Headmaster | £165 | \$27,339 |
| 1903 | 46 | Pongaroa | Oliver | Emily | | Mistress | £80 | \$13,255 |
| 1904 | 53 | Pongaroa | Gould | William H | | Headmaster | £162 | \$26,826 |
| 1904 | 53 | Pongaroa | Oliver | Emily | | Mistress | £80 | \$13,247 |
| 1905 | 52 | Pongaroa | Gould | William H | D1 | Headmaster | £168 | \$26,581 |
| 1905 | 52 | Pongaroa | Jacobsen | Alice G | Lic | Mistress | £85 | \$13,443 |
| 1906 | 52 | Pongaroa | Gould | William H | D1 | Headmaster | £180 | \$27,974 |
| 1906 | 52 | Pongaroa | Jacobsen | Alice G | Lic | Assistant Female | £90 | \$13,987 |
| 1907 | 54 | Pongaroa | Gould | William H | C1 | Headmaster | £180 | \$28,219 |
| 1907 | 54 | Pongaroa | Jacobsen | Alice G | Lic | Assistant Female | £90 | \$14,109 |
| 1908 | 56 | Pongaroa | Gould | William H | C1 | Headmaster | £180 | \$28,219 |
| 1908 | 56 | Pongaroa | Battersby | Margaret N | D5 | Assistant Female | £90 | \$14,109 |

2nd February 1903 The chairman of the school committee informs us that the committee gives a concert shortly in aid of the school funds

11th February 1903 The concert to be given in aid of the funds of the Pongaroa public school promises to be a great success, should the weather be fine. Mr J. H. Berry chairman, has secured the leading talent of the district,

27th March 1903 Wellington Education Board A tender of £42 was accepted for extending a classroom at the Pongaroa school

6th May 1903 Miss Woodward appointed an assistant at £80 from Pongaroa. Miss Oliver pupil teacher at Clyde Quay school to be promoted in place of Miss Woodward.

11th July 1903 Mr W Rountree of Pongaroa visited the Tourist Department [Presumably in Wellington as paper was the Evening Post of Wellington

10th August 1903 Mr Rountree, head teacher at the Pongaroa school, is leaving here at the end of the month to take up a similar position at the Worser Bay School, Wellington. Mr Rountree has worked wonders during his four years stay here in trimming up the young colonial for the future, and his departure will be much regretted by parents and children alike.

16th September 1903 Mr Kirk of Wellington appointed to succeed Mr Rowntree as head teacher at Pongaroa

25th September 1903 Wellington Education Board appoints Mr Gould at Present in charge of Waione School to the Pongaroa School

7th October 1903 Owing to the protest sent to the Education Board by the Pongaroa School Committee re appointment of teachers by the Board, and thus ignoring the local committee, the Board have now decided to allow the Committee's selection of Mr Gould, of the Waione School, who will shortly take up his appointment here. Mr Kirk, I understand will take Mr Gould's place at Waione. A presentation is to be made to Mr Rountree by the pupils of the Pongaroa School.

28th October 1903 Mr W. W. Rountree says good-bye to this district on the 30th of this month. A presentation is to be made him by the children of the school. He takes up his new duties at Worser Bay school early in November

30th October 1903 Our Pongaroa correspondent telegraphs:—Wednesday was a red-letter day amongst the school children here and the parents too. On that day a great send off was given to Mr W. Rountree, headmaster of the Pongaroa school for the past few years, who is leaving to take up the position of headmaster of the Worser Bay school, near Wellington. Gertrude O'Brien one of the pupils made a presentation to Mr Rountree of a Rotherain keyless watch inscribed "Presented to Mr Rountree by the Pongaroa School children 1903. Mr Rountree returned thanks and bespoke the same attention to duties from the children during his successor's sojourn amongst them as had been given to him. Tea was served and a happy time spent. Mr Rountree left yesterday."

9th March 1904 Inspector Bakewell examined the Pongaroa School on the 5th Inst

14th March 1904 The Pongaroa school examination shows excellent results

7th May 1904 IT must be intensely galling to the great panjandrums of the best-educated people in the Empire to notice that there is no violent rush of highly-educated young New Zealanders at present to grasp a billet under the Education Department. The said highly-educated ones want a rain-proof whare to live in, and money enough to buy decent, victuals, clothes, books, and other creature comforts. They desire to be treated as human creatures with hopes, aspirations, and stomachs. ••• The powers that be, who are absolutely glistening with love for the suffering toiler in this little paradise of ours, allow the very best teachers they

have to leave the service because there isn't a decent living in it. Take the case of the Rangitumau teacher. A married man, with £135 a year No doubt, he had to sweat hard, night and day, to be able to draw that miserable salary from a Government that insists that carpenters in the same district shall get £3 6s a week. • * * Why doesn't the teacher knock off teaching, and saw wood ? Isn't it a shame that he should have had to grind away at his books for so wretched a wage, while the man who needn't use his brains, but only his brawn, is protected and exalted, petted, and patted on the back, and generally glorified? Is it in the least likely that New Zealanders with brains will use them for school teaching when they find that with the smallest application of skill, or no skill at all, but only brute strength, they may earn a far better wage with their hands than they could do with their heads. • • » The teaching profession, one of the noblest and most necessary in a land that swells its chest and calls itself well-educated, is, in its lower grades at least, a mere sweating institution. Despite the shortness of the hours, the many holidays, and the various alleged compensations, it is essentially a more trying occupation than that of any union of mechanics. It is becoming increasingly difficult to enter, and it is becoming increasingly odious when it is entered. Imagine the absurd restrictions imposed upon the Pongaroa teacher the other day. The man couldn't get decent accommodation, so he asked to be allowed to lease an inconsiderable area of the school reserve. The wiseacres of the Education Board decided that he should not be allowed to lease the land. He could put a house on it at his own expense, and might make arrangements with a possible successor for its purchase ' Suppose the other fellow didn't want to purchase? Supposing the Board "sacked" him, and told him to clear his house off its land, a proceeding that would be strictly legal? • • • The Board practically gives its employee permission to make it a present of a free house. Generosity, thy name is Education. The deplorable "humpies" that many teachers in New Zealand are forced to live in, the incessant worrying they are subjected to from Committees, sometimes ignorant and sometimes influenced by petty motives, the low salaries, the absence of any reasonable consideration from the authorities, are the reasons why so many teachers are not teaching any longer. The Boards meet, and stupidly ask, what are we to do? The answer is, treat them like New Zealand working men. Let them share some of the fat of the land with the carpenter, the baker, the driver, and sausage skin maker

17th January 1906 Mr W. H. Gould, master of the Pongaroa School, has set aside a fresh and more suitable site for the children's garden, where instruction in cottage gardening will be taught them this season.

6th March 1906 During the coming year the Wellington Education Board proposes to effect repairs to the schools at Mangahao, Mangamahoe, Tane, Wairere, Kakariki, Pongaroa, Alfredton, Hamua, Hastwell, Ihurua, Mangamaire, Nikau, Scarborough, Eketahuna and Rakaunui.

7th March 1906 The children of the Pongaroa, Waione and Horoeka Public Schools have been spending a holiday at Akitio where they were kindly entertained by Mr and Mrs F. Armstrong. A cricket match (adults) was played on Saturday, between a team from Waione and the employees of the station, after an interesting game the home team won by fifty-two runs. The proceedings were wound up by a very enjoyable concert and dance in the evening.

30th March 1906 In regard to Pongaroa's request for a school, it was decided to ask the Education Department to provide the necessary money for the provision of a school and

residence there.[This is either all fake news or maybe they want extra classroom space at Pongaroa]

30th March 1906 progress report from Mr Davies, agricultural instructor, was received. This showed that at two of the centres, Masterton and Greytown, preparations for carrying out agricultural instruction , in connection with the district high schools are in an advanced stage, and classes should soon be in full swing. The schools already recognised and drawing capitation for classes in agriculture are Mauriceville West, Kaiparoro, Rongokokaho, Makomako, Waione, and Dreyerton. Schools making application for recognition of classes are Carterton, Park Vale, Gladstone, Ballance, Konini, Pongaroa, Rakanui, Mangatiti, and Hukanui. Mangahao and Ngaturi schools have commenced operations but are too small to earn capitation.

29th June 1906 Wellington Education Board authorises metalling and kerbing

13th June 1907 Mr R. B. Ross, M.H.R., visited the Pongaroa School when in this district, and expressed himself pleased With what he saw.

26th September 1907 Mrs Gould wife of Mr W. ,H. Gould, head teacher at the Pongaroa school, died, suddenly on "Tuesday morning from heart- failure.

So Emily Oliver came to teach at Pongaroa after spending 5 years as a pupil teacher at Clyde Quay school and marries her Head Teacher in 1904. She had One child William Oliver

| | | | | |
|-----------|-------|--------|----------------|-------|
| 1904/6746 | Emily | Oliver | William Horace | Gould |
| 1907/5614 | Gould | Emily | | 26Y |

| | | | | |
|------------|-------|----------------|-------|----------------|
| 1905/18515 | Gould | William Oliver | Emily | William Horace |
|------------|-------|----------------|-------|----------------|

And in 1909 Marries a relation of Emily Oliver? [Same Surname]

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|--------|----------------|-------|
| 1909/1607 | Eliza Charlotte | Oliver | William Horace | Gould |
|-----------|-----------------|--------|----------------|-------|

MARRIAGE GOULD —OLIVER.—On April 6th, by Rev. W .Shirer, William Horace, third son late Rowland Gould, to Eliza Charlotte (Lylie), eldest daughter Captain W. E. Oliver, of Sydney, N.S.W.

Alice G Jacobsen started teaching in 1903 at Otaki School and then spent three years at Pongaroa and six more years at Martinborough School before marrying

| | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|----------|--------------------|------|
| 1914/7204 | Alice Grace | Jacobsen | Murdoch Sutherland | Ross |
|-----------|-------------|----------|--------------------|------|

Margaret N Battersby started at Thorndon in 1903 as a third year Pupil Teacher, spent the one year at Pongaroa before going to Wadestown school where she was still teaching in 1923 as Infant Mistress when my records end.

There is only 1 Margaret Battersby recorded as dying in Wellington and that was in 1984 when Margaret Battersby aged 97 was cremated

24th January 1908 The township is full of children, who have been brought in from the outlying districts. . Distressing accounts continue to pour in hourly of settlers' losses of 'stock, buildings,, and grass. The Maku School has been destroyed.....

5th February 1908 Miss Jacobsen late of the Pongaroa School commences her new duties at the Martinborough School on Monday

12th February 1908 The annual picnic of the Pongaroa School will be held on Friday next, when the distribution of prizes will take place

13th February 1908 Assistant mistress Miss M Battersby appointed

28th February 1908 THE TEN COMMANDMENTS. The Scripture-sheet containing the Ten Commandments, recently authorised by the Wellington Education Board to be hung in the schools of this district, was under discussion by the Board yesterday. It seems that one committee—Pongaroa—has refused to have anything to do with the sheet. Mr Vile asked what were the secretary's instructions in the matter? Mr Stewart replied that copies of the sheet had been forwarded to the committees with the request that the sheet should be hung on the school walls. Mr Vile did not think that the decision of the Board should be set at defiance by the members of a School Committee. The secretary stated that he had had no refusal up to the present. Mr Vile: "The Pongaroa School Committee, so I read in the Pahiatua paper, has absolutely refused to place it in its school. I think we should be more emphatic.. The Board should issue instructions to the headmaster to comply with the Board's decision." No action was taken.

7th March 1908 Free Lance: Pongaroa is in active eruption, and: the whole vicinity is excited and disturbed. The outbreak was quite unexpected, and its effects are being, very distinctly felt in Wellington. The quaking's and lightnings and tempest of Sinai when first the decalogue was handed down to Moses from the clouds are child's play by comparison. And curiously enough the* trouble is all happening over the same decalogue. An order to "Hang the Ten Commandments" started the trouble Another instance of history repeating itself. Mr. Vile, of the Wellington Education Board, has assumed the role of Moses, the law giver, and the game goes on to the tune of slow music.

The Wellington Education Board ordered all the schools in the district to hang on the wall a sheet containing a copy of the decalogue. But Pongaroa has refused to have anything to do with the sheet. Whether they have religious scruples, or whether they have got ahead of Moses, and don't need ten commandments, isn't quite clear At any rate, the Wellington Board have been trying to find out. A member asked what were the secretary's instructions in the matter. Mr. Vile "The Pongaroa School Committee has absolutely refused to place it in their school. The Board should issue instructions to the headmaster to comply with the Board's decision." No action was taken. This is an age of religious freedom, anyhow.

20th April 1908 At the monthly meeting of the Pongaroa School Committee on Monday, 13th inst, the Decalogue came in for the largest share of discussion. At the previous meeting the committee moved a resolution to the effect "That while no doubt the motives of the donor of the chart were sincere, the committee considered that to hang it up in the State schools would be an infringement of the present Education Act, and that the proper place for it was the Sunday school." A letter was received from the head teacher stating that owing to instructions from the Board he was unable to comply with the committee's resolution. Mr Allen, who was absent from the previous meeting, contended that the committee had no power, and should not dictate to the Board. The chairman maintained that the committee had never had the slightest wish to dictate; the resolution passed was as courteous as possible, but they declined to be dictated to by the Board in what was evidently an attempt to introduce the thin edge of

denominational teaching in the State schools, thus constituting a breach of the existing Education Act which was equally on Boards or committees, and they were still of the same opinion.

Mr James McDonald also spoke to the same effect.

Mr Allen upheld the action of the Board, which he said was better qualified to judge than the Pongaroa Committee. which, being the only objector, was claiming to represent the brains of the whole district.

Mr Ligertwood ; It is not a question of brains. Would Mr Allen say distinctly whether the action of the Board was or was not a direct violation of the present Act?

Mr Alien: I am not so well versed in the Education Act.

Mr Ligertwood : Just so. Then your opinion can only be one-sided. The speaker characterised the reported utterance of Mr Vile as a feeble attempt to get out of a difficulty. The committee had quite as much reverence for the Decalogue as Mr Vile or the Bible-in-schools party, from whom this little experiment had originated; but they had also a reverence for the existing laws of the Dominion.

It was moved by Mr Berry, seconded by Mr Ligertwood. and carried: "That the Decalogue be left in the school till the householders' meeting, and it be then explained to them before election that this committee objects to the chart being hung up in the school and considers that so doing is a direct violation of the present Education Act. and are of opinion that the Sunday school is the proper place for it."

1st May 1908 At a meeting of householders at Pongaroa it was discovered that two persons who voted at the election were ineligible, not being householders. A statement to that effect has been sent to the chairman of the Education Board, signed by the two scrutineers, and requesting him to declare the election void.

7th May 1908 The Education Board has voted £6 for a new range at the teacher's residence at Kopuaranga, and a similar sum for a school bell at Pongaroa.

29th May 1908 With regard to. The protest from Pongaroa, 'it was decided that no action be taken, : as the irregularity complained of did not affect the result.

20th June 1908 The Pongaroa School Committee has returned to the Education Board the copy of the Ten Commandments which had been presented to it in common with other schools, and the Makuri School Committee has asked that the Decalogue be removed from the walls of the school. The Board will no doubt be pleased to receive the copies, as there is a demand for more from the larger schools.

25th August 1908 Otaki Miss Ingliss has been appointed to take charge, vice Miss Woodward transferred to Pongaroa.

30th October 1908 The Education Board has granted permission to the Headmaster of the Pongaroa School to remove his residence to a more suitable site.

Victoria University In Memorium Professor Gould

IN MEMORIAM Professor Gould

The death of Emeritus Professor W. H. Gould, late Professor of Education in Victoria College, has closed not only the life of a man and of a career, but has brought to a close a life

that was in many ways a document in the history of New Zealand education, as well as in the history of the New Zealand mind. For his life and work traversed not only some fifty years in the development of our education system, but were, as it were, the epitome of the pioneering spirit. His most outstanding qualities were those most commonly forged in the give and take of pioneering a humanitarian radicalism—directness, a warm desire to help others, moral courage, quickness of emotional feeling, and candid outspokenness, and these were the foundations of his philosophy. He was an unpretentious, uncomplicated man, risen from the common people.

William Horace Gould was born in London in 1877, the year of New Zealand's first National Education Act, and, coming to the Hutt at a very early age, received his schooling in one of the first schools to come under the operation of the Act. By his own account his boyhood days were wild, irreverent, impetuous and spirited, severely disciplined and imaginatively rebellious. He was the authentic boy of those pioneering days, and the zest for life that sent him only too often to prepare a rope for his own belabouring in the rope-walk run by his father, was transmuted later into a rare feeling for the underdog, the dispossessed, and the merely young.

Perhaps it was this feeling that took him into teaching. For seven years, straight from the primary school (for the Hutt then boasted no secondary school) he served as a pupil-teacher, pursuing his post-primary studies at the same time as he was learning to teach, for this was the only way that Wellington teachers could be trained before the Wellington Teachers' Training College was opened, of which later he became Principal. He never forgot his pupil-teaching experience, often telling of the wretched status of the teacher then, whether fully-fledged or pupil-teacher. For years his annual pay was some £40 or £50, to rise in the seventh year of service to about £90. This experience contributed greatly to his mature educational philosophy. The indignity and the drudgery (Where classes customarily in the larger schools were in the region of a hundred pupils), and the humiliation of the teacher as a person through his compelled apprenticeship to a prodigious technique (in days devoted to Herbartian teaching), were without doubt a source from which sprang the emphasis in his teaching, as Training College Principal and Professor of Education, upon the personality of the teacher. his stature, his cultivation, and his autonomy.

As son of a highly skilled craftsman he inherited a mechanical ingenuity rare among University teachers. This ingenuity that later entered into his educational thought, was developed by the practical values of a community that placed a premium upon improvisation and handiness. Early in his career it served him in good stead when he went up country to the Pongaroa district to teach school. The story goes that there he was at first compelled to find shelter under a fallen tree, before he secured a tent as the school house, which remained his home until he built, with his own hands, a home for his wife and family. Those who knew him loved him for his enthusiastic capacity to improvise, a zeal that found its most characteristic expression in pottering at his Swiss Family (or was it Heath?) Robinson bach down the Sounds, in making ever more and more dinghys and motor-launches, in acquiring a succession of derelict engines, or in drawing with tireless gusto ingenious and innumerable plans for surprising ventures of first-class engineering magnitude. Here was the essential New Zealander—and here too was a source of his philosophy. He never could bear the

narrow book-bound intellectual, nor could he conceive education purely in terms of the literary tradition, and the intellectual skills.

After some seventeen years in the primary service he accepted the position of Director of Education in Tonga and Principal of the Tongan Boys' College. His work in Tonga was important and indeed revolutionary, and his report on problems of Pacific Island education anticipated by many years more enlightened views that are now held about native education.

Shortly after his return to New Zealand he was appointed an Inspector of Schools, the first to be appointed, he often claimed, after the inspectors were placed under the control of the Education Department. Thus began his great collegueship with F. H. Bakewell, who had singled him out earlier for preferment, and who valued his advice so much that he found it necessary at times to keep him in Wellington by the simple ruse of refusing to appoint him to positions he applied for in such wildernesses as Tawa Flat. Bakewell was an original, and so too was the young Gould. Each relied on the other for moral support and intellectual stimulation, and the influence of the one extended far into the work of the other. Perhaps the most significant event in Professor Gould's life was when "Old Blakey" asked for him as he lay dying.

The best years of his life, and those during which his influence and contribution were most outstanding, were the twenties and early thirties, first as Principal of the Wellington Teachers' Training College, and then as Professor of Education. He expounded a liberal educational philosophy that was consciously felt by his students of the time as a challenge to the growing spirit of authoritarianism that was then typical of the Education Department, and for that matter the profession as a whole. His unique contribution was to coalesce the humane and liberal spirit of the Hadow Reports, and the teachings of Percy Nunn, with his own indigenous philosophy, and to give to a whole generation of teachers a new view of childhood and new aims for their teaching. Only those who were his students or his colleagues during these years understand how important a part he played in preparing teachers, legislators and administrators to seek and to welcome the reforms of the later '30's and of to-day. This is his memorial.

1909-1914

| | | | | | | | | |
|------|----|----------|---------|-----------|----|------------------|------|----------|
| 1909 | 54 | Pongaroa | Murray | William T | D2 | Headmaster | £180 | \$28,604 |
| 1909 | 54 | Pongaroa | Magill | Maggie E | | Assistant Female | £90 | \$14,302 |
| 1910 | 50 | Pongaroa | Murray | William T | D2 | Headmaster | £185 | \$29,002 |
| 1910 | 50 | Pongaroa | Magill | Maggie E | D4 | Assistant Female | £95 | \$14,893 |
| 1911 | 49 | Pongaroa | Murray | William T | D2 | Headmaster | £190 | \$30,049 |
| 1911 | 49 | Pongaroa | Magill | Maggie E | D4 | Assistant Female | £95 | \$15,024 |
| 1912 | 52 | Pongaroa | Murray | William T | D2 | Headmaster | £195 | \$29,905 |
| 1912 | 52 | Pongaroa | Magill | Maggie E | D4 | Assistant Female | £105 | \$16,103 |
| 1913 | 56 | Pongaroa | Murray | William T | D2 | Headmaster | £195 | \$29,250 |
| 1913 | 56 | Pongaroa | McManus | Mary | | Assistant Female | £90 | \$13,500 |
| 1914 | 59 | Pongaroa | Murray | William T | D1 | Headmaster | £210 | \$30,066 |
| 1914 | 59 | Pongaroa | McManus | Mary | | Assistant Female | £90 | \$12,885 |

29th January 1909 Miss Battersby Pongaroa resigned

22nd March 1909 Mr. Gould, headmaster of the Pongaroa School, will succeed Mr. Blake as assistant at the To Aro School

24th March 1909 Some alterations in the examination and inspection of schools in the Wellington district are projected by the local board's inspectors for 1909. A rough outline of the changes proposed is as follows : — With the exception of schools J in the Pongaroa and Te Nui districts, and a few other outlying schools, the visit paid to a school during the earlier part of the year will be an inspection visit of which no previous notice will be given. The second visit, of which the statutory ten days' notice will be given, and on which the annual report will be based, will, as a rule, be paid in the latter part of the year. This will be the visit more especially mentioned in the regulations as the "annual visit." In the case of the schools particularised above, previous arrangements are to be adhered to in view of the fact that, owing to the condition of the roads in winter, and the distances the majority of the people have to travel, the best and most continuous work is done in these districts in the summer months.

26th March 1909 Some of the worst offenders in the matter of non-attendance are the children of members of school committees, says Mr. Dineen, Truant Inspector under the Wellington Education Board, who has lately been on a tour through the backblocks about Pongaroa and Weber, on the edge of Hawkes Bay. Certain of the children boarded out by the Education Department in these country districts, according to the inspector's report, were not making satisfactory attendances for various reasons, such as milking, haymaking, and baby-minding. During his tour the official ran across a family of six, whose ages ranged from 3 ½ to 13 ½ years. Morning and evening four of the children milked 29 cows, while the stepfather accounted for six. The children were motherless, and their lives were not exactly a bed of roses. Though forced to work strenuously, the youngsters appeared to the inspector to be well cared for. The board's secretary had forwarded the item through the department to an officer there whose duties included such cases, and the board endorsed his action.

17th May 1909 Wellington Education Board appointment Headmaster Mr W G Murray from Hastwell. Assistant Mistress Miss E Bannister

28th May 1909 Wellington Education Board Protests against the elections' of school committees at Upper Hutt and Pongaroa were disallowed, the board considering that the elections had been conducted in good faith

30th July 1909 Wellington Education Board resolved to refer to the School Committee re the Lease of the school site

1st October 1909 Wellington Education Board That works at Pahiatua (outbuildings),; Pongaroa. (fencing), .and Taueru (fencing site : and residence repairs): be referred to the clerk of works for report. [This was a classic way of avoiding doing something employed by the Wellington Education Board right up to its demise]

That various applications from Kilbirnie, Marima, Taueru (removing allowance), "Upper Hutt, Pongaroa (use of site for 'brickworks'); and Khandallah be declined.

16th March 1910 On Sunday Bishop Wallis, who is visiting the Pongaroa district, held service in the school to a good congregation. Bishop Wallis, .accompanied by Mrs Wallis and the Vicar (Rev. G. B. Stephenson) motored from Pongaroa.

26th April 1910 School Committee PONGAROA, This Day. The following were elected: Messrs J. Berry, James McDonald (Chairman) and A. McDonald, 12 votes; J. McIntyre (Secretary), 11; Rev. Rattray and M. Kayser, 9; P. B. Ligertwood, 7. There is very little alteration in the constitution of the committee.

1st June 1910 Wellington Education Board approved repair of sashes [For the younger readers Born later than c1960 sashes were ropes that were in built used to raise and lower tall windows]

31st August 1910 Wellington Education Board Fencing reserve for teacher £7 15 shillings

20th September 1910 The ordinary meeting of the committee of the Pongaroa Public Library was held at Miss Ward's house last Thursday evening. The secretary reported that a sum of £9 2s was in hand for the purchase of books and general purposes and that there was 202 books in the library. After fully considering a list of books recommended by the librarian- at Lower Hutt, it was resolved to purchase about fifty books at a cost of £7. The committee' mow trust that the library will be strongly supported by the public as every care has been taken to obtain books that will be appreciated. A full list of the names and authors of the books* will appear in a later issue

13th December 1910 Wellington Education Board The clerk of works was instructed to report upon the offer of residence at Pongaroa

17th February 1911 A back blocker named Frederick Johnson, who lives near Pongaroa, has been fined fifty-three shillings in all for failing to send his child to school the number of times required by the Education Act And he is a member the school committee, too.

29th March 1911 Wellington Education Board If the secretary obtains a definite and suitable offer from Mr. Gould, application will be made to the defendant [Sic I think this should be department] for a sum sufficient to purchase- and improve the building offered for purposes of a teacher's residence at Pongaroa. —

25th April 1911 PONGAROA. Committee: Messrs J. Berry (chairman), P. B. Ligertwood (secretary), R. 'Morris, J. McDonald, A. McDonald and A. Dickens.

26th April 1911 The offer of Mr Gould of a teacher's residence at Pongaroa has been accepted by the Education Board, subject to a grant being authorised.

5th May 1911 The census return for the Akitio County

| Riding | Males | Females | Total |
|-----------|-------|---------|-------|
| Waihi | 271 | 220 | 491 |
| Rakaunui | 98 | 76 | 174 |
| Mataikona | 72 | 18 | 90 |
| Akitio | 115 | 29 | 144 |
| Pongaroa | 302 | 220 | 522 |
| Total | 858 | 563 | 1421 |

22nd May 1911 Pongaroa may be in the backblocks, but its official residents seem to acquire merit during their stay (writes a correspondent). The two last schoolmasters left, us for Worser Bay and Te Aro, and the present popular vicar is soon leaving for Petone, while the postmistress (Miss Woodman) is under orders to proceed at once to Wellington. 'During her three year stay among us ' Miss woodman' has shown herself very obliging and has discharged her duties very satisfactorily under trying conditions. When word came that Miss

Woodman was leaving, the ladies organised a farewell "social" at very short notice, and in spite of a drenching wet night a large company 'assembled on Wednesday evening to wish Miss Woodman every happiness in her new sphere. Mr. Rattray conveyed to Miss Woodman the good' v wishes of the residents of Pongaroa and the surrounding districts, and in token of their appreciation presented her with a handsome crescent-shaped ruby and pearl brooch. The ladies provided refreshments, and proceedings closed with singing "Auld Lang Syne."

3rd July 1911 Mr R. B. Ross, M.P., waited on the Wellington Education Board last week to place before the Board the school I needs of settlers at the back of Pongaroa. , The settlers were willing to provide both a school and a teacher. All they wanted was the Board to guarantee the capitation £6. The member for Pahiatua pointed out the difficulties and hardships entailed in bad weather on the young children by the distance at which the school was situated. The settlers in question desired than an aided school at Manuhara, on the estate of one of the settlers interested, should be removed to a more convenient site on the same property, but fronting the Waihi-road. It was decided to agree to effect the change. [This is not the Pongaroa School but shows what parents had to do to get schooling for their children]

27th September 1911 Wellington Education Board The department granted £400 for a residence at Pongaroa

1st November 1911 Miss Magill, assistant at the Pongaroa. school has been granted leave until the end of the year.

W Whittaker additions and alterations residence Pongaroa

10th January 1912 During the past twelve months the township of Pongaroa has made progress in many ways. Several substantial shops have been erected, while the structure recently erected for the Bank of New Zealand is a building that would do credit to a town of considerable population. The roads received a solid coating of crushed stone a few months' ago and are now in excellent order.

13th March 1912 The Education Board's architect is in /the district, examining the additions made to the Pongaroa, Puketoi, and Waione school-house.

27th March 1912 Inspectors report to the Wellington Education Board included We have been, gratified at the response made by our country teachers. The weakness of the school has often been the result simply of the teacher's want of experience. The advice willingly received and acted on has resulted in immediate improvement. For example, in the Pongaroa district, where back block disadvantages certainly reach their maximum, we have this year been able to report that fifteen schools out of the total of sixteen are classified as satisfactory to good-"

23rd April 1912 School Committee PONGAROA. , Messrs Berry, Rattray, J. Morris, Dalton, Dickens, Kayser and A. McDonald. ' ~ The credit balance of the committee was £4 4s. A vote of thanks was passed to the teachers

28th August 1912 Wellington Education Board It was decided to inform the Pongaroa Committee that the paddock attached to the residence is for the use of the teacher.

25th September 1912 Wellington Education Board Pongaroa, residence paddock draining

27th November 1912 Wellington Education Board Pongaroa ventilation of South Classroom

23rd December 1912 Mr R Brown candidate for the Wellington Education Board stated I favour the maintenance and extension of the District High School system and consider that

such schools should be provided at Martinborough and, in the near future, at Pongaroa, to serve the important districts surrounding them

8th March 1913 Presentation at Pongaroa. The Kowhai Hockey and Social Club held a picnic on Wednesday in honour of their captain, Miss R. Magill, who leaves shortly to take up a position in the Day's Bay School. At the conclusion of a very enjoyable function, Miss Magill was presented by the secretary (Miss K. Kelly) with a handsome writing desk, suitably inscribed

11th March 1913 Miss Rene Magill is leaving for Days Bay School

26th November 1913 Wellington Education Board It was also decided that application be made for half an acre of Crown land adjoining the Pongaroa School for accommodation for children's horses

[I think the Rene Magill (There is no reference to a Rene in BDM, Nor in Wellington Education Board teachers, nor as a registered voter) is actually Margaret Ellen who definitely lived in Eastbourne and was always known as Maggie].

Maggie had a distinguished teaching career and in the 1930's was a Borough Councillor in Eastbourne and deputy Mayor for a while as she topped the poll for councillors for the Eastbourne Borough Council

She also left Pongaroa in the same year as above

Maggie Magill lived just around the corner from the home where the Researcher for this work grew up, in Eastbourne and it was her that signed his application to enter training college in 1959 as a J P.

| | | | | | | |
|------|-----|------------------|--------|----------|-------|------------------|
| 1906 | 885 | Newtown DHS | Magill | Maggie E | | FP3 |
| 1907 | 821 | Newtown DHS | Magill | Maggie E | | FP4 |
| 1908 | 845 | Newtown DHS | Magill | Maggie E | | FP5 |
| 1909 | 54 | Pongaroa | Magill | Maggie E | | Assistant Female |
| 1910 | 50 | Pongaroa | Magill | Maggie E | D4 | Assistant Female |
| 1911 | 49 | Pongaroa | Magill | Maggie E | D4 | Assistant Female |
| 1912 | 52 | Pongaroa | Magill | Maggie E | D4 | Assistant Female |
| 1913 | 69 | Muritai | Magill | Maggie E | D3 | Assistant Female |
| 1914 | 92 | Muritai | Magill | Maggie E | D3 | Assistant Female |
| 1915 | 342 | Mount Cook Boys' | Magill | Maggie | D3 | Assistant Female |
| 1917 | 349 | Mount Cook Boys' | Magill | Maggie E | D-92 | Assistant |
| 1919 | 372 | Mount Cook Boys' | Magill | Maggie E | D-87 | Assistant |
| 1921 | 325 | Mount Cook Boys' | Magill | Maggie E | D | Assistant |
| 1923 | 521 | Berhampore | Magill | Maggie E | C-147 | Assistant |

1914

William T Murray started teaching for the Wellington Education Board in 1903 at Rakaunui School near Pongaroa, he was at Opaki in 1905 and then at Pongaroa until 1915. Then he had a short spell at Manakau School in the Horowhenua and didn't work for the Wellington Education Board again

William Tullibardine Murray was in 1890 in Auckland, 1896 in Southland then In 1919 he was in Hurunui, Canterbury all registered in the electoral rolls as well as his time at Pongaroa. He also was bankrupt and taught in Southland Schools

After leaving Manakau he became involved in the Presbyterian Church and died on Mt Egmont [Now Mt Taranaki] after having an argument with his two Companions by this time he was the Rev W T Murray.

5th March 1914 Horowhenua Chronicle Mr William Tullibardine Murray, of the Pongaroa Public School, is to be appointed headmaster of the school here, vice Mr McBain, who has secured the headmastership of the Lower Hutt school.[Note Mr Murray was still at Pongaroa at the end of 1914]

7th July 1914 Mr A: McBain, who received notice of transfer from the Manakau 'to the Lower Hutt school, has received notification that the change will take place in September.

27th October 1915 Mr W T Murray resigns from Manakau School

1915-1923

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------|----|----------|---------|-------------|-------|------------------|------|----------|----------|
| 1915 | 68 | Pongaroa | Gregory | Frederick W | D2 | Headmaster | £220 | \$29,469 | Provided |
| 1915 | 68 | Pongaroa | Hobday | Elsie P | | Assistant Female | £110 | \$14,735 | |
| 1917 | 60 | Pongaroa | Gregory | Frederick W | D 78 | Head | £240 | \$26,899 | |
| 1917 | 60 | Pongaroa | Isles | Flora M | D 101 | Assistant | £140 | \$15,691 | |
| 1919 | 52 | Pongaroa | Gregory | Frederick W | D 78 | Head | £305 | \$27,554 | |
| 1919 | 52 | Pongaroa | Winge | Aziyadee | | Assistant | £160 | \$14,454 | |
| 1921 | 57 | Pongaroa | Gregory | Frederick W | D | Head | £305 | \$26,257 | |
| 1921 | 57 | Pongaroa | Winge | Aziyadee | | Assistant | £220 | \$18,940 | |
| 1923 | 74 | Pongaroa | Gregory | Frederick W | D 158 | Head | £325 | \$29,871 | |
| 1923 | 74 | Pongaroa | Winge | Aziyadee | | Assistant | £198 | \$18,198 | |

Provided means a school house was provided for the Head Teacher. Though by the 1960's there was more than one school house at Pongaroa and one teacher lived at Aohanga [Now Owahanga] station and drove the school bus into Pongaroa

Elsie P Hobday Started teaching in 1912 at Newtown as a Pupil Teacher year 3. In 1914 she was at Island Bay then in 1915 she was at Pongaroa. By 1917 she was at Roseneath/Hataitai and by 1921 was teaching at Marlborough School still for the Wellington Education Board

1st December 1923 BEDWELL-HOBDAY.-On the 20th October 1923, at St. Hilda's Church, Island Bay by Rev. G. Calvert Blathwayt , Rev. Walter William Bedwell, of Kaitaia, North Auckland Miss Elsie Hobday, of Island Bay, Wellington.[This is a strange notice. Compare the date of the marriage and the publication of this notice]

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1923/5470 | Elsie Priscilla Hobday | Walter William Bedwell |
|-----------|------------------------|------------------------|

They had no children registered in New Zealand though there is a mention of a Marjory Travelling with them. In 2003 Marjorie Hobday McWhirter Died listed in the Bedwell Deaths Born 29th December 1925

I now know how they met 12th June 1916 An ordination, service will be held in the Church of the Nativity tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock, when the Rev: W. W. Bedwell, who has been appointed curate of the parish, will be admitted to priest's orders The Bishop of Nelson will conduct the ceremony. Marlborough Express re Blenheim church

11th February 1915 . Mr Gregory, the newly-appointed headmaster for the Pongaroa school, took up his duties on Tuesday last.

17th September 1915 Miss McManus, who has been assistant at Pongaroa School for the past two years, arrived in Wellington on Wednesday, to take up her new duties at Newtown School

14th October 1915 Miss Isles, of Kopuaranga, to Pongaroa.[Miss Isles probably started at the beginning of 1916]

22nd November 1915 Red Cross Fund Pongaroa School children, £3 2s. 7d.;

22nd November 1915 St John Ambulance Hospital Ship Equipment Girls of the Pongaroa School; 3 pairs bed socks, 1 muffler, and 1 day shirt

Frederick W Gregory started teaching as a Pupil Teacher at Mount Cook Boy's School in Wellington and then was at Tokomaru School [North of Levin] from 1896 to 1907. From 1908 to 1914 he was Headmaster at Hastwell School before going to Pongaroa where he still was in 1923 when my records end

23rd March 1931, GREGORY.—On 21st March. 1931. at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. D P Power, 6, Eden street, Island Bay, Frederick William, dearly-beloved husband of Ellen Gregory, late of Pongaroa aged 65 years. At rest. Interred at Karori Cemetery to-day.

15th March 1916 St Johns Ambulance Pongaroa School, 6 face washers and 2 knitted mufflers;

29th March 1916 Wellington Education Board Additions to Pongaroa School £375

18th July 1916 The children of Pongaroa are subscribing about £50 to the Belgian Children's Fund.

21st July 1916 Up till Wednesday evening the amount collected by the State school children of the Wellington Education District for the Belgian children the Lord Mayor of London's appeal amounted to ,£907 12s. lid. The list has not yet been closed. There are many schools which have not yet reported, that are known to be still collecting. The school children of Pongaroa are issuing a little news sheet of an original character, which, is said to be selling freely in the district.

2nd August 1916 Pongaroa must be a rather unpleasant place in which to", spend the winter. The Eketahuna Express says that practically anywhere in the Pongaroa township the roads are boot-top deep in mud, at present, and in very many places it is necessary to pick one's steps very carefully to avoid sinking considerably deeper than that.

19th October 1915 In a long and rambling piece of writing was this about the Pongaroa School newspaper by an unnamed ex teacher of the Puketoi Area: In the interval Pongaroa has become civilised, and to this pleasing accomplishment- the "Akitio Midget"—"the only paper published in Pongaroa"— beareth due witness. The other evening I found two copies of the "Midget," and a cheque for five pounds, lying on my table. A statement in a superscription to the cheque set forth that the money had been earned by the "Midget," and was to be handed to the Red Cross Fund, for which the "Midget" simply and solely exists. I gathered also that the publication is run by school youngsters,. but there is a quasi-professional finish about the editing that suggests adult and experienced supervision. The "editor" is Master Jack Robertson; the "subeditor," Miss Emma Dickins—surely . not an offshoot of the immortal family? Miss Peggy Robertson is the ."treasurer"; and Miss Ina Robertson is the "printer's fairy." Pardon my curiosity , Miss Ina, but are you a real fairy?-Or

is your elfin status a euphemism for that established institution which is known in the wicked world of scissors and paste as the printer's devil?.....

30th October 1916 Eight children in one Pongaroa family are laid up with measles

20th April 1917 We have to acknowledge the receipt from Mr. R. M. Robertson, of Pongaroa, of a cheque for £10 15s. for the Red Cross Fund. This sum represents the surplus from the receipts obtained for the Pongaroa school -children's little newspaper, the "Akiteo [Sic] Midget, the only paper published in Pongaroa," as is proudly proclaimed from its front' page. It is really an excellent little publication, and reflects great credit of all connected with it. It is a school children's effort to raise funds for the Red Cross, and its success in this direction is demonstrated by the cheques which reach us from time to time, one of which we acknowledge today

17th August 1917 Pongaroa is to have its main thoroughfares lit by electricity on nights when the Public Hall is in use. At the hall is installed a powerful lighting plant, and on Saturday evenings especially the township will be lit by this plant. Some eighteen lamps are being erected and the light from these will be available on the nights when they are most required. The cost is being borne by the Picture Company.

16th November 1917 Miss N Cameron is appointed assistant teacher at the Pongaroa school

18th January 1918 Mr F. A. Freeman and Miss Gregory were married lately at Pongaroa. The bridegroom is a stock agent for the W.F.C.A. and the bride is a daughter of the Pongaroa headmaster

14th June 1918 Pongaroa assistant temporary appointment Miss A Winge

31st January 1919 The engagement is announced of Miss Janie Halse, of Wadestown, Wellington, eldest daughter of Mr. F. Halse, of the Survey Department, to Mr. N. F. [F W] Gregory, schoolmaster-, of Pongaroa.

4th December 1919 the Wellington Education Board's widely-extended district there are many teachers employed solely in small schools who not only have no certificates at all, but who have little opportunity of gaining them owing to the difficulty in getting- professional training, such as afforded to young teachers in or adjacent to the city. In order that some such training may be given these teachers, part of this and next week has been set aside for training at Pongaroa in the North Island, and at Blenheim in the South. The training classes are being conducted by Messrs. Anderson and Wadde, respectively, the organising teachers for the districts affected. In order that all sole teachers requiring this training may benefit by it, the sole teacher schools have been closed, and will not reopen until after the summer vacation.

4th December 1919 Lieutenant-Colonel Charters is charge of the summer school for teachers now being held at Pongaroa. The school has been established as the result of recommendations made by Mr B. Anderson, organising teacher.

4th December 1919 Mr C. A. Cumming, agricultural instructor to the Wellington Education Board, is at present at Pongaroa, assisting Mr A. B. Charters,, who is conducting a teachers' school, until the Christmas vacation.

17th December 1919 The Pongaroa Summer School, organised by Mr. B. Anderson for the benefit of country teachers, concluded its session on Monday. Colonel Charters, Inspector of Schools, was in charge of the studies, and he was assisted by a. stall, including Messrs. Gunning, Just, Russell and Anderson. Nurse Opie took charge of first aid and hygiene. This

was it is believed, the first summer school of its kind held in New Zealand, as it included most of the subjects necessary for a D certificate, the schools usually held -dealing with one or two subjects only. Solid work was done by the students, who received every attention and encouragement from the teaching staff. On Monday a statement was drawn up and approved by the students, in which they recorded their hearty appreciation of the work done for them, thanked the Wellington Education Board for the opportunity of attending the school, and expressed their high estimation of the kindness and hospitality extended to them by the people of Pongaroa and district.

[This is not strictly about Pongaroa School but is certainly about the Puketoi Schools surrounding Pongaroa]

16th August 1923 Wellington Education Board Government correspondence was received dealing with secondary classes at Pongaroa;

In 1927 Aziyadee Winge was teaching in Wellington and in 1928 in Ruatoria and in 1930 passing exams in Palmerston North

7th March 1941 she was head teacher of a new Native School at Manaia on the Coromandel harbour. This was three teacher school. On the Electoral Rolls she was in the Bay of Islands in 1935 and 1938

| | | | |
|------------|-------|----------|-------------|
| 1979/43642 | Winge | Aziyadee | 8 June 1896 |
|------------|-------|----------|-------------|

Post 1923

8th May 1925 School Committee Pongaroa: Messrs. R, E. Williams (chairman). A.. A. C. Lion (hon. secretary). W. E. Davies, E. W. Morris F Wardle.

17th June 1925 n application was made by the Pongaroa School Committee for the title of District High School. It was decided to reply to the effect" that at present the roll number was not sufficient but, the application would be considered again later in this year..

19th August 1925 The average attendances for the year 1924 at the district high schools in the district wart:—Carterton 39, Eketahuna 39, Featherston 32, Greytown 23, Hutt 54, Levin 97, Martinborough 22; Pahiatua 52, Petone 67. Total, 425. In addition, a, secondary class of five pupils was conducted at the Pongaroa public school.

23rd August 1926 In addition a secondary class of twelve pupils was conducted at the Pongaroa Public School

18th February 1928 Mr. V. E. Welch has been appointed by the Wellington Education Board to the position of secondary assistant at Pongaroa

4th March 1930 Miss M Ellis appointed assistant

23rd October 1931 Miss M, Ellis, of the staff of the Pongaroa school, has received an appointment at the Koputaroa School, and will take up her duties at the end of the present month.