

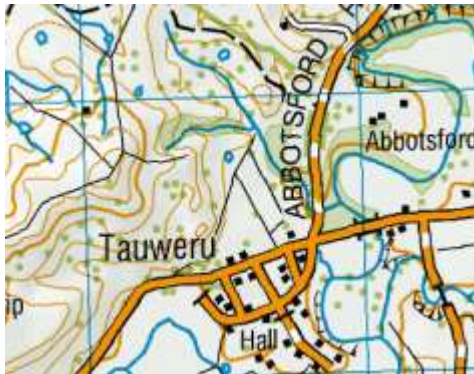
Taueru (Tauwera)

Part of Taumataraiā Block 83n

Land Taken 1955 from Wairarapa Hunt incorporated

1987 land sold for \$45,000

Taueru: 1881-1984 This school was always a small school on the outskirts of Masterton with a roll rarely passing 50 pupils. On Masterton Castlepoint Road 13 kilometres. Tauwera/Tauwera are alternative spellings



1866

5th January 1866 NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS. Provincial Secretary's Office, Wellington, 30th December, 1865. TENDERS are invited for Falling about 120 chains, (1 chain = 66 feet. About 3 feet in a metre) more or less, of Bush on the proposed line of road from the Taueru River towards Mr. Vallance's Homestead. Specifications to be seen at the Engineer's Office, and at Mr. Heath's residence, Masterton. PP

1880

31st March 1880. The Board resolved that they would erect a school if the residents gave a site of an acre. Taueru. g

Much of the following material from jubilee booklet

1881

11th July Opened the school in Mr Beetham's Woolshed

13th July G Received 6 cuts for playing truant (3rd Warning)

28th July I discovered that one of the girls had abstracted a piece of chalk from my table and had written a quantity of the most filthy expressions on the back of the school. I discovered who the offender was, but as I fear that nearly all the older pupils were concerned in the transaction and as the school was so young contented myself with giving the pupils a good lecture and directing the boys and girls to keep away in the future

1st August 1881 We are glad to hear that the Education Board had consented to place the recently opened Taueru School on the list of aided schools, and that Mr Tovey, through whose agency the school was opened, has been confirmed in his teachership, There is already an average attendance of 20, and this will increase when the weather is finer, showing the great necessity that existed for the school PP

18th August I found a filthy word on one for the girl's slates but could not discover the offender. I warned the elder girls that I should be compelled to expel the first one I found out.

31st August 1881 The second meeting of the Taueru School Committee was held on Monday, 29th Inst, at Thompson's Hotel.

Present —Messrs Vallance, Hadfield, Livingston, and Thompson. In the absence of the chairman (Mr Beetham), who was unable to attend through indisposition, Mr J, C, Vallance took the chair. A letter was read from Mr G. Heron, promising the very liberal donation of £30 towards the school Building Fund. The subscriptions now amount to nearly £60, and the Wellington School Board have been communicated with us to the aid they will be prepared to render. The Committee meet again on Monday, the 5th prox., at 3 p.m.PP

6th September I caned H (6 cuts) for absenting himself from school without leave. I gave A (4 Cuts) for persistent laziness and inattention

7th September R obtained an axe and deliberately broke open the stable at the back of the school after I had nailed it up and forbidden anybody to go there. When questioned about it he told a lie.

On being told to hold out his hand, he refused so I boxed his ears. It is evident I must obtain a cane. In a case of this sort the small switch I use is not of the least use.

8th September 5 Boys had to attend a court case in Masterton today Hence the small attendance on this day.

9th September 1881 A meeting of the Tararua School Committee was held at Thompson's Hotel on Monday last, at 3 p.m. Present— H. H. Beetham (in the chair), and Messrs Vallance, Livingston, and Thompson. A letter read from the Wellington Board, stating that they were unable at present to definitely state to what extent they would be able to assist the Building Fund but that the Committee might rely upon all the help it will be in their power to render. As the shearing season is now rapidly approaching, and Messrs Beetham Brothers will require their woolshed, arrangements were

made to convert an old house recently vacated into a temporary school till the a new one is erected PP

26th October 1881 The Building Committee's report was brought up and recommended carrying on the following works: Whiteman's Valley School, £150. Wallaceville School £150; Opaki residence, £200, Taueru School 150 pounds PP

Mr Blakely was appointed master of Taueru School PP

15th November Improved attendance The ignorance of the children is rather startling but they submit to the restraint of school life rather well. Taking into consideration the freedom of their previous existence

18th November The attendance today was small owing to a wedding in which some children were interested.

7th December Attendance today much interfered with by the Masterton races. 12/17 present in the morning

The Committee meet again on Monday, the 5th prox., at 3 p.m.PP

1882

9th February Have introduced a harmonium. The children seem greatly interested.

14th February Tried drawing on paper for a few of the older children but decided on confining them to slates till the opening of the new building

9th March The furniture (For new building) consisting of 12 dual desks, 1 infant desk, 1 teacher's desk, 2 dozen ink wells and maps of the World, Europe were delivered by Warley and Knight carriers.

14th April Two girls of a family left for service in Masterton

30th May One of the pupils suffering from fever. Directed to close the school until further notice

8th June 1882 The usual monthly meeting of the Taueru School Committee was held at Thompson's Hotel on Monday 5th June. A letter was read from the Rev. Mr Isitt, asking for the use of the school building for the purpose of holding Sunday School It was resolved on the motion of Mr Vallance that Mr Isitt's request be acceded to. It was also decided that the building should be available in the future for Sunday services. Accounts amounting to £27 15s 2d. were passed for payment. Satisfaction was expressed at the manner in which Mr Garratt's contract of fencing and other improvements had been carried out, and at the generally healthy condition of the school.

2nd September I punished L today (severely) for stealing a knife and denying all knowledge of it, while it is lying in his pocket

6th September 1882 The following members of the Taueru School Committee met at Thompson's Hotel on Monday. last: Messrs Beetham (Chairman), Vallance, and Thompson, The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The master reported an average attendance for the past month of 27 children. Several small accounts were passed for payment. On the last day of August Mr Lee, the Inspector of Schools, paid a surprise visit to the school and made the following entry in the school diary I visited the new Taueru today, and found a very' good attendance. The school in every respect reflects great credit on the master, Mr Blakely. It is ordinarily well attended; the children are neat, orderly, and attentive to their work, The management of the school is kindly and efficient, and the teaching is painstaking and sound. In the 'course of a few

months, the master has thoroughly organised the school, and raised the educational status of the district from the lowest level to one of progress and promise. Also, the Committee are much to be commended for the interest taken in school matters as shown in the assistance rendered the master, and in the improved condition of the property. It is interesting to find that several children who, a few months ago, could not read or form a letter, are now making good progress, and will probably be presentable in a standard at next examination. Twenty-seven children were present today, the weather being fine. The classes going very nicely

Can't find what happened to Mr Blakely after leaving the school or why he suddenly left

13th October 1882 Master or Mistress, Taueru School salary, £100 to £140

25th October 1882 Mr Heenan to the Taueru School (*Don't think he came*)

17th November 1882 Applications for the Mastership of the Taueru School are invited at the Education Board office up till the 27th inst.

29th March 1884 No on books 21 Percentage of passes 83 working condition satisfactory teaching staff competent PP

1883

31st January 1883 Taueru School Residence Tenders called PP

11th April Received a visit from a constable in Masterton. It appears that an attempt has been made at the hotel to set fire to some out buildings. That constable stated from the nature of the attempt he suspected it was the work of the boys. After questioning the boys

nothing satisfactory was elicited with regard to the fire, and the constable, after cautioning the boys took his departure

24th April A detective who came up here from Masterton about the “fire” Case at the hotel traced the deed to one of the pupils at this school Today the case comes off at Masterton and four other boys have also been taken as witnesses

1884

28th January The School Committee resolved to erect a swing in the playground also a “Giant’s Stride”

29th March 1884 Taueru School (Mr Magrath. master). -Number on books, 21: percentage of passes, 83. Working condition satisfactory, teaching staff competent. Needs a new residence PP

9th November S has lately been inclined to play truant for which offence I have warned him that he will receive the severest punishment. His mother seems to have no or little control over him and his father who is a rabbitier is away from home all week.

10th November Mary Olsen admitted. She is the daughter of Scandinavian Parents and does not know a word of English. She is nearly 11 years old

1885

25th February E. M. Farrer wrote with regard to the necessity of a school for Upper Taueru and the Inspector was instructed to report.

PP *Upper Taueru is in the Bideford Area*

14th April 1885 Taueru School.

Mr Lee examined the Taueru School on Friday, the 10th inst., and was satisfied with the results, 80 per cent, of expected passes having been obtained. On Saturday, the school fete took place. The athletic sports were keenly contested, and the refreshment table was well supplied. The day was fine, and great success crowned the whole undertaking. Mrs Beetham gave away the prizes to the successful competitors., as follows

50Yards, (for girls under 8) 1st, Annie Garratt; 2nd, Kathleen McGrath. 80Yards,-(for boys under 8): 1st, Evan McGrath 2nd, Willie O'Connor. 80Yards (for girls under 10)-1st Alice Disher; 2nd, Alice Hercock,

100 Yards (for boys between 8 and 10) 1st, Evan McGrath; 2nd, Sam Smith.

150 Yards (for girls over 10) 1st, Florence Rogers; 2nd, Alice Disher. 200 Yards (for boys over ten),-1st John O'Connor; 2nd, Tom Hercock;—

High jump (open to all), 1st, Joe Smith; 2nd, Tom Thompson.

200 Yards (strangers' race), 1st, Tom Thompson 2nd, J. Munro,

400 Yards,' (for men and boys): 1st, Tom Thompson ; 2nd, H. Hercock, (scratch).

Hurdle race, 150 Yards, (for boys. under 11): 1st, Sam Smith; 2nd, Linnet Garratt.

Hurdle race, 200 Yards, (for boys over 11); 1st, Tom Hercock; 2nd H. McKenzie

Sackrace: 1st; John O'Connor; 2nd, Tom Hercock.

200 yards, (open to all): 1st, Evan Magrath; 2nd, Alice Disher.

Consolation, 100 Yards; 1st, Fred Bland; 2nd, Linnet Garratt.

The following received prizes for the most satisfactory passes at the examination Standard. 1, Fred Bland Standard. II, Eva. Magrath, Sam Smith, Standard III John O'Connor; Standard IV; Caroline O'Connor Good conduct, Caroline O'Connor; regular attendance, Linnet Garratt; highest pass for boys, John O'Connor.

Note the teacher was John A Magrath and there were also McGrath children at Taueru

Magrath, John Andrew Nicholson Settler, "Ard Craith," Otaihanga. The subject of this sketch was born in India in 1850. He comes of a military family, And in 1868, after passing through the Royal Military College at Sandhurst, he entered the 24th 2nd Warwickshire Regiment—now known as the South Wales Borderers—as ensign. It may be of interest to remark that Mr. Magrath's regiment was subsequently "cat up" in Zululand, during the war in that country. Leaving the army in 1871, he came to Wellington in the following year per ship "England." After some years spent in the Rangitikei, Wanganui and Wairarapa districts, during which he was at times a teacher under the Wellington and Wanganui Education Boards, Mr. Magrath retired to the life of a settler at Otaihanga. His estate, "Ard Craith,"—Craith's or Magrath's hill—is beautifully situated, commanding a fine view of Kapiti and the adjacent coast of the South Island, and is about half cultivated. The property in the locality, which is some 400 acres in extent, is devoted to the breeding of horses, cattle, sheep and pigs of good varieties. He has some property in Donegal, Ireland, which is leased to a neighbouring landlord. In 1871 Mr. Magrath was married in Wanganui to a daughter of the late Captain Magrath, of the 65th Regiment, and has three sons and three daughters.

1877 Cyclopedia of New Zealand

1874/6256	Caroline Louisa	Magrath	John Andrew Nicholson	Magrath
1876/12438	Magrath	Evan Richard Neale	Caroline Louisa	John Andrew Nicholson Bottom of Form
1884/17159	Magrath	Mary Caroline	Caroline Louisa	John Andrew Nicholson
1886/303	Magrath	John Andrew Nicholson	Caroline Louisa	John Andrew Nicholson
Top of Form 1888/6763 Bottom of Form	Magrath	Geraldine	Caroline Louisa	John Andrew Nicholson
1889/12919	Magrath	Beauchamp Malcolm Augustus	Caroline Louisa	John Andrew Nicholson

21st April The sewing shown up at the examination was considered good by the inspector. He is in favour of plain sewing and knitting being taught than ornamental work

1st August At a meeting of the School Committee held today a settler bought forward a complaint against the boys. He objected to

the football getting into the paddock next to the school, and said it was kicked there on purpose to annoy him.

5th September Benjamin Page admitted. He is eleven years and had never been to school. He is consequently very backward. His father is working at Brancepath Station and has sent him to board with me and attend school (At one stage this teacher had three children boarding with him)

21st October Punished L today. For not knowing his lesson (The defeat of Caracas's) He excused himself by saying that his brother forgo to take his book home. I made him understand that *he* was to be the sole custodian of his own book in every way, and he was responsible for the due preparation of his lessons

26th October Alice Coles admitted. She is ten years old but has not been regularly to school. Beyond reading a little, she knows nothing, but seems very intelligent

13th November John Hamilton while playing at his parent's residence with some gun powder and matches, met with a severe accident to his face and eyes.

30th November John Hamilton has recovered and returned to school

17th December The two Smiths though boys of good disposition and Perfectly tractable seem very adverse in preparation of a lesson. They did not attend at all this afternoon because they had not learnt a piece of poetry and were afraid to appear in consequence. They brought it up on the following day after being kept in until they mastered it

1886

May 1886 The treasurer of the Lower Taueru (*Upper Taueru was Bideford Area*) School Committee acknowledges the receipt of 2 pound from Mr H Beetham of Brancepath

1st May 1886 LOWER TAUERU SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The, adjourned meeting of the Lower Taueru School Committee took place in the school house on Wednesday evening. Present— Messrs Donald (Chairman, Adams, Anderson, Garrett, Hercock, Manning, O'Connor. It was proposed by Mr Hercock that a set of standard rules be drawn up for the guidance of the Committee. (1) That the Committee meet the first Wednesday in each month. (2) That all works be taken in rotation. (3) Reading minutes and confirming, (4) Treasurer's statement, (5) All bills presented for payment. (C) All new works to be taken. (7) All debatable business. Seconded by Mr Adams and carried unanimously, The meeting being called to consider the results of last examination, Mr Manning said he would like a certain petition sent to the outgoing Committee to be brought forward again, that the new members could properly understand each other, as he felt sure it was shelved without a proper hearing. Seconded by Mr Adams and carried. The petition was then duly read and confirmed. Mr Garrett proposed that Messrs Hercock and O'Connor explain to the new members, to the best of their knowledge, the action of the Committee, and why they did not see that the householders were informed of the result, in accordance with the resolution passed to do so at that meeting. Seconded by Mr Manning. Mr Hercock thought that the new Committee were not there to criticise the actions of the outgoing Committee, but to act for themselves, The Chairman said certainly the Committee were

there to see and rectify- all subjects overlooked by the late members. Mr Hercock said to the beat of his knowledge the petition was shelved.: Mr O'Connor said he sided with the petition; at the time, although as a committee man he was alleged to have but little say in the but he 'certainly thought .that more would have come of it. Mr Hercock thought the master did _not get I fair play, from the Inspector, as he had been informed by the master, Mr McGrath (sic), that the Inspector questioned the children; and when they gave wrong -answers the Inspector called them blockheads, and struck them with a book on the head, which was liable to frighten young children . The Chairman said he was sorry to think that Mr Hercock had been so informed, as he could prove to the Committee that the Inspector made a remark in the school that the Taueru children; were a bright lot,' but had never been taught. The Chairman also asked Mr Hercock why he should allow his little girl to pass in Carterton and then bring her to Taueru to pass the same standard if it was not to shield the master. Mr Hercock said he was not aware such was the case, also that if he had been informed wrongfully by the master that he should not be allowed in the school again. Mr Garrett thought that his children had lost three years of their school time through mismanagement. Mr O'Connor said he was also dissatisfied- The Chairman also explained that his children had certainly gone back in their writing. Mr Hercock asked for the Inspector's last report, but it was not in the room. Mr Garrett said it was customary for the report to be left at the flying visit after examination. Mr Hercock proposed that the Secretary write to the inspector, asking him the reason there was not more passes this year, and if he considers the fault lies with the master's inability. Seconded by Mr Adams, Discussion took

place concerning the putting back of children from one standard to another over the head of the Inspector, which 'was done by the master. As they must wait for a reply the subject was dropped, but minor matters were gone into. The Chairman handed over two pounds to the Treasurer, .a: donation from Mr Hugli Beetham. Proposed by Mr Manning that the Master be asked to hand over the ironwork from his house to be repaired for swing, and that the pump, well, and fences be repaired, also that tenders be called for four cords of firewood, two feet long, to be delivered on ground, Seconded by Mr Adams It was resolved that Messrs Garrett, Anderson, and O'Connor be appointed to look to the above, also that the Secretary be authorised to get stationary and other articles for use of scholars. The meeting then adjourned. PP

1st May Page 2 THE TAUERU SCHOOL

.(To the Editor.) Sir , Great dissatisfaction. is felt' at the result of the late examination of. the Lower Taueru School, and certain gentleman, the schoolmaster included,, wishes, to put the blame on the Inspector, which will be seen by the meeting held on|28th instant. It must be well known that Mr Lee has always given great satisfaction for something like 15 years, and I do not see how he can be accused of neglect by the present gentlemen without getting a chance to retaliate. The fact of the matter is the master does, not suit the place, but has been held here by one or two that have a better advantage, or fancy they have, of Education, and did not give the other members of the old committee a .chance to explain themselves in their sphere. The only thing I see is to have a thorough investigation into the matter, and if the Board think that out of thirty one children attending school, all fit for a standard, twenty is enough

to put up for examination, and eleven to fail, I say people should give the thing best. If they had a chance here I fancy the scholars would soon prove it to the public that the last three years have been thrown away on them, as they have done nothing to credit themselves or their masters with either. Hoping I have not intruded too far on your valuable space, I am, etc. Parent

21st May 1886 The regular meeting of the Taueru School Committee took place on Wednesday past. Present—Messrs Donald (chairman), Adams, Anderson, Garratt, Manning and O'Connor. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The following accounts were passed for. payment—A. Lovejoy. firewood &c, £4 10s; Mrs Mulligan, cleaning £2 8s. It was proposed by Mr Garratt and carried That a wet weather shed be erected, also that Messrs Donald and Anderson be appointed a Committee to see to the said work. It was proposed and carried unanimously that the Chairman write to the master asking him to resign.; It was resolved that the next meeting be held the first Wednesday in June The meeting then adjourned. PP

4th June 1886 TAUERU SCHOOLCOMMITTEE.

Was held in, the School House on Wednesday. Present—Messrs Donald, Adams, Anderson, Garratt, Manning and O'Connor.

The minutes of the last meeting was read and confirmed, and the Treasurer handed in a balance sheet showing a credit of £20 9s 7d, and a private fund of £2, ~~

The following accounts were presented from the master—Stationary supplied from December 1882 to 1880, £2 9s 6d; Cleaning school from December 1882 to September 1886, Mr Adams moved that a

bill of particulars be asked for as it was of long standing. He thought it great neglect on the part of the outgoing Committee.—carried Mr Hercock tendered his resignation on the ground that he did not agree with the views of the other members, The resignation accepted.

The chairman read a reply from the Inspector in which he attributed the bad results of the last examination to the unimproved teaching and bad discipline, also advising Mr McGarth (*sic*) (the master) to 'spend his spare time with Mr Grundy (*Headmaster of Masterton School*), an arrangement, he said, that could easily be carried out.

A letter was also read from the master stating he would send his resignation to the Education Board.

Mr Garratt thought that the monthly meeting should be altered. from the first Wednesday in the month to the third Wednesday, as the Board sat on the fourth. It would give plenty of, time to correspond with them, and not have the thing on hand so long,—Carried,

Mr Manning proposed that the master be called on to make entries in the logs, as he thought it was neglected; of late, there being no entry/ since the examination, No average of attendance was given, In fact, nothing further was done than to go in the morning and come away at night, The motion was carried.

Mr Garratt moved that Mr H Smith be asked to stand as a Committeeman in place of Mr William Hercock, Sen. Carried unanimously. Mr Manning proposed to give the children a picnic as they had always done so before, but on being put to the meeting it was thrown out, on account of the lateness of the season.

Mr O'Connor proposed that prizes be obtained for the children, that passed at the, examination. The sum of 45s was given by the

members present to be laid out in Suitable prizes, The Chairman was appointed to obtain the prizes.

Mr Adams proposed that the chairman and visiting members present them to the children carried ;Anderson and Manning were appointed visiting members for the "ensuing month:"; The meeting was adjourned.

30th June 1886 The Taueru Committee asked for a plan of shelter sheds. This was agreed to. They also requested the removal of the teacher. The Board decided to give the teacher three months' notice PP

13th August Punished Linnet Garratt today for climbing over the fence in front of my eyes. The punishment consisted of smart strokes of a supple jack.

6th September 1886 Tenders are invited for the erection of a wet weather shed at Taueru

17th September 1886 APPLICATIONS, stating qualifications and experience will be received at this office up to MONDAY, the 27th instant, for the following appointments Teacher, Taueru School salary £100 to £160, according to classification, PP

21st October 1886 The usual monthly meeting of the Taueru School Committee was held last evening. Present—Messrs Donald (chairman), Anderson, and Manning. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. In the absence of the Treasurer the Chairman stated that the sum of £12 had been advanced on the contract for the shed, Correspondence was read from the Secretary of-Education Board, stating that the Board had refused all applications for the Mastership of the school and was also

authorised to. call fresh ones. An account for advertising was presented, also an account for stationery, but had to stand, over, owing just at present to the shortness of funds, The meeting then adjourned.

2nd November 1886 The Taueru School may, perhaps, be put down among the non-progressive institutions, as it has been closed for a month owing to the Committee and master not pulling the same way. The scholars have thus lost a valuable amount of time previous to -the examination, and as the holidays are close at hand their tuition will to somewhat limited under the circumstances, although they may have a new master appointed by the Board

6th November 1886 Mr. J. J. Edredge has been appointed to the charge of the Taueru School at a salary of £170 per annum. Mr. J. J. Mahood is to be the new master of the Taita School the salary attaching to which position is .£230 a year. Both gentlemen are at present residing in Canterbury. Mr. Edredge, who was for eight years Inspector of Schools in North Canterbury, is to go up to Taueru at once, (*This is the report on the wrong Mr Edridge The teacher here was Edward no J J Edridge*) but Mr. Mahood will be unable to proceed to the Taita for about a month. Both appointments were made at the last meeting of the Board of Education, but the Committees were consulted before the names of the successful applicants were made public. Each Committee has signified its approval of the choice made by the Board PP

1887

15th May The School Committee are having the wet weather sheds floored, the swings gravelled, and a turnstile erected, so that the children may pass at once into the playground, instead of standing in the street till the gate is unlocked.

27th May The school picnic was held in Mr Beetham's paddock and passed off very successfully. Prizes were given to the children who had passed their standards. In the evening the children sang and recited in Mr Beetham's woolshed.

14th June Children are to give a concert in Mr Beetham's woolshed next Thursday week at the request of the School Committee to raise money for the establishment of a library in connection with the school

28th September 1887 A Taueru correspondent writes that the second concert in aid of the Taueru School Library was held in the school room on Friday evening last when about thirty persons again availed themselves of the opportunity of listening to the local talent and judging by their merry faces must have thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Among the lady performers the following were most successful, Miss J. Donald who sang, "Will you buy my pretty flowers," Miss M. Donald, "Tapping at the garden gate," and the Misses O'Connor's in the duet, "Whip poor Will," Mr O. Andersen received an encore for his song, "Pint Dominoes." Several other gentlemen "assisted in the evenings entertainment the accompaniments being played on the Harmonium, which was kindly lent for the occasion by Mr Edridge. The next entertainment takes place on Saturday evening October 7th when the Taueru Christys

will give their opening performance, which consists of a programme that is calculated to startle the natives PP

7th December Attendance today much interfered with by the Masterton races. 12/17 present in the morning

[Mr. Edward Edridge](#) is a native of Gloucestershire, England, where he received his education. After holding the position of pupil teacher, and, later on, that of assistant master in the schools of his native place, Mr. Edridge decided to come to New Zealand, and landed at Nelson in the year 1875. He has served under Education Boards in various parts of the colony, including those of Westland and Wellington. As headmaster of the Wai-iti school, to which he was appointed first in 1884, and again, five years later, he is universally liked by the scholars, and is encouraged in his work by the majority of the settlers in the district. Mr. Edridge is a Freemason, and a member of the Forest Lodge in the Wakefield district, and has passed through the chairs of the Order.

1888

27th January School Committee have fixed Saturday 11th February as the date for the annual school picnic. Free concert in the evening where the children are requested to assist

28th April 1888 The Following is the new Taueru School (Committee —Messrs F, Smith, H. Smith, A. Smith, ,Davey, Neary, Manning and Hanson,) A meeting of the new Committee was then held when Mr F. Smith was elected Chairman Mr P. Hanson, Secretary; and Mr Davey, Treasurer. After an account was passed for payment, the meeting adjourned until Saturday, PP

22nd June Gravel has been laid down outside the school door by order of the School Committee. It was very much needed as the ground was covered in holes, which during wet weather, were converted into pools of water.

1889

18th April 1889 On Monday next. the Taueru School children's annual picnic .will take place, and in connection therewith there will be athletic sports, including footraces, and the usual races. In the evening a musical entertainment will, be provided, the whole to wind up with a dance al fresco. We wish our Taueru friends a pleasant day of it. PP

1890

16th September TENDERS for additions to the Taueru School will be received at the office to TUESDAY, the 23rd m, Plans at the Schoolhouse, Taueru, and at the office of Mr W. SELLAR, A. DORSET, Secretary PP

1891

27th July School Committee asked me to allow children bringing dinner, access to the fire during the dinner hour. I have agreed

1892

15th February A parcel of Indian Clubs for the school received.

10th May A new pane was put in a window last night. Broken nearly a year ago

6th July The School Age.

[to the editor.] Sir,—In your issue of Juno 30th I see you report that the Education Board do not regard the Act That is, when a legal point is put to them as a question from those who are supposed to work on it they say it would be hard to carry it out. Even supposing so, why not give them a straightforward 'yes' or 'no?' They were asked what power the Committee had in the matter of school age. The 83rd section of the Act says No child above school age shall be admitted at any public school without the special leave of the Committee unless such school be a district high school. Further, it gives us what school age is to mean. It means any age between the age of five and fifteen, Over sixteen is not between those ages, I do not quote this for your edification, but for that of a few of your readers who do not know. Can you or any other reasonable person Bee why the Education Board should appoint or cause to- have appointed a Committee to act under them, give them an Act passed by Parliament to be binding in every shape and form, and when the Committee acts according to the said Act or gives notice to the teacher at the school the Board, when applied to for a decision on the question, which is so plain, but must be settled by them, simply say "It's hard." I should think it was harder to find capitation to pay for it. The straight way of putting it is thus:-Three children belonging to working men left this school this year on account of their age. Two more are allowed to stay, both of whom can afford to pay for their higher education and give this school a better chance of

bringing on the lower standards. The school is small and the porch is used daily as a class room, which in winter time is far from nice for the children, There is a great fuss now and again in voting for members for the Education Board, Committees vote for members to represent them and carry out the Act, and once that seat is occupied it is good-bye Committee. If the Board thinks the age (fifteen) too young to leave school, they should put it to the House of Parliament and get an amendment. If a young man leaves school, goes to work, and gets the sack, what's to stop him at twenty going back to school. Authority in a former case is held here from the Board's Secretary distinctly stating that a scholar can stay after fifteen but must first obtain the sanction of the local Committee If this is the case why have they not power to stop them attending without such leave is obtained The more you think of it the plainer it gets. I should like other Committees to speak on the subject,

The latest farce here is that the ladies are carrying round a petition to get the Committee put down They say the election was illegal as the Chairman refused to let the ladies vote at the election, The husband had the moleskins away with him, While on this subject I should like to clear the Committee of a charge laid to them. That is, the knowing ones always jump at the conclusion that the Committee are trying to get a teacher away from the school if they move in anything that is not just as they wish. This Committee wish to emphatically deny the gossip which has been going the rounds here daily since this little affair cropped up. The Committee are only working according to the Act passed by law for their guidance. They think the teaching staff, scholars, and Committeemen equal to any under the Board. As the Taueru does not often furnish news, I hope

you will please insert this, word for word.—I am, etc., Ralph Manning, Secretary, Lower Taueru School Committee. PP
9th August Received from Wellington Education Board a box containing everything to illustrate a lesson on cocoa from the nut to the prepared cocoa and chocolate. It was from Messrs Cadbury

1893

26th January 20 applicants for head teachers position

1st March 1893 THE NEW MASTER OF THE TAUERU SCHOOL
The results of the Now Zealand University examinations, just cabled from the professors in England, give the information that amongst others Mr G. W. Chatwin the recently appointed master of the Taueru School has passed the first section of his University course for the BA. degree, and passing which gives him the N. Z. teachers' C. certificate, As an example to pupils attending the State schools of what they can attain unto if they emulate the spirit of assiduity as has the master of our neighbouring school We give a brief sketch of his scholastic career:—Only a few years ago he was a small boy in the Terrace School Wellington, whereof Mr John Young was principal, where he gained a Vogel prize and later on a Wellington College scholarship, tenable for two years. The result of the College course was to pass the Junior Civil Service examination and to qualify for matriculation. He then took employment in the Mount Cook boys' school as a pupil teacher, passing through the five years' course in three years, attaining honourable mention from the examiners, He was then drafted into the Normal College teachers, Wellington, which enabled him to gain the D certificate whilst

there. Leaving the College on its abolition, he took up matriculation, entering as an undergraduate of Canterbury College, pursuing his studies and following his profession concurrently with the foregoing result, after passing the usual College test examinations. There being a glut of teachers in the Wellington district when the Training College was closed, he took up work as master of the Onamalalutu school, Marlborough, which he held for over two years, resigning to take the assistantship of the Hutt School some three years since, both of which offices he has filled with credit, establishing his name as a successful painstaking teacher, as well as that of a scholar of no mean attainments. The residents of Taueru may be congratulated upon possessing so good a teacher, and also Mr Chatwin upon the successful issue of his late examinations by his college mid the University Professors. We recommend this example of the New Zealand boy to the serious consideration of the rising generation, and to those who decry the quality of the instruction imparted in our State Schools. PP

23rd March At the last meeting of the Education Board the of a water supply for the Taueru was allowed to stand over.PP

1894

14th August Mr Kean (Pupil Teacher) has evidently been careless with acids, one girl having her finger burned and another a hole in her pinafore. I cautioned him

1895

13 February 1895 Balfour Kean first year pupil teacher appointed

7th March We understand the Taueru School Committee have granted permission to the Reverend A C Yorke to use the schoolroom for a religious instruction class upon Monday afternoons from 3.30 to 4 p.m. PP

25th March TAUERU SCHOOLPICNIC.

(From Our Own Correspondent.) The annual picnic in connection with the School was held on Saturday in a paddock kindly lent by Mr Taplin for the occasion. The children assembled about 11 o'clock, and lunch was served at about 12.30. After the children and their 'friends had done ample justice to the supply of good things, a programme of sports was commenced.

About three o'clock an adjournment was made when the prizes won by the children were presented by Mr Buchanan, M.H.R. A list of the winners of the prizes is subjoined, The sports were then continued, including running, jumping and wrestling. Numerous games were indulged in during the day, and all present, numbering well, over 200, seemed to enjoy, themselves thoroughly.

The thanks of the children are due. to the Committee who devoted so. much time to the preparations for, and the carrying out of so, successful an undertaking, The. Committee also desire to express their heartiest thanks to those ladies: who so kindly assisted them, and to whom so much of the success of the picnic is due.

During the afternoon the children gave hearty cheers for Mr Buchanan, the Committee, and ladies, and also gave Mr Buchannan a good send off when he was leaving the ground,

The following is the' prize, list

Headmaster's special prizes for highest marks in the school—Girls: Eva Davy; Boys: Sydney McCalmont.

Chairman's special prizes for conduct—Lower Division—Girls': Milly Morgan Boys: Ebenezer Loader; Upper Division—Girls Annie McKenzie Boys: Richard Smith.

Mr H. Smith's and Mr M. McKenzie's special prizes for highest attendance John McKenzie, Alma Morgan, Milly Morgan.

Standard prizes:—Standard VII; Girls—Eva Davy; Boys—1st, Edward McHattie; 2nd, William Garratt

Standard VI.—Girls: Kate Manning Boys: Donald McCalmont 1 Arthur Bennett 2, Harold Bennett 3,

Standard IV.—Boys Teewe Anaru 1, Andrew Gardiner 2, Rei Paku 3

Standard III.—Girls: Lucy Davy 1, May Bland 2, Ethel Taplin Boys: Percy Ashton 1.

Standard II,—Girls: Mabel Manning 1, Maud McCalmont 2. Boys: Donald Baird 1.

Standard I.—Girls: Christina Turner 1, Annie Mulvay 2, May Humphries 3. Boys: Guy Mace 1, Colin McKenzie 2.

P.II.—Girls: Ruby Ashton, Gladys Chamberlain, May Cooper, Barbara Gardiner, Adelaide McCalmont, Olive Taplin Boys: Henry McHattie.

P.I.—Girls: Maud Garratt, Janet McHattie, Alice Taplin. Boys: William Humphries, Angus McKenzie, William Puhara.

23rd April 1895 Lower Taueru — Messrs. H. T. Bees (Chairman), J. Taplin, T. Morgan (Secretary), J. Ashton, M. McKenzie, A. Goodall, H. Smith (Treasurer). PP

5th September In accordance with Dr. Hosking's advice, the Taueru School Committee have decided to close the school till next Wednesday at all events. They will meet again on Tuesday evening,

to decide whether to continue closed or to re-open. As far as I can learn (writes our Taueru correspondent) there are no new cases. Strange to say, many of the children are sorry that the school has been closed, as the drawing examination was to have been on Wednesday, and now they have missed the result of their year's work. PP

12th October 1895 One hundred and forty-nine candidates have entered for the Scholarship Examinations for the Wellington district, which begin on Tuesday. The candidates from each school are as follows : Taueru 1, PP

1896

24 June 1896 Committee was authorised to appoint a sewing teacher. PP

14th October 1896 The Masterton School Committee has decided to apply to the Education Board for another pupil teacher, and 28th Oct recommend the appointment of Mr. Balfour Kean, of Taueru PP

28th October The appointment of a pupil-teacher at Masterton was the cause of two communications received by the Board, one from the Masterton Committee, recommending the appointment of Balfour Kean to the position, and the other from the Taueru Committee, pointing out the inconvenience to that school if Mr. Kean was removed from his position as pupil-teacher PP

25th November Mrs. Parsons was appointed sewing teacher at Taueru PP

1897

Messrs J. J. Guest (who recently obtained a teacher's D certificate) and B. Kean (who obtained a partial 'E' were both coached by Mr George W, Chatwin, of the Taueru School PP

11th May for the erection of a class-room to the Taueru School will be received at this office up to the 21st inst. Plans and specifications at the office of Wm,

COMMITTEE.

(By Telegraph—Own Correspondent.) Taueru, Tuesday, A meeting was held in the schoolhouse last night, when the following gentlemen were elected as a School Committee Messrs T P. Lett (chairman), Fred Moore, W. Mace, G. McHattie (secretary), J. Taplin (treasurer), M, McKenzie and S. Parsons.

1898

20th May Diphtheria in a mild form has again made its appearance at Taueru. In consequence the local school has been closed for another fortnight PP

1st July 1898 The Taueru School however, will continue working, as it was recently closed for some weeks owing to a diphtheria outbreak

2nd July 1898 The local school will not close for the winter holidays on Friday. It has been decided by the authorities that as there has already been five weeks' holiday this year, the usual fortnight may easily be dispensed with.

Next Tuesday the girls forming the cooking class in connection with the school are to have a competition. Mrs C F. Vallance and Mrs F.

Moore have kindly promised to act as judges, and have also promised special prizes in addition to those allotted by the School Committee.

In a recent issue of a "Wellington paper I noticed a local, saying that the Kaiwairangi school at the recent examination had created a record, not having a single failure in the school this being the first time such a thing had happened in the Wairarapa. I am informed by a member of the Committee here that this is incorrect, as the Taueru at the examination held in March did PP

4th July The popular Maori chieftainess, familiarly known as "Sarah," is stated by a Wairarapa paper to be lying seriously ill at the Taueru pah, and is not expected to recover PP

9th July COOKING COMPETITION.

The following is a list of prize-winners at the recent cooking competition by pupils of the Taueru School

Scones —First prize, Amy Taplin.

Cakes.—First prize, Daisy Taplin; second prize, Ethel Taplin; special, Annie McKenzie. Amy Taplin, Ilma Duffy.

Biscuits.—first prize, Ethel Taplin; second prize, Annie McKenzie, Sponge-Roll First prize, Ilma Duffy; second prize, Amy Taplin.

Special prizes were given by Mesdames! Moore, Hayward, Vallance, Mr C. F. Vallance PP

28th July Consideration of a letter from the Taueru Committee, urging that aid should be given to cooking classes, was deferred. The Board decided that painting and spouting at Taueru should be done PP

7th September At a special meeting of the Mangatainoka School Committee Mr. Chatwin, of the Taueru School was selected as teacher for the school

Advertisement Head Teacher ,Taueru ; attendance, 55 ; salary about .£185 (according to classification) ; D certificate a necessary qualification PP

8th September At a special meeting of the Mangatainoka School Committee, Mr Chatwin , of the Taueru School was selected ns teacher for the school PP

14th September Head Teacher Taueru attendance 35; salary about £1B5 (according) to classification); D certificate a necessary qualification

28th September An illuminated address is to be presented to Mr. George Chatwin, who, after some years' charge of the Taueru School has been promoted to the head-teachership of the Mangatainoka School . Mr. Chatwin made himself very popular at Taueru PP

4th October The Taueru Committee has endorsed the Education Board's appointment of Mr. F. Mason, of the Terrace School to the mastership of the Taueru School. Mr. G. Cha*-twin, the late master, was presented with an illuminated address and Mrs. Chatwin with a solid silver tea service by the residents last night. PP

Francis Mason started 1st Nov

26th October The Taueru Committee wrote in very complimentary terms of the successful results attained by the school since Mr. Chatwin had taken charge.

7th December Mr Mason, master of the Taueru r School was amongst those who passed with distinction," the examination in music held by the Wellington Board of Education, in October last,

1899

27th January TAUERU NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent). Wednesday. A wet gloomy morning save little promise of the pleasant day which the large gathering from all parts of the district enjoyed so much, at the School picnic held last Monday, in Mr Taplin's paddock. Messrs Turner and Evernden assisted by a band of willing workers, attended to the wants of all present. A programme of sports, including running, jumping, vaulting, and wrestling was gone through, not the least interesting items of which were a nail driving competition for ladies, and the married men's race. Some very good records were made by the juveniles. It is needless to say that the good things provided by generous donors were done ample justice to. Various games were played during the afternoon and evening, while the whole proceedings were enlivened by the martial strains of the bagpipes operated by Messrs Ross and McRae. When night came on an adjournment was made to the hall where a social gathering was held. Here our local amateurs distinguished themselves on the platform and floor as well as on the field. Songs were rendered by several ladies and gentlemen, while dancing was indulged in during the intervals, Misses Lett and McIntosh and Messrs Rees and McHattie provided the music for the accompaniments and dance, Light refreshments were handed round during the evening, As all

good things come to an end the small hours of the morning closed what all declared to be a real, good time. Great credit is due to Mr Evernden, the Secretary, and the members of the picnic committee for the very enjoyable day provided for the scholars of the Taueru School

17th June 1899 The Secretary to the Education Board has convened meetings of householders for Monday, 26th inst., to elect school committees for Wharau, Taueru, Clareville, Wallaceville, Korokoro, and Paekakariki, they having failed to appoint committees at the annual meetings held recently. PP

That a request by B Kean to move to Masterton was not allowed

20th December 1899 St. John's Presbyterian Church, Dixon Street, was well filled this afternoon on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Francis Mason, headmaster of the Taueru School, formerly on the staff of the Terrace School, to Miss Margaret H. R. Kirker, only daughter of Mrs. Kirker, of "Greenbanks" Percival-Street. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Jas. Paterson. The service was fully choral out of compliment to the bride, who has been a member of the church choir for many years. The bride, who was given away by her eldest brother, Mr. James Kirker, of Auckland, wore a handsome dress of cream figured Sicilian with a cream brocaded satin train, and veil and orange blossoms. She was attended by Misses Queenie and Tottie Kirker (her nieces) and Misses Bella and Lily Ferguson (nieces of the bridegroom). Mr. Joseph Hopkirk acted as best man. At the conclusion of the service a reception was held at Mrs. Barker's residence, - and« shortly afterwards Mr. and Mrs. Mason left for the South. The bridegroom's gift to the bride was a unique brooch of two gold doves set in pearls, while to each of the

bridesmaids he gave a bell brooch. The wedding presents were very numerous, and included' a marble clock from the teachers of St. John's Sunday Schools (Dixon-street and Mount Cook), and a silver coffee pot from St. John's choir PP

1900

1st March F Mason overpaid 30 pound according to scale PP

24th April No election owing to a small selection School Committee PP

1901

7th March Mr Balfour Kean of the Taueru School has been promoted to be third assistant master in the Petone School PP

6th April Pupil Teacher wanted Taueru School

30th December Mistress Taueru 80 pound PP]’1910

[At the request of the chairman I closed school this afternoon to enable the children to witness the wedding of Mr E Williams to Miss Vallance](#)

1st December Letter from Wellington Education Board to Department The Board is carrying out some improvements to the residence as it is 11 miles from a centre, money would probably be saved as a small grant at the time of the washhouse and bath. This latter I explain is fixing of a range and the erection of a chimney to receive it, and as the present range is entirely beyond use the work cannot be delayed

Reply

In the return furnished by you in October 1908 this residence is returned as having a wash house. This being the case I do not see how a grant could now be made for such a purpose

20th December Letter to Ministry included

- a) The former teacher Mr Mason, now dead, for his own convenience built a small lean to at the back of the residence and the Board raised no objection it his removing the kitchen stove to there
- b) The building is unlined, is slighter in structure as the rest of the building, the studs being further apart, the pitch of the roof is less than the rest of the building and provided with neither copper, tubs or drainage
- c) The reason we submitted this is the Board had no plan and relied on as ketch provided by the Head Master
- d) All the work can be done for £30 instead of £51 in list sent to the Board

31st December in compliance with your letter of the 20th a grant of £30 is made for the improvements of the teacher's residence

1902

30th January Taueru, Nellie Arnold, present salary £42, colonial salary £80 Suggested new scale

15th March TAUERU NOTES.

(From our own Correspondent). Friday. Tho annual examination of the Taueru School was held on the 13th inst., by Mr T. R. Fleming, Inspector. The following pupils passed in their respective standards Standard VI.—H. McCalinont, M. McCalmont, M. Garratt.

Standard V.—W. Loader, W. Tohc, J. Paku, A. Taplin.

Standard IV.—G. Pilmer, V. Wilkic, O. Duffy, M. McCalmont, H. Miller, L. Oliver.

Standard III. R Burkill, G. Ihaka, T. Kara, C. Loader, L. Miller, S. Potangaroa, A. Duffy, V. Duffy.

Standard II R. Baird, R. Mace, J. McCalmont. A. Taplin, A. Ihaki.

Standard I.—L. Hill, E. Duffy, M. Miller, N. Potangaroa.

7th October Mistress Taueru 80 pound

18th November The Taueru School Committee has accepted Miss E. C. Wilson as the teacher for its school Miss Wilson's successor at the Nikau (*Pahiatua District*) School will be Miss Davies, PP

1903

1st December Applications for Mistress Taueru PP

18th December The Education Board's appointment of Miss Scott, of the Terrace School, to head teacher of the Taueru School has been approved by the local School Committee PP (*Miss Margaret Scott was assistant Mistress not Head Teacher*)

1905

23rd February TAUERU HOTEL FOR SALE, NEAR MASTERTON. FOR SALE, Taueru Hotel, on the borders of Masterton and in the Wairarapa Electorate. Nearest town on the

northern boundary to the dry area of Masterton. , Owing to the present licensee (Mr. W. B. Ingram) wishing to retire to his farm in the Bay of Plenty, we are offering the freehold of same at a remarkably low figure, and failing selling the freehold we are prepared to lease to a suitable tenant on the easiest terms, and at a price that will pay handsomely. The hotel is free for everything, and , Mr. Ingram ii prepared to show his books, and will guarantee that since August, 1911 ; he has averaged £100 per week. Takings in December last £128 per week. Last week in December, 1911, £168. This trade is mostly bar, as the hotel is a roadside house, and nearly all the traffic from the north coast to Masterton passes the door. PP

1906

27th February Contracts have been let for new latrines PP

13th July Taueru female assistant 85 pounds PP

29th November LOA Mason until end of year PP

1909

5th August Mr. Frank Mason, head teacher of the State School at Dalefield, died at his residence on Monday, after an illness extended over several weeks. The deceased, who was born in Wellington, was in his forty-eighth year, and had been in the service of the Wellington Board of Education for a number of years. After occupying the position of assistant in one of the city schools, he was placed in charge of the Taueru School, from which he was only recently promoted to Dalefield. Mr. Mason was married to a sister of the Messrs. Kirker, of Wellington. There are no children. The body

was brought down to the city yesterday, and the funeral took place this morning. The Rev. Dr. Gibb conducted a short service in the house of the deceased's brother-in-law (Mr. Ferguson, Taranaki-Street), and he and the Rev. J. Kennedy Elliott officiated at the graveside in the Sydney-street cemetery, in which Mr. and Mrs. Mason, Snr., are buried. The Board of Education was represented by Messrs. W. Allan and J. G. W. Aitken (members), Mr. G. L. Stewart (secretary), and Mr. T. R. Fleming (chief inspector). Messrs G. MacMorran, J. B. Hopkirk, and Worboys represented the teaching profession PP

1910

[At the request of the chairman I closed school this afternoon to enable the children to witness the wedding of Mr E Williams to Miss Vallance](#)

1911

3rd February Taueru Assistant Mistress 90 to 100 pound PP

27th June Taueru, that the thanks of the board be accorded to the Masterton County Council for use of reserve. PP

12th December Head teacher Mr R S Warwick PP

1913

21st January 1913 The following candidates in connection with the recent junior scholarship examinations are recommended for scholarships

Schools with an average attendance of 36 to 200— Constance M.. Wilson, Eketahuna, 682 marks (N.) Joseph C. Fowler, Eketahuna, 581 (N.); Walter J Scott (Taueru) 515 (B)

Walter J Scott was head of Wellington Training College while I was a student there but this is not that Walter J Scott

8th September Assistant Mistress Te Ore Ore Miss D E Jackson from the Taueru School

1922

26th June 1922 The owner of the proposed extension school site at Taueru is to be offered £50 for the land PP

1926

The School Committee decided to cut away the [Macrocarpa Hedge on the Masterton Tinui Highway frontage](#), as it was a danger both to the travelling public and to the children leaving the grounds

1928

It was decided that the chairman interview contractors with reference to erecting swings, see saws etc. in school grounds

That two of the School Committee be appointed each month to visit school grounds etc. and report on repairs and requirements

That the school master be asked if he would make cocoa for the children having lunches at the school, if it was provided by the parents

1930

24th June Miss V Millar Sole Teacher PP

1934

It was decided to hold the distribution of prizes on September 4th All children from 3 years up to receive a prize. £5 will be spent on prizes, which will be given for attendance

Note the old school road was behind the new school. The main road has been realigned from being south of the school to north of the school

1937

5th July application for hot water from stove and building of a 600 gallon tank

23rd July Department offers £10 towards the £50.4.0 cost

29th July No application has been submitted by the Board for provision of electric light and the matter is being taken up with the Board

1938

1st July Application to add to residence £326.6.0 cost. For your information I may say that the present washhouse is poorly constructed having been erected by a former teacher at his own

cost. In 1910 portion of this unlined washhouse was partitioned off to form a 5 foot x 6 foot bathroom

1933 15 children

1934 17

1935 21

1939

26th January Alterations approved

1940

21st August As the Teacher and her husband are the only occupants the addition of another bedroom would seem unnecessary. An asphalt area appears to exist where the new concrete is specified

The Department feels it is not necessary to provide sarking and felt in the roof of the laundry

Is it not possible to reuse the bath and tubs

31st October Holiday for Carterton Show

Teacher Mrs A D Dring

1941

19th February Application for Masterton Show holiday

4th April It is not proposed to take any of the school site but the closing of the Abbotsford Street (Unformed) for street widening subject to approval of the Department

11th October Letter to Wellington Education Board I must apologise for not having forwarded my attendance return. I cannot understand how I overlooked it etc.

1944

14th June Notice from Post and Telegraph re Telegram to T Waitere Taueru Masterton Your telegram has not been delivered as the addressee is not on the telephone and the message will go forward today by rural mail service

Telegram Read To G Oliver, Taueru Masterton, G McCarley Bramerton PB Masterton Mulhane R D Taueru

Reference recent letter complaint Board Member will be pleased to meet you Taueru School 7.30 tomorrow night

1945

25th January Appointment of Mrs M Cook Grading No 117 18 years service, currently unemployed

26th September Application to the Department for the erection of a new latrine for the boys £145

1946

17th February Masterton Show Day holiday

17th March School closed for annual picnic

1948

24th July Appointment of Mr J A Davies as Sole Teacher meets with School Committee's approval

1950

Mr K J Holyoake MP for Taueru supporting School Committee who want a septic tank installed at the school and were prepared to do the labour for it

10th October letter from School Committee to Wellington Education Board included

- a) Two months ago a board official called and told us we would get a septic tank
- b) Our teacher on a visit to the Board in August was told that the septic tank was cancelled
- c) All the district are indignant at this turn of events
- d) Even more annoying when Te Wharau already with a septic tank are going to be equipped with a new installation
- e) For several years we have asked for this and for several years we have had excuse after excuse

f) We are not prepared to sit by any longer and see larger schools receive necessary alterations at the expense of our own neglected school with its inadequate sanitation, drainage, grounds and buildings

g) M J Mclean

30th October R M Algie Minister of Education will look into it

1st November Secretary of Wellington Education Board instructed to make application for a grant of £324

The Committee are having great difficulty in finding anyone to empty the sanitary bins

29th November Mr. Algie writes to Secretary of School Committee Mr McLean that a grant has been approved

29th November Mr Holyoake MP for Taueru writing announcing a grant

1951

26th January Miss M Swanney appointed as Probationary Assistant Extra for 1951

27th February Letter From J A Davies asking that Miss Swanney on the recommendation of the school inspector visit West School for observation of infant methods etc.

Wednesday 7th March is a suitable date (Transport to and from Masterton can be arranged)

20th June Letter from Secretary Manager of Wellington Education Board to director of Education That for the last four weeks Taueru School has maintained a roll number of 41. Your board is taking immediate steps to advertise the vacancy and will arrange for a relieving teacher when one is available

19th September Appointment of Mr F H Bacon Grading No 84, 10 years' service. Present Position Waione

25th September I S Tomlin Chairman accepting Mr Bacon's appointment

21st November Miss I I Robertson appointed Service 3 years Present Position Probationary Assistant Otago

1952

15th October Mr bacon stating he has not returned grading return as he had not received a form to fill in

Letter from Acting Secretary Manager Wellington Education Board to Director of Ed

Apparently an error was made in the grading of the school last year

The roll was 40 not 30 and the grade 3b not 3a

Averages for 3rd term 1951 39., 1st Term 1952, 43 and 2nd Term 1953 45

11th November Miss Robertson has resigned from the end of the year

1953

30th January Appointment of Miss M Parker 3 years' service P>A Masterton West

9th September The school is only an acre in extent and the Hunt club have offered to sell 1 acre for £100 and transfer and surveying fees

The 1953 grading roll was 46

1954

11th January Anticipating the probable difficulty in securing a replacement for Miss Robertson I have approached Miss Audrey Gordon who has previously relieved here in 1951 at present she is not in the teaching service but is prepared to return here as relieving assistant

Approved 15th January

Miss Gordon's last job was Hope School, Nelson Education Board

15th June Final land purchase was £75

6th August School Committee asking for replacement of school erected in 1880 and additions made in 1897

1955

25th July As the assistant teacher is leaving the following information may help in making an appointment/ Letter from M J Mclean Secretary to School Committee . good Board available,

Transport every Friday to Masterton and back again Monday Morning if required

13th December Appointment of Miss C V Thomson 3 Years' service P A Taranaki

1956

4 July F H Bacon absent 18th 19th June. Bereavement Urgent call to Gisborne

1957

6th May Letter from I Tomlin Secretary School Committee to Wellington Education Board Would you please ask us the successful applicant to the position of Head Teacher to contact Committee immediately So that arrangements may be made in connection with the school bus.

22nd May R T Grayson appointed as Head Teacher

1958

17th May Letter from R Grayson to Wellington Education Board This is just to advise you that there will in most cases on a Sunday be a car coming from Masterton at about 8 to 8.30 and owner is willing to carry a teacher

A railcar arrives in Masterton at 7.7 pm from Wellington on Sunday. I trust this may suit Miss Cousins

August Inspectors Report included

- a) Head Teacher R T Grayson Roll 27
- b) Miss Arthur Roll 20 Relieving
- c) The school runs very smoothly and a variety of experiences is provided for the benefit of students
- d) Both classrooms are good places for the students to live in during the day
- e) The children have benefited considerably from the efforts of the School Committee and Staff
- f) D Deacon

1959

20th October Jennifer Davison Single appointed. at present Assistant Female Auckland

1961

School still goes to Form 2

July Inspectors Report Included

- a) R T Grayson 24 Students Standard 2 to Form 2
- b) Miss Davison 14 children
- c) The children are friendly and well behaved
- d) The junior school is in charge of a competent teacher from England who has given very good service and fitted into the rural community well

- e) The children are making steady progress
- f) A satisfactory bus service is operated by the Head Teacher
- g) A good library has been built up
- h) The Committee meets regularly and sees to general requirements and maintenance. They freely help with the transport of children to sport gatherings and provide a school picnic and a Christmas party
- i) J Logan H Skiffington

1962

23rd February Two classrooms area of 918 sq feet but they are long narrow poorly shaped rooms erected 1880 and obsolete in design and amenities although this was partly offset by remodelling windows 6 years ago

This building is rather poor physically in that the rusticated boards have been patch repaired from time to time

The timber piles are defective causing the floor to subside Borer infestation is severe. The building has a limited life

6th March Mrs Paku relieving assistant on the 20th March as she has promised her services to another school from the 20th March.
R Grayson

4th April Letter from Mr Grayson Miss Moana Morice has been engaged here. She is an uncertificated teacher who has had previous experience at Tinui School. Miss Morice is prepared to

stay on. I am very pleased with her efforts to teach the Junior Pupils at Taueru School

15th May Margaret Winifred Street Married appointed

23rd May Handwritten notes to Mr Torrance Wellington Education Board included

Mrs T L Glover wife of Teacher at Aohanga School rang (Notes included)

- a) Trevor wants to apply for the position at Taueru School but wants to know what it is like- They always ring up and are told!!
- b) I told them it was most unusual and hoped the Board was not paying for the toll call- assured they were paying for it privately
- c) Let them know I would write back
- d) School dates from 1880 and exterior was painted in 1958
- e) It is old but in fair order. It is difficult to raise the standard of a school such as this to much above fair, whatever is done
- f) Residence dates from 1893 Has 3 bedrooms, living room and dining room Kitchen and washhouse under one roof Was repainted inside and out in 1959
- g) An outside light is to be installed this year
- h) Again in fair order generally considering its age and difficult to do much more

31st August (*Headmaster's report to board on assistant teacher. First one, I've ever seen, presumably because she was uncertificated*)

Included Miss Morice landed a very tough assignment. Without training to help her she was put into a class which has had very little teaching for the previous two or three months and where discipline was utterly lacking. I have no doubt that Miss Morice will make a very good teacher when training completed

Margaret Street Head Teacher

19th June Leslie Arthur Jones, Married Presently at Makahu Sole Teacher appointed

21st September The School Committee has made an application for a swimming pool plant

1964

27th April Taueru no longer a Country Service school for assistant teachers

1 Classroom replacement application

1961 Roll 38. 1962 39. 1963, 35. 1964 27

Estimated Cost £6,700

Avalon Plan Style

1965

Grading roll 19

24th May Letter from County Health Officer asking for a tank to be installed just for sanitary facilities

29th November Tenders for new residence at school

1 Classroom £4784.0 Tender from B D Taylor accepted

1966

9th March Prime Minister Keith Holyoake to open the school on 2nd April

Chairman School Committee Mr J E Hay

Mr A Maxwell, Mr J Lett, Mr I Tomlin and Mr D Ihaka

Teacher Mr L A Jones

18th August Application for Septic Tank for new house as gradient not right to old one

24th November Inspectors Report included

- a) Mr L Stockbridge Sole Teacher Roll 20
- b) During the overseas trip of the previous teacher progress and effective teaching was well maintained
- c) The further illness of the permanent teacher for two terms meant further use of a relieving teacher
- d) The newly appointed Sole Charge teacher began in the third term
- e) The completion of the new school and school house is providing a fine incentive to teachers, pupils and parents

1969

3rd February D J McLeod Sole Teacher

20th August letter to Wellington Education Board Stating that in sports with Tinui and Whareama school each Tuesday the infants are left with Mrs McLeod as there is not always sufficient transport Reply there is no provision for employment of relieving staff for infants

11th November Inspector's Report included

- a) Mr McLeod Roll 20
- b) The needs of the children in this school are being professionally attended to
- c) The children are polite, well behaved and courteous
- d) The buildings are in good order and well maintained
- e) Consideration should be given to prevent condensation dripping into the rooms from "Novelight " roofing. *(All Avalon type classrooms had a panel of Novelight clear plastic in the ceiling to give light to the classroom. Condensation was always a problem. Most schools filled in the spaces)*
- f) The grounds are well set out
- g) The school participates fully in all the combined country school activities
- h) The children have been taken on several educational trips to give them a wider understanding of life around them

1971

17th November letter from Ivan Aitkenhead relieving head teacher

- a) Roll will be about 25 next year 15 will be under standard 2
- b) 90% of this group are Maori with backgrounds ranging from deprived to satisfactory. The big problem comes at this time of the year when shearing is in full swing. Some of the children have to rise as early as 4.30 a.m. and be placed with a Maori Family as their own Mother and Father are actively engaged in shearing sheds
- c) With no pre-schooling and in many cases limited outside contacts these younger children require a great deal of encouragement.
- d) I am asking for a teacher's aide
- e) Reply No Teacher aide for sole charge in 1972
- f) However if roll is over 20 next year and unusual difficulties you should consult your inspector without delay

1972

Inspector's Report included

- a) I A Aitkenhead Sole Teacher Roll 20

- b) The tone and working conditions are good
- c) Curriculum coverage and balance are largely satisfactory and in the sphere of physical education in particular, including swimming and sport, high standards are met
- d) Library resources are well used and home reading is encouraged
- e) The School Committee plays an active part in maintaining and improving the grounds
- f) The schools open-door policy for parents to visit at any time is commendable

19th May Ivan applies for Leave of Absence as Selector Coach of the Wairarapa- Bush rugby team for four days as the team is making a Southern Tour of Canterbury, Otago and Southland I have two relievers available

23rd May Letter to Wellington Education Board from Ivan included

- a) Roll of 21
- b) 10 Maori children up to Standard 2 and most of these are in urgent need of special help
- c) Their work necessitates a lot of camping away and the children are placed in a communal type home
- d) Under these circumstances there is very little parental care and encouragement
- e) Amazingly the children are enthusiastic
- f) I feel that a teacher's aide would be of tremendous value

6th June Leave for rugby tour granted

12th June Teacher Aide refused if the roll rises to mid-twenties then discuss it with your inspector

1973

25th May Miss Lorraine Thomas to be relieving for a fortnight Then Mr Murray H Bishop at present in South Auckland to start early

Mrs Iris Hopkirk to relieve from 5th June to 23rd June

1974

23rd January Mr Bishop no Teacher Aide to be appointed

1975

22nd July Mrs S D Bishop Teacher Aide 10 hours per week. Mrs Bishop was the teacher aide and I have increased her hours to 10 Mrs C Peachey 5 hours per week

I would like to thank the Board and the District Inspector for the extra hours .it certainly is appreciated

Both were paid at \$2.211 per hour

Correen Peachey c/- Kahurangi Private Bag Masterton

17th November Mrs Bishop has had to resign because of sickness

Mrs W Tennent will take her place

1977

13th June I Snook principal

12th August Mrs Bracewell is part time teacher 3 hours per day

Mrs Snook is teacher aide for 2 hours per day

1978

3rd August Inspector's report included

- a) Ian Robert Snook Roll 15
- b) The school is operating at a very efficient level
- c) The impression gained is of a progressive and energetic principal providing soundly based programmes

1979

13th March Board Minutes The chairman of the Taueru School Committee asking that the Board appoint Mr Martin (*Trevor ex Totara Drive*) the temporary relieving principal but as he wasn't the highest graded applicant it wasn't feasible

14th March Mr G M Stevenson appointed and Secretary of Wellington Education Board notes "It is pleasing to note the secondment of Mr Martin has proved so satisfactory. Only John Lelliott would write like this,

1980

20th February Mr Stevenson not living in the school house he has purchased a house in Churchill Avenue Masterton

1981

7th April Inspectors Report included

- a) Mr G M Stevenson
- b) Roll 17
- c) A good positive report

8th December Letter from Mr Peter Ihaka to Mr Stevenson
Principal

Included

- a) We have heard that you now are considering returning to Taueru School even though you have told us you are resigning
- b) There will be only two children at school if you return
- c) All other parents have said they will remove their children and send them to town
- d) Those with pre-schoolers have the same intention
- e) As you will be aware we are alarmed by the certain closure of the school
- f) You may wish to discuss this at the next School Committee on Monday 30th November or respond by telephone or letter to Mr Peter Ihaka

Copy received by Board 8th December

Along with accompanying letter which included

- a) Many parents have frequently expressed over the years with their children's attitude towards school
- b) The children of 2 families have been removed and gone to Masterton
- c) When told of the situation in August and two days later Mr Stevenson rang and said he would resign
- d) He has been away on sick leave
- e) Mrs Joy Bennett relieved and the behaviour of the children improved.
- f) Mr Stevenson now may be intending to return
- g) Etc.
- h) Peter Ihaka

11th December Mr Stevenson transferred, appointed to Hiona Intermediate

1982

Joy Bennett Still relieving

1983

Grading Roll 12

15th September Donella B Manihera Principal

Still going 1983

1984

16th August Boys 5 girls 5 Roll 10

12th November Donella Manihera to Senior Inspector letter included

- a) At present I have 10 pupils including my son and one from town. 2 girl who leaves to go to college
- b) The three children in the school house may move
- c) My Standard 3 child may go to town next year as she will be the only girl over seven in the school
- d) If all eventuates I will have a roll of 5 next year. I wish to be put on the priority transfer list please

12th December Letter from Secretary of Wellington Education Board to Hon Minister of Education

Included

- a) Maximum roll next year would be 3 one of these being the child of the teacher
- b) There is little chance of parents taking their children back to Taueru
- c) A meeting was held on the 13th December and the district regretfully endorsed the closing of the school on a temporary basis. Hoping that the school may open again

List of Teachers For Taueru School from
1927 as prepared by Wellington Education Board for Centennial Committee

1927-29	Mr A Ivey	Palmerston north to 1951 then Christchurch	1980
1930-34	Miss J E V Millar		
1935-44	Mrs A D Dring	Greytown to 1959	
1945-47	Mrs M Cook	Retired	
1948-51	Mr J A Davis	Cargill High School Invercargill	Cargill
1951	Miss M Swanney		
1951-57	Mr F H Bacon		
1952	Miss I I Robertson		
1953	Miss M Parker		
1954-57	Miss A M Gordon		
1956-58	C V Thomson	Taranaki	
1958-62	Mr R J Grayson	Kingsford School	Kingsford School Auckland
1960-61	G J Davidson		
1963-64	Mr R A Jones		
1965	Mr C J Robertson	Jock Later Principal at Greytown	
1967- 68	A N Stockbridge		Correspondence School
1969- 70	D H McLeod		
1971-73	Mr I A Aitkenhead		
1975-76	M Bishop		Levin North
1977-78	I R Snook		
1979	Trevor Martin		

1881	23	Taueru	Blakely	Alfred B	Master	£140
1882	27	Taueru	Magrath	John A	Master	£140
1883	17	Taueru	Magrath	John A	Master	£170
1884	17	Taueru	Magrath	John A	Master	£170
1885	18	Taueru	Magrath	John A	Master	£170
1886	17	Taueru	Vacant			
1887	25	Taueru	Edridge	Edward	Master	£170
1888	25	Taueru	Pilkington	John	Master	£175
1889	36	Taueru	Pilkington	John	Master	£195
1890	36	Taueru	Dowdeswell	Adelaide	Female	£146
1891	40	Taueru	Dowdeswell	Adelaide	Head Female	£153
1891	40	Taueru	Johnston	William	Male Pupil Teacher	£25
1892	40	Taueru	Dowdeswell	Adelaide	Head Female	£158
1892	40	Taueru	Johnston	James	Male Pupil Teacher	£30
1893	51	Taueru	Chatwin	George W	Headmaster	£205
1893	51	Taueru	Johnston	James	Male Pupil Teacher	£35
1894	50	Taueru	Chatwin	George W	Headmaster	£205
1894	50	Taueru	Kean	Balfour	Male Pupil Teacher	£25
1895	51	Taueru	Chatwin	George W	Headmaster	£205
1895	51	Taueru	Kean	Balfour	Male Pupil Teacher	£25
1896	45	Taueru	Chatwin	George W	Headmaster	£210
1896	45	Taueru	Kean	Balfour	Male Pupil Teacher	£31
1896	45	Taueru	Parsons	Mary	Sewing	£5
1897	49	Taueru	Chatwin	George W	Headmaster	£175
1897	49	Taueru	Kean	Balfour	Male Pupil Teacher	£45
1897	49	Taueru	Baird	Ida K	Sewing	£5
1898	52	Taueru	Mason	Francis	Headmaster	£205

1898	52	Taueru	Kean	Balfour		Male Pupil Teacher	£50
1898	52	Taueru	Baird	Ida K		Sewing	£5
1899	46	Taueru	Mason	Francis		Headmaster	£205
1899	46	Taueru	Kean	Balfour		Male Pupil Teacher	£50
1899	46	Taueru	Baird	Ida K		Sewing	£5
1900	44	Taueru	Mason	Francis		Headmaster	£205
1900	44	Taueru	Kean	Balfour		Male Pupil Teacher	£50
1900	44	Taueru	Burling	Eliza C		Sewing	£5
1901	40	Taueru	Mason	Francis		Headmaster	£175
1901	40	Taueru	Taplin	Amy		Female Pupil Teacher	£20
1902	44	Taueru	Mason	Francis		Headmaster	£175
1902	44	Taueru	Wilson	Elizabeth C		Assistant Female	£80
1903	46	Taueru	Mason	Francis		Headmaster	£175
1903	46	Taueru	Wilson	Elizabeth C		Mistress	£80
1904	46	Taueru	Mason	Francis		Headmaster	£161
F1904	46	Taueru	Scott	Margaret C		Mistress	£80
1905	45	Taueru	Mason	Francis	C1	Headmaster	£163
1905	45	Taueru	Scott	Margaret C	Licensed	Mistress	£80
1906	31	Taueru	Mason	Francis	C1	Headmaster	£165
1906	31	Taueru	Bradford	Laura M		Assistant Female	£85
1907	28	Taueru	Mason	Francis	C1	Headmaster	£165
1908	28	Taueru	Mason	Francis	C1	Headmaster	£144
1909	33	Taueru	Brockett	Fred C	E1	Master	£150
1910	36	Taueru	Brockett	Frederick C	D3	Master	£155
1911	39	Taueru	Brockett	Frederick C	D2	Headmaster	£180
1911	39	Taueru	Hogg	Mary F F	D5	Assistant Female	£90
1912	38	Taueru	Warwick	Robert S	C3	Headmaster	£180
1912	38	Taueru	Jackson	Dorothy E		Assistant Female	£90

1913	29	Taueru	Warwick	Robert S	C3	Headmaster	£185
1913	29	Taueru	Jackson	Dorothy E	C5	Assistant Female	£90
1914	28	Taueru	Warwick	Robert S	C3	Master	£195
1915	28	Taueru	Warwick	Robert S	C2	Master	£205
1917	18	Taueru	Bowman	Eva M Mrs	Sole	D	£140
1919	16	Taueru	Bowman	Eva M Mrs	Sole	D-76	£220
1921	25	Taueru	Bowman	Eva M Mrs	Sole	D	£290
1923	24	Taueru	Bowman	Eva M Mrs	Sole	D-141	£303