

Tokomaru

1892-1895

1893	21	Tokomaru	Anderson	Andrew		Male	£ 175.00	
1894	23	Tokomaru	Anderson	Andrew		Male	£ 175.00	
1895	28	Tokomaru	Anderson	Andrew		Male	£ 175.00	

Andrew Anderson started teaching for Wellington Education Board at Tokomaru. In 1896 he was at Ballance School [North West of Pahiatua close to Woodville.]. In 1899 he was an assistant teacher at Carterton . Then from 1900 until 1913 he was head master of the two teacher school at Newman 4 kilometres North of Eketahuna on the main road.

30th March 1892 Wellington Education Board Mr. Joseph Liggins attended on behalf of the Tokomaru residents to ask that a school should be established at that place. It was pointed out that the district was a rapidly increasing one, and at present there were at least 30 children of school age, whose parents were anxious that a school should be erected, more especially as a good school site could easily be obtained. The Chairman promised that the matter should have the most favourable and earnest consideration. Mr. Blair thought, however, that it would be impossible to erect a schoolhouse in the district for about six months.

30th June 1892 Wellington Education Board Estimates Tokomaru (new school), L200. [L was used for £ [pound sign] if the sign was not available for printing]

31st August 1892 Wellington Education Board The Board resolved to defer consideration of the question of erecting a school at Tokomaru.

8th September 1892 Wellington Education Board Tokomaru. —An application was made for the erection of a school here. Dr Newman moved that the inspector be requested to report on the matter, which was agreed to.

30th November 1892 Wellington Education Board The Board then went into committee, and on resuming, a recommendation that tenders should be called for erecting new schools at Te Horo, Tokomaru, Hawera [Name changed to Hamua], Cross' Creek and Rangitumau, was adopted.

30th December 1892 Wellington Education Board The Education Board have received the following tenders for the erection of new schools : —Rangitumau, T. B. Mitchell, Masterton; Cross' Creek, W. Benton; Hawera (Forty Mile Bush), R. H. Cole. The amounts will be published when the contracts have been signed. The board have not yet come to any decision with regard to tenders for new schools at Tokomaru and Te Horo.

6th January 1893 Wellington Education Board Erection of school Johnstone and Shaw £197

13th March 1893 Head Teacher, Tokomaru. Average attendance, about 25. Salary, £140. No residence.

[I can find no mention of an appointment or opening of the school.]

12th May 1893 Inspector Fleming to inspect Tokomaru on the 17th May

2nd February 1894 Wellington Education Board Grants of .£5 each were made to the Tokomaru and Shannon Committees.

5th May 1894 Inspectors will visit on May 15th

6th October 1894 The creamery was opened last Monday at Tokomaru.

11th December 1895 Tokomaru School to the Wairarapa Relief Fund Tokomaru School £1 10s [S S Wairarapa hit Great Barrier Island]

29th April 1895 Tokomaru — Messrs. J Liggins (Chairman), J. Row (Secretary), T. Miller, H. Thompson, K. Griffiths, G. Row

17th May 1895 Inspector Lee to inspect Tokomaru 4th June

1896-1900

1896	33	Tokomaru	Gregory	Frederick W		Male	£155.00
1896	33	Tokomaru	Gregory	Ellen		Sewing	£5.00
1897	32	Tokomaru	Gregory	Frederick W	D4	Master	£ 185.00
1897	32	Tokomaru	Gregory	Ellen		Sewing	£5.00
1898	33	Tokomaru	Gregory	Frederick W	D3	Master	£195.00
1898	33	Tokomaru	McLennan	Janet		Sewing	£ 5.00
1899	33	Tokomaru	Gregory	Frederick W	D3	Master	£195.00
1899	33	Tokomaru	McLennan	Janet		Sewing	£5.00
1900	32	Tokomaru	Gregory	Frederick W	D3	Master	£ 195.00
1900	32	Tokomaru	Sandilands	Maria		Sewing	£5.00

1894 and 1895 Frederick Gregory was a pupil teacher at Mount Cook Boys. He then spent 1896 to 1907 at Tokomaru before going to Hastwell near Mauriceville from 1908 to 1914. He was then at Pongaroa School as Headmaster until at least 1923 when my records end

1894/2323	Ellen	Witton	Frederick William	Gregory
1897/4544	Gregory	Vivian	Ellen	Frederick William
1898/11148	Gregory	Mavis	Ellen	Frederick William
1900/16508	Gregory	Kathleen	Ellen	Frederick William
1903/3635	Gregory	Gretta	Ellen	Frederick William

Kathleen taught at Pori in 1917 and at Akaroa Road [Near Pongaroa] by 1919 and was still there in 1921 and Gretta was teaching at Eketahuna in 1921

29th April 1896 Wellington Education Board It was decided to promote a country teacher to the charge of the Kaitawa School, and to invite applications for the teacherships at Ngaturi and Tokomaru.

15th May 1896 Inspector T R Fleming to inspect Tokomaru on 11th June

24th June 1896 Mr Gregory appointed to Tokomaru

15th July 1896 Wellington Education Board The Board of Education has given permission to Mr. Gregory, teacher of the Tokomaru School, to erect a dwelling house for himself in the school grounds and has promised to make him a reasonable allowance as interest on the amount which he is expending.

26th August 1896 Wellington Education Board and a grant of £10 was made for the removal of offices at Tokomaru. [Offices is the name for toilets where one does your business]

28th November 1896 Mrs Gregory appointed sewing teacher.

5th November 1896 Results of Wellington Technical School Freehand Drawing examination Large entries from most Wellington Education Board schools.. Tokomaru. —Oliver Burge, Benjamin Cook, Daniel Lynch, M. MacLellan.

10th July 1897 The name of Mr. F. W. Gregory, teacher at Tokomaru, was gazetted last week as promoted by examination to the D 4 class, but was omitted in the list published a few days ago.

21st April 1898 Inspector T R Fleming to inspect Tokomaru on the 9th June

29th June 1898 Applications for repairs to the shelter sheds at the State schools Manakau and Tokomaru, damaged by the gale of last week, will come before the Education Board at its meeting this afternoon.

30th June 1898 Wellington Education Board Mrs Gregory resigned as sewing teacher Tokomaru.....Applications for either repairs or painting from the schools at Mauriceville, Masterton, Dreyer's Rock, Wangaehu, Belvedere, Featherston, Upper Hutt, Manukau, Tokomaru, Kereru, Petone, Wainui-o-mata, and Mitchelltown were left in the hands of the Chairman.

30th July 1898 Mrs McLennan appointed sewing teacher

1st November 1898 Gregory.— On 30th- October, at Palmerston, the wife of F. W. Gregory, of Tokomaru, of a daughter.

27th April 1899 School Committee Tokomaru. — Messrs. J. R. While (Chairman), T. J. Row (Secretary and Treasurer), Judd, Jamieson, Griffiths, Sandilands, and Rowlands

18th May 1899 Inspector Bakewell to inspect Tokomaru on 1st June

23rd December 1899 Telephone offices have been opened by the Telegraph Department at Linton and Tokomaru on the Manawatu line. The hours of attendance are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the offices will be closed on Sundays and holidays. Telegrams are delivered regularly.

1st March 1900 In a review of teacher's salaries the Wellington Education Board reported they were paying F W Gregory £20 per annum too much.[There was a long list of other teacher's also being overpaid. £20 is equivalent to \$3942.65 in September 2020]

2nd June 1900 The following children passed at the annual examination on Thursday : — Standard VI. —Arthur Everiss. Standard V. —Edward Griffiths.

Standard IV. — Lindsay Gardner, Thomas Judd, Harold Row, Gwynne Rowlands.

Standard III.—Duncan Gardner, William Judd, Henry Pritchard, Lois Everiss, Elizabeth Parr.

Standard II.—Frederick Pritchard, Ernest Rowlands, Nora Lynch, Eliza Pritchard, Olive Row.

Standard I.—Thomas Parr.

26th July 1900 Wellington Education Board confirms at their meeting that F W Gregory is being paid £20 in excess of scale. The vital statistics of Tokomaru, a small settlement on the Manawatu Company's line, for the last, year, showed 60 births to one death, not including one or two infants. This is claimed as a record in the Queen's dominions.

26th October 1900 The vital statistics of Tokomaru, a small settlement on the Manawatu Company's line, for the last, year, showed 60 births to one death, not including one or two infants. This is claimed as a record in the Queen's dominions.

1901-1905

1901	32	Tokomaru	Gregory	Frederick W	D3	Master	£155.00	House
1901	32	Tokomaru	Sandilands	Maria		Sewing	£5.00	
1902	32	Tokomaru	Gregory	Frederick W	D3	Master	£155.00	£20.00
1903	32	Tokomaru	Gregory	Frederick W	D3	Head Master	£175.00	£20.00
1903	32	Tokomaru	McKeown	Emily M		Mistress	£80.00	

Emily McKeown Started teaching in 1897 as a pupil teacher at Paraparaumu and was there until being appointed to Tokomaru as a mistress in 1903 and taught there until at least 1908. By the end of 1909 she was teaching at the 2 teacher school at Tologa Bay for the Hawkes Bay Education Board. Though a newspaper article below shows her teaching at Johnsonville School official records don't show this.

1920/2806	McKeown	Emily Maria	40 years
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31st January 1901 Wellington Education Board accepts F W Gregory's resignation. [I have no record of his reappointment to Tokomaru or any mention of it]

9th March 1901 Wellington Education Board .For £135 and £20 house allowance, at Tokomaru, there were seventeen applicants, nine males and eight females

23rd April 1901 The following were elected as School Committee last night:—Messrs J R Whyte, Sandilands, Rowlands, T. J. Row, Griffiths, A. Judd and Sorensen.

13th May 1901 Inspector Bakewell at Tokomaru on 17th May.

21st May 1901 The following are the results of the school examinations:—

Standard VI. — Edward Griffiths Margaret Barr. /,

Standard V.—John Lindsay Gardner, David Caird, Harold Row, Gwynne Rowlands.

Standard IV.—Lois Maria Everiss, Duncan Eric Gardner. Julia Maud Judd, William Judd, Edith May Wilton.

Standard III -Eliza Louisa Pritchard, Olive Ethel Row, Ernest Rowlands, Ada Beatrice Thompson.

Standard II—Ethel Frances Parr

Standard I. — Felton McRae. Lexi Rowlands, Victor Wilton, Leonard Wilton. .

11th June 1901 A concert in aid of the now Anglican Church at Tokomaru was held in the schoolroom on Friday evening. Several ladies and gentlemen came down from Palmerston to assist. Although the weather was very bad the room was packed, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

5th August 1901 A social was hold at Tokomaru on Friday night to welcome the returned troopers (F. M. Eade, J. H. Liggins, and E. Pritchard). Mr Gregory (schoolmaster), on behalf of the residents, welcomed the troopers, and presented each with a medal in the form of a Maltese cross, suitably inscribed.....

17th October 1901 The following is the result of the First Grade drawing examination at the Tokomaru School:— I Freehand—David Caird, Duncan Eric Gardner, Maud Judd, Gwynnie Rowlands.: Model—John Lindsay Gardner, Edward Griffiths. Scale—David Caird.

26th August 1902 The Tokomaru School has been closed for eleven weeks owing to scarlet fever being in the district.

17th December 1902 Wellington Education Board and it recommended that the sum of £302 be expended in painting the following schools Kaitoke, Kaiwarra Mauriceville -West, Alfredton, Kaitawa, Rongomai, Mangahao, Tokomaru, Ohau' Paikakariki, Judgeford, Porirua, Mount Cook (infants') inside, Newtown (infants') inside and outside.

29th April 1903 School Committee elections: Tokomaru No Election

30th April 1903 Miss Young of Rangitumau [North East of Masterton]to be transferred to Tokomaru [Only taught for Wellington Education Board at Rangitumau in 1908]

16th May 1903 List of Passes Difficult to read because of poor print quality

The above school was examined by Mr Fleming Chief Inspector with the following results

Standard VII Gwynnie Rowland

Standard VI Lois Everiss

Standard V Nora Lynch, M Wilton

Standard IV Agnes Boyd, M Boyd, Ethel Parr

Standard III Felton McRae, ? Moody, Lexie Rowlands

Standard II May Griffiths, C Lynch, Edith Muller, Win Moody, Gladys Whyte, Donald Mc..., Henry Miller, Joseph Liggins, ? Judd

Standard 1 Elsie Alderson, ? Berquist, Norman Gregory, Will Griffiths, Stewart Parr, John ?,Edward Rowlands, Bertie Wilton

Owing to sickness this school closed four months last year and therefore the results of the examination highly satisfactory. Mr Gregory Headmaster deserves every ? his efforts to push the scholars.

18th May 1903 We understand that the Mayor of Palmerston (Mr C. Dunk) has consented to unfurl the flag at the Tokomaru school one day this week [Actually in Horowhenua County Council I think]

23rd May 1903 The ceremony of hoisting the Tokomaru school flag was publicly performed yesterday afternoon by the Mayor of Palmerston, Mr C. Dunk. A large number of scholars and 5 parents were present in the grounds, and a strong spirit of loyalty was shown. In performing the ceremony the Mayor made the children an appropriate speech, submitting interesting facts in connection with the history of the flag, and pointing out the reasons for respecting it. The scholars then saluted and sang the National = Anthem, after which 'Mr Dunk asked the School Committee to proclaim a holiday. This the members present agreed to do, but before .the gathering dispersed the schoolmaster thanked the Mayor for his attendance, and called on the children to accord him three hearty cheers

12th June 1903 On Monday evening the householders in the Tokomaru district assembled in large numbers to elect a committee for the ensuing year. Sixteen candidates presented themselves, and the following were elected ;—Messrs T. B. Sandilands (chairman), E. Griffiths (secretary), A. Judd, J. Batchelar, W. Marshall, W. Parr and T. Miller. No time was lost .by the committee in getting to work, as a working bee was busily engaged digging drains by moonlight on Wednesday evening.

17th June 1903 On Monday the teachers and pupils of the Johnsonville School presented Miss McKeown, who has been transferred to Tokomaru, with a sold bangle and crystal and silver trinket box. Miss McKeown was also the recipient of a gold brooch from the members of the Wesleyan Church, who paid a surprise visit to her home for the purpose of making the presentation

30th July 1903 Wellington Education Board Requests from Wainui-o-mata (a shed at the teacher's residence), Tokomaru (additional room), Masterton (improvements to grounds), Island Bay (grant in aid of chemistry and cookery), Clyde-quay painting), Featherston (stove for residence) were deferred for want of funds

24th November 1903 A flag-staff, 35 feet above the ground, was erected in the Tokomaru school ground on Saturday last. Thanks are due to Messrs Schmidt and Saunders, sawmillers, of Shannon, who presented the main pole, and to Mr A. J. Whyte, Tokomaru, who very kindly shaped the pole and supervised the erection of the flag-staff. The whole work reflects great credit on Mr Whyte and forms a handsome addition to the grounds.

11th December 1903 Wellington Education Board to send a deputation to the Minister of Education asking more funds including the enlargement of Shannon and Tokomaru Schools

22nd December 1903 Since the Makerua Company purchased their estate at Tokomaru they have laid over eleven miles of tramlines and thirty miles of drains have been constructed. The main drain is a canal some thirty feet wide on top and some nine feet deep, where it opens into a lagoon. This drain is 4½ [=7.24 Kilometres] miles in length and ends in the swamp, nearly at the rear-of the Tokomaru railway station. It may be stated that the Makerua Company has spent, close on £18.000, of which draining and other improvement have cost £8000, tramlines £300, during the last fifteen months, in work done on the estate, which has had a very beneficial effect on trade in the township of Shannon, and brought about a condition of business prosperity to which it had long been a stranger. [1 mile equals 1.60934 Kilometres]

1904-1907

1904	59	Tokomaru	Gregory	Frederick W	D3	Head Master	£166.50	£30.00
1904	59	Tokomaru	McKeown	Emily M		Mistress	£85.00	
1905	65	Tokomaru	Gregory	Frederick W	D3	Head Master	£176.50	£30.00
1905	65	Tokomaru	McKeown	Emily M	E3	Mistress	£85.00	
1906	62	Tokomaru	Gregory	F W	D2	Head Master	£195.00	£30.00
1906	62	Tokomaru	McKeown	E M	E2	Assistant Female	£95.00	
1907	61	Tokomaru	McKeown	Emily M	D2	Assistant Female	£95.00	
1907	61	Tokomaru	Gregory	Frederick W	D2	Head Master	£195.00	£30.00

26th February 1904 Wellington Education Board finances report included a report by Inspector Bakewell on Tokomaru School needs

1st March 1904 A Tokomaru resident writes to the Petone Chronicle as follows :— The Tokomaru school is locally known as the " Black Hole of Calcutta." In a badly ventilated, dilapidated, weather-beaten structure, measuring 22½ feet . x 24 feet [6.85 meters x 7.32 meters] are herded together, sixty-three children and two adult teachers. If the same

number of pigs were herded together in the same space for a week, the owner would be prosecuted for cruelty to animals. The Education Board blame the Government. Evidently the Minister of Education does not consider children on a par with pigs. The parents are wondering if the Premier could be induced to spare a little time from his banquets to look after a department over which he is supposed to exercise control. The Premier's heart bleeds for the working man, but not for the working man's children.

29th March 1904 Wellington Education Board A claim in the annual report that considerable improvements have been made at a number of schools including Tokomaru. [See above]

7th May 1904 For some time past the accommodation at the Tokomaru School has been totally inadequate, but a grant of £250, which has been obtained from the Government, will enable additions to be commenced shortly.

7th May 1904 Tokomaru School.

The annual examination of the above school resulted in the following passes:—

Standard VII.—Lois Everiss, Eva Kelly.

Standard V.—Agnes Boyd, McGregor Bond, Ernest Rowlands

Standard IV.—Fulton McRae, Bertie Moody, Lexie Rowlands

Standard III.—May Griffiths, John Judd, Ruth Kelly, Donald McRae, Edith Miller, Henry Miller, Winnie Moody, George Trimmings Kathleen Waghorn, Leonard Wilton, Victor Wilton, Gladys Whyte.

Standard II.—Clara Berquist, Norman Gregory, William Griffiths, John Lynch, Joseph Liggins, Stewart Parr, Edward Rowlands, Arthur Thompson, Bertie Wilton.

Standard I.—Jessie Boyd, Amy Sandilands, Charles Stevenson.

I understand that additions to the school will soon be commenced, a grant of £250 having been obtained from the Government.

2nd June 1904 The Government will make a special grant for the construction of the new schoolhouse at Tokomaru, in the Wellington educational district. A special grant for the proposed school building at Shannon, however, has been declined.

1st July 1904 Wellington Education Board Plans for additions to the Tokomaru School were laid on the table, and on the motion of Messrs. Kebbell and Leo, it was resolved that tenders be called for the work.

5th July 1904 A school concert was held in, the Tokomaru schoolroom in aid of the school funds) on Friday evening last.; It proved to be the most successful ever held in Tokomaru. The items were rendered by the children who had been trained by Miss McKeown. About 200 were present. At the conclusion of the concert the chairman of the committee called for a vote of thanks for Miss McKeown, Mrs . Kelly, Miss Kelly and Mr Gregory, also three cheers for Miss McKeown.

...Following is the programme :—Duet, Miss Boyd, and McGregor Boyd; song "Which way does-the wind blow," children ; recitation. " The Head Bird," Connie Batchelar ; dialogue, "The Doll Show"; song, " In' Old Madrid," Mr Batchelar; recitation, " The Christmas Pudding," Ross, Moody and Carl Reicher; song, ' ' The Miner," children' tableau, "Tom, Dick and Harry; .song, Mrs Brown ; recitation and, chorus, "Dicky' Birds," Gerty Sandilands violin selection, Master Gelhor ; recitation, "The Scolding," Frank Judd ; song, "A Soldier's. life," children; recitation, " The Puzzled Schoolmaster," Lois Everiss; hoop drill recitation, "Teddy- the Teaser." Bertie Moody; song, "The Maiden with the Dreamy Eyes," Mr H.

Berquist; tableau, " good morning. Have' yon used Pears' Soap; recitation. "The Dog and the Bee," John Judd ; dialogue, "Examination Day" ; song, ".The Sunbeam," children; recitation, "The Dead Kitten," Ruth Kelly; song, Mr A. Judd ; recitation; "Riches and Friendship," Winnie .Moody; -song, "The: Washerwomen," children; tableau, ;"Oliver Twist asking for more" song, Mr Grimstone; round, Good-night.

A dance followed and was kept up till about 2 a.m.

22nd November 1904 A social, followed, by a dance, was held at the Tokomaru School on Friday evening in aid of St. Aidan's Church.

14th March 1905 The funeral of the eldest daughter (Lily) of Mr and Mrs A. Browne, of Tokomaru, took place yesterday in Palmerston from the residence of her grandparents, Mr and Mrs Gr Browne, Botanical road. The Rev. C. C. Harper conducted the burial service. Mr and Mrs Browne have received many expressions of sympathy in their sad bereavement, the deceased being only nine years and seven months old. She was a pupil of the Tokomaru school and will be much missed by her fellow scholars there. The many floral tributes of respect and regret laid on the grave included a handsome wreath from the teachers and scholars of the school, who took This method of signifying their sorrow at her early death.

15th July 1905 Football. A match was played this week between the Shannon and Tokomaru schoolboys. The latter knew too much for their opponents and secured a very easy victory by 33 points to 3. Mr Startup was referee.

18th July 1905 At a well attended meeting in the Schoolhouse, Mr Thomas Miller, one of the oldest settlers in this rising township, was last night the recipient of a handsome marble clock and a very appreciative address from the settlers of the district, also a valuable teachers' bible and hymnal from the teachers and scholars of the Sunday. School. Mrs Miller was also presented at the same time with a set of table cutlery. Mr_ Miller has been a much-esteemed resident of Tokomaru since its earliest days, having served the district well in the capacities of Road Board warden, member of School' Committees, postmaster and storekeeper, and superintendent of Sunday school. Mr Miller having sold his property here, leaves tomorrow with his family for Hastings, where he has purchased some land and intends settling down. Mr Griffiths and Mr Sorensen made the presentations with a few well-chosen remarks, and Mr Sandilands ably officiated as chairman.

28th July 1905 Wellington Education Board Miss McKehan [McKeown] granted 1 month's leave from Tokomaru

20th December 1905 The annual distribution of prizes took place on Friday. The chairman of the school committee mentioned before the distribution that the last inspector's report was the best in the history of the school. He also thanked the teaching staff and all those who had helped to make the treat a success, etc. Following is a list of. prizes :—

Standard VI.—Stuart Thompson, 1st prize; May Thompson, 2nd; Ernest .Rowlands, 3rd ; Agnes Boyd.

Standard V.—Felton McRae, 1st prize; Ethel Parr, 2nd; Bertie Moody, 3rd; Lexie Rowlands. Standard IV.—Ruth Kelly, 1st prize;, May Griffiths, 2nd; Winnie Moody, 3rd; John Judd, Joseph Liggins. Donald McRae, Victor Wilton, Leonard Wilton, Edith Miller, Gladys Whyte.

Standard III.—Clara Berquist, 1st prize; Edward Rowlands, 2nd; Leonard Thompson, 3rd; Norman Gregory, William Griffiths, John Lynch, Thomas Parr, Stewart Parr.

Standard II.—Charles Stevenson, 1st prize; Amy Sandilands, 2nd; Jessie Boyd, 3rd.

Standard I.—Thomas Reichel, 1st prize; Boss Moody, 2nd; Bertha McRae, 3rd; Reginald Barber, Roland Judd, Leonard Miller, Edward Miller, Lionel Thompson, Vivian Gregory, Dora McRae, Ruby Parr, Mary Stevenson, Minnie Wilton.

All children in the preparatory classes received a first prize.

Attendance prizes.—Charles Stevenson, Winnie Moody, Mary Stevenson, and Kathleen Stevenson, absent one day.

Prize given by headmaster for cottage gardening.—Best boy's garden (2 boys to each plot) - Felton McRae, Leonard Wilton. Best girl's garden.—Gladys Whyte. All were judged by the committee.

27th April 1906 There are now six flax mills within a mile of Tokomaru station, and these employ from 250 to 300 hands, with a wage list—monthly—of from ,£2000 to £2500 , and the owners of areas will have flax enough for two or three more mills.

16th May 1906 Judging from appearances the erection of a public hall for Tokomaru will take place in the near future. Several meetings have already been held to discuss the matter, and it is reported that Mr J. C. Kelly has given a site. At a recent meeting it was decided that the hall should be sixty feet long by thirty feet broad, and a large amount of money was promised by those present.

14th June 1906 The examination of the Tokomaru School concluded yesterday, with the following results :

Standard VI.— Bertie Moody and Lexie certificates of competency.

Standard V.— Nellie Atkinson, May Griffiths. John Judd, Ruth Kelly, Joseph Liggins'. Catherine Lynch. Winnie Moody. Donald McRae, Leonard Wilton, Gladys Whyte,

Standard IV.—Clara Berquist, Norman Gregory, William Griffiths 'John Lynch, Edward Rowlands, Leonard Thompson, Bertie Wilton, Vivian Wark.

Standard III. — Arthur Thompson. Jessie Boyd, Amy Sandilands, Charles 'Stevenson.

Standard II.—Vivian Gregory. Frank Judd, Roland Judd. Dora McRae, Bertha McRae, Ross Moody. Ruby Parr, Eric Rowlands, Thomas Reichel, Mary Stevenson, Minnie Wilton. Leslie Whyte.

Standard I. — Roy Kelly, Iris Browne, Delia Lynch, Edna Reichel. Kathleen Stevenson, Florence Thompson, Ida Whyte.

27th August 1906 Tenders invited for erection of a hall at Tokomaru

17th October 1906 Horowhenua County Council. SMALL BIRDS AND SMALL BOYS. From the chairman of the Tokomaru School Committee, asking the Council to be good enough to at once forward the sum of £2 promised as payment for small birds eggs. The letter stated that ever since it had been announced to scholars that a reward would be given for small birds' eggs, the committee had been constantly chased, at all hours, by small boys carrying parcels of small birds' eggs. As the committee was as poor as the proverbial church mouse, it had no funds wherewith to anticipate the Council's grant, and as the eggs were getting over-ripe, the work of destroying them was not rendered any easier on that account. The chairman of the Tokomaru School Committee then became philosophical and concluded his letter by stating that the circumstances of the case illustrated the working of a great natural law, as by endeavouring to get rid of one pest the Council had, by its action,

unwittingly created another, viz., the small boy. The Council smiled, but did nothing to relieve the tension

22nd December 1906 The annual school picnic was held yesterday on Mr Jamieson's property in beautiful weather. Before presenting the prizes Mr Sandilands, chairman of the School Committee, said that last year he announced that the Inspector's report was the best they had had; but this year it was even better. He also thanked the settlers for subscribing so liberally towards the treat and prizes. Mr Sandilands then mentioned that special prizes had been donated by the headmaster (Mr F. V. Gregory) for gardening, and that the thanks of the parents were due to him for the great interest taken in it by him. The chairman also thanked Mr G. H. Bennett for special prizes for attendance and friends from Mr Seifert's mill for special prizes for good conduct combined with regular attendance. Thanks were also given to Mr Jamieson for the use of his property and to the ladies who had done so much for the success of the picnic, also to the boys for working so well in gathering subscriptions.'

After the prize distribution cheers were heartily given for Mr Jamieson, the chairman and the teachers. The following is a list of the prizes presented : —

Standard VI.—Lexie Rowlands, 1st prize; Beatie Moody, 2nd prize.

Standard V. —May Griffiths, 1st prize; Ruth Kelly and Nellie Atkinson, 2nd prize; John Judd, Joseph Liggins, Catherine Lynch, Winifred Moody, Donald McRae, Leonard Wilton and Gladys Whyte, pass prizes.

Standard IV. —Leonard Thompson, 1st prize; Clara Berquist and Norman Gregory, 2nd prize; William Griffiths, John Lynch, Edward Rowlands and Bertie' Wilton, pass prizes.

Standard III,—Charles Stevenson, 1st prize; Amy Sandilands, 2nd prize; Jessie Boyd "and Arthur Thompson, pass prizes.

Standard II. —Thomas Reichel, 1st prize; William Gregory and Mary Stevenson, 2nd prize; Frank Judd, Rowland Judd, Dora McRae, Bertha McRae, Ross Moody, Ruby Parr, Eric Rowlands, Minnie Wilton and Leslie Whyte, pass prizes.

Standard I. —Kathleen Stevenson, 1st prize; Edna Reichel and Ida Whyte, 2nd prize; Delia Lynch, 3rd prize; Roy Kelly, Iris Browne and Florence Thompson, pass prizes.

Special prizes for attendance, presented by Mr G. H. Bennett.—Lexie Rowlands and Ross Moody.

Special prizes for good conduct and attendance, presented by friends from Mr Seifert's mill. —Winnie Moody, Edward Rowlands, Lionel Thompson, Kathleen Stevenson.

Special prizes for gardening, presented by Mr F. W. Gregory, headmaster. —Leonard Thompson, Leonard Wilton, Gladys Whyte, Catherine Lynch, Clara Berquist.

23rd April 1907 The Tokomaru Committee was appointed as under: —Messrs T. B. Sandilands (chairman), S. Sorenson (secretary), W. H. Parr, O. Reichel, A. Judd, J. R. Moody, G. Row.

18th May 1907 The new public hall is now in general use and has filled a much needed want. The hall, which is one of the best in the district, and is well fitted up in every way, a very convenient stage being provided, with up-to-date scenery, etc. At the present time a fortnightly dance is being held in the hall with very successful results. The hall is also used by the Presbyterian Church for their services.

The gardens at the school are now being cleaned up and put in order for the winter. These gardens are well kept, and the teachers and scholars 'deserve credit for their condition.

1st June 1907 The Tokomaru correspondent of a contemporary says: —"Speaking of the school brings to mind that Mr Gregory, the teacher, is living in such a small house that it must be most inconvenient to him and his family. I remember when he first came to this district and he built his home to suit the times. Then he got married, as all teachers do, and is now rearing a family of I believes, four or five. Yet the Education Board does nothing to better his condition, and he is bemoaning his lot. The residents feel that the master is not being justly treated."

31st August 1907 Wellington Education Board The clerk of works reported that the repairs to the residence at Tokomaru would cost more than the building was worth, 't was decided to ask the Government for a grant for a new building, and to give Mr Gregory permission to remove his.

1908-1910

1908	71	Tokomaru	Webb	James S	D1	Head Master	£195.00	£30.00
1908	71	Tokomaru	McKeown	Emily M	D2	Assistant Female	£95.00	
1909	91	Tokomaru	Webb	James S	D1	Head Master	£200.00	House
1909	91	Tokomaru	Connell	Elizabeth		Assistant Female	£90.00	
1909	91	Tokomaru	Clifford	Olive L		FP1	£45.00	
1910	95	Tokomaru	Webb	James S	D1	Head Master	£225.00	House
1910	95	Tokomaru	Hayes	Ellen V		Assistant Female	£94.10	
1910	95	Tokomaru	Clifford	Olive L		FP1	£45.00	

The word House means that the Wellington Education Board has provided a house for the Head teacher.

James S Webb started teaching for the Wellington Education Board in 1897 as a master at Makomako West of Pahiatua in 1897 and was there in 1898. By 1899 until 1907 he was an assistant at Pahiatua School. He taught at Tokomaru until at least 1917. By 1919 he was an assistant at Newtown and by 1921 until my records end in 1923 he was Headmaster of the Worsler Bay School on the outer side of the Miramar Peninsula

28th April 1908 School Committee TOKOMARU. Messrs J. R. Moody, G. R. McRae, o. Reichel, S. Sorensen (secretary), T. B. Sandilands (chairman), G. Row, W. H. Parr.

13th May 1908 The post office at Tokomaru will be opened on Saturday by Miss Mackenzie, late of Te Nui. It will be in the residence erected by the school master, Mr Gregory, who now goes up and down to a Palmerston home. Hitherto it has been in Mr Startup's store.

17th August 1908 Mr F. W. Gregory will soon be leaving Tokomaru. He has been appointed headmaster at Hastwell. Ho will be missed, as he was much liked by all and sundry.

2nd September 1908 Dominion: Mr. Gregory, headmaster at Tokomaru School for the past twelve years, has received notice of a transfer to the Wairarapa district.

10th September 1908 Mr J S Webb of Pahiatua appointed Head master

18th September 1908 Mr J. S. Webb", of Pahiatua. has taken charge of the school here, Mr Gregory having left for Hastwell

24th September 1908 Pahiatua School Committee The resignation of Mr. J. S. Webb, first assistant, who has been promoted to Tokomaru, was accepted with, regret, ,the committee

recording its appreciation of the work done by him and congratulating him on his promotion.'

25th September 1908 Consideration was deferred by the Education Board yesterday of applications for residences in connection with the schools at Muhunoa and Tokomaru.

30th October 1908 Wellington Education Board It was decided that a renewal be made of; the board's application for a Government grant in aid of the erection of a; school residence at Tokomaru. .

30th October 1908 Wellington Education Board Application is to be made for a new teacher's residence at Tokomaru.- [There wasn't an old one]

19th December 1908 Part of a longer article THE EX-CHAMPION INTERVIEWED. Writing to the "Standard" Mr J. S. Webb, Tokomaru, brother of the ex-champion, sculler, gives some interesting details of a conversation he had with his brother after the great event was over.

22nd December 1908 The annual prize-giving at the Tokomaru School took place on Friday. 18th, at 2 o'clock. In the unavoidable absence of Mr J. R. Whyte, chairman of the School Committee, the distribution was in the hands of Mr Sorensen, the secretary. Several parents and friends attended, and a very pleasing function was opened with- a few -remarks from the head teacher. 'No less , than 98 prizes were distributed. Following were the first, second and third prize-winners: —

Standard VI. —Edward Rowlands 1, William Griffiths 2. ,

Standard V.—Chas. Stevenson I,' Stewart Parr and Millan Thompson 2 (equal).

Standard IV. —Thomas Reichel 1, Mary Stevenson 2, Ross Moody 3.

Standard III.—Chas., Jamieson 1, Kathleen Stevenson 2, Ida Whyte and Roy Kelly 3 (equal).

All the children below Standard III. received prizes, Mr Bennetts' special prize going _to Edward Rowlands, who had not missed one half-day in four years. Full attendance prizes for the year were also, awarded to Agnes Stokes, Chas. Stevenson, Kathleen Stevenson and Alan Stevenson It took five Stevenson's to miss eight half-days among them.

Mr J Parr committeeman, who was present made 'a few timely remarks which were much appreciated.

[I found no record of Mr Gregory's service being recognised]

15th January 1909 Five grants have been authorised for school teachers' residences. The districts with their specified amounts are as follow : — Rikiorangi, £410 ; ' Waikanae, ,£400 ; Muhunoa East, £410 ; Tokomaru, £425; and Hastwell, £410.'

29th January 1909 Wellington Education Board Tender of A H Guy for residence accepted.'

19th February 1909 The first consignment of timber for the head teacher's residence arrived to-day, but the contractor (Mr Guy) is at present setting in order his own house, which is fast becoming an ornament to the township, and is henceforth to be known to all passers- by as "Guy's Buffet." One would be very tired if he walked from Tokomaru till he found a more imposing-looking structure. The school roll, I am told, now numbers 100, and everything seems to be going on well under the new master (Mr Webb). The annual picnic of that institution takes place on Friday, 26th inst., when the children and their guardians will spend a really good day at Paekakariki Beach.'

23rd March 1909 Shannon News: A man named H. Robinson was brought before Messrs J. M. O'Connor and J. R. Stansell, J.P.'s, by Constable Essen, and charged with being drunk and

using abusive language to Mr Webb, the schoolmaster at Tokomaru. He was heavily fined, and severely reprimanded by the Bench

26th March 1909 Wellington Education Board Miss McKeown granted three weeks leave from 3rd March.

1st April 1909 Messrs Guy and Spencer commenced building the new schoolmaster's residence at Tokomaru on Monday.

21st April 1909 Mr Fred Tietjens, officer in charge of the Railway Station, Tokomaru, has been transferred on promotion to Upper Hutt. On the eve of his departure his many friends entertained him at a smoke concert at Mr Guy's buffet. Mr Webb, schoolmaster, on taking the chair, referred to their guest's great popularity and obliging manner. Songs were sung by Messrs Webb, Carroll, Vem, and Guy,, and violin solos were played by Mr Jack Anderson. At the close of the evening Mr Tietjens was presented with a handsome travelling bag, suitably inscribed.

27th April 1909 School Committee Messrs J. R. Whyte (chairman), S. Sorensen (secretary), W. H. Parr, E. Perry, G. Row., S. Liggins and J. R. Moody.

28th April 1909 Mr Moody, who for many years has been a hardworking member of the Tokomaru School Committee, is contemplating a trip to the Old Country [England] shortly.

13th May 1909 The building trade seems to be in full swing here at present. Several new houses are being built. Mr Webb's new residence will shortly be out of the contractors hands

17th August 1909 Miss Olive Clifford, Miss M. Morrison, and Miss A. Earp have been, appointed pupil teachers at Tokomaru, Levin, and Johnsonville respectively.

20th August 1909 The attendance at the Tokomaru School ! has been over 100 for some time past, consequently they have recently added Miss Crawford, [Clifford] of Wellington, to the teaching staff.

27th August 1909 Wellington Education Board Works Approved: Tokomaru, school chimney pots; Tokomaru, school convenience ; Tokomaru, asphalt, width of 20ft (if committee contribute £10);

1st October 1909 Wellington Education Board It was agreed to consult the school committees at Tokomaru and Shannon with reference to the application for the establishment of a school at Makerua

25th October 1909 . The school concert is now a thing of the past, and turned out to be a great success, both financially and otherwise. The hall was well filled, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Mr Webb and Miss McKeown deserve great praise for the efficient way in which they had coached the children for each item. Master R. Moody opened the programme with a piano solo. Mr J. R. Whyte (chairman) then in a neat speech outlined what the proceeds of the concert would be utilised for, and also expressed his thanks at seeing such a large audience.

The programme, as follows, was then proceeded with: —Songs, "Exercise," "Handkerchief," "The Song of the Rain," infants; song, "The Lad on the Man-o-War," Master F. Judd; songs, "Swanee River," "The Auld House," chorus "Sound the Strain Again," "Scots "'Tis Moonlight on the Sea," upper division; piano solo, Miss B. McRae; dialogue, Masters M. Thompson, R. Moody, L. Whyte, and R. Judd ; song, "Buy a Broom," Miss M. Wilton; dumbbells, small boys recitation, "The Charge of the Light Brigade," K. Dalziell; burlesque band, eight small

boys ; pole drill, small girls; piano solo. Miss M. Watson; fan drill, small girls; recitation, "Call My Brother Back," Miss E. Reichel; marching song, infants recitation, Miss A. Stokes; songs, "Star of Peace," "Row, Row your Boat," "Marching through Georgia," upper division; pole drill, upper girls; songs, "Wake Up, Little Daisy," "Drummer Boy," "The Railway Train," infants; dumbbells, upper boys. Miss Kelly and Miss McKenzie played the accompaniments in their usual first-class style. The assembly committee then took over the hall, and dancing was kept up till one o'clock.

29th October 1909 I regret to hear that Miss McKeown (the assistant teacher) has been obliged to apply for another school owing to the local climate not agreeing with her. She has accepted a position in a school on the East Coast [Tologa Bay] and leaves here next week. Miss McKeown's departure will be greatly regretted by all the residents of the district, and I am sure they all join with me in wishing her every prosperity in her new sphere. A farewell social will be given in the hall on Saturday evening

3rd November 1909 The farewell social to Miss McKeown was held in the hall on Saturday evening. There was a large attendance of residents and children, which plainly showed in what high esteem Miss McKeown is held. The children opened the programme with several songs, after which Mr J. R. Whyte, in an excellent speech, explained how it was Miss McKeown was forced to leave the district after residing here six years. He also asked her to accept from the residents a purse of sovereigns as a small token of respect, and a silver watch, suitably engraved, from the school children. He wished her, on behalf of the residents and himself, every success in her future position. Miss McKeown, replying, said she deeply regretted having to leave, as she had made many friends here. She wished to thank them all for the tangible way in which they had shown their respect for her. She hoped her successor would get on with them as well as she had, done. Mr Webb spoke at some length of Miss McKeown's teaching abilities; how she had declined applying for a rise and another school when it was in her power to do so. Mr Griffiths and Mr S. Logins also spoke. Mr Webb then recited "How McDougal topped the score" (encored). Miss McKeown then closed the programme with a song, after which "Auld Lang Syne" was sung by all present. Miss Kelly played the accompaniments. Miss_ McKeown left for Tologa Bay by this afternoon's train. The school children marched down to the station [and gave hearty cheers as the train moved out.

4th November 1909 Wellington Education Board accepted tender of painting the school to H Walker.

6th November 1909 Mrs Connel, who has temporarily taken Miss McKeown's place as assistant school teacher, arrived here on Wednesday.

30th November 1909 Mr Webb informs us that a number of the school children competed in the schools division at the recent Foxton Horticultural Show, with the following results Hand-writing, ages 10 to 12 years, Clara. Jamieson 1st, Edna Reichel 2nd; ages 12 to 14 years. Bertha. McRae 1, Carl Reichel 2. In the flower class Miss Ida Whyte secured first prize for cut blooms.

7th December 1909 Messrs W. H. Field, M.P., Fleming, Kebble, and Elder visited Makerua on Saturday to pick out a site and consider the advisability of starting a school there. This will be a boon to the settlers in that district. There are 42 children, some at present- attending Shannon School, and others Tokomaru. [Makerua School opened in 1911]

11th December 1909 Wellington Education Board Appointment: Tokomaru — Miss Hayes, of South Wellington.

16th December 1909 The usual monthly school committee meeting was held on Monday evening. The head teacher's report showed 112 names on the roll, with an average attendance of 96. Lists had been sent out for the prize fund, and as usual were liberally responded to. The school will close for the summer vacation next Thursday, and in the afternoon of that day the prizes will be distributed.....The school gardens are looking splendid and are a great credit to the master and children. Experiments are being carried out on various plots to prove the beneficial: qualities of manures, and everyone interested in these things should pay the gardens a visit.

16th December 1909 At the Couth Wellington State School to-day, Mr. Kibblewhite and Miss Haggett, who are entering the Wellington Training School, and Miss Hayes, who is on transfer to Tokomaru, were the recipients of tokens of esteem from the staff. Mr. A. McKenzie made the presentation on behalf of the staff.

18th December 1909 Tenders are invited for asphaltting work at Tokomaru Schools.

29th December 1909 At the recent school examinations the following scholars gained proficiency certificates: —William Griffiths, Chas. Stevenson. and Lucy Seifert. Competency certificates were won by William Thompson and Thomas Stokes. The following is the list of passes below Standard VI. : Standard V. —Ross Moody, Thos. Reichel, James Watson, Leslie Whyte, Eric Rowlands, Frank Judd, Roland Judd. Bert Wilton, Bertha McRae, Dora McRae, Ruby Parr. Minnie Wilton, Maude Watson, Mary Stevenson, Marjory Rowles. Standard IV. —Chas. Jamieson, Roy Kelly. Douglas McRae, Lionel Thompson, Iris Browne, Edna Reichel, Kathleen Stevenson. Ida Whyte, Isobel Simpson, Vida Seifert. Standard III.—Innes Oag, Kenneth Dalzell, Harold Watson, Gladys Dittmer, Kate Jamieson, Mary Judd, Dorothy Oag, Florence Thompson. Standard II. —Henry Dittmer, Alan Stevenson, Dudley Thompson, Norman Whyte, Fanny Browne, Gwen McRae, Myra Rowles, Agnes Stokes, Mona Simpson, Bertie Seifert. Standard I.—Evelyn Arnold, Muriel Browne, Ruby Hawtin, Eileen Judd, Kathleen Watson, Doris Wood. Phyllis Whyte, William Shaw, Eva Parr, 'Gladys Barnett, and Hazel Stevenson.

The distribution of the prizes place on the 16th inst., when about 120 books were presented by Mr J. R. Whyte, chairman of the School Committee.

13th January 1910 . The ordinary monthly meeting of the School Committee was held last night. Besides the usual business boing transacted, the holding of the annual picnic was discussed. It was decided to hold it locally shortly after the school reopens. Owing to having had heavy. draws on their funds they are unable to stand the expense of an excursion to the seaside, as in previous years

27th January 1910 The contract for asphaltting around the school has been let to Messrs Hocking and Davey, of Palmerston North. The metal, etc., required for the work is on the ground, and they expect to have it in hand in a few days.

1st February 1910 Miss Hayes, of Wellington, who was the successful applicant for the position of assistant teacher here, arrived this evening. Miss O. Clifford also arrived here this evening after spending an enjoyable vacation in the Empire City [Wellington].

22nd February 1910 The Tokomaru School children's picnic was held on Friday on .Mr. Barclay's property. The day was fine, and parents and children alike thoroughly enjoyed the outing.

22nd February 1910 Miss O. Clifford, the local pupil teacher, has been indisposed for some time, and last week entered the Palmerston Hospital, where she is making favourable progress

25th February 1910 Wellington Education Board Miss Clifford was given 6 weeks leave of absence..

26th April 1910 School Committee TOKOMARU. Messrs G. A. Simpson (chairman), Doreen, Hall, Woode, Mudford, Clarke, Ryman (secretary). A vote of thanks was passed to the retiring Committee, on the motion of Mr Simpson, seconded by Mr Doreen.

27th April 1910 The election of the School Committee last night roused very little interest, there being an attendance of only twenty householders. The balance-sheet showed a record balance, and, considering more work has been done this last year than hitherto, the outgoing committee deserve great praise for the way in which they managed the affairs.

26th May 1910 Football [Rugby]The. local schoolboys played the Shannon schoolboys here on Saturday, and had a walk-over, winning by no less than 30 points to nil. Mr Ern. Thompson gave every satisfaction as referee.

14th June 1910 Mr Webb is busy preparing the school children to take part in a concert to be held on Thursday evening in aid of school funds. The following Palmerston talent have also promised to contribute items: —Miss Miller, Mrs Hunter, Mr J. Bett and Mr A. E. Bennett, and Miss Bett will act as accompanist. The Mayor (Mr J. A. Nash) had also promised to attend, but now finds that an important meeting prevents him coming. Given a fine night, this concert should prove a great success.

18th June 1910 The concert on Thursday. night in the Public Hall, in aid of school funds, was well patronised. The night was 1 all that could be desired, thus no doubt accounting for the large audience. A very good programme was staged as follows:. — Opening chorus by school children, "Climb, Boys, Climb"; song, "Go to Sea," Mr J. Bett, and for. an encore, "\"Kind and Gentle \"Mary\""; action recitation by the infants; song, "Angus McDonald," Mrs Hall, and for an encore, "Idle Words"; recitation, "How Bones Broke the Record," Mr G. Simpson; song, "Pedlar Song," Miss Millar, and for encore, "Sweet Eyes of Blue"; children, wind song (encored); song, "Dear Old Homeland," Mrs Hunter, encore, "Within a Mile of Edinboro' Town" song, "The Powder Monkey," Mr A. E. Bennett, encore, "Gallants of England." Then followed a long speech by the chairman of the School Committee (Mr G. A. Simpson), in which he adversely criticised the old committee, and told the settlers how ho was going to improve matters. He also gave some attention to your correspondent, of whom he did not speak in eulogistic terms. Mr Simpson's remarks were not relished by some of the audience, who were more interested in the next item, a song by Mr Jago, "The Highland Toast"; for an encore he gave "Bonny Jean." Mrs Hall then sang "McGregor's Gathering," and for an encore "Bonny Mary of Argyle." _ The children also sang several of the items which were. given at the previous concert. The absence of a chairman to call the items was greatly missed, otherwise the concert was a huge success.

29th June 1910 Wellington Education Board Applications for gas installation at Levin, the purchase of a washhouse at Wallaceville, fencing at Tokomaru, the use of the reserve at Hamua, and plumbing repairs at Shannon were declined.

29th June 1910 TOKOMARU.

(From Our Own Correspondent.) Tuesday. As a sequel to the speech made by the Chairman of the School Committee, at the school concert held ,on the 16th inst. a public meeting of householders was held in the hall last night. It being the first meeting of its kind ever held here, between 150 and 200 residents (including ladies) turned out.

Mr Griffiths occupied the chair, and in his opening remarks stated that the meeting was convened in order to give the old committee a chance to put before the public their side of the case. He was grieved, to think that such a thing had occurred, and he hoped it would be the first and last. (Applause.) He then declared the meeting open for discussion.

Mr J. R. Whyte (ex-chairman) stated it was some 17 years since he came to Tokomaru and had been on many committees. They had always been a happy family and worked well together. He also made a statement of the last year's work done by the old committee.

Mr A. Judd, senr., then spoke at some length on how the early settlers had worked together, and eventually got the school' erected.

Mr Reichel "You have heard what has happened in the old days, but I am going to tell you what happened here the other night, for I was here and heard what was said. I am going to speak pretty plainly, and I am not the mouthpiece of anyone. I never heard a more ungentlemanly speech than what was given by the chairman of the School Committee that night. There were people here from Palmerston who heard the chairman's speech. - Now Tokomaru has always possessed a good name in the eyes of outsiders, and the chairman, by his speech, cast a slur on the whole community. I think he owes us a public apology. In the first part of his. speech, in improper language, he attacked the local correspondent of the "Standard" for a letter that appeared in that paper about the Committee doing the asphalt around the master's house first. Now, I consider that was only fair comment, and no untruths were told. Ladies and gentlemen, I consider that the chairman owes an apology to the correspondent also. After this, the chairman, in very slighting terms, attacked the previous secretary. I can assure you that the secretary has done his duty faithfully for a good number of years. After the chairman disposed of the secretary he made an attack on the whole of the old committee. In the first place he admits though that there was a credit balance of £22 14s. Now, I consider that very good, considering previous committees taking office with only a credit balance of £1 or £2. The chairman then complained of bills rolling in, no firewood, and accused them of dilly-dallying the time away: Now, what right had the chairman of the committee, who had only been in office two months, to cast a reflection on honourable men, most of whom had. done their best., for the school during the last 17 or 18 years, arid I consider he owes an. apology to the old committee also. No .doubt great credit was due to Mr Webb for training the children the way he had done, but it must be remembered ; that all. these, things were done in school hours. Mr Reichel also criticised the way the asphaltting was being done, and which he considered was not asphaltting at all, simply metal rolled down and hot tar swept into the crevices. He also stated that he did not have anyone at the. back of him to prompt him, neither did he ask anyone to applaud his little speech." (Loud and prolonged applause.)

Mr Sorenson (ex-secretary) gave a full statement of the accounts. Mr Simpson (present chairman), in his speech, stated that it was through the ungentlemanly action of the ex-secretary that caused his remarks at the concert. ; When the bills began to roll in he told the present secretary to send them to the ex-secretary with a note asking that they be certified, and also that he attend a meeting and give an explanation of them. He certified them, but did not attend the meeting

Mr Simpson then gave an account of the asphaltting and remarked that the old Committee was not capable of carrying out the contract.

Chairman: "Speak in milder terms (loud applause), during which a discussion took place" between the chairman and the speaker. .

Mr J. Hall said it was his aim to pull with the settlers, and he was sorry that this split had occurred. He then also gave-an account of the asphaltting.

Mr Whyte to Mr Simpson: Has the Board sanctioned, the Committee to tar and sand instead of asphaltting.?—No reply.

Here some discussion took place re the merits of tar and sand v. asphalt.

Chairman : Gentlemen you are straying from the point at issue. It seems that this little paragraph which appeared in the paper is the wasp's nest, and you won't get on it. What we want to know is: Does this paragraph warrant the speech Mr Simpson gave from the stage? The school and grounds are public, the Committee is a public body, and if they cannot stand public comment without the use of such language from the public platform then the shoe must have pinched very hard (applause).

Mr Simpson then said it was not true and gave his reasons. (Chairman: We want to know did it warrant the use of such language?) .

Mr Webb spoke.at-some length re the, asphaltting, etc, and asked if there was anyone present who had a complaint against him. He would be pleased to answer any questions.

Chairman: It is understood that you assisted Mr Simpson with his speech is that so ?

Mr Webb: I think that Mr Simpson is a man who likes to do things his own way, and I wouldn't presume to dictate to him what to say from the public platform- He told, me he was going to ask the correspondent to correct his statement, and if he didn't do so he would; also that he was- going to make mention of' the. Ex secretary. That was all I knew of the speech. Mr Whyte then gave a full explanation why the delay was caused with, the asphaltting.

Mr Hall said he would like to know the feelings of the people in this discussion.

Chairman: If you will make a proposition I will put it to the meeting.

Mr Reichel : I propose that Mr Simpson be asked to apologise.

Chairman: I do not think that Mr Simpson would -do that.

As there was no further proposition forthcoming the meeting was turned into another channel, to get a petition signed for the closing of a railway crossing and the erection of an overhead traffic bridge by Guy's Buffet.

20th December 1910 TOKOMARU. ANNUAL PRIZE-GIVING. The above event in the above locality is usually of a very hearty nature, and last Thursday's little celebration was no exception to- the happy rule. At 2 p.m. the children assembled in the head-teacher's room, seemingly indifferent to the weather conditions, which had militated against a big muster of mothers and bairns. Each one was there for his or her prize, and much expectancy gave place to much satisfaction.

After a few well-chosen remarks the chairman (Mr G. A. Simpson) proceeded to the business of the afternoon. The prizes awarded were as follows:

Standard VI. —Bertha McRae and Carl Reichel (equal) 1, Ross Moody 2, James Watson 3.

Standard V. —Chas. Jamieson 1, Douglas McRae 2, Kathleen Stevenson 3. ,

Standard IV.—Harold Watson 1, Kate Jamieson 2, Mary Judd 3.

Standard III.—Ruby Hall 1, Gwen McRae 2, Wallace Sorenson 3.

Standard II.—Aileen Judd 1, Doris Wood 2, Willie Shaw and Alick Ridgway (equal) 3.

Standard I.—Ernest Webb 1, Laurie Seifert and Nellie Watson (equal) 2, Arthur Dorrian 3.

Good conduct prizes.—Upper room, Leslie Whyte; lower room, Aileen Judd.

Attendance prizes.—Agnes Stokes (four years' attendance without missing one half day), Bertha McRae (long-distance prize for one year's full attendance), Wm. Shaw and Basil Stokes. A number of first and second class attendance certificates were also presented by the headteacher.

At the conclusion of the prize distribution the Chairman, after congratulating the school upon the excellent progress made during the year, gave a special word of praise to Standard VI., nine out of eleven of whom had gained proficiency certificates, whilst the other two had gained competencies. The certificates were then presented to Frank Judd, Roland Judd, Ross Moody, Eric Rowlands, Carl Reichel, James Watson, Leslie Whyte, Bertha McRae, Mary Stevenson proficiency, and Dora McRae and Maude Watson competency.

Having heartily cheered the Chairman, Committee, and subscribers to the prize and picnic fund the children sang their way out of school and bade the building "good-bye" for six weeks.

The funds in hand being in a very satisfactory condition it has been decided by the Committee to take the children for a picnic to Paekakariki early in' March.

Mr G. H. Bennett presented three handsome prizes to the school, one of which was annexed by the young lady with the record attendance. In all 118 books were presented, consequently there were no disappointments, unless they were agreeable ones.

1911-1914

1911	98	Tokomaru	Webb	James S	D1	Head Master	£230.00	House
1911	98	Tokomaru	Hayes	Ellen V	D5	Assistant Female	£110.00	
1911	98	Tokomaru	Clifford	Olive L		FP2	£50.00	
1912	94	Tokomaru	Webb	James S	D1	Head Master	£235.00	House
1912	94	Tokomaru	Hayes	Ellen V	D4	Assistant Female	£115.00	
1912	94	Tokomaru	Stansell	Florence E		Assistant Female	£90.00	
1913	106	Tokomaru	Webb	James S	D1	Head Master	£240.00	House
1913	106	Tokomaru	Tuely	Catherine B	D2	Assistant Female	£120.00	
1913	106	Tokomaru	Stansell	Florence E		Assistant Female	£90.00	
1914	100	Tokomaru	Webb	James S	D1	Head Master	£240.00	House
1914	100	Tokomaru	Tuely	Catherine B	D2	Assistant Female	£130.00	
1914	100	Tokomaru	Stansell	Florence E		Assistant Female	£99.00	

Olive L Clifford Taught at Tokomaru until until 1911 In 1915 she was a Pupil Teacher at Southbrook in Canterbury. and then was at Castlepoint in 1917. Sole teacher at Mangamaire in 1917 and at Roseneath/Haitaitai in 1919

Ellen V Hayes was a Pupil teacher at South Wellington in 1908 and 1909 Then spent three years at Tokomaru. In 1914 and 1915 she was sole Teacher at Roa School near Greymouth In 1917 She was at Ohau in 1919 at Levin DHS and in 1921 and by 1923 was back at South Wellington

1925/8613	Ellen Vera	Hayes	Edward David	Player
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1933/2247	Player	Ellen Vera	42Y
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15th December 1936 Part of a very long tribute Erected by present -and past pupils and staff of the Wellington South School in commemoration of Mrs. E. V. Player, who was perhaps better , known as Miss Vera Hayes, a sundial was unveiled in the grounds of the school by the Minister of Education, the Hon. P. Fraser, in the presence of a large gathering on Saturday afternoon. Mrs. Player was a member of a very well-known Wellington South family, and as a pupil, a pupil teacher, and an assistant on the staff of the Wellington South School she was connected with that institution for many years. She was a teacher there at the time of her death in 1933.

Florence E Stansell started her teaching career at Shannon as a pupil teacher in 1905, She then continued as a pupil teacher at Levin DHS to 1909. Assistant teacher at Hutt DHS in 1910 followed by a year as sole charge teacher at Maunganui in 1911. She came to Tokomaru in 1912 and stayed until at least December 1915. In 1917 she was an assistant teacher at Johnsonville

1922/9091	Florence Edith	Stansell	Thomas Covell	Lomas
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11th February 1925 On Monday there passed through Tokomaru, en route to New Plymouth, Mr and Mrs T. C. Lomas (nee Miss Flo Stansell) and their little daughter Betty

Catherine B Tuely started teaching for the Wellington Education Board at Tane[18 Kilometres West of Eketahuna in 1897 to 1899. She was then at Kohinui 11 Kilometres North East of Pahiatua from 1900 to 1904. She then was assistant at Ballance school west of Pahiatua before going to Taita school in the Hutt Valley from 1910 to 1912. And after her period at Tokomaru School was at Ngaio by 1919 as Infant Mistress and when my records end in 1923 she was teaching at Mt Cook Girls

1948/27127	Tuely	Catherine Bertha	75Y
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18th February 1911 Tokomaru A large number of the school children, parents, and friends journeyed to Paekakariki by this morning's train, the occasion being the annual picnic. As may be assumed, a most pleasant time was spent at the seaside. The return journey was made by the evening train.

25th April 1911 School Committee TOKOMARU. . Owing to the skinny night, only Messrs Simpson, Deveral and' McLaggan were elected, the election of the other three members being left to the Education Board

19th June 1911 A team of local school boys journeyed to Shannon to-day for the purpose of playing the Shannon boys football. After playing a willing game, our boys proved the victors by 8 to 6.

14th August 1911 The Shannon school boys journeyed to Tokomaru and played a game with the boys of the school of that township. The home team won by 6 points to nil. The Shannon team played four short and soon after play commenced they were doomed to be further reduced, as Master A. Carter, one of their best players fell with his hand under him and broke a small bone in the wrist. (He is now progressing favourably). The Tokomaru School Committee treated the visiting lads hospitably: they were invited to dinner at Guy's Buffet.

4th September 1911 TOKOMARU. VALEDICTORY. If evidence had been wanting as to the popularity of Mr and Mrs McRae and family, - it could have been found in the very large gathering of friends and well-wishers who, assembled on Friday evening, in the Tokomaru Hall, to bid them farewell, on the eve of their departure for the Auckland district. The function took the form of a social and dance, and was an unqualified success, the proceedings being most hearty. On behalf of the local residents, Mr Webb, head teacher of the public school, in a very neat and pleasing speech, voiced the feelings of those present with regard to the esteem in which Mr and Mrs McRae and family are held. Mr Webb was heartily applauded. He then presented Mr McRae with a handsome silver tray suitably inscribed, -as a token of goodwill and remembrance from his many friends.....

27th September 1911 Wellington Education Board Tokomaru residence. Extra Tank approved.

2nd November 1911 Shannon and Tokomaru parents who have not sent their children regularly to school are warned to beware of court proceeding;. A batch of summonses was being prepared for hearing at Levin today but the information's came to hand at the wrong time and so were abandoned. Unless a speedy improvement becomes noticeable in the attendances of the pupils concerned, the cases will be revived for next court day.

12th December 1911. Miss F Stansell appointed to Tokomaru.

20th December 1911 Miss O Clifford Tokomaru to South Wellington .

4th January 1912 Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Webb, of Tokomaru, are at present spending a holiday at Rotorua. Part of the time will be spent in Auckland.

30th January 1912 Wellington Education Board Approved relaying of pipes at the residence.

26th February 1912 TOKOMARU SCHOOL PICNIC. On Friday, February 23rd, children of the above school together with many friends journeyed by train to Paekakariki for the annual school picnic. The high wind and threatening sky which were so much in evidence in the early morning, damped the picnic ardour in a goodly number, but, about 180 in all mustered at the station and made the trip; On arrival at Paekakariki the picnickers found to their delight that the weather was beautifully fine, but that a heavy sea was breaking on the beach, affording for many a sight such as had not been seen before, Mr Simpson, chairman, of the school committee had much help from quite a number of parents.

It was the unanimous opinion, of those present that a most enjoyable day had been spent, as, salty, sandy and Satisfied, they wended their way to the train. But this account would be incomplete were it not to make mention of the courtesy, extended to the party, by Mr and Mrs Hillman, of the Paekakariki Hotel, and the excellence, of the repast placed before the

children;- 'All the .small goods' were- supplied .by Mr W. H. Gunning, of Shannon who in addition: to Mr A.. Roberts, the. local storekeeper made a donation to the function.

10th April 1912 England's starving Babes Tokomaru School Children £1.

23rd April 1912 School Committee Messrs R. 'Stewart (chairman), P. Dorrian, A. Robinson, F, J. Hall, G. A. Wood, J. R. : Brown and W. Lankshear-The last named was appointed secretary

14th June 1912 ' The- ordinary, monthly of the School Committee was adjourned from Monday to Tuesday evening as a:mark of respect to the late Mr-P. Dorrian, There was a full attendance of members, and Mr R. Stewart occupied the chair. The inspector's report'. was received and disclosed a very creditable state of affairs in 'regard to the pupils' and the teaching staff. A notice from the Education Board was also received, stating that the clerk of - works.; would shortly visit the school to report upon the necessity of certain improvements as recommended by the Committee.

26th June 1912 Wellington Education Board Grants Tokomaru cupboard, woodshed. Topdressing, asphalt.

22nd September 1912 The Tokomaru school boys visited Shannon and played a team Iron: the local school. The visitors Vac; three players less than the Shannon team. The match was a very hollow affair, .Shannon winning by 41 to- nil. the local team Spencer, Pederson, Quarrie, "H. 'Robinson scored two tries each, and J Law, Meerwood, A. Robinson, W Gill, F. Eagle one try each, and goal was kicked from the last try secured by H. .Robinson. The passing done by the local boys was very good, especially Crowther, Eagle, Spencer and Harris, while Wallace Murdoch- and Robinson did some solid collaring. The visitors played like good sports and had they possessed the full number the game would have been interesting. On their side, White, Dorreen. Sorenson and Shaw showed to advantage especially the latter. A return match will be played, probably next Saturday, when it is expected Tokomaru will turn' the tables not withstanding their heavy defeat Messrs Voysey and Webb, the headmasters of the respective schools were in attendance. Mr Lindsay Randall acted as referee and was able to give satisfaction to both sides.

25th December 1912 [Note Publication Date] The annual prize giving in connection with the Tokomaru school this year was quite up to its predecessors and the attendance of parents and ex-pupils to witness the event taxed the seating accommodation so severely that late arrivals parking as a luxury and had to stand. The prizes were presented in a fitting manner by Mr R Stewart chairman of committee after which event a red live Santa Claus presided at an elaborate Christmas tree The result was that about 150 children of all ages went home happy for books and toys were the order of the day. [Remainder too poorly printed to copy correctly]

12th March 1913 At the regular monthly meeting of the Tokomaru School Committee on Monday night, it was ascertained that the proceeds from the concert and dance totalled just upon £17. It was unanimously decided to write to the head teacher (Mr Webb) expressing to him and his assistants the committee's gratification at the quality of the programme as well as at the financial success of the venture. General satisfaction was expressed at the increasing roll-number. which now stand at 120. [The concert article was not clear enough to transcribe or copy]

13th March 1913 Sir, —In your report of the school concert in Monday's issue, an error found place in the assertion that the chairman was "unavoidably absent." Kindly correct this by publishing the fact that the chairman was present, but that on this occasion he delegated the duties of chairman to the secretary. The name of Master W., Sorensen, who recited and otherwise took a prominent part, was also omitted.—I am, etc., J. S. WEBB, Head teacher. Tokomaru, March 12th.

28th March 1913 Wellington Education Board : Miss E V Hayes resigned

29th March 1913 Wellington Education Board Approved A Tank £3 15s

11th April 1913 Visit to Wellington to walk over the Battlecruiser New Zealand The railway time-table arranged provides for the visit to Wellington on Saturday, April 19, of, the school, children from Linton, Tokomaru, Koputaroa, Levin, Ohau, .Manakau, Otaki, To Horo, Waikanae, Paraparaumu,

29th April 1913 A pleasing function in the nature of a social and dance took place in the Tokomaru Public hall on Friday night last, when over a hundred friends and well wishers gathered to say good-bye to Miss Hayes, the first assistant in the load school. Dancing was kept up till ono o'clock.

During the evening there was on view a handsome travelling-case in brown morocco, presented by the children during the afternoon. At ten o'clock the headteacher Mr Webb, in a felicitous speech, made known the object of the gathering, and after referring briefly to the guest of the veiling in her official capacity, stated that there was no need for any eulogies on his part, whereupon he read an extract from in inspector's report, received that day: 'March 31, 1913.—Miss Hayes has resigned ;rom her position as first assistant. During the years she has filled that position her work has been characterised by its thoroughness and conscientiousness. The Board is losing the services of a most desirable teacher.— F. H. Bakewell, Inspector."

The headteacher further stated that even now Miss Hayes would not be leaving but, or the fact that she had received a much more lucrative appointment, with the additional advantage of living at home with her people. She was going to Roa [Near Greymouth] where her father, Mr John Hayes, is manager of the Paparoa Mining Company. The presentation consisted of a handsome travelling ug and a black fur stole shot with white. Miss Hayes suitably responded to the Kindly words spoken by her chief and expressed the hope that she might often again see her Tokomaru friends. She referred in feeling terms to the kindly consideration she had always had from her headmaster, and the friendly co-operation of her co-worker, Miss Stansell. Miss Haves terminates her duties here on April 30th

20th May 1913 The Shannon Public School will meet the Tokomaru School boys in a football match, at Shannon, on Saturday next. The public schools of the district break up for a week's holiday on Friday next

26th May 1913 On the morning of Saturday, 24th inst., the Tokomaru schoolboys journeyed to Shannon to try conclusions on the football field with the Shannon boys. The result was a very interesting and hard-fought game, which ended in a victory Tor the visitors by 10 points to 3. At the outset Spencer (Shannon) scored at the end of a long and brilliant run. No goal resulted. But Tokomaru, who had their opponents stubbornly defending their lines for the majority of the game, managed to score twice, and in each case, through the placekicking of D. Thompson, registered the extra points. After a good dodgy run, G. Cadman, who had

taken the leather almost up to the line, passed to N. Thompson, who scored. The second try was scored in the second spell, when D. Thompson (captain) terminated a good run by grounding the leather in the coveted territory. Spencer, Mason and Robinson wore the most noticeable on the Shannon side. After the game, Rev. J. A. McKenzie, who was a spectator, invited the visitors to a fruit luncheon, which kindness' was much appreciated. Messrs Buckman and Moynihan gave general satisfaction in the respective spells as controllers of the game.

28th May 1913 Wellington Education Board It was further resolved that application be made for grants for additions to schools at Shannon, Tokomaru, and Island Bay: [To the Education Department]

18th August 1913 Mr J. S. Webb, of Tokomaru, was the most successful competitor at the Shannon competitions last week, scoring two firsts, one second and two thirds, for which he received the points prize and championship gold medal.

12th September 1913 Mr J. S. Webb, of Tokomaru, and formerly of Pahiatua, is visiting the Wairarapa

28th October 1913 The Department notified the authorities of a grant of £390 for additions to the school at Tokomaru and a grant for laundry work at Mount Cook centre.

3rd December 1913 Additions are to be made to Tokomaru School. Tenders for effecting the work are invited by the Wellington Education Board; to close at noon on Wednesday, December 10th. Plans and specifications may be seen at the office of the Horowhenua Daily Chronicle

21st February 1914 Shannon School The school picnic which has been exercising the minds of the youngsters for many days past came off on Friday. A special tram drew up at Shannon station shortly after 7 a.m. and on board it were the children of the Tokomaru school in charge of Mr Webb their head teacher. The Shannon children, marshalled by Mr Voysey, were soon entrained and with them a large number of parents and friends. The train left Shannon at 7.24 a.m. When Paekakariki was reached the Tokomaru children left the train to spend their day's outing there

29th August 1914 The following contributions by children attending Wellington district schools to the fund for providing ambulance equipment have been reported : Mangahao School 4s 7d, Bideford 13s 6d, Tokomaru £1 15s 7d,

15th December 1914 CHILDREN'S EFFORT FOR RELIEF FUND. It is customary at the Tokomaru School for parents and others to subscribe, once a year to a fund for providing prizes and gift books for the children, as well as a school picnic. This year, owing to the distress abroad arising from the war, the School Committee decided to ask the children to forgo one or the other. On the question being put to them by the head teacher, Mr. J. S. Webb, there was a unanimous decision that the children would willingly forgo both. Armed with lists setting forth the desire to convey the whole of the funds to the relief of the orphan, the homeless, and the maimed children of Great Britain and, Europe, the children went out to collect, and as a result the head teacher had the pleasant duty of paying over to the committee on Friday night a sum a little in excess of £40. [Value of \$6357.71 inflation adjusted in September 2020]

1915-1919

1915	110	Tokomaru	Webb	James S	D1	Head Master	£250.00	House
1915	110	Tokomaru	Tuely	Catherine B	D2	Assistant Female	£140.00	
1915	110	Tokomaru	Stansell	Florence E		Assistant Female	£110.00	
1917	123	Tokomaru	Webb	James S	C-47	Head	£250.00	
1917	123	Tokomaru	Tuely	Catherine B	D-75	Assistant	£140.00	
1917	123	Tokomaru	Straiton	Mary G		Assistant	£110.00	
1917	123	Tokomaru	Harvey	Barbara H		Probationer 1	£55.00	
1919	115	Tokomaru	Philip	William H	C-50	Head	£330.00	
1919	115	Tokomaru	Gooder	Hazel M	D-87	Assistant	£200.00	
1919	115	Tokomaru	Greig	Agnes M		Assistant	£150.00	

Mary G Straiton Taught at Shannon in 1914 and 1915 as a pupil teacher. Then in 1917 was at Tokomaru as an assistant. Resigned from Tokomaru May 1918

25th January 1919 A very pretty wedding was celebrated at Greytown Presbyterian Church, on Thursday last. Mr' Jack Roche, elder ton of Mrs Roche, of Petone (late of Amberley) and the late Mr Maurice Roche, was married to Miss Mary Gladstone, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Thomas Straiton, of Greytown.

Barbara H Harvey Taught at Tokomaru as a probationer. By 1921 she was at Pirinoa and in 1923 at Parkvale both in the Wairarapa

William H Philip started as a pupil teacher at Pahiatua in 1894. In 1899 he was at Makomako at the foot of the Pahiatua Track as a sole charge teacher. Then in 1910 he was headmaster of Taita school and was there until at least 1917 He was appointed to Tokomaru in 1919 and was still there when my records end in 1923. And was still there in August 1939

Hazel N Gooder started teaching as a Pupil Teacher at the Terrace School in Wellington in 1909 and was there until 1913. In 1914 and 1915 she was at Levin as a substitute. [Holding a position while the teacher was on war duty. In 1917 she was at Berhampore In 1919 at Tokomaru and 1923 when my records end at Lyall Bay In April 1929 she sailed to London via the Suez Canal

Agnes M Greig Taught for the Wellington Education Board in 1917 at Manakau and 1919 at Tokomaru

13th April 1915 A concert in aid of the Belgian Relict Fund, organised by J. S. Webb, was hold in the Tokomaru Hall on Friday evening last. A capital programme was presented to a large and appreciative audience. Songs were contributed by Miss Miller, Messrs .Jacobs. Carson, and J. Bett, all well known Palmerston North vocalists, whose efforts were loudly applauded, encore after encore being the order of the evening. Mr and Mrs J. S. Webb gave a very interesting item in a sketch entitled "The Mystery," The school children, under tin* direction of the head teacher, sang patriotic songs:—"Tipperary." "John Reel" and Sons of the Sea," the latter to an accompaniment of flag drill, and to which was added an "Emden" and a "Belgium" verse composed by Mr Webb and appropriate of the occasion. Miss Bett played, the accompaniments for the visiting party very pleasingly, and the same can be said of Miss Ruth Kelly, who acted in a similar capacity for the school children.....

30th June 1915 Miss Stansell Tokomaru 36 Wash Cloths 44 Wash Cloths for Hospital Ship.

16th November 1915 A slid drowning accident occurred at about, three o'clock yesterday afternoon on the main road near Tokomaru, when a boy named Henry Gray, son of Mr Gray,

a resident of Tokomaru, was- drowned in a lakelet on the road caused by the heavy downpour of run The boy was gathering driftwood from the flood waters, and his father and Mr Nat Williams, who were near-by saw him suddenly disappear. Ho had evidently slipped into deep water and was drawn under by the current, which was strong owing to the suction caused by a big culvert. No trace of the boy could be seen, and it was not till an hour and a half later that the body was recovered by Mr Archie Milton, a railway porter, who dived into the pool and found the body against the wire fence. Several local residents worked continuously for three hours endeavouring to restore animation, but their efforts were attended by failure. Young Gray was a fine boy and showed much promise in his work at school, his master (Mr Webb) speaking of him in the highest terms. Much sympathy has been expressed in Tokomaru. for the bereaved parents.

30th November 1915 Some time ago, a fire occurred in tie residence belonging to the Tokomaru School, and in addition to damaging the building, it destroyed a considerable amount of property belonging to the teacher. Application was made by the Education Board (or money to repair the building, and also for some compensation for the teacher, but at the meeting of the Education Board to-day a. letter was received stating that £49 was allowed for the repair of the residence, but no compensation could be allowed the teacher.' The board had nothing to say upon the matter, beyond remarking that teachers should take notice of the case and observe the advantage of insuring their property.

14th December 1915 Horowhenua County Council: From J.S. Webb (Tokomaru), complaining of his stock being impounded from roads which he believed to be Open to stock. —No action taken.

21st December 1915 Children of the Tokomaru School, 25 bags, 16 handkerchiefs, 2 face washers;

15th March 1916. The Tokomaru school is closed on account of measles.

31st May 1916. Leave of absence granted to Miss F E Stansell assistant Tokomaru until end of June.

29th March 1917 Wellington Education Board Miss Stansell resigned

12th May 1917 Miss M G Stratton appointed.

10th August 1917 In response to the call of the Wellington Violet Day Committee, the children of the Tokomaru school sent by rail to the Empire City yesterday; four largo boxes of spring blooms The children here are not behind hand in their patriotic efforts. The sum of £2 6s was recently sent towards the Mayoress's fund to provide Christmas puddings for our boys m the trenches. I understand, also, that there was a very liberal response to the call for funds to help the maimed survivors of the German outrage at the school in the east of London. The girls, under the able direction of the first assistant, Miss Tuely, have for some considerable time past, been engaged in making garments for the dependents of the sailors who perished in the Battle of Jutland.

1st September 1917 The last sad rites of laying to rest the mortal remains of Mirla Grace Kelly, a pupil of the Tokomaru school, were performed at the burial ground in Palmerston yesterday by the Rev. W. H. Palmer. A goodly number of friends and relatives attended. A touching part of the ceremony was the bearing of the coffin by a number of the classmates of the deceased. The general regret experienced by the scholars and staff of the school is a genuine tribute to (lie loving memory of this little girl. Her painstaking work with the needle

alone in the interests of the defenders of the Empire and the orphans of the great war, was quite enough of itself to endear her to her school-mates, who feel that her death causes a gap that will take a long time to fill. Wreaths were sent by the school children and staff The senior girls, Mr and Mrs J. S. Webb and family, Mr and Mrs J. C. Kelly and family, Mrs J. R. Whyte and family, Mrs S. Biggins, Mrs W. Cook, Mrs Parr and family, Olivo Wilton, Gwen Foster, Aranie, Williams, Jean and Joyce Reichel, Leslie Rowlands and Harold Farr.

10th November 1917 The school committee met on Thursday night. Mr R Guy presiding. Messrs Perry, Mason, White, and headmaster (Mr J. S. Webb) were also present. ; Correspondence was received from Mr Reid, who, having left the district, reluctantly resigned his position as. secretary. The resignation was accepted with regret, on the motion of Messrs Perry and Mason, and, on the motion of Messrs Guy and Perry, Mr H. Elliott was appointed to the vacancy.

The report of the Inspector on his recent visit to till school was received. It stated that the. Work of the school was thoroughly efficient, which reflected great, credit on the headmaster for the manner ho has carried out his duties

Mr Webb reported on the attendance, which was being maintained. Violet Ede, and Ivy ('ox (scholars of this school) had received recognition in the public schools competition for writing at the Palmerston Show

12th December 1917 The school committee met on Monday night, Mr R. W. Guy presiding over a full attendance, of Members Various accounts amounting to £7 6s 10d were passed for payment A very lengthy and interesting report of the year's work was received from the headmaster, Mr Webb. Special mention was made of the number of children on the roll 135; The average attendance, for the quarter was 123. This being more than the requisite number entitles the school to at extra teacher. The matter was considered sufficiently important to make a recommendation to the Education Board. A few improvements required were sanctioned by the committee. The season's greetings were extended by the school staff, which were reciprocated by the committee. A great deal of discussion took place concerning prizes on breaking-up day, and it was decided to issue lists for subscription, The following gentlemen very generously offered to donate prize: for special purposes: —Messrs Guy and White, for boys and girls best attendance Messrs Perry and Mason, for most proficient- boy and girl; Messrs Lee and Elliott for boy and girl second best attendance

22nd December 1917 The schoolroom presented a very animated appearance, where a large audience of ladies congregated to witness the ceremony of prize-distribution. Mr Webb, head teacher, in opening the proceedings spoke briefly of the year's work which had been, conducted at this school The National Anthem was sung, after which Mr Guy chairman of the committee presented the prizes. The successful pupils in order of merit were as follows:

Primer II.: Iris Wood Hazel Hall, Evelyn Waldren
Primer III : Ralph Stewart, Aramea Rowlands, Emily Milne. Phyllis Hawtin.
Standard 1.: Leslie Kars, Norma Kelly, Doris Clapham, Charlie Evans, Rita Hawtin.
Standard II.: Donald Mason, Mollie Bree, Donald Hewitson
Standard III.: Kate Boote, Joyce Reichel, Norman Hall, Vida Foster.
Standard IV.: Ileen McClintock, Stanley Sorenson, Sidney Boote. Harry Fry.
Standard V. : Keith White." Cyril Whyte. Clara Jameson Cecil Rowlands. Albert Brooks, Lucy Griffiths.

Standard VI.: Ivy Cox, Roy Woods 1 Walter Cox 2.

Special prizes were donated by the School Committee, and the following were successful in obtaining same: —Harry Fry, Aronie Williams, Harry Stokes, Norman Hall, Jack Stewart, Gwen Hall, Elsie White._

Certificates of Proficiency were given to Ivy Cox, Walter Cox, Roy Woods, and competency to Violet Eade and Harold Parr. Attendance certificates were given to a large number of children, some of whom had never missed a day during the whole year. During the proceedings the children sang very nicely, the audience enjoying their items. Messrs Guy, R. White and Eliott spoke for a few minutes to the children and the ladies, reviewing with pleasure the past year's work. Hearty cheers were given by the children to the committee, parents and the staff, after which the pleasant proceedings terminated with a lolly scramble in the school grounds, where the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves

15th January 1918 A meeting of the School Committee was hold on Monday night, Mr R. W. Guy presiding. Messrs Lee, White, Mason and the secretary were also present. On account of the school holidays very little correspondence was received. The secretary was instructed to obtain particulars of a price for retarring the asphalt, which it is hoped to have done whilst the school is in recess:

13th February 1918 A meeting of the School Committee was held on Monday night, Mr R. W. Guy presiding. After the usual business had been disposed of, some discussion took place on the advisability of having a picnic. Finally it win decided to hold one on the 20th, in Mr Wilton's paddock, he having kindly offered its use to the committee, also the free use of swings and a supply of milk.

A very interesting report was received from the head teacher, and it is pleasing to know that this school still maintains a good attendance. Roy Wood, a former pupil of the school has very kindly given the head teacher various 'maps of the war zone, and the committee decided to thank him for his offer A band of scholars anticipate going to Levin to participate in the swimming carnival there, and wo hope they will be successful in winning some of the events.

14th February 1918 Our Tokomaru correspondent states that a number of scholars from the Tokomaru school went to Levin to participate in the swimming sports held there yesterday.' They acquitted themselves well The results will appear in to-morrow's issue.

16th February 1918 'ruler the leadership of Mr J. S. Webb (head teacher), a band of scholars journeyed to Levin on Wednesday to participate in the swimming carnival. The visitors were right royally entertained, and thoroughly enjoyed themselves, as well as acquitting themselves in a meritorious manner. There were many events for which they were not eligible to enter. They were successful in the following:—Plato diving: C. Liggins 2. School boys (open race): C. Rowlands, A. Rowlands, and H. Fry, 1, 2, and 4. Long dive: C. Liggins 2. Boys' handicap: A. Kelly 1, but later was not allowed, as the boy was ineligible. Relay race (challenge, .shield): Masters C. Rowlands, S. Liggins, A. Rowlands, and H. Fry 1. I am informed that there were all kinds of amusement, and everybody entered heartily into the proceedings. The challenge, shield was presented by Mr Robertson (ex-member for (lie district.), many years ago, and has changed hands once or twice. It has remained in the possession of Levin since 1912, and the fact, of our local boys getting possession of the prize adds lustre to their performances. The shield was handed to Mr J. S. Webb in the presence of

about six or seven hundred people, and, judging by the applause, the win was a popular one. Mr Webb, in a neat, and appropriate speech, acknowledged possession of the shield, and punctuated his remarks with much good humour. We take the opportunity to congratulate our boys and trust they will be successful at many other gatherings in the future.

22nd February 1918 The popularity of the school picnic on Wednesday was demonstrated by the big attendance of parents and scholars, The weather was ideal, and accounted for the fact of everybody spending a most enjoyable time

A good programme of sports had been prepared by Messrs Perry, Webb, and Elliott, and although it is difficult on these occasions to start in a systematic manner, everybody was quite willing to allow the children "a certain amount of latitude. The committee intended that the day should be for the children, and they all worked harmoniously towards this achievement, which added success to the outing. A word of praise is due to Mr Wilton for his kindness in providing the paddock, milk, water, and swings, which the committee, appreciated. Being adjacent to the river, those who did not indulge in the races had an enjoyable time in the river. All sorts of games were played by young and old, the parents entering into the enjoyments of the children. After the day's proceedings, an impromptu dance "was held in the public hall, the music being supplied by Mr Walden and Miss R. Kelly.

The following- races were held during the day: Boys under 7: Jack Sorenson 1, Harry Mason 2. Girls under 7: Hazel Hall 1, Mary Liggins 2. Boys under 9: Willie Glass 1. Jack Irvine 2. Girls under 9: Doreen Clapham 1, Aramea Rowlands and Sylvein Christenson dead heat. Boys over 9: Ron. Hewitson 1, Don Mason 2. Girls under 13: Molfie Bree 1, Winnie Perry 2. boys under 13: Athol Kelly 1. Jas McLaggon 2. Girls over 13. Lucy Griffiths 1, Ivy McLaggon 2. Boys over 13: Harry Fry 1, Sam Liggins 2. Hopping race, girls under 10: Gwen Hall 1, Hazel Hall 2. Hopping race, girls over 10: Winnie Perry 1. Lucy Griffiths 2. Potato race for young boys: Jas. McLaggon 1. Jack McLaggon 2. Potato race for older boys: Athol Kelly 1, Stanley Sorenson. 2. Slow bike race: Will. McClintock 1. Roy Wilton 2. Wheelbarrow race: Arthur Rowlands and Mervyn Parr 1, Stan Sorenson and Athol Kelly 2. Pick a. back: Chris, and Leslie Liggins 1, Harry Fry and Will McClintock 2. 25 yds backward for girls: Molly Bree 1. Ivy McLaggon 2. Novelty race, boys under 12: Jack McLaggon 1. Sid Poole 2. Novelty race, boys over 12: Harry Kit], Keith White 2. Girls', 3-legged race: Alice Liggins and Clara Jameson 1. Violet Lade and Aileen McClintock 2. Open race,, boys:-Algy Williams 1. Fred Evans and Harry Williams 2. All round race, boys: John Hewitson 1. Leslie Kors 2. Open race, girls: Joyce Reichel 1,, Maude Greedy 2. Swimming race, 25 yds: Sam Liggins ,1; Cecil Rowlands 2. Neatest dive: A. Rowlands 1, Sam Liggins 2. Longest dive: Chris Liggins 1, Harry Fry 2. Throwing the ball, girls: Lucy Griffiths 1, Norma Kelly 2. Ladies' race: Mrs Dawson 1, Ivy Wilton 2, 3-legged race, boys (young) : N. McLaggon and C Broughton 3-legged race' boys (older): H. Fry and W. McClintock 1.

A numerous supply of prizes had been provided, and these were given to the successful pupils during the day.

We are very pleased to learn that Master Ralph Stewart is doing fairly well at a private hospital, in Palmerston North

10th April 1918 Tokomaru: The last meeting of the School Committee before the elections take place was held on Monday night, Mr H. W. Guy presiding over a small attendance. Accounts amounting to £10 4s 4d were passed for payment. Various matters in connection

with asphaltting were left in the hands of the incoming committee. A very interesting report was received from the head teacher (Mr J. S. Webb), in which was expressed the thanks of the staff for various privileges extended by the committee during the year. We extend a welcome to Mr Donaldson, an extra addition to the staff. The school election takes place on the 22nd inst., and this should be a fitting opportunity for residents to come along and take an interest in the affairs of their children's welfare. On previous occasions it has been difficult to stimulate interest in these matters, and the result has been that the work has devolved upon a few of the willing ones. School committees often receive adverse criticisms, and the opportunity is now extended to carping critics to, ventilate their views at the coming elections.

27th April 1918 Anzac Day was celebrated in a very fitting manner at the school on Thursday, the children singing patriotic songs and saluting the flag in proper style. Short and appropriate addresses to the children were given by Mr Webb, Miss Tuely and Mr Elliott (secretary of the committee), all of which were received in a, good spirit by the children. The school was closed in the afternoon.

15th May 1918 Miss M G Straiton Resigns

16th May 1918 There was a full attendance of members at the committee meeting of the school) on Monday, Mr R. W. Guy (chairman) presided. A letter was received asking for support of a resolution from the New Zealand Education Institute and was deferred for further information. The question of obtaining firewood was left in the hands of the chairman and secretary. The committee confirmed the appointment, on the Board's recommendation, of Miss H. M. Skelley, vice Miss Tuely, who has resigned to take up another position at Ngaio. The committee were unanimous in their expressions of regret at losing her services here. It is about five years now since this teacher came to the school, during which period, as infant mistress, she has endeared herself to the, children under her care, and her principles, of moral teaching are such that in the days to come, when these children are old and engaged in various pursuits, they will make respectable citizens. It is intended to hold a gathering of parents and scholars before Miss- Tuely's departure at the latter end of this month) so that the opportunity will be taken of expressing our esteem. We regret, having to record the resignation of Miss Straiton, who is retiring from her teaching duties at the local school shortly. During her residence here, she has made many friends, and the children under her care are sorry she is leaving and wish success to Misses Tuely and Straiton in their new spheres of life.

31st May 1915 Wednesday afternoon was a children's day at the school, the occasion being a public scud-off to Miss Tuely, infant mistress, who is taking up a position in another school at Ngaio. Very few parents were present, which was a pity, because they missed a very nice programme of entertainment contributed by the scholars, following were the items rendered : Songs, Mr Donaldson. Molly Bree, Gladys Liggins. 'Violet Eade and Roy Wilton; pianoforte solos, Phyllis Elliott, Katie Boote and Olive Wilton. Willie McLintock gave a selection on a mouth-organ and Donald Wilton on an accordeon, and Ken Webb a recitation. Masters Ern Webb and Donaldson contributed a duet, the former piano and the latter violin. Mr Webb, head teacher, is to be commended for the talent displayed by his scholars, all the items being favourably received and thoroughly enjoyed. Mr R. W. Guy (chairman of the school committee) made a presentation of a purse containing bank-notes on behalf of the parents and

scholars to Miss Tuely, and in doing so referred to the high esteem in which the recipient was held. During her term of five years she had faithfully discharged her duties as a teacher, and in a manner that reflected credit on her capabilities. He expressed the unanimous opinion that all were sorry, to lose her services, and wished her every success in her new sphere. Miss Tuely, in responding, thanked all for their expression of esteem, and in a very nice and appropriate address to the children, trusted they would always do their duty, which would make them good citizens in after life. The proceedings terminated with the National Anthem and hearty good cheers to Miss Tuely. the teachers and visitors.

4th June 1918 We extend a hearty welcome to Miss Gooder who has been appointed a teacher at the school.

11th June 1918 Horowhenua County Council. The Tokomaru School Committee asked for a gravel footpath on the Tokomaru road to keep the children off the road.—Granted.

12th June 1918 The monthly meeting of the School Committee was held on Monday night, Mr R. W. Guy presiding. A great deal of correspondence was received and dealt with. Accounts amounting to £27. Were passed for payment.

The resignation of the secretary was received with regret. No appointment has been made to fill the vacancy, and a good opportunity is open for anyone who takes an interest in school matters.

Correspondence received from the N.Z. Educational Institute was deferred for discussion until next meeting.

Various matters suggested by the head teacher in his report were deferred for the present. The committee have now received a Guide Book of Regulations from the Education Board and should be able to settle any differences that may arise without referring the question to Wellington.

12th July 1918 Tim School Committee meeting was held last Monday night. Mr R. W. Guy presiding. The head teacher's report showed the attendance was satisfactory. Mr W Christian was appointed to fill the vacancy on the committee. The members recorded their votes for a representative of the 'Education Board.

16th August 1918 A meeting of the School Committee was held during the week. Mr R, W. Guy presiding. Mr D. McClure. who has gone into camp, tendered his resignation, which was accepted with regret. Messrs Waldron and Christian were appointed to attend to any business connected with the annual school concert. The committee unanimously decided to join the Manawatu School Committees' Association, and two members were appointed as delegates. In reference to the last matter, your correspondent considers this decision is a step in the right direction, as the Association's aims, besides benefiting school committees, concern the welfare of the children in their education, which is primarily the object of the Association.

The Association has been given sufficient prominence in your paper to recommend it to all School Committees, and there is no doubt, its objects will be advantageous to any community
21st August 1918 The school reopened on Tuesday, after a vacation of two weeks. We extend a cordial welcome to Mrs Aston, as an assistant on the staff of the school [No Mrs Aston was recorded as teaching for the Wellington Education Board]

14th September 1918 Mr R. W. Guy presided at the meet , of the School Committee on Tuesday night an apology for absence from Mr Waldren was accepted. The action of the chairman in attending to various matters were endorsed by the committee. The headmaster's

report was received, which stated 132 scholars were now on the roll. Mention was made of Mr Donaldson being transferred to Kilbirnie, and that Miss Christiansen of Makerua, would be appointed to the vacancy. Attention was drawn to the fact that the contractors had not made a start on the concreting improvements required.

1st October 1918 Mr Just and Miss Blackburn, physical instructors of the Education Board, visited the local school on Friday, and a pleasant course of physical instruction was imparted to the scholars, after which all participated in outdoor games, and teachers and scholars thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

17th October 1918 The usual monthly meeting of the School Committee lapsed on Monday night for the want of a quorum.

23rd October 1918 The adjourned monthly meeting of the School committee was held on Monday. Mr R W Guy presiding over a fair attendance of members. Correspondence was received from various sources and dealt with according to merit. No action was taken concerning a bubbling fountain for drinking purposes, as a very good idea has been adopted by the head teacher, which ensures all the necessary precautions desired. The question of joining with the combined school sports gathering was held over until next meeting. The inspector's report was received, it expressed satisfaction with the school's efficiency and general management. The head teacher's report showed that a satisfactory attendance had been maintained. The number on the roll was 132. It was decided to write to the Education Board asking for certain concreting to be done at once, as it was very essential. Mr R. Cant was accepted as a member to fill the vacancy on the committee. The committee is now composed of keen residents who are and will be most anxious to study the interest of the children's education and general welfare—a fact which should allay any fear which may be entertained by parents. The writer wishes to express his opinion that this committee, in joining the School Committee's Association, has taken a wise step and much profit will result therefrom. It is to be regretted that all the committees in the Manawatu district have not yet seen fit to enrol, as they are certainly losing opportunities to co-operate and promote schemes which will be advantageous to children, which is the primary object of this society.

9th November 1918. A decided improvement has now been made at the boys' lavatory at the school, which has been a long want fulfilled. A good thick wall of cement has been formed all round the walls, and the work reflects credit on the contractors.

12th December 1918 A very pleasing little ceremony took place in the local school ground during the week. Mr J. S. Webb, head teacher, presenting the successful scholars with their certificates of proficiency. The number obtained must be extremely gratifying to the head teacher, who is at all times very zealous in maintaining a high standard of education. Those obtaining proficiency were: Violet Eade, Lucy Griffiths, Clara Jamieson, Phyllis Elliott, and Cyril White. Competency: Gladys Liggins, Roy Wilton, and Cecil Rowlands.

27th February 1918 The relay race for the school swimming shield was a good event, and was contested by three teams, Tokomaru, Ohau and Levin, the first-named being last year's winners. The Levin team was successful yesterday, and hold the Robertson shield for the present year. The local team set an advantage in the first lap and held it to the finish, winning by about twenty yards. At the conclusion of the race. Mr Webb, headmaster of the Tokomaru school, handed over the shield to Mr McIntyre, master of the Levin school. In doing so, Mr Webb congratulated the winners on their fine performance, but said

that Tokomaru would be in the field again next year with a good team and Levin would have to look to its laurels. He called for cheers for the winners, and Mr McIntyre, after receiving the trophy, returned the compliment to the other competing teams

12th March 1919 ho school children are very busy collecting subscriptions towards helping the funds for their picnic, which will take place locally on Friday.

17th March 1919 Last Friday the scholars of the local schools had their annual picnic in Mr Wilton's paddock, a privilege he has extended for several Years. The weather at first was not too bright, being a little showery, and many children were, experiencing feelings of disappointment. However, it cleared up sufficiently during the day, and a goodly number of children and parents were present. The work of attending to the races was mainly left in the hands of Mr. Webb (head teacher), as several of the committeemen were unable to be present. Nevertheless, with the co-operation of a few willing hands, everything went off successfully. Following were the results, the first three positions gained being in their order of merit :— Standard I. Boys-, Jock Sorenson, Harry Mason, Jack Brice. Standard I. girls: Ivy Lee, Marjorie McGregor, Alice Waldron. Standard II, boys: Brian Waldron. Ralph Stewart, Willie Glass. Standard II, girls: Isie Mason, Aromea Rowlands, Hazel Hall. Standard III. boys: Fred Evans. Harry Williams. John Irwin. Standard III, girls: Ivy Moore. Dorothy Waldron Norma Kelly. Standard IV. boys:. Ron. Hewitson, Ken. Webb, Allan Moody. Standard IV, girls: Mollie. Bree, Jessie' McGregor, Dorothy Nullah and ? Standard V boys : Normal Hall. Charles Liggins. Jack McLaggan. Standard V, girls: Maude Greedy, Katie Boote, Vera Reid. Standard VI, boys: Athol Kelly, Jim McLaggan, Sid Boote. Standard VI. girls: Nellie, Fairbrother Aileen McLintock , Joan Reichel. Races were held for the primer classes and the following were successful in securing positions: Winnie Hail. Gwen Webb, Sylvia Irwin. Mavis Schwass, Nita Reid, Iona Waghorn, Stan. Jamieson, Ron Evans, and Freddie Boote. Various three-legged races were also held and the following went to the tape: Fred Waldron and John Irwin. Athol Kelly and John Hewitson. A very large number of prizes had been obtained for the children, and these were distributed by Mr Guy (chairman] and Mr Webb. They were given freely and willingly, irrespective of position, to all those children who entered into a race. It was intended to have a public presentation of special prizes and attendance certificates but owing to the hour being late this was deferred. I have been informed that the following will receive attendance certificates, with a suitable prize: Nellie Fairbrother, Hazel Hall, Aileen McLintock, Genet Stokes, Norman Hall, Gwen Hall, Ken. Webb. Hairy and Phyllis Stokes. Allan Moody, John Gree, John Irving, Arthur McLure. During the day a race for the mothers was held. A good many ladies entered for this race its it was only post entries. After a spirited sprint, the following were successful: Mesdames Waghorn. Waldron. and Cant, Mr Ralph Cant attended to the boiling water department, and served it out generously.

The new innovation here of holding the picnic on a Friday is a good idea, as all the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and would feel too tired to go to school on the following day, if any other had been arranged. In the evening the young men and ladies had various games suitable to the occasion, and everyone revelled in a good time.

1st May 1919 The annual householders' meeting in connection with the school was held on Monday night. As usual, there--was a very small attendance. Mr R. W. Guy, who was elected chairman, referred to the work of the outgoing committee, who at all times endeavoured to do their -best in the interests of the school children and parents. The head teacher reported on the progress of the scholars, and there is no doubt that the efficiency of this school is a great credit to the head teacher, who must be proud of the Sixth Standard, especially of the fact that all the pupils gained, either proficiency or competency certificates.

The following were elected a committee : Messrs R. W. Guy (chairman, fourth year in succession), D. McClure, D. Mason, W. Christian, F. Gameson, L. Claphorn, H. Elliott (secretary).

The new committee entered into 'the business of the evening, and various accounts were passed for payment. Two question of supplying hot foods or drinks to the children was deferred for the time being for further information.

Mr Clapham spoke forcibly on the necessity of the school having a septic tank, also artesian water. It was unanimously decided to write the Education Board, advocating these improvements.

Various expressions of regret were made at the loss by death of a former member (the late Mr Walden), and it was decided to send a letter of condolence to Mrs Walden and family.

The committee were surprised to hear of the resignations from this school of the head teacher (Mr J. S. Webb), who has been appointed to a position at the Newtown School.' A unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to him for the care he has always shown in the education of the children under his control, also wishing him success in his new sphere of life.

Although the writer holds no brief in eulogising the work of Mr Webb, he cannot let this opportunity pass without according his need of praise for the capable manner in which Mr Webb has discharged his duties as a teacher, inculcating a high moral tone and sound integrity in the children which must and always will reflect credit on the teacher and help the children in their future career as citizens.

15th May 1919 A meeting of the School Committee was held during the week, Mr Christian presiding. The headmaster reported that . the attendance of scholars was well up to the average. Mention was made of lack of assistance for the staff, due to Miss Gooder being away on account of ill-health. Several .improvements in the rooms are to be attended to as soon as possible. Some discussion took place concerning hot food or drinks for the children, and it was decided to ask the incoming head teacher to arrange same. , The resignation of the secretary (Mr H. Elliott) was received with regret, and a vote of thanks was accorded him for services .rendered. Mr J. McClure stated that he would accept the position. Mr Ralf Stewart was appointed a member of the committee to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr Elliott.'

22nd May 1919 Mr Jas. Webb, who for some years past has been headmaster at Tokomaru school, has accepted a position in Wellington and will shortly be leaving the district.' During his residence at Tokomaru Mr Webb has taken a keen interest in the welfare of his scholars, and his examination results have always been good, while he has also paid special attention to the pupils' outdoor games. Mr Webb took a leading part in the social life of Tokomaru, and his monologue items at public functions and patriotic gatherings were always much appreciated. Mr Webb was a member of Lodge Manawatu Kilwinning No. 47, the members of which are entertaining him at a send-off 'social this evening

23rd May 1919 There was a large gathering of members at the meeting of Lodge Manawatu Kilwinning last night, held for the purpose of bidding farewell to one of its most prominent members, Won Bro. J. S. Webb, of Tokomaru, who is shortly leaving to take up a responsible position in one of the leading Wellington schools. During the evening, Wor. Bro. Webb was presented with two bound volumes, one of poems by ,Southey, and the other the "The Poetical Works of Lowell." In appreciation of the good work done during his long connection with, the lodge, the presentation was made by Wor. Bro. Holben, and supported by a number of the brethren, who all expressed regret at Bro. Webb's departure and referred to the loss the

lodge was sustaining. Several members of the sister lodges in Palmerston also spoke to the toast, after which Bro. Webb replied in suitable terms

29th May 1919 Last Tuesday morning' was a red letter day for the children at the, school, for some few days several children had been collecting subscriptions for a presentation to Mr J S. Webb (head teacher), who is going to Newtown, and the result was a gathering of all the children in the main room, when Miss Paine a recent addition to the staff, in a very neat speech, on behalf of the children, presented to Mr Webb two silver-mounted pipes, and to Mrs Webb a handsome Liskurl hearth rug as a slight token of esteem and respect during their ten years' residence here, and to mark the children's appreciation of his efforts on all occasions for their educational advancement and moral welfare.

Mr H. Elliott (a former member of the School Committee), in the absence of Mr R. W. Guy (chairman), spoke on behalf of the committee and expressed the regret of the guests departure, wishing them every happiness and success in their future surroundings.

Mr K. Perry, also an ex-committeeman, in an appropriate speech expressed the great respect which he had for Mr and Mrs J. S. Webb and endorsed the remarks of the previous speaker. Mr Webb, in thanking the children for their expression of esteem for himself and his wife, referred to the many pleasant days he had spent here, and trusted the children would accord his successor the same respect and by close attention to their school work help to maintain the same high standard of report from the inspectors. In the course of his remarks Mr Webb mentioned that the ceremony today was all the more gratifying to him because it was the first occasion at this school when a presentation was made to a departing head teacher. His thanks were due to Miss Paine (of the staff) who entered whole heartedly into the matter unaided, and the successful gathering that, morning was due solely to her.

Hearty cheers were then given by the children for Mr and Mrs Webb.

Before the termination of this pleasant gathering Mrs Elliott, on behalf of the several lady friends of the district, presented to Mrs Webb a purse, containing half sovereigns, and in a few well-chosen words expressed the respect and esteem in which Mrs Webb was held

Mr Webb on behalf of his wife suitably replied, stating that the presentation was at a pleasant surprise. Words failed to express his pleasure, the presentation showing the appreciation felt for Mrs Webb.

7th June 1919 Mr W Philip appointed head teacher.

12th June 1919 On Monday evening the monthly meeting of the school committee was held in the schoolhouse, there being present: Messrs Guy (chairman), McClure (secretary), committeemen. Stuart. -Mason, Christian, and Gamieson. : Correspondence from the .Education Board re the sinking of an artesian Well and building of a septic tank was dealt with the Board stated that this improvement would cost about £195, and that they would find half the amount if the committee would do likewise. The chairman said he thought that little trouble, would be met with in raising the necessary money, and that the Board's offer should be accepted. Further discussion was held over till next meeting. Correspondence from. Mr Hogg and Mr Field M .P [Both members of Wellington Education Board]., was also read, both members agreeing "with the committees views with regard to the present method of appointing teachers. : ; Mr. Philip of Taita school has been appointed to the position of head teacher here and will take up his duties at the end of Mr Hall's relieving term.

18th June 1919 Miss E M Paine resigns [Ethel M Paine was teaching at Waikawa Bay in Outer Pelorus in 1917 and at Te Rawa in the Pelorus Sounds in 1923]

14th July 1919 Horowhenua County Council

July 1919 From Tokomaru School Committee, asking for a grant to put in a septic tank, and also for sinking an artesian well,—Decided to take no action, as it was a matter for the Education Department to attend to.

5th September 1919 Miss A M Greig appointed assistant

30th September 1919, On Thursday the clerk of works from the Wellington Education Board inspected the grounds of the Tokomaru school with a view to having a septic tank installed. Mr Guy, the chairman of the local committee was present to inform the Board's representative regarding ways and means and as to the probability of obtaining a constant supply of high pressure artesian water.

14th October 1919 A request was put forward by Councillor Whyte at the meeting of the Horowhenua County Council on Saturday for a danger sign to be placed on the road near the Tokomaru school. He stated that there was considerable traffic on the Tokomaru road, which endangered the school children. The request was granted, the engineer being instructed to do the work. Cr. Harkness asked that a similar sign be placed at the store corner at Ohau road, and this request was also complied with.

October

1920-1923

1921	114	Tokomaru	Philip	William H	C	Head	£390.00	
1921	114	Tokomaru	Stevenson	Helen	D	Assistant	£260.00	
1921	114	Tokomaru	Wake	Florence M	D	Assistant	£220.00	
1921	114	Tokomaru	Kingsbeer	Thelma L		Probationer 2	£120.00	
1923	127	Tokomaru	Philip	William H	C-99	Head	£375.00	
1923	127	Tokomaru	Higgs	Gladys B	C-175	Assistant	£243.00	
1923	127	Tokomaru	Wake	Florence M	D-213	Assistant	£205.00	
1923	127	Tokomaru	Palmer	Clarence C H		PT2	£113.00	

Helen Stevenson in 1919 was teaching at Woodville for the Hawkes Bay Education Board and in 1923 at Khandallah School

Florence M Wake In 1919 Florence Wake was sole teacher at Tuturumuri School [East of Martinborough] before coming to Tokomaru

1925/7108	Florence Mary	Wake	Norman John	Whyte
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Thelma L Kingsbeer Was a probationer at Tokomaru in 1921 and was at Levin DHS in 1923

18th January 1927 Miss Thelma Kingsbeer, daughter of Mr and Mrs G. Kingsbeer, of Levin, is leaving shortly for Fiji where she has accepted an appointment on the teaching staff of the public school. Miss Kingsbeer was the successful candidate out of 26 applicants and has accepted the situation for 12 months on trial. Her many friends will wish her every success in her new sphere.

3rd October 1934 Miss Thelma Kingsbeer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. Kingsbeer, of King's Drive, Levin, arrived from Australia by the Maunganui on Monday and will spend one month's holiday with her parents. Miss Kingsbeer, who has followed the teaching profession

in New Zealand, Fiji and Australia, is at present engaged as leading sales lady for a large Sydney Silk Importing 'Company.

Gladys B Higgs taught at Kaituna (Marlborough) as a sole charge teacher by 1919 and was at Tokomaru by 1923

22nd March 1924 Miss G. B. Higgs, who for the past two years has been infant mistress in the local school, has been appointed sole teacher at Reay's Bridge School, Gisborne, under the Hawke's Bay Board. Miss Higgs is a capable teacher and is very much loved by the small folk in the school and will be greatly missed by children and parents. We wish her the best of luck in her new sphere.

And in 1929 was an assistant at Porongahau in Southern Hawkes Bay

1929/3817	Gladys Beryl	Higgs	Lachlan Andrew
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Clarence C H Palmer was a first year Pupil Teacher at Tokomaru in 1923

By 1928 he was sole teacher at Te Wharau 42 Kilometres east of Masterton

23rd April 1920 Operations in connection with the artesian supply for the local school are about to commence. Over £100 has been subscribed by the Tokomaru residents. This will be subsidised by the Education Board.

17th June 1920 The Hon. Mr Parr, Minister of Education, had a busy day in this district on Tuesday. He inspected the school at Tokomaru and received a deputation there upon arrival of the morning train from Wellington, and then motored to Foxton by Mr Newman, M.P., partook of a hurried lunch, received a deputation of Sandon School committeemen, opened the school, received two more deputations, and caught the evening train at Shannon for Wellington. Upon arrival at Wellington important Cabinet business awaited him.

28th June 1920 Recently the Minister for Education visited the local school to inspect the site of the proposed artesian bore which is about to be commenced. The committee placed the position as regards finance before the Minister, who expressed pleasure at the good work done in raising a substantial sum in a small district. The Minister then inspected the school, commenting on the good school building and the fine ground surrounding it. It is now only a matter of [Not available to copy]

23rd November 1920 Wellington Education Board the Tokomaru Committee informed the Board that their artesian well was down 275 Feet [83.82 metres] and had flow of 50 gallons a minute. The cost of sinking had £255. The Board decided, to assist the Committee with a septic tank now that such an ample water supply was available

9th December 1920 Miss A M Grieg resigns

18th February 1921 Tokomaru Head Teacher Mr W H Philip [Because of increased attendance.] Miss H Stevenson appointed Infant Mistress

22nd February 1921 The artesian bore at the local school has been finished for some time. A fine flow of about 50 gallons [189 litres] a minute may be seen by those interested in obtaining good water where no surface stream exists. Boring was exceptionally difficult, and the well is a splendid testimonial to the workmen of Messrs Brown and Rasmussen. It is expected that the work in connection with the septic tank will be commenced in the near future.

The annual school picnic will be held at Plimmerton . or or about, the 26th of this month. To raise funds for improvement of the grounds the committee has decided to hold periodical social evenings in the Tokomaru hall. Messrs Guy, Christum and Reid have been appointed a committee to organise and manage the socials,

16th March 1921 Tokomaru 2nd Assistant Miss N McGrath. At the end of 1921 Norma McGrath was at Picton/Waikawa school

1st July 1921 Further improvements are to be carried out at the Tokomaru School. The committee recently applied to the Board asking that new latrines, drainage and septic tank be supplied and connected up with the artesian water supply. The Board has now let a contract to Mr W. Browning for this work.

13th August 1921 The Tokomaru public are much indebted to the Palmerston, North Revue Company for the much-appreciated entertainment they gave in the Tokomaru Hall on July 25th in aid of (he local school piano fund, for which a. sum of £40 has now been raised, carrying a Government subsidy of £ for £. The work of installing the septic tank and other improvements at the school is new going ahead. - _

30th August 1921 The contractors in charge .of the sewerage works, at the school are making good headway, and anticipate having the work completed at an early date/ The Committee is to be congratulated on having this sanitary work carried out and are extremely fortunate in having got the grant. At the present 'time their' chance of raising the required money would be very remote.

The fortnightly dance held in the Tokomaru Hall on Friday evening last In aid of the School piano was well attended, and everyone appeared to have a. good evening's enjoyment.

4th October 1921 During the winter dances were held at periods of a fortnight and were well patronised. Good management and organisation had much to do with the success of these pleasant evenings, and special thanks are due to Mr Clapham on whom the, bulk of the hard work foil. some time ago. Mr Clapham arranged, through Mr T. Coward, of Palmerston North to have an entertainment by- the Palmerston North Revue Company in aid of the Tokomaru School piano fund. The Company generously gave-a. very , fine programme as a benefit to. the-fund, and the school now has an 'excellent piano free of debt.

The septic tank . work; which was in charge of Mr W. A. Browning, of Palmerston North, has, been completed and is in every respect satisfactory. From a salutary point the school is one of the best appointed in the Dominion.

30th December 1921 Tokomaru Notes Shannon News. A .tennis court is .being laid out m the school grounds. The money has been raised by public subscription. The work of late has been held up by the weather, but it is hoped to have the court ready for play at an early date. Local tennis enthusiasts intend to invite members of the Shannon Club to be present at the opening, and a pleasant day is anticipated.

30th December 1921 The pupils of Tokomaru School held their annual concert on Friday night; [the whole programme was difficult to copy] Those who gained proficiencies were Molly Bree, Emily Wood, Phyllis Stokes, Jessie McGregor, Ron Hewitson, Ray Philip, Hugh McLaggan , Allan Moody. Competency, Allan Wilton.

6th February 1922 Miss Thelma Kingsbeer probationer has been transferred from Tokomaru to Levin

10th February 1922 The local schools opens Tuesday the 7th. I think some of the mothers will be pleased with that, [Dates as printed]

28th February 1922 The Tokomaru School Committee held a euchre party and dance on Friday evening .to raise funds for the annual picnic, which took place at Plimnerton on Saturday last. Cards were kept going till alter 10 o'clock. No less than five ladies tied for first place, and after the usual drawing, Mrs F. Smith was declared the winner. Mrs R. Guy won the consolation prize. Mr S. McLaggan won the gent's prize, Master Phillip securing the consolation prize. After Mr R. Guy presented the prizes the floor was cleared and dancing was kept going till about 1 a.m. Mr Coward supplied the music. There was a fair attendance.....The Day School had their annual picnic and excursion to Plimmerton on Saturday, the majority of the people taking advantage of the outing. Tokomaru looked quite deserted, ait places of business being closed. All enjoyed themselves immensely, and the day was perfect, returning home about 7.30 p.m. highly pleased with the day's outing.

13th April 1922 he Tokomaru School Committee has asked the A, and P. Association to make arrangements with the Railway Department for the free carriage of the school children to the show, The Association has left the question In the hands of Mr J. A. Nash, M. P.

11th May 1922 Miss H. Stevenson, who was promoted to a position on the staff of the, Khandallah School, was presented by the parents of the Tokomaru children with a handsome tea set, and a set, of silver spoons were a special gift from the school children. Miss C Higgs, from the Marlborough district, has taken up her duties as infant mistress, tilling the vacancy caused by the departure of Miss Stevenson.

19th September 1922 A tennis court is being laid down at the Tokomaru School for the use of the pupils. With the summer coming on the court should be in great request and prove a boon to the scholars.

13th October 1922 The residents of Tokomaru will be surprised to hear that Mr McLure, secretary ,of the School Committee, has sent in his resignation.....The School Committee held their last dance of the season last Friday night. The St. Aiden's Church Committee are now going to carry on the dances in their place

20th December 1922 On Friday, the 15th inst., the children of the Tokomaru School held their annual concert. The hall was well filled with parents and friends. The first part of the programme was well arranged and comprised the following items: Song, "Curtain Town," by the infant children; song, "I Don't Want to be a Little Angel" (encored), five girls; recitation. "Little Dame Crump," Iris Milne; chorus, "Arizona," boys; duet, "Little Brown Seed," Myra Reid and Valda Morgan; chorus, "There was an Old Woman,' infants; recitation. "The Elf and the Doormouse ." Frank Perry; song, "Ginger Bread," boys; recitation, "The Nursery," Ray Todd; "Rose Dance," Margaret Moore; "Freckles" (chorus), girls; recitation, "My Cousin loin," Fred. Boote quartette. "Hey Diddle, Diddle"; recitation, "When Father Carves the duck" (encored), Mervyn Philip; chorus, "The Old Town Hall."

The second half of the programme was a cantata, "The School Garland," .Mavis Reid being the queen, Jack Bree the quarrelsome scholar, Victor McLaggan the selfish scholar, and Charlie Broughton the tardy scholar. The principal parts for the girls were taken by Jean Lampard, persevering scholar, Doreen Clapham generous scholar, and Margery Liggins, punctuality. The cantata was well received and all the pupils did their parts particularly well. The singing was a feature of much comment, as the first and second parts were well sung

At the close of the concert Mr Philip presented the pupils who gained proficiency with their certificates. Afterwards the hall was cleared of seats, a dance was held, and scholars and adults enjoyed themselves till 12.30 p.m., the music being supplied gratuitously by Miss Wake, Mrs Philip and Mr George. Supper was provided by parents and friends, and the children did justice to the good things so generously supplied.

On Thursday the children of Standard VI. made a presentation to Mr Philip. Doreen Clapham, in a neat little speech, handed Mr Philip a beautiful wallet and fountain pen. This came as a great surprise and the gift was much appreciated.

On December 8th a dance was organised by Messrs T. Coward, S. Liggins, A. Reid and Stewart in aid of the school prizes, and there was a good attendance seeing that the milking season is in full swing and hot weather not conducive to dancing.

On Friday Mr Guy, the chairman of the Tokomaru School Committee, presented the prize's to the children, each child receiving a nice book. Special prizes were given by Miss Higgs in the infant room to Paul Thompson for highest aggregate marks for the year in spelling; Ray Todd in writing and Mavis Hughes in reading. Miss Higgs also presented prizes for sewing in the upper classes. Mavis Reid, Gladys Smith, and Ivy Williams being first, second and third respectively. Miss Wake's special prizes went to Margery McGregor for best kept exercise book, and Lucy Wood won the sewing prize.

3rd February 1923 A large number of picnic parties of generous dimensions are spending today at Plimmerton the excursions from Palmerston North and district alone comprising over 1500 holiday-makers Should the weather, as was the case at the popular watering place yesterday, prove fine the beach will present an animated appearance. The Feilding retailers and trades and industry workers' picnic was the largest from this district, their special train carrying about 1000 and passing through Palmerston North about 7 a.m. By a train leaving at 7.10 a.m. a local hosiery company's employees and friends, numbering about 250, left for the same destination; having five carriages allocated for them accommodation, In addition the Tokomaru School picnic was also held, some 300 people leaving by the 6.35 a.m. train. A picnic organised in Johnsonville also took place to-day at Plimmerton.

15th May 1923 Recently a fancy dress ball was held in aid of the funds of the local school. There was a good muster and a great variety of costumes. On a vote being taken the first prize for the ladies was awarded to Mrs Osman, Miss Gladys Higgins being second. The gentleman's prize was awarded to Mr F. Batchelar, of Linton, Mr A. Wilton being second. The following costumes show the great variety in dress which the ball provided.— Mrs Todd, "Indian Squaw"; Miss Wake, "Balloon Girl"; Mrs Osman, "Chinese Maid"; Miss Higgs, "Black Cat"; Miss E. Wilton, France and England.[Rest of list not copied]

1st June 1923 Miss Higgs, of the teaching staff, spent her holidays in Blenheim, her home town, which she found just recovering from the effects of the recent flood. Miss Wake, also of the school staff, visited Eketahuna.

29th June 1923 At a special meeting of householders held on the 18th instant the following were elected to the local School Committee for the ensuing year;—Messrs R. W. Guy (chairman), J. D. McClure (secretary), G. Lampard, Mr _ Kelly, E Titcombe, J. Schwass and W. Webb.

To-night, a fancy dress dance will be held for the children of the Tokomaru school from the hours of 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. From 9 p.m. till 1 a.m. The dance will be for adults only. Good

music is ensured, as a Palmerston North orchestra has been engaged for the evening. The dance is not being held for the purpose of raising funds, but for an outing for the children and a pleasant evening for the adults. The charge is nominal and for the purpose of clearing expenses.

5th July 1923) On Friday last a fancy dress dance was given for the children of the Tokomaru school. From seven o'clock until nine some ninety children enjoyed themselves on a good floor to excellent music. Towards the end of the children's dance the members of the orchestra were asked to judge the costumes, the prizes being awarded, as follows:—Best fancy' dress, Connie 'Jamieson (the octopus), and Ray Todd (puss in boots)); most original costume, Phyllis .Morgan (Eve), and Mervyn Philips (Adam); most economical costume, Dorothy Webb (kapoc), and Ngaio Pope (the aviator), The dance, which commenced at 9 o'clock,' was .well patronised, the floor being crowded, many coming from Linton and Shannon.-

10th August 1923 Miss Wake of the teaching staff is at present confined to her bed.

28th August 1923 A good deal of sickness still prevails in this district, the latest victims being Mr and Mrs Philip. This has necessitated the school being closed earlier than usual

3rd October 1923 The senior inspector for the district, Mr F. H. Bakewell, paid the annual visit to the local school a few days ago. The general work of the institution was commended, the school being at the present time well-staffed. There are about 160 children at school and the attendance is almost back to normal.

16th October 1923 The school tennis court is almost available for use and should be a valuable asset to the social life of the community.

3rd November 1923 On Tuesday and Wednesday Nurse Bulkly visited the Tokomaru School and Inspected the various classes The nurse spoke in highest terms to the cleanliness and health of the children, very few requiring medical attention. In all probability. Dr. Helen Bakewell will be visiting the school before the Christmas holidays.....Miss P. M. Wake, of the Tokomaru School Staff, has received word that she has passed the A.T.C.L. examination in music, which -was held in Palmerston North in October. Miss Wake is to be congratulated on her success.

13th November 1923 Mr C. C. H. Palmier, of the local school staff, was a successful candidate at the recent teachers' examinations. Being a conscientious student and an ambitious one, the young man is fully deserving of success. Mervyn Gibb had the misfortune to sustain a broken arm recently, while playing in the schoolgrounds. Miss Hazel Gooder, a former teacher here, and now in Canada., has been granted a further six months in which to extend her knowledge of teaching methods abroad. A children's hard-up dance is to be held on Friday night, the proceeds to be devoted to the picnic fund.

1st December 1923 On Friday, November 1st, a children's "hard-up" dance was held in the Tokomaru Hall, in aid of funds for the school picnic. Most of the elder scholars turned up, many in real "hard-up" costumes. The children danced from 8 p.m. to 9.10, and quite enjoyed themselves, and then the adults started to dance. Many of the older children, who are splendid dancers for their years, joined the gay throng till midnight. The headmaster, (Mr Philip), was M.C. for the children's dance, and Mr E. Perry for the adults.

Little Joan McLaggan, and Joe Guy and Ngaio Pope, three pupils of the Tokomaru school, have been very ill with pleurisy and pneumonia. They are all out of danger, and, should fine weather continue, and no relapse, they will soon be quite well again.

I notice the tennis court at the school is almost completed. Mr Guy, the worthy chairman, never does things by halves where school matters are concerned, and the tennis court is a credit to those who have spent so much time to make it a court worth having. This court serves a double purpose, for not only will those who care for tennis be able to play all the year round, but it is a splendid drill area in winter time, when the ground is very damp and wet.

There seems to be plenty of sickness still around Tokomaru. I understand Mr Philip, headmaster, of Tokomaru school, is at present an inmate of a private hospital, and is undergoing a slight operation. Mr Philip had the influenza in the term holidays, the after-effects of which he has not been able to throw off