

Dandenong High School

ANNUAL SPEECH NIGHT.

An interesting programme of choir singing, physical culture, eurythmic dances, and school songs, was presented on Tuesday evening last to a large audience in the Boomerang Theatre, Dandenong, the occasion being the annual speech night and distribution of prizes of the Dandenong High School.

The principal of the school, Mr. P. Langford, was supported on the platform by the chairman, Mr. F. A. Singleton, and Messrs McAfee, Butler, Abbott, Sharkie, and school staff, and Mrs. Singleton, and also the principal speaker of the evening, Mr. Warren Kerr, C.M.G., and Mrs. Kerr. At the commencement, Miss Phyllis Street, a junior pupil, presented in a most charming manner a bouquet of flowers to Mrs. Warren Kerr.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

Mr. P. Langford, Principal of the High School, said he had much pleasure in presenting this, the eleventh annual report of the Dandenong High School. In the first place, he desired to extend to Mr. Warren Kerr the best thanks of the school and Council for his kindness in coming here to-night to deliver the address, and also to Mrs. Kerr for her offer to present the certificates and sports prizes.

This year has been one of continued progress so far as the attendance at the school is concerned. We started in 1919, with some 80 pupils; now in 1929, we have an enrolment of 415 pupils. Each year the numbers have steadily increased by approximately one extra form every year. The growth of Dandenong during the last

ten years has been very rapid, due in a great measure to the electrification of the railways. In 1920, there were about 550 houses. In September, 1928, when the last return was compiled, there were over 1,100. The town had doubled itself in eight years, with an increase of about 40 houses per year—a really remarkable development. This increase is reflected in the growth of the school, which has necessitated the building of extensions on two occasions. At present, four additional class rooms, as well as a sloyd room, are being built, and we have been informed by the contractor, Mr. Harden, that he hopes to let us occupy them early in the New Year. Everyone to-day recognises the necessity for higher education. Some 20 odd years ago, the highest qualification obtainable at a State school was a Merit Certificate. Now the Intermediate Certificate is generally considered as the minimum qualification for entry into the business and professional world.

Scholastic: This demand for higher education is evidenced by the fact that this year the local Town Hall has been taxed to its utmost to accommodate all the candidates sitting for examinations. The largest number of pupils taking the exams. on any one day this year was 77. When you consider that the number of candidates for Intermediate in 1920 was 14, you can readily realise the rapid growth of the upper portion of the school. The Merit Certificate, which, by the way, may soon be abolished for a certificate at a higher stage, was obtained by 56

at a higher stage, was obtained by 56 pupils, an increase of 11 on last year.

The outside examination, taken by the pupils in technical subjects, had very satisfactory results. In type-writing, 11 pupils passed with credit and nine passed. In shorthand theory, 18 passed with credit and two passed. In book-keeping, four passed. In shorthand speed, 17 passed with credit and 10 passed. The speed included up to 140 words per minute. A pass with credit entails a pass with at least 70 per cent. of the total marks. In the Intermediate Examination for 1928-29, we obtained 21 complete passes (a list of these pupils will appear elsewhere). In addition six others obtained five passes entitling them to finish at a subsequent examination. For Leaving Certificate, six pupils obtained complete passes, while four passed in four subjects, entitling them to complete in one subject later on.

In the Leaving Honours section, Edna Hopkins obtained two third-class honours in English and French, and Frances Noack obtained one third-class honor in English, Kathleen Brumley succeeded in winning a Junior Government Scholarship.

The I.O.R. examination was taken by 49 pupils, 47 of whom obtained 60 per cent. or over, Five pupils obtained 90 per cent. or over, with the very fine percentage of 95.9 passes, and a class percentage of 77.1. The prizes given by the local branch of the I.O.R. were won by James Hurley, 93; Olive Hopkins, Dorothy Gregory and Allen McCahon, 91 per cent. each. The Shell Company of Australia Ltd. offered to all High, Domestic Arts, and Technical schools, two scholarships of £10 each. Although our pupils were not successful in win-

our pupils were not successful in winning the Scholarships, they were runners-up in each case. Nancy Lee and Stanley Kirk were, on account of the excellence of their essays, awarded a prize of £1/1/ each. These prizes were presented at the school by Mr. Samuel, the representative of the Shell Company. The interest in the education of the pupils of Victorian schools on the part of the Shell Company is deserving of the highest praise. The local branch of the A.N.A. which has always taken a great deal of interest in the school, presented a prize of £1/1/, to be won by the pupils handing in the best essay on a subject chosen by the staff of the school. This prize was divided into a Junior and Senior section; Heather Woolley won first prize in the Junior section, and Jean Herbert that of the Senior section. We desire to thank the members of the A.N.A. for their generosity, as well as the Rev. Luther Williams, who assisted with the judging.

Not only have our own pupils done well, but we are pleased to hear of successes of ex-pupils. W. Brodie, who is Mr. A. Titcher's capable assistant, recently sat for the secretary's examination. We are pleased to record the fact that he obtained first position for Victoria, and second for the Commonwealth. Jessie Mitchell and Ron. Henshaw completed their Bachelor of Arts Degree. Eric Jenkins won the Gladman Prize at the Teachers' College. Another old pupil, Miss Kitty Bloomfield, who had a brilliant career, not only at the school, but at the University, recently obtained her certificate as an air pilot. Allan Russell, Tom and Jack Standish are some of many who are continuing to do well at the University. Jim Sharkie

do well at the University. Jim Sharkie was again elected as President of the C.P.A., and Alan Kingsbury has proved himself a most capable, efficient and energetic secretary. Much of the success of the functions held during the year, especially the Show Day Reunion, has been due to his enthusiasm and indefatigable energy. There are hosts of others—about 1000 have been through the school, and it is obviously impossible to enumerate all the noteworthy achievements of ex-pupils. Whether they be great or small, if they are due to honest effort, not only will those responsible be benefited, but the school will be honored through the successes of its old pupils.

The Metropolitan Sports competitions were continued this year. The only one in which we emerged victorious was the B Grade football, our team defeating the Melbourne High School in the final match at Essendon. Brian Russell captained the team very capably, and he was well supported by every one of its members, three of whom represented the Victorian High Schools in the Interstate matches in Adelaide.

In boys' and girls' tennis, and in hockey, we achieved a fair measure of success. The Warragul matches were re-established this year. It was agreed that we should compete for the A.N.A. shield for several years to come, until all the small shields should be filled. Although we were behind in the winter games, our teams won all three contests in October, and so retained the shield for 1929. In internal contests, the individual tennis championships were won by Irene Kingston and Brian Russell; Kathleen Brumley and Ron. Sedzman being runners-up. The aggregate for

being runners-up. The aggregate for the House contests was won by Clematis House, after a series of keenly fought matches.

The School Magazine: Our best thanks are due to the Editors of the School Magazine, Una Russell and Brian Russell, and to Mrs. Little, who spent a great deal of her spare time in a successful endeavour to make the publication something of which the school might well be proud. Efforts made by the pupils during the year resulted in the raising of about £12 for the local hospital, £3 for the library concert, and £20 by the Junior Red Cross. In addition, the school adopted a baby at the Darling Church of England Babies' Home. We undertook to raise the sum of £15 for the upkeep of the baby during the year.

We have nearly 70 depositors in the local State Savings Bank. In many instances the sums amount to quite a respectable sum, and the average deposit amounts to roughly 30/- per week. The training of pupils in thrift in the early stages of their career deserves every encouragement. The State Savings Bank helps materially to this worthy end.

The question of vocational guidance is one which has been brought prominently before the public during the past twelve months, and I feel that I should not let the occasion pass without making some reference to its operation in the schools, and particularly High Schools. The mere fact that parents send their children to a High School indicates a desire on their part to give them an education beyond that offered by the elementary schools, and so to equip them more fully for the battle of life. Every year the struggle becomes more and more

the struggle becomes more and more difficult, and the reason for this is easily grasped. Twenty years ago practically no secondary education was undertaken by the Education Department. To-day there are nearly 40 High Schools, and a larger number of Higher Elementary Schools, each training boys and girls chiefly for a commercial or professional course. Is it not possible that we may be unconsciously, but nevertheless certainly, training too many boys and girls along certain lines. What is our experience at the present time? Boys and girls are finding it increasingly difficult to get a start in the occupations they have chosen for themselves. What we want is a centralised bureau which can collect data, and, with this at its disposal, give the schools generally the requirements of the commercial and the professional world. The present haphazard starting of a boy on a career would then be eliminated. Vocational guidance, as undertaken elsewhere, may be divided roughly into two sections, guidance and placement. The first has been given in a somewhat haphazard manner by schools; the latter has been left entirely to the parent and the individual effort of the exit pupil. We feel that something should be done along the lines of helping to place boys and girls in suitable positions when they reach the school leaving age. The Education Department is at present creating a council of Metropolitan High School Head Mistresses and Masters, to formulate a scheme which will endeavour to overcome the difficulties of guiding and placing pupils on the completion of their school career, in their right vocations.

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vocations.

At the beginning of this year several new members of staff were appointed. They were Misses K. Halloran, E. O'Reilly, I. Cordner, E. McLean, J. Mitchell, Mrs. Little, Mr. Stack and Mr. Anson. Now, at the end of the year, we are to say good-bye to Misses Tassell, Baxter, E. Schneider and Mr. Brook. Miss D. B. Taylor is already on her way overseas to take up an exchange position with a teacher in a Girls' School at Fleetwood, England.

After the holidays, Mr. Jeffrey (who was with us for about three years), is returning to Dandenong; while in addition, Misses I. Steele, V. A. Forster, U. Wilson, R. F. Pollard and D. Kenyon are to be included among the members of staff for 1930.

We are to-night about to bid farewell to a number of boys and girls who have spent some years with us. If the school has fitted them to become efficient and honorable citizens, then it has achieved its object. We believe that this is the case, and we extend to every girl and boy, who is leaving the school, our very best wishes for a successful career.

Our Speech Night to-night is tinged with sadness in that the school and district has lost one of its best friends. The death of Cr. W. B. Tharle leaves a gap that will be hard to fill. His kind personality, his unfailing generosity, and his intense love of children, endeared him to pupils and teachers alike, and his early death has deprived the school of one of its very best friends. We extend to Mrs. Tharle and family our deepest sympathy in their sad bereavement.

And now, in conclusion, I desire to thank the parents and friends of the school for their continued interest and

SCHOOL for their continued interest and generosity, and we especially thank those who have assisted with our Prize Fund.

I also extend to the Council the best thanks of the school for its interest and assistance. Whenever anything necessitating help has occurred, the Council has responded most generously.

The staff has also loyally assisted me in the conduct of the school, and to them and to you all I extend the compliments of the season. I trust that you may all enjoy a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

After the Principal's report, and at the commencement of the distribution of the prizes, during a break in the concert programme, Mr. Warren Kerr, C.M.G., in his introductory remarks, congratulated the school on the report. He said that it was essentially a human document, in that it referred to the adoption of the baby at the Darling Home, and the encouragement of thrift in the banking of small sums by the pupils. He congratulated the pupils on their results, both in and outside the school. The rivalry engendered by this effort helped materially in building up the characters of the pupils. After relating some humorous stories, he told of his own experiences in Oxford street, London, where a policeman held up the traffic of one of the busiest streets to allow two little urchins with their home-made cart to safely cross to the other side. From this he led on to the necessity of law and order to further the work and help the proper governance of the communities throughout the Empire. He then led up to the question of vocational guidance, and hoped that any scheme that might be

hoped that any scheme that might be evolved would be sufficiently elastic. It was necessary to exercise care to avoid making this too rigid. We needed the help of the parents, teachers, employers, and the children themselves, so that right vocation might be found for those about to set out on their life's work. He then quoted Browning, emphasising the fact that throughout life, at school and afterwards, it was necessary to strive, to learn and to dare. He concluded by wishing the school every success in its future career.

The programme, every item of which was delightfully rendered, and showed the most careful tuition, and certainly merited throughout the enthusiastic applause of the vast assemblage present, was as follows:

(1) Song, "Best School of All" (2) "Forty Years On." (3) "A Hunting We Will Go," "The Little Sand Man," "All Among the Barley," choir. (4) Girls' Physical Culture. (5) Folk Dance. (6) Boys' Physical Drill. (7) Club Swinging, girls. (8) Eurythmics. (9) "The Cloud," "When Twilight Weaves Her Gentle Spell." "The Wind," choir.

At the end of the first half of the programme, feeling reference was made to the death of Mr. Tharle by Mr. Singleton, and as a mark of sympathy and respect all stood.

Opportunity was also taken by the past and present pupils to present to their esteemed Principal, Mr. Langford, an office desk.

LIST OF HONOURS.

The certificates and sports prizes were presented by Mrs. Kerr.

Form F2.—One Honour: Vera Williams, sewing; Hazel Painter, sewing;

Iams, sewing; Hazel Painter, sewing; Irene Beecher, sewing; Edna Housen, sewing; Effie Kereferd, algebra; Frank Smith, sloyd; Jack Moloney, sloyd; Douglas Mummery, sloyd; Alan Bishop, sloyd.

Two Honours: Vivian Stranger, geometry, drawing; Kathleen Pullyn, algebra, geometry; David Corrigan, arithmetic, sloyd; Ian Harvey, algebra, geometry; Ron. Beckman, arithmetic, sloyd.

Three Honours: Jean Sewell, arithmetic, algebra, geometry; Herbert McConnell, geometry, sloyd, arithmetic; Cliff Phillips, arithmetic, algebra, sloyd; Jack Hurley, arithmetic, algebra, geometry.

Four Honours: Jenny Parkinson, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, sewing; Bruce Cornish, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, sloyd.

Five Honours: Gwen Gray, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, drawing, sewing.

Six Honours: George O'Shea, history, geography, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, science; Doreen Flynn, history, geography, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, science, and Second in Form.

Seven Honours: Eric O'Shea, history, geography, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, science, sloyd, and First in Form.

Form F1.—One Honour: Jean Robertson, needlework; Gladys Wood, needlework; Iris Usher, needlework; Phyllis Sneddon, needlework; Sybil Lee, needlework; Lorna Judd, needlework; Lilian Jarvis, algebra; Kevin Crowley, sloyd; Max Perry, sloyd; Laurie Moran, sloyd.

Two Honours: Eileen Sturtz, algebra, needlework; Phyllis Street, algebra, needlework; Audrey Rice, al-

gebra, needlework; Audrey Rice, algebra, needlework; Maurice McIntosh, algebra, sloyd.

Three Honours: Jean Quartermain, algebra, geometry, needlework; Elwyne Dale, arithmetic, algebra, geometry; Alan Peace, arithmetic, algebra, sloyd; Robert Adams, arithmetic, algebra, sloyd.

Four Honours: Caroline Neil, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, needlework; Winifred Williams, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, needlework.

Five Honours: Wilfred Ludlow, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, science, sloyd.

Six Honours: Olive Marshall, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, science, geography, needlework.

Seven Honours: Colin Jones, English, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, science, geography, sloyd, and Second in Form.

Nine Honours: Doreen McCahon, English, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, science, geography, history, drawing, needlework, and First in Form.

Form E1.—One Honour: Vida Wright, geometry; Emily Weller, geometry; Freda Secomb, algebra; Edith Le Fevre, algebra; Tom Kelly, history; Lloyd Edwards, geometry.

Two Honours: Carol Harris, arithmetic, algebra; Joyce Taylor, French, cooking; Gwen Parker, French, geometry; Norma Anderson, history, cooking; Fred. Limbrick, algebra, sloyd; Donald Jack, geometry, sloyd; Norman Emery, history, sloyd.

Three Honours: Margarethe Christensen, arithmetic, algebra, geometry; Ronald McLerie, algebra, geometry, sloyd; Jeffrey McAfee, geometry, science, sloyd; Clifford Hunt, algebra, geometry, sloyd.

geometry, sloyd.

Four Honours: Martha Burden, history, algebra, geometry, cooking.

Five Honours: Nina Thomson, English, French, arithmetic, geometry, cooking; Marvyn Brumley, French, algebra, geometry, science, sloyd.

Six Honours: Olive Hopkins, history, French, algebra, geometry, science, cooking, and Second in Form.

Seven Honours: Marjorie Glover, English, history, French, algebra, geometry, science, drawing, and First in Form.

Form E2.—One Honour: Lorna Taylor, algebra; Jean Melven, algebra; Connie Hill, cookery; Sylvia Harmer, cookery; Joyce Crump, cookery; Bernard Robert, sloyd; Gilbert Pocknee, sloyd; Herbert Mouat, geometry; Austin Lewin, sloyd; Gilbert Kingsbury, sloyd; Geoffrey Hughes, sloyd.

Two Honours: Doris Melgaard, cookery, French; Peter Donnelly, geometry, sloyd; Eric Kendall, geometry, sloyd; Heather Woolley, cookery, and Second in Form; Laurence Green, geometry, sloyd, and First in Form.

E3 Form.—One Honour: Vera Payne, cookery; Amy Sneddon, cookery; Harold Blake, sloyd; Edwin Ekberg, sloyd; Walter Perry, sloyd; George Smith, sloyd; Ian Twyford, sloyd.

Two Honours: Jean Mitchell, geometry, cookery; Keith Francis, French, sloyd.

Three Honours: Alan Strahan, algebra, geometry, sloyd; Thomas Rothfield, French, arithmetic, algebra, and Second in Form.

Five Honours: Mary Lee, French, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, cooking, and First in Form.

Remove.—One Honour: Rita Cox, cookery; Enid Jeffrey, French; Clare Johnston, cookery; Cavell Maunsell, cookery; Jack Berry, sloyd; Jack Cor-

rigan, sloyd; Jim McGuire, sloyd; Norman Nash, sloyd; Cuthbert Wilcock, sloyd; William Alford, sloyd.

Two Honours: Roma Ellis, French, cookery; George Smith, geometry, sloyd; Keith Angus, algebra, sloyd.

Four Honours: Alfred Robins, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, sloyd; Roma Monti, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, cookery, and Second in Form.

Six Honours: Edward Maudsley, English, French, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, sloyd, and First in Form.

Form Dc.—One Honour: Sydney Herdman, arithmetic; Ettie Sanders, arithmetic and Second in Form.

Three Honours: Nancy Lee, English, French, arithmetic, and First in Form.

Form D.—One Honour: Clare Ryan, arithmetic; Amy Manks, arithmetic; Herbert Smith, arithmetic; William Simpson, arithmetic; William Kelly, arithmetic.

Two Honours: Nita Fleming, arithmetic, geometry; Eva Hempel, arithmetic, geometry; James Lineham, arithmetic, geometry.

Three Honours: Robert Glassborow, arithmetic, geometry, drawing.

Five Honours: Ruth Greening, English, history, arithmetic, geometry, physics, and Second in Form; Stanley Kirk, English, arithmetic, geometry, physics, and First in Form.

Form De.—One Honour: Lucy Alford, geometry; Marie Taylor, French; Jack Hillard, geometry; George Kerr, arithmetic.

Three Honours: Allen McCahon, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, and Second in Form; James Hurley, arithmetic, geometry, and First in Form.

Form Cc.—Two Honours: Clifford Llewellyn, English, geography; Chas. Tivendale, Second in Form; Muriel

Tivendale, Second in Form; Muriel Tomlinson, shorthand theory and First in Form.

Form C.—One Honour: Marjorie Christie, algebra; Jean McAfee, English; Ralph Moran, drawing; Harry Bishop, geometry.

Two Honours: Keith Rice, chemistry drawing; Arthur Farrant, geometry, physics.

Three Honours: Agnes Baird, English, history, French; Ronald Sedsman, English, history, chemistry.

Four Honours: Kathleen Brumley, English, history, French, physics, and Joy Dawson, English, French, algebra, geometry (Equal Second in Form).

Six Honours: Veronica Ryan: English, history, French, algebra, geometry, drawing, and First in Form.

Form B.—One Honour: May Ferguson, geometry; Jean Garlick, geometry; Jean Herbert, Latin; Edward Nabb, drawing.

Two Honours: John Hunter, geometry, chemistry; Frank Asling, English, history.

Three Honours: Nelle Garlick, algebra, geometry, chemistry.

Four Honours: Betty Buckley, English, French, algebra, geometry, and Second in Form; Ruth Lade, English, history, French, geometry, and First in Form.

Form A.—Two Honours: Irene Kingston, algebra, geometry.

Three Honours: Una Russell, English, algebra, chemistry; Roy White, Two Honours—Physics, chemistry, and Kittie Le Fevre, Two Honours—English, geometry (Equal for First in Form).

I.O.R.—James Hurley, first; Olive Hopkins, Dorothy Gregory, Allen McCahon (equal second).

A.N.A. Essay.—Senior: Jean Her-

bert. Junior: Heather Woolley.

Old Students' Prize.—Girls: Una Russell. Boys: Roy White.

Sports Prizes.—Junior Girls: Mary Lee. Boy's: John Berry.

Intermediate: Roslyn Lang, Basil Myring. Senior: Thelma Hocking, John Cahill.

Tennis Championships. — Girls: Irene Kingston, 1; Kathleen Brumley, 2. Boys: Brian Russell, 1; Ronald Sedsman, 2.

The National Anthem concluded the programme.