

Urgent Need For More Accommodation At High School Present Buildings Sorely Overtaxed

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SCHOLASTIC AND SPORTS YEAR REVIEWED AT ANNUAL SPEECH NIGHT

ONE THING more than any other that lifted the Dandenong High School's annual Speech Night this year right out of the ordinary, was the fact that it marked the close of the school's 25th. year of existence. Just what a wonderful educational influence it has had in that time, not only on the youth of the district, but throughout nearer Gippsland, needs no repetition here. Therefore it was with regret that parents learned that the school's capacity for bringing higher education to all seeking it, is likely to be seriously curtained unless much-needed extensions are undertaken immediately. In his report the headmaster stressed that the present accommodation is sorely overtaxed and that there is an urgent need of extensions.. This is no new development and it is not the first time that the overcrowding of the school has been commented upon by the headmaster. Plans for these extensions are being considered—but if hundreds of district children are not to be deprived of their right to a higher education, then it is high time that these much overdue plans were transferred into bricks and mortar.

MR. J. L. GRIFITHS, the popular "head" of the school, noted with pleasure in his annual report that parents are becoming increasingly conscious of the need for higher education. This was reflected in the big increase in the numbers of the Intermediate class last year and prospects that next year's Leaving Form will be the largest in the school's history.

IN the unavoidable absence of Mr. Frank Field, M.L.A., who was to have presented the Honor Certificates, Mr. F. A. Singleton, J.P., chairman of the Advisory Council, performed that task very ably and congratulated both staff and pupils on another outstanding year both in scholastic and sports spheres. (Mr. Field was unable to leave the House, as he was in charge of the Education Bill for the Opposition).

Members of the teaching staff and Advisory Council were gathered on the stage, and the hall was packed with parents and pupils when Mr. J. L. Griffiths, B.A.Dip.Ed., presented the 25th. annual report, as follows:

RECORD ENROLMENT

The school enrolment shows a substantial increase, and again constitutes a record. We have this year a total enrolment of 587 pupils, and the accommodation is sorely overtaxed. It is pleasing to note that the increase is entirely in the Intermediate Certificate form, which shows a rise from 86 last year to 113. It appears that next year the Leaving Certificate form will be much the largest in the school's history. It is pleasing to note that parents are becoming increasingly conscious of the need for higher education for their children, and I look forward to the time when the school will have a large Matriculation form.

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Next year the new Intermediate and Leaving Certificate course become operative, and Matriculation will require a further year at school after the Leaving Certificate year.

At the public examinations in December, 1942, 55 pupils gained the Intermediate Certificate, while 3 others passed in four or more subjects at the higher standard; 23 gained the Leaving Certificate, 22 of these qualifying for Matriculation.

WAR EFFORT

During the year we have again made a substantial contribution to the war effort. The School War Savings Group, consisting of 272 members, has subscribed approximately £300, while as usual we have forwarded £200 to the Education Department's War Relief Fund.

Our hospital egg appeal easily eclipsed all previous records—650 dozen eggs being contributed, of which more than 300 dozen were sent to the local Community Hospital.

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Contributions to the School Improvement Fund have amounted to £50.

The bursaries given by the Dandenong, Berwick and Mulgrave Municipal Councils, and the combined Friendly Societies have again been most helpful, and much appreciated.

URGENT NEED FOR MORE ACCOMMODATION

The school is in urgent need of building extensions, and plans are being considered for adding to the existing accommodation. It is imperative that any such plans should include an Assembly Hall capable of holding the whole school, together with gymnasia (including shower rooms), Common Rooms, and a Library. I regret that these (except perhaps the Library) are not likely to be included unless a substantial sum is raised locally. The need, however, is so urgent that I am certain that the interests of the pupils will not be allowed to suffer because of the Government's failure to appreciate the part that such additions play in the life of a school.

The Ladies' Welfare Club has furnished the boys' sick bay, and we are deeply indebted to its members for their unselfish and very active interest in the school. This was further evidenced on the occasion of the house sports, when they again capably undertook the afternoon tea arrangements. I would commend this club to the ladies who have children at the school. Their work is capable of considerable expansion with an increased membership, and the members have the bond of a common interest, that of the welfare of the school.

The sports were again held on a Saturday, and the large attendance of parents and old pupils completely justified the continuation of the change from a school day.

SPORTING FIELD SUCCESSES

In inter-school sport we have had a very successful year, having won the girls' swimming, boys' swimming, and the aggregate; girls' hockey, senior and junior basketball, senior football, and senior and junior cricket.

At the Combined High Schools' Sports, the girls won the B Section aggregate.

PAST PUPILS IN CASUALTY LISTS

It is with deep regret that we have since last Speech Night read the names of still more past pupils in casualty lists. Sgt. Dudley McLerie, Cpl. Ian Jack, Capt. Harry Bishop are reported

missing, believed prisoners of war.

Leading Supply Assistant Gordon Graham is reported missing in HMAS. Perth, and Leading Stoker Cyril Aumann after the sinking of HMAS. Sydney.

Sgt.-Pilot Robert Swords, Sgt. W. A. G. James and Sgt.-Pilot Stan Smethurst have been killed in aircraft accidents. Sgt. Donald Pollock was killed in air operations over the Bay of Biscay. Fit.-Lieut. W. J. Canterbury was killed while returning from operations North of Australia. Fit.-Lieut. Austin Lewis was killed when his plane was shot down. Pilot-Officer Allan Bishop was killed in a training flight over Edinburgh. Fit.-Sgt. Limbrick was posted missing after an aid raid. Fit.-Sgt. Kenneth James was killed when returning from an air raid over Germany.

Pilot-Officer Kenneth Gray was recently awarded the DFC.

STAFF CHANGES

We are losing the services of three valued members of staff. Miss McLean, who has been at the school for 15 years, is transferring to the MacRobertson Girls' School; while Miss Davey and Mr. Steele are receiving well-merited promotion. These teachers have rendered sterling service to the school, and they will be keenly missed.

The inadequacy of the school building has again made the work of the staff difficult; but they have, one and all, contributed to the maintenance of an excellent standard of achievement.

The thanks of the school are again due to the members of the Advisory Council for their continued interest in all matters relating to the advancement of the best interests of the school."

PRESENTATION OF HONOR CERTIFICATES

To the accompaniment of applause, which gained in volume for the more outstanding achievements, Mr. F. A. Singleton then presented Honor Certificates to 168 pupils, and the ANA. Cup for Athletics to Wattle House, the trophy being received by Wattle's popular captains, Pat Grogan and John Loveridge. Specially bound copies of the school magazine "The Gate," were also presented to the editors, Kathleen Beavis and R. Wilkinson.

lc.—Joy Olney, Math.; Marilyn Secombe, Gen. Sc.; Betty Pryke, Math.,

combe, Gen. Sc.; Betty Pryke, Math., Needlework; Dorothy Wilson, Lat., Math., Gen. Sc.; Joan Aisbett, Lat., Math., Gen. Sc., Hist.; Dorothy Guest, Math. Hist. Needlework, Phys. C.; Judith Kinsella, Gen. Sc., Geog., Hist.; Marjorie Radbone, Math., Gen. Sc., Geog., Hist., Needlework; Jill McGuire, Lat., Math., Geog., Hist., Phy. Cult., Needlework; Noel Dawson, Phy. Cult.; Robert MacLachlan, Phy. Cult.; Roy Pearce, Math.; Norman Walker, Gen. Sc.; David Goodlad, Lat., Math.; Graeme de Graaff, Gen. Sc., Geog., Hist. Drawing; John Cook, Eng., Lat., Math., Gen. Sc., Geog., Hist., Phy. Cult.

1b.—Irene Newsome, Phy. Cult.; Dawn Wilkie, Phy. Cult.; Margaret Rosser, Lat., Drawing, Phy. Cult.; Douglas Clark, Phy. Cult.; Frederick Cowan, Phy. Cult.; Gilbert Savory, Phy. Cult.; Graeme Wheelhouse, Math., Phy. Cult.; Edward Wilson, Math., Gen. Sc., Geog.

1a.—Bernice Murphy, Phy. Cult.; Dorothy Quickensted, Phy. Cult.; Margaret MacDonald, Lat., Geog., Phy. Cult.; Patel Scholz, Lat., Math., Geog., Phy. Cult.; Beverley Vauce, Eng., Lat., Math., Geog., Needlework; Deidre Lay, Eng., Lat., Math., Gen. Sc., Geog., Hist., Needlework; Dorothy Smith, Eng., Lat., Math., Gen. Sc., Geog., Hist., Needlework; Thelma Walker, Eng., Lat., Math., Gen. Sc., Geog., Hist., Needlework, Phy. Cult.; Graeme Bright, Geog.; Clive Pointon, Math.; Keith Robinson, Lat., Math., Geog.; Ian Stewart, Gen. Sc., Geog., Hist.; Wilfred Williams, Lat., Math., Gen. Sc.; Keith Anderson, Eng., Lat., Math., Geog., Phy. Cult.; Loxam McGrath, Lat., Math., Gen. Sc., Geog., Phy. Cult.; John Brook, Eng., Lat., Math., Gen. Sc., Geog., Hist.; Fred Warr, Lat.; Bruce Kennedy, Lat., Math., Gen. Sc., Phy. Cult.

11c.—Valma Varney, Lat., Eng., French, Hist., Phy. Cult.

11b.—Joan Cottle, Phy. Cult.; Irene White, French, Phy. Cult.; Bernice Wight, Lat., French, Geom.

11a.—Nellie Bunting, French; Iris Cooper, Phy. Cult.; Muriel Gardiner, Phy. Cult.; Joy Hadley, Phy. Cult.; Gwen Holt, Phy. Cult.; Heilala Harris, Phy. Cult.; Margaret Bumpstead, Eng., French; Ruth Males, Alg., Phy. Cult.; Betty Tilley, Alg., Phy. Cult.; Olive Egerton, French, Alg., Phy. Cult.; Lorna Crabbe, French, Arith., Geom., Gen. Sc.; Noelle Hurst, French, Alg., Geom., Drawing; Norma Nunn, Eng., French, Hist., Phy. Cult.; Helen Oswell, Eng., French, Geom., Hist.; Mary Sherriff, French, Alg., Geom., Phy. Cult.; Joan McKeon, Lat., Alg., Geom., Gen. Sc., Hist.; Helen Wilson, Eng., French,

Gen. Sc., Hist.; Helen Wilson, Eng., French, Arith., Alg., Geom., Hist.; Rosalie Brown, Eng., Lat., French, Arith., Alg., Geom., Gen. Sc.; Naomi Ward, Eng., French, Arith., Alg., Geom., Hist., Draw., Phy. Cult.; Gordon Howard, Geom.; Geoffrey Hughes, French; James Russell, Phy. Cult.; Keith Walker, French; Peter Waters, Geom.; Geoffrey Dawson, Geom., Phy. Cult.; John Duke, Gen. Sc., Phy. Cult.; Alexander Hepworth, Lat., French; Laurence Brown, Arith., Geom., Phy. Cult.; Graeme McCahon, Alg., Geom., Phy. Cult.; Noel McPherson, Alg., Geom., Hist.; Arthur Stephens, Arith., Alg., Gen. Sc., Phy. Cult.; Philip Newell, Eng., French, Arith., Geom., Gen. Sc.; Stuart Brown, Eng., French, Arith., Alg., Geom., Gen. Sc., Hist., Phy. Cult.

111d.—Jean Kamp, French; Louie Linford, Eng., Arith.; Harry Hughes, French, Gen. Sc.

111c.—Ethel Crosby, Alg.; June Good, French; Margaret Gorwell, French; Joan Morgan, French; Valmai St. Clair, Alg.; Ruth Archer, Alg., Phy. Cult.; Winsome Clucas, Shorthand, Phy. Cult.; Shirley Gaskett, Com. Prin. and Prac.; Shorthand; Helen Law, Shorthand, Phy. Cult.; Marion Moore, Alg. Shorthand; Margaret Warr, Alg., Geog.; Shirley Watson, Alg., Phy. Cult.; Rosalie Forbes, French, Alg., Shorthand; Mora Richardson, French, Arith., Alg., Geog., Com. Prin. and Prac.; Dorothy Thewlis, Arith., Alg., Geog., Com. Prin. and Prac., Shorthand; Margaret Gearon, French, Alg., Hist., Com. Prin. and Prac., Shorthand, Phy. Cult.; Ruth Finch, French, Arith., Alg., Hist., Geog., Com. Prin. and Prac., Shorthand, Phy. Cult.; Audrey Kent, Eng., French, Arith., Alg., Hist., Geog., Com. Prin. and Prac., Shorthand.

111b.—William Watson, Eng., French, Geom., Hist., Phy. Cult.

111a.—Hilda James, Alg.; Joan Lynch, Phy. Cult.; Wilma Jeffers, Alg., Geom.; Nancy Ferguson, French, Arith., Geom., Geog.; Wilma Trewern, French, Alg., Geom., Phy. Cult.; Helen McRae, Lat., French, Arith., Geom., Hist.; Norma Murphy, Lat., French, Alg., Geom., Phy. Cult.; June Young, French, Arith., Alg., Geom., Phy. Cult.; June Bawden, French, Arith., Alg., Geom., Geog., Phy. Cult.; Diana Dow, Eng., French, Alg., Geom., Hist., Drawing; Beryl Jarvis, Lat., French, Arith., Alg., Geom., Phy. Cult.; Marjorie Webster, Lat., French, Arith., Alg., Geom., Phy. Cult.; Mary Murphy, Eng., Lat., French, Arith., Draw., Alg., Geom.; Shirley De Graaff, Eng., Lat., French, Arith., Alg., Geom., Gen. Sc.

Geom.; Shirley De Graan, Eng., Lat., French, Arith., Alg., Geom., Gen. Sc., Hist., Drawing, Phy. Cult.; William Williams, Phy. Cult.; Kenneth Dickinson, Arith., Alg., Geom.; Maxwell Gregory, Arith., Geom., Geog., Phy. Cult.; Frank O'Shea, Alg., Geom., Hist., Phy. Cult.; Donald Jackson, French, Arith., Alg., Geom., Gen. Sc.; William Stanhope, Arith., Alg., Geom., Hist., Phy. Cult.; Maxwell West, Arith., Alg., Geom., Geog., Phy. Cult.

IV.c.—Lorna Pink, Alg.; Norma Wood, Com. Princ. and Prac.; Ruth Goldsack, Arith., Com. Princ. and Prac.; Greta Allison, Alg., Com. Princ. and Prac., Typewriting, Shorthand; Dorothy Wight, Arith., Alg., Com. Princ. and Prac., Shorthand; Shirley Lewis, French, Arith., Hist., Com. Princ. and Prac., Shorthand; Heather McPherson, French, Geog., Com. Princ. and Prac.; Shorthand; Phy. Cult.; Dorothy Walker, Hist., Com. Princ. and Prac.; Typewriting, Shorthand, Mus. Appreciation, Phy. Cult.

IVb.—Connie Seccombe, Eng., Alg., Geog.; Brian Logan, Geog.

IVa.—Elizabeth Allison, French; Joyce Little, Alg.; Jean Watson, Arith.; Iris Aisbett, Alg., Hist.; Mavis McMillan, Arith., Geog.; Patricia Dow, Eng., Lat., French, Hist.; Shirley Ward, Lat., French, Arith., Alg., Phy. Cult.; Betty Beavis, Lat., French, Arith., Alg., Phy. Sc.; Hist.; Jean Browne, Lat., French, Arith., Alg., Geom., and Trig., Phy. Sc., Hist., Phy. Cult.; Hazel Gascoigne, Lat., French, Arith., Alg., Geom. and Trig., Hist., Draw., Phy. Cult.; Stewart Jones, Arith., Phy. Sc.; Maxwell Clements, Alg., Geog., Phy. Cult.; Noel Courtney, French, Alg., Drawing; Eric Mitchell, Alg., Phy. Sc., Phy. Cult.; Keith Douglas, French, Arith., Alg., Hist.; Kenneth Masterton, French, Arith., Alg., Geom. and Trig.; Noel Fletcher, Lat., French, Arith., Alg., Phy. Sc.; John Heath, French, Arith., Alg., Phy. Sc., Phy. Cult.

V.—Doris Champion, French; Isobel McQueen, French; Joyce Parkhill, Math. II.; Nancy Gardiner, French, Math. II., Com. Princ. and Prac.; Claire Cornish, Eng., Lat., French, Math. II., Chemistry; Fergus Black, Math. II.; Robert Canterbury, Math. II.; Brian Motton, Math. II.; Frederick Rogers, Math. II.; Robert Wills, Eng., Frank Spooner, Physics, Chemistry; Geog., Math. II.

VI.—Frances Miles, Physics; Ivy Mitchell, French, Lat.; Kathleen Beavis, Eng., French; Drawing; Gillian Ward, Eng., Math., Physics; Edward Reedy, Eng.; Morris Masters, Physics, Chemistry; Ronald Wilkinson, Physics, Chemistry.

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Cr. J. C. Mills (shire president) and Mr. E. C. Butler proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Singleton for assuming the leading role of the night at such short notice and performing his duty so well. Mr. Butler said that Mr. F. A. Singleton had been chairman of the High School Advisory Council for over 20 years and was one of those who had taken a keen interest in anything pertaining to the High School. They all appreciated the work he had done for it. (Applause).

The vote of thanks was carried by acclamation.

In responding, Mr. Singleton said that nobody regretted more than he did that Mr. Field had not been able to be present, for many were keenly anticipating the address of this brilliant lawyer on this occasion. Continuing, Mr. Singleton said that he was somewhat amazed to find that this was the school's 25th. annual speech night. The speakers had kindly made reference to his association with the school. He thought he and Mr. McAfee were the only two remaining members of the original committee. In looking back over the past 25 years, he believed the Dandenong High School had played a very important part in giving many young men and women holding responsible positions today, a very fine start in equipping them with the essential foundation of a good education. This year had been no exception to past successes and the number of pupils who had received their Intermediate and Leaving Certificates indicated to him that the staff had again done its work faithfully and efficiently. (Applause).

Mr. Singleton then addressed himself to the pupils. Nothing very much was achieved in life without work, he told them, and that applied to school. "I say to our young people of tomorrow, you are living in strange days—in times of great opportunities—and you young people have wonderful facilities to find yourself later on among those opportunities. But a strong responsibility rests on you, and I want every boy and girl to accept that responsibility. . . There is more to education than knowing a little, and being able to solve a mathematical problem. It is not to be regarded as just something with which to make money, for life cannot be assessed in terms of £.s.d. We want your education to make you good citizens; to fit you to make a contribution of citizenship to the country to which you belong. True patriotism is not in seeing what you can get out of a country, but what you can

TRUE PATRIOTISM IS NOT IN SEEING WHAT YOU can get out of a country, but what you can put into it." (Applause).

The second half of the programme was given over to impressive choral numbers by the scholars, a one-act play in which the principal parts were taken by Stewart Jones, Norma Keetley, Betty Fisher, Mora Richardson and Pam Chadwick, and a splendid physical culture display by the boys.

Mr. J. L. Griffiths, the headmaster, will be in attendance at the school on Tuesday, February 1, to enrol new pupils.