

CAMBERWELL HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

News Bulletin

May, 1962

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EDITORIAL

This year, Camberwell High School records its highest enrolment since the school first opened, with almost 900 students in attendance. As the Principal, Mr. R. W. Andrews, has pointed out in this Bulletin, such numbers have taxed accommodation and made it necessary to increase the size of classes.

With conditions such as these, it is obvious that maximum cooperation between school and home is needed to ensure that our children benefit as fully as possible from the instruction offered them. While continuing to press for improved accommodation, for smaller classes and better school facilities, we as parents must realise the difficulties under which both students and teachers are working. There are many aspects of school life in which we can profitably take a personal interest. On June 18th, our Association is arranging a function where parents and teachers may meet in a congenial atmosphere and talk over these topics.

At the end of June this year, the three year period of the present Advisory Council expires, and parents will have an opportunity of electing five members to represent them on the new Council for the ensuing three years. The Advisory Council is a statutory body, comprising 12 members: 2 nominated by local councils, 5 nominated by the District Inspector and the Principal to represent local interests, and 5 elected by parents or guardians of pupils at the school. The District Inspector of Schools is a member *ex officio*, and the Principal acts as secretary to the Council.

Parents thus have every opportunity of representation on what is, in many fields, the governing body of the school. They will be invited early in June, through the school, to submit nominations, and subsequently to attend a meeting at which the 5 parent representatives will be elected. While the Parent's Association as such is not directly represented on the Council, the following members of the committee have expressed their willingness to accept nomination: Mr. R. D. Key, Mr. H. Halstead, Mr. E. K. Horwood, Mr. K. Noldt and Mr. J. Wright.

We urge all parents to make use of their right to nominate and elect representatives to the new Advisory Council, and hope for a wide response to the notice which will be circulated next month by the Principal.

NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

ENROLMENT

The enrolment at the beginning of this year was 891, being an increase of 53 pupils on the figure at the corresponding time last year. This is the largest enrolment since the school opened, and the increase over that of last year is due mainly to the fact that a greater percentage than usual of students in the senior forms have returned to school. Accommodation is severely taxed and classes are large in numbers. The distribution of pupils is as follows:— Form VI—134; Form V—191; Form IV—204; Form III—189; Form II—87 and Form I—86.

STAFF

Many changes of staff have occurred. These have been brought about mainly by retirement, resignation, promotion or transfer of former teachers and the filling of the vacancies thus created. Members of last year's staff who have left the school are Messrs. A. Green, R. Orgill, D. Collins, E. Conway, G. Smith, V. Soloduhin and L. Costermans, and Misses J. Cother, J. Morley and Mrs. Hobill. New members of staff this year are Mr. Markham (Senior Master), Messrs. M. O'Brien, A. Fugsley, M. Wade, N. Hogg, Mrs. Crooks, Mrs. Haslem, Misses J. Firth, R. Sparber and H. Leckie. Mr. Hogg and Miss Firth are former students of the school.

SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENTS

At the annual examinations last year 75 students qualified for Matriculation, and three Exhibitions, 24 first-class honours and 69 second-class honours were obtained.

Awards gained as a result of these examinations included 2 Senior Scholarships, 24 Commonwealth Scholarships, 1 Dafydd Lewis Scholarship, 2 Free Places, 12 Secondary Studentships for a University Degree course, 2 Secondary Art & Crafts Studentships, 1 Secondary Physical Education Studentship, and 22 Studentships for Primary or Infant Teachers' Courses.

At the Public Examinations 120 students qualified for the Leaving Certificate and 141 for the Intermediate Certificate. Special awards gained as a result of these examinations included 13 Matriculation Bursaries, 13 Leaving Certificate Bursaries, 2 Shell Company Bursaries, 2 State Savings Bank Bursaries, 1 National Mutual Life Assurance Co. Bursary, and 1 Bank Education

Service Bursary. We also gained for the second year in succession the Constable Howell Memorial Scholarship.

Outstanding successes at the Matriculation Examination were gained by Sally White and Harry Hopkins, both of whom were awarded General Exhibitions and Senior Scholarships, and by Katrina Walter who won the Exhibition in Art.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Under the genial chairmanship of the President of the Advisory Council, Cr. R. C. Cooper, the annual induction of prefects, house captains and form captains was carried out with its customary ceremonial and dignity. The badges of office of the members of those respective groups were presented by the Mayor of Camberwell, Cr. Neville Lee, the Mayor of Hawthorn, Cr. Keith Miller and Mrs. R. C. Cooper. The items presented by the senior choir and the massed singing by the school were very pleasing and added to the impressiveness of the function.

To mark the beginning of the work in Christian Education for the new school year, a special service was again held in the Trinity Presbyterian Church. Unfortunately fewer instructors are available this year for the weekly lessons in the classrooms for this very important aspect of education and some classes are at present without instructors. This year, however, has seen an extension of this work in that instruction has been provided for the first time for members of the Catholic and Jewish faiths.

In the field of music there has been considerable activity. The Senior Choir provided items at the induction of the prefects and at the church service, and the boys formed portion of the choir that sang at the Schools' Anzac Day Service conducted by Legacy at the Shrine of Remembrance. A group of Form III students attended the Schools' Orchestral Concert conducted by the Australian Broadcasting Commission. The annual House Choral Competitions are to be held in the Hawthorn Town Hall on the afternoon of June 26th, and at 8 p.m. on the same day the choirs will repeat these items to an audience of parents and friends.

Form V Geography classes have participated in two excursions this term—one to the Inner and Outer Harbours of the Port of Melbourne Authority and one to Studley Park. Groups of Forms V and VI students have attended performances of the plays "One Day of the Year" and "The School for Scandal". Arrangements have also been made for English classes to attend special screenings of films of plays and novels that they are studying this year, and for the senior Physics and Chemistry classes to see films dealing with modern developments in those sciences.

GROUNDS IMPROVEMENTS

Apart from the work on the school oval undertaken by the Advisory Council, the lawns in front and at the side of the main school building have recently been hoed and re-sown with grass. This work is financed from funds available to the Principal and will greatly improve the appearance of the school surroundings.

HOMEWORK

Shortly after the re-opening of school a homework timetable was issued, as usual, to all pupils. This set out the subjects to be studied each night and the length of time to be given to each subject and it also indicated the various types of activity that such homework might embrace. This year we requested pupils to ask their parents to sign the timetable and we solicited the cooperation of parents in discussing and arranging with their children the most convenient and suitable times and conditions for the homework to be done.

The performance of written exercises, the revision of new work from class notes, text and reference books, and the systematic review and self-examination by the pupil of topics dealt with earlier in the term are necessary if pupils are to keep abreast of their work. It is an incentive to pupils if parents take an interest in their school work and the development of sound and systematic habits of study is essential for scholastic success.

SPORTING NEWS

BOYS

The first term at Camberwell High School is highlighted by the Victorian High Schools' rowing regatta and the House and School swimming carnivals. For the fifth successive year the school First VIII won the Head of the River. This is an outstanding achievement and a tribute to the skill and enthusiasm of the coach, Mr. D. Gibb, and the crews.

Once again we held a very successful Inter-House swimming carnival at the Camberwell Baths and were pleased to see many parents present. At the Inter-School sports our boys came a very creditable fourth.

The tennis team had a good season in the singles competition, while the cricket team, although not winning many games, has a nucleus of young players which should provide the basis for a strong team next season.

GIRLS

The outstanding feature this year has been the success of the swimming team. Once again we won the aggregate of the combined swimming sports of the Central Division of the M.H.S.S.A. held at the Olympic Pool. This was due to the splendid performance of the relay teams, as well as to some fine individual wins. We were also well represented at other carnivals, namely the All Schools Sports and the All High Schools Sports.

Matches have been played against University High School, Brighton High School and Mac Robertson Girls' High School in softball and tennis. Perhaps the time spent in hard practice will bear fruit next season.

We were proud to learn that Lois Barton has been chosen at the champion State junior athlete. Glenys Beasley (a former pupil) continues to dominate women's athletics in this State and she has been elected the champion senior athlete.

WHAT THE ADVISORY COUNCIL IS DOING

The first stage of the improvements to the school oval was completed recently. The work involved the grading of the oval, the laying of agricultural pipes for drainage purposes, the extension of the existing reticulation system, top dressing and the sowing of seed. The strike of the seed was excellent and the appearance of the oval before water restrictions were imposed was very pleasing. With the long, hot and dry summer and autumn the grass dried off considerably, but it has picked up well since the recent break in the weather. The Council is seeking advice from the Burnley School of Horticulture on the most effective manner of controlling or eradicating weed growth on the new oval.

The next stage of the planned improvements, namely, the construction of retaining walls and a terrace along the eastern boundary of the oval to prevent erosion and to provide accommodation for spectators, is now receiving consideration.

Investigations are also being made concerning the lining with timber of the walls of the gymnasium to a suitable height, and its ventilation and thermal insulation. An inspection has been made by officers of the C.S.I.R.O. Division of Building Research, who are submitting to the Advisory Council their recommendations on the most effective solution to the ventilation and insulation problem.

Additional funds will be required to carry out these works, and early in June the Advisory Council proposes to make a Direct Appeal to parents.

The period of tenure of office of the present members of the School Advisory Council will expire on 30th June. Prior to that date all parents will be notified, through the School, of a meeting of parents and guardians which will be held to elect five representatives of the parents to the new Advisory Council.

The new committee has now set up six standing sub-committees, which will concern themselves particularly with the following fields of activity: Membership, Finance, Secretarial, Public Relations, Equipment & General Maintenance, Syllabus and Meetings. Each sub-committee has a nucleus of 3-4 committee members, but it is hoped that, as each develops its own field of work, it will be able to draw upon the advice and assistance of interested people among the general membership of the Association.

It is pleasing to be able to report that at this stage of the year we already have a financial membership of 460. However, it is obvious that this by no means covers all parents, and we would like to welcome many more as members of our Association.

The principal function held during Term I consisted of a panel discussion, on April 16th, when Professor Zelman Cowen, Dr. Jean Battersby, Rev. Chester Martin and Mr. Roy Muncey entertained a capacity audience in the school gymnasium with their opinions in answer to questions on broad aspects of education put to them by parents in the hall. The discussion was both stimulating and enlightening, and our thanks go to all members of the panel, as well as to Mr. J. Lewis, of the teaching staff, who with the help of students organised the seating and technical arrangements for the evening.

On May 14th, an illustrated talk entitled "From Berlin to Moscow" was given by Mr. L. D. Bowie, a Melbourne school teacher who, with his wife and two British university students, recently made a car trip through Eastern Europe. Mr. Bowie gave interesting impressions of education in the countries through which he travelled and his colour slides completed a fascinating evening.

The programme planned for Term II is already a very full one, with functions of both social and school interest. Further details will be circulated early in the term, but we suggest that you make a note of the dates now:

Saturday, June 9th, at 8 p.m.: Crazy Whist Evening at the home of Mr. & Mrs. B. Pettigrew, 3 Norfolk Rd., Surrey Hills.

Monday, June 18th, at 8 p.m.: Parent-Teacher Evening at the school. Various teachers will discuss the study of their subject throughout the school, and parents are invited to meet the staff during a social hour following the talks.

Friday, July 13th, at 7.45 p.m.: Picture Night at the Balwyn Theatre, (programme to be announced).

Monday, August 13th, at 8 p.m.: Address by Mr. Eric Westbrook, Director of the National Gallery of Victoria, on "Art and Culture".

We should like to express our appreciation of the support given by our principal, Mr. R. Andrews, and by all members of the staff, in helping us to establish contact with the parents of the school. We hope too that we may see you all at our forthcoming functions.

THE WORK OF THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

This year's programme began on February 19th, when the Association's annual general meeting was attended by some 80 members. After a welcome by the President and a brief statement of the work of the Parents' Association, an amended constitution was introduced by Mr. K. Noldt and adopted after discussion. The election of the 1962 committee followed, and it is indicative of the wide interest shown in the Association that eleven new members have this year joined the committee. For your information, the names and phone numbers of the office bearers and the committee members are shown later in this Bulletin. Each of them would be happy to hear from any parents who have proposals or problems in which the Association could assist.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

Two very well attended meetings were held during the past term. That on February 26th was a social to welcome mothers old and new. Mrs. Ellis welcomed the more than 80 parents present, and our guests on this occasion were Mr. and Mrs. Andrews, and Miss McMillan, each of whom gave a short address.

March 28th was the annual general meeting, when a new committee and office bearers were elected. Their names are listed later in this Bulletin. Following the election, Mrs. Marsland gave a demonstration of the "Arrangement of Dried Leaves and Flowers", a boon to mothers when flowers are scarce.

On April 17th, the Auxiliary arranged a visit to the Bambi Smith Studio, which proved to be a most entertaining and successful morning. On May 1st, Mrs. K. Horwood lent her home for a luncheon attended by more than 100 members, despite the unpleasant weather. Herring casseroles were provided by Commodities Ltd. as a demonstration of their wares, while committee members supplied the dessert.

A Staff Afternoon Tea, held at the school on May 10th to enable mothers to meet members of the staff informally, proved as usual to be a great success.

The following functions have been arranged for Term II:

June 27th: Talk by Miss Horne, Principal "Larnook" Domestic Science Teachers' College.

July 25th: Birthday Social.

August 22nd: Kelvinator Afternoon, with films, hints and give-aways.

Education Week: Open Day—opportunity tables, bring a gift & buy a gift.

The Auxiliary has recently purchased an electric urn to be used by ourselves and the Parents' Association for various functions.

Mothers are reminded that second hand uniforms are available at the school gymnasium on the first day of term and on the first Monday of each month, between 12-1 p.m. Enquiries may be made of Mrs. Noldt (WB 4542).

New members are always welcome at our monthly meetings which are held at the Highfield Rd. Methodist Church Hall at 1.30 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Please accept this as a warm personal invitation to attend.

OLD STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

At the Annual Meeting of the Association held on 28th March, the following Office Bearers were elected:

President — Graham Morris
Vice Pres. — Geoff Shaw
Secretary — Diane Tuckfield
Asst. Sec. — 'None Lovitt
Treasurer — Don Collie

Committee Members:

Ashley Thompson, Lesley Brewer, Elizabeth Marks, Beverley Harrison, Glenys McKenry, Joy Mortcn, Richard Coppin, David Taylor, Ian Jenkins, Bruce Robb, Barrie Baker, Geoff James.

The annual subscription is 5/- which may be paid to any member of the Committee or to Miss Diane Tuckfield at Camberwell High School.

The Committee is at present making arrangements for the holding of a Ball on 2nd August. Would those interested in attending please contact any member of the Committee as soon as possible so that final arrangements may be made?

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE 1962

President: Mr. R. D. Key (83-7048)

Vice-Presidents: Mrs. H. Ewart (83-5737)
Mr. M. Jackson (29-3463)
Mr. K. Noldt (82-4542)

Secretary: Mrs. L. Robb (83-8208)

Asst. Sec. Mrs. G. Hipgrave (83-7855)

Treasurer: Mr. B. Pettigrew (83-8391)

Committee Members:

Mr. & Mrs. H. Halstead (29-7226), Mr. G. Hipgrave (83-7855), Mrs. U. Key (83-7048), Mrs. V. Noldt (82-4542), Mrs. B. Pettigrew (83-8391), Mrs. N. Ellis (82-4250), Mr. & Mrs. K. Horwood (83-4946), Mr. H. Peowrie (28-1638), Mr. H. Messer (83-7339), Mrs. J. McKenzie (29-1729), Mr. F. Horwood (83-2776), Mrs. L. Janosi (28-1228), Mr. T. Hogan (89-3254), Mr. J. Wright (82-2173), Dr. W. Savige (83-7034), Mr. S. Herdman (83-5710).

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY COMMITTEE 1962

President: Mrs. V. Noldt (82-4542)

Vice-President: Mrs. J. Gilbert (83-4225)

Imm. Past Pres.: Mrs. N. Ellis (82-4250)

Secretary: Mrs. E. Jackson (29-3463)

Treasurer: Mrs. W. Williams (83-5417)

Asst. Sec.: Mrs. T. Robinson (83-1594)

Asst. Treas.: Mrs. N. Moffatt (83-3098)

Committee Members:

Mrs. L. Brewer (29-4657), Mrs. K. Horwood (83-4946), Mrs. E. Wilson (—), Mrs. A. Lovell (83-8902), Mrs. F. Downing (83-1742), Mrs. F. B. Anderson (82-3520), Mrs. V. Garrard (28-2341).