

CAMBERWELL HIGH SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT, 1964

ENROLMENT

The net enrolment on 30th June this year was 834, the distribution of pupils in the various forms being as follows: Form I, 85; Form II, 85; Form III, 176; Form IV, 198; Form V, 157; and Form VI, 133. A total of 268 new pupils was admitted during the year; of these 84 were exit pupils from Grade VI of primary schools and were enrolled in Form I, 86 were exit pupils from Form II of central schools and were enrolled in Form III, and the remainder were transferees from other schools.

As has been the case for several years, only approximately two-thirds of those seeking admission to Form I were able to be accommodated but, this year, the new high schools at Wattle Park and Kew provided some relief to the pressure on our school at Form III standard, and have made possible some revision of the school zones both at the Form I and Form III levels.

The pressure of accommodation arises not only from the increasing numbers of pupils seeking education at the secondary level but also from the greatly increasing numbers of pupils who are remaining at secondary schools for longer periods of time than formerly. Evidence of this latter marked influence is revealed by the fact that whereas in 1955 there were 1095 matriculation pupils in State high schools, representing 8.7% of the original 1950 Form I intake, in 1964 there were 6031 matriculation pupils, representing 22.3% of the original 1959 Form I intake.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Last year I was pleased to report that the Education Department had promised to erect a substantial new class-room block which would include improved science facilities, and that the Advisory Council had made representations that an assembly hall be incorporated in, or associated with, the proposed new building or the existing main building. The realization of these projects depends on the amount of money available to the Education Department for building purposes and on the determination of priorities for such works by the Department. The urgency of the needs of this school is constantly being brought to the attention of the Minister and his Departmental officers and the Minister has now given approval in principle for a special grant of up to £30,000, on the basis of a grant of £3 by the Government to £1 contributed by the school, towards the cost of the erection of an Assembly Hall. In order to raise the school's contribution a Camberwell High School Co-operative Ltd. has now been formed and organized. The shares have been underwritten by members of the Advisory Council and a bank credit of £10,000 is now available. The provision of an assembly hall is a major need of the school and the generous support of parents is solicited to meet the school's commitments.

A major developmental work that was undertaken this year involved the construction of retaining walls and terracing of the area on the eastern boundary of the oval. The total cost was approximately £2756, towards which sum the Minister of Education made a special grant of £1358. The work has greatly improved the appearance and usefulness of this area, has provided spectator terraces for sporting events, and has increased the utility of the oval itself.

SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Outstanding successes were obtained by our students at the examinations conducted by the University, University Colleges, and the Education Department at the end of last year.

At the Matriculation examination, 78 students passed the examination and 5 exhibitions, 47 first class and 94 second class honours were obtained. Awards gained as a result of this examination included four senior scholarships, 34 Commonwealth scholarships, one Australian National University scholarship, the Shell Company scholarship, 10 secondary teaching studentships for a University degree course, two Art and Craft studentships, one physical education studentship and 14 Primary or Infant Studentships.

At the Public Examinations, 105 students qualified for the Leaving Certificate. Special awards based on the results of the public examinations included six matriculation bursaries and seven leaving bursaries. Five Nursing Bursaries were awarded to our students.

The merit of the achievements of four of our matriculation students may be gauged from the fact that they gained four of the thirty general exhibitions and four of the forty senior scholarships that were open for competition to all matriculation candidates throughout the State. In addition, one of these students gained first place in the State in Matriculation Physics and was awarded the very valuable Shell Company Scholarship.

Special awards were gained by the following students:—

Special Exhibitions—Physics—John Dobson.

General Exhibitions and Senior Scholarships—John Dobson, Anthony McMahon, Helen Daniel, Elijah Moshinsky.

Australian National University Scholarships—Christine Wansbrough (Oriental Studies).

Shell Company Scholarship—John Dobson.

Melbourne University College Scholarships—Major Resident Scholarships—Helen Daniel (Newman College), Christine Wansbrough (Janet Clarke Hall), Elijah Moshinsky (Ormond College), Minor Resident Scholarship—Margaret Sulzberger (Women's College).

Commonwealth Scholarships—David Abrahams, Malcolm Anderson, Jennifer Brewer, Malcolm Cooper, Michael Counihan, Helen Daniel, John Dobson, Peter Doughty, Robin Fellows, Geoffrey Gardner, Ian Goddard, David Grant, Rodney Guy, Graham Hubbert, Geoffrey Johnson, Elaine Key, Brian Lovell, Robert Martin, Anthony McMahon, John Meek, Robert Morrison, Elijah Moshinsky, Andrew Nickson, Linton Peterson, Alan Rennie, Peter Riedel, Karl Schiffman, Susan Shore, Robert Somerville, Margaret Sulzberger, Harold Unger, Esme White, Stephen Wilkins, Bruce Woolley. (34).

Studentships (Secondary) for University Degree Course—Malcolm Anderson, Jeffrey Burman, Michael Counihan, Carolyn Jeffrey, Dianne Noldt, Andrew Nickson, Heather Robb, Roger Simon, Fay Harper, Mathew Remyn.

Art and Craft Studentships—Esme White, Jennifer White.

Physical Education Studentships—Gundars Tilmanis.

Primary or Infant Studentships—Jennifer Brewer, Monika Bruttel, Judith Burgoyne, Jane Durst, Brendan Egan, Max Layton, Robert Morrison, Marguerite Neagle, Janette Price, Andrea Savige, Roslyn Smith, Suzanne White, Judith Worrall, Glenis Caulfield.

Matriculation Bursaries—James Brown, Helen Calder, Peter Gronn, Graeme Johanson, Helene Paizes, Wilhelmina Vandenberg.

Leaving Bursaries—Georgina Adamson, Kenneth Boucher, Ann Mackenzie, Robyn Owen, Anne Rintoul, Margaret Miller, Roger Westh.

Constable Howell Memorial Scholarship—John Reeves.

BOYS' SPORT

One of the most encouraging features of this year has been the keen interest taken by the boys in all phases of sport. To a large extent this has been due to enthusiastic staff members who have so willingly given their time to coaching and supervising.

Summer sport commenced with Churchill winning the Inter-House Swimming Carnival. Although the overall results of the Central Division Sports were disappointing, several fine performances were given by members of our team, particularly by Chris Robb and Bill Clarke.

Eighty-five swimming and life-saving awards, including 16 Junior and 25 Senior Education Department Certificates and 44 Royal Life Saving awards, were gained by boys during the year.

The first eleven completed a successful season and finished in third place in the Central Division of the M.H.S.S.A. Notable performances were those of captain John Harris, who was selected in the All High Schools' team for the second year in succession, and of Ian Coles, who was second in the division's bowling averages.

At the Annual High Schools' Rowing Regatta conducted on the Yarra, the first eight finished third behind Melbourne and University. The second eight had a good win in its event. A pleasing feature of the rowing this year is that the performances of our young rowers appears to indicate that the school again has bright rowing prospects.

During the winter we fielded three football teams and teams in baseball, basketball, soccer, tennis and hockey. The first eighteen, after showing good form in practice matches, was unfortunate to win only one competition game as some losses were by very small margins indeed. The seconds lost only one game and finished in equal first place. At the end of the season, Michael Conyers and John Butler were selected in the All High Schools' team in the annual match against the Public Schools. Other winter sports teams had their share of successes, particularly the baseball and hockey teams,

which both finished in third place. The under-15 football team which played on Saturday mornings under coach, Mr. Nash, finished in third place behind University and Melbourne High Schools. Another team which took part in Saturday morning competition was the under-16 baseball team which was sponsored by the Melbourne Baseball Club in the Victorian Baseball Association's junior competition.

The Inter-House Athletic Sports were won by Macarthur House. This carnival proved to be one of the most successful for years, twenty records being broken. The boys put up a fine showing at the Central Division sports, finishing in third place in the aggregate and breaking records in two events. John Tilmanis won the open javelin event with a record throw of 203 feet 7 inches—just 10 inches short of the Australian record. At the All High Schools' meeting Camberwell had several representatives and won three events, including the under-16 years javelin throw in which Andrew Reid established a new record of 162 feet 7 inches. At the All Schools' meeting, Alex Gusbeth won the under-17 shot put and the under-17 javelin throw.

One of the features of the sporting year was the visit to War-ragul High School at the end of second term. The sporting honours were evenly divided, with our boys winning the baseball, losing the football and playing a draw in the soccer.

This year several boys recorded outstanding performances in outside competition. In the Victorian Gymnastic Championships, Chris Robb won the 'C' grade Men's Individual Championship, while Michael Jenkins took third place in the same event. Ray Ellis was placed third in the "B" grade championship.

This year Chris Robb also won the Australian junior highboard and springboard diving titles.

Our warmest congratulations are extended to former student, Ian Mills, who was a member of the water polo team which represented Australia at the Olympic Games at Tokyo this year. Ian matriculated in 1962 and is now in his second year of training as the holder of an Education Department's studentship for the Diploma of Physical Education.

Regular mowing by the Camberwell City Council, to whom we desire to express our thanks, has greatly helped in maintaining the oval in good condition and, with the improved facilities provided by the school, has led to a generally higher standard of sport this year.

GIRLS' SPORT, 1964

Interest in sport has been very keen this year in both house sport within the school and in the inter-school competitions.

From the House Swimming Sports, in which four previous records were broken, a school swimming team was selected to compete in the Central Division Swimming Carnival of the M.H.S.S.A. Camberwell won the junior section and was placed third and fourth in the Intermediate and Senior sections respectively. In the aggregate we were placed third and, out of a total number of thirty-five events, Camberwell gained places in twenty-three, including five first places. These winners then went on to compete in the All High Schools' swimming sports and all succeeded in gaining places, including two firsts.

Sixty-four swimming certificates, including 8 Junior and 17 Senior Education Department Certificates, 18 Intermediate Stars and 20 Bronze Medallions, were gained by the girls during the season.

Softball and tennis were played in both house and inter-school sport and all girls concerned trained enthusiastically and participated in some very interesting matches. In winter our basketball team won the premiership of the Central Division of the M.H.S.S.A. for the second season in succession and was again undefeated throughout the season. Our hockey and volleyball teams also trained very keenly and had a most successful season.

The athletic sports were held early in the third term and in the house sports six records were broken and two equalled; this was a fitting reward for the very keen interest displayed and the systematic training undertaken by the girls concerned. In the Central Division Sports, Camberwell was placed fourth in the aggregate, and gained places, including eight firsts, in twenty-one out of the thirty-seven events. In the open 75 yards event, Michele Foster equalled the record time of 8.4 seconds jointly held by Pam Kilborn and our former student, Lois Barton. At the All High Schools' Meeting our representatives won two events and at the All Schools' Meeting, Michele Foster won the open 220 yards event.

A highlight of the year was the visit to Warragul High School and the keenly contested matches that were played.

Over all it has been a very successful year and it is to be hoped we will be able to build on our present strength and go on to bigger and better things in 1965.

A former student, Barbara Fletcher, was placed second in the Australian Women's Championship in Gymnastics this year and achieved the great distinction of being selected to represent Australia at the recent Olympic Games held in Tokyo. That two former students, Barbara Fletcher and Ian Mills, should be members of this year's Olympic Games teams is a notable achievement and our heartiest congratulations are extended to them.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

These continue to be many and varied and of such range that all pupils may participate in some of them. This year the inclusion of individual and group instrumental items in addition to the choral items added greater breadth and a new source of interest to the annual musical festival. The Dr. James's cup for which the houses compete was won by Macarthur House for the fourth year in succession.

In the evening the items were repeated to an appreciative audience of parents. The madrigal group also presented two items at a chamber music evening arranged by the Victorian Schools' Music Association and the orchestra joined with other school orchestras at an Orchestral Occasion held for schools. As a means of developing the musical talent of pupils and to assist in building up the school orchestra, arrangements were again made this year for four visiting specialists to give tuition in instruments of the orchestra to small classes held at the school. The classes have again proved very successful and the pupils have made marked progress.

As usual visits were arranged to the National Gallery, to orchestral, youth and symphony concerts conducted by the Australian Broadcasting Commission, to performances of plays and films, to exhibitions of industry and art, to the Observatory, and to industrial and business undertakings. Groups of students have attended lectures on subjects related to their studies. The school again participated in the local observance of Commonwealth Youth Sunday.

The Social Service League has maintained its activities and during the year, by means of direct giving and special efforts, has raised the sum of approximately £306 for the less fortunate members of the community. Woodwork classes again made toys for children cared for by the Legacy Club.

Regular weekly religious education was, as usual, provided by visiting instructors whose services merit our sincere thanks. Additional assistance in this very important field of education would be welcomed by the convener, Rev. W. A. Loftus, to whom we are again indebted for making Trinity Church available for the services which were held to mark the opening and closing of this instruction. The school group of inter-school Christian Fellowship has held regular weekly meetings and has displayed enthusiasm in its activities.

For the second year our matriculation students, together with students from other High Schools and independent schools in Camberwell, attended a half-day conference arranged by the Australian Student Christian Movement in Schools. Thoughtful and challenging addresses given by Professor Rennie and Mr. E. Durham Smith on "Ways of Knowing", with particular reference to science and religion, were followed by group discussions led by representative students of the participating schools.

STAFF

The work of the members of the staff continues to be marked by loyal, efficient and willing co-operation and by an earnest desire to promote the individual and corporate welfare of the pupils. Despite the strain imposed by large classes and crowded conditions, they give freely of their time and skill not only in the performance of assigned extra-curricular activities and duties but also to self-imposed tasks to foster the well-being and advancement of the pupils. Teacher-parent evenings, three of which were held this year, at which parents are given an opportunity personally to discuss matters pertaining to the education of their children, constitute another field of service undertaken voluntarily by the staff.

This year will again, unfortunately, bring several staff changes. Miss McMillan, who has occupied the position of senior mistress for the past four years, has been appointed Head Mistress of Canterbury Girls' High School. In her oversight of our girls, Miss McMillan has always set high standards of conduct and deportment and has cultivated the appreciation of lasting values and because of her sympathetic understanding, her justness, and their knowledge and appreciation of the fact that her objective was always their welfare, she has received their ready co-operation and has earned the gratitude of their parents. As head of the French Department her scholarship and great teaching ability have been an inspiration to her colleagues, and her keen analytical mind, her thoroughness and attention to detail have been apparent in the marked capacity that she has displayed in the organization of the school time-table. In all her work Miss McMillan has given most willingly and unsparingly of her talents and energy and her contribution to the school has been an outstanding one.

Miss Cameron, who, in the six years that she has been at this school, has been in charge of music and singing, has been promoted to the position of senior mistress at Balwyn High School. The high standard of, and the enjoyment derived by the pupils from, the singing at this school, the continuing development of the orchestra despite the losses sustained when pupils leave school, the making of arrangements for specialist teachers to give pupils tuition in instrumental work, and the musical contributions to special school occasions are a tribute to her musicianship, her outstanding teaching ability and her tireless enthusiasm for the promotion of music.

Well merited promotions, on which we congratulate them, have also been gained by Mrs. Sheringham, who has been appointed to the position of senior mistress at Noble Park High School, by Miss Pettitt and Mrs. Collopy to positions within the school and by Mr. Cropper and Mr. Hogg to other schools. Mrs. Bradstreet, three of whose pupils have won the exhibition in matriculation Art during her six years at the school, has been appointed lecturer in Art at Mercer House, the teachers' training college for the independent schools. Mrs. Crooks is resigning to go overseas, Mrs. Uhlherr is taking a period of leave of absence, Mr. Nash is transferring to the Secondary Teachers' College, Mr. Dudley has received a travelling grant from the Italian Government and will study sculpture at the Milan Fine Arts Academy, and Mr. Taylor will undertake a Diploma of Education course at the University of Melbourne. Mr. Sholl will undertake a course of study at the University of Paris.

We thank them all for their whole-hearted services to the school and wish them happiness and success in the years ahead.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS

This year has been another very full and active one for the Advisory Council. Reference has been made earlier in this report to some of its major activities and future projects for the development of the school. The realization of these projects will depend largely on the support given to them by parents.

Prior to going abroad this year, Dr. Duras resigned as President of the Council and was succeeded in that office by Mr. R. D. Key who, as a member of the Council and as a member and former President of the Parents' and Friends' Association, has given several years of sterling service to the school. Former District Inspector, Mr. H. W. Hopkins, who was recently promoted to the position of Staff Inspector, has been succeeded on the Council by the new District Inspector, Mr. R. H. Brown. We are grateful to Mr. Hopkins for the very keen interest he has taken in the school and for the assistance he has so readily given.

Under the direction of Mr. J. B. Pettigrew, the Parents' and Friends' Association continues to be very active and its well-planned and varied programme of activities brings parents into close contact with the school. The publication of the monthly official journal "Disco", replacing the former News Letter issued each term, has greatly improved the lines of communication between the school and parents and has provided parents not only with news concerning current school activities but also with information concerning many aspects of education that are of importance to them and their children.

The Women's Auxiliary, under the capable leadership this year of Mrs. Gilbert, has, as usual, worked most willingly and efficiently in the interest of the pupils and provides a close link between mothers, staff and students. During the current year the Auxiliary has provided amenities in the form of garden seats, a clothes drier, a refrigerator, a folding stretcher, has made donations to the prize fund and for the purchase of a work of art and has contributed a sum of £210 to Advisory Council funds. In addition, its members provided refreshments for officials and guests at the swimming carnival of the Central Division of the M.H.S.S.A. and, with the assistance of mothers of matriculation students, provided a farewell luncheon for these students and their teachers. This is a splendid record of service for which the school is most grateful.

Pleased with the success and growing popularity of its annual cabaret balls over the past two years, the Old Students' Association decided on a more commodious venue for this year's function. There was a gratifying attendance and the evening proved to be very successful and enjoyable.

For services rendered we also thank the prefects, house captains, form captains and members of the various clubs and groups, all of whom have contributed to the development of the corporate life and activities of the school.

GENERAL

When we decide to undertake a long and arduous journey through territory unknown to us, it is essential that we prepare and equip ourselves adequately. If we are wise, we analyse the journey into stages, attempt to anticipate difficulties and note carefully the landmarks along the route. We seek the advice of others who have made the journey so that we may benefit from their experiences. Yet something more important still is necessary for its successful completion—a determination resolutely to pursue our objective despite the difficulties that we may encounter.

Having completed the adventure, we may feel, in retrospect, that the greatest pleasure was really derived from our efforts and strivings to surmount the obstacles and from our accomplishment of the laborious, but necessary, tasks that each day demanded. R. L. Stevenson probably had such thoughts in mind when he wrote in his significantly named "El Dorado" that "to travel hopefully is a better thing than to arrive and the true success is labor."

In our days at school we undertake a challenging educational journey which bears many points of resemblance to a physical journey. For its completion we need not only adequate preparation and knowledge but also equipment in the form of qualities such as tenacity of purpose, self-discipline and diligence. The landmarks or signposts are educational certificates that not only mark the route and indicate the progress made but, more significantly, point the way to the promised land ahead. But the real values of this journey, namely, the development of scholarship, self-discipline, judgment, appreciation of values and character will arise, not from our arrival but from the spirit and determination with which we enter upon and pursue the daily round of our school work and activities.