



## CAMBERWELL HIGH SCHOOL. HEADMASTER'S REPORT FOR 1949.

In accordance with the precautions advocated by the Department of Health to guard against the spread of poliomyelitis, it was decided to replace for this year the usual Speech Night function by an afternoon gathering held out-of-doors. As this change will preclude the attendance of a number of parents, and will also cause some departure from the customary programme, my report for this year has been printed so that all parents may be furnished with an account of the work and activities of the school during the current year.

### ENROLMENT.

The net enrolment this year on 30th June reached the record total of 571 pupils, who were distributed as follows:—Form V, 2 forms—69 pupils; Form IV, 4 forms—149 pupils; Form III, 4 forms—169 pupils; Form II, 2 forms—97 pupils; Form I, 2 forms—87 pupils. These numbers have severely taxed the accommodation available, and only by using the girls' common-room almost continuously as a classroom has it been possible to cope with this enrolment. It will be noted that, despite the unprecedented demand by employers for the services of boys and girls, the number of pupils in the Intermediate and Leaving classes—Forms IV and V—is relatively very high, thereby indicating the realization by parents of the value of a full course of secondary education.

Priority in admission is given to pupils who have completed in central schools the first two years of the secondary school course, and since next year 100 such pupils will enter this school, there will be room for only one Form I of 45 ex-grade VI pupils. Accommodation is available in central schools and other secondary schools for those ex-grade VI pupils unable to be admitted to this school, and after the satisfactory completion of the central school course, such pupils will have prior right of transfer.

### COURSES OF STUDY.

In recent years the curriculum of secondary schools has been broadened by the inclusion for extension of the study and practice of hand-crafts. An important development this year was the extension of our course in arts and crafts and the approval given by the University to the school to present and examine pupils in the subject "an approved craft" at Intermediate Certificate standard. Crafts taught at the school include wood-work, sheet-metal work, leather work, book-binding, weaving, manuscript writing and lettering.

On one afternoon and evening in Education Week this year about 500 adults availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing pupils at work at such crafts, at physical education activities, choral singing and dramatic work, and of viewing project work, art work, the recorded work of pupils in various subjects and many aspects of school work and activities. I am sure that those who attended thereby gained a much wider knowledge of the varied nature of the curriculum and of the activities of a secondary school.

### EXAMINATION RESULTS — 1948-49.

The results obtained at the University and Education Department's examinations for 1948-49 may be summarized thus—

#### (A) UNIVERSITY PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS.

Leaving Certificate—39 pupils qualified.

Of a total possible of 307 passes in individual subjects, 234 were secured, representing a percentage of 76.5.

Intermediate Certificate—106 pupils qualified.

Of a total possible of 1009 passes in individual subjects, 871 were secured, representing a percentage of 86.3.

## (B) EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S EXAMINATIONS.

Proficiency Certificate—150 pupils qualified.

Of 189 pupils who presented, 79 per cent. were successful.

## COMMERCIAL COURSE SUBJECTS.

*Advanced Typewriting*—Of 21 pupils who presented, 20 passed, of whom 10 gained "credit" passes.

*Shorthand Theory*—Of 33 pupils who presented, 33 passed, of whom 26 gained "credit" passes.

*Shorthand Speed*—100 words per minute—Of 18 pupils who presented, 16 passed, of whom 6 gained credit passes.

## SCHOLARSHIPS.

Teaching Scholarships were won by Patricia Ive, Joan Rivis and Samuel Lacey.

Public Service Scholarships were won by Oswald Eaton and Claude Ducker.

Free Places were won by Christopher Rider, Ian Martin, Ian Boyd, Jean Thonhill, Marion Coppin, Michael Pridgeon, Nancy Carter, Irene Alger, and Marcia Whitehill.

## UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP.

It has just been announced that Gerda Segall, who spent three years as a pupil at this school, and after obtaining the Leaving Certificate transferred to the University High School this year to take the matriculation course, has been awarded one of the two major entrance scholarships to the University Women's College.

## BURSARIES.

To provide financial assistance to secondary school students who desire to become teachers, the Education Department has instituted a system of Leaving and Matriculation Bursaries which will become operative next year. Each of these bursaries entitles the holder to a maintenance allowance of £50 per annum and is tenable for one year;

This year 16 of our pupils presented for the examination for the Leaving bursaries; all were successful and, provided they qualify for the Intermediate Certificate and pass a medical examination, will be given awards. Four of our pupils have applied for matriculation bursaries, the awards of which will be made on the results obtained at the Leaving Certificate examinations which have just concluded. In addition to these bursaries the Education Department has re-instituted secondary studentships for those who desire to become secondary school teachers. These most valuable studentships will be tenable for four or five years at the University for degree courses in the faculties of Arts, Science, Commerce, Agricultural Science, Engineering or Music and for the first year of the post-graduate course in Education. The holders will receive free tuition at the University and a yearly maintenance allowance ranging from £175 to £201, or from £201 to £227, according to whether the student resides at home or away from home. It is hoped that this system of bursaries and studentships will enable students of suitable type to remain at school, and, if desired, proceed to the University, to qualify for entry to the teaching profession, as the present shortage of teachers and the inadequacy in numbers of recruits are matters which should cause grave concern to the community.

The Hospital and Charities Commission has also instituted somewhat similar bursaries to assist girls who desire to become nurses to remain at school to continue their education. Five of our pupils have been awarded such nursing bursaries, which will be tenable next year.

## EXTRA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES.

Our schools of to-day are more than places of instruction where pupils gain factual knowledge and prepare for examinations. They are concerned with the whole development of the child; they are places of "education" rather than "instruction," where the child learns to live co-operatively with his fellow-pupils and is prepared for life in a democracy. Thus there must be a fostering and development of humane principles, of sympathetic insight and imagination, of consideration of the needs of others and the rendering of social service. In reviewing this aspect of the year's activities, I desire to report briefly as follows:

(a) SOCIAL SERVICE.—Contributions by the school to various appeals were—Yooralla Hospital School for Crippled Children, £76/11/3; Metropolitan Hospitals Egg Appeal, 398 dozen eggs of value £48; University Women's College Building Appeal, £3/8/6.



Parcels of garments were made up and forwarded to the Woollies for Britain Appeal and to the Vera Scantlebury Bown Memorial Appeal.

(b) SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES.—These provide opportunities for the discovery and development of special aptitudes and interests and for the cultivation of hobbies and craftsmanship, which we hope will continue when the pupil leaves school, and will help him to enjoy his leisure hours, to give enjoyment to others and to work in co-operation with them. This year these activities embraced choral, dramatic, folk-dancing, craft, puppetry, photography, needlework and wool-work, science, art, art-metal, musical appreciation, library, gardening and current affairs groups. The inter-house competition for boys' and girls' house choirs, with pupil conductors and pianists, proved a most enjoyable function and revealed a commendable standard of attainment. The successful choirs were Montgomery boys and MacArthur girls, with MacArthur winning the aggregate.

SPORT.—Organised sport plays its part in the educational process by providing a means not only for physical development and recreation, but also for the cultivation of the team spirit, of good sportsmanship, of discipline and of co-operation in the interest of the whole rather than of the individual. The usual inter-house games and matches against other schools were played, excepting in the third term when, owing to the outbreak of poliomyelitis, sport was curtailed and the usual athletic meetings conducted by ourselves and by the Metropolitan High Schools' Association were abandoned. Highlights of the year were our win for the second successive year in our section at the combined high schools' swimming carnival, and the visit of a party of about 100 pupils and members of staff to Warragul High School in continuation of the exchange of visits between the two schools. Arrangements have been made by the ex-students to field next year hockey and basket-ball teams in the Victorian Women's Associations. We hope that this venture will prove successful and enjoyable that it may be the fore-runner of the entry of the ex-students, as a body, into other spheres of activity and endeavour.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS.—For a school to fulfil its true function in the community it must have the support and co-operation of those whom it serves, and I desire to record my appreciation of the generous assistance and good-will manifested towards the school during the past year. The Advisory Council and the Parents' Committee have rendered splendid service and have been encouraged in their efforts by the generous support of the parents generally. The Advisory Council has continued its efforts for the improvement, beautification and development of the school site and the attractive appearance now presented by the school grounds and gardens is a tribute to their interest and energy and to the efforts of the Public Works Department. This year the sum of £565 was paid to the Education Department as the school's share of the cost of the works that have been carried out. The shortage of materials and labor has held up the construction of the tennis courts, but it is hoped that a second bicycle shed will be erected early next year, as the Council has made a recommendation concerning this and now awaits the Education Department's approval and decision regarding the payment of a subsidy towards the cost of this work. In order that these and other projects may be proceeded with when practicable, funds are required, and it was for this purpose that a direct appeal was recently made to parents. The splendid result of £293 undoubtedly showed that such plans met with the approval and support of parents.

During the year Mr. E. C. Stevens and Cr. H. E. P. Moore resigned from the Council, the former on account of his transfer to another State, and the latter, having retired as a municipal councillor, was unable to continue as the nominee of the City of Nunawading, which he had represented with zeal and enthusiasm since the inception of the school. The vacancies have been filled by the appointment of Mr. J. B. F. Moore and Cr. H. R. Seegar.

The Parents' Association has likewise given splendid support and has provided generous financial assistance towards the purchase of library books, furnishings, and a motor mower. Funds were received from the Annual Ball, held this year under the joint auspices of the Parents' and the Old Pupils' Associations, and from the annual subscriptions. Membership reached a record, but the Committee would be greatly encouraged if every parent became a member and thereby demonstrated his or her appreciation of the fine work being performed by this body in providing equipment, aids and amenities for the students.

I should like also to take this opportunity to express our indebtedness to the fine team of clergy and laity which visits the school regularly each week to give religious instruction to the pupils. Their voluntary efforts, often at much personal inconvenience, for the spiritual guidance of our girls and boys, merits our warmest thanks and appreciation.

And to the parents as a whole I desire to express our appreciation of your co-operation generally, and particularly in the matter of the dress and uniform of the pupils, for, through your efforts, the appearance of our pupils has been maintained at a high standard that has evoked much favorable comment.

STAFF.—The work of the members of the staff has been characterized by loyalty, efficiency and co-operation, and I can assure you of their individual and corporate interest and endeavours to promote the welfare of the students. I know that you will join me in thanking them for their faithful and willing services. To Messrs. Dawkins, Percy and Maher and Mrs. Sherrington we offer our congratulations on their promotions and appointments, and wish them well in the schools at which they will take up duty next year.

Other school officers to whom the school is indebted for their services are the prefects, house-captains, form captains, conductors and pianists of the house choirs and the magazine committee, who have all played their part in the government of the school and in developing its corporate life and activities.

CONCLUSION.—May I conclude with a word to parents? As the progress and development of your boys and girls will depend largely on their acquirement of right attitudes towards their school work and activities and on their industry, encourage them to participate in all school activities, give them the best conditions practicable for their studies and home work—no child can do himself justice when trying to study in a noisy room and perhaps with the radio on at full blast—occasionally look over their recorded work and encourage them to take a pride in it and to honour the work. And, finally, to parents and indeed to the community in general, I would say that your general guidance and example, as well as that of the school, are necessary to assist our youth to appreciate those things that are beautiful and of good report, to discriminate between the pure and the dross, and to develop a sound judgment on right attitudes of behaviour and of values. The youth of to-day lives in a bewildering world where many influences are subtly at work to disturb and tempt him—the cinema and radio, though possessing unique potentialities for the cultivation of knowledge, of a broader outlook and of toleration, too often present us with programmes that are distracting and ephemeral, and the world, with its materialistic outlook, still largely worships at the shrine of Mammon and has uncertain standards and vague values. The realisation of the existence of a problem is often the first step in its solution, and I would enlist your co-operation with the school in the task that confronts us.

R. W. ANDREWS, B.Sc., B.Ed.,

Headmaster.

## PRIZES AND AWARDS.

### DUX.

Form Ia.—Dorothy Morgan.  
Form Ib.—Malcolm Munro.  
Form IIa.—Jacqueline Levy.  
Form IIb.—Nancy Jones.  
Form IIIa.—Irene Alger  
                  Thomas Caulfield  
Form IIIb.—Barbara Hadkinson

### DUX.

Form IIIc.—Myra King  
Form IIId.—Valmai Sparrow  
Form IVa.—Robert Segall  
                  David Piggott  
Form IVb.—Richard Curry  
Form IVc.—Gelda Parker  
Form IVd.—Barbara Brown

DUX OF SCHOOL—Judith Thiele.

MAGAZINE EDITORS.—Shirley Dryden, Maxwell Crellin.

HEAD PREFECTS.—June Coppin, Geoffrey Hill.

SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS.—Marion Watson, Kalaris Paizis.

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP.—Macarthur House.

HOUSE CAPTAINS.—Alice Stanfield, Brian Gosman.