

# DISCO

Official Journal of Camberwell High School Parents and Friends' Association

President: Mr. T. W. HOGAN (81-3069) Secretary: Mr. H. MESSER (83-7339) Editor: Mr. E. K. HORWOOD (83-4946) Asst. Editor: Mrs. H. EWART (83-5737)

Vol. 2, No. 6

JULY, 1965

Price 1d.

# ARCHITECTS APPOINTED FOR NEW SCHOOL BUILDINGS

After so many years of protracted negotiations, it is a somewhat strange feeling to be able to report in successive issues of DISCO obvious progress towards the goal we have set ourselves. Following the announcement last month that the Minister had agreed to the appointment of private architects to prepare working drawings for the new classroom block and assembly hall, we are now able to announce that Messrs. Barton and Rahni have been appointed as the architects for the job.

These two gentlemen attended the last meeting of the Advisory Council to discuss planning details and are already hard at work on the mass of detail which precedes the production of sketch plans. Messrs. Barton and Rahni will be working in close conjunction with the Department of Public Works, and with the Advisory Council. The Parents and Friends' Association is being kept fully informed of progress and is able to put forward suggestions through the parent representatives on the Advisory Council.

While on the subject of school improvements, parents will have noticed that the school gymnasium is at long last being repainted and repaired. The Principal advises also that tenders are to be called almost immediately for the resurfacing of all asphalt areas at the school and for the construction of concrete paths leading to

and around the gymnasium.

You will read elsewhere in this number that the Parents and Friends' Association is calling for volunteers to help in a plan for beautifying the western side of the oval to bring it into keeping with the re-terraced eastern side. Things are certainly moving at last. Let us help to keep them moving.

#### PARENT-TEACHER NIGHT — FORMS IV and V

Would parents of pupils of Forms IV and V please note that the teacher-parent night for pupils of these forms will not be held on Friday, July 9, the provisional date selected some time ago, but has been postponed until Friday, July 23.

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## New Advisory Council

In accordance with the regulations of the Education Department, a new Advisory Council has been formed for the triennial period ending on June 30, 1968. The personnel of the new Council is as follows:

Parents' Representatives —

Mr. R. S. Harper; Dr. W. Mc-Kenzie; Mr. K. L. Noldt; Mr. I. Proctor; Mr. R. J. Webb. Municipal Representatives -

Municipality of Camberwell, Cr. W. M. Fordham, J.P.

Municipality of Hawthorn, Cr. M. W. Yunghanns, J.P.

Nominees of the District Inspector and the Principal -

Mr. A. G. Brewer; Mr. H. J. Halstead; Mr. E. K. Horwood; Mr. R. D. Key; Mr. J. F. H. Wright.

District Inspector of Schools -Mr. R. H. Brown.

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# Former Members of Advisory Council Thanked

At the June meeting of the Advisory Council Mr. H. P. Head and Dr. P. Gilbert, who had intimated that they would not be seeking re-election to the new Council, were warmly thanked by the President, Mr. R. D. Key, members, and the Principal, for the valuable services that they had given to the Council and to the school.

Mr. Head, who had been a member of the committee of the Parents' Association, was first appointed to the Council in August, 1953, and had been one of the auditors for many years. Dr. Gilbert joined the Council in November, 1957. During their period of office Mr. Head and Dr. Gilbert gave very generously of their time and talents in promoting the development of the school and the welfare of the pupils and both had close personal links with the school through the attendance of their children as pupils. kindly counsel will be missed very much.

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#### FAREWELL TO Mr. ANDREWS

As mentioned in last month's issue a function is being held in the Supper Room, Camberwell Civic Centre, from 6.30-8 p.m. on Friday. August 13, to say farewell to the Principal, Mr. R. W. Andrews, on his retirement.

A cordial invitation is extended to all parents and friends. Those intending to be present can notify Mr. H. Messer, 52 Wattle Valley Road, Canterbury, E.7. Phone 83-7339, by July 30. Donation £1.

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### House Choral and Instrumental Festival

The highlight of this month's school activities was the House Choral and Instrumental Festival. held at the Hawthorn Town Hall on the afternoon of June 24. This function is an annual event which, as usual, proved to all present that the House spirit and enthusiasm for music generally is diminished.

The school was honoured on this occasion by the presence of Mr. John Kennedy, F.R.A.M., an Australian of international distinction in musical circles, whose great versatility makes him an ideal adjudicator.

First on the programme was the singing of the set song "The Seekers" by Sir George Dyson. The houses performed in the following order - 1. Roosevelt; 2. Macarthur; 3. Churchill; 4. Montgomery — and then ensued the rendering of their own choice item by a choir of between thirty and fifty from each house, in the same order. The general standard of performance was outstandingly high and this was reflected in the small disparity between the highest and lowest marks.

The second part of the programme was devoted to the instrumental facet of music. This section of the programme was not competitive. Nevertheless, the standard of performance once again was most gratifying. number of small groups and soloists appeared and also a most welcome newcomer, "The School Band". Comprising twenty - six performers consisting of woodwinds and brass, string bass and cello this combination, although only recently formed, delighted everyone with their performance, under Mr. Anthony Brooks, of "Greensleeves" and "Maria"

Then followed the report of the adjudicator, Mr. Kennedy, and the presentation of the Dr. James Cup by Miss Irwin, the Supervisor of Music of the Education Depart-

In his report Mr. Kennedy gave most valuable advice and constructive criticism, in a most interesting and witty manner, to the choirs and instrumentalists. The results were as follows:

The possible points for each section were 80.

#### Free Song Choice Total

1. Montgomery .	68	73	141
2. Macarthur	74	66	140
3. Churchill	63	68	131
3. Roosevelt	61	70	131

The points scored are the aggregate of the totals for the set song and own choice.

Much of the programme was repeated in the evening to a large 

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and very appreciative gathering of parents. On this occasion the set song was conducted by the conductor of the winning house — Ann Rintoul — who had received the cup on behalf of Montgomery in the afternoon. Two additional groups performing were the Junior School Choir, conducted by Mrs. Goldsmith, and the Madrigal Singers, conducted by Mr. Trevare. Both of these performed in a most

artistic fashion, and once again reflected the extremely high standards of singing prevailing at the school.

We cannot allow the opportunity to escape without expressing our deepest appreciation of the work being done in this school by Mrs. Marcia Southward, whose string group performed at both the afternoon and evening and which Mr. Kennedy most highly commended.

## A.N.A. General knowledge competition -1965

### CAMBERWELL HIGH BOY WINS GRAND FINAL

Each year the A.N.A. General Knowledge Competition is conducted by the Metropolitan Committee of that body. This competition is open to pupils studying for Intermediate Certificate in Secondary Technical and Registered Schools in the metropolitan area.

Entries were received from more than 90 schools and approximately 900 students participated (a limit of 10 pupils from each school being allowed).

John Philip Reeves, of Form IVA. won the preliminary heat from the ten entries from this school, thereby winning a book prize to the value of £1/1/- for himself and also for his school. He continued his success by winning the Zone Final against the finalists from schools in his zone and won a further prize of £2/10/- and £1/10/- for the school. Further success came his way by winning the Grand Final between sixteen finalists from all metropolitan

zones on Thursday, June 24. This is undoubtedly an outstanding performance, and merits our whole hearted congratulations. John will receive the prize of a book-voucher for £12/12/- and one of £10/10/- for the school.

Two students of this school, Andrew Lovitt of Form V and Louise Coombs of Form IVD, have been selected by the Rotary Club of Camberwell as Rotary International Exchange Students to spend 12 months in the U.S.A. Both will leave shortly for the United States where they will continue their secondary school studies and will reside with American families and be hosted by the Rotary Club of their particular district. They will be away from Australia for approximately 12 months. In recent years two Rotary Exchange Students from the United States have attended Camberwell High School, namely Barney Schooley in 1963 and James Boggess in 1961.

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### STICKS AND STONES

The attractive appearance of the new terrace work on the eastern side of the school oval has led the Parents and Friends' Association to draw up plans for improving the less attractive western side, adjacent to the rear of the houses facing Spencer Road. The Equipand Maintenance Sub-Committee, under the convenorship of Mr. D. Barton, recently presented to the Committee a plan for cleaning up and beautifying the western and northern sides of the oval, making use of the bluestone pitchers left over from the recent terracing.

Before the May vacation, these pitchers were moved by volunteer labour and stacked in rows along the western side of the oval. The equipment sub-committee is to meet during the week-end of July

17-18 to mark out levels and decide upon planting sites. Then, on the following weekend, we hope to enlist the assistance of parents to complete the job, which will consist of moving a certain amount of earth, laving the pitchers in rows along the embankment and planting shrubs.

Volunteers, equipped with barrows, spades, mattocks or just bare hands and strong muscles, are requested for Saturday, July 24, from 9.30 a.m. Any help you can give during that day, even for only an hour or so, will be valuable. Tea, coffee and encouragement will be provided. Men of good will are asked to ring Duncan Barton (82-6545) or Ken Noldt (82-4542) as soon as possible to indicate their ability to help and the equipment they can bring.





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### **Commonwealth Secondary Scholarship Examination**

Notification has been received that it is hoped to distribute to schools, early in July, Candidates' Information Bulletins concerning this examination. The Bulletin will be a 32-page booklet, the bulk of which will be devoted to four practice tests containing questions drawn from the 1964 papers.

Candidates will be advised to work through these tests under simulated examination conditions. This procedure will give candidates an adequate appreciation of the general nature of each test, rates of work to be expected, methods of answering, etc.

Since the examination papers are not based on a subject syllabus. it is affirmed that the best preparation, other than that mentioned above, will be to ensure that normal school work stresses understanding, critical thinking and application.

The examination will be held on the 28th and 29th July, 1965.

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# DRAFT SYLLABUS FOR FORM I HEALTH EDUCATION COURSE

Parents may have noticed some newspaper controversy over a new health programme for Form I, and be wondering what it is about. The Education Sub-Committee of the Parents and Friends' Association has recently been studying the proposed course. Briefly, the proposed programme adds to the familiar topics on physical health, matters of emotional and social adjustment. It is proposed that the course should be taught by teachers who have undergone the equivalent of some weeks special training and volunteers have been called for the inaugural training course based on a tentative "Draft Syllabus"

Teachers contend that some of the course cannot be effectively or even safely taught in the classroom by non-specialists. It should be noted, however, that the Victorian parents body, the Victorian Council of School Organisations, has a representative, Dr. Godding, on the Education Department's standing committee, and that he supports the proposal. expected that further discussion on the proposal will appear soon in the "School Bell". Meanwhile, however, we reproduce hereunder some extracts from the Draft Syllabus which were published "The Secondary verbatim in Teacher", No. 103, March 1965, so that parents may judge for themselves the more controversial sections of the course.

Part A, "Introduction", deals with community concern for health; Part B is concerned with individual health and safety and includes the following section "Getting on with others":

#### 3. Getting on with others

#### (a) Friend or foe.

- (i) What qualities do you look for in a friend?
- (ii) Must we agree with everything our friends believe or do?
- (iii) How can the behaviour of one individual affect another?
- (iv) What are some of the ways you can develop and keep wholesome friendships?

#### (b) Working together.

- (i) Why do some people fail to adjust to others?
- (ii) How are our emotions related to the development of our ideals and character?
- (iii) What attitudes can you cultivate that will add happiness to your home life?
- (iv) What are some of the ways we must conform if we are to be accepted members of a group?

It is Part C: Families and Health, which has caused much of the controversy.

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#### C. FAMILIES AND HEALTH

#### 1. The Family and Society

- (a) The family group.
  - (i) Why do we need the companionship of others?
  - (ii) How does family life differ in other countries?
  - (iii) Why do families differ in the same community?
- (b) Function of the family.
  - (i) What does the family provide for its members?
  - (ii) Is the family able to provide a happy atmosphere for all its members all the time? How may difficult situations be solved?
  - (iii) How do individual families help the community?
- (c) Other groups which influence the development of the family.
  - (i) What community groups have an influence on family life?
  - (ii) What help can a family receive from the community when in difficulty?
  - (iii) What community relationships are established by young members of the family?

#### 2. Parents and Children

- (a) Need for understanding.
  - (i) What do parents in our society want for their children?
  - (ii) How do parents attempt to guide their children?
  - (iii) How can we gain from parental experience?
  - (iv) What responsibilities do we have to our parents?
- (b) The family in action.
  - (i) Is your behaviour influenced by how you feel, as

### well as what you know? (ii) How can parents help you

- (ii) How can parents help you in making decisions?
- (iii) What opportunities do round - table discussions provide for family members?
- (iv) How do you make your way within your family?

## 3. Give and Take in Family Life (a) Learning to co-operate.

- (i) What are the factors that create problems between brothers and sisters?
- (ii) What are some of the difficulties parents have in maintaining a home?
- (iii) What responsibilities do you have to other members of the family?
- (b) Sharing responsibility.
  - (i) In what ways can the family share responsibility?
  - (ii) Why do some individuals assume more responsibility than others?
  - (iii) Why do people have a need to control others and to be controlled by others?

#### 4. Health of the Family

- (a) Factors influencing family health.
  - (i) Why do families have their ups and downs?
  - (ii) What can parents do to create a healthy environment?
  - (iii) What can you do to improve or maintain family health?
  - (iv) Why is it important for families to plan for leisure time activities?
  - (v) Why is planning important in family activities?

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(b) Family health and the com-

the With ges H.

- (i) In what ways can the community influence family health?
- (ii) How does family health influence community functioning?
- (iii) Why is it important to community health to maintain family stability?

  Part D is entitled "School and Health", and deals with life at school, learning and study procedures, and the school's role in health.

There are assignments (homework) for each part, and again it is the set for Part C which has raised objections. These are:

### UNIT C: FAMILIES AND HEALTH

There are five assignments.

The first begins by asking how basic needs like security, independence, to be loved, to love, to acquire values and to acquire attitudes can be met in the family environment and in the school environment. Examples from literature of family life in other places and times are to be compared with the "average family situation in Australia".

The Function of the Family is discussed in terms of protection. closeness of ties, transmission of values and beliefs. Readers are quizzed on the outside interests of members of their family.

Difficulties which can cause family disturbance are listed as Old Age, Prolonged Illness, Unemployment, Accident, Disaster, Financial Problems. Students are asked to identify the public or private agency which may help and the possible solution.

Assignment 2 (Parents and

Children) asks questions like: How does the life of a child today differ from that of one in Dickens's time? What are the social and economic pressures in our present society that cause parents alarm about their children's future? How can these result in misunderstandings between parents and children? What do we mean by moral responsibility? How do we learn from the actions and decisions of our parents? What ambitions do you have? Do they conflict with the desires of your parents? When you decide to do something, how often is your decision based on how you feel? How you think? A compromise? What causes family disagreements. How can individual family members help overcome these difficulties? What planning can the family do together that would help eliminate disagreement? How do family customs and beliefs influence your way of think-

Assignment 3 (Give and Take in

Family Life) asks: What are all the things parents must think about in managing a home and family? How can you contribute to the effective functioning of your family? How can you resolve differences between brothers and sisters? ("Do unto others . . ." is suggested as a rule.) How do families share work and responsibility? What can be done to help ease some of the tension arising from everyday problems in the home? Why must we develop a "give and take" attitude? Can parents do too much for their children? Why do some people have a greater need than others to control people? Or to be controlled by others?

Assignment 4 (Health of the Family) discusses desirable family routines, hobbies, individual interests, family leisure activities, privacy. A second section deals with community services for recreation, safety, housing, assistance in the case of family breakdown.

### IT

### WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

Mrs. Janet Hase, B.A., Dip.Ed., a guidance officer of the Psychology and Guidance Branch of the Education Department, was the guest speaker at our June meeting. She spoke of her work in the thirty-eight secondary cchools in her district. One startling fact discovered from tests given to children early in their Form I year was that 25% of these children had not reached Grade 6 level in their reading. This naturally accounted for poor results in their later studies.

Members agreed to begin all meetings in future at 1 p.m. to enable mothers of young children to be present for the whole of the meeting.

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#### Forthcoming Dates

Wednesday, July 28 — Birthday Social and Mannequin Parade at 1 p.m., in the Methodist Church Hall, cnr. Prospect Hill and Highfield Roads. Members please bring a plate.

Tuesday, August 17 — Film morning at Rothman's, Port Melbourne. Duration 1½ to 2 hours.

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