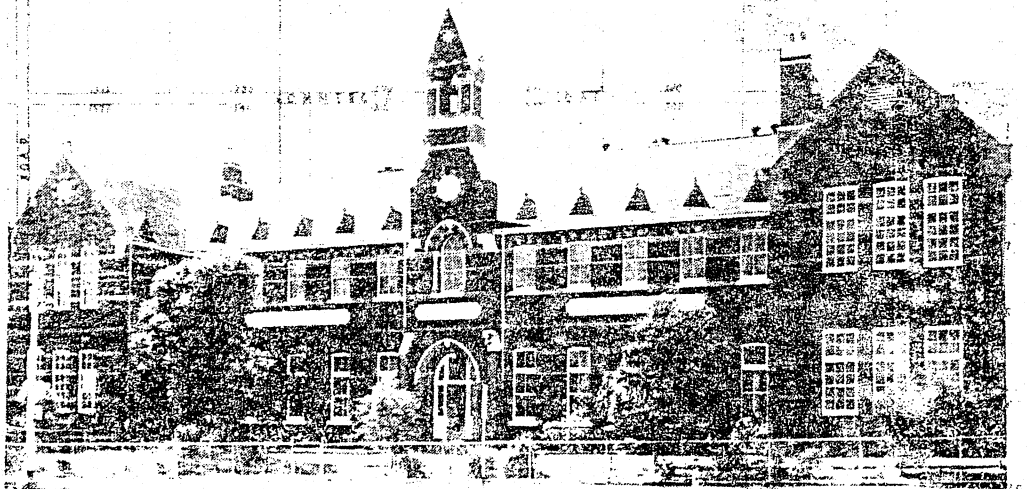


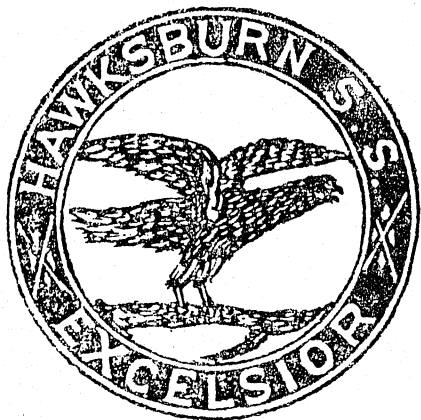
75/21

HISTORY SECT.

# Hawksburn School and District



A SHORT HISTORY  
by  
SHIRLEY W. WIENCKE



*"Excelsior" (Latin)  
Meaning "Higher"  
(This is also the Motto of New York)*

# HAWKS BURN PRIMARY SCHOOL NO. 1467

1875 — 1975

This small book is written to commemorate the Centenary of the Hawksburn Primary School.

Throughout its one hundred years of existence it has consistently strived to offer outstanding educational opportunities to the young children of the district.

It is hoped that this book will bring to its readers a knowledge of the past and an appreciation for all that has been achieved.

Understanding is asked for any irregularities or omissions.

Sincere thanks to the Principal, the Centenary Committee, Mr. Will Furneaux, Miss Haines of the Prahran Historical Society, and to all those who so readily shared their memories with me.

Appreciation is expressed for the interest and co-operation of Mr. Neville Drummond, History Officer of the Education Department.

Shirley W. Wiencke.

#### LIST OF HEAD TEACHERS AT HAWKS BURN SCHOOL NO. 1467

Walter M. Gamble	1875-78
Thomas H. Templeton	1878-94
Charles S. Halkyard	1895-1925
Hermann A. Japp	1926-39
George R. Drummond	1939-51
Aubrey D. Hewitt	1951-55
Lewis Strawhorn	1956-59
William H. Jobling	1960-61
John B. Howard	1962-65
Frank Seddon	1966-68
Keith Wallis (Acting)	1968
Allen D. McLean	1969-73
George H. Piggott	1974

*Shirley W. Wiencke*

#### THE MAIN SOURCES OF REFERENCE WERE:

The Australasian Sketcher, May 7, 1873  
Victoria the First Century, Centenary Celebrations Council.  
Historical Press Cuttings, Book 3, "State Education"  
Illustrated Australian News, 20th Feb., 1884 "Ragged Schools"  
General and Historical Review, Hawksburn s.s.1467, Diamond Jubilee  
Board of Education Files (Archives, Latrobe Library)  
Early Registers, Minute Books of Committee and Mothers Club and other  
School Records  
The History of Prahran, John Butler Cooper (Prahran Council)  
Vision & Realization, History of Education in Vict., Educ. Dept.,  
R.A.A.F. History Department.

The River Yarra Yarra was the first source of the settlement's water supply. The walk to the river with a couple of buckets for the day's supply was a necessary daily duty. A barrel mounted on wheels came next. The trouble was to diminish the evaporation during hot weather. The casks were usually sunk half way in the ground. Casks had to be cleaned out before they were filled afresh, and that task, and filling the barrel, cost at first 8/- per load. The



good water but the barrels became foul when the water was tasted. However Prahran managed to exist on the contents of the settlers own tank services, and water from clay holes until 1855. In 1855 the South Yarra waterworks was incorporated, and the house was near the top of Forrest Hill.

A company erected a stand pipe just where the railway crosses Chapel Street. The watercarts were backed under the service hose to be filled, and the carters hawked the water from house to house.

The purity of the Yarra water was affected by the settlements along its banks. The lees of wool washing and the scum from the tanneries made the water unfit for use.

On December 20th, 1853, Lt.-Gov. Latrobe turned the first sod that was to form the Yan Yean Reservoir. Towards the latter part of 1857 Melbourne was supplied with water from this source, and it was not long before the waterworks were extended to Prahran.

On the occasion of the laying of the first sod, all the children in the district were treated to a big spree in a large paddock, where they were treated to all good things, and the water carts which were used to cart water up the Yarra were filled with milk and ginger pop and hop beer.

**SETTLERS:**

The first house built in Prahran was "Waterloo Cottage" on Forrest Street. It was built by Captain Charles Forrest who arrived in Australia in 1838. He bought the land (17 acres) at the first sale of crown land held in Melbourne on the 10th June 1840 at a cost of 29 pounds per acre.

In 1856 a family named Bell lived at "Tivoli" (an 11 roomed house built of rough brown stones which the aborigines had been employed to clear their heads to the building site). In summer they went down the Yarra to attend service in the John Knox Church. This method of transport was so time consuming so the boat carried provisions for the children, their drink and the water of the Yarra which they lifted in a horn tumbler.

**URN**

After the second sale of land in Prahran, the Hon. James Horatio Russell purchased 86 acres of land from R.A. Balbrinic, between Chapel Street and Toorak Road. The Cassells built a house on the high ground where the Hawksburn station is now. All around was a lagoon where ducks and every kind of water fowl found sanctuary. The day they

decided upon the house site they saw a hawk sitting on the side of the gully, in which a stream flowed (or what the Scottish people called a 'Burn'). They named their house 'Hawksburn' which in its turn passed on to the locality.

The roads through Prahran were very bad, as the Central Road Board, administered from Melbourne, did not worry until conditions became desperate. One of their advertisements called tenders to contract for repairing the road across the swamp opposite Mrs. Hobson's South Yarra. That road was Gardiner's Creek Road, just below where Hawksburn is now. The swampy ground in Chapel Street was of more importance, but it was not on the high road to the rich settlers at Toorak, so little was done.

In 1853-4 transport to Melbourne was haphazard. A pair-horse vehicle started at 8.30 a.m. and left Melbourne at 5 p.m., fare 2/6d each way. The driver used to go around the settlement the night before ringing a bell, calling upon intending passengers to book their seats while any remained. The alternative was to walk to the punt and go down the Yarra. The fare was 6d.

The council erected a wharf at Yarra Street to facilitate the use of the Yarra waterway as a means of bringing goods from Melbourne, and the goods were landed at the Yarra Wharf.

By 1857 a regular road transport service had been established, and a bridge over the Yarra was opened in October, 1857.



The first Church Street Bridge

**SPECTEMUR AGENDO**

Prahran was declared a municipal district in April 1855. The following year the council instructed its finance committee to "procure a seal and to apply for a motto". They recommended a design consisting of the Royal Arms encircled with a scroll containing the words "Borough of Prahran" and the motto "Spectemur Agendo" meaning "Let us be seen by our deeds".

At this time South Yarra, Windsor and Prahran formed separate villages, with houses dotted along the intervening distances, linking the hamlets together.

Discontent and jealousy existed between South Yarra and Prahran. As far back as 1857 a petition signed by 550 persons alleged that "South Yarra was too remote from Prahran, and their requirements would be better fulfilled by residents of that district".

A public meeting took place in South Yarra on the 24th September 1877 agitating that South Yarra be a separate municipality, and Commercial Road was to be the boundary line.

The Prahran Council crushed the proposal. Later a scheme for dividing

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, HISTORY SERVICES

EDUCATION DEPT.

the City of Prahran into wards was devised, and after a lot of opposition the Council gave way. The division was sanctioned by the Governor-in-Council in 1888, and Prahran, South Yarra, Windsor and Toorak became separate wards.

### EDUCATION FOR THE CHILDREN

Education for the children was of great concern to the early settlers. In 1841 the number of children of school age was 2329 of whom only 691 were receiving education in the twenty public and private schools. Ten years later Port Phillip was separated from New South Wales, and the Colony of Victoria came into being.

In 1855 responsible government was introduced. At this time education was in the control of two independent boards . . . the denominational schools board which had begun operations in 1849, and the Board of National Education appointed in 1851.

The Common Schools Act in 1862 abolished dual control. These schools were not entirely satisfactory. A fee of 6d to 2/6 weekly was charged for all children except those whose parents were too poor to pay even this.

In 1862 the Hornbrook Ragged School Association was formed with the object of "gathering in and instructing in the Word of God destitute children for whom no other means of education is available". This was opposed to the "Godless system of state education". At the end of the first year ten schools were opened, two of which were in Prahran. The little girls learnt needlework, and the boys learnt bible texts, and all were trained in habits of cleanliness, order and industry.

A commission was appointed in 1866 to enquire into the workings of the Common Schools, and their report led to the Act of 1872 which laid down three principles.

1. That education must be free.
2. That it must be secular.
3. That it must be compulsory.

It appointed a Minister for Public Instruction, it established a Department of Education, and it made education compulsory for all children between the ages of six and fifteen years.

The Education Department took over the 453 Common Schools (which became State) entered into negotiations for the 590 schoolhouses belonging to the denominations, and began the construction of new ones. In 1872 there

were 66,000 children in average attendance at the common schools. In 1873 the attendance had increased by 50% though the increase in those attending Roman Catholic Schools was considerable as that denomination refused to take advantage of a system which was described as "Godless".

Complaints were received from parents that education could not be considered "free" when they had to pay for books and other requisites. The Government obtained a large supply of books from England, and these were supplied to all who applied for them, no questions being asked about their parents ability to pay their price. The only distinction being that children who paid for their books could carry them home, whilst the others had to leave them in the school.

Common School No. 491, established in 1854 by the Church of England, was conducted in a discarded church building (St. Mathews) in Chapel Street. In later years, according to the personal reminiscences of Mr. J. H. Furneaux — "the building was in a bad state of repair, great patches off the walls, and holes in the floor through which large rats came up and often scampered over the floor distracting our attention".

When the Education Act came into force in 1872, attendance at the school increased from 210 to 312 pupils, and consequently Mr. Walter Gamble, the headmaster, took a particular interest in plans for a new State School to be built.

### A NEW STATE SCHOOL

Firstly a site had to be selected. On the 18th May 1873 Benjamin Cowderoy (Valuer) reported to the Education Department that a block exceeding one acre, with a frontage of 170' to Commercial Road would be worth approx. 700 pounds.

On the 8th October an Agreement was drawn up and signed by Mrs. Margaret Hobson of Toorak for " . . . all that piece of land being part of the portion 34 Parish of Prahran known as the Dunster Estate commencing at the Junction of Commercial Road and the East side of Surrey Road extending along Commercial Road, easterly for 284' for the sum of 1110 pounds".

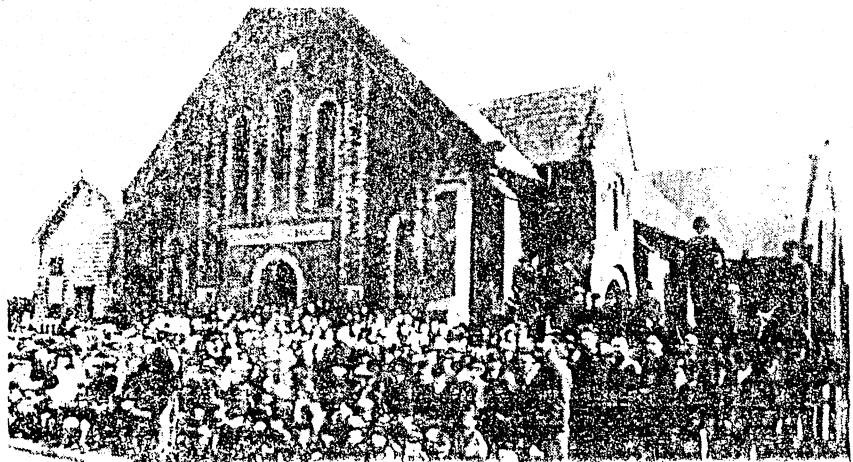
And two months later Mr. Gamble sent in an application:

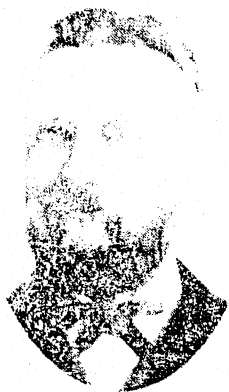
"As the private C of E School No. 491, of which I have been headmaster for eleven years will cease to be recognized as a state school as soon as the Department of Education has erected the proposed schools in the district of Prahran, one of which will be located in Commercial Road, I would this early respectfully solicit the appointment of head teacher. I hold the highest classification in teaching in the district. 2nd class honors, 1st Div. Competency, Civil Service (ordinary) Drill and Gymnastics, Singing Masters (2nd class)."

Tenders were then called for building. John Wright's tender was accepted on the 8th March 1874 for 5571 pounds. His original quote was for 6054 pounds, but by omitting fencing behind the closets, and making the first floor corridors and stairs of wood instead of stone, he was able to reduce the cost.

And so the building commenced. By December the desks, seats, book presses, tables, chairs and other equipment were purchased, and the new two-storeyed brick school known as Prahran No. 1467, was opened in January 1875. This brought under one roof the pupils of three local common schools, with Mr. Walter M. Gamble as headmaster.

St. Matthews Common School





Mr. Gamble

Mr. Gamble was already well-known to the residents of Prahran and was very popular with all the children. He was proud of his new school but regretted the Department's policy of trying to cut costs to the detriment of the school. No female staff room had been provided and this he insisted upon at once, and on the 20th January he wrote asking for "stout outside blinds. The North room 50 x 20 feet has 144squarefeet of glass and the heat is almost insupportable".

The request for blinds was refused and the windows frosted over. It is interesting to read the following list of parents occupations taken from an early register.

Coachman, Ship's Carpenter, Wire weaver, Cab man, Dressmaker, Candlemaker, Groom, Laundress, Draper, Coach builder, Publican, Miner, Sailmaker, Hat Cleaner, Baker, Musician, Saddler, Gentleman, Inkle Weaver

One source of constant concern to Mr. Gamble was the inadequate fencing. A few months after the school opened he received the first of a long, long series of communications from Mr. W. J. Smithers who lived behind the school. He complained of "children's balls and other things coming over the fence and constantly they come knocking at my door".

One month later — "each day is becoming more imperative" — followed by a barrage of letters "threatening to take action with the children annoying him". "It is getting unbearable and you cannot blame me for what I do." At this time the boys were climbing over the fence, breaking eggs, and frightening the fowls.

The department replied that the fence had been paid for by them, and Mr. Smithers could not expect them to pay for it to be made higher.

Poor Mr. Smithers. His angry letters certainly add great bulk to the early correspondence file in the Archives, Latrobe Library.

Due also to the state of the fencing along Surrey Road, Mr. Gamble had to contend with "fowls and goats easily obtaining access to the shrubs which adorn the playground". Mr. Chapman, who owned the property immediately to the south of the boys playground complained "that on account of the state of the dividing fence his fruit and vegetables prove a temptation stronger than the children are able to resist".

Despite the Department's refusal to supply shelter sheds, Mr. Gamble ordered and paid for them at his own cost. Just before he left the school he wrote on the 2nd April 1878 asking for some allowance to be paid to him. He stated "the sheds have and will, when the young trees that I have planted near them have grown, prove to be eminently useful". He received 25 pounds. He thanked the Department for their "generosity".

## THOMAS H. TEMPLETON TAKES OVER



Mr. Templeton

Mr. Gamble left the school to take up his appointment as District Inspector and Mr. T.H. Templeton took over as headteacher during 1878. Mr. Templeton was a soldierly man, a Colonel, with a wide reputation for "fairness" which earned for him the respect of all his pupils.

During its first year the school enrolment reached 1616 with average attendance of 737, which had now climbed to over 900 pupils, and Mr. Templeton immediately requested additions to the building. "As the district is a large open one rapidly filling up with new buildings and increasing population, I think that a school of less capacity than for 1000 children would not meet its requirements".

At this time, also, the school was used as a Sunday School.

Always a swampy area, the early school grounds were frequently so muddy that it was literally impossible for anyone to cross them. In complaining, the headteacher wrote, "... each child carries into the school 2 lbs. of mud on his boots and the floors are covered all over with mud to a depth of at least two inches".

Some of the rooms leaked and the school was cold and draughty. During those early years sickness was prevalent among the children and also the teachers. In October 1883 Mr. Templeton wrote one more of his numerous letters regarding the muddy wet grounds, the leaks and the draughts. The letter began, "It has long been an unsolved problem in my mind as to the reason for the very marked deterioration in the state of my health ever since I took charge of this school in June 1878. Rheumatism, neuralgia and ear infections all due to the draughty state of the school".

His next letter, dated 21st September, 1883, was written in such an angry tone that he immediately sat down and wrote another, apologizing that he had "overstepped the bounds of courtesy in writing in a tone which I should not have adopted in addressing my Superior Officer. At the time of writing I was suffering acutely from neuralgia. I had had a difficult task all day in keeping my temper down, so when the school was dismissed and I sat down to report the condition of affairs outside, I seem to have allowed the nervous irritation from which I was suffering to flow down into my pen".

Who could fail to sympathize with the overwrought headteacher? His apology was accepted.

During the early part of 1882 the school was broken into three times, which prompted Mr. Templeton to request a caretaker's cottage be built, and the first caretaker was appointed in February 1883.

The period allowed for Christmas vacations at this time extended from December 21st until January 14th.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, HISTORICAL SERVICES

In 1883 the Board of Advice supported a move by the Department of Defence to establish Cadet Corps in schools. The cadets wore special uniforms and accoutrements and practised rifle and infantry field exercises. The Hawksburn boys used to march around the streets of Prahran. It was their practice to go down to the Bluff at Elwood Beach to shoot at targets and fire shots out into the bay. Large notices warned people to "Beware".

The "Vagabond" writing in "The Illustrated Australian News" in 1884, described the difficulties involved with attaining a full attendance of pupils. "On Wednesdays many children are kept home to sell in the market. Friday is another day on which many children are kept away from school, sent gathering wood, etc., and every afternoon many boys leave at half-past-two to obtain the first instalment of "The Herald" which they sell in the streets".

Despite this, the shortage of accommodation at Prahran 1467 became more and more acute until on the 21st July 1884 Mr. Templeton received notification that he should refuse all applications of new scholars. He had 160 children at this time waiting for admission, and by June the number had risen to 214.

During June 1885 the Foresters Hall, Lang Street, South Yarra was rented to the school at 75 pounds per annum, and this continued for twelve months, during which time Mr. Templeton kept up a campaign for additional rooms to be built. Another year elapsed, the lease expired, and alternative accommodation had to be found. A hall was leased in Malvern Road (Turner's Auction Rooms) and classes held there for twelve months, many parents complaining constantly of the uncomfortable cramped conditions for their children.

At this time the second generation of Furneaux enrolled at the school, two sons, William and Ted. Although Will did not spend all his school years at Hawksburn, his memories are still vivid today (1974) and he has many fascinating tales to relate of the early days of Prahran. He is in his 94th year and is a quite remarkable old gentleman.



Teaching Staff 1887

By the end of 1888 Mr. Templeton vacated the Auction room there were "no more children in attendance than could be accommodated at his school". During this year the name of the school was changed to North Prahran State School No. 1467.

By March 1889, with enrolment exceeding 2000 and average attendance over 1000, Mr. Templeton was still urging for new rooms to be built. "Classes are being held in the corridors", and "the whole school has a most dilapidated appearance, the playground rough and uncared for, broken windows, and fences tumbling down". Later that year welcome additions were made to the school.

Broken windows were a constant problem. One account was for 89 panes replaced at a cost of 10 pounds 11 shillings and 10 pence.

Mr. Templeton left the school in 1894 and Mr. H. Robinson was acting headteacher until Mr. Halkyard (previously a district inspector) arrived in 1895. A visit of the Board of Advice the following year noted "that the behaviour of the children and the discipline of the school was as usual perfect".



Mr. Halkyard

There was a strong teaching tradition in the Halkyard family. Charles was the second son of Samuel Halkyard headmaster of Modeware Common School (approx. 20 miles from Geelong).

On the 12th July 1891 a most disastrous flood occurred. Rain poured unceasingly and scarcely a house was dry. Very early it was realized that the flood waters would flow into the houses in the vicinity of Chapel Street North. The Yarra was running over its banks. Storm waters roaring down the drain were dammed back by the swollen river to a long distance up Toorak Road, and the water was up to the rooftops on many houses. In a night 1,035 residents were rendered homeless, many living in Cromwell Road and other streets surrounding the North Prahran State school. The effect of this flood was to hasten the widening of the Yarra and the much talked of Yarra Improvement Scheme, together with the enlarging of municipal drains which removed the acute danger of floods at South Yarra.

During August 1898, a tree planting scheme was carried out by the Prahran Council. Property owners had to contribute half the cost to plant suitable trees both sides of Surrey Road, and the charge was 3d. per foot frontage.

And more additions to the school were carried out in 1899 to cater for the steadily increasing number of scholars.

Instruction approved this site on the 13th May 1924 for the establishment of a high school for 750 boys. The school was opened in 1927 when senior boys moved from the old Melbourne High School, a co-educational establishment in Spring Street, Eastern Hill.

In the early 1960's moves were made towards building the Prahran High School which was eventually established on the Orrong Road site formerly the City Council Stables depot.

The Prince of Wales visited Melbourne in 1920, and on the 5th of May the Hawksburn children took part in an official welcome to the popular Royal visitor who had become known as "The Prince of Smiles". There was a Display on the Melbourne Cricket Ground in which the Hawksburn school took a prominent part, and they also lined the streets when he drove through their district.

During 1920 Miss Taylor died and a tribute was paid to her by the children, as she had taught music at the school for more than a quarter of a century.

The winter of 1921 was a very bad one, with a serious diphtheria epidemic sweeping through the city of Melbourne. In June there were 116 pupils away from Hawksburn school, some of whom died from the effects of the outbreak.

Sporting activities were encouraged at this time with football matches for the boys, basketball for the girls and in the summer months, cricket and rounders were played. Swimming lessons were given at St. Kilda Baths. Annual Sports Days were held at Toorak Park in which all the local schools participated. Hawksburnians used to yell their teams to victory with:

"Ginger beer,  
Pop, pop, pop,  
Hawksburn, Hawksburn,  
We're on Top",

And Hawksburn school continued to maintain its record for good results both in the classroom and on the sporting field.



Back to school under the new headmaster. A photo taken in 1922 by the school photographer.

On the 13th September 1923 a piece of land was submitted to the school in Cromwell Road abutting on the south side of the State School, frontage 22' by a depth of about 87', and the price asked was 12 pounds per foot.

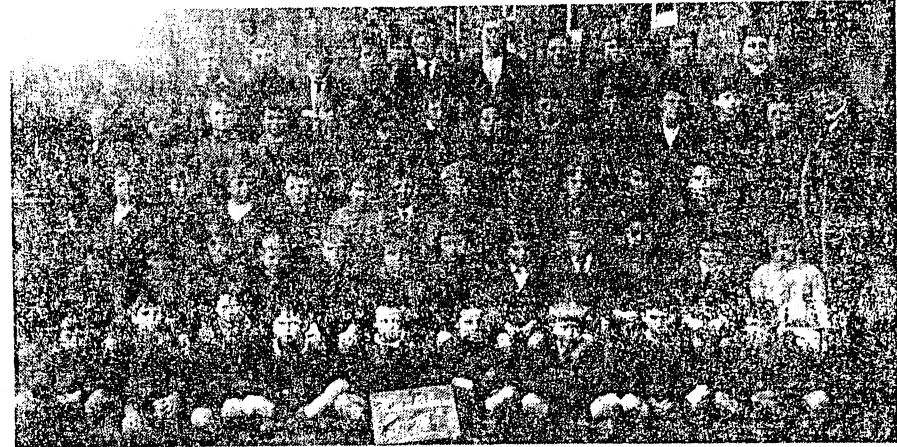
By this time the school building was constantly leaking and in dis-repair, and one day a brick fell on the shoulder of one of the lads and Mr. Halkyard wrote: "It is fortunate that it did not fall on his head or he might have been badly hurt."

Approval was given on the 14th April 1924 to remodel the school at a cost of 8120 pounds. Four months later, with no work yet begun, a letter was received from the Prahran Town Clerk stating that the building had been condemned by the Fire Protection Authority, and the top part of the school should be closed immediately. And in October accommodation had been found for 900 children whilst repairs were carried out. They were sent to:

Two school halls at the rear of Church of Christ, High Street, Prahran.

Presbyterian Church Hall. Prahran Independent Church Hall; Wm. Forster Try Boys Society Hall.

Eventually the repairs were completed and the school welcomed back all the pupils, but despite Mr. Halkyard's pleading the Education Department would not agree to supplying new desks to suit "the practically new surroundings".



Grade III - 1922

### MR. HALKYARD RETIRES

During the year 1925 Mr. C. S. Halkyard retired after thirty years as headmaster, and was replaced by Mr. H. A. Japp. Such a period as headmaster of one of the largest State Schools was, and still is, exceptional in the history of the Education Department. On the 16th of July a Farewell Concert was given to Mr. Halkyard by the citizens of Prahran in the Town Hall, and over one thousand people were present.

Irene Mitchell, well known for her outstanding work for theatre in Melbourne, spent all her schooldays at Hawksburn with Mr. Halkyard as head-teacher. She left school at fourteen years of age and still feels grateful for the guidance and interest of her teachers. She took up drama in her teens and won wide recognition for her talent. She began teaching, did radio work, and then entered the theatre. She became Director of the old Melbourne Little Theatre, and helped with the planning of the present St. Martin's Theatre in South Yarra. Her dreams now are for the establishment of a permanent Children's Theatre.

Her incentive stemmed from two teachers in particular who inspired her with a love of poetry and Shakespeare when they used to read reams of it to the children. She loved listening to the magic and music of the words. A good school, she feels, can inspire a child all through his life.

Many others who attended school at this time express these same sentiments. In many cases their children, followed by their children's children have become scholars at Hawksburn. One family in point are the Gahans. George Gahan was a pupil in the early 20's, left at fourteen, achieved success in many fields, and was elected Mayor of the City of Prahran, first in 1965

After a long and valuable life Mr. J. H. Furneaux died in 1943. The scholars lined the footpath outside the school as his funeral passed by, and the headmaster joined the funeral procession which was an extremely long one, as many wanted to pay tribute to the man who had done such fine work for the City of Prahran.

When the war finally ended the school celebrated with a bazaar in the afternoon and "Victory" celebrations at night which included the burning of an effigy at the stake.

In 1946 great publicity was given to the nutritional value of Oslo lunches, and the Mothers Club asked for a lunch room and facilities so that they could start their Oslo lunches for the children. This was done in makeshift accommodation until a building was erected in the grounds during 1950.

And in 1946 an Electronic Sound System was installed at a cost of 226 pounds 18 shillings and 9 pence. The Committee worked hard to provide the school with amenities — seats around the playground in 1947, shelter sheds in 1949, and projector and films the following year. The library also was reimbursed periodically, and the Scholarship Committee continued to provide valuable service. In 1949 due to the increasing volume of traffic it became necessary to arrange for traffic lights to be installed.

During 1950 Mr. G. Drummond retired after eleven years as headmaster. Now seventy-five years old, the Hawksburn State School had, until this time, had only five headmasters. Under the leadership of these men a tradition had been established which included long and loyal service from staff, consistent academic success, and good support from parents and the community.

The Infant School was honoured in 1953 when Miss MacDermott received the Horner Prize for the best conducted Infant School.

In June 1953, to mark the occasion of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth, the Prahran council issued Coronation badges to the children, and a Social was held in the Infant School to mark the historic occasion. And when the Queen visited Australia in 1954, the children lined the street on the 2nd of March to give her a rousing welcome, and wave flags, as she drove through the streets of Prahran.

In 1953 the number of pupils enrolled dropped to 818, a fact mainly contributed to families moving to outer suburbs. It was considered that more land was needed for an infant playground so in 1955 a section of an adjoining house block was purchased. The School Committee and the Mothers Club worked very hard to raise extra funds for playground equipment which entailed many enthusiastic working bees of parents. It was a wonderful effort on the part of all concerned, and the playground was officially opened in October by Mr. S. Loxton, M.L.A. for Prahran. Mr. Loxton, well known test cricketer, took a particular interest in the new cricket pitch.



A few tips from Sam Loxton.



CRICKET: Back - Mr. Gliddings, K. Bridgeway, I. Adams, N. Harper, P. Shepherd, P. Moreira, J. Kendall. Front - J. Bowyer, R. Stanley, M. Brodie, L. Nelson, R. Muir.



ROUNDERS: Back - Miss J. Wright, P. Collinder, H. Cook, V. O'Shannassy, H. Rowe, Mr. Charlesworth. Front - C. Kafouri, G. McPherson, W. Keys, J. Parkes, C. Smith, J. West, J. Zucker.



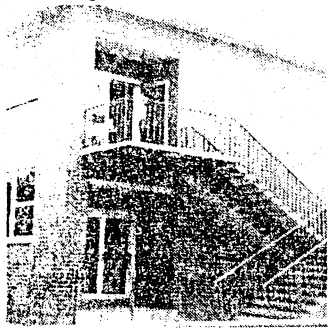
intersection of Surrey, Malvern and Bendigo Streets, and in 1959 the Projection Room was formed and equipped. Basketball courts were laid out in the school grounds and Carol Smith, one of the pupils, was chosen to play in the State Basketball Team.

The following year a neighbouring brick building was purchased and incorporated into the schoolground area as a canteen. The canteen which had been started by the Mothers Club in a wooden structure in 1950 had been destroyed by fire in 1958, and this purchase enabled the preparation of lunches to continue under more improved conditions. The Mothers Club worked hard during these years, the major fund raising event being an Annual Monster Fete. These efforts went towards providing sports equipment, amenities for the children, a generous Father Christmas on break-up day at the Infant School, as well as annual scholarships for the senior students. It was a pity that the Mothers Club ceased to function and went into recess in 1968. This was a considerable loss to the school. The canteen was then leased to a private citizen and operates quite successfully in this way.

Enrolment declined steadily, and by 1965 it was below 700 in number. The following year it increased sharply with the opening of the first multi-storey block of flats on the Horace Petty Estate between the school and Chapel Street. This block was the first of several to be constructed in the area by the Housing Commission.

The population of Hawksburn had undergone a great change during the past years. From an almost one hundred percent Australian community it had become one made up of a number of other nationalities, most of whom were brought out to Australia under the Migrant Scheme by the Government. At one time there were 31 nationalities which represented approximately seventy percent of the school population.

With the increasing number of migrant children attending the school came added difficulties for the teachers who worked hard to help them assimilate into the normal class routine. There are at present (1974) five Child Migrant English Teachers (both full and part time) providing special English tuition for migrant children from all grades. The teachers work in small groups (6 pupils) in withdrawal areas, and this is proving of great value not only to the migrant children but also to the other pupils and the teaching staff.



The New Block

In 1963 the school was being used as a training school for teachers responsible for teaching 4½ year olds; swimming lessons began in the Council's new Swimming Pool in Essex Street, and the first full-time librarian was appointed to the school.

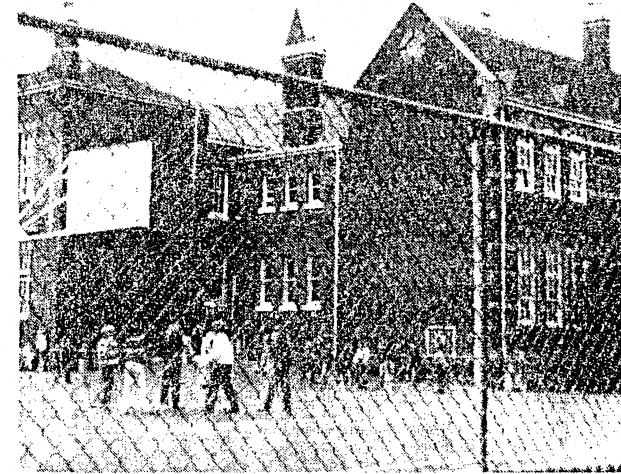
During 1967 a new two-storey block, containing six classrooms, was opened. This block was constructed on one of two small blocks on Cromwell Road bought by the Department two years earlier. These classrooms relieved the overcrowding which had developed rapidly after the opening of the

demolished.

Two portable classrooms were set up in 1968 when enrolment neared 1100. These were removed from the site in January 1974.

When Allen McLean took over as headmaster in 1969 the school was badly in need of painting and renovating, and the need for additional playing space was acute. Due to the concerted efforts of Mr. McLean and the School Committee, the Department eventually agreed to purchase four houses adjoining the school in Surrey Road. Three of these were demolished immediately and the whole school grounds resurfaced. Later, when the fourth house was vacated, this last piece of ground was surfaced. During

this difficult period the staff and children co-operated magnificently. High wire mesh fences were erected and the Council, assisted by the staff, marked out basketball courts and various areas for ballgames. The contribution of one member of staff in particular, Mr. Ian Charlesworth, who has been with the school for the past seventeen years, is recorded with gratitude.



In 1971 the Child Psychology Guidance Centre, which had been established at the school, moved away, which left more classrooms for migrant education.

And work began on the garden; the old privot hedge was dug out and a new cyclone fence erected by the Committee. Mr. Dangri with the help of grade 6 pupils, took over responsibility for the garden and in 1973 Hawksburn received the A.N.A. prize for the most improved school grounds and garden in the Inspectorate.

Due to increasing traffic, the Prahran Council now supplies a Traffic Officer to supervise the crossing at the Surrey/Malvern Road corner. The school is located in a densely populated area alongside a complex of multi-storey Housing Commission Flats, and although the grounds have been extended, they are still small for the number of pupils enrolled. The asphalted areas are marked off as games courts, a lot of money has been spent on games and sports equipment, and a Little Athletics team has been formed. Parents have been asked to give approval for excursions to local parks and places of interest so that the physical environment may extend well beyond the immediate school area.



Hawkesburn P.S. No 1467  
 MALVERN RD  
 Prahan City

Victorian Schools

[111] State school 1278  
 La Trobe Street Melbourne,  
 being the Immigration Depot  
 remodelled and with additions  
 1873 (architect, H. R. Bastow)

apparently the two towers were added in a matching classical style while the old interior was remodelled.

Before either Bendigo North or La Trobe Street were begun the Minister had decided that his appointee required expert assistance and local architects were invited to submit, by 7 July, competitive designs for large schools in three classifications. The architects, Leonard Terry (1825-84) and Charles Webb, agreed to assist in the adjudication. Those who entered the competition were provided with the following guidelines:

- (a) The material to be employed for general walling will be brick and the roof to be slated.
- (b) The width of the schoolrooms to be 20' and no room to be more than 65' long.
- (c) The area allowed for each child should be about 10ft. [sic] — or 2 children to each foot in length of school or classrooms.
- (d) The schoolrooms may be either lighted from behind the children when seated in their classes, taking care to supply light also from the ends of rooms where possible — or they may be lighted from the roof. No window sill to be less than 4' from the floor.
- (e) Ventilation must receive careful attention and should be under thorough control.
- (f) The building must be of a very simple character — effective grouping being attempted rather than expensive detail.
- (g) Suitable lavatories should be provided.
- (h) The building should be arranged in such a manner that a portion might be built with a view to future extension.

Apart from the more generous allowance, already exceeded (at least, in theory) by the old Board (p. 73) and the insistence on the provision of lavatories, there was nothing to indicate an advance on the larger vested schools of the previous régime. Furthermore, it is surprising that so little guidance should have been given on room lengths for the various

classifications and, in particular, that no mention was made of the gallery classrooms which appeared in all the final plans.<sup>11</sup>

Perspective views of the prize-winning designs were published in the 1 November issue of the *Australasian Sketcher*. One of these, for one thousand scholars on a single floor, was by the firm of Wharton and Vickers [108], the other for the same number on two floors from M. Schneider [109], and the third, a smaller school to accommodate five hundred children, was the work of W. H. Ellerker (1840-91) [110], who also secured second prize in the other two classifications. As a result of this competition all the successful architects and also the adjudicators were given commissions for the town schools listed.

Roll No.	School	Date built	Architects
1181	Albert Park	1874	M. Schneider
1542	Brighton	1875	Terry and Oakden
1270	Buninyong	1874	W. H. Ellerker
112	Faraday St Carlton	1877	Reed and Barnes
1252	Lee St Carlton	1878	W. H. Ellerker
1360	Gold St Clifton Hill	1874	W. H. Ellerker
1467	Hawkesburn	1874	Crouch and Wilson
1402	Errol St North Melbourne	1874	Wharton and Vickers
1253	Dorcas St South Melbourne	1881	Charles Webb
1689	King St West Melbourne	1876	Terry and Oakden
1396	Brighton St Richmond	1874	Wharton and Vickers
1567	Richmond Central	1877	George Wharton
1406	Yarra Park	1874	Charles Webb