

Eastertide April 18 to 25, 1935

Forward- The Spirit of Maryborough by Alec Chisholm

Is there something in the country air of Victoria that promotes mateiness- something that causes former residents, wheresoever they wander to retain a special affection for the scenes of their youth. I begin to believe that there is. At any rate, Victoria is easily the strongest of all States in associations of "old boys" and "old girls".

You meet very few bodies of the kind in cities other than Melbourne. It is true that certain towns throughout the continent occasionally hold reunions of former residents but the movement generally has more vitality in Victoria than in the five other states put together.

Most of all, it seems, the spirit of fraternity is evident among people who live, or have lived on the Victorian Goldfields. Unlike farming communities, the families of which necessarily are somewhat scattered, a town born on a basis of mining is more compact. It is not too large, everyone knows everyone else. All are members of the one family; the town itself is their social mother. Like their predecessors of the Roaring Days, they stick together in all major matters. Each town, of course, has its groups-its rival bodies in sports and other spheres- but disputes are merely domestic arguments, and are no concern of "outsiders"

It was a common thing during the Great War for a Digger from one State to say harsh things about another State, but if anyone of a different race intruded, there was apt to be trouble- the critical Digger then became wholly Australian. So it is with the genuine townsman. He permits himself, at times, to throw a few vocal bricks at Borough councillors and other institutions of the town, but he will not, if he is patriotic, tolerate and "knocking" by outsiders. The local spirit is the national spirit on a smaller scale.

You remember, perhaps, the American story of a man who sat in a café and bragged that he was a 'citizen of the world'. He disdained affection for any one spot, and claimed to be as much at home in Cairo or Yokohama as we was in America. "I am not tied down" he declared "to anything that isn't 8,000 miles in diameter". Soon afterwards this citizen of the world became engaged in a fierce brawl with another man. Was he fighting for the reputation of the earth at large? Not a bit of it. The cause of the quarrel, as a waiter explained, was that the second fellow had made rude remarks about a certain country town. "But", an onlooker protested, "that first man is a citizen of the world, he is not interested in just any one spot". "Originally from a little town in Maine" said the waiter, "and he wouldn't stand for no 'knocking' of the place!"

After all, you see, there is no place like home. Every wholesome man and woman retains in a corner of the mind (or is it the soul?) memories of one particular place, and in most instances that place is the scene of his or her childhood. Especially is true of former residents of Maryborough and district. With us, local patriotism has always been a strong point. It has its basis in the Clan spirit created by men of old. It developed because we have always been a self-contained community, neither too large nor too small, well away from the metropolis, secure in our own resources, untroubled by tourists, and having sufficient forest areas to make bus rambles distinctive and interesting.

Here, where our forefathers of the fifties found only a gloomy forest, had grown up a goodly town an several cosy townships. As the years rolled on the landscape become homely and the people became attached to it. The friendly streets of the town, modest cottages and their gardens, the expansive parks and even the grim old ironbark and box trees of the adjacent bushland- all these things were part of our lives. Indeed, most boys of the Maryborough district have always

been on good terms with the very earth of the place. How exciting it was to slide on pieces of tin down the tailings-heaps of Bristol Hill and other spots! How pleasant it was to ramble over the old shallow workings- to run up and down the scarred faces of the gullies and to peer into collapsed shafts for the nests of swallows!

Now, after many years of wandering, whenever I stroll in one of those gullies I find my feet, of their own accord, caressing the earth. Without direction from my brain, it would seem, these feet of mine know the difference between the 'feel' of the earth in other parts of Australia and that of the gravelled gullies of boyhood. Doubtless, many ex-residents, without perhaps less intimate knowledge of the bushland, have had similar experiences, in another aspect. For example, one man confesses that when he travels to Maryborough he takes no special interest in the landscape until he approaches Carisbrook on the one side or Talbot on the other, upon which something inside him become animated. "It seems," he said "as though a curtain has lifted and a voice says, 'come in'." That, you see, is what the Spirit of Maryborough does for its children.

Mr Jack Worrall is another who supplies distinctive testimony to the "pull" of the old town. It is now more than fifty years since Mr Worrall left Maryborough. In that time he has roamed "mid pleasures and palaces"; he has been a member of two Australian Cricket teams in England, and has been lionised in Melbourne as one of the greatest footballers Australia has known. Nevertheless, Jack Worrall recalls his boyhood in the peace of central Victoria with greater pleasure than he gains from recalling his deeds in the sporting fields of England and Australia. Did he not write recently that whenever he takes a train for Maryborough he still feels that he is going home. There, again, is an indication of the extent to which the spell of the place-and not necessarily a place of beautiful scenery-can defy time and distance.

Yes, Maryborough is – well, Maryborough is Maryborough. It is "the old home town" of many people who are scattered throughout the world. Indeed, one of the most striking facts in relation to the town and district is that you meet former residents almost anywhere. Once, when engaged on a political tour of Queensland, I renewed associations with Maryborough in almost every town along the coast- human links seem to bob up on all sides. And when I stepped out of a train at Hughenden, up towards the Northern Territory, the first man I met was a former resident of Maryborough. By the same token, the present Chairman of the Old Boys and Girls Association relates that soon after he left town, many years ago, he was walking along a street in Adelaide and was feeling somewhat lonely, so he said to himself, "Wish I could meet someone from Maryborough." A minute later a hand smote his back and a hearty voice shouted "Hullo Harry, what are you doing here!" The wish having been gratified, we may draw a veil over the rest of the proceedings that evening. One other thought should be added. Is it not probable that the Maryborough district, on a population basis, has produced more eminent men than any other country area in Australia? Who's Who in Australia, Who's Who in Britain, and various other records afford evidence on the point. From this district have come scientists, professors, bishops, authors, Rhodes Scholar, leading soldiers, historians, musicians, Ministers of the Crown, high Government officials, leading bankers, notable business men, athletes, numerous first-class footballers, and three members of all-Australian cricket teams, each of whom has been captain of Victoria. (We have also, let it be whispered, "turned out" some competent criminals.) All this has been accomplished on a town and district population which at its peak has not exceeded 10,000. Allow us a radius of 30 miles, with a population limit of 20,000, and (chiefly with the aid of Creswick) we would show a better record than any group of similar size in Australia.

Moreover, if another mild boast is permissible, it may be suggested that the Maryborough and district fields (say within a radius of 15 miles), take a very high rank among the gold producing

areas of the world. Between them the alluvial quarts, and deep mines of the locality have sent many millions of pounds worth of gold through the town.

Well, now it is time that rumination ended. They have already ran to greater length than was intended when the “Back to Maryborough” Committee, in a rash moment, invited me to write an introduction to the present booklet. Wordiness, however, is more or less inevitable when one begins to “summon up remembrance of things past”. The “light of other days” is both a sedative and a stimulant; it makes the “old Boy” and the “old Girl” pensive, but it also makes them chatty. If you wish for testimony on this point, watch the “comebacks” at the old town during Easter week. Then you will realise, if you have not already realised, something of what the Spirit of Maryborough does for its children.

Alex Chisholm.

Chisholm, Alexander Hugh (Alec) (1890–1977)

Alexander Hugh (Alec) Chisholm (1890-1977), journalist, ornithologist and encyclopaedist, was born on 28 March 1890 at Maryborough, Victoria, seventh of eight children of Colin Chisholm, a native-born grocer, and his Scottish-born wife Charlotte, née Kennedy. Alec attended Maryborough State School until the age of 12. During his formative years, after work and farm chores, he educated himself, learned shorthand, wrote poetry, fossicked for gold, collected stamps and cigarette cards, and enjoyed amateur theatricals. An insatiable reading appetite and an astounding memory were to serve him well.

Chisholm claimed that, from early childhood, he was aware of nature surrounding him. Whenever he could, he escaped to the bush and in 1907 commenced a diary in which the entries were almost entirely devoted to birds. That year he became a member of the (Royal) Australasian Ornithologists Union and in 1908 published six articles in Emu. A conservationist long before it became fashionable to be one, he attacked the plume trade in an article in the Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser which won him many friends

Chisholm was short and slight, with piercing, blue eyes and a mass of wavy hair. In later years he was a familiar figure in his hat and gabardine overcoat, carrying a suitcase and walking stick. Imperious and querulous, he gained the respect – and incurred the wrath – of many people, but remained passionately faithful to the causes in which he believed. He died on 10 July 1977 in his flat at Cremorne Point and was cremated with Presbyterian forms. His daughter survived him.

Taken in part from Australian Dictionary of Biography Volume 13 1993

An Historical Compendium

Maryborough 1861

(Constituted May 4 1857)

An area of Municipality: nine square miles. Streets surveyed.9 miles: formed 5 miles: formed and metalled, 3 miles: formed, metalled, kerbed and channelled 25 chains.

Public Buildings: Churches-Church of England, Presbyterian, Congregational, Wesleyan, Roman Catholic. Others- Post Office, Supreme Court House, Court of Petty Sessions, Goal, Hospital, Town Hall, Sub-Treasury, Survey Office, Powder Magazine, Lock-up and Watch-house, Fire Engine House, Bank of Victoria, London Chartered Bank, Union Bank, Savings Bank, Mechanics Institute, Mining Board, Theatre.

Societies: Garrick Club, Cricket Club, Masonic Lodge, Volunteer Rifle Corps (100 men), Fire Brigade (40 men), German Association, Chess Club, Temperance Society.

Habitations; House of Stone or brick, 55; wood, 257; iron, 15; tents of canvas, 500; total, 827

Gold taken to Melbourne by escort from July 1854 to June 30 1861, 993,715 ounces 15 dwts; estimate of gold by private lands for same period, 150,000 ounces; grand total, 1,143,715 ounces 15dwt.

Population, 1477. Electors, 375. Revenue, £1,258/7/9

Schools: Church of England, Roman Catholic, Mr John Gardener's, Mr Collett's, Mr Martin's, Miss Mapleston's.

Maryborough 1935

Streets:- surveyed, 16 miles; metal bound macadam, 12 miles; formed but not sealed, 4 miles; formed and sealed, 8 miles.

Public Buildings- Churches: Church of England, Presbyterian (East and West), Congregational, Methodist (East and West), Army, Church of Christ. Others: Commercial banking Co., E.S and A Bank, Union Bank, Bank of New South Wales, Post Office (Commonwealth Savings Bank), Savings Bank, Court House, Hospital, Town Hall, free Library, Workers Hall, Willard Hall, Masonic Hall, Railways Institute, Theatre, AMP, Fire Brigade Hall, Baby Health Centre, Railway Station, Schools: Brigidine Convent, St Joseph's, High School, Technical School, SS 2828, SS 404.

Hotels: Bull and Mouth, Supreme Court, Albion, McIvor, Flagstaff, Railway and Cambrian.

Public Reserves: Princes Park (70 acres approx.), Botanical Gardens, Royal Park (70 acres), Bristol Hill (52 acres approx.), Soldiers Memorial Plot, Municipal Baths, Cemetery (Controlled by trust).

Principal Associations and Societies: Highland Society, Progress Association, Tennis Association, Football league, Citizen's Brass Band, Highland Pipe band, Railway's Institute, Traders Association, ANA, IOR, INF, Druidism Coursing Club, Race Club, Masonic Lodge, Ambulance Committee, Debating Club, Rifle Club, Odd Volumes Club, Hibbert Club, Ladies Benevolent Society, Ladies Hospital Auxiliary, Hospital Committee, ALP, ARU, Engineers Union, Trades and Labor Council, Baby Health Centre Committee, Country Women's Association, Returned Soldiers Association, Memorial Plot Committee, Scouts Association, Girl Guide's Association, Cricket Association, Church Cricket Association, Homing Club, Agricultural Society, Musical Society, Mothers Club, Golf Club, Croquet Club, Bowling Club

Habitations: 1260. Borough divided into three wards 1887. Town Hall erected 1887. Water Works Trust constituted on June 16 1882, Electric light system installed 1924. Population: 5634. Electors, 4175. Revenue: Borough, £10,000; electric light, £8,500; sustenance, £5,000; water, £7,500. Waterworks: Head supply at Evansford, established 1884, enlarge 1921, capacity 400,000,000 gallons. Goldfields reservoir constructed 1863.

Industries: Railway Workshops, Maryborough Knitting Mills (Cuttle) Ltd, Patience and Nicholson Ltd tool manufacturers; Flour Mills, Butter Factory and Ice Works, Keller Hosiery Mill. Headquarters: Postal Inspector, Midland Police District, Police Magistrate, District Forest Officer, Public Works Department, D R O Corangamite, Returning Officer Maryborough -Daylesford.

Federal Representative: G A Street, MHR State Representatives: E G Bath and H Alan Currie, M's L G (Nelson Province) Geo. Frost MLA. Mayor Cr R M Fuller, Town Clerk, H N Phillips, Rate Collector, S C Nicol, Shire Secretary, James Nicol. Borough Councilors: Henry Williams, Charles Waters, Samuel Poole, John Bryant, John Lean, John Stevens, William Collins, Leonard Rowland. Shire Councillors: Norman Bucknall, Henry Coutts, John Mullins, Samuel Douglass, John McKenzie, John Williamson, William Williams, Archibald Mason, Ralph Rowland, James Dillon, Thomas Dowie.

Cementing The Old Town Links

The Maryborough Old Boys and Girls Association

The Old Boys and Girl's Association, which exists to renew friendships formed whilst residing in Maryborough, and to foster and cherish affection for Maryborough, was formed at a meeting held in Bradshaw's Business College on Thursday, April 21, 1921. Mr M Willats presided, and moved the motion of formation. On June 23 that year, following the first "Back to Maryborough", a second meeting was held, and the following officers elected: President, Mr W Smith; Vice Presidents, Mr R Jansen, Mrs E McPherson; Secretary, Mr T Ramsay; Treasurer, Mr J Goodman; auditors Messers. E G L Sweet and W Stevenson; Committee, Mesdames R Jansen, W Smith, W Swift, J McKie, B Westlake, Miss M Harrington, Messers. J Grigg, H Swann, R Ramsay, G Burge, M Willats and J F Carlyon. The first basket picnic was held at Williamstown Beach on Australia Day, January 26 1922. Similar gatherings have been held each Australia Day, but in 1934 and 1935 the venue was changed to the Henley Lawns. The activities of the Association have continued without a break and much good has resulted. Reunions and picnics have been very successful. The Association assisted with the Back to Maryborough celebrations in 1926 and 1930 and in November 1926 visited Maryborough for the unveiling of the Memorial Gates at Princes Park. A further pilgrimage was made at Easter 1933 for the unveiling of the Pioneer's Memorial Tower. Presidents to date have been: 1921-1923, Mr W Smith; 1923-24, Mr W Ellery; 1924-25, Mrs E McPherson; 1925-26, Mr W Smith; 1926-27 Mr C Green; 1927-28, Mr A Wills; 1928-29, Mrs Wigger (who died during her term of office – the association placed a memorial vase on her grave in Fawkner Cemetery) ; 1929-30, Mr W Smith; 1930-31, Mr W Morris; 1931-32, Mr J Chatfield; 1932-33, Mr W Morris; 1933-35, Mr H Chaffey. The association was served by the late Mr. J Goodman as treasurer from it's conception until his death on December 29 1934. The present secretary is Mr F J Carlyon.

Maryborough's Postal History

First Post Office was built of canvas

By W Smith

Maryborough's first post office was situated in Royal Park and, like the majority of places in the early days, was built of canvas. As the town became established the office was transferred to its present site, the building having a prominent position in the Civic Square. With its 80ft high clock tower, the Post Office is outstanding, particularly to strangers visiting Maryborough and entering via Nolan Street.

In 1865, the mails from Maryborough to Ballarat were conveyed by coach by way of Amherst, Talbot, Clunes and Creswick, six days each week, the route distance being 48 miles. The contract price was 7³/₄d per mile. Maryborough, via Adelaide Lead and Bung Bong to Avoca was also by coach (16 miles) and the cost was 5 ³/₈d per mile. The coach route, Maryborough to Castlemaine, via Carisbrook, Baringhup, Maldon and Muckleford, was a daily service at also 5 ³/₈d per mile. The clearance of a letter box at Mariner's Reef daily by horseback cost 4d per mile, and at Majorca a contractor received £3/0/9 per annum for the clearance of the letter box twice daily on foot. Records show that the box was situated a quarter of a mile from the Majorca Post Office.

In 1857 the staff of the Maryborough office was one officer. In the following year a sorter was added, making a complement of two. Business transacted for the half-year ending December 31, 1858, showed at 205 money orders were issued aggregating £830/19/6, and that the money orders paid numbered 58, representing £299/1/6. Twelve months later the statistics revealed 280 order issued of a total value of £1068/8/9, and 110 paid, totalling £481/14/6.

When the Post Office Savings Bank was established in 1865, 31 branches were opened, including Maryborough, on September 1. During the year 89 accounts were opened and two were closed. The opening of the railway in 1865 caused a loss to the postal facilities in Maryborough, Carisbrook and

Dunolly, at which towns mails were required to close earlier in order to reach Castlemaine in time to connect with the Melbourne train.

The following were Postmasters in the Maryborough district in 1868: Adelaide Lead, W Noller; Alma, W Fraser; Amherst, J P Smith; Bet Bet, D Grant; Bung Bong, W Glover; Carisbrook, J A B Smith; Chinaman's Flat, A Watson; Havelock, J Rule; Leviathan Reef, J Grant.

In 1871 arrangements were made for a new post office building at Majorca. In 1874 the post office at McCallums Creek was changed to Craigie, and on August 1, 1874 the railway was opened from Ballarat to Creswick. The coach service was then curtailed from Maryborough to Creswick. On July 7 1874 the railway was opened from Castlemaine to Maryborough, and the mails by coach service was discontinued. The railway between Clunes and Creswick was opened on November 16, 1874. Mr C M Maplestone was then the postmaster at Maryborough

The Maryborough Fire Brigade

A Valuable Volunteer Combination

A history of Maryborough would be incomplete without reference to the Fire Brigade, a volunteer organisation which has rendered invaluable public service. The brigade has grown with Maryborough, and has worthily upheld the highest traditions of the service. It was a public agitation following the disastrous fire at the Freemason's Hotel on March 15, 1861, which led to the formation of the Maryborough Fire Brigade. A Public meeting, held on March 27 of that year, at which Mr D W Virtue was the chairman, decided that the brigade should be formed. The late Thos. Casey who was present at the meeting, was appointed Captain and he held that position for 57 years. He was also a member of the Country Fire Brigade's board for 26 years and was several times president. To Captain Casey also went the distinction of moving the motion which led to the formation of the brigade, and as a member of the Borough council he exercised his influence in persuading the council to purchase the first fire engine at a cost of £130. Capt. Casey's sons, with one exception, were also prominently associated with the brigade. Inaugural members were Messer's D K Campbell, D Carrick, D W Virtue, H Hosie, D Taylor, W C Wilson, Beatty, McFarlane, Gearing, Garland, J Matthewson, H Matthewson, H Lunn, A Carick, Elliott, Gilchrist, Stewart, Jarvis, Buchanan and Davis.

The brigade's headquarters were established on the present site in Neill Street. The first working dress was a scarlet jacket, white trousers and black belt. As the brigade advanced the equipment was increased, but it was not until April 2, 1888, that the foundation stone of the present stately tower was laid by Capt. Casey. Of more recent years a large hall has been connected to the station, where trophies won in competitions are displayed. The citizens of Maryborough assisted financially in the purchase of the first motor engine and pump. This was replaced by the board in 1934 with an engine of modern equipment, and was presented by Chief Officer W M Chellew.

Maryborough in the field of Sport

Has produced two international cricketers

There are very few forms of outdoor sport that have not had a place in Maryborough and district. Cricket, football and horse racing, all with fluctuating fortunes, have held sway for nearly three quarters of a century, football attracting the most public interest. During the last ten years tennis has secured a sound footing. At one time, Lake Victoria, in the picturesque Princes Park, was the home of a rowing club. Strange to say, baseball, the American national pastime, has never taken on in Maryborough, even with the cricketers, to who it is most helpful in the winter months; neither has lacrosse or hockey for men. By its achievements on the football field particularly, Maryborough and its immediate surrounding districts, has become a household in sporting circles of the State, more especially when during the six years connection with the Ballarat League, it won the premiership four times. Since joining the Bendigo League, three seasons ago, it was runners-up in 1933. The Maryborough Cricket Association team has twice won the Country Cricket Week championship. A few footballers whom Maryborough produced and who made

good when they went to the metropolis included, in bygone days, Johnnie Worrall, Con and Paddy Hickey, Tom Banks, Ben Page, Luke Worrall and Walter Gifford (Fitzroy); Maurice Herring (Melbourne); George Morrissey (St Kilda); and Jack Obrien (Essendon); subsequently Horrie Clover, Bert Boromeo and Morrie Beasy(Carlton), Eddie and George Baker and Artie Rayson (Geelong), Cecil Kerr, Colin Niven and Paul Killeen (Fitzroy), Hedley Blackmore, Ted Brewis and Les Johnston (Carlton), Sam Glover (Prahran), Norman Willcox (Coburg), and George Hunt and Reg. Drew (Brighton). In cricket, two men gained international fame, viz., Johnnie Worrall and "Bill" Woodfull, who has just retired from big cricket after captaining the Australian XI which visited England last year, and recovered the 'ashes'. In golf Dave Q Clark, a local champion, and the winner of many country championships, has upheld its reputation on city and suburban links. Of men, who for years, rendered valiant service on the cricket and football fields, their names are legion. Men like the late E S Herring (cricket) have passed to the Great Beyond, but a few who are still resident in the town include Cr J S Stevens, Messers Tom and Jim Elliott, H B Ewens, W Mitchell, George Hutchinson, P Bishop, A R Outtrim, T Oliver senr., W Mearns, W Jose, W H Moon, E Chapman, B McMasters, also others whose names it is difficult to recall, also quite a number rather younger in years.

Training the Young Mind

Maryborough has Leading Educational Facilities

In the training of its young citizens, Maryborough is fortunate in possessing splendid educational facilities. The Maryborough School of Mines, now known as Maryborough Technical School, was opened in 1889. The prime movers in its establishment were the late Mr T R L Austin, head teacher of the Craigie School and Mr F J Dudley, a business man in Maryborough. The first public meeting was held on October 26, 1887, when the first provisional committee was elected. Subscription lists were opened, public meetings held in the district, and the local amount raised was in the vicinity of £3000. The school opened on January 21, 1889 in the old Town Hall, Mr A R Outtrim MLA, being the president and Mr F J Dudley secretary. The first director (principal) was Mr W E Matthews, who occupied the position of one year only. He was followed by Mr W F Fremersdorf (1890-1896) and Mr D McDougall (1896-1903). The present principal is Mr J LaGerche B A, and the headmaster of the junior school, Mr R L Cutter. The curriculum in these early years was varied, but there were no full day students, and no attempt had been made to provide those well-defined courses of instruction which are now available. In 1890, the Hon. C H Pearson, Minister of Education, laid the foundation stone of the first section of the present building. Since then the accommodation has at intervals been increased by the addition of trade workshops and class rooms, and by the completion of the main building in close accordance with the architect's original design. It was in 1903 that the council of the school, in its desire to establish courses that would appeal to those engaged in the gold mining industry, appointed Mr J La Gerche to the position of science instructor, and two years later promoted him to the office of principal, which position he has held with credit for 30 years. In 1907 the institution was recognised by the Education Department as a certified science school. In 1912 the school had a temporary setback. The establishment of a district high school, together with its occupation of the Technical School building, was fraught with disastrous results, and, at one time, it appeared that technical education in Maryborough was doomed. The transference of the High School to premises of its own, the establishment of a Junior Technical School, and the strenuous fight put up by the school council and staff, brought about a complete change in the aspect of affairs. Since that time the school has made continual progress. Many leading positions are held now by former students of the school. It was in 1901 that the Victorian Government first decided to include secondary education in the scope of its Education Department, and after the Continuation School (now Melbourne High School) had been established in Melbourne in 1905, High Schools were established in larger country towns. Usually such schools were commenced in temporary quarters, with an obligation on the local community to provide a suitable site when a permanent building became necessary. So it came about that the Maryborough High School was opened in the beginning of 1912 by Mr W J Bateman (afterwards Colonel in AIF) in rooms at the School of Mines. The enrolment at first was small, but, by 1915 it had outgrown its quarters, and the necessity for a home of its own was very evident. Thus the old Market Square, known to old timers in very many ways, was handed over to the Department, and during 1915 the fine High School which stands there today was built. It was first occupied whilst Mr J O'Connor was acting headmaster (Colonel Bateman then being on active service abroad). This

building is of a quadrangle type, all doors opening directly to the open quadrangle; it is built throughout of bricks (bricks from the old goal being used for the purpose), and carries a tiled roof. The school was also granted control of the old police grounds, and the stable that had done service there of so many years was remodelled and converted into a cookery centre, whilst the feed-house became a laundry and sewing room. From time to time much has been done in the improvement of the grounds and buildings, so that the school possesses many fine pictures, a well-stocked library, a wireless set, a gramophone, a pleasing garden, a well-appointed sports oval, with concrete wicket, three tennis courts, two basketball courts, a hockey field, a practice cricket pitch, lounge rooms for pupils, and a dressing room with showers for the boys. For some six years the school was controlled by Mr J H Charles, B A, who was in turn succeeded by the present headmaster, Mr G A Simcocks, B A. Throughout the twenty-three years of its life, its pupils have done uniformly well both in scholarship and sport. Its ex-pupils are to be found in all learned professions, including teaching and public services as well as amongst the business and farming community; and boys especially have done well in several branches of sport.

But the Maryborough State School 404 is the pioneer school of public education in Maryborough, and, it too, has had an important influence on each generation. The new schoolhouse for the common school 404 as it was then known, was occupied for the first time in November 1865, history stating that the building was of brick, with iron roof, about 80ft long and 18ft wide. This building also has since been substantially increased in size. The present headmaster is Mr A D Turley.

In later years, to meet the growing requirements of Maryborough, the East State School 2828 was established, and this establishment still has a large daily attendance, although short of that of 404. The headmaster is Mr J R George.

St. Joseph's School and the Brigidine Convent complete the educational facilities of Maryborough. The scope is much greater than many towns of similar size can emulate.

Big Men in Maryborough Life

The Late Capt. Thos. Casey J.P.

To the enthusiasm and tireless energy of the late Capt. Thos. Casey can Maryborough owe much of the success of its fire service. Capt. Casey was born in Athlone Ireland in 1829, and arrived in Maryborough in 1854, commencing business as a builder and contractor. When the fire brigade was formed in 1861 he was appointed the first Captain, and in this position he had unbroken service for 57 years. He was municipal representative on the Country Fire Brigades Board, of which he was several times President, for 26 years having been elected at the inception. He had a long period of service in the Borough Council, to which he was elected soon after the constitution of the Borough in 1857 and was nine time mayor of the municipality. He also was a Justice of the Peace. Capt. Casey died on January 23, 1919, aged 90 years.

Henry Neville Phillips J.P.

Born in Hamilton, Henry Neville Phillips, third son of the late Charles and Eliza Phillips, has rendered signal service to Maryborough. He came to Maryborough in 1878, when his father, a school teacher, was transferred to the White Hills school. He was first employed by the late F T Outtrim, secretary of the Shire of Tullaroop, secretary of the Gas Company, secretary of the Building Society and legal manager, and in December 1888, he was appointed Town Clerk of Maryborough, which position he still holds. Mr Phillips has been secretary of the Waterworks Trust for a similar period. He was secretary of the A.N.A., Highland Society, football and cricket clubs for various periods. In 1900 he was appointed C.E. and in 1890 a licensed Government auditor. He is also a Justice of the Peace.

Mr Geo. Frost, MLA

When in future years the more recent history of Maryborough is written, an honoured place will be found for George Frost, M L A., who has been Maryborough's State Parliamentarian since 1920. It was Cr. Frost as Mayor who was responsible for convening the public meeting in 1917 which brought about the formation of the Progress Association, thus marking the commencement of Maryborough's new era. Born in Lowestoft, Suffolk, England, in 1869, Mr Frost finished morning school at the age of nine and rounded off his education as a "half-timer". In 1889, at the age of 20, he came to Victoria, and December of that year found him in Maryborough. He worked for Mr Herman Lobeck, baker, for five years, when he

purchased the business and carried it on until 1919, when he sold to the present Mayor (Cr. Fuller) and the late Mr F Crick. Mr Frost was a member of the Borough Council for about 15 years, and was thrice mayor. He is chairman of directors of Patience and Nicholson Ltd., has been a director of the Knitting Mill, is president of the Progress Association, and has been president of the Technical School Council, Repatriation Committee, Ugly Men and Queen Competitions. In 1920 Mr Frost was elected to the Legislative Assembly, when he defeated the late Mr A R Outtrim. He has held the seat ever since. Just one of his characteristic acts of kindness has been to entertain pioneers and pensioners at a treat each Christmas Day.

Cr. H E Williams J.P.

Another of Maryborough's long serving veterans is Henry Edward Williams, J P., who has been a member of the Borough Council for 40 years, with the exception of one break of 12 months, and has seen 46 Mayors elected. Cr Williams was born in Maryborough in March 1860, being a son of the late William and Eleanor Williams. In 1875 he worked for Thornhill and Co; In 1886 he opened a hotel and general store at the corner of High Street and Derby Road, and this he afterwards sold to a man named Mckenzie. After three years in the wool trade, Cr Williams established his present chaff mills and grain store. He has been twice Mayor of Maryborough; he was connected with the Hospital as President, treasurer (16 years) or committeeman for 32 years; has been Deputy Coroner for 34 years; was president of the Swimming Club for 10 years; president of the Brass Band, and still a trustee; president and life member of the Agricultural Society, and a leading spirit in the movement which gave Maryborough its splendid asset in the Pioneer's Memorial Tower.

The Late F J Field J. P.

The Late Frederick J Field, who died suddenly while presiding at the annual meeting of the Highland Society on September 7 1909, was not a native of Maryborough, but he lived in the town from a boy until his death at 61. He was another of the veterans of great service. For many years associated with business circles , he gave much attention to public life. He was a member of the Borough Council for a long period and was Mayor for three successive terms. He was Secretary of the Hospital at the time of his death; was a champion of the Highland Society as president, treasurer, or member of committee: was the first president of the Agricultural Society; president of the School of Mines Council; secretary of the cemetery trust; legal manager of the Mariners Reef Co; a founder of the Gas Company; and Superintendent of Christ Church Sunday School. He represented Maryborough-Avoca in the Legislative Assembly for one term, defeating the late A R Outtrim at a general election. Fred Field had undoubted business acumen, energy and eloquence, and whatever the task he shouldered was done well.

The Late Hon. A R Outtrim

Maryborough owes much to the work of the late Hon. A R Outtrim, whose death in December 1925, removed one of the 1854 pioneering figures. In his early days Mr Outtrim was for four years manager of Cobb and Co., and was afterwards in business as a grocer and auctioneer. He was a member of the Borough Council for six years and was three times Mayor. On December 22 1885, he became Maryborough's representative in the Legislative Assembly, and he served for 35 years, with the exception of one break of 21 months. He was Minister of Mines in four Governments, Minister of Forest in three Governments, Minister of Water Supply in two Governments, Minister of Defence in one Government, and Minister of Railways in one Government. The township of Outtrim was named after him in recognition of his work as Minister of Mines. It was due to his persistency that the Maryborough Railway Station was built in 1890, and he piloted through Parliament the bill to connect the Woomelang railway link via Maryborough, defeating the overtures of Bendigo and Hopetoun. Mr Outtrim was secretary of the Highland Society for several years, and a prominent New Year's Day competitor as a young man. The name of Alfred Richard Outtrim must always remain indelibly associated with the history of Maryborough. He was aged 81 at the time of his death.

The Late J P Kennedy J.P.

Probably no man held so many public positions in Maryborough as the late James Power Kennedy, the founder of the Trader's Association. Mr Kennedy died in July 1929, aged 75. At various times he was mayor of the Borough, President of the Technical School, Highland Society, High School, Trader's Association (of which he was also Secretary for 14 years), Victorian Shopkeeper's and Trader's Association, and Licensed Victualler's Association; member of the Council of Storekeeper's and Traders Association for 26 years, an official assignee, electoral registrar, first vice-president of the Agricultural Society, sworn valuator, Chief President of the A O F, chairman and treasurer of stock exchange for 10 years, Commissioner for taking affidavits, treasurer of the Swimming Club, judge and treasurer of the Race Club and past president of the Victorian Technical Schools Association. Mr Kennedy was in business in Maryborough for many years either as a hotelkeeper, grocer auctioneer or eucalyptus manufacturer. At the time of his death he was also part proprietor of the "Advertiser"

The New Maryborough

The Birth of the Industrial Era

The Outcome of the famous 1917 Meeting

In 1917 a new page in the history of Maryborough was commenced. With the almost complete cessation of the mining, for which various causes operated, it was natural that the prosperity of the town should wane, notwithstanding the extent to which the railway service had developed, and the big strides made in the district in agricultural development. In an attempt to call a halt to the drift, the "Advertiser" published a series of articles, but it was left to Mr G Frost MLA, then Mayor, to convene a public meeting to discuss the position. This now famous meeting of representative citizens was held in May 1917, and the outcome was the formation of the Progress Association, an organisation which still functions with, appropriately enough, Mr Frost as president. With the birth of the Progress Association, so did a new era dawn for Maryborough. An industrial policy was decided upon, and an immediate start made to achieve a practical result. In this work the Borough Council ably assisted, and one of its actions was to purchase 100 acres of land as a site for the establishment of industries.

Various proposals were advanced, and consummated, but the big scoop was not achieved until successful negotiations were made with the late Geo. F Cuttle, a staunch supporter of decentralisation, to transfer his knitting mills to Maryborough, the industry having outgrown the little township of Clunes. This was a big triumph for Maryborough, for Bendigo and Ballarat had also made attractive overtures to Mr Cuttle. Maryborough did not win the prize without hard campaigning. Obligations to Mr Cuttle had to be honoured, but the residents of the town and district rose splendidly to the occasions, and in subscribing many thousands of pounds of share capital created further history. Previously the Butter factory and Cool Store and Cannery had been established. The former has fulfilled the highest expectations of its promoters, but the Cool Store, unfortunately, encountered financial difficulties and eventually succumbed. The building is now the home of Patience and Nicholson Ltd., tool manufacturers. This industry was also attracted to Maryborough by the town's progressive policy, and once again the residents raised a large amount of share capital. Following reconstruction the industry is now in a very flourishing state, and in 1934 was able to return a dividend to the shareholders. The Maryborough Flour Mill cannot be described as a product of the 1917 era, having been established towards the close of the last century. Its benefit to the town is so great, however, that it is worthy of mention. Of comparatively recent years the industry has been controlled by Willersdorf and Forbes. Since that time development has been gradual and substantial; the whole plant has practically been replaced with the most modern methods of milling. The wise policy of developing the mill as circumstances warranted has been to the advantage of the Mill. Messrs Willersdorf and Forbes assumed control of the mill in partnership with Messrs Mitchell and Bant, since which time Mr Forbes has been managing director. Mr Willersdorf died about two years ago.

The Maryborough Mill pays the railways department something like £7,000 annually in freight; it distributes more than £5,000 in wages or an average of £100 weekly; it pays nearly £100 annually for the use of water, and consumes more than 2,000 tons of firewood supplied by district carters. Wheat for

gristing comes from farmers in the vicinity of Maryborough and stations north. Large consignments of flour are exported, the remainder being sold to a ready market in Victoria and New South Wales.

It was the recommendation of a sub-committee of the Progress Association which led to the establishment of the Butter Factory. The late W S MacNee, who was afterwards chairman of directors, was the chairman of the committee. Incorporated under the Companies Act on December 10 1917, "The Maryborough District Co-operative Butter Factory Company Limited", with a nominal capital of £10,000 was formed; the personnel of the Board of Directors as then filed being Messers W S MacNee, Walter H Stevenson, Robert S Guthrie, N Gillies, George Frost and George Lucas. Under-capitalisation was the chief drawback with the new company, and the Board of Directors were soon to realise that with the capital subscribed of just over £3000, great difficulty was to be experienced in keeping the company going. Competition from established surrounding factories, which had not taken kindly to the starting of a factory at Maryborough, was so great that over the first eight years all the efforts of the management was needed to overcome its opposition. At the inception of the company horse drawn transport was responsible for the collection of the local district supplies, with a consequent limitation of the radius of the Company's activities. Today, with motor transport, the company's lorries serve that country bounded by Bridgewater in the Loddon, 40 miles to the north of Clunes, 20 miles south, whilst rail supplies are received from stations as far distant as Merringur in the New Mallee. In the peak season supply, the numbers of suppliers to the Company total up to 1000. Great stability has been given to the district by the Company's formation, and whereas district dairying was mainly a seasonal sideline, we now have many farms devoted solely to dairying. It is this stability that enables the Company to manufacture approximately 400 tons of butter per year. This product finds a ready sale both in Australia and abroad, commanding always top market prices. It is not only in the making of butter that the Company renders service to the district. Since the liquidation of the cool store, the installation of an ice-making plant enables the company to meet the demands of the town and district for that product, whilst freezing chambers built for that purpose are leased to metropolitan firms for the chilling of thousands of pairs of rabbits and hares annually. Needless to say, these fine additional sources of revenue not only enable the company to pay, as it does, the highest butter fat prices to suppliers in the State, but it also provides the source to return to shareholders dividends on invested capital, without encroaching on profits from butter making which are always, when available, returned to suppliers by way of deferred payments. It was not until 1925 that the Company was able to pay its first dividend of 5 per cent, but so great and consistent has been its progress since, that, to the declaration of the last dividend in August 1934, 14/- per share had been returned to shareholders on each £1 of share capital invested.

Directors of the Company at, June 30 1934 were: James M Dillon, Adelaide Lead (Chairman); Robert S Guthrie (vice-chairman, Maryborough); Joseph Egan, Carisbrook; Thomas J Ford, Dunach; Thomas Oliver, Maryborough; and George S Rich, Maryborough. Mr Thos. D McKenzie is Manager, and Mr E Brandie, Secretary.

In 1919, George Hardy Patience commenced operations as a manufacturer of stocks and dies by erecting a small plant in a room at his residence in Gardenvale. From there he first placed his goods on a disturbed market. Within a few months he was joined by Francis Nicholson, a tool engineer, from Caulfield, and in 1920 they took into partnership Thomas Stanley Burrows, later forming a proprietary company with a capital of £20,000, issuing and calling up £5000. In 1924 the proprietary company went into liquidation and sold to Patience and Nicholson Limited. This company acquired and took over as a going concern the whole of the undertaking, assets and liabilities of Patience and Nicholson Pty Ltd on June 1, 1924. It was at this time that the Maryborough Progress Association was very active, and in response to advertisements for approved industries, negotiations were commenced which eventually landed the company in Maryborough. For various reasons the company did not prosper as was anticipated, and at one time it seemed that it would be forced into liquidation. However, as time went on, with certain changes and new ideas, followed by a reconstruction, the Company gradually became a live concern. The Company prides itself in the fact that it is well and successfully managed by a Maryborough native in Mr C H Frost, a son of Mr Geo Frost, MLA, who, by the way, is chairman of Directors. One of the first employees at Maryborough, Mr C Frost commenced in the workshop. The knowledge he gained, coupled with his ability to handle finance and keep books, ably fitted him for the position of general manager and secretary, a position which he is filling with credit. For the first time since the inception of the Company 10 years ago, the shareholders last year received a 5 per cent dividend. As a gauge of the success of the company during recent years, it is pointed out that in 1931 the number of men employed was 22, mostly on part time wages, the wages not amounting to more than £50 per week. Today there are 45 males employed, of

whom at least 20 are married men with families, and the weekly pay roll amounts to £170. The fact that during the past twelve months over £8000 has been paid out in wages and salaries must speak for itself. The Borough Council received over £400 for light and power.

The Maryborough Hospital

Its progress since 1854

The Hospital, as might be expected, was born with Maryborough. It had its origin in a tent; shortly afterwards a more pretentious iron building was erected, and this served the purpose until it was found possible to make a start with the present massive structure. The hospital was not always as large as we see it today. Additions have been made with the progress of years. Consequently it is singularly appropriate that in this centenary year, when the achievements of the past are recalled, a further effort should be made to modernise the institution. The present expenditure of £10,000, of which £4,000 is being provided through the Charities Board, is no mean effort in these days of economic stress. It will give to Maryborough and District, however, a hospital that will compare favourably with any similar institutions on the State. In the pioneering of the Hospital much credit was due the work of Dr. Dunn, the first resident medical officer, who labored for half a century. A memorial tablet to Dr. Dunn graces the wall of the main entrance hall. It is simply inscribed, and aptly states, "If you seek his monument, look around". Following the death of Dr Dunn, Dr Haley was appointed to the charge of the institution and afterwards came Dr E W Deane, who died on active service during the Great War. Dr C W Greene, the present house surgeon, was appointed in 1915. The hospital, although first established in 1854, was not incorporated until 1864. In April of 1868 the contract for the erection of a new wing at the northern end was completed by Mr Edward Harkness of Maryborough, the contract price being £1324/10/. The new wing comprised five rooms and a corridor. The additions of the sixties are still rendering excellent service; the hospital itself is playing a greater part than ever in the alleviation of the sick and suffering. The present is the first big structural alteration which has been made for at least half a century and the work must be regarded as timely. There has, however, been much which has added to the institution, and each achievement has been widely the result of public effort. The Queen's Ward, used solely for the treatment of infectious cases, was erected in 1901, the operating theatre in 1909, the steam laundry in 1913, and the maternity ward in 1927. In addition, an X-ray plant was installed in 1925.

The doors of the hospital have always been open to the general public. Its record is the treatment of 31,200 in-patients, and 27,000 out patients. The present Matron is Miss A Henderson, and the secretary Mr C Lean, who was appointed to the post in 1909. The latest additions will give the hospital a steam and hot water system, with all appliances, a central heating system, new furnishings and fittings for the wards and rooms attached to the building and above all, accommodation for additional patients.

Secretaries of the hospital have been:-

1858- Mr Hugh McBean

1865- Mr Thos Bregazzi

1876-Mr E R M Scott

1878-Mr A R Avison

1901-Mr F J Field

1909-Mr Chas Lean

The "Maryborough Advertiser"

The Maryborough Advertiser, established in 1854, is one of the oldest newspapers in Victoria. Taking time by the forelock, the original proprietors gave it birth very shortly after the first discovery of gold, in 1854 at Simson's Ranges, subsequently names Maryborough by the then Goldfields Commissioner (Mr Daly) after his native place in Ireland. The Tri-weekly paper has had an unbroken existence. The present proprietary (Messers. Jacobs and MacKay) both men for years of practical experience- have adopted the policy of endeavouring, in every issue, of being "first with the latest" regarding the happenings in the town and district. These are featured, from time to time, however, special articles, which it is considered are informative and enlightening on existing topics and concerns, or some which may only be contemplated, but all for the general welfare, are featured. This practice it intends to continue, as well as that of being constructive in its criticism, but outspoken, whatever the occasion demands. Much of Maryborough's remarkable recovery since the year 1917 has been the "leads" given by the "Advertiser". Abundant proof of that statement can be found by a perusal of the back files. The "Advertiser" has constantly appealed for more foresight and clearer vision by the citizens and is not that much due to the pioneers, and those who immediately followed them, and who built up the town and maintained the gold mining industry for over 60 years. Besides functioning as a progressive, provincial newspaper, the "Advertiser" conducts a jobbing office replete with the latest accessories and staffed with skilled tradesmen, for the prompt execution of orders for all classes of high-grade printing. There is no necessity for anyone to go elsewhere for their printing requirements. Appended are a few facts in respect of one of the oldest institutions in the town. Changes of ownership have been singularly few in view of the long life of the paper. E H Nuthall and J H Gearing held it until March 4 1861. Then followed Jas. Evans and Chas. Fredrick Sommerton until February 20 1868; C F Weston and Geo. Edwards until May 23 1904; Alf. Geo. Osborne and Geo. Edwards until July 31 1906; Mrs Osborne and Geo Edwards and J P Kennedy until April 2 1912; and J P Kennedy, first with T P Richards and later with F G Garth for a short period until September 30 1929. Messers Jacobs and Mackay took possession on October 1 1929. In the pas its literary staff has included men like Sir Julius Vogel (a subsequent Prime Minister of New Zealand); Sir John Quick (in later years Deputy President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration); Messers. Jonathan Bansgrove, Geo Galway, E G L Sweet, J M Laidler, J N Cleary , F W Deady, A H Chisholm (at present on the staff of the "Argus" Melbourne) T Ramsay, J S B Gill, Geo Bignall and T P Richards. The last named doing much to lift Maryborough out of the rut in 1917. Names of some of the men who served in the composing and mechanical staffs are recalled, viz., Walter Miller, Fred Hewitt, Dick Conway, Pat O'Brien, Bill Mitchell, Joe Goodman, Edward Chalmers, D A B Court, Arthur Giddings, Jim Bowen, Jack Lees, Tom Hart, J T Moore, Like Worrall, W A Thomas, A Cruthers, Frank Casey, Jack Bowden, Bob Casey, Jack Rolfe, Alf Whiteley, Fred Palmer, T salmon, P McAlees, W Edwards, Eric Trompf Joe Lord, Hudson Hayes, A and F Ratcliffe, E Harley, W Cowley, Geo Noy, Edgar Booth, Tom Jones, Stan earl, J Cam. Kennedy, W Fergus, P Asher, R J Ball, Abe Simmons, H Christie, Alan Black, R Shalders, Vin Stoneman, H Crossley, Jack McLennan, OssyChesterfied, Frank Furze, Arthur Jamieson, Chas Kydd, and Alf Reed. A number of them have passed to the Great Beyond. Members of the present staff are :- Misses E Denyer and M Johnson (commercial department); H V Nunn and L J Drew (literary); E C Jacobs (linotype operator); F G Garth (Jobbing department); R R Jackson and D H Jacobs (mechanical department)

PHOTOS/ PICTURES/ADVERTS FROM BOOKLET THAT CAN BE USED TO FILL A GAP



MARYBOROUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Back Row (left to right): Cns. J. R. Bryant, W. M. Collins, L. J. Rowlands, S. Poote, J. S. Stevens.
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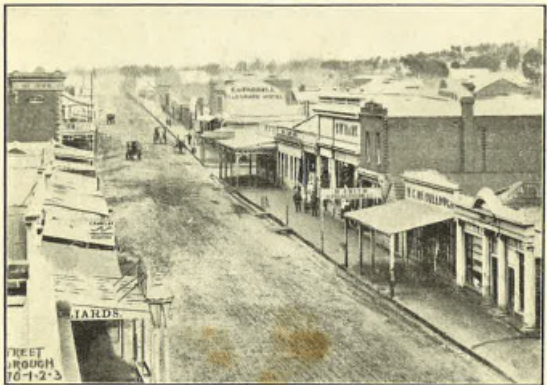
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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24.
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 In **"JEW SUSS"**
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