



We pledge ourselves to foster, promote and inculcate in rising generations that hardy will and spirit of enterprise, responsibility, work and faith so abundantly possessed by the actual founders, which has been so important a factor in the life and progress of New Zealand.

EDITORIAL

DOMINION COUNCIL REPRESENTATION

Under the rules of the Society the management and control of its affairs are in the hands of the Dominion Council. The original Constitution provided that the Council should consist of the Dominion President, the immediate past Dominion President, the Dominion Deputy President, Dominion Vice-Presidents, 10 Dominion councillors and Branch representatives. Every Branch with a membership of under 200 was entitled to appoint one representative, and every Branch with a membership of 200 or over was entitled to appoint two representatives.

The practice developed that the Council should hold monthly meetings. This procedure rendered it impracticable, because of the expense and inconvenience involved, for members from a distance to attend. The result was that, in fact, the Branches had no direct representation on the Council. The whole of the management and control of the Society came into the hands of those residing in or near Wellington.

From time to time, not only at annual general meetings but also at conferences held by the Council and members of Branches, the question was raised of altering the constitution of the Council with a view to correcting the position. After various proposals had been considered it was finally decided at a conference held on May 10 last, that a resolution on lines agreed upon should be brought to the annual general meeting altering the rules relating to membership of the Council.

A draft of the resolution was circulated to the Branches. The draft having been unanimously approved, the resolution was included in the order paper for the annual general meeting to be held on August 31 and it was carried.

The following is an explanation of the new constitution:—

(a) The Council consists of the Dominion President, the immediate past Dominion President, the

Deputy Dominion President, and such number of councillors as shall represent the sum of 12, plus the number of the Branches.

(b) The Dominion President, the Deputy Dominion President, and 12 councillors are to be elected at the annual general meeting.

(c) Each of the Branches is to elect a councillor either at the annual general meeting of the Branch immediately preceding the annual general meeting of the Society, or at a special general meeting of such Branch held not later than four weeks after the Society's annual general meeting.

(d) If a vacancy occurs, it is to be filled by the Council, if the vacating member was appointed at the annual meeting of the Society, and otherwise is to be filled by the Branch which appointed him.

(e) Instead of meeting once a month, the Council is to meet twice a year. There is provision for additional meetings to be held if the necessity arises.

(f) As administrative matters require to be dealt with promptly, those members of the Council who reside within 30 miles of Wellington constitute the executive committee of the Council, and are to meet once a month to conduct routine business. The executive committee is at all times subject to the control and direction of the Council.

It will be noticed that vice-presidents are no longer ex officio members of the Council, as they were under the former constitution. They are, however, eligible for election to the Council.

The first meeting of the newly constituted Council was held at Wellington on November 2. If it is to be taken as a criterion, the Society should benefit from the new rule.

The impracticability of a Branch councillor attending Council meetings has been removed. Consequently, the Council is now more effectively representative of the members as a whole.

E. G. WAKEFIELD'S FUNERAL

Little Recognition for Wellington's Founder

The funeral of Edward Gibbon Wakefield, in 1862, was by no means as spectacular as that of his brother, Colonel William Wakefield, which had taken place in 1848. A wreath was placed during the year on the former's tomb in accordance with the wish of Lord Bledisloe, who left money in trust for that purpose. In such a manner, for all time, is Wellington reminded of its principal founder.

Ten years after William's death, he was joined in the Bolton Street cemetery by Daniel. So there were already two Wakefield brothers there when the remains of Edward Gibbon were placed there without any public show one May day in 1862—almost a century ago.

Originally, there were five brothers, and, of course, other relatives with the name of Wakefield. But today, one learns, the line of male Wakefields is extinct. There is no longer one of their blood who can call himself Wakefield.

When Edward Gibbon joined his brothers William and Daniel in the cemetery and was buried facing the harbour, there must have been an unrestricted view of all that area. Today, of course, all around, with the exception of the cemetery itself, there are buildings. It is a quiet, peaceful spot, shaded in summer by venerable trees. A fitting place for one who had led such a tempestuous life.

For seven years prior to his death Wakefield had hardly stirred out of the grounds of the house on The Terrace, in which he was to die and which now bears his name. "The Independent," when commenting upon his death, observed: "He lived the life of a recluse." However, he retained his faculties until the end, it was added, and "quietly sank into his last sleep." He was 66 years old.

We are told, too, it was his wish that the funeral should be private, so "it was confined to some of his personal acquaintances, and a few others who met the body at the church." But we also know that present were some of the most outstanding men then in the colony.

According to "The Independent," Wakefield left no will, his property passing to his son, Edward Jerningham Wakefield, as heir at law.

The newspaper, which had quarrelled bitterly with Wakefield in earlier years, had no wish to re-open old wounds. The lengthy obituary was kindly:—

"In private life he was most genial, and so particularly careful to avoid wounding the prejudices and so ready to accommodate himself to the feelings of others, that he made many friends. He was especially fond of children, and so strictly temperate that, except medicinally, he did not for many years drink anything but tea."

From that same obituary notice one gleaned one or two facts concerning E. G. Wakefield that might not be so well known. We did know, of course, that he had suffered from what the newspaper called "apoplectic symptoms." But what we did not know was that he made a recovery "by the extraordinary remedy of partridges and ale."

It was then recalled that he had advocated separate settlements in this country for Anglicans, Nonconformists, and Roman Catholics. Indeed, he had envisaged a town to be called "New Rome" to be established on the shores of Foveaux Strait, and "The Independent" then believed it would actually come into being by 1867.

"The New Zealand Spectator" declared: "The remains of the author of the Wakefield System of Colonisation will rest beside those of his kindred in that settlement he was chiefly instrumental in founding, and

which will be an enduring monument in after times to his ability and energy, while his name will be remembered with honour among those who have deserved well of their adopted country."

It is a fact, nevertheless, that Wellington had never paid much attention to the last resting place of E. G. Wakefield and his brothers until a Governor-General came among us with the traditional English sense of history. It was Lord Bledisloe who reminded Wellingtonians that Edward Gibbon Wakefield's memory should be cherished.

There have been complaints, too, over the years that there has never been a public memorial to him.

While there is a lengthy inscription on the tomb of his brother, the Colonel, relating to the latter's career, there is not much on that of E.G.W. to suggest the important role he played in the history of this country. The only indication that in the vicinity is a grave of some historical importance is a sign post inscribed simply: "Wakefield."

Would it not be appropriate to have erected near the grave a tablet conveying an outline of his life's work and achievements? I know that even now, almost a century since he "quietly sank into his last sleep," his is still a controversial name. Indeed, seldom is his name mentioned but the episode with the girl heiress is recalled; likewise Wakefield's subsequent incarceration in Newgate.

But, after all, Wakefield did pay his debt to society, and he did put that period in prison to good use by studying and writing, by publishing works that had a considerable impact upon the thinking of his contemporaries.

Despite his failings he had an element of greatness, too. And if ever he desired a monument, and could for a moment glance about the city that he helped to found, he could say: "It is here around me!"

—“PONEKE.”

Late Mr. C. W. D. Bell was First President

Founders throughout the country will regret to learn of the death on September 26 of Mr. C. W. D. Bell, which took place at his home "Lake Mallard," Rangitau, near Masterton. He was 68 years of age.

Wellington-born, Mr. Bell was educated at Christ's College, Christchurch, and Trinity College, Cambridge.

During the First World War he served with the 10th Royal Hussars and with the R.F.C., in which he was a captain. He was mentioned in despatches. In the Second World War he was commandant of the R.N.Z.-A.F. school of instruction.

In 1920 he married Miss Dorothy M. Newton, and they had a son and a daughter.

For some years he practised with the legal firm of Bell, Gully, MacKenzie and Evans in Wellington. He was a director of several New Zealand firms.

When the New Zealand Founders' Society was formed in 1938 he was its first president. He was appointed to the Legislative Council on July 28, 1950, and he also served on the Waitangi Trust Board.

His father was Sir Francis Bell, for many years a Minister of the Crown and Leader of the Legislative Council, and for a short period, following the death of Mr. W. F. Massey, Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Commonwealth Day Celebration

For the first time on May 24 the Royal Commonwealth and kindred societies in Wellington joined forces to celebrate Commonwealth Day with one representative gathering.

The societies represented were the Royal Commonwealth Society, the Victoria League, the Overseas League, the New Zealand Founders' Society, the Royal Society of St. George, the English Speaking Union and the Returned Services Association.

The deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Skinner) and Mrs. Skinner returned from Christchurch to attend the dinner, where Mr. Skinner proposed the toast to the Commonwealth. Some 150 guests were present "The Post" reported.

Official guests were Mr. and Mrs. Skinner, Mr. J. R. Marshall, the deputy Mayor (Mr. W. H. Nankervis) and Mrs. Nankervis, the Chairman of the Royal Commonwealth Society (Mr. C. T. Clere) and Mrs. Clere, the president of the Victoria League (Mr. A. C. Dickens) and Mr. Dickens, the chairman of the Overseas League (Mr. B. Noakes) and Mrs. Noakes, the president of the English Speaking Union (Mr. F. Kennedy) and Mrs. Kennedy, the chairman of the Royal Society of St. George (Mr. W. E. Jackson) and Mrs. Jackson, the secretary of the Returned Services' Association (Mr. J. A. Baigent).

The chairman of the Combined Commonwealth and Kindred Societies and president of the New Zealand Founders' Society (Mr. A. H. Macandrew) and Mrs. Macandrew received the guests.

The cabaret was arranged with long buffet dinner tables centred with low troughs of autumn-toned flowers and trailing ivy. Large mixed bowls of golden and white flowers were placed about the ballroom and the commonwealth societies' flags were given a prominent place in the artistic decoration scheme. The floral decorations were the work of Mrs. A. C. Dickens and Miss M. I. Wearing.

The dance committee comprised:—Chairman, Mr. A. H. Macandrew, secretary, Mrs. D. I. M. Anderson (N.Z. Founders' Society), Mrs. A. C. Dickens (Victoria League), Mrs. W. E. Jackson (Royal Society of St. George), Mrs. A. McKinnon (English Speaking Union), Mrs. J. Christie (Overseas League), Mrs. C. T. Clere (Royal Commonwealth Society), and Mr. J. A. Baigent (R.S.A.).

Founders' Annual Ball in Wellington

Spring flowers in red, white and gold tonings with daffodils to the fore were arranged in mixed bowls at the Majestic Cabaret in Wellington on September 24 for the occasion of the New Zealand Founders' Society ball.

The official guests were the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. K. J. Holyoake, and the Mayor of Wellington, Mr. Kitts, and Mrs. Kitts.

Guests were welcomed by the Dominion president, Mr. A. H. Macandrew, and Mrs. Macandrew. Among those at the official table were also the deputy Dominion president, Mr. E. L. Benseman, and Mrs. Benseman.

The floral arrangements were the work of Miss M. I. Wearing, assisted by Mrs. J. Loeber.

Members of the ball committee were Mrs. D. Anderson, Mrs. A. M. McNaught, Messrs. A. H. Macandrew, A. E. Benseman, and J. Bentley.

Early Settlers Museum Advocated

A strong challenge to work for the building of a Pioneers' and Early Settlers' Museum in Wellington was issued recently to the New Zealand Founders' Society.

The speaker at a luncheon given by the society at Wakefield House, Mr. Jeff M. Andrew, who was for 16 years treasurer of the society, made the suggestion in the course of an address on the first 21 years of the society's existence.

"This would be a wonderful incentive for members to do something really worth while for their society," said Mr. Andrew. "It would also be sure to attract more members, for a project such as this would appeal to many."

The garages and buildings at the back of Wakefield House would soon be falling into disrepair, said Mr. Andrew, and the only possible income would be gained from letting the area as parking space. This would be a splendid site for the suggested museum.

At present 35 members of the society held its debentures, worth £5150, said Mr. Andrew, and with a project such as an Early Settlers' Museum under way, those figures could surely be improved.

"Membership has been static for some years, and a drive such as this would give the society a great boost."

It had always been a point of pride with members that their ranks were drawn from the descendants of people settling in New Zealand within 10 years of the founding of their particular province, said Mr. Andrew.

An alteration of the society's constitution which would enable people without those qualifications to join had always been rejected by members, and it was really unnecessary. Research had shown that more than 1000 ships arrived in New Zealand within 10 years of any province's foundation. Descendants from these settlers would surely fill the society's membership with ease.

Mr. Andrew's address traced the growth of the society from its foundation in 1939, recalling the work which went into the purchase of Wakefield House in 1949, and the alteration of the building into club rooms before its opening by Sir Sidney Holland, then Prime Minister, in September, 1950.

Tea Planter's Address to Auckland Branch

The high prestige which the British still enjoy in India and Pakistan was emphasised by Mr. J. B. Gordon, guest speaker at the June meeting of the Auckland Branch of the Society. Mr. T. A. Bishop presided.

As a tea planter in Assam for 25 years before settling recently in New Zealand, Mr. Gordon experienced life under British rule in India, as well as during the transition and after the granting of independence and the partition of the country into India and Pakistan.

In spite of the fact that India had learnt to her cost that independence did not mean freedom, said the speaker, and in spite of the hardships of the transition period when Moslems and Hindus, fearing each other, fled in hordes to settle with others of their own faith, the splendid foundations laid by Britain still formed the main stabilising influence in the country, whether in the army, in civil life, or in methods of government.

Society's Activities in Wellington

May 24.—Commonwealth Day was celebrated in conjunction with kindred societies in the form of a dine and dance evening at the Roseland Cabaret.

June 8.—Buffet luncheon at Wakefield House. The guest speaker was Mr. Jeff M. Andrew, who addressed members on the first 21 years of the Society.

June 22.—Evening function. Mr. Gordon F. Bain addressed members on his visit to North-West Pakistan under the Colombo Plan as Technical Advisor to the Commonwealth Livestock Farm at Thal.

July 13.—Buffet luncheon. The guest speaker was Mr. Ulric Williams, who is well known in broadcasting circles. He spoke on "What Television Means to New Zealand."

July 26.—An evening gathering of younger members and representatives of the Dominion Council. Discussion took place informally on plans for activities designed to foster interest and increase membership.

A committee of Younger Founders was formed and, following meetings at which the Council was represented, it was decided to hold an evening function at which various proposed activities designed to foster interest and increase membership could be discussed informally.

The Dominion President opened the discussion, and called upon representatives of the Younger Founders to present their proposals and ideas for the purpose in view. The Council, he said, was impressed with the desirability of providing the opportunity for younger members to initiate and develop the constructive ideas which they had produced.

At the conclusion of the discussion supper was served.

August 18.—Coffee evening with house—arranged by the Younger Group. It was well attended and very successful. It is hoped that it will be the forerunner of other functions of a similar kind.

August 10.—Buffet luncheon. The guest speaker was Mr. D. A. Wraight, President of the Royal Overseas League, who addressed members on "The Commonwealth of Today and Tomorrow."

August 31.—The annual meeting.

September 14.—Buffet luncheon. Guest speaker Mr. G. G. G. Watson, well-known Wellington barrister, who addressed members on "Then and Now."

September 24.—Annual ball in the Majestic Cabaret.

October 12.—Buffet luncheon. Guest speaker, Mr. Max Riske, who is prominent in the educational field, and addressed members on "Don't Sell America Short."

October 19.—Evening Function. Address by American Ambassador, Mr. Francis H. Russell, as an introduction to the showing of the film "Williamsburg Restored."

November 9.—Buffet luncheon. Guest speaker, Major-General L. M. Thornton, Chief of the General Staff, who addressed members on some aspects of the South-east Asian scene.

November 17.—Evening gathering buffet tea, following which the Rev. M. R. Pirani gave an account of the history of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul.

Pioneer Sheepbreeder In Hawke's Bay— Descendants' Tribute

More than 200 people gathered at Elmshill, Havelock North, the home of Mrs. F. L. Tiffen, on November 15 last, to celebrate the centenary of the establishment of the property by Frederick John Tiffen. Many of those present were the descendants of the pioneer.

A welcome was extended by Mrs. F. L. Tiffen. Among the speakers were Mr. John McLennan, Napier, Mr. C. G. E. Harker, M.P., Miss W. Anderson, Napier, Mr. Wallace Atherfold, Napier (who was the chairman), the Bishop of Waiapu, the Rt. Rev. N. A. Lesser, and Mr. S. J. Tiffen, who replied. Fourteen-year-old Anthony Tiffen who is still at school, a great-grandson of F. J. Tiffen, spoke for his generation.

After tea on the lawns of Elmshill the guest walked around the property, admiring the magnificent elms and oaks planted nearly a century ago by the pioneer F. J. Tiffen.

MADE HISTORY

Frederick John Tiffen was born in Hythe, Kent, and arrived in New Zealand in 1845. He made history by driving the first flock of sheep in Hawke's Bay along the coast from Wellington in 1849. In that year he had bought 950 acres which formed the basis of the present Elmshill estate.

Among the valued possessions of the Tiffen family are diaries and a journal recording the early affairs of the pioneer. Frederick Tiffen was not given to lengthy writing;

"Jan 13 1859: To Napier en route Wlgon.

"Jan 17: From Napier Wonga Wonga for Wlgon on matrimonial intent."

That Tiffen senior's overtures were successful is confirmed by a further terse entry: "Feb. 2: Married Lucy E.M. Born July, 1839."

The Wonga Wonga referred to of course was the paddle steamer which was Hawke's Bay province's pride and joy. A century ago the little packet was plying between Ahuriri and Port Nicholson.

The lot of the early pioneer was by no means easy. The Tiffen journal tells of the long drive of a flock of sheep from Wellington to Hawke's Bay. In July, 1845, a flock of 758 Merino ewes from Sydney consigned to Northwood and H. S. T. Tiffen was landed at Wellington.

DRIVEN ALONG COAST

After a brief spell the flock, along with a pack mare and two pigs was driven along the beach where Lambton Quay now stands, round the northern coast of Wellington Harbour, through present-day Petone and Eastbourne and then up the Wairarapa coast.

North Orongorongo Maoris ferried the flock across lake Onoke. The Ahiaruhi run was reached by the drovers, J. H. Northwood and Fred Tiffen, with one Australian sheep-dog 19 days after leaving Wellington. The sheep were in poor condition, but soon thrived on the rich pasture.

Not till three years later was the second stage of the journey started: On January 2, 1849, Northwood, the Tiffen Brothers, two other unidentified Europeans and six Maoris began the northward trek. Augmented by another shipment from Australia and by natural increase, the flock then totalled 3000. Pourerere was reached in four weeks. Fred Tiffen then recorded in his note-book: "Not a run to the south of us nearer than castle Point, and none nearer than Auckland district to the north."

One thousand ewes were left at Pourerere and the balance of 2000 were driven on to the better pastures of Omakere. It was an important event in the history of Hawke's Bay.

Frederick Tiffen died at the age of 83 in 1911. He was appointed Government Inspector of Sheep by the Wellington Provincial Council in 1856 and was gazetted as Registrar of Sheep and Cattle brands in 1857. His district covered the entire Wellington and Hawke's Bay province as far north as East Cape. He covered most of the area on foot.

At Elmshill in 1861 the 920 sheep shorn produced four bales of wool. In 1892 13,248 produced 256 bales. Wool prices were by no means stable: 1847, Ahiahuhi, 8d. per lb., 1856, Patangata, 18½d.; 1872, Elmshill, 21½d.; 1878, Elmshill, 6d.; 1893, Elmshill, 8½d.

In his later years Frederick Tiffen spent more time in his town house at Napier. For a short space he occupied a house on the Terrace, Wellington, but the climate did not suit his wife and they returned to Hawke's Bay.

In 1892 the management of Elmshill passed to a son, Mr. F. L. Tiffen. Today the property is managed by a grandson Mr. S. J. Tiffen. There has been three Elms-hill homesteads. The first was of handsawn timber. The second was destroyed by fire in 1890. The third home-stead is incorporated in the present Elmshill building.

Several times in his long life Frederick Tiffen walked from Elmshill to Wellington and back.

Wakefield House Finances

It was reported at the annual meeting in Wellington on August 31 concerning the finances of Wakefield House that:—

On September 30, 1959, the 4 per cent. debenture bonds were refinanced. Eleven debentures totalling £910 were repaid; one for £50 was donated to the Society; 34 totalling £4800 were renewed for five years at five per cent. and an additional £350 was received. The total issued is therefore £5150 at five per cent. compared with £6661 at three per cent. issued when Wakefield House was purchased in 1949. The bank overdraft has been reduced from £1459 to £1014, and it is now considerably below £1000.

To those members who so generously assisted with the financing of Wakefield House the Dominion Council extended grateful thanks.

Son of a Pioneer

The death occurred in Wellington recently of Mr. Earl McKenzie, a man who actually saw Wellington grow up in the 90 years of his life. He was the son of Thomas Wilmor McKenzie who arrived at Port Nicholson in the very beginning as a lad of 13, and made his mark in the business world, chiefly as an editor.

One of a large family Mr. MacKenzie lived nearly all his life in Wellington and never lost his interest in its progress. A member of the Founders Society, he was a relatively untapped mine of information, as he remembered so well the stories of the earlier days of his father when Wellington was almost a frontier town.

HISTORIC PLACES TO BE MARKED IN HAWKES BAY

Miss Alice Woodhouse, writing with reference to the work of the Hawke's Bay Regional Committee of the Historic Places Trust, says:—

"There are two sites that the Committee would like to have marked in some way. The Trust provides notice boards for places that are not considered quite worthy of cement bases and copper plaques. One of the sites in question is in the extreme south of Hawke's Bay, and the other in the extreme north. This site in the north is at Whangawehi, on the north side of the Mahia Peninsula, where Maori tradition has it that the earliest Christian baptisms took place.

"There is a hollowed rock, which is understood to have been used as a font, and a niche supposed to have been made to hold the Bible and Prayer book. So strong is the tradition that it is regarded as a sacred spot. Mr. George Ormond, the owner of the property, has given a piece of the surrounding land, and made a reserve which is vested in the Wairoa County Council. As the site is thus preserved, there is no need for it to be made over to the Trust. Moreover, the Trust, quite rightly, prefers documentary evidence as to the authenticity of a site, rather than oral tradition, but the Committee would like to see some sort of plate or plaque fixed to the baptismal rock, to mark it officially as an historic place.

"The other site is at Pourerere, on the coast in the extreme south. Here the first sheep arrived in Hawke's Bay in January, 1849; also on his second voyage Captain Cook made contact with the Maoris, and presented pigs to the local chief. It is probable that the Trust will agree to a notice board being set up here, but discussions are still going on as to the wording.

"The Committee has held one field day since I last wrote. This was to inspect the site of the historic pa at Rotoatara, which is to the east of the main highway, almost opposite Te Aute College, but hidden from the road by low hills. This was a pa on an island in a small lake, called after the legendary hero Tara, who also gave his name to Wellington Harbour (the Maori name of which was Whanganui-a-Tara). The lake has been drained, and is now a swamp, and though in very wet weather it reverts again to a lake, in dry weather it can be crossed quite easily. The low rounded island is still there. Faint traces can be seen of hollows which might have been store pits or sites of houses, and some shell middens have been found.

"It seems a pity that so many of these Maori historic sites must go unmarked. The difficulty is that they are mostly on private property, and the public cannot have access to them. In any case, they are of interest mainly to historians and ethnologists. Most of them in Hawke's Bay are marked on maps specially compiled by enthusiasts in this matter, so they do not go entirely unrecorded."

Barrister Recalls Childhood Days in Wellington

Mr. G. G. G. Watson, well-known Wellington barrister, in an address last month to members of the New Zealand Founders' Society, recalled his childhood days in Oriental Bay.

This is what he had to say:

"Not only had we no motorcars, we had no trams except in the case of a horse tram from Lambton to Newtown. There were no parking problems, no parking difficulties. For the most part we walked. I was born and brought up in Oriental Bay, where we had one horse-bus a day—to town in the morning and back in the evening.

"We went to school in Upper Willis Street, and we walked both ways and home to lunch. We passed such fascinating sights to a child as the Te Aro Railway Station, and gasworks in Courtenay Place, two shoeing forges in the same district, the Fire Brigade Station with its teams of horses, and so on.

"On Saturdays or holidays we probably went for a picnic or a tramp 'round the rocks' in Oriental Bay, past the few houses that then existed, past Wilkinson's Tea Gardens and its delectable grapes.

"One of the joys of a walk round the rocks was to see the Prime Minister, Dick Seddon, taking horseback exercise for his over-weight condition. He never went faster than at a walking pace.

"Some times we went to Moxham's dairy farm, which was where the University and the whole of Kelburn now are. That was a major climb, and meant an all-day expedition. There was no Kelburn cable car. The installation by private enterprise of the latter incurred the wrath of the few residents on those slopes, and a number of them brought actions for damage for noise and vibration!

"In the other direction we would take the horse tram to Newtown, and scramble over the hills, also over the sand dunes between Kilbirnie and Lyall Bay, we were almost always rewarded there with the sight of a horse funeral.

"That area, now covered by houses, also covers the bones of hundreds of decayed horses. At that time Lyall Bay had nothing but a few fishermen, and weekend shanties.

"If our parents wanted a special outing and celebration for some occasion they hired a buggy or wagonette—according to the size of the family—or an all-day outing through the mud track of the Hutt Road to the joys of Bellevue Garden, or Mason's Gardens, at Lower Hutt. Among the joys of such expeditions were the five or six fine old characters who drove those vehicles—Christie, Somerville, Georghan, Innes, Cotterill.

"When we were a little older we were able to take advantage of the stupidity of the licensing laws: the latter were as stupid as they now are. As young men we were able to show how smart we were by pushing a bicycle on Sunday mornings to the hotels either at Kilbirnie or Ngauranga. Having travelled three miles, we were bona-fide travellers entitled to demand Sunday drinks. Both hotels did a large Sunday bar trade.

"To go further afield one had the choice between the Government Railway, with its two stations in Wellington—Lambton and Te Aro—which laboriously puffed and grunted its way over the Rimutaka mountains, or the more popular route by the private company, the Manawatu Railway Company, along the West Coast to Palmerston North.

Century Old Christ Church, Taita

The century-old Christ Church at Taita, Hutt Valley, was now a striking landmark to the district, stated the president of the Christ Church Preservation Society (Sir Wilfrid Sim, Q.C.), when speaking at the society's annual meeting.

The work which the society was doing had commended itself to a public body like the Hutt County Council, and that was not at all unflattering. The society had had its early stages of strife and trouble but had overcome them and had carried out a heavy programme of tree planting.

Sir Wilfrid said he had always sought to hold in front of the members the objective of building the capital amount up to £4000. He was certain that this sum would come in due course. When it was obtained it would yield sufficient income for the maintenance of the property, and all that would then be needed would be personnel to carry on the work.

Officers elected were: President, Sir Wilfrid Sim; secretary, Mr. A. G. Protheroe; treasurer, Mr. G. I. Hooper; executive, Mesdames I. M. Balls, R. L. A. Turner, D. S. McClymont, R. August, and Messrs. Duff Daysh, C. J. Freeman, and J. Searle.

Bishop Unveils Memorial

The bell used by William Colenso more than 100 years ago to summon people to his Waitangi mission station rang again at the unveiling ceremony of a memorial to the early Hawke's Bay settler, teacher, scholar and printer, on November 16.

Among the 200 people who saw the unveiling carried out by the Bishop of Waiapu, the Rt. Rev. N. A. Lesser, was Mrs. E. P. Edwards, of Waipukurau, a great-granddaughter of Colenso.

Mr. E. J. Phillips, regional chairman of the National Historic Places Trust, said the site of the mission had been hard to determine. Rivers had changed and nothing in the locality was as it was when Colenso established his mission a century ago.

William Colenso, remembered for founding the first mission station in Hawke's Bay, is possibly not so well known as the first trained printer in New Zealand. Numerous examples of his printing work are in the Hawke's Bay Museum at Napier.

After being ordained a deacon in the Church of England, Colenso came to Hawke's Bay in 1844 and founded his mission at Waitangi five miles south-east of Napier.

Nonogenarian Members

During 1960 three Canterbury members celebrated their 90th birthdays. They are Mrs. M. M. Kelly, Mrs. J. Genn and Miss A. Jacobsen. To each the Branch offered congratulations, a happy year, and many bright days to come.

(Continued)

"To go still further afield on a really great adventure one could buy a ticket for a berth and go aboard a steamer for Sydney. The bureaucrats had not then got into their stride. One did not have weeks of paper work to obtain permits to leave, tax clearances, passports, or anything of that sort.

"During the height of the price war between the Union Company and the Huddart Parker Company, when there was real competition, one could buy such a ticket for 10/-! One could travel to Sydney in real comfort for £3 to £4, or one could go to England for £40. At that time nobody ruled as to how much or how little of our money we could spend while in Sydney or London."

The Man who Buried Te Rauparaha

William Ronaldson was within a few days of his 26th birthday when he parted from the family of the Rev. Richard Taylor, at Putiki, on November 28, 1849, and began his journey down the coast to Wellington to embark for Sydney, and so return to his native London.

For some time he had been engaged in the Anglican Mission at Wanganui, had studied the Maori language, and even obtained some facility in preaching in that tongue. Taylor had sent him up river to supervise the converts. But it proved a thankless task, and, on the whole, Ronaldson's experiences with the Maoris were disappointing.

All that November day he walked along the coast. "I was very tired," he wrote in his journal (a typescript of which is in the Turnbull Library), "and coming along the Manawatu beach I laid down twice and fell asleep." That night was spent in the home of the pioneer Presbyterian Minister, Duncan, near what is now Foxton, and it was there that Ronaldson learned of the death at Otaki of the great chief, Te Rauparaha.

Otaki was reached on November 30: "... Mr. and Mrs. Williams were out, and Mr. Hadfield was engaged with the natives. I went to see the new church. It is a noble building 80ft long, 36ft broad, 40ft to the ridge pole, and 20ft to wall plates. It is supported by three large totara posts down the centre, and the workmanship inside is grand and handsome. It is shingled, and is the work of natives alone."

Samuel Williams was then assistant to Octavius Hadfield, Archdeacon of Kapiti (and later Wellington's second Bishop). Williams, a fine Maori scholar, founded Te Aute College, and established the H. and W. Williams Trust, a body that has helped many a good Maori cause.

When Ronaldson attended service in the recently completed church known as Rangiatea he was amazed at the orderly behaviour of the Maori worshippers: "... when the service was over they all got up and walked out quietly, not a word being spoken: the children also attended, and were very quiet. I wish I could see this wherever I go. It is worthy of a Christian land."

Next day he accompanied Williams on a tour of inspection of what was then called Hadfield Town, and was actually the first experiment in Maori housing. They called on Te Rauparaha's son, Tamihana, also upon Matene Te Whiwhi. Both young men had new houses.

Sunday began with prayers at Rangiatea at 7am: "Everything is well ordered. No noise in the church, no talking, and at school the answers are low but audible, and the children behave themselves very well indeed."

Ronaldson noted on December 3 that Mokau (one of several names by which Te Rangihacata was known), was "rather surprised that the body of Te Rauparaha might not be taken into the church, and that neither Mr. Williams nor Mr. Hadfield would read the service over it."

He went on to say: "Mr. Hadfield asked me if I had any objection to read prayers over Te Rauparaha. I said 'None whatsoever,' so I did."

And in this manner did Ronaldson, clearly more broadminded and charitable than certain of his colleagues, secure for himself a niche in history. He was not to know, of course, that the old man's body was not within the coffin—the latter was filled with stones—but he had been spirited off to a safe hiding place on Kapiti Island.

Again and again I have seen in print the statement that Te Rauparaha became a Christian. Ronaldson's account of what happened should clinch that argument. But he had attended the church services, and had sat in school, a slate and pencil in his hands—despite his 70-odd years. Also, he played an important part in the building of Rangiatea, selecting trees for timber and so on. It can be asserted, too, I think, that if old 'Raha had set out to prevent its building, the influence of the Pakeha clergy would not have prevailed.

Doubtless, both Hadfield and Williams thought they had good reason for so acting, but it was left to Ronaldson to do justice to a man who, by any standard, was entitled to be called great.

The younger man even felt sympathy towards him, remarking: "Poor man! his funeral was conducted with the greatest propriety and no expense was spared, but (that) will have no effect in saving his soul. May he have found the Grace of God precious to him."

"Major D. S. Durie (the Magistrate at Waikanae) and Mrs. Durie came to see the funeral, and returned in the afternoon."

Ronaldson was fortunate in obtaining the loan of a horse as far as Wainui when he left Otaki on December 4. He stayed with the Duries en route. From Wainui he walked to Wellington next day, arriving in the settlement at 11pm. On December 16 he sailed in The Sisters for Sydney.

In Cook Strait the vessel was becalmed, and eventually Ronaldson, who had been very seasick, saw a passenger land on Kapiti Island. The latter returned with a bucket of milk and two geese.

"Good-bye to New Zealand—for a time only I trust!" he wrote when opposite his last landmark, Mount Egmont. Ronaldson did return in 1855 to begin his arduous and not very successful mission in Wairarapa. —"PONEKE."

Westland Plaques

The Westland Regional Committee of the National Historic Places Trust recently erected two plaques. The first one was at Greenstone, the inscription of which reads: "Up this valley the prospector, Albert Hunt, found the first payable goldfield in Westland in 1864."

Greenstone, 18 miles by road from Greymouth, was by 1865 a busy gold mining town with hundreds of miners working along the valley of the Greenstone Creek. Albert Hunt was by no means the first to discover gold there, but he remained long enough to prove the field and earned a gratuitous payment of £200 instead of the £1000 which the Canterbury Provincial Government had offered as a reward to the discoverer of a payable field.

Today nothing remains but the hotel and the gaol, both derelict.

The second plaque in Tainui Park, at the Greymouth end of the Cobden Bridge, carries the following inscription: "On this site stood the Mawhera Pa, where James Mackay completed the deed of sale of Westland with the Maoris, May 21, 1860."—"Canterbury Newsletter." No. 5.

Life Member

Mr. P. J. Jones, of the Canterbury Branch, has been elected an honorary life member.

New Members of Founders Society

Name	Address	Ship		Ancestor
Mrs. H. A. Cornish	Canterbury	Aurora	1840	Joseph Carter
Mrs. J. F. Mace	Canterbury		1827	Rev. James Stack
Mrs. B. R. Rose	Auckland	Westminster	1843	Charles H. Rose
Mrs. A. M. Tasman Smith	Bay of Plenty		1840	John T. Wicksteed
Mr. J. H. Macandrew	Wellington	Titan	1851	James Macandrew
Mrs. N. Birch	Wairarapa	London	1840	A. de B. Brandon
Mrs. C. M. Daniel	Wairarapa	Charlotte Jane		James Wylde
Mrs. D. E. Moose	Auckland	Sir John Falstaff	1841	Dr. R. Matthews
Mrs. M. E. McWhirter	Wellington	Thomas Harrison	1842	George Castle
Mrs. J. L. Cuthbertson	Christchurch		1827	Rev. James Stack
Mr. A. M. Jewell (Jr.)	Bay of Plenty	Sir George Seymour	1850	Philip Laraman
Mr. M. P. Jewell (Jr.)	Bay of Plenty	Sir George Seymour	1850	Philip Laraman
Miss L. V. Osborne (Jr.)	Wellington	London	1842	William Thomas
Mrs. H. Atkinson	Bay of Plenty	Birman	1842	Samuel Crowther
Mrs. M. J. Clifford	Wellington	Timandra	1842	Matthew Joll
Mrs. E. P. Matthews	Wellington	Timandra	1842	Matthew Joll
Mr. W. J. Tidd	Wellington	Mary Ann	1842	Thomas Tidd
Mr. E. C. Hoggard	Auckland	Jane Gifford	1842	William McBrierty
Miss J. R. Mace (Jr.)	Christchurch		1827	Rev. James Stack
Mr. J. E. Boyde	Taranaki	Cuba	1839	Capt. Mein-Smith
Mr. L. M. Nutt	Taranaki	Isabella Hercus	1851	John Stevenson
Mr. D. R. Burr	Taranaki	Timandra	1842	Bertha Jordon
Mr. J. V. Paynter	Taranaki	Amelia Thompson	1841	William Paynter
Mr. V. J. Wise	Wellington		1842	Alfred Wise
Mr. D. W. Boyde (Jr.)	Taranaki	Cuba	1839	Capt. Mein-Smith
Mrs. K. M. Bridge	Wellington	Isabella Hercus	1851	
Mrs. M. O. J. Moore	Canterbury	Regina	1859	Percival Pearce
Mrs. K. E. Day	Wairarapa	Martha Ridgway	1840	Alfred Renall
Mrs. I. P. Wilton	Wairarapa	Duke of Roxburgh	1840	Mary Ann Poad
Mrs. W. G. Moorhead	Christchurch		1854	Charles J. Norton
Mrs. J. Flanagan	Wellington	Lady Nugent	1841	Mary Ann Southee
Mr. K. P. B. Flanagan	Wellington		1847	Patrick Flanagan
Mrs. M. N. R. Hanton	Wellington	Duke of Roxburgh	1840	James Bryant
Mrs. J. Jones	Wanganui			Peter Imlay
Mrs. I. Bayley	Wanganui			Peter Imlay
Mrs. M. Remrant	Wanganui			Peter Imlay
Mr. L. A. Sutcliffe	Auckland	Auckland	1842	Andrew Rooney
Mr. W. B. H. Smith	Wairarapa	Bengal Merchant	1840	Ebenezer Hay
Mrs. K. Browne	Canterbury	Cressy	1850	Dr. Watkins
Miss A. Paynter (Jr.)	Taranaki	Amelia Thompson	1841	Willial Paynter
Mr. C. H. Wynyard	Taranaki	British Sovereign	1845	Robert H. Wynyard
Miss M. McGregor	Wanganui	Blenheim	1841	Gregor McGregor
Mrs. K. I. Coates	Wanganui	Blenheim	1841	Gregor McGregor

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Wairarapa: Mrs. I. Ball, 5 Johnston Street, Masterton.

Taranaki: Mr. R. G. Jamieson, Oakura, Taranaki.

Canterbury: Mrs. M. Jones, 41 Flockton Street, Shirley, Christchurch, Telephone 58-564.

APPEAL FOR MEMBERSHIP

Having read "The Bulletin" pass it on to another member of your family, or to some friend. Interest them in the activities of The Founders Society. Unity is strength. The more members we possess greater will be the significance of this movement. Take pride in your founder forbears, help those who would keep their memory green, and remember—If you have something to communicate, get in touch with us.

—The Editor.