



Issued by the New Zealand Founders Society, P.O. Box 1775, Wellington C.I.

President's Message

We are reaching a stage in our growth as a society when more and more responsibilities are being thrust on our shoulders; some we reject and others we are proud to accept.

For a long time the Founders Society has deplored the lack of any monument in Wellington, or anywhere else in New Zealand, to Edward Gibbon Wakefield. Making a virtue of necessity one comforts oneself with the thought that the whole of New Zealand is his true and lasting monument. That is indeed so; but it does not altogether get rid of the gnawing question: should not something more be done to remind the rising generation of his achievements?

Most people in Wellington do not know of the existence of any monument to Edward's brother, Col. William Wakefield, the Founder of Wellington; and many people neither know nor care. As a matter of fact there is one. Where and what it is would be a suitable question for Selwyn Toogood to ask in his next performance of "It's in the Bag". Not many people would go for a bag, if that was the question put to them. For the benefit of those who do not know, it is the drinking fountain beneath a Greek portico on the eastern side of the Basin Reserve. It was erected from funds raised by public subscription in 1848, the year of Col. Wakefield's death. It once bore an inscription which has long since disappeared. The Society was recently asked to request the City Council to place a suitable plaque on this monument, and I am able to tell members that the Society's Council has agreed to make this request. If we are successful in getting a plaque put there, a reproach to Wellington will be removed.

Measures to have 6 February, the anniversary of the Treaty of Waitangi, recognized as "New Zealand Day" will shortly be taken by your Council. In this number Mr. Leo Fanning's article on this subject in the "New Zealand Free Lance" is reproduced. The anniversary of the Treaty of Waitangi has always been regarded as a memorable occasion by the Founders Society, and special efforts are made each year to invite a speaker capable of giving due honour to this important day. This year we had Mr. A. A. McLachlan, S.M., the chairman of the Local Government Commission. He stressed that the harmonious relations in New Zealand between Maori and Pakeha are a feature in our history in which we can take great and legitimate pride. The principles laid down in the Treaty of Waitangi are their foundation, and it would be right and proper to call the anniversary of the treaty New Zealand Day.

I feel sure the members of the Founders Society will support their Council in both the matters I have mentioned, the plaque on William Wakefield's monument, and the recognition of 6 February as New Zealand Day. If the Society achieved nothing else this year than these two things it would be justifying its existence. It will, I hope, do more.

D. J. RIDDIFORD.

Subscriptions Due

A reminder is given that members' subscriptions for 1955, payable by the calendar year, are due. Prompt response to this appeal will be appreciated.

New Zealand Day Overdue

This article, written by Leo Fanning for the "New Zealand Free Lance" of 23 February, is reprinted by permission of the editor, Miss Esme Geddis.

New Zealand has uniqueness in some of its scenery, fauna and flora—spectacular distinction which draws admirers from all parts of the world. It has almost another uniqueness, which the great majority of people do not seem to notice. It has no national day, no nationally recognised anniversary day on which all the people can rejoice in commemoration of the foundation of the "Brighter Britain of the South," known in tourism as the "Wonderland of the Pacific." In striking contrast with that delay diplomatic representatives of European, American and Asiatic countries have annual celebrations of national days.

RISE AND FALL OF DOMINION DAY

Sir Joseph Ward had high hope of getting a national day honourably marked in the calendar. When he returned in September, 1907, from a visit to London he aroused public curiosity by mystic mention of a "secret," to which he clung for some days until expectancy worked up to fever heat. Then pronouncement was made of New Zealand's change of status from colony to dominion. Sir Joseph, as Prime Minister, believed that this alteration was historic distinction for the country, an honour worthy of perpetual commemoration as "Dominion Day," 26 September.

It was a public holiday until 1921, when it was struck off the statutory list as the result of a recommendation of an Economy Committee set up by the Government. It continued to be a bank holiday until 1946, and then lapsed into a background which became dimmer with the passing years. It may be fairly said now that Dominion Day through the years has died of inanition.

TO COMMEMORATE WAITANGI TREATY

While 26 September was drifting out of sight and out of mind as a national day the New Zealand Founders Society began to strive for recognition of 6 February as New Zealand Day, in commemoration of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in the Bay of Islands on 6 February, 1840—the treaty which brought the European and Maori races together under British sovereignty.

That treaty, one of the shortest in the world's history, prepared the way for friendly, mutually helpful co-existence of Maori folk and the new settlers. The New Zealand Founders Society, since its establishment in 1939, has honoured

6 February with annual reunions at which appropriate addresses have been given by well-qualified speakers. For some years New Zealanders in London have had similar celebrations. A thousand words would scarcely express the full inspirational significance of 6 February, 1840.

This year 6 February was spectacularly honoured as New Zealand Day at the Treaty House, Waitangi. The Governor-General, Sir Willoughby Norrie, was requested by a Maori chief to help in getting that date officially recognised as New Zealand Day, a national public holiday.

What New Zealander, with proper knowledge of the nation-making Treaty of Waitangi, would object to having 6 February proclaimed as New Zealand Day? It can be reasonably assumed that such action would be approved throughout the country, but a difficulty could arise about the addition of another public holiday to the list.

PROVINCIAL ANNIVERSARIES

A solution could be found in the willingness of people in the provinces to have their anniversary public holidays merged into one, New Zealand Day. Of course, such a change would not interfere with the observance of provincial anniversaries in a manner that does not require a public holiday. It is a long time since such observances went beyond evening assemblies of Early Settlers' Associations.

A glance at the provincial dates shows they are mostly not remote from 6 February. Auckland's anniversary, 29 January, commemorates Captain Hobson's proclamation of British sovereignty at the little settlement which has grown into New Zealand's largest city.

Taranaki dates its anniversary from 31 March, 1841, when the ship William Bryan reached New Plymouth.

Wellington Province (which originally included Hawke's Bay) takes its anniversary from 22 January, 1840, when the ship Aurora arrived with the first immigrants.

Nelson Province (which originally included Marlborough) gets its anniversary from 1 February, 1842, when the ship Fifeshire landed the first settlers.

Canterbury (which originally included Westland) dates its anniversary from 16 December,

1850, when the ship Charlotte Jane, the first of four immigrant ships, reached Port Cooper (now known as Lyttelton). That date is inconveniently close to the Christmas-New Year holidays.

Otago (which originally included Southland) has its anniversary from 23 March, 1848, when the ship John Wickliffe brought Scottish settlers to Port Chalmers.

CANADA AND AUSTRALIA LEAD

People of Canada have a public holiday, usually on the Monday next to 1 July, anniversary of the date in 1867 when the first four provinces agreed to federate—Upper Canada (now Ontario), Lower Canada (now Quebec), Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Other provinces joined up later on. The anniversary is officially Canada's national day, but is popularly known and observed as "Confederation Day." There are church services for folk who wish to begin the celebration religiously. Flags are flown throughout the Dominion, and altogether the country shows a spirit of rejoicing with sports, picnics and other pleasures of midsummer.

Australia Day, 26 January, a public holiday, commemorates the date in 1788 when the first Governor, Captain (later Admiral) Arthur Phillip, R.N., landed at Sydney Cove, hoisted the British flag and proclaimed British sovereignty. The usual observances include radio broadcasts by the Governor-General and State Governors and appropriate cheerful functions of patriotic bodies.

ENGLAND'S DILEMMA

At first thought, it is a surprise that England has no public holiday linked with a national date. Chief national day there is the Sovereign's birthday, for which there are services, flag-flying and speeches, but no cessation of ordinary work. St. George's Day, 23 April, gets some recognition, but is rather eclipsed by celebrations in honour of Shakespeare, who was born on 23 April, 1564. Empire Day, 24 May, has lost its old-time splendour, and Trafalgar Day, 21 October, is not what it was long ago. With the complexity of England's evolution as a nation and the various epochal events, it would be difficult to select a date as the supreme one for national honouring with a public holiday, year by year.

Suggested Church Services

Mr. H. Irwin, Upper Hutt, writes:—

In a report in "The Dominion" of 7th February of the celebration of the 115th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, it was suggested that 6th February should be observed as a national day of remembrance and be made an annual holiday.

Should this be done, would it not be a good thing for the Churches to hold a brief service of remembrance on that day, to commemorate the part those two great-hearted early missionaries to the Maoris, Archdeacon H. Williams and Archdeacon B. Maunsell, took in inducing the 500 chiefs to sign the Treaty? Without their help it is doubtful if these rangatiras would have signed at all.

Progress of Auckland Branch

Here is the annual report of Mr. D. G. Riddiford, president of the Auckland Branch of the New Zealand Founders Society:—

Our branch has concluded another successful year. Membership has increased from 214 to 260, with a further three awaiting confirmation. Although this is satisfactory, I should like to see a very much greater increase during the current year. Our activities are limited to a great extent by our annual income. I would therefore ask each member to endeavour to get at least one new member every year. The Wellington centre of the Society has well over 800 members, and I see no reason why we should not eventually catch them up.

The change-over from the Darby Street rooms to the Society of Arts rooms has, I feel sure, been appreciated by everyone. The only drawback is the lack of a piano. I shall suggest later that we start a piano fund.

At our last annual meeting we were very glad to welcome Mr. Duff Daysh, then Dominion President, who gave an address on the progress and development of the Society. Subsequent guest speakers have been Messrs. Scott Young, E. J. Searle, Tom Walsh, Johannes Andersen, Alan Coulam, the Mayor of Auckland (Mr. J. H. Luxford), Mr. D. M. Rae, M.P., Mr. G. Mitchell and Mr. H. V. Baigent. We were very pleased to welcome Mr. Luxford, who is a member and patron of our branch. Mr. Duncan Rae, who spoke on the Historic Places Bill, gave a particularly interesting talk to one of our largest gatherings of the year.

The final meeting of the year was in the nature of a Christmas party. "The Bohemians" were engaged as entertainers for the evening. Two guests, Mr. and Mrs. William Bailey, also contributed several much-appreciated items, and the party was an unqualified success.

During the winter months, June, July and August, well-attended luncheon meetings were held instead of the evening meetings.

I wish to emphasise again the debt we owe to our indefatigable secretary, Miss Irma O'Connor. The success of this branch is very greatly due to her untiring efforts. All guest speakers are arranged by her, and this in itself is no light task. She also arranges all bookings for our monthly meetings. She is responsible for all notices, both for committee and general meetings. This is to mention just a few of her activities on the Society's behalf.

I also thank members of the Committee for their ready assistance and to thank Mr. Wynyard for the use of his office for the committee meetings. Our sincere thanks are also due to Mr. Peter Buddle for his valuable assistance in acting as honorary treasurer of the branch.

The report also mentioned the branch's representation at a State luncheon in celebration of the centenary of the New Zealand Parliament, reported in No. 3 issue of the "N.Z.F.S. Bulletin."

Mr D. Hope Johnston Active At 81

The distinction of having founded three societies of descendants of founders of Australia and New Zealand and of having formed reciprocal links between Founders Societies of Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the United States of America belongs to Mr. D. Hope Johnston, a New Zealander now resident in London.

In his 81st year he is as keen as Dr. Guy Scholefield in biographical research.

Mr. Johnston was born on 22 February, 1874, in "Thorndon House," Hobson Street, Wellington's first two-storeyed house. It was built in 1844 for his maternal grandfather, Captain Charles Schlutze, one of the first two members for Wellington City in the first Provincial Parliament. Captain Schlutze raised, equipped, and commanded a troop of cavalry for the defence of Wellington against expected attacks by Maoris.

Father of Mr. Johnston was Percival Johnston, son of Captain Robert Johnston, R.N., who was a godson of Admiral Arthur Phillip, first Governor of Australia.

D. Hope Johnston left New Zealand at the age of five and was educated in Sydney, Scotland, and England. When he was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple in 1900, his sponsor was Sir Henry Feilding Dickens, Q.C., son of Charles Dickens. After practising law in London for ten years, Mr. Johnston returned to Sydney in 1901, remained in Australia for about 30 years, and then went back to London. He visited New Zealand in 1902, 1908, and 1938-39.

VERY ACTIVE IN AUSTRALIA

In Australia Mr. Johnston had the leadership in movements for commemoration of historic events. At

his suggestion Algernon Talmage, R.A., painted the famous picture "The Founding of Australia," which shows Governor Phillip, his staff, and guard at the hoisting of the British flag on 26 January, 1788. Mr. Johnston's great-grandfather, Lieutenant (afterwards Colonel) George Johnston, A.D.C., is in the picture.

In 1910 Mr. Johnston founded the Australasian Pioneers' Club, and in 1929 the Women's Pioneer Society of Australasia, both in Sydney.

IMPRESS ON NEW ZEALAND

During his stay in Wellington in 1939 Mr. Johnston was the prime mover and organiser in the formation of the New Zealand Founders Society in which he continues to take a very keen interest. This fact was well impressed on Mr. J. W. Carr, of Wellington, a past president of the society, when he met the founder in London recently. Mr. Johnston handed over for preservation in Wakefield House, the society's headquarters, a collection of historic documents and pictures, including photographs of pages of baptismal registers in which are the names of Captain William Hobson, first Governor of New Zealand; George Augustus Selwyn, first Anglican Bishop of New Zealand; Sir Joseph Banks, the famous botanist, who was with Captain Cook on voyages to New Zealand; Samuel Marsden, the first missionary to come to New Zealand.

Mr. Johnston was the originator of the annual celebration of New Zealand Day in London on 6 February, the anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840.

Historic Letters from London

Surprising good luck came to Mr. J. J. Bishop, an Auckland stamp dealer, from the reading of an advance catalogue of an auction sale to be held by a leading London firm in the stamp trade. He saw that it included seven early New Zealand "prestamped covers"—envelopes and unenclosed letters bearing postal marks, but not adhesive stamps. He sent bids for the items by airmail and they were knocked down to him.

When the covers were received, one envelope proved to be addressed in the handwriting of Sir George Grey, and bore his signature in the left bottom corner. It was addressed to Colonel William Wakefield, brother of Edward Gibbon Wakefield and agent for the New Zealand Company at Wellington. The date was 22nd April, 1847. The letter was still inside. Grey, who wrote from Government House, Auckland, asked the colonel if he could make available a house he owned for the use of E. J. Eyre, who was coming to Wellington to be first Lieutenant-Governor of New Munster.

In the original charter New Zealand was divided into three provinces—New Ulster (North Island), New Munster (South Island)

and New Leinster (Stewart Island). Subsequently New Ulster was defined as the part of the North Island north of a line drawn due east from the mouth of the Patea River, and New Munster took in the remainder of the colony.

Eyre won fame for his explorations in Australia. His term in New Zealand was brief.

Another letter, dated 1845, is from Edward Jerningham Wakefield, son of Edward Gibbon. It is addressed to Colonel Wakefield from Valparaiso, where the writer had halted on his way from New Zealand to England. It gives a rather amusing account of the seaport and mentions that the police can be relied on to turn out in force at any point and at any hour of the day or night. Wakefield adds that he is entrusting the letter to the captain of a vessel bound to Tahiti.

Dr. William England, of Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, in a letter dated April, 1844, asks Colonel Wakefield to arrange for a memorial to his brother, Captain Richard England, late of the 12th Regiment, killed in the Wairau "massacre" the previous June.

Colonial History Exhibition

About eighty members of the New Zealand Founders Society saw much to admire in the Colonial History Exhibition in the gallery of the New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts on the evening of 23 February. Mr. S. Northcote Bade, organiser of the display, gave a very interesting address. Mr. Bade wrote the following article.

To those interested in our early history—their number grows apace with our national consciousness—the exhibition has been of extraordinary interest; indeed it has been fascinating, for very few realised the wealth of material which is stored away in Wellington or the value of that which is available. This comprehensive exhibition, using the combined resources of the Alexander Turnbull Library's collection of pictures, including the Nan Kivell collection, National Archives records including the New Zealand Company's records, and the Dominion Museum's collection of furniture, augmented by loans from private families, was opened in December. For the first time Wellingtonians have seen displayed together in suitable setting, material which is their heritage, their birth-right.

In his introduction, Mr. D. J. Riddiford emphasised the importance of preservation of such material. Enlarging on this theme, I mentioned some of the things apart from ignorance and indifference which encompass the destruction of our historical material. Time alone is a great destroyer, but it is assisted by dampness, fire and insects; hence it is imperative if we are to retain evidences of our history, that they must be suitably stored in a building safeguarded against damp, fire, and earthquake.

Again, as may be seen from the catalogue, much of the material shown is already owned by the community and already preserved in suitable surroundings, but there is no public gallery where these things are permanently on view. Not only is it necessary to preserve, if we are to illustrate our history; it must be shown; hence the importance of a proper Colonial Gallery. With modifications, such space could be provided in the existing building.

Rooms exhibited include a kitchen with chairs of manuka and totara made by George Allen, Wellington, and Josephus Hargreaves, Nelson, before 1850; a colonial oven from the cob portion of the Langley Dale homestead of A. M. Adams, a smaller example of which was recently removed from an old cottage in the heart of Wellington; built-in cupboards from Thorndon houses; the table brought by John Plimmer, 1840; and Charles Heaphy's cupboard, "Tory," 1839.

Cabin, or stateroom furniture in the next room included two canework settees, one extending, J. L. Coster, 1852, and one with side pieces, John Palmer "Phoebe," 1852; a desk type seachest, Captain David Frazer; a New Zealand Company's table, "Ursula," 1843; and a night light clock, Dr. I. E. Featherston, 1841, which intrigued visitors; Mr. John Dorset's chest, "Tory," 1839. Mr. John Palmer's cast-iron four-branched lamp chandelier was much admired while the Mantell music box, "Oriental," 1840, provided background music.

The bedroom furniture, all of which had arrived by 1846, came with the Saxtons "Clifford," 1843; Claphams, "Lord William Bentinck," 1841; Dorsets, "Hope," 1846; Rutherfords, 1843; and Sophia Vile on the "Arab," 1841.

Family silver included the service presented to Dr. Featherston in 1851 by satisfied landholders, and the china shown in the satinwood cabinet, Mrs. John Johnston, Jnr., included the teaset brought by John Dan-

forth Greenwood, "Phoebe," 1843, and the spode teaset brought together from Kaikoura, buried in the Maori wars and unearthed in 1920, A. S. Atkinson, "Pageant," 1842. William Dorset's settee and Julius Von Haast's mahogany furniture were among this group. The ancient washing machines nearby were an eye-opener to many.

The two remaining rooms contrasting the imported furniture of 1840-50 with high-quality furniture in native timbers of 1875 included Henry Bragg's grandfather clock, 1846; the first piano in Wellington, George Hunter, "Duke of Roxborough," 1840; Henry St. Hill's loo table, "Adelaide," 1840; chairs, Lysaght, "Crusader," 1874. The magnificent inlaid cabinet by Sieffert and the table with inlaid views of early Wellington were the highlights of the 1875 room. All rooms had wall-papers of from the 40's to the 70's shown with them to indicate suitable backgrounds. The Guard relics from Port Underwood are contained in glass cases in the main hall. A cork model of the Bethune and Hunter building, dating from Colonial Museum days, attracted much attention.

I took the opportunity to suggest that the original building which is now smothered by tall buildings should be transferred again to the waterfront in the space opposite the Traffic Office, and suggested also that the Chew's house, Ngaio, should be shifted a few yards into the reserve and likewise preserved. Both these practical suggestions should be brought to the attention of the City Council immediately. In these things it may be dangerous to wait for the operation of a National Trust, even if the places are eventually controlled by such a body.

Lastly, and this is a matter of much national importance, the Nan Kivell collection of pictures which is at present on view, is due to be returned overseas. This will be an irreparable loss to the country. Immediate representations to the Prime Minister would no doubt bear fruit, and a way might be found to retain this collection permanently in New Zealand. Delay would be disastrous.

I thank those members of the Founders Society and other descendants of our pioneers, who in Canterbury and Nelson as well as Wellington have helped with records and heirlooms to make exhibitions of this nature a complete living record.

Visit to Lord Bledisloe

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Carr found Lord Bledisloe, patron of the Founders Society, in good fettle at his great estate, Lydney Park, Gloucestershire.

The Viscount was very pleased with the good growth of New Zealand trees, evergreen links with the country which thankfully remembers his helpful years as Governor-General. He handed to Mrs. Carr a splendid spray of white bloom from a lacebark tree (hauhere). The talks with Lord Bledisloe showed that his interest in New Zealand, past and present, was as keen as ever.

The "Pensioners Settlements" in Auckland

"At the September meeting of the Auckland branch of the New Zealand Founders Society, Mr. G. G. M. Mitchell gave us a most interesting talk on the establishment of the pensioner settlements near Auckland in 1846," writes one of the members, Mrs. G. W. Maunsell. "The name 'pensioner' was a little puzzling to some of us, but it appears that the Royal New Zealand Fencibles, a force sent out by Earl Grey in 1846, was composed of Chelsea pensioners—not old men, though veterans of many wars, but men in their prime. They were accompanied by their wives and families."

These military settlements, established because of the danger of attack by the Maoris, formed a rough arc across the Auckland isthmus from Onehunga to Howick. Undoubtedly this chain of defence did act as a deterrent to the Waikato Maoris, among whom the word soon got round that the pakehas were ready and on the watch. The only time that the Onehunga force was called out was in 1851, when a chief, with a grievance came from Coromandel to the Waitemata with four hundred warriors. On this occasion the men were mustered and marched from Onehunga to Auckland in four hours.

On leaving England each pensioner was promised a cottage and an acre of land, but in many cases they had to live in raupo whares till their permanent homes were built. These took the form of double-unit cottages, a type of dwelling not always conducive to lasting friendships between neighbours.

The garrisons were established in block-houses at strategic points, adds the secretary of the Auckland Branch. One of these old block-houses has weathered all storms and may be seen in Jellicoe Park, Onehunga, today. It is in a perfect state of preservation, built of bricks and provided with a solid heavy kauri door studded with iron and reinforced by iron bars inside. It stands in a most commanding position on a knoll from which the garrison had a perfect view of the Otahuhu portage, the heads on the Manukau and the opposite shore at Mangere, where at low tide attacking Maori warriors from the south could wade across to Onehunga and thence go on to Auckland.

At present this old block-house is privately occupied, but the Onehunga Borough Council rightly wishes to take it over in order to preserve it for posterity and turn it into a local museum. It is a fit subject for the attention of the newly-formed Historical Places Trust.

Grace for the Graces

In a very interesting book, "Some Schools and Headmasters of Early Wellington," published in 1900, George McMorran, gratefully and lovingly remembered for his many years of good citizen-making as headmaster of the Terrace School, gave some very interesting stories of old-time teachers.

Before 1840, Wellington had some women as teachers, but it was not until 1840 that a man entered the scholastic field. This pioneer was Mr. Charles Grace, who came from Sydney. It is sometimes said that the syllabus of the modern schools has too many "unpractical" subjects. Well, the holders of that opinion cannot get support from the announcements of Mr. Grace. He had the following advertisement in the "New Zealand Gazette" during May, 1840: "Mr. Grace would consider himself as not doing justice to his pupils, even to those who confine themselves to an ordinary English education, if he did not endeavour during the whole course to impart a knowledge of the facts in natural philosophy, astronomy, chemistry, anatomy, physiology and natural history which are the most essential to their physical well-being, and which will prove a source of agreeable thought in after life."

In one of his subsequent advertisements in the "New Zealand Gazette and Britannia Spectator" Mr. Grace (who evidently tried to act up to his name) had this statement: "He will devote two hours each day to the improvement of young ladies. . . . In instructing them the great object of Mr. Grace will be to accustom them to think, which is unfortunately too little attended to in female education."

The new school, a brick building (destroyed by the earthquake of 1848), was named "The Wellington Academical Institution." It was described as "the commodious premises adjoining the native reserve called Kumo Toto." The modern Woodward Street has replaced the Kumototo stream which met the sea just in front of the school. Lambton Quay was then known as "The Beach."

Who Has Knowledge of the "London" ?

A Blenheim member of the Founders Society, who had great-grandparents on the maternal and paternal sides among the "London's" passengers, requests information about the voyages of that ship, 388 tons, to Wellington in December, 1840 (Captain Shuttleworth), and to Nelson in April, 1842 (Captain Joseph Griffiths).

Any member who has knowledge of any record or other account is asked to communicate with the Society's Dominion Secretary, P.O. Box 1775, Wellington, C.I.

Early Wanganui

An exhibition sponsored by the Wanganui Arts and Crafts Society in conjunction with the District Adult Education Organization was held in the Sergeant Art Gallery during January. The display consisted of sketches, drawings and paintings of early Wanganui, its district and inhabitants, mostly from the Art Gallery collection, the Alexander Museum and interested citizens.

A sketch plan of Petre (Wanganui) showed the various areas within the city boundary surveyed and named, with pencilled names of the owners of some blocks. The scale of the plan was 20 inches to one mile. There were several pencil sketches of Wanganui in 1840's, four of them by Mr. J. A. Gilfillan. One sketch showed the house of Mr. E. J. Wakefield when Wanganui was no more than a collection of huts.

Portraits were mostly of famous local Maoris, including Major Kemp (Te Rangihwinui), who fought so well on the side of the British. Others were of Waata Wiremu Hipango, who gave Hipango Park on the Wanganui River to the citizens of Wanganui, and his wife Ena, giver of the war canoe "Te Mata o Hoturoa" to the Alexander Museum.

Wanganui Historical Library Project

At two social evenings of the Whanganui Branch of the Founders Society guest speakers (including Dr. J. C. Beaglehole, lecturer in Colonial History at Victoria University College) have impressively supported the branch's project of a Wanganui historical library.

Dr. Beaglehole quoted several instances of disasters that had made large gaps in the Dominion's records. Many of New Zealand's records, he said, were destroyed because of lack of space for their proper storage, no proper respect for them and an unconsciousness of their worth. He stressed the importance of preserving Wanganui records in the locality where they were created. This also lessened the danger of total destruction if they were stored in the central archives.

Historic Survey Standard

Mr. G. Walker reports the resurrection of a survey standard which had lain at rest for many years under a flower bed in Moutoa Gardens, Wanganui. The standard was used in the early days of settlement by surveyors for checking their lines.

The Whanganui Branch of the Founders Society approached the City Council, which obtained permission from the Surveyor-General to have the works opened up and indicated by an inscribed plaque.

Moutoa Gardens were once the Market Place of Wanganui. From hillocks of sand the place has been changed into a beautiful park with memorials to John Ballance (the Liberal Prime Minister who preceded Richard Seddon), Major Kemp (a distinguished officer of the old Maori wars) and Maori soldiers who fought in the two World Wars.

Comedies at Fords

Thomas McKenzie, honourably known in his latter years as "The Father of Wellington," used to tell some amusing stories of the days when the Ngahauranga Stream flowed across the Wellington-Hutt road. The rivulet, before the big earthquake of 1848 raised the bed about four feet, was four or five feet deep when the tide was up.

Mr. McKenzie once reached the bank with a friend, and a large Maori was there to ferry them over on his strong, brown back. Mr. McKenzie's friend went first, and had a nice passage to the middle of the stream. Then came an argument in Maori, next a wrestle. Sometimes the combatants were visible, and sometimes not. Mr. McKenzie did some rapid thinking, and paid in advance when his turn came. He reached the other side dry. It seems that the Maori, probably cheated of his fee by some unscrupulous persons, had demanded his reward in mid-stream, with sad results for the unwilling pakeha.

Another time, at a spot where the road was intercepted by the Waiwhetu Stream, near the Hutt River, Mr. McKenzie saw a valiant little Maori undertake to carry a very stout woman. The jockey scaled anything near 18st., and the steed about ten nothing. The Maori bravely staggered to the middle of the rivulet, and then groaned "too much." The lady flopped gracefully into the cold water. She had presence of mind enough to punish the over-wrought Maori; he was heavily thumped and slanged withal. After memorably impressing woman's might on that little man the large lady waded ashore, very wet but very dignified.

Chat with Mrs Priscilla Williams

Mr. J. W. Carr had a pleasant chat in London with Mrs. G. B. Williams (usually known as Mrs. Priscilla Williams), a great-granddaughter of Daniel Wakefield, a brother of Edward Gibbon Wakefield, whose house on The Terrace has been acquired by the Founders Society. Mrs. Williams is the owner of the section which the society holds on renewable lease.

Mr. Carr says that Mrs. Williams has a very busy life in London, with an active interest in various organisations for community welfare. She assured him that she would be pleased to do anything within her power to help the society. She gave a photograph of Edward Gibbon Wakefield, taken not long before his death, by one of the first photographers to come to New Zealand.

A gift to the New Zealand Founders Society is a gift to the nation.

Founders' Names on Maps

2) Many well-known names of founders have been bestowed on towns, townships, villages, streets, mountains, hills, valleys, lakes, rivers and other natural features of New Zealand. Members of the Founders Society are requested to send to the Dominion Secretary, P.O. Box 1775, Wellington, the names which thus commemorate their ancestors. Such information could serve well for interesting articles in the "N.Z.F.S. Bulletin."

One of the latest instances is Daysh Street in Naenae, a fast-growing township of the Hutt Valley. The name honours Mr. Duff Daysh's great-grandfather, John Ings Daysh, who had a farm adjoining the property on which Naenae College stands.

Tribute to Miss J. E. Sellar

The Committee and foundation members of the Wairarapa Branch of the New Zealand Founders Society recently held a pleasant little afternoon party in the National Club Room, Masterton, when Miss J. E. Sellar, the Branch representative on the Dominion Council, was the guest of honour. Mrs. Pither presented Miss Sellar with a sheaf of beautiful gladioli.

The Branch chairman, Mr. Mountfort, spoke of the enthusiastic service Miss Sellar had given over the years. On behalf of members he wished her a very enjoyable holiday trip to England and asked her to accept a travelling case as evidence of their esteem.

Clubrooms, Wakefield House

These clubrooms are available for letting for weddings, meetings, conferences, buffet luncheons, teas, cocktail parties and other functions. Full kitchen facilities are available. The Founders now have their own caterers, Mr. and Mrs. John Miller, the manager and manageress of Wakefield House, who can provide wedding breakfasts and all kinds of catering.

Members should make use of these facilities. They can help the Society by mentioning the Founders' Clubrooms among their friends, their business associates, their clubs and other organisations.

Rental and catering charges are readily available from the Dominion Secretary, P.O. Box 1775, Wellington, C.I.

Dominion Secretary

The Dominion Council of the New Zealand Founders Society has accepted the resignation of the Dominion Secretary, Mr. Jeff Andrew. From the end of the present financial year he will become Dominion Treasurer.

From 1 April this year Miss Shirley Helliwell, who has been a Dominion Councillor for some years, will be Dominion Secretary.

All correspondence should still be sent to P.O. Box 1775, Wellington, C.I.

When the announcement of Mr. Andrew's resignation was made the "N.Z.F.S. Bulletin" was going to press. Worthy mention of Mr. Andrew's very valuable service to the Founders Society during a decade will appear in No. 6 issue.

Buffet Luncheons

These luncheons, held at 12.30 p.m. in the Clubrooms at Wakefield House on the first Wednesday every month, have proved very popular. Members should keep these first Wednesdays clear and bring their friends along to hear interesting speakers.

Members' Day at Wakefield House

Every Tuesday afternoon the Clubrooms at Wakefield House are open to members and their friends for afternoon tea, a game of bridge, or just a chat. They are urged to make use of this privilege. It is an opportunity to bring friends along and to meet other members.

Obituary

The Society's executive regretfully reports the deaths of Lady O'Leary, Mr. G. J. Reid, and Mr. W. S. McGowan, of Wellington; Mrs. B. C. Black and Mrs. J. B. Hayward, of Lower Hutt.

Power of the New Zealand Founders Society to achieve its national objectives will be proportionate to membership and energetic zeal of members.

Will Auckland Surpass Wellington?

Again, in the campaign for a much larger membership, all members of the New Zealand Founders Society are urged to put into practice the indomitable will-power of their sturdy forebears. Repeated appeals for spirited recruiting have not yet brought remarkable response.

Mr. D. G. Riddiford, in his presidential address at the annual meeting of the Auckland Branch, said he could see no reason why Auckland's roll should not catch up to Wellington's total, nearly 900. The Dominion Council would be pleased to see Auckland making a determined effort to top the poll.

In various national movements Auckland has often gained distinction. Here is another opportunity to set a stimulating example to folk in other districts.