

THE MORWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Published every month except December.

The Society meets every 3rd Tuesday of the Month 7:30pm Collins St. State School Library

The July Newsletter carries a brief report from the June meeting. Readers will also recall a list of Morwell street names together with the origin of the name. At the June meeting the accuracy of these origins was checked and readers will see the corrections in the accompanying pages. Another list of street names appears in this Newsletter.

Correction : In the previous Newsletter, Mrs Jean Rodgers was thanked for loaning the Voters Roll. Apologies must be made for the incorrect spelling of Rodgers. This Newsletter contains some early memories of Morwell by Mrs Rodgers as told to Mrs J. Cafiso. Many thanks to Mrs Rodgers. Can other members write some memories for others to share?

It is interesting to note that 34 Newsletters are being printed each month. That is up until now. Apparently there is a need to increase this number. This is heartening, the Historical Society has plenty of spirit. Everyone is encouraged to attend the monthly meetings.

NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY ~~JULY 15~~ Aug 19

COLLINS STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL

PUBLIC MEETING HALL

7.30 p.m.

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OUR

BUSINESS

YOUR

BENEFIT

DEBT CONVERSION

CAMPAIGN OPENED

THE PEOPLE'S CHANCE TO HELP

LEADERS APPEAL FOR SUPPORT

With the co-operation of all Governments and the great financial organisations in the Commonwealth the national executive appointed recently to assist in the rehabilitation of Australian finances will begin to-day a campaign for the conversion of all internal Government loans with the object of reducing the interest rate by 2½ per cent. On the eve of the opening of the campaign, the success of which is vital to the rehabilitation plan now being carried out, the national executive, which consists of the Prime Minister (Mr Scullin), the leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives (Mr Lyons), and the chairman of the Commonwealth Bank Board (Sir Robert Gibson) has issued an appeal to bondholders to co-operate in the conversion:—

Australia has opened a campaign for conversion of the internal Commonwealth and State public debts, amounting to the huge sum of £550,000,000. The operation is almost the greatest conversion in the history of the world.

The circumstances under which the nation faces this great undertaking are well known. The national income—that is, the fund which provides for all payments, whether Governmental or private—has fallen from £850,000,000 to £450,000,000—a decline of £200,000,000. The result of this loss is to be seen in the tragic and unprecedented extent of unemployment, in the large deficits of all Governments, and in the general depression affecting every phase of the community life.

This appeal is made to all bondholders to recognise the grave position of Australia, and in the interests of the nation to accept the sacrifices which are involved in the conversion of their securities. By this means the bondholder will range himself alongside every other person in the community; men of all classes and creeds and interests will stand together in this crisis and bear their just share of the common burden.

The object of the conversion is to provide relief from the heavy and increasing load of interest on Government budgets by securing a reduction of 2½ per cent. in the present rates of interest on all Commonwealth and State securities. It is on this basis that bondholders are invited to convert.

The Government has already been given a special financial authority in the Appropriation Bill. The bank have renewed £21,700,000 of Treasury bills at 4 per cent.—a reduction of ½ per cent. in the interest rate. They are also converting the whole of their holdings of Commonwealth and State loans, and have undertaken to support the conversion to the utmost of their ability. In addition, the largest life and fire insurance companies, and nearly all the friendly societies, have already agreed to convert their holdings.

That this conversion operation cannot be accomplished without hardship on many individual holders of securities is evident. We believe, however, that the hardship will be accepted willingly in the knowledge that by this means the nation is being given relief and breathing space to enable it to work towards economic recovery.

A successful conversion operation will demonstrate to the world that Australians as a whole have faith in the future of their own country, and that they are prepared to make personal sacrifices towards a restoration of national stability.

We have confidence that in this spirit the people will respond to the appeal that is now being made to them.

J. H. SCULLIN, Prime Minister
J. A. LYONS, Leader of the Opposition
ROBERT GIBSON, Commonwealth Bank Board.

Poultry-Keepers—Get more EGGS this easy way!

Karswood Poultry Spice contains ground insects, which are the source of the natural tonic that every fowl needs. In winter time insects are scarce; that is why you should see your birds get them in Karswood. One teaspoonful in the evening mash to every 20 birds is sufficient.



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SERVICE

The establishment of a Bank does not in itself establish a Banking Service. It provides only the machinery which is to be operated by man for the service of man. The human factor is the vital spark that gives life to a mere aggregation of buildings, books and currency, and makes of them a friendly, helpful service for the convenience of the people.

The Commonwealth Savings Bank extends its facilities throughout the length and breadth of Australia, through Branches and Post Office Agencies, and trained officers translate those facilities into understanding human service to the thrifty.

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TARWIN STREET, MORWELL

Three New Models Just Landed.

Seyon Electric 4 Console £39/10/
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Phillips Electric 4 Console £48/10/

Amendments to list of origin of streets.

Names published in May and June newsletters.

Airlie Bank Rd.	Name of a farm.
Angus St.	Colin Angus, member of the R.A.A.F. killed during the war. Nephew of Frank Angus, who ran Maryvale Timber and Hardware.
The Boulevard.	Main street in subdivision, named by subdivider.
Botany.	A.P.M. factory in Botany, Sydney.
Brisbane.	Australian destroyer.
Bruton.	Fred Bruton, sportsmen.
Catherine.	Named by subdivider.
Catterick.	Jim Catterick killed in R.A.A.F. son of Councillor.

If White City is added to the street it means that street no longer exists since White City was disbanded.

Cherry Cres.	(not St.)
Chestnut Ave.	(not St.)
Churchill Rd.	(not St.)
Crinigan Rd.	Interesting comment. Ed. Crinigan's house was down near Falcon Soccer ground and creek.
Davey St.	Probably after Reginald Davey.
Dayble St.	Mr Dayble, blacksmith shop was on Post Office site.
Devon St.	County of England (White City).
Doherty Ave.	(not St.)
Donald St.	Donald McDonald was killed in R.A.A.F. over Rabaul.

Amendments to list of origin of streets.

(continued)

Dorset St.	County of England (White City).
Durham St.	County of England (White City).
Gay St.	Harry Gay, son of Andrew the draper. Harry was an accountant.
Gillie Cres.	(not St.)
Granya Grove.	Family name of the Hourigans.
Green St.	Thought to be named after Ian Green, son of Arthur, killed in Ben Garzia?
Hampshire St.	County of England (White City).
Haywood St.	Mr Ralph Haywood. Husband of Doreen (nee Alexander)
Helen St.	(not Crt.)
Holmes Rd.	Luke Holmes.
Howlett St.	Ernie Howlett.
Jill St.	Named after George.W.(Rob) Watsons daughter, landowner.

MORWELL IN THE 1920's

REMINISCENCES OF Mrs. NELL SMITH (nee Rogers)

as told to Mrs. Jean Rodgers.

Recently our member Mrs. Jean Rodgers had a visit from a Mrs. Nell Smith whose family lived in Morwell in the 1920's. Although Mrs. Smith was only about 8 years old when the family left here her memories of the places, people and events of Morwell are very clear indeed.

Nell Rogers (now Mrs. Smith) was the third daughter of George Alexander Rogers (spelt without the 'd' so no relation to Jean). The family lived in Jane St. and her father owned Morwell Brick Works from 1922 to 1928. Then they moved to Albert Park and opened a butcher's shop and also had a picture theatre at Port Melbourne. The theatre was built by Alexander Rogers Senior (using Morwell bricks).

Miss McDonald (the late Mrs. Rintoull) taught Nell Rogers at Commercial Rd. School in grade 1. Other members of the

Rogers family all attended the S. School in Morwell. They were George, Elsa, Mavis, Nell and Sylvia. Nell remembers going to the silent pictures at the Mechanics Hall in Tarwin St. and 2 boys ringing hand bells to advertise the pictures. She also remembers ordering ham sandwiches at Furlonger's Ham and Beef Shop to take home for supper. The seating at the pictures was long forms with one rung backs.

The old concrete swimming pool with a fence around it was not forgotten. Neither were the neck to knee swim-suits their mother made for her and her sisters. Later the band hall was built next to the pool and I think the first Bowling Club was there, too.

Mr. Forsythe was the headmaster at the school. Other teachers at the school that Nell remembered besides Miss. McDonald (Mrs. Rintoull) were Myrna Mucrella and Miss. D. Smith. The latter was the daughter of the Anglican minister who lived next door. She used to climb through the fence to get to school and apparently students used to gather to view her arrival - especially the boys!

Bell's old brick house was occupied by the Fenners family at this time. They had five children, Harold, Ella, Stan, Frank and Clarrie.

Other people and places Mrs. Smith remembered were Mr. Clark, the plumber and Poppy, Wilson's Cake Shop, Martin's Fruit Store, McRobert's Store, Mr. McFeeters who worked for Wilson's Bakery and made gorgeous Scottish pies. He lived on the highway in a house that Buckley Senior lived in previously near Jane St.

Then there were Butters Boarding House and Hares and Guys and Stubbs, Sharpes, McKays and Barry's Hotel, Varys-Alan, Hugh, Fran and Mills Store.

We come to the end of Jean's notes from her talk with Mrs. Smith, but we hope that Nell will visit Morwell again and perhaps attend one of our meetings.

At the June meeting Liz Tyler, Arts Officer with the Gippsland Trades & Labor Council outlined an ambitious oral history programme entitled the Yallourn History Project which is being undertaken by G.T.L.C. Liz proposed to interview people from Yallourn's past about what it was like to live in Yallourn through the year. Interviews will be followed up with the publication of a book, the staging of plays, creations of murals, etc based on the original interviews.

Liz recently organized an oral history workshop which was conducted by Morag Loh, an experienced oral historian. Mrs. Dorothy Taylor and I attended and found it a most interesting and entertaining day.

According to Morag, oral history is best at recording the processes of every day life. What people did at work, the food they ate, their social life, etc - the nitty gritty of life that does not make it to the history books.

In interviewing people, it is important to remember two things - 1) every opinion is valid, but it is the truth as the person being interviewed sees it, which is not necessarily the whole truth.

2) People's memories of the past may be coloured with the opinions and perspectives of today.

Morag stressed the necessity of maintaining an ethical approach to oral history - the person being interviewed must feel that he/she has control over what goes on the tape, what goes in the transcript and any subsequent use made of the tape. It is important to get written authorization for whatever is done to the tape.

Time and place of interview should be designed to suit the informant. Morag reminisced about an interview she did on a Board of Works grader in a park opposite the Yarra River.

60 minute tapes are best for interviews. - the shorter the tape the less distortion over time. Ideally tapes should be run through about once a year. Carry extra batteries for the recorder, even if it normally runs off the mains.

Identify each tape beginning with interviewer's name, informer's name, date of interview, topic of interview, where interview was done - how old and where the informant was born and parent's occupation. Then rerun tape to check that recorder is working.

Ensure that topic is not too broad, and be well prepared with short unambiguous questions. Interviewer should have researched topic thoroughly.

Generally interviews should not be any longer than 60 minutes duration and should be ended by interviewer thanking informant to place the tape where it is going to be placed.

Interviewers should go home and index the tape straight away, and ideally transcribed it as well.

Generally interviews should not be any longer than 60 minutes duration and should be ended by interviewer thanking informant and asking permission of the informant to place the tape where it is going to be placed.

Interviewers should go home and index the tape straight away, and ideally transcribed it as well.

Interviews can be put to many uses - place tapes in archives/libraries for future research, produce books, broadsheets, murals, plays etc.

MORE REMINSCENCES

Memories of Mrs Jean Rodgers from 1937.

Bill and Jean Rodgers (nee Hunter) moved into a house in Tarwin St. in 1937. I understand that this house was one of three built by George Budge (Cost £1000 each). The other two were in Mc Lean St. About 3 years later Jean and Bill built the house on 24 Wallace St, Jean's present home.

Tarwin St. was then only one sided in that only one side was a straight road or street. The other side was dotted with natural shrubs and trees. Also Tarwin St. continued across Wallace St. through Rodger's block to the paddocks beyond where J. Budge had his homestead. This, as we know, became S.E.C. property and Jean remembers seeing the first sod turned for the S.E.C.. A bull dozer made a drain along their back fence called an easement drainage.

For interested members Jean has noted the names of some of the people who occupied houses or businesses in Tarwin and Wallace St. from 1937 onwards-as follows.

Mr and Mrs Church, A.Ough's son married Miss Brooker and built the house on the corner of Wallace and Tarwin St. now occupied by Mr and Mrs Eldred. The house now occupied by Mr and Mrs H. Taylor was Mr and Mrs Nuttalls. Other names of Tarwin St's former residents - Mr and Mrs Amiet, Fosters (horse shoeing) later became boarding house and now belongs to Mr and Mrs Melbourne; Mr and Mrs Chas Mc Carthy, later sold to S.E.C. then to Mr and Mrs H. Geizler;

Mr and Mrs Richardson; Sam and Rose Flanagan and G. Gordon, Mr Fred Williams (sister of Mrs Amiet), Klienes (butcher) then Evans (Hugh Evans' parents)-now there are 2 flats built on this block. Other names and places Jean remembers in Tarwin St. - Mr and Mrs Tormey, Mr and Mrs White, Mr and Mrs Verey, picture theatre and shoe shop, Mrs Fanny Hall, mother of Councillor Alan Hall, Mr and Mrs Ike Billingsley. Toby Tobias built on an old orchard in Tarwin St. and this later became the home of Mrs Embleton Snr.

Former Residents from Hazelwood Rd up Wallace St.

Billingsley Senior (now boarding house)

Mr and Mrs Fred Jenkins (Children-Betty, Fred, John)

Mr and Mrs Unthank.

Mrs Matthews (mother of Minnie Embleton).

Cleary Family.

Mr and Mrs Hugh Smith.

Jim and Jess Embleton (nee Baxter).

Miss Waddell.

Mr and Mrs Hill (plasterer).

Mr and Mrs Roy.

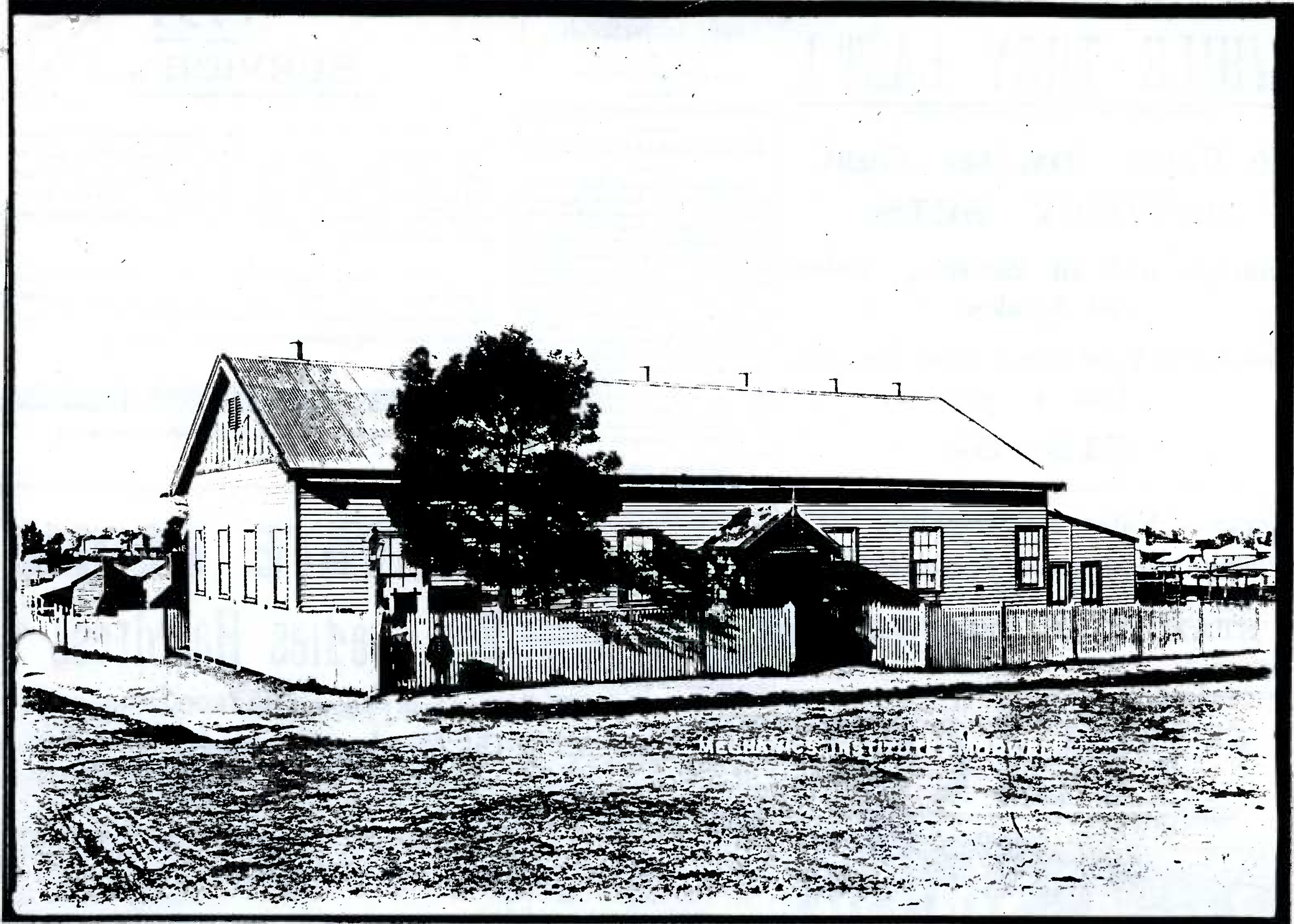
Mr Turner (Turner's Hardware) built 3 houses and lived in one, Milner the Chemist lived in one and Fred Blucher in the third one.

Mr and Mrs Charlie Gilbert (their daughter married Medew)
S.E.C. offices began in Wallace St. next door to -

- * Mr and Mrs Williams (Estate Agents). This house was built by Mr Goodley and bought by Keith Williams' parents.
- * Jean and Bill Rodgers.
- * Mr and Mrs Hughes (nee Goodley). N.B. Messres Hughes and Goodley invented the first briquette heaters here.
- * Bob and Grace James.
- * S.E.C. car park. (block sold to J.&J. Cafiso in 1964).
- * Mr and Mrs Ray Mitchell.
- * Mr and Mrs Akers.
- * Mr and Mrs Jordan.
- * Mr and Mrs Ron Fletcher.
- * Mr and Mrs Greenwood.

The Streets of Morwell

- Joy Street.....?
- Julia Street.....?
- June Street.....?
- Junier Street....An early, pioneering family.
- Kathleen Street..Kathleen Alexander, daughter of James Alexander.
- Keat Court.....Edwin W. Keat, Shire councillor, 1935-1936.
- Kelly Street.....Named by the Housing Commission after Mr. P.P. Kelly, Water-Commissioner of this area for many years.
- Keegan Street....This early Morwell family owned land here.
- Kennedy Street...A graceful tribute by the Shire Council to an old and respected Council employee, Mr. Tim Kennedy.
- Kent Street.....An English county.
- Kerrie Street.....?
- Kokoda Street....A Second World War name. A place in New Guinea.
- Kurt Street.....Mr. Kurt Barry of the Barry Estate.
- Laburnam Street..One of the tree group.
- Lae Court.....A Second World War name. A place in New Guinea.
- Langford Street..Named by Mr. Wm. Polden after his birth-place, in Dorset, England -- Steeple Langford.
- Latrobe Road.....Direction name. The road leads to the Latrobe River.
- Livingstone Street..Mr. Tom Livingstone, M.L.S. 1902-1924.
- McDonald Street..Cr. A.F. McDonald, 1911-16, and 1924-26.
- McKay Street.....Donald McKay, Shire councillor, 1916-1928.
- McLean Street....Probably after Dr. John Samuel McLean, an early doctor and a Shire councillor.
- McMillan Street..The McMillan family of Hazelwood Station. Donald McMillan was a Shire councillor, 1894-1902. (Should be spelt "MacMillan").
- Madden Street....Part of the Davey Estate. Maiden name of Mrs. Davey.
- Manning Street...Councillor John Manning, 1906-1911.
- Margaret Street..Mrs. Margaret Hourigan (nee Margaret Comans).
- Martin Grove.....?
- Matson Street....An 1874 land survey shows Isaac Matson holding land at Morwell.
- Mary Street.....?



MECHANICS INSTITUTE - MORWELL COR TARWIN and GEORGE STREETS (MAPLES CORNER)

Morwell Advertiser and Argus, August 11, 1911

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BOOLARRA SOUTH

YOUNG MENS' CLUB

Mr Gordon Cook of Boolarra Stb. approached Mr Bruce Melver to see if there was any hope of forming a club which would get all the young men together for the purposes:—

(a) Bible study for half hour, (h) social among the boys for the rest of night, (c) young men to meet once a week. Mr Cook was told there was every chance. Both young men got to work with the result that the first meeting was held on June 18th. The attendance was seven and the following office bearers were elected:—

President: Gordon Cook; Vice-President: Peter Rush; Secretary: Bruce Melver; Treasurer: Roy Low. Later meetings brought the attendance up to fourteen and the members said it was a great idea. A gymnasium class has been started and there is boxing and wrestling, which everybody joins with great zeal.

A social decided on was advertised for July 28th but it snowed. Most of the club members turned up and there were about a dozen people who had travelled considerable distances to be present. The social was

To Women Who Do Their Own House- work

If you happen to be one of the many women who have to do their own housework you will have realised long before now the detrimental effect such work has upon the hands. Furthermore, you will know how some of the duties cause roughness, while others make them red, chapped and sore. This can be avoided. By the frequent and regular application of Mirpil you will find your hands kept free from soreness and retain their natural softness, smoothness, and whiteness.



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