

# 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

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## WELCOME TO THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

The history of Hazelwood continues. In the pages this month, readers will recognize many early names from the district. These family names indicate just how rich our district history has been. No doubt our local history is still rich but at times it tends to be overshadowed by the ever present industrial undertakings.

Also within our pages this month, readers will note some material from Mrs Nancy Gordon. Mrs Gordon compiled these notes for Marion Conrow (daughter of Bill and Audrey Conrow) in 1976 when she was doing an assignment at High School. Quite a few things have changed since then. Such anecdotes may not be everyone's idea of history. Methodology in history means different things to different people. However, it is brief anecdotes that often contain hints of social and cultural change that may explain history. Anecdotes may also be interesting.

The list of streets and the origins of their names continues. The total list was originally published in March 1965 by the Morwell Historical Society. Many streets have appeared in Churchill and Morwell since then. Is anyone prepared to add to the original listing?

OCTOBER MEETING - TUESDAY OCT. 21

COLLINS STREET STATE SCHOOL MORWELL

Tennis - Tennis has been enjoyed for many years. Social matches with neighbouring districts were popular and teams have been entered in various associations including the Latrobe Valley, Churches and Yinnar and District associations.

After the 2nd. World War tennis took on a new lease of life with new courts built and 4 teams competing and this enthusiasm has been maintained. Junior players are showing promise that future teams will keep up the standard.

At one time there were 3 courts in use but now there are 2. A meeting held to reform the Hazelwood North tennis club in 1946 elected C. Jones - President, Miss Hazel Medew - Secretary and Treasurer with a committee of Miss Edna Maxwell, D. Cranwell, D. Barnett plus President and Secretary. There were 22 members. Expenses are listed as follows - wire netting £2.18.0, net 10/- balls £1.5.0. canvas for net 8/9. weed killer 10/-.

RIFLE CLUB - Application to form the club was lodged with the supervisor Major E.J. Featherstonhaugh in January 1922. First President, D.J. White, Secretary J.A. Silcock, Captain R. Hare. The Captancy has only been changed once since, 1938 when C. Hare became captain and still holds the position. The club was officially opened in 1923. The Range was constructed on the present site (Mackey's)

On 17/2/1923 in the Hazelwood South School it was decided that tenders be called for the construction of pit mounds. At the meeting held 14/3/1923 it was moved by Mr. Hare, seconded Mr. Silcock that T. Brazels tender be accepted upon his entry into an agreement to complete his contract by 20th April for the sum of £48/15/-.

Early members before the war were - M. Alexander, R. Alexander, T. Brazel, H.J. Bolding, J. Bolger, W. Bolger, H. Bolding, B. Boardman, M. Beale, C. Blucher, J. Barnett, J. Bolding, F. Bond, J. Bennett, P. Curtain, F. Chessum, A. Coleman, A. Deitrich, E. Deitrich, J. Dobbin, R. Danks, W. Espie, W. Evans, E. Furnell, R. Farran, S. Farran, A. Fox, E. Foote, H. Felmingham, G. Gourd, G. Gibson, R.L.G. Frigg, M. Hare, R. Hare, H. Hare, C. Hare, J. Higgins, J.L. Higgins, O. Howard, A. Harvey, F. Irving, H. Jones, F. Jones, J. Medew, Mr. Mackay, H. Machen, A. McFarlane, G. McFarlane (snr.), J. McFarlane (jnr.), W. McFarlane, A.J. McFarlane, W. McKenzie, S. McFarlane, D. McFarlane, M. McGregor, S.C. McFarlane, W. Northway, W. Newton, E. Northway, N. Northway, L. Northway, A. Northway, H.C.R. Quick, L. Reville, L.W. Rowley, W.H. Rowley, C.G. Ridgeway, A.G. Roy, A. Rowley, A.J. Shaw, F. Silcock, A.J. Silcock, A. Sheppard, J.A. Silcock, R.E. Swanton, M.C. Selwyn, W. Thompson, W. Trew, L.G. Thomas, J.P. Thomson, D.J. White, E. White, A.J. Welsh, B. Walsh.

The Hall - The hall which was built beside the school was burnt in the 1944 bushfire, and all records were burnt too. It was replaced temporarily by an old building bought and moved from Traralgon. This

had previously been Rowe's office - again burnt about 1959. In time a partly built hall was purchased and moved onto a site on Mr. C. Jones' property adjoining the church and tennis courts. Local men were completing the building by working bees. On a Friday at the end of November (Traralgon Show Day) a very heavy thunderstorm struck the district. Lightning hit the building and threw it about like a pack of cards. Some windows did not break but very little could be salvaged. Two carpenters were employed and with working bees another hall was built and has been a very real asset to the district. Parties and kitchen teas have been enjoyed there, the school and church guild both hold functions, badminton and tennis are played at it and other clubs use it for meetings.

At South Hazelwood a brick hall was erected near the football ground and that too is a centre for the social life of the district.

Churches - In the early days church services were held in private homes and later in the school building until a wooden church was built by the Presbyterians who held afternoon services on Sundays. It was also used on alternate Sundays by the Methodist congregation and an evening service was held once a month by those of the Anglican faith. In recent years alternate morning and afternoon services have been held. Some people attend all services regardless of denomination - a good example of unity.

The wooden church was destroyed in 1944's disastrous fire but was replaced by a substantial brick one in 1946 at a cost of £999. Organists who have played for the services include Miss N. Cranwell who played for many years and Mr. Ken Rae who is present organist assisted by several ladies.

Sunday Schools - Sunday School teachers remembered from early years are Mesdames G. Jones, Sanders, Firmin and Cranwell. These were followed by Mrs. Akers, Miss Cranwell, Mr. and Mrs. Rae, Miss Medew, Mr. and Mrs. K. Rae, Miss E. Jones, Miss V. Cranwell and Miss Freda Maxwell. Another teacher remembered for her long and devoted service by her Sunday School pupils was Miss Hazel Williamson.

Church Guild - The Ladies United Church Guild was formed about 1938 with the idea of raising money for the church needs and giving the ladies a social outing with some form of entertainment - talks, demonstrations, music, visits etc. During the years they have visited many other guilds and groups and have helped with donations to worthy causes. Each year they have a special effort, social and money raising efforts. The church has also had young people's fellowship groups of various age groups that have been very successful and well attended. Many friendships of lasting value were made with other districts in this way. Mrs. Joe Bolding was the first President and Mrs. W. Barnett first Secretary.

John Gallagher left no description of the great forests from which he procured a living, and in which he was so much at ease. A view of this area of Gippsland is available from the pen of a correspondent of the Morwell and Mirboo Gazette, who described the terrain and its flora and fauna as Gallagher would have known it:

All the scrub land from the main railway line to the coast has now been selected; much of it has been in occupation for years. The question which most naturally suggests itself to a stranger in journeying through the country is — where are the inhabitants? Like the wallabies and the lyre birds they are all hidden away in the bush.

From the main roads various places may be seen if you know where to look for them, narrow tracks leading off into the forest. Come with me along one of these tracks on a bright sunny day. Not that we will see much of the sun, but we know he is shining all the same. The tall trees and dense undergrowth through which the narrow track winds affords a pleasant shade, which even in summer is comparatively cool.

Leaving the crown of the ridges of open country — by which name all land other than scrub land is known no matter how heavily timbered it may be — we descend towards the bottom.

As we proceed we find the vegetation rapidly increasing in luxuriance, a sign that the quality of the land is improving. As a general thing, at the foot of every decline runs a creek, and this one proves no exception. This will also help, as a contributing cause, to account for the denser growth of vegetation. The water from the higher land gravitating toward the creek, collects in the ground, and produces, in conjunction with the richer soil the most favourable conditions for a rank growth.

At the crossing there is the usual friendly log with axe-notches in it to prevent one slipping into the water. On crossing the stream we enter upon quite a different region. The gigantic grey gums and messmates, and the uncomfortable prickly moses at our backs entirely disappear, and, in one stride across the little stream, we are in the famed blackbutt country. In some cases the soil will be found to be similar on both sides of the creek, that is, the scrub soil will have spread itself a little way on the opposite side. But in many cases two totally different classes of land, as indicated by the timber, are divided by a stream barely a couple of yards wide. Looked at from a geological point of view this is decidedly curious. As the creek will serve as a safe guide back, we can with safety leave the track, and follow it down a short distance — a thing, however, no one should attempt whose garb is not of the strongest description.

## THE UNFOLDING HILLS

We plunge through an opening in the undergrowth, wedging ourselves through the saplings, and keeping a sharp lookout for places in the mass of vegetation weak enough to admit our passage. We can never see further than a few feet ahead. The worst obstacle to progress is the wiregrass, so named from its resemblance to a stout wire. It grows from 20 ft. to 30 ft. long, and winds itself from tree to tree in a network that frequently defies all efforts at unravelling or forcing. The usual way of breaking through a quantity of this, is by springing up and letting the whole weight of the body come down on it — a method copied from the natural denizens of these wilds — the wallabies. The surface of wiregrass is so rough, that if it but rub against your skin ever so lightly, it abrades it, causing an unsightly mark that remains two or three days.

When men work much with the axe where this grass abounds, they have to protect the handles by pieces of tin nailed on at the bottom, otherwise the constant rasping of the grass would sever the handle near the axe head. I need hardly remark that this grass is decidedly rough on clothes.

Another troublesome customer is the sword grass, which grows from 3 ft. to 5 ft. high, each blade being a thin flexible shaft, about an inch broad, and tapering to a point. It is like a double-edged sword, and sharp as a razor. A very little pressure will sink it deep into your flesh. Nasty accidents sometimes happen to new chums in the bush with this grass. A stumbling man, like a drowning man, will catch at any straw, and in going through this country, where you can see neither the sky above your head, the ground beneath your feet, nor any object two yards ahead, one has to put up with a good many spills.

Where the stepping is so uncertain, the novice at this sort of travelling is very apt to take advantage of any solid piece of timber that invites him to tread on it. These are usually as slippery as glass, and he clutches at whatever is nearest to his hand. If this happens to be a bunch of sword grass he is sure to get his fingers cut to the bone.

There can surely be no more thorough exercise in the world than travelling through a rough specimen of scrub country. Every muscle is brought into play. Now you are hauling yourself over a huge log, so tall that you cannot see over it, now crawling under a huge limb that you cannot climb over. At one moment you are engaged in a mighty struggle indeed to free yourself from the octopus-like embrace of a network of wire-grass, and immediately afterwards you are rivalling the best feats of the professional contortionist in endeavouring to squeeze through an opening in a barricade of saplings too small to admit your body, while at the same time you are striving to protect your eyes from the multitude of branches, and endeavouring to prevent the removal of your boots by the affectionate embrace of the supple-jack with which your feet have become entangled. If at the end of four miles he is capable of a single mental effort he will most likely expend it in calculating the extreme remoteness of the probability of ever venturing there again.

## JOHN GALLAGHER: BUSHMAN EXTRAORDINARY

We pursue our course along the banks of the stream. Here in a confused mass grow a great variety of trees and plants. Silver wattles with speckled bark, orange wood with leaves in a brilliant green, bordering on yellow at the crinkled edges; sassafras trees whose limbs run out from the main trunk all the way up at regular intervals, with almost geometrical precision; hazels, with strongly scented leaves, all spring up in endless confusion. High above the smaller trees the rough barked blackwoods rear their outspreading tops.

Intermingled with this mass of vegetation rise the picturesque tree ferns, rendered conspicuous by their distinctive growth. Some of them tower to a height of 40 feet. Sometimes they flourish in a patch to the exclusion of all other trees. In these places the ground is covered to a good depth by the cast off fronds, accumulated during several seasons. Though the soil beneath be quite moist, one can always, in fine weather, be sure of a dry bed on these withered fern fronds.

It is very pleasant after toiling through the thick scrub to come upon one of these fern dells. Lying beneath the tall ferns, and looking up at the spreading fronds, one cannot fail to observe the exquisite symmetry of the arrangement of their leaves. This is more noticeable if it can be observed against a patch of blue sky. The trunks of many of them, especially those near the water, are covered from the root to the crown with beautiful parasitical ferns, always of the brightest green. The delicate leaflets of some of these species of fern afford one the most beautiful microscopic objects of which I am acquainted. Careful observation of the growth of the tree ferns has led me to the conclusion that they do not increase in height more than two inches yearly. Consequently, yonder fern king, towering above his companion trees, without a sign of decay, was a hardy youngster when Cromwell began his protectorate over England, and the one under which we are standing, which is rather more than 30 feet in height, probably entered upon its existence contemporaneously with Queen Anne.

Most of the decaying trees, from the prostrate forest monarch, to the slim hazel stems, are garnished with moss of which there are many varieties exhibiting every conceivable shade of green, from the most sombre hue to the most vivid tints. Each kind of moss appears to have its own particular habitat.

The fernery is a veritable fairy dell. Everything is quite still except the little rippling stream that winds through it. Though but a mere brooklet, this has deepish pools in it, but so clear that you can see every stick and leaf at the bottom. The water in these pools is icy cold even on the hottest day.

A beautiful king parrot flutters down and rests on a low tree fern, clinging to the waving frond with his feet while he regales himself with a bunch of seeds he has brought with him. No noise will disturb him in the least, but the slightest movement on your part sends him off through the tree-tops with lightning speed.

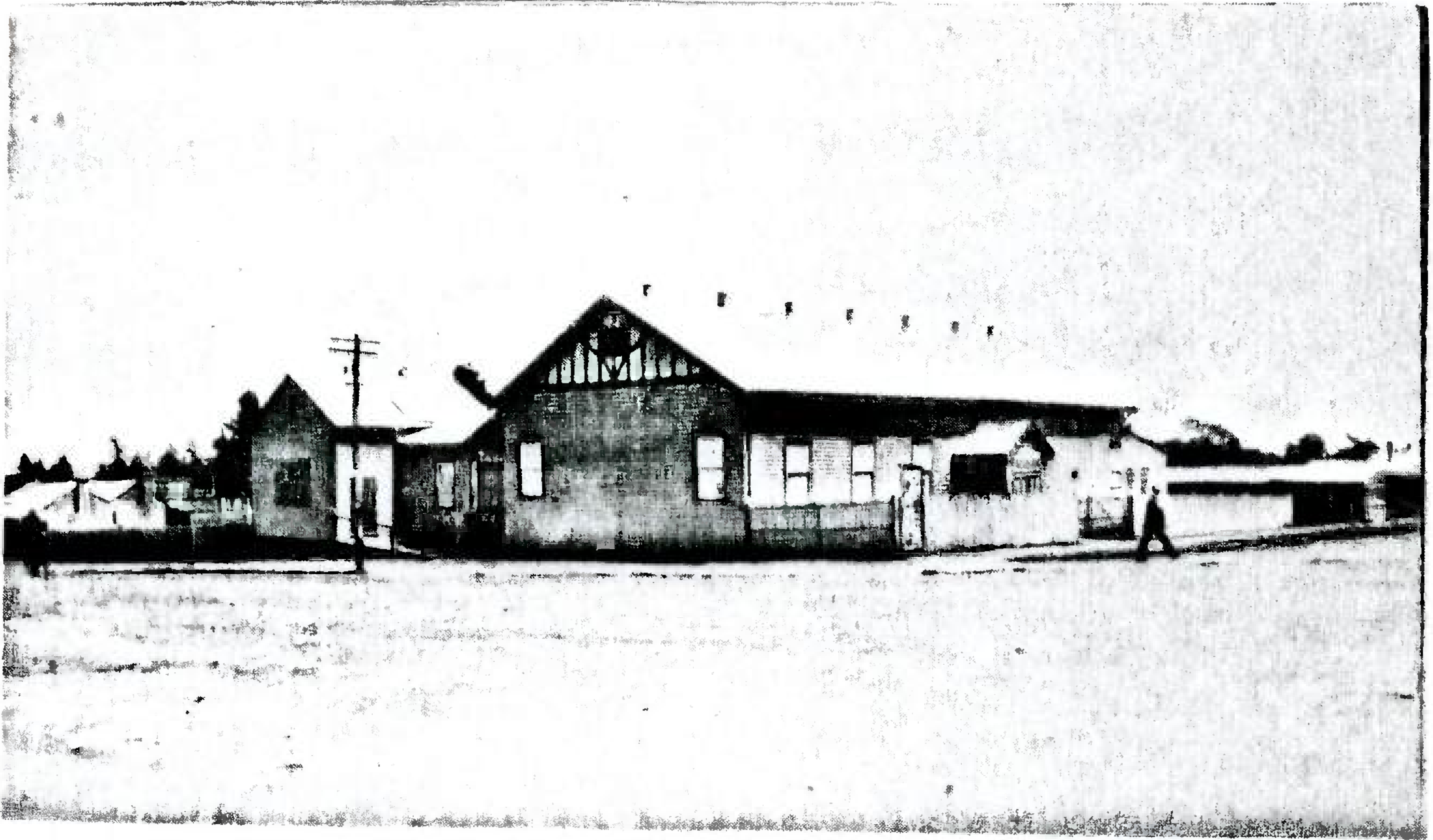
This is the home of the lyre bird. At intervals its clear mellow notes can be heard resounding through the forest. Its song is a long complicated affair, like a number of notes strung together at ran-

## THE UNFOLDING HILLS

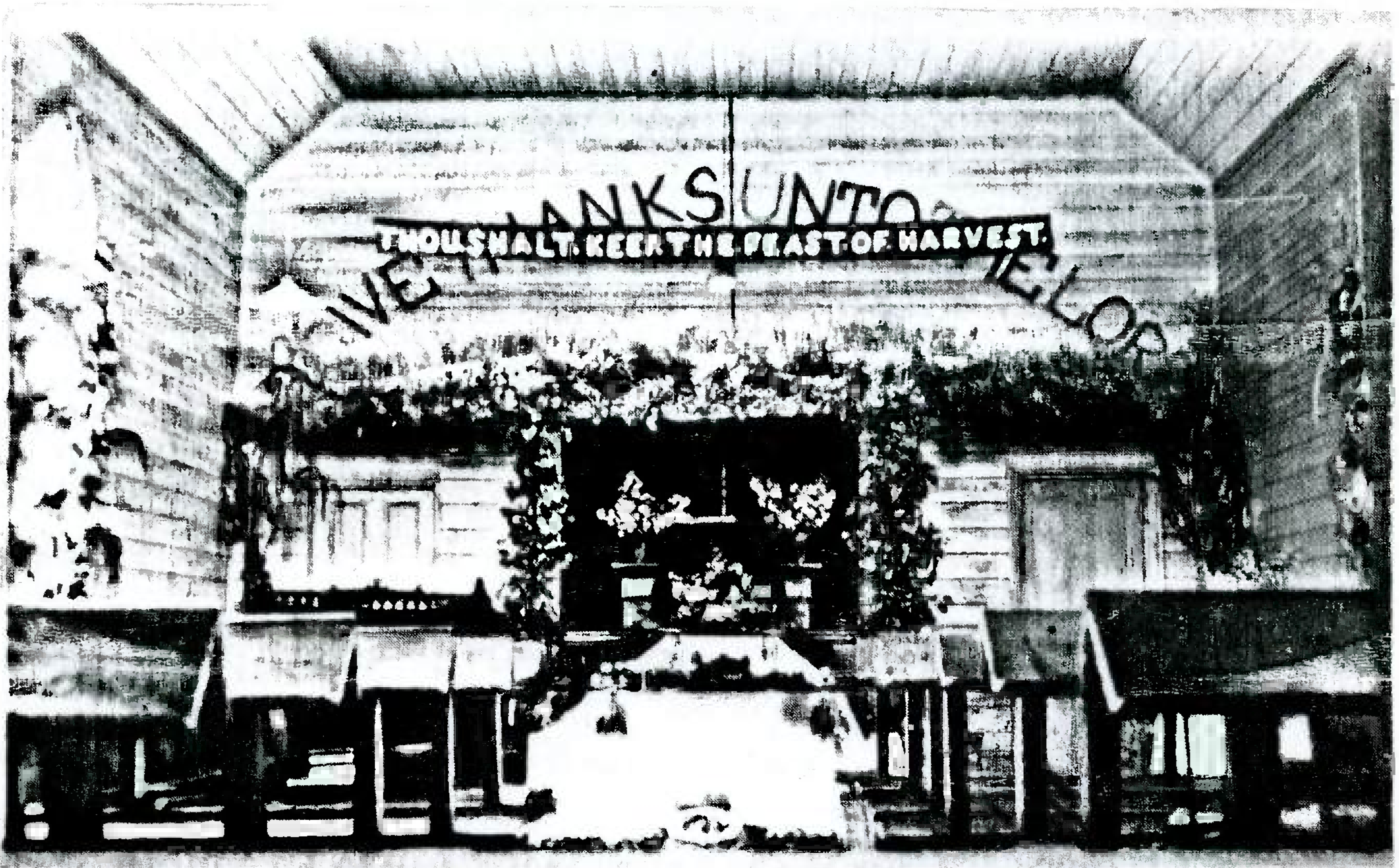
dom, but it always executes it in the same fashion. The male bird does all the singing, and it is quite a treat to hear his performance. He dances on his earth mound, shakes the long feathers of his beautiful tail and pipes and trills. The senses of hearing, scent and sight in these birds are remarkably keen. It is almost hopeless to attempt to get near them. The only way of approaching them is to take advantage of their musical bouts, and under cover of the noise to draw as close to them as you can. The instant the noise ceases you must carefully preserve the attitude in which you happen to be until the singing recommences. When it begins you must lose no time in pushing forward. The nearer you approach the greater care you must exercise, for during the intervals of song the rustle of the undergrowth, the breaking of the smallest twig or the crunching of a leaf underfoot is sufficient to render futile all your former caution. Perhaps you may get so near that only a few bushes intervene. At this short distance you can hear to perfection all the fine small warbling notes of this prince of Australian songsters, which would be lost at a distance. Presently, in the most uncomfortable position, still as a mile-post, hardly daring to breathe, you wait with all expectancy for the next musical turn. Five minutes stretches to ten, and ten to fifteen, till at length you venture with your gun barrel to part the bushes. There, sure enough, is the mound, with the freshly turned up soil strewn about; but the bird has gone. Here we have a bird without a single natural enemy, living in a country the very nature of which precludes any disturbance, yet possessed of senses developed in the highest degree, which it requires neither for its sustenance nor its protection.

The lyre bird is such an admirable mimic that it readily takes on the cries of other birds. It is especially fond of imitating the parrots and black cockatoos whose cries it produces to perfection. It will even mimic the mewling of cats, the barking of small dogs, or the sound of the workman's axe. The evening notes of these birds, uttered when going to roost are particularly rich and plaintive. But alas for all further peaceful meditation — a flight of black cockatoos has taken possession of the forest and are deafening us with their din. They keep up an incessant screeching till the unfortunate listener's ears fairly ache.

Let us, therefore, now retrace our steps. On leaving the fern glade the same climbing, scrambling and diving process as in coming, has to be done through, and our travelling is just as slow. At last, however, we emerge once more on the narrow winding track, where we can make much better progress.<sup>3</sup>



OLD MECHANICS HALL - MORWELL - PROBABLY 1925. CORNAR TARWIN and GEORGE STREETS. IN 1927 THE SENIOR GRADES FROM COMMERCIAL ROAD SCHOOL HAD TO ENDURE CLASSES IN THIS COLD DRAUGHTY BUILDING WHILE NEW ROOMS WERE BEING BUILT AT THE SCHOOL.



INSIDE THE OLD METHODIST CHURCH WHICH STOOD ON THE CORNER OF CHURCH ST and PRINCES HIGHWAY. MORWELL - WHERE JEPHCOTTS IS NOW SITUATED - approx. 19-4-1925.

\* THANKS TO AMY TIBBALLS - MOE. FOR THESE PICTURES.

THESE NOTES WERE COMPILED BY Mrs NANCY GORDON in 1976

Murdochs hotel was where Woolworths are now.

The Doctors was opposite the State School on the corner.

The Scout Hall was next to the R A C V in George Street.

Bus Stop was opposite the paper shop and Drapers shop was where Kelly Bros were formerly (1976) (cnr Tarwin/George Street).

Houses were where Maples were (Now Turners Hardware).

The Methodist Church was on the corner where Jephcotts are now.

The Presbyterian Church was were the Greek Church is now.

Church of England beside Commercial Road Primary School (Building still there).

There was no subway. Instead there was a 'level crossing' for cars to go from Commercial Road across the Highway.

The Fire brigade was next to the level crossing near the railway line opposite the present Post Office.

No reservoir and no houses around there at all - we use to go mushrooming up there on the hill. No Bridle's Estate.

Golden Hill and Mrs Milner's (the chemist) house in Maryvale Road were on the outskirts in those days.

No Swimming Pool - instead swimming baths beside the railway line opposite the State School in Commercial Road.

Not many homes in Elgin Street, Tarwin Street area - instead swampy paddocks, good for growing buttercups and good for croaking frogs! - Davey's House, Robinson's House on the corner, ours (ie. Mr and Mrs G Gordon's) and Mrs Billingsley's were all built about 27-29 years ago. There used to be horses kept on our block.

The old Post Office was were the Commonwealth Bank is now and the Commonwealth Bank was where the Child Development Centre is now near Magnins (Now Roylaine's '86).

Dances were held in the Community Hall, next door to the Church of England Church, every Saturday night. Dances and Balls were held in the Town Hall often and there were 'Pictures' at the Town Hall every Saturday Night.

The Apex men used to help drive the big old fashioned ambulance.

The old Yallourn Hospital was moved to Moe so they could extend the open cut.



My Grandfather, Mr John Rintoull's Blacksmith shop was in the main street where Paterson's and St Vincent's Op Shop is now (1976) and school children would watch the blacksmith working on their way home from school. He used to make shoes for Cobb & Co. horses and won the world record for horseshoe making when he made 37½ shoes in an hour in 1874 - in Morwell.

My Grandmother - then Miss McCrory was in charge of the first State School to be opened in Morwell in 1877 (Maryvale Ridge School No 1939).

The railway was put through about 1878.

No High School until 1956. The Morwell High School was established in 1956 but with no buildings of its own. The 120 pupils went by bus each day to Grey St Primary School at Traralgon.

Maryvale High School commenced 20 years ago. In some cases, before Morwell High School was established buses took students to Yallourn to the Yallourn Higher Elementary School - YHES.

Hazelwood Rd continued over past the tennis courts and past the cemetery and on to Yinnar and Hazelwood.

Budge's house in Latrobe Rd. — used to be up behind Wallace St where the open cut is now. Not many houses in Wallace St. SEC Offices and the 1st Credit Union Offices were in Wallace St.

In 1957 the Morwell High School had several rooms - the C block including the library and rooms D3 and D5. The 1st Principal was Mr Slattery. In 1966 there were 1040 students and Maryvale High was established. Mr Morris was the Principal of Morwell High in 1959-60 and Mr Maddern from 1961-1971. Then Mr Brownbill in 1972.

From the July newsletter, the memories of Mrs Jean Rodgers apparently contained an error. It was written that Messres Hughes and Goodley invented the first briquette heater. Information has been received that the heaters were designed by Horace Hare and Joe Higgins.

Also, from the same newsletter, a list of streets (with the origin of their name) was printed. During the August meeting alterations were made to the accuracy of the information.

Joy Street..... named after Mrs Bill Panther Snr.  
(Mrs Panther was a sub-divider).

Julia Street..... S.E.C name

June/Jill Street..... Twin daughters of Mr Rob Watson,  
a local landowner (now Mrs Jill  
Amman and June Watson).

Junier Street..... Local landowner (Swiss family).

Keat Street..... Mr Keat was manager of the Yinnar  
Butter factory before retiring to  
Morwell. This factory was the  
forerunner to the Nestle factory.  
(The first manager at Nestle was  
Arthur Sturgess. He was succeeded  
by Mr Barnett).

Kent Street..... An English country. Kent Street  
was in White City.

Kerrie Street..... Unknown - any information.

Kurt Street..... Mr Kurt Barry was an investor from  
Melbourne. With Russ Billingsley's  
assistance, he sub-divided the Bridle  
Estate.

Livingstone Street.... After Mr Tom Livingstone M.L.C 1902-1924

McDonald Street..... After Mr Angus McDonald.

McKay Street..... Probably after Mrs Ruby McKay licensee  
of the Club Hotel - Also a landowner.

Madden Street..... Maiden name of Mrs Reg Davey.

Manning Street..... Churchill's Manning Drive? after  
Councillor John Manning or after Maurie  
Manning, father of John Manning. Obviously  
a family name.

Martin Grove..... Part of Wegner's sub-division. (Alf Wegner  
sub-divided an area that was part of a swamp.

Matson Street..... An early farming family. The family was near the open cut.  
 Mary Street..... After Mrs Dempsey??

\* Further corrections are made to the list of streets from the September newsletter.

Milner Court..... After Mr Lyle Milner.  
 Newton Court..... After Bill Newton, along serving council employee who formerly lived in Hopetoun Avenue.  
 Patricia Street..... Part of Bill Panther's (Snr) sub-division.  
 Rachael Way..... Part of Vin Hourigan's sub-division.  
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At the September meeting, the 1913 Morwell Advertiser generated plenty of discussion. Many of the advertisements brought back memories.

Stan Gudes's garage... Site of present Fletcher Jones.  
 Tom Twomey..... Opposite Mills store in Commercial road.  
 E.L Ellis..... Frock shop in Tarwin Street.  
                   Part of Jenkins' store, Cnr George and Tarwin Streets.

Mills store (purchased from Hall)..... Faulkners now.  
 Green's House and Shop. Tarwin Street, Coles today, almost to corner.

McKenzie's Radio Shop and Art Furnishing Arcade..... Tarwin Street next to today's Club Hotel, north of Budge's butcher shop.

1931..... Approximate population was 800.  
 Len Davey..... Len's farm was between the Catholic Church and White Street.

Morwell Carrying Company (H. Vary, manager)..... Located on North West corner of Buckley and Hoyle Street. This company was in turn purchased by Lou Bond.

Angus McDonald..... Where F.G Hardware was formerly located.

Jack Clack..... His yard was located on the present Post Office site.

Jack Bolger (Funerals) Where the Morwell Squash courts are presently located. Jack apparently had a large corner block.

J.M Ashton..... A depot was located near the railway crossing (in the centre of town), on vacant land next to Station Master's house. All items were baled then sent to Melbourne.

Evans Newsagency..... Same location as today, in Commercial Road.

T.C Kléine..... Where Sportsman's Roost is today. Later changed to ownership to Pearson's.

Mr C King(Herbalist).. Possibly located at rear of Chemist's shop.

McIntosh and Gordon... Based in Traralgon. Jack Gordon was one of the partners. The firm had a depot on land now occupied by the old Kelly Bros building opposite the railway station.

Ike Sampson..... Jewish Shop Keeper; had premises next to present Commonwealth Bank.

Roger Street ..... Roger Davey, son of Mr. Reg Davey, subdividing owner.

Ronald Court ..... Cr. Alfred Ronald, Shire councillor, 1932-1964.

Rowell Street ..... Mr. Rowell, Morwell's first tailor.

Roy Street ..... Councillor George Roy, Shire councillor, 1903-1909.

Ruby Street ..... Mrs. Ruby Frith (nee Polden) daughter of subdividing owner.

Rutland Street ..... An English county.

Ryan Street ..... After the Ryan family (see Ellen Street).

Satelberg Street .... A Second World War name. (Mountain range in New Guinea).

Savige Street ..... General Sir Stanley Savige, born in Morwell, 26/6/1890.

Service Road ..... Probably descriptive.

Shaw Street ..... Cr. Donald Shaw. 1892-1898. First President of Council 1892.

Sherrin Street ..... ?

Short Street ..... Descriptive name. A very short street.

Sinclair Avenue ..... Thomas Leggatt Sinclair, Shire Secretary & Engineer, 1898-1924.

Spry Street ..... ?

Stanton Street ..... Senior-Constable Stanton (see Olivia Street).

Station Street ..... Descriptive and self explanatory. Now, part of Princes Highway.

Stephenson Street ... Richard Stephenson, Morwell's first saddler.

Stone Court ..... Cr. John Stone, Shire councillor, 1911-1912.

Suffolk Street ..... An English county.

Surrey Street ..... An English county.

Susan Court ..... Susan Barry, daughter of Mr. K. Barry, subdividing owner.

Sydney Street ..... An Australian warship in the Second World War.

Symons Street ..... An old Morwell family. Mr. Symons was a builder.

Tarwin Street ..... Presumably after the Tarwin River.

Therese Court ..... Therese Hourigan, daughter of Mr. V. Hourigan.

Thorpedale Road ..... Direction name. Leads to Thorpedale.

Tobruk Street ..... Second World War Name. Place in North Africa.

Tolmie Street ..... The Tolmie family were early selectors at Morwell.

Toora Street ..... named by the Housing Commission after the township, Toora.

Travers Street ..... ?

Tulloch Street ..... William Tulloch, an early Morwell identity.

Turnley Street ..... Robert Turnley, newspaper editor, and Shire councillor.

Urbahns Street ..... Principal of the firm that surveyed this section.

Valerie Court ..... ?

Vary Street ..... Samuel Vary, of Merton Rush Station. Arrived here in 1870.

Vasey Street ..... General George Vasey.

Victor Street ..... ?

Vincent Road ..... Mr. Vincent Hourigan, subdividing owner, councillor 1949-66.

Vindon Avenue ..... A composite name made from Vincent Hourigan and Donald Rogers. The families of these two men had been friendly since the time they lived at Gunyah before coming to Morwell.

Wallace Street ..... Name allotted by the S.E.C.

Watmor Street ..... Another composite name given by the Watson family. George Watson married Miss Mary Morris in 1898.

Watt Street ..... Presumably named after the Watt family

Wegner Street ..... ?

Well Street ..... ?

White Street ..... The White family have resided in this street for many years.

Wicks Crescent ..... The Wicks family, early selectors at Yinnar.

Willis Street ..... Originally Will Street (for William Polden) but now Willis Street, after Mr. Willis Connelly, former S.E.C. Chairman.

Williams Street ..... Another early Morwell family.

Wilson Street ..... ?

Winifred Street ..... Mrs. Winifred Hourigan, wife of Mr. V. Hourigan.

Guides and Brownies - This organization began with 'Lone Guides' in the district but interest among the girls grew and under the leadership of Mrs. Porter, the first Guide Captain and Mrs. Mildenhall the 1st Brown Owl, the girls have learnt many useful and interesting things. Outings and holidays, that they would not otherwise have had, have been greatly enjoyed. They have been fortunate to have leaders ready to give their time and talent to teach them and lead them on many happy outings. There have always been willing helpers and an active local association has kept mothers and girls interested. Mrs. Thompson is the Guide Captain at present.

Scouts - Local boys have joined Traralgon Scout Troups.

Medical - Another constant worry was the distance from medical assistance. Travel was very much slower in the 'horse and buggy' era - if you were fortunate enough to have a horse and buggy.

It was very fortunate that Nurse Townsend lived in the district and acted as midwife for many Hazelwood mothers, travelling to them whenever needed irrespective of the hour and in all kinds of weather. Later she conducted a hospital in Morwell.

Even the healthiest of communities have some illnesses and although home remedies were used for the minor ones there were times when doctors were needed. Accidents also happened. There was one such occasion when Mr. Albert Cranwell had the misfortune to swallow his false teeth during the night. They lodged in his gullet causing great discomfort. In spite of this Albert managed to catch the horse while his wife went for their neighbour Mr. Maxwell who hurried back to drive him to Morwell to the doctor. As the doctor hadn't the facilities to perform the necessary operation he sent Albert to Melbourne to Dr. Bird, partner of Dr. Julian Smith. The long slow train journey began at 9 a.m. the patient's condition becoming worse and more painful as time passed. Once he arrived Dr. Bird lost no time. During the afternoon the dangerous operation was successfully performed to remove the teeth. After making good progress Albert suffered a haemorrhage at site of operation and fears were held for his life but nurses sat in turn by his side and kept continuous pressure on the wound until he was out of danger.

Mr. and Mrs. Cranwell were always grateful to the help given them by Mr. and Mrs. George Maxwell (Mrs. Roly Hill's parents) who were wonderful neighbours. Mr. Maxwell's parents were early settlers. They were from England, Mr. Maxwell Snr. having been a seaman in the days of the sailing ships. When he came to Hazelwood, Rosedale was the nearest town and he used to cart his stores by dray all that distance. Mrs. George Maxwell's parents Mr. and Mrs. Nadenbousch came from Switzerland, first to vineyards in the Geelong area and then to select land between Hazelwood North and Hazelwood Ridge.

Schools - There have been a number of schools in the district and these have changed names and location which makes their history rather involved.

The Hazelwood Ridge School No. 1768 was the first established by the Education Department in the Morwell area. It opened in 1876 - 100 years ago. A list of head teachers is as follows -

1-10-76 / 9-2-77	
1877 / 1880	Mrs. M.L. Mathison
1880 / 1887	Mansfield A. Nelson
1887 / 1896	Barbara Irving
1896 / 1900	Elizabeth I. Waldon
1900 / 1902	Roland Greaves
1903 / 1905	Hubert J. Gaffney
1906 / 1908	John Sullivan
1910 / 1917	William McLoghlin
1921 / 1923	Violet Anderson
1923 / 1924	Richard S. Turner
1924 / 1927	Minnie E. Maxwell
1927 / 1928	Harry McLennan
1928 / 1928	George Probert
1928 / 1929	Arthur J. Sinclair
1929 / 1940	Alfred H. Miller
1940 / 1944	Leonard F. Foxcroft

The school was on half time with Yinnar South School No. 2730 from 10-4-1894 until February 1898 when the Yinnar School was burnt down in the great Gippisland bushfires of the season.

It was again on half time, on this occasion with Driffield School No. 2433 from 24-11-1902 until 13-2-1905 when the Driffield School was lost in the bushfire.

The school was officially closed as from 11-4-1945 but probably the effective date was December, 1944.

Bennett's Creek School No. 2202 - This school was opened 27-10-1879 under the name of Hazelwood North State School - near the corner of Hazelwood Road and Blowfly Road - the name being changed to Bennett's Creek in 1889. From 1885 to 1898 the school was put on a half time basis, first with No. 2382 Hazelwood North State School (originally called Maryvale East State School) and later with No. 3004 Jeeralang State School. It regained full time status in 1903 but was closed altogether in 1903. The building was removed in 1904, and the site sold to John Larkin in 1906. Head teachers were -

1879 - 1881	William Francis
1881 - 1883	Daniel Aherne
1883 - 1884	Amy M. Bock
1884 - 1888	Richard Joje
1888 - 1889	John N. Smith
1889 - 1892	Paul Shugg
1892 - 1895	Elizabeth Davies
1896 - 1897	John W. Johnston
1897 - 1900	George Hatfield
1901	Helen Northey
1901 - 1903	Margaret Regan