



Ad Astra

NEWS-LETTER OF
THE GEELONG COLLEGE

No. 7

GEELONG

April 1962



DISTINGUISHED GATHERING — The official party at the opening and dedication of the Sir Horace Robertson Memorial Hall; Right Rev. G. A. Wood, Brigadier J. D. Rogers, Sir Arthur Coles, Rev. J. Gray Robertson (Sir Horace's brother) and Mr. P. N. Thwaites.

DEVELOPMENTS AT SENIOR SCHOOL

Whilst the success of the Centenary Appeal has made possible the substantial development at the new Preparatory School, and a great part of the Council's attention has been devoted to the new buildings there, the urgent needs of the Senior School have by no means been neglected. Indeed, the transfer of boys from the Senior School site to the new site has made possible considerable developments at Senior School level also. The changes which have taken place, or are planned for this year, are as follows:

1. TUCK SHOP: As a consequence of the new arrangement with Bright and Hitchcocks, by which they have taken responsibility for the conduct of a school Tuck Shop and, at the same time, have provided a School Shop for the supply of other boarders' requirements, it has been possible to re-design the whole Tuck Shop

area in the pavilion. At the same time, the whole of the exterior of the pavilion has been re-painted. This has greatly improved the efficiency and appearance of this important and central point in the school.

2. SENIOR HOUSE: As a result of the greatly increased number of boys in the Fifth and Sixth Forms, Senior House this year contains a much greater proportion of first or second year Matriculation boys. In order to make sure that they all have adequate working conditions for evening and week-end study, twelve additional study desks, similar to those already in Room B, have now been placed in Room D, and a connecting door provided between Rooms A and D. This gives Senior House a much better opportunity for concentrated evening study, and it is already noticeable that the quality of work done at this time has improved.

3. ROLLAND HOUSE:

Through the generosity of the Old Collegians' Association in agreeing to the investing of the Association's funds in the College, the first half of the purchase price of "Mossiel," in Noble Street, has now been paid, and the property handed over to the College. A number of alterations will be made during the next month or two, and Rolland House will move in at the beginning of second term. This will give the junior boys very much better facilities and playing area than at present. They will stay in their new home until it is possible to complete the whole of the proposed boarding house at the new Preparatory School. When they eventually leave "Mossiel," it is proposed that it should be used as the basis of a new Warrinn.

When the Rolland House boys have moved from their present area, a number of other alterations will be made, to provide:

(a) better dormitory accommodation for Senior House,

(b) an additional shower room for Senior House,

(c) a small flat for a married master in Senior House,

(d) improved administrative offices,

(e) an office for day Housemasters,

(f) a committee room for meetings of Old Boys or any other groups connected with the school,

(g) an extension to the school library, including suitable storage space for College archives,

(h) improved cloak-room facilities for the teaching staff.

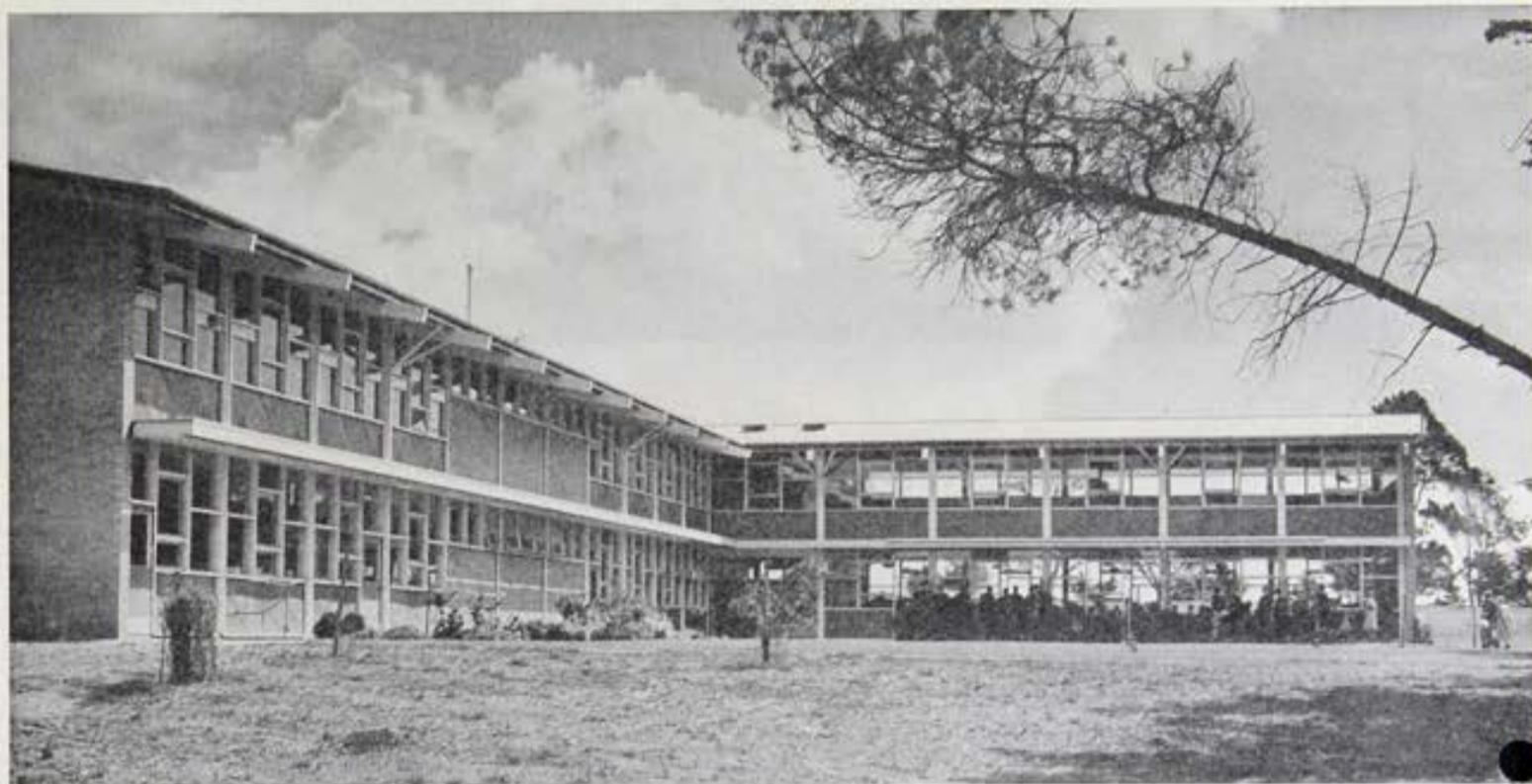
4. ADDITIONAL CLASS ROOMS AND SCIENCE FACILITIES:

Preliminary planning has begun to provide at least one more Science laboratory, together with the additional class rooms which the increase in senior boys has made essential. It seems probable that it will be necessary to build a new class room block for this purpose just south of

the main class room block, near the hospital. It is unlikely, however, that any actual building can commence this year.

5. ROADS AND GROUNDS:

The Council has been giving a good deal of thought to the growing problem of traffic in the school grounds, both from the point of view of danger to boys and the restriction of playing space. The Dining Hall gates have already been closed to vehicular traffic, as these are the gates most used by pedestrians. This seems to have been a considerable improvement, as it allows freer movement of boys in the Dining Hall area, and has reduced the dust problem there. The next step seems to be to provide some paving in front of the Dining Hall itself. Mr. Neil Everist, who is acting as architectural adviser to the Council, has been asked to make a number of other suggestions for the development of the other roads and garden areas, including the planting of additional trees and shrubs.



THE BUILDING WORK GOES ON — Above, on the right, the new north wing of the Preparatory School, the ground floor of which is the Sir Horace Robertson Memorial Hall, opened and dedicated on 14th February, 1962

FINANCIAL FACTS

Fund Total £161,000
Cash Receipts £67,623

How is the Fund progressing? 1962 sees the beginning of our third year and lots of our friends are asking this question.

Since the end of the actual campaign the Fund Total has grown by some £13,500 to £161,000. This is the total value of all Gift Intentions. Against this figure, the sum of £67,623 has been received by the Fund Treasurer.

The money so far received has come as a result of outright gifts and in annual contributions. The great bulk of our contributors made their first contribution within the first twelve months and experience has shown that amongst those who showed early interest, the 1961 contribution came in on time and already an appreciable number of third year donations have been received in 1962. A small proportion of 1961 gifts are outstanding still and with memories of the credit squeeze and its brighter aftermath it seems certain that these friends will be up to date during this year.

On the other side of the picture stand those from whom we have not yet heard. The Follow-on Committee have done all that can reasonably be expected to remind, prompt, nag and, in some cases to phone the members of this small group. Results were only fair and it has been necessary to deduct from the Fund Total the cumulative amount that is unlikely to be received. This has reduced the anticipated total receipts to the figure shown at the beginning of this note.

But to answer the question posed above . . . The Building Fund is going extremely well. All but a very small number of our original donors are up to date with their cheques and total receipts are slightly ahead of the estimated rate. This

gives Council confidence to approve plans that will cost £42,000 in 1962 against probable receipts of about £27,000 in the same time. We have had a good start and now, halfway through we are sure of a good finish. Help us to finish the job . . . keep the Fund rolling and watch the buildings grow.

1962 BUILDING PLANS

What a thrill to attend the opening of "Stage III" as we call it — the Assembly Room, Arts and Science Centre — at the Preparatory School. Stage III represents the first major and separate unit that can be credited exclusively to the current Building Fund and, as such, is a just cause for pride amongst all our contributors.

The reasons for pushing on with Stage III have already been explained but it should be repeated that without it, the Senior School would have been placed in an impossible position in 1962. With Stage III the Preparatory School has received major facilities for Assembly and Teaching. At Senior School, the improvement is very noticeable at Assembly in Morrison Hall and, less noticeable, in the improved space and study arrangements for the vital Form VI.

Having started to build, it was intended that the process could be continuous and Council approval to go ahead with Stage II was given in November, 1961. Unfortunately, pressure of other commitments with our architect caused planning delays and the contract has still not been let. All haste is being made and building activity should again be apparent in the near future.

Stage II will be a two storey block running South from the Library end of the main school. It will contain on Ground Floor level the Change Rooms which all parents have waited a long time to see. Also included will be a Dining Room which will allow the boarders to spend the greater part of each 24 hours at the new site. A small but important inclusion will be a Tuck Shop which the boys regard as essential. At first floor level, Stage II will contain some open space to be future dormitories and the Bath and Toilet facilities for the Boarding House.

Anticipated cost will be about £42,000, although the installation of plumbing fixtures will be left until the Boarding House is completed. Finance for Stage II is largely a matter of faith as the cost is well in excess of this year's anticipated receipts into the Fund. A temporary overdraft has been arranged to "bridge the gap." We are confident that the present rate of income will be maintained and, with continued building in progress, may be increased.

So, 1962 contributors, beat the reminder notice with your cheque and if you gave an early, "once only" donation, why not do the same again in '62?

Associated Public Schools of Victoria Fixtures 1962

CRICKET

December 17 & 18
A.P.S. v. HIGH SCHOOLS
on a ground to be selected by the High Schools.

ATHLETICS

AT OLYMPIC PARK
HEATS — October 31
FINALS — November 3
(If A.A.U. Trials are held on October 20, otherwise October 24 and October 27)

FOOTBALL

(On ground of first-named school)

Round 1

June 22
M.G.S. v. B.G.S.
C.G.S. v. X.C.

June 23

S.C. v. W.C.
G.G.S. v. Carey
S.K.C. v. G.C.
H.C. bye

Round 2

June 29
C.G.S. v. M.G.S.
Carey v. S.K.C.

June 30

X.C. v. W.C.
G.C. v. H.C.
S.C. v. B.G.S.
G.G.S. bye

Round 3

July 6
H.C. v. Carey

July 7

X.C. v. M.G.S.
B.G.S. v. W.C.
S.C. v. C.G.S.
G.G.S. v. S.K.C.
G.C. bye

Round 4

July 20

M.G.S. v. S.C.
W.C. v. C.G.S.
Carey v. G.C.
H.C. v. G.G.S.

July 21

X.C. v. B.G.S.

Round 5

July 27

W.C. v. M.G.S.

July 28

B.G.S. v. C.G.S.
X.C. v. S.C.
G.C. v. G.G.S.
S.K.C. v. H.C.
Carey bye

Round 6

August 4

Final round to be played on grounds opposite to last time the schools met in a P.S. game.

August 11

A.P.S. v. COMBINED HIGH SCHOOLS at Scotch College

ROWING

NOVICE REGATTA

November 17