



ROFE PRESTON JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

1885 - 1935



Official Booklet of the
Preston Jubilee
Celebrations Committee

Souvenir and Official
Programme - - Price

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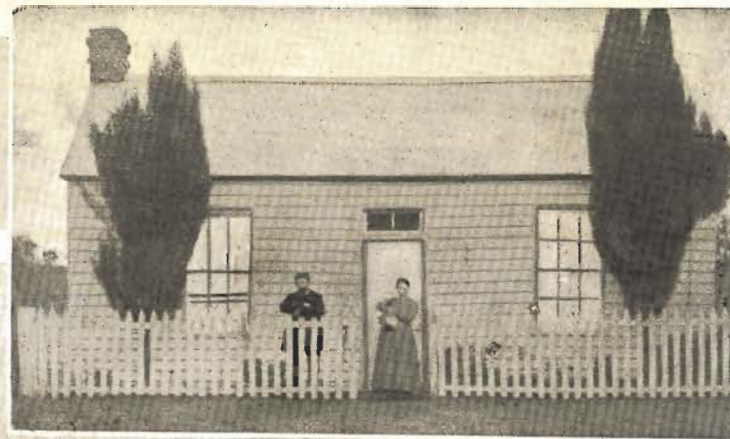
PROGRESSIVE PRESTON

PAST AND PRESENT



1839-1935

Printed in Preston by Arthur B. Harding, at his office,
347 High Street. Phone: JW 3872.



PRESTON BUILDINGS IN THE EIGHTIES

The two buildings shown here were situated in High Street on the east side just north of Wood Street. The shop, as can be seen, was occupied by a boot repairer; prior to this, a butcher was in possession. A right-of-way separated the shop from the house.

PRESTON--PAST AND PRESENT

As is but natural on account of its close proximity to the capital city of the State, the history of Preston dates from practically the same period as that of Melbourne itself. The first land sale in the district was held in August, 1839, and was of six allotments in Jika Jika, embracing part of what is now the City of Preston. The purchasers and the size of the areas bought were:— Abel Lewis Gower, of London, 537 acres; A. B. Spark, of Sydney, 640 acres; J. T. Mitchell, of London, 302 acres; John Carey, of Melbourne, 380 acres; George Langhorne, of Melbourne, 530 acres; Thomas Walker, of Sydney, 1,125 acres.

Mr. Gower, who apparently was never in Australia, bought Crown allotment No. 145 at a price of 39/- per acre. It extended from the Darebin Creek to what is now High Street, and formed the southerly portion of the district. This portion was for many years called Gowerville, the present Gower Street receiving its name from the original owner.

The first school was at Gowerville, at the corner of the present Raglan and Albert Streets, the building being of one room about 20 x 30 feet, all classes being taught by one teacher. The parents contributed 1/- per week for each scholar. The South Preston State School in Hotham Street was until fairly recent years known as the Gowerville State School No. 824. The Gowerville Hotel at the corner of Bell Street and Plenty Road is another evidence of the name Gowerville.

Mr. Walker paid about 21/- per acre for his allotment, No. 146. He sold some 529 acres of this land to Major St. Lawrence Webb, who arrived in Melbourne with his regiment in 1840, at £2 per acre. Major Webb came to reside on the Darebin Creek either in 1840 or 1841.

General Charles Howard also purchased land from Thomas Walker at £2/16/- per acre, and in 1841 he also came to reside on the Darebin Creek. The site of the present St. Mary's Church of England was given by Miss Mary Howard, evidently a daughter of General Howard, and the church then built is still being used for divine service.

Amongst the earliest families to settle here were, it is believed, the Jefferys, the Parnells and the Doolans. In 1841 Mr. Samuel Jeffery purchased from Major Webb some 40 acres of heavily timbered land on the Regent hill, or what was then known as Irishtown. In 1850 about 50 residents of Sussex, England, arrived in Melbourne in the "Harpley," after a four months' journey bringing with them their household utensils, furniture and implements necessary to make a fresh start in the new country. Of the party, Mr. and Mrs. Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Tyler, Mr. Chandler (father of the well known Chandler Bros., of Fitzroy), and several others came north, and settled down in what afterwards became Preston. A number of the old residents, including those mentioned, and Mr. Clinch (who came to the district shortly afterwards) met at Mr. Woods' store in High Street and gave the township its name, as the countryside greatly resembled the district of Preston, Sussex, England. The store commenced by Mr. Wood is still in existence, and is now in the hands of Mr. H. L. Wood, a grandson of the pioneer.

In the year 1850 church services were commenced in Mr. Jeffery's barn, just north of the present Tyler Street. Preachers were met by bullock waggons at the foot of Rucker's Hill, Northcote, and we are told that Mr. and Mrs. Hurlstone used to walk seven miles from Lower Plenty to attend the services. Quite probably they would have passed an aboriginal encampment on the Darebin Creek close to Plenty road. About 1852 Mr. Samuel Jeffery donated the block of land at the corner of High and Tyler Streets, on which the Methodist Church now stands. A small wooden church erected then was demolished in 1922, the present building being erected in 1863. A cairn built from the stone used in the original Jeffery barn has now been erected in front of the church.

The portion of land bounded by Bell Street, Water Lane (now Murray Road), High Street and the Merri Creek was originally known as Shepherd's Run, and was used for grazing. The first house on the run was owned by Mr. Timothy Shepherd, whose home was just over the rise of the hill off Bruce



PRESTON IN THE EIGHTIES.

The photograph was taken from the corner of Jessie and Cramer Streets, facing towards the present site of Bell station. At the time of the photograph the railway line was being surveyed, the surveyors being camped in the white tents shown on the right of the picture, underneath an acacia hedge running along John Street.

Street. The house, a photo of which appears elsewhere in this booklet, was built from timber split on the run. Much trouble was experienced with aboriginals at the homestead. The blacks would take advantage of the absence of the men, who were often away droving, and would crawl up through the dense scrub to the house and ask the women for food. On one occasion when the blacks had been particularly troublesome, Mr. Haythorn, who lived at the house with Mr. Shepherd, and who had been an Imperial soldier, took his sword and chased the intruders, who were terrified at the sight of the weapon, and after that time gave no further trouble. As a protection for their women-folk while they were absent from home, a number of the settlers of the district used to pitch tents on the run near the homestead. Mr. Shepherd had a portion of the run under cultivation, and grew hay on the portion where the Coburg Cemetery now is. Later a rifle range was situated on the western bank of the Merri Creek, and the Volunteer Corps used to hold their reviews on Mr. Shepherd's property. The homestead was later shifted to Mary Street, where it now forms portion of another home. The run was subdivided and offered for sale in February, 1872.

Mr. Thomas Smith, father of the late Mrs. Kendall, and grandfather of Mr. R. H. Kendall, settled in West Preston on Oakover Estate about 1851. The material for his house was cut out in England and shipped to Melbourne in one of the sailing vessels which at that time made the passage from England to Australia, and the home put together here. A brother of Mr. Thos. Smith, Mr. Job Smith, took up a large block of land between High Street and St. George's Road, in Thornbury, which was heavily timbered at the time, and farmed it.

Mr. Thomas Wm. Bransgrove settled in Bell Street, East Preston, about 1855 or 1856. In addition to his homestead block of land he purchased about five acres at the corner of Hotham and Raglan Streets, two acres of which he sold to the Education Department for the erection of the Hotham Street State School. He also owned 10 acres in Raglan Street, where Walkerden's Brickworks was later established, the block where the Raglan Street drill hall now stands, 100 acres in Wood Street, and several other blocks. Several of his family are still residents of Preston.

High Street, Preston, was the back road to Sydney, the road to Melbourne being a bush track right through. Transit to the city was by means of cabs, the jehus being Messrs. Drew, Bouverie, Mitchell, Thorn, Scholls, Hawke and Madden. A four horse coach made the journey from Whittlesea to Melbourne, and from Woodstock to Melbourne, carrying mails daily and met at the Junction Hotel about nine o'clock each morning. Mails were brought out by the coach to Woods' store on the return journey at 4 p.m.

LAYING OF THE PIPE TRACK.

The first Metropolitan Board of Works reservoir was constructed at Reservoir in 1864, fed by an aqueduct from the Yan Yean basin. In the seventies the pipe track used to be known as the tramway, as when laying the mains a wooden tramway was laid to carry the pipes. Later the pipes were all laid by means of sheer legs. Murray road was originally known as Water Lane, a pipe being laid from the pipe track to the corner of High Street near Braithwaite's Tannery. Here a stand pipe was erected, water being sold at 1/- per load. There are now five big mains in the track, carrying a large percentage of the water supply of Melbourne.

EARLY RESIDENTS.

As no definite records are available at the present date, it is not possible to produce an exact record of all the early families, but it is known that the following residents were among the colonists of the seventies and eighties. The Tom family, who lived in Livingstone Street; Mr. Noble and family; the Griffiths family; Mrs. Forster, who owned a dairy at the corner of Gilbert and Murray Roads. The Wilkinson family resided at Gowerville, the family of three sons being Mr. Roger Wilkinson, who is an ex-councillor of Preston, Mr. Arch Wilkinson, Dr. Wilkinson; and a sister, Dr. Wilkinson. Mr. Schuler, Dr. Kaiser, Painter James, John James (an employee of Mr. J. Jacobs, baker), and the son of the baker, Mr. John Jacobs. Mr. Thos. Harvey, of Wood Street, invented the first reaper and binder in 1873, being awarded a prize for binding machine at the Victorian Agricultural Society Show in 1875. Mrs. Harvey conducted a seminary for young ladies. The White family; Moses Martin, the Olvers, Tilly, Gilbert, Thompson, and Sellick are amongst

the number. The Creed family, who lived in Wood Street; Mr. Gair and family, on Darebin Creek; Mr. Gough, dairyman, at corner of Plenty Road and Wood Street; Mr. Seward and family, who were burnt out at Balmoral in 1878; Dr. McInerney, Dr. Eccles. Medical assistance was rendered by Dr. Daniels, of Clifton Hill. The Doolan family, in Plenty Road; the Brock family, on Oak Hill; Mr. Shepherd, who conducted a school at Plenty Road, opposite the Rose, Shamrock and Thistle Hotel, in a small brick building in which the first Church of England service was held. Mr. Samuel Bartlett, a florist, lived in Spring Street, and Mr. Jacobs, the baker, in High Street. Mr. Jacobs supplied bread not only throughout Preston, but delivered as far north as Morang twice weekly. Messrs. Bell, Johnson, Chandler, Crawley, Coe (father of Mr. H. Coe, at present residing in Queen Street), all had florists' and orchardists' gardens in the town, as also had Mr. Clinch. Mr. Tidd, of High Street, was for many years an employee of the council; Mr. Hooker, butcher, High Street. Mr. J. Moylan, until recently employed at Braithwaite's Tannery; Mr. Bachelor; Mr. Sheffield, shire engineer and surveyor, who lived in the house at present owned by Mr. J. I. Jeanes, in May Street. Mr. Sheffield later became shire secretary and engineer. Mr. Sawyer, High Street, above the Preston Arms Hotel; Mr. Donovan, Spring Street; Mr. Thomas, Spring Street. A butcher from Fitzroy, Mr. Williams, used to come out and slaughter at Spring Street, just south of Regent Street. Mr. W. H. Edgar, now M.L.C., who contested East Bourke unsuccessfully two or three times in the eighties, was also a resident. Mr. Dredge, the father of Mr. D. R. Dredge, who was later shire secretary, ran a school at the Wesleyan Church, North Preston. Mr. Storey, father of ex-Cr. E. R. Storey, resided in a house in Osborne Grove. Dr. W. C. Wilkinson, was health officer in the eighties, and resided here many years. Mr. Warr, father of ex-Cr. C. H. Warr, kept a store where Howe's Tannery now is; Mr. W. Madsen, who married Miss Warr, established the tannery on the site. Warr's Avenue derived its name from the family. Messrs. Schultz, F. Pittard (orchardist), Robert King, Stone, Holloway, March, and McCormack lived in Bell Street, and the following were residents of Oakover Road: Messrs. Sutton, Stripp, Thomas Smith, Kendall and Booth.

A directory of 1875 gives the total number of property holders, including those of Preston, Gowerville, Thomastown, Irishtown and Westgarthtown, as 229.

SCHOOL OF DESIGN AND LIBRARY.

A School of Design was conducted in the Old Library Hall in High Street, North Preston, and in the late seventies the Library was established in the School of Arts building. The Library was free and circulating, the librarian being Mr. Ernest A. Walker. The commencement was made by borrowing four cases of books from the Melbourne Library. The ground for both the School of Design and the Particular Baptist Church were given by Mr. Tyler.

The foundation stone of the present library building was laid on July 31, 1908, by the Premier, Sir Thomas Bent, K.C.M.G., the cost of the building being met by public effort.

EARLY POLICE FORCE.

About where the Baptist Church now stands in High Street North the Police Station used to stand, in charge of Mounted Constable Morrison. He was succeeded by the late Sergeant Robinson, who was in charge for many years, and who was transferred to Brighton, from where he retired. The police officers were Mounted Constables Saults and Robinson.

THE CHURCHES.

The early churches were:—Church of England, at corner of Plenty Road and Tyler Street; Wesleyan, at High and Tyler Streets, Regent; South Preston Wesleyan; the church was first built near Showers Street, then a new church was erected in High Street, opposite the old one. Both are now demolished, the present church in Yann Street having taken their place in the boom period. Rev. Du Bourgh was in charge of the Preston Circuit. The Particular Baptist Church worshipped next the old Preston Library in High Street north, the building being now demolished. Supply preachers also took charge of the services of the Baptist Church, which were held in the old Foresters' Hall, in High Street, opposite Olver Street.



MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

Situated at the corner of High and Gower Streets, the Town Hall, City Hall and Municipal Offices make an imposing block of buildings, the dignity of which is enriched by the surrounding lawns and pathways.



HIGH STREET, LOOKING SOUTH

The photo was taken from a position just south of Murray Road, showing a section of Preston shopping centre, one of the cheapest and most complete in the metropolitan area.

CREATION OF SHIRE OF PRESTON

Preston's first association with municipal authority was when in the sixties it was under the control of the Epping Roads Board, later with part of Collingwood, Fitzroy and Northcote it became part of the Shire of Darebin, and on January 3, 1872, the first meeting of the Shire of Jika Jika was held—the three ridings being Preston, Gowerville and Northcote. The first municipal building was the present Foresters' Hall, just south of Wood Street, in High Street, which was rented at 10/- per week. The first Council consisted of the President (Cr. E. Bastings), and Crs. T. Mitchell, M. Thomas, Tyler, W. Paterson, and G. Plant, with Mr. Robert Savage as secretary; Mr. E. Wood treasurer; Mr. B. Plant, rate collector; Mr. F. Cossar, inspector of slaughter houses and nuisances; and Mr. Meagher, tollkeeper. On June 24, 1872, the Council meeting place was changed to the Junction Hotel at a rental of £10 per annum.

Shire Responsible for Publicans' Licenses.

It is interesting to note that in 1872 the municipalities were responsible for the collection of publicans' licenses, the inspector being instructed to collect these at his appointment.

Toll Gates as a Source of Revenue.

Toll gates were used as a means of raising money for road maintenance, a gate being situated about the Preston Arms Hotel, which had been erected about 1842, and another gate being at the foot of Rucker's Hill, in Northcote. Carters carrying goods to and from Hurlstone's Mill in Wood Street used to leave their teams outside the gate and carry their loads the rest of the way to evade payment of the toll, which was 1/- for each horse drawn vehicle.

The revenue for the first week from the toll gates after creation of the Shire of Jika was £63/1/-, an evidence of the amount of traffic which used the road.

Later tenders were called for the lease of the toll gates, and these were let to the keeper, R. Meagher, at £3,250 per annum.

Road metal was supplied by contractors at prices from 4/4 to 5/9 per yard, the first contract being let to Edwin Sobey (father of the first manager of the Preston National Bank).

Early Salaries of Officers.

The shire secretary received the munificent sum of £12/10/- per month; the rate collector £5; the inspector of works £12/10/-; and the inspector of nuisances £2/10/-. The latter was provided with a uniform by the Council.

Gas Lighting in Streets.

In August, 1874, the Collingwood Gas Co. installed 10 gas lamps between Northcote and Regent, lighting, extinguishing and supplying gas for the lamp for £8/10/- per annum.

Contagious Diseases Hospital.

On September 7, 1874, the first move to establish a contagious diseases hospital was made by the Council.

Bathing Prohibited.

The question of bathing in the Merri Creek caused a lot of worry to the Council during its first years of existence, and on the 21st December, 1874, a resolution was passed prohibiting bathing between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Sparrows Causing Trouble.

Evidently at this early stage in our history sparrows caused much annoyance, as, after many requests for assistance, the Council agreed to pay to the Preston Sparrow Club the sum of £10 when 10,000 sparrows or eggs had been destroyed.

Overdraft Asked For.

On December 6, 1875, the Council decided to ask the Commercial Bank for an overdraft of £3000, and the bank apparently acceded to this application, as on January 24, 1876, the bank were asked to increase the overdraft to £6000. This they refused to do, and several Council cheques were not

PRESTON CITY COUNCILLORS, 1935



Cr. A. G. Davis, Cr. F. G. Pike, Cr. C. T. Barling, Cr. H. F. Nisbett

At rear—Mr. Ben Johnson (Town Clerk), Cr. J. W. Adams (Mayor),

Cr. H. Swain, Cr. J. S. Grey, Cr. G. Mott, Cr. H. Jupp

In centre—Mr. L. W. Williams (Assistant Town Clerk).

honored. On February 28 a change was made to the National Bank. Finances at this period were at a low ebb, and the annual salaries of officers were reduced £80 on a pro rata basis. Later a further 25 per cent. reduction was made, and the Council wrote to the Under Treasurer stating that they could not continue the maintenance of main roads unless assistance were given. The councillors stated their willingness to give personal guarantees to £2000 to tide over the difficulty.

Telegraph Line to Preston.

In 1876 the telegraph line was supplied to Northcote and Preston.

Formation of Preston Shire.

In 1885 a move for the separation of Preston and Northcote into two Shires was successful, and on June 1st of that year the first meeting of the Shire of Preston was held, Cr. J. T. Ellison being elected President. The municipality was composed of two ridings—the west (which was practically as at present) and Gwerville (embracing the rest of the Shire). The members of the first Council were Crs. Bartlett, Ellison, Short, Hutton, O'Keefe and Paterson. On November 2nd, 1885, it was decided to form the Shire into three ridings—West or Preston riding, Middle riding, and East or Gowerville riding.

In 1886 the valuation was £22,200, an increase of £5,200.

The year 1885 also brought along three essentials to progress—a line of buses from Northcote bridge to Preston; a daily letter delivery and telegraph office at South Preston; and the formation of a fire brigade, the Council granting £25 towards the latter. Two deliveries of letters daily was inaugurated in 1888.

Financial Position Improved.

The financial position of the Shire, which for many years had been in a precarious state, improved during the late eighties, until on September 29, 1890, a credit balance of £215/9/- was reported. The following year the

secretary's salary, which had been £100, was increased to £225, and the shire engineer was granted £350 per annum. In 1893 these salaries were again reduced to secretary £180, and engineer £150 for three days a week. A year later the latter officer was again reduced to two days a week at £1 per day.

First Telephone Installed.

On March 28, 1892, it is recorded that the Postal Department was asked by the Council to extend the telephone lines to the Shire, and to connect up the Shire offices. The use of the telephone was discontinued in 1897. In 1901 the Council gave 66 feet of land in High Street adjoining the Shire Hall for the erection of a post office.

Death of Dr. Wilkinson.

One of the best known residents in the district, and health officer for the Council for many years, Dr. Wilkinson, passed away at the end of 1915, and on 6th December, a special record was made of his services to the municipality and the residents of the district.

Officers Volunteering for War Service.

On March 27, 1915, a motion was passed giving extended leave to any officer or employee of the Council enlisting for service abroad, and agreeing to make up any deficiency between the municipal salary and military pay of those whose service with the Council exceeded six months.

Creation of Borough.

In 1922 Preston was gazetted a Borough, and by public proclamation of the State Governor, Earl Stradbroke, it became a town on 24th May of the same year, with an estimated population of 10,900. For several years prior to this the municipality had by its revenue been qualified for a higher status than a Shire, but its 13½ square miles of territory was over the prescribed area for a borough. This difficulty was surmounted by a special Act of Parliament.



PROCLAMATION OF CITY OF PRESTON, JULY 14, 1926.

Inaugurated as a Shire in 1885. Preston was proclaimed a Borough on March 22, 1922. On May 24 of the same year the status of a town was attained, and on July 14, 1926, the municipality was proclaimed a city. The above photo shows the Governor of Victoria, Lord Somers, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C., reading the proclamation.

Proclamation of City.

Wednesday, July 14, 1926, will be looked back upon for many years as Preston's great day. It was the memorable occasion on which it received official recognition of its elevation to the highest plane of civic aspiration that it is possible to attain. A proclamation ceremony was held at the Cramer Street Park, the State Governor reading the proclamation.

The Financial Aspect.

The gradual rise in the financial position of the municipality is in keeping with the growth of its population. In 1875 a total of 229 names appeared in the directory for Preston, Westgarthtown and Thomastown; in 1885 the population of the new Shire of Preston is given as 1,650; in 1900—3419; in 1912—7,109; in 1926—22,000, and to-day in 1935—36,000.

In the year 1871 the rates collected totalled £596, and in the following year, 1872, the estimated expenditure was £3,185. A rate of 1/- in the £ struck in that year was not altered until 1896, when it was raised to 1/3 in the £. Further rises took place in 1897—to 1/6 in the £, in 1900 to 1/9, in 1911 to 2/-, while at the present time it stands at 2/6 in the £.

The revenue in 1885 totalled £2,028, and in 1886 £2,954. The following year saw a decrease to £2,749, but in 1890 (three years later) it had increased to £10,274. At the declaration of the town in 1922 the revenue was stated at £27,557, and in 1926, when the City was declared, it had increased to £80,094. In this period of four years 3,464 new dwellings were erected, the year 1924 being a record one with 962.

The current revenue at September 30, 1934, has reached the sum of £160,621, including £47,237 from the electric light undertaking. Of this sum £44,000 is accounted for by rates, and £32,000 from the Government for sustenance works. The total of £10,000 has been spent on private street construction for the year, while the receipts of instalments and interest on this account is £22,500.

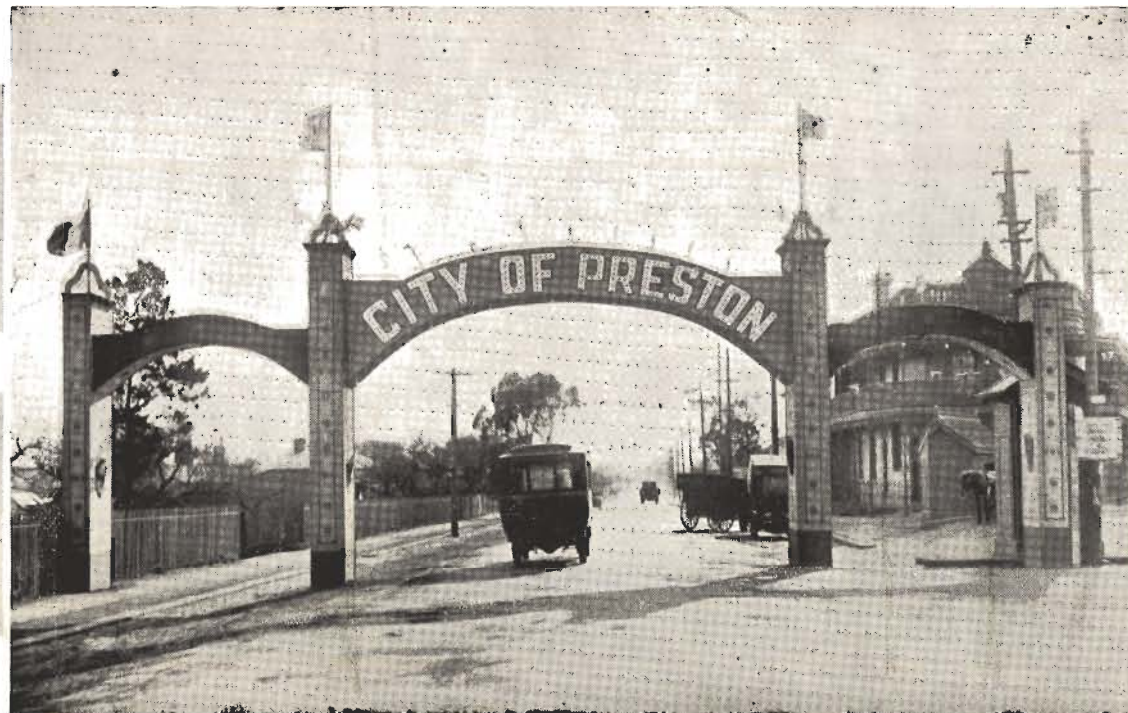
Parks and Playgrounds.

In September, 1875, a block of land was purchased by the Shire of Jika Jika for recreation purposes, to be called the Preston and Gowerville Park, tenders being immediately called for the removal of stumps from the area. As far as can be ascertained the first use of this park for sporting purposes was when on November 4, 1878, the Preston Cricket Club was granted permission to use the ground for matches.

In 1890 it was decided to open the park gates from sunrise to sunset, and a by-law was passed by the Council that "no person carry firearms through the park, or shoot, snare or destroy any game therein." Children under seven years were not allowed in the park unless in control of a competent person.

The parks and playgrounds at present provided by the municipality comprise in all nearly 220 acres. On several of these parks football, cricket, and tennis facilities are provided, and on others swings and other playing accessories for children. The following is a detailed list of the positions of the various areas:—

Preston Park, Cramer Street, Preston, 9 acres; G. E. Robinson Park, High Street, Regent, 3½ acres; Wood Street Park, Wood Street, Preston, 3 acres; Edwardes Park and Lake, Reservoir, 51 acres; Bell Park, corner Bell and Paterson Streets, 4 acres; Playground, Walsh Street; Haxby Park, corner Bell and Albert Streets, 13 acres; Park on Leslie Estate, north of Broadway, 10 acres; Cuthbert Road, Park on Darebin Creek, near Plenty Road, 41½ acres (west of and adjoining Plenty Road, with the Darebin Creek running through the centre); Park, Rosebank Estate, 5 acres; Park, Darebin Creek, Plenty Road, 38 acres; Playground, at rear of Methodist Church in Murray Road; Hamilton Park, on Merri Creek, 5 acres; Oakover Park, 4 acres; Playgrounds, Bailey Avenue, Sussex Street, 1 acre; Gower Park, Gower Street, east of Albert Street, 15 acres; Playgrounds in Foch Street, Hillcroft Street, Walter Street, Parker Street, Storey Road, Northernhay Street, McComas Street, Gilbert Road; Margaret Walker Playground, corner Cramer and Jessie Streets, 1 acre; Crispe Park, Pine Street and Gloucester Road, 8 acres; Florence Adams Playground, Milton Street, 2 acres; Playgrounds, Jackman Street, Ellison Street, Mason Street, Dorrington Avenue; Nursery, house and land in Spring Street.



ARCH AT ENTRANCE TO CITY, 1926.

The arch formed a portion of the decorative scheme carried out for the proclamation ceremony on July 14th, 1926. Situated in High Street at the southern entrance to the city, the arch, both by day—when it was beflagged, and by night—lit up with colored electric lights, was well worthy of its place and a credit to the builders.

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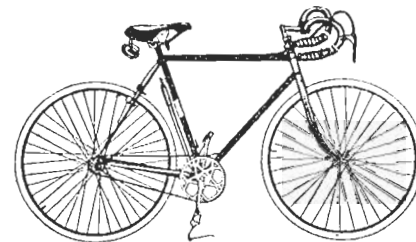
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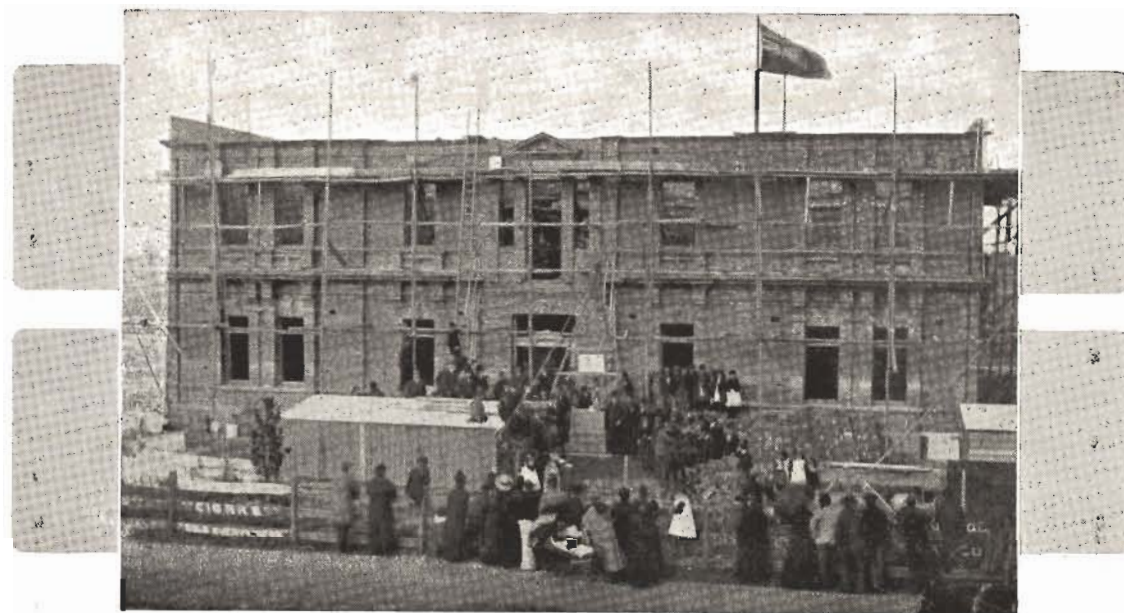
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LAYING OF TOWN HALL FOUNDATION STONE.

The Foundation Stone of the Town Hall was laid by the President of the Shire, Cr. William Paterson, on August 26, 1893. The land was purchased before the land boom for the sum of £280, and the building was erected at a total cost of £3,200. The design of the hall was the subject of a competition, the first prize winner being awarded £100, and the second £40.

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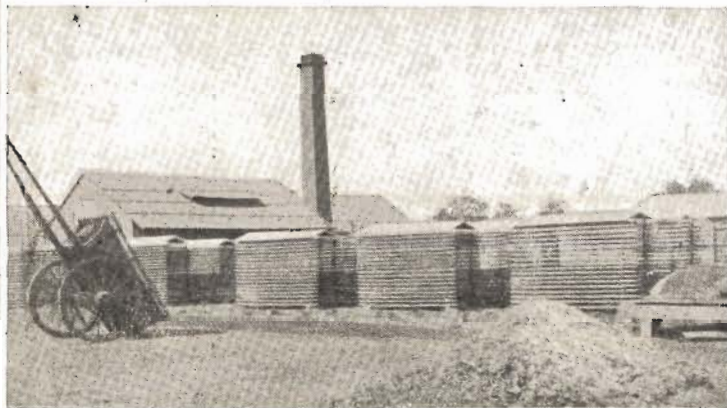
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Situated in Spring Street, where the residences of Mrs. O'Donnell, Mr. A. B. Harding and Mr. M. Badley now exist, was the glue and oil factory owned by Mr. Walker, shown here. This ranked amongst the early industries, and existed until the boom period.

1. Works looking north east from Murray Road. Tanners' Fleshings on Drying Hurdles.

2. Works looking east from Spring Street. Limed sheep pelts for manufacture of glue on fence.

3. Works looking north-east from Murray Road. Showing Stacks of Frames used for Drying Glue.

4. Works looking south-west. Shepherd's Run in the distance. Showing stacks of frames used for drying glue; also stables and store room.

WALKER'S GLUE AND OIL WORKS IN THE SEVENTIES.

Views taken by E. A. Walker.

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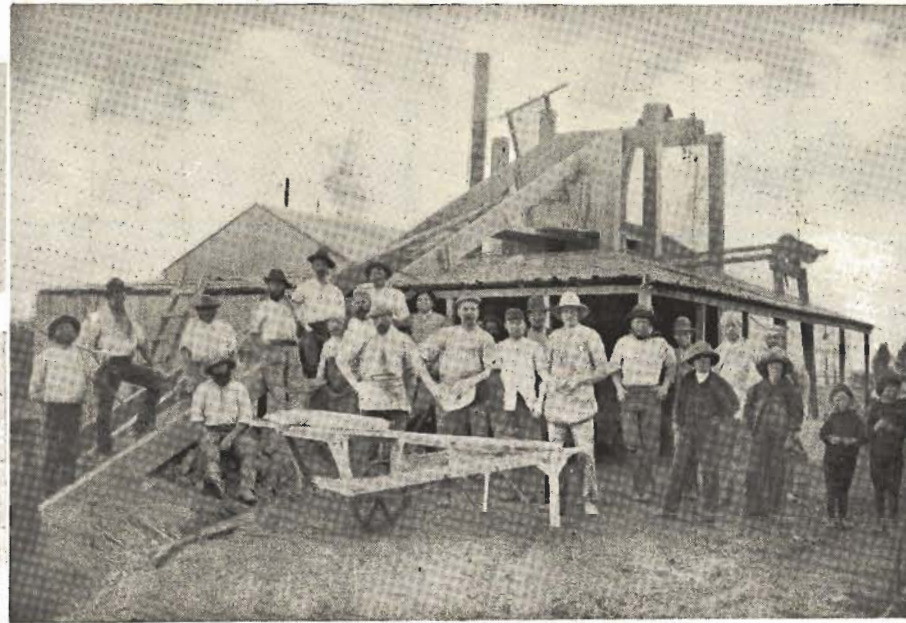
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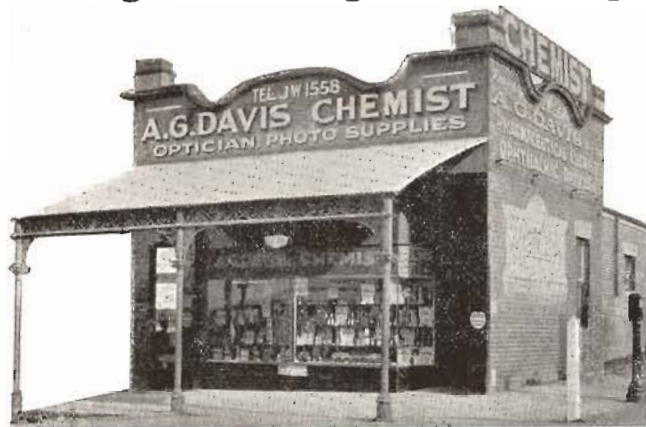
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This brickyard was situated at the rear of the present factory of Messrs. Watson and Paterson at the corner of Plenty Road and Dundas Street. The works was the first to manufacture machine-made bricks in Preston, the motive power for the machinery being obtained by horseworks.

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PRESTON BABY HEALTH CENTRE.

Dr. Sir Frederick Truby King, of New Zealand, about 30 years ago originated in his country the now world-famous baby health centres. The aim was to teach mothers the best methods of attending to baby, and instil a full knowledge of the responsibility of motherhood and the value of natural feeding.

The result of his teaching in New Zealand astonished the whole world and reduced the infantile mortality to the lowest amongst the nations. That his efforts have met with a full measure of success is shown by the fact that the whole of New Zealand is now practically free from that dread disease, summer diarrhoea.

About 20 years ago Sister M. V. Primrose, of South Yarra, a woman with a wonderfully self-sacrificing spirit, recognised the value of this teaching to the future generations, and inaugurated the movement in Victoria in conjunction with the Visiting Trained Nurses' Association, of which she was the principal.

The first centre in Australia to adopt the Truby King methods was opened at Coburg by Dr. Sir Frederick Truby King himself, Sister E. F. M. Holland being appointed to organise and take control of the work. Immediately after this opening, the late Cr. G. E. Robinson, of Preston, who had made a close study of the question of child welfare, inspected the centre, and was so impressed with the work done that he brought the matter before the Preston Council. As a result the Preston Truby King Centre was established in August, 1921, its first home being the Rechabite Hall, in High Street. Later, premises in Gower Street were obtained, and on 14th December, 1929, the present building in Gower Street, at the side of the city hall buildings, was opened. This building, costing with furnishings some £1,600, was designed on most up-to-date lines, and no effort was spared to make the centre one in

which the work could be carried out on the most efficient lines. The result is that Preston is now the proud possessor of the best centre outside New Zealand, as the following letter, received by the town clerk of Preston from Miss Patrick, the Director of Plunkett Nursing in New Zealand testifies—

The Royal N.Z. Society for the Health of Women and Children.

To the Town Clerk, Preston.

Dear Sir,

I had the pleasure of visiting the Preston Truby King Centre last month, and should like formally to express my appreciation to your Mayor and Council.

In the course of recent travel in overseas countries I have visited Infant Welfare Centres in America, England, South Africa and elsewhere, and nowhere have I seen a Centre more admirably and charmingly adapted than your own to express and fulfil the special purpose.

May I be allowed to congratulate Preston on its model Centre, and to express my best wishes for its continued success.

Yours faithfully,
N. PATTRICK.

Director of Plunkett Nursing.

The Sister-in-charge (Sister E. F. M. Holland), member of the Royal Victorian College of Nursing, has some of the finest types of womanhood attending the Centre, and this is one of the greatest factors towards the success of the work. The Council, with the Town Clerk (Mr. Ben. Johnson), the assistant Town Clerk (Mr. L. W. Williams), and the staff assist in every way to further the work.

When the Centre was opened the monthly attendance was 48 visits per month. At the present time the attendances total over 1300 monthly. The Centre is open on week-days from 9 to 10.30 a.m., and from 1.30 to 4 p.m. In addition to visits from mothers the Centre is a veritable hive of inquiry. Many visitors from other States come along to see the class of instruction given, and lectures are given by the Sister to Girl Guides, Rangers and girls' clubs.

PRESTON TOWN HALL AND MUNICIPAL OFFICES.

Preston's public buildings are very centrally situated in High Street, opposite the Preston Railway Station. The Town Hall, with the Council Chambers and other municipal offices, although erected in 1893, is by no means out of date in either appearance or usefulness. In the year 1929, a new city hall was built at the rear of the old edifice, facing Gower Street, and next to this are situated the electric light department and Baby Health Centre. On the northern side of the Town Hall in High Street are situated the Soldiers' Memorial Hall and Public Library, next to which is erected the Post Office, a very neat structure, and worthy of its place in the municipal block. A memorial arch in memory of those who served in the Great War 1914-18 stands in the street line midway between the Memorial and Town Halls.

The members of the Council for the year 1934-35 are—Cr. J. W. Adams (Mayor), Cr. H. Swain, Cr. J. Grey, Cr. Jupp, Cr. A. G. Davis, Cr. F. G. Pike, Cr. H. F. Nisbett, Cr. G. Mott and Cr. C. T. Barling. Mr. Ben Johnson (town clerk and engineer), Mr. L. W. Williams (assistant town clerk), Mr. Geo. Pike (rate collector) and Mr. F. B. Bird (electrical engineer) are the chief officers of the staff.

OPENING OF RAILWAY LINE.

The year 1889 witnessed the opening of the railway line to Melbourne via North Fitzroy and Royal Park. The fare from Preston to the city was 3d. second class. To encourage people to live out of Melbourne proper Sir Thomas Bent offered a free railway ticket to those who erected a house to the value of £300. The railway line was linked up via Clifton Hill and Collingwood in 1901, and was electrified in 1919. At present 65 trains a day each way serve the city, the longest period between trains being 20 minutes, as compared to one hour with the old steam service. The revenue from the four stations within the municipality now stands at approximately £75,000 per annum.

PRESTON MUNICIPAL SWIMMING BATHS.

Situated in Frank Street, just south of Cramer Street, the municipal baths have proved themselves a boon to the residents during the summer months. Opened on November 10, 1928, at a cost of £15,000, the baths are pear-shaped, 209 feet long, with a swimming course of 164 feet. Ample provision is made for both learners and experienced swimmers, the pool at the wading end being 18 inches deep, and at the narrow end eight feet six inches. A filtering plant treats all the water in the pool twice in 24 hours, the process being a continuous one the whole of the time the baths are in use.

At the Edwardes Lake at Reservoir a roped enclosure is provided at the northern end for swimmers, and this pool is also taken advantage of to its fullest extent during the season.

SPORTING FACILITIES.

Ample space is available in the municipality for the practice of all classes of sport. The park in Cramer Street is in use throughout the season by the Preston Football Club and the Preston Second Eighteen Club, while the Preston Cricket Club have laid down a turf wicket on the oval. Baseball, lacrosse, soccer, tennis, football and cricket are also played on many grounds throughout the city. The Reservoir Golf Club have constructed a course in Plenty Road, near the Darebin Creek, which attracts many devotees of that popular pastime.

THE PROSPERITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL.

One of the surest means in gauging the prosperity of a district is to note the Savings Banks established. Prior to June 30, 1920, the local business was carried on by an agency. On this date a branch of the bank was opened opposite the Post Office in High Street, and the present building at the corner of Bell and High Streets was erected in 1922. Since that date banks have been built in Plenty Road at the corner of Wood Street, and in High Street, Regent, with agencies at South Preston and West Preston.



PRESTON'S FIRST BACON FACTORY

The oldest bacon factory in the district, that of Messrs. Watson and Paterson, had its origin in the small structure shown above. The second figure from the left is Mr. Watson and the fourth from the left, Mr. Paterson, the original founders of the firm.

Programme of Jubilee Celebrations---Commencing Saturday, 7th September, 1935

SATURDAY, 7th SEPTEMBER.

To commence at 2.30 p.m.—Children's Originality Procession (Trucks, Prams, Dogs on a leash, Alsations not allowed), commencing at Braithwaite's Tannery, proceeding via High and Bruce Streets to Preston Park. Headed by Preston Junior Bands. Prizes awarded for—Best Decorated Truck, Most Original Costume, Prettiest Dolly and Pram, The Largest Dog, The Smallest Dog, The Best Looking Dog, The Biggest Mongrel, The Dog with the Longest Tail. Procession to enter the Park and circle the arena once.

3 p.m. in City Hall.—Civic Reception by Mayor and Councillors to former residents. Re-union and Conversazione for all old and former residents of Preston.

3.30 p.m.—Novelty Sports Programme in Park. Truck Races, Scooter Races, Novel Potato Race, Boots and Socks Race (run 25 yards, take off Boots and Socks and return 25 yards, put on Boots and Socks, run 25 yards and finish). Wheelbarrow Race, 150 yards. Admission to Park, 6d., or by Button (Stand 6d. extra).

8 p.m.—Old Time Dance Night in City Hall. Cards and Chatter in Old Town Hall. Admission 1/-.

8 p.m. in Preston Park.—Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Display. Admission Free.

SUNDAY, 8th SEPTEMBER.

Morning and Evening.—Special Services and Music in all Churches.

Civic Service at the Regent Presbyterian Church, Joffre Street, 11 a.m. Preacher: Rev. W. D. Anderson.

3 p.m.—Pleasant Sunday Afternoon in Preston Park. Address by the **RIGHT HON. J. A. LYONS, P.C., PRIME MINISTER AND TREASURER OF AUSTRALIA**. Musical Selections, Preston Municipal Band. Singing led by Preston Salvation Army Band.

8.30 p.m.—Sacred Musical Festival in City Hall. Sundowners' Quartette. Miss Violet Semple, Mr. Tom Semple, Preston Municipal Band. Collection.

MONDAY, 9th SEPTEMBER.

2 p.m.—Grand Matinee Concert by Scholars of the Preston State Schools, kindly arranged by the Head Teachers. Admission 1/-, Children 6d.

6 p.m.—Jubilee Council Meeting, at which all available former Councillors will be invited to be present.

8 p.m. in City Hall.—A Monster Card Evening arranged by Red Cross Auxiliary. Tickets may be obtained from Mrs. F. Sheppard, 46 Compton Street, Reservoir, N.19; Mrs. L. W. Williams, Cramer Street, Preston, N.18.

8 p.m. in Preston Park.—Boxing and Wrestling. Definite appearance of Llew Edwards, Lightweight Champion of Victoria.

TUESDAY, 10th SEPTEMBER.

10.30 a.m.—Back to School at Hotham Street School, South Preston, and Tyler Street School, North Preston.

2 p.m.—A specially conducted Tour of the City and Factories, to enable former residents to see the progress of Preston.

8 p.m.—Re-union Dinner, Preston Sub-Branch R.S.S.I.L.A., old Town Hall.

8 p.m.—Grand Jubilee Concert, by the scholars of the State Schools, in the City Hall. Arranged by Head Teachers and Staff. Balcony 2/-; Stalls 1/6; Children 1/-.

8 p.m.—Speed Coursing in Preston Park, under the auspices of the National Coursing Club of Victoria.

WEDNESDAY, 11th SEPTEMBER.

Anniversary Day and a Public Holiday in Preston. Grand Jubilee Gymkhana in Gower Park, Gower Street, East Preston, commencing at 11.15 a.m.

£50 in prizes, including Seven Trophies valued at £5 each, kindly donated by the following:—Cr. J. W. Adams, J.P.; Mr. H. P. Zwar, M.L.A.; Mr. W. P. Barrow; Braithwaite's Pty. Ltd.; Mr. W. B. Howe; Broadhurst Pty. Ltd.; Mr. Thos. Paterson.

Hunters' Plate (open)—The J. W. Adams Event. Exhibition of Jumping. Entry 3/-.

Hunters' Plate (Hunt Club Members)—The H. P. Zwar Event. Exhibition of Jumping.

Pony Hunters, 14.2 and under—The Isaac Barrow Event. Exhibition of Jumping. Entry 3/-.

Flag and Barrel Race—The Colonel Braithwaite Event. Entry 3/-.

Bending Race—The Captain J. P. Howe Event. Entry 3/-.

Billycan Race—The Thomas Broadhurst Event. Entry 3/-.

Melon Race—The William Paterson Event. Entry 3/-.

Six Exhibition Trots by Selected Trotters.

Saddle Pony, 13.0 and under. First, £1; second 10/- Entry 1/6.

Saddle Pony, 13.0 to 14.2. First £1, second 10/-. Entry 1/6.

Open Hack. First £2, second £1. Entry 2/6.

A Spectacular Open Hunt over a three miles course adjacent to Gower Park, by the Findon Harriers' Hunt Club.

Exhibition of Horsemanship and Musical Chairs.

Musical Selections by Preston Municipal Band.

Luncheon on the Ground. Entries close Monday, 9th September.

Admission to Ground 1/-. Parking space available 1/-.

8 p.m.—Spectacular Display in Preston Park by the Preston Troop Boy Scouts.

8.30 p.m.—Grand Military Ball, City Hall. Tickets, 10/6 double.

THURSDAY, 12th SEPTEMBER.

2 p.m.—Grand Matinee Concert in City Hall by Scholars of the State Schools. Adults 1/-, Children 6d.

8 p.m.—Carnival Night in Preston Park for Boy Cyclists. Half-mile Novice Handicap for boys under 13 years of age. One mile Novice Handicap for boys under 16 years of age. Entry fee 6d. A handsome trophy for each event.

Children's Day.

FRIDAY, 13th SEPTEMBER.

Morning—Celebrations in all Schools and Distribution of Souvenirs to Commemorate the Jubilee.

Afternoon—Half Holiday granted by the Education Department.

2 p.m. in the Park—Jubilee State Schools' Championships will be competed for. Ten Silver Cups as Trophies, kindly donated by Preston Motors Pty. Ltd.

Free Rides for the children on Merry-go-round, Flying Chairs, Ocean Wave, etc.

8.30 p.m. in City Hall—**GRAND JUBILEE BALL UNDER THE PATRONAGE AND IN THE PRESENCE OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR AND LADY HUNTINGFIELD.**

During the evening a Gold Mayoral Chain donated by former Mayors of the City or representatives of their families will be presented to the Council by His Excellency the Governor, The Right Hon. Lord Huntingfield, K.C.M.G.

SATURDAY, 14th SEPTEMBER.

2.30 p.m.—Sports Programme in Park. Ladies' Cycling Races, Cycle Races, One Mile Running Championship (Amateur) (Trophy donated by Preston Lacrosse Club), Invitation High Jump, Bowling at the Wicket, Goalkicking Competition, Throwing Lacrosse Ball, Exhibition Game of Lacrosse, Scottish Dancing (Prizes donated by Cr. J. S. Grey, Cr. A. G. Davis, Mr. Julius Mayer). Tug of War Championship of Preston (Preston Industries).

Cash Prizes and Trophy kindly donated by the Preston Rowing Club. Finish of Barnet Glass 150-Miles Road Championship. Winner decorated by His Worship the Mayor. Placed and fastest time riders will circle arena. Admission to Park 6d. Grandstand 6d. extra.

8 p.m., City Hall—Grand Coronation Ceremony. The "Jubilee Queen of Preston" will be crowned by His Worship the Mayor. Good supporting programme arranged by Miss Shirley Grey, A.L.C.M. Admission—Balcony and Front Stalls 2/-; Back Stalls 1/-.

SUNDAY, 15th SEPTEMBER.

Special Thanksgiving Services in all Churches morning and evening.

11 a.m.—Civic Service in Methodist Church (High and Tyler Streets), in honor of the 83rd Anniversary of the Church.

3 p.m., City Hall—General Thanksgiving Service. Address by Rev. Penry Evans, of Collins Street. Special Music by Combined Choir under the conductorship of Mr. H. Crawford Condie.

MONDAY, 16th SEPTEMBER.

Re-union Meeting Preston Branch No. 51 Australian Natives' Association, old Town Hall.

TUESDAY, 17th SEPTEMBER.

Repeat Performance, City Hall, State Schools' Concert. Adults: Balcony 2/-; Stalls 1/6; Children 1/-.

WEDNESDAY, 18th SEPTEMBER.

Preston Park—Grand Naval, Military and Air Force Tattoo, arranged and controlled by the Commanding Officer and Officers of the 57th-60th Battalion. 8 p.m. Admission to Ground 1/-; Grandstand 1/- extra.

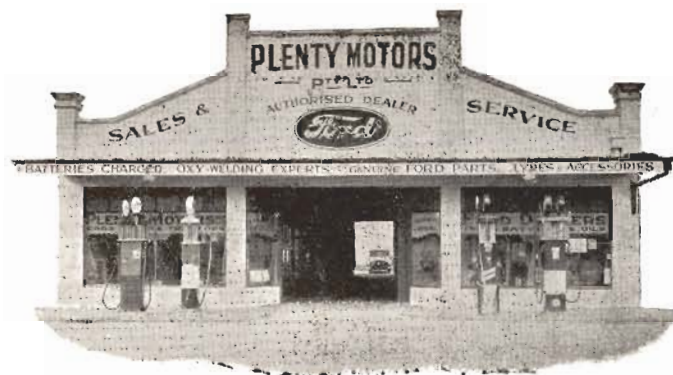
High Carnival in Preston Park each evening, from 7th to 14th September inclusive. Park Brilliantly Illuminated. Sweet Stalls. Merry-go-round. Ocean Wave. Flying Chairs. Camel and Donkey Rides. Side Shows of every description. Enjoyment for everybody, from the youngest to the oldest.

Window Dressing Competition. Open to all Shops in Preston. Certificates and Jubilee Cup, kindly donated by the Made in Australia Council.

Free Picture Show for Children—Star Theatre, Thursday Afternoon, 12th September.

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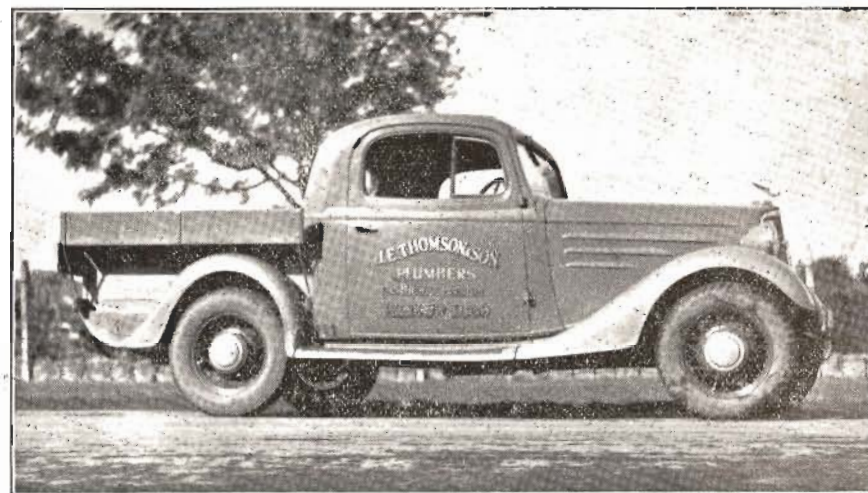
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SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL HALL AND ARCHWAY

MEMORIAL HALL AND ARCHWAY.

Early in 1919, a few members of the Northcote branch of the Returned Sailors' and Soldiers' Imperial League, resident in Preston, met at the Preston Shire Hall and decided to form a Preston Branch R.S.S.I.L.A. The Preston Council placed a committee room at the disposal of the branch for meetings, etc., and on May 27, 1919, the official opening of the Preston branch was performed by Mr. Robt. Palmer, President for Victoria. One of the first funds established was the Distressed Diggers' Fund, and in 1921 this fund was placed under the control of trustees representing the Fathers' Association, Mothers, Wives and Sisters' League, and the R.S.S.I.L.A. This fund is still in existence, and during its existence much excellent work has been done amongst the needy, the relief granted being considerable. As all the work carried out is treated confidentially, the activity is little heard of, but its assistance has been much appreciated.

The Memorial Hall was erected in 1921, the first meeting being held in September of that year. The Preston Council lent generous assistance by the imposition of a special rate of 3d. in the pound on all property in the municipality, and the amount necessary, £3000, was speedily raised.

The number of members at the formation of the branch in 1919 was 37, and at the present date this total has grown to 305 financial members. The activities of the branch include a cricket club, which engages in matches in the R.S.S.I.L.A. competition, also billiard and snooker teams. This year the billiard team won an inter-branch competition against 18 other teams, holding the massive silver cup for twelve months. The team has also been presented with a cup valued at £5/5/-. A medical club conducted by the branch cares for the physical ailments of the members. This is the only club of its nature in the metropolitan area, and entitles members and their families to medical attention by four local ex-A.I.F. doctors, also dispensary benefits.

During the present year a club for sons of soldiers has been formed, with over 100 members, whose ages range from 12 to 24 years.

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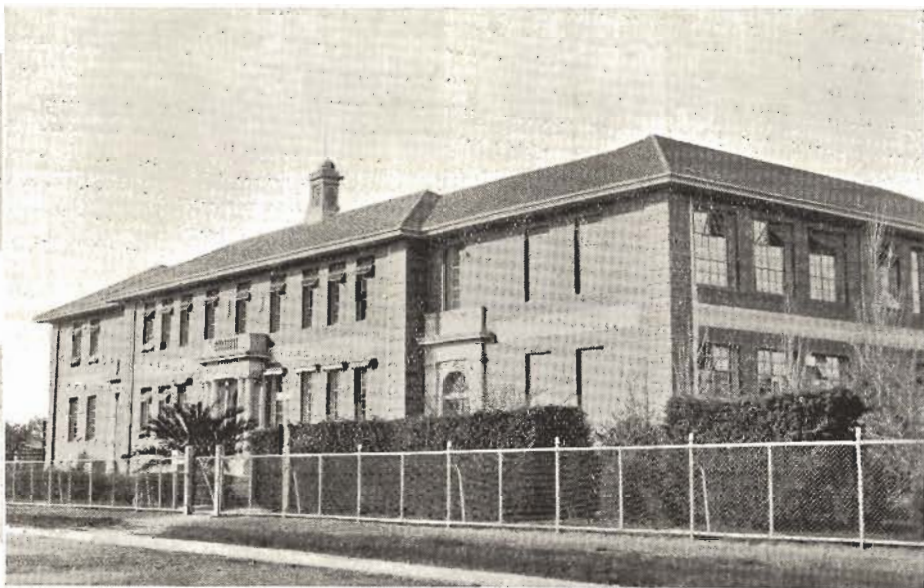
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PRESTON GIRLS' SCHOOL.

To take care of the education of schoolgirls after reaching the sixth grade of the State Schools, the Preston Girls' School was erected in Cooma Street in 1928. In addition to the literary subjects of the High School course, instruction is given in laundry work, housewifery, cooking and domestic science. It is intended to commence commercial classes in the near future. The principal, Miss F. I. Hughes, has a staff of 20 teachers to assist her, and the total of 430 pupils is housed in 15 classrooms.



MR. AND MRS. TIMOTHY SHEPHERD

Mr. and Mrs. Shepherd were the original holders of Shepherd's Run, and amongst the earliest settlers. A number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren of the pioneers are still living in the district.

PIKE'S PAINT AND HARDWARE STORE.

Having been carried on by father and son in succession, the paint and hardware store conducted by Cr. Fred G. Pike at the corner of Plenty Road and Yann Street had its origin in a small wooden shop at the corner of High and Tyler Streets. Shortly after his arrival in Australia the late Mr. Frederick Pike opened a store in 1890, shifting to the Plenty Road address some 37 years ago. The figure of a Scotchman above the verandah of the shop has been a familiar landmark of the district, the late Mr. Pike securing it from a garden in High Street many years ago. Prior to that the figure, which is carved in wood throughout, stood in the doorway of a snuff merchant's establishment in Bourke Street, Melbourne, its use in that position being traceable for some 40 years. Although now time has shrunk and warped the wood used in the figure, it still stands as a monument to the skill and craftsmanship of the workmen of the past.

PRESTON LACROSSE CLUB.

It is rather fitting that the latest sports club in the district, the Preston Lacrosse Club, should be founded and commence activities in the jubilee year of Preston City. This is the first occasion that a team representing Preston Northern District has been affiliated with the Victorian Lacrosse Association. A public meeting was held in Preston Public Library on August 26th, 1934, when the chairman outlined three reasons for forming the club, viz.: (1) The encouragement of lacrosse in the district; (2) To give healthy recreation and amusement to young men during the winter months; (3) To promote and maintain a high moral and social standard. The following officers were elected:—President, H. P. Zwar, Esq., M.L.A.; Vice-presidents, Messrs. D. Robs, K. Marshall, F. Turner, C. Willis and Rev. T. A. Wilkinson; secretary and treasurer, A. Payne.

The season commenced on May 4th, and up to the present the team is holding its own against seasoned teams of many years standing, and hopes within a space of a few years to bring a premiership cup to the district.

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A full staff of "A" Grade Mechanics is in attendance to look after your needs. All makes of Cars and Trucks Repaired and the Repairs are Guaranteed to be done conscientiously.

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PRESTON PROPERTY EXCHANGE

This well-known estate agency was opened by Mr. A. F. Deacon in 1914, when the real estate market was at a very low ebb. Property was quite unsaleable and main road frontages were offering at £2/10/- opposite the Town Hall and Post Office, and also near Bruce Street at 30/- per foot. By close attention to his clients' affairs and by straightforward and honest dealing, Mr. Deacon maintained this business through these troublesome times and, during the revival of Preston in 1921, secured a splendid site on the corner of High and Preston Streets and built an up-to-date agency.

With the expansion of the northern part of Preston, Mr. Deacon extended his business and in 1927 built a fine office and residence at the corner of Tyler Street and Plenty Road, where an active branch of the business is carried on.

With his local knowledge extending over a period of 27 years, Mr. Deacon is looked upon as one of the most reliable authorities on local real estate. This business is now one of the most flourishing in this City and contains the largest rent roll and property register in the Northern Suburbs.

Mr. Deacon, who is a sworn valuator, has had the distinction of being appointed a J.P.



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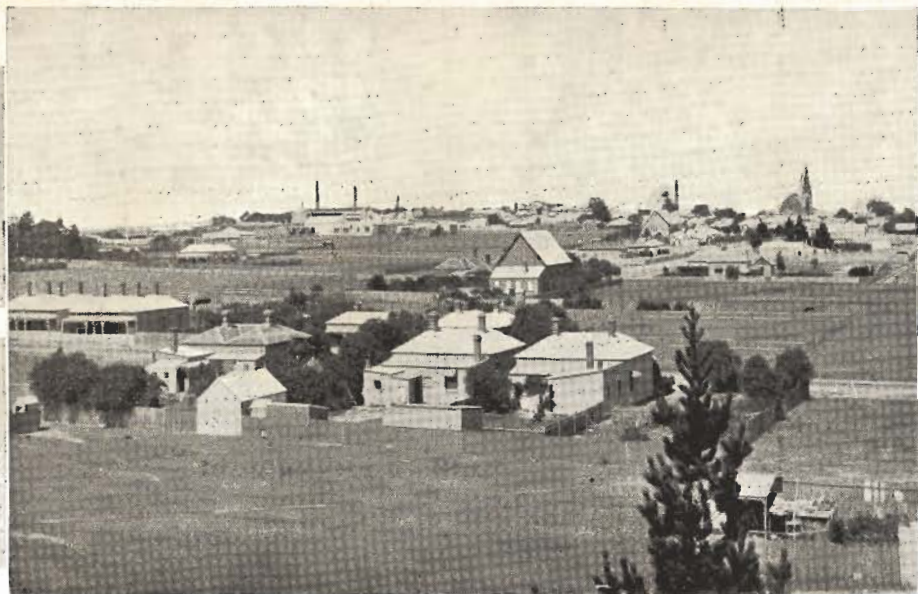
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188 PLENTY ROAD, PRESTON
TIMBER—HARDWARE—JOINERY



SOUTH PRESTON IN 1907.

Another view taken from the roof of the Town Hall is here shown. The Street in the foreground is Preston Street, with the Presbyterian Church in the centre of the picture, which embraces the whole of the Bell Street Hill and portion of Plenty Road. The Presbyterian Church has since been removed to Cramer Street, Preston.



VIEW OF HIGH STREET IN 1907.

The photograph shown was taken from the Town Hall in 1907. As can be seen, the only shops then in existence were a couple of small wooden structures just north of the present site of Mr. A. B. Harding's printer's shop. The two cottages in the foreground on the eastern side of the street are at present serving as residences at the rear of shops.

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* * *

Established in Preston in 1923, Pitt, Waddell Pty. Ltd. are the pioneers of the manufacture of welded chains by modern methods in Australia. Steady growth from a modest beginning in a blacksmith's shop in High Street has been maintained through the intervening period at the premises in Blanche Street, Bell, where they now have a plant capable of supplying the requirements of Australia in these particular articles.

Australian raw material is exclusively used; by test and proof this is equal to the world's best.

The plant is 90 per cent. Australian design and manufacture. Fully posted with overseas developments in methods, it is felt that any additions to the plant can be supplied in Australia.

The products, bearing the initials of the principals, "P. & W.," as a brand are now known throughout the Commonwealth as of the highest quality, and carry also the mark, "100% Australian."

An important feature of the business is a steadily growing export trade with New Zealand and the Islands.

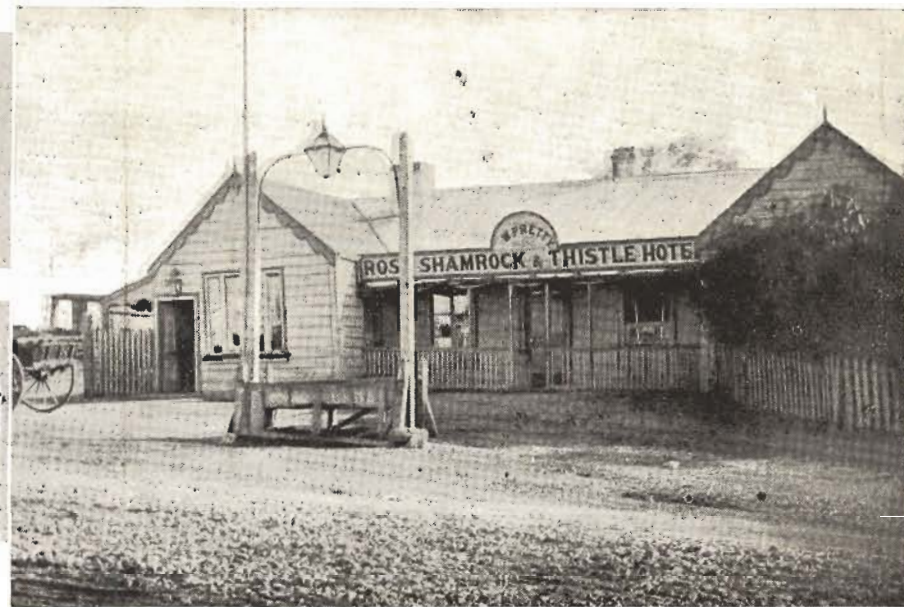
The marketing is through wholesalers. Raw chain in bulk goes to hardware houses; serviceable articles for all agricultural and general purposes, through merchants; motor chains to accessory firms; chains for looms, the mines, implements and special designs are a part of the output, and are regularly used by all Government Departments.

The high quality Australian steel, accurately drawn and finished; electric power so readily accessible; Melbourne engineering facilities; an efficient and loyal staff; excellent inter-state representation; and the thorough knowledge of the essential practical side of the industry possessed by the principals are features marking the development of this organisation.



DOOLAN'S BLACKSMITH'S SHOP.

One of the best known landmarks in the metropolis for many years was the Blacksmith's Shop, shown above, which stood from 1848 to 1918 on the western side of Plenty Road, just north of the Rose, Shamrock and Thistle Hotel. The Doolan family, who owned the Forge, and who lived on the opposite side of the road, were amongst the earliest families to come to Preston, and one of the most familiar sights on the Whittlesea to Melbourne coach run was the Forge run by the brothers. Mr. Baldwin Doolan, who is shown in the photograph, is still alive, but both the forge and the homestead have been removed, the land subdivided, and a portion of it built on.



ROSE, SHAMROCK, AND THISTLE HOTEL.

Situated on the western side of Plenty Road half way down the hill north of Tyler Street, the old Hotel was a rival of Doolan's Forge as a landmark on the Whittlesea coach run to Melbourne. For many years an old stage coach stood in the yard of the Hotel, an interesting link with the past. The Hotel has been modernised, the present structure giving no hint of its early history.

PROGRESS ASSOCIATIONS.

Progress Associations have played a prominent part in the advancement of Preston over an extended period, and at the present time there are two such associations, one in the Central and the other in the West Ward. Both of these associations have a large membership, and cater for the social needs of the district, in addition to keeping an eye on the Council's activities and bringing under notice various requests of the residents.

REGENT CENTRAL PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

The Regent Central Progress Association was formed in October, 1927, when the residents in the Oakhill area held an indignation meeting regarding the poor water pressure available, which at times was insufficient for sanitary and domestic requirements.

At this meeting, which was convened by Messrs. A. Painter and P. Watts, and attended by nearly 100 residents, it was unanimously agreed to form a Progress Association, and the following gentlemen were elected to the Executive—President, Mr. A. E. Painter; vice-presidents, Messrs. C. T. Barling, F. Telfer, H. York; committee, Messrs. T. Sands, G. Moylan, L. Painter, C. Green and P. Watts; secretary, E. E. Fitzgerald; treasurer, H. De Laine.

Action taken by the newly formed Association soon remedied the shortage of water, and in the intervening years much good work has been accomplished for the benefit of the residents and the district generally. Some little time ago the Association acquired a fine block of land in Plenty Road, near the Tram Terminus, where it is hoped to erect a Progress Hall. Prominent in the work of the Association were the successive list of Presidents and Secretaries, viz., Messrs. C. T. Barling, A. F. Deacon, S. Gray, H. Perkins and J. Smyth as Presidents, and Messrs K. Thompson, A. J. Junor, C. T. Barling and H. Foster as Secretaries. The Ladies' Committee have been a power of strength in the Association, particularly in the social and benevolent work, prominent in these departments have been the following chairwomen and secretaries, viz., Mesdames A. E. Painter, C. T. Barling, A. Perkins, L. Painter, A. Black, S. Gray, K. Thompson and G. Evans.

Two members of the Association have been elected to the Preston Council in the persons of Mr. Geo. Mott, who was the original Press correspondent of Association, and was elected three years ago to the Council as a representative of the East Ward, and Mr. C. T. Barling, who had held executive positions in the Association continuously since its inception, including President and Secretary, was successful in being elected to the Council by a very large majority at the extraordinary election in the Central Ward caused by the resignation of ex-Cr. H. P. Zwar in May of this year.

WEST PRESTON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

This Association came into being during the year 1925-26. The late Mr. Meagher and Mr. C. P. Chapman were chatting one day about the lack of facility in the West Ward as regards to the clearing of mail. They then agreed that it was time a Progress Association was formed, to go into several matters equally as important.

The first meeting was called in Mr. Meagher's home, and amongst those who attended were Messrs. Frank McDonald, W. H. Webber, E. Pass, H. MacKenzie, R. Crow, C. P. Chapman and J. Meagher. From this meeting it was decided to call a general meeting in the Methodist School Hall, in Murray Road, and it was exceptionally well attended, and the president of the first year, Mr. C. P. Chapman, was duly elected. During this year it became evident that the attendance was too large for the hall, and it was decided to purchase a block of land in Gilbert Road, where the Hall now stands. Mr. L. Jones made this available, and the money was provided through active interest within six months. Arrangements were then made for the erection of the Hall, and this was done chiefly by voluntary labour, the work of same being under the supervision of Mr. J. Christie. The Hall to-day is valued at about £1,500, and is absolutely free of debt, and this is a marvellous achievement in such a short time, and could have only been accomplished with the co-operation of the members. The following is a list of those who have guided the Association since the inception as its president:—1925-6, C. P. Chapman; 1926-7, F. MacDonald; 1927-8, A. Hagger; 1928-9, W. J. Hemburrow; 1929-30, J. W. Christie; 1930-31, W. Burland; 1931-2, C. P. Chapman; 1932-3, Geo. MacDonald; 1933-4, N. Clarke; 1934-5, A. J. Jones.

The Hall is vested in three trustees, namely, Messrs. Chapman, Hagger and Hemburrow, and the financial management is given by the Building and Finance Committee, in conjunction with the three trustees. This building was erected for the benefit of the people of West Preston, and in it many meetings for the benefit of the residents have been held. The social side is extremely well catered for, as dances are frequently held, and pictures are fully patronised every Saturday evening. The Secretary of the Association is Mr. Winter, of Collins Street, West Preston. This association has earned the approbation of the Council and councillors generally, and any suggestions or recommendations sent forward always get a fair hearing.

LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

The Preston Ladies' Benevolent Society has now been in existence some 47 years, and during that period its work has increased until this year the amount of relief granted, covering groceries, bread, meat, milk, firewood and clothing meant the raising of over £600. Apart from a Government grant of £250 the bulk of this amount is raised locally, and in addition many donations of clothing, blankets, etc., are received and allocated. Although great credit is due to the whole of the ladies connected with the society, it may be mentioned that excellent work has been done for many years by the president (Mrs. A. K. Allchin); the secretary (Miss J. S. Bean), the treasurer (Mrs. J. J. Dale), Mrs. C. Warr, Mrs. W. Zwar, the late Mrs. Howe and Mrs. F. Sheppard.

UNITED FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' DISPENSARY.

Opened about 15 years ago the Preston United Friendly Societies' Dispensary caters for over 3000 members of the various benefit societies in the city. Starting from bedrock the society now owns property to an estimated value of over £4000, including its premises at Preston and Reservoir. The present building at Preston was opened by Mr. H. P. Zwar in June, 1926.



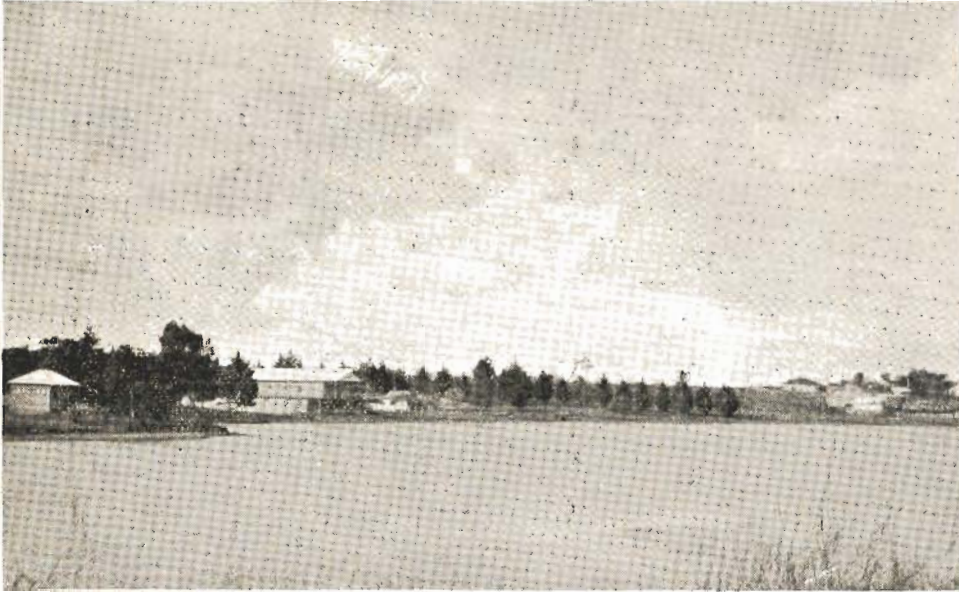
SHEPHERD'S HOUSE.

The original residence on Shepherd's Run, the area bounded by Bell Street, Murray Road, High Street and the Merri Creek. The house was situated near Bell Street, just east of Jessie Street. Shepherd's Run was subdivided and sold by auction in February, 1872.

EDWARDES LAKE AND PARK.

When subdividing his property situated at the north-western corner of the town in 1916, Mr. T. Dyer Edwardes, a resident of Leamington, England, made a gift to the citizens of Preston of 34 acres for the purpose of forming a public park. Cr. Stanlake, then Shire President, accepted this generous gift on behalf of the people at a ceremony held on August 15, 1916. Residents in the locality formed working bees, and the Council supplied the material for fencing the whole of the donated area, also an additional twelve acres acquired by the Council. A brick weir had in the early days of the town been built across Edgar Creek, at the southern end of the park, but was carried away by a heavy flood. The idea of reforming the lake was mooted, and in 1919 a concrete weir was erected across the creek just above the site of the old one. The weir was completed at a cost of £1,700, of which the Government contributed £749. The lake formed is half a mile long, and is the finest sheet of fresh water in the metropolitan area. The lake has been stocked with trout, and a fish hatchery has been erected by the Council in the grounds.

The Northern District Rowing Club was formed on 17th December, 1919, Cr. J. S. McFadzean being elected president, and Mr. E. W. Rose secretary. At the first annual meeting on 9th October, 1920, it was decided to change the name of the club to the Preston Rowing Club. At that meeting Mr. J. P. Kellam was elected president; Mr. F. Hannaford treasurer, and Mr. C. Marshall secretary. During its existence the club has shown praiseworthy activity in its efforts to improve the park, and with financial assistance from the Council a very fine boathouse and pavilion has been erected, the value of the labor and materials used being approximately £1000. It has a fleet consisting of one clinker practice eight, one clinker racing eight, two racing pairs, two racing fours, two practice fours, two practice pairs, and a sculling boat, all in first class condition.



TANNERIES AND INDUSTRIES ESTABLISHED.

A prominent municipal pioneer in the late William Paterson set the ham and bacon curing industry going in 1861, and the place is still being carried on by the firm of Watson and Paterson. Mr. Geo. Sweet also opened a bacon curing establishment at the corner of Plenty Road and Raglan Street. Hutton's factory was established in the early eighties; prior to this a farm existed at the corner.

The first tannery was established in 1866 by Mr. William Braithwaite, and was carried on after his death by his son, the late Colonel Braithwaite. Broadhurst's, Zwar's, Hardenack's and Howe's tanneries were established some years later.

Mr. Gottlieb Arndt established a hand-made brickworks on the south-eastern corner of Raglan and Hotham Streets, and later Mr. Blair established a brickworks south of the present site of Inglis Pty. Ltd., in Plenty Road. Scott's brickyard was situated at the rear of the factory of Watson and Paterson, at the corner of Plenty Road and Dundas Street. A number of brickworks were established later, but the only survivor is the Clifton brickworks.

Mr. Wood owned the Pioneer Store and Post Office in High Street. The early farriers were Mr. Green, whose forge was in High Street, near Olver Street; Mr. Wild, in High Street; the Doolan Bros., in Plenty Road; and Mr. James, in High Street, above the present Preston Arms Hotel. The chemist's shop was owned by Mr. Blackie, in High Street.

Mr. Emery conducted the business of a potter in Wood Street.

A flour mill was established by Mr. Hurlstone in Wood Street, and later was removed to Plenty Road, and for many years formed portion of McLean's store near the Junction.

The first slaughtering licence was granted to W. Tilley on 1st February, 1875, and on 18th December, 1876, the Council appointed a committee to consider the establishment of an abattoirs in the Shire.

A license for a soap and candle factory was granted to Mowling and Son in April, 1891.

PRESTON AS AN INDUSTRIAL CENTRE.

Although perhaps Preston is best known industrially on account of its tanneries, the first of which was established in 1866, and which have now grown in numbers and size so that hundreds of men are employed, there are many other industries forming the backbone of the district. Bacon factories also provide work for many residents, while fibrous plaster works, soap works, ice works, shoe factories, paint and varnish factories, chain and metal works, brick works, and similar industries all employ a number of our population. With the growth of industries, the shopping centres have increased so that it is now possible to cater for all of one's needs within the district.

VOCAL HONORS BROUGHT TO PRESTON.

A granddaughter of the late Mr. Paul Hardenack, who conducted a tannery at Plenty Road, South Preston in the early days, has brought unique musical distinction to Preston. Miss Myra Hardenack, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Hardenack, of Clifton Grove, in 1929 won 12 months' entrance exhibition to University Conservatorium; in 1930 she won the Open Ormond Exhibition for two years; in 1931 won the "Sun" Operatic Aria, and in 1932 won Melba's gold medal. Miss Hardenack has appeared with the Melbourne Philharmonic Society and the Royal Victorian Liedertafel.

STERLING SOAP.

It is now about 30 years since the late Mr. Ernest W. Mylius established the above business in Oakever Road, South Preston, the proprietor having previously had a lifetime experience in the soap-making business. His son, Mr. Stanley E. Mylius, who is still a member of the directorate, began as understudy to his father, and by the application of years of study in chemistry, much effort and experiment, were rewarded by the production of neutral curd soaps, which have for years been supplied to the principal woollen and other textile mills in this and other States. The ingredients used, with few exceptions, are Australian made.



TEMPORARY FIRE-STATION

During the time between the demolition of the old wooden fire-station on the corner of High Street and Roseberry Avenue and the erection of the present brick building, the room shown above did duty as a temporary station and was occupied by the Officer-in-charge, Mr. J. Holliday, for over twelve months.



OLD FIRE STATION.

The old fire station shown above served for many years. It was situated in High Street, on the corner of Roseberry Avenue, the site occupied by the present building. In 1887 a Volunteer Fire Brigade was formed by local residents, a subsidy of £25 per annum being received from the Council. This brigade had its headquarters in Bell Street, opposite the present Catholic Church, and its office-bearers were:—Captain, Mr. G. P. Smart; Superintendent, Mr. J. W. Story; Secretary, Mr. G. R. Story; Assistant Secretary, Mr. O. A. Walker.

The Volunteer Brigade was merged into the Fire Brigades' Board, the present site purchased, and the wooden building shown above erected. The provision of a bell caused quite a deal of worry and concern, until in February, 1889, the bell shown in the photograph was purchased from Vickers and Son, Sheffield, for the sum of £25. On landing the bell, £6/17/6



PRESENT FIRE STATION.

was paid in Customs duty, but after many months of battling a refund of this amount was made by the Department.

Having served its term of usefulness the old building was offered for sale for removal, and finally knocked down at the low figure of £5/10/-. It was shifted to Bruce Street, where it is now still giving service.

Erected on the site of the old wooden building in 1912, the present building, with its main entrance in Roseberry Avenue, is an imposing structure. Quarters are provided for the staff, and an up-to-date motor hose carriage is always in readiness.

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GRANDSTAND IN CRAMER STREET PARK.

A small wooden building, which was used as a dressing room, with a verandah on the arena side, having served as a pavilion in the Cramer Street Park for many years, a step in the right direction was taken when the Council in 1925 erected the commodious grandstand shown above. Built at a cost of £5000, the stand will seat 400 persons, and has beneath it large dressing rooms, hot and cold showers, umpires' rooms, etc. Wire netted races lead from the arena to each dressing room, and the stand is one of the modern additions of which the city has every reason to be proud. The area of the park is a little over nine acres, which was originally purchased at a price of £17 per acre, mainly through the foresight of the late ex-Cr. J. C. Clinch.



HIGH STREET NORTH.

Taken from the roof of the Town Hall in 1907, this view shows portion of Preston as it appeared before the erection of the Post Office and new Fire Station. The area bounded by Roseberry Avenue, High Street, Wood Street, and Plenty Road shows a vast difference from its present-day appearance.

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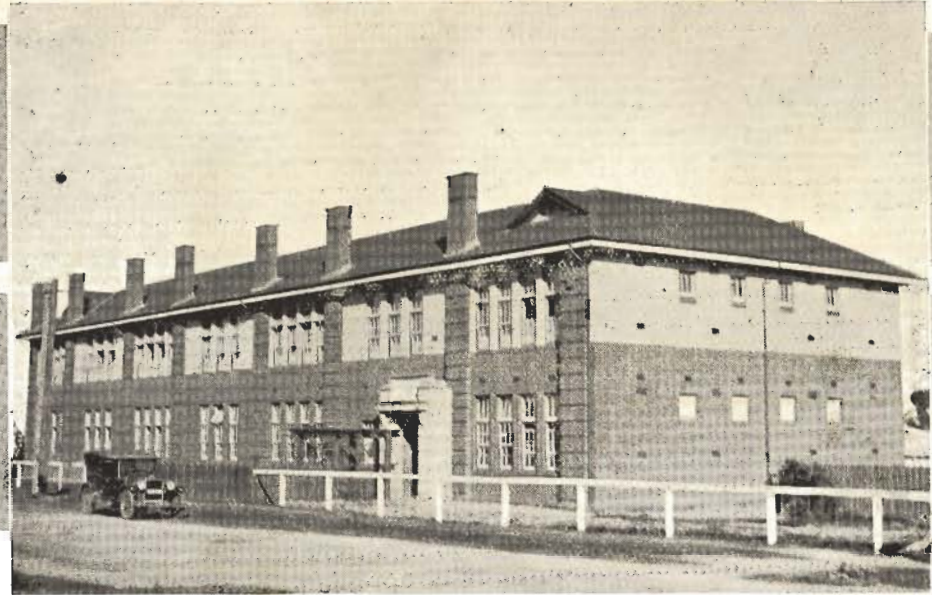


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TYLER STREET STATE SCHOOL.

One of the oldest schools in the City, Tyler Street School is now in the charge of Mr. G. H. Fryer, who is assisted by a staff of 21, with a total of 986 scholars on the roll. The school was originally erected about 1870, the first head master being Mr. Hanna. He was transferred to Footscray in 1878, a presentation being made to him on behalf of the scholars by Miss M. Noble and Mr. Walter Wood (a brother of Mr. H. L. Wood, of High Street). Later, Mr. Hanna's son, Mr. Henry C. Hanna, was given charge of the school. The building has recently been renovated throughout, the infant classrooms in particular looking attractive in pastel shades of blue and cream, with white ceilings. In addition a portion of the grounds have been regraded, making an excellent space for the children's recreation.



STATE SCHOOL BUILDINGS AT RESERVOIR.

The school was opened in March, 1924, and is situated in Barton Street. With a teaching staff of 16, the head teacher, Mr. R. A. Baker, has a total of 659 scholars under his care, the buildings now consisting of 16 classrooms.



SACRED HEART SCHOOL.

The above school, an adjunct of the Sacred Heart Church, stands in Clifton Grove at the corner of Bell Street. The building is a substantial brick one, declared open in 1914 by the late Archbishop Carr, and contains nine classrooms, in which a total of 589 scholars receive instruction.



ST. GABRIEL'S SCHOOL, RESERVOIR.

Erected during the last few years, St. Gabriel's Roman Catholic School at Reservoir stands in Spring Street, opposite the south end of the railway station. A total of 260 scholars receive tuition in six modern classrooms.



WEST PRESTON STATE SCHOOL.

Though the West Preston School was only opened in 1915, it is now one of the largest and most imposing school buildings in the district. Standing on the hill at the corner of Murray Road and Jessie Street, the school contains 22 classrooms, and has on its roll a total of 1073 scholars, who are instructed by Mr. J. Matthews, head master, and a staff of 25 teachers.



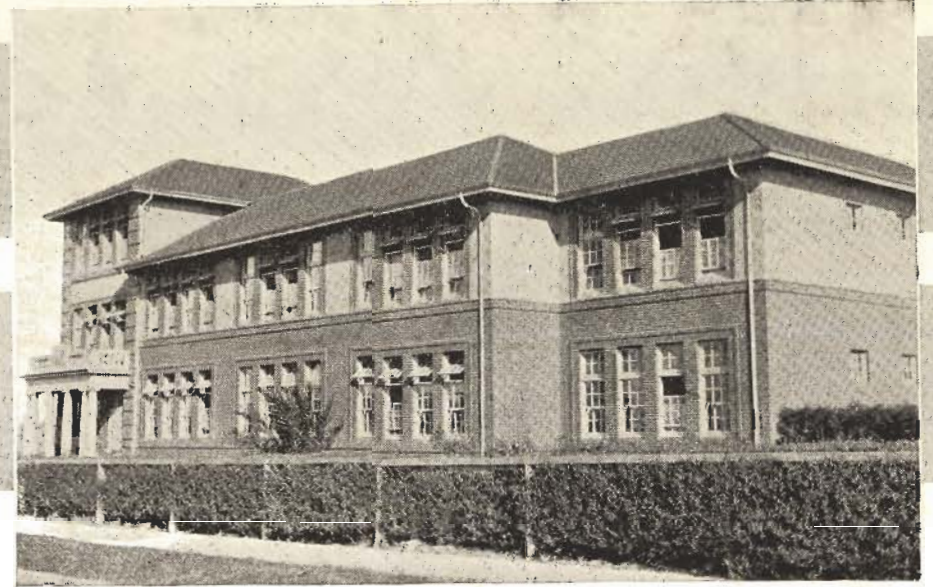
SOUTH PRESTON STATE SCHOOL.

Situated in Hotham Street, the South Preston State School was one of the early schools of the town, being erected in the 70's. Though it has not the opportunities for acquiring land as the school at West Preston, on account of the locality being an older settled one, there is still ample room for the children to indulge in games, etc. A total of 756 scholars are on the roll, and these are accommodated in 15 classrooms. The school is under the control of Mr. G. Gilbert, who has a staff of 17 teachers to assist him. The first head teacher of the school was Mr. Robertson.



EAST PRESTON STATE SCHOOL.

Erected in Sylvester Grove in 1928, the above school was opened on 28th May of that year. It has spacious grounds, with ample room to cater for a growing population. A total of 459 scholars are instructed by Mr. W. M. Abrahams, head teacher, and a staff of 14 teachers. Ten classrooms have been erected to date.



BELL STATE SCHOOL.

One of the newest schools in the district is State School No. 4309, situated in Scotia Street, at the corner of Oakover road. It was opened on August 13, 1928, with 480 pupils, and at present this number has grown to 700. In addition to 13 classrooms, it has been found necessary to use the adjacent Methodist Sunday School to house some of the scholars. Mr. R. O'Brien has been in charge of the school since its opening, and has a staff of 16 teachers to assist him. Although the whole of the grounds have had to be filled in and drainage attended to, such progress has been made that the school twice has won the prize for the best garden and grounds in the district.

