

RYDE HIGH SCHOOL



Third Annual Speech Night and Presentation of Prizes

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY HALL 8 p.m. 4th DECEMBER, 1962

Chairman: Mr. C. W. McLaren, B.A.

Programme

1. Piano Solo: "*Valse No. 14 in E minor*" (Chopin)
Christopher Souter
2. Principal's Report Mr. R. N. Crawford, B.A., Dip.Ed.,
M.A.C.E.
3. Vocal Ensemble: "*All Through the Night*" (Welsh Folk Song)
Annette Landon, Susan Bickford, Margaret Carew,
Cindy Perry, Richard Davey, Geoffrey Hughes
4. Occasional Address Dr. H. S. Wyndham, C.B.E., M.A., Dip.Ed.,
Director-General of Education
5. Piano Duet: "*Marche Militaire*" (Schubert) Elizabeth Prees
and Margaret Carew
6. Presentation of Prizes
7. Expression of Thanks Mr. R. L. Rushbrooke, B.Sc. (D.H.M.)

8. "*Melody and Movement*"

Musical Direction: Mr. M. W. Gray, B.A., L.T.C.L.,
and Mr. C. K. Baxter, D.S.C.M.

Choreography: Miss G. Johnston, Dip. Phys. Ed.

Production: Mr. E. Doyle, B.A.

Lighting: Mr. L. Bishop and Mr. W. Poole, Dip. Man. Arts.

God Save The Queen

Principal's Report

THE SCHOOL:

Ryde High School has been in existence for just over two years. As a new-type school in an old-established metropolitan area, it is endeavouring to foster both traditional and modern values. In the spirit of its motto (AD MELIORA; "Onward to Better Things"), the school seeks not only better education for its own pupils, but general betterment through idealism and service. While striving for the highest academic standards, the school is endeavouring, through a wise balance in mental, physical, aesthetic and social training, to give its pupils "Education for Life."

ACHIEVEMENTS:

Ryde High School can look back with some pride over its achievements in two short years.

The school is proud of the vigorous harmonious teacher-pupil-parent co-operation which has characterised its activities and which has resulted in the raising of over £8,000 in two years. Ryde High School has been described as "a friendly school" and the unusual name of our first magazine, "Amity," symbolises that spirit of friendly co-operation which exists between staff, pupils and parents. Recently "service efforts" raised £250 for charity. In the fortnight preceding this year's School Fete, staff-pupil activities brought in over £1,000. The P. & C. has a financial membership of 2,000 with attendances of 600 or more at general meetings. From funds raised the school has benefited with many facilities, including projectors, library and text books, study and sporting equipment, teaching aids, office supplies, telephones, an automatic duplicator, cookery school furnishings, technical and scientific equipment, mowers and tools, typewriters—and a host of other amenities as well as those mentioned in following paragraphs.

With departmental help and P. & C. expenditure of £2,000, gardens and spacious grounds have been developed, including four full-sized playing fields, turf and practice wickets for cricket, areas for ball games and physical education and site for a future gymnasium.

The Assembly Hall has been equipped with modern stage settings and lighting, public address system, quality furniture and two pianos (upright and grand).

An excellent Library has been established with departmental assistance and liberal donations from the P. & C., Ryde Rotary Club (£300), gifts from the "Self-Help Library Drive" (which brought in 6,500 books and periodicals) and donations from local businessmen and organisations.

Pictures and ornaments of lasting value have been purchased for the school to encourage pupils' appreciation of "things of beauty." Mosaic murals, created with staff-pupil co-operation, are an interesting feature of the school's artistic decorations.

In each of its two years of existence Ryde High School has won the N.S.W. Life-Saving Championship Cup with a record total of points. Recently the school received a beautiful trophy and prize awarded by the West Ryde Lions' Club for the most successful school in the area. We hope for even better records from the current course.

During the past two years pupils have presented two different Gilbert and Sullivan operas, described by experienced observers as "wonderful productions—by any standards." Excerpts from "H.M.S. Pinafore" were video-taped by a television station. Choral groups have given a number of radio recitals and other public performances.

Scholarships and bursaries have been won recently by a number of pupils, including our first eligible representative at the Summer Science School. One fifteen-year-old girl won the £25 (under 22 years) first prize in the recent Waratah Festival Art Competition. Needlework pupils won first prize in the R.A.S. competition for schools. Several have gained distinction in music. In sport this year the school won seven Zone Competitions, gained many places in representative teams and received much publicity from the successes of its pupils in the State Schoolgirls' Athletics Championships.

Last week the school received word that Keith Foulcher has been awarded one of the four coveted National Mutual Scholarships. This is a great honour as competition is unrestricted and without means test. Awards, which are made for scholarship and all-round qualities are made only after eliminations and interviews, and only four scholarships are given for the whole of the State.

To encourage capable pupils to continue senior studies, the P. & C. is sponsoring the establishment of scholarships. It is anticipated that at least three scholarships of £75 will be available next year. We hope that in this way Ryde High School can not only help its own pupils, but will give a lead to other schools, so that eventually many children will benefit.

Several staff members have attained distinctions which have brought credit to themselves, inspiration to pupils and prestige to the school: Mr. Arthur Summons was chosen as Captain of the Australian Rugby League Test Team, a position which he filled with exceptional inspiration and success. Recently he received the "Lindy Award" as one of Australia's outstanding sportsmen. Our Sportsmistress, Miss Gwen Johnston, has been appointed Organising Secretary of G.S.A.A.A. Carnivals, the highest organising position in secondary schools girls' sport. Mr. Joseph Howard has been chosen as State Organising Secretary of water-polo competitions. At least twenty staff members have recently completed studies leading to higher diplomas and degrees.

Great interest has been shown in the progress of this "new" school which is endeavouring to establish a pattern for schools of its type. We have had many interested visitors, including overseas educationists, interstate Parliamentarians and representatives of Rotary, Apex and Lions' Clubs. In second term Ryde High School was chosen as the only metropolitan school to be visited by 150 country delegates to the P. & C. Federation Conference. Last week the school was visited by the U.S.A. Consul and Director of Information Services, Mr. Milton Chase, who showed great interest in the working of this type of school.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

The school owes a deep debt of gratitude: To the P. & C. Association and the Ladies' Auxiliary, not only for their remarkable financial assistance, but also for their unwearied help in all school activities; to the "Library Ladies," who have devoted every Tuesday (and sometimes other days) to assistance with books and classification; to the Mayor, Aldermen and Officers of Ryde Municipal Council for sympathetic assistance in many matters; to the Ryde Rotary Club for its donation of £300 for our Library—and to the schools and organisations that helped this appeal; to local business people and organisations for assistance to our Library and in sponsoring pages of our magazine; to all the donors of prizes and trophies you will see presented to-night; to the West Ryde Lions' Club for the beautiful Life-Saving Trophy held by this school and for the equipment presented; to the editors and staffs of local newspapers for helpful publicity.

To all members of the Staff, including my capable Deputy, Mr. R. Rushbrooke, I must express my personal thanks and the gratitude of the school for their ability, loyalty and co-operation in the formative years of the school. They deserve your thanks as well as mine.

Finally, the school acknowledges its debt to the one and only Ernie Caletti, through whose skill and enthusiasm our grounds have been transformed in two short years into excellent gardens and playing fields.

CONCLUSION:

Ryde High School has made rapid progress in just over two years. By providing for its pupils "Education for Life," it is endeavouring to put into practice the spirit of the new secondary education. The school is now well established. I feel confident that, in the words of our motto, it will proceed

"Onward to Better Things"

Sport and Physical Education

In the metropolitan area, secondary schools (particularly boys' schools) are allocated for inter-school sport to a number of zones. In the Northern Suburbs Zone are grouped seven new co-educational high schools which, though widely scattered, have the same problems (Ryde, Marsden, Hunter's Hill, Chatswood, Mosman, Forest and North Ryde, as well as Naremburn Boys' Inter. High). All of these new schools have to work out ways of providing satisfactory sport for all types of pupils. During the past two years the Headmaster, Sportsmasters and Sportsmistress of Ryde High School have filled the executive positions on the Northern Suburbs Zone Committee.

BOYS (Sportsmasters: Mr. N. T. Byrne—till June; Messrs. W. Poole and E. Flanders): This year boys of Ryde High School won five divisions of inter-school zone sports. Many of our boys also gained selection in combined zone teams or as Combined High Schools' metropolitan representatives. With the development of our own grounds and the growth of our school to five-year status in 1963, we hope to be able to provide next year a full range of House Competitions, while participating at all levels in inter-school sport.

GIRLS (Sportsmistresses: Misses G. Johnston and M. S. Hill): The year 1962 saw the introduction of the red tunic and shorts as the girls' physical education and sports uniform, which has received favourable comment wherever our representatives have appeared. For the first time girls of the school took part in the Royal Easter Show Display. Many girls represented the school in various sports and several gained selection as zone representatives in the G.S.A.A.A. Swimming and Athletics Carnivals. During the winter months, nine teams competed regularly with other zone schools. The junior tennis team was undefeated; the sub-junior basketball team won their age division; Ryde High finished second by only three points in the aggregate score for the season. All girls have participated in two of the following sports during the year: Swimming, life-saving, softball, tennis, athletics, basketball or hockey. Many pupils have gained umpires' certificates. Next year regular house and inter-school competitions will be held.