

“BACK TO”
BILL’S GULLY and YANIPY

**SOUVENIR
BOOKLET**

CELEBRATIONS HELD
NOVEMBER 3, 1937

ONE SHILLING

JOHN COUTTS,
President.

JEAN L. VENABLES,
AVELYN COUTTS, } Joint Secs.

Back to
Bill's Gully
and
Yanipy



MR. JOHN COUTTS
President.

Celebrations
held on
Wednesday
November 3, 1937



MISS. J. L. VENABLES
MR. AVELYN COUTTS
Joint Secretaries.



The Origin of the Back to Bill's Gully Movement



Many people ask, "How did the name, "Bill's Gully," originate? Those who read this booklet will discover that this little district is rich in history—stories of romance and adventure, such as filled the lives of the sturdy pioneers.

Many others may ask, "How did the 'Back To' Movement originate?" The credit is due to two very well-known personalities.

On the 7th May, 1937, parents and friends of the scholars of the Miram South School, were invited to attend a Coronation Celebration. A particularly fine gathering was addressed by Cr. O. Webb. That day everyone caught a fleeting glimpse of their own childhood. The temptation of sitting in a school room without resorting to boyhood pranks proved too great for Mr. James Smith, and Mr. James Thacker, who proved that they were still boys at heart. It seemed a pity

that there were so few of the 'old, familiar faces' present to enjoy the memories that were revived, so, following upon a discussion of the possibility of organising a re-union on a bigger scale, Mr. John Coutts was approached, and a public meeting called.

This was a very representative and well-attended meeting and it was decided to embrace Yanipy with Bill's Gully, as, in the earlier days, the two schools were managed under the part-time system, and one re-union would have been incomplete without the other.

An energetic committee has made the celebration possible, but I feel sure that the thanks of all must go to our two friends who planted the seed that has grown to maturity.

JEAN L. VENABLES,

Joint Secretary Back-To Bill's Gully.



Natives' Hunting Ground



BY F. K. McKENZIE, NHILL.

There was a well-defined reserved area, or corridor, that existed for named game hunting, extending from beyond the 36th of parallel on the north to the South Miram Scrub, or what is now known as the Little Desert. Its eastern boundary extending to McKenzie Springs, or Bill's Gully, and the western boundary to a few miles west of the boundary line between Victoria and South Australia. In this corridor all game was "safe," including the emu and lowan. The territory east and north belonged to the local sub-chief "Bailaroooc" (Ballarook), known as "Geordi," who was murdered on Clough's Ballarook Station in 1847, by order of the Chief of the Albacutyas, and the council of sub-chiefs, for a contravention of the tribal laws. All the territory west of the Wimmera River to the eastern boundary of the Tatiara's tribal territory, was subject to the rule of the paramount chief of the Albacutyas — "Jackey-by-Jackey. "Yarraman" was the last chief of the Nhill sub-tribe and is buried at the top end of Macpherson street, Nhill. "Yearinga" a native princess of Ya-rac Ya-rac, or what is now known as Yarrowock, was killed at (or close to) the sacred corroboree ground south of Townsend street, Nhill, in 1863; also for a contravention of the native laws. Now, the native sub-chief who owned the Bill's Gully and McKenzie

Springs hunting grounds, was "Woorroral," known to the whites of Mt. Elgin, where he was born, as Dick-a-Dick—he was actually the native tracker who found the Duff children (Australian Babes in the wood) on the Spring Hill run with the late Mr. James Mc Cartney, of Nhill, and he was also one of the members of the native team of cricketers which was taken to England by the late Mr. Wills, about 1866 I think. He was last seen at Mt. Elgin races in 1884. There was another native princess "Enyeera Anjee," whose tribal territory extended all along the springs (soaks) of the Lawloit Hills, and the hills running east and west through Kinwakatka and Winiam and Yanipy. These native women were only created princess by the whites, nevertheless they were all of royal blood. Tribal boundaries on the south were the Mortats and the Binnum Binnum tribes, but the main branch of the Wimmera natives were the Albacutyas of Lake Hindmarsh. There were sacred ceremonial grounds all through the district, where the sub-tribes assembled at the full moon and performed the initiations and corroborees. The sand hills near the swamps were their ancient burial grounds. Wherever a male or female was born that locality was her or his particular home, and here she or he returned un-faillingly to die.

Bill's Gully and Vicinity



BY FRED. K. McKENZIE, NHILL.

Bill's Gully is on the south east corner of the old Bunyip run. There was once upon a time a shepherd's hut on the crest of the largest hill, generally occupied by Charlie Leverett. There was a fair amount of water in the gully, where the water was held back by a weir. Directly west, about two-and-a-half miles, the Merwyn (should certainly be Mervin) well, was situated. There are two Merwyn wells, but the new one adjoins the Western Highway. The old well was in the Mervin paddock of Bunyip. The late Mr. Tom Bruder, the first to select land (1863) west of the Wimmera River, called it Merwyn or Merrwyn, so it remains. The country in the vicinity was lightly timbered with box, bulloak, sheoak. Scrub grew on "no man's land" to the south through which passed the old station road to Moorea Katkin (Richard Brown Broughton 1850). It was held by J. B. Broughton until 1882, when the lease was cancelled.

Story of Bunyip: September 1847, taken up by Andrew McKinley; May, 1850, Matthew Hamilton Baird and Henry Hodgkinson; March, 1851, Thomas Bailee and Robert Hamilton; Nov. 1852, Thomas Waldie and John Salton; February 1853, W. J. T. Clark; December, 1853, Heape and Grice; January, 1855, Lancelot Ryan (station then at its zenith); February, 1866, Trustee and Agency

Company; January, 1874, John Brown Broughton; October, 1882, cancelled and subsequently acquired (homestead purchased property) by late Mr. Sanders.

McKenzie's Springs (Worrall): Taken up by James Little, August 1849; January, 1857, James Little junr.; November, 1857, James (Piccinny) Smith; April, 1861, Elizabeth Smith; December, 1862, J. H. Clough & Co.; August, 1864, George Houston and John Barter Bennett; April, 1865, Clough & Boag; March, 1866, L. A. & Agency; May 1867, Henry Miller; February 1878, John McKenzie; 1883, cancelled (lease) and purchased by the late Mr. Joseph McNevin, of Lawloit. I think the old homestead, or rather, the land on which it was built, is now owned by Mr. Zellner.

McKenzie Springs was the main centre of meetings for the young people of the very early days, and continued to be right down the years, until our own family (the McKenzie's) left in 1883. It was at "The Springs" as it was sometimes known, that Misses Grace and Hilda Ryan, of Bunyip Station, on their ponies "Tomboy" and "Corea," rode to meet the Smith girls of McKenzie's, Hilda von Stieglitz, of Lake Hindmarsh, and the Little girls of Mt. Elgin (Annabelle and Elizabeth Little), Marion, Mary and Dacia Smith. There was once upon a time a fine

sawn-pine board homestead at McKenzie Springs, where the dances were held and which was attended by the Meagher and Mc Nerin girls from Lawloit, and the Whites Lily and Jane) and Rosses (Ann, Beryl and Mary) from Ballarook, but Jack DeMullen, manager of Drumbanagher, before the arrival of Alan Cameron, had the house, with its gay dancing rooms, demolished, because they attracted his boys. Of course, girls were terribly scarce in those far-off days. It was to McKenzie Springs that the late Robert Hicks, and the late W. R. Buckley rode in 1881. My sister Jessie (the late Mrs. Andrew Weir) welcomed the visitors from Merino. Mr. Hicks, with long, dark grey locks around his ears, and dressed in riding mole-skins, leggins, etc., said in his rich and best North of Ireland voice, when he had gracefully removed his hat, "Good day to you, Marm! Is there 'ere a selector hereabouts named Alick McIntyre, I dunno?" My sister said there was; the travellers were hospitably entertained, and in the morning my brother Alick, who hopes to attend the celebrations, showed Hicks and Buckley the country which they ultimately pegged on Bunyip.

John Martin selected on Drumbanagher, Brady at the old well, and Hansen close by. Others who selected close to Bill's Gully were Alick McIntyre, the Moores, Creenannes, Warners, Sturgeons. They all called for their mail at Joe McGerins (he kept a store and the Lawloit Hotel); the original store and hotel was destroyed by fire in 1866. You will observe that the gold escort road which came down from Scott's woolshed in the Tatiara, passed close to the Gully. This old road of 1852 passed east through Yarrock,

Budjik and Bill's Gully, passed Lawloit on the south side, crossed the Western Highway on the crest of the big hill on the range, passed south of Mt. Elgin, through Kinimatkata, Winiam, to Firebrace's Camp on the Wimmera. The newer track swung north-east from the south into Nhill, passing half-a-mile north of the original homestead, and thence east to Lochiel, where it crossed the Wimmera River and on to Nine Creeks Bridge (Dimboola).

Daniel Morgan, the bushranger, the only one fortunately, in the West Wimmera, was born at Campbelltown, N.S.W., in 1830, and was shot at Peechelba Station on 8th April, 1865. He frequently worked on the Lockhart (Short's) Station, and as frequently stole horses from Lockhart, Tatiara, Bringalbert, and once from Bunyip and Drumbanagher. The station owners knew that Morgan camped at the Gully while escaping east, down the gold escort line, but they did not care about disturbing him, as he was well armed, as well armed went in those days, and one was likely to get shot. The Bunyip (old hands) employees knew him as "Bill the Spaniard"—they really thought he was a Spaniard, and his camp is known as Bill's Gully. I presume the contour of the eastern hills are the same, but that the bush where my brother's and sister Jessie hunted kangaroos, emus, bandycoots and paddy melons and native cats, which were then very common, has disappeared for ever. I can just remember it, that's all.

Morgan, when camped at Bill's Gully, was often visited at night by Leverett and another man named Groggell, or Grogal (Frank) but the station owners would not

go near him—"Better let sleeping dogs lie."

The first mention of Baird of Hodgkinson (Bunyip) and formerly of Lockhart, is made by Henry Wade and Edward R White, who surveyed the north and south dividing line between Victoria and South Australia, under instructions from Sir George Gepps (Governor of New-South Wales) and Mr Frederick Holt Robe, Acting-Governor of South Australia, 1847 (Wade) and 1848 (White).

These surveyors mention the timber in this region being stringey bark, grass tree (which we know as kangaroo tails), heath (corea), white gums, acacias, box, and "cyprus" the latter being the native pine tree. Lockhart is stated to be in a direct line, 123 miles 68 chains 91 links north from the sea at Encounter Bay, and the line was marked by a double row of blazed trees, similar to the gold escort track.

YANIPY SELECTORS' HALL, Opened on Christmas Day,
1883. and sold for removal in 1929.



A Few of the Early Selectors



During the month of February, 1878, the late William Moar and J. H. Waters pegged 320 acres each close to the Yanipy well; attended land board at Horsham, April 20th, 1878, at which their applications were granted. The distance travelled was 535 miles from their old home, Milang, S.A. From then on there was a continuous flow of selectors, either from South Australia or the Western District of Victoria, and by 1883

the pick of the land was all taken up. The Hicks and Buckley families selected their holdings in Lawloit, in 1879. All the early settlers had to cart their wheat to Dimboola or Custon, S.A. Here are the names of a few years' time, their families began to grow—Moore, Waters, Moar, McDonald, Webb, McKenzie, Allitt, Wallis, Bell, Vennell, Smith Coutts, Hill.

Rod coutts' great
grandfather

LATE DAVID COUTTS

Selected 320 acres of land 1881. Went in for wheat growing and raising sheep, carted wool to Dimboola for two seasons, was a foundation member of Kaniva A. & P. Society, also one of the first councillors when Shire of Lawloit was declared a Shire. His son, George, is a present-day Councillor.



LATE MR. & MRS. J. McDONALD

Selected 320 acres land 1878, went in for wheat growing. He was one of the first settlers to build a barn in which to store wheat on the farm, so he could market it when prices were suitable.

**JOHN COUTTS**

President Back To Yanipy and Bill's Gully Celebrations, November 3, 1937.

Born on a farm about 15 miles from Aberdeen, Scotland, May 8th, 1872. In 1879 his parents brought the family out to Australia, and for three years resided on a farm at Mount Gambier, S.A. His father selected

320 acres of land at Yanipy in 1881, brought the family to live there in March 1883. First only himself and four boys, later mother and sisters. Since Mr. Coutts left school 1885, his time has been continuously engaged in the carrying out of the various operations required in the conduct of a mixed farm. viz., wheat, oats and sheep, which, by reason of improvements, have changed so much during the last 54 years.

CR. OLIVER WEBB

A grandson of the late David Coutts Born in the early nineties, had all his schooling at Yanipy, took a keen interest in Merino sheep when a school boy. His father was one of the main exhibitors at the first Kaniva Shows. Mr. Webb has had great success at all leading sheep shows, either in Victoria or South Australia, and at the last Sheep-breeders' Show, held in Melbourne, 1937, he won the Grand Champion Sheep of the Show.



Education



HOW A GOOD MANY COUNTRY SCHOOLS WERE BUILT

In the Spring of 1883, a move was made to see if the district farmers were willing to erect a building for a school, and also to hold Church services. The main movers were J. H. Waters, W. Moar, F. Steer, J. McDonald, D. Coutts, M. McKenzie, Webb Brothers, Wallis Brothers, F. Saltmarsh, T St Clair. After several meetings were held at William Moar's place, it was decided to build a weatherboard building on a site on the East end of W. Moar's selection, which was the centre of most of the families—even then some families had over four miles to walk. The Government of the day would not build a school, but would supply a teacher, also school furniture, and pay a nominal rent for use of a building. The building was erected and opened with a tea meeting, and sports gathering, on Christmas Day, 1883, with a concert in the evening. It was named the Yanipy Selectors' Hall. The funds were raised by donations, tea meetings, sports, etc. The school opened with about 30 scholars and within 12 months increased to over 50. The following are some of the first scholars who attended—Waters (7), Moar (4), Coutts (6), Hill (4), Allitt (3), Gould (5), Perry (4), Smith (6), Crouch (5), and later McDonald (8), Bethune (7), Baldock (5), G. Allitt (7), Saltmarsh (3),

Campbell (4), Webb (3), Tink (3), Scroope (7), Tink (3), and a good many others.

The first school teacher was a Miss Brennan, followed by a young man named Roberts, who, during the dinner hour, taught us also how to play cricket. Next came Miss Blair, Miss Cameron, Miss Carew, Miss Money and several others. I often think what wonderful courage the lady teachers had, to come to outback country schools, three years before the railway line was opened.

EDUCATION AND GENERAL

In 1884 the coach used to go along the main road, and the Yanipy Post Office was at Mr. Rich's house, now owned by F. Saltmarsh. The coach was scheduled to travel three times a week from Dimboola to Kaniva.

When the railway was opened 1887 the mail was brought from Miram Piram and the first mail boy was James Coutts, who now resides at Lillimur; and the Yanipy Post Office in one corner of the hall, with the school teacher in charge.

Four different religious services were conducted: Methodist, Church of England, Presbyterian and Salvation Army, and the services were all well attended.

1889 is always remembered as the wettest season on record, over 31 inches of rain being recorded, which is far too wet for this district; low-lying land was flooded and rising ground got scoured out in deep gutters and in the late Spring red rust set in very badly, and some farmers had no wheat to sell, and even the ones who had wheat to sell the price was low, somewhere about 2/- per bushel, and merino fleece wool was 6d to 7d per lb.

In the early nineties a good many of the original selectors had to leave their holdings with the result the school attendance became less. When seasons got brighter and prices got better for farm produce, the ones who held on to their farms, and went in for mixed farming, wheat and sheep, came out alright.

The most forward move was made in 1898, when fallows were better worked, and wheat was sown through a drill with superphosphate, and later top-dressing grass land has improved the carrying capacity double, especially on light land.

The Yanipy Selectors' Hall was sold for removal in 1929, and now only a few trees, a broken-down fence, and a few blocks, remain to remind the old scholars of the good and lean times they went through.

Entertainments

During the winter months of 1884, the Band of Hope used to hold monthly meetings which were well attended. The Moar family used to lend their harmonium, and used to wheel it to the hall on a wheel barrow, which was a help to those who knew something about music.

About 1885 a young man named Peter Elder, who came out from Scotland, and lived with his brother at Bill's Gully, offered to teach the young people in the district how to sing correctly. Needless to say, a good many were willing to try and improve their

singing. Among the families who attended one night a week were, Smith, Moar, Waters, Coutts, Allitt, Langley, and several others, and at the end of the season they gave a concert in aid of the hall funds, and the hall was overcrowded, so the Hall Committee decided to make the hall larger and also buy a new organ to help the Church services, and any concerts that were held.

Sport

Yanipy and Bill's Gully folk have always held their own with any clean sport. There used to be a good cricket team in the eighties. Some of the early cricketers were Vennell Brothers, P. J. Smith, J. H. Waters, C. Gould, F. Steer, Cordner and Rich Brothers, and D. McInnis, who used to be called Stonewaller McInnis. Lawloit also had a good cricket team, some of the players were Creenaune and Buckley Brothers, J. Bruder, J. Meagher, J. Martin, Warner Brothers, J. Prossy and several others. The two State Schools (Yanipy and Lawloit) also had full teams, of which I was a member, and had several close matches at both centres. Some of the junior cricketers at Yanipy were Hill and Coutts Brothers, S. J. Moar, Gould boys, while Lawloit team comprised Perry and Leonard Brothers, several Mellingtons and Alf Warner. So we had a Saturday half-holiday, even in the eighties.

HACK RACES

A good many of the early settlers brought good racing hacks with them, and several good ones were bred here, and very eager to try their speed against one another. The first races used to be run on the road leading from the Yanipy well to the reserve opposite the hall. Later (1889) a race track was cleared on the reserve and a good many horses began their racing career there. The fields were good even if the stakes were small. Some of the owners and horses were Charlie Wallis' Game, Bob Langley's Lubra, J. H. Waters' Maude, W. H. Whisson's Darkie, G. Coutts' Dollar, W. Stuart's Lady Grey, Cordner Bros.' Blueskin, Ted Clarke's Lady Joslyn, A. Crouch's Commotion, Allit Bros.' Maude, Jim McCracken also had a good hurdler called Rippling Wave, but am not sure whether he raced at Yanipy. W. Vennell's True Blue. Among other riders who took part in the early races were Jack Allit, who used to ride their own mare Maude also Art. Crouch's Commotion. Ted Clark was also a good rider, but was well over the ten stone. Sid Moar used to ride for H. Whisson. Fravel Moar for G. Coutts, but if the race was ten stone up, he would ride himself, and won several races, including a welter weight at Kaniva. Charlie Wallis rode a great race on the Nhill course on his horse Game. Later Billy Carter was a great rider. He used to ride for his uncle J. Crouch, and for W. Vennell, and there were several more including a saddler named Charlie Dawson, who had a saddler's shop about where Stephen's hardware shop is in Kaniva.

During the nineties, kangaroos used to be

very plentiful in the South Scrub, and as there were no fences of any sort we used to have a large muster mounted on all classes of hacks, sometimes as many as 20, under the direction of Jim Thacker. He kept a good, well-fed hack, also several good dogs, and if we did not obey his instructions, he would give us a good roaring up, which was always taken in good part. The method was to spread out and the two wings to always keep ahead, with the centre of the party further behind, and, after the kill, the same method would be followed, and everyone of the party had his share of the day's sport, and I may say that there is no soup made, better than that made from kangaroo tail.

Jim Thacker used to wear what was then called a claw hammer coat, which was all right to carry a nose wiper, but no good to carry your lunch, as the pocket was cross-ways at the back. Among the ones who took part were Thacker Brothers, Vennell Brothers, Moar Brothers, two Whissons, a Station Master from Kaniva named George Brown, one of the bankers, also a draper named Gater, who at one hunt had a fall, and when the hunting party found him, his face was scratched with some bushes, and instead of asking him how he felt, asked him if he had broken the bottle of whisky he was carrying, at which he was so disgusted, that he went straight home. Hard hats or boxers, as they were called, were generally worn by the young men in the nineties, and a good many were lost in the scrub. Some were found, but a good many were never found. I can always look back with pleasant memories to the fact that there never was a bad accident.

Cultivation Methods

1888-1937

The usual method for growing wheat in 1883 was to plough the land either with a single or double furrow plough, and sow the seed by hand and harrow afterwards. Although some of the larger farmers had broadcasters much the same as super is spread now on grass land. The stump-jump plough did not become general till 1900, as a good many thought it was only fit for the mallee, and even then, one had to walk at the back so as to be able to work the lever to regulate the depth. About 1902 several had the lever altered to the front with a seat in the middle which was a big improvement from having to walk over 16 miles a day, following the plough. When drills came in first in 1898, one had to walk, but it was not long before a platform was fixed at the back to stand on

IMPROVEMENT IN WHEAT YIELDS

In 1907 such glowing reports had been received about a wheat called Federation, bred by Mr. Farrer, of New South Wales, and anyone who tried it was convinced that it was all that was claimed for it. A short-strawed, mid-season wheat. Previous to Federation it took a good crop to yield 24 bushels, but with Federation wheat, 30 bushels was quite common. Next came Free Galipoli, bred at the Werribee Research Farm, which increased our yields further. However, the millers raised such a complaint about its poor milling and baking qualities, and threatened to impose a dockage, that it was

fortunate another wheat, named Ghurka, was bred, and gave good yields. But with better prices now ruling, the noise the millers were making has died down.

HARVESTING METHODS 1883-1937

The usual method of harvesting wheat in 1883 was with a stripper, pulled by four horses, and a driver, who rode one of the back horses. It was cleaned with a hand-winnower, which, to turn in the hot sun, was warm work. Next came the power winnower worked by a horse on a tread mill. About the same time (1903) the harvester came into general use, followed by the header, now with a power-driven header and a 12-foot swathe two men can handle 300 bags per day quite easily, while 54 years ago, a good day's work one man and a boy on a stripper and two men with a hand-winnower would be about 30 bags per day.

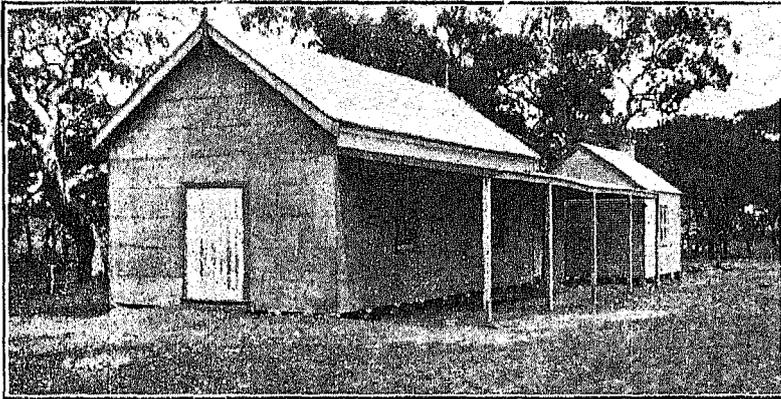
Bill's Gully Hall

In the year 1912, a public meeting was called and held in the old school, Lawloit West, to discuss whether a public hall could be built, to meet local requirements. The meeting was well attended by local residents who decided to go right ahead and call tenders. One was accepted. The hall was built, and opened during the month of May, 1918, with John Coutts, President, and Arthur Whisson Secretary, which position he held till he left the district to go to Western Australia. Mr. S. Vennell is the present Secretary. Before the hall was built, Church

were held in the school, also Sun-
ol, but the annual anniversary used
d in a straw shed in Mr. W. Smith's
When the hall was built, skating
popular, and the hall used to be

crowded with young folk sometimes twice a
week. Later a piano was purchased, also a
kitchen built for comfort, for the women folk
when any social is held.

W.C. 21
BILL'S GULLY HALL, Opened in May, 1913.

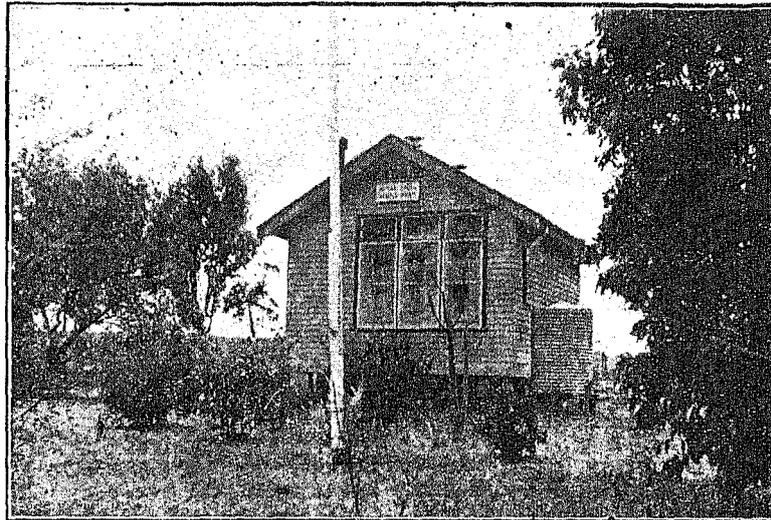


School

When the early settlers, or pioneers, had cleared some of the land of the timber, and were able to grow crops, and in other ways make a living, they married wives, and in a

trict Inspector, Mr. Cavanagh, at the home of Mr. W. Smith. Mr. Cavanagh assured them that if they were prepared to remove portion of the dwelling house from the Law-loit School, and erect it on the land, where the present Miram South School stands, the department would supply a teacher. This was

MIRAM SOUTH SCHOOL



few years' time, their families began to grow up. The next problem was education. This became a matter that concerned the parents. In the year 1900, the parents met the Dis-

not an opportunity to be lost, so the work was carried out by Messrs J. Vennell, W. Smith, Jas. Smith, W. Thacker, and W. Perry. The school was opened in the Spring of 1900 as

the Lawloit West State School, 3367, with Mr. Sweet as teacher, and half-time with Lawloit. Afterwards it became full time.

During the first two or three years, there were quite a number of teachers in charge, but later they were allowed (or chose) to stay for longer periods, the longest term being 10 years, by Miss. Leith. This teacher was a tree and garden enthusiast, and the beauty of the ground with its forest of trees and shrubs, is mainly due to her efforts.

During this period the building became inadequate to house the scholars attending and so, in 1914, a modern school building was erected by the Department, this building being officially opened by the late Mr. Arthur Kelly. Miss Leith was responsible, with the help of others in the raising of a large amount of money for patriotic purposes during the Great War. The name of the school has been changed to Miram South so as to facilitate the delivery of mail.

Church and Bible School

Soon after the arrival of the school building, Church services were commenced by the Church of England (and also Bible School) by Mr. Snell, with the help of others. In later years the school became a Union Sunday School and the Church of Christ held services. The names of those who have acted as Superintendents are Mr. J. F. Ward, Mrs.

A. E. Sanders, Mrs. W. Smith, Mr. A. Whisson, Mrs. A. G. Bell, Mr. I. Smith, Mr G. Lee, and Mr D. Coutts. The school has not been carried on continuously, there being two periods when no school was held. The anniversary services, and also the picnics, were something that was always looked forward to, and enjoyed by both young and old. The gatherings were large and were held in Mr. W. Smith's woolshed, prior to the erection of the hall.

Sheep Dip Company

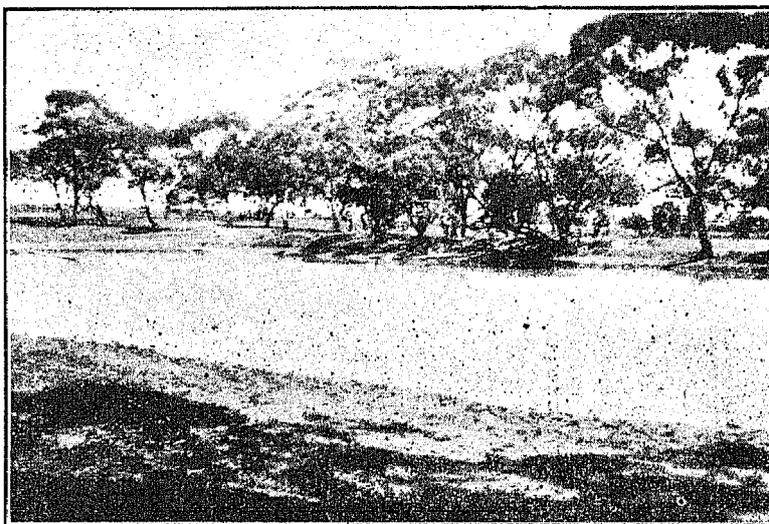
The Bill's Gully Sheep Dip Company is one of the Co-operative Companies that has been a success. It has been a success in two ways—financially, as there is a substantial credit balance on hand at present; and secondly it has been a big factor in keeping in check the parasites of sheep. When the dip was built in 1904, sheep dipping was not compulsory, as it now is. The graziers thought that by dipping their sheep they could improve their flocks and also the wool. Mr. E. Laxton was the man who made the move in arousing the interest of the graziers in this matter and it proved to be a wise move on his part. He was the first secretary with Mr. Saltmarsh as chairman. The dip has operated every year with one exception, that being in 1914 owing to shortage of water. The number of sheep passing through in one season ranges from 16,000 to 40,000.

Tennis Club

The Bill's Gully Tennis Club began in 1906 with the energetic school teacher, Mr. L. M. John, as organiser. A meeting was called of those interested in the formation of a cricket or tennis club, and tennis won the day. The first courts were made on the North East corner of the reserve, North of the school. These courts had no back stops, so players had plenty of exercise chasing the balls. Next season courts were made on the property of

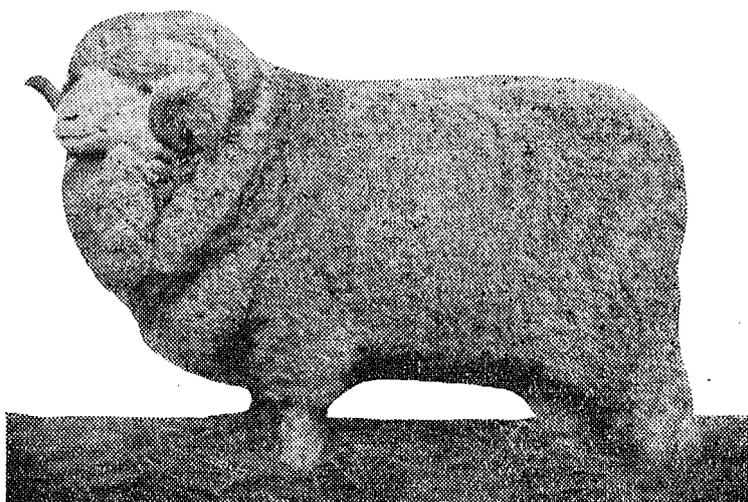
Mr. W. Smith, and the club was successfully carried on until 1915, when it was disbanded owing to the war. It was revived again in 1920 and has continued on till the present time. The club has been very successful in past years in winning the Lawloit Tennis Association Premiership in the years 1925 A grade, 1926, A and B grades, 1928 A grade, 1929 A grade. The club was weakened considerably by the removal of several families from the district, nevertheless there has been many enjoyable times spent on the Gully courts.

BILL'S GULLY DAM.



GROUP OF PAST AND PRESENT DISTRICT RESIDENTS
Photographed at the Back To Kaniva, 1933.





MEDIUM WOOL RAM, Champion and Grand Champion at the Australian Sheepbreeders' Show, 1937. Bred and owned by Oliver Webb, of "Fairview" Estate, Kaniva.

Mr. J. L. Webb came with his parents, also one brother and one sister, from Langhorn's Creek, S.A., in 1878, and all selected land at Yanipy. These selections, with others, are still held by them or their descendants. Mr. Webb was always keenly interested in Merino sheep, and exhibited sheep at the Kaniva show practically every year since its inception, 54 years ago. In 1893 the well-known stud was founded with ewes and rams from the Hynam, S.A., stud, and were worked on

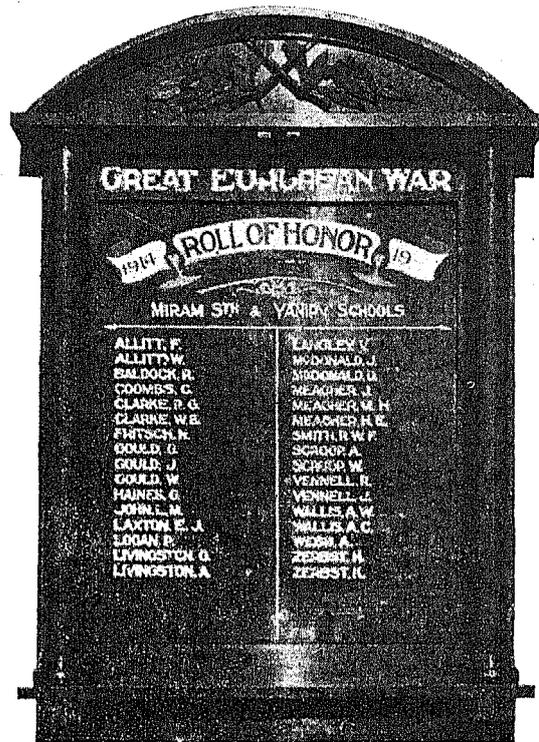
these lines until 1902, when sires were purchased from Jas. Gibson, Bellvue, Tasmania. These sheep were heavy cutters, but were rather small, wrinkly and their constitutions were not the best, and the next blood introduced was from the Lillymur stud in 1912, and were bred on these lines until 1929, and had the desired effect of producing stock with better constitutions, large frames and plainer bodies. In 1918 the stud was taken over by the present owner, who has shown

the same keenness, and with careful selection of sires, has brought the stud up to the high standard that it enjoys today.

From 1929 sires have been purchased from the famous Merryville stud, N.S.W., and are still being used, although this year a ram was purchased from Chas. Mills, Uardry, N.S.W.,

with a view of still improving the size of the progeny without losing the characteristics that are apparent with the Fairview sheep.

The most outstanding features being sheep with big, plain bodies, and heavy necks, carrying a fleece of good staple, wonderful color and crimp, evenly and densely packed on.



ROLL OF HONOUR
 Great War 1914-18.
 Miram South & Yanipy Schools.

Original Selectors of Yanipy and Lawloit



J. Bethune
 J. Moore
 R. J. Moore
 J. R. Moore
 T. F. Moore
 R. Collins
 F. Steer
 W. A. Golding
 R. Webb
 J. J. Webb
 J. L. Webb
 E. Webb
 A. Webb
 A. McLean
 W. D. Moar
 M. A. Moar
 W. Moar
 J. McDonald
 M. A. McLean
 G. Crouch
 H. L. McLean
 R. Jones
 T. Young
 U. Golding
 A. McKenzie
 D. McKenzie
 M. McKenzie
 D. Coutts
 G. Gould
 C. Brookless
 H. A. McBain
 C. Haines
 J. Seaby
 W. Rossell
 T. Wilson

C. H. Laller
 J. Johnson
 E. Philp
 M. Coutts
 H. Gardiner
 J. H. Waters
 F. Saltmarsh
 H. A. Perry
 C. H. Sturgeon
 G. J. Rich
 W. Rich
 A. McIntyre
 J. H. Baldwin
 A. Hill
 A. G. Crouch
 T. Hewton
 M. Bateson
 A. Rich
 H. Waters
 A. M. Hill
 T. St. Clair
 W. Bateson
 C. Rideout
 E. Bateson
 W. Vennell
 G. Vennell
 J. Wyatt
 J. H. Ward
 O. Edwards
 G. W. Nuzum
 J. Allitt
 J. C. Wallis
 A. R. M. Wallis
 J. Smith
 W. Davis

John Vennell
 C. Hutchinson
 D. Campbell
 W. J. McLouley
 J. J. Meagher
 H. Baldock
 M. Bell
 G. Bell
 A. Allitt
 M. Rideout
 R. Harper
 J. Eastwell
 G. Shone
 F. D. Hansen
 A. Buckley
 R. D. Buckley
 J. Buckley
 W. Malthouse
 J. Hicks
 R. Hicks
 M. Hicks
 W. Hicks
 H. Schmidt
 C. Schmidt
 J. B. Harrison
 G. W. McCormack
 H. Doyle
 C. Jenkinson
 J. J. Mahoney
 C. Honeyman
 J. T. Martin
 C. Martin
 J. Rawlings
 W. C. Davies

B. Creenaune
 J. Warner
 H. Brady
 J. Pavey
 R. W. Rowley
 T. Kain
 J. H. Perry
 J. J. Pressey
 J. McNevin
 T. Warner
 G. Bell junr.
 T. Bruder
 A. W. McCracken
 T. McGowan
 J. McCracken
 C. Matthews
 W. Williamson
 H. W. Franks
 T. Creenaune
 F. Mellington
 F. P. Seymour
 W. Thacker
 S. Martin
 M. McIntyre
 J. Harr
 J. D. Cattermole
 J. Berry
 D. Stokes
 M. G. Holmes
 A. J. Williams