



Caledonian Road School

Perth

— A Short History

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—A SHORT HISTORY

BY

**PUPILS OF PRIMARY VII
AND MISS R. FOTHERGILL**

CALEDONIAN ROAD SCHOOL

©

1981

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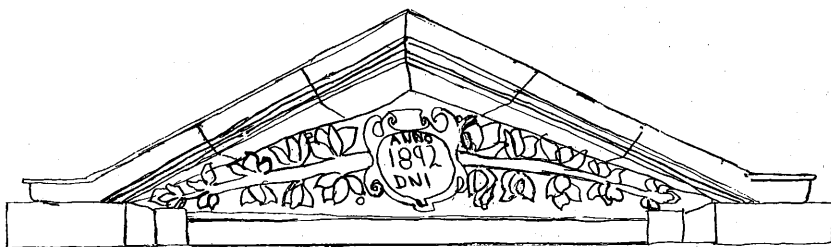
—A SHORT HISTORY

Caledonian Road School, Perth was built in 1892 to meet the educational needs of an increasing population in the city. Situated on the then western suburb of Perth and adjacent to the Railway Station and Yards the school was in an area of tenements inhabited mainly by employees of the Railway Companies. There was an Infant and Junior Department but also an Upper Department organised and staffed to provide a three-year course for older pupils. It was no coincidence that the site of the school had educational connections dating back to 1855. In that year George Munro, Esq. of Milton in the county of Ross made a deed of settlement for providing for the erection and support of a Free School in Perth. This school, known as the Seymour Munro School, was founded for the education of "children of industrious parents who from their circumstances or from the death of their parents may not be able to obtain education". The education, it was stipulated, was to be such as was given in the best parochial schools but was not to include Latin. No fees were to be taken and books were provided for the pupils. Preference was to be given firstly to orphans, secondly to fatherless children, thirdly to motherless children and lastly to children of industrious parents who were both alive, had at least three children and were of good character and sober habits with wages not exceeding 10/- a week. A suitable building was erected and trustees were appointed. These included the Lord Provost of Perth, the senior Baillie, the Dean of Guild and local dignitaries including Mr. William Smythe of Methven, Sir Patrick Murray Threipland and Mr. Archibald Turnbull of Bellwood.

The Education (Scotland) Act of 1872 brought into being the Perth School Board. The Parish and Free Church Schools were transferred to the care and authority of the School Board as were the National Schools in the city. In the Perth School Board minutes of 20th October 1889 there is the first mention of the proposed new school, that is Caledonian Road School. The Munro Melville Trust, Governors of the Seymour Munro School, were instructed to transfer the school and its pertinents to the Board within twelve months. It was resolved to erect on the site of the Seymour Munro School a New School with sufficient places to admit of the discontinuance of the North Port, King Street and Seymour Munro Schools and to leave a margin for prospective requirements to arise from increase of population.

By unanimous resolution Mr. Andrew Heiton, Architect, was asked to prepare and submit plans for such a school. He was asked to advise

the Board how best to utilise the site for the educational requirements of the district. The Board decided to acquire land adjacent to the Seymour Munro site, this land being in Mr. Heiton's estimation "quite indispensable, for the erection of a satisfactory school". Messrs. Scott and Miss Hopkirk sold their properties adjacent at the prices of £925 and £360 respectively. When the plans of the New School were laid on the table some alterations were proposed and members of the School Board were invited by Dr. Urquhart to inspect the improved system of ventilation adopted at Murray's Royal Asylum. After due consideration, however, the Board decided on a natural system of ventilation. On production of the final plans by Mr. Heiton the Board invited Mr. Lowson of Northern District and Mr. Barclay of Western District Schools to be present to give the benefit of their advice on the best arrangement of classrooms in large schools. At the beginning of 1890 estimates for the construction of Caledonian Road Public School were called for. The stones were transported to Perth by rail from Corncockle Quarry in Dumfries. Rail transport was both cheap and convenient,



Pediment of Main Door.

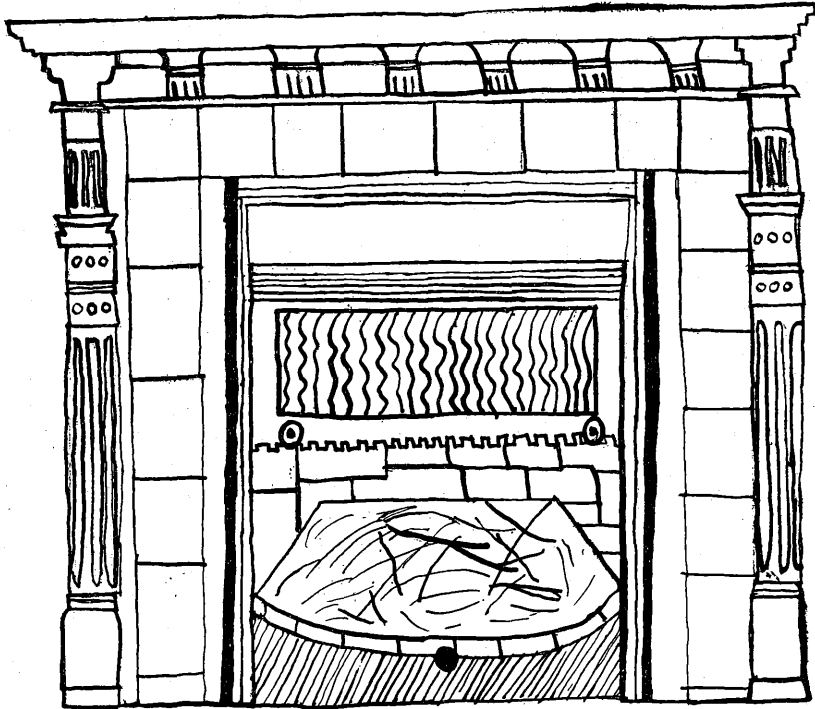
the school site being adjacent to the Railway Yards. The estimates when received were considered rather high particularly for the plaster and concrete work and Mr. Heiton with a deputation from the School Board visited Ashley Road School, a new school in Aberdeen, to ascertain in what respects the estimates for Caledonian Road School could be reduced. Mr. Heiton's building had concrete floors requiring strong iron pillars and beams. This was an attempt to fireproof the construction and had caused the high estimates, the amount of concrete being used and the high price of iron—11/- per cwt.! To reduce the cost ordinary wooden flooring with deafening was fixed upon but even so the total for estimates came to £11,588 : 6 : 6. The Deputation to Aberdeen had been impressed with the convenience of combined desks and seats for two or three scholars and two such desks were ordered to be sent to Perth for the Board's inspection. The final cost of erecting Caledonian Road School, including the cost of the site, the building, the furniture, together with the architect's commission and the legal expenses was £14,148:6:6. To offset this Mr. Heiton placed a total valuation of £1,800 on the North Port, Newrow and Watgate Schools which the School Board

received permission to sell along with the King Street School valued at £850. One difficulty in construction did arise and Mr. Heiton asked permission to carry the foundations of the walls of Caledonian Road School to an extra depth of six feet "in consequence of the peculiar character of the clay". In due course the furniture and fittings were installed, the desks being made of pitch pine by a local joiner copying those sent from Aberdeen. In June 1892 all was nearly ready and the School Board appointed Mr. David S. Lowson Headmaster at a salary of £350 per annum.

Mr. Lowson's first proposal was that the new school should be organised and staffed for a three year course. "The present work of the Sixth Standard with the first steps of Latin, French and Mathematics would fill up the first year. The second year's course would qualify for the Merit Certificate while the preparation for the Lower Grade Leaving Certificate would furnish work for a third year's course." Mr. Lowson was careful to point out that this would not be at the expense of the existing secondary schools in the town. Those desiring a classical education or to compete for the Higher Grade Leaving Certificate would naturally attend the Academy with the Bursars. This entry in the minutes of the School Board gives an interesting glimpse of the organisation of Scottish education twenty years after the Education Act of 1872. Minuted also is the appointment of the janitor for Caledonian Road School at a wage of £1 per week and two cleaners at the weekly wage of 8/-. The school was heated by coal and the janitor had the responsibility of lighting the fires in the various grates. Janitors frequently complained of damp firewood making their tasks more difficult. The School Board put out to tender annually the supply of coal and firewood to schools. In 1892 Thomas Muir Son and Patton, a well-known local coal merchant, offered to supply best screened Jewel House Coal at 13/9 per ton. The coal merchants were obliged to send samples of the coal to the School Board for testing its quality! "Three fireguards for grates in the Infant Rooms" were supplied in 1892. Mr. Lowson advised the School Board to rent the house nearest the school in Alexandra Street which had become vacant in order to provide accommodation for the school janitor, Mr. James Menzies, conveniently near his place of work. This was done.

It was the custom of the School Board to purchase the equipment required for Physical Drill in the schools from the Fechny School, a boys' School of Industry. The 50 hoops for Caledonian Road School were supplied at 4/6 per dozen. Also on the list were 20 pairs of dumb-bells, 2 dozen bar bells, 40 pairs of Indian Clubs and 5 dozen hoops for the Senior School and 6 dozen pairs of small ringing bells, 4 dozen pairs of small bar bells and 2 dozen small hoops for the Infant School. With such apparatus Mr. Lowson's pupils gave a successful Exhibition of Physical Drill in 1893. Property in Kinnoull Causeway was bought in 1893 to provide an Infants' Playground and that ground was used for the annexe building in 1902.

Caledonian Road School today is externally little changed from the original buildings. The fine gables and gablets which are of a Dutch style have scroll work and there are ornamental urns at the four corners of the roof. Two ornamental chimney stacks remind us of the original



Cast Iron Fireplace.

coal heating. Indeed pupils were often obliged to bring a piece of coal to school to keep the fire burning. Some of the original stone hearths are still to be seen in the school to this day and one of the original cast iron fireplaces also remains in the building. The main frontage of the school is on Caledonian Road and the entrance has fine pillars decorated with carving and P.S.B.—Perth School Board. The date of opening—1892—is on the pediment. The doors are still the original ones of Douglas pine and are extremely high. This was to keep the doors in proportion to the tall windows of the building and is a reminder that in early times the school inspectors and members of the School Board wore tall hats and required the extra height. The fine brass handle fittings are original. The interior woodwork is Russian yellow pine and door pediments at the main entrances are handsomely carved. On the

roof of Cumberland slate are two octagonal ventilator shafts of wood with roofs of copper. One ventilator is surmounted by a weather cock, the other by the double-headed eagle of Perth City Coat of Arms. Ventilation was an important part of the architect's design. In the 1890s this was felt to be a way of preventing the spread of contagious diseases which were then so rife. Rooms in the school had ceiling ventilators and large windows with top opening lights. The high ceilings secured a good circulation of fresh air. Additionally the ventilator shafts drew up air from inside the school. The dark red sandstone from Corncockle Quarry gives a warm appearance. Ashlar stone is used on the outer edges of the building and the crossings but the inner stones are rubble—undressed stone. The windows are well-designed having mullions and transoms of stone. The stonework is slightly blackened from the pollution of the steam trains at the adjacent station yards. The main lighting for the interior comes from a huge central glass lantern which is over the double stairway leading to the first floor corridors and rooms. There are cast iron columns to support the staircase, the treads of which are American oak.

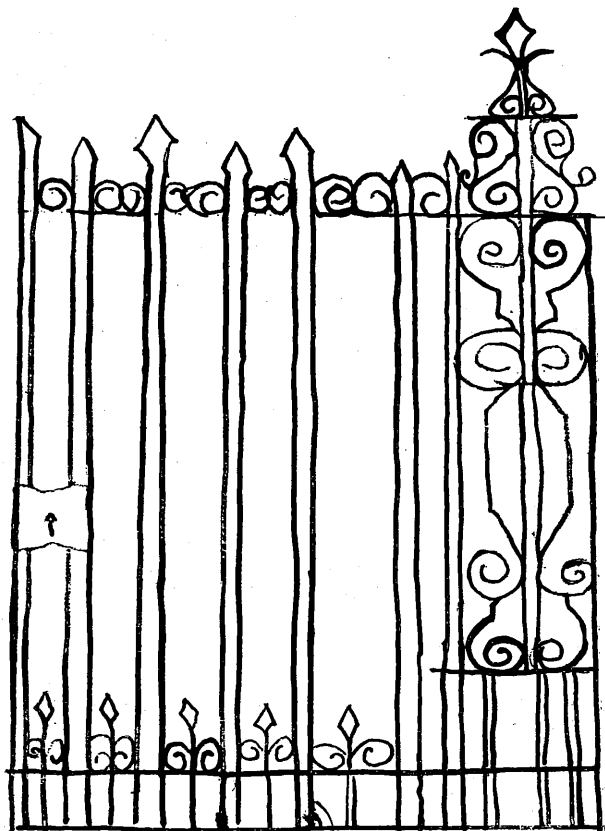
The first entry in the School Log Book is dated 9th November, 1892 when Caledonian Road Public School opened for the reception of pupils. The accommodation provided for 1,500 pupils and the initial enrolment was 800. There were three divisions in the school—an Infant and Junior Department and an Advanced Division. Mr. Henry Craik, C.B. of the Scotch Education Department officially opened the school on 22nd November, 1892. By that date the roll had increased to 1,000 and the school had well and truly taken its place in the educational history of our city of Perth. With the basic subjects there were also included Singing, Drawing and Physical Drill, for the older pupils the curriculum offered French, Latin, Mathematics, Domestic Economy and to all pupils Religious Knowledge was taught. A visiting local minister examined the pupils in Religious Knowledge and the Headmaster frequently tested the standards being maintained in other subjects. The school was not fully operational in 1892 and an entry in the Log Book for January 1893 states that the Chemical Laboratory, on the top floor of the school for safety reasons, was opened and fifteen boys had their first lesson. Some of the teething troubles of our school are evident in the Headmaster's comment in the Log Book in June 1893—"a somewhat trying year".

The School Inspectorate made regular and frequent visits to the school and their reports were carefully copied into the School Log Book. The first report describes the school as "handsome and commodious and equipped in every way". The discipline was reported to be good and the infants were "being taught according to the best modern method". Not only were the pupils under the watchful eyes of the Inspectors but members of Perth School Board on their visits entered comments in the Log Book—"work going on vigorously". Prize-givings were also attended by School Board Members. Attendances were noted

weekly by the Headmaster. Illness was prevalent in the winter months when whooping cough, measles and influenza often reached epidemic proportions and attendance percentages were very low. Even more interesting are reports of highly contagious diseases now practically unknown because of modern medical progress—scarlet fever, diphtheria, smallpox and typhoid.

In January 1896 two manual instruction classes were held on two days each week in King Street School. These were taken by the Headmaster and Mr. Jack, the joiner. The Inspectorate's Report of 1898 describes the school as the largest in the district and "in an eminently satisfactory state of efficiency". However, a Report of 1899 states that the Infant Department numbered well over the 324 for which the original accommodation was provided. This indicates something of the custom of larger families in Victorian times! In 1900 the proposed addition of shorthand and book-keeping to the curriculum of the older pupils necessitated extra classrooms. The annexe was built to comprise a woodwork shop, laundry and cookery and was formally opened in 1902. Later, in May that year the annual report of the Inspectors states that courses in Laundry, Cookery and Woodwork were conducted in premises "the finest of their kind in Scotland".

Something of local and national events is reflected in the entries from the Log Book. In December 1896 a half holiday marked the visit to Perth of Lord Wolseley who came to unveil the memorial to the 90th Perthshire Volunteers on the North Inch of Perth. Lord Wolseley became a freeman of Perth on that occasion. Jubilee Medals were presented by Lord Provost Dewar to the children in June 1897 on the occasion of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee and in June 1902 pupils received Coronation Medals to mark the crowning of King Edward VII. The Log Book entry for 10th May, 1910 records that school closed for the mid-day break at 11.30 a.m. in honour of the Proclamation of King George V. Ten days later the school closed for the day for the funeral of King Edward VII. School children in Perth were presented with King George and Queen Mary Coronation Mugs. Changes in educational pattern are also reflected in the Log Book. Visits to places of interest and instructive outings are part of the accepted modern school curriculum but such was not the case in early times. The first outing logged was in 1903 when groups of pupils went to the top of Kinnoull Hill to study the action of water on the land's surface! Other early excursions went to Craigend, Woody Island and Craigie Knowes. The early staff members of the school comprised Certificated Teachers, Ex-Pupil Teachers, Pupil Teachers and monitors. Perth School Board arranged schemes of central classes for pupil teachers usually held in Perth Academy at Rose Terrace. Pupil teachers worked the first year for the Lower Grade and the two following years for the Higher Grade Leaving Certificate. Classes were held on two evenings each week and from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Saturday mornings.



Gate and Railing Pillar.

Children, then as now, looked forward to school holidays. In the early years the break for "Christmas and New Year" lasted one week usually from the 28th or 29th December over the New Year period. Two days' holiday was given to mark the Queen's Birthday and extra half days were acquired particularly during severe winter weather as children had long distances to walk to school, no transport being provided then. The Advanced Department of the school was remodelled in 1903 to include Industrial and House Management Courses. Another innovation in 1911 was the opening of the Penny Savings Bank and the sum of £8:12:5 was collected in the school in the first five weeks. Fire extinguishing apparatus was installed and tested and in 1905 mention is made of the fire escape and shute. These fire shutes were of linen usually and tubular. They dropped perpendicularly from upper windows and escape was made by elbowing one's way down the tube. Panic by trapped victims made such shutes too hazardous and they were abandoned.

Mr. David Lowson retired in 1914 completing 22 years as Headmaster of the school. He had successfully steered the school through the opening years to a position of respect among the educational establishments of Perth. "It would be difficult to exaggerate the value of the services which Mr. Lowson has rendered to the cause of education in Perth." Such were the words of appreciation written. Mr. Hugh Leslie succeeded as Headmaster and the outbreak of the First World War made staffing in schools difficult. As the great struggle of the First World War was being waged Empire Day on 26th May, 1916, had a special significance. The pupils gathered round the Union Jack in the playground and after speeches there followed the singing of "God Save the King" and "Rule Britannia". The war was remote but evidence from the School Log Book shows that the children tried to help the war effort. In 1916 a letter was received from a soldier in France who had used the draught board made by the boys of the school and sent out for the soldiers' entertainment as they rested from the trenches. Due to the need for producing as much food as possible one dozen children were exempted from school for potato gathering in October 1916. The signing of the Armistice at the end of the War is not recorded in the Log Book as in November 1918 the school was closed for three weeks owing to an influenza epidemic. In 1919 the duties of Perth School Board were taken over by the Perthshire Education Authority. This completed an era in education although the transition had little effect on the school and its organisation. Examinations, prize-givings and visits from Inspectors went on as before with visits from Members of Perth School Management Committee. Of special note is the prize-giving of 1922 when an award was made to Jeannie Forbes for unbroken attendance for $9\frac{1}{2}$ years! In February of that year too the school had one day's holiday on the occasion of the marriage of Princess Mary, King George V's eldest child, to Lord Lascelles.

Mr. Hugh Leslie retired in June 1921 having been Headmaster for seven years and the appointment of Mr. William McGowan, who came from Pitlochry Secondary School, was made. He was a most active Headmaster, frequently taking the various classes in school for grammar, particularly pronouns and the analysis of simple and complex sentences. In mathematics his advice was to devote more time to "arithmetical problem work". Drawing, composition and poetry were also taken by him with some of the older classes. On Armistice Day in 1921 Mr. McGowan describes the children massed on the balconies and stairs listening to the service taken by him prior to the two minutes' silence. It is evident that some members of staff had long terms of service to the school, one of the outstanding being Miss Mechie who retired in 1922 after teaching since 1893 in the school. At this period Perth School Management Committee provided mid-day meals to special applicants at 3d. per meal. In 1922 a contract was given to Perth Cooking Depot to serve soup and pudding each day to the children in the Free Church Hall between October and April. Previously a Dining Centre had been

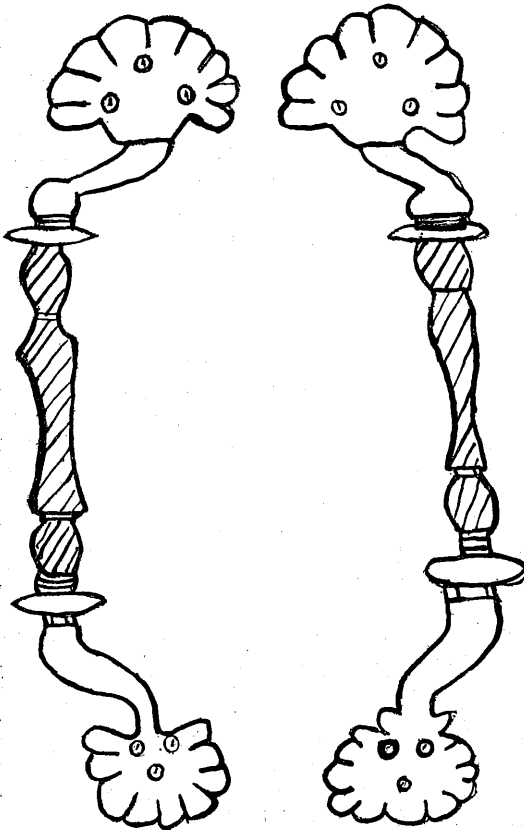
run by Perth School Management Committee. Owing to lack of accommodation at Caledonian Road School some Supplementary classes were taken in the Balhousie School, that is the Old Northern District. In 1920 the Boys' Supplementary Classes were accommodated at Balhousie School which became known as Balhousie Boys' School in 1921 while the Girls' Supplementary Classes only were accommodated in Caledonian Road School.

The royal wedding day on 26th April, 1923, when the Duke of York married Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon brought a holiday for the school children and in that year too 800 necessitous children were given entertainment by the Lord Provost of Perth to mark the marriage of the Duke of York, who later became King George VI. Local events are again mirrored in the Log Book in 1924 when a collection was taken for the restoration of St. John's Kirk of Perth. This restoration was to be part of the city's war memorial effort. On 10th September in the same year a half holiday was given in honour of the handing over of Kinnoull Hill by Lord Dewar to the City of Perth. The following month the pupils lost a well-loved and much respected friend and confidant on the death of Mr. James Menzies who had been janitor of the school since its opening in 1892. Mr. Gow succeeded as Head Janitor. When Caledonian Road School opened in 1892 it provided accommodation for evening Continuation and Advanced Classes formerly held in King Street Continuation School under the headmastership of Mr. Hugh Leslie. Commercial Classes and Advanced Classes in French, Latin and Mathematics were in the programme as were Domestic Classes including Needlework and Laundry. By 1920 reorganisation had been made and Continuation Classes in Home Sick Nursing, Care of Infants, Hygiene, Commercial Subjects, Needlework, Dressmaking, Millinery and English were held for women in Caledonian Road School, while classes for men in Building Construction and Commercial Subjects were held in Sharp's Institution. Language Classes could be taken at Perth Academy. Some adult education classes are still held in the school although the majority of further education classes are now organised at Perth Technical College.

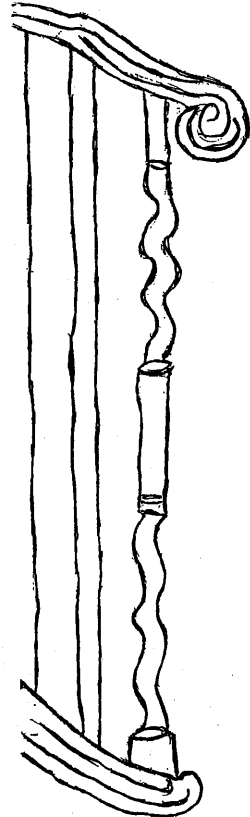
After a sudden and serious illness in June 1925 Mr. William McGowan died and his funeral in Pitlochry was attended by representatives of the school staff. Until the appointment of Mr. Peter Curle in August, Mr. William Borthwick was Acting Headmaster. Five years later Mr Borthwick became Headmaster of Balhousie Boys' School, the building now occupied by St. Ninian's Primary School. Clear rules for the presentation of the Dux Medal were set out by Mr. Curle. All pupils completing the Day School Higher Certificate Course were eligible. No pupil could win the medal twice and the award was decided on the results of the November, February and May Examinations. Visits continued by the Inspectorate and by members of the Education Committee. Worthy of note are the fairly regular visits of the Labour Exchange Committee for the benefit of school leavers. Visiting lecturers included those from

the Band of Hope Union, from the S.S.P.C.A. and from Cadbury's Ltd. Educational outings were to Perth Corporation Gas Works and to the Natural History Museum in Tay Street where Lantern Lectures were given to the children. Cine lessons began in the school in 1930 and were made a permanent part of the time table. The passing years inevitably bring changes. The forenoon interval was increased to 15 minutes in 1931 and also an afternoon interval of 5 minutes was instituted, no doubt meeting with the full approval of the scholars, who at that period numbered in the region of 900-1100 and because of its roll the school was designated a "30 teacher" school in 1932. In that year fell the Scott Centenary Celebration which was marked by special lessons and a half holiday. A milk scheme was initiated in 1935 with 649 consumers in the school and in that year also school outings went farther afield than ever before, namely to the Trossachs.

Mr. William Robb succeeded Mr. Curle as Headmaster in 1938 and the troubled months before the outbreak of World War II are not really reflected in the weekly entries of the Log Book. However, on the first of September 1939 the entry tells of a roll of 1040 in the School with a very large enrolment in the Advanced Division. On that day the school closed until further notice so that teachers might be free to make arrangements for the reception of the children to be evacuated from Glasgow. When School re-opened on 29th September the roll was 1159 the increase being mainly due to 107 pupils mostly evacuees presenting themselves for enrolment. Lack of text books was a handicap but school work continued with such new experiences as practice in putting on respirators and in air raid drill. Visits of officials were connected with A.R.P. matters and fire-watching was put into operation. By December 1939 the Log Book records the departure of Dr. Sutherland, a member of staff, to take up military duties. The examinations held in that month gave results described as "deplorably low"—the effect no doubt of broken schooling. In 1940 at potato harvest time exemptions were granted to pupils over 12 years of age as food was vital to the war effort. Collection of money and knitting of garments were part of the school's contribution to the war effort. In 1942 a special Warship Week was held when the school raised over £472 and in December of the following year the gift of 60,000 cigarettes was sent out from the school to the men of the 51st Division. For this a letter of thanks from General Montgomery was received. Indeed in the first four years of the Second World War the school raised over £1080 and sent in that time over 3000 knitted comforts to the men in the Forces. Air Raid Drills became a feature of school life and in 1940 the normal timetables were modified to allow the Secondary pupils to have a course of Wartime Cookery, one dish being scrambled eggs on toast made with powdered eggs. Concerts were given by the pupils in aid of the War Comforts Fund and the Prisoners of War Fund. Some items inevitably disappeared from the school year notably the School Sports which were not held in 1940 and at the end of the 1939-40 Session, War Savings Certificates were presented to the Dux in place of the customary dux medal.



Brass Door Handles.



Stair Railing.

In May 1945 hostilities in Europe ended and pupils had two days holiday for the V.E. Celebrations. Later the V.J. Celebrations were similarly marked. A card bearing a message from the King and a newly minted sixpence were presented to each child in 1946 as part of the Victory Celebrations. A new system of promotion of Pupils from Primary to Secondary School was introduced after the War and this affected the Secondary Department of Caledonian Road School. The raising of the school leaving age taxed the available accommodation to the limit, and at one period a Secondary class had to be taught in St. Stephen's Church Hall which then stood in Paradise Place and a Primary class went to Central District School. When Mr. Churchill received the freedom of Perth pupils lined the route as the great wartime leader passed to the City Hall. The wedding day of Princess Elizabeth, now our Queen, was marked by a school holiday and a half holiday was given in 1948 for the

Silver Wedding Celebrations of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, now the Queen Mother. In 1948 and 1949 the school had different periods of holidays, the Secondary Department having a short summer holiday followed later by a "potato" holiday, but the Primary Department having one long summer break. It was in 1948 that the Headmaster, Mr. W. Robb, retired for health reasons and Mr. J. M. Munro was appointed Acting Headmaster. From the early days of the school, church services took place to mark the end of school term. These were held in St. Andrew's Church and St. John's Kirk at times and then in December 1948 the service was held in St. Leonard's Parish Church which has remained to this day the church used by the school, the minister acting as school chaplain.

The Education Authority decided because of the ever-increasing school population to replace the Secondary Department of Caledonian Road School and Balhousie Boys' School with a new school—Perth High School—at the north end of the town. The Education Act of 1872 fixed the school leaving age at thirteen years. A later Act of 1901 raised the leaving age to fourteen years which it remained until after the Second World War when it was raised to fifteen years. This had stretched the available school accommodation beyond its limit. By 1950 the new premises were ready. The Head Janitor of Caledonian Road School, Mr. John Urquhart, was appointed to the new school and during the Easter holiday books and furniture were moved. The Secondary girls of Caledonian Road School resumed at Perth High after the break. From that year Caledonian Road School has been a Primary School only. The newly appointed Headmaster, Mr. Roderick Mackinnon, immediately formed a Parent-Teacher Association in the school whose roll was just under 600 pupils. An increase in this number to just under a thousand necessitated the dining hall being partitioned to form classrooms and school meals were served in a hall in Kinnoull Causeway. The school meal service was instituted after the Second World War and continues in the present day. Mention of diseases such as diphtheria, smallpox and typhoid disappears from the Log Book as the years pass and the last note of scarlet fever was in 1957. However, after the Second World War tuberculosis and poliomyelitis became dreaded infections and polio injections were given to school children. Yearly mass radiography was compulsory for the staff in schools to combat the spread of T.B. All children now have the benefit of regular medical and dental inspections throughout their school lives. Hearing and speech defects are also treated.

In the last three decades educational patterns have changed. Time devoted to educational excursions has increased as has the distance covered—visits being made to York, London and abroad to France and Belgium. The system of promotion of pupils to secondary education was altered in 1970 and now each primary school in the city is a feeder school to one of the four secondary establishments. In 1963 Letham Primary School opened and pupils transferred from Caledonian Road School

so decreasing the roll. Six years later Tulloch and Oakbank Schools were built to accommodate pupils in those areas. It is part of today's pattern that the smaller schools are being closed and when Craigend School closed in 1973 and Central District School in 1977 their pupils transferred to Caledonian Road School. Mr. Roderick Mackinnon, who was well known in Gaelic circles and frequently acted as Adjudicator at Provincial and National Mods, retired in 1968 to be succeeded by Mr. Matthew B. Dale who in turn was followed by Mr. Iain Mackinnon. Mr. Mackinnon was Headmaster of the school from 1971 until 1975 in which year Miss Margaret Davidson, the present Head Teacher was appointed. School sports are still enjoyed annually although they do not include a Fancy Dress Parade, Obstacle Races and Folk Song Dances, outstanding items apparently in the School Sports of 1924. Football, cricket and netball teams still compete and choirs and dancers perform at the Perthshire Musical Festival. Parents' Afternoons and Exhibitions of Work are part of school life now as then.

Education has to equip children for life and within the last century great have been the changes in living patterns. Education too has altered and yet the basic subjects remain but widened by progress and discovery and the need to adapt to a changing society.

HEAD TEACHERS

Mr. David Lowson 1892-1914.

Mr. Hugh Leslie 1914-1921.

Mr. William MacGowan 1921 died June 1925.

Mr. W. Borthwick, Second Master, acted as Head until the appointment of

Mr. P. M. Curle 1925-1938.

Mr. William Robb 1938-1948.

Mr. J. M. Munro—Acting Headmaster.

Mr. Roderick Mackinnon 1950-1968.

Mr. Matthew B. Dale 1968-1970.

Mr. Iain Mackinnon 1971-1975.

Miss Margaret Davidson—appointed 1975.

We would like to thank all the former pupils of Caledonian Road School who wrote to tell us of their schoolday memories. One gentleman recalled that when he came to school at five years of age in 1903 he immediately ran away pursued by his mother and Mr. Lowson the Headmaster. He remembered also using school slates and getting the leather tawse. Several recalled lessons in the "Attics" at the top of the of the school and school parties. Former pupils wrote of various members of staff and the subjects taught. Marching upstairs to the music

of the piano was a vivid memory as was the Exhibition of Morris and Maypole dancing. One correspondent wrote of an employee of Harding the Baker in Leonard Street arriving at the school gate with a board of hot pies for sale at sixpence each. This was much appreciated as it was during the Second World War when food was rationed. It was the custom to employ a school leaver as a helper in the Laundry and Kitchen cleaning up after classes. One lady who wrote to us had been so employed and recalled a wage of ten shillings per week in the 1930s. Our project has clearly awakened happy memories for former pupils. We also thank the Archivist of the Sandeman Library, Perth, who allowed us to read the Perth School Board Minutes.

This short account of Caledonian Road School was the result of work and research done by the pupils of Primary VII.