

# SCHOOL JUBILEE.

## ROPELEY CELEBRATIONS.

### Proceeds to Patriotic Funds.

**ROPELEY.** July 28.—Ropeley State School celebrated its golden jubilee on Saturday in ideal conditions. The original school was built on the eastern side of Deep Gully and was surrounded by thick scrub and bush tracks leading to it. Later a new school was built and the old one was used as a dwelling. A few years ago a movement was started to secure a piece of land on the western side of Deep Gully and to have the school moved thereto, with the result that to-day a new school and modern dwelling now stand in an ideal position on a perfectly flat piece of land. The hills around, where dense scrub once stood, now present a different picture. Well laid out farms and dairy herds now have taken the place of scrub, and in place of slab and shingle houses now stand modern dwellings. To bring about this change a lot of hard toil and sacrifice were necessary.

A large gathering attended the celebrations and the State School and Patriotic Committees are to be congratulated on the splendid organisation of the function. The proceeds are to be donated to the Gatton Shire Patriotic Fund, from the Ropeley branch. Visitors were present from as far distant as Murgon and Brigalow. Many old friendships were renewed. A Paddy's market was conducted by Mrs. H. Wilks and Mrs. E. Bolland. It contained everything produced on a farm. A chocolate wheel was spun by Mr. V. Wallin, assisted by Mr. Ray Holcombe, and good business was done. A soft drink stall was conducted by Misses G. Wessling, M. Hoger, E. Wessling, and Mr. L. Kleidon. A large marquee was erected on the grounds where a willing band of ladies supplied refreshments.

Master Reg. Kleidon (President of the School Calf Club), on behalf of present pupils, welcomed the pupils of 50 years ago, and past teachers who attended. He invited Mr. W. L. S. Collings, the oldest ex-teacher, to call the roll of 50 years ago.

Mr. Collings said it was a pleasing duty to mark the roll of 50 years ago, and he was pleased to be present to renew old friendships.

Twelve old scholars answered the roll-call — William Olm, William

roll-call — William Olm, William Rosenblatt, Herman Hoger, William Mischke, Hugo Kleidon, Frederick Steinhardt, Beatrice Cameron (Mrs. C. Irwin), Johanna Hoger (Mrs. Otto Schelwe), Augusta Kleidon (Mrs. G. Kleidon), Louisa Rosenblatt (Mrs. W. Weier), Hanna Abraham (Mrs. W. Dallinger), Bertha Ilka (Mrs. P. Pomeranke).

Mr. E. Bolland, present Head Teacher, gave a short review of the past 50 years and mentioned the names of past teachers. He said he could imagine the old school 50 years ago, with bush tracks leading to it, and the 32 children attending school for the first time. He could realise the difficult job the first teacher, Mr. Parkinson, had to face.

#### SCHOOL'S PROGRESS.

The school was opened as Deep Gully Provisional School on July 28, 1890, and the average attendance in the year 1890 was 19.4. The name was changed to Ropeley on January 1, 1892, and it was gazetted a State school from September 2, 1901. The enrolment in June, 1940, was 33, and the average attendance 31; 674 children had passed through the school. During Mr. James Cumming's term as teacher 101 names were on the roll for a period and on one day every pupil answered the roll call. Mr. Bolland said a new school had been erected and he felt sure that the pupils of to-day would uphold the reputation the pioneers had built up. He hoped they would all meet to celebrate the diamond jubilee.

The head teachers were: Lawrence Henry Parkinson, July 28, 1890, to August 31, 1894; Pauline Marguerite McCarthy, September 1, 1894, to December 31, 1897; Ellen Wilson, January 1, 1898, to June 30, 1898; Margaret Louise Wright, July 1, 1898, to

December 31, 1899; Lillian Buckley, January 1, 1900, to December 31, 1900; Eleanor Talbot, January 1, 1901, to August 31, 1901; James Edward Cumming, September 1, 1901, to March 31, 1905; Walter Lawrence Silver Collings, April 1, 1905, to June 30, 1911; Neville Charles Herbert, July 1, 1911, to December 31, 1912; Thomas John Laws, January 1, 1913, to December 31, 1916; Andrew Julius Beck, January 1, 1917, to May 31, 1921; Mr. McKenna, June 1, 1921, to June 30, 1921; George James Welsby, July 1, 1921, to October 17, 1926; Reginald Harry Roberts, October 18, 1926, to June 30, 1928; Arthur Gilchrist, July 1, 1928, to February 28, 1929; George Patrick Gibbs, March 1, 1929, to September 30, 1936; Elliott Bolland, from October 1, 1936.

Luncheon was served in the marquee. Mr. E. Wessling (Chairman of the School Committee) welcomed the