

The Department further directed school inspector John.W.Gray (later Chief Inspector: 1935-1937) to report on the request for additional accommodation for the school.²² Following his inspection he reported that expenditure to increase accommodation did not seem warranted. But he did recommend that a skillion room or pavilion be added to the eastern wall of the school agreeing with the suggestion made by Head Teacher Smyth.²³ However, the Department approved the extension of the classroom to accommodate a further 20 pupils, believing that the district of Ringwood North was not likely to be 'less populated'. The extension meant that the school room dimensions became 36 ft 6in. x 21 ft. ~~£~~185.0.0 was approved for the work to be completed.

During extension work, the school was relocated for the period of one month: Friday 4 April to Friday 2 May 1930. Lessons were conducted in a house owned by Mr John Williams of Mullum Road, North Ringwood. The house was situated one quarter of a mile from the school on Oban Road and adjacent to the post office and other stores. Rental was at the rate of one pound per week, Head Teacher Smyth reporting that "there is a good supply of water and the sanitary arrangements satisfactory."²⁴

As 1930 drew to a close, the school committee and successive head teachers had been successful in gaining improvements to the school despite delays and financial constraints. Capital Works approved by the Education Department, given the nature of bureaucracies and limited funds, seemingly had to be completed in priority order. The Ringwood North committee had successfully lobbied local Member of Parliament W.H.Everard in support of their requests during the school's six year period of educational instruction. He had been instrumental in actively supporting the school community in its efforts to provide schooling for children of the district.

A young teacher appointed to Ringwood North in 1930 at the age of eighteen who went on to a distinguished career in teacher education was Joseph James St Ellen. He lectured at Toorak Teachers College (1950-55); Burwood Teachers College (1956); Geelong Teachers College as vice principal (1957-61), becoming principal of Toorak Teachers College in 1962. He also pioneered closed circuit television in Victoria.²⁵ Joseph St Ellen remained at Ringwood North for two years.

The early experiences of the school community in establishing a new school, ensuring that furniture and student requisites were adequate and attending to the ongoing maintenance of the school premises, set a very clear pattern of parent support and involvement in local schooling. The early years of Ringwood North State School evidenced in large measure, the efforts of the local community to work hard to maintain and improve the school environs.

²² School Building Files,(VPRS: 795, Box 2970), Departmental Memo to Gray: 22 April 1929.

²³ School Building Files, (VPRS: 795; Box 2970), Gray to the Department: 18 May 1929.

²⁴ School Building Files,(VPRS: 795, Box 2970), P.E.Smyth to the secretary, Education Department: 7 March 1930.

²⁵ Vision and Realisation, A Centenary History of State Education in Victoria: L.J.Blake (Ed), 3 vols. Education Department of Victoria,1973. vol.1, p.1467.