

up the Heathcote River and relieved the situation tremendously. A little later two more steamers - the "Avon" and "Moa" arrived and they went up the river to Saltwater Creek and also to Kaiapoi. They proved of great service.

The Sumner Road was opened later on, and this was a very great help. I remember the opening when the Superintendent, Mr. Fitzgerald drove through in a buggy and pair. It was a red-letter day, both for Lyttelton and Christchurch, and carts after that regularly plied between the two places.

The great event in the 60's was the piercing in the first place of the Tunnel - May, 1867. A party passed through consisting of about twenty, and it is sad to look through their names, for every soul has since passed away. This is inevitable, but it comes as a shock when one reads through these old lists to see how the scythe of the Reaper has been relentless, proving that there is nothing so certain as death and taxes.

If at any time the old settlers got together, a favourite topic would be the "Good Old Times". All the troubles that they went through are forgotten. The real secret is that the whole community was young. There were few old people. Most of the men and women were in the prime of life, down to striplings of 18 to 20, and there is no doubt youth was the secret of those good old times.

As I look round the room at some of my fellow Rotarians, their