

FIRST BY-LAWS

The by-laws "which had been legally prepared" were confirmed at a special meeting held on 14th December, 1883, and it was ordered "That two copies be written out—one to be sent to the Colonial Secretary—the other to be filed with the Board's papers."

BATHING FACILITIES

An attempt was made by certain parties in 1884 to obtain the Lyttelton Harbour Board's consent to erect bathing sheds near Cave Rock. The Board refused the request and was thanked by the Town Board for so doing, at the same time it asked the Harbour Board for the lease at a pepper-corn rental of Cave Rock, the foreshore surrounding same and the whole of the foreshore running eastward from the landing-stage to White-wash Head.

The Town Board, at the same meeting, expressed the opinion "that the best place for a bathing site was between the east end of the Esplanade and Whitewash Head," later the site of Bell's Baths, and now Reserve 4002.

The opinion then expressed, namely, that the area would be better under the control of the local authority in whose district it was situate, was later confirmed. Section 34 of "The Reserves and Other Lands Disposal and Enabling Public Bodies Empowering Act of 1901" definitely vesting in the council, eleven acres of foreshore from a point nearly opposite "Haeremai" Boarding-house, to its junction with Heberden Avenue as Reserve 3549.

Further powers over this area, and the unformed portion of the road between the Esplanade as at present laid out, and the Reserve, were given to the Council by "The Sumner Borough Empowering Act of 1936" which provided that the Council could close a specified area of the unformed portion of the Esplanade, lease same, and the portion of the Reserve lying between the said area and high water mark, and erect buildings thereon.

Perhaps some day "when the war-drums beat no longer, and the battle flags are furled," up-to-date bathing facilities and paddling pools may be erected on the area described herein.

Following this, Section 108 of the Empowering Act of 1919, vested Cave Rock and a marginal area containing in all three roads 19 perches, being part of Reserve No. 2507, in the Council.

The Reserves and Other Land Disposal and Public Bodies Empowering Act of 1915 gave authority to the Council to purchase the Sailing Club's Jetty and surroundings, the Pier at Sumner, and the site of the old (Bell's) baths from the Lyttelton Harbour Board at a price to be assessed. The amount of the purchase money was ultimately fixed at £1818, and a loan was arranged with the Harbour Board for this amount. The term of the loan expired in 1936, when the balance then owing £1200 was renewed at 3½ per cent with a Sinking Fund at the same rate which under normal conditions should be sufficient to pay off the indebtedness on the 1st January, 1957. The Act also pro-

vided in respect of these properties that the Council should have the control and management of same, and might raise and expend monies in the same manner as in the case of authorised works.

Scarborough Tea Rooms Property. Section 23 of "The Local Legislation Act 1934," gave the Lyttelton Harbour Board power to sell this property containing one rood, twenty-eight perches, being Reserve 4344 to the Sumner Borough Council. The price agreed upon was £380 payable in instalments over a period of 20 years, with interest on unpaid balances at the rate of 3½ per cent per annum. The Council to enter into possession on 1st April, 1935. The sale was made subject to an existing lease of fourteen years dating from the 1st March, 1928. The lease will therefore expire on 28th February, 1942.

DEDICATION OF ROADS AND STREETS

JOHNSTONE TOWNSHIP

The Deed Poll dated 15th May, 1873, recites: "That all roads in Johnstone Township dedicated by him are coloured yellow on plan. St. Leonard's Square is 506 x 502 links exclusive of roads. The square itself is coloured blue.

The Wakefield Township roads were dedicated by Deed Poll of 13th May, 1873. Another document dated 17th June, 1874, contained further references to Dryden Street. The Reserve between the two townships is three links wide.

When the Town District was constituted both townships lost their separate identity and became part of the Town Board's area. As a result of this, it was decided in 1884 to connect the streets between the two districts, and the owners of the sections concerned, were advised accordingly.

ST. LEONARD'S SQUARE

Like the Hon. Mr Parry, the Commissioners of those days had evidently an appreciation of the necessity for recreational facilities and physical welfare, for in the minutes dated 29th May and 3rd June, 1885, it is stated "That all monies received for the sale of clay be set aside for laying out and fencing the Square, as a recreation ground and gardens, and that Mr J. Hines' tender of £4 for clearing the Square be accepted.

When one looks back over the eight years, during which period the Town Board functioned, and reads of its accomplishments, one must in all sincerity express appreciation of the earnest and conscientious endeavours and success attending the efforts of the members whom I have earlier referred to as Pioneers of Progress. For example—apart from what has already been mentioned, and ordinary routine work—levels were taken, datum stones fixed, Hardwicke, Stoke, Bury, Euston, Head and other streets were built up with clay, formed and metalled; a quarry and pound site were established; a tramway, and even a railway were discussed. Much thought was given to, and quite a lot of money spent on the provision of a water supply. Paths were constructed, and the drainage of the area commenced.