

Waiau Gazette

...One Year Old— How Many More?

1966 VENTURE SUPPORTED

Play Centre Committee Aims For Own Building

Four years ago in April, 1966, a group of interested parents first met to find out more about the play centre movement and what was required to establish and run such a pre-school centre.

It was learned that the play centre movement is a voluntary organisation, which was instituted in 1941. It is recognised and assisted by the Government, and is run by the parents, who take full responsibility for providing this pre-school education service. Play Centre believes that parents are best people to provide the needs of their young children.

Parent education and participation is a distinctive feature of the play centre programme, giving the opportunity for parents and children to learn together.

Believing that a child learns through play, a carefully chosen variety of equipment must be provided and maintained to the standard required, for a centre to become recognised.

Gala Opening Planned For New Bridge

Tuatapere Lions were given permission to run a gala day in the town when the new bridge is opened, probably late this year.

The Wallace County Council granted permission at the April meeting, and decided the programme would have to be approved by council when the opening date was decided.

A local committee was formed and at once began working to raise the necessary finance to purchase the equipment needed. They held a successful country and western show which provided most of the funds required the rest being raised by raffles.

A suitable building was found, a fence was erected around the playing area and, after the building and equipment were inspected by the Education Department and by Play Centre Association members, it was possible to open for session in September, 1966.

Mrs A. Edmonds became the first president, but owing to her leaving the district the office was taken over a few months later by Mrs J. Walker, who held it for two years, she was succeeded by the present president, Mrs V. McKay.

The Centre began holding twice weekly sessions of 2½ hours, with a roll of twenty children, this being the maximum number allowed for the space available in the building. This number was not maintained, however, when the older children left to start school, owing to lack of interest and it was some time before a full roll was again reached. During the past two years much interest has been shown and the committee is now holding sessions three times weekly, catering for a total of thirty children, and there is quite a large waiting list.

The sessions are under the control of a supervisor with two mother helpers, all play centre mothers being placed on a roster to take a turn as mother helper. Supervisors must undertake required courses by correspondence and attend day courses of training to equip themselves to become certificated play centre supervisors. Mrs C. Giddens was the first supervisor, but later she left the district. Mrs C. Trainor has been supervisor for the past year.

Children are settled into play centre gradually with their mothers attending with them for the first few sessions. Believing that a child's play is his work, at play centre a child is free to choose which particular activity he will participate in and with friendly encouragement is given the time necessary to concentrate on and complete what he set out to do.

In this friendly relaxed atmosphere the pre-school child is helped to adjust socially to mixing and getting along with a group of children, as well as becoming adept at physical skills requiring muscle co-ordination. Thus play centre becomes a stepping-off-stone for the bigger break when school time comes along.

The Government recognises the need for this pre-school educational service and provides maintenance grants to help finance the running of each centre. Term fees from parents and money-raising efforts provide the rest of the finance necessary.

The play centre movement has grown rapidly over the past few years—in 1966 there were 352 play centres throughout New Zealand and at the beginning of this year there were 500 centres operating under thirteen associations.

Looking to the local centre's future the committee is now considering the possibility of obtaining its own permanent building and to this end is starting a building fund. Several projects will be run to boost this along—a shop day on April 17 and it is hoped a bottle drive shortly after. A paper drive is planned for later in the year and the committee would be glad if people would help by keeping clean old papers.

If anyone is interested in play centre, they would be well

come to call in and see it operating. Sessions are held on Mondays (9-11.30 am), Wednesdays (1-3.30 pm) and Fridays (9-11.30 am).

SCRAP METAL DRIVE PLANNED

The Tuatapere Lions Club is planning to hold a scrap metal drive within the next month. Metal of all shapes, sizes and in any quantity will be accepted.

If you have any metal about that is not required and would like it collected ring Ian Buchanan at the Southland Farmers or contact any other member of the Lions.

Two Teachers Farewelled

There was a good attendance at the Waiau Home and School Association's meeting held at the school on April 7.

Mr Keating reported that the roll remained steady over the past month, with new pupils taking the places of those moving away.

As a shortage of teachers was expected by the Southland Education Board in the second and third terms, Mr Keating said that the board was appealing to ex-teachers who were interested in relieving duties to apply to the board giving their names, addresses and where they would be available to teach.

Mr J. D. Marshall, the wood work instructor, had moved to Invercargill. The Southland Education Board was advertising this position and until it was filled there would be no wood-work classes for the boys.

Girls' manual training would continue for the pupils of the Waiau DHS. However, girls from the district schools would

NEW SAWMILL

Work has started on the building of the new sawmill for Evans Bros. The mill, which is being built at the south end of Tuatapere, is expected to be in use towards the end of the year.

NEXT ISSUE.

The next issue of the Gazette is due out on **FRIDAY, MAY 15.**

All copy of news items and advertisements must be in by **MONDAY, MAY 4.**

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 1970.

Volume 1. No. 12.

It is now twelve months since the Waiau Gazette appeared, bringing to the people of Tuatapere and the district reports of local interest, and, we hope, the pride of having a paper of their own, a paper with a friendly and intimate atmosphere about it.

The past year has not been easy but we confidently feel that it has been well worth the effort and we will, in the coming year, continue our efforts to satisfy you, our readers.

However, we can only do this if we have the support of the local societies, associations, sports bodies and the business community to whom we look for the supply of news relating to their activities and support from the business people in the form of advertising.

An appeal is made to the local organisations to furnish us with reports and these will be published free of charge and at the same time we ask the business community to consider the value of advertising.

We offer our sincere thanks to those who have contributed articles of interest and to the advertisers who have supported us and we look forward to their continued support in the future as it is only by this means will we be able to continue publication.

DAVID & ASHLEA MILL.

THE PASSING STORM

LAKE HAUROKO

The wind whistled; and shrieked around the craggie peaks at an eerie gait,

Lightning flashed, and thunder reverberated around the hills, As if the whole world in grumbling protest would disintegrate.

Suddenly, like an exhausted giant, the storm abates,

And softly sighing on the breeze

Came the murmur of a thousand trees.

I heard the dawn chorus of the birds,

The soothing ripple of the bush stream,

The rustling wings of a pigeon in its flight,

A Kea call to his mate,

And the gentle, rhythmic lapping of the lake.

Never did the rising sun reflect more beautifully

The glorious splendour of that early morning light.

DULCIE J. MARSHALL.

Calves Sold For High Prices At Tuatapere

A pen of seven black and white calves fetched top price of \$93 in a buoyant sale of weaners at Tuatapere this month.

Quality of the 630 calves on offer, and demand from the big bench of buyers, were both up on the opening Southland calf sale at Lorneville.

The top pen was entered by J. Roderique, of Wakapatu.

Other vendors to sell for high prices included.—

W. C. Todd (Pukemaori): 16 Angus cross steers at \$78, nine heifers at \$65.

F. A. Proctor (Piko Piko): 14 Hereford cross steers \$81, 18 heifers \$68, six Angus cross heifers \$62.

T. Phillips (Tuatapere): Seven Angus cross steers \$78. Seven heifers \$65.

Slee Brothers (Te Mara): 23 Angus cross steers \$79, 18 heifers \$60.

T. A. Fowler (Piko Piko): Six Angus cross steers \$88, eight heifers \$64.

A. J. Dyer (Feldwick): Eight Angus cross steers \$78,

J. E. Aulfield (Papatotara): 10 Angus cross steers \$74, 10 heifers \$64.

D. Hampton and Son (Lilburn Valley): 11 Friesian—Hereford cross steers \$81, 14 Hereford cross steers \$78, 21 Angus cross heifers \$60.

G. B. McKay (Happy Valley): 14 Hereford cross steers \$73.

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MY RECOLLECTIONS OF EARLY TUATAPERE

(This article was written in 1952 by Mr Hugh McFeely, who was sole and head teacher at Tuatapere from 1910 to 1922)

It was on a cold winter's night in June, 1910, that I arrived by the eight o'clock train and was met at the station by Mr J. J. H. McLean, who was the chairman of the newly established school committee.

He took me to the hotel, no other place being available for me to board, and introduced me to Mr and Mrs W. D. West, proprietors of the newly built Waiau Hotel. I soon found that there was no school building, but that I was to teach my small flock in the Cymric Hall, a large barn-like structure recently built by Mr John Davies.

On my first morning, on the comparatively short walk to my school I passed two noted bushmen, Austin Frawley and Mick O'Neill, hacking down the scrub and young trees on the roadside. They informed me that a footpath was to be made as soon as possible.

On entering what was to be Tuatapere's first seat of learning, I was struck by the chilly atmosphere of the place. There were no windows at all on what would have been the sunny side. There, however, the Education Board had provided a portable kerosene stove, and my 15 pupils and myself got as near as we possibly could to it.

The names of the first day pupils were: Albert Sneyd, Ivan Rask, Charles Rask, Redmond Fitzgerald, Eileen Fitzgerald, Netta Gray, Ruby Mills, James Howarth, Harry Howarth, Neta Purdue, Eva Sneyd, Minnie McLean, Walter McLean and Allan McLean. Of these first day pupils, Albert Sneyd (killed early in the First World War) Harry Howarth and Walter McLean are deceased.

The majority of the pupils were in the lower classes, and so continued at the school for some time. There was a billiard room attached to the hall, and the click of the billiard balls and men's voices kept accompaniment to the teacher's and pupils' voices. However, Mr Davies did all he possibly could to see that the school was not unduly disturbed.

After about a year the little Methodist Church was built and it was deemed advisable to shift the classes there, as there was more ground available for the children to play.

During this period I obtained a year's leave to study at the Otago University. My place was taken by an elderly retired teacher, Mr George Hassing.

FIRST ROOM

In April, 1913, mainly through the efforts of Mr J. C. Thomson MP for Wallace, the first room of the school was opened on the present site. It was a gala day in the little community, the school being officially opened by Mr Thomson in the presence of a good attendance of the public.

By this time the school roll was increasing rapidly and it was soon evident that another room would have to be built.

An assistant was appointed as infant mistress. She was Miss Mary Irwin, of Lochiel.

The school ground was in a very rough state, only the area surrounding the school being cleared. In front was a swamp, and at the back the stumps of fallen trees. On my remarking to the then Commissioner of Crown Lands on the poor site, he said, "We are not going to pick out the eyes of the township for a school." The School Committee were men who were busy carving out homes for themselves, and so improvements were very slow.

In 1911 I was asked by the executive of the Southland Education Institute to read a paper on "The Difficulties of the Backblock Teacher." I wrote and read this paper at the annual meeting of teachers. The newspaper printed the report in full and deemed it worthy of a leading article. Much of what I advocated, although it appeared revolutionary at the time, has come to pass.

LARGER SCHOOL

The school now becoming overcrowded, a new room was built. Miss Sybil Wilson (Mrs George Printz) of Orepuki was appointed infant mistresses in place of Miss Irwin. I left about this time to join the armed forces and was absent for two years, the school being in charge of a relieving teacher, a Mr McKenzie.

On my return, another assistant, Miss Katie Cameron was appointed, but on account of lack of accommodation, the Presbyterian Church Sunday School room was rented to take Miss Cameron and her classes.

In 1922 I felt that my work in Tuatapere was finished, and I took an appointment at Invercargill, and thence to the North Island in various schools for twenty-five years. It was heart break for me to leave Tuatapere, to sever a connection with a school that I had the care of from its infancy. The people too, were over the years, very kind to me, and in return I did all I possibly could to promote the progress of the infant settlement.

The school committees were loyal and most helpful. Some of the chairmen I best remember were Messrs J. J. McLean, T. J. Fitzgerald and Charles Duncan. For their public spirit and unwearied interest in the school over the years, names such as Mesdames McDonald (Granny McDonald) and Curow the Rev S. J. Hill, and Tom Ward came vividly to my mind. Truly the good work they did lives after them.

SPECIAL OCCASIONS

We had our gala days at the school, the annual school con-

WESTERN FASHION INFLUENCE

The name "cheongsam," which means "long dress" in Chinese, has become something of a misnomer under the influence of Western fashion in Malaysia.

The cheongsam, which used to be half-length or longer and had deep splits up each side seam, is now worn very short in the towns and cities, Mrs Pearl Upsher, of Kuala Lumpur said in Christchurch recently.

Her own cheongsam in mauve shantung was about three inches above her knees and had two-inch side splits.

SELDOM SEEN

"The long cheongsam is seldom seen in the evenings," she said.

"Women now wear Western-style long evening dresses.

"Long skirts with tunic blouses of matching material are very popular, and so are evening culottes.

"Brightly - coloured beaded tops with plain skirts, which were very fashionable three years ago, are now out."

Another Chinese traditional dress, the samfoo (trousers and blouse) has also been modernized.

The long tunic blouse is now mini-length, and may be worn as a dress without the matching trousers, Mrs Upsher said.

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EXPO 70 STAGED BY SCHOOL CLASSES

A mini Expo 70 was held recently in the assembly hall of Waiau D.H. School. This display was staged by the pupils of Room 8 (Stds 5 and 6) under the direction of their teacher, Mr Edmunds. In all 11 countries were represented.

The first display visited was of England. It featured an array of dolls dressed in the various costumes pertaining to the

English scene. Beefeaters, Household Cavalry, etc. An array of English made china and other goods together with the sound of British pop music completed the stand.

A post card of Kangaroo skin was a feature of the Australian stand together with many articles carved in wood by the aborigines.

Minerals from Broken Hill, samples of the produce of the land, showed the wealth of Australia. A fine display of penants and scout badges gave a colourful note to this stand.

Cowboys and hippies, two ways of life in America, gave the introduction to the American display. The space age, the minerals together with the display of models of the army and air force arms showed the great work this country was involved in. No display for America would be complete without the glamour of Hollywood and the range of pin-up photos brought this to notice. An arrangement of sporting equipment showed the sports in which the Americans participate.

The Japanese ingenuity was obvious when viewing their clockwork toys and musical jewellery cases. Finest needlework was shown in wall banners and various wood carvings demonstrating the fine craftsmanship of the Japanese people.

The stand for Great Britain showed a fine display of lace and a novel feature was a bracelet made from coins. Many articles made by the countries of Wales, Scotland, Ireland and England were displayed.

The skirl of the pipes and the smell of heather could be imagined as one entered the Scottish display and saw the full kilt set and bagpipes. Not forgotten were the two items one immediately associates with Scotland, porridge and whisky.

Spices brought a whiff of the East at the Indian stand which also featured a Sari and coins of India. A dish of rice was also cooked and served at this stand.

Maori flax handiwork and a display of Maori artifacts were arranged on the New Zealand stand. New Zealand-made clothes and toys showed some of the manufactured goods made in this country. Various minerals formed a display, together with a section on the sports played in New Zealand.

BEAUTIFUL HANDWORK

Waving palms and the suggestion of hula girls were brought to mind when viewing the Pacific Island display. Bamboo musical instruments, shell necklaces and cane baskets showed the wonderful ability of the Islanders to work with the natural materials found on the islands. A basket made of bark and lined with cane was a fine example of this. Coconut, sugar and a can of orange juice showed some of the exports from here. Dolls dressed in different costumes showed some of the national dresses and displayed also was a wrap-round sulu.

As one entered and left the Hong Kong display a young lady dressed in a kimono and

coolie type hat bowed in the true oriental style. Wall banners, lanterns with paper shades, a bamboo plate and a doll in the national dress showed part of the way of living in Hong Kong.

An Irish peasant and a piece of shamrock brought the spirit of Ireland into this mini Expo 70. Linen made in the true Irish tradition, a medallion, copper work and hand made porcelain together with an Irish jig costume were some of the features of the Irish display.

All the stands showed books, stamps and coins of the various countries they were representing. In all Expo 70 was a remarkable effort and Mr Edmunds and his class are to be congratulated on this fine exhibition.

WD Executive Birthday Party At Riverton

Dr E. M. Elder, of Tuatapere, was the speaker at the 11th birthday party of the Western Southland executive of the W.D.F.F.

Dr Elder spoke of his recent visits to Rhodesia and Mauritius, illustrating his talk with slides.

The birthday was held in the Camp Longwood Hall at Riverton, with Riverton, Waipango and Longwood divisions acting as hostesses.

Mrs C. A. McQueen, president of the Western Southland provincial welcomed an attendance of more than 150, including representatives from the other Southland provincials and from Country Girls' Clubs.

CANDLES LIT

Mrs D. Hampton made and iced the birthday cake, and a vice-president lit the 11 candles on it. These were fanned out by the housekeeping secretary, Mrs J. C. Kane, of Scotts Gap.

Mrs Gardyne, of Eastern Southland, Mrs Paterson, of Mid-Southland, and Mrs Lindsay, from Southland, each cut a slice as representatives of these executives. Mrs Browning cut a slice and read greetings from the Country Girls.

During the evening items were given by Misses Rosalie Herrick and Christine Menpes, and by Mrs Agnes Tull, who was accompanied by Mrs Jackson.

Since the beginning of this year persons presenting prescriptions at chemists' shops have not had to sign for the item they receive. This is because of an amendment to the Social Security Regulations. Mr K. J. Savory, president of the Chemists' Guild of New Zealand, said he believed the change had been made to reduce inconvenience to customers. A reasonable proportion of those presenting prescriptions were children or persons who had difficulty in signing because of some physical disability. A customer's signature is also no longer required for the chemist to claim payment from the Health Department. The department will recognise that if a chemist has a prescription he has met the order.

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Waiau Riding Notes

Supplied by
STEVE KOKAY
(Riding Member)



During February in the Wallace County we had three car accidents, one with serious injury. These cars just ran off the road, one overturned, one went over a bank. In no case was there any danger in the roads. I am satisfied the people will just have accidents because they forget themselves.

On Manapouri we had very little discussion this time, as we all have our own personal views on this matter. One thing we did resolve, however, is that on April 23 we will all join a tour and make an inspection of the shorelines.

There is one factor on which we always have some discussion, that is hydatids. Hydatids is a national problem and we are nowhere near having a solution to it. I am living in hopes, however, that in a year or two we will have a vaccine on the market that will immunise dogs and sheep against hydatids. Perhaps my readers will realise how serious the disease is when I mention that in the last five years 112 humans were taken to hospital with hydatids infection.

AIRPORT

We have a letter from the Invercargill City Council thanking us for the co-operation and the financial contribution we have made towards the strengthening and lengthening of the runway at the Invercargill Airport. This job has cost a total of \$328,146.

Fifty per cent of this cost was met by the Government. The Invercargill City Council met 31 per cent of the balance, the Southland County met 13 per cent. The Wallace County contributed 5 per cent. We can have Viscounts landing at Invercargill now which is some achievement indeed. For the 100,000 people in Southland we have an airport that has no parallel in New Zealand, for a similar sized population.

In fact I can state that in all my travels I do not know of

another place where a country or town of 100,000 people can boast of an airport of a standard that we have here. I feel we are justified in being proud of our airport. In a year or two we are going to have jet planes serving us in Invercargill. Before that however the runway will have to be strengthened a further three inches overlay. The estimated cost of this is \$90,000.

TOURS

The National Roads Board is making a tour of inspection in Southland and Wallace. On May 6 they will be in Tuatapere inspecting the progress on the new bridge. We ourselves (Wallace County Council members) on April 21 will be making an inspection of the Bluff Harbour and the progress at Tiwai Point.

We have let a contract for the building of the new county offices. Our present offices were built in 1949. At that time there were severe building restrictions still in force. Owing to those restrictions the County Council was compelled to build quite inadequate office premises. However they have lasted us 20 years. Today we are obliged to add to the present building about 200 per cent. The first building cost the ratepayers \$40,000. The present additions will cost more than twice that sum. There were six tenders for the job. Carl Fischers' tender from Invercargill was accepted.

The Ardeer Burn bridge is completed now. At present a bypass bridge is being built at Cameron Creek. We have still not been able to start on reconstructing Youngs hill at Orawia.

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Lions Club Activities

Over the past months the Lions club has been busy with projects around the town. The children's playground in Half Mile Road has been built up and new grass sown. This work was done to enable the county council to have the lawns mowed with the gang mowers. The Lions Club has handed over the responsibility of the playgrounds to the council.

LION PARK

The laying of concrete around the rockery and under the picnic table in Lion Park has tidied the park up considerably. Plants were put on the rockery this week and many daffodils, kindly donated by Mrs A. D. McClymont, have been planted around the park.

SENIOR CITIZENS

Recently Senior Citizens' Club members were entertained by the Lions Club. A day that could not be bettered was turned on by the weatherman for the annual outing. Those participating were taken by bus and private cars to Howells Point Riverton, via Otautau and Waipango. An advance party had lunch ready to serve when the bus arrived.

After lunch the party was taken on a trip around Riverton and paid a visit to the swimming pool. Afternoon tea was served at Howells Point before heading home.

Mrs Devery won the prize for the most grandchildren and Mrs Erskine that for the eldest citizen.

Tuatapere WDFE Elects Officers

Mrs J. Williams was elected president at the annual meeting of Tuatapere WDFE.

Other officer bearers were: secretary, Mrs H. Knowler; vice-presidents, Mesdames Corbin and Armstrong; treasurer, Mrs A. McDonald; advisory members, Mesdames G. Griffin and M. Forde; points secretary, Mrs Suddaby.

The use of cold water on house plants should always be avoided. Use water that is of room temperature always.

LOCAL BOXER COMPETED IN EMPIRE GAMES TRIALS

Erol Templeton, local light welter-weight boxer, competed in the Empire Games boxing trials held on April 4 at Trentham, Wellington.

Erol is the first local boy chosen to compete in these trials and had the honour of being chosen to meet the present light welter-weight NZ champion.

He was boxing well and ahead on points in the second round

when he was caught with a wild right swing to the side of the head which put a finish to the bout and to his chances of making the games boxing team. A return bout between these two could prove interesting.

Results Of Gun Club Shoot

Fair weather prevailed for the Western Southland Gun Club's shoot held at Pukemaori on March 15. Twenty-five shooters attended.

10 Bird Sweep: A Grade (14) — W. Cooper 10, W. Todd, D. Marshall, D. Buchanan 9, B Grade (11) — G. Muir, R. Drake, A. Mangles 9, O. Bennet, D. Whyte 8.

15 Bird Bennett Cup: A Grade (11) — W. Todd 14, T. Dale 13, D. Pratt, D. Buchanan 12, B Grade King Cup (11) — V. Bennett, A. Mangles 14, S. A. Diack 13, P. Ryley, R. Drake J. Sanford 11.

10 Bird Sparrows: A Grade (11) — T. Dale 10, J. Eden 9, W. J. Diack, J. Nicholson, H. West 8, B Grade (9) — J. Pratt 9, R. Drake, A. Mangles 8, D. Whyte, S. A. Diack, P. Ryley, D. Peek 6.

5 pair Double Rise: A Grade (11) — J. Eden 9, W. Todd 8, T. Dale, H. West 7, B Grade (10) — R. Drake, D. Whyte 8, D. Peek 7, V. Bennett, G. Muir, P. Ryley 6.

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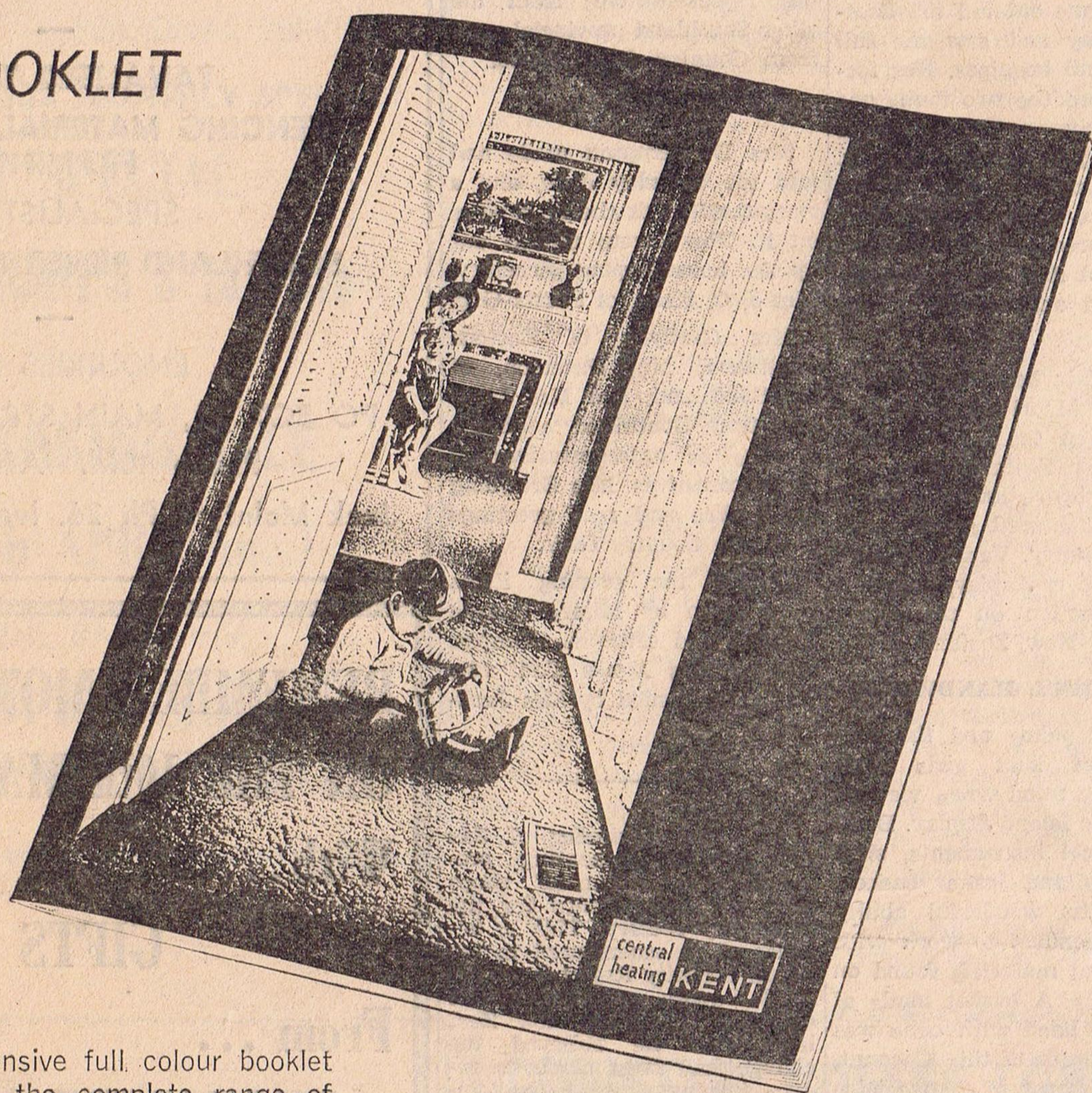
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