strikers and by the help of volunteer firemen, mainly farmers’ sons. As it did not reach Wollongong until after midday and came back late at night it was impossible for those students from the south to attend at all during those months. Some of us tried riding bicycles from Albion Park and Dapto, but pedalling up to thirty miles a day over potholed country roads in hot weather proved too gruelling; and with boys arriving home in a state of collapse from exhaustion there was a quick parental ban on such activities and a resultant long holiday at home.

In the face of those accumulated months of lost studies it spoke well for teachers and students that the 1917 Intermediate and Leaving Certificate Exams were not seriously affected, the pass rate was normal.

(To be continued)

—B. E. WESTON.

OBITUARY:

It is with deep regret that we record the death on 21 August, after a brief illness, of our member Mr. Harvey James McDonnell, of Dapto, at the age of 74.

Our late member was born at Clarence, and as a boy lived in various New South Wales towns to which his father’s job as a stationmaster took the family—among them Scarborough and Helensburgh. His entertaining and valuable reminiscences of life in those places sixty-odd years ago appeared in the Bulletin for December 1968 and February 1970.

He joined the Bank of New South Wales in 1916, serving mainly in New South Wales country branches and in the old Victorian goldfields town of Linton before coming to Dapto (then still a small country town) as manager in 1948.

After his retirement from the Bank he remained in Dapto, carrying on business for several years as a tax agent and estate agent, in which capacities he fully maintained the reputation he had established for helpfulness to clients coupled with the strictest integrity and fair dealing. He was active in many district organisations, including the Dapto Rotary Club and the A. & H. Society, was a trustee of the Dapto Leagues Club, and was a member of the Parish Council and organist at the historic Church of St. Luke at Brownsville—in short, one of Dapto’s best-known and most useful citizens.

Harvey and Mrs. McDonnell became members of this Society in 1958, and since 1960 he had been Honorary Auditor. He was several times a speaker at Society meetings, the last occasion being as recently as the August meeting. His talks will be remembered for their humour and individuality as well as for the solid historical information they contained. He was a man of wide reading and retentive memory, exceptionally well-informed on many subjects, particularly historical. In addition to his interest in local history, he was an expert on the Napoleonic period and on the American Civil War, but he was far from being a narrow specialist.

Harvey will be greatly missed by his many friends in the Society and in the district. The Society extends its sincerest sympathy to Mrs. McDonnell and to their son Brian (of Roseville) and daughter Margaret (Mrs. P. M. Waples of Figtree).

SHOALHAVEN WATER-SUPPLY SCHEME EXCURSION:

This has now been deferred to Sunday, 13th October. We hope also to include a visit to an historic home in Kangaroo Valley. Further details will be given at meetings and in next month’s Bulletin.