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TALKABOUT

A PUBLICATION
OF THE STUDENTS OF
WAGGA TEACHERS' COLLEGE.

18th MAY, 1956

"TALKABOUT"

Comments on Term Activities

For the last "Talkabout" of this Term, we decided to have a brief review of the doings of the last Term, and a sneak preview of a few features of the middle Term. The following comments are in the nature of a summary, and are a happy reminder for you to have during the holidays.

Practice Teaching

Practice teaching is over — with many sighs and a few regrets. It is not the main topic of conversation now, as it has been for the last three weeks, but some very serious thought and conversation has resulted from this rather over-awing experience. One question that may seriously be asked is "Do I like teaching" — or rather — "Have I the potentialities of a good teacher?" These usually come from rather "scared" first years and in their wisdom second years hasten to assure that "Prac. is nothing like the real and permanent teaching situation." But why isn't it? If the true purpose of practice teaching is to be achieved—i.e., to give practice in the handling of normal classroom situations as well as the imparting of knowledge to the children, why can't it be under the conditions we will experience when we go out? Its all very well to have supervisors "popping" in and out; its all very well having our lessons given to us almost verbatim; its all very well preparing screeds of lesson-notes and aids that will be used only once—but will this be the case when we are out teaching? If not, why should it be so during prac.? Another thought provoking question is the length of the practice teaching period—three weeks at the beginning of the year, and three at the end of the year—and during those weeks we are expected to "get to know" the class and teach effectively.

Perhaps your views are the same—perhaps they differ—lets hear them, any how in some letters to the editor.

Examinations

First years, don't let anyone tell you you don't have to study for the half-yearly exam. You do. The exams, coming as they do, almost straight after the holidays, will find you fresh and not at all in the mood for studying—so that you keep putting off the deadly hour until you find yourself missing all meals and "swotting" madly half an hour before the paper. Believe me, its not worth it. However, this sounds suspiciously like preaching—so go your own wicked way—and good luck to every one of you!

Ball

Supplanting prac. teaching in conversational importance is the topic of — the Ball. Our balls are few, but make up for their scarcity by first class organisation and entertainment. To go to the Ball is something really big in a student's College year.

This year, it seems to have increased in importance, to the extent of having meetings about it — and never underestimate the value of sales-talk, because there's been a mighty lot of "shopping" going on ever since a certain "pep talk." But enough said!

Re-Union

Good news to pass on to the late Wagga-ites, all you who re-

ceive either regular or irregular fan mail—re-union is during the Six-Hour holiday weekend in October — so we expect a surge of "College feeling" to surge through all our ex-students' breasts! Anyhow, hope we get enough for a decent football team—not the golf team we had last year!

Fines

Overheard — one argument against monetary fines:

"Its hard enough living, or trying to, on our fifteen pound, four shillings a month, without having to pay out fines. Why can't we work any misdemeanors out on garden duty or some such thing, where we are really doing something beneficial?"

Any comments?

Back Path

The most glaring disparity between this time last year and this year, is the lack of support for the back path and all its "mod cons." Usually the gaily of bright lights, of which there is an abundance here, will attract many fun loving and pleasure seeking persons — like mots in fact. But mots are all that are being attracted, and it seems such a waste seeing only them getting their wings singed!

Band Rotunda

"Hot press" news is the addition of a band rotunda, and a bargain one at that, to the College facilities. Useful as well as decorative, this simple, yet effective structure will be strategically placed at the entrance to the College, so to afford shelter on wet or windy nights, to those who must wait for buses. The persons concerned, are to be congratulated on their foresight and understanding—for it is not every College that has a band rotunda!

Train Trip

To end our College term, most of us will have a train journey, and all the expense and discomfort that is associated therewith. It is hoped that all will survive the rigours of that journey, and recuperate sufficiently from the physical exertions involved—to face the return journey and the new term without too many moans.

EDITORIAL

"Talkabout" was very pleased this month to see the co-operation of the students in supplying a wealth of much needed material. We are glad to see that many, especially from first year, are conscious of the function of the paper, and are so willing to make use of it as a vehicle for praise, criticism, news and gossip.

Many of the students are curious to know the doing of the S.R.C., and want some idea of the story behind meeting minutes, which are usually posted. We think this view is well-founded, and hope in the future, to make a monthly report of the work done by our representatives.

"Talkabout" is confident that this will bring greater understanding and insight into S.R.C. problems, resulting in a yet more efficient representation of the student body.

Plans are now being formulated for the presentation of your literary magazine, "Baringa." This is your own record of literary achievement during your stay in College, and we feel that everyone should take part in making the journal worthwhile. It does not require genius to write for "Baringa"—simply a desire to make some contribution to the College during the course of your training.

—THE EDITORS.



Second Year Dramatic Art Option.

SIZZLING SOS

Cooking sausages—or rather mystery bags as they more commonly know, is really a skilled and ancient art. Actually, I believe, these delicacies originated in that period following the Stone Age known as the Saus Age.

Down the centuries people of every nation have sought perfection in the preparation of these mouth-watering tit-bits, and yet it was only recently that I discovered this most fascinating, exhilarating, heart-breaking, sweat producing (please cross out words which do not apply) method. This is the means employed by that true Australian Bushman, the weekend picnicker.

The first step is to prepare a fire. This can be easily done in any bush area by spreading large quantities of petrol over the dry grass and then applying a match.

When you have the whole hillside blazing, and if the local fire squad has not arrived everything is in readiness for cooking.

A long pointed stick is thrust vigorously through the centre of the pale pink saus and this clever construction is then gently placed in the nearby inferno.

Immediately large quantities of minced meat will be seen to ooze slowly through the flames and disappear into the grass.

If you have an asbestos suit plunge into the flames in pursuit of the blazing beef. A more placid attitude, however, is to withdraw the succulently sizzling sausage skin.

After removal of the encasing coals it is really remarkable how very little is left.

This process is foolproof for

no matter how often you repeat it the result is exactly the same.

I might conclude by adding that should you wish to attempt this most interesting experiment devon sandwiches do provide a most sustaining meal. —SNAG.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Hugh is Kydding who?
Yvonne Miss Ferguson Myott say the wrong thing.
Gee Col.

Good Hunters who are not Malcontents believe that a bird in hand is better than two at the ball.

A Robin needs good meals man.

I grant we hatched the wrong plot in thinking that grey ham was good for the Jors.

Has Ingarfell?
Tongue twister of the week: Thweet, Thweet, twittered tippy Tupper.

Hugh will ken soon that Varnes are safe.

Some Pherson or other fell for Jennifer durant the first term.

A Scotch mon a Lissa?
Some Dill made a line for Hay.

Some romances peter out but one cocksure fem doesn't think so.

The Back Path Story, by Onagen Offagen.

Rugby News—May

For the first time in memory the College is leading in the local first grade competition. With wins over C.Y.M. 11-3, Army 14-0, and Uranquinty 15-3, the Green and Golds will

be strong contenders for premiership honours this season.

As the semi-finals do not commence until the 15th of September, our footballers should have regained the condition that probably will be lost during the August holidays and we will have no excuses on the score of preparation if we are beaten in the 'big' games.

So far Barry Cohen in the centre, Ian Clacher at half, Jim Landers at breakaway and Ernie Kotlash in the second row have been the "stars," but we are really a well-balanced team that is playing as a team.

Mr. Pearson is gradually making a "glamour" side out of the College combination.

Bob Hillerman has been appointed captain of the 2nds and Bruce McAlister captain of the Under 18's, who are shaping very promisingly under the guidance of Mr. Worthington.

ADVICE TO THE LOVELORN

Dear Aunt Lizzie,

I am a second year girl and have been asked out by a first year boy who has not yet had the benefit (?) of Dr. Keet's lectures. How could I discover whether he has Vincent's disease before kissing him good-night?

—GINGI VITIS.

Dear Gingi Vitis,

Smell his breath.

— AUNT LIZZIE.

Dear Aunt Lizzie,

Could you please help me with my Hygiene Assignment by answering the following question, "Give one of the causes of drowning."

—DOCTOR AT SEA.

Dear Doctor at Sea,

Diving into unknown beds.

—AUNT LIZZIE.

Dear Aunt Lizzie,

I will be travelling home in the train at May, and I just can't reconcile myself to the hardships I will have to undergo. What with hard seats, hot compartments etc. . . . I am at my wits end at what to do. Please help me.

—SWEET INNOCENCE.

Dear Sweet Innocence,

Collect your male (oops mail) at the College office and it will occupy your journey home.

—AUNT LIZZIE.

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"Come On, Kambu"

The Kambu men have produced an epic. And in their wisdom, they handed it in to "Talkabout," so we here reproduce it in almost its glorious entirety, though we are told that there are a number of other verses not quite suitable for publication.

KAMU LAMENT

(Tune: Much Binding)

There's much trouble in the dorm,
The Kambu boys are really in hot water,
There's much trouble in the dorm,
They say we're doing things we shouldn't oughter,
The roof it is a-leaking and the Hale is coming in,
The boys are getting fretful and the Orch. is growing thin,
We're wondering if all we do is really blooming sin,
There's much trouble in the dorm.

MORE FINES

There's much trouble in the dorm.,
The fines are mounting higher up and higher,
There's much trouble in the dorm.,
We really coming under heavy fire,
The wardens all have had their shot and finally the boss,
Removal of the doorknobs seems to make them very cross,
If all the beds are being wrecked where are we going to doss?
There's much trouble in the dorm.

YES SIR

There's much trouble in the dorm.,
He enters and we all jump to attention,
There's much trouble in the dorm.,
We all salute or else it means detention,
He scribbles in his book before he makes a quick retreat,
We wait until he's back home and we're sure he's fast asleep,
Next we go a-wandering with sandshoes on our feet,
There's much trouble in the dorm.,

CROOK FOOD

There's much trouble in the dorm.,
The food we get is hardly fit for eating,
There's much trouble in the dorm.,
And then there is the problem of the seating,
The girls sit on the left side

and the boys sit on the right,
If you aren't the very quickest man you'll never get a bite,
You want to get a re-turn then you'll have to stage a fight,
There's much trouble in the dorm.

GOTTA SMOKE

There's much trouble in the dorm.,
The painted peach-tin-ash-trays are all failures,
There's much trouble in the dorm.,
Bob, Barry, Kev. and Nick all bludge my tailors,
I'm going to give up smoking because its bad for me,
Smoke settles in your breathing box and then you get T.B.
I can't afford to buy them 'cause they're up to 1/3d.,
There's much trouble in the dorm.

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SWEAR-ING

There's much trouble in the dorm.,
The Kambu boys are really in bad graces,
There's much trouble in the dorm.,
They've gone so far as to swear in warden's faces,
The air in here from swearing is absolutely blue,
Some people say that Spartalis was even in it too,
But don't believe a word of this, it simply isn't true,
There's much trouble in the dorm.

SWEEP-ING

There's much trouble in the dorm.,
We must keep to a weekend sweeping roster,
There's much trouble in the dorm.,
If once we fall—our five bob we have lost her,
We have to sweep the common room and then the corridor,
And pity help the person who leaves dust upon the floor,
So now you know the reason why we always are so poor,
There's much trouble in the dorm.

OUR FORD

There's much trouble in the dorm.,
Last year the Kambu boys were getting bor-ored,
There's much trouble in the dorm.,
The car they bought, they say it is a For-ord.
You've heard the rumour that there is no engine in the car,
And other people say it runs on kerosene and tar,
But we are game to match it against Orchard's Jaguar,
There's much trouble in the dorm.

MORE CHESS

There's much trouble in the dorm.,
At chess the Kambu men are quite astounding,
There's much trouble in the dorm.,
The only way to win here is pound him!
We sit and play by candlelight until the air turns blue,
The best move there for you would be king's rook to queen pawn two,
My room mate snores and I can't sleep what else am I to do?
There's much trouble in the dorm.

NOW PRAC.

There's much trouble in the dorm.,
Especially when the boys are practice teaching,

There's much trouble in the dorm.,
It's then that College men do all their screeching,
This light's out time is just a farce said wise men of Kambu,
Now prac. is on we stay in bed and bludge the whole day through.
No one believes that we could be so rotten with the flu,
There's much trouble in the dorm.

KAMBU

There's much trouble in the dorm,
Room one is taken up with Sydney bodgies,
There's much trouble in the dorm.,
Room two is up to all the College dodges,
The biggest trouble makers can be found in number three,
In number four the paintwork is pathetic you'll agree,
And last of all the room five boys are always on a spree,
There's much trouble in the dorm.

WAKE UP

There's much trouble in the dorm.,
They're on our backs for missing College breakfast,
There's much trouble in the dorm.,
It's true that Kambu men are always up last,
Alarms are set the night before for ten to eight or less,
Our rooms aren't swept our beds aren't made the dorm. is in a mess,
It's not until our man comes round that we begin to dress,
There's much trouble in the dorm.

LAST VERSE

There's much trouble in the dorm.,
A little bit of friendship we are needing,
There's much trouble in the dorm.,
So kindly lend an ear unto our pleading,
We're sick of College wardens and of regulations too,
Ten-thirty its the lights out time but ours are out at two,
So now you know why Kambu men are always in the pooh,
There's much trouble in the dorm.,
A lot of trouble,
Much trouble in the dorm.—

National Service

This is the opinion of only two N.S. trainees. We consider that N.S. is, amongst other things, a waste of time, money, and the little effort that you use while serving your three months. It is very similar to another institution I can think of, as you get a number and a uniform to wear, and even pick and shovels at times to work with. So you see the two places have similarities.

College was well represented in N.S. There were about 20 of us in all, and strange as it may seem, all of these men were in strife at some time or another. In fact, we became quite famous, or shall we say infamous. It seemed that whenever or wherever there was trouble, there was also a Teachers' College man.

At one stage, one of our number was thrown in the guard house for two days, and the other fourteen who supported him verbally were threatened with two years gaol for mutiny after the Corporal had reported them.

However, this did not deter our efforts. We got him out of the guard house, and he returned to the hut a hero. Two days later the Army made him a Corporal.

Well, that's how the Army works. But never let it be said that it doesn't make a man of you. A man—you become a first class swearer, drinker, gambler (and you can use your imagination for the other things).

However, it was a slight change from College. They say that a change is as good as a holiday—and it was most decidedly a holiday.

—TWO CONTENTED (?)
N.S. TRAINEES

STOP PRESS

College top markers for the May Prac.:-

1st Year: M. Blyton, M. Freeman, J. Kerr, S. Smith, H. Sweeney, P. Knight, D. Murphy, J. Sappsford, K. Solomon, K. Jarvis.

2nd Year: Barry Cohen, Peter Spartalus, Hugh Varnes, Bruce Wells, Barbara Brown, Helen Frater, Jan Gallagher, Pam Hunt, Jesse Segal, Glenda Payne, Ann Myott.

P. Swansborough

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MARI WOMEN

One meets mank folks in an afternoon's wandering through the famous Forest of Mari, and the pageants that take place therein are somewhat spectacular.

"All Hail, Prince Bobbie, how are Hugh?"

"Floating amid castles," is the Royal Answer.

Across the clearing came the great procession led by the Magician Beris in her Morris Minor, together with the dark Knight who rode upon his husky horse Moonee.

From the Sutherland side of the clearing came King Elly and Helen of Troy holding "Aggy" banners on high. With them came the Goddess Dianna with a heavenly look upon her fair countenance—"King Frank has appeared to me at last," quote she. A husky whisper was heard from the direction of Princess Belle and the Miller, who were being escorted by Prince Val.

The MacDonald Clan entered to a flourish of so-called trumpets, the noise of which brought the bridge tumbling down. A shout from the far path roused the bridge again to its heights.

The 12 members of Queen Jan's Army were now assembled led by Colonel Koth on his dark horse Taylor I.

The Kings entered with fair Princess Barbara, and her son. This spectacular pageant came to a sudden conclusion as a voice boomed from the back regions, "Have a drag of a fag, hag!"

—LITTLE JOHN.

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Women's Basketball

The Wagga Basketball Association commenced its season on Saturday, 12th May. College is entering eight teams in the competition this year, four in the "A" grade and four in the "B" grade. With promising players from first year, it is expected that College will do well in the competition.

All teams have been training hard under the different coaches. Sunday matches against the boys have continued with Lorraine Langridge umpiring quite successfully in spite of the howls of some men.

College I have high hopes this year and are determined to go on and defeat C.C.Y.M. I. Last year this team was the only one to defeat College I, and that was only by 1 goal in the grand final.

Carol Locke and Gwen Wilde, with the constant backing of Fam Morton on the wing, are proving very good goal throwers; while down the other end of the field we have good defenders. The seven girls are working well as a team. Our two first year recruits have shown they are at least equal to our players of the previous year.

All College teams, together with the sixteen teams from Wagga, expect to find the competition harder this year with the great increase in entries of teams.

Educational Research

Recently first year Educational Research Option completed an interesting survey, during which all first year students were asked their religion and the size of their parents' families. The results were recorded and the following information was derived.

The average size of families from which first year students came is 3.4 children. The women students come from larger families than the men—women from families of 3.5 children and men from families of 3.3 children.

The average size of the families of the various denominations was calculated and was as follows:—

Roman Catholic	3.7
Church of England	3.5
Presbyterian	3.3
Methodist	3.1
Other Denominations	3.25

These facts reveal a surprising small difference in the families.

IPAI WOMEN

Back corridor has that "bloated capitalist" feeling now! Could Holbrook have had anything to do with it? Congrats. on your driving, Tisha!

Is Lyn happy, or still Bolton? Seen on one girl's prac. report:—"Appearance: A good beginning. Some sections need expanding." She wants to know where!

Is Solomon really wise, Lyn? The two Ipai girls want it known that they have first preference with the wringer in the laundry, since they have just about paid for it by now with their fines.

Did the pitter patter of tiny feet belong to Irene or the mice.

KABI WOMEN

Believe it or not—first years starring madly—not moonazing just . . .

Down that end of the "Respectable ?? Dorm." there is a certain "flowery" joke going around that is all corn—pity you can't 'can' it, eh Heather?

As well as champagne corks popping there is a certain scotch flavour—d'y' lissa tae th' McPherson bag-pipers, every-one?

Perhaps the sound o' them makes Judy peter out—course all she does is sit and gaze out the window!

Along with the patter of "little" feet comes the role of the dishonoured — and the scraping of a Parker '51 in a little black book adds joy to the hearts of . . . ?? Well we're well up on the ladder of vice and evil doing—or are we?

P.S.: Hunt for the mathematical solution in this:

One + one = a date.
Two + one = a delimita?
—K.R.R.

KAMBU KAPERS

Kambu Ice-Blocks were melted by the long summer but the coming "en hiver" has cast one "doll" back into the deep freeze.

Our kydd's theme song has been replaced by the sound of bells tinkling and sweet twitterings amongst the rosy clouds in Room 12.

Despairing cries of "Oh, gad! Which one?" echoed down the corridor and back came the wistful reply, "Lucky dog!"

There was method in the way a Kambu penny found its way to the Cubberd.

Shades of the Mikado—"They've got us on a list"—she wood, wouldn't she. Seems we'll have to pool our fines be-

fore some one steals a march on us.

Good fishing! She did land a lot of bits didum she?

We were robbed of speech by the striking likeness depicted in a certain self-portrait. Was she feeling blue at the time? Or did inspiration come from the Colledge oranges?

Who are the "two most evil girls in Colledge?"

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Country Cousin,

Dad got a job the other day, the first in 58 years, and Mum bought one of those new fangled bathrooms just like the rich folk have. In one corner there is a small basin for light washing, such as your hands and face. In the other corner there is a big-white trough, just like the one the pigs drink out of, but you can get into it and wash yourself all over at once. In an other corner there is a basin sort of thing, but you put one foot in, wash it, pull the chain for fresh water and then wash the other foot. This thing had two lids on it. We had no use for them, so Dad took them off. The one with the hole in it Mum used to frame Grandma's picture. The other one Dad used as a breadboard.

If you want to know of a good firm to deal with, don't go to Anthony Hordern's. The other day they sent us two roles of writing paper. It is of very poor quality and tears very easily when you write on it.

Sincerely,

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"TALKABOUT"

EDITORS: Anne Robertson and Ted Bolton.

SUB-EDITORS: Anne Myott and Gail Sheehan.

SPORTS' EDITOR: Peter Sparkes.

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Education for a Country Adrift —India!

One of the pleasure and fortunes of being at a Teachers' College is the opportunity of "broadening one's mind." This comes about in many ways, perhaps the best is to travel—but that's not always possible (especially to the ordinary teacher on his screw). What to do? Well, if the mountain won't go to Mahomet, bring Mahomet to the Mountain; and that's just what Miss Samuel's delightful talk and slides did for us! We were all impressed, I'm sure, by her quiet yet confident manner, her poise, command of English and her quaint accent. It was because of this the audience was always in her grasp and as one listened, it was impossible not to feel the warmth of her personality, and to be struck by her appearance.

Here before us on that night was one brought up in a totally different environment, colour, speech and customs yet we were one—and the tie was TEACHING.

Truly teachers all the world over are united as perhaps no other profession is.

It was most illuminating to know that India educationally was talking Integration, Activation and Motivation (terrible isn't it!).

If India could catch the vision this woman has, then I'm sure we all would feel much happier about her future, as she, like so many Asiatic Republics, is faced educationally and hourly with what appears to be insurmountable problems.

—P. SPARTALIS.

Annoying Habits of College Professors

In the United States where they are rather keen on collecting statistics on all sorts of interesting subjects, a survey has been made of the habits and mannerisms of college professors.

At the North Carolina State College 123 elementary psychology students were set to observe 12 professors with the object of listing the habits and mannerisms which they found the most objectionable.

Each student was asked to study his professors for two weeks and make a report on those that had annoying habits. He was given very careful instructions not to list any habit that did not annoy him personally.

sonally. Assurance was given that student's report would reach the professors under observation.

The following table shows the 24 most frequently mentioned annoying habits and the number of times each was listed:

Rambling in lectures	76
Twisting mouth into odd shapes	63
Frowning	55
Playing or tinkering with objects	51
Cocking head	50
Pulling ear, nose or lips	45
Sticking hands into pockets	44
Standing in an awkward position	42
Pausing too long in talking	41
Use of pet expressions	39
Scratching head	39
Not looking at class	37
Lacking neatness	33
Talking too low	31
Using sarcasm	29
Walking about too much	29
"Wisecracking"	26
Talking too fast	26
Faulty pronunciation	22
Sitting slouched down in chair	21
Hair unkempt	18
Nervous movements	18
Odd colour combinations in clothing	17
Making incomplete statements	16

The survey report concludes that the College Professor might possibly improve his teaching if he were more aware of some of his most annoying habits. Perhaps that might apply to teachers, too.

Gems from the Past

This month our article is from a 1953 Talkabout. In view of the recent practice teaching period, and the supervisors' reports that go with it, we thought we would publish a model report.

"The Hazards of Prac" or "Oh to be a Tramguard."

One of the main hazards of prac. has been found to be reports issued by supervisors at regular intervals. A typical report goes something like this:

Student: Mr. T. O. P. Mark.
School: Wagga.

Appearance: Mr. Mark must be given some credit for the fact that he DID appear. I would suggest you change before retiring, as sleeping in clothes tends to render them rather crushed. It is a pity your stiff collar wasn't, and your suit didn't. Hair slightly unkempt — try plaiting it, or wearing it in a bun; also Mrs. Backer stocks some excellent brands of soap, which I can recommend.

Blackboard: Try writing your work horizontally — oblique

writing is difficult to read, and some children were unable to remain on their heads long enough to finish it.

Voice: Resembles a billy goat over corrugated iron. Watch your pronunciation of vowels, especially a, e, i, o, u; and of consonants, especially b, c, d, f, g, j, k, l, m, n, p, q, r, s, t, v, w, x, y, z. Your pronunciation of "h" is to be commended.

General: It is unwise to tell children to "carry on." This could lead to almost anything. I would suggest you do not pay so much attention to the young blonde in the front seat, as you are inclined to ignore the rest of the class.

It is quite all right for you to walk round the room, but better results would be obtained if you discouraged this tendency in the children.

While I am aware of the importance of Phys. Ed., I do not think it advisable to correlate it with Arithmetic, as many of the boys were doing, because space indoors is slightly cramped.

I realise the waste paper basket is full, but endeavour to keep the pile of rubbish on the table as small as possible. I found it difficult to see over it. Perhaps emptying the basket each term would result in improvement.

On the whole, you have the makings of a fine worker, though in what profession I would hesitate to say at this stage. However, the horse which draws tar carts for the Road Improvements Board is due to be pensioned off, and I recommend an early application if you wish to be considered.

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