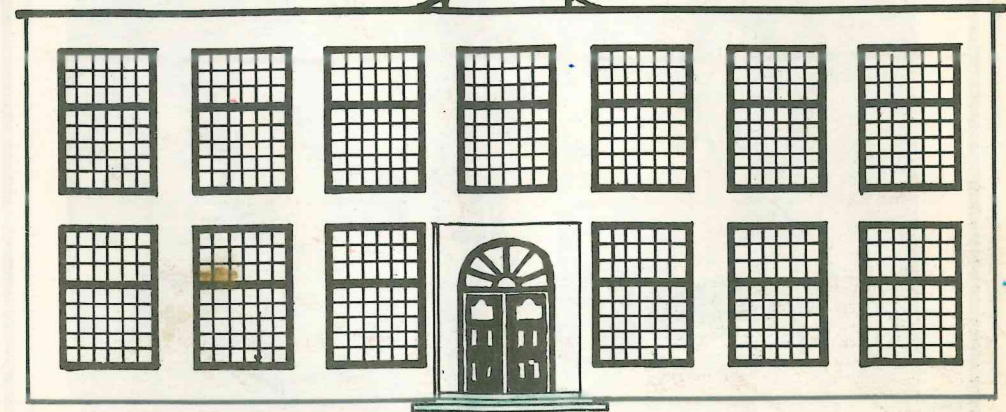


1915 **ULSTERVILLE SCHOOL** 1976  
**SOUVENIR MAGAZINE**



**A SHORT HISTORY OF ULSTERVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Ulsterville School opened on 5th January, 1915 with Mr. William Hazlett as its first Principal. Dr. Lamont was the second Principal, but when Fane Street Junior School opened in 1928 he was transferred there, with his staff and pupils. The pupils and staff from St. Nicholas's School in Lower Windsor Avenue were then transferred to the Ulsterville Premises and the Principal was Mr. J. Armstrong. He died suddenly on his way home for lunch one day in 1934. He was followed by Miss I. M. Robertson, who retired in 1949, later receiving the M.B.E. for her services to Education. The fifth principal was Mr. H. Thompson, who died suddenly in July, 1964. Then our present Principal, Mr. H. D. Starret, was appointed.

Until Miss Robertson was appointed Principal, the school had pupils up to leaving age (then 14 years) and all subjects were taught (including Algebra, Geometry and Cookery to the top standards — fifth, sixth and seventh). Seventh standard children did a Leaving Certificate examination, and the only means of admission to Grammar School was by City Scholarship which only very able children could do. After Miss Robertson became principal, the school was turned into a Junior School with pupils up to third standard and the senior pupils were transferred to Fane Street School. After the qualifying Examination was started in Mr. Thompson's time, pupils were retained until Qualifying age and so Ulsterville became a Primary School.

During the war years the school was equipped to serve as a Rest Centre for people

who might become homeless in an air raid. After the 1941 Easter Raid, the school had to cater for about 200 people for nearly two weeks until arrangements were made to accommodate them elsewhere. It is interesting to note that the present Headmaster was on the teaching staff during the early war years and was appointed by the, then, Ministry of Public Security to act as 'Billeting Officer' for the Lisburn Road Area.

The eleven year period 1965-1976 in spite of the troubles — has been one of comparative stability. The School has sought to maintain the high tradition of learning which has been associated with it since its inception in 1915. Its pupils have been given what we believe to be a sound education and we are justifiably proud of the success of a large number of past scholars in business and professional life both at home and abroad.

During this period we reluctantly took leave of a Vice-Principal, Miss Anna M. Wallace, B.A., who served in the school continuously for almost forty years. Many former pupils will also remember Miss M.I. Apsley and Mrs. F. E. Smith, both now retired. — the former after over thirty years service here.

Again we approach the end of an era. Ulsterville is to revert to an Infant School and as a building and a landmark it will still, we trust, continue to reflect the educational ideals of the Presbyterian people of the district who caused it to be built.

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