

THE HUTCHINS SCHOOL ARCHIVES

a note by Brigadier E. M. Dollery, M.V.O., O.B.E., M.C.

Unofficial Historian and an Old Boy of the Hutchins School

In Vol. 2 No. 5 of the Journal of the Archives Section is an article by J. H. M. Honniball on the Archives Collection at Guildford Grammar School, and I note that the author would be glad to know of the existence of any other such collection in Australia.

Such a collection has existed for a number of years at The Hutchins School, Hobart, which has just passed its 117th Anniversary, and which shares with the Launceston Church Grammar School the distinction of being the oldest Independent School in continuous existence in Australia.

The School was founded in 1846 as a memorial to William Hutchins, the first Anglican Archdeacon of Van Diemen's Land, who died in Hobart in 1841. From the usual small beginnings it has grown to a school of 500 pupils, with great traditions of service to the State in Church, Parliament, the Judiciary and the professions, and to the Mother Country in times of war.

The archives of the School are housed in the War Memorial Library, and are looked after by the School Historical Society. Included among them are the Official School History, enlargements of the Headmasters, together with their biographical details; early etchings and photographs of the School; group photographs of sporting teams and cadets through the years; documents relating to the construction of the present school buildings in 1849 and thereafter; deeds of trust of scholarships, etc., some over one hundred years old; bound copies of the School Magazine and other relics of interest historically. Biographical details of distinguished old boys of the School are in course of preparation.

A copy of the Constitution under which the School Historical Society works will willingly be supplied to anyone interested.