PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

Once again it has been a busy year for the Society in membership activities, in following out obligations in support of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust in their submission for the retention of Williams' Cottage, and in initiating works that should be attended to in the district. The 1990 Anniversary of the Treaty of Waitangi and our proposed contribution to it in addition to the preliminary preparation for the 1991 NZ Federation of Historic Societies Conference in Queenstown demonstrate the positive and purposeful activities of your Society.

Membership has increased steadily from a total of 194 to the present count of 220. With new membership cards available from committee members and also available in some local outlets of hotels and shops, it should be easier for interested people to join the Society.

Planned trips continued to be popular. All four were fully booked, with the last one requiring private cars to meet the demand. The change to weekday trips from Sundays of the past proved cheaper and were well supported; St Bathans and Environs with Mrs Hinds; Maori Point and Skippers with Messrs De La Mare, Scheib and Shaw, Mitchells Cottage in Fruitlands with Mr Kemp, and the scheelite mines at Glenorchy and Mt Alfred with Mr Thomson, were very successful. The inspection of Arcadia House with Mr and Mrs Veint was a bonus on the last trip. The people mentioned supplied the commentaries and valuable information, and but for their expertise in knowledge and exposition these outings would have been much less attractive. We thank them sincerely.

The Logo Competition for the Society was taken up by The Mountain Scene after The Advertiser failed us and closed its doors. Over thirty entries were received and a decision made by the committee. Mrs Kas McEntyre's miner won the prize.

With a great deal of satisfaction and relief the final curtain was rung down on the restoration of the Coronation Bathhouse. The Department of Conservation completed rebuilding and painting in August, handing it over to the Council on 12th September in a ceremony at the Bathhouse. The Mayor, John Davies, Mrs Helen Stead representing the NZ H.P.T., Mr McCrea from the Tourist Hotel Corporation, your president, and Mr N. Simpson from D.O.C. spoke to a gathering which comprised many of our members. It should be noted that D.O.C. made an excellent job of the restoration and must be commended.

Further membership participation was evidenced at a most successful 'Inaugural Luncheon' at the Holiday Inn on 2nd September. Over 70 attended to partake of an excellent buffet luncheon and listen to Dr Alf Poole - a jade expert - expound upon deposits in and beyond NZ, and the merits of this beautiful stone. Videos were taken of the two latter functions by Mr Jack.

It has been our intention to have historic structures and buildings, not in the District Scheme, classified. To this end, Mrs Lois Galer, regional officer of the NZ H.P.T. in Dunedin, visited us and inspected several buildings and structures in Queenstown and District. It proved a profitable visit. We have in our hands a complete list of buildings that have been classified as well as historic trees to be saved from destruction.

In May 1989 the owner of Williams' Cottage objected to the Protection Order placed upon the building by the Minister of Conservation through the NZ H.P.T. The hearings of submissions by the Council's Planning Committee was duly held on 16th May in Queenstown. Your Society placed a written submission supporting the Protection Order and your president put the case for retention orally. Many expert witnesses gave evidence. In due course the decision was made to uphold the Protection Order. An appeal is expected.

Your committee accepted the NZ Federation of Historic Societies request to host the National Conference in 1991. I regard this as an honour. No doubt the excellent hosting done in 1974 by this

Society had not been forgotten. We expect assistance from local members in this project as well as a bumper local enrolment for the occasion.

The 1990 Commission in Dunedin for the nationwide celebrations of the Treaty of Waitangi has been notified of our projected plans. In priority order they are:

1. A plaque on the Peninsula commemorating the first people living in the area and the swim of Haki Te Kura across the lake to Hidden Island.
2. Restoration of the powder magazine building at Arrowtown.

Money from the 1990 Commission is available but from the demands made already, one third of the cost would be the most we could hope for.

Your Society has also offered assistance to D.O.C. to upgrade the Queenstown Gardens gates, to place a plaque on the Tobin Track, to monitor the Forresters' Lodge survival, and to continue to provide essay prizes to Wakatipu and James Hargest High Schools for original historical research in our district. Completion of the wheels on the Turkish Gun Trophy at the War Memorial continues.

It is hoped that the first sentence in this report is justified, and that members are pleased with the progress and achievements of the Society. Exciting activities lie ahead for members to support and become involved.

I wish to record my sincere thanks to members of the committee who attended meetings, gave their utmost support once decisions were made, and contributed personally to the Society's well-being by oral contact with members on many occasions.

Finally I thank the Society for giving me the opportunity to serve it as president as best I could these past two years.

Clive Geary .

October 1989

1930's depression in the lakes District continued
Andrea King

TO WHAT EXTENT DID THE DEPRESSION AFFECT LIFE IN THE LAKES DISTRICT

By Andrea King

Continued from May '89 Courier

Another important government scheme in the area which proved to be very useful was the construction of the Arrowtown irrigation pipeline. This employment scheme made a significant difference to the local farming community. Before the depression, farmland was mainly used to grow barley and wheat. Around the Crown Terrace area, there was a large number of cropping farms in particular. The seasons were very dry, and without irrigation, grain was the ideal type of crop to grow. Farmers took their own grain to the flour mill to be ground. These farms were under contract to Speights Brewery. The crops were carted by wagon to Frankton where they'd be shipped by the Earnslaw to Kingston where the grain was loaded onto the train to the city. Wool from surrounding stations was also sold, but there were no fat lambs, etc. The construction of the irrigation scheme was a big undertaking and was under the control of the Public Works Department. With the completion of the scheme in 1931, farms were able to diversify their produce to stock. Prices of stock rose eventually and the scheme proved very worthwhile. Farmers now drove livestock to the Frankton wharf where they were shipped to Kingston, and travelled by railway to the freezing works in Invercargill.

During the earlier and better years of the 1920s, a number of farmers had bought land and improved it at high cost. They had contracted to repay their loans at a rapid rate in the expectation that their reasonably high income (at that stage) would remain at that level. In NZ, as a whole, "persistently low prices during the depression made this high cost of mortgage repayment a nightmare and drove many farmers to the verge of bankruptcy."

Estimates: The County Clerk and Treasurer placed before the Members the Estimates for the financial year 1933/34, together with the receipts and expenditure for the past year, for the consideration of the Council. After the figures were gone into, and the Members conversant with the Council's financial position, A DEPUTATION from the W.D. Farmers Union Branch consisting of Messrs John Reid and F.S. Bloxham was received. Representations were then made by the deputation to the Council asking that every endeavour be made to reduce the rating for the year. In reply to the application, the County Chairman said full consideration would be given the request, but also pointed out that the Council since the commencement of the depression had already reduced its rates by 44%, and the question of further reduction was hampered by the outstanding rate arrears, which, although not unreasonable when taking into consideration the severe times, still proved a considerable barrier to satisfactory financing. Nevertheless, every endeavour would be made to lessen the farmer's burden. The deputation then withdrew. After the Council giving further consideration to the estimates, regret was expressed that no reduction could safely be made in the rates levied, and on the motion of Clrs. Bovett and J. Cockburn, it was resolved that a general rate of one penny and one-eight of a penny in the £ on all rateable property in the County be struck. (Extract L.C.C. Minute Book).

These prices affected local farmers also. As prices continued to drop, sheep farmers came into Queenstown and sold their meat, door to door, which they had killed themselves. Because of the self-sufficient farming lifestyle, farmers and their families were able to feed themselves. Most had reasonably large vegetable gardens, fruit trees, fresh milk and could kill stock for meals. With the loss of stock and low prices they received, however, half a dozen or so farmers in the district were forced to give up their farms to cover debts.

In Queenstown, businesses were run by the families who owned them. During the depression, instead of hiring outside workers, employers used labour from within their family to cut down costs, and create employment for their own sons etc. Most businesses coped during these years, although profits were slender. It was rare for a

business to close down, however those who were less necessary to the community had to diversify to stay 'above water'. For example, Mr Robins' painting business suffered due to people not being able to afford to paint their homes. Mr Robins, like others, whose trade was affected, turned his hand to other ways of earning money 'on the side'. Where the swamp past ' Brewery Bend' (ie across from Industrial Place) lay, a man called Charlie Eastern drained the excess moisture and planted a market garden. He was warned by many not to waste his effort and the area was nicknamed 'Misery Farm', because the feat seemed so impossible. Charlie made the gardens a success, after a long process of ploughing with a team of bullocks, and rows of luscious tomatoes were soon admired by many. Often, he came into town to sell his produce, and due to his generosity, usually gave each person an apple as they passed by. This is the attitude that was shown by many a Queenstown businessman. Miss Tallentire commented that "I wouldn't be surprised if he gave away more than he sold." Also on this side of town, a number of Jersey cows were positioned. They were milked and their cream was sent to the cream factory in Cromwell each week. Horses were also run in this area.

Owners of these country businesses were very adaptable and accepting of their situations in general. Although profits were very small, business continued as usual. Bill Gordon kept producing his tasty sausages. The blacksmith did not stop mending horseshoes for the many horses that did not stop being hired out from the stables. Hailles and Lobb Drapery shop and the grocery shops stayed open for business, along with Wilkinson's souvenirs and chemist which is still open today, to give a few examples. The Murdochs' carrier business 'circulated' around, and out of the town also, with Mr Murdoch and his son in their Dodge Bros. truck. The Veints' Butcher shop kept up the meat supplies in town. Their prices included sausages for sixpence, steak for tenpence and a whole sheep was £4 or £5.

The cheese factory and the flour mill kept grinding away, and businessmen from Invercargill also 'popped through' every now and then, to sell their wares. The cows were milked every morning and

brought down from the Commonage where they along with horses, grazed. The milkman, Mr Hamilton never failed to call on the local houses each day with his horse and cart, and fill up the people's billies. He employed boys eg John Murdoch and Lance Tallentire, who wanted to earn some extra money out of school. He charged tuppence for a pint, and threepence for a quart. Another contributing business was that of the Thompsons' strawberry gardens. Many a child walked up Fernhill to fetch a treat of strawberries and cream for dinner. (The Thompsons had cream cows also). One 'thriving' business in particular was the weekly local 'rag' (Newspaper), the 'Wakatip Mail' (nicknamed the 'two minute silence'). This enterprise was established in 1862 and during the depression was run by Mr Warren along with the assistance of his son, and Mr Tallentire. The Post Office also (as mentioned previously) had skills for circulating and communicating stories around the district. There was a manual exchange and not many people had telephones. The whole Post Office was run by two men. It was impossible to call overseas. Nothing however, could outdo the discussions of the local ladies when they visited each other for afternoon tea, or a chat over the fence. The community was extremely close and any new-comers could not pass unnoticed. Outsiders were always made to feel welcome by the locals. When the Earnslaw came in, it was like an airport as everyone gathered to welcome it.

Queenstown, although on a much lesser scale than nowadays, was a holiday resort ..... the tourists came up on the Earnslaw from Kingston and often stayed in boarding houses. Some families, to earn a little extra income, supplied bedrooms in their homes to holidaymakers eg the Luckie's 'boarding house'. The more well-to-do tourists were accommodated in one of the four Queenstown hotels. From Queenstown, tourists were dispersed all around the district on tours etc. Seven seater 'cars' were driven by a local to guide tourists around the area to places such as Skippers. Many also travelled to Glenorchy or the Veints' house at Paradise on the Earnslaw. The tourist season was short, but as Mr Veint said, "there have always been tourists to keep the shops going." Not even the depression could dull the unique beauty of this area. Such tourists were mainly wealthier New Zealanders. No multi-racial people came to Queenstown and most locals had never seen a

Maori till they were older and had been to the city. Different tourists were treated differently from one another. Mrs Cooke, for example told how the best hotel room was given to those who had the most stickers on their luggage and were well-travelled, and perhaps wealthier. There were tearooms in Queenstown, which the locals went to only on a special occasion. It was two shillings for afternoon tea, which was considered extravagant. Locals didn't eat at the hotels often either.

Self-sufficiency applied to all families during this time, to different degrees, of course. The families in Queenstown and Arrowtown who owned businesses were not as well equipped with the bare necessities as farmers were. Every individual, young and old made a contribution to the somewhat 'tight' existence most families led. As Mr Veint pointed out, "we learned the value of money and I think I'm still frugal because of the depression." The people who lived locally during the depression, agree that life today cannot be compared with what it was like back then. And people say we're presently sufferring a depression!? Everybody had to work together and partly because if its small population, Queenstown was very community minded.

Self-sufficiency had already been part of life in the area, but it had to take new or more extended forms with the onset of the depression, usually within the households. Vegetable gardens and fruit trees were planted on spare land and many also had a hen house where the scraps went. For meals, men and children often went out to catch a fish or hunt an animal. Wild pigs were abundant, especially at Bob's Cove, and goats and a few deer wandered Fernhill. Birds(ducks and quail) could also be shot at the right time of year, and most boys had rabbit traps set up in their secret places. There was a local buyer of rabbit skins and some tasty dishes were thought up for the remains. Rabbitting was a popular source of pocket money for the youngsters, and the council encouraged them to keep the rabbit population down. An employment scheme was even set up to improve the situation.

"After the Ordinary meeting had concluded the Certifying Officer, of Cromwell, for the Unemployment Board, outlined the Scheme No.11 for the employment of men on rabbitting, and after considering the

matter fully the Council agreed to assist in furthering the scheme. Under the Scheme No.11 the Stock Inspectors of the Agricultural Department handle the extra work entailed."

Although there was a hairdresser in Queenstown, families tended to adopt the 'home cut' system which was usually executed by a creative parent. Children took sheep heads and offal to take home and put in the cooking pot, from the butcher yards. Butchers eg Mr Veint, killed meat themselves and there was a slaughter house on Veint Crescent, as well as a small one at Arrowtown. People had to be very careful with their money, just to acquire adequate quantities of life's necessities. This was not surprising as an average income was 28 shillings a week, which often had to cover a mortgage of around 16 shillings a week. Such items had to be rationed carefully, especially since the families were very large compared to now. John Murdoch said "I've never seen anyone who could slice bread as thinly as my mother could." Such methods had to be taken if the mouths of such large families were to be fed.

Coal ranges were used for cooking, heating clothes and towels and the coal (because of its high price) was carefully used. Wood was plentiful in Queenstown and the locals collected driftwood from the lake. When heavy rains came, it was a familiar sight to see families knee-deep in water, collecting the precious wood. It was the mothers who were usually in charge of the housework, sometimes with the help of a young girl. Clothes were washed in the same tub in which the children bathed. Ironing was done by hot irons from the coal range connected with a handle which could be clipped on and off. She would spit on it first to see if it was hot enough, and away she'd go for the next few hours, changing irons when one got cold. Although children's clothes were usually old hand-me-downs, they were always kept clean and tidy. Nobody worried particularly about fashions as they could not afford to. It was these times that made people make the best use out of what they had and the local people always kept their dignity in both their attitude and appearances.

One item in particular came in handy and that was the reliable old four gallon kerosene drum, which was used for many purposes eg milking cows. Often home-made soap and candles were made, mostly

on the farms where they had leftover fat etc. Electricity was generated from the One-mile. If a household had pets, they were for a purpose eg dogs were used for hunting and cats, for catching mice. Many houses had a separate washroom and each night, the night-man collected the contents of the toilet buckets and tipped it into a steel dray. The sewage was buried in holes near the cemetery.

Households had to be strong during these times and children had to learn to share and look after one another. Although the picture may appear gloomy it cannot be said that people didn't enjoy life. The children knew no other life and entertained themselves by playing knucklebones or marbles, playing sports or hunting. Sometimes they went to the silent movies which was run by Mr Tomkies and where Mrs Norris played the piano, for sixpence. Or perhaps they'd save a little money and go for a trip on the Earnslaw to near the Kawarau Dam or to Bob's Cove for 2 shillings, where the billies were boiled, and afternoon tea, served. (The fare to Glenorchy was six and threepence and to Kingston it was five and ninepence or three shillings for a child). In the winter, Queenstown became like a white playground and children were quick to dust off their sleds and make use of the many hills in the area. Skiing was not common, yet quite a few ice skated. The winter was not always so pleasant, however and often people had to run around to keep warm. Children were more independent and were usually helpful around the house. Everybody had a job to do. There was always something to do and they were never bored.

The main social centre in Queenstown was the Garrison Hall. Here, were many memorable occasions and there were many dances to attend (for a shilling). There were four licensed hotels in Queenstown itself: Eichardts, Mountaineer, McBrides and the White Star. There were many other hotels in the area also eg one at Skippers, and the Royal Oak at Arrowtown. Women didn't go into the hotels and they closed at 6 pm. On Saturday nights, musterers, shearers and miners often came into town, and children were not allowed to walk the streets, because of the drunken men. Mrs Veint pointed out that "the men would not go without their beer." It is agreed that men drank not directly as a result of the depression, but as a form of escapism as are most social activities. Billiards and pool were also very popular pastimes and there were two billiards rooms.

To add to the Saturday night atmosphere, the Salvation Army often sang in the streets. The hotels at Skippers, Glenorchy and Arthurs Point were also very popular with the miners and working men. As in all places, the depression had social costs. Pressure on society sometimes led to things such as married men getting single girls pregnant. If this happened, they had to pay £100 and there were believed to be a number of 'back-street' abortions, although this type of thing was not necessarily part of the reaction to the depression, and was not notable in the local area. Divorces were too expensive, anyway. Crime did not rise dramatically, like in the cities. There was only one policeman who rode a horse. He wore a blue tunic and riding pants. The occasional locking up of drunken men was perhaps the most demanding of his tasks. Young people did not drink (as they'd be severely punished if they were caught) and it was unacceptable to smoke if you were under 17 years old. Women did not smoke very much as many considered it 'rough'. Mrs Veint recalls being dared to walk down the street with a cigarette one day when she was a school girl. She definitely regretted it when she got home to find out her mother had seen her!

The other side of social life revolved around religion. This aspect of life is often clung to in hard times and the main churches (ie in Queenstown) included the Anglican (St Peters), Catholic (St Josephs), Presbyterian and the Salvation Army. Most children went to Sunday School and the older ones went to bible classes. All members of the family had a special set of clothes which were only worn on Sundays. Every year, the churches joined for a cruise on the Earnslaw and a Sunday School picnic. Some families payed for their own pew in the church rows eg the Buckhams (who owned the malt house) owned a pew in the Anglican church. The Salvation Army was known for its generous aid during the depression. Army 'soldiers' visited the poorer homes and helped in any way that they could, although they were not well-off themselves. The church communities were very close eg Mrs Cooke remembers Professor Collie calling on her family in the event they did not attend church one Sunday. Similar to the bitterness between the Catholic andProtestant Irishmen in the goldmines, a certain amount of rivalry existed between churches. These feelings were evident in the local schools also.

There were many schools running during the depression. These schools included Queenstown Public School (whose headmasters were Donald F. MacDonald 1923-33, and S.M. Barclay 133-36), Arrowtown (under teacher Rosina M. Douglas 1918-45), Arthurs Point (Bedilia McIonnell), Gibbston, Macetown, Cardrona, Kinloch, Crown Terrace, and two at Glenorchy. One was temporarily set up at Skippers also. The distribution of these schools represented the groups of people ie where they lived - a spread out community. St Joseph's School at the Convent also had quite a number of pupils. Rivalry was mainly between the two Queenstown schools. They competed frequently at sports such as rugby and hockey etc. There were occasional trips away to other schools for sports teams also, and the Convent and Public often mixed teams to represent Queenstown.

The schools had classes up to standard six. The Convent however, had the odd boarder and the nuns often taught beyond this level, as well as teaching piano to outside students. The nuns, as well as other teachers, controlled with very strict discipline. There was no hesitation to take a child outside and make use of the leather strap (with tails).

At the public school, there were approximately 120 pupils, 3 teachers and 3 classrooms. More practical subjects were taught eg needlework and boys had plots (2 to a plot) to garden of 8 feet by 12 feet, as well as the basic subjects of reading, writing, spelling and arithmetic. Boys at the Convent, which was smaller, also did certain 'extras' for the nuns eg stacking their wood in quarts (piles of 4 ft by 4 ft by 8 ft). John Murdoch recalls having to saw, with an old handsaw, green wood for the classroom fires. All classrooms had a fireplace, although they did not provide a great deal of warmth. The fires were nicely stoked up when inspectors came to visit however! Inspectors visited frequently to check classroom conditions (eg heat), behaviour of both pupils and teachers, and the health of the children. Although the children had no uniforms at any of the schools, the boys all wore ties and a neat standard of dress was maintained. After Labour Weekend, they 'wore' barefeet to school. Attendance was very important and on looking at the Convent School records, it is noticeable that a number of children suffered from bad health, usually conditions that could be comforted, but not

cured eg Tuberculosis. Some had to leave school because they were too weak.

Many pupils had jobs outside school hours to earn a little extra pocket money. After sitting their proficiency examination in standard six, most left school.The closest high schools were in Go Invercargill and Dunedin. Very few families could afford to pay f their children to board at such schools or with other families. Children were encouraged to earn a living as soon as possible. Th girls either found jobs in local businesses and homes, or stayed a home and helped their mothers. Most boys found jobs on farms. Farmers were paid subsidies by the government to employ young work Many workers were supplied with adequate food and clothing and did not receive payment. If they were paid, a typical sum was 15 shillings per week, the same as the unemployed benefit for a sing man. For example, Mr Vient, when he was 16 years old was employed on Cecil Peak Station which was owned by Major Akland. He was supplied with food and a horse and his task was to keep the rabbit population down. Along with many local businesses and townspeople, farmers found it difficult to afford rates. Local businesses for this reason did not give credit to customers. Farmers found it ha to keep up payments and support the work scheme and themselves, at the same time. Goldmining companies eg Amalgamated Kawarau Co were particularly notable for their failure to pay rates.

During this time, farmers had another worry also. There was an out break of distemper among farm dogs. There was not a local veterinarian, and treatment was usually left up to the farmer. Doctor W. A. Anderson, however was well-known for his skill in acting as vet. dentist and general practitioner, on occasion. He made clever use of his resources and knowledge. Dr Anderson was an extremely popul and devoted member of the district. He checked on the physical conditions of miners and public workers in the region, however loca only went to the doctor if it was particularly urgent. The Frankt hospital and maternity home were never used excessively and women tended to have their babies with the aid of midwives. Many went t Mrs Phillips' (nicknamed 'Granny Phillips') nursing home on Athol Street or Mrs Chalmers'. Some women, especially in the rural area

merely relied on the help of caring neighbours to aid them through childbirth and many a child was born on the kitchen table at home.

During these times of rough gravel or dirt roads, harsher climate (ie hotter summers, cooler winters), hard work and small returns, Queenstown and the surrounding areas pulled through. The tight-knit community, with the co-operation of all locals, including the council, supported each other. There was always a place to go and have a 'cuppa' and a chat. Perhaps this is the reason why the county was not so badly affected by the depression as the city was. The area had always been reasonably isolated and self-sufficient which would have helped also. Leniency on the part of the council eg for overdue debts, co-operation and effective organisation of work schemes, not only for locals, but city workers and their families as well, also contributed. The local government was rewarded for its efforts when, in 1934 their wages were restored.

"The County Chairman in introducing the matter of wages cuts made to the Council's staff, stated that the finances of the County had shown such a considerable improvement, and he considered that the time had come when certain restoration should be made. The original cuts in 1931 made an annual saving of £365-14/-, and the second cut in 1932 effected an additional annual saving of £408."
(LCC Minutes Book).

It would be wrong to say that the extent of the effects of the depression in the local area were slight. Everybody felt it and it could not be escaped. Like other places, jobs were hard to find and money was difficult to come by. Some of the effects, however could almost be described as beneficial to the local area. For instance, the Arrowtown Irrigation scheme was a very successful construction, built efficiently and with minimal costs (eg cheap labour). Farmers were able to develop new types of farming. The Queenstown to Kingston Road was also a major breakthrough in terms of new communication and access to other areas. Queenstown was actually described as a 'cushion' for city people who were drastically affected. A great deal of employment was created in the area and the locals were very generous to the families that came here to earn a living on public work schemes.

It is impossible to find a straight forward answer as to what extent the district was affected. By glimpsing at life in the area during the depression we can obtain a general feeling for the types of life styles people lived. Also by doing this, we can conclude that the pattern of everyday life of the town did not change ie typical town procedures such as the milk run. However, the pattern of life for each individual was changed in different ways and to very different extents. I think it is fair to say that Queenstown was fortunate in that the structure of the community did not allow destitute people and starving children to pass by. Of course, businesses accrued many debts and most made minimal amounts of profit, if they did at all. The individuals who experienced these times believe that it wa a learning experience and that they can now appreciate what they hav more than the younger generation will ever be able to do. People were brought up not to expect handouts and to work hard for a living Mr Veint said "there were always tourists to keep the shops running and there always will be." The businesses did stay open and the communities kept their heads held high.

Perhaps the most significant part of the depression here, was that the people maintained their dignity. In conclusion, I think that th effort of each individual and the personality of the area saved the Lakes district. In comparison to other areas, the district was not affected disastrously, however the activities of the depression greatly affected the area eg public works. The depression proved to be character building and the people learned that the saying "money doesn't buy happiness" is true, and the people of the district proved this to be so.

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