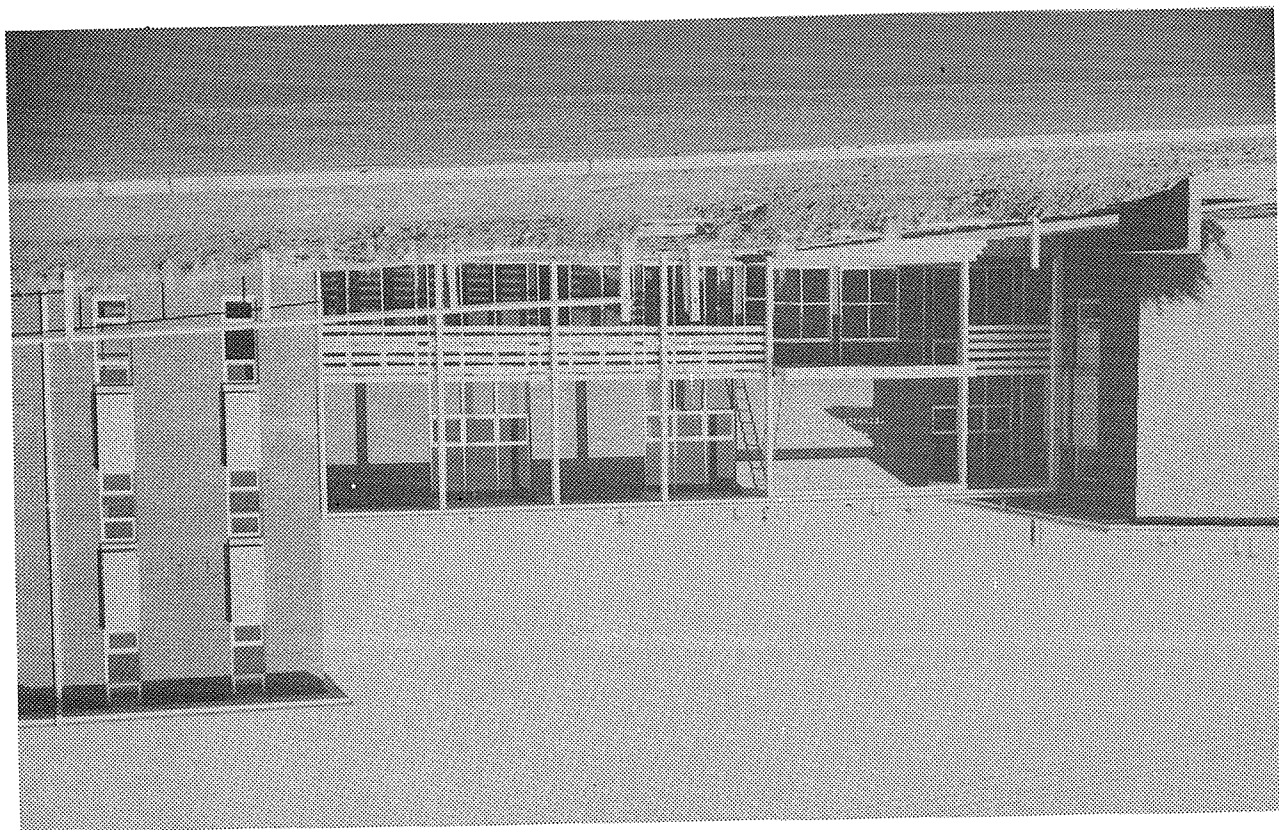


The Official Opening of the Building Trades Wing was made by the Honourable R. J. Heffron, Minister for Education, on December 6 1952. This marked the culmination of the efforts of the early pioneers, Advisory Committee members and voluntary workers, over a period of some sixty years. The College had grown from its humble beginnings in 1891, with one full-time teacher to a staff of 19 full-time teachers and 13 part-time teachers. This growth was assisted by a strong Advisory Committee, on which a number of the original pioneers of the voluntary movement were still active. These members together with the local newspaper and radio representatives, were largely responsible for strengthening the position of the College in the local and industrial fields.

In 1955 the College became the Regional College for Technical Education in the South Western Area and the Principal, Mr T. J. Keene, became the first Regional Supervisor. The first Clerical Registrar, Mr K. Frost, was also appointed, indicating the increasing activities of the College.

In December 1964, work commenced on a £600,000 building, which was to ultimately house Administrative Offices, Commerce, Sheep and Wool, and Fashion classes, together with new Automotive and Plumbing Workshops. Work on this building was completed in March 1965, and it was immediately occupied after completion. The additional accommodation now available allowed the Branch College in Hardy's Building to be closed, so ending twenty years of occupation. This allowed all the Technical Education classes to be undertaken on the one site in Macleay Street.



The new administration block and additional classrooms completed in 1965.

ing classes were commenced and full-time staff was increased by the appointment of teachers of Commerce, Automotive Engineering, Sheep and Wool, Dressmaking and Accountancy courses. In 1949, the College was providing courses in Farm Machinery, Carpentry, Bookkeeping and Sheep and Wool for the students of the Wagga Wagga Agricultural College.

In 1950 enrolments continued to rise to 877. The introduction of hobby courses such as Woodwork, Metalwork and Children's Art Classes, was a strong factor accounting for the added number of students. This in turn created steadily increasing responsibilities for those charged with the operation of the College. Added to this was the progression of the new Building Trades Wing, which was readily nearing completion. In 1950 Mr Peter Anthony arrived as a teacher of Fitting and Machining. Mr Anthony was to remain at the College for a total of 32 years, until his retirement in 1982. Mr Anthony was the master craftsman of the 'old school' and was highly respected by all who were associated with him, in what was a record length of service to the College.

Early in 1952, the Building Trades Wing was made of the accommodation provided. The new wing cost £104,000. The building housed Dressmaking, Carpentry and Joinery, Electrical Trades and Plumbing classes. A room was also set aside for the College Library and another for College Staff amenities. The enrolment figure for 1952 continued to maintain a steady value of 868.