

SEC
CHRISTMAS, 1952

SPOTLIGHT



MR. GERALD REID, of Purchasing, stepped into the limelight when he helped Harold Williams sing "Elijah" in the Melbourne Town Hall. Half-way through, Williams suffered a bronchial attack. The conductor appealed to the audience, and Gerald came forward.



Mr. W. P. SPONG, Shipping and Customs Officer, became a front page hero along with Mr. M. Folwell, when they saved a yachtsman after a three-hour search in the Bay. When the alarm was given, Mr. Spong hadn't time to check the fuel in his boat. The motor stopped just as they got back.



MR. G. J. CAMPBELL, of Yallourn, has won a two-year engineering scholarship sponsored by the Federation of British Industries, London, and the Australian Government.



MR. ALWYN KURTS, 3XY compere, is making broadcasts about the Commission's activities. Here he records on-the-spot impressions from a Yallourn coal dredger.



MR. A. O. HARRIS, S.E.C. projectionist, and the five puppies who lost their mother soon after birth and are being brought up by a cat. Their picture has been published by newspapers in every State. See story on page 8.



Christmas Message

TO everyone in the Commission, 1952 has been a tough year. Those who work in many other enterprises also have found progress difficult, because the financial stringency which has delayed our plans has also affected other public and private organisations drastically.

The important word to us is "delayed" — our great works and our great hopes have never been abandoned. The time must come when Kiewa and Morwell will be going ahead at full speed again, and new projects, now in the planning stages, will be developed to provide the ever increasing requirements of electric power.

Despite setbacks the main aim and responsibility of this great enterprise still stands forth clearly and unchanged — the supply of electric power at lowest cost to help raise the nation's standard of living and enable our industry to compete abroad on favourable terms.

To every one of us who is a part of the Commission, the future is therefore both a challenge and an opportunity — a challenge to overcome our temporary difficulties and the re-adjustments they entail, and an opportunity to achieve to the full the possibilities still ahead.

As another year nears its close, my fellow Commissioners join with me in placing on record, with pleasure and appreciation, the splendid service rendered to the community by the efficiency and loyalty of all engaged throughout the many phases of the Commission's activities.

A happy Christmas to you and your families, and may the New Year bring to each of us the deepest satisfaction in doing well that which lies to our hands.

CHAIRMAN.

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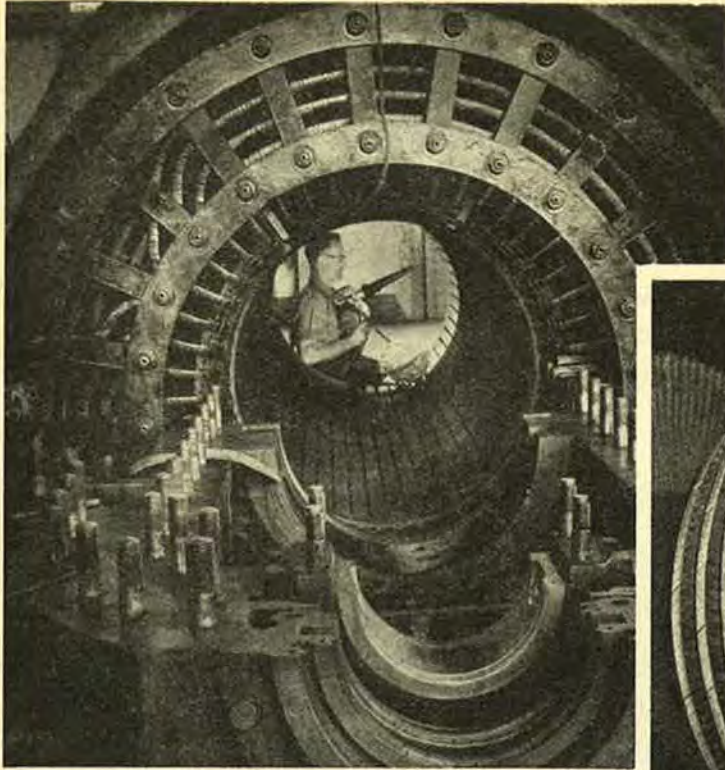
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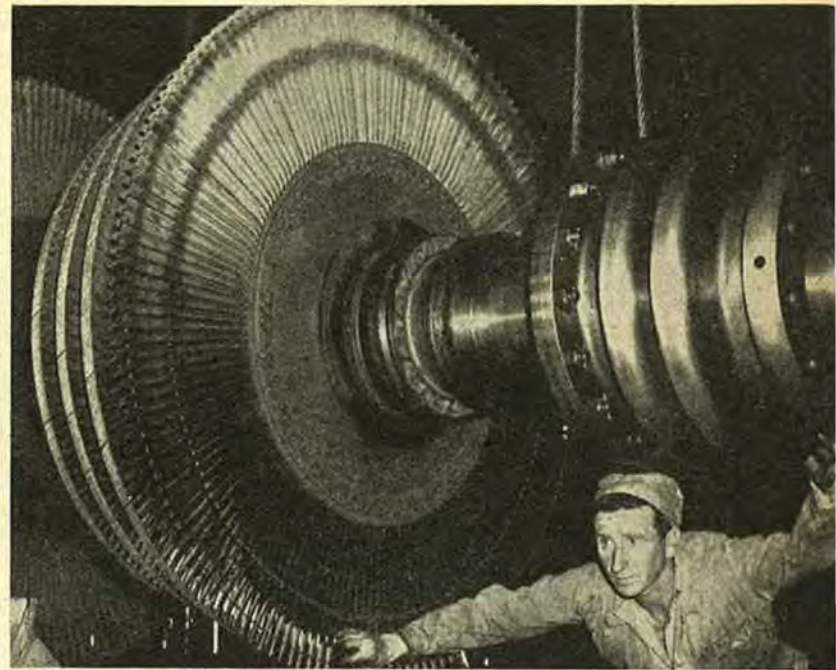
COVER

Pictured on our cover preparing to carve the Christmas turkey is one of Australia's most distinguished chefs, Mr. William G. Zimmerman, Principal of the William Angliss Food Trade School. He was selected recently to do the cooking for the forthcoming Royal Tour of Australia. (See "Time to Talk Turkey," page 10).





Left: Yallourn alternator is dismantled so that it can be carefully inspected and have dust blown from windings. Bearings will be re-metalled if necessary.



Every one of the blades of this Yallourn turbine (right) has been carefully examined to make sure it is safe for another year's work. Each component of plant is carefully examined.

Everywhere we're busy on -

THE BIG CLEAN-UP

IN power stations from one end of Victoria to the other, there are scenes of great activity. Men are inspecting alternators, re-blading turbines, crawling around condensers, changing the oil in switchgear, checking governors, blowing dust from flues, and renewing brickwork in furnaces. In control rooms, painters are giving the panels a restful green matt finish, while technicians check the instruments. Even ancillary equipment like weighbridges is in pieces.

Now is the peak period of the annual overhaul.

While most people are enjoying their Christmas holidays, the Commission's maintenance men are working harder than ever. This article tells how reduced demand in summer allows our generators to be overhauled.

The planning of the maintenance programme for power stations takes place in the Generation Branch of Production Department. The Branch

conducts a game of organised "musical chairs" with the Commission's 35 steam turbines, 13 diesel sets and nine hydro-electric generators. The chairs represent the demand, which should always be fully satisfied, and the players are the Power Station Superintendents who, unlike participants in the parlour game, have an active role in the planning of the whole operation. Generation Branch tries to juggle its power stations so that whenever electricity consumers unexpectedly put in an extra chair there is always a spare generator somewhere in the system to take care of it.

The starting point of the maintenance programme is an estimate prepared by the Electric Supply Department showing the peak load for each month. It is high in the winter, and dips lower during the summer holidays. Without restrictions, the difference is nearly 100,000 kilowatts. On this graph

Generation superimposes the estimated plant availability for each month, which is obtained by adding up the output of all the generators expected to be working.

MARGIN OF SAFETY

The basic problem is to ensure that there will always be enough generating capacity to meet the demand, with a margin for emergencies such as unexpected peaks, breakdowns, overhauls taking longer than expected, or installation of new plant being delayed.

As electricity is generated more cheaply at Yallourn than anywhere else, (apart from the hydro stations) obviously it pays to use Yallourn at its maximum practicable capacity all the time. So the maintenance plan provides for each unit at Yallourn to be out of production as little as possible. Taking each unit in turn, Yallourn overhauls spread over nearly nine months of the year, leaving the whole station operating during the coldest weather.

The aim of the maintenance programme is to ensure that the full



Man in rubber mask is Norm. Hegarty, who has dirty job cleaning Richmond furnace. He needs respirator and goggles to protect eyes and lungs from dust and soot he stirs up.

generating capacity of all stations is available during the three winter months. Most of them drop to their minimum output in December and January. During this period, at some places such as Richmond and the

Yallourn briquetting works, it pays to close down the power station completely; others run at reduced power.

Hydro power stations have their overhaul in autumn, because at the end of the summer the flow of water is lowest.

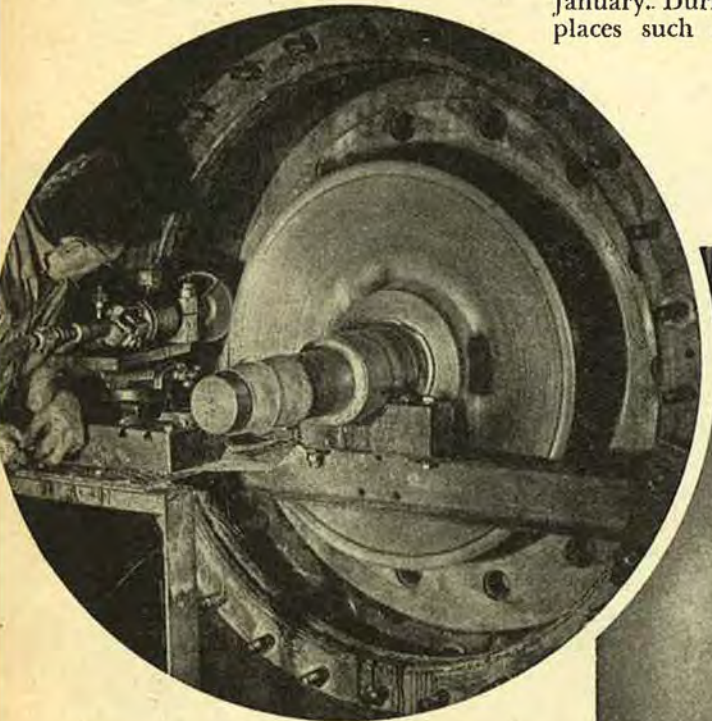
RUSH — WITH CARE!

Experience has shown that it doesn't pay to rush a major overhaul — working more than one shift means that each gang is not quite sure of what the others have done — and, all things being equal, the overhaul that takes four weeks is likely to be more satisfactory than one completed in a fortnight.

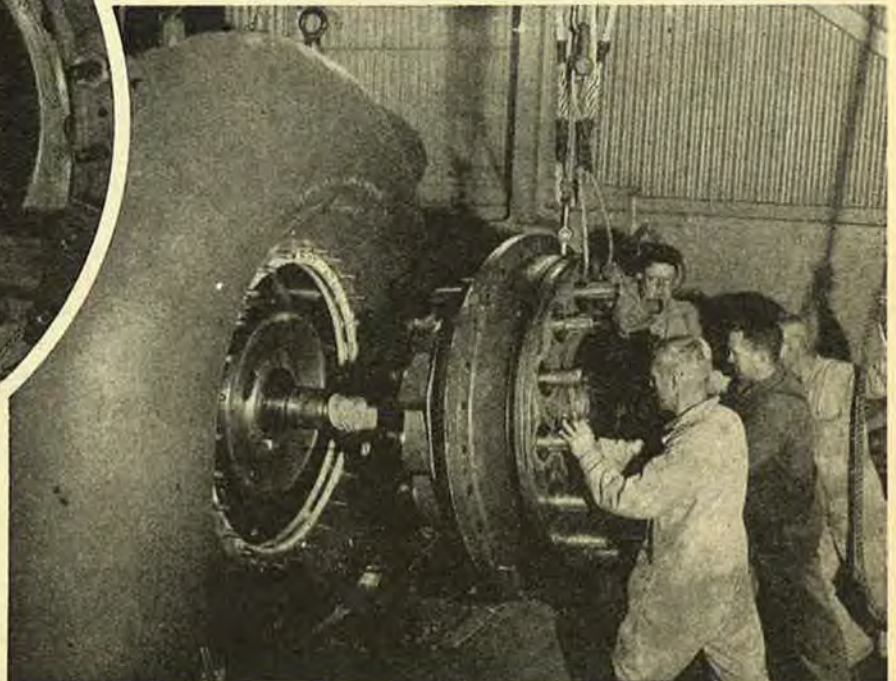
On the other hand, the earning capacity of a generator is so great that it's often cheaper to pay overtime or accept the disadvantages of shift work than to have it out of service a few days longer than absolutely necessary.

Some sections have special maintenance staffs to look after their equipment. Electrical Operations Branch, for instance, has more than 300 transformers and 100 oil circuit breakers in its charge, and they all require an annual overhaul. Elaborate records are kept of each type of equipment, failures are in-

Turbine at Lower Rubicon Power Station being assembled after annual overhaul. Fine adjustment is vital.



Using air-driven grinder on a turbine runner at Lower Rubicon Power Station. Hydro maintenance is done when water level in dams is lowest.



vestigated, and modifications made when any weaknesses are revealed. When major overhauls are necessary, transformers are taken to Yarraville Workshops, where they are dismantled, repaired and completely rebuilt.

In each major area there are painters, carpenters, bricklayers and other tradesmen, all engaged in caring for the hundreds of buildings owned by the Commission. In the metropolitan area this work is done by Civil Construction staff. One major job being planned at present is renewing the roof in the older portion of Newport power station.

Automotive plant is a special problem in itself because, like most of the Commission's machinery, it has to be available 365 days a year and units can be withdrawn for servicing only when there are others to replace them.

Because of the war shortage and the consequent difficulty in obtaining new cars and trucks, the vast expansion of the Commission's fleet has resulted in many vehicles being kept on the road long past their normal retiring age. This throws an added burden on the maintenance staffs and mechanical facilities in the work-



Even the S.E.C.'s diesel locomotives must go into the shops for regular maintenance and periodic overhaul. "S.E.C. 1" shunts trucks of coal and briquettes at Newport Power Station.

shops, at the same time making their work more important than ever. Vehicle maintenance is done on a mileage rather than on a seasonal basis, but winter is the time for major overhauls of the heavy earth-moving plant used mainly in the summer.

But for the Commission's planned maintenance programme, its assets would be steadily reducing them-

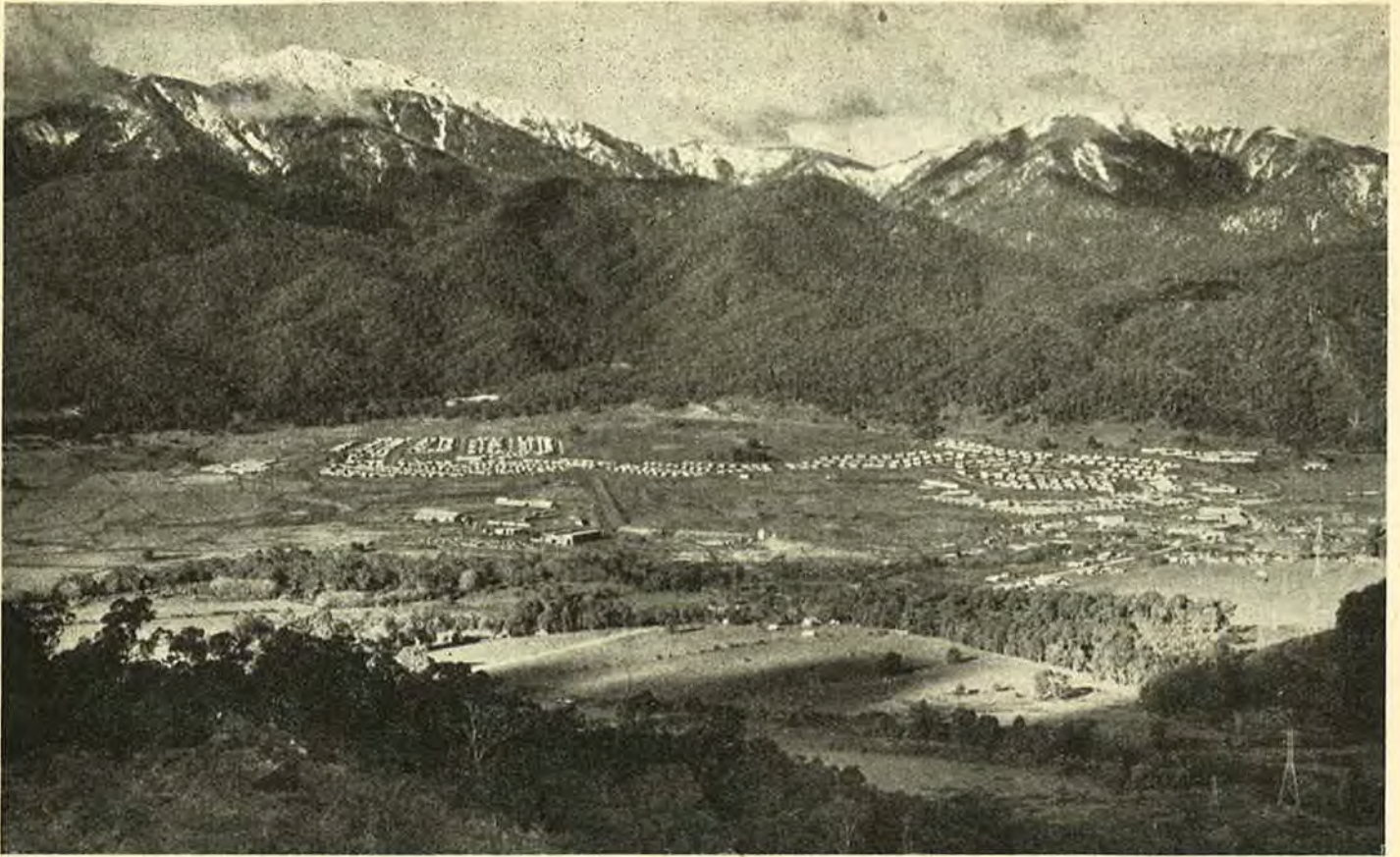
selves in value. Without external protection, everything made of iron or steel would be reverting to iron ore, woodwork would be rotting. Uncared for, the transport fleet would be qualifying for the junk heap, neglected channels and race lines would be silted up or washed away, current would be arcing across unwashed insulators, while dirty, corroded turbines, boilers, transformers and coal winning machines would be destroying themselves in noisy and spectacular smash-ups. Victoria's power supply would stop.

Only the constant attention and care of hundreds of people scattered through almost every branch and section of the Commission stand between us and the chaos which would result from leaving equipment to itself. Maintenance first of all achieves safety and prevents breakdowns — the stitch in time saves a world of trouble — it maintains efficiency, which, in all machinery, tends to drop off with use, and it protects everything from the slow deterioration of time and the elements.

Planned preventative maintenance alone can confer permanency on the Commission's power system.

Left: Colin Sinclair is brazing rotor blades to the lacing wire of one of Newport's high pressure rotors. Right: Overhauling a synchronous condenser is comparatively rare maintenance operation.





Mt. Beauty is in a valley, but this view from Tawonga Gap shows that the Alps are not far away.

COMMISSION OFFERS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY!

Kiewa Holidays For All Employees!

STARTING from 5th January, Commission employees and their families can spend their holidays in the Kiewa Valley, living in the comfortable staff hostel at Mt. Beauty.

The scheme will enable all those who work for the Commission to enjoy a unique mountain holiday at very reasonable cost and may eventually establish the area as one of the State's leading tourist resorts.

Ever since the Kiewa scheme brought roads and modern amenities to the wild Bogong country, its admirers have been longing for the day when people could live amongst the magnificent scenery for pleasure as well as visit there on duty. Now the ill-wind of retrenchment has resulted in unused hostel accommodation which can be made available for holidays.



Visitors will be more than welcome at Mt. Beauty. The 18-hole golf course and the illuminated tennis courts will be available, and the R.S.L. is willing to admit visiting members to its weekly smoke-nights.

There's a swimming pool in the river, picture shows, a good shopping centre, and churches of the main denominations. Fishermen say that you can pull 3 lb. and 4 lb. trout out of the Kiewa River just near the township, and good shooting abounds within easy distance of the Kiewa Works boundaries. There's no shooting permitted within the Area.

During the trial period the holiday scheme will operate only during the summer, but later it may be extended so that some of Australia's best skiing grounds will be added to the attractions.



These pictures give some idea of the sporting facilities Kiewa offers to holiday-makers at low cost.

All these recreations could be indulged in at other tourist resorts — though perhaps not all at the one place. The real importance of Kiewa is that it offers the chance of a closer look at Victoria's greatest hydro-electric project, with trips to picturesque Bogong Village, Clover and Howman's Dams, and even up on the High Plains themselves, to Pretty Valley and Rocky Valley. Expeditions may be arranged to No. 3 power

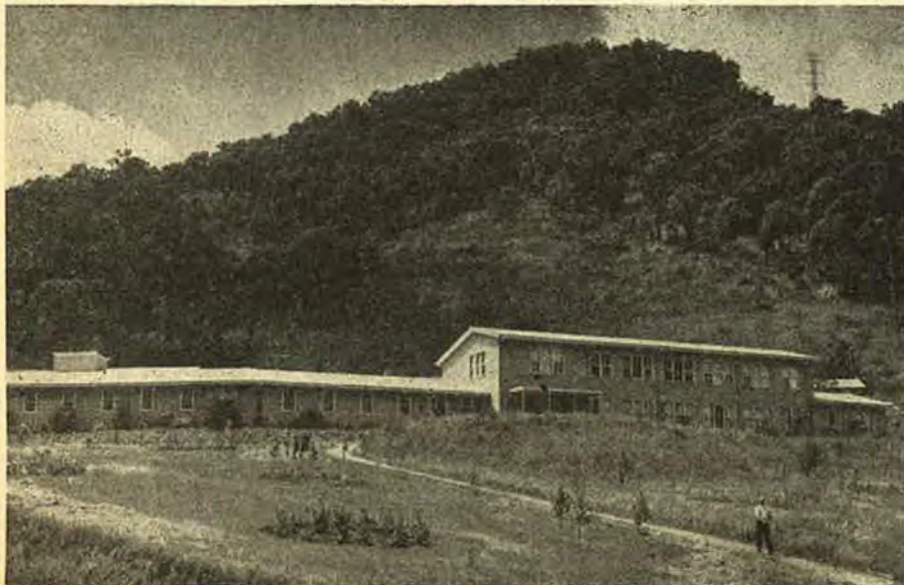
station, the section of the scheme already operating.

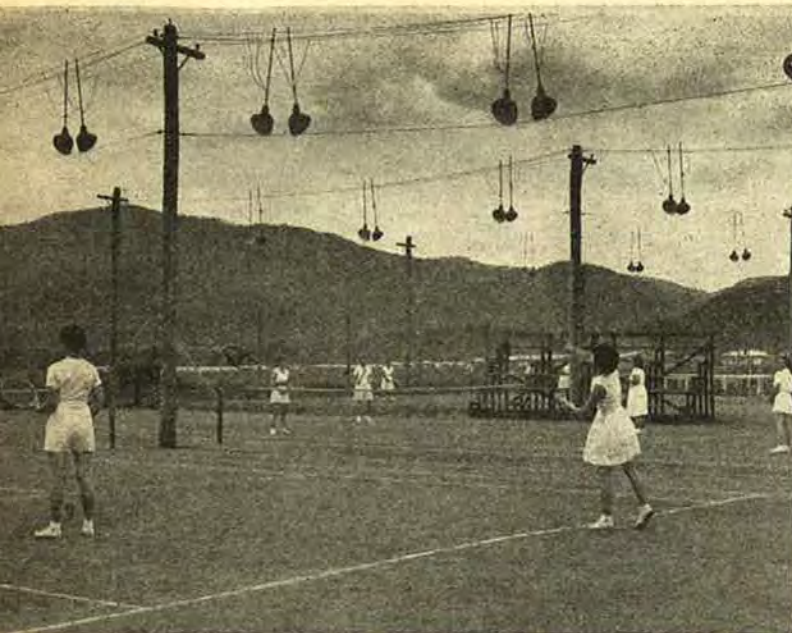
It must be remembered that Kiewa is a construction area, and that during the week you never know when you will meet a huge truck or some other heavy equipment on the mountain roads. For this reason, private vehicles are not allowed past Bogong on week days, but permission will be granted for cars or taxis to travel to the High Plains on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

The Mt. Beauty staff hostel offers all the amenities of a modern guest house — well furnished rooms with radiators, bed lamps and good furniture, excellent food, and a ballroom where dances are frequently held.

One advantage for the family man who wants "to get away from it all" is that everyone will have a single room, so there's no question of being kept awake by the children. How-

The hostel takes over 250 guests and commands fine view of Kiewa Valley. Big log fires warm lounges.





Shilling meters control lights for night tennis. Good shooting abounds just outside works area.

ever, people with babies can bring along their own cots or bassinets.

After going into costs, the Commission finds it can offer full board at Mt. Beauty for £6/6/- a week, with lower rates for children (£2/2/- up to 3 years, £4/4/- from 4 to 10 years, and £5/5/- from 11 to 17 years). Combined return rail and 'bus fare from Melbourne is £4/5/4 first class (£2/18/4 first return to Wangaratta, £2/6/6 second return to Wangaratta, 'bus Wangaratta to Mt. Beauty,

£1/7/-). It is also possible to travel to Mt. Beauty from Albury for 16/6 single or £1/13/- return.

On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays the train leaving Melbourne at 7.55 a.m. connects with a 'bus at Wangaratta about noon, which arrives at the area shortly after 4 p.m. On the return journey the 'bus leaves Mt. Beauty at 6 a.m. every day, catching the 9.30 train from Wangaratta, which arrives in Melbourne at

1.45. By car Mt. Beauty is an easy six hours' drive from Melbourne.

The Kiewa administration is preparing a small booklet for the guidance of anyone arriving for a Kiewa holiday. It will contain full details of costs, time-tables, and so on.

Amenities and Welfare Branch at Head Office is doing the booking, and will be happy to answer any inquiries from Commission employees.

Bedroom is modern, dining room light and airy. Town-planned shopping centre includes fine cinema.



Between Ourselves

Bow—Meeow!

Mr. A. O. Harris, the projectionist who shows the Commission's pictures to schools, clubs and other organisations, is a breeder of champion Pekingese dogs.

Recently he found himself in a quandary when five of his Pekingese puppies lost their mother when they were a few hours old.

Mr. Harris tried everywhere to find a foster-mother, but failed and as a last resort introduced the puppies to a neighbour's cat. With claws trimmed, the half-Persian was placed in the sleeping box with the pups, and became a model mother.

To keep up with her responsibilities, she drinks $1\frac{1}{2}$ pints of milk a day and eats a pound of raw steak, supplemented by fish and rabbit.

A picture of the strange family appeared in the daily press, and the cat and pups took part in the Siamese Cat Club's show held in the Melbourne Town Hall in aid of the Red Cross.

Fire-killed Stutter

Mr. C. B. Kay, the Forestry Officer, likes to tell the story of a forest ganger who stuttered so badly that he once failed to get his pay. When the paymaster arrived and asked him his name, the ganger, who we'll call "Melbourne," gave the impression that he was Mr. "M. L. Burn." A few days later, Melbourne and the rest of his gang were sent to fight a bushfire which had broken out in an abandoned saw-mill. They battled against it most of the day, and controlled it. Then it broke away, and was conquered again. About ten o'clock in the evening, with the fire thoroughly cornered and beaten, the tired forest gang sat down in the glow of burning embers to keep watch. To keep themselves awake, they began to tell wild bush tales, and Melbourne told the best yarn of the evening without a single pause or hesitancy.

Gala Night

Not every shift worker looks up from his desk about midnight and sees a monkey with a chain dangling from its leg climbing through the open window. Yet this is exactly what happened to watchman Arthur Rayson on 14th November, Geelong's Gala Day.

As soon as Arthur moved, so did the monkey — out of the window again and into the tramway depot. At this stage an attendant from one of the Gala sideshows turned up at the gates in pursuit of the monkey. Arthur let him in and, with the help of depot employees on duty, he managed to catch the intruder after a few hectic minutes in the shed.

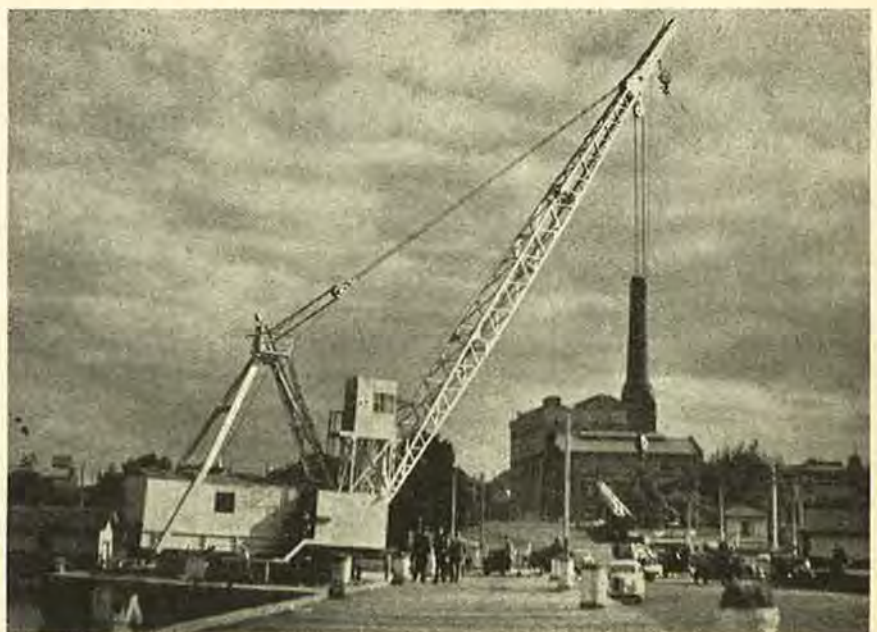
Punctuality Plus

In the New Zealand Association rooms having lunch the other day we met the Vice-President, Mr. D. K. McPherson, wearing the New Zealand fern leaf in his lapel. Engaging him in conversation, we found that between 8.30 a.m. and 5 p.m. every week day he is Chief Timekeeper of the S.E.C., and that he has a tendency to sigh for the good old days when men *were* men.

In fact, his favourite employee was the late Lou Dundas, Timekeeper at Yarraville, who in his many years' service was late only once. This was scarcely his own fault, because Dundas — a veteran of the South African War and World War I — had a wooden leg, and one morning the swivel in his artificial ankle broke. The best part of the story is that Dundas, who lived at Mentone, used to have to wake up the driver of the steam train (who was a bit of a slug-gard) so that he could be at Yarraville sharp at 7.30 a.m. each day.

HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPH?

How Geelong Power Station's 185 ft. chimney stack was lowered into position by a giant floating crane — or so it seems at first glance. Closer inspection reveals that the Geelong Harbor Trust's floating crane is actually lifting a test load of 26½ tons from the wharf, and the pulley block can be seen just below the base of the chimney. The crane was bought from the American defence authorities after the war and towed from Manus Island by two tugs in a most adventurous journey across the Pacific.



Our New Look

Everyone needs a new outfit occasionally, and with the S.E.C. Magazine, a change in format was long overdue.

So this issue of our magazine has a new lay-out, which is easier to read and more efficient to produce. We would welcome your opinion of it, and will give careful thought to any suggestion for further improvement.

Every employee of the Commission is entitled to a copy of this Magazine, which is published every two months.

Please let us know if you are not receiving yours regularly. The address is on page 1.

Christmas Party

Newport Social Club reports that preparations are well in hand for the monster Christmas children's party to be held in the Essendon Town Hall on the evening of 19th December.

An orchestra has been booked to provide dance music for the parents while the children are receiving gifts from Father Christmas. There will be balloons, party caps, ice-cream and a real sit-down supper.

The committee expects four hundred parents and four hundred and fifty children to attend this huge gala night, which will cost about £300.

Quick Cutting

A new thermic borer has been developed in Birmingham and is giving phenomenal results in cutting through brick and concrete. A brick-layer and his mate had worked all day to drive a hole through a 3-ft. thick brick wall, and penetrated only four inches. The thermic borer went through the wall in 10 minutes, using 17ft. of old steel tube, some iron wire and 190 cu. ft. of oxygen.

An iron tube is filled and tightly packed with iron wire of about 0.125 in. gauge. One end of the tube is connected to a controlled oxygen supply and the other end is pre-heated to red heat with an acetylene flame.

Oxygen is then applied via the iron tube, causing the end of the tube — or lance — to fuse. The lance is then applied to the concrete or brickwork and the temperature attained is so great — up to 1,400 degrees Centigrade — that the stone or brick is melted.

Talent Quest

The Dramatic Club is looking for a new hall and a new play for its next production. The hall, or theatre, should be centrally located, with emphasis on customer comfort.

Search No. 2 is for a light comedy, with plenty of amusing dialogue and situations, and having a worthwhile story to tell.

Before embarking on the new season the club is engaged also in a talent quest, and the Honorary Secretary (Mr. E. D. Barton, H.O.481) will be glad to hear from anyone who is willing to "have a go" at amateur theatricals. Then he'll arrange a trial casting, which has nothing to do with engineering, by the way.

In short, the club has an open mind about the next production. It invites suggestions about what it puts on, where it is staged, and who are the players. You couldn't have anything fairer than that.

Glass Cloth

Keeping electricity on the conductor is usually the work of rubber or paper insulation, but with overhead cables the insulators are of porcelain or glass. Could glass take the place of the rubber on the familiar flex? According to a coloured film electrical engineers saw in Head Office the other day, the answer is "Yes."

Glass of special quality is drawn into exceedingly fine fibres and called "fiberglas." It is then flexible and is twisted around wires, woven into mats or made up in patterns as fire-proof curtains. Copper strands surrounded by a mesh of "fiberglas" make an insulated conductor. Overheating does it no harm, alkali and acid touch it not, and moisture is not absorbed by this new insulation.

31st Debut

Audrey Ridgeway, the pretty girl who took Patricia Wilks' place in the debutante set, was making her 31st debut. She is an assistant dance instructor, and she makes a habit of helping out when anyone is sick and cannot be there on the big night. To make matters worse, Fred Bateman got measles (or was it a nerve rash) and so Ernie Cox had to play Gregory Causer, his 19th man.

Man Behind Menus



The man behind the Kiewa Holiday Plan is Catering Officer Jack Furlow, who will see that everybody is properly looked after. And behind him is a most interesting career, mainly connected with feeding people on a large scale.

Even during his later school days in Wales, Jack showed a liking for catering, and did a three-year course in it at Cardiff University and Technical College.

A few more years' swotting at Edinburgh University secured an Arts degree and, with this and his hotelier father's blessing, he went to the United States to gain practical experience in "big" catering.

Ten years later he was hotel manager at New York's "Berkeley." Returning to take over his father's business in the old country, he was swallowed up in 1940 by the British Admiralty and eventually attached to H.M.S. "Orlando" as victualling officer. Here he "fed" the Western Command approaches and the main convoys to Russia. In 1943 he was transferred as Catering Superintendent to the Admiralty-controlled refinery on the Persian Gulf. There at Abadan he cared for the interior needs of 4,000 staff and their families, obtaining by means of oil tankers, beef from Fremantle and beer from Hobart.

However, he could scarcely be held responsible for later troubles (unless everyone missed the Furlow menus and the Hobart beer), because he resigned in 1949, migrated to Australia, and became the Commission's Catering Officer.

In the Christmas tradition . . .

It's Time To

THIS is a Christmas story with an unhappy ending — for turkeys. The chances are that if you dine at a hotel or a restaurant on Christmas Day you'll eat turkey. If the culinary head of your home isn't "average" you may even eat turkey at home. But no matter who eats what, a turkey's life, whether grave or gay, is certainly short.

On a farm one mile from Broadford, Mr. A. G. Zwar (better known as Dolph) makes science and common-sense work together to breed good table birds — at a profit. His turkey farm is one of the largest in Victoria. He was a pioneer of the artificial methods of turkey breeding and rearing, and at one time produced more turkeys than any other breeder in Australia.

Dolph Zwar says that the use of electricity for incubators and brooders marked a turning point in the turkey raising industry. Not only did it cut down labour (and therefore costs), but it gives the turkey breeder greater control from the time when the egg is placed in the incubator until the turkey poult is old enough to leave the brooder.

Altogether, your turkey has an electric life. The constant warmth of an electric incubator hatches the egg, electricity warms the brooder where the young poult gathers stamina for life outside, electricity runs the refrigerators storing the bird for the market, and keeps it until it is cooked (probably in an electric oven) for some gourmet's table.

Dolph believes that the only way to hatch and rear turkeys commercially — or any other poultry for that matter — is by artificial means, because it gives greater production and more effective prevention of disease.

Advances in turkey nutrition over the last seven years have been remarkable, Dolph says. Thirty weeks from the time the turkey poult emerges from the shell in the electric incubator it is ready for the market. In its first three weeks, it doubles its weight, but after 30 weeks, its weight-gain per week decreases and its food consumption increases. This ratio of conversion of food to flesh underlies the economics of turkey raising and



On the Zwar farm, the history of turkey poults a few hours old is recorded by a distinctive punch mark between the toes. Dolph Zwar (left) uses the toe punch while his brother, Dick, marks for age by removing the small joint of a certain toe.



Five hours old, these poults have been hatching for 28 days in the electric incubator, which holds 1,900 eggs. During hatching they are tested for fertility by strong light, which reveals the embryo turkey in the shell. Infertile eggs are replaced.

Talk Turkey

dooms most birds to a premature death at 30 weeks.

When the young turkey is 10 weeks old it is allowed out to range — in other words, allowed the freedom of the farm, or as much freedom as the guardian dogs will allow.

One could believe from their names that the pedigree of the Zwar dogs — most of them Border Collie — was steeped in alcoholism, for the names read — Whisky and Soda, Pimms, Shandy, Fizz, Kumm (Kummell is a German caraway seed liqueur and Kumm looks as though he has a dash of German shepherd dog), Schnapps, Brandy.

However, only a recalcitrant turkey would say the dogs are a headache, because they are invaluable to the breeder, not only in handling but in guarding the turkeys. At night, "alarm" dogs are tethered around the flock and other dogs roam free. They are the "killer" dogs, and will tackle anything that threatens the turkeys.

Foxes are the greatest menace. In one bad year they took 600 turkeys on the Zwar farm — 87 in one night. Asked how they combat foxes, Dolph said: "We shoot them, hunt them with dogs, poison them and" (he paused, anticipating disbelief) "we use mothballs." Bags of mothballs are hung on the fences, and near the roosts. Whether the fox can scent his ultimate fate as a showpiece among the furs in m'lady's wardrobe is pure conjecture, but the smell of mothballs keeps him off. A mixture of tar and kerosene laid on the ground or sprayed on the roosts is equally effective.

Dolph Zwar says turkeys are very susceptible to panic and will take off in one mass, flying blindly in the direction of home, making more noise than a low-flying DC3. If you happen to be close, the only thing to do is to throw yourself on the ground.

A piece of paper blowing, or a magpie in flight can start a panic. Last year, Dolph remarked, he did not have a panic on his farm. He thinks the more controlled the habits of the birds, the more stable is their temperament.



Ninety-eight per cent. of the Zwar output is of top export quality, and sent to England. Turkeys for the English Christmas table left the farm last May for the refrigeration chambers and the long sea voyage. These birds are the Broad Breasted Bronze turkey with an average marketing weight of 23 lbs. for a gobbler and 14 lbs. for a hen. A smaller variety — the White turkey — tips the scales at 15 lbs. for the gobbler and 10 lbs. for the hen.

Dolph Zwar will not commit himself on the controversial question of producing a smaller turkey for the Australian table (90 per cent. of turkeys are sold to hotels and restaurants). He thinks the solution of the problem — and one that will make the Australian housewife "turkey-minded" — is the method adopted in America of processing turkey into steak portions, turkey loaf and even turkey sausages. The Americans are doing with turkey what we do with the pig. They smoke it, cure it, pot it, and make it possible for the American to eat turkey in much the same way as we eat red meat.

To speak in mixed metaphor, Dolph will talk turkeys till the cows come home. You feel that he knows where he's going. And you can't help thinking that if he had one supreme wish, it would be to make the Australian really "turkey-minded."

Jill Dempster, of Broadford, likes turkey — when it's young and cuddly! Still only a pup, Schnapps is learning his side of turkey handling under the tutelage of Dolph Zwar.

ROAST TURKEY



Clean and weigh the turkey, then stuff with veal forcemeat, truss and rub over lightly with salt. Place two or three rashers of fatty bacon over the breast and smear remainder of bird with a little dripping or bacon fat. Wrap the bird completely in greased brown or grease-proof paper and place on grid in baking dish.

Allow 15 minutes' cooking time to each pound plus 15 minutes over and cook in a hot oven, temperature 450°, both elements high for 5 - 8 minutes, then top element "off," bottom element "low." In ovens controlled by thermostat and switch, preheat to 450°, place turkey in oven, then turn over switch to "cook."

Serve garnished with grilled rolls of bacon or cocktail sausages, accompanied by bread sauce, brown gravy, roast potatoes and green vegetables in season.

Trams Got Their Power—on Time

WHEN the duplication of the tram line in Doncaster Road, North Balwyn, was finished some weeks ahead of schedule, it created an acute power supply problem. The increased number of trams needed to handle the traffic made it necessary to provide more electricity — in a hurry, if fully loaded trams were to climb the Doncaster Road hill at reasonable speed.

A permanent sub-station was under construction, but not scheduled for service until February, 1953. The Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board had a portable emergency sub-station for transforming and rectifying current from 6,600 volts A.C. to 600 volts D.C., which is the recommended diet for tramways traction motors.

These were the facts before a conference between the Chief Engineer of the Tramways Board (Mr. D. H. Eakins), the Manager of Metro. Branch (Mr. K. Murray) and the Underground Mains Superintendent of the Branch (Mr. P. S. Taylor) at 11 a.m. on Friday, 14th November, a conference which decided to try and have the temporary sub-station working that week-end!

This meant making alterations to the high voltage and low voltage overhead lines in Burke Road to

allow an underground main to be run to the proposed location of the portable sub-station. In addition to laying the cable, it was necessary to provide an earth wire for it and for the sub-station. All these things were done the same afternoon.

While this was going on, the Tramways Board was planning to move their sub-station from Richmond, and erecting 200 yards of direct current feeders to take the power from the sub-station to the overhead conductors in High Street.

The portable sub-station, because of its size and slow towing speed of four miles an hour, had to be moved in the early hours of the morning when there was a minimum of traffic. Yellow Express Carriers hooked it on at 3.20 on Saturday morning, and got it to the site by 5 a.m.

On Saturday, jointing on the underground cable was finished, and the Tramways Board had erected their poles, leaving 24 hours for the concrete to harden in the bases before hanging on them the heavy direct current line.

With the cable tested and final connections made, supply was switched on at 4.15 on Sunday afternoon, just 53½ hours after Mr. Taylor first told Mr. Murray and Mr. Eakins that it could be done.

The men who did the job. L. to R.: A. Schneiderur, J. Hossack, A. Hay, M. McLaughlin, D. Bodnarchuk, G. Koniuk, K. Hucul. Front: G. Lugakelli, F. Dipetta, J. Anderson, F. Antonio D'Pett.



Suggestions Board Established

FULL-TIME SECRETARY NAMED

EMPLOYEES generally will soon have the opportunity to submit suggestions for improvements in working methods. Monetary rewards will be paid when applicable.

The scheme will work through a board comprising a full-time secretary (Mr. E. J. Bell) in association with a panel consisting of an electrical engineer, a mechanical engineer, a civil engineer, and a commercial officer.

In practice, there will be four committees covering Electrical, Mechanical, Civil and Commercial matters, and on each committee will be a representative of the Department or Branch concerned.

When the scheme is working, anyone will still have the right to make a suggestion through normal departmental channels. The departmental head will endorse it if he thinks it should be adopted, and send it on to the Board.

DIRECT APPROACH

On the other hand, there will be nothing to stop ideas being submitted direct to the Board, which in this case will keep the identity of the suggester confidential.

The appropriate committee will make an investigation to see if the ideas are worthwhile, and submit the good ones to the management.

Further details and the date of commencement will be announced later.

Credit Terms Again Available

The Commission is now in a position to offer hire purchase terms on electric ranges, refrigerators, washing machines and radios on the basis of 20 per cent. deposit and the balance in twelve equal monthly payments.

All members of the public (including Commission employees) are invited to take advantage of these terms.



Congratulating the First Aid Champions, the Chairman (Mr. Hunt) hands over trophy to R. Herbert, captain of winning team. In eight starts, Transport Branch has won four zone finals and two State finals. Other team members are J. Maggs, L. Angelico, J. Black and G. Wheeler. Not in photograph is B. Page, who fell sick two days before.

Transport Again Top First Aid Team

The championship final for the 1952 competition was held on 28th November at the Transport Branch administrative offices at Fishermen's Bend. The competition took the form of patching up an injured motor cyclist who fell off his mount in front of a realistic imitation of Cheshunt Camp. The three competing teams—Geelong, Kiewa and Transport—were hampered in their work by a "drunk," who kept interfering and giving unhelpful assistance.

First-aiding on their home ground, so to speak, Transport won.

Sutherland Cup to Castlemaine

The Sutherland Cup, given by the Engineer and Manager in 1950, was contested on 15th October by first aid teams from Bendigo, Castlemaine and

Maryborough. A keen audience of about 100 watched the treatment of a swagman who was bitten three times and sustained three broken arms and had a thrice-lacerated leg before the evening was over. Castlemaine team continues to hold the cup.

Four More Towns on Network

During November four country towns were connected for the first time to the Commission's system.

The first was Toolamba, in the north-eastern district. The Shire President (Cr. E. J. Downes) was host at a well planned dinner served to the official party at the Junction Hotel. The guests included the Premier (Mr. McDonald), the Minister for Housing (Mr. Swinburne), and Mr. R. G. Crivelli, Manager of the North Eastern Branch, representing the Commission.

On 28th November the Minister for Electrical Undertakings (Mr. Dodgshun) switched on electricity for the first time at Bannockburn, 40 miles north-west of Geelong. Other settlements in the Moorabool Valley will soon be connected.

Neilborough, near Bendigo; and Corio, near Geelong, also got supply for the first time.

RICHMOND REMEMBERS

FOR twenty years, something sincere and moving has happened at Richmond on 11th November. At about a quarter to eleven, people begin to stream into the transport workshops until the great garage is full to the doors. At the far end, a beflagged rostrum stands in front of the Roll of Honour.

Ten minutes before the hour, the Works Manager steps to the microphone and begins a simple ceremony. This year, Mr. Bryce-son explained that veterans from the First and Second World Wars take it in turns to give a brief oration and lay a wreath on the Roll of Honour. To-day, he said, the choice had fallen on Mr. Fred Paice, an R.S.L. State Councillor, and area representative of the S.E.C Sub-branch.

Mr. Paice summed up the purpose of the meeting in these words: "We are gathered here again to pay our tribute to the memory of those who gave their lives in the 1914 and 1939 wars, and also the Korean War. We must not forget them."

And he took our memory back to the carefree boys and the cheering crowds of 1914, and the tears, struggles and promises that have followed Australia's first involvement in a global war.

"It is our duty," he said, "each and every one of us, to see whether we have honoured the promises we made to those who sacrificed everything for us. If we as a community, as individuals, play our part, then the Government must play its part."

Mr. Paice concluded with Rupert Brooke's wonderful lines, which, like those of whom he spoke, shall not grow old.

He picked up the laurel wreath and rested it against the polished blackwood.

Then everything was quiet.

"Stars in Overalls"

The S.E.C. "Stars in Overalls" team has qualified for the final eight in this Australia-wide radio competition, and will meet the Electricity Trust of South Australia in the semi-finals, which will be recorded on 16th December. Probably the show will be broadcast on Boxing Night over 3DB at 9 p.m.

The team's singing of "Sweethearts of Yesterday" won it a place in the semi-finals to decide the best individual acts.

New electricity supply method means—

More Power For Farms!



BECAUSE of an idea that evolved in the mind of a New Zealand consulting engineer, the initial cost of supplying electricity to some parts of rural Victoria will be 30 per cent. cheaper.

This should gladden the hearts of many power-hungry farmers, whose only hope at present of getting electricity is by becoming contributors to the Commission's self-help scheme for extending supply to rural areas.

The engineer, Mr. Lloyd Mandeno, about 1942 developed a system for supplying electricity in rural areas by the use of one wire only with the earth as a return path. This "single-wire earth return" system was put into practical use in rural areas in

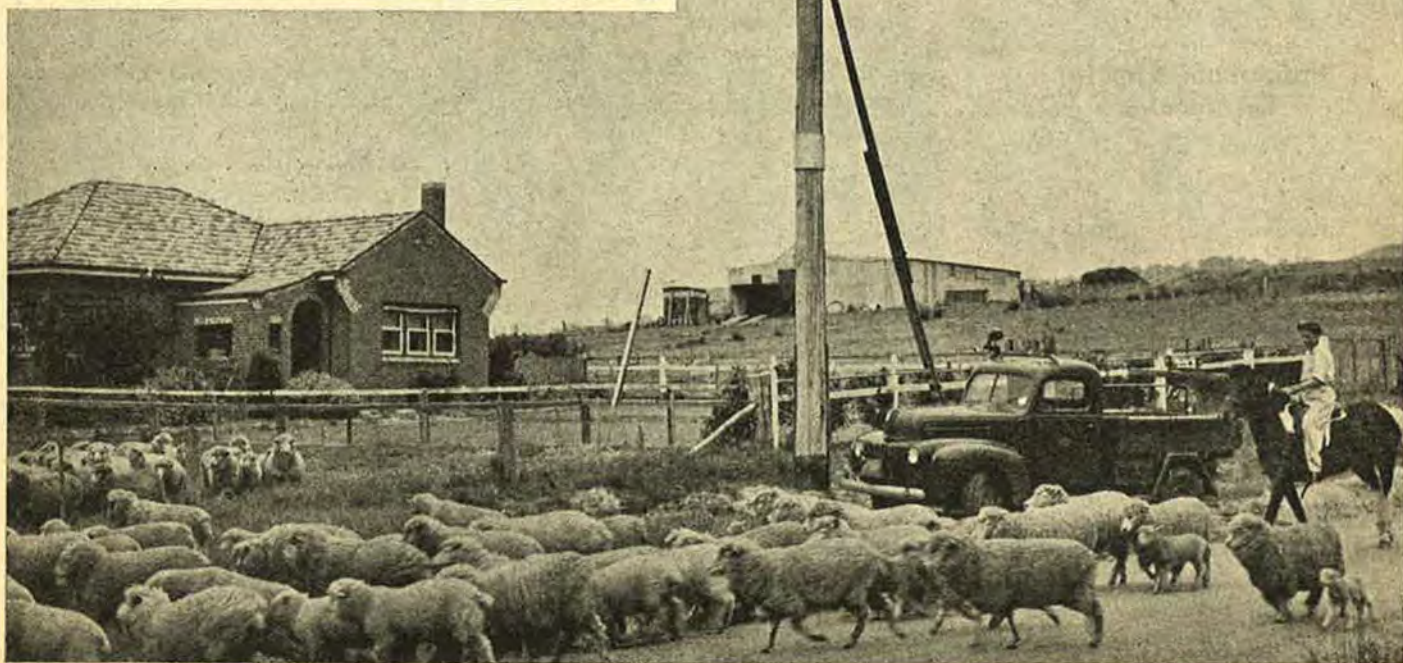
New Zealand, and a patent was taken out by its inventor.

Main advantage of the system is its saving in cost of materials and labour. One conductor and the insulators to carry it are dispensed with. Gone, too, are the crossarms and braces needed for twin conductors, the single conductor being supported by an insulator on top of the pole.

The single wire also has other advantages. It can be more easily tapped to provide the spur lines to consumers' premises. The rural-type sub-station can be erected more easily on a pole which is free of crossarms, and, important from an operating point of view, the high-voltage fuse can be placed in such a position that a patrolman, using his field glasses from a distance, can see by the posi-

Top: With transformer connected to single wire line, Mr. Ian Montgomery, Distribution Superintendent, Bendigo Branch, from the pole top, contacts test party by radio telephone. At left is Linesman David Miller.

This modern farm at Sedgwick, about 10 miles from Bendigo, is one of the first to receive electricity by the single-wire system.



tion of the fuse-arm whether the fuse is blown.

The Commission a year ago installed the first single-wire line in Australia (to its radio station on Mt. Stanley, near Beechworth), beating by a short head the Cairns Regional Board, which brought Mr. Mandeno over to Queensland about two years ago to advise on a single-wire power system for rural areas in that State.

Because it also uses the earth as a return path on its telephone system, the Postmaster-General's Department has interested itself in this type of power line; actually it can prohibit any electricity supply system which is likely to set up interference with its telephone or telegraph services.

Because of this, the Commission is required to erect its single-wire lines not closer than four chains from existing P.M.G. lines and to limit the current transmitted. The operating voltage of the line is 11,000 volts. So that the system could be put into operation speedily, Commission engineers adapted for use transformers which were already on hand.

Undoubtedly the four miles long single-wire line to the top of Mt. Stanley (where the radio station provides a link in the Commission's Melbourne-Kiewa radio telephone service) is the most unusual power line in Australia.

TREES AS POLES

And not only because it was Australia's first single-wire line, but because trees, lopped off at the top, were used as poles. Only a narrow path had to be cleared at the side of the winding mountain road, because, with no second wire to complete the circuit, small branches or strips of bark falling across the single wire could cause no faults.

In places, especially after high wind, long strips of bark draped over the line gave it the appearance of a length of hula skirt — and the only reaction was a smile on the faces of the patrolmen.

A few months after the line had been placed in service the trees sprouted a prolific growth of suckers. The beardy growth at the top fouled conductor and insulators, and the living trees became earth conductors.

To prevent a recurrence, the trees were ring-barked about 12 feet from the ground, so that re-growth will occur only up to this height, and can be easily controlled.



Farmers show keen interest as construction of single-wire line nears completion. Below, Technical Assistant Ken Wiese supervises connection of mobile test equipment.



The second single-wire system the Commission installed was from a sub-station at Mandurang, about three miles from Bendigo. Supply was to farms in the Sedgwick locality, some six miles further on. The S.E.C. line had to run across country, because telephone lines were already alongside the road.

The country lent itself admirably for the purpose. It was undulating and lightly timbered with re-growth. Poles were placed on the hill tops, with a span of up to 500 yards.

The farmers themselves cleared the land for the line, and undertook the task so literally and enthusiastically that they even cleared the re-growth from the bottoms of the valleys, unaware that the conductor would pass 60 feet overhead.

THOROUGH TESTS

It was a real technicians' field day when tests on the line were commenced by S.E.C. and P.M.G. Department engineers one day in August to determine what interference, if any, the line caused to the telephone service.

Varying conditions were set up by controlled load testing on the line. Along a remote country road, to a point furthest from the sub-station, came a covered truck with eight electric cooking ranges. Here they were put into service as required, and incidentally provided a practical benefit for the line party, who for once ate their lunch pies hot.

Because different types of electrical appliances produce different electricity wave shapes, which in turn can cause different noises in a telephone, an electric welding plant and a battery-charging set were also taken along.

An electric cooking range produces very little distortion of the normal 50-cycle wave, but a welding plant sets up a great variation resembling, when viewed on an oscilloscope, an irregular saw-tooth pattern.

The problem of rapid communication between the S.E.C. engineers working along the six miles of the power line and the P.M.G. engineers testing on their line was solved by the use of portable radio sets.

Altogether the tests extended over a period of a week. Valuable data were gathered and will assist in formulating the conditions that will govern the erecting of single-wire earth return power lines, not only in Victoria, but elsewhere in Australia.



Non-fiction always appeals. Gwenneth Rice, Kevin Shine, Noeline O'Donnell, David Ross, Donald Irwin inspect travel, hobbies books.



Barbara Sharp, 4, is youngest reader. She borrows on parents' card, loves Little Golden books and all fairy tales.



CHILDREN

"What's your book?" Nothing stand-offish about these young bookworms. Children's Librarian, Miss Margaret Rose, is swamp





Young artists showing their work to Miss Rose. Alan Fankhauser, Dianne Bollen, Kevin Wright, Sue Wallace, Susanne Fewster, Elizabeth Parsons and Colin Lawton.



"It was in a forest, on a mountain, 15 miles from the town that Santa Claus must live, . . ." Susanne Fewster reads to Dianne Stevenson.

S LIBRARY

EVERY afternoon when school's out there's a rush of business at Yallourn Library. Kiddies cram into the light and colourful children's section, sitting at specially-designed chairs and tables, reading periodicals like "Wee Wisdom" or the "Boys' Own Paper," standing on tip-toe to see what's on the shelves.

Boys browse among the 2,500 children's books looking for copies of the "Biggles" series, girls make a careful selection of the versatile works of Enid Blyton, toddlers peer at bright cardboard cut-outs of "Cinderella." Even tiny tots can borrow books on their parents' cards until the library staff thinks they are old enough to become responsible borrowers in their own right. Some customers take weeks to read their books — others are in nearly every day. Borrowings total 525 a week.

The great classics of children's literature are all there. "Treasure Island," "David Copperfield," "Little Women," — all have their following,



Making stories come to life. Miss Sonja Ostlund trims whiskers of Pussy McGregor (Lois Gust), while Father and Mother McGregor (Helen Morrison and Janet Apps) watch admiringly. Miss Beverley James is trying to catalogue.



but they need to have fresh, attractive covers. Children shy away from pictures that they think are old-fashioned.

Other children from the High or Technical School can use the reference books in the grown-ups' library to assist them in their projects. Also, they lend a hand in some of the routine library work like making book envelopes.

During Library Week last October there were two new activities, "Story Time" and a standing invitation to "Come and Draw." The response was so immediate that the sessions are being continued right through the school holidays.

With a membership exceeding the total school population of Yallourn — there are over 2,000 borrowers between the ages of seven and fourteen — the Children's Library is probably the most popular in Australia.

Its success, however, is only part of the bigger success of the Yallourn Public Library, which lends more books on a population basis than any other library in Victoria.



"But be home by midnight!" — The legend of Cinderella, told in a circular cut-out book, still enchants. BELOW: Story time is fun when born story-teller Miss Margaret Johns reads about "Crusoe the Cat."



Any Christmas Gift Problems?



SOMETIMES it's the smallest gift that presents the biggest problem. Especially puzzling for adoring aunts and affectionate uncles is the selection of presents for small fry. Here with some hints on picking the right toy from the fascinating arrays downtown.

It helps to keep three main points in mind: Safety, durability, and suitability.

Besides being fun for your favourite youngster, a well chosen Christmas toy should be as nearly child-proof as possible. Watch out for blocks, wag-gons and cheaper plastics with rough or sharp edges and corners. Paints used on toys should be made of vegetable ingredients (rather than lead). With electric toys, look for proper insulation of plugs and cords, and make sure junior understands the safe way to handle them.

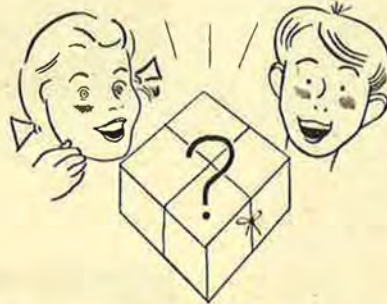
Durability is important, because sharp-edged broken toys are dangerous. And baby's mother will really love you if your Christmas gift is practical enough to look presentable after a few months' treatment at the hands of her offspring. Especially beloved is the donor whose gift is washable and all-of-a-piece — no removable parts to get lost.



The big thing is to choose something suitable for the age-group you have in mind.

Remember that babies want something that has colour, an interesting texture, movability. Boys and girls, up to the age of six or so, like mostly the same toys. A little boy may be fascinated by a rag doll or teddy bear; a little girl might like a fire truck. At this age, toys that stimulate physical and imaginative development are best. Group games,

toys that follow mental and social development, begin to be fun at five, and so long as their complexity increases with the age of the child, continue to provide constructive enjoyment throughout the childhood years.



For baby (up to one year) playthings should be clean and smooth, unbreakable, light in weight, brightly coloured, easily grasped and impossible to swallow.

SUGGESTED:

- Animals**—soft, stuffed, cuddly; made of stockinette, rubber, cloth or powder puff.
- Balls** — coloured and washable; rubber, plastic.
- Floating Toys** — plastic, wooden or rubber.
- Books** — pictures, large, printed on washable fabric.
- Dolls** — soft, washable; cloth, plush, rubber.
- Music** — musical push or pull toys.
- Wood** — blocks, large wooden beads.

Toys for toddlers (one to two years) should aid physical development or stimulate imaginative play.

SUGGESTED:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Animals to ride | Wading Pool |
| Kiddie car | Carpet Sweeper |
| Kiddie Stroller | Doll furniture |
| Sand Toys | Stuffed Toys |
| Pedal Bike | Mechanical Toys |

Between two and four, children become more skilful in play. Girls enjoy playing with simply dressed baby dolls, and boys like aeroplanes, trains and toys which adapt themselves to dramatic and imaginative activities. Toys for this age should train the eye, induce healthy exercise, increase initiative.

SUGGESTED:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Boats | Soldier Sets |
| Books | Toy Telephone |
| Chalk, Blackboard | Doll Carriages |
| Counting Frame | Waggon |
| Modelling Clay | Wheelbarrow |

The pre-school age child, aged four to six, has reached the stage of wanting to play harmoniously with other children. Also, toys for this age should develop imagination and creative ability.

SUGGESTED:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Cut-outs | Garden Sets |
| Bubble Sets | Skipping Ropes |
| Embroidery Sets | Water Toys |
| Sidewalk Bikes | |

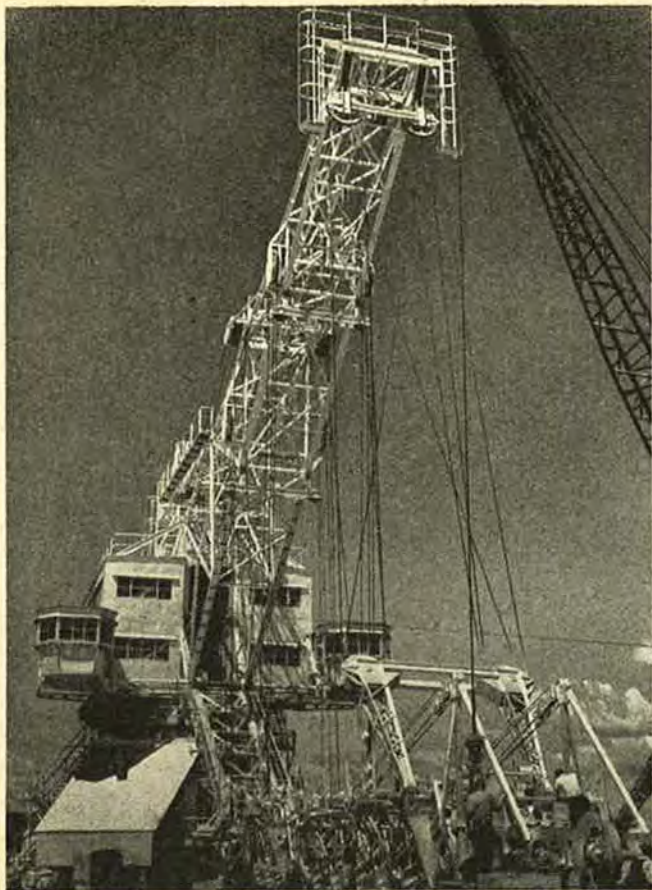
Once a child is in school, toys should supplement his school work and develop group play. Boys prefer to play with boys and enjoy games that are active. They enjoy the play value and educational value of electrical train sets and show practical interest in the science of mechanics. Girls are interested in housekeeping activities, and prefer to play with other girls.



Games form specific interests; most children begin to develop hobbies. Special aptitudes are developed now, and children begin to show interest in accomplishments. From here on, playthings should be selected to cater for a particular interest which the child himself displays.

IN GENERAL:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Books | Sports Equipment |
| Games | Electric Trains |
| Hobby Sets | Construction Sets |
| Doll Houses | |



Morwell's giant overburden dredger was built in Australia from modified German designs. Electrically powered, it weighs 525 tons and will dig 600 tons of material an hour.

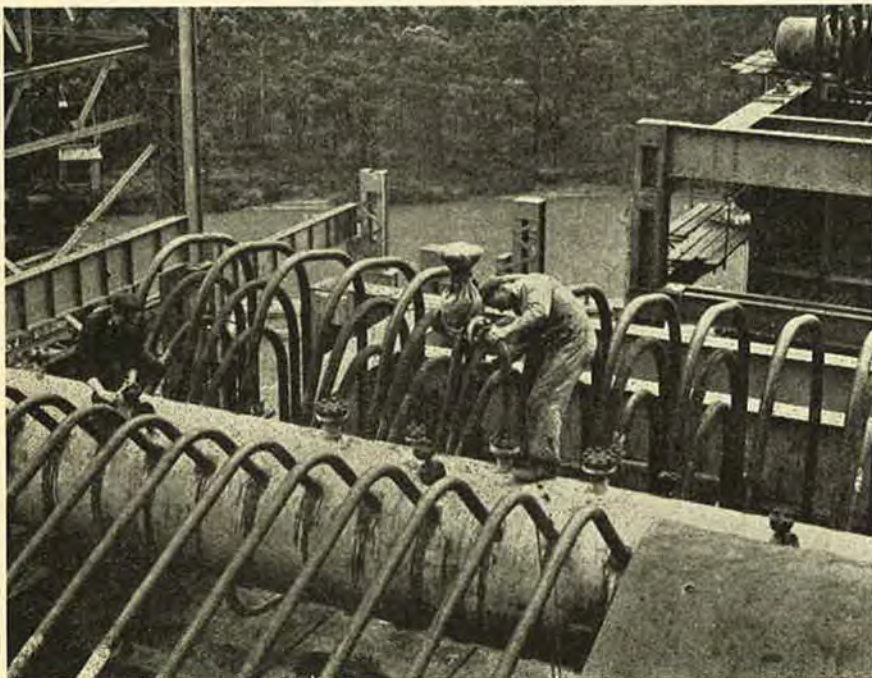


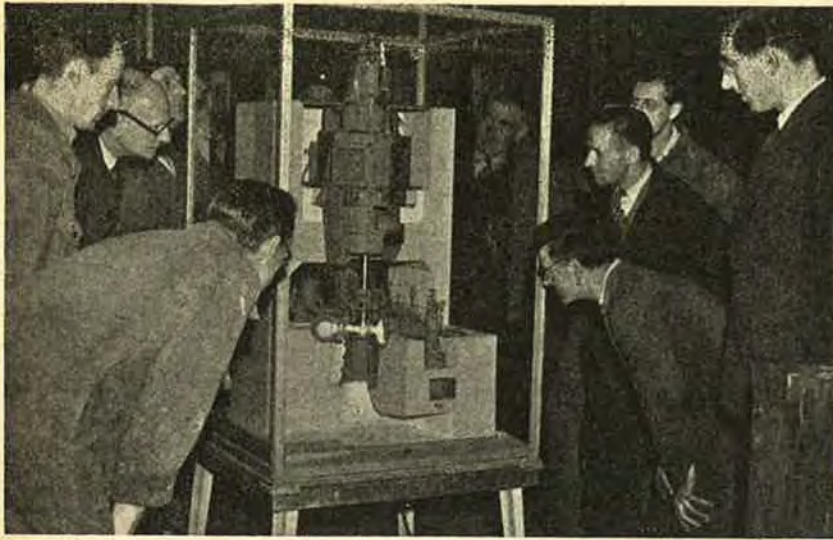
Working beneath Russell Place, "Snowy" Coyle and Joe Downs are making excavations for a new underground main feeding a City Council sub-station.

Photo-news

Welders Ron Geisman and Ray Hough repair the blades of an induced draft fan at Richmond.

High above the Latrobe River engineers assemble the connections to the steam receiver of one of the new boilers for the extensions to Yallourn power station.





At Metropolitan-Vickers works in Britain, employees inspect model of Kiewa generator which they'll be building. Four generators will produce 60,000 kW.

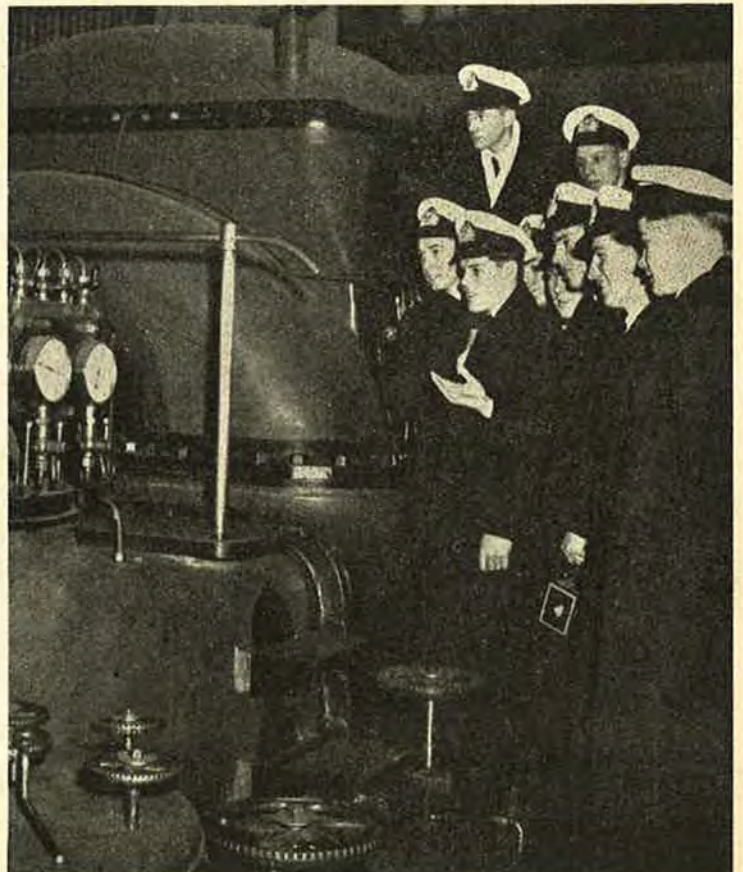


Engineer Graham Hoinville rides the crankshaft of the new diesel generating set at Shepparton power station.

a camera round-up

Every year Cadet Midshipmen from Flinders Naval College visit Yallourn as an organised party. Here they decide a turbo-alternator is rather too large to be installed in a destroyer.

Installing 66 kVA oil circuit breaker at Mt. Beauty. Insulators are wrapped in bags to protect them in transit



It Happened at Tanjil Bren

DURING the summer of 1939, there lived in the forested ranges above Tanjil Bren a family of bush folk—old Ben, his dark-haired Italian wife and their three small, bare-legged kiddies ranging from two to six years.

Old Ben was a tall, broad-shouldered bushman with a flowing patriarchal beard — that's why we called him "old" Ben, though he was only 53. He was a timber cutter, but he didn't cut much timber. He was a cattle hand, too, but he didn't keep many cattle — just a few scrubbers, some poddies and a couple of goats for good measure. But one way and another Ben earned an honest living and was happy with his family in the carefree way that only country people know.

One evening in January the district forester passed along the dusty track and had a word with Ben, who was skinning and dressing a young goat.

The season had been hot and dry, and the smoke haze of distant fires drifted across Ben's little clearing. Ben had burnt a fire-break between his home and the forest, and though there was a feeling in the minds of bush folk that the season might grow worse, he said, "I think I'll be all right now." The cleared strip gave him a feeling of security.

All through the rest of the week the blue haze drifted about the hills. Charred gum leaves and fragments of burnt bracken fronds floated down on to the dry red earth and covered Ben's corrugated iron roof with a kind of black snow.

Still it stayed hot, dry and windy. The smoke thickened until the usual distant views had all vanished. Bits of charcoal from burnt stringybark and burnt ribbonbark fell in increasing quantities, but no fire was in sight. It might be close, or it might still be well back in the bush — just smoke and burnt fern leaves and the wind hurrying past.

Then old Ben sensed the approaching menace, and with shovel and grubber began to dig. Sweat poured down his face into his beard, but he couldn't stop for a breather. He hollowed out a trench in the burnt clearing beside his hut. When it was three feet deep he placed his three frightened children in the bottom. There was no time to wait or waste. The mother crawled into the trench

and crouched above her family. With the full torment of the fire and smoke bursting out of the forest, old Ben knelt down with his back to the flames and crouched over his little brood.

That is how we found them.

No, they weren't burnt. In all that sea of blackness and destruction an-

other complete family had been killed, not by fire itself, but smothered and suffocated by searing gases and absence of oxygen.

There is no point in recounting the stories of our Victorian forest fires if we do nothing about it. That day no known power could have stopped the fire. Yet, the fact remains that someone must have lit it. Some one must light every forest fire. *Don't let it be you!*

CHRISTMAS DAY IS-

Red-letter Day—for Fire!

EVERY year, from a few days before Christmas till the first weeks of the New Year, a plague of fires breaks out. Many of these fires are the result of hazards which exist only during the holiday season, caused by carelessness that would not be tolerated at any other time.

A neglected toy electric train ignited a Christmas tree in a hotel, and four people were burned to death. The simple replacement of a frayed cord would have saved 47 patients in a convalescent home from injury and death. They were victims of the faulty wire, which short-circuited and touched off the combustible decorations.

These tragedies are needless if you will take the few minutes needed to follow a few simple fire safety rules.

As your Christmas tree dries out, it becomes more of a prime target for fire every hour it's in the house. So bring the tree in as short a time be-

fore Christmas as possible and get it outside as soon afterwards as you can. The larger the tree, the greater the hazard.

While the tree is in the house you can reduce its inflammability by setting it in water. Cut off the base of the tree at an angle, at least one inch above the original cut, and rest it in a well-filled tub of water. Used with fresh trees, this method is as effective as fireproofing chemicals.

Your tree should be well supported, away from sources of heat (fireplaces, radiators, radio sets, etc.) and so placed that, standing or fallen, it cannot block exits in case of fire.

Candle flames invite fire: decorative electric lights are just as attractive, and a lot safer — although they are by no means foolproof. From a decorative standpoint, a coloured spotlight focussed on the tree is very effective, and safest of all.

Use only approved lighting sets. Before using, check them for frayed wires, loose connections, broken sockets. Make certain that all lighting is turned off before retiring or leaving the house.

Don't buy celluloid dolls, toys or non-flameproofed cowboy suits. Toys requiring alcohol, kerosene or gasoline to generate power are especially dangerous — they may upset and set fire to children's clothing or to the house itself. No electrical toy should be purchased unless it bears the label of approval. Film projectors (toy or adult) should use only a safety film (acetate stock). Power toys should be operated only under adult supervision. It's dangerous to set up electric trains or spirit fuelled toys under the Christmas tree.



This Pressing Business

REMEMBER that in using an electric ironer experience is the best teacher. You will get the greatest pleasure from it after you have become so familiar with the simple controls and their operation that your actions in using them are automatic.

To develop this subconscious use of your ironer you should only attempt ordinary straight ironing during the first few weeks. Once you have become adept at ironing pillow cases, handkerchiefs, serviettes, etc., — you will then feel ready to tackle such articles as men's shirts, pyjamas, ladies' frocks and skirts. There is a simple technique for ironing such articles, so learn the correct way; it's the easiest way.

Don't dampen the clothes as heavily as you would when using a hand iron. As you work, keep by your side an old shaving brush in a jar of warm water and lightly dampen any dry or wrinkled parts of the article.

Use only warm water when dampening down and you will get a more



even dampening effect than with cold water.

Allow yourself sufficient room to work in comfort. Have the ironer placed on a table with space on either side to permit folding the clothes easily.

The next time you are unfortunate enough to burn a milk pudding, stand it at once in a pan of cold water and stir. The food won't taste the least bit burnt.

Have you tried adding a good pinch of nutmeg to the sweet white sauce served with steamed chocolate pudding? A pinch of nutmeg in white sauce served with vegetables such as cauliflower, onions, artichokes, white turnips, etc., will greatly improve the flavour.

If you wish to use real holly leaves and berries as decoration for the Christmas Cake, polish them with a cloth, then lightly coat by dipping into a tin of clear varnish. Allow to dry, then arrange in the cake to obtain a natural and extremely colourful effect.

THE CHEF'S CORNER

CHRISTMAS CAKE

A tested recipe from Miss Joan Treloar, Senior Demonstrator, Merchandising Section.

INGREDIENTS

½ lb. butter	4 eggs
½ lb. Castor Sugar	½ lb. currants
10 ozs. Plain Flour	½ lb. sultanas
1 level teaspoon baking powder	½ lb. seedless raisins
1 level teaspoon salt	4 ozs. mixed peel
1 level teaspoon cinnamon	2 ozs. blanched almonds
1 level teaspoon mixed spice	2 ozs. crystallised cherries
Pinch of Grated Nutmeg	¼ cup sherry, brandy or rum

METHOD

Prepare fruits, cream butter and sugar, add beaten eggs gradually. Then add sifted dry ingredients alternately with fruit. Lastly add liquid. Colour with Parisian essence if desired. Put into well papered tin, hollowing out centre slightly. If cake is to be used un-iced decorate top with

almonds and cherries before baking. Bake in oven 375°, top element "off" bottom element "low," or if using automatically controlled oven pre-heat to 375°, and re-set thermostat to 325°, when oven switch is turned to "cook." Time — 3 - 3½ hours. Allow to cool in tin.



Photography Under Canvas



Alex. Jenkins, of Delatite, tries out new enlarger. Max Moore looks on. Alex. makes sure that nuts and bolts used on towers screw together well.

IF all the camera fans in the Commission joined a photographic club, it would have many hundreds of members, because "taking pictures" is one of our most popular hobbies.

However, the most unlikely place to look for an enthusiast would be the Overhead Mains camps which are scattered in the heavily timbered ranges between Rubicon and Kiewa.

Yet if you walk into one of these canvas villages with a camera, you'll soon find yourself talking photography with some serious amateur.

At Delatite, for instance, there is Max Moore, 22-year-old son of Bill Moore, cook at Goldie's Spur camp.

Of all photographers we have ever met, Max Moore is the most completely possessed of that "bug" which, they say, never lets you go after you have once mastered the basic problem of correct exposure.

Max, who began his photographic experiences with his sister's box Brownie and now operates a Japanese Mamiya Six folding camera,

thinks of nothing else but photography — even the pretty girls he meets are to him but potential "models" on which to practise portraiture.

If any proof were needed of this all-consuming passion, it is the fact that he develops negatives, prints them and makes enlargements in the small two-man tent he shares with the camp barber.

His darkroom, constructed of olive-green canvas, is just big enough to house the enlarger and Max. An old Kraft Cheese box is adapted to serve as a frame for contact prints.

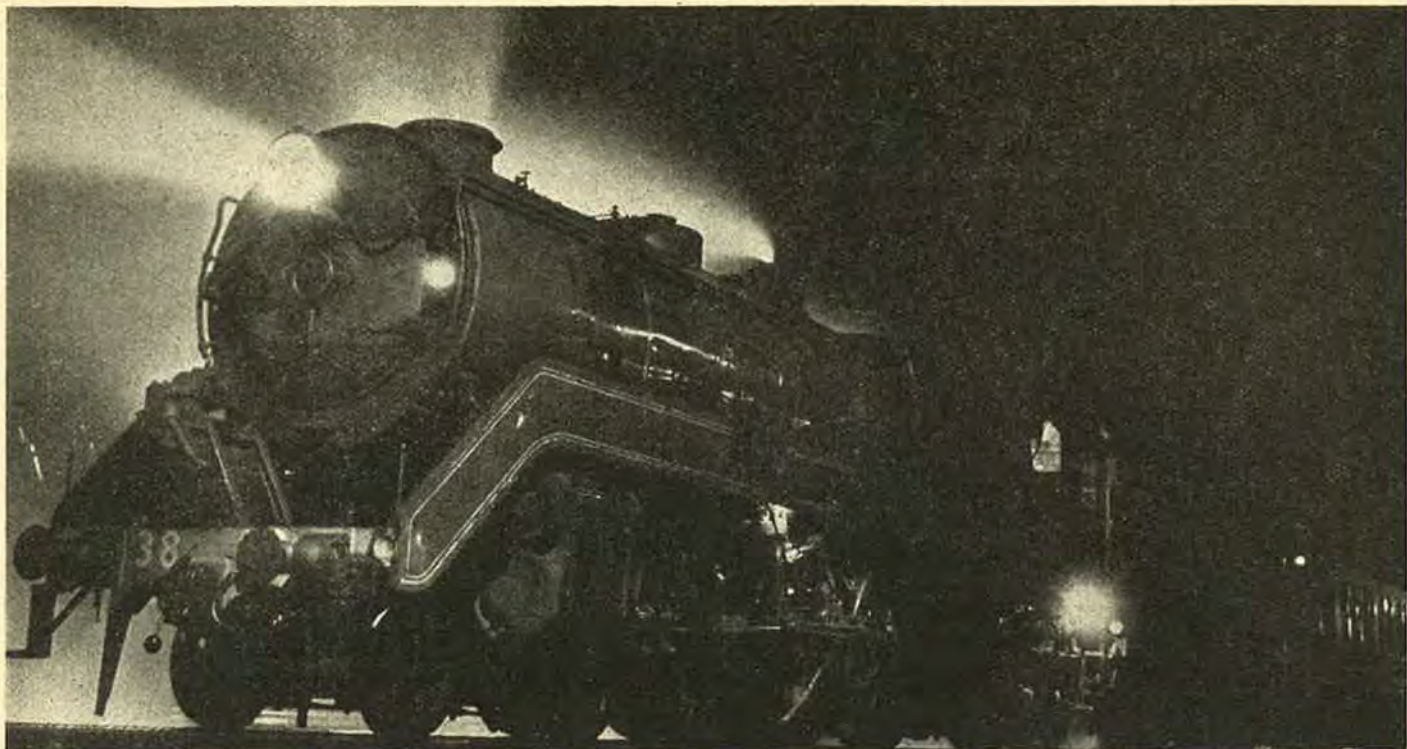
NIGHTS ARE FOR PRINTING

Max, who began his working life as an electrical apprentice, finds that his duties as mess steward allow him some hours each day for hand-colouring (to Max, nights are for printing and enlarging), and any afternoon you'll find Max in front of the log fire, with one or more of the long, scrubbed tables covered with prints of various hues.



Hand-colouring enlargements keeps Max busy during his hours off duty.





Night-time shot of a locomotive at Albury station is one of Max's best.

Incidentally, he does a thriving business with camp mates who want pictures coloured, copied or printed, and he would like to make photography his vocation. In fact, Max is so keen to enter the "professional" class that he recently improvised cardboard trays to hold enough developer and fixer for 12 inch x 15 inch enlargements.*

The proud possessor of the camp's second enlarger is Alex Jenkins, who at the time we visited him had not yet made a "darkroom." (The camps are too well lit to do enlarging in the tents without something to stop light coming through the canvas.)

NUT AND BOLT MAN

Alex, who has his fireman's ticket with the Melbourne Harbor Trust, likes the peaceful life of the camps and the opportunity for purposeful photography afforded by the long week-end. His job is to make sure that the men putting the towers together "in the air" never have to worry over a stiff nut or a recalcitrant

(*Since this article was written, Max has left Delatite with the expressed intention of becoming a full-time photographer. As it is, his ambition outruns his technical skill, but aiming too high is often the characteristic of men who are going a long way.)

bolt — he enters them all carefully and puts them in bags ready for use, listening to his own classical "music while you work" on his portable radio.

AT TOLMIE, TOO

Not yet up to the enlarging stage is globe-trotting Englishman Bill Williams, who, however, develops and prints his own pictures in camp. His method of loading a developing tank is to dive into a sleeping bag and then get someone to throw a blanket over him! An ex-R.A.F. fitter, Bill plans to save enough money while "digging holes" to buy a Land Rover and make the overland journey to Darwin. His camera will tell the story to his parents back in England.

His target is 750 photos of Australia. "I'm not interested in producing works of art," he says, "Just simple shots which will give the people back home an idea of the Australian life and country."

So next time you feel it's too much trouble to set up your enlarger in the bathroom, think of the lads at Delatite or Tolmie. The snow may be thick outside, or a summer north wind stirring the red dust — the nearest running water may be 50 yards away. But still they manage to turn out good pictures, mostly with equipment they've improvised themselves.



This typical canvas darkroom is perfectly lightproof, but very cramped.

Forget About Diet Fads!

— says the M. O.

DIET worshippers everywhere are busily munching their way towards health and happiness through water diets, carrot diets, molasses diets, rice diets, bran diets, and so on. On every holiday somebody says to me after a few hours' acquaintance, "Really, Doctor, I couldn't help noticing that you didn't eat your lettuce," or "I do wish my husband would eat more carrots."

The food problem isn't as simple as that.

In most countries these times the main problem of diet is simply getting enough to eat, and it's true to say that there never has been a time when people were not dying of starvation.

But in countries like Australia, where there is adequate food production, dietary troubles should never happen. Knowledge of what happens to the food we eat is going ahead by leaps and bounds as the result of the development of "tracer" techniques using radio-active isotopes procured as by-products from the various atomic energy projects. Probably these new techniques will prove to be of as great a benefit in the understanding of disease processes as the discovery of the microscope.

Let's get back to first principles and see what food does for us. It has three main uses — (a) to keep our bodies warm; (b) to provide energy for the work we wish to do (if any); (c) to replace bodily wear and tear. In addition, children have to provide for their growth, and expectant mothers nourish the growing child from the food they eat.

Here are the different kinds of food:
Water: Since our bodies comprise about 70 per cent. of water, it is obvious that we need plenty.

Minerals: These are needed to form and maintain structures such as teeth and bones. Small amounts of other chemical elements — iron, copper, etc. — also are required.

Carbohydrates: These are made from flours and sweet things—bread, cakes, cane sugar, honey, potatoes, etc.

Protein: This consists mainly of the flesh of animals, fish, cheese and eggs.
Fats: Animal fats, such as butter and eggs.

Vitamins: This is a term which is gradually losing its original meaning, but it describes certain substances the absence of which produces readily recognisable diseases such as scurvy, beri beri and rickets — all diseases virtually unknown in Australia. (But Vitamin B12 is necessary to treat pernicious anaemia, which is fairly common here.)

There are many sources of vitamins, but we mainly obtain them from the leaves and roots of vegetables and from various kinds of seed, nuts, eggs, etc.



You can compare different foods by expressing them in units of heat (or calories). We may say one ounce of butter-fat equals about 90 calories, and one ounce of flour equals 40 calories. Now this is the source of a common misunderstanding, in that people then say butter is better than flour. So it is, but only in the sense that when burnt in the body it will produce more heat. That's why we eat more fatty foods in cold weather. The Eskimaux, for instance, eat vast amounts of fat.

Until fairly recently, doctors would construct a diet for any purpose by taking the minimum daily health requirements of each food, adding them all up, and juggling them to ensure that the heat value was suitable. The calories yardstick is useful in comparing the diets of populations and deciding whether a people is adequately fed or not. But it's not the whole story.

Modern knowledge has made things much more complicated. We know now that the body can *make up* substances from the materials supplied to it, so that to some extent, protein, carbohydrate and fat are interchangeable — and some vitamins can be manufactured by bacteria normally present in the intestine; again some substances are capable of being stored in quantity sufficient to supply the body's needs for quite a long time.

In other words, Nature knows that we and other animals may not always have a perfect diet, and so there is an automatic mechanism to compensate for deficiencies. (One result of this is that it sometimes takes months, or even years, for the effects of bad diet to show. Bad teeth are a result of bad diet spread over a number of years.)

What forms a good diet for the average adult? Well, I can give only a rough idea; it depends on so many factors, and there are plenty of satisfactory combinations. Here's one recipe for a daily diet to supply all the necessary vitamins, minerals and really essential dietary constituents:—

One pint of milk; 1 egg; 2 ozs. of butter; 2 ozs. of cheese; a piece of fruit; whatever else you please in the way of meat, bread, pudding, etc., to make up the necessary heat value of the food.

In this country there's not much danger of under-nourishment, except perhaps with the nervy, highly-strung person who's always too busy or excited to eat and thinks a cup of coffee and a biscuit is enough for lunch. These people are usually under-weight and sitting shots for the T.B. bacillus.

On the other hand, there's no doubt that the over-weight person eats too much in relation to the physical work he does, so if you want to lose weight, you can do one of two things or, better still, both things — cut down on food (particularly sweet, floury and fatty things) and exercise more. Incidentally the alcohol absorbed by a moderate drinker accounts for several hundred calories a day.

Perhaps the biggest menace is the housewife who's too good a cook — she takes a pride in the cream-cakes and shortbreads which make her afternoon tea about as filling as a three-course meal. She loves to set before her family a roast dinner that would satisfy a team of sleeper-splitters, and she's hurt if every plate isn't left clean as a whistle. In such a family, your chances of staying thin are slim.

And now a final word — the statistics of life insurance offices show that up to the age of forty one's build doesn't matter much; over the age of forty, your chances of living longer are quite appreciably increased if you're on the lean side.

Still, I'll be having my second helping of plum pudding on Christmas Day and hang the consequences!

Social League Ball Sparkled

TRIUMPH FOR HARD-WORKING COMMITTEE

IMAGINATIVE hall decorations, bright dressing and a perfectly staged presentation of 16 debutantes were highlights of the S.E.C. Social League's Fourth Annual Ball at St. Kilda Town Hall on 21st November.

Among the 950 Commission employees, wives and friends who thoroughly enjoyed every minute was a good sprinkling of people from country branches, and almost all of the forty-odd social clubs affiliated with the League were represented.

One popular feature was a floor show presented by the S.E.C. "Stars in Overalls" radio team — Yvonne Poole (Head Office), John Oldham, Jim Dudley and Arthur Johnson, who all come from Richmond area.

The official party included the Chairman (Mr. R. A. Hunt) and Mrs. Hunt, many senior officers of the Commission and members of the Social League Council's executive committee.



SIXTEEN sweet debutantes, above, made their bow to the Chairman and Mrs. Hunt. Standing, L. to R.: Audrey Ridgeway, Margaret Knowles, Margaret Porter, Carmyle Shanahan, Margaret McLaine, Jenifer Nicholls, Barbara Davies, Betty Anrep, Merinda Turner, Audrey Patterson. Seated: Kathlene Hayson, Dorothy Brown, Audrey Yeend, Mrs. Hunt, Geraldine Bremner, Shirley Taylor, Kathleen Jennings.



RADIOGRAM APPEAL was made by S.E.C. Red Cross Committee, which displayed and played the handsome first prize in its current raffle.

AFTER THE BALL, two band members couldn't resist the charms of Miss L. Crompton and Miss I. Stow, who were rewarded with a hot lick from "Tiger Rag." Escorts are A. Walker (Newport P.S.) and R. Stevenan (Yarraville T.S.).



SUB-STATIONS PARTY, above, one of the brightest at Ball, included C. J. Mackay, Misses C. Kelleher and V. Edwards, E. C. Maybus, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Millar, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. A. Buckingham, Mr. and Mrs. A. Mackey.

FROM WERRIBEE came a non-stop laughter team organised and led by popular Officer-in-Charge, Tom Webster (back, left). BELLE OF BALL, announced at the witching hour, was tall, dark and attractive Erma Fleming, of Correspondence, E.S.D. Escort Arthur Stephens beams in reflected glory.



KEEN SOCIAL LEAGUE CRICKET

COMPETITION in both sections of Social League cricket is keen, and many teams still have a chance of reaching the semi-finals. Bendigo, Geelong and District 5, in that order, are on top in Section A, and Districts 3/6, Head Office and Traralgon in Section B.

There's been praise from all sides for the umpires. The men in white have helped to raise the standard of the competition, and we hope to have them with us permanently.

★

Congratulations to: (1) Jack Ham-mill (Bendigo), who scored the first century of the season (118 not out)

Football Club Looks Ahead

The S.E.C. Football Club isn't waiting for any turf to grow under its boots before making plans for next winter. It has issued a kind of public notice to all toilers in the Commission to the effect that it intends to making the coming season a darn sight more successful than the last, and that it will show the Saturday Morning League that it's a team to be reckoned with when the finals are being fought in the Spring of 1953.

The Club points out that it is the ONLY S.E.C. football team, — a truly combined effort, — and it extends a cordial invitation to new players, officials, supporters, bar-rackers and hangers-on, irrespective of whether they come from a power-station, terminal-station, sub-station, railway station, or even Head Office!

The Annual Meeting will be held in February next, and applications are invited for the positions of President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Auditors, Treasurer, Trainers, and Committee Members.

The Club's manifesto concludes with these words:—"If you wish to be associated with this rising side, as we hope you will, then contact any of the following for further particulars:—J. Warburton (Mechanical Maintenance, Richmond), J. Dunn, (Fishermen's Bend), J. Jobson (City Road, South Melbourne).

SPEECH NIGHT

Last year's season finished up very happily with a kind of "speech night" at which the trophies were presented by the Club President (Mr. Jack Jobson). As best and fairest player, Sam Everton received an electric mixer. Other trophies were awarded to the best first year player (Don Duckworth), the most consistent (Kevin Baldwin); most improved (Kevin Baldwin); best clubman (Alan Whalley); leading goal kicker (Fred Dunn).

and took four wickets against Richmond; (2) Sam French, who took 9 Bendigo wickets for 73; (3) Jim Merritt, who batted attractively in making 75 for Traralgon v. Head Office.

★

A Social League team will play Sydney County Council at University Oval on Tuesday and Wednesday, 27th and 28th January.

Applications for selection in the Social League team closed on 3rd December, and a trial match was played at Tulip Street Reserve, Black Rock, on Sunday, 14th December (after this issue went to press).



TABLE TENNIS PREMIERS

S.E.C. No. 2 Team won the "C" Grade Premiership of the Colac Table Tennis Association. *L. to R. Back:* A. Baudinette, J. Featherston, C. Williams. *Front:* D. Donaldson, Miss G. Wallace, G. McFadyen.

"Pirates"

The "Midlanders" crew was hot favourite for the Castlemaine Regatta on the lake in the Botanical Gardens on 6th December. The event is conducted annually to raise funds for the R.S.L. Dads' Association. In 1951 the State Electricity Commission's gang of pirates blasted the main, and carried off a special prize for the most humorous entry.

Newport Presentation

S.E.C.O.A. members gathered at Newport Power Station on Friday, 14th November, to see the Superintendent, Mr. S. W. Davies, present a water set to Mr. J. R. Sawyer on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Doris Chergwin, of Ballarat.

Social League Meeting

THE Social League Executive Committee meeting on 28th November was devoted mainly to a post-mortem of the ball, the organisation of the Red Cross appeal, and a preview of the interstate cricket visit in January.

The President (Mr. Rigby) congratulated the Ball Sub-Committee on a highly successful night and mentioned in passing that it resulted in a contribution of £153 in entertainment tax. The Secretary said that although the League's application for a Friday night booking had been lodged with St. Kilda City Council at 9.30 a.m. on the first day of business this year, it had been told that all Friday nights in 1953 were already booked. The committee was asked to look into the possibility of hiring the Palais Royale on a Friday night, and investigate methods of distributing the tickets more efficiently.

RED CROSS DRIVE

Spread over the table was considerable evidence of the progress of the Red Cross Appeal, — receipt books, posters, pamphlets, and gold badges. The Secretary reported that the prizes in the raffle had already been paid for out of the proceeds, so future tickets sold would contribute without deduction to the Red Cross funds. So far S.E.C.O.A. Head Office branch was the only club to indicate its willingness to sponsor a popular girl. The Red Cross is willing to offer £200 in prizes if a competition can be arranged.

The President reported that the Commission had agreed to the League's request for financial assistance — and the Committee directed the Secretary to write a letter of acknowledgment and thanks.

Miss Edith Hedger (H.O.) said that some hardship was being caused by the fact that wives, families and friends of the cricket teams could not travel in Commission buses to country centres. Next Sunday, for instance, the team of 11 in a 28-passenger bus would pay 7/6 instead of 3/6, which would be the charge if the bus were filled.

Mr. Bell explained that while Commission transport could be used by employees only, it was prepared to subsidise the charter of approved vehicles up to 1/9 per mile.

Mr. Rigby said the trouble was that the Commission's insurance policies could not be extended to cover people who were not employees, and in addition the operators licensed under the Transport Regulation Board might have a grievance if the S.E.C. undertook work they could do.

The draft of uniform rules for cricket, table tennis, bowls and so on has been circulated to clubs for their comments, emendations or approval. The importance of having clear, unequivocal rules governing the League's competitions was graphically illustrated at the meeting during an hour-long discussion about whether a match called off because of bad weather should be drawn or re-played.

30 Years' Service at Power Station

AFTER more than 30 years at Newport with the Victorian Railways and the Commission, Mr. J. R. Williams, Shift Engineer, retired on 9th October.

Mr. Williams joined the Victorian Railways as a fitter in April, 1921, and a year later was promoted to Boiler House Engineer, a position he held for 11 years until his appointment as Shift Engineer. With a large number of power station staff, he transferred to the Commission in January last year.

Making a presentation to Mr. Williams on 20th November, the Power Station Superintendent (Mr. S. W. Davies) said: "Those of you who have been here throughout the Victorian Railways' regime know more about Mr. Williams than I do, but since the Commission took over "A" Station I have come to know him as an efficient and popular officer."

Wot, no electricity?

MR. DICK BASSETT, a popular member of Castlemaine's construction gang, received a petrol pressure lantern upon his resignation to assist in the management of the family farm at Koondrook. Mr. F. J. Richardson, the Branch Manager, made the presentation at an informal gathering at the depot.

POPULAR YARRAVILLE MAN LEAVES

After 22½ years in the Commission, job inspector Bill Barton of Yarraville Machine Shop, is farewelled by Henry Selzer (shaking hands) and other workmates.



He Helped Light Up Ballarat

AFTER 47 years of faithful and valued service to Ballarat's electricity supply, Mr. A. E. Widgery, Meter Tester, of the Ballarat Branch, retired on 27th October.

Mr. Widgery started with the Electric Supply Co. of Victoria Ltd. in 1905, at the power station, then situated in Dana Street, Ballarat. His many and varied jobs in those early days included boiler attendant and engine driver, maintenance of the public lighting arc lamps, a period of tram driving and, later, meter inspection and testing.

At a farewell gathering, the Branch Manager (Mr. H. W. Linaker) presented Mr. Widgery with a wristlet watch and a suit case.

GEELONG FAREWELLS

On 31st October Mr. Arthur W. Ricketts retired after being a fireman at Geelong for more than 26 years. All sections of the power station turned up for his farewell presentation, when the Power Station Superintendent, Mr. Jeffreys, handed over a striking clock.

★

Before she left the Commission's service on 10th October, Miss Heather Rodgers was presented with a case of Polaroid glasses from the Geelong commercial staff.



Mr. A. E. Widgery

Mr. A. Powell

Electrical Branch Veteran Retires

ON Friday, 31st October, old associates of Mr. Arthur ("Taffy") Powell gathered to bid him farewell on the occasion of his retirement from the Commission.

He first worked for the Commission in 1923, left for a number of years, then re-joined as a fitter with the Yarraville Workshops in 1935, later transferring to Newport and finally in 1941 to the Electrical Plant Engineer's Section.

Arthur is a very handy man to know, because he is a Justice of the Peace and a Commissioner for taking Affidavits. His services were always freely available to fellow employees.

At the farewell the Electrical Construction Engineer, Mr. C. W. Sangster, thanked Arthur for his long and loyal service to the Commission. He was supported by Mr. Harry Tresidder on behalf of the fitters. Mr. Tresidder then presented Arthur with a wallet of notes as a token of esteem from his work-mates.

News From South-West

On the eve of his marriage to Miss Sylvia Forsythe, of Camperdown, Mr. D. H. Goyen, Reticulation Officer, Colac, was presented with a coffee set by the Officer-in-Charge, on behalf of Colac personnel.

★

The Colac and Hamilton Social Clubs have organised Christmas trees for the children of club members, to be held during the week before Christmas.



Like Presto the magician, the Electrical Plant Engineer (Mr. Miller) produces gifts for Messrs. Anderson and Stansfield, who are embarking on new enterprises. (See text)

Double Ceremony at Rubicon House

Two popular members of Rubicon House Staff received presentations on 31st October. They were Mr. Wally Anderson, who is leaving the Commission to go into private enterprise, and Mr. Arthur Stansfield, who is staying with the Commission, but embarking on the equally exciting enterprise of marriage.

Mr. Anderson has been with the Commission for eight years, mainly at Yarraville Laboratory, and has recently been with the Electrical Plant Engineer—Contracts Section. He is going into a dry cleaning business at Gardenvale. In the sporting world, by the way, he has achieved some fame as a catcher in the Victorian Baseball Team.

The presentations were made by the Electrical Plant Engineer (Mr. A. R. Miller).

E.D.D. OFFICER WEDS

On the eve of his marriage to Miss Val Langmark, of Thornbury, Mr. John Andrews, of E.D.D., received an electric clock presented to him on behalf of his fellow employees in the Division.

John expressed great delight in the thought that his batching days were now over and that the cheese diet he had endured while building his house around him could now be dropped for a more varied menu.

Ballarat Wedding

MISS Beverley Thomas, junior typist, Ballarat Branch, whose marriage to Mr. Arthur Douglas Powell took place on 15th November, was farewelled at a happy gathering in the Branch Administrative Offices. A number of speakers paid tribute to her pleasant disposition and to her efficiency, and the Office Manager, Mr. W. R. Campigli, made the presentation of a Stafford teaset.

First photograph of Mr. and Mrs. K. Farnell. A few minutes before she was Miss Elaine Lake, of Bendigo.



Yallourn Pioneer Retires

MR. J. S. JEFFRY, who served the Commission at Yallourn for 32 years and four months, retired on 21st November.

In the early days he worked on making roads in the Yallourn area, and then transferred to quarries and later helped to sink the shafts used for proving the coal in the open cut area. Mr. Jeffry spent his later years as a transport driver and storeman with Coal Production Maintenance.

Leaves Bendigo

AFTER serving 17½ years as Storekeeper at Bendigo, Mr. G. B. A. Scott was farewelled on 14th November by a large gathering of staff members, prior to his transfer to Eastern Metropolitan Branch.

The Branch Manager, Mr. J. N. Sutherland, who made a presentation of a wallet of notes, recalled his long association with Mr. Scott dating back to the formation of the Midland Branch in 1929. Mr. Sutherland paid tribute to Mr. Scott's efficiency and service as Storekeeper, and also referred to the loss suffered by the citizens of Bendigo with his departure, as he had been actively associated with many organisations devoted to the culture and welfare of the city.

On 11th November, Mr. R. Allen, on behalf of the committee of the Sick Fund, presented a fountain pen to Mr. Scott, who has been President of the Fund since its inception.

GIPPSLAND GIFTS

PRIOR to her marriage to Mr. Ken McCarthy on 9th November, Miss Joy Turner, of Traralgon Office, was presented with a set of kitchen utensils by the Branch Manager, Mr. J. M. Harrison. Joy was wished all the best for the future by her many friends in the Branch.

★

Miss Beryl Wise, Clerk, Traralgon, was presented with a water set, on the occasion of her marriage to Mr. Tom Law, of Sale, by the girls at Branch Office, who wished her all the best in her married life.

Presentation to Mr. Parker

On 14th November, at the Distribution Depot, Rooney Street, Burnley, farewell was said to Mr. J. P. Parker, Assistant Public Lighting Superintendent, on his retirement after 42 years with the Public Lighting Section.

Mr. R. H. Kitson, Distribution Engineer, made a presentation of a wristlet watch and wallet.



Mr. Parker, who first came to the Public Lighting Section in 1910, remembers the days of carbon filament lamps, and has himself turned the lights on and off by means of switches at the bottom of each pole.

Mr. Langhorne Leaves Yallourn

Mr. D. S. Langhorne, Works Property Officer and first Secretary to the Yallourn Town Advisory Council, has retired.

Although he did not join the Commission until after the war, he took a keen interest in Yallourn activities and was a member of the Board of Management of the Yallourn Medical and Hospital Society, having served as both treasurer and president. He was also Officer in Charge of the Yallourn Troop of the 99th S.E.C. Construction Squadron and secretary of the Yallourn Branch of the Reserve of Officers' Association.

TWO MIDLAND MARRIAGES

On 25th November, Midland Branch Social Club bade farewell to accounting machine operator, Miss Winsome G. Warren, who has resigned to marry Mr. R. Cordy.

Her six years' service in the Castlemaine Office has earned the respect and affection of all her fellow toilers, and various speakers at the function said so. To lend substance to these words, she was presented with a mantel radio set. Mr. R. Cordy responded on behalf of his fiancée.

★

A toaster and a clock were presented to Mr. J. W. Jefferies, distribution clerk, who was married recently. The presentation was belated because Mr. Jefferies had been away from Castlemaine on relief duty in other branches.

27 YEARS IN STORES: RETIRES

Before coming to Yarraville 12 years ago, storeman Bob Lewers had spent 15 years at Footscray Store, so he is well known in both areas. Here his Yarraville friends bid him farewell.



This wedding was...



AN S.E.C. AFFAIR

On 15th NOVEMBER, at 6.15 p.m. the Church of England at Benalla was the scene of one of the prettiest and happiest weddings we have ever been privileged to attend, when Miss Margery Little (Correspondence, Benalla) and Mr. Ron Beardall (Accountancy, Benalla, formerly of Head Office) exchanged their marriage vows.

Margery had as bridesmaids her sister Dorothy, Ron's sister Gwen, and Dr. Margaret Garson. Supporting Ron as best man was Bert Brewster (Head Office) and groomsmen Ben McGhee (also Head Office) and Alan Hislop (E.S.D.)

The reception was held at the Broken River Hotel, where a buffet wedding breakfast was enjoyed by many friends and relatives, amongst those Melbournites present being Mr. and Mrs. Willis Connolly, Mr. Herb. Martin, Mr. Phil. Hobbs, Mr. Wes. Betts, Mr. Reg. Waldron, and Mr. Bert Harper (formerly E.S.D.)

The local S.E.C. was principally represented by Mr. R. G. Crivelli, Mr. Roy Irwin, and quite a number of others. The happy pair left just before midnight for an unknown destination — our guess being Sydney.

N.E. SOCIAL CLUB

AT the North Eastern Branch Social and Benefit Club annual general meeting and dinner at Shepparton, the election of office bearers resulted as follows:—President, J. S. Chapman; Vice-President, T. Wiseman; Hon. Secretary, H. Cogger; Asst. Hon. Secretary, Miss J. McMullen; Treasurer, F. Bush; Committee, J. Burns (Shepparton), E. Stribley (Wangaratta), Miss A. McInenney, C. Summers, R. Cussens, D. Bush, A. Turner, B. Digney, C. Wilson and G. McAuliffe (Benalla).

Main expenditure for the year was:—Sick benefit payments, £275; annual picnic, £396.

Membership at the date of the annual meeting was 258.

CREDITS

For supplying five of the photographs in this issue, our thanks are due to The Geelong Harbour Trust, and Messrs. C. Cleverly, A. R. McLister, F. Aplin, and Max Moore.

They Move About At Shepparton

During the last year staff movements at Shepparton District Office have resulted in the appearance of several new faces — and the disappearance of others.

First new arrival was Mr. L. J. Cranage, formerly of Mornington, who took over the duties of Consumers' Clerk from Mr. L. Buller, who had been acting in the position. Len then was successful in obtaining a Stores Branch appointment at Bairnsdale, and duly departed.

In October, Miss Joy Anderson left to be married, and before her departure was farewelled by all her friends of District Office, and was made a suitable presentation by Mr. F. H. Runge, Officer-in-Charge, who thanked her for her loyal service as typist/clerical assistant.

Joy's position was filled by Miss Val Skelton, who literally stepped straight off the boat to take up her duties. Val returned on the "Himalaya" after an exciting and interesting trip overseas, which took her to England, Scotland, France, Switzerland and Italy. The trip occupied four months from the date in June when she sailed on the "Stratheden." Val was so thrilled by the trip that she is now busy saving for the next one.

December will see the departure of junior typist Miss Pat Laird, who also leaves to be married, and she will leave with the best wishes of all at Shepparton.

Early next year, Shepparton A/O/C, Mr. Allan Smith, will take up duties as Officer-in-Charge, Foster, and his Shepparton associates are confident that he will be most popular and efficient in his new position.

In January, Les ("Darky") Tyres will go on six months' well-earned long service leave, and the best wishes of all go to him for a happy and enjoyable holiday for both him and Mrs. Tyres.

OBITUARY



Late Mr. Bell

Late Mr. S. P. O'Sullivan

MR. S. P. O'SULLIVAN

Mr. S. P. O'Sullivan died in Heidelberg Military Hospital on 16th November, aged 62.

Mr. O'Sullivan joined Fuel Supply Department in 1931, holding managerial positions at Essendon, Windsor, Montague and Footscray briquette depots, and was stationed at Footscray until his retirement through ill-health in June last.

He is survived by a widow and two stepsons.

MR. G. BELL

The death occurred on 2nd November of Mr. George Bell, a high tension joiner in the Underground Mains Section.

Mr. Bell, who was 32, started with the Commission in the Briquette Department in 1939. He served in the A.I.F. from 1941 to 1945, when he was discharged as medically unfit. Mr. Bell returned to the Commission and after a short period with Stores, transferred to the Underground Mains Section.

He leaves a widow and two young children.

Mr. D. W. VEREKER

Mr. D. W. Vereker, a leading hand linesman, was killed on 20th November, while working on a low voltage line at Bacchus Marsh. He was about to descend after finishing work when he apparently touched a conductor and fell to the ground. Mr. Vereker, who was 36, joined the Commission in 1937. He is survived by his widow.

MISS M. DAVEY

On 10th November, members of the Chief Electrical Inspector's Branch were shocked to learn of the death of Marie Davey, typist, aged eighteen years. Although she had not enjoyed good health for some time she had remained at work to the last, and her quiet cheerfulness and willing nature have left with all who knew her the memory of a very fine person.

MR. E. M. CARTLEDGE

The death of Mr. Ernest M. Cartledge, which occurred on 15th October, following a collapse whilst on duty the previous day, was a great shock to his many friends in the Ballarat Branch.

Mr. Cartledge, who was 59, joined the Commission's service in 1934, and at the time of his death was a leading hand track repairer.

He leaves a widow and a daughter.

MR. S. E. LEWIS

Mr. Samuel Edward Lewis, Officer-in-Charge at Traralgon, died in Sale Hospital on 20th November, after a short illness.

Starting with the Commission in 1922, Mr. Lewis worked on the stringing of the main Yallourn-Yarraville transmission line, and then on the North-East Sugarloaf Line.

Mr. Lewis, who was 51, leaves a widow and two daughters.

MR. W. HISLOP

While playing cricket on Saturday, 15th November, Mr. William Hislop, engineer's clerk, attached to the Civil Branch, suffered a heart attack and died suddenly.

Mr. Hislop, who was only 19, had been in the Commission's service for nearly two years, and had earned a fine reputation for efficiency and exemplary conduct.



BIRTHS:

Bloomfield, Ken and Mrs. (Rubicon House), son, 9th November.
Dodgson, Keith and Mrs. (Rubicon House), son, 5th November.

Harrison, Hugh and Mrs. (O/M/E, Rubicon House), daughter, 4th November.

Lacy, Ken and Mrs. (Contracts, Rubicon House), son, 27th October.

Pollard, Ted and Mrs. (Contracts, Rubicon House), son, 3rd November.

Roberts, Mrs. and Mr. (Generation, Richmond), on 20th April — a daughter.

Wilson, Mrs. and Mr. R. D. (Generation, Richmond), on 9th September — a son.

Callaghan, Mrs. and Mr. A. (Generation, Richmond), on 6th October — a son.

Moss, Mrs. and Mr. G. (Generation, Richmond), on 28th October — a daughter.

Collins, Mrs. and Mr. W. J. (Bendigo Branch) — a son (Donald).
Tueno, Mrs. and Mr. H. (Bendigo Branch) — a daughter (Lorraine Margaret).

MARRIAGES:

Andrews, John (E.D.D.) to Miss Val. Langmark, of Thornbury.
Komerowski, Zagger (Generation, Richmond) to Miss Rita Kurnall.
Hammill, H. J. A. (Bendigo Branch) to Miss D. Gilchrist, of Eaglehawk.

Lake, Elaine (Bendigo Branch) to Mr. K. Farnell, of Benalla.

Hare, W. (Power Station, Geelong) to Miss N. V. Amos.

McRae, G. (Power Station, Geelong) to Miss F. Redmond.

Sawyer, J. R. (Newport Power Station) to Miss Doris Chergwin, of Ballarat.



Coming to the picnic?

**Yes, it's on again next *Australia Day, January 26th*—
our *17th Annual Picnic and Sports at Frankston Park***

For those who have been before, all we need say is that the programme is as good as ever. There'll be sports from 11 a.m. onwards, including wood chopping, tug-o-war, sprints, relay races — and the usual generous prizes.

Yallourn Band is coming up to provide the music, and other entertainments will include a model plane display, a chair-o-plane, and Punch and Judy, of course.

Free hot water and milk for everybody, ice-creams and soft drinks at 2d. each, and free books and sweets for the under 5's — these are some of the things the Committee is providing to see that all have a good day.

DON'T MISS THE YEAR'S BEST PICNIC!

TICKETS INCLUDE RAIL FARES

- Family Tickets 6/-
(Admit 2 adults & 4 Children)
- Single Tickets 3/-
(Admit 1 Adult or 2 Children)

**See your notice boards for
details of Special Trains**





Support the Social League's Red Cross Appeal!

YOU CAN HELP —

- ★ Run a theatre party.
- ★ Spare a bob for the collection box.
- ★ Go to a Red Cross dance.
- ★ Nominate your Popular Girl.
- ★ Sell books of raffle tickets.
- ★ Play whist, euchre or bridge.
- ★ Organise lunch-hour concerts.
- ★ Become a Red Cross member.

Send suggestions and contributions to Red Cross Appeal Committee
C/- Amenities Branch, Head Office. (Phone MY 240 Extension 449)

MAMMOTH RAFFLE!

- First Prize — £125 H.M.V. Radiogram.
- Second Prize — £28 Cake Mixer.
- Third Prize — £11 Automatic Toaster
- Fourth Prize — £3 Electric Jug.

Tickets from all Social Club Secretaries.

**Help Red Cross
to Help You!**

WATCH NOTICE BOARDS FOR FURTHER DETAILS!