

# SEC

JOURNAL OF  
STATE ELECTRICITY COMMISSION  
OF VICTORIA

★

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★ Metro Makes 250,000 Friends -- pages 2-7



# SPOTLIGHT



**Queen's Scout.** Robert Franklin, trainee draftsman, may be summoned to a formal investiture soon to receive his badge. Ceremony is usually at Government House.



**Table Tennis Champions:** Miss Val Bailey and Mr. J. S. Impey, Geelong table tennis stars. Miss Bailey is State "C" grade ladies' singles champion, and Mr. Impey won the State open doubles with partner. Together, Miss Bailey and Mr. Impey won Mid-Western mixed doubles championship.

**Won £500 for an idea.** Suggestions award winners, F. G. Hansford, left, and J. F. Filshie, both of Newport Power Station. Together they made Suggestions Board history, winning the record award. Their plan will be adopted by the Commission. See story Page 13.



**Blood givers.** R. McPherson (centre) holds the record, as blood donor to the Red Cross, at Richmond Stores. He has given over three gallons of blood altogether. Ian Probert (L) has donated 13 pints, and Jim Venn (R) has given 10 pints. Story on page 19.





# Serving Our Customers

EVERY business should aim to satisfy its customers. If it fails in that, it will very soon find itself in difficulties. That is as true of the Commission as of any other undertaking. But in a public utility of the Commission's scope and size we are under a moral obligation, as well as a practical one, to give the people — our customers — the best service we can.

That does not simply mean getting a job done efficiently. It means consideration, tact, politeness — a lot of other things. They all add up to "good public relations."

The Commission has done much to win the goodwill of the people it serves. One illustration is the story in this issue of the services given by Metropolitan Branch. We can be proud of our record — but we should be careful not to become complacent. It is the responsibility of everyone in the Commission's service to look on himself as a "Public Relations Officer." There is always room for us to foster better relations between the public and the Commission.

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## COVER

Ironfounder's friend! Molten steel, in a glowing, fiery stream, pours into a crucible at a Burnley foundry, as an engineer from the Commission's Metro. Branch talks over a technical problem with a company engineer. They are discussing the big electric arc furnace, that melts steel at fantastically high temperatures. Just above their heads is the fierce bright glow of the furnace. Right of the blueprint is a crane hook, ready to lift the crucible of molten steel. See feature story — page two.





The system gets quick results. The classic story (it's old, but still good) is about a factory where the power supply failed completely. The factory manager immediately phoned Services. The Commission officer who took the call made out the report slip and sent it up to control while the factory manager was still talking. A radio car was passing the factory at the time, and got the "trouble" call. As the factory manager put the phone down, he was astounded to find a Commission officer being ushered into his office, ready to fix the fault. Speedy service? Well, that factory manager thought so.

### ***Hidden Heart***

The control room — although Control Engineers may never see the consumers — is the heart of the system. There is an engineer on duty in that room 24 hours a day.

Not only radio equipped trucks are waiting for calls. Other mobile field officers and faultsmen are available at call to Control, and are allotted jobs. Their trucks are equipped with tools, ladders, even spotlights.

If an appliance in a consumer's home is out of order, the faultsmen will examine it. He may warn the consumer not to use it until it has been overhauled. If the service fuse has "blown" the faultsmen will renew it. He will make minor repairs on the spot to restore supply.

When a Control Engineer gets reports of a lot of power failures in the one area, it probably means trouble with the mains. A sub-station circuit may be the cause. No use sending faultsmen to deal with this. The Control Engineer immediately advises the district depot, and an officer and linesmen are despatched to the area.

Bigger trouble still — a complete sub-station out of action — means that high voltage operators must be sent out. Metro. Branch has 1,237 sub-stations. Last year there were 226 calls of this kind.

Mr. T. Tiarks, Senior Control Engineer, says, "From the time a fault is reported it takes us, on an average, 90 minutes to restore supply. And that figure includes minor failures that are not urgently in need of attention."

**Blood bank.** Alf Larson, Commission engineer, checks the operation of an electric refrigerator for the vital blood bank, Prince Henry's Hospital.



## SEVENTEEN MINUTES FROM "FAILED" TO "FIXED"



**8.35** Urgent 'phone call tells E.S.D. "Our factory power off"



**8.36** At E.S.D. 'board, P. Flynn switches call over to Control.



**8.37** Control room — Dave Evans radios for patrol car.



**8.38** Ray Longmuir, on a patrol, gets the urgent "trouble" call — acts on it.

Considering that Metro. Branch extends from Werrabee to Mordialloc, that's not a bad record.

Telephone inquiries and reports total about 80,000 a year. Some of the people who phone get service in less than ten minutes.

Mr. Tiarks, who has been with the Commission for 33 years—15 of them in the Operating Section — recalls some remarkable incidents. "Cats sometimes worry us. One caused a fault at Sunshine, a few weeks ago. We found the fault, but we couldn't find the cat. We knew what had caused the trouble, because we found the cat's tail. It had been burned clean off.

"Electrical storms are another headache. Our worst was in February, 1951. We got 1,200 reports.

"Windstorms cause damage. Heavy winds blow tree branches into the wires. Sometimes the wind rips off a sheet of galvanised roofing iron, and blows that across the wires.

### "Get the Bird"!

"Cockatoos trailing their leg chains are a hazard. The cocky perches on the wire, the leg chain short-circuits the overhead mains. Usually, the cockatoo is uninjured. He just sits on the line, squawking, until one of our men gets him down. Just another service we give the public!"

The service to electricity users does not stop at repairing faults and restoring supply. Let's take another look at Richmond Appliance Repairs.

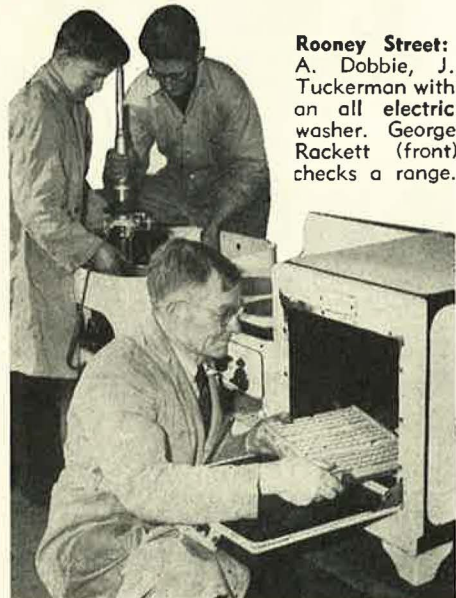
Ron Heaviside, Superintendent, has a staff working on the whole range of electrical appliances turned in by householders. Refrigerators, toasters, electric irons, radios, ranges, — anything the Commission sells.

Appliance Repairs do another job for the electricity user, too. Every one of the larger appliances sold by Metro. Branch goes through the workshops. Electrical fitters and engineers make sure the appliance is safe before it goes to the customer.

The section has four servicemen working outside, going from home to home. Where possible they carry out "on the spot" repairs. If they can't



**8.48** Ten minutes later he has located the faulty apparatus. Then he isolates it.



**Rooney Street:** A. Dobbie, J. Tuckerman with an all electric washer. George Rackett (front) checks a range.



**8.52** Power goes on again, less than 18 minutes after the first call came in.



do that they bring the appliance in to the workshops.

They, too, run into some funny situations. Bert Widdicombe, leading fitter, had to argue one housewife out of shortening her electric iron flex by half because, she complained, "The iron takes too long to get hot." And there was one woman who had a rat living inside her electric range. She didn't disturb the rat during its lifetime, but when it died she rang for help. A repair-man removed the dead rat.

Appliance Repairs is one of half-a-dozen sections controlled by Mr. F. W. Pearce, Consumers' Engineer.

His men are ready to advise home owners on wiring, or to set out wiring plans for people building new homes — valuable help that hundreds of home-owners have appreciated. Mr. Pearce's staff solve problems for industrial and commercial firms. And the help they give follows the same pattern — service for the customer.

### ***From Bitumen to Babies***

Take a few examples. Engineer Owen Griffiths has given advice to a score of industrial consumers. He has helped them to get induction furnaces working, suggested methods of case hardening, improved electroplating vats, and saved power in a plant for heating bitumen. The Commission wants people to *use* electricity — not waste it.

Another firm wanted to dry 16 tons of raisins a day by di-electric heating. But the raisin seeds heated faster than the pith. This meant that parts of the raisins would burn, while other parts merely dried. An audience of experts watched the tests, and sampled the raisins. Every sampler burned his tongue on the "red hot" seeds. The problem of di-electric heating for drying raisins hasn't been solved yet!

Commercial firms send their problems to Mr. R. L. Peter. He has recommended heating systems for hotels, cafes, halls, cabarets, private hospitals, churches, laundries, butchers' shops, delicatessens. Electric ovens for commercial bread baking are becoming very popular, he says. Often, he works in conjunction with architects. He helped plan the installation of floor heating in a Presbyterian babies' home, so that the babies would have the luxury of crawling on a warm floor.

Horticulturalists and farmers go to Mr. R. A. Nadenbousch, who has been in the section for 18 years. He



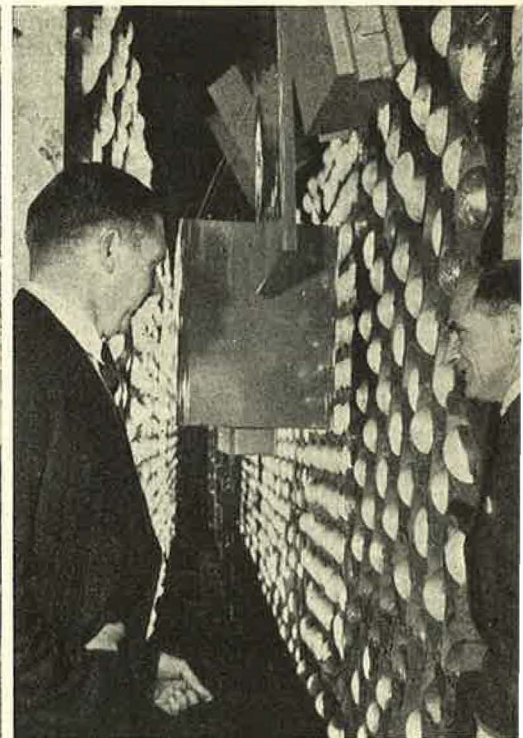
**Power for pies.** At a Windsor bakery establishment, Mr. Alf Larson, Commission engineer, who specialises in commercial equipment, gives advice to operators who are using an electric pie making machine. Advice of this kind has saved commercial firms time and expense.

## **PUZZLED? THESE ENGINEERS WILL**

**Heated hatchery.** Mr. R. Nadenbousch (L), engineer, tests air velocity in an air conditioned room at this Bentleigh farm.



**Electric drier.** Engineer Bernie Moon checks over an infra-red drying rack for a firm at Clifton Hill. Rack dries enamel quickly.







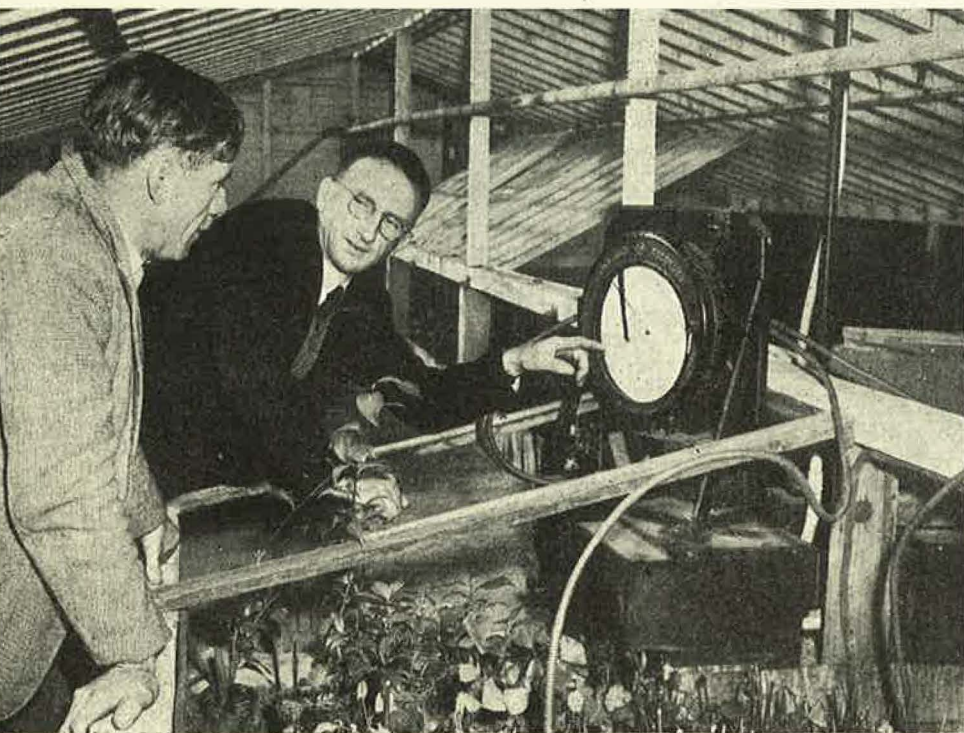
**Engineer - baker!** But only briefly. Mr. R. Peter, Metropolitan Branch, explains operation of electric oven.



**How bright do they like it?** Ted Green, rural engineer (L), helps a St. Albans poultry man by measuring intensity of light in this pen.

## OLVE YOUR ELECTRIC ENIGMAS

**For precious plants.** At a Brighton plant nursery, Mr. R. Nadenbousch, from Metro. Branch, helps with a test. He is checking the effect of an electrically heated plant propagating bed. Only a few hibiscus and camellias are in view, but the bed holds thousands more.



says, "You may be surprised that Metro. Branch is interested in farming. But the Branch area includes Broadmeadows, Keilor, Werribee, and other farm and market garden land."

He has planned installations for a man who wanted electricity for incubators for 70,000 chickens. In electrohorticulture, some of the results have been startling. In six weeks, one nurseryman using electric heating and plant hormones produced plants 27 inches high—instead of the normal four, or five or six inches.

He has experimented on speeding plant growth with special types of light — infra-red, ultra-violet, and others. Electric soil sterilisation, he has found, can eradicate weeds and harmful soil organisms. The effect lasts for two or three years.

### Top Echelon

These services are not restricted to Metro. Branch. They have their counterparts right through the Commission. Some branches are too small to have special officers for each section. They refer some of their consumers' problems to Mr. J. R. Taylor, head of the Electrical Development Division.

His staff of 40 is divided among a Lighting Section, Rural Section, Building Industry Advisory Section, Wiring, Commercial Appliances and Display Sections. There is even a General Services Section.

Sometimes, but not often, the problems beat them. What can you do when you go to a house and find that the owner has corks firmly plugged into every electric socket, to "stop the electricity leaking out"? Or when an irate consumer complains that she must be getting contaminated electricity because whenever she switches the light on she gets a sick headache?

Mostly, Services are equal to any emergency. Only a few weeks ago a Metro. Branch contact officer picked up the phone to hear an agitated housewife gasp, "I've spilt fat all over my electric stove. Now it's on fire! What will I do?" The officer's advice probably saved her home.

For 35 years the Commission has been giving service of this kind to the public. And all the while, the scope and standards of this assistance have been improving. Services are out to help the customer — to keep electricity users satisfied. Have they succeeded? The volume of good will the people of Victoria have for the Commission answers that question.



# SUPPLY STRETCHES ITS ARMS

THROUGHOUT rural Victoria, the Commission's distribution lines are reaching out. A mile or two here, five or six miles somewhere else. Each advance brings electric power to another group of people in a country town, to more Victorian farmers. New electric milking machines, electric stoves, refrigerators, washing machines go in — old lamps and lanterns, picturesque with their soft light, but ruinous to the eyes, go out. And the country people are glad to see them go . . . . .

● The wires go in to Warrenbayne. Linesmen got a welcome from power-hungry farmers.





**I**N the past year 33,000 new consumers have been connected to the Commission's supply. About 7,000 of them are in Mildura area, where the Commission took over the Sunraysia district's electricity undertaking. Nearly 80 per cent. of the new consumers last year — over 25,000—live outside the metropolitan area.

For the first time, during the year, electric light and power came to 3,000 more Victorian farms. The farmers welcomed it. Their attitude to electricity has changed remarkably in the last 20 years. Back in the pre-war days, electricity was a luxury on the farm. To-day, in rural areas, the country people clamour for electric power. They demand it as a right. And when they get it they show that they are pleased.

Country extensions are going ahead in many of Victoria's remote areas. In others Commission engineers who move ahead of the power lines are investigating and mapping out the future. The Commission's ten-year plan for an all-electric State is ahead of schedule.

Let's look at two Victorian towns that have just "got electricity." Yambuk and Warrenbayne. They're little

settlements — but they're both pretty important. Both are in rich farming districts. Places like these help to keep our State prosperous.

Yambuk is nearly 200 miles from Melbourne, about eight or nine miles out of Port Fairy, going toward the South Australian border. Warrenbayne is about 130 miles N.N.E. of Melbourne — 14 miles from Benalla. The two places lie a couple of hundred miles apart, measuring in a straight line.

But in both centres the country people showed how much they appreciated the coming of electric power.

**A**T Yambuk, the 923rd centre to get S.E.C. supply, the local hall was crowded for the switching on ceremony. There was hardly room to move. Cars were parked thick outside. There was a good orchestra — prizes, a "Belle of the Ball" — everything to make a delightful celebration.

Preparations began early. There was an air of suppressed excitement. Linesmen had been working in the area for some time. Twenty of them were kept busy, under Sam Ryan, Officer-in-Charge, Port Fairy. They had to bring power to 55 domestic

consumers, 33 farms, and four commercial consumers. They erected about 15 miles of high voltage line, 16 rural type sub-stations, and nearly seven miles of low voltage line. The whole job took about three months. The copper wire used (Yambuk is near the sea) was worth about £9,500.

**S**AM RYAN commented, "I know all the people concerned. I signed up every one of them myself." Pleased, too, was Mr. A. H. Smith, Acting Manager, South Western Branch. In the last 25 years the Branch has extended its lines by about 1,500 miles, bringing power to nearly 20,000 new consumers.

Mr. Smith, giving a time-table for the Yambuk extension, recalled that permission to negotiate with local residents was granted in September last year. The Commission granted final approval to proceed with the work on March 16 this year.

To push the work through quickly, Port Fairy, a relatively small district, received assistance from Warrnambool.

He added, "Within three months, the whole of the work was well toward completion."

## Laughing, they turned out the old lamps



**At Yambuk:** Lovely Theresa Bartlett and vivacious Maureen Carroll. **Warrenbayne:** Kev. Sessions dowses the pressure lamp.



South Western Branch territory runs right into the Otway Ranges. One party in the district aims at raising £60,000. Except for a private undertaking at Apollo Bay, the Otway Shire is practically without electricity.

About a dozen groups are working in the area, under the direction of a local steering committee, exploring the possibilities of further extensions. Their plans, if put into force, would involve the erection of between 150 and 200 miles of line. And much of this work would have to be carried out in difficult, rough country, among big timber or along winding mountain roads. The steering committee has reached the point of reporting on what finance would be available.

**Y**AMBUK, like Warrenbayne, got its electricity under the rural self-help scheme. The work cost about £32,000. Local people raised half of this, and passed it over to the Commission. They will receive interest at current rates on the money, and will be repaid the capital in five years.

Yambuk residents have already in their homes and farms 37 electric cookers, 34 refrigerators, 40 hot water services, 8 dairy water heaters, three electrically equipped workshops, four electric fires, 29 pumps, and two electric coppers.

These were the people who got the direct benefit. But now that the lines have reached Yambuk, other people in the area will benefit indirectly. Codrington, another four or five miles along the road, will get power next. They're working on a self-help scheme right now.

Codrington scheme will bring electricity to 58 homes and farms. It will use 12 miles of high voltage wire, and about four miles of low voltage wire. Codrington people will raise half the capital cost of the work.

Eagerness of the farmers to help with the schemes is shown by the amounts they subscribe. At Yambuk, biggest subscription was £1,500. Another man ran this close by putting in £1,400. Not all the amounts are this big, of course, but it doesn't take long to fill a quota when you get a few people, who can afford it, putting in big sums in a "good neighbour" spirit.

## "IT'S ON," SAID YAMBUK! . . .



**Top:** Yambuk ladies worked through the day preparing a lavish supper for the "Switching On" ball. **Below, L:** As Ray Harris cut the ribbon, the electric lights flashed on. **Below, R:** John Goldsmith, Assistant Linesman, puts finishing touches to the models decorating the hall. The distribution line and model farm formed the stage decorations.

Early on the day of the official "switching on" farmers' wives were busy decorating Yambuk hall and preparing a generous supper. Sam Ryan's men were finishing up the Commission's part of the work in the district, and putting a model transmission line across the stage. From this line, other wires ran to a model farmhouse and dairy.

After dark, for the last time, oil lamps were lit in the hall. The crowd grew slowly. But by the time the official party took their places behind the white ribbon that stretched across

the stage, there was standing room only — and not too much of that.

Commission men were not forgotten. Speakers at the ceremony mentioned gratefully the work that had gone into bringing power to Yambuk.

Cr. Roy Humphries, of Belfast Shire Council, chairman for the evening, remarked, "We've been waiting a long time. But we've got electricity to Yambuk at last." Mr. A. D. McInerney, who has a farm at St. Helen's Road, told the crowd, "It's a very important occasion — a memorable night."



# .. AND WARRENBAYNE WENT GAY!



**Top L:** Mr. and Mrs. H. James (L), and Mr. and Mrs. Crivelli. Mr. Crivelli is N.E. Branch Manager, and Mr. James is chairman, Warrenbayne hall committee. **Top R:** Pretty Pat Reilly, Gwen Williams and Pat Filipponi enjoying Phil James' music.

**Below L:** Mrs. A. J. Robinson tries out the new electric range in the kitchen of her farmhouse. Granddaughter Jill assisted. **Below R:** Mrs. Mary Egan, and Kath and Kevin Egan were happy about the way the electric lights brightened the post office.

**R**EPRESENTING the Commission, Mr. Smith thanked the people for their help. He, too, paid a compliment to Sam Ryan and his men when he said, "They have done all the work. Sam Ryan's chief worry is to know where he can give supply next — he can't take it to all places at once."

And Sam Ryan said with a ring of sincerity in his voice, "I got a lot of personal satisfaction from this job . . . And I've made many good friends."

But after all the talking, it was Ray Harris's night. Ray has a farm

in the district. He was chosen by local people to cut the ribbon which switched on the power.

Ray Harris called the first meeting in Yambuk to ask for electricity just 10 years, less a few days, from the night of the celebration. He chaired scores of meetings. But the work brought its reward. "Best lot of meetings I ever attended," he remarked.

Ray made a brief, happy speech. Then he said, "I know you are waiting to see what happens when I cut this ribbon." Mr. Smith handed him a pair of scissors, inscribed, "Switch-

ing On. Yambuk. Presented to Mr. R. W. Harris by the State Electricity Commission."

He stepped forward and snipped the white riband. In a flash, the deep shadows vanished, and the hall leaped into brilliant light. Outside, a hundred vivid coloured "fairy" globes shed their light. The crowd cheered. Excited kiddies yelled. The orchestra struck up, and the "switching-on" ball started. Electricity had come to Yambuk.

But there was one interruption. Cliff Murch, another farmer, called



for silence. Speaking for the people of Yambuk, he thanked Ray Harris, and presented him with a standard lamp. Then the dancing went on until the early hours of the morning.

To know just what electricity means to these people — to understand why they're so ready to celebrate — you have to talk to farmers like Bert Bartlett. Bert has a model dairy, and the one thing he wanted was electric power. He's got that now, for hot water and milking machines. He's pleased with it, and he shows it.

Or ask Ted Watts, retired blacksmith. Ted had a small wind-power generating system in his house. After Commission supply came to his home, he remarked with great satisfaction, "Won't find the light fading out, now, when I'm in the middle of reading the paper."

Ask Mrs. Bartlett, Bert's wife. "It means a new washing machine." Ask any one of them. They'll all tell you of the benefits electric power brings them.

**I**N Warrenbayne, the answers were almost the same. Everyone welcomed supply. Electricity went to 21 farms, the tiny hall, the post office and the post office residence. Linesmen had erected fourteen and a half miles of steel 22 kV line, and over two miles of low tension line.

To Claude Woolley, Officer-in-Charge, Benalla, extending supply into a new district was nothing unusual. He had worked on new extensions in Gippsland, until he transferred to the North Eastern Branch a couple of years ago.

Farmers in his new district, he said, showed the same eagerness to get power and light.

Warrenbayne is a smaller centre than Yambuk, but size was no bar to its enthusiasm. It went about arranging the "switching on" in a slightly different way. There was no white ribbon — but there was a specially made switch with an inscribed silver plate. And the crowd was just as big as at Yambuk.

The dance started early, and was well under way when silence was called for the ceremony. Chairman was Mr. Herbert James, who told his audience, "Warrenbayne is fortunate in having two great assets — its good land, and its good, honest people. Now it has a third asset — electric power.

## Supply Stretches Its Arms



**After work — a smile.** Yambuk dairy farmer, Bert Bartlett, and his son David, aged 3, find that milking is not such hard work with electricity.



**Ready to try it!** Jack Heywood, and son Ken, all set to try their farm's new electric milking machines. Ken Brown is working on the meter board.

"One reason we are pleased is that electricity helps to even out the disparity in conditions between cities and the country. It helps to keep our young people on the land. That is very important to us all."

Mr. A. J. ("Pat") MacPherson remarked, "Eventually this scheme will link all farms and houses in the district. Bringing electricity here is a progressive step — one we will never regret."

Mr. R. G. Crivelli, Branch Manager, was called on to speak. It was no new experience for him — he was attending his 46th switching-on ceremony in the North Eastern Branch. It was in this Branch that the self-help scheme originated — at Swanpool, ten or twelve miles across country from Warrenbayne.

Mr. Crivelli, looking on the new extension, must have felt a great deal of satisfaction. When he came to Benalla, in 1925, the Branch was in its infancy. Earlier, he had described it this way — "There was nothing here then. No staff, no car, no office, no money. No house to live in. The Commission had only what I could carry in my suitcase." In 29 years the Branch had made tremendous progress. He showed some of that feeling when he spoke to the people of Warrenbayne.

He said, "From the time the Warrenbayne scheme was initiated until its completion, very little of the burden of the work fell on me. The people, and the Commission's staff, have brought a magnificent job to completion."

**T**HE honour of switching on fell to Pat MacPherson. "I appreciate it very deeply," he remarked, and pressed the switch that brought bright light to Warrenbayne. The dull glow of the oil lamps was drowned in the new radiance. And cheers of the crowd drowned the speaker's voice.

As a memento, Mr. Crivelli presented Mr. MacPherson with the inscribed switch. The recipient remarked, "It will be treasured by me all my life."

Two little country centres — they both cheered and celebrated when the Commission brought electric supply to them. It was the best thing that had happened for years, they said. And that just about sums up the way country people feel, to-day, about getting electric light and power.



# Commission Earns Biggest Surplus

The Commission has completed another successful financial year. Mr. Hunt, our Chairman, recently announced that preliminary figures showed that the Commission earned a record surplus of £359,000, subject to audit, for the financial year ended June 30, after providing for contingencies and strengthening reserves.

The satisfactory trading result for the year, he said, indicated the soundness of the undertaking, which had shown a surplus every year except two for the last 27 years.

The last year's operations brought the accumulated surplus to over £1,000,000, which is invested in the business.

During the year, substantial amounts had again to be paid in interest and other charges incurred as a result of postponing or retarding important construction projects.

The policy was continued of using part of the year's surplus so that these charges should not become a permanent burden on fixed capital assets.

## Loan Broke Time Record

The Commission's £3,000,000 Power Loan, which closed on July 28, was fully subscribed in record time, three days earlier than the authorised closing date.

The loan was open for only a fortnight. In no other of the Commission's 16 previous public loan flotations since the war has an equivalent amount been subscribed in the same time.

## Big Morwell Tender

The Commission has called tenders for about 18,000 tons of steelwork for the important Morwell project, on which work is being resumed.

The steelwork will be used for the new power station buildings, the two briquette factory buildings, coal conveyor system, and other works.

The tenders are the first to be called since the announcement that work at Morwell was to be resumed.

Mr. Hunt pointed out that the problem of obtaining sufficient capital moneys for the major tasks ahead was a very real one. The S.E.C. would increasingly have to follow the practice of large private organisations which "ploughed back" into the business much of the surplus earned each year.

## Kiewa's Clover Dam Completed

Clover Dam, the new dam for No. 4, Kiewa's new underground power station, was completed early in August. This 62,000 kilowatt power station is expected to have its first generator operating early next year.

Clover Dam measures 250 feet along its crest, and rises 76 feet.

## All Time "High" For Suggestions

The Suggestions Board had its biggest "pay-out" in August since the scheme was started. One award alone was £500, the all-time high. Another was £70, and the third was £50.

The £500 award winners — they will receive £250 each for an idea they submitted jointly—are Frederick G. Hansford and James F. Filshie, both of Newport Power Station. They are featured in "Spotlight" in this issue.

Mr. Hansford is a turbine attendant, and Mr. Filshie is shift engineer. They have each received a cheque for £50 — an interim award. When their suggestion is fully implemented, they will be paid another £200 each.

Their proposal was that the bearing cooling water at Newport Power Station be re-circulated. An adaptation of their scheme is being adopted. The plan has already saved the Commission £500, and the total saving over a year is estimated at about £3,000.

**Seventy Pounds Suggestion!** L. J. Darragh, Yallourn Torna-dozer operator, received £70 for his new plan for cable shifting.

**Fifty Pounds Winner.** John Collett is about to get his Suggestions cheque from Mr. M. B. Gale, Technical Suptd., Cook St.

Winner of the £70 award was Mr. L. J. Darragh, Torna-dozer operator at Yallourn. Mr. Darragh, who is with the Coal Production Branch, working in the open cut, suggested a cable-shifting device which will save a great deal of time and labour.

Mr. Lombard, Coal Production Superintendent, who reported on Mr. Darragh's proposal, said the annual saving was estimated at about £400, and further uses for the idea might be found.

The £50 went to Mr. John L. Collett, leading hand motor mechanic at Base Workshops, Cook Street, Port Melbourne, who suggested replacing Hyatt type roller races with bronze bushings, in G.M.C. four-speed gear boxes. Mr. Collett's award for this idea is not his first, for he was awarded £5 for sending in a plan to modify the steering mechanism in Land Rovers.





# Giant Maypole Planned For Fair

A great "Maypole of Light" reaching almost from the floor to the dome of the Exhibition Building will form the Commission's spectacular exhibit at the Electrical Industries Fair, to be opened on October 6.

The gigantic maypole will dominate the interior of the building. It will spring from a glowing red base area, towering high toward the roof. Over 6,000 coloured lights, flashing on and off in brilliant hues, will create the effect of ribbons of colour spiralling and swirling round the pole, high above the crowds.

The base of the maypole will be 60 feet wide. It will be suspended 17 feet above the floor. Visitors can stroll underneath it to a fountain

flashing with jewel-fires from tinted light. The fountain will rise from a wide pool. Around it will be a high, circular arcade in polished gold, reflecting back the flashing colours.

The Maypole of Light will combine gigantic size with dazzling beauty. A team of architects, engineers and display experts are working now to design the structure, which will embody thousands of feet of electric cable, motors, water pumps, and intricate electrical controls.

The fair will be the largest of its kind ever held in Australia. It will contain millions of pounds worth of exhibits and working models, from 147 exhibitors. It will be open until October 23.

## Electricity Speeds Gippsland Trains

First electric train from Melbourne to Warragul inaugurated the regular electric rail service to Gippsland in July. The first train was a special, carrying V.I.P.'s, and it was welcomed by Warragul civic leaders. This was the first stage in the Victorian Railways electrification programme. Elec-

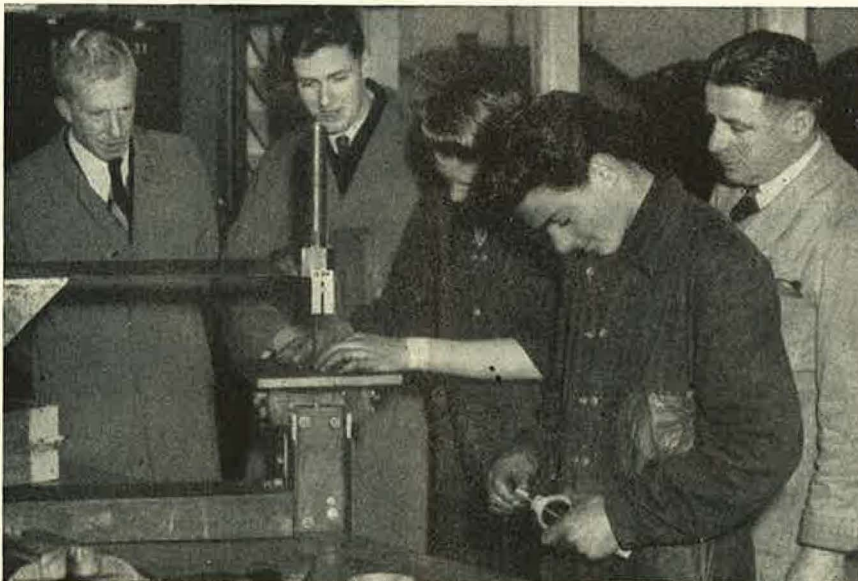
trification of the Warragul-Traralgon and Moe-Yallourn sections is scheduled for completion in 1955.

The Commission is supplying the power, which is being converted in the Railway sub-stations to direct current for traction purposes.

Duplicating, re-grading, and electrifying Gippsland line is an integral part of the master plan for developing the brown coal resources of Latrobe Valley for power and fuel.

## Top S. A. Apprentice

South Australia's best watched, while Yarraville boys worked. From L: Mr. B. Stevens, Asst. Education Officer; T. Schultz (visiting S.A. apprentice), C. Axnic, S. Agosta, W. Hazeldene, Annexe Superintendent. Trevor Schultz, 20, was chosen as best S.A. apprentice this year. Award included tours of Newcastle, Sydney, Melbourne.



## SENIOR APPOINTMENTS

### CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, MORWELL

MR. J. W. SCHULZ, A.M.I.E. (Aust.) was appointed Construction Engineer, Morwell, in August.

Mr. Schulz, who was born in South Australia, graduated from the Royal Naval Engineering College, Devonport, England. He served at sea as an Engineer Officer with the Royal Australian Navy during the war.

Subsequently, he went to the Electricity Authority of N.S.W.

### ENGINEER IN CHARGE, OPERATIONS

MR. J. V. BROOKS has been appointed Engineer in Charge of Operations, Electrical Operations Branch, Production Department.

Until this appointment, Mr. Brooks was Engineer for Technical Services. He joined the Commission in 1951. His new appointment is from July 2.

Before coming to Victoria, he was with the Hydro-Electric Commission of Tasmania. He had extensive overseas experience, and he was with Metropolitan-Vickers, in London. Among his degrees are B.E. and A.M.I.E.E., London.

### ASSISTANT ENGINEER IN CHARGE METRO. GROUP, OPERATIONS

MR. R. GILTINAN, Dip.E.E., A.M.I.E. (Aust.), whose appointment as Assistant Engineer in Charge, Metropolitan Group, Electrical Operations Branch, Production Department, has been announced, joined the Commission in August, 1935.

Mr. Giltinan was appointed a Senior Operator in July, 1938. He became an Assistant Engineer in 1941, and was promoted to District Superintendent in 1948.

In May, 1950, Mr. Giltinan became Area Engineer, Metro. No. 2 Area.

### COAL PRODUCTION SUPT., MORWELL

MR. H. LYNCH has reverted to his former position of Coal Production Superintendent, Morwell. Mr. Lynch was appointed to the position in 1951, but when work at Morwell was suspended he returned to Yallourn as Plant Supt., Coal Production.

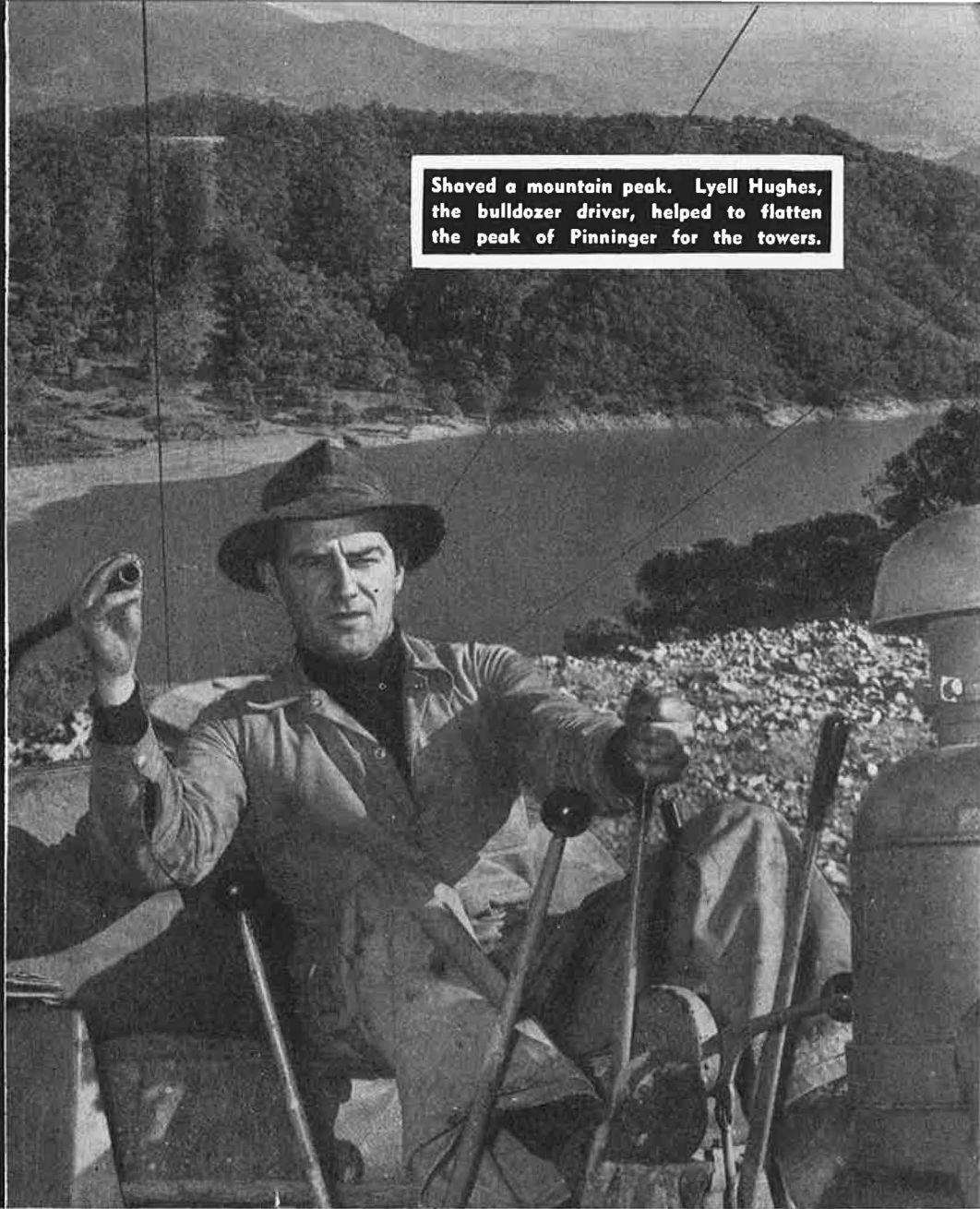


# The power line leaps a valley!

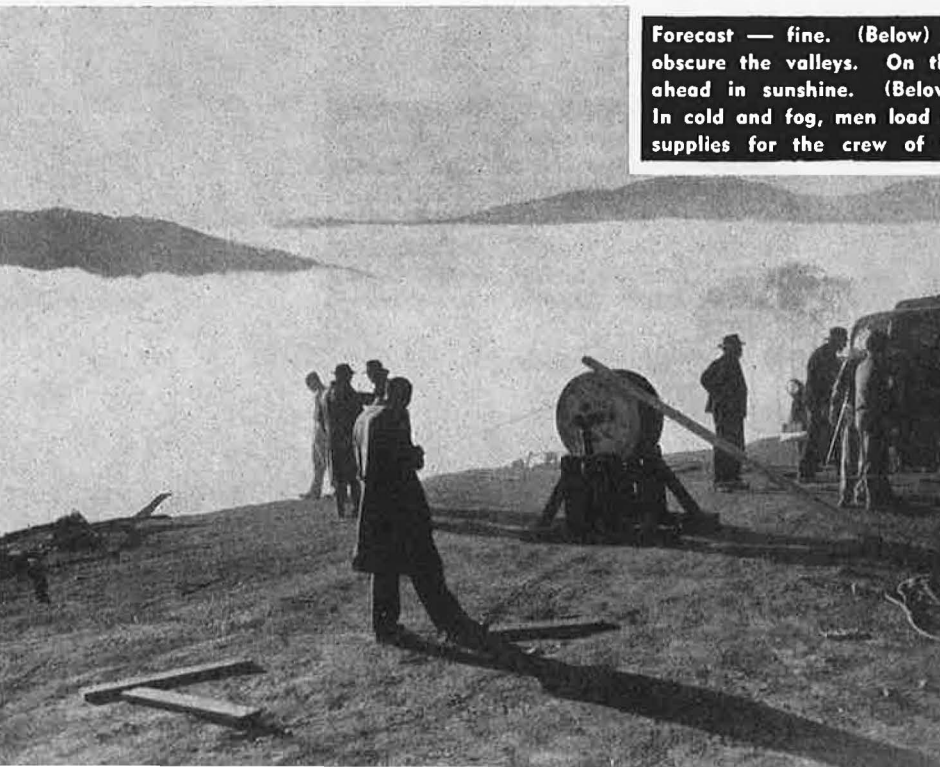
**U**P at Eildon, Commission men have tied two mountain peaks together with the longest power line span in Australia.

From tall steel towers on the crest of Mt. Pinner, line gangs have strung cables high across the lake. The thin conductors stretch about 7,330 feet — more than a mile and a third — through the air. They reach to another set of towers on Mt. Enterprise. The long link is part of the vitally important Kiewa-Melbourne line, bringing hydro-electric power 153 miles into Victoria's power network.

Shaved a mountain peak. Lyell Hughes, the bulldozer driver, helped to flatten the peak of Pinner for the towers.



Forecast — fine. (Below) Early morning mists obscure the valleys. On the peaks work goes ahead in sunshine. (Below, R) Cold journey. In cold and fog, men load the motor boat with supplies for the crew of the pontoon barge.



**SEC**  
photo  
feature



# The power line leaps a valley!

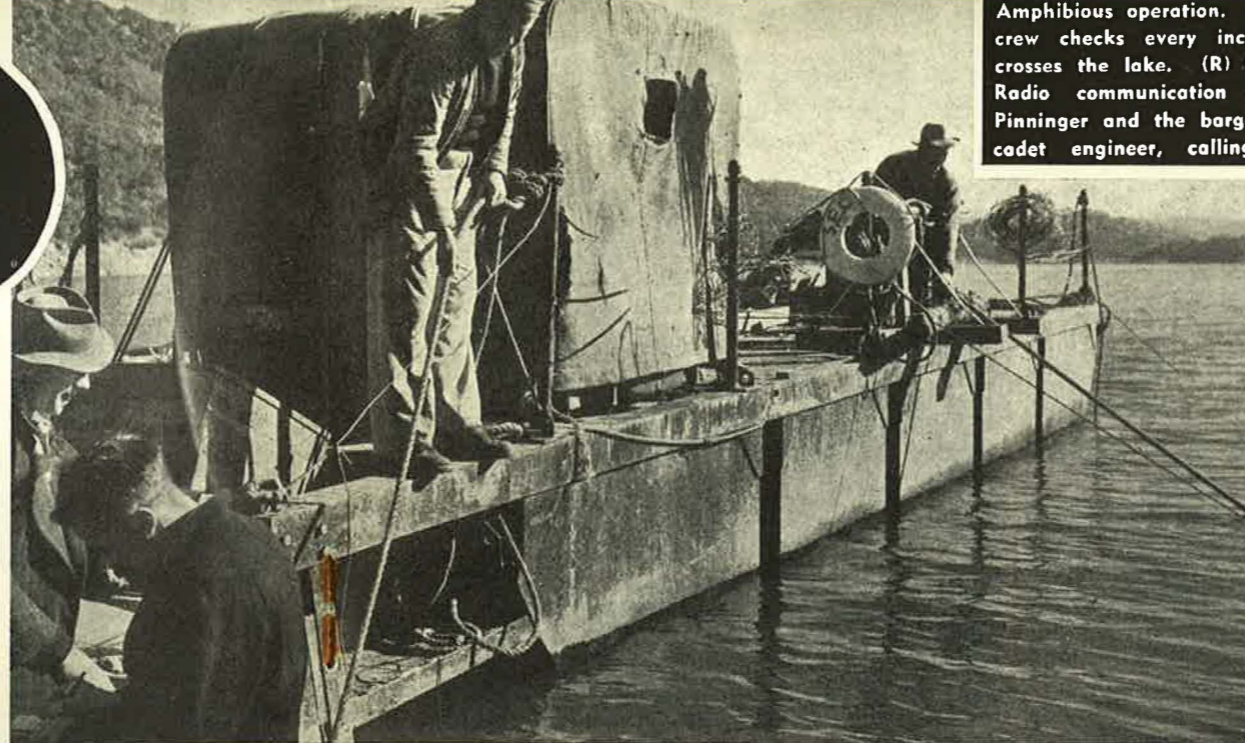
Electricity will flow through the heavy steel and aluminium cables at 220,000 volts — highest transmission pressure in the State.

Tossing a line from one mountain crest to another is tough work. A full drum of cable spans the lake, and leaves a little leeway. Each drum weighs nearly seven tons. The concrete-bedded towers have to take the weight of three cables.

Two teams worked on the task — 15 men on Enterprise, and 20 on Pinninger. They bulldozed the peaks flat first. Their job was pleasant on a fine, warm day, but in early morning, when the cables faded into thick fog, or in late afternoon, or in cold weather, a biting chill gnawed at the workers. The men built small fires to keep warm — then worked on.

Not all the men were on the hill-tops. Watching, checking, and standing by for emergencies at water level were three or four men in a moored barge. They were in the centre of the lake — with a motor boat ready for quick movement. Cables need careful handling. Each one used at Eildon had 91 strands — 54 of aluminium, and 37 more in the steel core. If they are not watched, they damage easily. They can kink, twist, tangle, break — do almost anything except what you want. But the Eildon job was done well — and the lines went across.

High life. Mick Slawycz (L), New Australian, working on Enterprise tower. He has been with the Commission for four years. Below: The big pay out. On the crest of Mt. Pinninger, the cable gang starts the conductor on its way. The delicate cable is costly, and demands careful handling.

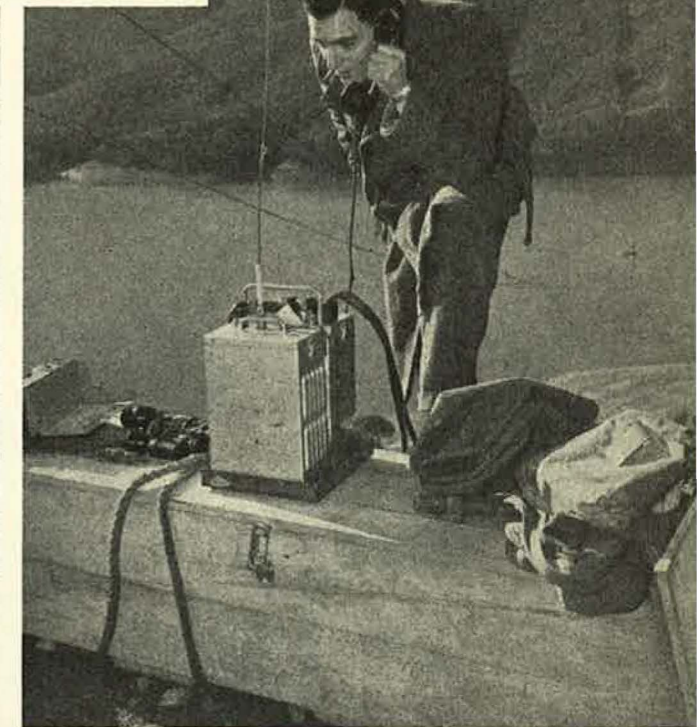


## SKY HIGHWAY CARRIES POWER FROM KIEWA

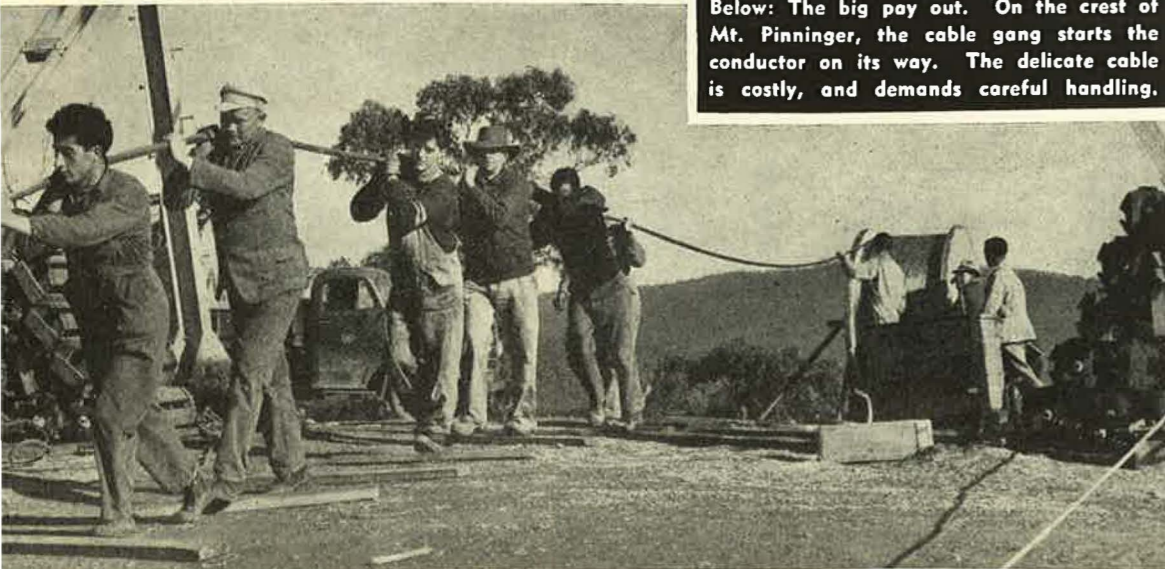


Watch that cable! As the hauling begins, the gang guards the conductor against three jagged rocks, other hazards. The barge is in the centre of the lake, just below the cables already strung.

Amphibious operation. (L) Pontoon barge crew checks every inch of cable as it crosses the lake. (R) Orders on the air. Radio communication linked Enterprise, Pinninger and the barge. H. Boardman, cadet engineer, calling Mt. Enterprise.



Over the top. (Above) Ed. Fraser, leading hand linesman, guides cable over the crest. (Below) Peter Colville, temporary linesman, takes over the radio to keep in touch with the other shore.







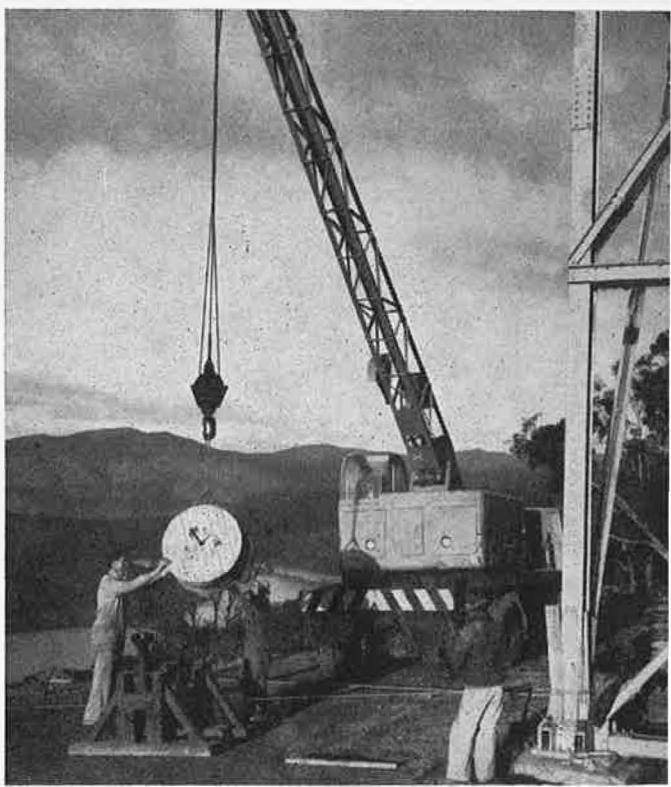
Above: Transmission tower, Mt. Enterprise. Two cables are hooked in. Below: Pressing a dead end on the conductor. From left: R. T. "Lofty" Knight, Tony Biocco, George Fowler, Howard McMahon, working in shadow of Mt. Pinninger transmission tower.



Bolted down. Tom Curtin, front end loader driver, and Harry Austin, heavy driver (with hammer), check the bolts at the base of Pinninger tower. Below:— L: Norm. Collett, linesman, carrying up a dead end. R: Leading hand Hec. Johansen, 20 years in the job.



Light task. Up goes a drum of hauling wire. Heavy cable drums, taller than a man, weigh up to 7 tons.





# Between Ourselves

## Buckets of Blood

Three gallons is a lot of blood. It is more than you find in the average "blood and thunder" Western. And three gallons of blood is just the amount Bob McPherson, Storeroom Supervisor, Richmond Stores, gave to the Red Cross blood bank before he reached the age limit of 55 years. Bob McPherson leads the list of blood donors at Richmond Stores. But there are a good many keen donors there, and some may reach his record. At present, "runner-up" position is held by Bert Pretty, who gave 12 or 13 pints while a regular donor. Max Gilbert and Ian Probert wear badges for giving over 12 pints.

Following closely are Jimmy Venn, Ted Salisbury, Tom Kelly, Jack Devine, Bill Daniels, Bert Goldsmith, Jack Knight, Wally Myerscough, John Griffin, John Millman, Wally Nicholson, Lloyd Betts. They give a pint of blood every three months.

## Thanks for £505

Mr. Munro, the Commission's Secretary, has received a letter from Mr. J. Colquhoun, Coronation Gift Fund Secretary, thanking officers and employees of the Commission for their contribution of £505 towards the fund. Mr. Colquhoun wrote, "The Chairman (Mr. L. W. Galvin, Chief Secretary) is most appreciative of this excellent response, and would be glad if you would accept his personal thanks, and the appreciation of members of the State Committee of Management for the interest you have taken in this very special appeal."

Total contributions for the fund amounted to slightly over £68,000, including £10,500 from the Commonwealth, and the same sum from Victoria. £60,000 of the money has been allotted for the Queen Elizabeth II Coronation Commemoration Block at Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital.

## 200 In Camp

Two hundred members of the Commission's regiment — 16 Construction Regt., R.A.E. — went into camp at Seymour on September 4. There was a big muster of troops at Spencer Street Station on the Saturday morning, when metropolitan troops entrained.

The camp lasted a fortnight, and the members of the regiment, under Lt.-Col Les Wallace, Commanding Officer, of Civil Branch, carried out intensive training.

Troops were under canvas, three miles east of Seymour, on the Trawool Road. Photo-feature section in our next issue will tell the story of the camp.

## 1,000 Youngsters

In our last issue we featured a story on the youth of Yallourn. Since then, Education Week has come and gone. It brought a great influx of youngsters to the Commission's establishments at Yallourn. About 1,000 children from metropolitan and local schools and colleges visited the works on inspection tours.

## School Days? We're Not So Sure

Here's the second of our "Flashback" photos. It's another taken in the early '20's at Yallourn. Looks like a schoolmaster and his pupils, doesn't it? Some of these children may even be in the Commission's service to-day. We'd be glad to hear from anyone who can give us information about this picture.

A number of readers identified our first "Flashback." (Long clay pipes.) Mr. E. R. Given, of Newport Power Station, told us that the picture was taken at a "smoking competition" arranged by the Rev. Mr. Parker, then at St. John's Church, Yallourn. Everyone who attended was given a churchwarden pipe, a "fill" of tobacco, and two wax matches. The idea was to keep the pipe going as long as possible. The winner lasted 64 minutes. Mr. Given ran second — 63 minutes.

Mr. Hedley R. Wyatt, Resident Operator, Geelong Terminal Station, confirmed that the picture was taken soon after the opening of St. John's hall. But he and Mr. Given disagree on the winner of the competition. Mr. Given says that the winner was the man second from the right in the front row. Mr. Wyatt says, "My brother, second from right, front row, was going very well, but he was not used to pipe smoking. It made him ill, and he had to withdraw."







**After England - Fishermen's Bend.** Chief Cook, Mrs. Camoccio, from U.K., serves hot meals as Transport H.Q. men hurry to the building.



**The big rush starts.** Hungry men don't like to be kept waiting during their meal break. At The Bend, the canteen system can serve one hundred men in four minutes — without push or scramble. Even at busiest time you fare better here than you would in the City.

## Bend Amenities Build Morale

"THE best we've ever seen" is the enthusiastic way men at Transport Administration Headquarters, Fishermen's Bend, describe the new amenities block opened there recently.

The new building has everything to make them comfortable — canteen, showers, locker room, modern wash basins, plenty of bright, cheerful colouring.

It even has a hot meal service — because the men who work at The Bend are a long way from any shops. The amenities block all-electric kitchen has a double oven range, double-decker steam cooker, double-decker pastry oven, a huge cake mixer, a bread or meat slicer, a stock pot for soup — it holds about 25 gallons — even a mechanical potato peeler.

The servery opens directly into the mess hall — a big, well lighted room.

The high roof is pierced by a dozen skylights. Plenty of sunshine gets in.

In the adjoining section is the locker room. Every man who uses the room has a locker of his own.

Walk through the locker room, and you reach the showers. Not one shower or two — but a full score. Twenty of them, in a long, long row. Hot and cold water.

For a quick clean-up there's a row of wash basins.

### Quick Service

One problem faced by the canteen staff was to serve meals as quickly as possible. Men don't like to waste ten minutes waiting to be served. Attendants hand out about 100 cafeteria style meals in four minutes.

Instead of using the new service, some men prefer to bring prepared meals from home. Others bring in saveloys, frankfurts, or tinned foods.

But all are catered for. These foods go into the pressure heater.

A second canteen in the dining room supplies sweets, soft drinks, tooth paste, boot polish, tobacco — it is well stocked, and even has an ice-cream freezer.

A committee of 14, with Norm Parker as secretary, runs the canteen. Profits supply sporting materials, pay for trips away for sports teams, and supply amenities for the workers at The Bend. The Christmas Tree, paid for from canteen profits, cost £250 last year. Every child got a worthwhile toy.

From outside, the new Fishermen's Bend block is very attractive. It is built in yellow brick, and its clean, simple lines have a remarkable appeal.

Men in other establishments may be enjoying better amenities before too much longer. Work has already





**Lockers for all.** (Top) Peter Wiselenski and Ossie Smith. (Right) Really hot! Con Dwyer and Kev Wilson clean up at wash basins.

started on a new building at Newport. Early plans call for construction of a mess room, and for a locker room with hot showers and wash basins.

The Newport mess room will have an area of about 6,800 square feet. It will seat 435 men. The kitchen will have up-to-date electrical cooking equipment, so that hot meals can be prepared there, too.

The locker room, a separate building, will have an area of 5,600 square feet. There will be individual lockers for 224 men. There will be 22 hot showers, and 32 wash basins, each with hot and cold water.

A covered way will connect the locker room and the mess room, so that men will be under shelter from the time they enter the wash rooms until they reach the mess building.

The Newport buildings may take about nine months to complete.

Later, Newport will have a still larger locker room with an extra 450 lockers. The mess room will be extended to provide a spacious recreation room and library.

## HERE ARE SOME EXPERT OPINIONS



**Harold Bower**, L.H. motor tester: It is pretty good. Who wouldn't say so?



**Harry Bysouth**, motor tester: The hot meals are a big draw with us.



**Bill Page**, coach painter: This new building is over 100 per cent. better.



**Norm Parker**, motor body builder: There is no doubt it's very welcome.



**Bert Aanensen**, panel beater: We appreciate this worthwhile move.



**Geoff Corp**, L.H. panel beater: Well thought out, a commendable step.



# SINGING OPERA KEEPS HIM CONTENTED

**Y**OU might think that there's worlds of difference between the glamour and bright lights of the stage and a quiet, prosaic office at Richmond Power Station.

You might even think that no one man could possibly enjoy living in both these worlds — and could make a success of each of them.

You would be wrong. Norman Carbuhn, clerk at Richmond, a delightful tenor who has gained an Australia-wide reputation, has earned a living both on the stage and with the Commission — and he'll tell you that each sphere has its own attractions.

To-day he looks on singing only as a hobby. But since he joined the service, he has had scores of inquiries from young singers with the Commission. They have all sorts of worries — how to join musical societies, where to go for training, and lots of others.

He says, "I try to help them all. Many young singers are diffident about asking for advice. But I welcome their inquiries, try to put them at ease, and try to solve their problems for them."

Norm is young, but he has crammed a great deal of theatrical and musical experience into the nine years since he returned from New Guinea and was discharged from the Army. He says he has the Army to thank for waking his interest in singing.

## Felt Lost

He explained, "When I was discharged, I felt lost, like a good many other servicemen. I turned to music in what you might call a form of 'self rehabilitation' — an attempt to get myself re-oriented in civilian life. It turned out to be one of the best things I've ever done."

He began training in Melbourne with Ivor Boustead — the man who taught Marjorie Lawrence and John Brownlee.

The great moment came — the hour when he was to make his first public appearance — at the Assembly

Hall, in Collins Street. It was to be at a recital given by the Musical Society of Victoria.

He said, "I'll never forget that first effort. That was when I really launched out. Nervous? Of course I was. And I had a big programme to get through. But once I began singing I got over the nervousness — and the critics were very kind."

He will talk about his nervousness, but he tries to gloss over his successes. Under prompting, he admitted that opera was his next step. He joined the National Opera Company, and made his first appearance in *Rigoletto*, in 1947. He had an important role — the leading part, in fact — he was chosen as the Duke.

## Tried Variety Next

*Rigoletto* went on at the National Theatre — then it moved to the Princess. Over the next 18 months Norm Carbuhn became well known to opera lovers. Look at this list of his appearances:—*The Magic Flute* (at the Princess), *The Bartered Bride* (where he won many tributes from critics), *Tales of Hoffman*, *The Bartered Bride* again, *Beethoven's Fidelio*, *Pagliacci* (with the A.B.C.).

Opera is high art, but it doesn't hold out much promise of a living for an Australian. He was compelled to turn to the variety stage. For two and a half years he toured Australia on the Tivoli circuit — Melbourne, Adelaide, Sydney, Brisbane. For a time he was with the famous English comedian, Stanley Holloway, in his show, "Talk of the Town."

Norman has many pleasant memories of the Tiv. circuit. But he left to join a show produced by Joan Davies, who came to Australia direct from the London Palladium, to stage a spectacular revue here. He got to know the three Wiere Brothers — a



**Richly costumed** Norman Carbuhn looks amused, as he prepares to go on stage.

famous comedy team. "They were bonzer people — and very fine friends to me," he recalled.

Then he went to the Arthur Askey show — touring Adelaide, Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne. He was with this show for over a year, but it was to be his last variety engagement.

He explained, "You have to try to keep a home going in Melbourne, and pay your hotel expenses while you're away in Brisbane, Sydney or Adelaide. It's more than a struggle — it's almost impossible."

He looked round for another job, and finally came into the Commission's service about three years ago. That didn't mean that he gave up all his interest in music. But it did give him a chance to spend more time with his wife and children—a chance to really make a home of his own.

Norm started with the Commission at Yarraville. From there he went to Generation, at Head Office, then out to Richmond Power Station. He's never regretted joining the service. His wife and his two kiddies are better off, he sees much more of them, and he is contented in his work.

**STAFF HOBBIES**

NUMBER 105



But he went on with his singing, too. Back to Grand Opera! Marjorie Lawrence came out, and Norman was chosen to sing in the cast of "Aida," in which Marjorie had the leading role.

Marjorie Lawrence is one of his favourite opera stars. "She's absolutely wonderful," he enthused. "Everyone remembers how she was paralysed with polio. When she came to Melbourne, she was able to stand for a short time, and walk across the stage unaided. But physically it placed a great strain on her, and she didn't like doing it."

"In 'Aida,' she sang while she was sitting in a chair. She had no need to walk at any time. When she had to move from one part of the stage to another, she was carried across in the chair by four 'supers'."

Marjorie Lawrence and Norman became fast friends. She still writes to him regularly from the United States. Her last letter was from Hollywood, where she is singing in a picture based on her life story.

He said, "She hopes that one day she will be able to return here, to live in Australia. She would like to train our own young singers in operatic work. That would help to keep some of our best artists from going overseas."

Of John Brownlee, he says, "I met him when he was here last. He very generously offered his help to any Australian singers who go to New York."

### Son Likes "Horse Operas"

Norman is fortunate in having a wife who is also keenly interested in music. He met his wife, then Miss Estelle Nicol, in Shepparton — she used to work in the Commission's office there. A talented pianist, she has an impressive list of qualifications to her credit. Later, Mrs. Caruhn worked for the Commission at Werribee. During the war she was employed at E.S.D., Flinders Street, while her husband was on active service.

Their eight-year-old daughter is fascinated by the theatre. It is a great event for her when she is taken to see a show. But their son, Raymond, aged 10, has no musical inclinations. "He's crazy about electrical engineering," his father explained. "He just couldn't care less about opera. Once

he remarked, 'All this singing, and that kind of stuff! I'd sooner see a picture with some shooting in it.'"

Since he played in "Aida," Norm has appeared in "Carmen," at the Princess, with the National Opera Company. He has played in the Gilbert and Sullivan musical comedies, "Princess Ida" and "Iolanthe," and in the operatic version of Shakespeare's "Merry Wives of Windsor," which was produced here as part of the Jubilee Celebrations.

He also found time to win a scholarship at Melbourne Conservatorium of Music.

### Wouldn't Talk

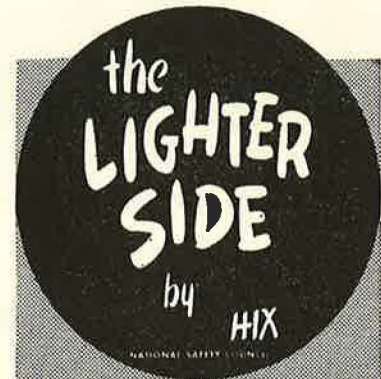
But the high point of his career, so far, has been his appearance in the Royal Command performance of "Tales of Hoffman" in Melbourne.

He was first tenor leader. "Tales of Hoffman" was performed before Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh. Afterwards, Norman was in a group of singers who were presented to Her Majesty. He said, "The Queen told us how much she had enjoyed the performances. She said that it was very good to see a group of young people playing Grand Opera."

Next day, he reported for duty at the power station as usual. None of his friends knew that he had been presented to the Queen. He said, "I couldn't talk about it. People think you are boasting when you mention things like that."

At present, Norman is concentrating on keeping in contact with the National Theatre Chorus. "It is a good chorus, and we hope to keep members together, and to work for hospitals and charitable organisations. We are planning four performances a year, and an A.B.C. programme of excerpts from operas. We hope that by keeping the singers together we can maintain high standards."

But he emphasises that music is only a "part time" interest for him to-day. As he turned back contentedly to his desk at Richmond, he remarked, "No, I don't feel any great desire to go back to the stage for a living. All the glamour couldn't compensate for the pleasure I'm getting out of building a home, and for having time to spend with my wife and children."



### *Our Safety Officer Says:—*

Take care of equipment and tools. No matter how unusual the circumstances, no matter what the emergency is, never use faulty equipment. Pay proper attention to maintenance, and it will repay you



# THE Home Shift

## Keep Your Range Right

DESIGN engineers and production specialists have spent a great deal of thought and work evolving the modern electric range. No range is marketed without first being put through exhaustive tests. But no tests can subject a range to the wear and tear that come from years of use in a home.

Look at the electric ranges in the homes you visit. In one home, perhaps, you will find a range that has been installed ten years or more and that still looks new. In another you may see a range half as old, but battered and neglected.

Look after your electric range, and it will pay high dividends in well cooked food, it will save you time and energy in cleaning, and it will eliminate service problems caused by carelessness and neglect.

Here are some general points to remember:—

- Have the range properly installed and check that oven racks are level.
- Read the operating instructions carefully.
- Until you become used to cooking with the range, use only tested recipes.
- Prevent spilling by not filling saucepans too full, and by not leaving a switch at high heat too long.
- Prevent unnecessary splattering of grease by using moderate heats when frying or roasting.

In most ranges the tops and splash-guards, exterior surfaces, and oven interior linings are finished in acid and stain resistant porcelain or vitreous enamel. To preserve the original finish of the enamel, avoid sudden temperature changes, sharp blows or scratches, and the use of harsh abrasives for cleaning.

To stop enamel crazing around the hotplates, use utensils no larger than the hotplates themselves. If the hotplates are set  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch above the range top, larger utensils may be used. But large utensils with flanges that would touch the enamel surface should not be used.

After use, when the enamel is cool to the touch, the surface should be wiped over with a damp soapy cloth, then rinsed and dried. If acids of any kind — vinegar, fruit juices, etc. — are spilled, they should be wiped off immediately with a dry cloth.

The hotplates themselves should be cleaned while still warm. Wipe them over with a cloth wrung out with hot soapy water. Stubborn stains can be removed by gentle use of fine steel wool and a mild cleaning powder or paste. Rub the plates over occasionally with a piece of suet or lard, then polish them with a piece of crumpled newspaper to remove any surplus fat. This will keep them free of rust. A stiff brush or whisk will remove crumbs around the hotplate and clean spillage that has boiled over.

### 'Ware Water

In some ranges, the hob may be raised and the hotplates removed for a thorough cleaning. The plates are removed by lifting straight up and out. The surround is wiped over with a cloth that has been well wrung out. No water must be allowed to seep into the sockets that take the electrical contact pins. And though hotplates may be removed, they must not be immersed in water.

If you clean the oven after each use, you will stop grease and spillage baking into the enamel. Use moderate oven temperatures and very little fat when roasting. To stop fat splattering and smoking, do not grill meats too close to the open element. When baking fruit pies, or casserole dishes, stand them on a rimmed tray, such as a Swiss roll or scone tray, so that the tray will stop any spillage staining the oven floor.

After using, leave the oven door ajar until the oven has cooled. Then oven walls, floor and door should be wiped over with a hot, soapy cloth, rinsed, and dried. Occasionally the oven may need a thorough cleaning. Make sure the current is switched off, then remove the oven racks and elements if they can be taken out.



## CHEF'S CORNER

### Chocolate Cream Sponge

#### INGREDIENTS

3 eggs	2 tablespoons
4 ozs. castor sugar	boiling Milk
4 ozs. S.R. Flour	Whipped Cream
Pinch of Salt	Grated dark
2 level tablespoons	Chocolate
cocoa	

#### METHOD

Add pinch of salt to the eggs and beat until frothy (1-2 minutes in electric cake-mixer), then add sugar and beat until thick and puffy. This will take approximately 5-6 minutes when using an electric cake-mixer, longer if beaten

by hand. Sift the flour and return two level tablespoons to the flour bin before adding the cocoa. Sift flour and cocoa together at least twice. Fold in the sifted dry ingredients by hand, pour boiling milk in at the side of the basin, and mix all lightly together. Pour into greased and floured small sponge tins and bake in a moderate oven, 400° for 15-20 minutes. When the sponge has cooled, split each layer in half and fill with whipped cream, then join together with cream so that you have four layers of sponge. Spread a little cream on top and decorate with grated chocolate.



An oven that is heated by top and bottom elements usually has either removable plug-in elements, or the bottom element is covered by an enamel drip tray which can be removed for cleaning. In some ranges, the whole interior lining of the oven, or the separate supports for oven racks, may be detached for cleaning. They should be washed in hot soapy water and dried carefully before being replaced in the oven.

When oven elements have been removed for cleaning, they must not be immersed in water. If cover and element cannot be separated, be careful not to wet the open coil element while cleaning the cover with a damp soapy cloth and mild abrasive. Wipe out the oven interior with a cloth wrung out of warm soapy water to which a little ammonia has been added. Then rinse and dry.

### Soften Grease First

If the oven smokes when heated, it is probably greasy, and will require a slightly different method of cleaning. A small bowl of hot soapy water containing one tablespoon of ammonia may be placed into a still warm oven and left for a few hours or over-night. The fumes from the ammonia will soften any greasy deposit, and all you need to do is to

## Handy Hints

Cheese, when dry, may be freshened by being placed in hot water for a few minutes.

★

A small piece of charcoal in the saucepan with boiling cabbage will remove the odour.

★

Fish may be scaled easily by dipping in boiling water for a minute or two.

★

If rice is put into boiling water, it need not be stirred; if you stir once you must continue or it will burn.

★

Wash brushes in one teaspoonful of liquid ammonia to one pint of cold water; it keeps them stiff.

wipe out the oven with hot soapy water, using a damp cloth. You may use a fine steel wool pad if needed.

There are special chemical preparations on the market which will remove still more stubborn stains and any accumulation of burnt food particles.

The grilling pan and rack should be washed after use. Drain the fat off, then sprinkle a little soap powder or flakes on the pan, and fill it with hot water. The grilling pan will wash easily if left to soak during the meal. Burned-on spots may be removed with fine steel wool.

Pour boiling water through tea or fruit stains on linen.

★

Eucalyptus will remove tar and grease from any fabric.

★

To keep meat, rub over with vinegar and sprinkle with pepper.

★

Sugary jam: Place bottles of jam in warm oven until well heated and sugar is dissolved. Jam will not sugar again.

★

Lettuce placed in aluminium container with air-tight lid will remain fresh and crisp for days.

★

When sending flowers by post, stick stems through holes cut in raw potato and they will keep fresh.

★

If nuts are warmed in oven for a few minutes, kernels will leave shell easily and cleanly.

★

To freshen stale bread, brush loaf all over with milk and place in oven for 5 minutes. Wrap in tea towel and put near open window to steam.

★

Grated cheese added to soup just before serving adds a new and delicious flavour.

★

When making pastry, sprinkle arrowroot on board instead of flour. It gives a delicious crispness.

★

Olive oil will remove marks from polished table if a little salt is added to it.

## O'MY, The Accident Maker

THE GREMLIN YOU'D LIKE TO BLAME FOR ACCIDENTS . . . BUT CAN'T



That's what I like to see! A fellow busy working on his car in the garage and running the motor. A perfect set-up for a sneak like me!

If the doors had been securely fastened, I could never push them closed. But this way . . . . . Humph, he never even noticed —

So, while I sit here and smoke, good old monoxide will finish the job inside. He'll be asphyx - sphyxi — well, you know what I mean.



# S P O R T

## Staff "Stars" Eclipsed

Staff "Stars" suffered a severe defeat at the hands and feet of Secretarial "Snails" in the bitterly contested football match at Tooronga Oval, in July.

The Stars fell for the first time in three matches. Snails outpaced and outplayed them. Final scores:—Secretarial Snails, 13.8; Staff Stars, 8.5.

Secretarial drove home an attack within two minutes of the start, to open their account with full points from Barry "Walt" Disney. In aerial duels, the Snails soared higher than the stars time after time.

Third quarter was decisive. Secretarial increased their lead and, at the bell, were playing on confidently. Staff fought back valiantly, but the margin was too big.

Trophy for the Snails' best player was won by Bob "Butch" Bryce. Mr. F. L. Easterby, the donor, made the presentation. Best for "Stars" was George Raphael, who received a trophy donated by Mr. L. G. Morrison, Assistant Secretary. Among the crowd of enthusiastic spectators was Mr. D. H. Munro, Secretary.

Umpires received the usual cheery messages from spectators. Early in the match, one umpire was greatly



**Find the Ball!** High fliers in the Secretarial v. Staff match. Umpire D. Goold is on left, then Daryl Stuart, Jack Williams, George Raphael, with Allan Peter on right.

heartened by shouts of "We wuz robbed" from Secretarial supporters, who disagreed over a decision. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the game.

## GOLFERS VISIT BEACONHILLS

Personnel Department golfers held their sixth annual visit to Beaconhills on Saturday, August 21.

Seventeen golfers participated, and all enjoyed the day. Only complaint was that several of the regular players from Personnel were unable to attend. Honours for the day went to Bob Marks, who had improved his form, and managed to outwit the handicappers.

Other trophies — in the form of golf balls — were won by Stuart Morris for the longest drive off the first; Phil. Hobbs for the best aggregate score over three secret holes; Les. Roberts for the worst aggregate score over three secret holes; and Peter Harnetty for "putting 'em away."

## Club Championship On October 23

S.E.C. Golf Club will hold its annual championship at Beacon Hills, on Saturday, October 23. All Commission employees are eligible. Come along to try for a trophy — and for the love of the game. The Club would like more country players to turn up this year. If you want more information, get in touch with Mr. G. A. Tingate, Mechanical Branch, 3rd Floor, H.O.

**The Champs!** Newport "A" Team won their final against Geelong in Social League table tennis competition. Result was in doubt almost to end. From L: J. Hastie, R. Morrison, J. Lang, D. Clark.



**Carpet Bowls Victors.** Richmond won the championship of carpet bowls competition organised by Social League. Team (from L): N. Burns, V. Crouch, P. Hefford, W. Doherty, L. Spiden, C. Laing





# Triumphed At Table Tennis

Geelong table tennis stars, Miss Val. Bailey and Mr. Stuart Impey, have scored a remarkable run of successes in the last month or two.

Both are members of Geelong Branch Athletic and Recreation Club. Miss Bailey is employed in the Branch's Correspondence Section, and Mr. Impey is Senior Tramways Clerk.

Here is Miss Bailey's record:—Victorian Championships, won "C" Grade ladies' singles, semi-finalist "B" Grade ladies' singles. Mid-Western Open Championships, runner-up ladies' open singles, won ladies' doubles championship with Mrs.

Martin, of Warrnambool; won mixed doubles with Mr. S. Impey.

Mr. Impey's successes:—Victorian Championships, won open doubles championship with Mr. G. McIlvena, of Geelong. Mid-Western Open Championships, runner-up men's open singles, won men's open doubles championship with Mr. G. McIlvena, won mixed doubles with Miss Bailey.

Geelong Branch Athletic and Recreation Club entered five teams in competitions this year. Only "A" Grade team failed to reach the Four. All the others headed the premiership ladders at the end of the home-and-home matches.

"A" Reserve, "C3" and "B" Grade ladies' teams have all won their semi-final matches, and play off in the grand finals in their grades. "D1" team lost (5 rubbers to 6) and have now to play in the finals.

## BEAT BIAS



Bowled well, Ralph Chappel, foreman, Brooklyn Stores, singles championship winner in carpet bowls competition.

# Trophies For Best Players

S.E.C. Football Club trophy winners were cheered at Footscray Town Hall, when the club held its annual presentation night in August.

Instead of a formal meeting, the presentations were made at a Cabaret Dance.

Trophy winners announced by Mr. J. Jobson, Club President, were: Best and fairest, L. Gordon, Yarraville Terminal Station; second best and fairest, W. Barden, Transport, Fishermen's Bend; best first year player, D. Hartrick, Rooney Street Workshops; most consistent player, R. Chrimes, Depot 5, Collingwood; leading goal-kicker, J. Knight (35 goals), Richmond Stores.

Jack Knight captained the team practically all the season. Among other outstanding players were G. Parsons, back pocket man from Dandenong; Kevin Rowe, rover, from Depot 5; Roy Tuono, half back flanker, Richmond Power Station; J. Marley, half-forward, Rooney Street Workshops; and B. Jordan, ruck and forward pocket, Yarraville T.S.

Three special presentations were made. Kevin Rowe received a travelling case from his fellow players. Kevin has just transferred to Warrnambool. Jim Warburton, Club Secretary, who is with Mechanical Maintenance, Richmond, received a kitbag, a token of appreciation from club members. Mr. and Mrs. A.

Trewin were presented with a silver cruet for their services in taking care of the team's uniforms.

More than 100 players, their wives, and visitors attended the dance and presentation. Among those present were Mr. J. Rigby, Social League Chairman; Mr. D. McColl, Social League Vice-Chairman; Mr. G. Lovelless, Social League Secretary; and Mr. G. W. Loughman, Club Vice-President and Supt. Stores, Richmond.

## Umpires Wanted

Social League cricketers need umpires for the Sunday competition this season. For the last two years, umpires have received payment. While this system has been very successful, still more umpires are needed. Entries from affiliated clubs for the competition close on September 17, and interest in the competition will be greater than ever. Commission employees interested in umpiring should ring, or write to the Secretary, Social League (H.O. ext. 449).

**The Winners:** S.E.C. Football Club trophy winners, at the cabaret dance, Footscray Town Hall, are (from L): Kevin Rowe, Jack Knight, Doug Hartrick, Jack Jobson (Club President), Lindsay Gordon, Wally Barden, Ray Chrimes. Kevin Rowe's travelling bag was a special presentation. It was presented to mark his transfer to Warrnambool.





## RECENT RETIREMENTS

### Want Him To Write

Friends of Mr. Frank J. Wogan, Officer-in-Charge, Alexandra, gave him a writing set as a present when he retired in July.

Mr. Wogan has been 21 years in his Alexandra appointment. The presentation was made at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dosser, where thirty-six of Mr. Wogan's friends from Rubicon "A," Eildon, and from local offices met to say farewell.

At a gathering at Benalla, Mr. Crivelli, North Eastern Branch Manager, presented Mr. Wogan with an electric clock and a travelling rug.

### Leaves Bendigo After 20 Years

Bendigo Branch members will miss Mr. H. V. Harrison, well known and popular Office Manager, who retired in August.

Mr. Harrison had been at Bendigo for 20 years. He was appointed Accountant there when the Commission acquired the Bendigo undertaking of the Electric Supply Co. Later he became Office Manager.

When Mr. Harrison was given a farewell presentation recently, Mr. J. N. Sutherland, Branch Manager, complimented him on his skill and zeal,

**Sandwiches for Mr. Harrison.** In this Bendigo farewell are, from left: Messrs. W. J. Evans, Branch Tramways Superintendent; E. L. Graham, Acc'n't; H. V. Harrison, retiring Office Manager; J. N. Sutherland, Branch Manager; Miss V. Schleiger, Miss M. McKie.



### Midlands Honours Kyneton O.C.

Members from Castlemaine, Gisborne, Maryborough, Woodend, Sunbury and Kyneton gathered to farewell Mr. D. A. Moore, Officer-in-Charge, Kyneton, when he retired recently. Mr. and Mrs. Moore were guests of honour at a social evening arranged by Midland Branch members.

Mr. F. J. Richardson, Midland Branch Manager, presented Mr. Moore with a wallet of notes, and Mrs. Moore was presented with a set of fine English china.

and said that he retired with a proud record as a Commission officer.

Mr. Harrison has many interests outside the Commission. He has served Bendigo as a member and as President and Secretary of the Legacy Club. He is also a keen member of the Bowling Club.

Mr. Sutherland presented Mr. Harrison with a well filled wallet of notes from his colleagues in the Branch and elsewhere in the Commission.

Mr. Harrison had been with the electricity supply undertaking for 31 years.

### Works Division Says Goodbye To Friends

Works Division members at Richmond have farewelled three friends in the last few weeks.

At the end of July Mr. L. Ely resigned from the Commission's service to take a position in the Drawing Office of the Gas and Fuel Corporation. Mr. Ely, who was a fitter in the Mechanical Workshop, started as an apprentice with the Commission 14 years ago. He was presented with an electric clock and radiator.

The second "goodbye" was for Mr. A. R. Milligan, machinist, Transformer Section, who retired early in August after 13 years' service. Mr. Drylie, Superintendent, and Mr. Andrews expressed the good wishes of all Mr. Milligan's friends for a long and happy retirement for their workmate. They presented Mr. Milligan with a chiming clock.

Friends presented a Parker pen and pencil to Mr. B. T. J. Hucks, who has been on the engineering staff of the Division for over three years. He was an active worker in S.E.C.O.A. matters, and was very popular.

### Colleagues Gave Watch

Members of Geelong Branch gave a wristlet watch to Mr. J. F. R. Rankin when he retired after 25 years' service.

Mr. Rankin joined the service in 1928 as a linesman's assistant. Later he was appointed linesman. Some time ago he found it necessary to transfer from linesman's work, and he became a cleaner in the Tramway Depot. He held this position at the time of his retirement.

A representative gathering of Branch members attended the presentation.

### TRAM VETERAN

Mr. H. N. McWilliam, Ballarat tram driver with 35 years' accident-free record, whose retirement we mentioned in our last issue, was farewelled by his colleagues at the annual meeting of Ballarat Tramways Benefit Fund.

Mr. McWilliam's friends presented him with a mantel clock as a tangible reminder of his association with Ballarat Tramways.



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### MIDLAND MAN STEPS DOWN

After nearly 25 years' service with Midland Branch, and a total of over 34 years with the Electricity Supply Undertaking, Mr. T. W. Matthews retired in July. Mr. Matthews had been Relieving Officer-in-Charge for Midland and South Western Branches since December 17, 1937.

At a social evening arranged by Midland Branch members, Mr. F. J. Richardson, Branch Manager, presented Mr. Matthews with a wallet of notes. Mrs. Matthews was presented with a china tea-service.

Mr. Richardson and other speakers representing all sections of the Branch, expressed their good wishes.

Friends came from Sunbury, Woodend, Kyneton, Maryborough and Geelong. Mr. and Mrs. R. Dobbie, of Sunbury, and Messrs. W. Arblaster and G. McMeeken delighted the gathering with vocal duets.

Mr. Matthews began his service with Castlemaine Electric Supply Company in August, 1919.

### Without Worries, Now He Can Smoke

When Mr. Dan Treacey, who has been in charge of the Commission's Display Store for many years, retired in August, Mr. J. R. Taylor, Manager of the Electrical Development Division, presented him with a set of smoking pipes.

Mr. Taylor mentioned that Dan's excellent care of display material had been greatly appreciated.



**Lots of time, now.** Mr. Hunt, our Chairman, on left, presenting chiming clock to Frank Edmondson, who has retired. For seven years Frank has been in Records.

## Served In Two Wars

"Old soldiers never die . . ." — the words of the song refer to the unquenchable spirit of the "diggers" of two world wars. That spirit and devotion to a task were uppermost in the minds of speakers when they paid tribute to Mr. Frank Edmondson, Secretarial Department, at a farewell in Head Office on August 4. Not only did Frank serve meritoriously in both wars, but he gave the same high degree of service to the Commission, from which he has just retired after 21 years. His last seven years were with Records on the first floor at Head Office.

Among those present at the farewell were the Chairman of the Commission, Mr. R. A. Hunt; Commissioner Dr. Chapman, Mr. W. H. Connolly (Assistant General Manager), and Mr. D. H. Munro (Commission Secretary).

Mr. Munro said Frank first began with the Commission as a coach builder; later, when he saw coach builders were a dying race, he qualified as an electrical mechanic.

A very sincere tribute to Frank was paid by Commissioner Chapman, his Commanding Officer during the last war. Dr. Chapman recalled that in the difficult formative years of their unit — an Australian Field Work-

shops — all the men were hand-picked, and the fact that Frank was selected was evidence of the esteem in which he was held.

Mr. Hunt, Chairman of the Commission, presenting Frank with a mantel clock from his friends, humorously explained what the various times meant in the life of a poultry farmer.

Responding, Frank said he was very sorry indeed to be leaving the service. He had hoped to do particularly good work in his last few months but an accident had put him into hospital instead.

Frank intends to become a poultry farmer at Panton Hills, near Hurstbridge.



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## INSIDE S.E.C.

### For E.S.D. Post

Colleagues at Richmond have offered congratulations to Mr. Charlie Oxborough, of Generation Branch, Richmond, on becoming Asst. Retention Officer, E.S.D.

On behalf of staff workmates, Mr. McRitchie presented Mr. Oxborough with a copy of Sir James Jeans' book, "The Universe Around Us."

### SMILING BRIDE



Mr. J. Evans, Publicity Branch, Head Office, and his bride, formerly Miss B. Duffy. They were married at St. Peter's, Box Hill, in July. Mr. Evans is Literary Editor of 'S.E.C. Magazine'

## Geelong Officer Took the Chair

A fireside chair was chosen by friends of Mr. A. H. Simpson, Geelong Branch Accountant, when they farewelled him on his new appointment as Office Manager, Gippsland Branch.

Later, many of those present, with other Geelong friends of Mr. Simpson, attended a farewell dinner at the Victoria Hotel, Geelong.



Nicely Timed. Jim Dudley, Richmond P.S., was presented with chiming clock by Mr. W. McRitchie, P.S. Supt. (R).

### Prahran Presentations

Popular telephonist, Miss Florence Dohnt, has left Prahran to take a position at Warragul Office. She was presented with a wallet of notes.

Mr. R. S. Milligan, Civil Branch, was farewelled on accepting a position in private enterprise.

### LEAVES FOR "GULLY"

Jim Dudley, after 20 years' service with the Commission, has left Richmond Power Station to go into business, in a general store, in Ferntree Gully area.

## Apprentices Score In Auto Awards

Commission apprentices practically "scooped the pool" in the Victorian Automobile Chamber of Commerce awards, this year, in their grades at Melbourne Technical College and Richmond Technical School. Eight apprentices from Transport Branch won awards for their work.

Mr. R. C. Laing won the award for the best motor mechanic in Grade Four at Richmond Technical School.

Mr. F. Fewster received recognition as best painter and trimmer in Grade Three at Melbourne Technical College.

Mr. R. Waterworth was adjudged the best automotive electrical apprentice at Melbourne Tech in Grade Four. Mr. Leslie Aldous in Second Grade at Richmond Tech., was awarded a "best" for motor body making.

Mr. R. F. Harrison was the best automotive electrical apprentice in the third grade at Melbourne Technical College.

Mr. Leslie Don was given the award for the best motor coach painting apprentice in the Third Grade at Richmond.

Two other apprentices received "runner-up" awards:—Mr. R. Steeper for second best automotive electrical apprentice at Melbourne Technical College in Grade Four, and Mr. J. Duquemin second best motor body maker in Richmond Technical School's Third Grade.

**Among the experts.** Five of these men won apprenticeship prizes. From L: Les Aldous, 'Shop Supervisor Harry Miller, Les Don, Bob Harrison, Jim Duquemin, Acting Workshops Superintendent A. W. Knox, Asst. Ed. Officer B. Stevens, R. Waterworth (front).







**Keepsakes for Joan.** Mr. W. Hall, Superintendent, farewelling Miss Joan Alexander, on transfer to Bendigo. Her friends gave her a brooch and other gifts.

## Back To Bendigo

Miss Joan Alexander, popular senior typist at Footscray, was given a cheerful send-off by her many friends on her transfer to Bendigo, in July. She received a brooch and dress ring.

Mr. N. MacAllister, Social Club president, presented Joan with a powder compact from club members.

## Sherry Glasses

Friends of Miss Brenda Finch, of North Eastern Branch, gave her a set of crystal sherry glasses when she left to be married, in July.



**Typist returns.** Mrs. Connie Rowe is back at William St. She spent three years as typist in our London office.

## Spent 25 Years in Files

Miss J. C. Buntine, who was Filing Supervisor in the Correspondence Section, E.S.D., retired in July, after more than 25 years in the service.

Miss Buntine's friends in the Commission presented her with a pigskin travelling bag as a token of friendship.

## Will Sell Newspapers In Sydney

Mr. "Jock" Whyte, senior clerk, Generation Branch, Head Office, who is taking over a news agency business in Sydney, was presented with a set of pewter drinking mugs when he resigned in July.



**HAPPY COUPLE**

Mr. Robert Wright Booth, Assistant to Shift Engineer, Generation Branch, at Richmond Power Station, and Miss A. Walker, of Malvern, were wed on July 24, at Saint Augustine's, Melbourne.

## REMEMBER THOSE CIGARETTE CARDS?

If you're in the 35 - 40 year age group - or older - you'll remember the cigarette cards that were given away with packets of smokes.

Have you still got any of them? Mr. A. D. H. Moses, Amenities and Welfare Officer (H.O. ext. 480), needs some urgently. He particularly wants a series of "British Birds." But if you haven't got these, any cigarette cards will do.

The cards are wanted as a "prop" for the S.E.C. Dramatic Club's new play, "Random Harvest," from the best-seller novel by James Hilton.

"Random Harvest" will be presented at Coppin Hall, Punt Road, on Wednesday and Thursday, October 13th and 14th.

**Broke no cups!** In three and a half years at Fishermen's Bend staff canteen, Mrs. Boag, female supervisor, never broke a cup, and lost only one teaspoon. When she retired in July, friends presented her with a radio and cheque. Mrs. Boag was formerly at City Rd.





## Marriages

Norton, Miss S. M. (Correspondence, Geelong), to Mr. W. J. R. Rowell, of Geelong.  
 Nicholls, Mr. Dennis (House Maintenance Office, Commercial Division, E.S.D.), to Miss Barbara Cross.  
 O'Donnell, Mr. Laurie (N.E. Branch Office) to Miss Patricia Dodd, on 14th August.

## Births

Hutchinson, Mrs. and Mr. John (Generation Branch, Richmond), son.  
 Wilson, Mrs. and Mr. Richad (Generation Branch, Richmond), son.  
 Maher, Mrs. and Mr. R. (Tramways, Geelong), July 2, son.  
 Lorimer, Mrs. and Mr. (Power Station, Geelong), July 5, daughter.  
 Cummings, Mrs. and Mr. Len (Transport Branch), son.  
 Jones, Mrs. and Mr. E. G. (Costing Section, Works Division), daughter.  
 Tait, Mrs. and Mr. W. (Power Production, Geelong), May 16, daughter (Pauline Barbara).  
 Riviere, Mrs. and Mr. R. (Commercial, Geelong), August 8, son (Stuart).  
 Bill, Mrs. and Mr. S. M. (Civil Branch), daughter.  
 Harrowfield, Mrs. and Mr. Maurice (Accounting, Bendigo Branch), daughter (Jill Maree).  
 Cadd, Mrs. and Mr. J. K. (Staff Branch, H.O.), daughter (Wendy Joy).  
 Bannan, Mrs. and Mr. Ray (Richmond Power Station), August 7, son.  
 Spencer, Mrs. and Mr. Charles (Personnel Division, Yallourn), August 14, son (John Charles).  
 Doolan, Mrs. and Mr. K. (Distribution, Colac), daughter (Karen Maree).  
 Fry, Mrs. and Mr. B. A. (Transport, Colac), son (Mark).  
 Gardnes, Mrs. and Mr. P. A. (Hamilton District), son (David William).  
 Clarke, Mrs. and Mr. A. J. (Hamilton District), son (Trevor Stewart).  
 Osborne, Mrs. and Mr. J. G. (Hamilton District), son (Arnold James).  
 Williams, Mrs. and Mr. J. S. (Publicity Branch, H.O.), September 19, son (Glenn Syddall). (Mrs. Williams was formerly Yvonne Poole, Chief Paymaster's Branch, H.O.).

## Engagements

Bayliss, Mr. Roy (Generation Branch, Richmond), to Miss Margaret Rose Healy.  
 Wingrave, Mr. R. C. (Distribution, Bendigo), to Miss Merna Pryor, of Bendigo.  
 Schleiger, Miss Verna (Correspondence, Bendigo), to Mr. Albert Boromeo, of Bendigo.  
 Thomas, Miss A. E. (Clerical, Yallourn), to Mr. Kevin Snell.

Mr. Gravett had recently moved to Upwey from Barwon Heads, where he had resided since his retirement.

He had 31 years service with Melbourne Electric Supply Company and the Commission. He had been employed as a sheet metal worker in the Workshop Division.

The late Mr. Gravett was a member of the 1st A.I.F., and was in the Anzac landing at Gallipoli. He leaves a widow and three sons.

Mr. Templeman was employed with the Distribution Division, Metropolitan Branch. He died at the comparatively early age of 53 years.

He had been in the service of the Commission for 14 years. He was unmarried, but is survived by his mother.

### MR. C. T. BRIGGS

The death occurred of Mr. Charles Tennant Briggs, M.I.E.A., on Friday, July 23, at the age of 77 years. Mr. Briggs was well known as the Commission's Chief Mechanical Engineer. He served for over 23 years, and retired in 1943.

He was born in Richmond, Surrey, England, and graduated in engineering at the Finsbury Technical College of the London City and Guilds Institution.

After wide experience in engineering works and power stations during the early part of the century, he came to Australia in 1913 as Resident Engineer for Messrs. Merz and McLellan, consulting engineers of England, to supervise the erection of a power generating station in Perth. Later, he was associated with the electrification of the Victorian Railways for a short period.

In 1919, he joined the staff of the newly appointed Electricity Commissioners, forerunner of the State Electricity Commission.

In this capacity, Mr. Briggs had the task of designing and arranging the erection of all the Commission's steam generating plant. He made outstanding contributions towards the solution of the extremely difficult problems associated with the combustion of Yallourn brown coal with its high moisture content, and the success which attended his efforts did much to establish the economic worth of Yallourn brown coal.

Mr. Briggs was highly esteemed among Commission officers. He was a man of deep human sympathy, and he never failed to make time to listen to the troubles of men under his control. His capacity for hard, continuous work was known to everyone with whom he came in contact.

After his retirement, he acted in a private capacity as an engineering consultant for a few years until failing health prevented this.

Mr. Briggs leaves four daughters, three of them married.

### MR. C. J. PENNINGTON

After an absence on sick leave of only one week, Mr. Cyril John Pennington, patrolman, Yallourn, died in Latrobe Valley Community Hospital on July 16.

Mr. Pennington, who had been in the Commission's service since March, 1942, was 59 years of age.

He leaves a widow, a married son and a daughter.

### MR. H. ROBERTS

Mr. Harry Roberts' many friends in the Commission will regret to learn that he died on June 2. Mr. Roberts, who was 76 years of age, was formerly a clerk with Metropolitan Branch. He was a widely known and popular employee.

Mr. Roberts retired from the service 11 years ago. He leaves a widow and a son.

### MR. F. R. TEMPLEMAN

Friends of Mr. Frederick Robert Templeman, clerk with the Electricity Supply Department, were saddened to learn of his sudden death on July 17.

### MR. H. CLARK

Mr. Herbert Clark, who died on July 24, after a long illness involving a major operation, had been employed as an office cleaner in the Ballarat Branch for the past 13 years.

Bert, as he was popularly known throughout the Branch, was an active member of the Social Club, particularly in the carpet bowls section, and was a regular contestant in the local Association, and the triangular contests, in the field of sport.

He was 62 years of age, and is survived by his widow.

### MR. C. BAILEY

Mr. Charles Bailey, of Transport Branch, Base Workshop, Fishermen's Bend, died after a car accident on July 23.

Mr. Bailey was only 45 years of age. He had been employed as a mechanical fitter with Transport Branch for five years, and was very popular and highly esteemed by his workmates and friends.

He leaves a widow and two children.

### MR. A. G. WIDDOP

Mr. Alfred G. Widdop, whose tragic death, following an accident in the Beaufort area, occurred on August 1, had been employed in the Ballarat Branch for the past 20 years, and at the time of his death was a Leading Hand Linesman.

Alf, who served in the 2nd A.I.F. in the Middle East during the war, was extremely popular throughout the Branch and was a prominent member of the Social Club billiards team.

He was 46 years of age, and leaves a widow, son and daughter.

### MR. J. GORAIN

Mr. John Gorain design draftsman, Coal Production, died in hospital on July 21. Mr. Gorain had been absent on sick leave for three months. He was 47 years of age.

Mr. Gorain had been in the service of the Commission for four years. He leaves a widow.

### MR. W. T. SMITH

Mr. William Thomas Smith, a foreman with the Coal Production Branch, Yallourn, died in Yallourn General Hospital on the morning of July 15.

Mr. Smith had been absent from duty on sick leave since January, this year.

He was well known and highly esteemed at Yallourn, where he had made a great many friends during his 23 years of service with the Commission.

He is survived by his widow.

### MR. W. G. GRAVETT

Mr. W. G. Gravett, who retired from the Commission's service in September, 1952, died suddenly at Upwey on June 22.



THE S · E · C DRAMATIC CLUB

*will present*

James Hilton's evergreen

*"Random Harvest"*

*in Coppin Hall*

*313 Punt Road, South Yarra*

*on Wednesday, 13th October*

*Thursday, 14th October*

*at 8 p.m.*

*With Thelma Thomas, Arch Moses, Faye Manley,  
Edward Pickett, Margaret Park, Garnet Loveless,  
Leonie Strong, Irving Dimmitt, Gwen Brittain,  
Alex Mitchell, Paula Roberts, James Mitchell.*

*Tickets, 4/-. Obtainable from any Dramatic Club member.  
Box plan will open on 4th October. Bookings with E. Barton,  
C.E.I.'s Branch, Royston House (H.O. Ext. 285) or  
with H. Butler, Drafting Branch, Head Office (Ext. 358).*

*Get your Social Club to arrange a theatre night!*





## Meet the brides of the 1960's

IT MAY NOT BE altogether romantic to regard these bright young faces as so many heads that go to form a vital statistic. But it is nevertheless true that if the present age-of-marriage pattern continues the majority of these teen-age school-girls will marry at an average age of 23.

And even though the times we now live in may be uncertain, there is one thing these brides of tomorrow can be sure of. That is, that their homes will be equipped with all manner of electrical appliances and electronic devices that will spring into service at their instant bidding—lightening the burden of household chores, brightening their home life with the music of radio, the magic of television.

To meet the needs of tomorrow's brides requires a vast amount of forward planning by your State Electricity Commission. For it is a fact that as each year goes by there are more consumers and they all want more electricity.

For instance, quite apart from the fact that some 500 new homes are being connected to the power mains each week, the average household now uses three times as much electricity as it did in 1939. It is certain that our electricity requirements will go on multiplying as our population expands, our industry develops, and the use of appliances becomes even more widespread.

It is a big job, particularly when you bear in mind that erection of a power station takes five years from approval of plans to completion of building. In the over-all scheme, it means that the S.E.C. has to double its size every ten years to keep pace with consumers' requirements.

It means co-ordinating on a vast scale, men, materials, money. And a lot of the money needed for this expansion must be provided by the people of Victoria. The whole future of this growing State and its citizens and the brides of tomorrow is bound up with the continuous development of Victoria's electricity system.

