

CONTACT



THE STATE ELECTRICITY COMMISSION LATROBE VALLEY REGION MAGAZINE – OCTOBER 1969

Manager's message

BEHIND PLANNING IS LOGIC

Following my previous article titled "The Future Depends on All of Us", I intend to outline some of the additional measures which we have adopted to relieve the financial impositions on our generating costs which tend to make us less competitive with other sources of energy.

Over a number of years the expenditure in excess of income on land utilisation in the Region which provides fire protection for our capital assets amounts to \$1.9M. Much of this will be considerably defrayed by the returns from leases and future sales.

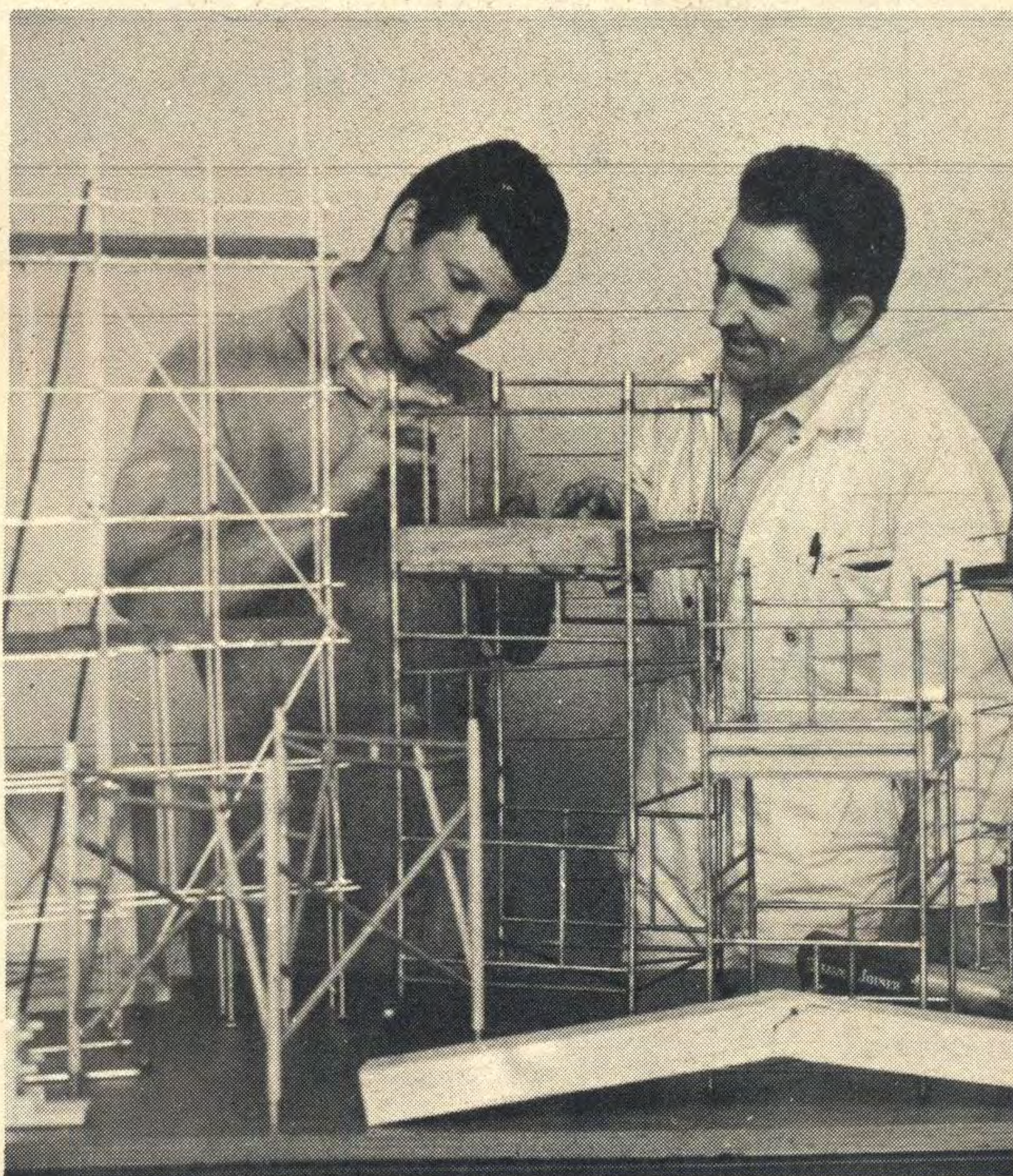
In addition, those properties in the Works Area which are not required for the development of our energy resources will be sold at the expiration of current leases, thus releasing us from the Service Charges associated with them.

In recent times the question is frequently being asked "Why do we need the coal below Yallourn Township when there is adequate coal available elsewhere?"

The only practical alternative source of coal supply for Yallourn 'W' Power Station is in the east field in an area now traversed by the Morwell River and containing coal of inferior quality to that underlying the town.

CONT ON P.2

"MODEL" JOBS



Some excellent models of scaffolding have recently been constructed by Commission Apprentices in the Latrobe Valley.

These are used for scaffolding courses which are organised by the Commission both for their own personnel and members of Contractors' Companies. So far this year just over 50 personnel have attended these courses.

** Pictured examining some of the models are apprentice Morris Mynard and foreman Rigger Harry Clegg.*

Managers Message:

CONT FROM P.1

Both technically and financially it is a far better proposition to continue the development of the open cut through the town area than to open up the east field, as it would be necessary to modify boiler design, divert the Morwell River, remove large quantities of overburden, transfer operating faces and provide new transporting equipment to bring coal to the power station bunkers over greater distances.

Most of the houses in the town are over 40 years old and no new building has been done in the last 20 years. Maintenance, modernising and replacement of housing required for retention of the town would impose a heavy and unnecessary burden on the Commission.

As mentioned in the last issue of "Contact", it is vital to achieve our objectives which I detailed, otherwise the possibility of new Base Load Plant in the Latrobe Valley will become more and more remote.

You will all appreciate the significance of the fact that the saving to the Commission by the abandonment of Yallourn Township is estimated at \$28.7M.

The Commission has a duty to make electricity supply available at the lowest possible price and therefore must not be forced to carry unnecessary financial burdens such as would be placed upon it by retention of the town.

The closure of Eastern Road Hostel has also been queried on a number of occasions. The simple facts are that the Eastern Road Hostel providing accommodation for individual males at \$3.35 per week, plus whatever subsidised meals they decide to eat in the Hostel, is currently costing the Commission \$238,000 p.a.

(At one time Eastern Road, plus the Ridge Hostel costs amounted to \$334,000 p.a.)

This sort of subsidy is wrong in principle as it applies primarily to those who do not have family responsibilities, at a time when there is a surplus of suitable accommodation available within the Region. The staff employed in Eastern Road can be productively employed in alternative work in the Works Area, displacing some of the temporary employees currently on the pay roll.

The small number of pensioners currently residing in the Hostel have been offered more suitable accommodation in Dalkeith homes where they would be more capably provided for by staff specially trained for the purpose.

There has been some confusion in the past month on the subject of the salaries and wages component of the revenue dollar. In explanation this component has nothing to do with cost of production as such, nor does it necessarily mean that reduction of this component must be accompanied by a reduction in personnel.

For example, if an authority had a revenue of \$100M p.a. with a wages and salaries bill of \$30M p.a. (i.e. 30%), and if by better marketing and sales and improved productivity the revenue was increased to \$120M p.a. without altering the wages bill, then the percentage of revenue paid out in wages would reduce to 25%.

The actual cost of production of each kWh of energy from our Latrobe Valley Stations is the figure with which we should all be concerned.

At present it costs 0.52c to produce a kWh of energy from our most efficient station at Hazel-

wood.

The older nuclear plants in England are producing energy at 0.7c/kWh, and the more modern ones are getting down to 0.55c/kWh. New plants of the latest design are estimated to produce energy at between 0.4 and 0.5c/kWh.

If we could improve efficiency and reduce coal costs and outage times for maintenance on our Hazelwood plant we could reduce our cost of generation to about 0.4c/kWh, and this is an objective for which we must all strive.

Furthermore it must again be made clear that anything which imposes an economic burden on the utilisation of brown coal resources in the Latrobe Valley will bring nearer the day when brown coal resources will no longer be competitive with alternative forms of energy such as oil, natural gas, which is becoming available, and just around the corner, nuclear power.

SOCIAL CLUB GOLF DAY

The Morwell Workshops Area Social Club conducted a golf day at the Trafalgar Golf Club on Sunday, October 19. The fine weather and beautiful condition of the course helped make it a most successful day.

Mr. Jeff Miles, Civil Services Engineer presented the trophies to the successful participants who were: 'A' Grade Ron Douglas Net 69; 'B' Grade Sandy Lesrange Net 67; 'C' Grade Alan Scott Net 59; Secret Nine, Ray Crozier; Highest Score on Hole Trevor Lay; Lowest Score on Hole Arthur Lobb.

The Captain of Trafalgar Golf Club welcomed the members of the Social Club and presented them with a pewter mug which was won by popular secretary, Keith Maloney.

Service Register

Congratulations to the following long service men who at October 31 had:

20 YEARS

N. Apinitis	Transmission
R. E. Branch	Services
D. Danyluk	Coal
E. Eizenbergs	Services
E. R. Feeley	Services
C. Fenech	Power
R. Grohs	Coal
H. Gulbis	Services
W. Jackiw	Briquetting
J. Jakobsons	Services
P. Kolomyjez	Power
J. Krznaric	Briquetting
L. Malinin	Briquetting
P. Matwiejen	Coal
T. W. Melbourne	Services
C. E. T. Miles	Administration
M. Murka	Power
G. L. McArthur	Administration

A. Nachorny	Coal
L. I. Naumenko	Coal
W. Nimko	Briquetting
A. Opanowilz	Power
M. Prosinskas	Services
A. Puren	Power
C. E. W. Rohde	Services
F. G. Rollings	Briquetting
M. Salienko	Coal
T. A. Schulz	Administration
N. Sidaras	Services
F. Smogavec	Briquetting
I. Tichanovs	Services
A. Tosin	Briquetting
M. Zajac	Power
A. Zelenewicz	Coal

25 YEARS

D. C. Soutar	Services
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30 YEARS

L. J. Darragh	Briquetting
J. Farrugia	Coal
H. Hoffman	Power
R. J. Irvine	Accounting
J. McCoy	Services

35 YEARS

J. C. Darragh	Services
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UK SETTLERS ASSOCIATION IS FORMED

The Association was formed in Melbourne in 1967 and already has some 8,000 members.

There are now some country branches including one, recently formed in the Latrobe Valley.

Many social events are arranged and the next one, for the Latrobe Valley, is to be held on November 21.

Anyone interested in this event or the Association generally is invited to contact:- Mr. Jim Davies, Yallourn Power Station, or Mr. Roy Carter, Patrol - Morwell.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

WORKSHOP AREA SOCIAL CLUB, MORWELL

Annual Picnic at Thorpdale — Sunday,
November 30.

POWER STATION SOCIAL CLUB, YALLOURN

Annual Picnic at Thorpdale — Sunday,
December 14.

BRIQUETTE FACTORY WELFARE CLUB, YALLOURN

Christmas Party to be held in Briquette
Factory Grounds — Sunday December 7.
Smoke Night at Ovals Pavilion — Tuesday
December 16.

STAFF SOCIAL CLUB, MORWELL

Dinner Dance at Kernot Hall — Friday,
November 14.
Bookings with Mr. Rod Doig, Extension 3425.
Annual Picnic, Latrobe Valley Airfield —
Saturday December 13.

MORWELL POWER STATION AND BRIQUETTE FACTORY SOCIAL CLUB

Christmas Picnic — A.P.M. Football Reserve —
Sunday, December 7.
Forms available to assist caterers at Briquette
Factory Kiosk

LATROBE VALLEY STORES GROUP SOCIAL CLUB

Annual Picnic at Thorpdale — Sunday
December 7.
Christmas Cabaret Dance, Kernot Hall —
Friday December 19.

MAIN OFFICE SOCIAL CLUB, YALLOURN

Annual Picnic Yallourn Oval — Saturday
December 13.
Christmas Cabaret Dance, Kernot Hall —
Friday, December 12.
Table Bookings Mr. K. Hall, Extension 2357.

Puran Singh has been "adopted" by Hazelwood

At the Moe Trade Fair in 1966,
Dick Swainson, supervisor, Con-
struction Branch, saw some leaflets
on "Raphael".

He learnt that at Dehra Dun, in
the north of India, there is a place
known as "Raphael" (named after
the Archangel of Healing), which
was founded by Group-Captain
Cheshire, V.C., and his wife, Mrs.
Sue Ryder Cheshire, O.B.E., whose
"Cheshire Homes" for the relief of
suffering are now world-wide.

As well as being the headquarters for
the Far East and South East Asia Homes,
"Raphael" serves as a model for all es-
tablished and future Homes in these
countries.

Living there at present are about 120
people in the Leprosy Colony, 70 children
in the Mental Unit and 54 normal, healthy
but destitute children in a "Little White
House", as well as a 40-bed ward and a
T.B. Unit. The Cheshires hope eventually
with help, to care for 600 of the sick and
destitute at "Raphael".

Any of the patients or children at "Raph-
ael" may be 'adopted' or 'endowed' by a
group, club, school or by an individual,
the annual cost ranging from \$50 to \$100.
'Adoption' covers food, clothing, medical
attention and schooling. 'Endowment' cov-
ers both these and the cost of accommo-
dation. In each case the sponsor receives
a photograph, details of background and
regular news of the patient or child.

The story in the leaflets sparked Dick
off and he formed the "Ryder Cheshire
S.E.C. Construction Group", starting with
22 of the Construction Branch staff. They
'adopted' Puran Singh, a nine-year-old
whose mother and father are in the Leper
Colony, and committed themselves to send
\$100 a year. They've done better than
that. To date the amount donated is \$1,000
including \$300 given in memory of Harry
Kelly, a keen member of the group who
died in 1967.

Perhaps the enthusiasm of this small
band will fire others. More information,
or a boost to your enthusiasm, can be
obtained from Dick Swainson at the Con-
struction Office, Hazelwood Power Sta-
tion, extension 5249.



Miss Theresa (Tess) Zarb, who was
born near Valletta in Malta, came to
Australia when she was four years old
and now lives in Newborough.

Tess started with the Commission in
1963 and now works in the Yallourn
Drawing Office.

She plays Badminton and is Secretary
of the Newborough Y.M.C.A. Badminton
Club. She also umpires Women's Basket-
ball. She likes dancing — both old time
and modern, and enjoys seeing good
films.

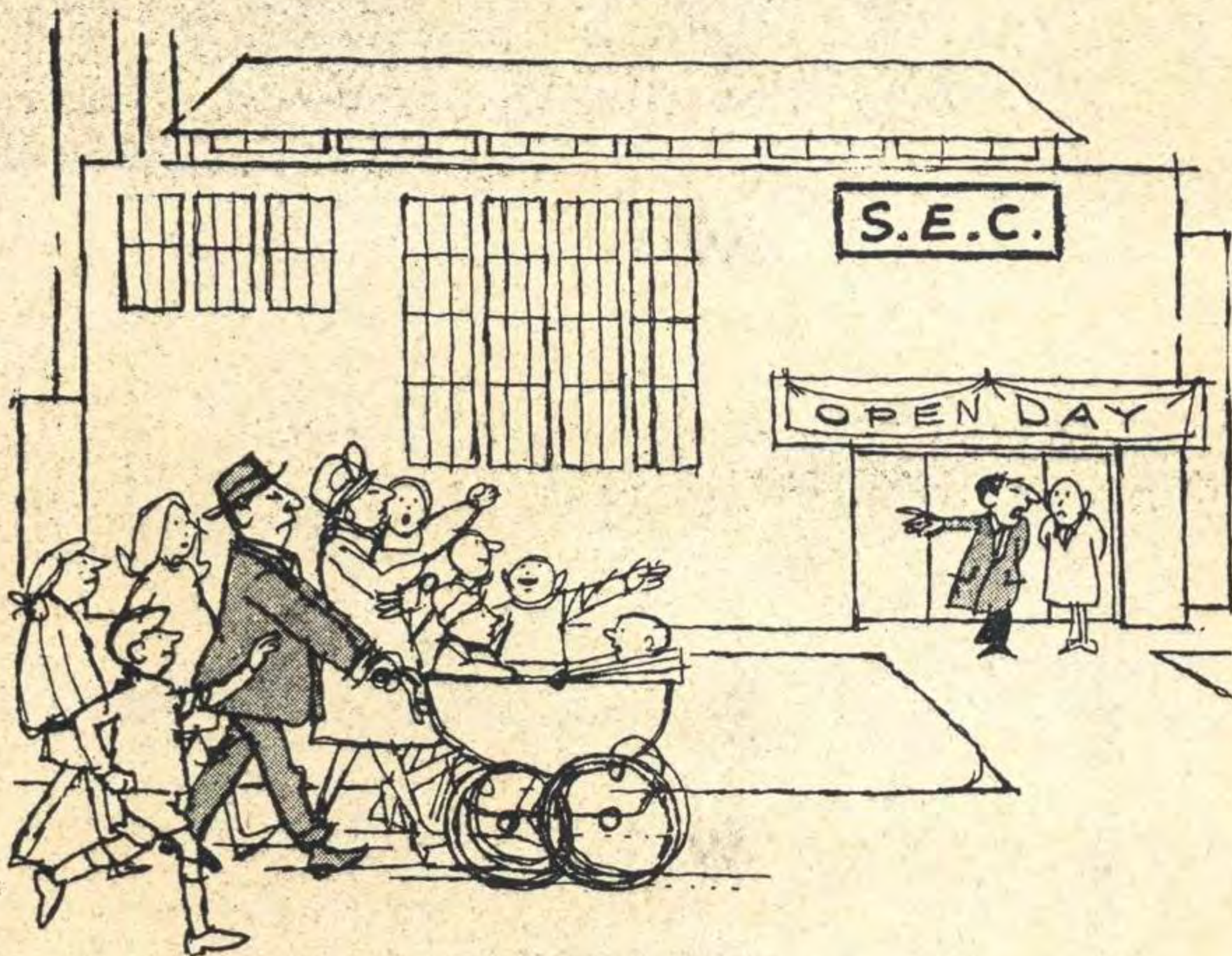
A SAFE 2 YEARS

On Friday, October 17,
the Morwell Coal Division
Mobile Plant Operators re-
ceived an award on site
made by Mr. Jack Embry
for having worked 24
months without having a
disabling injury. Mr. Embry
complemented the group
on their splendid effort
and hoped they would con-
tinue to be safety con-
scious.

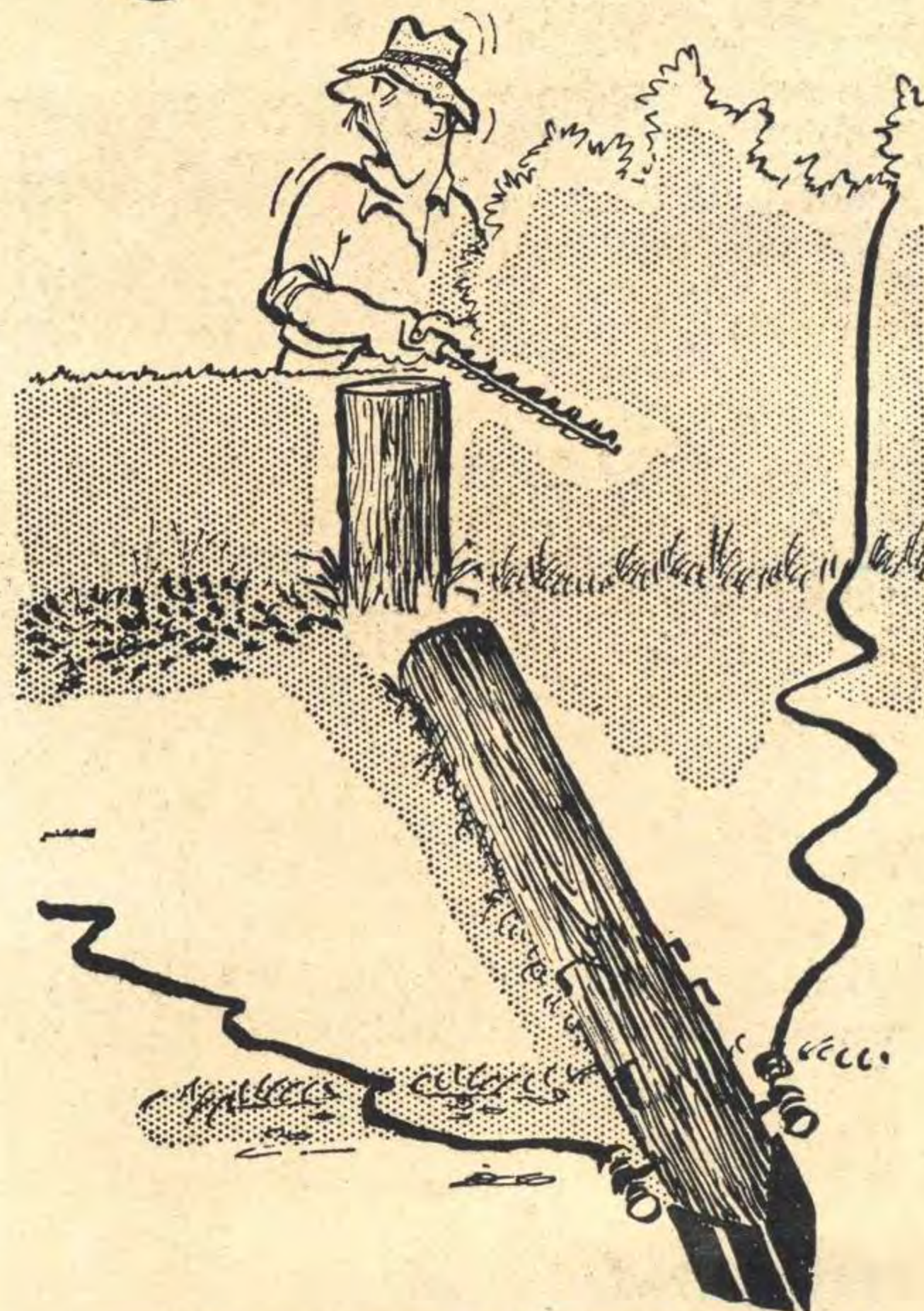
Each man was presented
with a certificate and had
the choice of a 5-piece
cutlery set or a wall moun-
ted can opener.



Contact Laugh-in



"That's our new Planning Engineer."



"Mary - the power's gone off!"



First Aid competitions

The finals of the 1969 First Aid Competitions for Zone 3 - the Latrobe Valley Region - took place at Kernot Hall on September 22.

Over 300 people witnessed the competition.

Four teams competed:- Coal Production, Yallourn; Power Station, Yallourn; Forestry, Yallourn; Municipal, Yallourn.

The setting was a Supermarket staffed by Mr. Perce Mooney, Mrs. N. Jones, Miss Maureen Kukla and Miss Sue Barker. The customers were Mr. Clem Stephens and Mr. Bill Bavinton.

Injuries to be dealt with were:- A cut on the neck, a cut in the palm of the hand, fingers jammed in a till, an epileptic fit coupled with a fractured collar bone.

The winning team was Municipal, Yallourn, which now goes on to the State Finals in Ballarat on October 28.

* PICTURED is the winning team (Back row) W.Nelson, N.Foley (Front) M. Walker, J. Abery.

"DEAD - EYE DARB" GETS 'FIRED'

Alex "Darby" Bremner, our popular and well known Fire Officer in the Morwell/Hazelwood area is a gunman of note, but not in the sense that you may at first think. His prowess as a competitive gun club trap shooter is known throughout the country.

Alex came to the Commission from the Metropolitan Fire Brigade in 1950 and shortly afterwards transferred to the Latrobe Valley as a fireman at Yallourn. In fact he has spent most of his adult life in service to the community as a fireman.

PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH

is ALEX "DARBY" BREMNER,
Fire Officer in Morwell - Hazelwood area.

His initial interest in guns was encouraged by his father who was also a keen gunman.

At the tender age of nine years he was given a 410 shot gun, by his dad and at 14 entered his first trap shooting competition.

Alex's ability is well proven and supported by the fact that over a lifetime of competitive shooting he has amassed the imposing tally of 49 championships, which include Commonwealth, State, Interstate and district titles and has competed in every state in Australia.

One of his proudest and most rewarding moments came recently when he was made a life member of the Morwell Gun Club of which he is President.

Apart from his associations with gun club activities, Alex is a football enthusiast a very keen fisherman, an executive of the Victorian Field and Games Association since its inception and also assists the Fisheries and Games Department with information on the breeding areas and location of ducks and other wild life throughout Gippsland.

Clay shooting is an official entry in the Olympic Games and in 1956 he was the emergency competitor. As an official referee for the Australian Clay Target

Association, which is a world-wide organisation, he is entitled to referee clay shoots in any country affiliated with this sport.

Alex also has a very fine collection of more than one hundred different varieties of cartridges, including some of the earliest breach-loading type shells. Some of his collection dates prior to 1914, with one prized shell made by Kynoch, before the renowned company of Eley and Kynoch

was founded.

Alex passes on his expert knowledge by coaching beginners and instructing in the safe and wise handling of firearms.

The following are some useful hints from him:-

1. Never carry a loaded gun unless it is "broken" open.
2. Never step through a fence carrying a loaded firearm.
3. And above all, remember a firearm is ALWAYS dangerous.



THE PONDAGE IS NOT ONLY AN AMENITY BUT ITS FUNCTIONAL

There is something about water, be it creek, river, waterfall, or lake that adds to the natural beauty of a landscape, and the cooling pond associated with the operation of Hazelwood Power Station is no exception in this regard.

Exclamations of awe and incredibility issue from visitors at their first glimpse of the pond. It is so unexpected as no hint of its existence is evident as the small Hazelwood Cemetery is passed, and their minds can be distracted by relating stories associated with the past and the people buried there.

By
DICK WILSON
Power Station
Superintendent
Hazelwood.



On reaching the top of the hill there is the pond nestling at their feet with the Jeeralangs as a vast, impressive backdrop. It is then necessary to commence the explanations — that not only is it beautiful and an acquisition to Latrobe Valley people — it is used for power boats and sailing, a good deal of swimming at the other end and is also good for water — skiing — But it is an essential part of the Power Station operation. As I was saying, as the name implies “it is a cooling pond.”

All Power Stations require considerable quantities of cooling water to pass through the condensers of the turbo-alternators to condense the steam used in driving the turbine, back into water, in order that it may be returned to the boiler for reheating.

This cooling water does not come in direct contact with the steam and none of it is used in the process. It just increases in temperature as it passes through the condenser tubes and cools the steam on the tube outside. This is all the pond is about.

Cold water at 65°F. is pumped by the cooling water pumps situated at the north end through the condensers increasing in temperature and returns to the outlet channel at



86°F. This hot water is diverted to the south end by an embankment and enters the main pond area some 2½ miles from the Station.

This hot water circulates into this large body of water (6,800 million gallons) and is cooled. If this process continued 24 hours/day year after year, one might suggest that the whole pond would eventually reach the same temperature. This is not likely because the overall temperature is controlled by evaporation.

As the main pond temperature increases so does the rate of evaporation and a state of equilibrium is reached. In fact tests have shown that the temperature increases are only evident over the top 12–18" of the pond surface.

As the operation of the pond relies on evaporation, then a considerable quantity of water escapes to the atmosphere, and this can be observed on cold days when vapour can be observed escaping to atmosphere from the hot water return channel. To maintain a stable

level in the pond, it is necessary to supply it with 9 million gallons of water per day, and this quantity could increase to between 13 and 14 million gallons when the Station is completed and eight units are returning hot water.

Just prior to the cooling water pumps, it appears that a concrete wall divides the inlet bay from the main pond. This wall has large openings provided below the surface to ensure that the cooling water pumps obtain water from well below the surface, thereby preventing surface circulation of hot water.

At the present time with six units in service the total water circulated is 29 million gallons per hour and this amounts to 690 million gallons each day.

The attached sketch shows the temperature variation over the pond at the monitoring points. Obviously temperature variations occur between summer and winter; figures shown are the average for year 1968.

It's well used for aquatic sports

The Hazelwood Pondage was still quite new when its potential value as a recreational area was recognised, says Mrs Prue McGoldrick, Publicity Officer of the Hazelwood Pondage Aquatic Centre.

Visit the Pondage on a warm summer Sunday and you will find hundreds of Valley people swimming, skiing, sailing, speed boating or fishing. They're aquatic sports all of them and there's room for them all at the Pondage.

Through the foresight and finance of the SEC, Morwell Shire and three water sport clubs the Hazelwood Pondage Aquatic Centre has been built at the Pondage. Purpose of the Aquatic Centre is to provide facilities for clubs and organisations

in particular and the public in general, who use the Pondage for water sports.

This summer greatly improved kiosk facilities will be available for the thousands of swimmers and picnickers as well as club members using the area.

First aid facilities provided by the St. John Ambulance Brigade will again be available, by arrangement with the Latrobe Valley Yacht Club, and will be supplemented by telephone communication through the Aquatic Centre.

From its inception three clubs, the YMCA Rowing Club, Hazelwood Power Boat Club and the Latrobe Valley Yacht Club, have actively taken part in discussions on the planning, management and fund raising activities for the Hazelwood Pondage Aquatic Centre.

Gifts of humidicrib and nursing books part of service

The Yallourn Power Station Social Club as we know it today, was originally formed in 1938 as a Welfare Club by a band of enthusiastic men, namely Messrs. Bill Mussared, Tim Fogarty, Keith Barton, Arthur Johnstone, Charlie McWilliam, Charlie Fox, and Reg Gould and was the first club of any kind to be officially formed in this area.

As the club progressed, a Canteen Committee was formed and with the sanction of the Commission, it was responsible for the introduction of hot meals for the workers. This became an immediate success; and today the dining rooms of the S.E.C. throughout the Region supply a three course meal of a good standard.

At a later stage such personalities as Ted Summerton, Jack Clancy, Don McAlister and Col Benson joined this band of workers and the endeavour put into the club in its early stages is much in evidence today.

In the mid fifties the two groups joined forces and formed the Power Station Social Club with the following committee: President - Max Gray, Vice-President - Neil Robertson, Secretary - Ted Summerton, Committee - Messrs. G. Evans, S.

Primmitt, J. Clancy, D. McAlister, J. Hold, D. Turnbull, J. Renfrew, C. Yeomans, H. Clegg, G. Wright, C. Benson and C. Fox.

The club became so successful that in 1957 \$2,000 was invested in S.E.C. loans; followed five years later by another \$2,000.

Early in the club's history a "Bob-in" club was formed to give financial help to those who were off work through illness. A separate group was formed under its own constitution to administer this worthy cause.

Since its inception the Power Station Social Club has made many generous donations to the Yallourn Hospital and among these are a complete set of nursing study books, a set of venetian blinds for the casualty ward, a humidicrib, blood pressure machine, TV set for the children's ward and varying sums of money, totalling some \$1,600.

In recognition of this the author and Charlie McWilliam were made life governors and Arthur Ewen a life contributor of the hospital.



by
GEORGE WRIGHT - Secretary
for the past nine years.

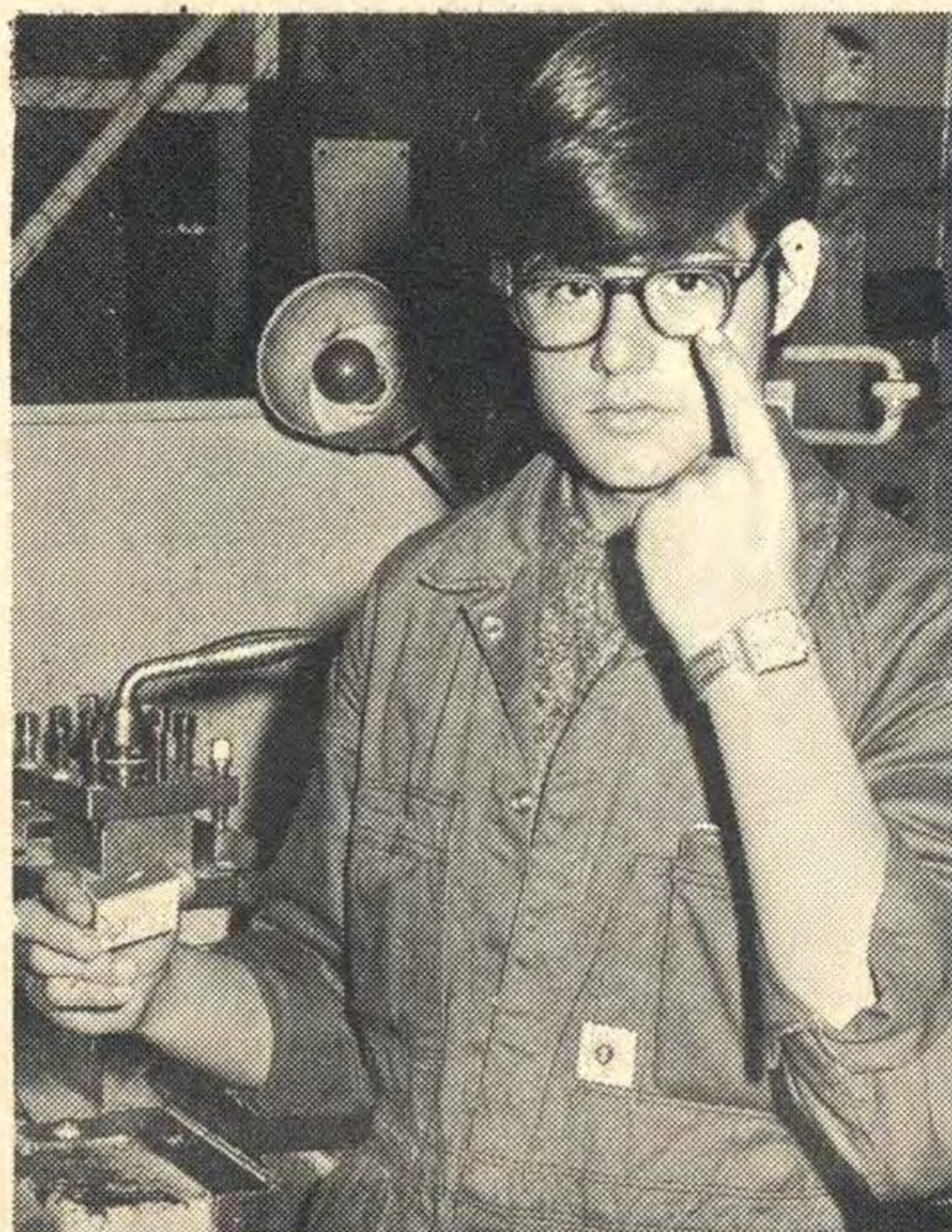
Annual picnics which are conducted at Thorpdale each year, are very popular and at a recent outing children of club members received over 1,400 toys and consumed some 4,500 ice creams and 52 gallons of fruit juice.

The cabaret ball held each year is always well patronised and those in attendance enjoy the entertainment provided by leading Melbourne cabaret artists.

Many other projects are undertaken by the club, such as scholarships for children of members, sporting tournaments, car rallies and the like.

On referring to past minutes the names of many hard workers for the club came to mind and although the Yallourn Power Station is diminishing in size and in numbers, the spirit of the club still flourishes and will always remain in the fore by providing service to its members.

Wise Owl Award



At approximately 8.15 a.m. on Monday, October 6, 1969, Alfred (Fred) Frendo, 19 years of age, a second year Fitting and Turning Apprentice of Central Workshops, Yallourn, undoubtedly, had the sight of one eye saved by the pair of plano safety spectacles he was wearing.

Fred was recessing the end of a stainless steel valve seat when a sliver of steel from the recessing tool flew up and struck the left lens of his spectacles. The sliver was approximately 3/4" long and tapered to a fine needle point.

Photograph shows:- Fred pointing to lens which saved his eye.

CONTACT MART

FOR SALE - BUILDING BLOCK
NEWBOROUGH.

55' x 187'

W. L. & Sewerage

Phone S.E.C. Ext. 3476

or

After Hours - Yallourn 5-2191

FOR SALE

Kitchen table and 6 chairs - Stainless steel - laminex table top, mottled grey. Vinyl chair seats and backs - in good condition - \$35.

Moe 1060 or 27 Thoresby Street, Newborough, after 5 p.m.

LOOKING AROUND THE EXPO '69

About 130,000 people passed through the Exhibition Buildings to see the biggest showcase of the electrical industry ever assembled in Australia.

More than 2,000 Dads, Mums and kiddies from the Latrobe Valley travelled by the special trains to see Expo Electric '69. This coverage shows some of the 'Valley' folk at the exhibition.



* SEEN waiting for the train to Melbourne at Morwell station are (left to right): Jack Embleton, Mrs. Passey, Nancy Embleton, Susan Embleton of E. S. D. Traralgon, Pat Johnson, and Eric Johnson.



* AT the Expo are Mrs. Mary McVey, her daughter Maisie Doig, Rod Doig, and Bruce and Douglas Doig.

With

**TOM
CARTER**
and
the CAMERAMAN



It was a pity that people had to stand in a very long queue for a considerable time before gaining admittance to the Commission's exhibit which was the main attraction of the Exposition. They are to be complimented for their patience and tolerance.

Tuesday's excursion departed and returned. Wednesday was full of rumours. Thursday's trip a pleasure. Ted Jones and Bill Ley, with George McArthur and Bob Souter, who acted as the train conductors - a thousand people thank you for

your courteous work. A minor incident or two, but, as Bill Ley said - "They're soon settled".

The Old Timers were nostalgic. They hadn't seen such crowded country rail stations for years. And the orderly boarding of the trains, both in the Valley and at Spencer Street, brought credit to the Valley folk. No rush. No bustle. Young people - Us older folk were grateful for your restraint.

Many said the trip was a 'Swinger'. The train swung from side to side; but after all, most of us were in the swinging mood of an excursion. But, reckon we could have done without those "chiropractic" starts by the train driver. He certainly jolted people.

Noticed a number of Valley Engineers in earnest discussion with chaps in charge of the nuclear power station exhibit. Locals appeared animated too. The "Enemy" encroaches and entices?

As they strolled from exhibit to exhibit, never had so many little boys, and big ones too, which included the Dads, pushed so many buttons to see what made "It" work. One amazing thing was - the blasé attitude of the people to color television.

All in all it was a good show - Let's hope we can do it again sometime.



* ENJOYING a luncheon break in the gardens at the Exhibition are Kevin and Leslie Wilson and their children. The gardens provided a pleasant spot to enjoy a welcome break to many families.



* AT the hydro electric system diagrams are (left to right): Peter Hill, Collette Swinton, Mervyn Graham, Heather Cobbledick.

TRIPPER WRITES

This letter was received by the Manager from Evan Jorgenson of Yallourn.

On behalf of my wife and myself, I would like to express to you and all concerned, our appreciation of the delightful day spent in Melbourne at the Exhibition. The train trip both ways left nothing to be desired, and the careful consideration and handling of the Patrol Officers, Mr R. Soutar and Mr. E. Jones gave the travelling patrons every consideration for a most relaxing trip.

The exhibition itself left nothing to be desired and again I would like to thank all who had any part in the design and interpretation of the show for a very educational and instructional day.



* VIEWING an exhibition of the NASA space program with the scale model rockets are Ted and Lynette Thompson with two of their sons.

Retirements

Peter Gleeson commenced work with the Civil Construction Section at Yallourn in 1935.

One of his first jobs was on building the "New" weir on the Latrobe River at the Yallourn Power Station. With the advent of the first bulldozers around 1939, Peter worked with Peter Foletti, Jack Webster, Ernie Spittall, his brother Danny Gleeson, Val Lovison and other early operators on Caterpillar R. & D.2's and was taught to drive by Val Lovison. Peter's first machine was a 30 hp Cletrac. He subsequently worked on all of the major construction projects at Yallourn, including Town Streets, Reservoirs, Power Stations, Conveyors, etc.

He became famous for his extremely good judgment in handling his machines. Peter and his bulldozers have appeared and worked efficiently in positions considered impossible by supervisors and other operators.

He has an infallible instinct for locating important cables pipes and other items hidden under piles of muck before bulldozing them out.



As a Senior Leading Hand Mechanical Plant Driver, Peter transferred to the Forestry Section in 1965, and continued to operate a variety of machines until his retirement on October 9, 1969.

In his younger days, Peter played a very effective game of football with the Mornington Peninsula, Federal Association, where he won the Federal Award for best and fairest in 1927/28.

In 1931 he lead the Dromana team to their first ever premiership flag.

Peter and Mrs. Gleeson will spend their retirement at Dromana, where they have a nice home, many friends, and where Peter is going to try and catch up on some fishing for which time has not been

available for many years.

He was presented with a wallet of notes and a match-box model of a D4 tractor. For Mrs. Gleeson there was a gift of a brooch.



After 35 years service with the Commission Mr. W. R. (Reg) Vivian retired from the Commission.

He commenced his service with the Commission as an Electrical Fitter and on his retirement was Electrical Maintenance Supervisor at Yallourn Power Station.

Both Reg and his wife are keen gardeners and Mrs. Vivian has been actively engaged in Red Cross work. Until recently, they resided in Yallourn but now have a home in Newborough.

Reg is held in very high regard by his colleagues and his practical experience of electrical rotor repairs is unequalled in the Valley. He has always exerted a steadying influence and will always give careful and calm consideration to any matter before he will act.

He was presented with a Sher Power Kit and a pair of binoculars. For Mrs Vivian there was a bouquet of flowers.

It is understood that at a function following his retirement he was to be presented with a model of an 'A' Station turbo-generator.



On September 26, 1969, Mr. T. C. (Tom) Gale retired after 22 years service with the Commission.

At the time of his retirement

Tom was Assistant Briquette Distribution Superintendent (Field).

Present at a function to bid him farewell there were present representatives from Head Office and a number of Tom's friends who had retired in previous years. Victorian Railways were also represented.

Much was said about Tom's energy and reliability and it was obvious that he is admired and respected by all with whom he has worked.

He is a keen sportsman and is particularly interested in bowls and golf.

Mr. L. A. Crockett, Briquette Engineer, spoke of Tom's contribution to the Briquette Division and to the Briquette Industry and presented him with an easy chair - the gift of his colleagues.

Tom is retiring to Narooma N.S.W.



On October 1, 1969, Mrs. Elsie May Forrest retired after nine years of service. She commenced work at the old Morwell Project Canteen and for the past five years had been at the Morwell Power Station Canteen.

Mr. Val McGoldrick, Mechanical Maintenance Engineer, represented Mr. D. Clark, Power Station Superintendent and, on behalf of Mrs. Forrest's workmates and friends made a presentation of a brooch a camera, an electric blanket and a bouquet of flowers.

Subsequent to her retirement a charming letter was received from Mrs. Forrest expressing her thanks for a wonderful send off and for the presents which she will always treasure.

On September 29, 1969, Mr. R. (Reg) O. Howell, Trades Assistant at the Morwell Briquette Factory retired after 13 years of service.

A quiet man who keeps to himself Reg has been in ill-health for some time and came in from sick leave to attend his farewell function.

Speakers paid tribute to his

loyalty and co-operation.

Mr. Cyril Morellato, Briquette Production Superintendent, Morwell, presented an envelope of notes to Reg - this was the gift of his workmates.



After 14 1/2 years of service with the Commission Mr. Con Browitt went on the retired list on September 26, 1969.

Con, who is retiring at age of 60, came to Australia in one of the red troopships 47 years ago. She was the "New Ballarat" which was then on her maiden voyage.

During his working life Con has been Strapper at a racing stable, nipper in the Open Cut and Boilermaker.

He is taking a trip to Japan and to New South Wales and Queensland with his wife.

At a function to bid him farewell he was presented with a pair of binoculars and an overnight bag.



On September 26, 1969, after 18 years of service with the Commission, Mr. Stephan Masalski went on the retired list.

During his time with the Commission Stephan worked in the Open Cut on ditchbunker construction and the Yallourn Power Station. For the past eleven years he has been a carpenter with General Services.

A shy, retiring man Stephan is highly thought of and at a function organised to bid him farewell he was presented with a set of drills and a sander.

Doug is "Birdman" of SEC



Doug Sheen of the Transport Workshops at Morwell is a man with a very interesting and sometimes profitable hobby. He is an Aviculturist. In other words — one who breeds birds and in this case, budgerigars.

Doug came to the Commission in the Latrobe Valley in 1962 and tells us his interest in budgies goes back to his childhood, when he kept such birds as Java Sparrows, Canaries, Diamond Doves and Finches just to mention a few.

When he came to the Latrobe Valley, he joined a budgie club, together with his wife, Jean, who is also a keen breeder and has the job of tending the birds during the day.

It soon became apparent that his birds were not of a high enough standard to show so he set about to improve and raise the quality of his aviary to such an extent that today he has well in excess of 500 birds, many of them having won prizes in shows throughout Gippsland and in the Metropolitan area.

There are 10 varieties of different colours and a bird must be 8 1/2" long to meet show requirements.

With the tending of such a large aviary, it means approximately 5 hours work per day for Doug and Jean.

The best birds as stated are entered in shows and perhaps sold after an event, but the majority find their way into Melbourne pet shops and from there, who knows, perhaps all over Australia.

2190 days of safety



On October 10, 1969, Safety Awards were presented by Mr. Arthur Ewen Acting Power Engineer to the Electrical Maintenance (Gang 150) Group 5, at Morwell Power Station.

On August 12, 1969, they reached the qualification for their 5th award. This was 2,190 days — approximately 6 calendar years — without a disabling injury. The last one occurred on August 15, 1963.

The group, at present, consists of 20 men — including apprentices.

The period of 2,190 days represents approximately 26,000 manhours and as at October 9, 1969, the group was already 57 days on the way to their next award.

Presentations were, blankets, lamps, car cleaners, electric heaters, clocks and birko heaters.

It was noted that 8 members of this group came from countries other than Australia.

The Boys From Bell Bay



The rumour that Tasmanian Devils have been sighted in the Valley could well be true, according to the Electrical Instructors at the Regional Training Centre — they have 18 in training.

The group of 18, from the Hydro Electricity Commission of Tasmania arrived in the Region on October 5, 1969, and commenced the first phase of a 10 week Operators Course the following day.

This is one of the first steps in preparation for the manning of the Bell Bay Power Station at present under construction 35 miles from Launceston.

The H.E.C. of Tasmania, like its counterpart the S.E.C.V., has had to increase its production of electricity to meet the growing demand within the State. Hence the construction of the Bell Bay Power Station which is scheduled for commissioning in October, 1970.

This is the first major thermal station in Tasmania and consequently a problem arose related to the training of operating personnel. Bob Owen, Training Engineer, Power, needs no encouragement to elaborate on the complexities of just such a problem.

However, to cut a long story short, someone in H.E.C.T. heard of the training activities being conducted by Bob Owen and his team at the Hazelwood Training Annexe.

By
AL DYER
Education and Training
section.

As a result of discussion between the S.E.C. and H.E.C. an offer was extended by the S.E.C. to carry out a major part of the training of the operators for the Bell Bay Power Station.

During the training period, the group are staying at the Fairfield Guest House and will go home for only one weekend out of ten. They are all married men with children so naturally miss the comforts of home and often find it difficult to fill in the weekends.

Apart from the occasional odour in the air, the lads are quite impressed with the surrounds. The main problem confronting them is a lack of transport to get out and about.

There is a wide variety of interests within the group, which includes fishing, golf, bowls and shooting. One of the lads, John Vaughan, has won the Tasmanian Pistol Shooting Championship on two occasions and has also claimed a Go-Cart Racing Championship.

Any assistance in helping the group pursue their interests would be greatly appreciated. There may even be some Tasmanians in the Region who might like to renew old friendships.

John Guy, Temporary Assistant Training Officer, found two old friends in Harold Surtees and Len Potter. As the title of our monthly suggests, please make "CONTACT"!

* PICTURED are the trainees with instructors Barry Foley (in dustcoat at rear) and Charles Dimble (middle front).

"FORCE 6" ARE FORCED OUT

A team from Morwell Power Station competed in the recent L.V.Y.M.C.A. Volleyball Winter Competition. Known as 'Force 6', the team was in fourth position after the home and home matches and did extremely well in the preliminary finals, only to be defeated in the Grand Final.

Their performance was a most creditable one, as only two members had previously played the game.

Members of the team: Capt. R. Donchi — Engineering Assistant — Maintenance; V. Capt. M. Darby — Instrument Overseer; R. Ellis — Asst. Maintenance Engineer; J. McDonnell — Technical Services Section — Engineer; F. Thiernert — Instrument Fitter — Technical Services; N. Hutchinson — Instrument Fitter — Technical Services; P. Higgins — Scientific Assistant — Chemical Laboratory.

'Force 6' will be entering a team in the spring competition and hope to go one better by winning the pennant.

With this experience under their belt they must stand a great chance of going on to bigger and better things such as next year's Winter Pennant. We wish them well.

STORY THE BRIQUETTES TELL

Of course you know what the article in the picture is, but do you know the whys and wherefores of the markings on its face?

Perchance, like most people outside the industry (and many within) you have often wondered just what useful purpose could be served by such configurations.

Be assured, a most helpful message is carried therein. To whom? — to the briquette makers in general and the personnel of the Quality Control Process Laboratory in particular.



By
**DUDLEY
SHARP**
Quality
Control
Engineer
Briquette
Division.



Why "in particular"? — because the Process Laboratory monitors quality on a 24 hour day - 7 day week - 52 week year basis, primarily to maintain, and possibly improve, a high standard of briquette quality.

"Maintain" and "improve" suggests that there are times when quality may tend away from standard. This is so. You, as consumer, expect to receive (and rightly so) a good solid briquette which will burn brightly to produce such heartwarming heat as may induce you to snore peacefully in front of the T.V.

What, then, are some of the possible "defects" of a briquette?

Splitters, strikers, overpressed (distorted), uneven strength ("red-heads") scaly, soft or loss of strength (a stage beyond the red-heads), under or oversize together with the less obvious, high or low moisture content, high ash content and high sand content, form a rather formidable group of defectives.

How is quality monitored and, if necessary, controlled?

Briquette samples are taken each hour from each operating stamp by the collecting conveyor attendants, who deliver them to the Process Laboratory. Here each sample is inspected for splitters, stickers etc., and tested for size, density, compres-

sion and bending strengths, moisture ash and sand contents, by skilled personnel all of whom are experienced in factory operations.

The nature of the defect, together with relevant test data, is then communicated to the Shift Engineer, who, in conjunction with the Operations Overseer and Plant Operator (press driver, drier attendant etc) makes the appropriate alteration to factory operating conditions in order to effect a "cure".

It is not unusual for a severe defect to be detected and cured within an hour of occurrence. Likewise, "unfriendly" coal may lead to a press being removed from service (for several hours) owing to a persistent fault.

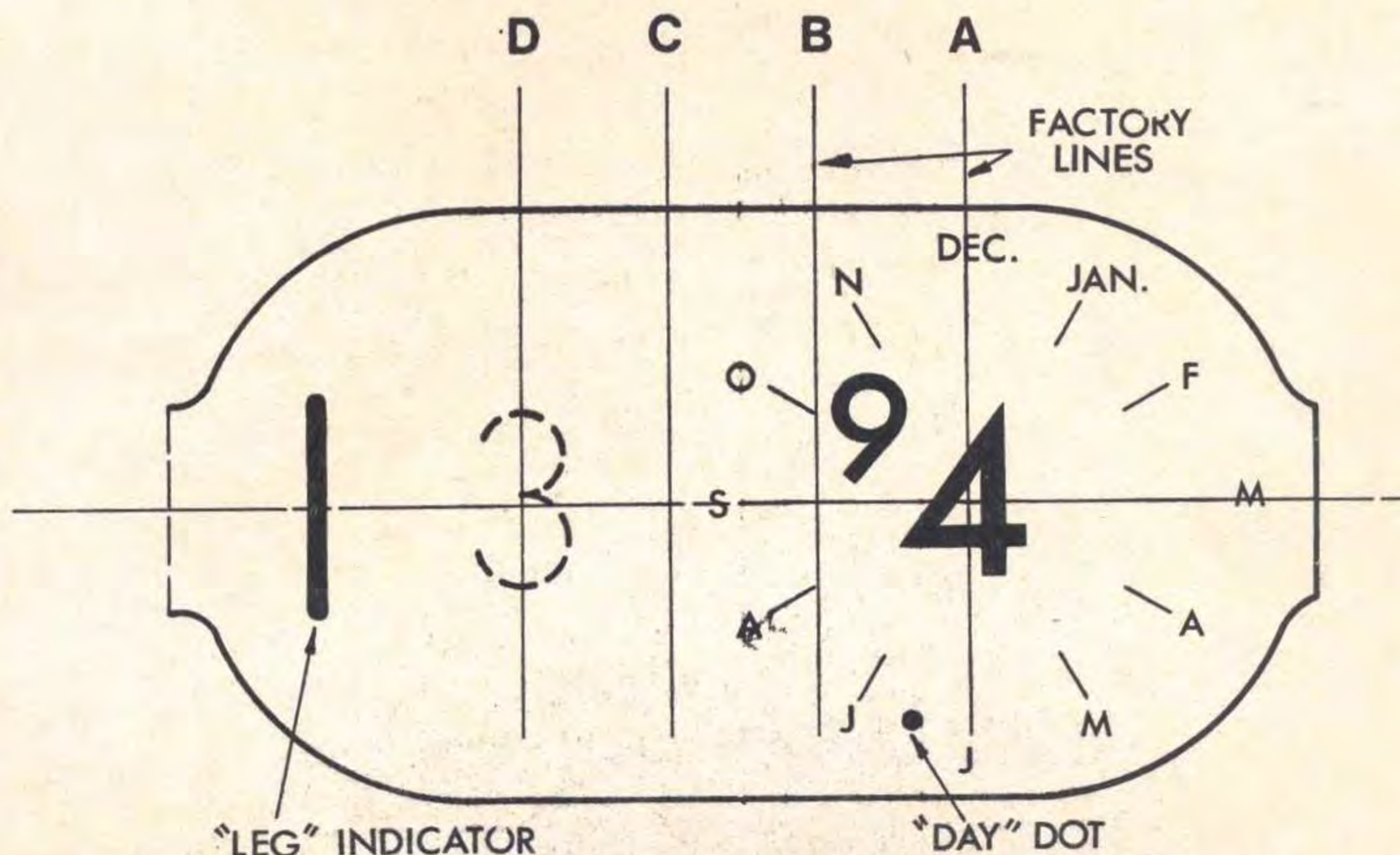
The customer's interests are further pro-

tected by additional scrutiny, by Foremen and Loading Attendants at the point of loading into rail trucks, by Briquette Distribution Consigning Officers prior to consignment from the Latrobe Valley and by Depot Managers in Melbourne before sale.

Oh yes — the "helpful message"! Depicted by the markings on the briquette is the origin of the briquette (factory, press and stamp numbers) and the period of manufacture (year, month and day).

The necessity for such identification was made manifest during a particular "briquette quality investigation" and was recommended for adoption, along with a Quality Control Section, in a submission to

CONT ON P.14



Story briquettes tell

CONT FROM P.13

the Director of Engineering in December, 1961.

Press No. and Factory are shown by the large numeral and its location along the face relevant to the smooth or unbroken end. Illustration - press No. 4 A Factory Note - No. 3 press, D Factory would find the numeral '3' under the Factory line D.

Each press has four briquetting stamps, referred to as "legs", and leg identification is determined by the length of a line, which is conveniently located according to other marking. Lines 1/4", 1/2" 3/4" and 1" indicating legs 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Year and month are determined by the placement of the last Numeral of the Year AD, e.g. 1969, in a 12 point clock-dial position centred on the factory-press No. indicator.

Illustration - numeral '9' at the 10 o'clock position represents October, 1969 Note - May 1972 will show a '2' at 5 o'clock.

The Day of the Month is indicated by the location of a small circle or dot on this same clock-dial but with 31 positions representing the days of the month.

Illustration - 16th day. Where would the dot for the 7th be placed?

* * * * *

So, next time you re-charge your room-heater (as a prelude to the T.V. snooze), observe the configurations on the impact face, thinking "Were I a Quality Control Process Laboratory man, and you, my little black beauty, were an undersized, over-pressed red-head, I'd know just exactly what to do with you! Your vital statistics in particular your factory, press and leg number (1, 2, 3 or 4) together with your shortcomings, would be reported to the Shift Engineer; he would take you in hand and with appropriate action, restore your desired beauty".

Once again, co-operation between process laboratory and shift operation staff would have ensured the continuing function of quality control and a furthering of the Commission's policy whereby the consumer receives, at all times, a high quality fuel.

APPRENTICE'S SAFETY RECORD

On September 23, 1969, mechanical and electrical apprentices numbering 116 (with their instructors) received an award for having reached a total of 140,000 manhours without a disabling accident.

Mr. M. F. A. Gray, Services Engineer, presented the N.S.C.A. pennant and plaque to Mr. J. Goldsmith, Apprentice Training Supervisor (Mechanical), and Mr. P. Turner, Apprentice Training Supervisor, (Electrical); and electric torches to representatives of the Sections.

DRAWING OFFICE IN TOURIST CENTRE

The Tourist Centre, situated on the ridge a short distance south of the Admin. Offices, Morwell, will be used by Drawing Office Personnel.

All of the display equipment has been removed for relocation in the Visitors' Reception Centre, Yallourn and the Hazelwood Power Station.

WILL YOU SWELTER AGAIN THIS SUMMER??

YOU WON'T AT WORK OF COURSE!! BUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN YOU GET HOME?? AND WHAT ABOUT THE FAMILY??

YOU CAN GO HOME TO YEAR-ROUND COMFORT WHEN YOU INSTALL A MODERN ELECTRIC AIR CONDITIONER

AIR CONDITIONERS PUT SUMMER HEAT AND HUMIDITY WHERE THEY BELONG - OUTSIDE

THEY KEEP THE PLACE CLEANER FILTERING OUT THE DUST - FROM THE AIR.

THERE'S A MODEL FOR EVERY SITUATION FROM THE 5,000 B.T.U. ONE-ROOM UNIT RIGHT UP TO THE 2½ H.P. "MULTIPLE ROOM" JOB

LET'S FACE IT AIR CONDITIONING THE WHOLE HOUSE MAY BE A BIT BEYOND YOU AT THE MOMENT BUT WHY NOT DO IT IN STAGES STARTING WITH THE LOUNGE OR THE BED-ROOM

YOU CAN BUY A SINGLE ROOM UNIT FOR AS LOW AS \$190.00 (FULL RETAIL PRICE)

GENEROUS HIRE PURCHASE TERMS ARE AVAILABLE FOR FURTHER DETAILS CALL AT YOUR DISTRICT OFFICE IN
WARRAGUL : TRAFALGAR : MOE :
YALLOURN : MORWELL : TRARALGON:

BUY YOURSELF A COOL BEDROOM ALL SUMMER LONG!!



YOU'LL SLEEP COOL AND WAKE REFRESHED WITH A MODERN BED-ROOM AIR CONDITIONER

- * SO SIMPLE TO INSTALL a do-it-yourself job in an existing window.
- * SO EASY TO OPERATE even the children can set it.
- * WILL LAST AS LONG AS THE KITCHEN FRIDGE and just as trouble-free.

THIS SUMMER
GIVE YOUR FAMILY COMFORT
GIVE THEM ELECTRIC AIR CONDITIONING

"SURVEYING" THE SCENE

It is not very easy to write about the work of the Survey Section. Our monuments are small — a peg in the ground, a cairn of stones, a pipe framed structure 12 to 15 feet high with a target at the top, or a reference mark buried under the ground.

We cannot wave a hand at a Power Station and say "Look what we've built", and yet it is reasonable to say that the Survey Section is involved to some degree in every field operation of the Commission.

The sight of a surveyor with a theodolite, level or other impedimenta is not uncommon in the Valley, but what does he do?

Well, putting it simply, he measures, and measures, and measures — measures distances, measures angles, measures heights, and transforms or translates them into a map or plan.

This is perhaps an over simplification, and although the act of measuring may not always be so difficult, the art and skill involved are related to the ability to assess the degree of accuracy required for a particular situation, then select and apply the right equipment in the correct manner in order to achieve the necessary result.

Fortunately the range of equipment we have available is extensive and of high quality, and includes some of the more recently developed instruments such as the geodimeter and automatic level. Even the theodolite of today, condensed in size, with improved optics, glass circles read by optical micrometers, and an optical plumbing instead of a plumbob dangling on a string, is a far cry from the instrument in common use about 30 years ago.

Having mentioned theodolites, this may be the right place to say that our best instruments will enable us to obtain the value of an angle to something like one ten thousandth of a degree.

The geodimeter belongs to a class of instrument generally referred to as electronic distance measuring equipment. Within this class there are two main categories namely electro-magnetic, and electro-optical. In each case a signal transmitted from one end of a line to a reflector at the other end of the line, and the reflected signal picked up again at the transmitter. The measurement of a time interval is converted to distance which is the length of the line between the transmitter and the reflector.

The electro-magnetic class, of which the tellurometer is an example uses signals similar to radar and the electro-optical class to which the geodimeter belongs, uses a pulsed light beam.

These instruments are capable of measuring long lines to a very high degree of accuracy e.g. the probable error of measurement of a line five miles would be approximately 2 inches.

The range of this type of equipment has now been extended to provide instruments for measuring short lines (up to one or two miles) to a high degree of accuracy, and at a much greater speed than can be obtained by standard methods

using a measuring tape.

One manufacturer has even produced such an instrument that can be attached to a theodolite, thereby combining the means of measuring distance and angle in to one unit.

It would seem that in the not too distant future, the long measuring tape will become a museum piece.

The "automatic" or self-aligning level has not been with us very long, but was quick to gain favour because of the saving of time involved in its use. Interposed in the optical system of the telescope is a device which operates like a pendulum to keep the line of sight level.

Then there is photogrammetry — the technique which enables accurate measurements to be derived from photographs. The photographs may be verticals — suitable to the terrain, but most photography is done from the air. A series of photographs are taken with about 60% overlap. These, when placed in suitable equipment, enable a three dimensional model of the terrain to be viewed through binoculars. — One of the benefits to mankind arising from techniques developed during the second world war.

Providing satisfactory control has been

By HERB HILL

Principal Surveyor

Latrobe Valley

established, the equipment can be manipulated to enable topographical plans to be drawn from the model viewed. It is establishing this control consisting of accurately placed "targets", that the Survey Section becomes involved. Not only must the target positions be known accurately in three dimension, but they must be strategically placed and of appropriate size shape and colour. Now, perhaps this clears up the mystery of the crosses and dots in yellow or white seen distributed around the countryside.

Survey work entails a lot of calculation, and these days most of us start thinking E.D.P. and computers as soon as the word or thought of calculation crops up. Some survey calculations must be done on the job, so that cuts out EDP for them. Others are not sufficiently repetitive to warrant programming for computer, but programmes have been prepared for a considerable amount of our work which is regularly computer processed. In fact, in the Valley, the Survey Section is the second largest user of EDP.

I trust enough has been said to indicate that the Survey Section has kept up to date with modern trends and will continue to do so.

Cookery corner:



With
Trina
Williams



A TOUCH OF RICE

CURRIED SCALLOPS IN A RING OF RICE

2 lb scallops, 6 shallots, 1/3 cup dry white wine, 8 tablespoons butter, 1.1/2 tablespoons curry powder.

Wash and dry 2 lb scallops and dust them lightly with seasoned flour. Heat 8 tablespoons butter in a frypan and in it saute 6 shallots, finely chopped, for 3 minutes.

Add the scallops and cook quickly, turning frequently to brown all sides, for about 3 minutes. Sprinkle the scallops with 1.1/2 tablespoons curry powder and 1/3 cup dry white wine.

Serve in a ring of rice with watercress.

CHINESE STEAK

1.1/2 lb. good frying steak, 2 onions, 3 tomatoes, peeled, 2 cloves garlic (crushed) piece green ginger, oil, 2 tablespoons soya sauce, 1 pkt. frozen peas or beans, 1 teaspoon vinegar, 1 teaspoon sugar, garlic salt.

Slice steak in very thin strips, Heat 1 tablespoon oil in frypan add chopped onions garlic and ginger and fry until onions are transparent. Remove from pan. Add steak and a little extra oil if necessary and fry very quickly until almost cooked. Add chopped tomatoes, frozen vegetables, onions, soya sauce, vinegar and sugar. Cook 2-3 minutes. Sprinkle with garlic salt and serve with boiled rice or noodles.

Just a short column this month.
Expo you know!

Chit-chat with Noel Edwards (mechanical Spares, Morwell) last week about the proposed Recreational Centre (more about that later); when he came up with a sound idea - inter-social club golf. Say there's 13 social clubs in the Valley and suggests a round robin contest. Sounded out Geoff Seers of Electrical Services Eastern Road, and he said - "Good idea". Others in same location are for the scheme. Well any challenges?

Distribution (Elect. Services, Yallourn) have just received their cricketing equipment and are keen to get going. Daily practice is the order of the day. Brian Simpson and Grant Cowley are team managers. Brian says they'll take on all comers. Anyone for cricket?

Cycle racetrack on the John Field Re-

serve, Newborough, is a scene of activity these days, as Bob Whitford is giving the know-how to budding cyclists, under auspices of the newly formed Monash Amateur Cycle Club. With 30 years experience behind him, Bob is well equipped to guide the 'young idea'. Any lad who desires coaching should contact the club.

Hear that Austral winner Kenton Smith (Yallourn) is back on his cycle, training hard - includes riding to work each day. Kenton comes from a real 'bikey' family. Brother Geoff and Dad were both top Australian pedallers. Best wishes, Kenton, hope

you get back the form that won you a top Australian bike race.

Don't know if catching, but saw 63 year old marathon runner, John Polesma of Base Workshops (Yallourn) riding a bike recently. Maybe - going to try himself out on the John Field Reserve race track.

That tri-angular sports contest mentioned last month. Response from one sport very good - squash. Couple of others interested. Hope to hear from the golfers, footrunners and tennis players shortly. To re-cap. "Triangular". A contest between teams from Works Area Yallourn; Works Area Morwell-Hazelwood and ESD Gippsland.



carter's column

EASTERN HOSTEL'S SAFETY AWARD



On October 15, 1969, Safety Awards were made to the Orderlies and Laundry Staff at Eastern Road Hostel. Their achievement in re-

cording 364,996 manhours without a disabling injury is a notable one.

Mr. Austin Lynch, Regional Administrative

Officer, made the presentation of electric blankets, electric jugs and pillow slips.