

CONTACT



THE STATE ELECTRICITY COMMISSION LATROBE VALLEY REGION MAGAZINE – NOVEMBER 1969

THE '69 BALANCE SHEET— ROLL ON THE '70'S

-Manager's Message

The year 1969 has brought many trials and tribulations. On the one hand we have commissioned Unit Nos. 5 and 6 at Hazelwood, No. 7 is in the offing and Yallourn "W" is well under way from a construction point of view.

We have closed down "B" Power Station at Yallourn and "B" Factory at the Yallourn Briquetting Works. On the credit side: 400 MW of new plant at Hazelwood, against 50 MW of retired plant at Yallourn Power Station.

There has been a reduction of output at Yallourn Briquette Factory of 192,000 tons p.a., a reduction of sales to the Gas and Fuel plant of 226,000 tons p.a., development of the hard char plant with a potential demand of 140,000 tons of briquettes p.a., and a reduction in demand from Commission operated power stations of 29,000 tons p.a.

This all adds up to an increase of 550 MW of power generated and a production capacity of 1,500,000 tons p.a. from existing briquette factories.

In the meantime, without any suggestion of retrenchment, we have reduced our total number of personnel by 232 in the past



With Gippsland's summer scheduled to start soon, that's a good idea Rosemary Langston is pointing out to Regional Services Engineer, Mr. Max Gray.

Rosemary from Morwell Technical School, had just won the "best poster" prize in a contest organised by the Commission as part of our intensive fire prevention campaign among school children.

This year nearly 6,000 students in 21 schools have been shown films on this subject.

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Manager's message continued

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12 months. Off all those who have been displaced in their jobs, only 20 have not been satisfactorily, to them and to the Commission, re-established in equally remunerative jobs.

Here's the Balance Sheet:

Debit

Closure of Yallourn 'B' Power Station
Closure of Yallourn 'B' Briquette Factory
Reduction in Y.O.C. Output
Reduction in demand for briquettes from Commission-operated power stations
Reduction in demand for briquettes from Gas and Fuel

Credit

Commissioning of Nos. 5 and 6 units,
Hazelwood and No. 7 to come into service shortly
Increase in Morwell Open Cut output
Potential demands from Char plant
Reduction in costs from closure of obsolete factories.

What of the Future?

Economies achieved in action previously defined makes generation of electrical energy from brown coal thermal stations more competitive with natural gas, oil and nuclear energy.

Reduction in personnel achieved without dismissals has consolidated the strength of our labor force. Those who have left our employ have done so of their own volition.

Monetary Losses and Gains

We have heard so often in the past 12 months that the Latrobe Valley is a declining area. Yet we have overall increased power generation from Hazelwood Power Station, with Yallourn 'W' still to add its increment.

The level of Commission employment as at present is expected to be maintained until the completion of Yallourn 'W' in 1973-74.

A continuation of employment at its present high level of apprentices - approximately 500 continuously in training is anticipated, and the prospect of another base load station in the Latrobe Valley to follow Yallourn 'W' and a series of commercial developments and cultural facilities is imminent.

These include Coles-Dickens and Woolworths plans, worth in all, more than \$M1/2 for giant supermarkets in Morwell.

Stoker Swift of the "Battling B"

Bob Swift is one fireman at Yallourn who is particularly sorry to see the older sections of Yallourn Power Station taken out of service.

He has spent quite a bit of time on C-D boilers recently but has been unable to work up much enthusiasm for the pulverised fuel plant. He therefore earnestly requested to be returned to his old boilers in "B" Station to see out the remaining few weeks prior to the shut-down on October 24.

The poem submitted to "Contact" by YPS Assistant Charge Engineer Mr. Brian Gregory, illustrates Bob's regard for his old station.

Commented Mr. Gregory: "Bob originally hailed from the great port of Liverpool and spent his early life at sea in the British Merchant Marine. He also sailed under the White Ensign during the war and I felt that a nautical flavour might be appropriately blended into this dramatic saga of his service in Yallourn "B" Station. (alias the "BATTLING B")".

An old but stately frigate
That was called the "BATTLING B",
Sailed on amidst the thunder
Of a savage hostile sea.
She was old and obsolescent
But she fought with stubborn pride,
As the battle-cruiser "PROGRESS"
Blasted salvos in her side.
The crew down in the stokehole
Of the good ship "BATTLING B",
Was told that she was sinking
To her fate beneath the sea.
Yet the Skipper kept her fighting
Till her bows began to slip,
Then he rang the engines silent
And he piped "abandon ship".
So they went, albeit reluctant,
And they cut the rafts adrift,
But one good man was missing
— It was STOKER ROBERT SWIFT!
He had scorned the Skipper's pleadings



And declined to leave his post,
"I'll steam her on to Glory!"
Was his last courageous boast.
So he spun his dampers open
Till the "safeties" roared away,
Then he shouted "Rule Britannia!"
And "God Bless Maggie-May!"
Then he stood beside his boilers,
As the "BATTLING B" went down,
And he won his angel's feathers
And his martyr's jewelled crown.
So ends the lustrous legend
Of the frigate "BATTLING B";
Now her last remaining stoker
Is eternally at sea.

P.S. The story of Maggie-May, Liverpool's legendary lady of the streets, has long been dear to the hearts of all British Seamen.

Another retail firm, still unnamed, has an even bigger project on the drawing board.

The PMG is putting a \$500,000 five-storey telephone exchange into Morwell, and the industrial firm of Ericcons and Diamond Cut have buildings worth a total of \$400,000 on the way.

Developments are also taking place at Traralgon where the new Town Hall is programmed for building at a cost of some \$325,000. Commercial expansion amounting to many hundreds of thousands of dollars is also confidently expected.

Much has been made in some quarters of the \$3 million SEC profit for the year

1968-69. \$3M on total revenue amounting to \$216M would be a situation intolerable in any private enterprise organisation.

Despite the fact that not one Commission employee was qualified to receive the \$3.50 minimal increase handed down by the National Wage Decision the 3% increase across the board will cost the SEC \$2.8M in a full 12 months.

I am sure that we can look forward to a future satisfying to all of us, a 1970 that will bring new heart and confidence. Knowledge of the next Latrobe Valley

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PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH

Mention Bert Lester's name throughout the Region, or for that matter throughout Gippsland to the border, and somebody within earshot will know our popular personality of the month!

Bert, a leading hand Mechanical Fitter at Morwell, came to the S.E.C. as a very young man from South Gippsland in December 1934, commenced as a fitter in Yallourn Power Station turbine room where he worked until his transfer to the then new undertaking at Morwell in 1952, and where he is to be found today.

Bert's wide circle of friends started to grow when prior to joining the Commission, he played football for Tarwin in the early twenties in the South Gippsland League and was a prominent bike rider with the Meeniyah and Wonthaggi Cycle Clubs where his ability from the scratch mark won him many events and trophies.

Coming to the Latrobe Valley he played football with the then Yallourn Blues, captained the Imperials in the 1930's, and became a member of Moe Cycle Club - representing that club in the last "Melbourne to Sale" bike race in 1937.

Bert has always been a very keen sportsman with his interests covering a wide field of activities.

In service to the community he is well known in the Fire Brigade World, having represented Yallourn where he held the rank of lieutenant in many metropolitan and other Victorian demonstrations.

One of his more notable achievements was winning the one man ladder race at Burnie (Tasmania) at an interstate demo. in 1940.



Bert's a real sport!

Bert came to Morwell to live in 1947 and transferred his interests to the Morwell Brigade, being in turn coach, secretary and finally captain for five years!

He "gave away" competitive sport at this stage of his career as the vigour of youth subsided and turned his hand to what he considers the sport of kings - fishing.

Bert assures us he has fished almost every well-known stream and fishing area throughout N.S.W. and Victoria over the past 25 years, having acquitted himself well in many competitions.

At a Golden Beach surf event he won a block of land as first prize for the biggest fish, competing against 1,500 keen fishermen over a period of three days.

One particular trip had more than its share of excitement when returning from Narooma on the east coast by air the plane developed trouble and a forced landing was made in the Snowy Mountains district. Luckily there was no damage to life or limb - only the dignity of the pilot and an additional couple of days to the trip!

Asked about his "best ever" catch Bert says it was in company with his Yinnar Angling Club friends at Bhem River that he landed 111 salmon in five hours? No! Not a fishing story but a fisherman's dream, he says. He has amassed nearly 200 trophies in his many fields of sport over the years.

Bert's family is grown up and married, with his youngest son Robert being the one to follow Dad's footsteps, having already acquitted himself well in football and fishing spheres.

In his many years in the Latrobe Valley Bert has given time and service to a great number of activities in the community too numerous to mention here.

In his job with the field maintenance repair group he moves generally throughout the Morwell Area, his cheery personality popping up in many places, and he's always ready with a little friendly advice if asked from his vast store of sporting experience.



Talent with the brush

The Latrobe Valley Region has many talented people, but not too many as attractive as vivacious Regina Kosa of Morwell.

Regina, a clerical assistant in Yallourn Stores, is pictured with two of her paintings.

Her artistry has on two occasions won prizes for fire prevention posters.

Born of Polish parents, Regina attends art classes at Morwell Technical School.

She speaks Polish, makes her own dresses, and is fond of swimming, dancing and music.

Our two lovely Festival Quest entrants.....

Two of our loveliest girls (and we have many) Miss Tilly Verberne and Miss Maree Clegg, are our entrants in the 1970 Latrobe Valley Festival Quest, with all monies raised by the girls going to a fund for building an aged citizens' home in the Valley.

Tilly, a receptionist in Regional Headquarters at Morwell, has been with the Commission since early 1968. She came to Australia with her parents and four brothers in 1960 and the family settled at Myrtleford before moving to Moe in late 1967.

Tilly, who has appeared in 'Contact' previously, plays basketball and simply loves swimming and dancing.

She is being sponsored in the quest by the combined social clubs of the Morwell/Hazelwood area.

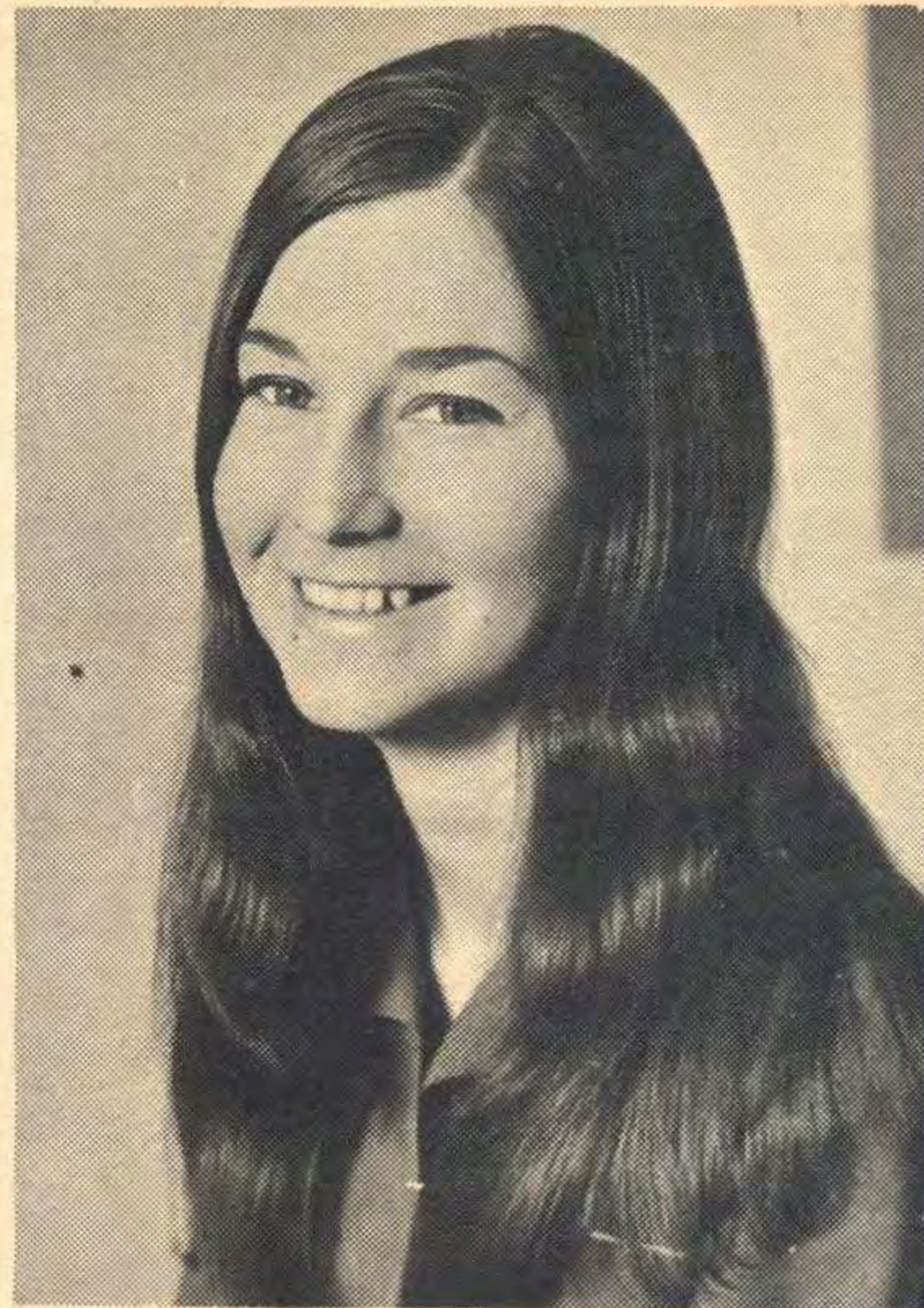
MAREE came to the Commission in 1964 and is a typist with Stores Division in Yallourn.

In 1966, she travelled overseas in the United Kingdom and the Continent - returning to us one year later.

Maree lives with her parents and brother at Newborough and is very fond of music and live theatre. She is also currently learning Italian.

Her sponsors are the combined social clubs of the Yallourn area, who are assisting her with the organising of a car rally, film night and other fund raising schemes such as a Christmas parcel wrapping service at 10c. a parcel, being conducted by the Typing Section in Yallourn Stores.

If you too, wish to do something to help or have an idea for raising funds, please mention it to your local social club representative who will pass it on for you with the necessary action.



* ABOVE: Brunette Maree Clegg, from Newborough; BELOW: blonde Tilly Verberne of Moe directs young visitors at Expo.



Manager's Message Continued from page 2

project to follow Yallourn 'W', confidence that we can more than compete with nuclear power and other alternative sources of energy, a realisation that we are becoming efficient and effective, will bring this about.

Safe, Economic, and Competitive - despite the problems we have had to face in 1969 - will be the maxim.

Thank you sincerely to all those loyal employees who have worked so hard in adversity in 1969, and a very happy Christmas and a Prosperous and Satisfying New Year to each and every member of the Latrobe Valley work force.

Despite our problems, I am confident that we will find satisfactory solutions to all of them in the Year to come. ROLL ON 1970!

CONTACT MART

FOR SALE - Building Block, Newborough, 55' x 187'. W. L. & Sewerage. - Phone SEC Ext. 3476 or After Hours - Yall. 5-2191.

First talks in an old hut!

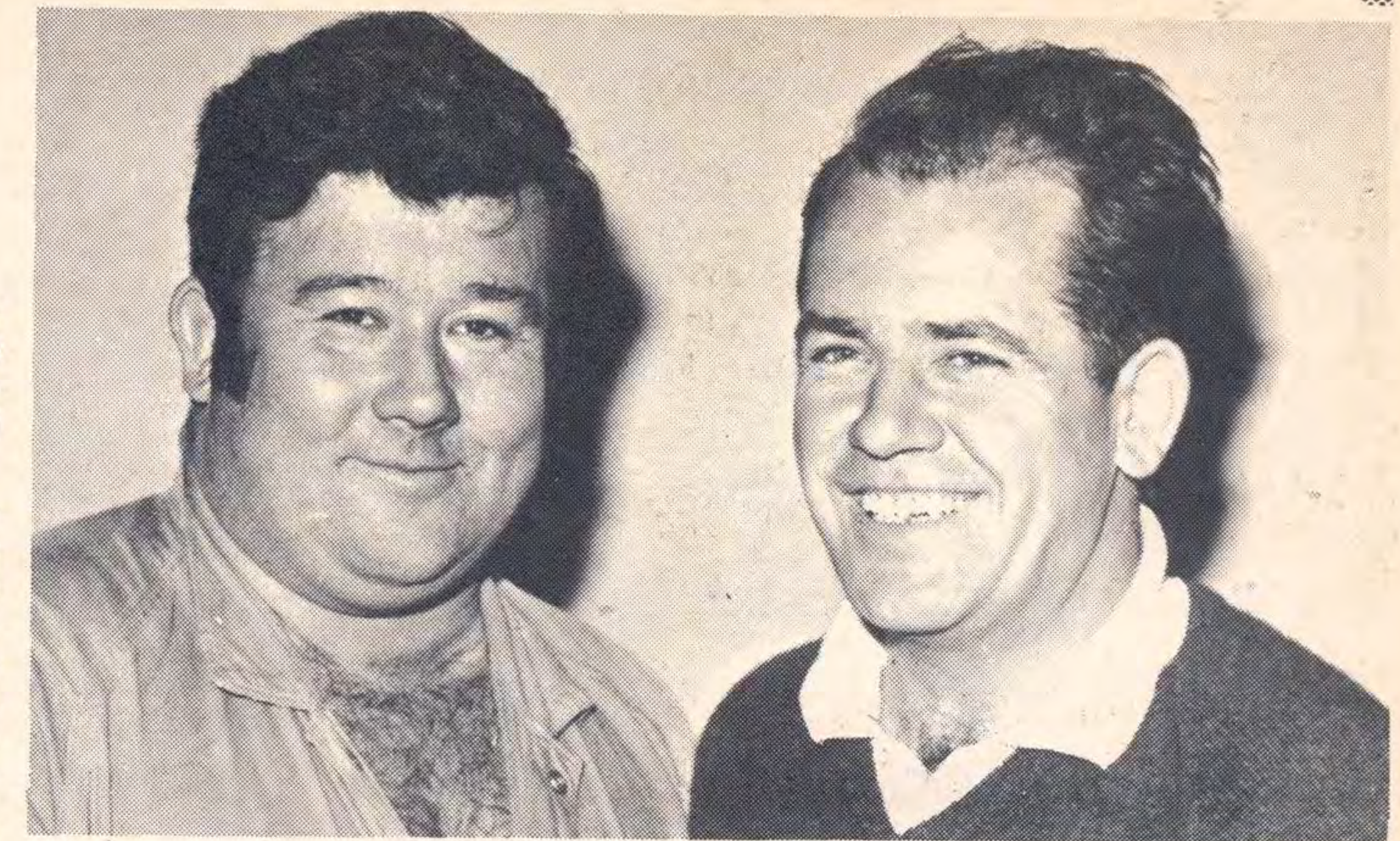
-Beginnings of MWA social club

During February, 1959, a small group of men from the Central Workshops met in an old construction hut and discussed the possible formation of a social club.

Some time later after numerous meetings and the blessing of the then Workshop Superintendent Mr. Arthur Chipman, the Morwell Works Area Social Club came into being and the first committee was formed comprising: Messrs. J. Brown (Pres.), F. McIvor (Sec.), J. Burke, R. Thompson, J. Beatson, S. Butler, R. Hess, A. Dunne, A. White, L. Forsyth and R. Sommerville.

Initial activities were carried out from a cupboard within the workshop, but it was not long before a modern amenities block was built by the Commission and the kiosk adjoining it was conducted by the social club committee.

Keen support was given for the facilities offered and within the first 12 months of operation members were receiving benefits from their social club, e.g. films were procured for lunch time showings in the canteen, a dry cleaning service was



* Men at the helm Morwell Workshops Area Social Club, Keith Moloney (left) secretary, and Ray Linton, president.

introduced, morning and afternoon tea was supplied, a cricket club was formed with material supplied, and a badminton competition was inaugurated.

The first social function was held before Christmas of 1959, in the Morwell Town Hall, with nearly 300 in attendance, and was an outstanding success. It paved the way for many such success-

ful nights in the years to follow with dinner dances and socials being held twice a year.

The families of social club personnel were not forgotten, The picnics held by the club have always been a highlight, conducted initially at Morwell Football Reserve and in later years at the popular Thorpdale reserve.

Biggest entertainment feature for the children has been the train rides - in a train built entirely by voluntary labor of the W.A.S.C. committee and its members!

These picnics cater for as many as 650 children at a time.

Success of the club during its 10 years go to many, but names such as Boyd Thompson, Perc Mooney and the late Arthur Chipman, are just a few which came quickly to mind for services over the years to a social club which is adding further benefits for its members each year.

....and many tales were spun!

Twelve members of Yallourn Power Station staff and two recently transferred to Hazelwood entertained five veterans of the section who have retired over the past seven years at a dinner at Yallourn Hotel last month.

The retired gentlemen were: Alex King, Ex Overseer, Coal Handling; Jack Lambourne Ex Foreman, Building Maintenance; Don McGregor Ex Foreman, Coal Handling; Arthur Elliot, Ex Foreman Maintenance Annexe; and Dick Roberts, Ex Foreman Boilermaker.

All were in fine spirits and good health and many old tales were spun and enjoyed. The evening was so successful it is hoped it will become an annual event.



What it takes to feed those TWO BIG "5's"

The SEC will make history in March next year when not one, but two, 500 kilovolt transmission lines between the Latrobe Valley and Melbourne will be commissioned.

The lines run from Hazelwood Terminal Station (HWTS) to Keilor Terminal Station on the western side of Melbourne.

One is already operating on 220KV but has not been commissioned as a 500KV carrier.

Because of the increasing amount of power produced in the Latrobe Valley, it has become necessary to increase transmission lines to Melbourne.

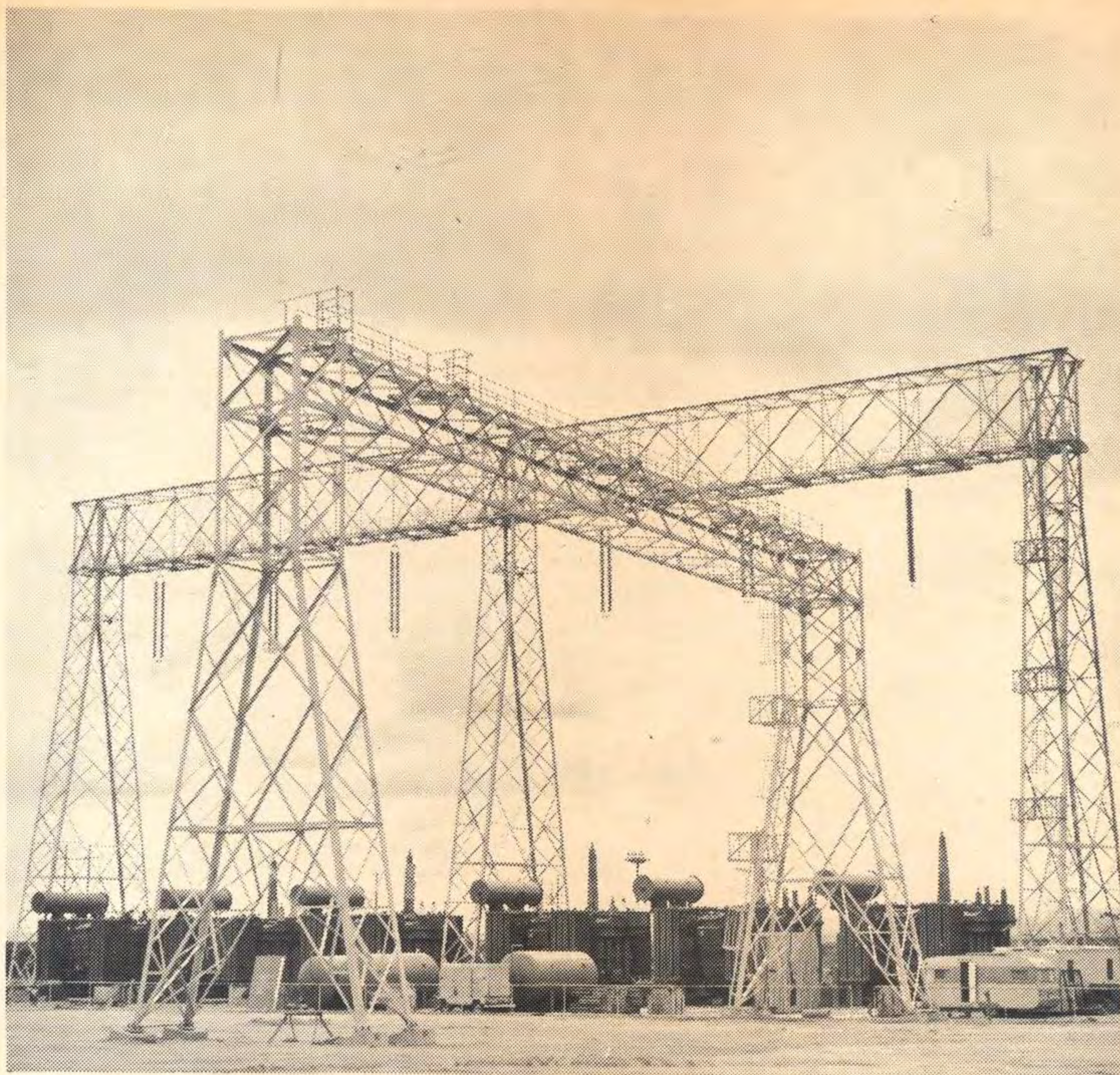
Any new lines could have been built at the 220kV level of existing lines or at some higher voltage, but because of the increased power carrying capacity and less power loss along the line, it was decided to build two 500kV transmission lines.

To obtain power at this voltage it was necessary to build HWTS, approximately three miles east of Hazelwood Power Station, where the voltage level will be transformed from 220kV to 500kV.

Big Area Needed

Hazelwood Terminal Station covers an area of over 100 acres on Tramway Road, Hazelwood South. The station is of such an area because of the much greater clearances required at this voltage and to allow for future development. Provision has been made in the layout for future expansion, if required, to a total of five outgoing 500kV lines and additional incoming circuits from Morwell Power Station and other future power stations.

To provide the power for the two 500kV transmission lines, there will be three 600MVA transformers, seven circuit breakers and thirteen isolators.



To connect up all this equipment approximately 23,000 feet (over four miles) of steel cored aluminium conductor and over 6,000 insulators will be used.

In addition, about 34 miles of supervisory, power and control cables will be installed. It is interesting to note that each insulator string consists of 35 insulators and is over 22 feet long, and that a circuit breaker covers an area of 38 feet by 57 feet and is over 38 feet high!

World Purchase

Major equipment for the station is being supplied from throughout the world. Brown



This article by MR.
IAN WILLIAMS,
Engineer,
Transmission Division

Boveri of Switzerland are supplying the circuit breakers, current transformers and capacitor voltage transformers; Toshiba of Japan are providing the transformers; the line traps are from A.S.E.A. of Sweden and the isolators and earthing devices are being supplied by the Australian firm, Switchgear, Pty. Ltd.

Hazelwood Terminal Station will be unmanned, control being remotely carried

out from the Station Control Centre at Hazelwood Power Station.

Equipment supplied by Fujitsu Limited of Japan will operate the circuit breakers and isolators. An impulse will be sent from Hazelwood Power Station to operate the selected item. After approximately one second the equipment will operate and within one half a second more the information that it has operated will be displayed at Hazelwood Power Station.

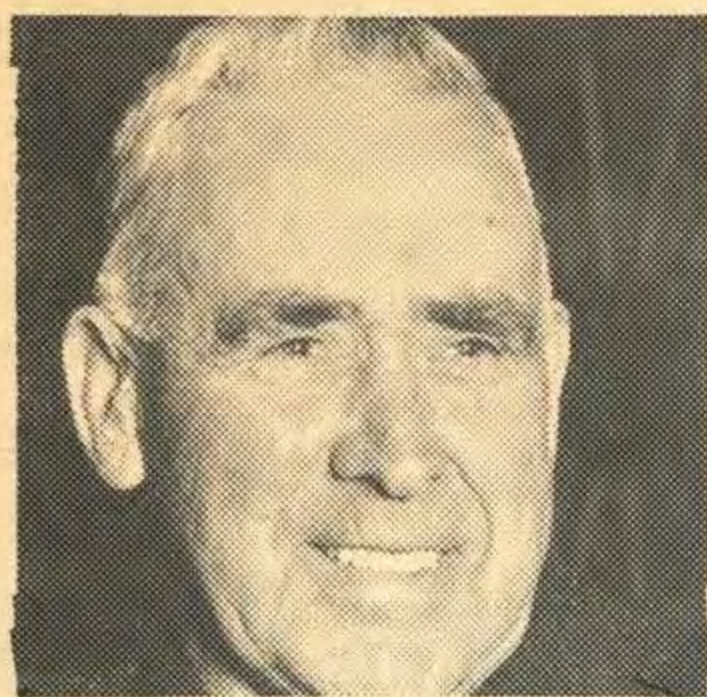
Twenty-eight measured quantities will be displayed at Hazelwood Power Station to indicate the state of the station. In addition, 60 alarms will indicate any abnormalities. Provision has been made for a further 90 alarms to be added if required.

Data Print-Out

This equipment also includes a data logger which records, at predetermined intervals, the state of the equipment, i.e. whether a circuit breaker is opened or closed, all measured quantities and any alarms that are indicated.

This information is updated every 1.5 seconds and is accurate to within two seconds. In the event of an abnormality occurring, the equipment prints out the state of the equipment, any alarms and measured quantities at Hazelwood Power Station that are relevant. In addition, each print-out includes the time and date.

As a comparison to existing high voltage lines, each 500kV transmission line will be capable of carrying, if fully loaded enough power to supply the whole of Victoria. To supply this amount of power would require a total of eight 220kV lines.



↑After 42½ years with the Commission M R. BERT WITHELL of Electrical Services retired on October 24.

He started in 1927 at Yallourn as a labourer and after various jobs came to Morwell in 1950 as a driver with Electrical Services (Field) where he remained until his retirement.

Bert, a quiet and very popular man, was presented with a pair of suit cases and a Parker pen and pencil set by the Transmission Engineer on behalf of his many friends at a gathering in the Services Area Training Centre.



↑MR. R. S. (BOB) JUDGE retired on November 7 after 21 years service. He joined the Accounts and Contracts Branch at Head Office in 1948 and came to the Valley in 1950 as Senior Clerk, Accounts Payable. In 1964 he took up duty as Labour Costs Clerk.

Bob is a keen surf fisherman and is considered to be an authority on this sport. He has also been actively interested in R.S.L. affairs.

At a farewell function Bob was presented with a power tool kit.

He intends to settle in Gosford, New South Wales.



↑Paradise Beach will be the retirement haven for MR. JOHNNIE LANGFORD—SIDEBOTTOM who was fare-

welled from the Region on October 28 after nearly 29 years with the Commission.

Because of ill health Johnnie has retired at the age of 63. He joined Coal Production in 1941, and transferred to Workshops where he has been ever since. In 1947 he became Leading Hand and later in the same year was promoted to Foreman Grade 3, the position he held at time of retirement.

At a function in Transport Workshops Canteen, Mr. R. Head, Senior Transport Maintenance Officer, presented Johnnie with an electric fan—the gift of his workmates.

Mrs. Simpson of Transport Office had written a short verse to mark the occasion and this was autographed by many colleagues.



↑MR. H.C. (CYRIL) HIBBERT, Crane Driver with Coal Production Maintenance, Yallourn, retired after 15 years continuous service on October 22. Cyril joined the Commission in 1950, left in 1952, and rejoined in 1954.

A function chaired by Mr. A.J. Tagell, Overseer, Maintenance Depot, was held in the canteen and many of Cyril's colleagues were present to wish him well. Mr. Sandy McNab, on behalf of Cyril's workmates made the presentation of a transistor radio.



↑A man who came to Australia from Cleveland (England) during the depression and arrived in the Valley in 1947, retired on November 12 after 14 years service.

MR. REG WALLEY was first with Municipal and then with Boilermakers Section, retiring as a Trades Assistant in this section.

A keen gardener he also played an active part in community af-

fairs, and at the farewell over 300 workmates were present to wish him well.

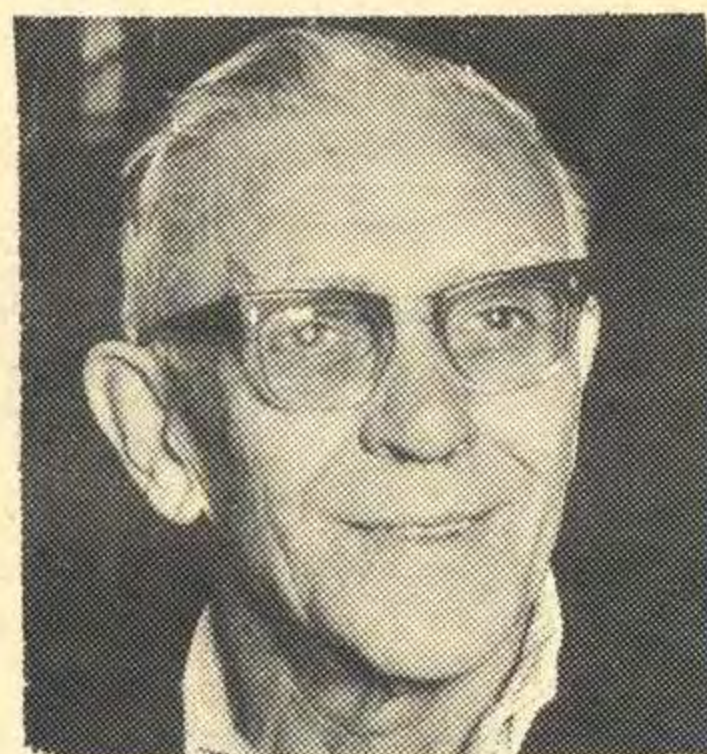
He was presented with a travelling rug, pair of secateurs, fountain pen, kitchen cutlery set, fishing gear, a folding table and chairs and an S.E.C. tie.



↑After 21 years service, MR. J.J. BRIDGEMAN (JACK), Stores Assistant, Yallourn, retired on November 13. Jack was highly-regarded, conscientious, and willing worker, and at a function in Yallourn Main Store, he was presented with a transistor radio, travelling case, can of Courage Ale, and a birthday cake made by Miss Pat Grant and presented by the Women Cleaners.

In his retirement Jack will continue to live in Yallourn.

GOOD LUCK BOYS!



↑A pair of bedlamps and an envelope of notes was presented to MR. STEVE BLAIR at a presentation in the Shift Amenities block.

Steve who was a trades assistant with Mechanical Maintenance, Coal Division, retired after 6 year's service.

Mr. J. Tulloch, Mechanical

Maintenance Superintendent, who made the presentation thanked Steve for a job well done and said he would be missed especially by

the Coal Division first aid team, for whom he had "acted" on many occasions as the patient.

Steve and his wife will continue to live in Morwell.

MR. A. J. (ALF) BOURKE, Dry Coal Conveyor Attendant at Yallourn Briquette Works, retired after over twenty years' service on December 1.

In his younger days Alf was a keen footballer. In his retirement he intends to take up bowls.

A keen gardener, he is active in "Parents without Partners" and Yallourn Elderly Citizens Club.

At a function in the Briquette Factory Canteen he was presented with an electric razor and a wallet of notes. ↓



Over 60 friends and workmates attended a presentation at Morwell Workshops Area canteen to mark the retirement of MR. GEORGE PATERSON, Foreman Fitter, Services Division.

George, who commenced with the Commission at Kiewa as a mechanical fitter in 1948, was appointed to staff as a foreman in 1949. He then transferred to Morwell in 1959 in the same classification.

Various speakers spoke highly of George emphasizing his loyalty and helpfulness on all occasions. Mr. W. Iebb, Mechanical Services Engineer, presented George with a shaver and an overnight bag. Mrs. Paterson, who was also in attendance, was presented with a floral spray and a brooch.

Mr. and Mrs. Paterson will spend their retirement in Tasmania. ↓



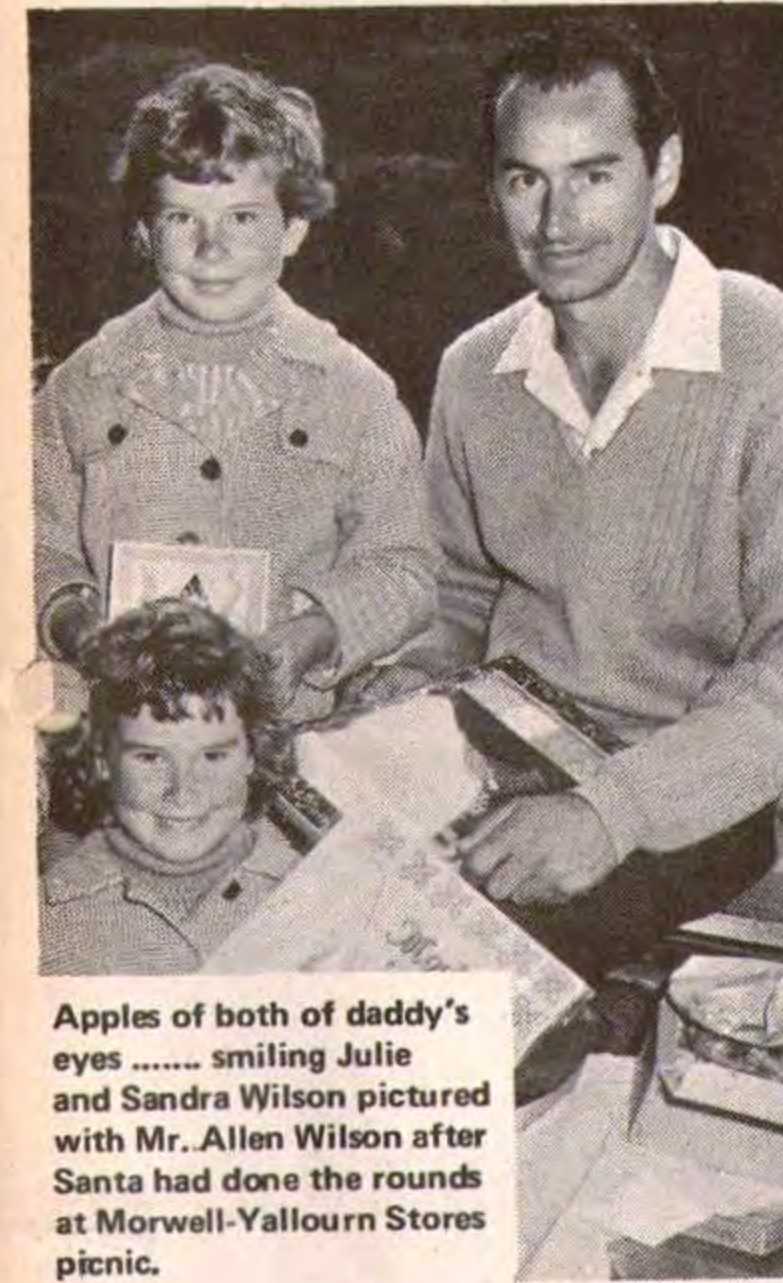
Pix from the Christmas Picnics...



Rain-Rain-go away! That's the song Robert and Christina Danek were singing at the MPS and BF picnic at APM.



Happy group at Maryvale Mill includes members of the Hudson family, Mr. A. Boarg, and (front) Susan, Michael, and John Boarg.



Apples of both of daddy's eyes smiling Julie and Sandra Wilson pictured with Mr. Allen Wilson after Santa had done the rounds at Morwell-Yallourn Stores picnic.



Displaying their "haul" for the day, Katherine Ann Smith and Tracy Lee and Joy Leann Wilkinson at Morwell and Yallourn Stores picnic.



Off for a train ride at Morwell Workshops Picnic.



Susan Woods, whose daddy's a patrolman, doesn't look too confident about Santa at Morwell PS and BF picnic. Santa just could be a second cousin to Bill Herben, rigger of MPS!



Ready for a ride at Morwell Power Station and Briquette Factory picnic, held at Maryvale Mill's reserve.



All smiles after winning ALL her age group's races is pretty four-year-old Janine Swiety, whose dad's a formsetter at Morwell Briquette Factory.

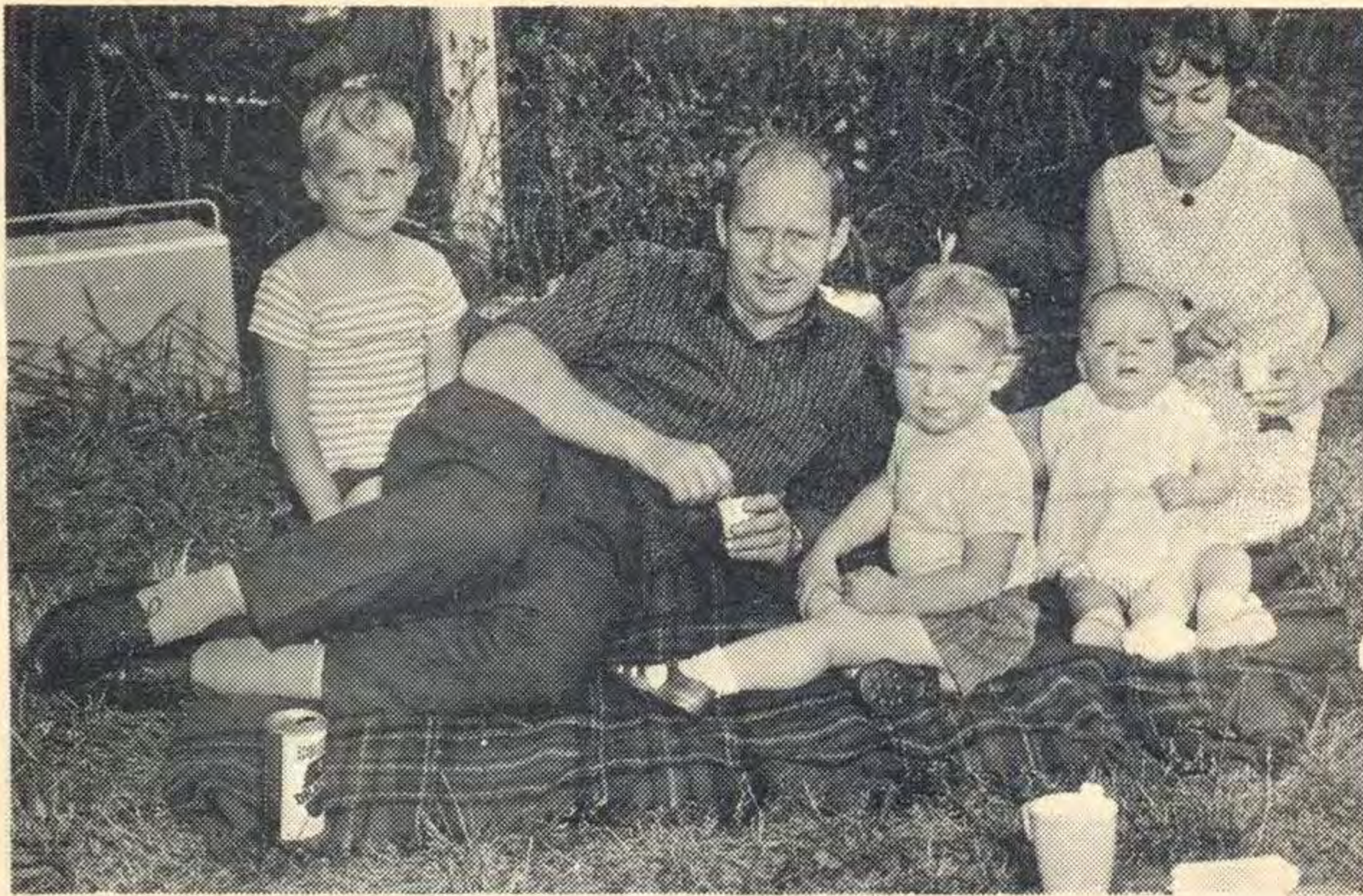


A teddy bear for baby Andrea? Mr. and Mrs. McDonald (right) have plenty of baby-sitting assistance from little 3½-year-old Heather, and Mr. and Mrs. McLeod.



Quaffing an ale at Morwell Workshops picnic are (from left) Jim Coffey, Keith Barlow, and Des McLean.

More Picnic Pix...



Grassy picnic spot at Thorpdale for Mr. and Mrs. Don Brooker and their youngsters Brendan, Paul, and Evan.



Guess what he's going to be when he grows up? Christopher Davey steams away from Nana when he sights his present at Thorpdale.



Proud prizewinners at Morwell and Yallourn Stores picnic, Thorpdale, on Sunday, December 7, are (from Left) Queen of Picnic, Mrs. Goss; ladies sprint, Miss Barker; nail-driving, Mrs. Wilson; men's sprint, Mr. Wilson; siamese race, Mr. and Mrs. Ballon.



Aimed to win!

A two-week darts competition conducted by Morwell Power Station and Morwell Briquette Factory during October was sponsored by Cambridge Cigarettes.

Sixteen teams of three members each took part during lunch-hour.

The winners received a chiming clock, set of glasses, and a tray of glasses, and the runners-up each gained a carton of cigarettes.

* PICTURED: Winners R. Farmer, D. Nickson, and J. Cauchi hold their trophies, presented by Cambridge representative Mr. K. Hansen. Front row (runners-up): R. McQuillan, G. Taylor, and W. Peter.



SAFETY SCORE

Not one tennis elbow or housemaid's knee among them! And not one lost-time injury for 101,851 working hours.

That's the proud record of the Eastern Hostel Housemaids who were presented with awards under the Region's safety scheme on October 24.

Originally there were 33 members in the group but transfers to other sections have reduced the number to 17.

Presentations of cup and saucer sets, pillow slips, and first aid kits were made by Mr A. Lynch, Regional Administrative Officer.



Transportation ((Yallourn)) a section of the Administration Division, received awards for having achieved 197,831 manhours without a lost time injury on October 24.

At the time of the presentations, - made by Mr A. Lynch Regional Administrative Officer - the figure has risen to well over 200,000 manhours.

Members of the section pictured below were presented with sets of towels, first aid kits and pillow cases.

Keeping a clean safety sheet as well as clean offices are members of the administration Division's Office Cleaners section, who have received award's for polishing off 233,545 man-hours without a lost-time injury.

Date of the achievement was June 30, and this figure is now much greater.

Presentation of first aid kits, towel sets and pillow slips were made by Mr Austin Lynch, Regional Administrative Officer, to the group's 37 men.



Something old, and....

Training of operators today is a full time job for a group located at the Training Annexe, Hazelwood Power Station.

Location is ideal: remote from the Power Station offices and from interruptions of routine activities, but close enough for frequent visits to the plant, and on job training activities so vital for this type of training.

Theory alone is useless and the effective operator must know his plant inside out.

With the older and relatively simpler types of plant such as Yallourn A, B, C and D, training consisted largely of the new operator working with an experienced operator for a period and becoming familiar with the new job. In this situation we had a fireman operating the boiler, a turbine driver operating the turbine, and an electrical operator controlling electrical output of the generator. The boiler capacities ranged from 5 MW, and the turbo-generators from 12.5 MW to 50 MW.

Today the situation is vastly different with unitised plant. At Yallourn "E" the Plant Controller combines the duties of fireman and turbine driver and operates the boiler and turbine as a unit from the Plant Control Room.

At Hazelwood the Unit Controller combines the duties of fireman, turbine driver and electrical operator, and has complete responsibility for the operation of his unit.

Unit sizes are increasing from our first 120 MW units at Yallourn "E", to 200 MW at Hazelwood and to 350 MW at Yallourn "W", with even larger units planned for the future.

All of this adds up to greater responsibility for the operator and the need to give the best possible training to fit him for his duties.

Many Controls

The Unit Controller operates his unit from a Control room where he can be faced, as is the case at Hazelwood Stage 1, with over 500 individual controls and instruments, and some 350 alarm fascias. He must be fully aware of the purpose of each control and the effects of its operation, interpret the indications of each instrument, and understand the implication of each alarm indication and take corrective action.

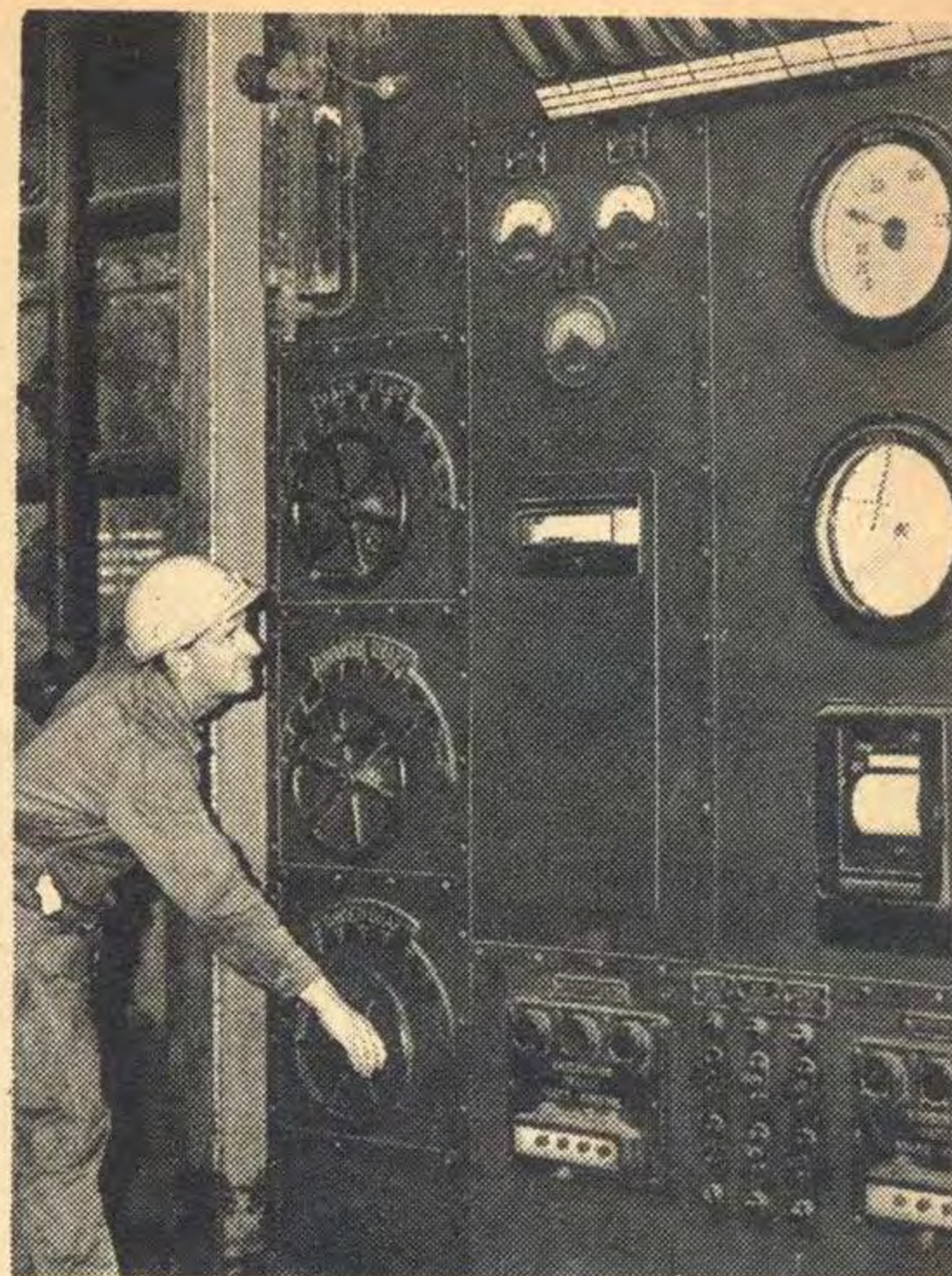
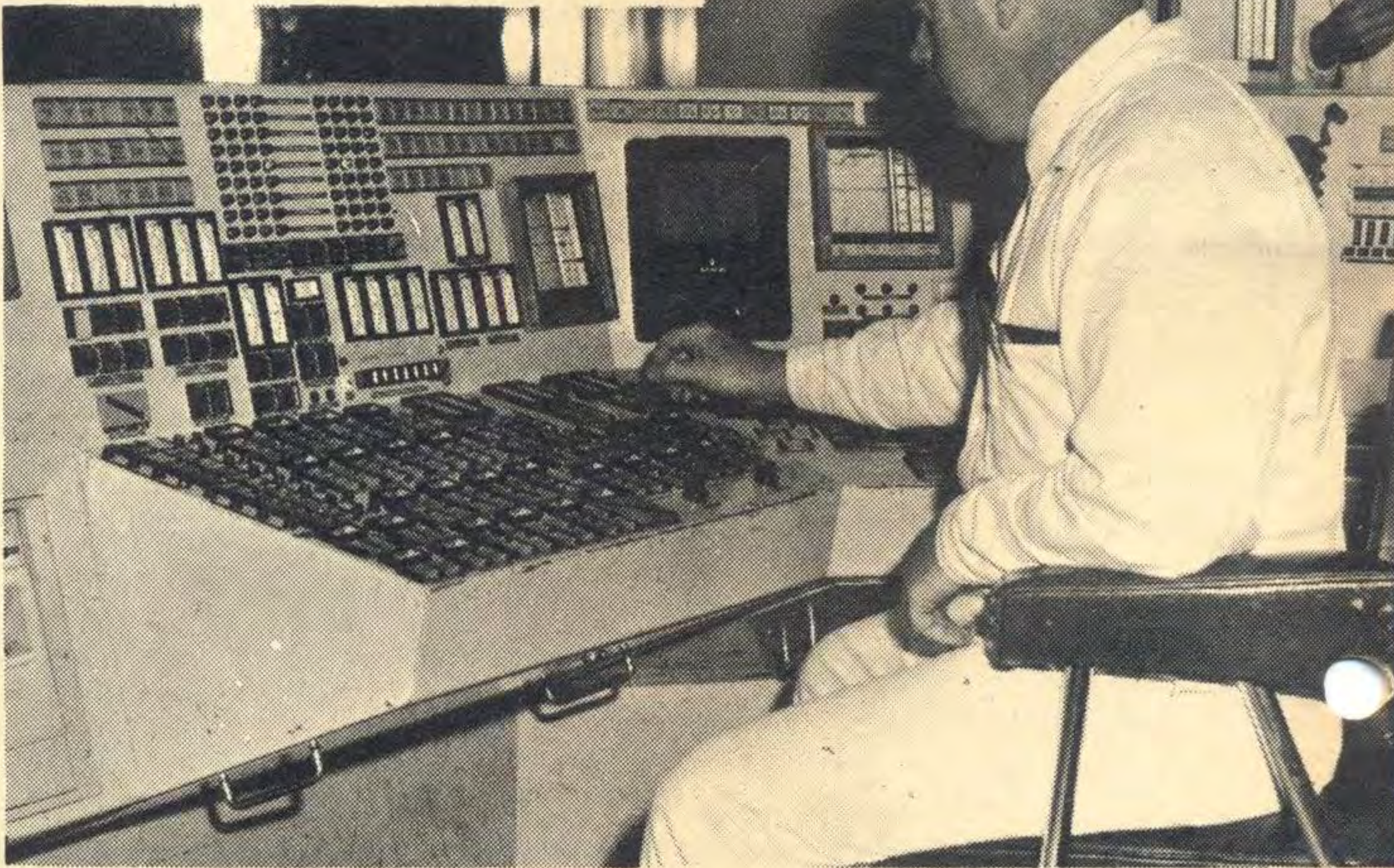
As the Unit Controller does all this in a control room remote from the actual plant, it is vital he has a thorough knowledge of the plant under his control. A wrong action can mean the shut down of

tor of yesterday.

They also illustrate the very rapid changes that now take place in control technology. Each stage of Hazelwood comprises two 200 MW units and yet the control arrangements are vastly different. In Stage 111 the controls and the instruments are all miniaturised and controlling a unit from a control desk such as this requires an even greater understanding of plant behaviour than with previous arrangements.

In Stage 1 for instance the control switch for a 3000 H.P. boiler feed pump is

... something new!



* ABOVE: Yallourn 'B' Station boiler room control panel. BELOW: Hazelwood No. 2 control panel.

a unit possibly for a lengthy period.

In the event of a Hazelwood 200 MW unit being shut down the cost of generating that power from less efficient plant is at the present time in excess of \$10,000 per day. This is big money and fully justifies the efforts that we now put into training.

Changes in Control Arrangements

The photos of the two control panel arrangements illustrate the arrangements in Yallourn "B" and Hazelwood Stage 111, clearly showing how much more complex are duties today compared with the operation of a sizeable item requiring a very definite action to start or stop the pump; with the miniaturised arrangement the lightest touch on a control button will carry out the

same operation. The feeling of power is not there but the operator must realise the power under his control.

Plant Check List

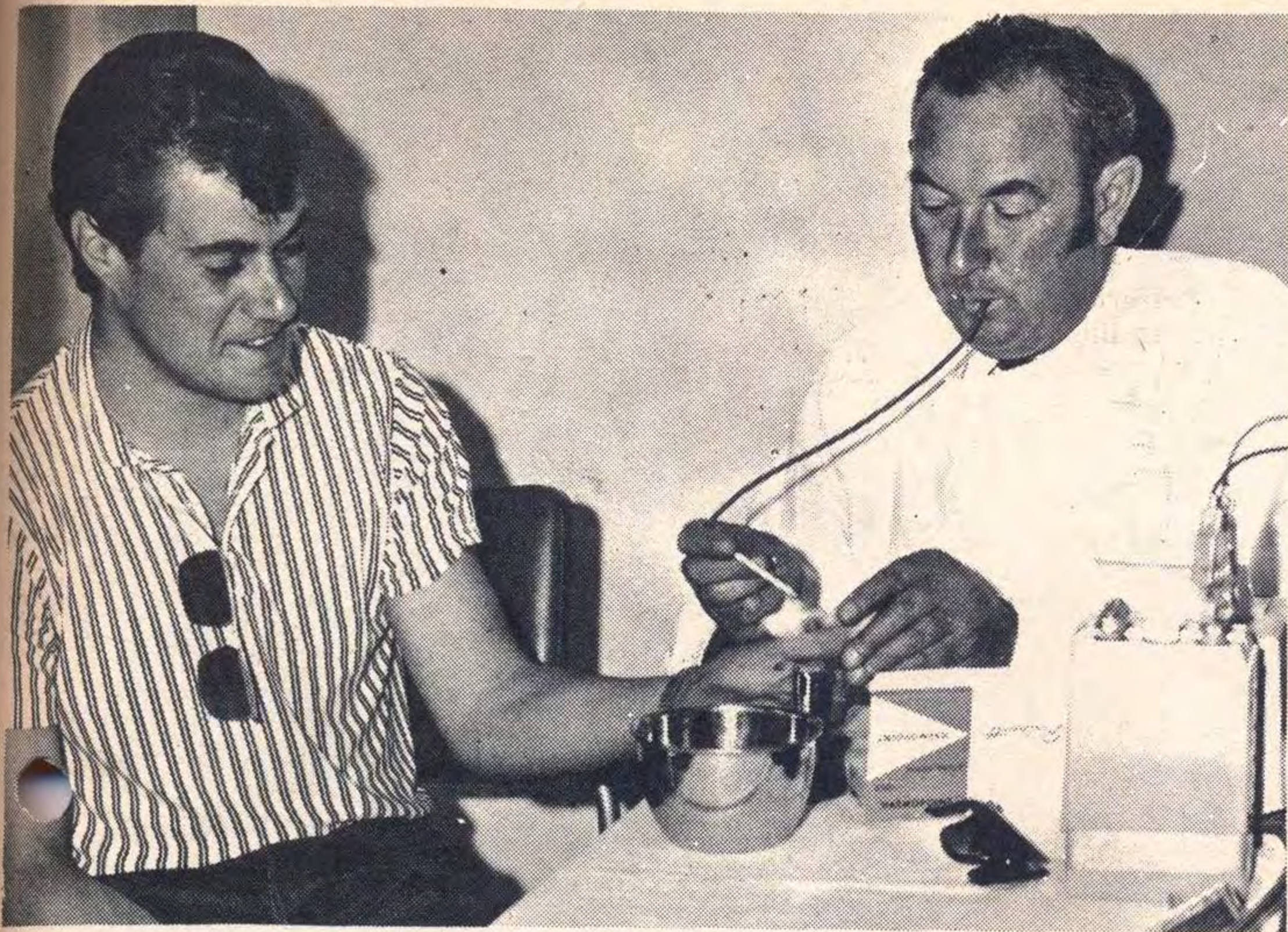
To enable the Unit Controller to operate from the Control Room a plant check list is provided covering all items of equipment remote from the control room. A completed checked list indicates to the Unit Controller that all systems are "GO". A check list for one unit comprises some 1500 individual items.

The careful and accurate checking of these items is one duty of a Unit Attendant. Unit Attendants work remotely from the control room and are sometimes referred to as the



MR. BOB OWEN presents the first of two parts in his article on training for a modern power plant.

Two "vital" days in December!



Important days in the Morwell/Hazelwood area were December 9 and 10, because on those two days the "Blood Bank" Service Unit of Red Cross, paid its annual visit to the Commission's Works Area, with a very gratifying response from donors.

It is nearly ten years since the first visit and because of the human regard for the well-being of others, many hundreds of pints of vital life-saving blood have been donated by our personnel.

Red Cross Medical Officer, Dr. Adam Chojnowski, said, "I wish to thank all SEC personnel who by their repeated response make our visits here so very successful.

"It is a very comforting thought to know we can be assured of well in excess of 100 donors on each of these occasions.

* Morwell Workshops trades assistant Mr. Herbert Lackas gives his donation of blood to the Red Cross with the assistance of Mr. Doug Knight.

particularly at this time of the year when blood can be so desperately needed in emergencies created by the forthcoming holiday period."

Also, of course, there is an organised monthly blood bank group of our personnel who donate to the Latrobe Valley Community Hospital.

Some of these people have contributed in excess of 35 pints of blood over the years and have received recognition from the Australian Red Cross Society for their generosity.

Should you wish to become a donor, Mr. Rod Doig on extension 3425 will be pleased to hear from you.

Something old

Continued from page 12

hands, eyes, ears and nose of the Unit Controller.

The Unit Controller in his control room cannot use his normal senses in his appraisal plant performance, he must rely on the Unit Attendant for this. The Unit Attendant must therefore know his plant thoroughly, be able to detect malfunctions, and take corrective action where necessary.

Staff Operating Positions

Today there are three main staff operating classifications, Unit Controller, Assistant Unit Controller and Unit Attendant. A unit power station operates with a Unit Controller in charge of each unit. Assistant Unit Controllers, who in addition to normal duties involving access permit procedure, electrical isolations, assisting the Unit Controllers etc., are also fully trained to take over the unit controls as required, and Unit Attendants.

In control of the station on a shift basis is the Charge Engineer - a man with many years of experience in the operation of the power station plant.

Entry to the staff operating positions is usually at Unit Attendant level and entry at this level is open to all irrespective of existing occupation. Previous operating experience is obviously a considerable advantage but is not essential.

There are many Unit Attendants and some Assistant Unit Controllers now operating at Hazelwood who were tradesmen, clerks, draftsmen, etc., before entering Unit Attendant training which began in 1966.

A significant number of F E D F A men from older plants have entered these new operating positions and this has been of great assistance to both the men themselves and the Commission in meeting the inevitable changes resulting from retirement of obsolete plant.

* Part 2 Next Issue.

Cheerio Austin!



After 40 years of service with the Commission
MR. AUSTIN LYNCH,

Regional Administrative Officer, Latrobe Valley Region, retired on Friday November 28.

Several functions were arranged so that his many colleagues and friends could mark the occasion and wish him well in his retirement.

Speakers praised Mr. Lynch's work for the Commission and special mention was made of his unceasing efforts, over several years, for the community of Yallourn and his interest in music and sport in the Latrobe Valley.

The Commission has marked its appreciation of Austin's work by recording a minute on its books.

From his friends and col-

leagues he received albums of classical records and he was also presented with a painting of Thom's Bridge, the work of Mrs. Peter Duncan, well known local artist.

MR. J. R. (JACK) DRISCOLL, Leading Hand Welder, retired on November 13 after over 40 years service. Of this, 36 years was continuous. A large gathering assembled in the Social Club of which he was a foundation member and former secretary.

Speakers were full of praise for Jack's work and his interest in the Social Club. He was presented with an electric clock, a car transistor radio, and an S.E.C. tie.



A fishing rod and reel was presented to MR. W. J. (BILL) ABERY, ash plant attendant at Yallourn Power Station, when he retired after 34 years service on November 26.

Bill, who has not been enjoying the best of health, will continue to reside in Yallourn North.



THIS IS WAR, THE POLICE TELL SCRAP METAL CROOKS

By Martin Beesley

Furnaces burning in the night melting stolen pipe and wire . . . men

tell if a man is trying to said: "We don't usually while working or return palm off some "hot" buy if we think it is at night to steal it. Des

"Why not? It's only S.E.C. stuff!"

These are famous second-last words. Second-last? Yes. The last words are "You're sacked, Jack!" Or, in official terms — "Your services are terminated". These words have ended the jobs of five employees of this Region in this year alone.

The reason? Bluntly, it's THEFT.

Often enough, it starts with a careless attitude toward the possessions of what is seen as a large, wealthy, impersonal organisation and this attitude is not confined to people in the Commission, but what happens in the Commission and particularly in this Region is what we have to look at — now.

Let's start with this summary of reported thefts, for the Region alone, between January and November this year:

Materials Stolen	Numbers of Thefts	Value \$
Brass, Copper etc.	9	1,578
Vehicle and Plant Fittings	26	497
Tools, Equipment, Materials	27	1,238
	62	\$3,313



This article by
MR. NEVILLE THOMPSON
Regional Administration
Officer

Surprised? Well over the past 14 months the Commission as a whole has suffered losses by theft, of \$25,000 worth of metals.

The range of items stolen is truly amazing. It includes brass and copper fittings from fire hoses and equipment, the absence of which in a sudden emergency could hazard not only property but even the life of the thief's workmates.

Even more contemptible is the theft of tools from a fellow worker.

Thirteen groups was certainly not an unlucky number to receive safety awards from Assistant Manager Mr. Graham Black when Yallourn Briquette Works chalked up a total of 177,000 man-hours without a disabling injury.

In fact by the time the safety pennant and awards were presented on November 10 the figure had grown to a quarter of a million man-hours.

PICTURED are two of the 13 groups from Mechanical Maintenance.

The record shows a marked seasonal rise in the theft of bits and pieces useful in holiday recreations, such as caravan fittings, flash-lights, safety chains, wheels, tyres and so on.

Not infrequently the proven thief is a man who would never see himself as such, who trains his children in honesty, who would never stoop to theft from an individual but who has a fatal flaw in his view of the Commission's property.

It is only when such a man has to face his wife and his children with the catastrophe of his lost job and their lost family security that he appreciates how society at large views his conduct.

All of us with any length of service know quite well that the Commission is remarkably tolerant of oddities of personality and conduct. But it cannot tolerate misappropriation of its materials and equipment, no matter how trivial any item might seem.

The Commission has a duty to the people of Victoria, to all of us who read this, to safeguard its property against the termite effect of theft, from within as firmly as it does from without.

Record appeal

The recent annual appeal conducted throughout the Commission's Latrobe Valley Region for the Victorian School for Deaf Children resulted in a record amount of \$507.35 being contributed by our personnel.

While all are to be thanked for their generosity, Morwell Power Station people in particular are to be commended for their effort in contributing over \$100 of this amount.

Mr. Arch Porter of Admin. Division, presented the cheque on behalf of the Commission to Mrs. P. A. Hill, Secretary of the Central Gippsland Auxiliary for the appeal, who expressed her most sincere thanks to all concerned.

Spark-a- arkaling!



KERKVLIT, Liz (Admin.) Power Station Yallourn, to LOWTH Jim, (Accounting) Stores Financial, Yallourn.

Saturday a.m. E S D opening for Moe

Following excellent public support for Saturday morning trading at Morwell electricity supply district office, Gippsland Electricity Branch recently extended this additional service to the Moe district.

Gippsland E.S. Branch Manager, Mr. H. J. Trevenen told Contact that the Branch was a live business organisation willing and anxious to serve the public at all times.

"As a result of the increased number of working wives, many buying decisions are being made by the 'family' on Saturday morning and we should be ready to cater for the business arising from these decisions", said Mr. Trevenen.

"We also wish to cater for the increased business in regional shopping districts on Saturday mornings, due to the operation of supermarkets and the convenience of car transport for most families, and to obtain the benefit of heavy appliance advertising in Friday evening newspapers."

The showroom will be open between 9.00 a.m. and 12 noon, and will provide the usual SEC showroom and office service.



* Mr. Herb Trevenen

CHRISTMAS COMES BUT ONCE A YEAR.... AND WHEN IT DOES IT BRINGS GOOD CHEER....

It also brings the frustrating annual experience of gazing into shop windows, looking for the perfect gift and wondering if you've made the right choice.

You will, of course, want to give something of quality; something dependable; something that will give pleasure on Christmas day and every day of the year.

SOLVE YOUR PROBLEM: GIVE SOMETHING ELECTRICAL

From the wide variety of electrical gifts, here are some suggestions listed under price groups.

UNDER \$10

Alarm Clocks
Bedlamps
Door chimes
Drink heaters
Hair curlers
Irons
Jugs
Soldering Irons
Table lamps
Toasters



UNDER \$20



Alarm Clocks
Can openers
Coffee percolators
Drink Heaters
Door chimes
Frypans
Hair clippers
Hair dryers
Kettles
Shavers

UNDER \$30

Exhaust fans
Food Mixers
Frypans
Power tools
Shavers
Steam irons
Waffle irons
Wall clocks
Deep fryer
Portable hotplates



UNDER \$50



Floor polishers
Food blenders
Food warmers
Juice extractors
Portable grillers
Radios
Record players
Vacuum cleaners

GOING CAMPING THIS SUMMER??????

You'll find that most caravan parks have 230 volt. So don't forget the jug, toaster, frypan and of course an extension cord.

Make sure, too, that all your electrical equipment is in good order.

However, if you have forgotten anything or are in any doubt about your appliances, make for your nearest Electricity Supply Showroom, where you will receive our usual:

**SERVICE — EFFICIENCY —
COURTESY**

Give something dependable this Christmas.

GIVE SOMETHING ELECTRICAL!!!

carter's column



* From left; Messrs Ricky Crookes (Technical Training Officer) Administration Secretary, Doug McKenzie (Base Workshops, Yallourn) Race Secretary; Tom Carter (Electrical Services) President; Bob Whitford (Yallourn Power Station) and Kenton Smith (Personnel); Club coaches, make plans for Monash Cycle Club's coming track season. The Club, formed a few weeks ago, provides racing for lads and seniors from Yallourn North; Yallourn; Newborough and Moe at the John Field racetrack, Newborough.



Yallourn football fans dubbed him "Fearless Fred" but local cricket enthusiasts prefer "Demon" Debono. Playing in the Central Gippsland team and for his local Morwell Club, many batsmen claim "Demon" spins with satanic glee as he makes his "wicket" gains.

Begorra! It could be that the Newborough Football Club, known far and wide as the "Bulldogs of the Bush" are about to change that nom de guerre to the "Irish Terriers". For its Gordon Cantwell of Yallourn Power Station and Denis Hallinan of Coal they've appointed President and Secretary and two "fightness" Irish it be hard to find when it comes to dedication to a job. So whether it be Bulldogs or Terriers - for sure - Newborough will have "bite" this coming season.

This column is conscious that its a great big mixed up world' and there are two Yallourn identities doing their best to confuse; Arthur Oliver, whose interest is bicycles, and Alan Robinson, whose interest is motor cars, are the donors of a quarterly challenge Trophy between Yallourn and Newborough soccer teams who compete on Yallourn Golf course with the little white ball! Pass the aspirin!

CRICKET:- You have two sides; one out in the field and the other In. Each man that's in the side that's

in goes out until he's out, then he comes in and so on, until the side that's in is out, then the side that's been in goes out, until they're all out; then they come in. When both sides have been In and Out twice the game's over.

Incidentally, Soccer Players, if you want to play in the challenge matches mentioned above contact Bert Chopping Assistant Charge Engineer, Yallourn Power Station. They say there's a tough tussle between Yallourn and Newborough United all the way to the 19th.

The Monash Cycle Club could almost be termed an "SEC house club"; its officials (pictured above) are all Commission personnel and bring a wealth of experience to the Valley's newest sporting club.

Ricky Crooks only non-racing cyclist, (he used the bike as a touring medium), brings a lot of administration ability, from such organisations as Jaycees and Scouting; is placing the club on a sound business footing.

Doug McKenzie, as racing secretary, had early success on the bike as member of Footscray Amateur Club riding as an "A" Grade junior. His career was interrupted by two years military service, and, with shift work, never quite got back into the game. Young "Doug" shows promise of taking up where Dad left off.

Tom Carter, as president, has spent a lifetime in sport being better known in recent years as a writer. Rode with the Ballarat Amateurs back in the

"hungry thirties" mainly as track rider around Western Victoria.

Fifty four-year-old Bob Whitford, still speeding on the track weekly, and a difficult man to beat, is the living example of the health-giving qualities of cycle racing. Mainly a road rider, Bob has been placed twice in the "Warrnambool" and won his first club championship in the top country club, Maryborough, way back in 1938. No slouch on the track either, Bob won the Newmarket wheel race on the old North Essendon track.

Austral Wheel Race winner (one of the toughest races in Australia to win), Kenton Smith, brother of the present Australian Sprint Champion, is well versed to give the young plenty of 'Know-how' in the bike game. Commenced his career with the Brunswick Amateurs as a 14 year-old, he has raced against the best in Australia.

Bob and Kenton are available to riders or aspiring riders, for advice and coaching at the John Field Track each Wednesday.

Vern Collings of Industrial and a Yallourn senior scout leader, does not claim rock climbing as a sport - but, believe you me, its one way to toughen up for any sport. The scouts call it an adventurous activity (the under-statement of the month?). And where do they do this (as if you're interested to take part)? Wait for it: Hanging Rock and Sugar Loaf Peak! To Vern and his boys, my warmest admiration; but man, there's got to be an easier way to get fit.