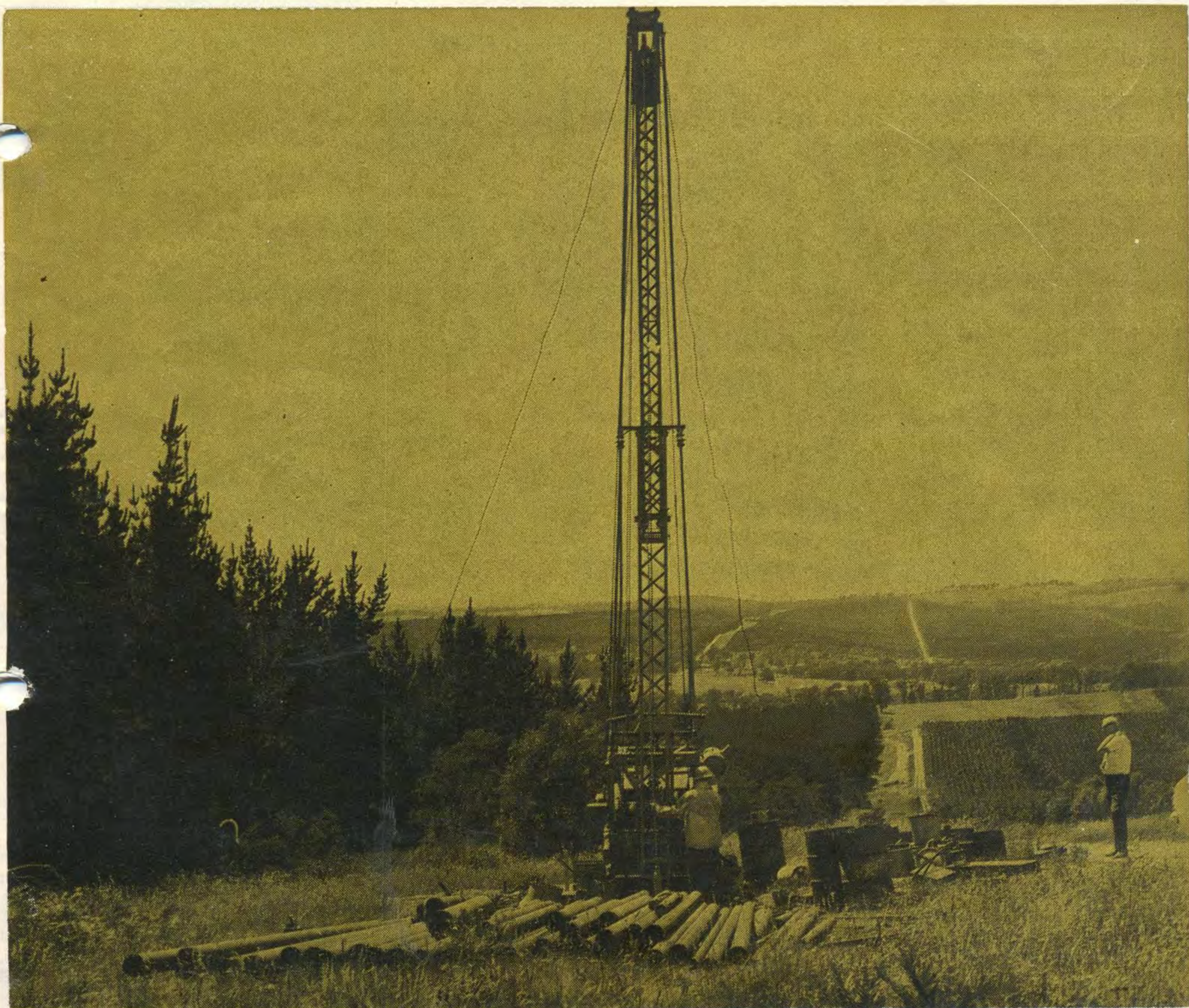


Shorey

contact

THE STATE ELECTRICITY COMMISSION LATROBE VALLEY REGION MAGAZINE FEBRUARY, 1971



WHERE WILL NEXT VALLEY POWER STATION BE?

It has been announced that field works for a base load power station in the Valley will start some time in 1973.

That such a station will be built is certain. What has not yet been decided is where the station will be built.

The choice at present seems to lie between Morwell or Hazelwood on

IMPORTANT NEWS

for you and your family

SEE COLOURED SHEET INSIDE

one hand and Loy Yang on the other. These are not the only possibilities, however, and extensive field testing has been carried out by the Exploration and Geological Group at Tom's Bridge, the Narracan/Driffild area and Flynn.

(Continued on Page 2)

Where Will Next Valley Power Station Be?

(Continued from Page 1)

Many factors have to be taken into consideration when attempting to make any decision as to the site of the

Loy Yang

High Capital Cost.

New open cut to be developed.

A number of new dredgers needed.

New roads and services to be established—workshops, security, administration, etc.

Purchase of land and problems with owners.

A dam for water requirements would have to be built. Any such dam would have limited capacity, so future expansion would involve more capital for erecting cooling towers.

Time lag to fill dam and establish open cut prior to completion of Power Station.

Possible adverse public reaction to pollution problems caused by dam or cooling towers.

Almost unlimited amount of good quality coal as far as is known at present. (Extensive testing is necessary for comprehensive evaluation).

The testing of brown coal from a possible Loy Yang field presents problems. For example, should tests be carried out in existing boilers and, if so, where? If existing boilers were used, the quantity of coal required to carry out a meaningful test programme would necessitate a reasonably major mining operation.

If tests were carried out in a small-scale boiler, would the results obtained necessarily apply to large boilers?

As you can appreciate, these questions are not the kind that can be answered without careful and comprehensive analysis.

Moreover, it does not end there. Turbines are the heart of a power station, but what size turbines are the most efficient? 500 MW turbines are being advocated in some quarters as the best available, but the performance to date of those in service has been far from satisfactory. Some two months ago the world record for a 500 MW turbine generator was 113 days of continuous operation. As we have learned only too well—the trouble-plagued F111 is a good example—there can be a great deal of difference between performance on the drawing board and performance under operating conditions.

What about 350 MW turbines such

Valley's next power station. Perhaps the best way to illustrate the complexity of arriving at such a decision is to list the pros and cons as follows:

Morwell or Hazelwood 'B'

Low Capital Cost.

Open cut already exists.

Only one new dredger needed.

Existing.

Not required.

Present dam could be readily increased in capacity to cope with another station. However, the size of this station would be limited to 1,400 MW.

Existing.

Public acceptance of existing installations.

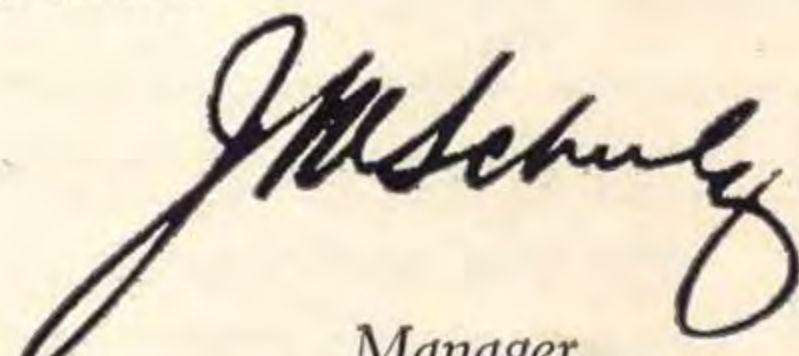
Boiler problems caused by fouling properties of coal.

as are scheduled for installation in Yallourn 'W'? These have yet to be proved under full operating conditions. Even the 200 MW turbines at Hazelwood have given their fair share of trouble and it has been our experience that size itself gives rise to its own particular problems.

What, in practice, proves to be reliable design in, say, a 100 MW turbine, does not automatically prove to be reliable design in a larger size, although theoretically it should.

There are, of course, other related problems arising out of almost all the points I have mentioned, but I think that I have detailed sufficient to give you some idea of the complexity of reaching a firm conclusion as to the specifications and location of our next base load power station in the Latrobe Valley.

I assure you that once the Commission has reached a decision regarding size and site—whether it is Morwell or Hazelwood, or Loy Yang, or possibly somewhere else—I shall let you know.



Manager,
Latrobe Valley Region



NEW TURTLE CLUB MEMBER

Bill McDonald of Technical Services Section, Yallourn Power Station, became a member of the Turtle Club on Friday, January 15.

Bill qualified for membership when a piece of conduit weighing 1¾ lb. fell 20 feet and struck him on his hard hat.

The Manager, Mr. Bill Schulz, presented Bill with his Turtle Club hat, certificate, wallet and lapel pin and congratulated him and the Technical Services Section for completing 130,000 manhours to date without a disabling injury.

Mr. Schulz also commented on the improvement in the overall safety record. "In fact," he said, "last December's figures show the best results safetywise in the history of accident prevention—less than 50 disabling injuries being recorded for the whole of the Commission."



Theft Threatens Security of Life & Plant at Hazelwood

The major catastrophe that occurred just twelve months ago at Hazelwood when fire destroyed a large part of the then newly-erected elevated conveyor system supplying coal from the Crusher House to Nos. 7 and 8 units is still fresh in everyone's memory.

In spite of this, essential components of fire fighting equipment have been stolen from the Coal Plant Area and Switchyard of Hazelwood Power Station, leaving vulnerable parts of the station without protection against fire. If a fire had developed along any of the conveyors from the Crusher House to the Boiler Bunkers, the lives of operations and maintenance personnel working in this area could have been jeopardised.

Twenty-four fire hoses along the conveyors were put out of action because the brass couplings for attaching the hoses to the water mains had been stolen. A further 20 hoses were rendered useless because brass director nozzles had been taken. In

the switchyard area, eight cabinets containing foam fire fighting equipment for electrical fires were rifled and director nozzles stolen.

Thefts of single pieces of fire fighting equipment have occurred over the years but this is the first instance of what appears to have been an organised job. The seriousness of such a large theft cannot be over-emphasised as is shown by the findings of a committee set up after the 1970 fire specifically to examine the behaviour pattern of fires in elevated galleries. A "mock-up" conveyor 60 feet long was erected complete with conveyor belt, etc., and such things observed as the rate of fire propagation, temperature rise, damage to structures and means of extinguishing fires, etc. One test showed that within eight minutes of the conveyor belt catching alight at one end the full 60ft. length was ablaze and the temperature high enough to cause structural steelwork to collapse. The most effective means

of fire protection was shown to be an automatic sprinkler system along the conveyor actuated by an automatic fire detection system and supported by fire hoses to prevent the spread of fire into other areas.

Such a system has now been installed in the reconstructed Stage 4 elevated conveyors and will be extended progressively to other stages.

The tests have shown that in the absence of an automatic sprinkler system excessive damage to belts and structures can be avoided **if fire hoses are used promptly**. If a fire hose (or series of hoses) is out of action for any reason, the time lost in obtaining the replacement could result in tragedy.

Commission and contractors' personnel alike will appreciate that the removal of such vital items as hose fittings can have drastic consequences.

All personnel are asked to report missing fittings **immediately upon discovery** so that hoses can be restored and not left in a useless condition.

OLD MINING SHAFT UNCOVERED AT

No. 7 Dredger was recently engaged in stripping overburden in the Yallourn Open Cut when it uncovered a mining shaft that no one knew was there.

Records of the early years of the brown coal industry are frequently very vague, but some persevering detective work by Eric Foote, Coal Production Superintendent, Yallourn, finally established 'whodunit'.

This particular shaft was sunk in 1889 by the Gippsland Railway Coal Mining Company in the vicinity of the Hernes Oak Railway Junction.

The well-timbered main shaft (14ft. x 6ft.) was one of three compartments, consisting of two haulage compartments of 5ft. x 6ft. section and the third compartment was a ladder and service way. The timber, which was bench sawn (4½ins. x 9ins.), was in an excellent state of preservation, although the ¾in. square spikes used to secure the 4in x 4in. arris in the corners showed the effect of the years, being rusted to smaller dimensions.

The depth of the shaft appears to have passed from the surface down to the bottom of the coal seam, some 180ft. below. The shaft was nearly full of water.

Some difficulty had been experienced by the shaft sinkers in holding back the loose ground immediately above the coal. This was evident from the amount of protective spilling timber driven into the overburden outside the area of the shaft proper.



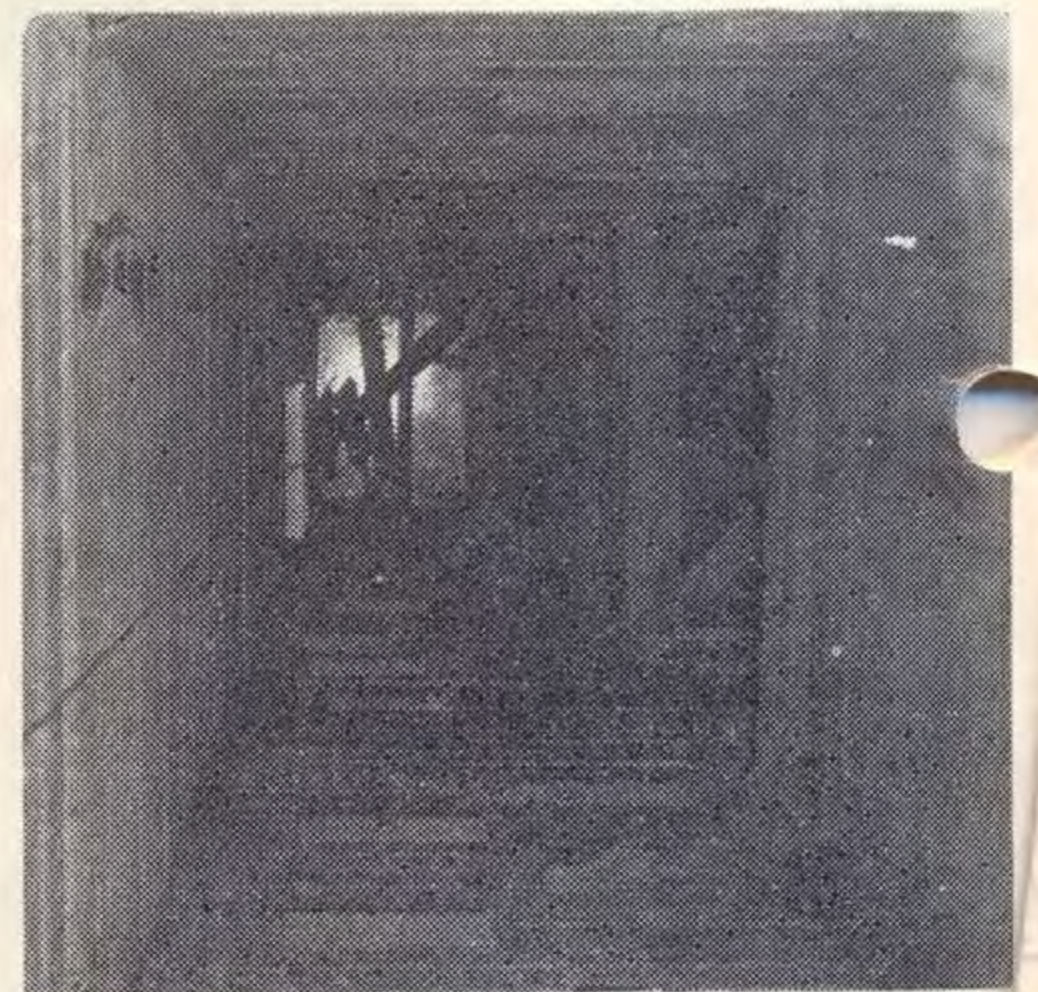
Eric Foote chats with Bill Taylor at the head of the shaft. Bill, an ex-Foreman at Yallourn Open Cut who retired in 1950, and whose knowledge of the area goes back to 1911, had no recollection of any mining activity in the area.



The Hernes Oak Junction was situated on the then main Gippsland Line, and from this location a railway line travelled across the top of the present Yallourn Open Cut and was used for transporting coal from the Brown Coal Mine north of the Latrobe River (this mine was later known as the Yallourn North Open Cut). Subsequently, a railway line was constructed from the Yallourn Briquette Factory to Hernes Oak Junction. None of these railway lines exist at present because they had to be removed to enable the Yallourn Open Cut to expand into this area.

During the steam train era the Victorian Railways used to pump water from the shaft into a water storage tank for the use of the steam locomotives.

No information is available as to the use made of the brown coal from this shaft, but very little was used domestically in those early years due to the ease with which firewood could be obtained. Attempts were made to make briquettes, but difficulty was experienced in obtaining sufficient



Interior of the main shaft. The water level, after some pumping, is approximately 150 feet below ground level. Staging cleats still attached to wall plates indicate that shaft did not reach the operating stage.

compaction to keep the briquette whole. The coal was used in emergency as fuel when there was a shortage of black coal; and a mix of brown coal and clay was broken and used locally as internal building bricks for partitions in dwellings. It was not sufficiently weather resistant for use on external walls.

YALLOURN OPEN CUT



se Keith and Harry Godridge, whose grandparents kept the pub at the old Morwell Bridge township, told Eric Foote that their parents spoke of shafts in the area. According to their memories, the shaft was burnt out by fire and the area became known as the Black Forest.

VALLEY VISITORS IN 1970

During the year 1970, 70,249 visitors were conducted over the Commission's Latrobe Valley Region.

The numbers were made up as follows:

School Children	19,824
Organised Parties	4,720
Casual Visitors	39,107
Special Visitors	2,017
Visitors' Centre Only	4,581

TOTAL 70,249

During the past three years the Public Liaison Section has recorded visitors from 74 different countries.

BROWN COAL STILL MAIN FUEL FOR A.P.M.

The recent announcement that A.P.M. intends to use natural gas in its Maryvale Pulp and Paper Mill has apparently given rise to some speculation as to the future of Yallourn North Extension Open Cut.

Last June A.P.M. signed the largest individual sales contract ever written by the Commission for the supply of brown coal and briquettes.

The agreement, which covers a five-year period, provides for the supply to A.P.M. of 23,500 tons of briquettes and from 350,000 to 375,000 tons of coal each year.

Brown coal will continue to be used as the major fuel at A.P.M.'s Maryvale and Fairfield mills.

Commission Employees Raise Money for Deaf Children Victorian School

The Central Gippsland Auxiliary of the Victorian School for Deaf Children wishes to thank all Commission employees who donated money to the 1969-70 appeal.

The Auxiliary raised in all \$1,100 for the Deaf School in Melbourne, of which \$592.51 was given by the men and women of the Commission.

Money raised annually in the Gippsland area helps towards the costs of renovations to the 100 years' old stone building which serves as the boarders' quarters for the School for Deaf Children. It also helps provide amenities for these children, several of whom are from the Latrobe Valley, who are living away from their homes and families.



Entrance to the drive shaft that connects with main vertical shaft. The water was in process of being drained when this photograph was taken.

Over the past few months staff personnel will have noticed that the old familiar forms for leave applications, and payment of allowances (overtime, travelling, etc.) have been replaced by forms with yellow columns or panels—some forms being somewhat similar to the old, some varying in quite a few respects.

The first new form to be introduced in the new layout was a Personal Information Form, which all staff personnel were requested to complete. The next change was that the Bus Fare Subsidy Returns were to be submitted weekly rather than fortnightly. Then came the new Application for Leave form, with its yellow squares, and more importantly, provision for a letter suffix after the officer number (which also appeared on your salary pay advice)—more about the yellow squares and the officer number suffix later. The Travelling Allowance forms

years and this method has been satisfactory, it has been realised that the provision of more information on the Salary Pay Advice would be of benefit to both the officer and the Commission. But, as stated previously, the previous computers did not have the capacity to accumulate and store all the information required.

Now that this can be done, the Salary Pay Advices will change.

* All Salary Pay Advices will be the secretive type—the same form being used for cash, bank and cheque payments.

* Each officer's Salary Pay Advice will include:

- details of the standard base salary and each standard allowance (e.g. higher duty, shift premium, weekend penalty, etc.) totalled to show Gross Pay;
- details of all variations (overtime hours paid, excess travelling

Returns, Applications for Leave, etc., will be forwarded to the data processing installation in bundles or batches, each batch having its own cover or face sheet with provision for detail corresponding to the yellow panels of the form.

Notice that the yellow squares are only used for figures and not letters. As figures are capable of being added, the figures in each panel are treated as if they were whole numbers and added by a calculator operator, the total for each panel in the batch being entered in the corresponding panels of the face sheet. As all these different types of information are converted or "hashed" into numbers, this total is called a "hash" total.

The details of each form in the batch are then punched into cards.

The computer, in processing the punched cards, adds the information which had been punched from the

New Forms Give More Pay Information

changed from a sectional return fortnightly to a weekly return for each individual staff member. Last, overtime forms have also changed from fortnightly to weekly—and the opportunity has been taken to introduce a combined daily claim for meal allowances and overtime, as one is quite often consistent with the other.

What do all these changes mean?

Basically, it is due to combining three sets of records into one, and making further use of the facilities available on the Commission's newest computer.

Previously, a separate set of records has been kept for each staff member for salary calculations, for personnel records and for Provident Fund administration purposes. Although these records have not been identical, each set has had many details which were recorded also in one or the other or both sets. Therefore, when the capacity of the new computer could cope with the volume of storage required, it was decided to combine or integrate all these details into one composite record.

This integration of these records will naturally change the type of recording now carried out for personnel records, provident fund records and salary calculations. However, these are behind the scene activities. The results of the integration will be most evident to staff personnel in their Salary Pay Advices.

Although the salary payroll has been processed on a computer for some

or the description of other "one-time" payments) with dates "from" and "to";

- sick and recreation leave balances, together with a notation if annual leave requirements have not been fulfilled;
- notification of appointments, re-classifications and routine increments with the appropriate date.

* Salaries paid in cash will be rounded to the next dollar above, the amount advanced being deducted from the next fortnight's salary.

Now for some brief explanations on the layout and colouring of the various forms and the reason for some of the requirements.

Many of the panels on the forms have two numbers in small type at the top left-hand and top right-hand corners. As the input of information to the computer is by the medium of a punched card, these numbers are to show the operator where to place the information on the card being punched for that particular record.

Why are some squares or panels yellow?

Primarily, they are a visual aid for a calculator operator to easily pick out only those figures to be used for a "hash" total to assist in proving that all the details on the forms have been punched correctly into a punch card.

How is this proof achieved?

Firstly, keep in mind that all the forms, whether they be Overtime

yellow panels and also arrives at a "hash" total.

Seeing that all "hash" totals match is sufficient proof that all the required information that has been processed in the computer is correct.

The letter suffix after the officer number, and now appearing on Salary Pay Advices, is also a control medium to ensure that the correct record is updated. Incorrect use of the suffix could delay payment for allowances or cause personal inconvenience when a prepayment is required.

Why are the returns to be submitted weekly, rather than fortnightly?

The reason is so that staff personnel may receive prompter payment for allowance entitlements. The length of the period between the time of entitlement and payment is governed by whether the entitlement occurs during the salary pay week or the "off-pay" week. Whilst any entitlement occurring in the "off-pay" week will not be paid any earlier, those in the salary pay week will be paid two weeks earlier.

The planning for the integration of the three sets of records is nearing completion and introduction of the system in its entirety is expected within the next few months. By progressively introducing the new forms, all appropriate personnel will be familiar with the input documents and thereby help ensure that the change-over is effected smoothly.

Meet Your Union Representatives

BERT SPACKMAN

Bert Spackman, Secretary of the Gippsland Sub-Branch of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, has been with the Commission for the whole of the twenty years has lived in Australia.

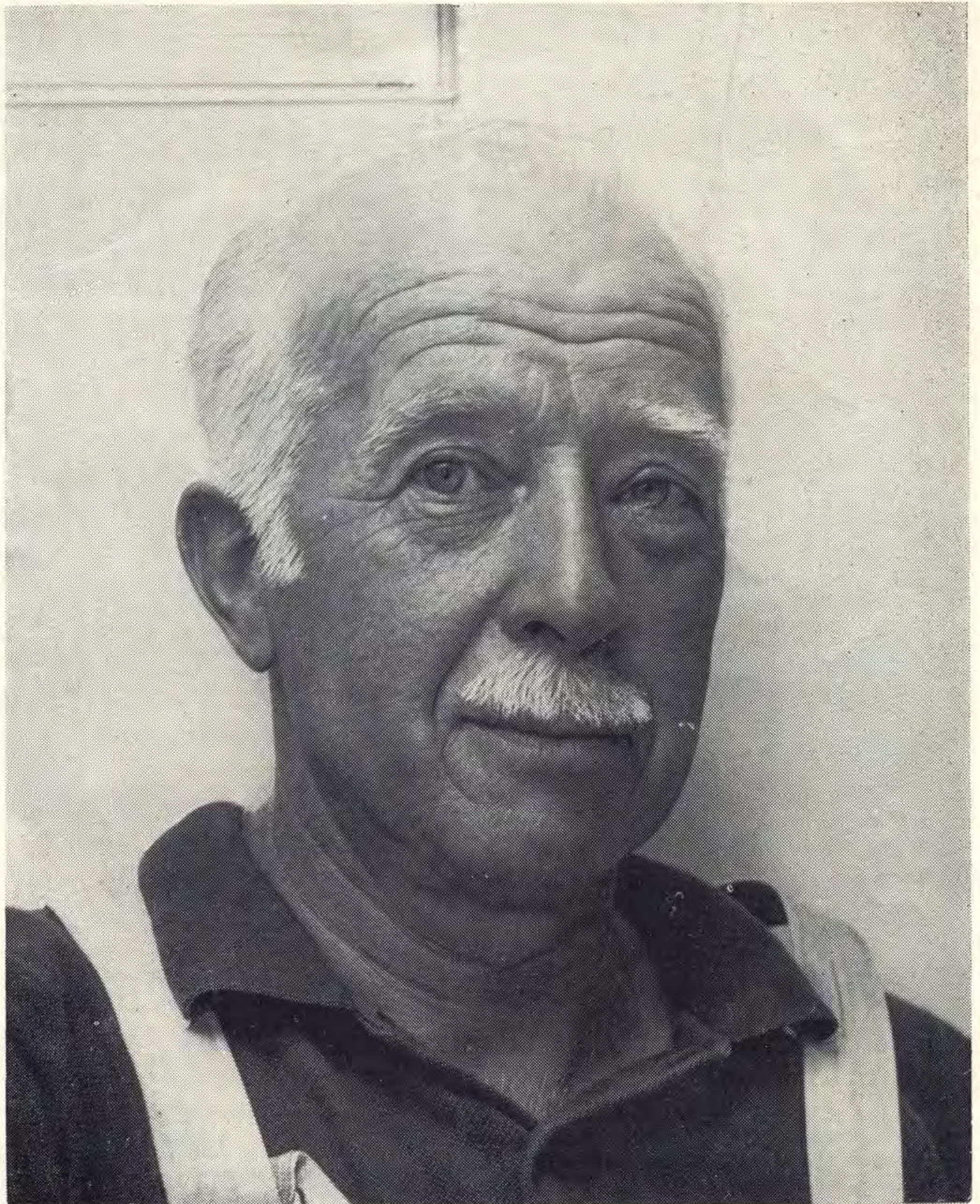
Bert, a Leading Hand Carpenter with General Services, Yallourn, was one of the skilled tradesmen whom the Commission hired in the U.K. and brought out to Australia in the post World War II years.

During the war, Bert served with the Royal Engineers in the Middle East—Egypt, the Sudan and Eritrea, where he worked in Movement Control and helped to run a railroad.

Bert has always taken a keen interest in union affairs and, when working in the U.K. was usually Job Steward. Two years after his arrival in Australia, Bert became Gippsland Representative of the A.S.C. & J. and, in 1954 was elected Secretary, a position that he has held continuously ever since.

A keen gardener, Bert has carried off prizes in most classes of the Yallourn Horticultural Society's annual shows where he has been a member for twenty years.

Bert has been a member of the Country Fire Authority, also for twenty



years, and has done a lot to ensure the success of the Boy Scout movement in the area. He is Camp Warden of the McDonald Scouts area at Erica at present.

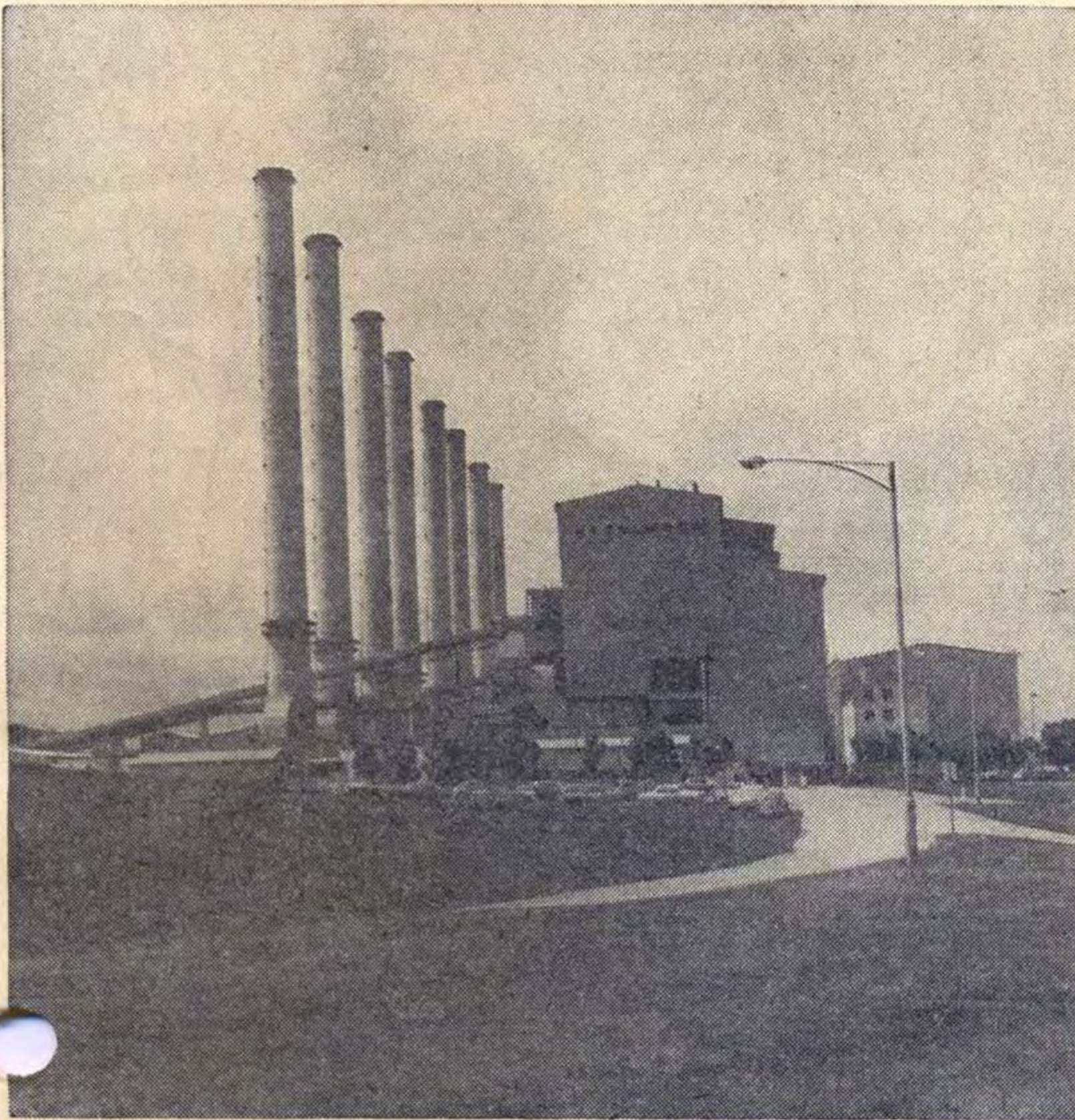
The Spackman family were among the first to live in Newborough and Bert's wife, Margaret, is, if anything, better known throughout the area than is Bert himself. More widely known as 'Sister Spacky', Bert's wife has worked as a nursing sister for

18 years, first at Yallourn and now at the Newborough Health Centre.

Bert's daughter, Judith, lives at Traralgon and his son, Nick, also works for the Commission as an Operator at Hazelwood Power Station.

Bert, incidentally, has a unique claim to fame. He was the first Commission employee in the Latrobe Valley to become a member of the Turtle Club.

**MAKE SURE YOU READ THE IMPORTANT NEWS
FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY
ON THE COLOURED INSERT**



You are invited to **FAMILY DAY AT HAZELWOOD**
on **SUNDAY, MARCH 14**

As the number of people who will attend the official opening of Hazelwood Power Station by the Premier, Sir Henry Bolte, on March 11, 1971, will, of necessity, be limited, special arrangements are being made to enable Commission personnel and their families to inspect the Station on Sunday, March 14, from 1 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

In addition, there will be a bus tour of the Morwell undertaking, including the Briquette Factory and Open Cut. There will also be a water skiing display on Hazelwood Pond by the Latrobe Valley Water Ski Club (Yallourn), whose Aqua Ballerinas and Clowns are featured attractions at shows around Victoria, including Moomba.

The Latrobe Valley Yacht Club will stage a series of races for various classes of yachts and, for those who would like a swim, there is a gently sloping sandy beach and the water is always warm.

Those wishing to bring a picnic luncheon will find facilities provided in a big marquee near the main gate of Hazelwood Power Station. Cups of tea, soft drinks and ice-cream for the children will be provided free of charge. These refreshments will be available from 12 noon to 1 p.m. and from 3.30 p.m. to 4 p.m. **only**, so please be punctual.

Families who wish to make other luncheon arrangements are requested to be at the marquee no later than 1 p.m., when the buses will leave for the tour of inspection.

To facilitate catering and transport arrangements, if you wish to attend Family Day at Hazelwood, please complete the attached form and return it no later than February 26, to the Public Liaison Section, Administration Building, Morwell.

Ample car parking facilities will be available at Hazelwood Power Station.

Tear along Perforation

S.E.C. Latrobe Valley Region

FAMILY DAY AT HAZELWOOD

on **SUNDAY, MARCH 14**

NAME:.....

SECTION:..... LOCATION:.....

NUMBER IN FAMILY: Adults.....

Children.....

RETURN TO PUBLIC LIAISON SECTION, MORWELL, BY FEBRUARY 26

SAFETY SECTION

THE SAD STORY OF THE HAUGHTY SUPERVISOR

(With acknowledgments to the 'Industrial Supervisor')

The Royal Superintendent of Pyramids was in trouble, and he knew it. He advanced to the Pharaoh's throne, bowed deeply, and said, "You wanted to see me, Sire?"

The Pharaoh gave him a sour look.

"I could do without seeing you," he said. "But you and I are going to have a little discussion."

"About three years ago I commissioned you to build a pyramid. It was supposed to be done by now. Yesterday I went out to the so-called construction site. What did I see? A Pyramid? No. I saw a scroungy little pile of rocks, not much higher than a medium-sized camel, and I saw some signs that said 'Danger'—Pyramid Under Construction—'Keep Off'. But, do you know something, I didn't see any pyramid."

"Sire," said the Royal Superintendent of Pyramids, "It is true that the work is behind schedule. But I can explain."

"I was sure that you could," the Pharaoh said. "I was certain that you

all those accidents I'd have your pyramid finished by now. But every day somebody falls off a ledge and somebody else gets his foot caught under a roller or sets a stone block down on his fingers—and somebody else strains his back, and four or five other men get rock chips in their eyes. You never saw such a careless and accident-prone bunch in all your life!"

The Pharaoh took a sip of wine from a golden goblet. "I am sorry that you are not pleased with the quality of the workers I have provided for you," he said.

The Superintendent gave a nervous start, but before he could speak the Pharaoh continued in the same expressionless tone: "I am reminded of an old Egyptian proverb which says, 'A good foreman has a good crew.'"

He looked at the sweating Superintendent, and his eyes narrowed to slits. "Tell me," he said, "Do you know the present whereabouts of the man who had this job before you?"

"Yes, Sir," the Royal Superintendent said, "He's at the bottom of the Nile with a rock tied to his feet."

"Exactly," the Pharaoh said. "That's a little whimsy of mine. If there's anything I can't stand, it is ex-officials. They're always so reproachful looking. So we just take 'em out on a barge, tie a rock to their ankles and over they go. No letters of recommendation

pyramid built just as badly as you do—but human nature is human nature, and there isn't a thing you can do about it."

"Let's see, now," the Pharaoh said, "You're sort of fat; you'd probably float pretty good. I imagine a 50-pound rock would be just right."

"Sire!" cried the Royal Superintendent, "I can't swim!"

"You can't build pyramids, either," said the Pharaoh. "It might pay you to learn one skill or the other."

The Royal Superintendent of Pyramids threw himself at his master's feet. "Oh, Noble Sire," he wailed, "Oh, Fountain of Wisdom. Tell me how I can keep them from injuring themselves and delaying your pyramid. If there is a way to do it, Master tell me! Tell me! Please tell me!"

The Pharaoh gave him a stern look. "Oh, quit blubbing!" he said. "Get up off the floor and let's talk this over like sensible people. There, that's better."

He leaned back on his throne, put his fingertips together, and stared at them intently. "We might as well be logical about this," he said. Let's see . . .

"Item One: I don't know how to build a pyramid, or I wouldn't have to hire some slob to do it for me. Item Two: You don't know how to build a pyramid or you'd have one built by now. Item Three: There must be somebody who knows how to build pyramids—the whole desert is crowded with the silly-looking things. So all we have to do is find someone to show us how it's done; somebody who knows how to stop these accidents and keep the men on the job! Hmmm. Tell me—has anybody ever offered you any suggestions along that line?"

The Royal Superintendent jerked as though he had been touched with a hot iron. "Suggestions?" he cried. The colour flooded into his cheeks. He began to wave his arms and bounce up and down. "Suggestions!" he repeated in an even louder voice. "Oh, boy, do I get suggestions! I get suggestions from straw-bosses, and I get suggestions from stone-masons, and I get suggestions from hod-carriers. I even get suggestions from water boys!"

"Everybody has some crackpot idea they have to tell me about:

'Use smaller blocks in the places where they won't show';

'Change the roller timbers when they get worn out of round';

'Get longer ropes so more men can pull at once';

'Put grease on the skids so they'll slide better'.

(Continued on Page 11)



could explain to me how you can take one thousand workers from the royal labour pool and feed them out of the royal kitchens for three years and then have nothing but a runty little rock-pile to show for it."

The Royal Superintendent winced. "Sir," he said, "it is true that you sent me a thousand workers. That sounds like a lot of men, I'll admit. But you know how it is in the pyramid business—I'm lucky if half of them are able to work on any given day. It's the **accidents**, Sire! If it wasn't for

to write—just a few bubbles, and that's that!"

"But, Sir!" cried the Royal Superintendent, "It's not my fault. It's those **accidents**! How can I help it if they're always getting hurt? Strained backs and smashed fingers are an accepted job hazard in pyramid-building. Those things just happen! I keep telling them to be careful, but they won't do it."

"What am I supposed to do—play nurse-maid to those galahs? Can I help it if they won't keep their mind on the job? I want to get that

**SIGNING ON**

Algis Sabrinskis, Apprentice Boilermaker, signs on under the watchful eye of clerk, Rob Bavinton.

Algis's father, A. Sabrinskis, is a Pump Man at Yallourn Power Station.

**EYE TESTING**

Gary Hedt, Apprentice Fitter and Turner, has his eyes examined at the Regional Training Centre.

Mervyn Hedt, Gary's father, is a Boiler Attendant at Morwell Power Station.

**CLOTHING ISSUE**

Robert Winters, Apprentice Fitter, tries on a suit of protective overalls for size.

Robert's father, Fred Winters, is a Grade 3 Supervisor with Coal Auxiliaries, Morwell.

**SAFETY SPECTACLES**

Alec Carmichael, Toolmaker, adjusts the fit of a pair of safety spectacles for Robert Norder, Apprentice Fitter and Turner.

Robert's dad, H. K. N. Norder, is a Foreman Fitter with Babcock and Wilcox at Hazelwood.

**CLOCKING ON**

Louise Bagnall is the first girl to be accepted as a Commission apprentice and here she is learning the gentle art of clocking on.

Louise's father, H. Bagnall, is a Grade 2 Engineering Assistant with Tests and Communications.

Induction Apprenticeship 1971

On Tuesday, January 19, ninety-six school-leavers, including, for the first time ever, a girl, started a new life as first-year apprentices with the Commission.

Shown on these pages are the various steps involved in the transformation from school-leaver to Commission apprentice.

**TECHNICAL TRAINEES**

1971 Technical Trainees are (Back Row, left to right): Harold McNair, Trainee Draftsman; Greg Williams, Trainee Draftsman; David Smith, Trainee Survey Assistant; Robin Dean, Trainee Draftsman.

Front Row (left to right): Ken Hunt, Trainee Draftsman; Peter Dykes, Trainee Draftsman; Bob Watts, Acting Technical Training Officer; Ron Atkins, Trainee Draftsman, and Joe Kalman, Trainee Survey Assistant.

TRADES OF 1971 APPRENTICE INTAKE

Fitting and Turning	38
Boilermaking	12
Electrical Mechanic	29
Electrical Fitting	9
Instrument Making and Repairing	8
Carpentry	1
Motor Mechanic	2
Painting	1
Armature Winding	1
Plumbing	1
Moulding	1
Stores Trainees	4



THE SAD STORY

(Continued from Page 10)

"I can't step out of my office without some character coming up and trying to tell me how to run my job. And no sooner do I clout that one across the face than another idiot comes up with still another suggestion. I tell you, it's pretty close to insubordination! It shows lack of respect for my exalted position—that's what it does! I'm the one who has all the brains out there—not them!" Don't they know that?"

The Pharaoh didn't answer the question immediately. He seemed to be thinking. "Brains," he mused. "Ah, yes, brains." He looked at the Superintendent reflectively. "Did any of

these ideas ever work?" he asked.

"Work? How should I know? You don't think I'm going to let some rock monkey tell me how to run my business, do you? It'll be a hot day in Egypt when I start taking advice from the working slob—I'll tell you that!"

"Quite so," the Pharaoh said. He stood up, indicating that the interview was over. "Well, it's been nice talking with you," he said . . . "a very informative discussion."

"Oh, and by the way—some of the boys and I are going for a little boat ride tonight. We want you to be sure to come with us. I think you'll find it somewhat interesting."

1970 ACCIDENT RECORD

Last financial year in the Latrobe Valley Region one man died as a result of accident and 323 injuries were suffered. In all, 6,600 days were lost which, in effect, means that 21 people were away from work for the whole of the year.

It is of interest to compare these figures with those for the whole S.E.C.: 3 men died, 869 injuries resulted in almost 22,000 lost days, equivalent to 71 people away from work all year.



Proudly posing with the pennant commemorating one million manhours without disabling injury are (from the left): Jack Wilkinson, Stores Officer, Grade 3, and Part-Time Safety Officer, Morwell Store; the Manager, L.V. Region, Mr. Bill Schulz; Harry Winkelman, L/H Rigger, Yallourn Store; Mr. T. G. Crane, President, National

Safety Council (Victorian Division); Roy Somerville, L/H Storeman, Morwell Store; the Deputy General Manager, Mr. Bob White; Rupert Bartley, Stores Officer, Grade 3 and Part-Time Safety Officer, Yallourn Store; and last, but not least, Syd Kirchner, Superintendent of Stores, Latrobe Valley.

Stores Section Millionaires

The Stores Section of the Latrobe Valley Services Division celebrated 1,000,000 manhours without a disabling injury on Monday 25, with a presentation followed by a party at the West Mess, Yallourn.

Mr. Bill Schulz, Manager, Latrobe Valley Region, said that the achievement was particularly meritorious as Stores Section had achieved the million manhours mark once before.

Mr. T. G. Crane, President of the Victorian Division of the National Safety Council, said that, in the whole

of Australia, only 67 organizations had achieved one million manhours without a D.I., only 11 had achieved two million, three had reached three million and only one had reached four million. Mr. Crane said that he was looking forward to attending the celebrations for the Stores Section's two million milestone in the future.

Presentation of the pennant and certificate was made by the Deputy General Manager, Mr. Bob White, down from Melbourne for the occasion. Mr. White stressed the importance that

management attached to safety and said it transcended considerations of production and economy.

The Superintendent of Stores, Mr. Syd Kirchner, acknowledging on behalf of the Section, attributed the Section's impressive safety record to the pride in achievement taken by all Section personnel and to the painstaking work of the part-time safety officers, Jack Wilkinson and Rupert Bartley, also Harry Winkelman and Roy (Skiddy) Somerville.

COMPULSORY WEARING OF SEAT BELTS

The attention of Commission personnel is drawn to the recent amendment to the Motor Car Act which provides that:

"A person shall not be seated in a motor car that is in motion, in a seat for which a safety belt is provided, unless he is wearing the safety belt and it is properly adjusted and securely fastened."

The penalty for non-compliance with this law is a fine of \$20.00; Commission personnel will be liable personally for payment of any such fines.

It should be noted that the Personnel Regulations state that staff officers will not be granted leave covered by Clause 4 (Workers' Compensation) of the Special Leave Regulations, under which Special Workers' Compensation make-up pay is provided if they are injured in a vehicle accident and if, at the time of the accident, they are not wearing the seat belt provided in the vehicle. In like circumstances, wages employees will not be granted the Special Workers' Compensation make-up pay for weekly wages that is normally provided in cases of employee accident.

The amendment to the law is a positive attempt by the State Government to reduce the appalling number of casualties suffered in road accidents. Commission personnel, both in their own interest and as an example to other road users, are requested strictly to comply with the provisions of the Act.



Three Snappy Chappies

Senior Photographer, Cliff Cleverley, gives a few tips on developing processes to photographers, Terry Smith and Jack Hinshelwood.

Cliff and Jack are well known throughout the area, but Terry is a relative newcomer. So, if you spot a camera lens with a beard nearby you'll know that it's Terry about to record you for posterity.



CHRISTMAS PICNICS

The Latrobe Valley Region's Social Clubs laid on picnics for the kids over the festive season.

Entertainments varied from clowns to tug-of-war contests, but the end results were the same — everyone had a good time.



OFFICIAL OPENING OF HAZELWOOD POWER STATION

Those directly concerned with the building, operation and maintenance of Hazelwood Power Station will be well represented at the official opening on Thursday, March 11, 1971.

Of the Latrobe Valley Region's total representation of just over 100, approximately seventy will be wages employees, the majority of whom work at Hazelwood. However, besides members of the Power Division, members of these other Divisions will also be present: Accounting, Administration, Bookbinding, Coal, Transmission and the Workshops, General Services, Stores, Survey and Drawing Office Sections of Services Divisions.

Officials of local branches of the major trade unions have been invited as well as union officials at State and National level and Hazelwood Power Station Shop Stewards.

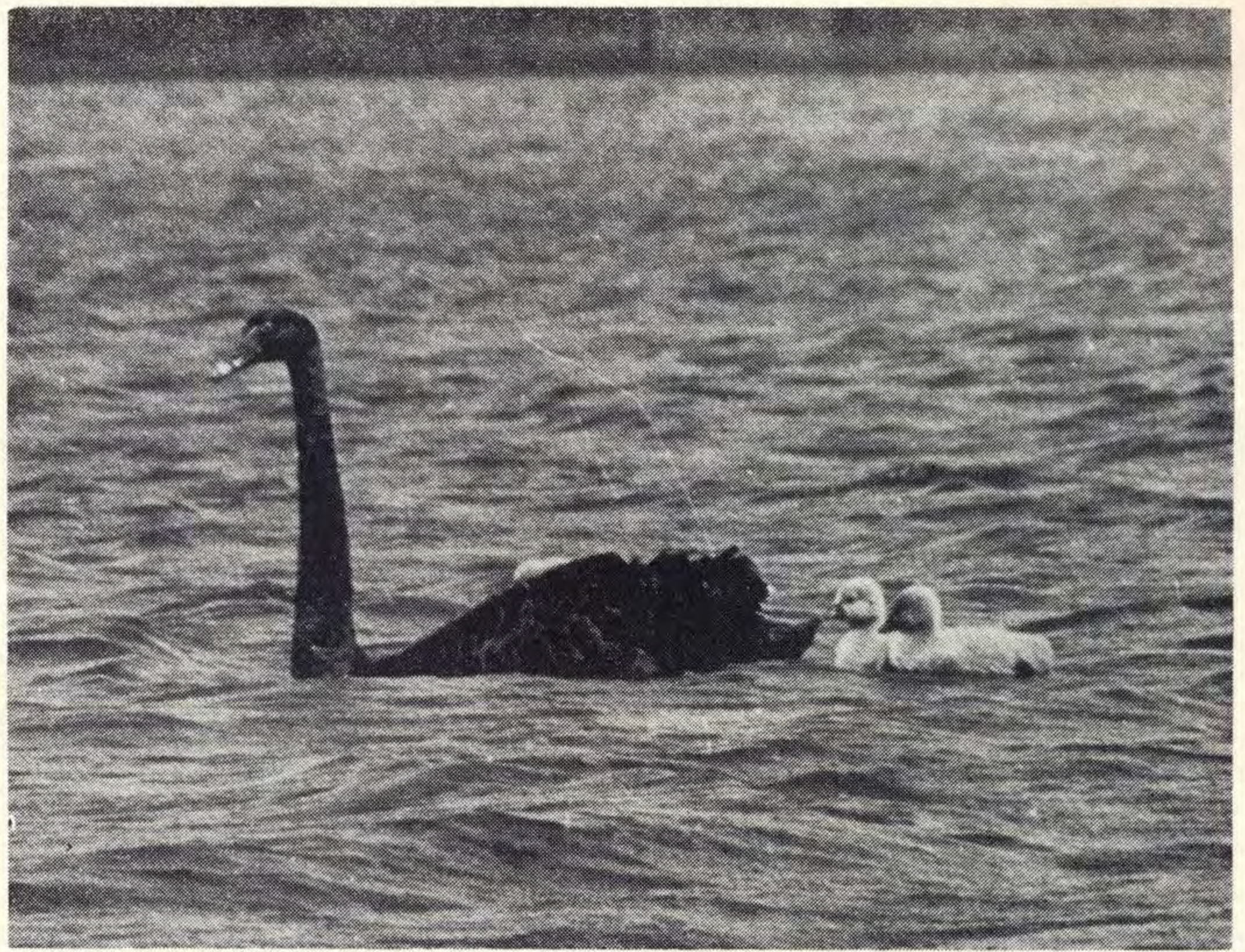
The main contractors involved in the construction have been invited to the function as have the main local and sub-contractors.

HAZELWOOD GALA DAY

To enable Commission personnel and their families to see Hazelwood Power Station, a Gala Day has been arranged for the Sunday immediately following the official opening—Sunday, March 14, 1971.

Hot water, tea, sugar, etc., will be available from a marquee adjacent to the Power Station so that families can picnic on the surrounding lawns. Conducted tours of the Power Station will be organised and then, for those who wish, buses will transport families to the south end of the Hazelwood Cooling Pond where the Latrobe Valley Yacht Club will be holding a regatta and the Ski Club from Yallourn will stage a non-stop 1½ hour show. There will also be ice-creams, soft drinks and balloons for the kids.

Full details of the Gala Day are contained in the coloured insert which appears in this issue of Contact.



HAZELWOOD HATCH-TRICK

The black swan population of the Hazelwood area was increased by four over the Christmas period.

The two pairs of swans who make the Fire Services Reservoir their permanent home, built their nests by the coal conveyors and road across the

Reservoir. One pair have one chick and the other pair, with the proud but wary Mum shown above, have three chicks.

There is apparently some talk going on of changing the name of the Fire Services Reservoir to either Swan Lake or A-swan Dam.

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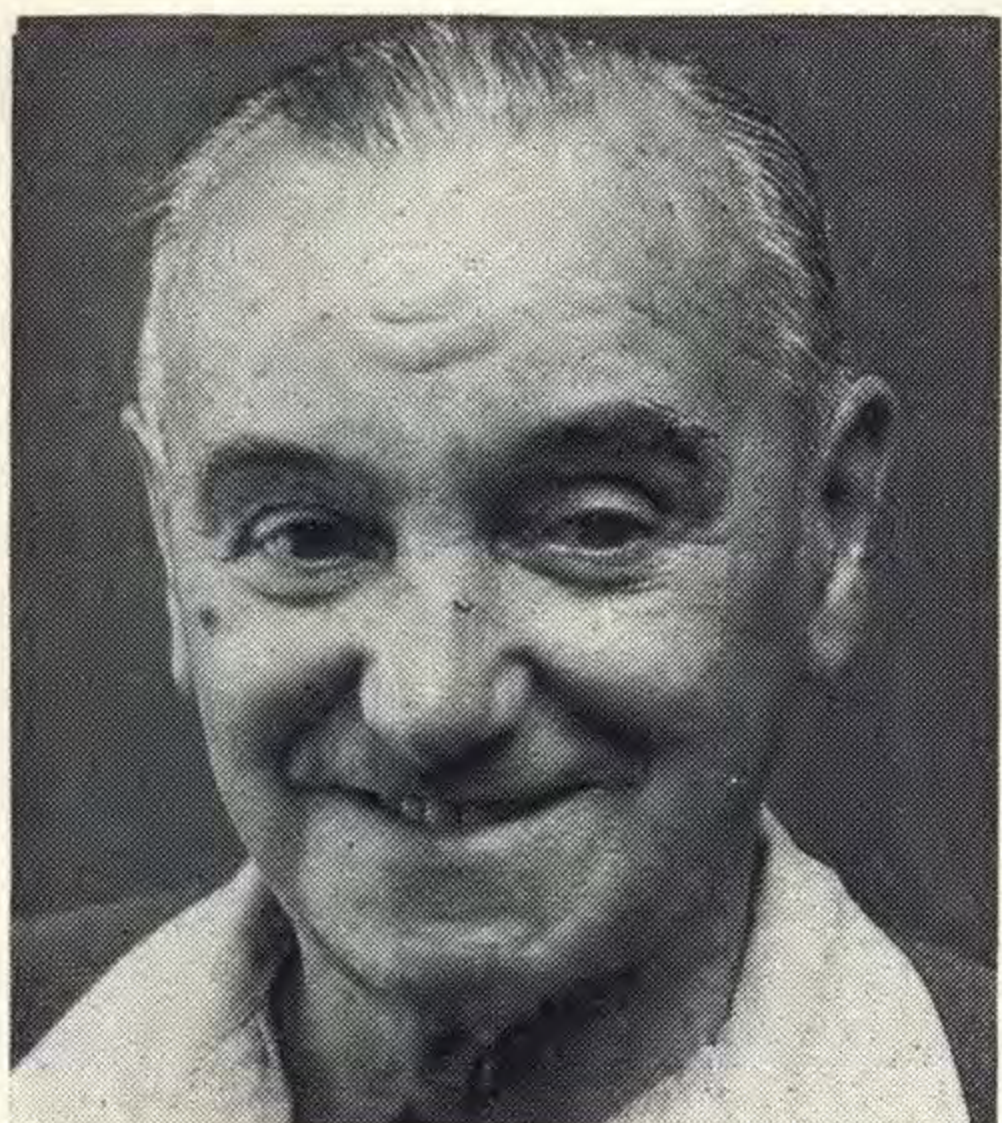


Reg (Mick) Price, Leading Hand Plant Operator, retired on January 13, after 26 years service.

Mr. I. McDonald joined with Reg's many friends and workmates in wishing him and Mrs. Price a long and happy retirement. Mr. McDonald presented Reg with an electric shaver and a brooch for Mrs. Price.

Reg figured rather prominently in all phases of Forestry activities over the years. His judgement in large scale clearing operations, road construction, fire prevention and suppression operations was held in very high regard.

Reg played football with some distinction for the Bruthen Football Club. His sporting activities in later years have been much less strenuous. He has confined his activities to shooting and fishing in and around the Gippsland Lakes district.



Robert Dykes, Leading Hand Electrical Fitter, retired on Thursday, December 17, 1970, after 7 years service with the Commission.

Mr. Bill Smith, Electrical Services Engineer, said that he was losing one of the most experienced men in the Morwell Electrical Workshop and wished Bob a happy retirement.

Bob was presented with a transistor radio.



Mr. Ernie Thompson, Assistant Apprentice Training Supervisor of the Apprentice Annexe, Central Workshops, Yallourn, retired in December, 1970. Although the actual date of Ernie's retirement was December 29, a presentation was made on December 23.

Workmates at the Workshop paid tribute to his insistence on quality in apprentice training and the calibre of craftsmen that resulted.

Various apprentices presented Ernie with tributes of their esteem and Mr. Bill Schulz, Manager, Latrobe Valley Region, presented Ernie with a formal letter of appreciation.

Ernie will spend his retirement in Coff's Harbour.

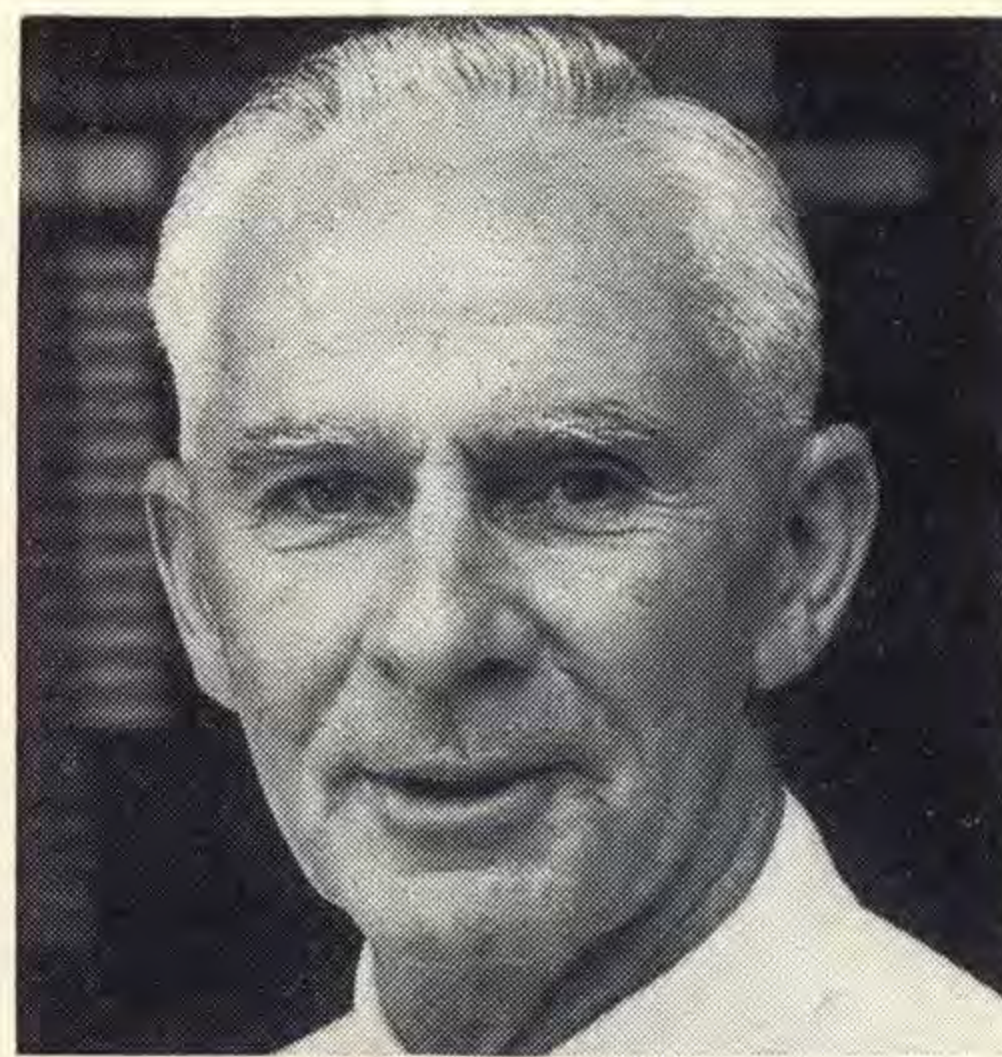
RETIREMENTS



Mr. Don Planner, Accommodation Services Officer, retired on Wednesday, January 13, after 20 years service with the Commission.

A past master at laying on banquets for Commission guests, Don was, himself, the guest of honour at a party to commemorate his retirement.

Mr. Graham Black, Assistant General Manager, presented Don with an assortment of fishing gear which Don will doubtless put to good use at Eagle Point, where he intends to spend his retirement.



Perc Robinson, Senior Foreman with General Services, Morwell, retired on Monday, January 11, 1971, after nearly 45 years' service.

Perc joined the Commission as a Carpenter Improver, at Yallourn 1926, and transferred to Civil Construction, Morwell, in June, 1949, as a Leading Hand Carpenter. He was appointed to the staff as Foreman Grade 3 in 1951, and with the exception of a short period during the closure of construction works at the Morwell Project when he returned to Yallourn, Perc continued at Morwell until his retirement.

All Perc's many friends in the Commission wish him a full recovery from recent illness and a long and happy retirement.



Neil Hargen retired from the Commission on Thursday, January 14, after 22 years of service.

Before settling down at Yallourn Power Station, Neil knocked around and tried his hand at various jobs, including cooking and sheep-shearing.

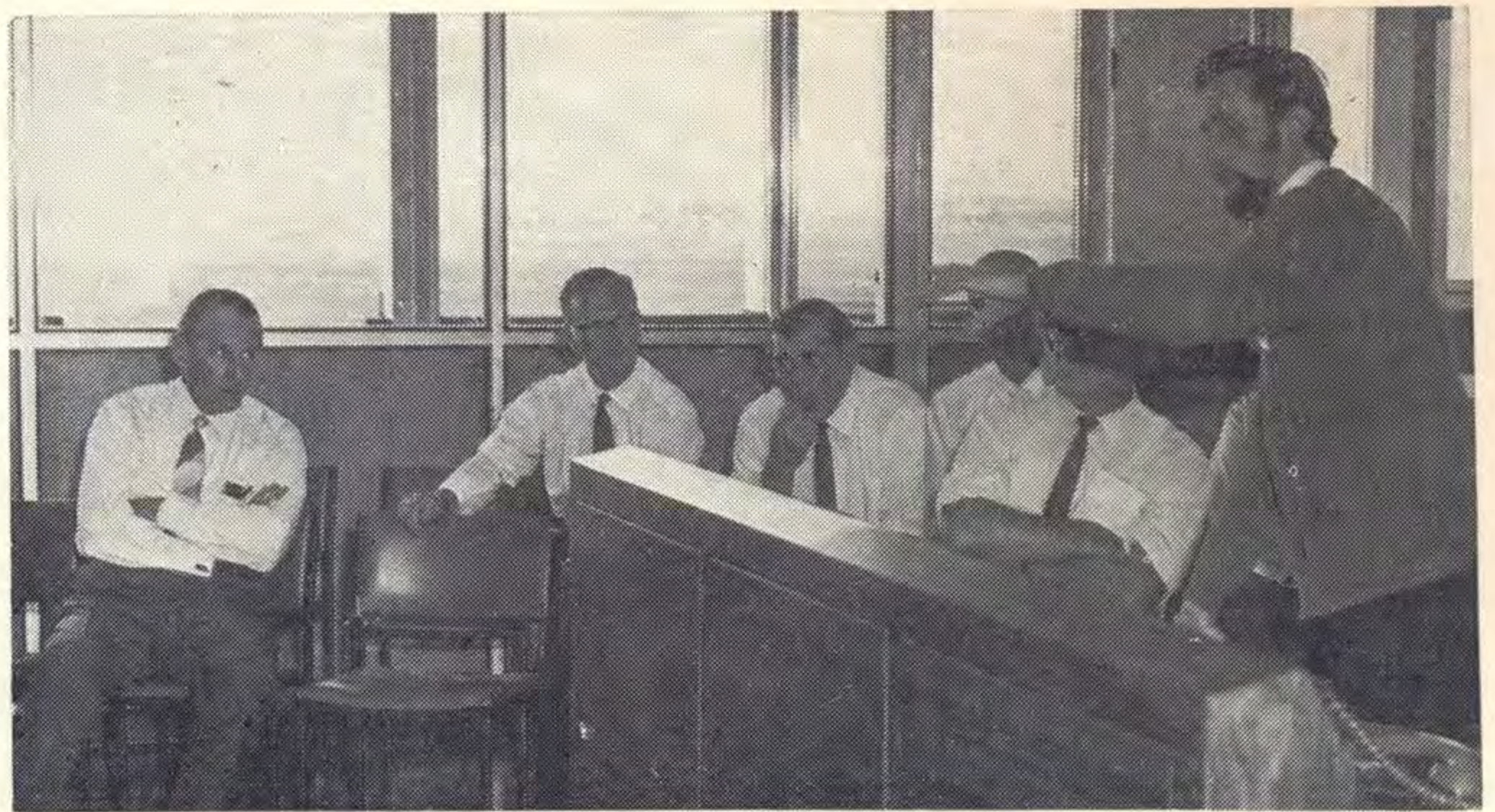
Frank Tomlinson, Station Operations Engineer, paid tribute to Neil's justified popularity and, on behalf of his workmates, presented him with a wallet and notes.

Neil intends to visit his son in New Guinea before relaxing in retired comfort.

S.E.C. Commissioners Visit Valley

The Commissioners take a keen interest in the workings of the Region as can be seen in these photographs.

Each year the State Electricity Commissioners of Victoria hold the first of their monthly meetings in the Latrobe Valley.



Bill Verhagen, the Electrical Engineer who supervised the installation of the new computerised Conveyor Control Centre at Morwell, explains an operating feature to S.E.C. Commissioners, Sir Roger Darvall and

Mr. Tom Scott; Mr. Bill Schulz, Manager, Latrobe Valley Region; Mr. Bob White, Deputy General Manager, and Dr. Willis Connolly, Chairman and General Manager.



S.E.C. Commissioner, Mr. Bernie Callinan, watches a protective sheet being vulcanised to a pulley roller in the Vulcanising Shop, Yallourn. With Commissioner Callinan are, from left to right, Mr. Eric Foote, Coal

Production Superintendent, Yallourn; Ron Bishop, Engineer-in-Charge of Vulcanising; Bob Ellis, L/H Vulcaniser, and Ian Jones, Vulcaniser.

SUGGESTION AWARDS

LATROBE VALLEY REGION

POWER	129
BRIQUETTE	12
COAL	39
SERVICES	51
TRANSMISSION	29
ADMINISTRATION	10
ACCOUNTING	4
PERSONNEL	8

TOTALS 282

awards totalling

\$2,315

AVERAGES FOR 1970

average	\$18
.....	24
.....	21
.....	16
.....	20
.....	14
.....	13
.....	8

\$5,058

\$18

SPORT PARADE

MID-WEEK CRICKET

How do cricketers on shift work get to play a game? The answer is to join a team in the Latrobe Valley Mid-Week Cricket Association.

Matches are played mid-week—usually on Wednesdays—between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. This timing allows the maximum number of shift workers to participate.

Each team has approximately 90 minutes batting time, though if, say, twenty overs are bowled during the first innings, an equal number must also be bowled in the second innings.

Points are awarded and the top four in the league play off for the Premiership. The Premiership Shield was donated by Mr. Tom Woods of Newborough Hotel who has actively supported the Mid-Week Cricket Association since it was formed in 1960.

A few keenly contested needle matches had been played between

various Yallourn works elevens, but growing interest led to a meeting at the Yallourn Briquette Factory Canteen in March, 1960, "to discuss and put into effect the first steps to form a Cricket Association within the S.E.C. Yallourn and Morwell."

Those present at this meeting were K. Dolman, J. Lobly, G. Giblett, G. Block, H. Pegg, D. Warner, E. Jackson, N. Bone, R. Marriner, N. J. Edwards, R. Nicholas, B. Harmer, C. Sparks and A. Warren.

The first match was played in October 1960 and, helping to prove that the Mid-Week Cricket Association filled a definite need in the area, A.P.M. entered a side that same year. Gascor entered in 1963 and the Victorian Police in 1964.

Whilst Gascor has since withdrawn, as also, due to the closing down of 'A' and 'B' Power Stations, have the original Yallourn sides, the strength of the Association has been maintained by the entry of new teams from Morwell and Hazelwood.

Because of the time and over limits, mid-week cricket is played at a brisk pace. In one match at the Northern

Oval in Morwell, the team batting first—Morwell Briquette—scored 198 runs in 85 minutes and considered themselves beyond defeat. But this was a 'needle' game against Yallourn Briquette and, thanks to some mighty hitting by Jack Fawcett—one of his sixes chased a man along the front passage of his house across the way—Yallourn scored over 200 runs in the same time.

It's a pity that the current Test Teams don't score at a similar rate—over 400 runs in less than three hours cricket!

About 60% of players in mid-week cricket have not played regular cricket before and most of the clubs have many players on their books who, for various reasons, play only once or twice a year. It is rare, however, that someone who wants to play is not given a game. Inexperience or age no barrier.

New teams and new players are always welcome. If you are interested, the blokes (with telephone numbers) to contact are: Hazelwood—Alan Jamieson, 5233 or Ken Jean, 5505; Morwell Briquette—Norm Warren, 3113 or Sid Buckton 3161; Central Workshops—Harry Shillinglaw 3252.

**FAMILY DAY
AT HAZELWOOD**

**READ ALL
ABOUT IT ON
THE COLOURED
INSERT IN THIS
ISSUE**

