



contact

DECEMBER, 1974



OPS GROUP
CHANGES —
MIDDLE PAGES

contact



Prepared by the SEC
Relations Section for
Personnel of the Operations
Group employed in the
Latrobe Valley.

Editor: Kevin Richardson

Cover

No, its not Casey Jones, just Wal-
halla personality Ron Kane fuel-
ling his tourist train — with
briquettes.

The new customer for briquettes is
not likely to make much of a
hole in the briquette stack, but
the briquettes will provide a
convenient form of fuel for the
train.

The old gold-mining town has been
a top tourist attraction in Gipps-
lan for a number of years, and
periodic attempts have been made
to make use of its great potential,
but without altering its essential
character.

The Walhalla Steam Company has
been a persistent worker in the
tourist promotion cause, and with
briquettes to bring up a head
of steam, it could really go
places.

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'Record' achievement for Boilermaker T'A



Above: The Shampains go through
their paces in the CRS studios, while
John Canavan makes sure that it all
comes out right on tape.

Making something out of nothing,
or—more correctly—from scraps and
scrounged materials is a great Aus-
tralian art, brought to world prominence
by Diggers during two world wars.

The spirit still lives on, as boiler-
maker trades assistant John Canavan,
of Canavan Radio Supplies (Morwell)
has demonstrated.

A radio/sound fanatic since the age
of 10, John—with no formal training
in electronics—has built a recording
studio at his home, complete with
sophisticated 16-channel sound mixer
and echo chamber facilities.

Valued at \$4,500, the studio is very
much "the house that John built".

Apart from two tape recorders and
microphones, the entire studio and its
equipment was put together and re-
peatedly refined by John, who
scrounged parts from rubbish tips,
wrecked radios and TV sets, and dis-
posal sales.

Its been a journey into the past for
John, who decided about six months
ago to revive an interest of his youth,
spent in and around Wagga, NSW.

The result is a studio capable of the
most complex recording and sound
mixing operations, and all with an
unblemished clarity which lays the
foundation for production of top-
quality master tapes.

A former guitarist and dance band
singer, John is putting his knowledge
of the entertainment industry to good
use by recording tapes for musical
groups.



These are for personal use, or for
group promotion.

Among musicians who have put
down tapes in John's studio are the
Eldamos (live and at CRS studios),
Hawking Bros. (live at Traralgon),
Esquires (live studio and promotional
for overseas use), Shampain and Two
of a Kind (promotional for Showcase
series).

Recording of concerts has been a
fairly recent innovation, and John and

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A Christmas message....

The year 1974 will be remembered as a time of change for the Latrobe Valley, but it has been noteworthy for far more than that.

It has been a year of steady development and considerable achievement in the face of difficult, and at times worrying, conditions.

The fact that we can approach the Christmas season with confidence and the satisfaction of a job well done is a tribute to the efforts of every member of the workforce.

Some of the people who played major roles in creating the SEC's Latrobe Valley complex called it a day in 1974, and this seems an appropriate time to pay tribute to their efforts.

I refer to people such as Bill Graham, Allan Crockett, Syd Kirchner and Roy Norden, and to so many others who

retired this year after giving outstanding service to the SEC and to all Victorians.

Nor would any tribute be complete without reference to Bill Schulz, the man most closely identified with SEC activity in this region.

But we must look now to the future, a future which—by any reckoning — must be regarded as bright.

Although 1975 will no doubt bring its own problems, a positive and bright outlook will go a long way toward gaining greater achievement and personal satisfaction from our day to day work.

I wish you and your families compliments of the Season and a happy New Year.

BILL DE CAMPO, ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER (Ops).

Farewell to a chairman



The annual SEC pre-Christmas get-together in the Latrobe Valley for Commission officials, community leaders and contractors' representatives was a "first and last" occasion.

It was the first such function hosted by Assistant General Manager (Operations) Bill De Campo, and the last attended by retiring chairman Bob White.

The largely informal function, conducted in Kernot Hall against a Merry Christmas backdrop prepared by members of the Paint Shop at Yallourn, was highlighted by a public farewell to Mr. White.

Tributes to his leadership of the Commission during a difficult period, and his emphasis on personnel development and on people, were paid by the Minister for Fuel and Power, Mr. Balfour; Special Officer (LV) Graham Black and the Resident District Manager of APM (Maryvale) John Barassi.

Retiring SEC chairman Bob White and Mrs. White discuss with the Minister for Fuel and Power, Mr. Balfour, the origins of a farewell gift, a fine French crystal vase.

AGM (Ops) Bill De Campo (right) and new SEC chairman Charles Trethowan admire a cigarette lighter presented to Bob White.

Responding, Bob White admitted to "a touch of sadness" at ending a 36 year association which had been extremely satisfying, and in which he had received strong support.

He said his associations with people in the Latrobe Valley — in the SEC and outside of it—had been especially enjoyable and gratifying.

Mr. White said that the Latrobe Valley could "count itself lucky".

"There is ahead an assured expansion of power resources, and further opportunity for the SEC to play its part as the major employer of labor in the region".

Congratulating new Departmental heads Jack Vines (Coal), Jack Robertson (Power Generation), Max Gray (Engineering Services) and George Bates (Area Administration) on their appointments, Mr. White commented that rather than having a single department tied to a geographical area, the Commission now had four departments, each with functions which would take its interest beyond the Valley.

Mr. White said he believed that his nominated successor, Charles Trethowan, would receive the same high level of support accorded him during his three years as chairman.

valley visitors

Members of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam delegation, pic-

tured with Coal Production Manager Jack Vines.



The Canadian Consul-General, Mr. Don Armstrong (left) gets things in perspective with some help from former Moe Mayor Cr. Joe Tabuteau

(right). Also pictured are Mrs. Armstrong and Mr. Stanfield, of the Canadian Consulate.

FOLK MUSEUM'S 'THANK-YOU'

The old adage that "there is nothing new under the sun" is apparently applicable to the world of engineering, as a group of SEC second year apprentices found recently when they visited the Gippsland Folk Museum to inspect examples of mechanical devices from the 19th Century.

As a planned part of their practical training, the apprentices have been involved in restoring some of the equipment now on display at the museum.

This has given them the opportuni-

ty to work on motors and equipment not commonly seen today, and has provided valuable experience in fundamental mechanical principles.

In appreciation of their work, the Committee of Management of the museum invited the apprentices to the Museum for a day as their guests.

During their inspection, the apprentices were given practical demonstrations by coach builder Lindsay Collins and blacksmith Graeme Potts in trades which are rapidly becoming obsolete.

November was a busy month for VIP visits to the Latrobe Valley, more especially to the SEC's works areas at Morwell and Yallourn.

December began on an even more active note, with a historic visit from a delegation from the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, and a "return" visit by representatives of the German Democratic Republic.

On their first trip here earlier in the year, the East German party inspected SEC undertakings with the prospect of developing a petrochemical industry fed by brown coal.

The North Vietnamese, led by the Minister of Foreign Trade, Mr. Than Anh, looked particularly at coal-winning and briquetting operations.

Also in the party, here for general trade discussions with the Australian Government, were the Acting President of the country's Foreign Trade Bank, Deputy General Director of export organisation Minexport, and rural export group (Agrexport) Acting General Director.

A Norwegian Trade Mission spent a day as guests of the Commission on December 5, spending most time with the Coal Production and Power Generation Departments.

The chairman and deputy managing director of the Export Council of Norway were in the party of five.

Canadian Consul-General Mr. David Armstrong and his wife, accompanied by a Consulate officer, gave almost as much information as they received in their brief stay here last month.

Nuclear developments in Canada, an acknowledged leader in the field, were a leading topic of conversation during meetings between the Canadians and Commission officers.

The Joint Operating Committee of the Snowy Mountains undertaking didn't waste time when it spent a day at Morwell.

As well as inspecting Yallourn "W", the J.O.C. conducted a formal meeting in the Morwell Administration Wing before flying back to Melbourne.

Several parties sponsored by the Japanese company Nisho-Iwai were guests of the Commission, and officers of the Lummis Chemical Company of America, accompanied by Nisho-Iwai

(Continued on Page 6)

Yallourn resettlement

Facilities to be retained at Yallourn

The SEC decision to replace in other parts of the Latrobe Valley community facilities which will be lost to the Valley with the removal of Yallourn has created a great deal of interest.

The decision, announced by Assistant General Manager Bill De Campo, involves all sporting and community facilities which are a continuing requirement.

It is proposed to appoint an independent authority to advise the Commission on the most equitable way to provide similar facilities, such as Yallourn's swimming pool, sports ovals, Kernot Hall and bowling green.

Views of the Yallourn Town Advisory Council, municipal councils and the Central Gippsland Trades and

Labor Council will be sought before any recommendations are made by the independent authority.

Mr. De Campo also said that the Commission is willing to seriously consider re-establishing the public gardens of Yallourn in the Latrobe Valley.

TRANSMISSION HEAD MAKES A MOVE

Transmission Engineer Ray Greenwood, man in charge of the Latrobe Valley division of the Transmission Operations Department, is enjoying his first taste of life in the Valley.

But he is no stranger to Transmission personnel in the Valley, and as an alternate member of the Staff Board, Ray had paid a number of visits to the area before taking up his appointment as Transmission Engineer.

And in Assistant Transmission Engineer Ian McDonald, he has a right hand man whose Valley associations and Transmission experience extend back to 1952, when he came here as an engineer.

Ray and Ian were Operations Engineers before the recent re-organisation — Ray in Construction and Operations, and Ian in the Latrobe Valley.

Ray, who joined the Commission in 1955 — he was formerly with the Department of Works — is currently moving into a home at Morwell with his wife Adrienne and six daughters.

The Greenwoods are country people, Ray moved to the city from Benalla and Adrienne from Warragul, and a desire to give their children — whose ages range from four years to 17 — a taste of country life was a big factor in seeking the appointment here.

Parish interests have absorbed a great deal of the Greenwoods' time in Melbourne, but Ray has continued several other interests, notably assisting Jaycee public speaking groups



— and he likes to get away from it all during duck season.

Golf is a recreation to which he would like to devote more time.

This is an area in which Ian McDonald could be especially helpful; he's been secretary of Yallourn Golf Club for the past six years.

Ian, a Commission officer since 1949 — he joined as an engineering assistant at Yarraville Laboratories — was Plant Tests Engineer in the Tests and Communications Section here for a number of years before becoming Operations Engineer.

With his wife Ella, a son (11) and daughter (14), Ian lives at Yallourn.

Both Ray and Ian are part of the re-organisation which brought a four-department look to the Commission's Operation's Group activity in the Latrobe Valley, and both agree that for Transmission, changes are "minimal".

For them, the job's the same — the effective transmission of power generated in the Latrobe Valley for distribution to customers throughout the State.

Ray Greenwood (right) provides Ian McDonald with an audience of one as Ian outlines details of the Yallourn coal-winning operation.

Record Making

(Continued from Page 2)

his wife Mavis—who has become a very competent technician—have received high praise for their recording of choir performances.

Beyond the musical field, John expects an increasing interest in the taping of wedding ceremonies and recording of messages for sending to relatives overseas.

John's policy of checking and upgrading his equipment every six months ensures that the finished product is of the highest standard possible.

He has great faith in his vital oscilloscope and other test equipment.

Which is not surprising . . . after all, like the recording studio, John built it all himself.

Getting the message across on \$1400-m. Loy Yang project



Left: Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sawyer, of Jeeralang were interested in details of the proposed Loy Yang project when they looked in on the SEC's display marquee.

Below: Cousins Russell (left) and Max Glover had a clear mental picture of the Loy Yang project as they identified the location of the property on which their grandmother, Mrs. Jessie Glover, lives. Also in the picture are Karen Stockdale, who lives on the edge of the proposed buffer zone, and Mark Magee, or Scarsdale, and Rick Leach, of Brisbane.

LOY YANG GOES 'ON SHOW' AT TRARALGON

The annual Traralgon Show on November 29, 30 was an ideal medium for a Loy Yang project display — it gave the Commission an opportunity to provide the broad background to the \$1,400 million project, currently the subject of a Parliamentary Public Works Committee Inquiry.

Display boards placed Loy Yang in context as part of the SEC's overall planning for the future, and a color videotape gave visual insights into the project.

However, central point of the display was the area model.

Despite the fact that it has been on public display at Traralgon for some months, the model and local aspects of the display were of chief interest to the large proportion of Show-goers to visit the SEC marquee.



Public Relations Section Officers manned the exhibit, with specialist assistance from Tests and Communications.

Setting up the display was a Commission team effort, involving the Public Relations Department in Melbourne and the PR Section here; members of the Sales Department, Display Section (Head Office) — who did a magnificent job — Gippsland Electricity Supply Branch, Transportation, Carpentry Workshop, Yallourn Nursery and the Paint Shop.

Conditions for the Traralgon Show were far from ideal, but attendance was reported to be 9,000 over the two days.

Valley Visitors

(Continued from Page 4)

representatives, held detailed discussions with Coal Production Department Manager Jack Vines.

During Melbourne Cup Week, the Commission was almost swamped with busloads of tourists from all parts of Victoria, taking advantage of the Spring Carnival to see a little of Victoria.

A large party of Australian Railways Historical Society members took an unusually close interest in the Commission's rail system and locomotives.

6.5-M. ORDER FOR CONVEYORS

The SEC is placing an order for a large new conveyor system for the Yallourn open cut coal mine at a cost of slightly over \$6.5 million.

The new system will carry overburden from the area currently being mined back to an already exhausted area which is being "back-filled" for reclamation.

It will have a capacity of 5,000 tonnes per hour.

Successful tenderer for the contract is Heyl & Patterson Pty. Ltd., Sydney.

About 80 per cent of the plant will be manufactured in Victoria.

The five conveyor system will be the first bought by the SEC to employ solid state logic control and will also be the first to feature a "walking foot" assembly.

This enables two of the conveyor heads to move readily to new operational sites.

Total length of the new conveyor system will be 5,400 metres, and it is expected to be operational by February, 1977.

Central Workshops clerk Perce Mooney took Morwell Staff Social Club at its word when the club advertised a Ranch Night — his gear stamped him a Wild West type from way back. The function, an outstanding success, provided club members who attended with a memorable night.



Morwell Shire honor for Bill Schulz

Morwell Shire President Cr. Frank Hall, under the approving eye of the Minister for Fuel and Power, Mr. Balfour, confers Freedom of Morwell Shire on Bill Schulz.



Bill Schulz did not lack formal recognition during his 20-year residence in the Latrobe Valley . . . as manager of the Commission's LV Department, and as an individual, he played a vital role in Valley affairs.

But when he received last month the highest honor of all, Honorary Freedom of the Shire of Morwell, Bill Schulz admitted to being "completely overwhelmed".

Freedom of the Shire has been bestowed only twice previously at Morwell.

Both recipients were politicians, the Minister for Fuel and Power, Mr. Jim Balfour (20-4-1967) and the late Sir Herbert Hyland (20-4-1967).

Conferring of the honor on Bill Schulz, on the motion of Shire President Cr. Frank Hall and former president Cr. Jack Vinall, was "in recognition and acknowledgment of eminent services to the Shire and the residents of the district over a period of 20 years, and as an expression of the high esteem in which he is held by the President, Councillors and Ratepayers".

Responding, the Shire's newest "Freeman" paid tribute to Cr. Les Hare and the late Campbell Hughston, two men who he said had influenced him greatly; and to his wife Dulcie for her support and as a community worker in her own right.

Credit was also due to the SEC, whose policies he had meticulously implemented in harmony with local authorities, Mr. Schulz said.

Among those in attendance at the impressive presentation ceremony were the Minister for Fuel and Power, Mr. Balfour; the chairman of the SEC, Mr. Bob White, and Assistant General Manager (Operations), Mr. Bill De Campo.

STOP PRESS

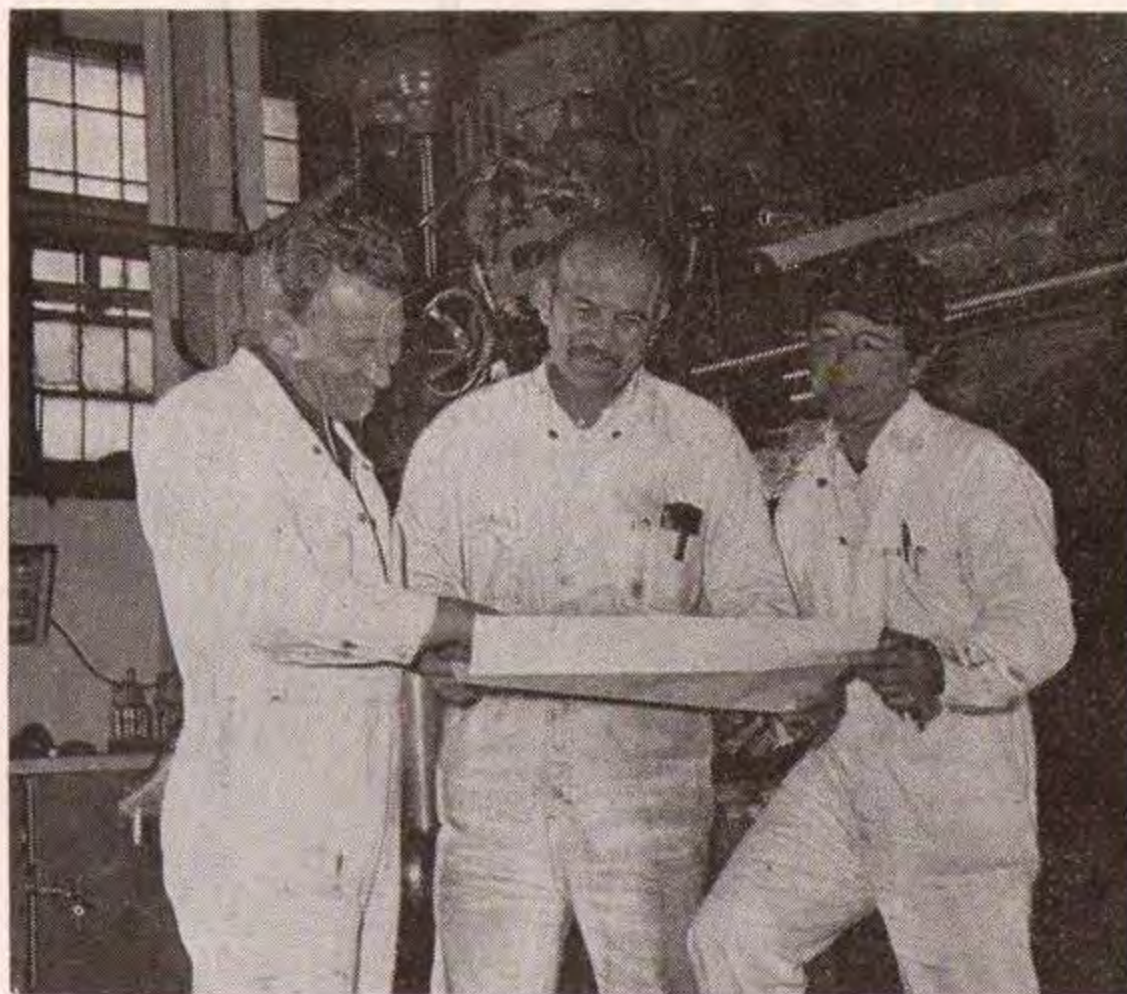
A first aid team from Yallourn Power Station has finished third in the annual SEC First Aid Championships.

The competition, held in Colac High School on December 6, was won by Collingwood area centre from Shepparton district and Yallourn PS.

Thirty-eight teams from all parts of Victoria took part in the championships, which were being conducted for the 26th time.

The Yallourn team was making its finals debut.

The championships are organised to enable first aid teams to put into practice — in situations created to simulate the type of accidents which could happen anywhere — the principles they are taught throughout the year.



MIGRANTS — L.V. GET ON WELL

The Good Neighbour Council of Victoria turned the spotlight on migrants in the community on November 30-December 1 when it conducted a Gippsland seminar at Moe.

SEC Area Administration Manager George Bates was one of seven speakers on a seminar panel which also included Capital Budgets Officer Pat Bartholomeusz, who is a Moe City Councillor.

The seminar, on the theme "Peoples' Needs", brought together a wide cross section of the Latrobe Valley community and a number of experts in the 'good neighbour' and social welfare fields.

George Bates pointed out that almost 42 per cent of the SEC's workforce of 6900 in the Latrobe Valley, were born outside Australia, demonstrates the way in which men and women of 37 nationalities worked well together, here in the Latrobe Valley", he said.

He emphasised that the migrant component of the SEC workforce should not, however, be looked on as a single entity.

"We must take care not to lose sight of individuals—migrants are individuals, differing in personality, temperament and outlook. But their basic needs are those which are a

basic to all of us.

Mr Bates said that the migrant faced special problems—a language barrier, national and cultural differences, the psychological effects of migration, changed economic circumstance and adjustments to "the Australian Way of Life".

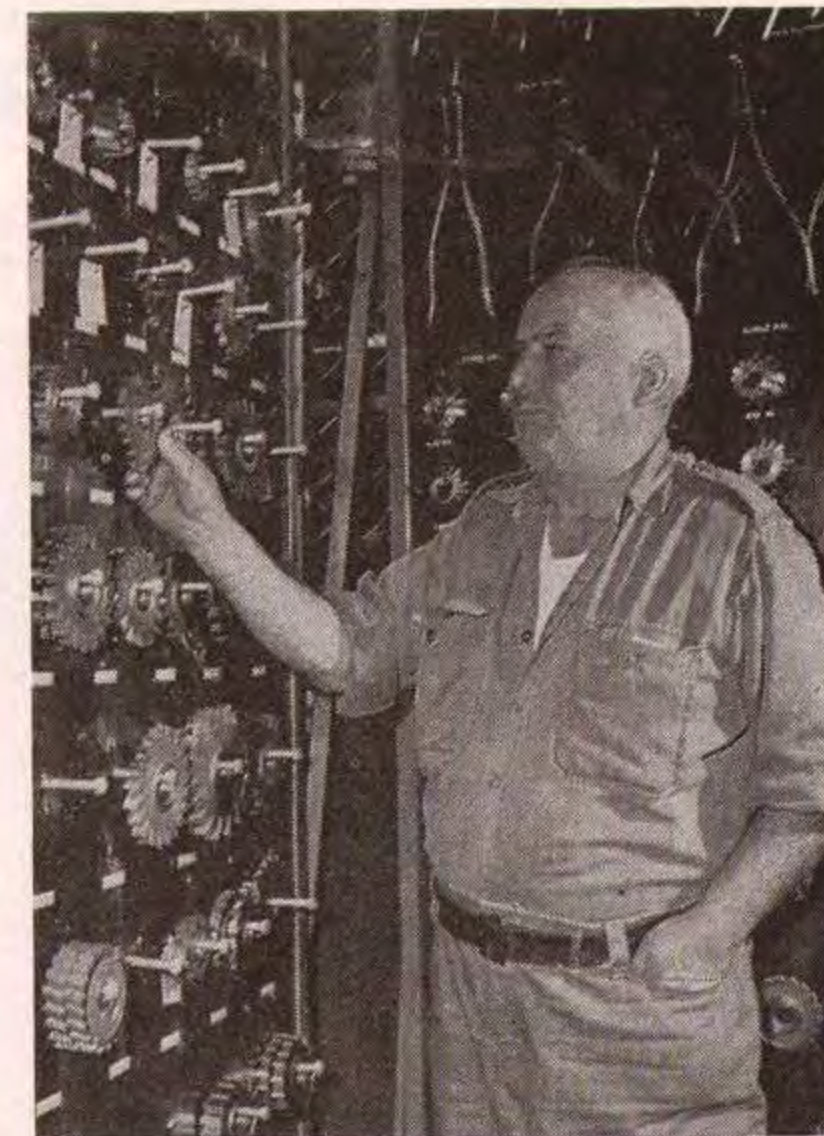
However, in the Latrobe Valley, adjustment had been made with a great deal of success in a process which had required a degree of tolerance and willingness to seek understanding on both sides of the cultural fence.

The very presence in the workforce of large numbers from various

nationalities has helped in the integration process, and in coping with the inevitable problems to the advantage both of the SEC and the worker himself.

Mr Bates said he believed considerable progress had been made toward reaching a situation in which there was an acceptance of people "as they are, regardless of nationality."

"The success we achieve will be measured by the way in which we integrate and draw strength from our various cultures, without submerging those qualities which make each of us unique", he added.



Left, top:

These migrants who came to the LV as tradesmen between 1949 and 1955, are now Overseers at Morwell Briquetting and Power Installation. Dennis Buckley (left) who migrated from Ireland in 1949 is now a Boiler House Overseer; Tom Amalos (centre) is from Greece and was one of the first migrants to be naturalised in the Latrobe Valley, while Italian Angelo Grieco, an Electrical Overseer, was a very keen basketballer in his early days in Morwell and now is involved in YMCA activities.

Left, bottom:

Survey officer Charlie Zomers, seen here checking Survey readings with assistants Terry Bitner and Tom Wheller, migrated from Latvia in 1948 and worked with the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission on construction of the Eildon Dam before joining the Commission in 1955.

Right, top:

Yallourn Workshops Minist Ed McBride came from Ireland 25 years ago. His duties include operating a small tool store in the workshop.

Right, bottom:

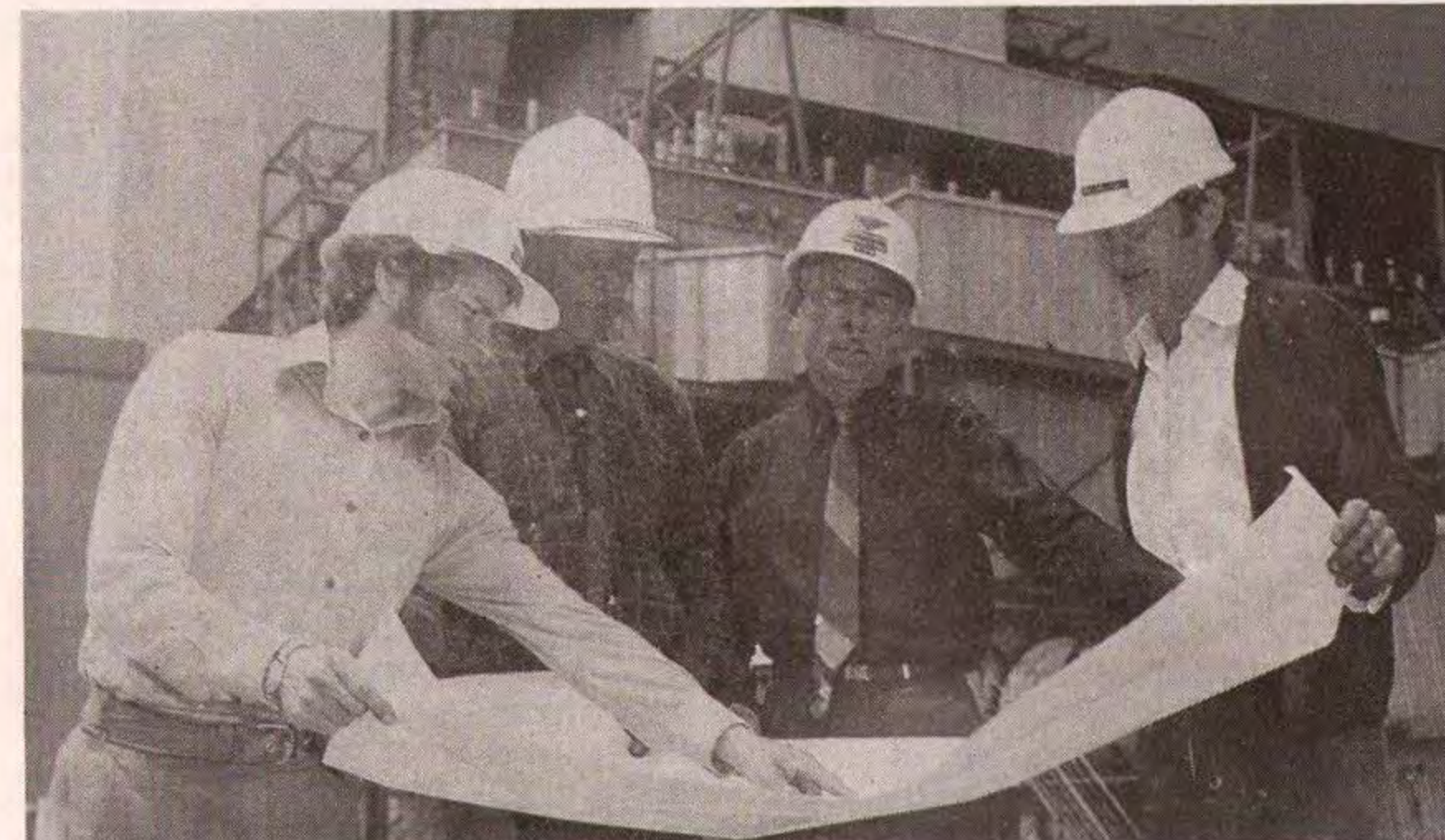
Ric Fuentes (Spain), Bill Brummer (Ireland), Derek Darby (England) and Tess Zarb (Malta) work together in one of the Commission's several drawing offices at Yallourn. All have settled into community life after migrating here from overseas.

Right, centre:

Mick Salienko (Ukraine), Mick Norton (Scotland), Mick Milovanovic (Yugoslavia) and Bob Holaj (Poland) bring experience from four parts of Europe to their work as Construction Supervisors and Engineers engaged in erection of Yallourn 'W' Power Station.

Left, centre:

Katie Evans (Malta), Susan Carr (England), Wanda Kowalik (Germany) and Maria Rosato (Italy) are four happy girls who came here from different parts of the world during the 1950's with their parents, all have settled into the Australian way of life, and enjoy their jobs in the clerical sphere at Morwell.



Painters' safety points boost for good cause



Safety means money to employees of the State Electricity Commission, and—following a presentation at Yallourn last month—to the Cooinda Day Training Centre for the Intellectually Handicapped, at Traralgon.

Safety incentive payments totalling \$185 were donated to Cooinda by 17 painters from Civil Workshops at Yallourn.

The money bought a record player, selection of records and a tricycle which was obviously the immediate favorite of Randy, Vicki and Maria, the three Cooinda children who attended the presentation.

Cooinda supervisor Mrs. Dawn Campigli said that the painters' gesture, greatly appreciated by all at the centre, had created a great deal of excitement.

"Cooinda is a very happy place, and gifts such as this help us keep it that way", she told leading hand painter Gary Downs, who presented the gifts on behalf of his workmates.

Gary commented that since he and workmate Kevin James had visited Cooinda recently, they were more than ever pleased at the decision to donate their safety incentive payments.

"I only hope that this may have a snowballing effect, with others within the SEC taking similar action", he said.

Gary recalled that carpenters in an adjoining workshop had made a similar presentation previously.

Cooinda, a day training centre with a staff of eight, caters for 55 intellectually handicapped people between the ages of three and 30 years.

KEEPING UP THE GOOD WORK AND THE IDEAS

Hazelwood Power Station maintained its excellent record in the field of suggestions when awards were presented in the lecture room on November 11 by A/Mechanical Maintenance Engineer Les Kite.

Co-suggesters Raymond Medew and Patrick Vallance, both from coal handling, shared an award of \$100 for their method of protecting skirt rubbers, thereby leading to an improvement in bunkerhouse conditions, by fitting deflector plates in coal transfer chutes on Power Station shuttle conveyors 1 and 6.

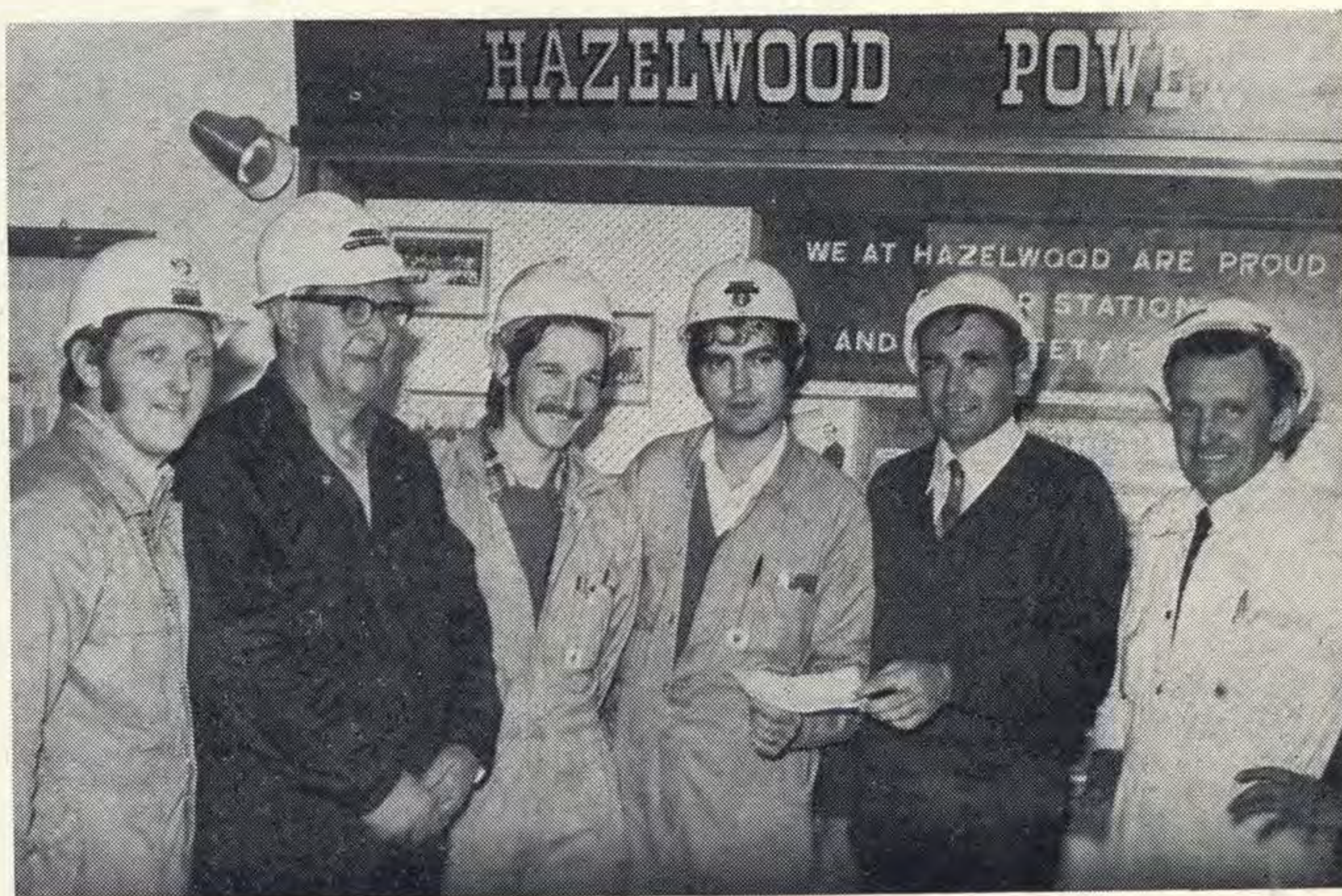
As a follow-up to this idea, foreman gr. 3 Stan Randall devised a drop down stage to greatly facilitate the changing of skirt rubbers, a practice which must be performed at least annually.

He received an award of \$60 for his efforts.

Blockages in the front chamber drain line on the oil purifier water drain tank have long posed problems, but thanks to fitter and turner Paul Walker and his suggestion of a different type of $\frac{3}{4}$ " valve, the blockages have been eradicated. Paul received a \$60 award for his initiative.

L/H fitter and turner Robert Ellis was also in the money when he received a cheque for \$15 for his promotion of the use of stainless steel hinge pins on boiler access doors.

Smiles all round as Mechanical Maintenance engineer Dick Donchi congratulates "his boys" — suggestion award winners (L—R) Ray Medew, Pat Vallance, Paul Walker, Robert Ellis and Stan Randall.



Safety man calls it a day....

Safety Officer Jack Bussell, pictured below with part-time safety officer, Brian Kasby (left) and Sam Hughes, retired from the SEC on December 13 . . . not, however, without the parting shot in the accompanying article.



Safety awards

(Continued from Page 12)

The fact that Hazelwood cleaners are a "happy and well-integrated team" was seen by Acting PSS Bruce Johnston as the key factor in the groups' achievement.

Hazelwood had become a safety pacesetter because it had overcome some of the difficulties associated with the cleaners' work, achieving a safety record which reflected individuals' attention to safety and effective leadership, he said.

These were points taken up by Mechanical Maintenance Engineer Les Kite and foreman cleaner Dave Crombie, each of whom emphasised the teamwork aspect of the section's operation.

Dave Crombie, speaking for himself and Group II foreman Ron Jackson, commented that Hazelwood cleaners were a skilled gang — "not only in our job, but in safety; and we team together well". The men who keep the team thinking safety are — Group 10: Dave Crombie, charge hand Tony Xerri, leading hands John Finley, Allan Hopkins and Peter Wirkin. Group II: Ron Jackson, charge hand Nick Papadakis, leading hands Eric Leatherland, John Van Dyke, Stan Ford.

The pleasant presentation function was compered by Ross Simpson—who put in a strong bid for a similar job when the cleaners front up for 500,000 manhours awards.

Saf-T-Climb the answer

Climbing on structures via vertical ladders has always been an area of concern in power stations, where chimney stacks are a source of danger, but a recent purchase should put an end to the problem.

Currently housed in the Morwell Briquette and Power Installation maintenance quarters is an anti-fall device called "Saf-T-Climb".

The equipment has received publicity, but its virtues warrant full recognition.

Saf-T-Climb consists of a notched steel safety rail, a safety belt and a manganese bronze sleeve which rides freely up and down the rail.

If a climber loses his footing, a spring-actuated lever locks instantly into the rail's nearest notch, making a fall impossible.

Apart from its safety features, Saf-T-Climb offers greater work efficiency through relief of nervous tension and physical fatigue; it can be easily and quickly fitted to both convex and concave structures, and it is far less expensive than other forms of protective equipment, such as caging.

Personnel interested in seeing the equipment, or obtaining more information, should contact Maintenance Services Overseer Jack Draper (3159).

There is a song Cat Stevens sings—"We've come a long way . . .", and its good if you like Cat's style.

Unfortunately, we can't say the same about our accident prevention results.

We have progressed; we don't have as many accidents, fatal or serious injuries as we did some 20 years ago—but we still have far too many.

Over the years, you've had induction talks, training within industry, job safety training instruction, etc., etc.

You have had films, posters, magazines, five minute safety talks, committee meetings, safety award schemes, competitions, family safety nights.

You've had speakers from other industries; have attended safety conventions and schools, as well as undertaking your own training courses.

Despite all this, you are still involved in accidents, and experiencing all that it involves for the victims—402 last year, 267 of them involving 10,013 days of lost time—in terms of pain, suffering, worry and financial loss.

What is the answer?

Firstly, every member of the workforce, from the top and all the way along the line, must accept responsibility for safe working.

Secondly, every job should be planned, with safety aspects given careful consideration.

And finally, all employees must work as a team to protect themselves and others from injury.

An examination of the sections with good safety records shows that all have in common a terrific team spirit, with each team member holding himself responsible for his own safety and that of workmates.

My involvement in safety work has brought me into contact with a lot of people, and I am glad of the opportunity now to thank those who have given me assistance over the years.

If I can leave the Commission with a last message, I would say it would do wonders for our safety record if all SEC employees always had in their minds the words of the anonymous philosopher who said—

"And the end of industrial safety is that the workman shall live to enjoy the fruits of his labour; that his mother shall have the comfort of his arm in her age; that his wife shall not be untimely a widow; that his children shall have a father, and that cripples and hopeless wrecks who were once strong men shall no longer be a by-product of industry".

PRIZES FOR THE 'SAFE' TEAMS



Mechanical maintenance cleaners at Hazelwood have a hazardous and often unpleasant job, involving a number of monotonous tasks; factors which could well lead to an unsatisfactory safety record.

However, by accepting safety as a challenge, HPS cleaners have built an enviable safety record, described at a safety award presentation at Yallourn last month as "second to none in the power industry in Australia".

The speaker was Power Station Superintendent (HQ) Don Clark, a former Hazelwood PSS who presented a 250,000 manhour safety award pennant and certificate to Group 10 cleaners and 100,000 manhour award to their Group II Colleagues.

He said that the efforts of the two groups, which have now reached 270,086 and 124,470 hours without disabling injury, were setting a pattern for other groups in the Commission.

Mr. Clark gave credit for the outstanding safety record to station management, supervisors and cleaners themselves.

He said they obviously followed closely the mathematical equation for success in safety devised by safety officer Ray "Albert Einstein" Wilkinson — TEAMWORK + COMMON SENSE =

GOOD SUPERVISION.
LEADS TO ACCIDENT PREVENTION.

(Continued Page 11)

Members of Hazelwood Power Station's mechanical maintenance cleaning groups 10 and II, each with an outstanding safety record, pictured during a break from work last week

A SAFE 100,000 MAN HOURS

The Morwell Transport group's excellent safety record was recognised on November 14 when Departmental Administrative Officer Neville Thompson took time out to present a safety pennant and an award of merit for 100,000 accident-free hours. Most of the group's 37 drivers were present when truckdriver Geoff Sawyer accepted the award on their behalf.

The achievement, Neville Thompson said, should be held in high regard, in view of the hazardous nature of Transport Operations.

One had only to look at the carnage on our highways to realise that road safety requires considerable care and co-operation, he said.

Part-time safety officer in Administration, John Pemberton, who added his congratulations, sounded a note of warning when he pointed out that with two disabling injuries already reported in the Administration group for the 1974/75 period, a big effort was required from all personnel to ensure that the accident rate was kept at the lowest possible level.

Hard hat parade

The hard-hat has become a common-place sight at all industrial sites, but few people are aware of its extensive history, which dates from cave-dweller times.

Apparently, the first hard-hat was a turtle shell, worn by cave dwellers to protect their craniums.

Greek and Roman warriors looked after their skulls, and mediaeval knights included headpieces in their armor when jousting or in deadly combat.

The Derby hat, reinforced with several coats of shellac and padded with cotton waste was among the earliest modern safety helmets, but it was not until after World War 1 that industrial-type safety helmets came into their own.

The Bullard helmet (pictured below) of canvas layers glued together was among the first, with vulcanised fibre; fibre glass, and now reinforced polymer as the latest refinement in a rapidly developed line of headgear.



Above: The top hat may provide a flamboyant touch, but the message remains the same, protect your head.

Left: The times, they are a 'chargin' — and so is the safety helmet, a far cry today from the old, but effective, Bullard helmet.

The old Derby and top-hat possessed unusual strength, consequently providing useful protection for the industrial worker.

In our picture, we have a fashion-conscious GI wearing a top-hat during a ditch-digging project in a recently taken European town during World War 2.

His fellow GI is wearing the standard army helmet, a more conventional approach to the problem of self protection.

Which is good news for the workman when that potential head-breaking accident occurs ask any member of the Turtle Club.

TRANSPORT MEN AIM TO KEEP ON DRIVING

Safety conscious drivers from Transportation, Morwell, gained their reward last month when Departmental Administration Officer Neville Thompson presented them

with a 100,000 man hour safety award certificate and pennant.



retirements



PATRICK QUIGLEY

They could almost be called the "retiring" Quigleys . . . former canteen attendant Elizabeth Quigley ended her career with the Commission in September, and now she has been joined by her husband Patrick, a patrolman who was farewelled by workmates on November 25. Pat has been a popular figure around the patrol area for the past 19 years; he signed on in 1950 as a laborer and worked his way through a variety of jobs, ranging from laborer to distillate tanker driver. In 1955 he settled into the position of patrolman, where he remained until retirement. At the send-off, Assistant Departmental Administrative Officer Bob Bigelow commended Pat on his fine career and congratulated him on the pair of binoculars and the electric shaver he received from workmates.

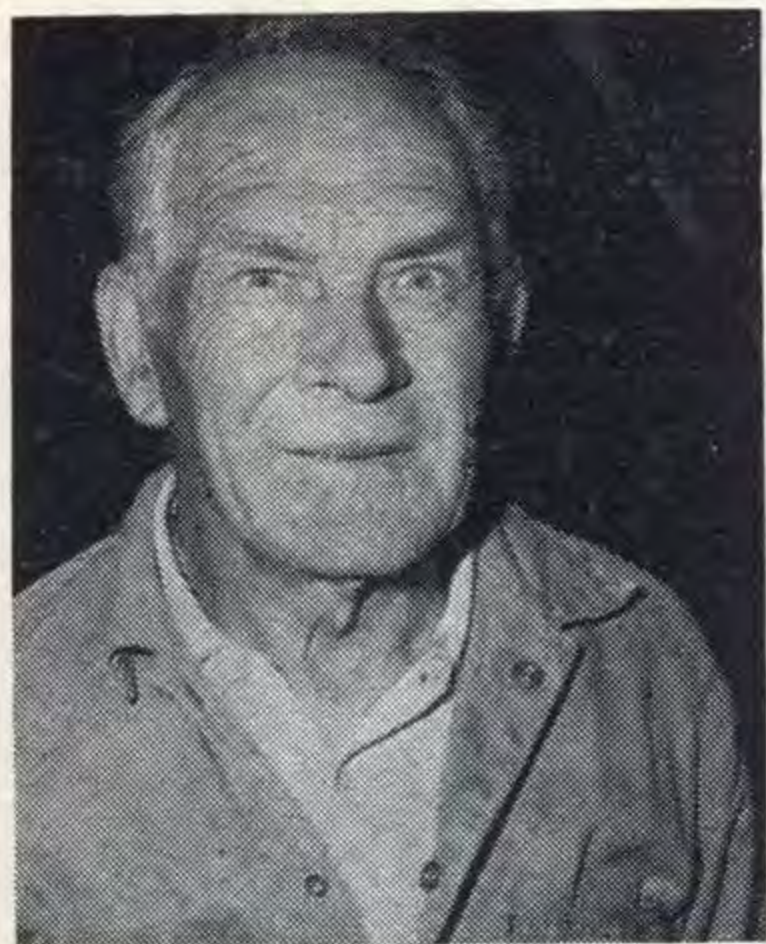
JOCK EGAN

A travelling man . . . that's the apt description of rigger Jock Egan, who left the Commission for the last time on November 22. Jack has been in and out of the Commission a number of times during his working life. In 1929/30, he worked as a linesman's assistant on a tower line between Pakenham and Richmond; he worked in Yallourn Open Cut during 1934/36 (as well as being an excellent player for Yallourn Football Club); and in 1948 began a five year stay at Kiewa. Jock began his final, and longest, stint with the Commission in 1960 as a rigger with Coal Division, Morwell, where he remained until retirement. It would not be exaggerating to say that Jock's nomadic nature had a big say in the selection of his going-away gifts — a travelling case, an overnight bag and a travelling rug.

CYRIL FRITH

Cyril Frith, who retired from the Commission on November 22 after more than 33 years' service, will be missed around the place — and not only because of his skill at installing and repairing telephone systems. Wherever he went, Cyril made a good impression with his helpful and friendly approach. One of the "old school" who recalls the days when cable was laid by manual, horse-drawn plough, Cyril spent almost his entire

SEC career at Yallourn. As telephones engineer Stan Brown commented at his farewell, Cyril has been "up poles, down holes, inside tunnels and beneath floors". On one classic occasion, he was stuck for a time beneath the Yallourn Hospital floor, but extricated himself, Stan alleged, when he saw the nurse prepare an injection. In retirement, Cyril will be able to enjoy to the full his varied interests, which include motor cycles, orchids, photography and electronics.



TOM TAYLOR

Yallourn Power Station lost one of its finest workers when Tom Taylor, a rigger at Yallourn for his entire 19 years with the Commission, said farewell to his workmates at a special send-off in the "C" station canteen on November

26. Noted for his interest and participation in employee welfare groups, Tom was treasurer of the local social club; secretary of the Yallourn branch of the A.E.V., and was closely associated with first-aid and efforts to solve superannuation problems.

Outside of work, Tom is active in community affairs. He is president of the St. Vincent De Paul Society and an honorary member of the Probation Officers Association. Power Station Superintendent Don Bromilow made mention of Tom's excellent record, both within the Commission and outside, when presenting him with a two-speed drill for himself and a bouquet of flowers for Mrs. Taylor.

STAN MILLS

A Black and Decker power saw was presented to Stan Mills by C/W/E Tom Stillman, when he was farewelled at the Yallourn carpenters shop on November 22 by a very large crowd of workmates. In his 19 years with the Commission, Stan built up a good service record which drew praise from fellow workmate Ross Miles and Overseer Maurie O'Neill. Apart from brief spells as a cleaner and builders laborer, Stan has been actively engaged in the carpentry trade for most of his Commission life. He signed on as a carpenter with the YPS in 1955, and in 1960, transferred across to Civil Works, Yallourn, where he remained until retirement.



retirements

CLEM FOY

A peaceful retirement on the sun-drenched Gold Coast — that's what the future holds for Yallourn identity Clem Foy who ended a 40 year career with the Commission with a well-attended farewell presentation at Yallourn on November 20. Clem joined the Commission as a linesman's as-

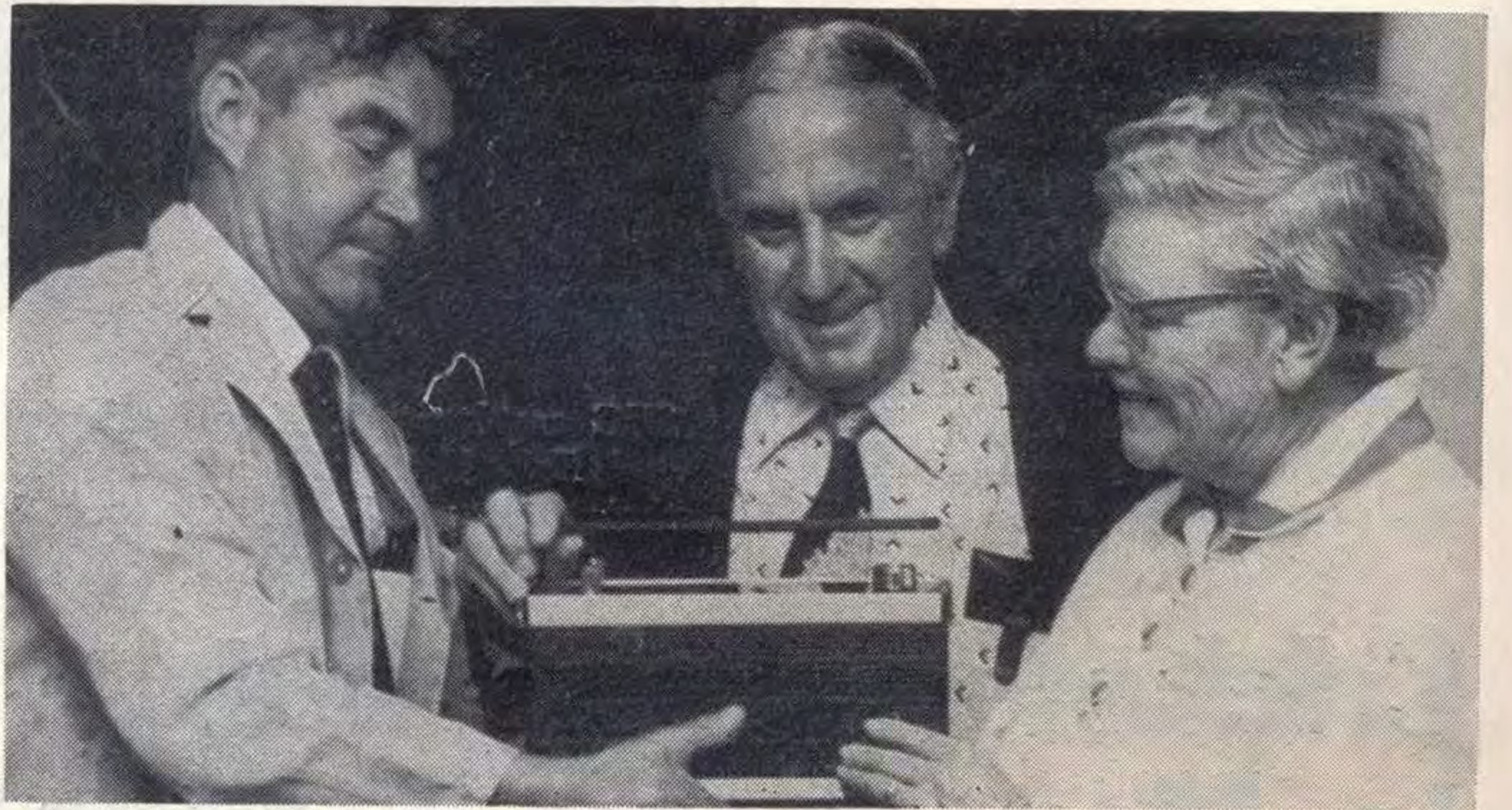
sistant at Ballarat, but soon became associated with transportation, firstly at Ballarat and then at Richmond. He transferred to the Latrobe Valley area in 1947 as Supervisor, Transport Services, Yallourn, a post he held until 1964 when he was reclassified Overseer Grade 1, where he remained until retirement. Clem's work brought him

into contact with outside transportation bodies, which explains why Mr. Dennis Quinn, Officer in Charge of the Transport Regulations Board, and Mr. Tom Furlonger, Managing Director of Latrobe Valley Buslines, were both at the farewell to add their best wishes, Special Officer (LV) Graham Black presented Clem with fishing gear,



GABRIEL STONE

A stay of 27 years with the Commission ended for Gabriel Stone on November 11 when he was farewelled by his workmates in the Y.P.S. Administration Building lecture room. Assistant Station Operations Engineer Bob Miller presented Gabriel with a transistor radio and congratulated him on a fine service record, mainly with Coal Production. Gabriel began in 1947 as a laborer with Coal, but two years later took on loco driving, a task he performed until 1970; he then transferred to Power and Generation as a ditch bunker loader driver, where he remained until retirement.



JOE GRIMA

Joe Grima really scooped the pool when he retired on November 12 after a 24 year stay with the Commission. A large crowd of workmates was at the Yallourn Workshops to see Workshops Superintendent Alan Ellis present Joe with an electric fan, electric clock and carpet sweeper. Joe, a rigger for his entire Commission life, is a colorful identity throughout the Workshops area. His retirement will not mean a complete break between the Grima family and the Commission; he has four sons currently working for the Commission who will carry on the good work while he takes a well-earned rest and spends much of his time in and around his garden.



BRIAN OKE

Gifts of a digital clock/radio and a set of bowling ball cleaners were made to Brian Oke of Coal Production, Yallourn, when he was farewelled by his workmates on November 22. Brian began 17 years ago as a laborer with Mechanical Construction, and worked through the posts of trades assistant and 3rd class machinist before returning as a second class machinist. Mechanical Maintenance Superintendent Keith Taylor, Overseer Bob Dunlop and fellow workmate Bob Moss all spoke highly of Brian's service.



the sporting scene

Bowling runs in the family

Yallourn Civil Construction Supervisor Eric Holt and Hazelwood fitter Lindsay Steel are both interested in sport, but when it comes to bowls, they each take a back seat to their wives.

Eric's wife Una, one of Gippsland's most accomplished woman bowlers, has a number of titles to her credit, and with daughter Lorraine Steel, was on the track this month of yet another.

Una and Lorraine, who worked with the SEC for five years—she was the first typist in the Management Wing—took part in zone eliminations to select Gippsland's representatives in the State pairs championships.

The finals will be in Melbourne.

Una Holt's record as a bowler is well known in sporting circles, but Lorraine is a relative newcomer to the sport.

She has one singles title to her credit—at the Newborough Club, of which she is president.

Sporting prowess apparently runs in the family, and if the women can get the bowls message across to their husbands, the two couples should make a formidable opponent in any mixed fours company.



SEC employees Lindsay Steel (right) and Eric Holt take a back seat to their wives Una Holt and her

daughter Lorraine Steel when it comes to bowls, a sport in which they make a formidable combination.

Cricketers miss out to Monash-by 7 runs

Yallourn cricketers in the SEC Social League cricket competition blotted their copybook when they went down by seven runs to Monash House in a thrilling finish at Yallourn on November 24.

However, with a win in the previous round over 1973-74 premiers Clements House, Yallourn are well in the running for competition honors. Victory in the match at Yallourn on December 15 against Footscray/Brooklyn would be a great Christmas present for the team.

The match against Monash House ended on a high note, with Monash requiring eight runs from the last over

to force victory. They achieved their target with some solid batting.

Earlier, Yallourn's Reg Bacon (60 not out) and Merv Graham (36) had done well with the bat in their team's total of 9/132.

Top bowler for Yallourn was Andy Leishman (3/24).

Yallourn has been boosted this year by newcomers Lindsay Muller, Spig Ciercan and Robert Knight, a more than useful bowler.

The team is captained by John White, with Trevor French as his deputy.

Golf trophy moves out

State Electricity Commission golfers in the Latrobe Valley will have to sharpen up their game.

That is, if they hope to regain the Aitken Bowl, which was captured by an APM team in the annual SEC-APM golf day round at Traralgon on November 16.

The 71 entrants in the stableford event had a great round, played under ideal conditions, with APM scoring a clear-cut victory, 880 points to 838. Top performers for the SEC were Lindsay Johnson (A grade), who returned a score of 42 points, and B grader John McCrea, who won on countback from Rod Doig.

Both scored 36 points.

Lindsay Johnson also won the Maryvale Trophy.

A challenging future...

Considerable thought and planning activity has gone on since the establishment on October 28 of the four new local departments within the Operations Group.

The point has now been reached at which I can outline details of divisional structures in these departments and announce some appointments at divisional and group head level.

That is the purpose of this four-page Contact feature, which is, in fact, an interim report on developments since re-organisation of the former Latrobe Valley Department was first announced some months ago.

I said then that detailed re-organisation would be gradual, over a period of 12 months or more, and that you would be kept advised of progress.

The decisions taken so far are important to us all, and for that reason we have moved to ensure that the whole workforce is quickly brought up to date with developments.



Assistant General Manager (Operations)

Mr. Bill De Campo—responsible for the four departments in the Latrobe Valley, plus the Melbourne-based Production Co-ordination and Transmission Operations Departments.

Under Mr. De Campo, all main operating activities belong to the one operation group.

Material for this feature was delivered to the printers on the same day that matters with which it deals were approved by the Chairman.

Of course, the next step is to look at the remainder of our organisation, below the divisional head level.

That is a task which will be given the same careful consideration which has characterised the development of departmental and divisional structures.

While the process has been painstaking — some

may even feel it has been drawn-out — I believe we have sound reasons for "hastening slowly".

It should be appreciated that our new structure must carry the organisation forward for some years, and structural changes must therefore be carefully thought out with long-term factors very much in mind.

Equally importantly, people are involved, and their interests must receive the most careful consideration.

That is one reason why I would expect the next stage to extend well into 1975 before being completed.

The re-organisation has gone extremely smoothly so far, with people recognising that changes involving people must be carefully planned.

In effect, the changes aim at rationalising the Commission's operations here in a way which ensures that all members of the workforce have full opportunity to apply their particular abilities.

I am confident that the outcome will be a strengthening of purpose as we gear ourselves to meet the challenges ahead.

With the Loy Yang development almost with us, and the certainty of increased power demands, we face a bright and exciting future.

Changes already made, and those which flow from discussions and consultations in the months ahead will ensure that we are ready to meet our growing and challenging responsibilities.

The first stage of re-organisation within the four local Operations Group departments has been completed.

In this special Contact feature, decisions on departmental structures from manager down to divisional and group level are announced.

Some positions yet to be filled have already been advertised, and others are to be advertised shortly.

The new structures are effective from Monday, February 3, for Coal Production and Power Generation, and from Monday, March 3—subject to several appointments being made—for Area Administration and Engineering Services.

Basically, the four departments will be set up as follows—

Details of appointments are included in the next two pages, and on the fourth page is a broad outline of the responsibilities of the various new groupings.

Departments take shape

● **ENGINEERING SERVICES** (Mr. Max Gray): Civil Services Division, Mechanical Services Division, Headquarters Division, Metallurgical Group, Commercial Group.

● **AREA ADMINISTRATION** (Mr. George Bates, Manager): Secretarial Division, Finance Division, Materials and Services Division, Personnel Division, Public Relations Group.

● **COAL PRODUCTION** (Mr. Jack Vines, Manager): Morwell Open Cut Division, Yallourn Open Cut Division, Headquarters Division, Commercial Group.

● **POWER GENERATION** (Mr. Jack Robertson, Manager): Yallourn Power Station Division, Yallourn "W" Power Station Division, Hazelwood Power Station Division, Morwell Briquette and Power Division, Newbort/Richmond Power Station Group, Commercial Group.

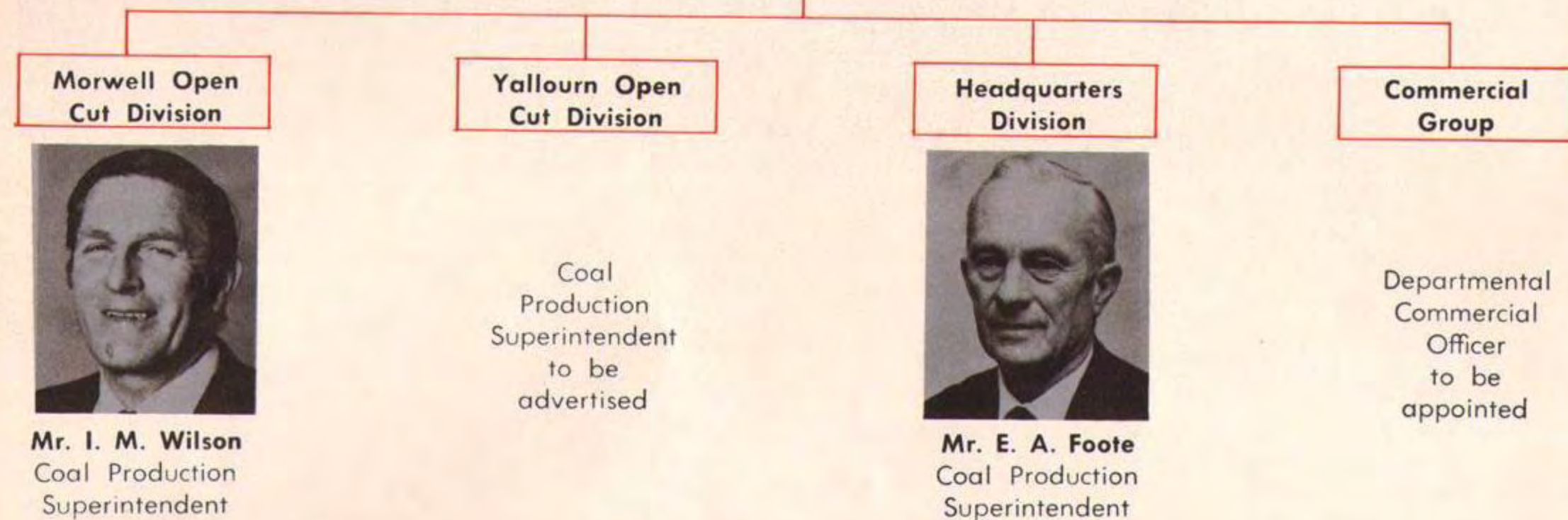
Coal Production Department

WHO'S WHO IN THE DEPARTMENTAL STRUCTURE

Engineering Services Department



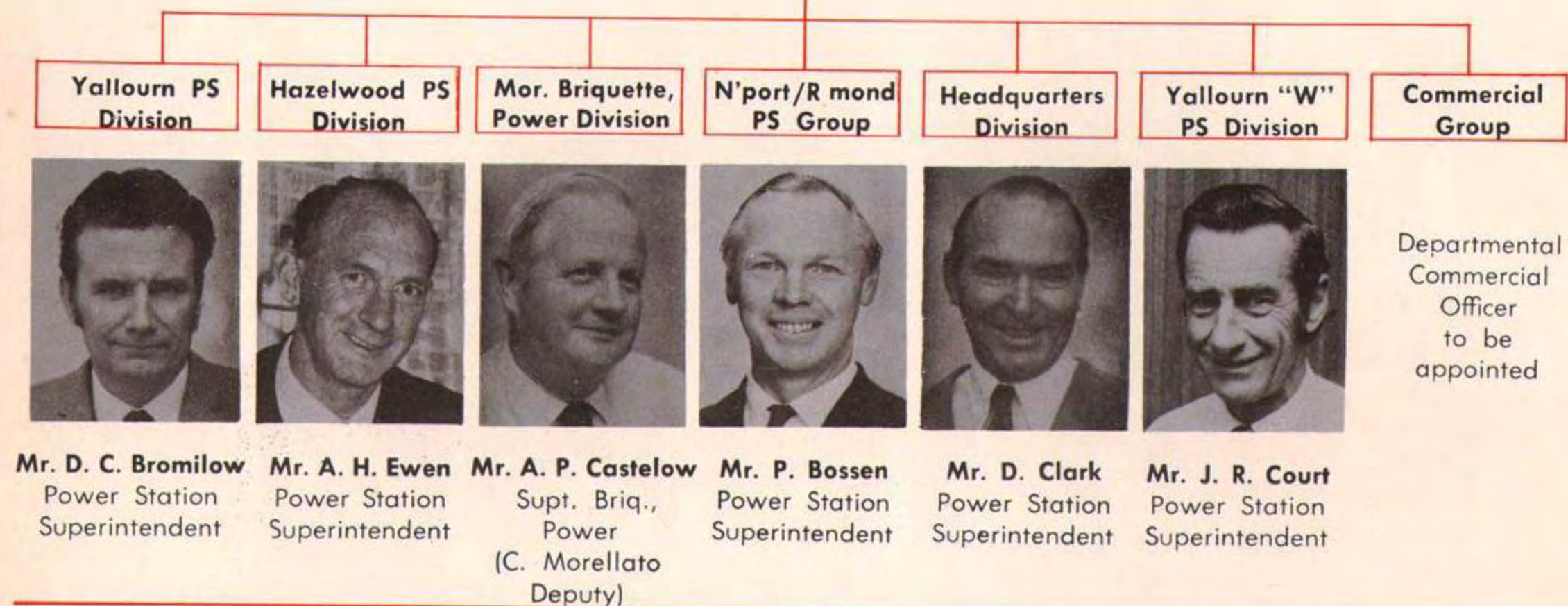
MR. J. A. VINES
MANAGER



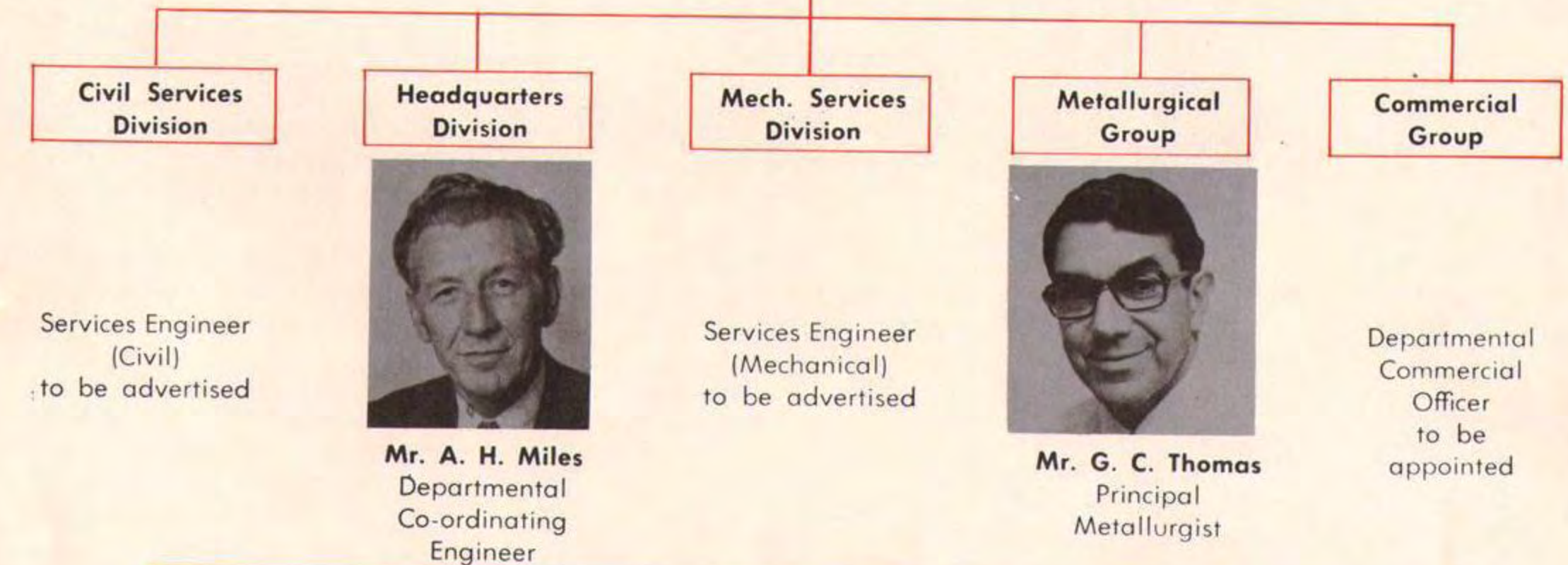
Power Generation Department



MR. J. J. ROBERTSON
MANAGER



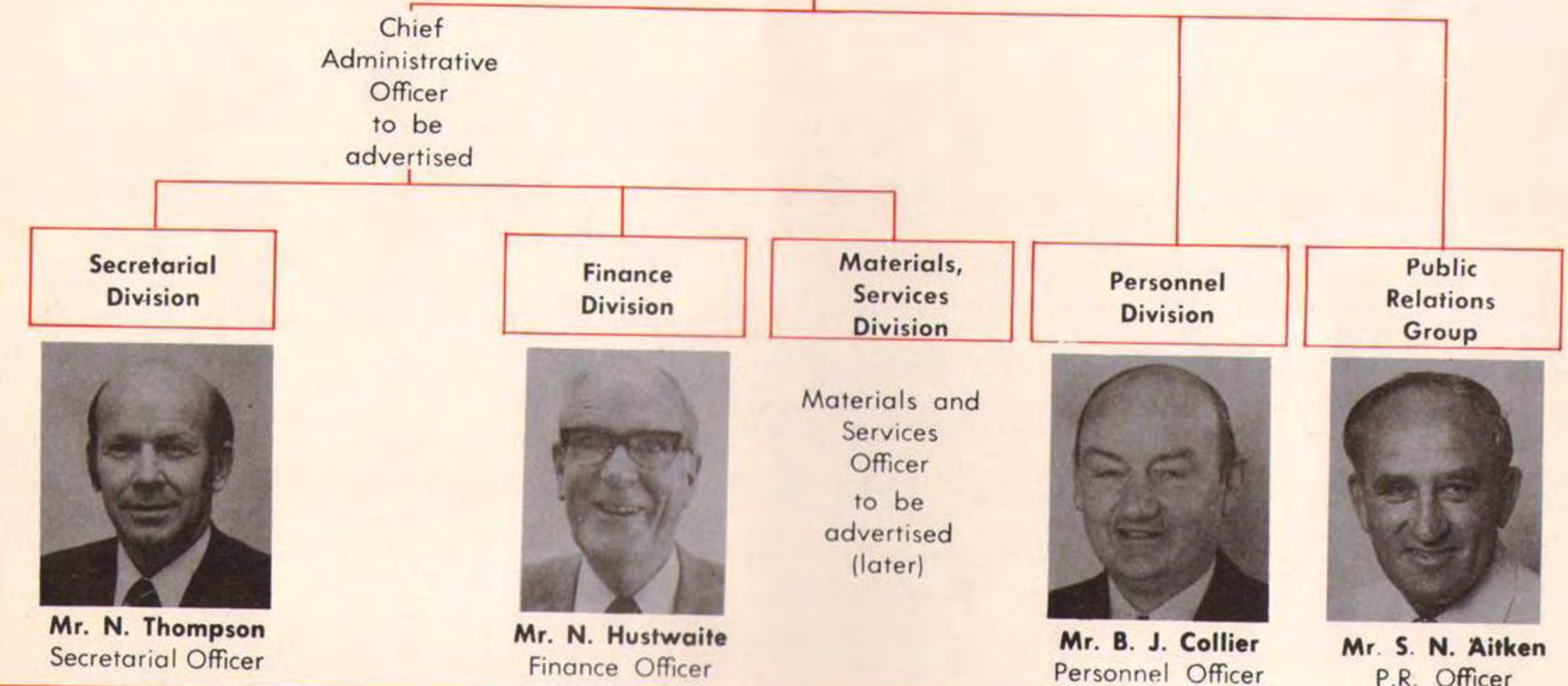
MR. M. F. A. GRAY
MANAGER



Area Administration Department



MR. G. W. BATES
MANAGER



As presently constituted, the responsibilities of each department located in the Latrobe Valley are summarised below.

Coal Production

The Coal Production Department has three divisions and a commercial group.

The Morwell Open Cut Division and the Yallourn Open Cut Division have similar responsibilities, which include — in their respective areas — coal operations, overburden operations, auxiliary operations, and electrical and mechanical maintenance.

The Yallourn Open Cut Division has the additional responsibility of Yallourn North Extension open cut operations.

The Headquarters Division will undertake operations planning, liaison on new developments and investigative work.

It will also have an overall responsibility for plant.

Coal Production Superintendents may expect to transfer between open cuts and/or headquarters from time to time.

Power Generation

Directs activities of all Latrobe Valley-based power stations, the briquette works and the Newport/Richmond power stations.

Power Station superintendents from Yallourn Power Station Division, Yallourn "W" Power Station Division, Hazelwood Power Station Division and Morwell Briquette and Power Division all report to the Manager, Power Generation, as does the Power Station Superintendent of Newport/Richmond Power Station Group.

As has been the practice, power station superintendents may periodically transfer between power stations and headquarters.

Melbourne-based elements of the Operations Group are not affected by the changes announced today.

In the Transmission Operations Department, Ray Greenwood — who is in charge of the Latrobe Valley Division — will continue to report to Bob Stainforth as Deputy C.E.T.O., with Ted Foers continuing as C.E.T.O. until his retirement at the end of the year.

Production Co-ordination Department, located in Melbourne under Alan Maguire as C.E.P.C., is the remaining department in the group.

Engineering Services

The Engineering Services Department fills a wide range of functions.

Within the Engineering Services Department, the Civil Services Division will have responsibility for civil works at Yallourn and Morwell, and for provision of survey services.

Mechanical Services Division responsibilities include operation of mechanical, transport and general workshop facilities at Yallourn and Morwell, as well as the mechanical services modification group.

Drawing offices also go to Mechanical Services Division.

Headquarters Division will liaise with other departments, instrumentalities and local municipalities in relation to local civil work activities.

The Departmental Planning Group has been disbanded and members of the group have either been incorporated into the Department or transferred to other departments.

The Metallurgical Group will provide a centralised metallurgical service.

Area Administration

Combines the functions of the previous personnel, commercial and administration, public relations and management services groups.

The new Secretarial Division will have responsibility in the areas of security and general area administration, property, central records and secretarial. Claims is listed under the Secretarial Division, but the Claims Detachment is at this stage still responsible to Claims Division (Head Office).

Departmental Commercial Officer Mr. Ron Osborne, who has indicated his intention to seek early retirement, will move to the non-recurring position of Special Officer to the Manager, Area Administration.

Among responsibilities of the Finance Division are disbursements, payrolls, timekeeping, central costs and accounting, area administration budgets.

Material supply, transportation, catering and cleaning all come under the Materials and Services Division.

Personnel Division is responsible for industrial relations, personnel services, training and development, and management services.

Within the ambit of the Public Relations Group are external relations and employee information.