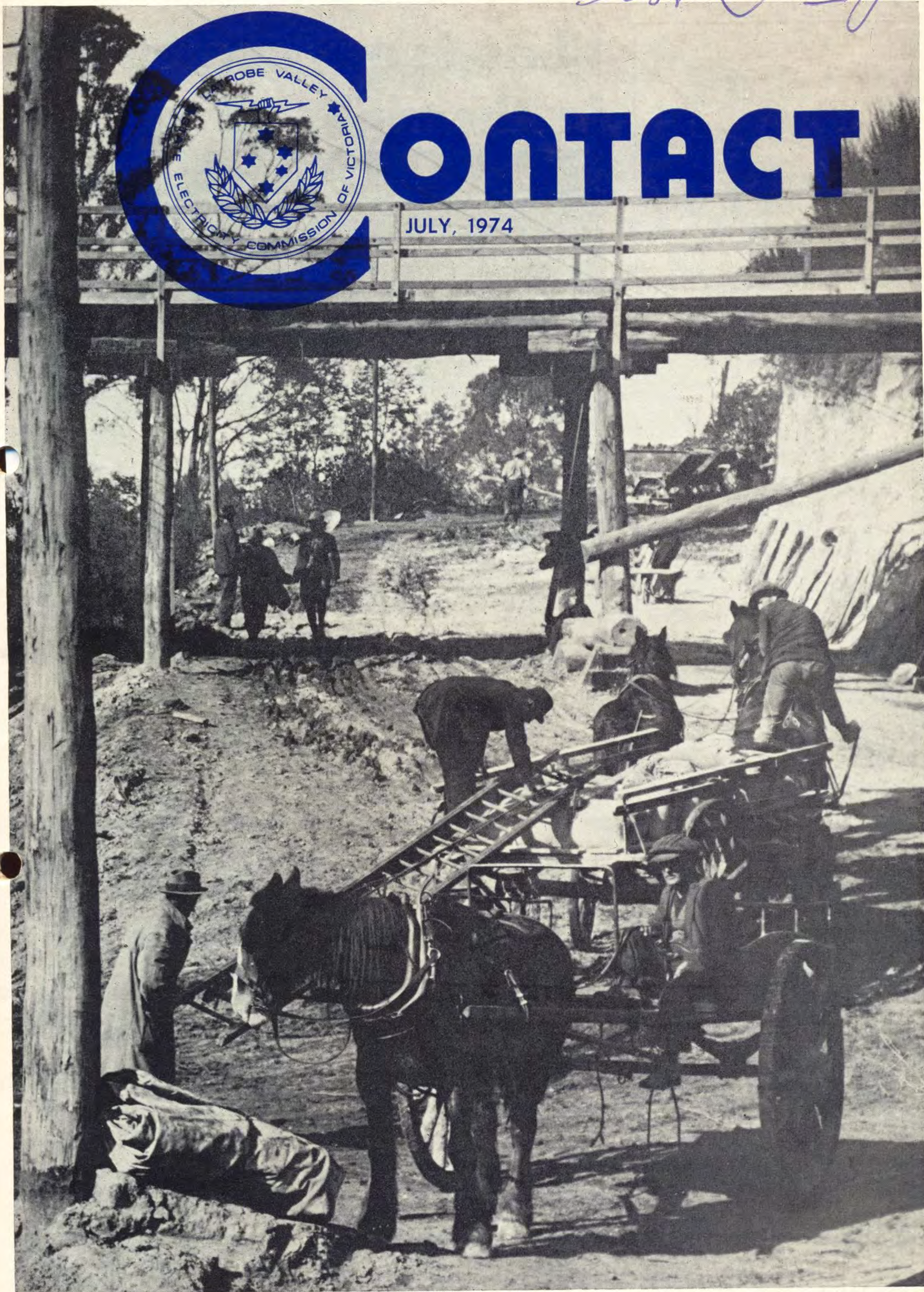


Rooney



CONTACT

JULY, 1974



contact



Prepared for the State Electricity Commission's Latrobe Valley Department by the LV Public Relations Section

Editor: Kevin Richardson

Cover

Things have changed since the "horse and buggy" days when this picture was taken at the Yallourn Open Cut. The shot was taken in the 1920's, not long after engineers had set into operation the first 12.5 megawatt turbo-generator at Yallourn, initiating the first flow of brown coal-produced electricity to Melbourne. The 50th anniversary of that occasion was celebrated on June 16. See page 7.

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Chris is an apprentice in the right mould



SECOND-YEAR State Electricity Commission apprentice Chris Elloy has won a State-wide award for ferrous moulding.

Chris, who works in the Commission's Yallourn Workshops, under the eye of foreman Aub Zemek, was the State's top first-year moulding apprentice in the field of classwork, (theory and practice).

He received his award from CSIRO Senior Research Scientist Mr. H. A. Stephens during an impressive pre-

sentation ceremony at Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology last month.

The head of the School of Foundry Technology, Mr. N. J. McGaw, was the Chairman in charge of proceedings.

The Commission was represented at the function by Mechanical Services Superintendent, Charles Prust.

Chris, who attends extended training classes at RMIT each year is pictured with Foundry Foreman, Aub Zemek.

DRIVER EDUCATION

THE LV Department's 1200-plus SEC-licensed drivers should become more skilled and better informed as a result of a driver appreciation course now under way in earnest at the Education and Training Centre.

The course, being conducted by Senior Technical Instructor from Fishermans Bend Norm Beuster—assisted by other instructors and several Valley helpers—is a response to a continuing high level of vehicle accidents here.

Eighty drivers completed the one-day course during June, and from now until September 13, classes will be conducted five days weekly to cover all drivers.

In classes of 20, drivers attend four-hour lecture sessions, including films, before leaving on a 40-minute drive

during which they are free to comment on and criticise their demonstration drivers.

Then its back to the classroom for a discussion and more films.

LV officers assisting the course instructors have all undertaken a four-day training program in Melbourne before exposing their driving techniques to critical analysis.

The course covers points such as:—

- the effect of alcohol on driving performance,
- vehicle safety, tyre safety,
- driving to a system, and
- road law.

See page 12 for a message from the Manager on safety, and Valley vehicle accident statistics.

Seeking answers on pollution

A small (relatively) pilot precipitator which has just gone into action at Yallourn Power Station is expected to produce some vital answers to curly questions within the next six months.

The plant, installed at a cost of \$35,000, could arm the Commission with the facts it needs effectively to deal with the extremely light, fluffy fly ash characteristic of some Yallourn coal.

It also could come up with some answers to a persistent char problem regarded by some as the major villain of the piece in Yallourn smoke stacks.

Engineer Eric Rendell, who has been on the scene since work began about seven weeks ago on the pilot precipitator, will lead the test team.

The precipitator is on loan from Howdens, manufacturers of the Yallourn "E" units.

A major function at Yallourn will be to test a CSIRO theory that the presence of char in the fine fly ash has a marked adverse effect on the precipitation process.

The problem is accentuated at Yallourn by the fluffy nature of some of the fly ash which is in sharp contrast to the situation at Hazelwood, where the ash is about four times heavier.

Precipitation is a process which has caused headaches throughout the world.

Varying loads, different grades of coal and a wide range of operating conditions are a barrier to the simple answer for all power station situations.

However, Yallourn "E" and "W" stations could benefit from the pilot

plant's controlled view of the precipitation process, and the effects of char on performance.

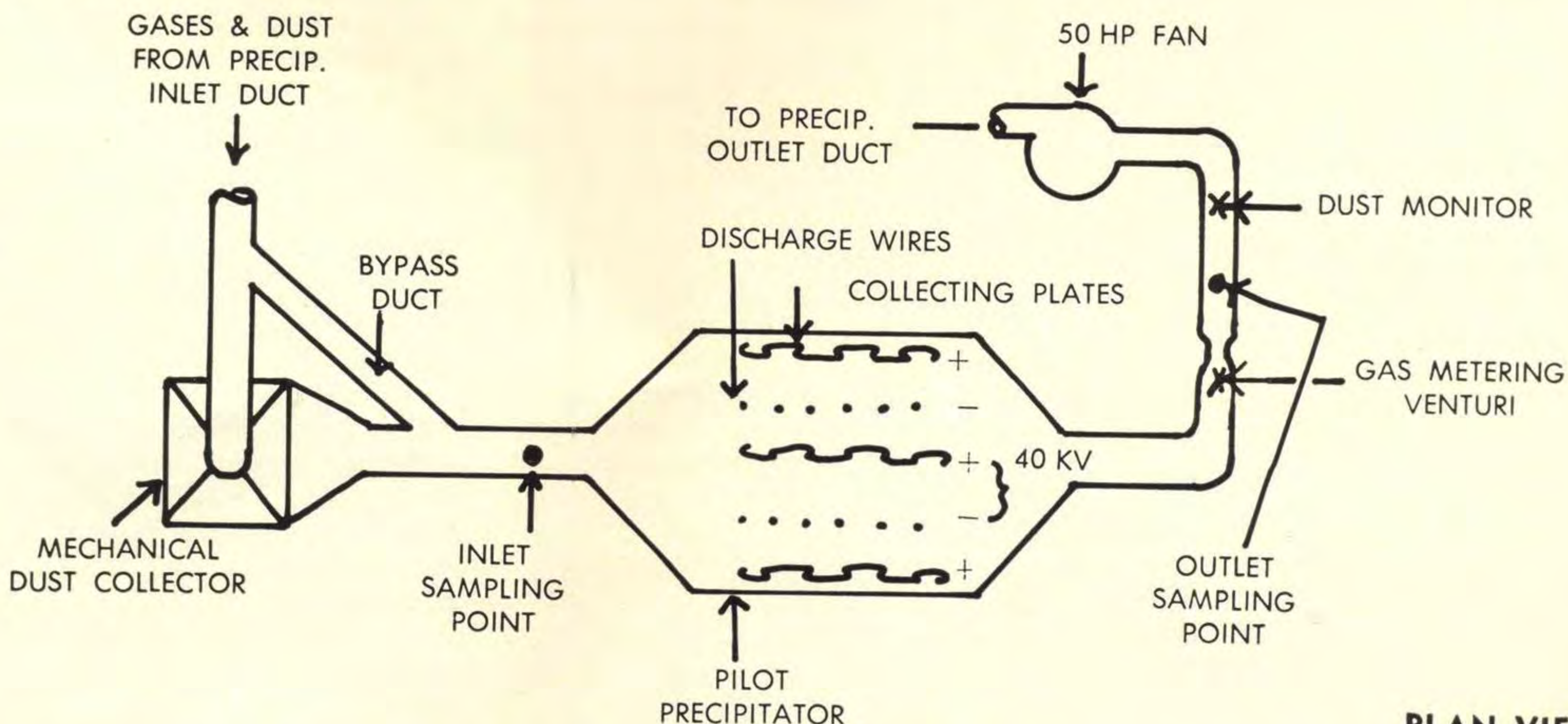
During the test period, highspeed photography will be used to give engineers a clear view of the activity of the dust layer on the electrodes during service conditions.

A full working model of a large-scale precipitator, the pilot plant is located at YPS between E1 north and E1 south precipitators.

It makes possible a wide range of experimentation which would be impractical and far too costly on a large plant during normal operation.

Tests will determine precipitator efficiency at various voltages, temperatures and gas velocities—and some experiments will be carried out on electrode design and rapping variations.

This line drawing illustrates the way in which the pilot precipitator operates, drawing a sample of flue gas from the inlet duct of the main precipitator for treatment and measuring before being passed back to the precipitator outlet. Openings into the pilot precipitator, and a high-speed camera, give engineers a clear insight into precipitator operation. Diagram of operation below.



PLAN VIEW

A sample of flue gas is taken directly from the inlet duct of E1 north precipitator and passed through the pilot precipitator via a mechanical collector or its bypass duct.

The gas is then returned to the outlet duct of E1 north precipitator via a 50hp fan.

The pilot precipitator consists of three

curtains of collecting plates spaced $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches apart. The two discharge wire curtains are suspended from insulators midway between the plates.

A voltage of 40kv is applied across the discharge wires and collecting plates, setting up an electric field which charges the dust particles,

causing them to be attracted to the plates.

At regular intervals, the electrodes are rapped, and the dust falls into hoppers at the bottom.

The walls of the pilot precipitator are insulated and heated to maintain operating temperatures near 212 degrees centigrade.

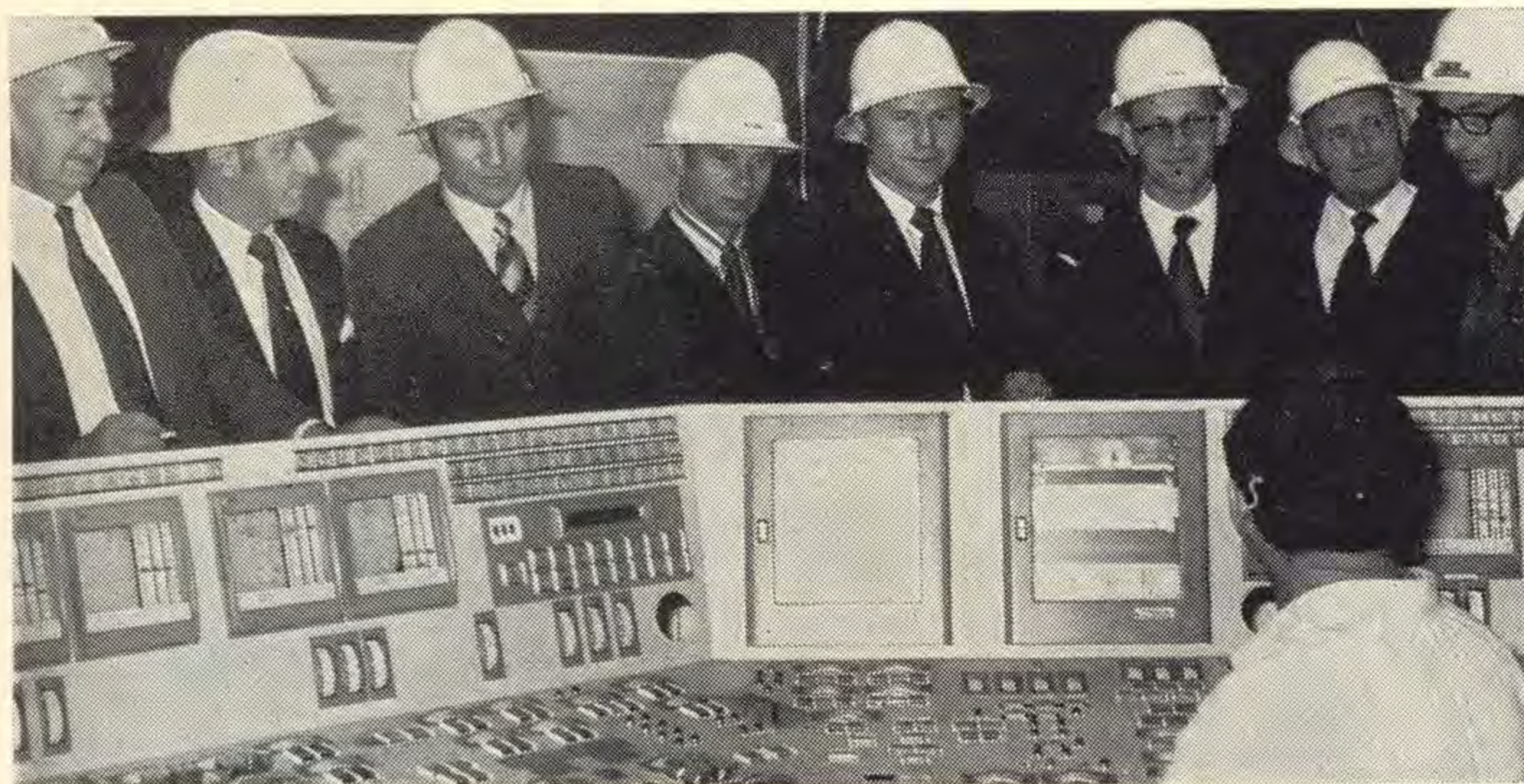
valley visitors



Justice Elizabeth Evatt and Mr. Commissioner Vosti (on her left) pause to chat with Joe Marshalek (left) and Mechanical Services Engineer George Davis during a tour of Yallourn Workshops, where they took the opportunity to meet a number of Commission employees.



Hazelwood APSS Bruce Johnston (left) uses a model to outline power station operation to American Ambassador to Australia, Marshall Green. The Ambassador was escorted on a tour of the Morwell Works Area by the Manager, Bill Schulz.



Below:

Members of a party of engineers from the Peoples' Republic of China are given an insight into Coal Production operation.

Above:

Russian engineers expressed considerable interest in Commission undertakings during extensive inspections at Yallourn and Morwell.



THERE was a distinct international flavor about visitors to the Valley during June . . . including at least one historic "first".

Historic is the only description to apply to the visit on June 13, 14 of a party of engineers from the Peoples Republic of China.

The party of nine engineers, plus a member of the PRC Embassy in Canberra, concentrated almost all of its attention on open cut mining activity.

As well, the visitors spent almost an hour in the Yallourn Central Workshops.

The party, led by Niu yi-Pang, Director of the Coal Production Department of the country's Power Ministry, included five Ministry engineers and three from the Fu-Shun coal mines.

The United States Ambassador to Australia, Marshall Green, spent only two hours at the SEC's Morwell Works Area, but he learned more in his brief stay than most people would absorb in a day.

Accompanied by agricultural attache Fred Lege and his wife Geneva, the Ambassador kept Bill Schulz, Divisional Heads and other SEC personnel busy answering non-stop questions.

Russian engineers from the LMZ organisation in the USSR were guests of the Commission on June 20th.

They inspected Yallourn "W" Power Station; Morwell Open Cut and Hazelwood Power Station in company with representatives of the Russian Embassy in Canberra, and Commission engineers.

CHANGES AT THE TOP

LATROBE Valley Department Manager Bill Schulz transfers to Head Office in Melbourne later this month as a result of organisational changes announced this week.

He becomes Assistant to A.G.M. (Development) Jack Johnson in one of a number of major changes within the Commission.

Control of operations within the Latrobe Valley will rest with A.G.M. (Operations) Bill De Campo, who will spend a substantial part of his time in the Latrobe Valley and will establish a residence here.

The transfer to Melbourne ends a 20 year association with the Valley for Bill.

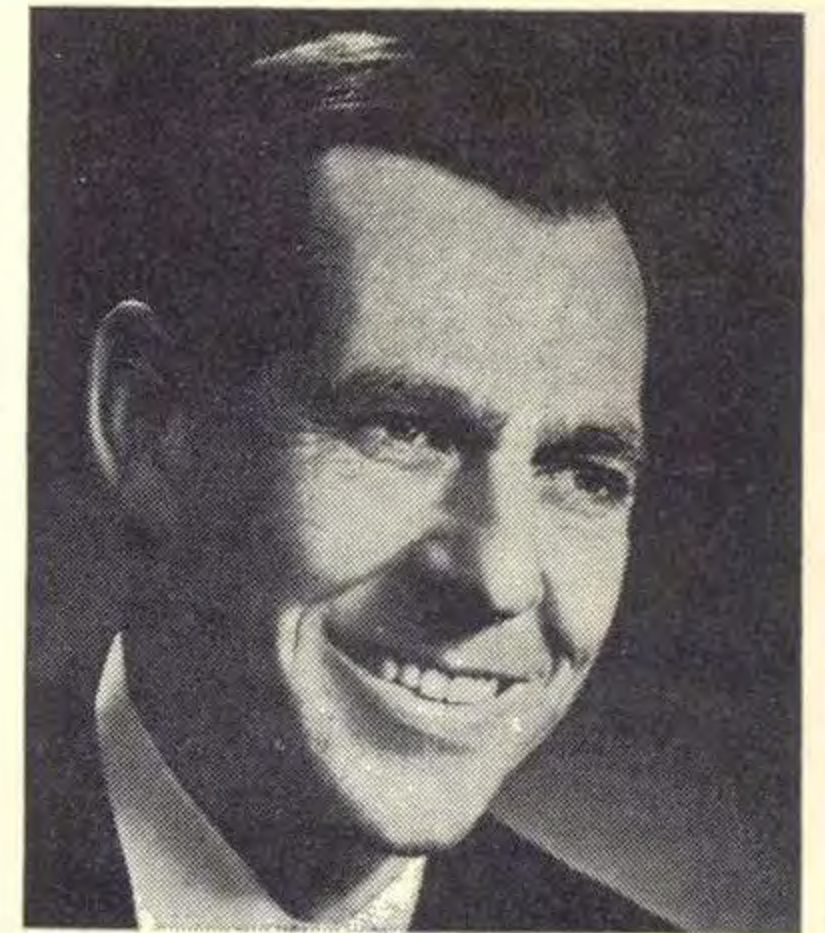
Since joining the Commission in 1954, he has been associated with the development and operations of the Morwell Power and Fuel Undertaking, initially as Construction Engineer and then as Project Manager.

He was appointed Deputy General Superintendent of the LV organisation when it was formed in 1963, and became manager of the LV Department on its formation in 1964.

In 1972, Bill spent four months in Melbourne as Acting Assistant General Manager (Generation and Transmission), and he filled a similar role from July 2 to September 7 last year.



Bill Schulz



Bill De Campo

Amalgamation

MORWELL Briquetting Works and Morwell Power Station have been amalgamated. The amalgamation is the outcome of a feasibility study made following a re-allocation of responsibilities within the Power Division late in 1973.

Uncertainty about the long-term future of the briquetting industry, reflected in some of the findings of the recent personnel survey, led to the amalgamation proposals, which were discussed at length with representatives of staff associations.

Employees are expected to benefit from the amalgamation through opportunities for retraining in the broader aspects of power generation, while the Commission will gain from the economics of combined operation.

Although some changes, including new titles, are effective immediately, it is not expected that the re-organisation will be completed for some time.

Alan Castelov will be Superintendent, Morwell Briquetting and Power Installation; Cyril Morellato will be Deputy Superintendent, and Bob Jobling will be Assistant Briquette Production Superintendent.

THE Latrobe Valley Yacht Club's annual Queen's Birthday Weekend Regatta presented a large crowd of spectators with a colorful spectacle on Hazelwood Pondage.

Ideal weather (for spectators) brought out the crowds, and although the entry of almost 350 yachts would have appreciated a lot more help from the breeze, the event was an outstanding success.

SEC personnel deeply involved in organising the annual race, a three-day event which is attracting interest throughout Australia, worked almost non-stop over the weekend.

The SEC commissioned a color film on the race, condensing some highlights of the yachting and background activity into a running time of about 12 minutes.

That's about as long as it takes for Commodore Ron Court or publicity officer Rod Bennett to complete their introductory remarks about the success of the event.

SPORTING WEEKEND

Golf

LEADING Gippsland golfer Bob Goldie won the 27-hole scratch event at the first Association of Social Clubs' golf tournament on June 16 . . .

. . . but the real winner was the Association itself, which showed by the success of the tournament that SEC social clubs can work together successfully to promote works area-wide events.

There were some flaws in the conduct of the tournament, but as one Association official put it—"The tournament had some lessons for us but we will learn from our mistakes".

Certainly, the success achieved warrants consideration of further tourneys, possibly on an annual basis.

Officials were particularly pleased with the response to the post-tournament social evening, which attracted a crowd of 250. Equally importantly, the tournament covered costs comfortably.

Winners of 27-hole events were scratch: Bob Goldie, 111 off-the-stick; A grade: Les Kite, 118-18, 100, B grade: Keith Kesper, 118-19½, 98½, C grade: Ralph Leditschke, 130-28½, 101½, D grade: John McCafferty, 141-40½, 100½.

Other trophies went to Jack Embry, Terry Salisbury, Ian Smith, Jock Morris, Jack Vines, Stan Le Gassick, Stan Walker, Ken Witchell, Bruce Knight, John Hutchison and Noel Connolly.

Commission - GIAE 'swap'

The Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science at the Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education, Dr. B. R. Groves (left) is pictured with Senior Lecturer Keith Hamilton and Commission chemist Max Griffin following installation of the Institute's newest acquisition.



How the Institute's new acquisition operates...

THE GIAE's newest acquisition is comprised of :—

- an X-ray source consisting of a high voltage generator and tube,
- a crystal spectrometer or spectrograph, where the X-rays are diffracted from the sample,
- a detector which can either be an Argon/Methane mixture gas flow counter or scintillation photo multiplier counter, and,
- a specially designed camera in which the X-rays fall on photographic film in distinctive pattern.

The equipment which employs spectroscopy for element identification and quantitative analysis (X-ray fluorescence), can also use technique of dif-

fraction for compound identification, or X-ray diffraction.

The first technique can be used to identify every element above and including aluminum, atomic No. 13 in the periodic scale.

For example, the technique can provide a determination of vanadium in fuel oil; manganese in aluminium alloy, or titanium in brown coal.

The limit of detection is about 100 parts per million.

The diffraction technique makes possible a fairly complete identification of, for example, a ceramic, boiler fireside deposit, or corrosion product.

Sometimes it is the only method of determining which of the various polymorphic forms of a substance are present.

THE co-operative relationship between the Commission and the Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education was taken a step further last month when the SEC installed research equipment worth \$35,000 at the Institute.

The equipment, a Phillips X-ray Spectrograph Diffraction unit, is used by the analytical chemist to detect and analyse elements and compounds in a wide variety of materials.

Bought originally in 1962 at a cost of £30,000, the equipment was used in the SEC's Hermann Laboratory.

A scanning electron microscope and probe micro-analyser acquired by Hermann Laboratory has taken over the role formerly filled by the Phillips equipment.

Specifically brought by the Commission for inorganic constituent analysis on brown coal to help in the satisfactory processing of coal exploration samples, the Phillips spectrograph saved the Commission £100,000 in its first year of operation.

The Dean of the school of Engineering and Applied Science at GIAE, Dr Brenton Groves, told CONTACT that the equipment would "set the Institute well on the way to a full degree in physics".

It would give the GIAE a capacity well in advance of other colleges of advanced education, and in the physics field, at a level currently found only in universities.

Ideally suited to research studies currently being undertaken at the Institute, the spectrograph equipment completes a chain of equipment used in the range of analytical techniques in chemistry, civil engineering, geology, soil mechanics and metallurgy courses.

He described the Commission's gesture as a significant extension of the already close relationship existing between the SEC and the Institute.

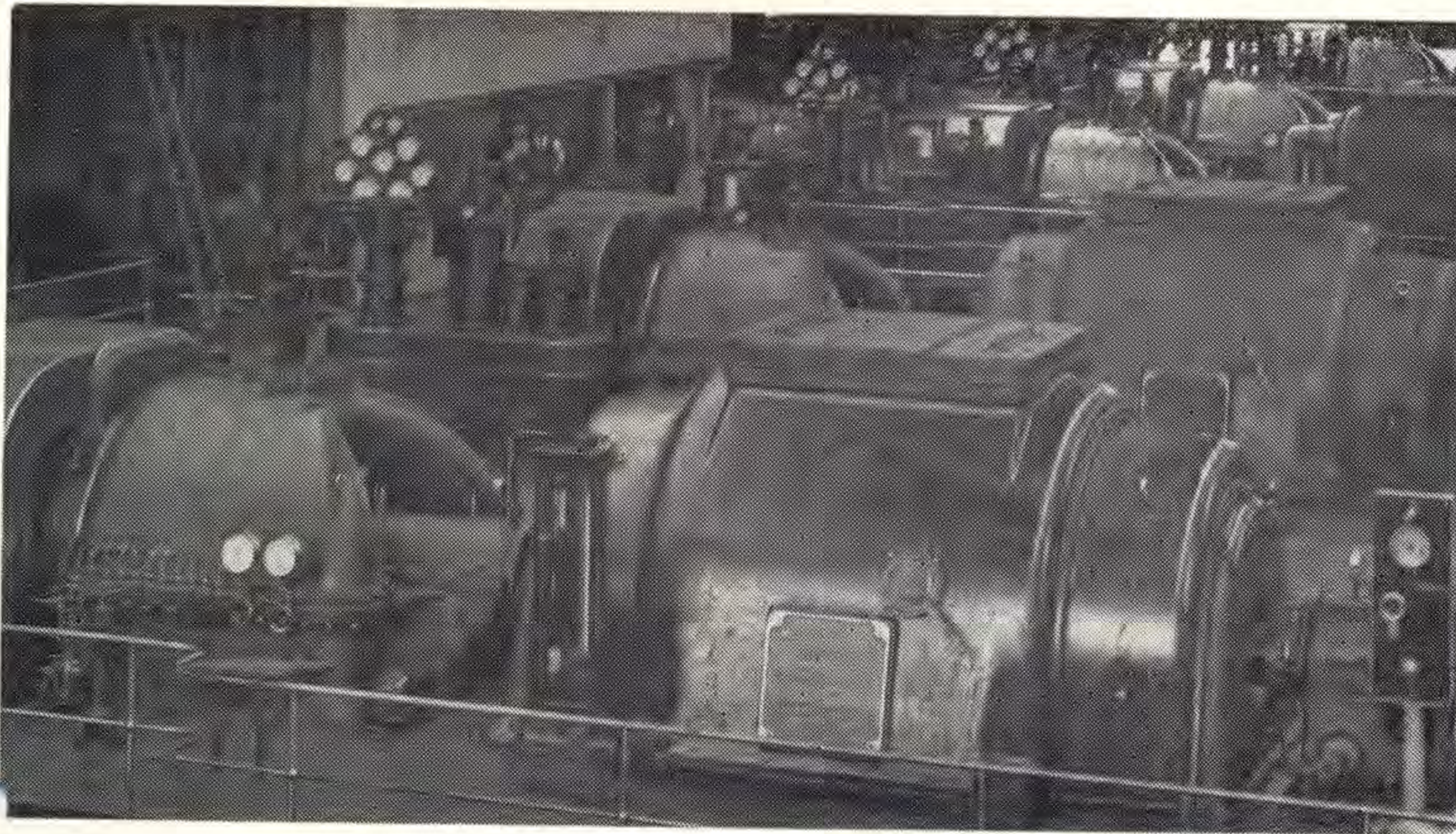
This, he said, had been of mutual benefit to both organisations.

"The Commission has made a number of contributions to the Institute, adding to our ability to bring as wide a range of courses as possible to the Latrobe Valley community.

SEC personnel will be using the equipment to solve some problems which would otherwise involve time-consuming travel to Melbourne.

During the next few months, the Institute will conduct courses for selected SEC personnel in the use of the equipment.

Golden Anniversary for YPS



THE occasion may have passed quietly, but there can be no mistaking the significance of June 16 for Yallourn Power Station, which celebrated its "Golden" anniversary of productive operation.

It was on June 16, 1924, that the first 12.5 megawatt turbo-generator swung into action on the way to its lifetime (284,305 operating hours) production total of 2,828,461,300 Kwh of electricity.

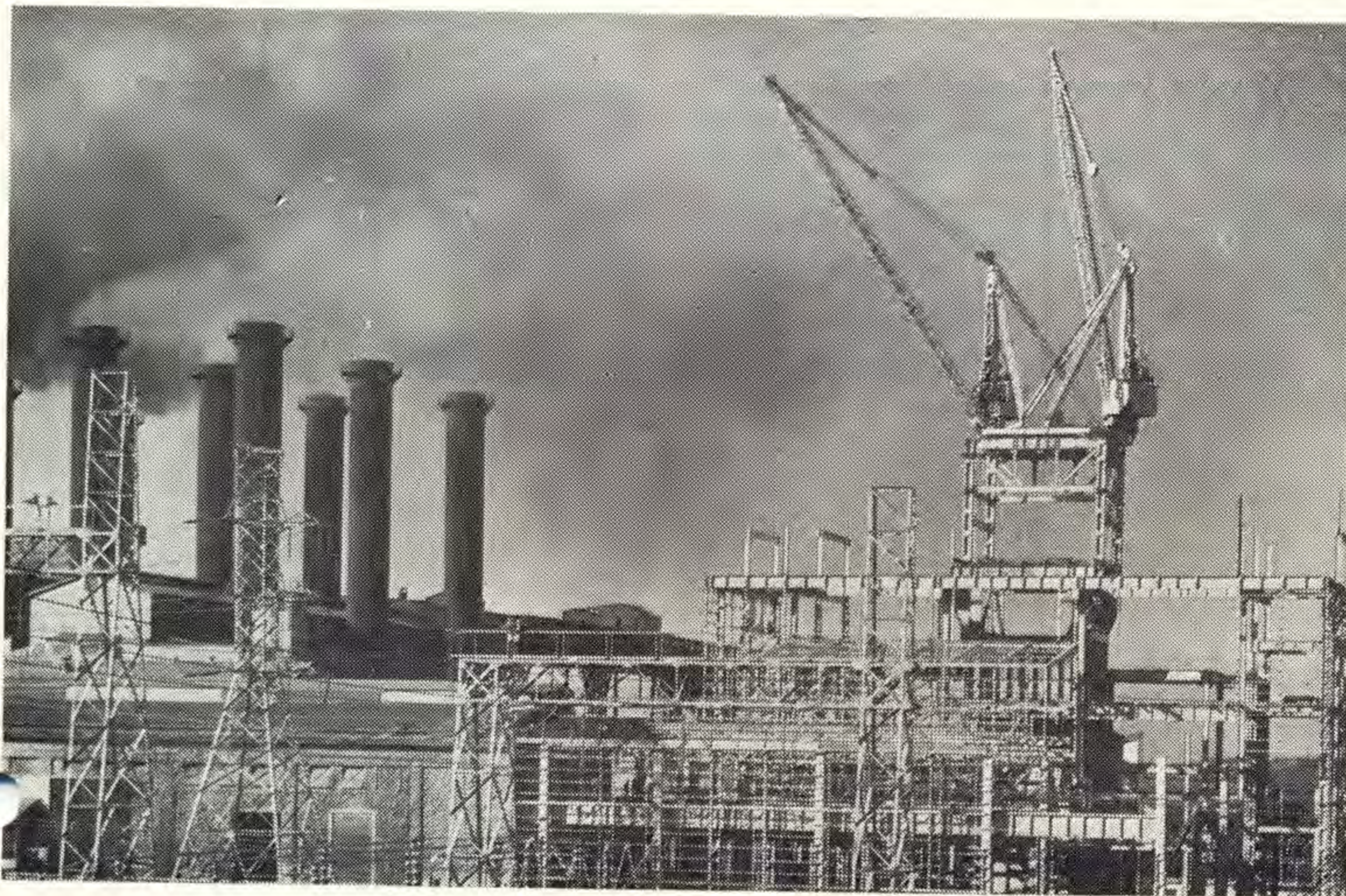
The generator is now one of the exhibits at Gippsland Folk Museum at Moe.

Commissioning of the YPS was the start of a new era, with the flow of brown coal produced electricity over the 110-mile line to Melbourne freeing the State from dependence on imported fuel.

Valley production and the network of supply lines snaking into populous and remote area alike spurred industrial development, transforming Victoria's largely rural economy.

The original Yallourn station was shut down in 1968 (the first turbo-generator was put out to pasture in October, 1967), but C, D and E stations—with help from B station generators—continue to pump out electricity.

The figure for May was 260,359 megawatt/hours.



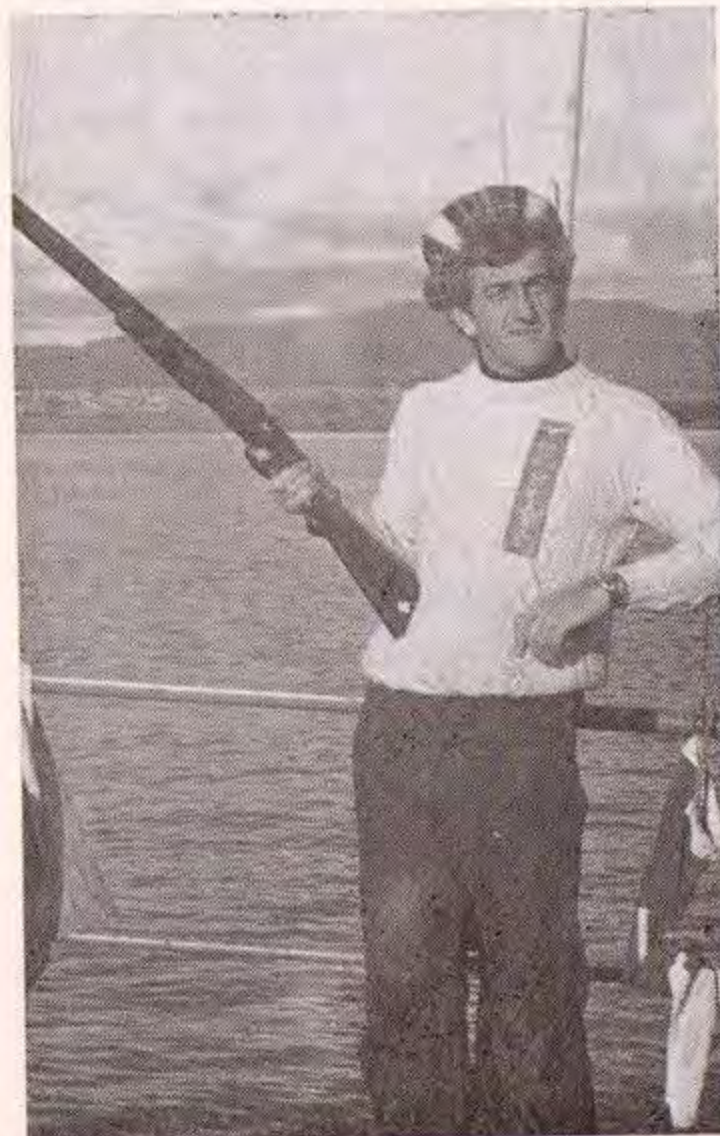
Top: The original turbo-generator (front) spins away, pumping out power for Victoria in the 1930's.

Centre: The framework goes up for construction of a third power station, "C" station.

Bottom: "A" and "B" stations, with the now dismantled Telfar coal feed system at the left of the two stations.

Queen's Birthday sporting scene

Yachting



Left: Technical Services Engineer Rod Bennett, who is publicity officer for the LV Yacht Club, wields the big—and loud—gun at the start of a Sauna Sail event.

Right: Centre pictures show yachts at several stages of the Hazelwood Pondage Sauna Sail—in good conditions with reasonable winds (top) jockeying for position at the start of one of the events (centre) and in the despondent position for some of being towed in when the breeze died down during racing on Sunday (lower).



Volleyball



ABOVE—LV Volleyball Association players from left, back row: Coach Mike Gregson, Peter Orr, Bob Kenter, John de Vries, Peter Brocack. Front: Adam Ozga, Owen Connolly, Wal Leshak, Vic Nicodemski.

BELOW—left: Bob Kenter uses his height to advantage to gain control in this net exchange. Right: SEC representation in the women's team is supplied by Jenny Davis (back row, left) and Helen Vicie (back right). Team coach was Malcolm Darby.



Golf Tournery



Above: Winners of trophies at the Association of Social Clubs' golf day at Yallourn, from left, Les Kite, Norma Heddles, Bob Goldie, Barbara Collins, Keith Kesper, Ralph Leditschke and Jim McCafferty.



Left: A golfer in trouble in one of Yallourn's bunkers explodes clear with a well-executed shot.

Below: Geoff Miles and Dulcie Schulz check out their cards at the 18th, with support from Ian Smith (left), Marj. Brogan and Bob Jobling.



Engineer Associates Get Together

ENGINEERING associates, technical Officers and engineering assistants who hold certificates in engineering, Higher Technician certificates or certificates of Technology issued by Colleges of Advanced Education or Technical Colleges—or holding equivalent qualifications are now eligible for membership of the Australian Institute of Engineering Associates.

The Institute, formed last year by the amalgamation of its predecessor bodies, The Association of Certificate Engineers of Australia and the Association of Diploma Engineers of Western Australia, is registered under the N.S.W. companies Act as a public company limited by guarantee.

The Institute represents and advances generally the views of the profession of Engineering Associate, the middle level of engineering, maintaining and preserving its integrity and status.

In recent years, it became apparent that identification with a particular level of training would be desirable rather than identification with a particular educational award.

For some years, the Institution of Engineers, (Australia) and the Association of Professional Engineers (Australia) had supported the concept of an organisation to cater for the "middle level" of engineering — professional engineering support staff.

Formation of the Australian Institute of Engineering Associates has the backing and concurrence of I.E. Australia and A.P.E.A.

In addition to formally recognising the Australian Institute of Engineering Associates as the **national, cultural and accrediting** organisation to promote the character and status of the Engineering Associate within engineering, the Institution of Engineers (Aust.) became the appointed patron of the Institute.

The national character of the Institute is emphasised by the formation of divisions in Sydney, New-



Current membership of the Australian Institute of Engineering Associates is modest, but is expanding rapidly. Estimated potential membership within the Commission is thought to be as high as 3,000. In view of the interest being shown in the Latrobe Valley, it may be possible following information of a Victorian Division to form a Latrobe Valley branch. Yallourn "W" charge engineer Bill Fletcher has indicated his willingness to assist in **establishment of a branch here.**

castle, Tasmania, Western Australia, and Queensland; divisional steering committees in Victoria and South Australia and Branches throughout several states.

The objectives of the Institute are achieved in many ways.

These include representation on Education Department standing Committees for relevant courses; referral by IE Australian and governmental organisations or people to the Institute for accreditation, a goal yet to be reached in Victoria.

A major project is the encouragement of employer organisations to requests that applicants for middle level engineering positions hold qualifications which satisfy the requirements for membership of the Australian Institute of Engineering Associates, where the particular level of education is appropriate.

A submission of this nature, with the backing of the A.P.E.A., is soon to be made to the Electricity Commission of N.S.W.

Depending on the outcome, a similar approach is likely to be made in Victoria.

(Continued Page 12)

Why organise a suggestion scheme...?

"A very good question", a large percentage of the workforce would say, and many people involved in the investigation of suggestions would probably agree wholeheartedly.

Operation of an efficient suggestions scheme is bound to run into opposition on several fronts, for by their very nature, suggestions demand the time (and patience) of personnel at all levels, even if only in an indirect way.

However, opponents of the scheme are often not fully aware of the basic aims of the suggestions scheme and its potential benefits.

The main functions of a suggestions scheme are two-fold—

- to improve productivity, and
- to foster improved employer/employee relations.

The first function is probably the more obvious and the more tangible, in that results are measurable, and needs little explanation.

Good suggestions will cut costs and increase output, reduce waste and improve quality, as well as possibly contributing to the safety of a particular job.

The human relations aspect, however, is very often overlooked, and it should not be, for in some cases it may be far more important.

Encouraging employes to submit their own ideas creates a two-way channel of communication, by way of explanation—even if an idea proves unacceptable.

The suggester receives information which helps him to understand more about the organisation and its workings.

Employes are also invited to develop and realise their creative abilities by suggesting better ways of doing things, thereby gaining a greater sense of participation and satisfaction from their work.

Each member of the workforce realises that his thinking powers need not be stifled and that an idea of his may be making a positive contribution to the Commission's progress.

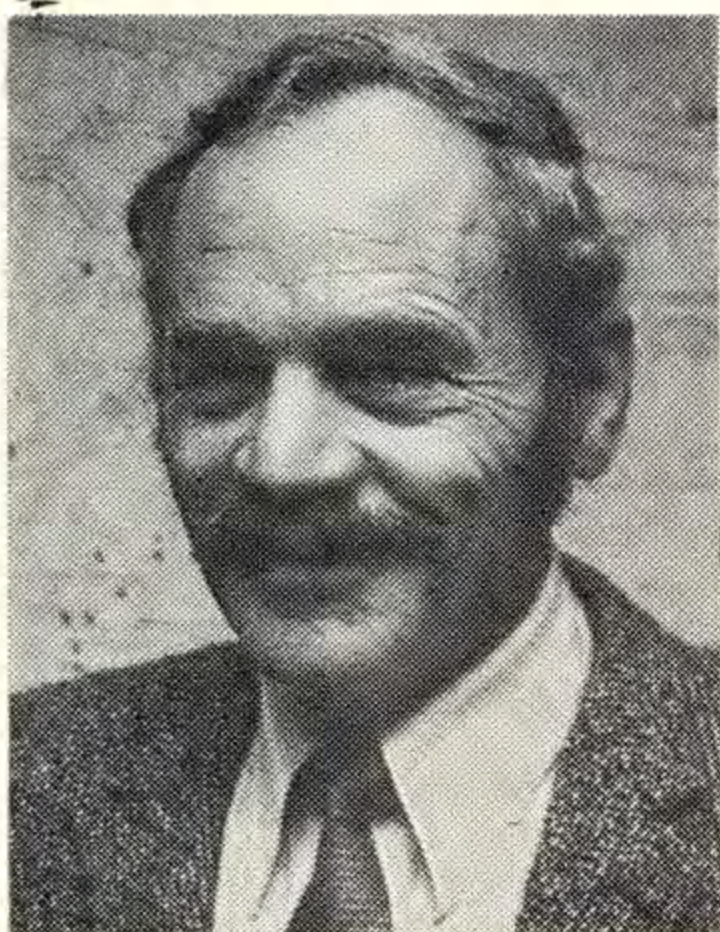
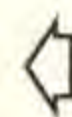
So the Suggestions Scheme can be an aid to an effective management—and it can be especially rewarding for individual employes.

Here are a few good reasons...



The boys from Mechanical Maintenance Section at HPS are obviously thankful for the Suggestions Scheme. Rory Leach, Mick Erwin, Barry Lyon, Dave Crombie and Tony Xerri are off to celebrate following presentation of cheques for awards ranging from \$10 to \$55. Well over 60 per cent. of the total number of suggestions submitted are related to HPS, with the greatest proportion being of a mechanical maintenance nature.

Little wonder that suggestion awards are very often presented in the HPS area.



Karl Krautschneider, a foreman from Coal Division, earned himself an award of \$100 for his "Schneider-scope"—an instrument designed to locate intermittent faults in complex electrical circuits.



Geoff Miles, Area Manager, Services, did the honors in presenting a \$75 award to Cyril Dysen, a L/H Inspector, for his new method of repairing 10" C.I. ash pipelines.



Coal Division L/H Disposal Unit Operator Nathan Langford-Sidebottom put forward an idea which resulted in movement of the pivoted scraper on TSl scraper, thereby improving belt cleaning and eliminating scraper bounce. Manager, Coal, Jack Vines and Overburden Foreman Ted Ellis were on hand to present Nathan with his \$50 award.



focus on safety

FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK...

AFTER a number of years of improving safety performance, there has been a levelling out in the last year or so—in some cases—an increase in the number of Commission employees injured at work.

There doesn't seem to be any falling off in the effort being put into our accident prevention activities so we must ask the question—"Why don't we continue to advance?"

The Accident Prevention Division has

recently completed a survey of the South Western Electricity Supply Branch to find out where things are going wrong. Aim of the Survey was to find the potential for accidents throughout the area and to make recommendations to management to improve the situation.

The survey proved so successful that it is proposed to carry out a similar exercise in two areas of operation in the Latrobe Valley.

During July and August, the Chief Safety Engineer, Charlie Polglaze, and safety men from Melbourne and the Latrobe Valley Department, will spend considerable time interviewing supervisory people at all levels to ascertain what accident prevention activity is being pursued.

At the same time members of the team will visit work areas, talking with groups in an effort to isolate practices which may result in accidents.

Every accident which occurs has potential for injury and it is necessary that every effort is made to reduce the dangers which exist in almost every job.

The participation of everyone in the Latrobe Valley area is vital for the success of the venture and we hope that with a co-operative effort, the faults in our present safety system can be found and eliminated.

Charlie Polglaze, who briefly outlined his proposals for the Latrobe Valley Department survey at the June Departmental Safety Conference, has already spoken with me and with Divisional Heads.

He will also explain the proposal in more detail to the people who will be directly involved, and will seek the support of all levels of personnel to make the project worth-while.

The aim is to advance accident prevention performance and to reduce the number of injuries occurring in this area.

In human terms, that is an objective to which the Commission is fully committed—an attitude we sincerely hope is shared by all employees.

Concern over accidents

CONCERN is being expressed within the Latrobe Valley Department at the sharp increase in the number of avoidable accidents involving SEC vehicles, and a small increase in the accident total.

During the quarter ended March 31st this year, the total increased by three to 73.

However, the most worrying aspect was the jump in avoidable accidents, from 24 to 37, while Category 2 accidents—striking stationary vehicles and objects—increased from 21 to 34.

Throughout the Commission, motor vehicle accidents during the quarter

reached 877, 77 more than in the previous quarter.

Nor are accidents occurring in the work situation the only cause for concern.

Vehicle accident on the way to and from work continue to occur too regularly for comfort, and although the rate of such accidents involving injury fell last year, there is little room for complacency.

Twenty-four injury accidents were recorded for the period June 1st, 1973/May 31, 1974. Corresponding figures for previous years were 43 in 1972 and 51 in 1973.

	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
Avoidable accidents as percentage of total accidents	40%	37%	42%	47%	48%
Collisions with stationary objects as percentage of total accidents	51%	44%	46%	45%	45%
Accidents per vehicle	1.25	1.3	1.2	1.1	0.9
Total accidents as percentage of SEC total	13%	18%	12%	13%	14%

ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES GET TOGETHER

Within the SEC of Victoria the present membership is not large but it is growing at quite a rate.

The estimated potential membership within the Commission might run to 2500-3000 persons. In view of the interest shown in the Latrobe Valley, it may be possible, upon

(Continued from Page 10)

the formation of a Victorian Division to form a Latrobe Valley Branch. To this end Bill Fletcher, Charge Engineer, Yallourn W.P.S. has indicated his willingness to assist in the establishment of a branch.

Membership of the Institute is graded on similar lines to that of

IE Australia—Student, Graduate, Affiliate, Associate, Member, and Fellow.

Those interested should contact Bruce Cornelius on ext. 3152, Monash House or write to P.O. Box 183, Eltham.

focus on safety

"A terrible scream—it's difficult to describe it clearly—a quick glimpse of a girl being dragged by the hair into the spindle of a drill, and the horror of seeing her fall back, bloodstained and stripped of hair and scalp.

That is part of one SEC man's

description of the accident which permanently robbed an attractive young woman of her hair; sent her deep into a prolonged state of shock, and exposed her to a long and trying period of rehabilitation.

"Scalping" accidents always have the same ingredients—failure to

properly observe safety precautions and carelessness, even if only for a split second.

The results seldom vary . . . disfigurement, shock and an intensely difficult personal adjustment.

And it's all so unnecessary.



Don't be the one to let your hair down

The young man at left is not affecting the "mohawk" hair style popular with some during the late 1950's . . . he is a victim of one of the most unpleasant of industrial accidents—scalping.

The apprentice pictured below is re-enacting the accident in which he lost part of his hair. Fortunately for him, his light hair and his scalp parted company before he suffered major disfigurement.

THE SEC's LV Department has had a good run in the "scalping" field for the past seven years, but—according to Apprentice Training Officer Fred Douglas, it is largely by good luck that many an SEC worker still retains a luxurious, and long head of hair.

He's concerned about what he sees as the often blatant disregard of safety by employees—and it is not confined to apprentices—who fail to wear hairnets, or who wear them improperly.

The problem of long hair in the industrial situation is, for men, a largely modern phenomenon, greatly increasing the risk of injury on the shop floor.

The first obstacle to a painful, disfiguring injury is the worker himself; the supervisory system provides a second, and in the last resort, the deterrent effect of penal provisions governing safety in factories comes into play.

However, everything hinges on the attitude of the employee.

While there has been no serious "scalping" within the Commission's LV works areas since 1967, there have been some lucky escapes and "tuft-pulling" incidents.

The Commission spends considerable sums on providing safety equipment and in conducting safety courses and promotion of safe working conditions.

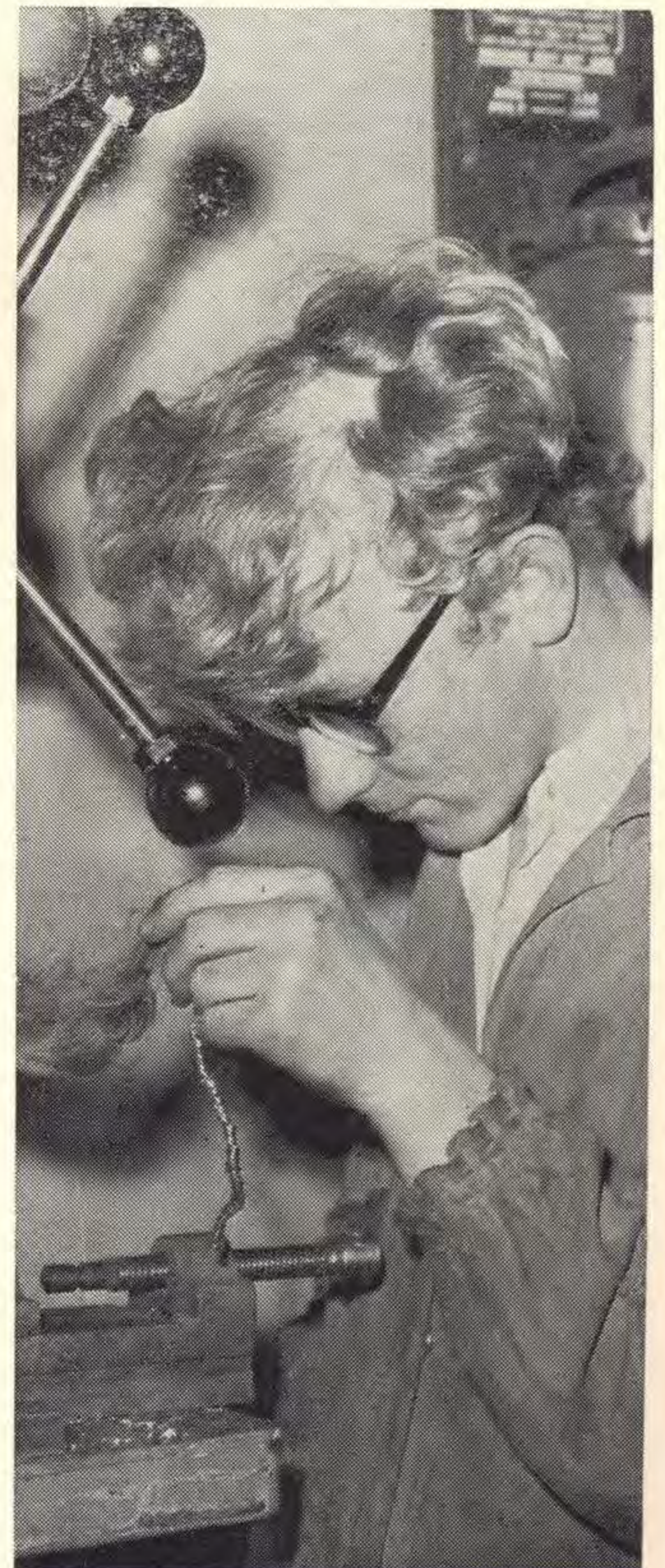
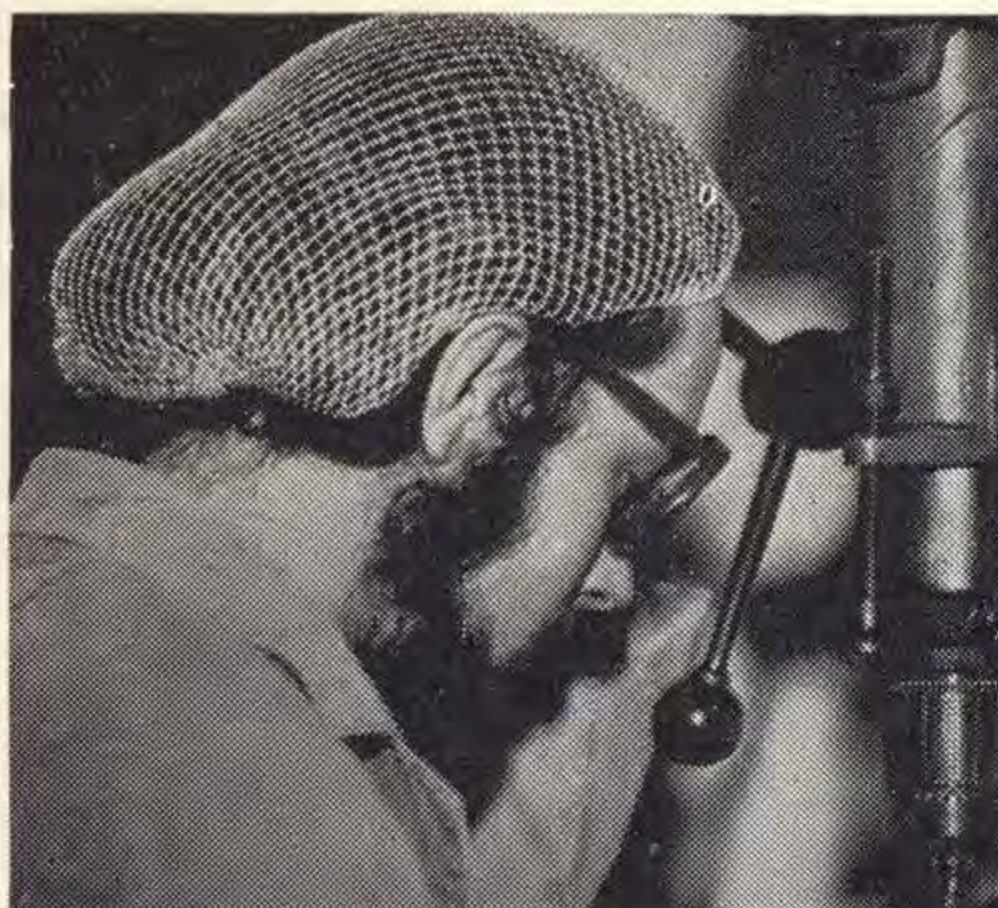
"Our good record is no indication of employee awareness of the problem, or of the effect of our emphasis on safe working practices . . . we must have a full-time guardian angel", Fred Douglas comments.

"It takes only a split second for a person to lose hair and scalp in an accident they'll regret for the remainder of their lives.

It's just not worth it", he adds.

● **The State Government, keenly aware of the consequences of disregard for industrial safety, is taking a close look at penalties against employers who fail to protect workers from dangerous machinery.**

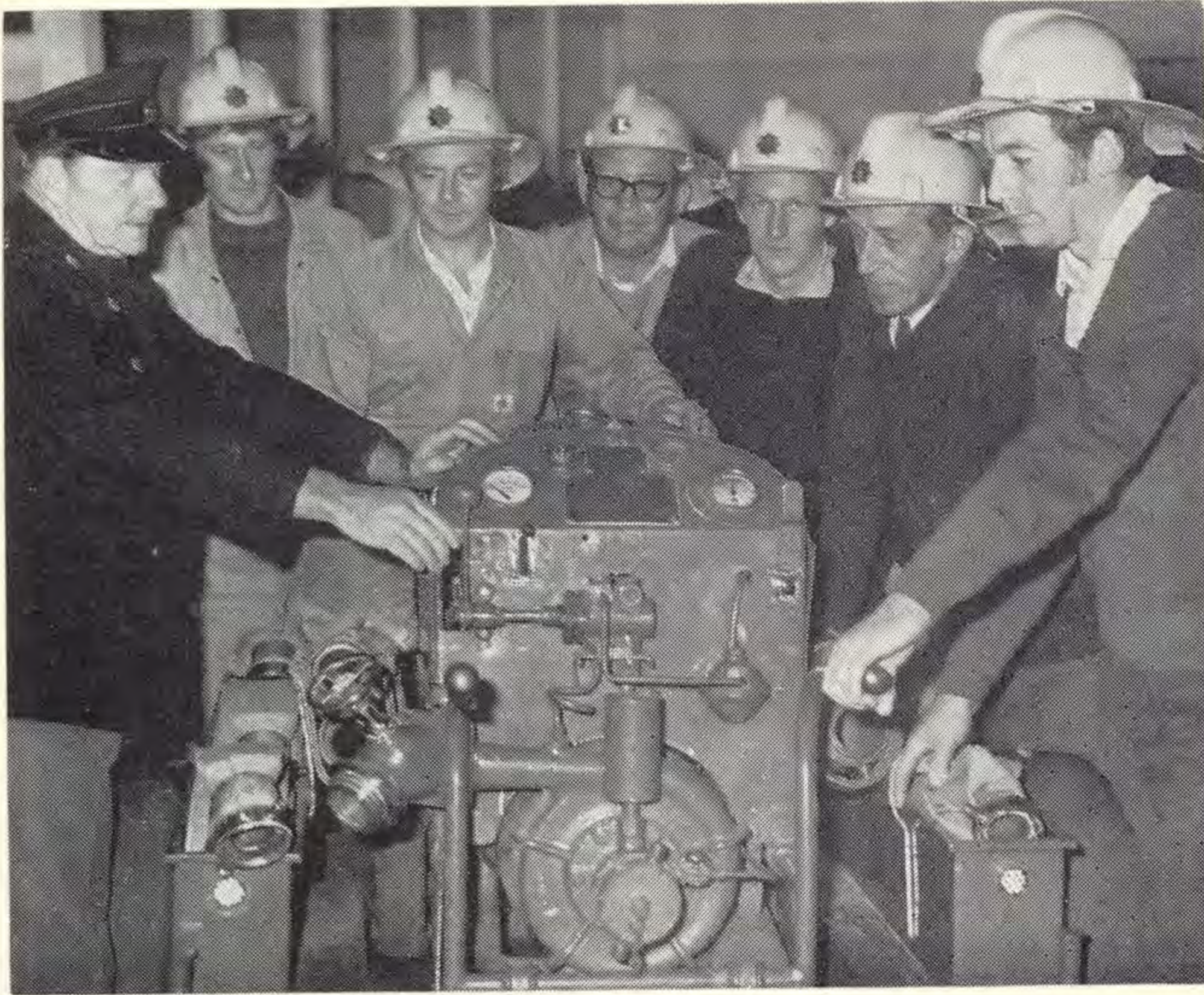
The law also provides penalties—under the Labour and Industry Act, 1958—for the employee "whose hair is not cut short, or securely fixed and confined close to the head by net or otherwise".



Left: This is more like it, with hairnet providing some protection!

VOLUNTEER EMPHASIS IN FIRE

BRIGADE



VETERAN Yallourn fireman Harold Angove and Ray McPherson know the score when it comes to fighting fires.

Foundation members of the Yallourn Fire Brigade when it was formed 28 years ago, they are part of a capable force developed for the protection of Yallourn and the provision of fire services generally.

Apart from fighting fires at Yallourn, and as an "on-call" service to the Morwell Works Area, Harry, Ray and their colleagues have played a vital role in training SEC personnel and educating Yallourn residents in fire prevention techniques.

Fire Officer at Yallourn is Lionel "Jerry" Ingram; Harold is Station Officer, and Ray is Sub-Station Officer.

Completing the full time brigade staff at Yallourn are senior fireman Bill White, Ian Broberg and John Guy.

They and others before them can claim much of the credit for Yallourn's good fire record, and Jerry Ingram suggests that education has played as important a part as any other factor.

Education, this time the continuing task of training members of the volunteer Yallourn Auxiliary Brigade, will have even higher priority as the task of keeping fires from Yallourn moves more into the court of the volunteers.



VOLUNTEER firemen will play an increasingly important role in protecting homes and businesses in Yallourn following recent changes to the town's fire protection system.

From May 8, operation of Yallourn Fire Station has been changed to bring it more into line with practices adopted by the Country Fire Authority for fire protection of similar country towns.

Although an Auxiliary Fire Service team composed of volunteers living in Yallourn has been in existence for a long time, the old system of operation of Yallourn Fire Station has not fully utilised its potential.

The Fire Station will still retain a nucleus of fully trained permanent fire officers, but much greater emphasis and reliance will be placed on the Auxiliary Fire Service team.

The auxiliary, which could cope with as many as 30 members, currently has a membership of 18.

Volunteer firemen attend fortnightly training sessions, gaining first hand experience in the techniques of fire fighting and the use of up-to-date equipment.

However, life is not all work for the volunteers, who have access to excellent social facilities at the fire station.

However, although it can also be said that the brigade and the relationships developed within it are valuable socially, its real purpose is to fight fires.

With dedicated professionals and well-trained volunteers, the Yallourn Auxiliary Brigade is a highly efficient brigade which has not so far been used to its full extent.

If its strength could be built up to 30 members, it would offer an even better "insurance policy" for the town.



retirements

GEOFF MANLEY



After a 23-year career with the Commission, Geoff Manley

was farewelled on June 2nd with a presentation in the Costs and Bookkeeping office at Morwell. Departmental Administrative officer, Neil Hustwaite, spoke of Geoff's fine service record and presented him with a musical clock on behalf of his workmates, many of whom were in attendance. Geoff was well known in accounting circles for his work in the stores area. His main outside interest was in the L.V. Astronomical Society.

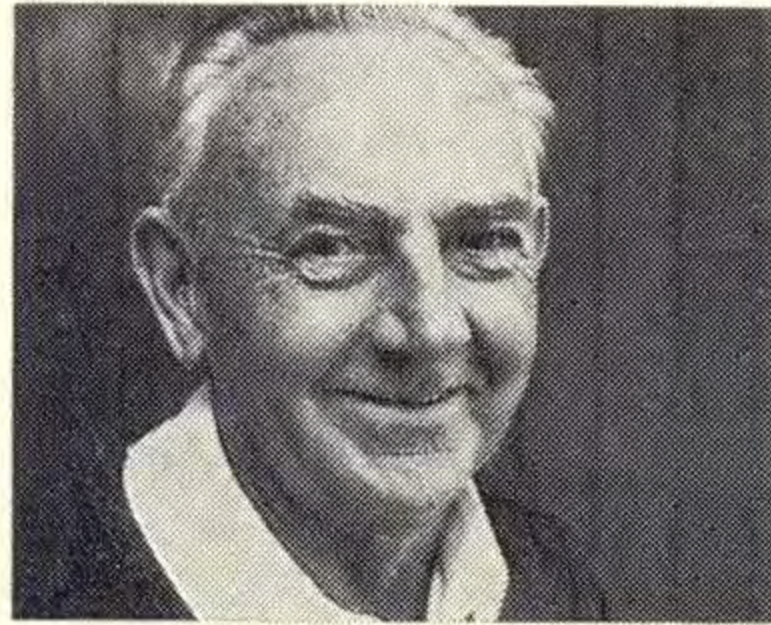
JACK MOLONEY

Jack Moloney was presented with a large air heater at a farewell in the Hazelwood Survey office on May 17th, marking his retirement after a 25-year career with the Commission. Jack, who began work at Kiewa as a survey assistant before transferring to the Morwell Project, was well known for his studies on bird-life on Hazelwood Pondage. Barry Ross surveyor in charge, and Geoff Miles, acting manager services, each spoke of their long and happy associations with Jack.

WAPKE (BILL) IEDEMA

A 19-year association with the Commission ended for Wapke Iedema, more commonly known as Bill, with a farewell presentation at Yallourn workshops on June 6th. Wapke, who signed on officially as a laborer, was reclassified in 1956 as a Trades Assistant, the position from which he retired. George Davis, mechanical services engineer, presented him with a complete fishing outfit and a Carometre, and a aluminum kettle for Mrs. Iedema. Bill intends to do quite a bit of fishing, especially when visiting his daughter in Eden.

GUS DUNSTAN



Gus Dunstan retired from active service on May 31st, after a long and varied career with the Commission. After joining in 1938, Gus worked at various times as a laborer, trimmer cleaner, greaser and fireman before moving to Geelong in 1954. He worked for the Commission for six months in 1966/67, and returned again to begin his final stint in September, 1969, as a trades assistant, the position from which he retired. As a farewell presentation at Hazelwood, Les Kite, on behalf of the section and Henry Rejmer presented Gus with a fishing reel on behalf of his many workmates. Gus intends to spend his retirement at a holiday house he has built at Paradise Beach.

GEOFF BAILEY



After 24 years of driving Commission vehicles, Geoff Bailey hung up his ignition keys for the last time at a farewell function in the Yallourn Municipal canteen on June 12.

If anyone is to be called an expert in the art of driving heavy vehicles, then Geoff certainly should be. He was involved in driving passenger buses in the prewar years and military vehicles during the war. He put this experience to good use when carrying concrete for the "C" station foundations. Geoff will now give driving a break, concentrating on casting a line in the Gippsland Lakes, or listening to the melodious tones on the transistor presented to him by his workmates.

KEN WILLIAMS

Ken Williams, a senior foreman with General Services at the time of his retirement earlier this year, was always on the move as a sportsman... and his retirement is being spent the same way. He began with a 10-week holiday in Queensland; is getting set for a Pacific cruise in October, and will spend a few months in Queensland early next year. Well known in Gippsland sporting circles, Ken Williams is pictured (right) on his way to a job as an apprentice plumber in 1935.

Gippsland in Country Week cricket. He played one season with Collingwood seniors before the War sent him with the 6th Division to the Middle East, the Pacific and New Guinea. Keen on flying, Ken flew many hours after gaining a licence in 1953. Ken joined the Commission in 1934, breaking continuity only to serve in the AIF. In our picture (below), a youthful Ken Williams is pictured (right) on his way to a job as an apprentice plumber in 1935.



JIM SKELTON

Playing cards is obviously a favorite pastime for Jim Skelton, who retired on June 7th, after 16 years service. At a farewell at Hazelwood Power Station, Superintendent Arthur Ewen presented Jim with a wristwatch and two packs of well-worn cards which had been put to good use by Jim and his workmates

over countless lunch-hours. Jim began with the Commission in 1957 as a fitter, working his way through to T.S.O. Gr. 3. Jim is not likely to take it easy in retirement; when not playing cards, most of his time will be taken up by the Thespian group in Yallourn, or in using his talents in restoring antique furniture.



Sport

THE ONE THAT DIDN'T GET AWAY

Land Utilisation Committee secretary Brian Eddy demonstrates the art of fly fishing, using the Admin. building pool as a setting. Inset into the picture are three convincing "flies".



WE'VE all heard that famous "the one that got away" line from disgruntled (and empty-handed) fisherman, but a local club is doing its best to ban the need for such an excuse once and for all.

The Latrobe Valley Flyfishers' Club, a branch of the Victorian Flyfishers' Association, has been in operation for the past 3-4 years, drawing its membership from the area between Melbourne and the N.S.W. border.

Contests

Every second and fourth Sunday of the month, members gather at Witts Gully Reservoir, an old fire station derelict just above Hernes Oak, to participate in fly-casting competitions aimed at increasing proficiency in a skilled and ancient art.

According to club president Brian Eddy, of property section, Morwell, accuracy is developed by casting a fly into certain positions either within or around a set of floating hoops.

As well, lectures are given on methods of tying a fly, that collection of small feathers and strips of binding which the expert magically transforms into near perfect imitation insects.

Many well-known SEC identities are members of the club.

Col. Feeley, Area Lines Yallourn; Doug Kimberley of Education and Training; Maurie O'Neill, Overseer at Yallourn Civil Workshops, and Arthur Bushby of Coal Division Electrical, are just a few of the many who take a keen interest in club activities.

Good Catches

Some of them score a "real-live" catch now and then.

Actually, club members have put their skills to the test in all the Gippsland rivers, and some very good catches have been recorded.

Aside from fishing activities, the club also carries out a community service by making submissions to the Environment Protection Authority and the Land Conservation Council whenever members came across a polluted stream or a littered landscape.

Obviously, a group which has everything to gain from an undisturbed environment is in an ideal position to report on contentious areas.

Volleyball Championships

STATE Electricity Commission employees gave solid performances for Latrobe Valley in Victorian Country Volleyball Championships at Morwell Sports Centre on the Queen's Birthday Weekend.

However, it was in behind-the-scenes organisation that they made their greatest contribution to the event.

Tournament manager was Joe Basten.

He was assisted by Mrs. Nancy Kenter and Mrs. Dot Darby.

A great success, the championship attracted capacity crowds to the MSC, where they were treated to three days of high-standard play between the State's top country players.

The LV men's team—which included the SEC's Robert Kenter, John de Vries, Vic Nikodemski and Marian Melny finished third, and the women were runners-up.

Jenny Davis and Helen Vivic were in the women's team.

Coaches Mike Gregson and Malcolm Darby are SEC employees.

Top player in the Latrobe Valley men's team was John de Vries.

Manager Bill Schulz told a large crowd at the presentation ceremony following the grand finals that he was highly impressed with volleyball, which he said had great potential both as a participant and spectator sport.

He presented champion team and individual awards.

● **The Volleyball Association will begin its Spring season late this month, with a capacity entry of 27 teams. Although final arrangements are yet to be made, it is expected that the season will end late in November or early in December.**