



SEC

contact

APRIL, 1975





Contact

Prepared by The L.V. Public Relations Group for Personnel of the Operations Group employed in the Latrobe Valley.

Editor: Kevin Richardson

Cover

SEC employee (Yard Gang at Morwell Briquetting and Power Installation) Denis Hoppner won't be using his right hand when acknowledging instructions for awhile, but then, his left is also a little shaky after he set what his supporters are claiming as a world record at Morwell's ten-pin bowling alley this month.

Denis bowled almost continuously for 24 hours, handling the 14 lb. bowl no fewer than 5,660 times. Wear and tear took its toll of his right arm—and, as time passed, his left.

However, when our photographer got behind the eight-ball, Denis was still sending them down in fine style, spurred on by the knowledge that his efforts were contributing \$300 toward a worthy cause.

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Wives of Brunswick City Councillors look us over



Wives of Brunswick City councillors gained a first-hand look at the power generation process when they spent a day here early this month. Brunswick is one of 11 Melbourne municipalities which are supplied with "bulk" electricity by the S.E.C.

GRADER CREW HELP POLICE

The Commission and its employees have done their share in the interests of the community over the years, but it is hoped that a community service recently provided by the Commission will not need to be repeated too often.

Grader driver John Taylor and gangster Bob Vosper were carrying out some reconstruction work on North Road, on March 24 when local policeman asked John to park his grader across the roadway to block through traffic.

The police explained that an armed bank robbery had taken place in Rose-dale, and that two fugitives were heading in the direction of the Yallourn North-Tyers area.

Police from Rosedale, Traralgon, Morwell and Yallourn were attempting to corner the suspects by blocking off all outlets.

Eventually, a car was seen speeding along Tyers Road, towards Yallourn North — but the vehicle came to a rapid halt when confronted by the SEC grader.

Police quickly converged on the scene, and the two occupants of the car had little alternative but to surrender quietly.

John and Bob remained on hand throughout, and — in John's own words — had a "grandstand" view of proceedings.

AMENITIES REVIEWED

Amenities throughout Operations Group works area are important to every employee in the Latrobe Valley.

After considering a detailed submission from Welfare Officer George Seear, and physically examining facilities at a wide range of work locations, the committee unanimously recommended a set of amenity standards.

Management has accepted recommendations of the committee in principle, but as the committee itself acknowledged, maintaining amenity standards is a two-way process.

Where first-class facilities were provided, users had a responsibility to maintain their condition.

Otherwise, money which could have financed new items would have to be diverted to repair or replace existing facilities.

The committee, which will continue to provide overall guidelines, hopes for co-operation from employees where rationalising of amenities becomes necessary.

On the Amenities Committee are Assistant Departmental Personnel Officer John Drewett (chairman), and employee union and association representatives Franz Onger, George Wragg, Tom Irvin, Hugh Coffield and Sid Kane.

S.E.C. CREDIT CO-OP. IS LUSTY 'INFANT'



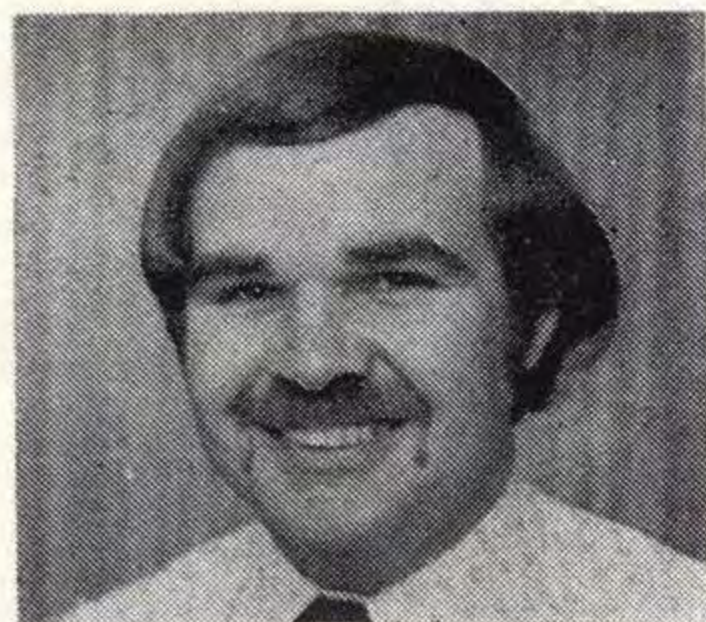
This article has been contributed by SEC Social League Credit Co-operative Ltd. general manager Howard Betts.



Ken Smethurst
Secretary



Gordon Farrer
Field Manager



Barry McClure
Officer-in-Charge, Morwell



Elaine Quirk
Office Assistant



Jacki Poelsma
Office Assistant (part-time)

The SEC Social League Credit Co-operative Ltd. is a relative infant in the credit union field . . . but there's nothing babyish about its record. In only five years of operation, the SEC credit union has advanced to a position of leadership in Victoria.

To say that business is booming is no over statement.

Membership is approaching the 11,000 mark, and loans totalling almost \$20 million have been granted so far.

The importance of serving SEC personnel situated in the Latrobe Valley area has been recognised by the Co-operative, which opened a branch office in Central Arcade (off Church St.), Morwell, in October, 1972.

That decision was vindicated by a rapid expansion of business in the Valley, leading to employment of two full-time staff and one part-time staff member.

Arrangements are currently being made to add one more full time clerk.

The Board of Directors recently appointed two members of the Co-operative — Geoff Willett (Area Administration) and Dennis McGrath (Transmission) — as a local supervisory committee.

Well, what is the credit union?

It is simply a group of people with a common bond — in this case, all SEC personnel, spouses and children over 18 years — who save regularly together, and lend their savings to one another at the lowest possible rate of interest.

The credit union is owned and controlled by its members, who elect directors to conduct its affairs on member's behalf. Directors' authority is governed by law, and by rules framed by members.

How safe is the credit union?

As safe as a bank!

All credit unions are required by law to:—

- register with the Registrar of Co-operative Societies (a State Government body),
- engage an independent auditor to verify accounts and balance sheet annually, and,
- bond all persons handling credit union funds as protection against any losses resulting from misappropriation of funds.

In addition, registry inspectors may regularly examine the operations of credit unions, and at each annual meeting, members elect their own Supervisory Committee to carry out a continuous audit on every aspect of operations.

What about return of savings?

All savings currently earn interest at the rate of 9 per cent per annum, but because interest is credited quarterly, effective annual rate is almost 9½ per cent — with an additional benefit of a free life assurance cover on savings up to \$2,000 lodged while the member is engaged in his normal occupation.

Benefits under the policy range from three times savings for members in the age group 18-29 to a 50 per cent bonus in the 60-64 group.

Incidentally, savings—which may be withdrawn on request — may be made either by payroll deduction or by direct deposit.

Are loans difficult to negotiate?

No, funds are usually fairly readily available, and the Credit Union will lend money to its members for any good purpose.

(Continued Page 10)

How to join the Co-op

Joining the credit co-op. presents no problems.

Simply contact any one of a team of "local representatives" or phone the Morwell officer-in-charge (34 1808 or SEC 3626).

Local representatives are:—

Peter Rich: Power Department	3516
Bill Hall: Workshop, Yallourn	2951
Rod Kemp: Education and Training	2586
Dennis Hallinan: Morwell Power Installation	3196
Dennis Hall: Administration Morwell	3519
Perc Mooney: Workshops, Morwell	3180
Noel Edwards: Stores, Morwell	3276
Bill McAuliffe: Coal Production, Morwell	3251
Bill Carrie: Hazelwood Power Station	5829
Jeff MacDonald: Yallourn 'W' (Power Depts.)	2218
Roy Wiggins: Civil Services, Morwell	3326
Colin Hower: Briquette Distribution	3313
Rod Catchpole: Apprentice Annex	2794
Eddie Hayes: Mod Squad, Hazelwood	5115
Albert Dowie: Briquette Works	3279
John Poelsma: Paint Shop, Yallourn	

valley visitors



Above: They're round a rectangular table here, but these Apexians — two from abroad — came together for an international Round Table conference of Kindred organisations. From left, they are Warra-gul Apexian Bob Veitch, Ian East-ott, of Moe, Korean newspaper editor Key Lo Sang, and New Zealander David Beatty.

Below: Area Administration Manager George Bates (left), makes a point to the Mayor of Brunswick City, Cr. Graham Kermonde and former Mayor Cr. Les Johns. Yal-lourn "W" Power Station Superintendent Ron Court was also on hand to give background information on power generation to the councillors on their one-day visit.



British Consul - General Mr. Ivor Vincent felt at home when he was introduced to members of the United Kingdom Settlers' Association during a visit to the Latrobe Valley.



March was marked by a series of high-level visits to the SEC's Operations Group area in the Latrobe Valley.

Heading a stream of VIP's to the area was British Consul-General Mr. Ivor Vincent, who was accompanied by Mrs. Vincent, a Consulate official and the SEC's Assistant General Manager (Personnel) Peter Duncan.

Mr. Vincent, who undertook detailed inspections of power stations at Morwell and Yallourn, spent two days in the area.

He also took the opportunity to meet community and business leaders in the Latrobe Valley.

A highlight was a meeting between Mr. Vincent and members of the United Kingdom Settlers' Association, and a visit to the Latrobe Valley Sheltered Workshop, where Mr. Vincent expressed satisfaction at the work being done on behalf of the handicapped.

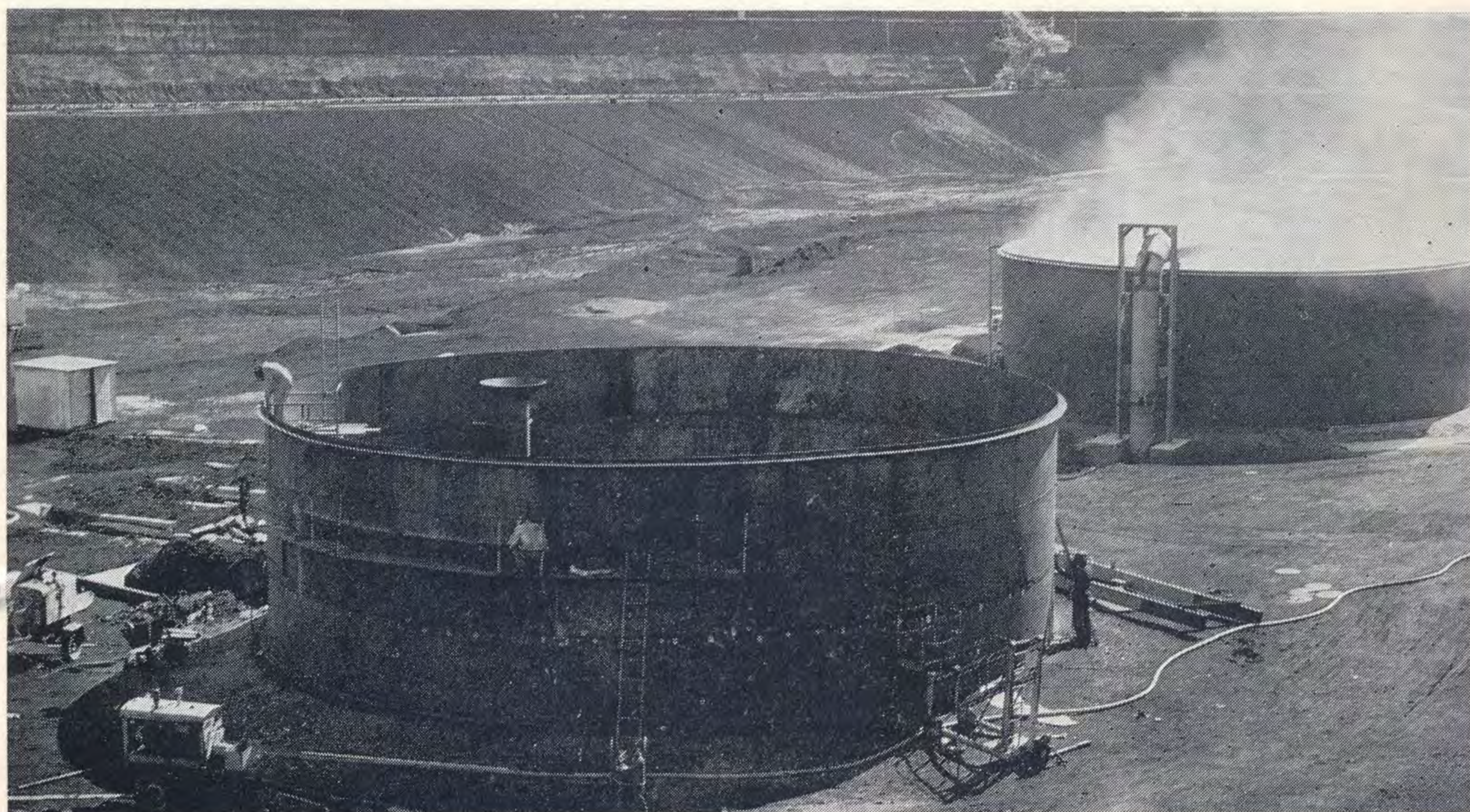
Overseas representatives of the Department of State Development and Decentralisation gained insights into the SEC's Latrobe Valley operations and the Valley generally when they spent a day here on March 13.

In the party were Department representatives in the UK (Alan Hall), West Germany (Joe Wilde), USA (Syd Morell), Japan (Tony Hogg, and the Assistant Director of the Division of Industrial Development, Mr. A. S. Cox.

They held discussions in the Latrobe Valley with—among others—Latrobe Valley Development Committee chairman Bill Crossman.

Also on March 13, Japanese exchange scientist/Professor Kunii, accompanied by Professor Owen Potter, of Monash University's Chemical Engineering Department, inspected Yal-lourn "W", Morwell Briquetting and Power Installation and the open cuts at Yallourn and Morwell.

'Never the twain shall meet...'



Workmen pictured on the closing stages of one of the 568,000 litre capacity water tanks associated with the new pumping system in Morwell Open Cut. The system will make it possible to separate "clean and dirty" water, thus controlling the quality of water available for transfer to Hazelwood Pondage.

Separating the good from the bad... that well-worn phrase is now "in" where Morwell Open Cut Personnel are concerned.

Work on a new pumping system in the open cut is rapidly nearing completion, the system will facilitate the separation of clean and dirty water.

For the past 12 months the separation process has been handled by a temporary station which will become obsolete.

The clean water, taken from aquifers well beneath the surface of the open cut, is pumped through a series of bores in the open cut.

Dirty water is usually surface water which has washed down over the coal face, and has gravitated to the bottom of the cut.

All clean water will now be pumped to the new central pumping area and stored in two 568,000 litre capacity tanks.

Five pumps have been installed (provision has been allowed for additional

pumps if required) in the area to feed a 42 inch diameter pipeline.

Water may be fed into the fire service system, or into Hazelwood cooling pond, where it is used to settle solids and other material before being drained off into the Morwell River via an overflow outlet.

A network of channels directs the water into a pumping station, and then into a works effluent pond. The 30 inch diameter effluent pipeline will have twin-flow operation, so that water can quickly be pumped back into the cut for fire service purposes if required.

Removal of water from the area has always been a problem.

Water must be continually pumped from below and out of the cut to ease off the pressure acting on the base of the coal seam.

Previously, the artesian water — plus all dirty water—was pumped via a large drain into the Morwell River, but the new pumping system provides a better situation for the environment and enables a valuable resource to be used to better advantage.

YALLOURN RESETTLEMENT

Yallourn Resettlement Committee is taking the first steps toward the provision of an additional eight units at the Latrobe Valley Village for Elderly Citizens at Newborough.

The move is designed to ensure continuity in the Committee's efforts to provide alternative accommodation for elderly Yallourn residents.

Arrangements have already been made for the allotment of eight units to Yallourn residents — four from the first stage, now nearing completion, and four from the second stage.

The first units to be completed will be officially opened later this month.

Early progress is also expected on construction of two-bedroom homes to be built on SEC land in Newark Avenue, Newborough, by the Housing Commission. SEC-prepared plans for the units were approved by the Housing Commission in December last year.

A pilot project of 12 homes is envisaged, with others to follow.

U.K. Engineer looks L.V. over



Visiting UK power station engineer Mr. Hugh Mathews (right) makes a point to Power Generation Department Manager Jack Robertson (second from left), Headquarters Division Power Station Superintendent Don Clark (second from right) and APSS Headquarters Division Laurie Shipp.

Operations Group personnel in the Latrobe Valley could be excused for becoming a little blasé about international visitors... hundreds of visitors have looked us over in the past few years.

But in Hugh Mathews, a Group Generation Manager in the UK Central Electricity Generating Board's North Eastern Region, Valley generation engineers have found a man after their own hearts.

Here last month to participate in a general review of maintenance policies and practices within power generation department, Hugh draws on a wealth of experience.

Since joining the CEGB in 1950, he has moved rapidly through from Operations Superintendent in a power station to deputy, then station superintendent and on to generation services engineer, before advancing to his current position.

As Group Generations Manager, he is responsible for eight fossil-fueled power stations and an almost-completed nuclear station (1977 target date).

Hugh came to Australia at the request of AGM (Ops) Bill De Campo, and since he enjoyed greatly a wartime visit (he was a Fleet Air Arm pilot) and a professional call about five years ago, Hugh did not hesitate.

VERDICT IS — 'IMPRESSIVE'

He described his three-week stay here as "very challenging".

It was also challenging — and extremely busy — for those who had to keep up with him during a round of inspections, discussions with engineers, and management conferences.

He was favorably impressed with the Valley complex, and with the frank, open and hospitable attitudes of those with whom he came into contact.

"The power stations I saw here are obviously well run and well cared for.

"As a believer in a clean ship being a happy ship, I have been particularly impressed with the attention paid in design stages to steps which facilitate power station cleaning.

"So far as the level of training and ability of staff are concerned, I have been most impressed — plant problems are the same the world over, and so are power station people. They are easy to talk to; they share common problems, and to a large degree have the same way of looking at life".

Hugh made the following observations:

- The enormous reserves of brown coal in the Latrobe Valley are a tremendous asset to Victoria, insulating the State from some of the energy problems now facing the world's major industrial nations.

By contrast, the UK has no option but to embark on a large-scale nuclear program because existing fossil-fuelled stations will burn all the coal the National Coal Board can produce, narrowing options for future development to oil and nuclear power.

In view of the cost factor and possibly limited reserves of oil, nuclear power is a "must", Hugh says.

He made the point that a nation's ability to compete successfully in today's highly industrialised world was dependent almost entirely on cheap and abundant energy.

Hugh sees North Sea oil as a valuable bridge between the fossil-fuelled stations of today and the nuclear giants of the future.

One major difference Hugh commented on was the provision of gas turbines in the major UK stations to pro-

vide power very rapidly under emergency conditions. The gas turbines, usually 4 x 17.5 MW per station, provide peak popping power; supply auxiliaries in low frequency conditions, and produce sufficient power under total shut-down conditions to start up the station.

They start automatically and reach full load two minutes after stoking.

- The work of principal Metallurgist Geoff Thomas, who is investigating the cracking of turbine rotor discs is of a very high standard, and Hugh considered his development work in this respect as outstanding.

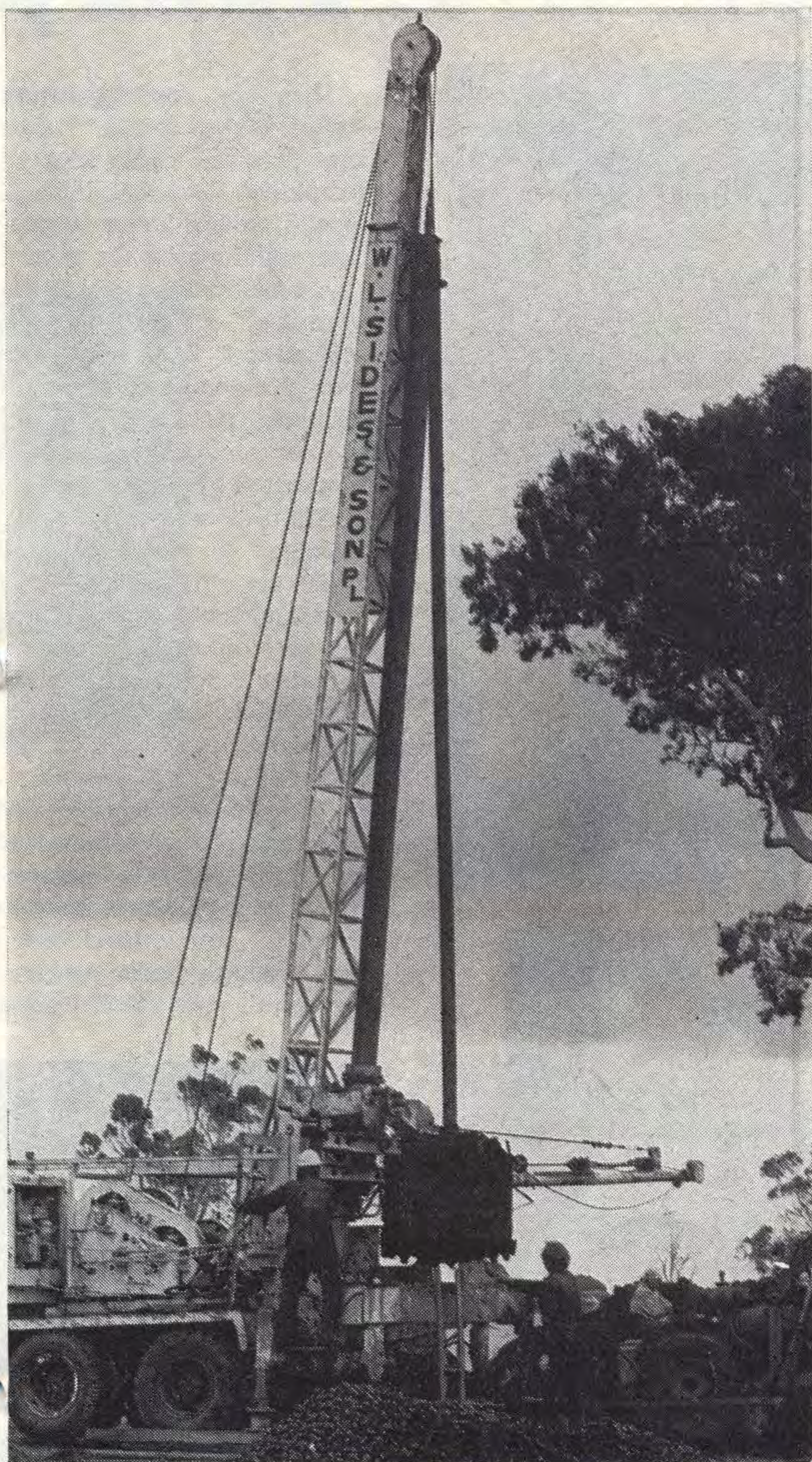
- Yallourn Workshops would be the envy of any power station superintendent in the world.

"They are so well equipped there that they could carry out almost any job, and I get the impression that nothing is too great a challenge for the people there to undertake," he said.

Hugh clearly subscribes to the view that Australia is "the Lucky Country".

"Australia is in an exceptionally favored position — in resources, food, sunshine and good wines — no wonder it is thriving".

First Loy Yang Briquettes



Loy Yang coal appears to have similar briquetting characteristics to Yallourn coal.

Power Generation Department Manager Jack Robertson said this when releasing details of an experimental run on March 26 to establish whether Loy Yang coal could be successfully briquetted.

The test run proved a success.

Briquettes are being considered as one of several alternative fuels for starting up boilers on the proposed Loy Yang project.

The coal came from Alec Jones' Minniedale Road property.

Three bores, each of 1½ metres (5 feet) were sunk to depth of 50 metres (160 feet) through 35 metres of coal.

A total of 33 tonnes of briquettes was made.

Loy Yang has been under close scrutiny in recent weeks.

A meteorological study involving balloons and smoke flares will come up with some vital data on the atmosphere above the proposed coalfield; environmen-

◀ *The drill has done its work, but back-filling of the 50 metre bores sunk at Loy Yang goes on. Weathered briquettes were used to refill the 1½ metre diameter holes.*

tal tests have been in progress for some time, and characteristics of the coal beneath the land surface are being studied.

In one test, geologist Bob Gaulton was lowered into a shaft, enabling him to physically check sections of the coal seam.

Balloons - BUT NO PARTY

Balloons in the sky and holes in the ground may not appear to have much in common, but in the case of Loy Yang, a balloon-flying exercise which got under way early this month will provide vital background information.

In the first in a series of meteorological studies being conducted in collaboration with the CSIRO, hydrogen-filled balloons carrying special radiosonde transmitters were launched from a meteorological station in Minniedale Road, south of Traralgon.

The balloons, two metres in diameter, carry the radiosonde transmitters to a height of 10,000 metres for the continuous transmission of temperature, pressure and humidity details.

As well as balloon flights, the studies — which are aimed at increasing the Commission's understanding of the Valley's meteorology — will include smoke tracking and investigation of high-level air movements.

In the smoke flare tests, a series of smoke devices will be lit over a 16 kilometre front, producing a harmless "cold" smoke which will help scientists establish patterns of air movement at ground level.

The testing program will take place throughout the next 12 months.

Loy Yang lectures

Background information on the proposed Loy Yang project is being provided for SEC personnel in the Operations Group by members of the Public Relations Group.

The Group has embarked on a series of lectures in a programme designed to provide SEC personnel with basic background information. The film, "Caring for the Future", is screened during each lecture.

Several lectures have already been given, and by Easter, groups within the Hazelwood Power Station, Morwell Briquetting and Power Installation, Coal Production (Morwell) and Electric

cal services (Yallourn) had been covered.

In addition, a Loy Yang segment has been introduced into all local training courses.

The Public Relations Group is continuing its practice of addressing local organisations such as service clubs and professional groups.

Meanwhile, the Parliamentary Public Works Committee Inquiry into the Loy Yang project, sitting at Traralgon, has heard evidence from representatives of seven organisations, and from three individuals.

They're lightning premiers. Members of the winning Main Office (Yallourn) team pose proudly with their trophy after playing their way to victory in the first — but certainly not the last — Valley Cup cricket lightning premiership at Yallourn.



Valley cup cricket a lightning affair

They say lightning never strikes twice in the same spot . . . but in the case of the Valley Cricket Cup lightning premiership, an exception will have to be made.

Association of Social Clubs president John Hutchinson spelled out loud and clear that the competition would become an annual event, and his confidence was fully supported by Area Administration Manager George Bates.

George made it clear to a crowd of more than 100 at the presentation ceremony that the magnificent Valley Cup would be the annual target of the SEC's top cricketers.

He paid a tribute to the Association for its initiative in organising the competition, singling out for special mention John Hutchinson, Don Flanagan and the secretary of the SEC Social

Area Administration Manager George Bates presents the magnificent Valley Cup to Main Office team skipper Evan Rowlands.



League, Mick McGivern.

Rain was the only real problem for the competition, but the determination of the organisers to make a success of the round won through.

The lightning premiership drew nine teams - two from

Melbourne for the competition of 18-over matches, with each side facing nine overs on various ovals at Yallourn.

The cricket was exceptionally bright, with one team — Central Workshop scoring a mammoth 2/121 in nine productive overs against Melbourne team SEC Athletic Club and there were numerous scores of 75 and above.

Yallourn bricklayer Reg Bacon was among the big-hitters to score 50 runs. He signalled his arrival at the crease in his first innings with a massive six, and teammate Merv Graham was another to clear the fence.

One player, John Lyons, completed a hat-trick when he took wickets on his last two deliveries in one game and collected another with his first delivery of the next game.



The final, played before a large crowd on Yallourn's No 2 oval, was an anticlimax, with Central Workshops(1) in early trouble with the bat against the Main

Office team, which featured a number of top CGCA players.

After scoring 8/39, CWS went down to Main Office, 2/50 with three overs in hand.

Pictured on these pages are the teams which took part in the Valley Cup Lightning Premiership round, with two action shots which typified the attacking mood in which all teams approached the competition.



Bob Clayton moving on after 5 - year L.V. spell



Bruce Burn

Industrial chaplain, the Rev. Bob Clayton, has moved on to his next assignment with the Inter-Church Trade and Industry Mission.

Bob, whose term of service in the Latrobe Valley ended on March 21, left the region quietly, but that doesn't mean that he won't be missed.

Since coming here in 1969, Bob Clayton has made his mark within the SEC; at APM and in the community.

SEC personnel will remember him as a keen student of human nature with a perceptive eye and sympathetic ear, as well as a pronounced flair for finding the "earthy" solution to many of the problems he encountered.

His standing was extremely high at all levels throughout the SEC.

Before entering the Anglican ministry, Bob worked as a motor engineer, as a businessman in his own right, and as manager of the steel-division of a Melbourne firm.

He was made Deacon in 1963 at St. Arnaud and was ordained at Swan Hill in 1965, two years before coming to Gippsland, where he was Parish Priest at Bairnsdale.

Now, he is stationed in Melbourne while his immediate future is sorted out.

During the last few weeks of his stay here, Bob



Bob Clayton

quietly (?) said his goodbyes as he introduced successor Pastor Bruce Burn to as many people as possible.

Bruce, who will become a Morwell resident, is a Tasmanian who has done his share of moving around.

He spent five years in Surfers Paradise, where he established and operated Gold Coast Life Line for five years; was engaged in parish and administrative work in New Zealand, and was a hospital chaplain.

He also served with the RAAF, and was stationed in Darwin.

Bruce is an ordained Church of Christ pastor.

Homecoming for Tony

Morwell Open Cut dredger driver Tony Hoogeboom spent a little time brushing up on his native Dutch late last month before returning on April 18 to his homeland.

Tony, who has been in Australia for more than 15 years, will spend most of his six months long service leave in Holland, where his father and other members of his family still live.

He'll make his headquarters in his home town of Warmenhuizen, about 50 miles from Amsterdam.

They like to hear from you, but...

Electrical Services Division foreman Bill Toohey and overseer Ossie "Mick" Duder have been around Yallourn so long that they're almost regarded as permanent fixtures.

Bill arrived at Yallourn in time for the 1934 flooding of the open cut, and was in the thick of things when fire swept through the cut 10 years later. Mick, who arrived two years later, has been almost as deeply involved in Yallourn affairs.

However, their involvement has won them some sleepless nights lately.

Some years ago, Electrical Services relinquished responsibility for electrical

supply activity in Yallourn township, with the exception of installation and repair of fixed wiring in houses.

The message apparently has not reached all Yallourn residents, with the result that Bill and Mick are still being roused in the wee small hours to learn that one street light or another is out of action and should be repaired.

While both are happy friends, they point out that to hear from their old street lights are no longer their responsibility — and they cannot help the caller in any case.

When power and lighting problems do occur at Yallourn, calls should be made to the ESB office — 34 3511 during normal working hours and 34 3734 after hours — or to the main switchboard at Yallourn, 62 2161.

Perhaps then Bill Toohey and Mick Duder will rest a little easier at night.



Co-operative credit

(Continued from Page 3)

This may include home improvements, land, housing, motor cars, medical, education, holiday expenses, household appliances or debt consolidation.

Depending on the purpose, loans up to \$8,000 are available for periods up to seven years, and—subject to availability of

funds and satisfactory security—loans up to \$12,000 may be negotiated in special circumstances for longer periods.

Interest on loans is 12 per cent. per annum, daily reducing. Repayments usually are made through payroll deductions.

All loans are insured against the death of the borrower, and protection is afforded the borrower whose ability to repay is affected through unforeseen physical incapacity.

L.V. FIRM WINS \$9-m. CONTRACT

The \$9-million Yallourn "W" second stage contract awarded last month to the Morwell firm of D.G. and J. Di Fabrizio is the largest contract the SEC has ever given a local firm for work in the Valley.

The firm's tender was the lowest offer received for the supply, fabrication, erection and painting of steelwork for the power station's turbine house and annexe, boiler, bunker and electrical bay.

SEC chairman Charles Tretowan commented when announcing the contract that it was "a matter of satisfaction" to the SEC when a local industry could compete successfully for Commission work.

"We support the principle of decentralisation," he said.

The job, programmed to take about 2.5 years, will provide employment for at least an extra 30 men with the company for much of the time. Di Fabrizio now employ 70.

Steel fabrication for this contract is expected to begin in July, and site erection in January next year. The work is due for completion in December, 1977.

Yallourn "W" stage 2, which was approved by State Parliament in 1972, will be comprised of two 375 MW generating units, the first due for service in 1979 and the second in 1980.

In carrying out their contract, Di Fabrizio will have to fabricate more than 11000 tonnes of steel at a rate of 500 tonnes a month.

Most of it—about 8,000 tonnes—will be required for two immense boiler bunkers and the electrical bay below them.

This structure will be 74 metres high, 15 metres wide and 150 metres long.

The turbine house and annexe adjoining it will be

34 metres high and 40 metres wide, and will need more than 2600 tonnes of steel.

The contractor will supply a further 415 tonnes for the steel tie beams and divisional walls of a raw coal bunker near the Yallourn open cut.

In Yallourn W stage 1 the boiler bunkers and electrical bay were part of the main boiler contract. But they are being built separately in stage 2 so that the equipment and cables can be installed in the electrical bay up to six months earlier.

The boiler bunkers will each have a capacity of 3000 tonnes of coal. The electrical bay underneath will consist of five floors containing electrical switchgear and controls.



Members of the staff of Morwell firm D. G. and J. Di Fabrizio Steel Fabrications Pty. Ltd. celebrate with champagne winning of a contract which has great significance not only for their company but for the entire Latrobe Valley community.

...and two other major contracts let locally

Contracts have been let for construction at Morwell of a new Latrobe Valley control centre building, and a new visitors' centre.

Site works for both projects began some time ago under separate contract.

Successful tenders for the two new buildings were:—

- Control centre: Wiljor Construction Pty. Ltd., of Traralgon.

The contract, valued at more than \$550,000 provides for construction of a brick and steel high security building to house remote control and monitoring equipment for the three major transmission stations in the Latrobe Valley.

The building will incorporate emergency generating and battery power sections to allow the control centre to provide its own power during temporary breakdowns.

Included in the design of the centre building are access flooring which can be removed in panels to reach wiring below, modular partitions and special lighting. It has been designed to provide maximum internal and sound insulating and a high level of fire proofing.

The new centre will be located near the Morwell Administrative Headquarters of the SEC.

- Visitors' Centre: Sola Construction (Gippsland, Victoria) Pty. Ltd. of Morwell.

The building, which will cost more than \$235,000, will provide expanded and improved facilities for many of the 80,000 people who visit SEC works in the Latrobe Valley each year.

The new Visitors' Centre will incorporate a large display area which will feature relief maps, scale models, animated models and audio-visual equipment designed to help visitors to understand the complexity of SEC activities. Also included in the Centre, will be a multi-purpose area, observation deck and associated car park.

Yallourn "W" Mechanical Workshops Foreman Bob Johnston, and his colleagues at the power station, find the electric-powered Electra bike a quiet, convenient and safe mode of transport.

ELECTRA JUST GLIDES ALONG — PLUGS IN FOR "REFILL"



In August, 1973, Contact carried an article on the Latrobe Valley area's use of electricity as a power source for transportation vehicles, referring specifically to the four electric personnel and equipment carriers operated by Transmission.

It is also well known that small battery-powered flat top units have been in use throughout the various power stations for the past decade.

Now Yallourn "W" Power Station has taken the next step along the electric "path of progress".

Apart from flat top units, the station now boasts two battery-operated powercycles.

The cycles, manufactured by German company Solo, are appropriately called "Electra".

The publicity screed for the cycles calls the Electra "the first true anti-pollution device on wheels, short of pedal bikes . . . runs quietly as a bicycle . . . parks anywhere . . . is a miracle of technical simplicity".

Impressive words, but the man in charge of the cycles, foreman (Mechanical) Bob Johnston, is certainly pleased with the way they have performed.

The cycles were required because of the vastness of the Yallourn "W" project — walking from one side of the station to the other can be very time-consuming.

According to Bob, the cycles have provided the perfect answer.

They are very manoeuvrable in congested areas, can cope with different types of terrain (although they sometimes show a dislike for railway tracks) and have a top speed of approx 26 km per hour.

"Refuelling" is a simple procedure.

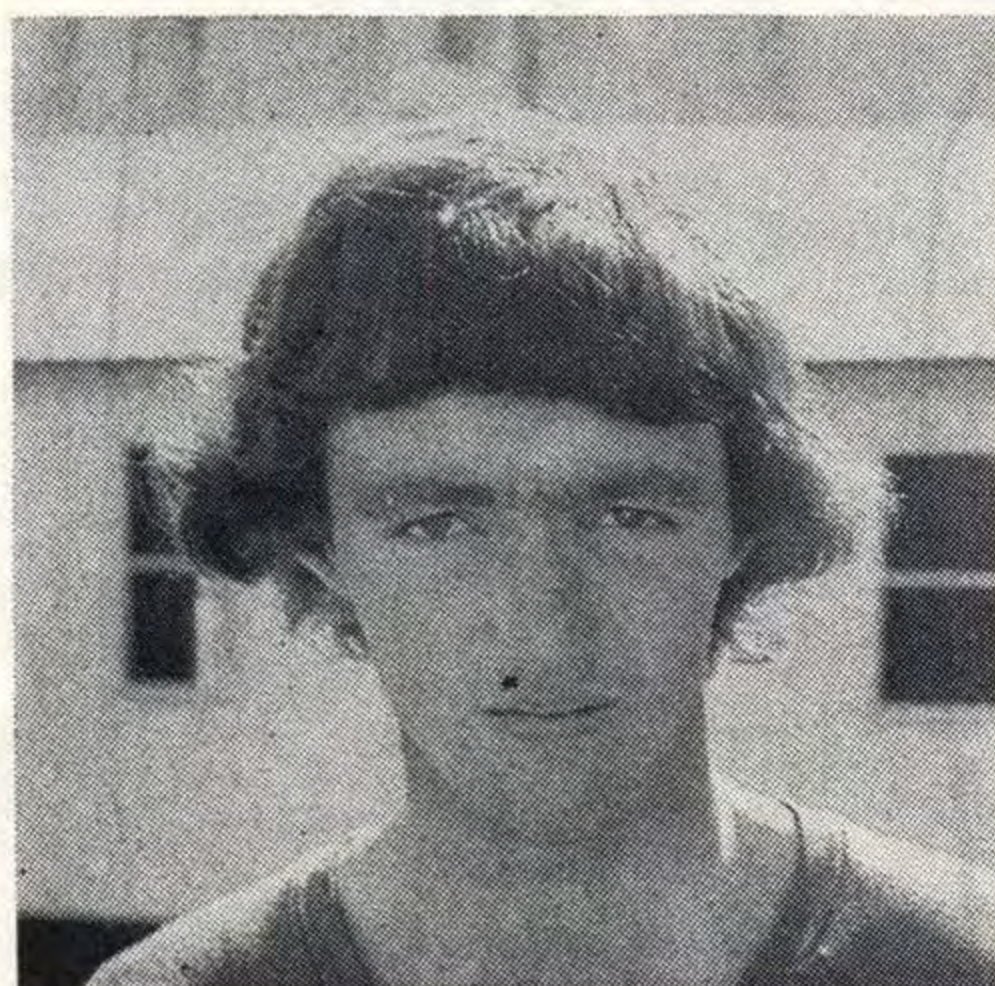
The Electra is simply plugged overnight into a normal mains outlet, and next morning, the cycle is ready for the new day on a "full tank".

And like everything electrical, the cycles are easy to operate.

A throttle and front and rear brakes are the only controls, making it as simple to ride as the ordinary push-bike.

The two Electras have received plenty of use during their short stay, and it is hoped that two more cycles, possibly Australian-made versions, will soon be available.

New apprentices boost ranks of bricklayers



Apprentice Induction Day was a day to remember for the new members of our workforce, but for two young lads embarking on bricklaying apprenticeship, the day had special significance.

John Bowyer and Jeff Knowles are the first apprentice bricklayers employed by the Commission in 14 years. The last apprentice in this classification was R. F. Lowater, who began his term in January, 1961.

Before 1961, apprentice bricklayers were taken on at fairly regular intervals. Yallourn Power Station, particu-



larly 'A' and 'B' stations, was fitted with fully brick-set boilers which often required brickwork maintenance.

Recent technology has gradually shifted emphasis from brickwork to other forms of material.

However, long-term planning projected well into the next decade has revealed that opportunities will soon exist in the field, so John and Jeff have been added to the workforce — John at Yallourn Power Station and Jeff at Morwell Briquette and Power Installation.

Getting the **safety** message across

Despite efforts to ensure safe working practices and to increase consciousness of the need for safety, accidents do occur within the SEC and inquiries are sustained.

Experience indicates that when accidents occur, it is all too easy to become confused, resulting in the loss of valuable time before the arrival of medical help.

Following such a situation late last year, Yallourn Power Station embarked upon a novel way of hammering home the point that an immediate telephone call for help to emergency number 2888 could save a life.

In a well-publicised poster competition, employees were invited to submit pencil drawings highlighting the emergency number.

The best entries received cash prizes.

In a function on March 7 at 'C' station canteen, Power Station Superintendent Don Bromilow presented cheques to four artistically-minded personnel.

Mechanical fitter Ken Butler took out the major prize of \$30, while Supervisor Gr. 2 Gordon Wilson (\$20), Main-

Four different, but all effective, approaches to the job of getting the safety message across. YPS safety poster competition placegetters are, from left, winner Ken Butler, Gordon Wilson (2nd), Alf Budge and Jack McGuinness (equal 3rd).



tenance Clerk Alf Budge (\$10) and Fitter Jack McGuinness (\$10) also got among the prizemoney.

The ideas of the four prizewinners had previously been put into colorful poster form by screenprinters from Yallourn Workshops, and these were on

display.

Copies will be run off and placed at strategic places throughout the Station area.

Hopefully, "two triple eight" will become a household phrase for Yallourn Power Station personnel.

As our picture shows, members of the Canteen/Catering group at Yallourn are quite satisfied with their safety performance of recent years . . . and well they ought to be.

In July last year, the group clocked up 100,000 hours accident-free, and have since boosted this total to 114,000 hours without a disabling injury.

CATERING TO SAFETY....

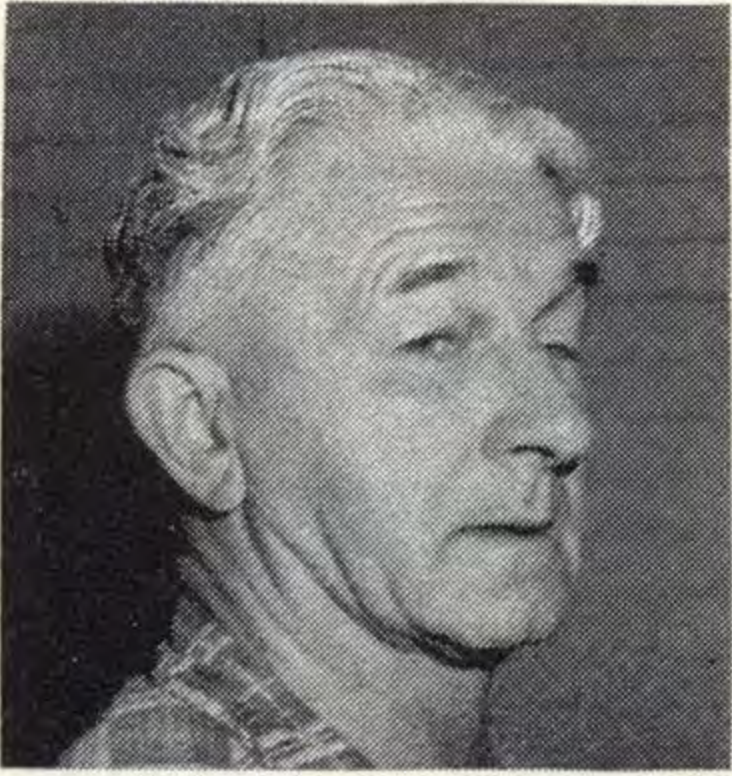
This impressive safety record was recognised when Secretarial Officer Neville Thompson presented group re-

presentative Charlie Borg with a pennant and certificate at a gathering in Yallourn West Mess .

Part-time safety officer for Administration, John Pemberton, and Superintendent of Property and Accommodation, Ken Woff, were also on hand to congratulate the safety-conscious group.



retirements



ALFRED HINSON

A pair of binoculars and a wallet were presented to Alf Hinson by Acting Superintendent Morwell Briquetting and Power Installation, Cyril Morellato when Alf was farewelled by workmates in the station canteen on March 12. In his 14½ years with the Commission, he has worked at a great variety of jobs. He began as a labourer with Civil Services, Morwell but quickly transferred to the briquette factory as an assistant press driver. In the following years he remained there, working at different times as a coal conveyor attendant, bunker attendant, dry coal conveyor attendant, electric plant attendant and, finally, mechanical plant driver.



ALLAN "BLUEY" OSBORNE

Workmates crowded into the shift change room of the Morwell Workshops on March 11 to farewell a real personality in Blue Osborne. Bluey spent 15 years in Yallourn as a Leading Hand motor mechanic and Leading Hand Overseer, and 11½ years in Morwell as an Inspector, the post he held at his retirement. He obviously made many friends in both areas, and all chipped in for a transistor radio which was presented by Transport Maintenance Officer Arthur Mann. Bluey's retirement plans include a caravan tour around Australia, and he hopes that the Barossa Valley will be one of the first stops on his itinerary.



WILLIAM JONES

A large crowd gathered in the Yallourn machine shop on February 28 to farewell Bill Jones. Bill, who has been with the Commission for only a short while, has made many friends. He spent four months with the Commission in 1967 as a trades assistant at Yallourn Power Station, but then took up a job with the Victorian Railways. In 1970, he returned as a trades assistant and worked at the Yallourn Workshops until his retirement in late 1974. Unfortunately, bad health prevented him from saying goodbye to his workmates until last month. The sun-lounge, picnic set and overnight bag he received as farewell gifts, should Boost his morale immensely.



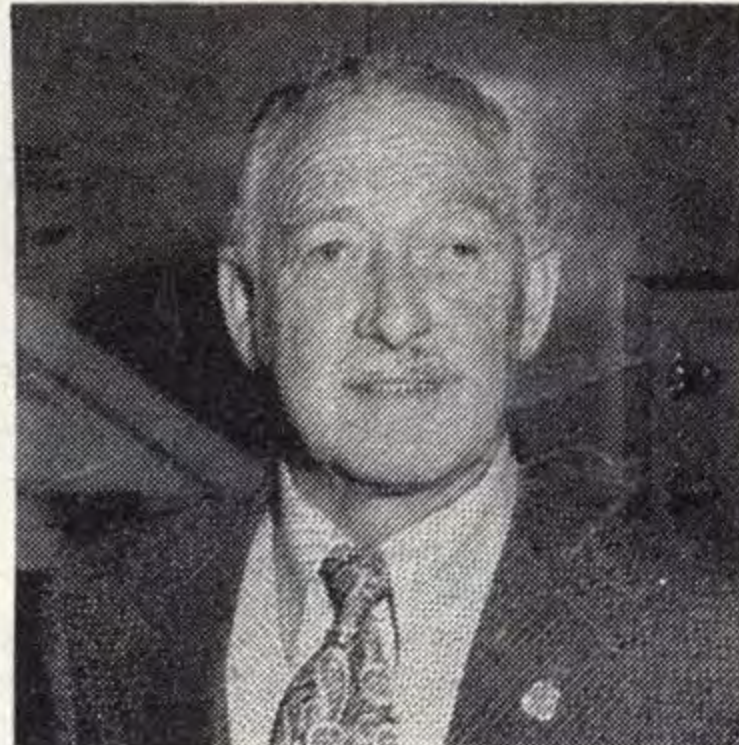
JOSEPH REKIAWICKI

A/Morwell Briquette and Power Installation superintendent, Cyril Morellato did the honors at a special farewell function for Joseph Rekiawicki on March 18. Joseph, who retired after having spent more than 13 years with the Commission, began as a laborer with Morwell Briquette Works in 1962, but rapidly moved through a succession of jobs including cleaner and assistant press driver to coal conveyor attendant. At the farewell function in the station canteen, Joseph was presented with a wallet of notes, as well as the best wishes of workmates.

JACK UNWIN AND ROLY HEAD



The Yallourn Transport Workshops lost part of its history on March 25 when stalwarts Jack Unwin and Roly Head took their leave of the Commission. With a total of 64 years service between them, Jack and Roly have become real identities both inside and outside Commission boundaries. This was



evident at the informal farewell presentation in the old workshops canteen and an official function at the West Mess later in the day. Jack was presented with an electric drill, fishing rod and reel and crock pot while Roly received a similar electric drill, a pop-up toaster and a blender from appreciative workmates.

Gifts were also presented to Mrs. Head and Mrs. Unwin. A special guest at the West Mess function was the sales manager for Malcolm Moore Industries, Norm Beruldfen, who congratulated the two retirees on behalf of all outside suppliers. Over the years Jack and Roly have had practically identical careers. Jack began with the Commission in 1940 as a motor mechanic at Yallourn, where he was quickly promoted to Leading Hand. He joined the staff in 1946 as Transport Maintenance Foreman, becoming Senior Foreman within three years and winning promotion to the post of Transport Maintenance Officer in 1955. He was appointed Senior Transport

Maintenance Officer in 1967 and remained at this post until retirement. Roly began his Commission career in 1946 as a motor mechanic at Yallourn, and he too was soon promoted to Leading Hand. He gained a staff appointment in 1947 as a foreman with the Yallourn Motor Vehicle Service Section, retaining the classification until 1955, when he took on the duties of Maintenance Overseer Gr. 1. He received his final posting in 1967, when he was promoted to Senior Transport Maintenance Officer. Jack and Roly have had a close working association over the past 30 years, and the association will be continued when they both take up residence in Lakes Entrance.

retirements



JIMMY LUCK

A man who called a spade a spade . . . that was senior patrolman Jimmy Luck, who left the Commission's service on January 20. In a career spent with Stores and the Patrol section, Jimmy won the respect of workmate and supervisor alike with his straightforward approach. This characteristic was emphasised when he responded to the presentation of a tape recorder during a farewell by workmates. Jimmy, who signed on in 1954 as a storeman at Yallourn, was later appointed stores assistant gr. 1. In 1961, he became patrolman, rising to senior patrolman 11 years later.

CECIL KLEINITZ

An association of 33.5 years with Coal, Yallourn is the record of Cec Kleinitz, who terminated his long stay with the Commission on March 20.

Workmates crowded into the Yallourn Coal Production Maintenance canteen to pay final tribute to a healthy-looking Cec, and see Coal Production Superintendent Col Ferguson present him with an equally healthy looking wallet and several packets of tobacco specially donated by the canteen. Mrs. Kleinitz, who attended the farewell, gratefully accepted a sheaf of flowers and a Glomesh purse. Cec's career with the Commission has been spent in two stages; from 1941 to 1950 he worked as a laborer, taking a short break from the Commission's service, returning late in 1950 as a trades assistant before transferring tool storeman. In 1966, he became a metal trades storeman, the position he held until retirement.

Tests and Communications lost one of its well-known faces on March 13 when Ernie Azzopardi was officially farewelled in the Yallourn Visitors Reception centre. Ernie has been associated with the Latrobe Valley since 1955, he previously spent two months at Yarraville when he began work as a technical assistant gr. 4. In 1965 he became an en-

gineering assistant, a post he held for 9 years. Before being appointed electrical tester gr. 3. Ernie was Reclassified to engineering assistant in 1972. Asst. Transmission Engineer Ian McDonald presented Ernie with a suitcase and travelling bag, gifts which will be obviously be put to good use when Ernie takes his long-awaited trip overseas.



ERNIE AZZOPARDI

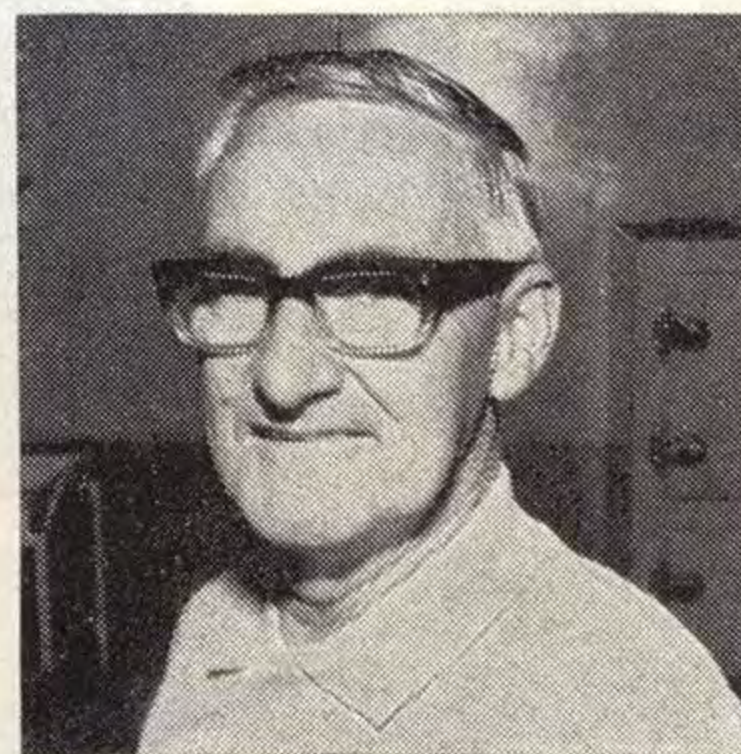
Bill Foley ended 36 years services with the SEC on March 19 when he was farewelled at the Transport Control Office (Southern Pivot) at Yallourn; his daughter was married the following Saturday and within a few days, Bill and Mrs. Foley were on their way to places north. For Bill, retirement brings a long-awaited extended holiday in Queensland in the family's new 20 foot caravan. He'll also indulge his liking for surf-fishing, bowling, travelling and photography. The Zoom



BILL FOLEY

lens presented on behalf of work mates by Coal Production Department Manager Jack Vines will be put to

good use by Bill, who will bring back shots of landscapes and sunsets as mementos of his northern holiday. Tributes to Bill's conscientious services as laborer, greaser, loco driver (for 30 years) traffic controller, were paid by Mr Vines, Coal Production Superintendent (Yallourn) Col Ferguson and Electrical Operations Overseer Frank Hill. Responding, Bill thanked workmates and said that unless we see anything better over the next hill, we'll spend our retirement in Moe."



JIM LOWE

According to Transport Maintenance Officer Frank

Cook, Jim Lowe was his "right arm" when they worked together on shift work in the early days. Frank said this when bidding farewell to his long-standing friend on February 28 at the Yallourn Transport Workshops old canteen. A motor mechanic for his entire Commission career of 27 years; Jim worked at Municipal, Yallourn, in 1948 before transferring to the Work-

shops 17 months later. In 1971, he was promoted to Leading Hand, holding the post until retirement. As a memento of his years of services, workmates presented him with a watch. Jim intends to see out his retirement in sunny Queensland, he hoped to move up to see Maroochydore during Easter; but before leaving, left an open invitation for workmates to "drop in" at any time.

ROBERT SANDERSON

A visit which lasted 29 years . . . that is the story for Bob Sanderson, who was farewelled from the Commission in a crowded Coal Production Maintenance canteen on March 23. Bob was called to the Latrobe Valley

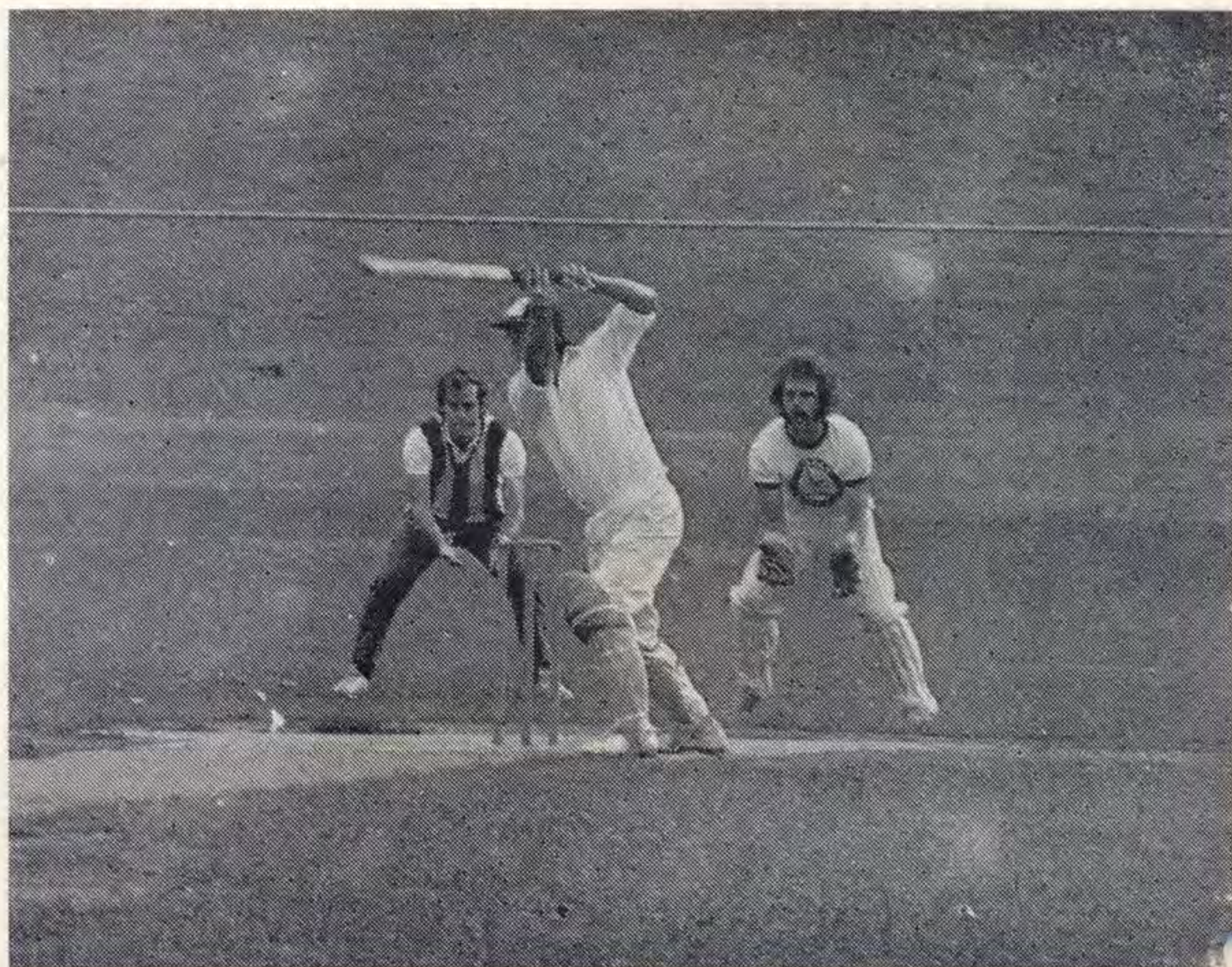
in 1948 after only 17 months with the Commission, and the intention was that he stay for only a short while. However, he managed to stay on and on, firstly with the Transport Workshops as a motor mechanic, and after 1953 as a fitter with Coal Division, Yallourn. Coal Pro-

duction Superintendent Col Ferguson was the first in line to congratulate Bob on his extended "visit" and presented him with a wallet of notes. Fellow workmate Steve Lovison, speaking on behalf of the "loco shed blokes" also offered his congratulations.

sporting scene

MID-WEEK CRICKET TITLE TO POLICE

This is the kind of action which brought about the undoing of Yallourn "W" in the final of the Mid-Week Cricket Association last month. Well in the game in the early stages, the SEC team kept a brake on Police team scoring, but fielding errors and batting like this set the stage for a Police victory.



Dropped catches, failure to capitalise on two simple run out opportunities and an early batting collapse combined to rob Yallourn "W" of any chance of victory in the 1974/75 Mid-Week Cricket Association competition final last month.

The title was won for the second successive season by Police, who scored 211 for the loss of five wickets to win the final by 46 runs on the first innings.

But it needn't have ended that way.

Snappy fielding by the SEC team in the first half hour of play could have had Police in big trouble, but after scraping through a troublesome early period — they were 5/110 at one stage — Police took complete control.

Malcolm James (74 not out) and Dennis Marchesi (40 not out) were top scoring Police batsmen against a Yal-

lourn "W" attack led by skipper Jim Richards (2/51).

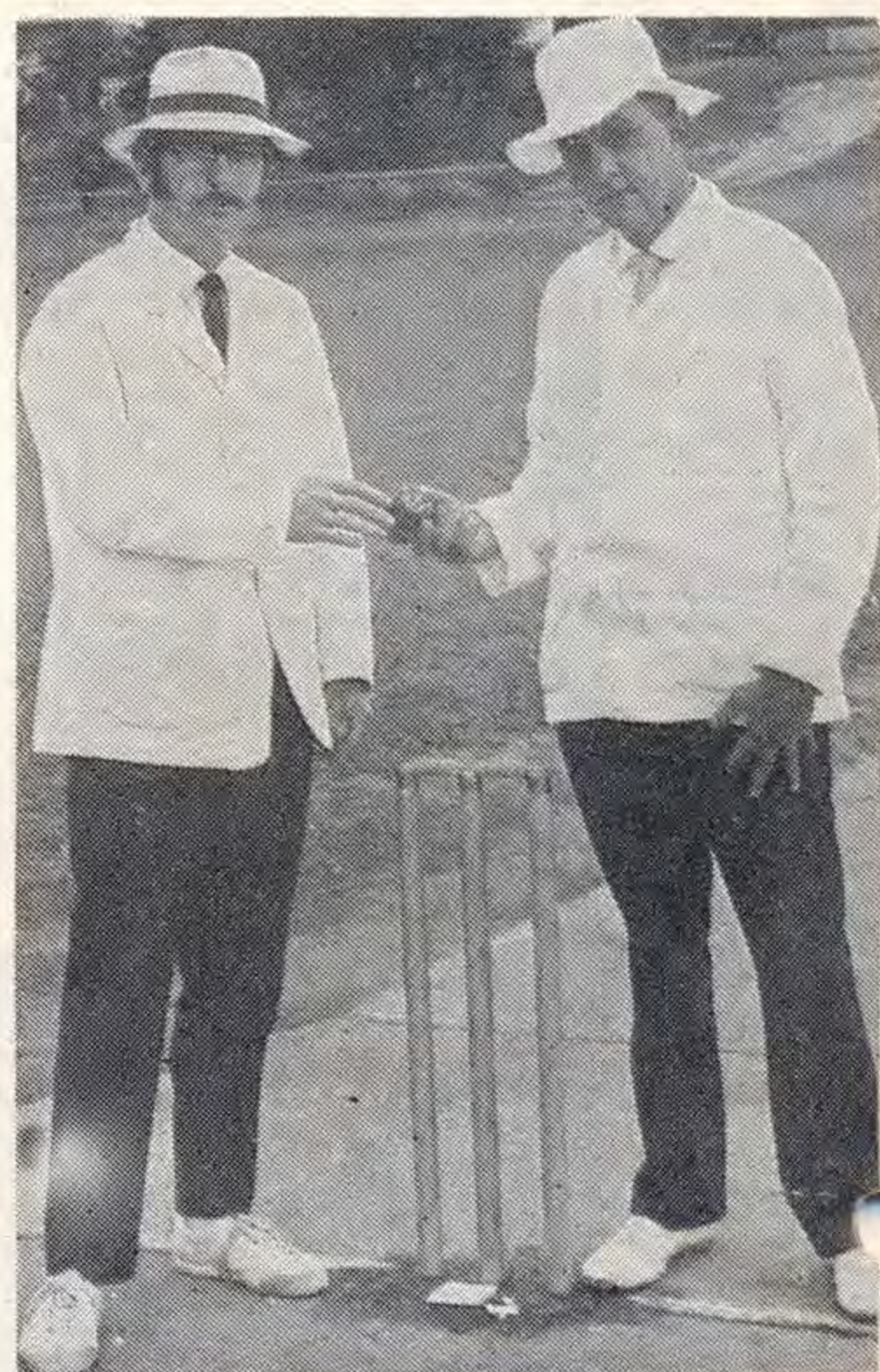
Wickets fell quickly at the opening of the "W" innings, and it was not until opener Lloyd Lewis (70 not out) and Rex Fuhrman (50) came together that the innings looked respectable.

The pair put on 95 runs before Fuhrman was run out following a compete misunderstanding.

The "tail" wagged toward the close of the innings, but without looking like closing the gap.

Wrecker for the Police team was Peter Grummisch, who finished with the fine figures of 7/71.

The match was well umpired by evergreen Elmo Orchard (Patrol) and Harry Shillinglaw (CWS), two experienced officials who have made a big contribution to the success of the mid-week competition.



Mid-Week cricket umpires, Harold Shillinglaw (above left) and Elmo Orchard, pictured before play began in the final last month. Experienced officials, with lengthy cricket associations in the Latrobe Valley, Harold and Elmo are familiar figures on cricket grounds throughout the Latrobe Valley. Pictured at left is the Yallourn "W" team which did well to reach the final after an excellent season.