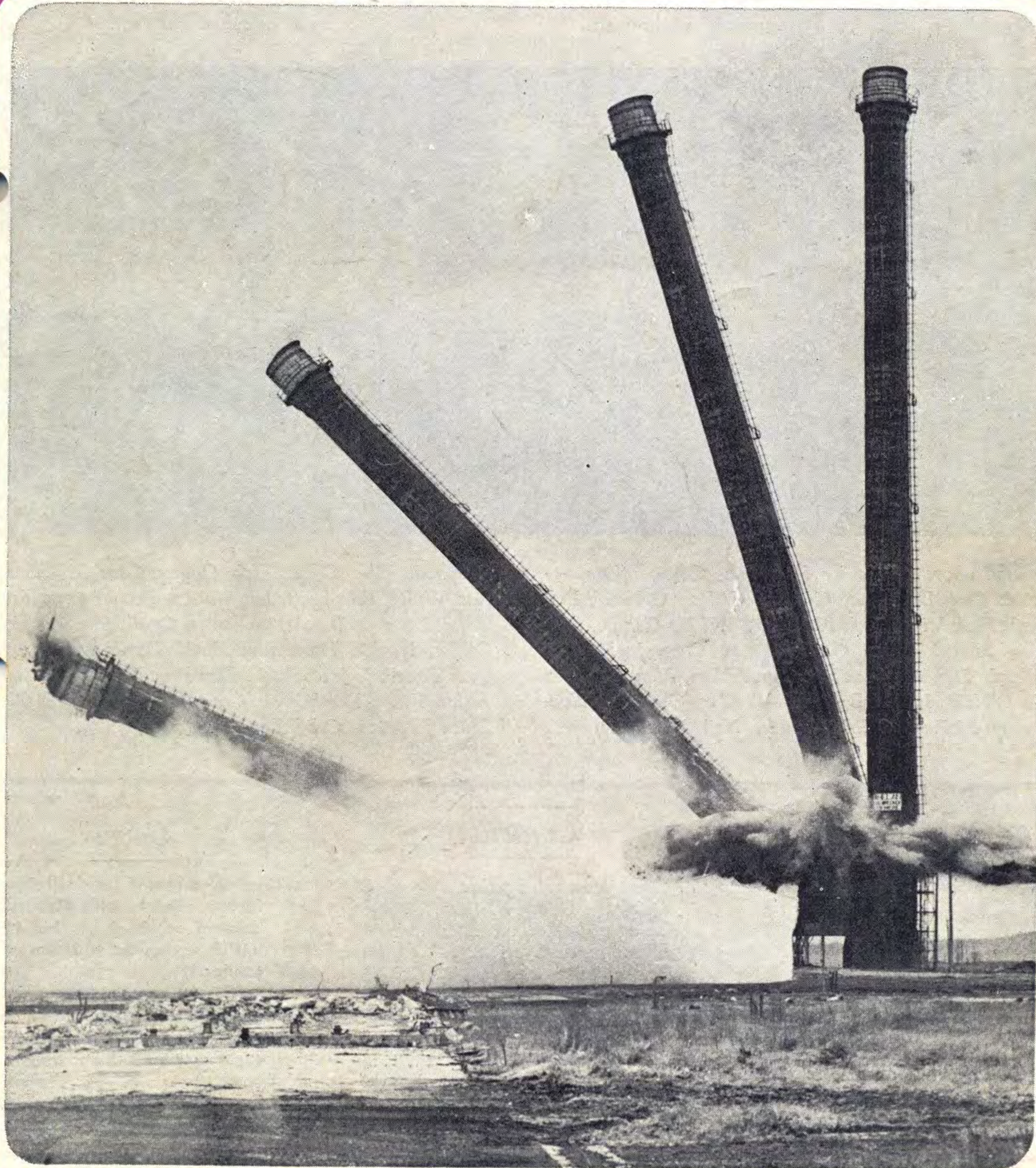




CONTACT

JUNE, 1975



Operations Group get-together

Senior Operations Group staff — with one exception — got together at Yallourn on June 2 for frank and open discussions on all aspects of SEC operations.

Chief Engineer Transmission Operations, Bob Stainforth, was absent on leave.

The 45 officers who attended spent the day in the Valley on a program

which culminated in an informal dinner at Moe.

A highlight of the function was the screening of a new film produced by the photographic section of Public Relations Department for use in the visitors' centre now under construction on the Ridge at Morwell.

The film takes the viewer on a comprehensive tour of the Latrobe Valley works areas.

Assistant General Manager (Operations) Bill De Campo gave a broad outline of SEC "current affairs", leading up to a 90-minute open forum in which the spotlight was on Operations Group activities.

The get-together was the first of its kind since formation of the Operations Group eight months ago, although a pre-Christmas social function was arranged last year.



Pictured above are Senior Operations Group officers — seated: Greg Lake, Ray Greenwood, Ron Osborne, Bob Booth, Jack Vines, Jack Robertson, Bill De Campo, Max Gray, Alan Maguire, George Bates, Clem Joyce, Ken Yelland. Standing from left: Stan Aitken, Alan Castelow, Vin O'Neill, Ian McDonald, Neil Cox, Graham Dillon, Murray McRae, Colin Hamley, Neil Hustwaite, Jack

Chapman, Ron Court, Bob Odgers, Max Williamson, Ron White, Erle Peatt, Ian Wilson, Peter Bossen, Frank Grary, Frank Miles, Arthur Lewis, Cyril Morellato, Brian Collier, Neville Thompson, David Davies, Allen Peter, Tom Terrell, Jack Huxtable, Don Bromilow, Kevin Go Arthur Ewen, Frank Faye, Graeme Boreham, Don Clark, Bruce Johnston, Geoff Thomas.

Contact



Prepared by The Public Relations Group for Operations Group employees.

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Cover

The final moment for the briquette factory chimney at Yallourn was delayed on June 21, but when it DID come, the end was spectacular.

Senior photographer John Smith, photographer Terry Smith and Kevin Goldie of the drafting office, combined their talents to come up with our composite shot of the closing stages of a distinguished "career".

"DESIGNING" DRAFTSMAN

Main Office draftsman Don Santowiak is the man behind the artwork in the "new-look" CONTACT.

Don, who has been with the Commission for five years, designed the logo which heads off each departmental page, and he also created the Operations Group emblem used in the CONTACT masthead.

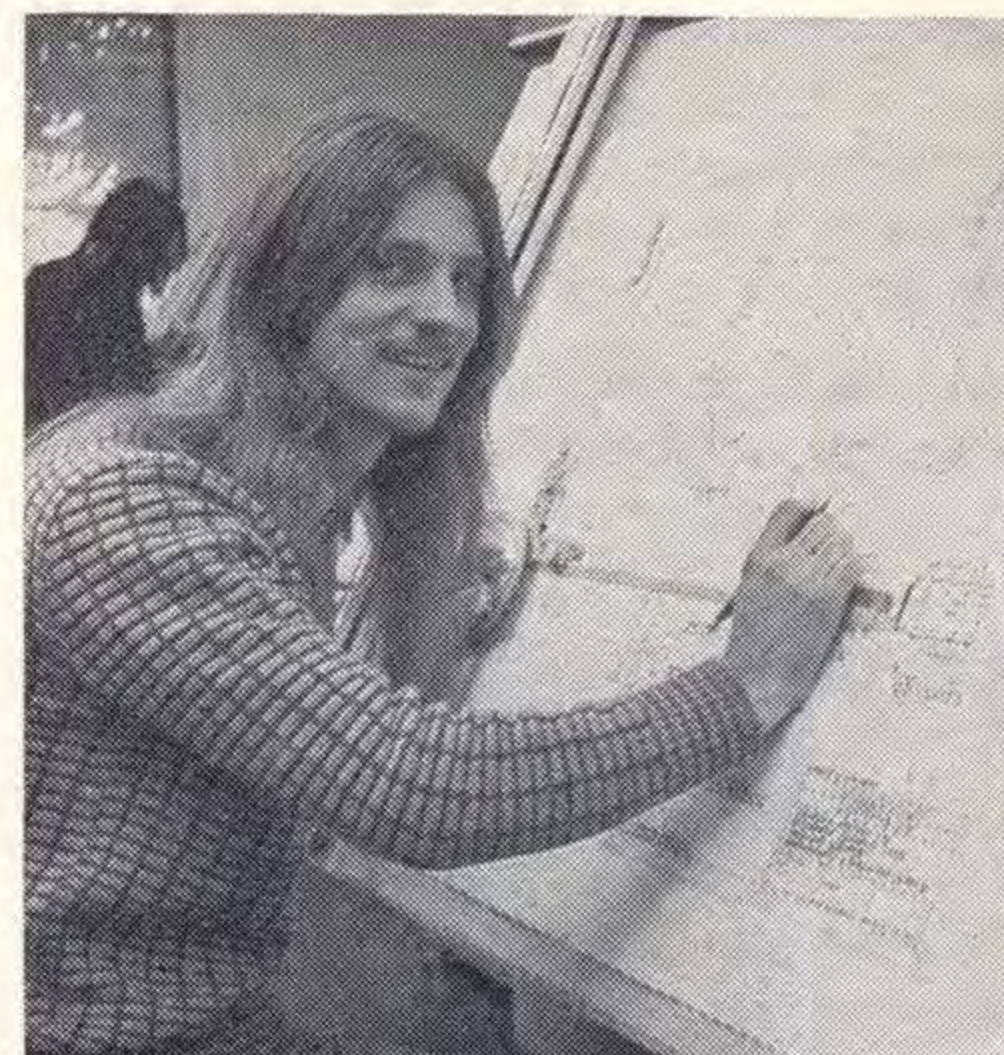
The format changes appear to have been well received.

The departmental logos have caused some comment.

As was the case when the SEC adopted a new motive as part of a corporate image review, the CONTACT designs have launched some of the more fertile imaginations on good natured flights of fancy.

Some have even come close to the artist's own concepts.

In any case, the new look focusses more attention on the new Operations Group departments, and presents its material in more colorful format.



Last moments of a Valley giant

The spectacular falling of the Yallourn briquette factory chimney on June 21 was the end for the 51 year old chimney . . . but it was only the start for Whelan the Wrecker of the final phase of a complex 18-month wrecking project.

Whelan's contract called for demolition, clearance to ground level and removal from site of the cooling houses, press houses, turbine and boiler houses, ancillary buildings and structures and the reinforced concrete chimney.

As well as being a landmark for more than 50 years, the 2,360-tonne, 100-metre high chimney was regarded in its day as a significant feat of civil engineering.

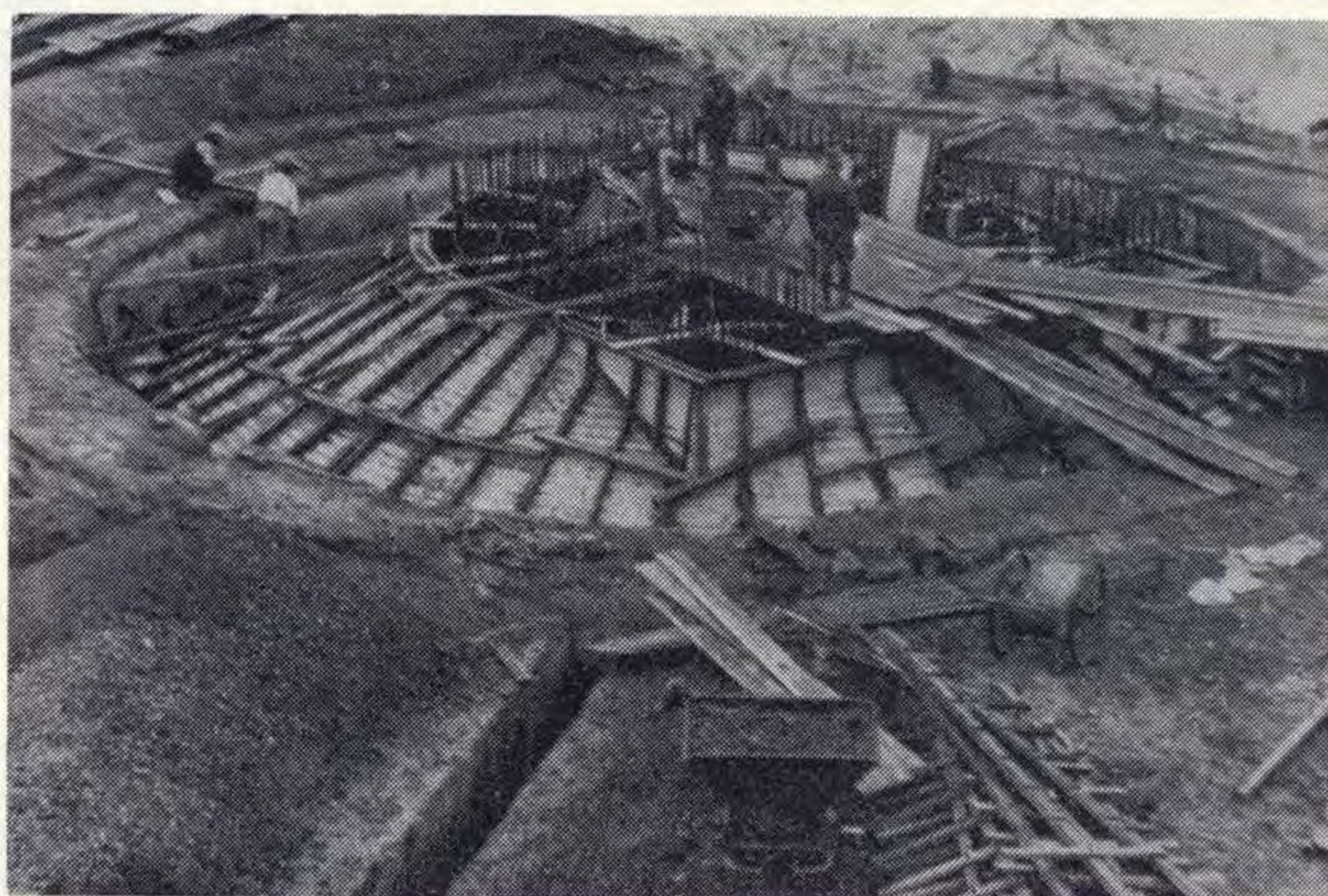
The chimney was obviously reluctant to go on June 21, standing defiantly until about 1.55 p.m. — three hours after the scheduled time for demolition.

The delay, apparently caused by difficulties encountered by Whelan's workmen in fixing protective mats and explosive charges in bitterly cold conditions, was not welcomed by a crowd in the immediate area of about 2,500.

In addition, roads and high vantage points around Yallourn were packed for several hours.

All that remained after the explosion was a mass of bricks, concrete rubble and reinforcing — and the 13.7 metre diameter concrete base on which the chimney stood.

Once the chimney is removed from the site the really hard work begins; foundations for both the factory and



the tall chimney were most extensive and will require considerable effort to uncover, break down and clear away.

One man who knows a great deal about the briquette chimney is former Supervisor, Building Trades at Yallourn Workshops, Quin Glen — father of Acting Departmental Materials Officer Col Glen. Mr. Glen Snr, who retired 10 years ago, helped prepare form-work for pouring of concrete in the base of the chimney . . . and he braved the elements to see it all come tumbling down.

Above: Where it all began. Workmen at Yallourn get on with the job of building Australia's tallest (at that time) chimney.

Below: How it ended . . . in a cloud of dust after Whelan the Wrecker moved in to demolish the old briquette factory.



Yallourn Back-to plans

Latrobe Valley people have responded enthusiastically to proposed "Back-to Yallourn" celebrations planned for March 6-13 next year.

Yallourn organisations are planning activities to be dovetailed into a comprehensive programme of events.

The opening function, to be held in Monash Square, Yallourn on Saturday afternoon, March 6, will be followed by a barbecue in the square and a family dance in nearby Kernot Hall.

Highlight of the closing night will be a fireworks display in the square and singing of "Auld Lang Syne" at midnight.

Special briquette samples will be available and a souvenir issue of the town's former newspaper, the Live Wire, is planned.

Sports will dominate the long, holiday weekend.



Jack Robertson, chairman of the Back-To Yallourn Committee

During the week there will be a variety of social and cultural activities, including an orchestral and madrigal concert, a display of photographs and the usual back to churches, schools, work and sports clubs.

Details of a number of major draw-cards are yet to be completed by the committee, which was elected at a well-attended public meeting of citizens in March.

The committee, already meeting twice monthly, is comprised of the president Cr. J. J. Robertson, vice-president Mr. Jim Hill, secretary Mr. John Pemberton, assistant secretary Mrs. Jenny De Vries, treasurer Mrs. Anne Gooding, accommodation officer Cr. Norma Smith, publicity officer Mrs. Prue McGoldrick, and committee members Messrs Col Webster, Joe Dell, David Drane, John Benson, Pat O'Sullivan, Tom Grimes, Alistair Balfour, Cr. Tony Daddo and Miss Veronica Lacey.

The committee hopes that Valley people will personally contact and assist in accommodating the many former residents of Yallourn who will be keen to participate in the final "Back to Yallourn".

Enquiries and suggestions may be directed to: The Secretary, Back to Yallourn Committee, P.O. Box 76, Yallourn 3838.

Art exhibition has industrial appeal

The Latrobe Valley Arts Centre has gone for a topical, and appropriate, touch in its July offering at the Morwell Gallery (on the 1st floor of the Town Hall).

In an exhibition of works by "social realist" painters, the Arts Centre depicts the ordinary men, women and children at work and at leisure.

For instance, one painting — Factory Workers — could almost be of a scene in the Commission's own workshops foundry, and for those whose children have attended the Lord Mayor's Camp at Portsea, The Bathers will bring back memories.

Social realist painters don't only portray man at work and play . . . they also plumb their own feelings about the society in which they live, sometimes coming up with controversial works such as the Laughing Christ.

In a word, their down-to-earth work is stimulating.

The display will be on show from July 1-30 between 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. (and until 9 p.m. on Fridays as well as two hours, 3 p.m.-5 p.m. on Sundays).

Art is in the eye of the beholder, and for members of the "social realist" school of painting, art has a responsibility to present life as it really is. Most of the work on display, as shown here, have particular interest for workers and residents of a largely industrial area



The factory workers pictured above could be working in any setting, so well has the artist captured the mood of his work. The miner (right) has great strength and dignity. The social realist school, by choosing as its subjects "ordinary" people and situations, provides a particularly forceful view of life and society.





TRANSMISSION

Taking a look over their territory



To most people, a trip to the Snowy Mountains in mid-May would seem an ideal opportunity to relax, but for a group of enthusiastic, but tired, Commission personnel it was anything but a holiday.

Seven trainee electrical operators, Yallourn Technical College Outstanding Apprentice of the year John Clough, and electrical instructors Karl Mohr and Steve Agius, made up a party of 10 which recently returned from a five-day inspection of the northern hydro schemes.

During the tour, the group clocked up well over 1600 harrowing kilometres and visited places such as Khancoban, Kiewa, Eildon and Rubicon to examine power station equipment and procedures in surrounding areas.

The trip, organised as part of the trainees' overall training program, gives them a chance to appreciate the role of other people in the system, and indicates where their own area fits into the whole.

Experience gained from the trip should lead to greater co-operation in the future when trainees complete their course and come into contact with their counterparts elsewhere.

Transmission change

Maintenance of an effective transmission system and provision of electrical services to the four Latrobe Valley-based departments is the two-fold role of the Latrobe Valley Transmission Division.

Recent organisational changes which involve regrouping the service sections will provide better access for user departments, and will allow for future expansion of the Transmission Division in the Latrobe Valley.

The most significant move is the appointment of Bill Smith to the newly established post of Transmission Services Engineer, with responsibility for all former service functions.

In conjunction with this, two former service sections—Tests and Communications and Electrical Services—have been given "face-lifts".

Tests and Communications has been split into two sec-

tions, one a laboratory-based electrical testing, calibration and communications service section, and the other an area-oriented electrical testing and servicing section.

Allan Scott is now Electrical Laboratory Engineer, while the post of Field Services Engineer has been advertised.

The Electrical Workshops has been separated from the Electrical Services Section and given full section status.

Geoff Hall assumes the role of Electrical Workshops Engineer, and Keith Griffiths is Electrical Services Engineer.

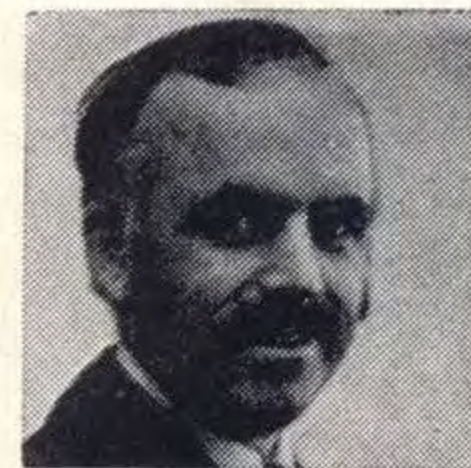
The position of Bryan Clark as Divisional Engineer is formally recognised by Management, but the rest of the picture remains unchanged, with Stations and Operations sections still under the control of the Assistant Transmission Engineer, Ian McDonald.



Bill Smith



Keith Griffiths



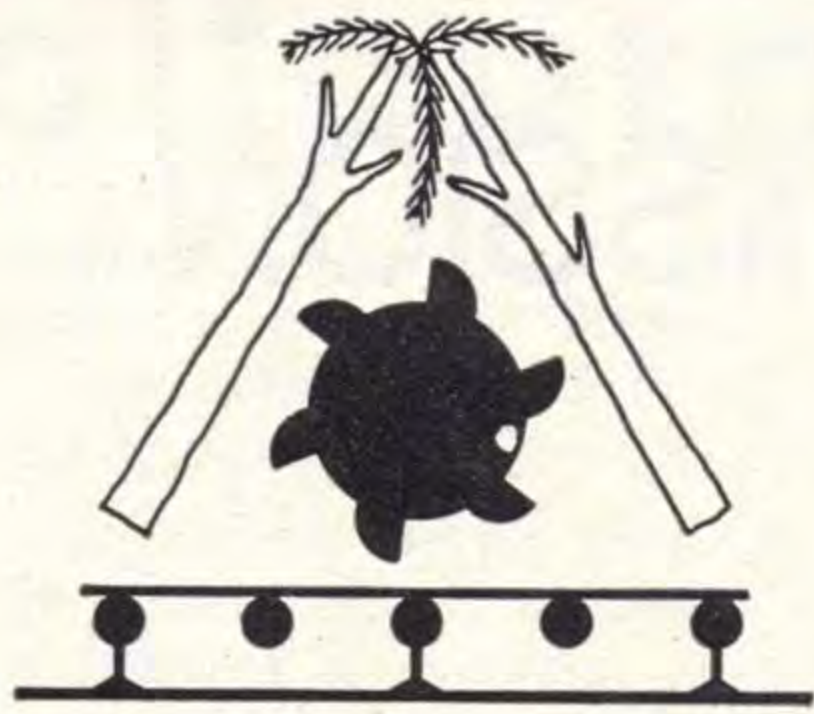
Geoff Hall



Bryan Clark



Allan Scott



COAL PRODUCTION

Bolas and volts don't mix

The bolas is a very useful piece of equipment for the South American cowboy . . . but in an SEC open cut, the bolas can be extremely dangerous — especially in the vicinity of high voltage lines.

Open cut electrical personnel who found a makeshift bolas made up of building wire (used in the wiring of lighting and power circuits) and pieces of blue metal were far from amused.

The wires were hanging from the 6,600-volt conductors of a power line at the tail end of M51/M61/M71 conveyors, below the No 3 transfer house, and there was little doubt that they had been thrown there.

One piece had a loop formed at one end, and a third piece made up into a bolas was found near the line — ready for action.

Acting Assistant Coal Production Superintendent Jim Knowles said that throwing anything at overhead lines was "extremely foolish".

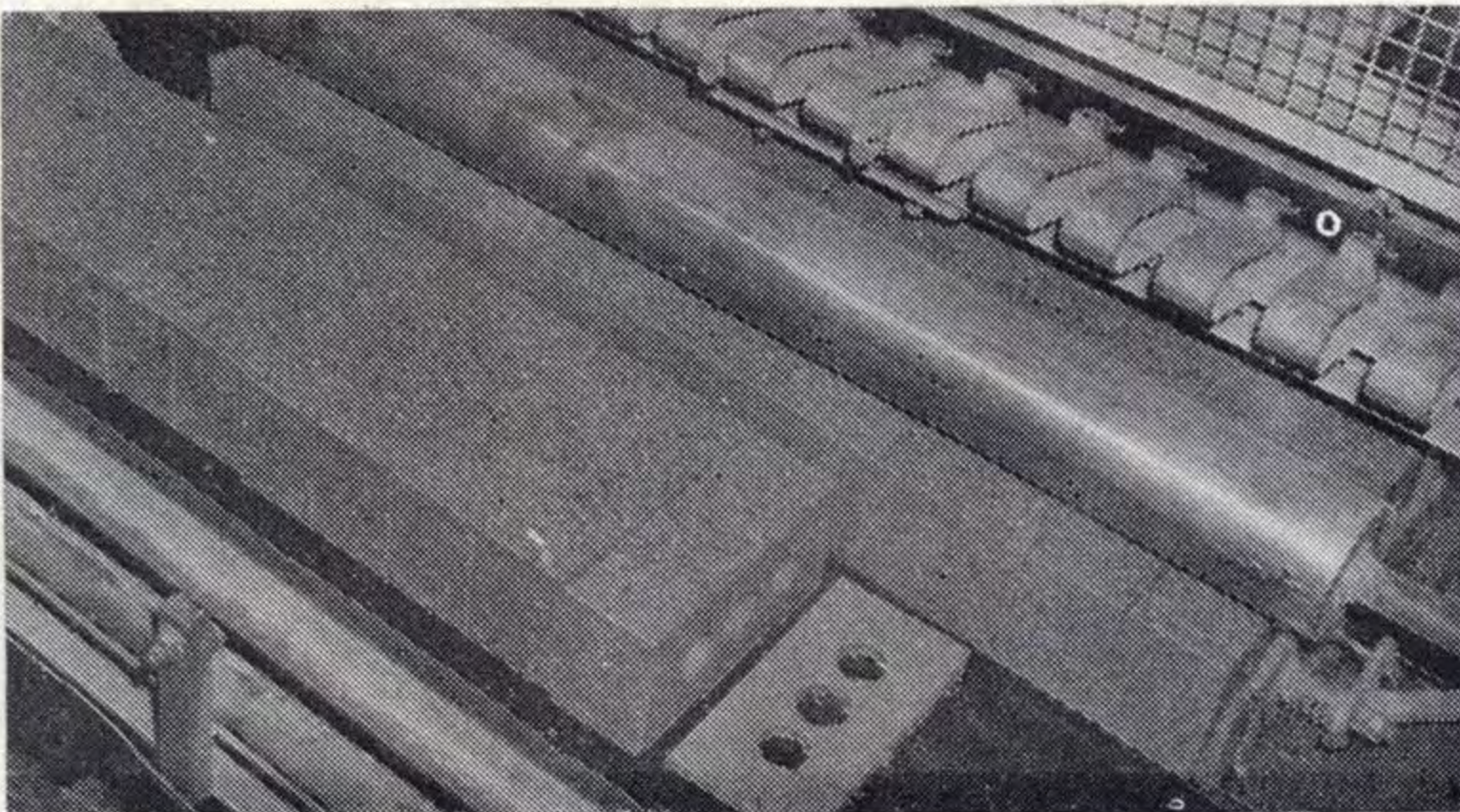
Had the wires thrown at Morwell made simultaneous contact with two live conductors, a severe explosion would almost certainly have resulted, causing damage to the line and stoppage of open cut plant.

There was also a substantial risk of the thrower being showered with globules of molten metal.



Above: The finished product . . . bricks from Monier Great Eastern.

Below: Clay from Morwell Open Cut, mixed with other local clays has helped in production of the brick seen here leaving the firm's extrusion machine at Traralgon.



OPEN CUT CLAY PUT TO WORK

Readers will (no doubt) recall the August '74 edition of CONTACT magazine in which there was an article on pottery expert Jim Thor, manager (in his spare time) of the Traralgon-based firm Gippsland Pottery Pty. Ltd.

Jim was at that time experimenting with clay from the Yallourn Open Cut.

The clay is estimated by geologist Bob Gaulten to be at least 35 million years old.

Now another Traralgon firm is showing an interest in clay material, but this time it is of a much "younger" variety.

Monier Great Eastern is currently searching for new raw materials for its brick-making process, and has obtained more than 4600 cubic metres of overburden clay from the topside of No. 10 dredger in the Morwell Open Cut.

The reddish-featured clay is estimated to be "only" 1-2 million years old, but has the qualities — the Traralgon company hopes — to be a real winner in the brickmaking stakes.

However, tests are still in the experimental stage, and no definite answer will be given for at least another two months.

Hopefully, the tests will be successful, for there is a large supply of this material available and the close proximity of the brickworks and the raw material source makes the proposition very attractive.

Sale of the clay would be attractive to the Commission as well, for it could open up a profitable avenue for the disposal of material previously considered a waste product.

1946 AND ALL THAT

The times have certainly changed.

Eric Foote found graphic proof of that statement when he recently uncovered a 1946 lighting and power account from the Cloncurry Electric Authority.

Eric's total bill for the month of October in that year was £1.3.4 (less 2/4 discount).

Of course, use of a kerosene refrigerator and a wood stove helped keep the power bill in check.

Population of Cloncurry at the time was 1,547.

Power was generated with the aid of a wood-burning gas producer unit, and water was obtained from a deep hole beneath gravel level in a "dry" river bed.

Except in "the wet", Eric recalls.

Hopefully, the wet is far from Eric's mind as he recuperates on sick leave at Ballina, in Northern New South Wales.



POWER GENERATION

Cleaning up Air Emissions

Air emission performances of Latrobe Valley power stations are under constant scrutiny within the Commission, which spends almost \$1 million each year in efforts to improve the situation.

However, as Power Generation manager Jack Robinson points out, money alone is not the key.

"We are unfortunately at a stage at which it seems our technology in this field has a little catching up to do — we are still searching for some answers — although we believe we can see some progress.

Occasional fallout of char and ash in the north and north-eastern areas of New South Wales are causing concern, but attempts are being made to overcome the problem as speedily as possible.

Control measures have produced a marked beneficial effect overall, but unexpected problems have been encountered with Yallourn coal.

A higher moisture content than at Morwell gives Yallourn coal a less complete burnout, leaving a relatively larger proportion of char particles for precipitators to deal with.

At the same time, coal from different parts of the Yallourn open cut has different characteristics, some resulting in production of a

(Continued Page 12)

Our sailors are tops



Landlubbers could well be excused for thinking that "TS Latrobe", the title of the Yallourn-based unit of Naval Reserve Cadets, stands for "Top Shot" Latrobe after hearing of the unit's impressive list of recent achievements.

Training Ship Latrobe, with a current unit strength of 45 cadets and five officers and instructors under the command of Lt. E. Clegg (L/H rigger, YPS), has won itself a reputation as one of the strongest and fastest-growing units in Victoria.

But perhaps its biggest moment was on April 25, when it was granted the rare honor of "Freedom of Entry to the City of Moe", conferred for the first time on such a unit.

The unit received the honor in recognition of winning the Colour for the best unit in Victoria in 1974, a feat it also performed in 1964.

The "Freedom of Entry" ceremony is steeped in tradition, and is generally accepted as a very dignified and satisfactory means of enabling the Corporation (Council) to honor a distinguished regiment.

According to an old English text, it confers on a party the privilege of marching through the city "on all ceremonial occasions with swords drawn, bayonets fixed, drums beating and bands playing".

So on April 25, the TS Latrobe unit paraded through the streets to the

Moe City Offices to meet the Mayor of Moe, Cr. J. Connagham, and Commander M. De V. Salmon, R.A.N. representing the Royal Australian Navy.

After inspection, Lt. Clegg accepted the "Freedom of Entry" scroll and led his unit back into the streets . . . where they were confronted by the police for a ritual challenge.

This challenge was all part of the ceremony, and having read the proclamation, the unit was allowed to pass.

The cadets of TS Latrobe meet each Friday night at the Army Drill Hall, Yallourn, where they follow a training syllabus laid down by the Navy Board.



ENGINEERING SERVICES

Trog's no dark horse

Troglodyte, a 31-month-old greyhound owned by SEC draftsmen Merv Graham and Evan Rowlands, is anything but the cave-dweller his name implies.

Above ground, Trog — as he is affectionately known by his Morwell owners — has been a great financial success.

Bought for \$200 at 14 months of age, Troglodyte has already returned almost \$2,000 in stake money.

Since his breaking-in days at Peter Giles' kennels Troglodyte has developed stamina along with the blistering natural speed which has characterised his performances.

After recording fastest time of the night in his first appearance as a juvenile at Sale, Troglodyte went on to victory in his first four races.

In 11 months of racing, he scored 11 wins and eight placings from 33 starts.

From five metropolitan appearances, he collected one win and was placed twice.

Sired by Blackbird Lad out of Rosmindale, Troglodyte was beaten only once in 14 trials, setting the stage for his spectacular arrival in greyhound racing ranks.

Co-owner Merv Graham has written a rousing 15-stranza poem on the greyhound's career, winding up with the optimistic thought:

Thirty three starts for 11 wins and 8 places.

Its really for sure he'll win plenty more races



Merv Graham (left) and Evan Rowlings with their favorite hound.

Introduction of a quarterly "get-together" of mechanical and civil sections' supervisory staff (two groups are pictured below) has provided opportunities for exchange of ideas and valuable informal discussions.

The usual format involves a frank question and answer session after a buffet dinner, with Manager Max Gray encouraging all members of the group to participate.

However, the meeting early in June was highlighted by guest speaker Stuart Morris, who outlined proposed changes to the Provident Fund.

In an effort to become acquainted with some of the problems encountered in the mechanical and civil fields, Max Williamson is setting up a committee of supervisory staff from both sections.

Topics arising from the meetings, which will be attended by Industrial Relations Officer Bruce Lawn, will be referred to the quarterly meetings for open discussion.

From the meetings and the "get-togethers," teamwork throughout the department will be further improved, leading to better service for "customers", Manager Max Gray believes.



Smoke is aid in Air Study

The release of large hydrogen balloons from the SEC meteorological station in Minnedale Road, south of Traralgon will continue until next summer as part of SEC activities aimed at increasing understanding of the meteorological characteristics of the Latrobe Valley.

The second stage of the meteorological study got underway last month with the use of smoke released by special flares to assess air movements.

Engineering Services Department manager Max Gray said that three areas had been selected for the release of smoke.

The first area under consideration is along the northern slopes of the Strzelecki Ranges, where smoke will be released from nine points, each approximately 2 km apart.

The smoke releases are at dawn on mornings when the weather is favorable.

Yallourn-Newborough athletes in top form

The Yallourn-Newborough Amateur Athletic Club, fresh from its second successive Latrobe Valley cross country premiership, seems to be laying firm foundations for continued success in local athletics

. . . . which probably indicates that the SEC Operations Group has some pretty fit athletes among its employees.

With junior athletes making a significant contribution to this year's premiership win, the club is obviously becoming a real force in Valley athletics, but youngsters can't claim all the credit.

The recent success of the club is largely due to the efforts of coach and president Joe Carmody, Stores Officer at Morwell for the SEC.

Joe, an even time sprinter and top half-miler is regarded as one of the leading athletic coaches outside the metropolitan area.

The Yallourn-Newborough AAC has recognised Joe's service during the past 20 years by conferring Life Membership on him.

He has a blend of youth and experience to develop.

The club has always been very strong in the middle and long distance field and the three marathon men, Jim Willis (CAO Records, Morwell), John Eyre (Metalurgist, Engineering Services Department) and Alan Ashmore (CAO Transmission) are again putting in between 70 and 100 miles per week in training.

Jim has his sights set on the world veterans' championships held in Toronto, Canada in August, and will be competing in the marathon. He first began running marathons in 1956, and last year was the Victorian Countryman marathon champion.

John, a former international speed

skater — he represented Australia in the world championships in 1960 — will be turning his attention to the Australasian speed skating championships in New Zealand in July.

Alan is also hard at training in an effort to retain the Victorian Country marathon title he won at Bendigo last year.

The Yallourn-Newborough Amateur Athletic Club is far from a "dying" organisation. In fact, with keen athletes such as Jim Willis (left), Alan Ashmore and John Eyre (right), the club's future is assured.



Visitors to the Valley

(Continued from Page 16)

Kim Sam-O is a well-known feature writer for a number of Asian publications. The ABC's regional news editor (3GI) Neil Munro — no stranger to the SEC — paid a "refresher" visit.

Educationalists also looked us over.

The Assistant Director General of Education in Victoria, Mr. Ray Maddocks, was accompanied by his family when he took the opportunity to see at first-hand the area in which almost three-quarters of the State's power is

generated.

The SEC complex is a popular drawcard with tourists to the Latrobe Valley.

During May, more than 15,000 people visited the Yallourn-Morwell-Hazelwood areas.

Of these 4,979 were classified as "casual visitors", 2,941 were school children and 1,099 were in organised groups.

Since the beginning of the year, 33,021 visitors have been listed.

Sauna Sailing

Hazelwood Pondage presented a colorful sight as several hundred yachts yield against each other in the annual Sauna Sail.





AREA ADMINISTRATION



Mrs. Joan Woolley, in her role as District Commissioner of Guides, meets some of "tomorrow's" guides at a brownie pack get-together.

Getting the message across

The Operations Group workforce in the Latrobe Valley is being given every opportunity to become well-informed on the Loy Yang coalfields project.

Since March this year, members of the Public Relations Group have been conducting information sessions for Commission employees.

Reaction to the discussions has been highly favor-

able.

Assistant Public Relations Officer Tom Grimes and Liaison Officers Bob Bridle and Mike Answerth have themselves become extremely well informed following preparation and delivery of their addresses.

They have also learned a few things as a result of audience participation.

Newest face on the "lecture" circuit is Commercial

The face of tea-lady, Joan Woolley has become a familiar and welcome sight to hundreds of thirsty Commission personnel.

The tinkle of the tea-trolley heralding the arrival of that refreshing "cuppa" is, to many of her thirsty customers, the sweetest sound of all.

Outside of working hours, Joan is in demand for another worthwhile project.

For as long as she can remember, she has been involved in the Girl Guide movement, but has now

crowned a career of service with her recent appointment as Commissioner for Maryvale District.

Joan, who now has the task of administering a district comprised of three brownie-guide and three guide units, has a busy "spare-time" schedule.

She visits all units on a regular basis, keeps a breast of current trends in the Guiding Movement by attendance at training conferences; makes contact and maintains good relations with other youth organisations throughout the District, and keeps, in constant touch with her Division Commissioner.

All this sounds like a full-time job in itself, but Joan's experience makes her well qualified for the job.

In her younger days in England, she was a member of the brownies and rangers, and since coming to Australia, has been a ranger guide leader at Yallourn and Morwell.

Despite all that, Joan — along with husband Jim, a fitter at Morwell Briquette and Power Installation — somehow finds time to keep an interest in lawn and carpet bowling.

Trainee Dennis McGrath (pictured during an address), who is temporarily attached to Public Relations.

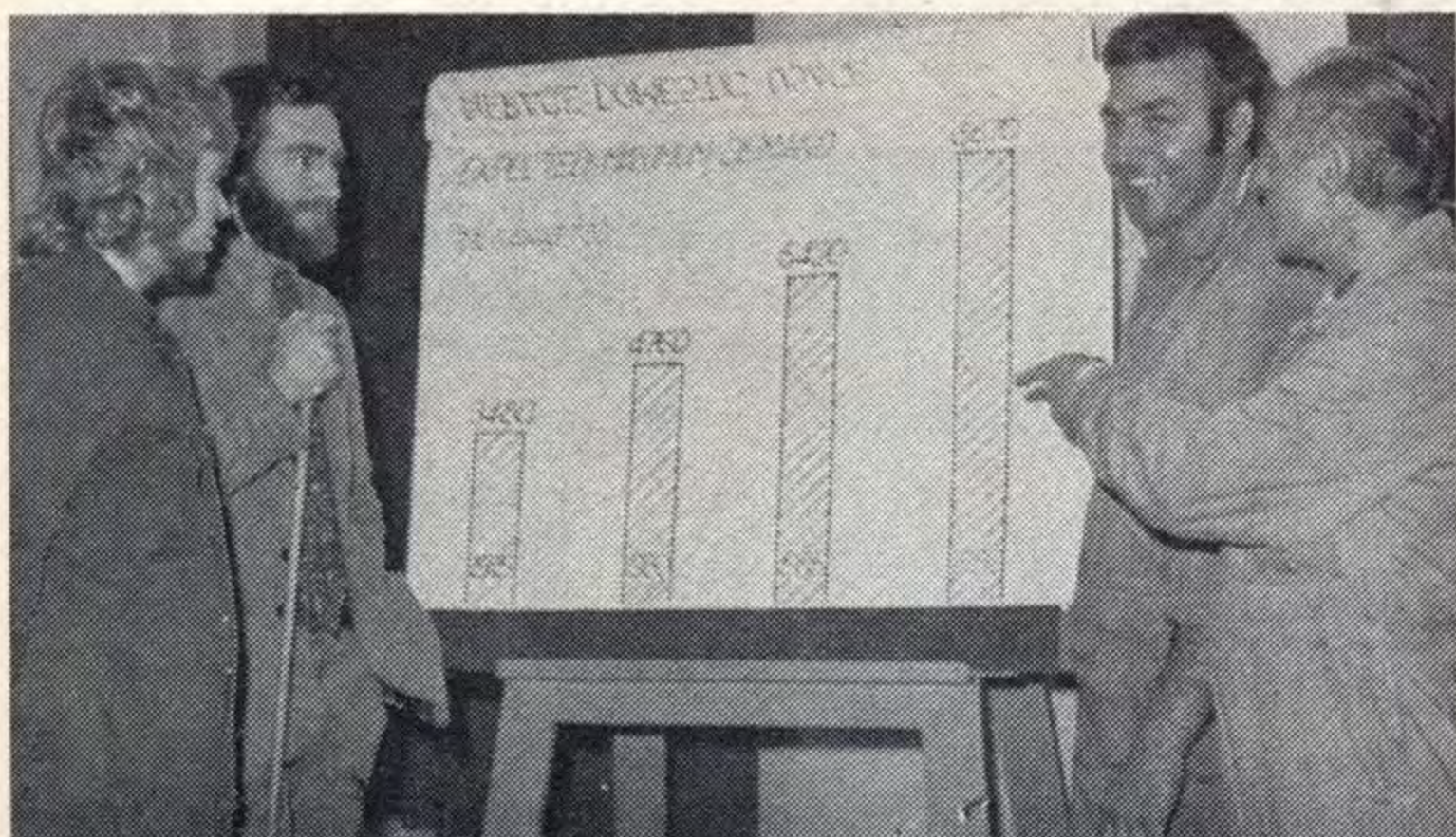
Dennis, who has been with the Commission since 1970 had previously served with Finance, Education and Training, and Transmission Groups.

● *At Loy Yang, the SEC proposes development of an open cut and power complex to meet the growth in Victoria's base load electricity requirements during the 1980's and early 1990's.*

When completed, the project will have two power stations, each with a capacity of 2,000 megawatts.

The Loy Yang coalfield contains an estimated 4,700-million tonnes of good quality coal close to the surface, and which would be won from an open cut ultimately covering an area of 1,100 hectares.

Its depth will reach more than 200 metres in some places.



Dennis McGrath, of Public Relations Group, answers a question informally after completing another session in the long-running series of addresses on Loy Yang.



Mrs. Woolley is best known within the SEC as a friendly member of the canteen staff.



AREA
ADMINISTRATION

Upgrading of health Facilities

The decision to advertise for a medical officer, primarily for duty in the Latrobe Valley, is associated with far-reaching proposals for a comprehensive medical programme within the SEC.

Appointment of female casualty officer Sister Nola Tee two months ago was part of the "gearing-up" for the programme.

Sister Tee and another nursing Sister yet to be appointed will staff health centres at Morwell and Yallourn.

A key point in the proposed medical programme is recognition of the importance of conducting research into industry-caused illness, and the need to emphasise preventative practices.

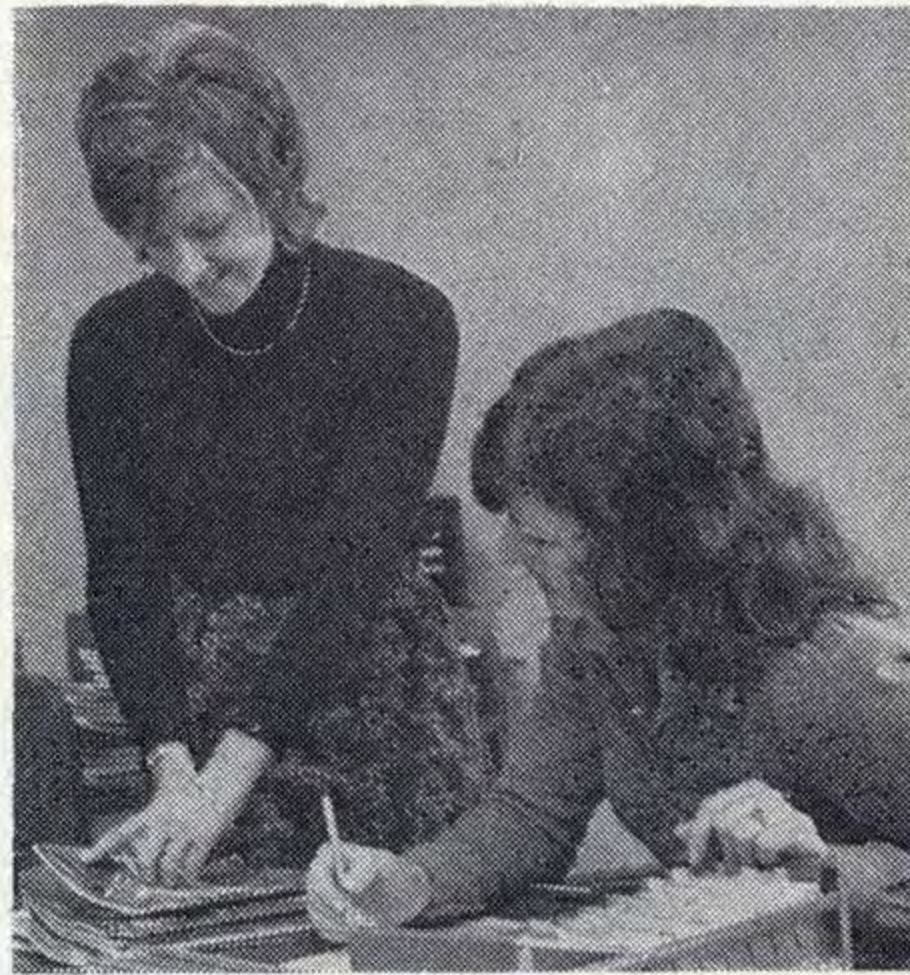
The health centres and their sisters, people trained in occupational health, will be equipped to carry out all forms of medical examinations from pre-employment checks to work disability.

They will also have a role to play in dealing with problems of alcoholism, hearing conservation, toxicological problems and in assisting line management with work environmental matters and safety liaison.

The new programme will involve a general up-grading of first-aid facilities available within the Commission.

The Commission will look at the qualifications of all involved in emergency first aid, and suitable training courses to provide a generally higher qualification are likely to be introduced.

New home for library



The spacious new library area in the former assembly room at Morwell gives librarian Jan Cuthbertson (left) and assistant Maryann Bosch a lot more room to move, and the convenient location of the Library brings the library service before the public eye.



The breakneck pace of modern society is often very difficult to match . . . advances in technology and continuous modifications to long-held concepts ensure that, at least in the technical field, every day is a new one.

The Technical Library is one agency designed to help keep abreast of new moves.

Librarian Jan Cuthbertson and assistant Maryann Bosch continually provide information through distribution of weekly and monthly journals; updating of standards; answering specific subject enquiries, preparing bibliographies and ordering publications on request.

With an ever-increasing demand for books and journals, lack of space has been one of the library staff's major problems.

However, the girls' prayers have been answered with the move of the library to a new location in wing 1 of the Morwell Administrative building, adjacent to the canteen.

Along with the change in location, the technical library now offers improved facilities for studying.

Apart from the greater space available and improved access to library resources, provision has been made for easier on-

the-spot reading with the addition of an extra study table and wall sound-proofing.

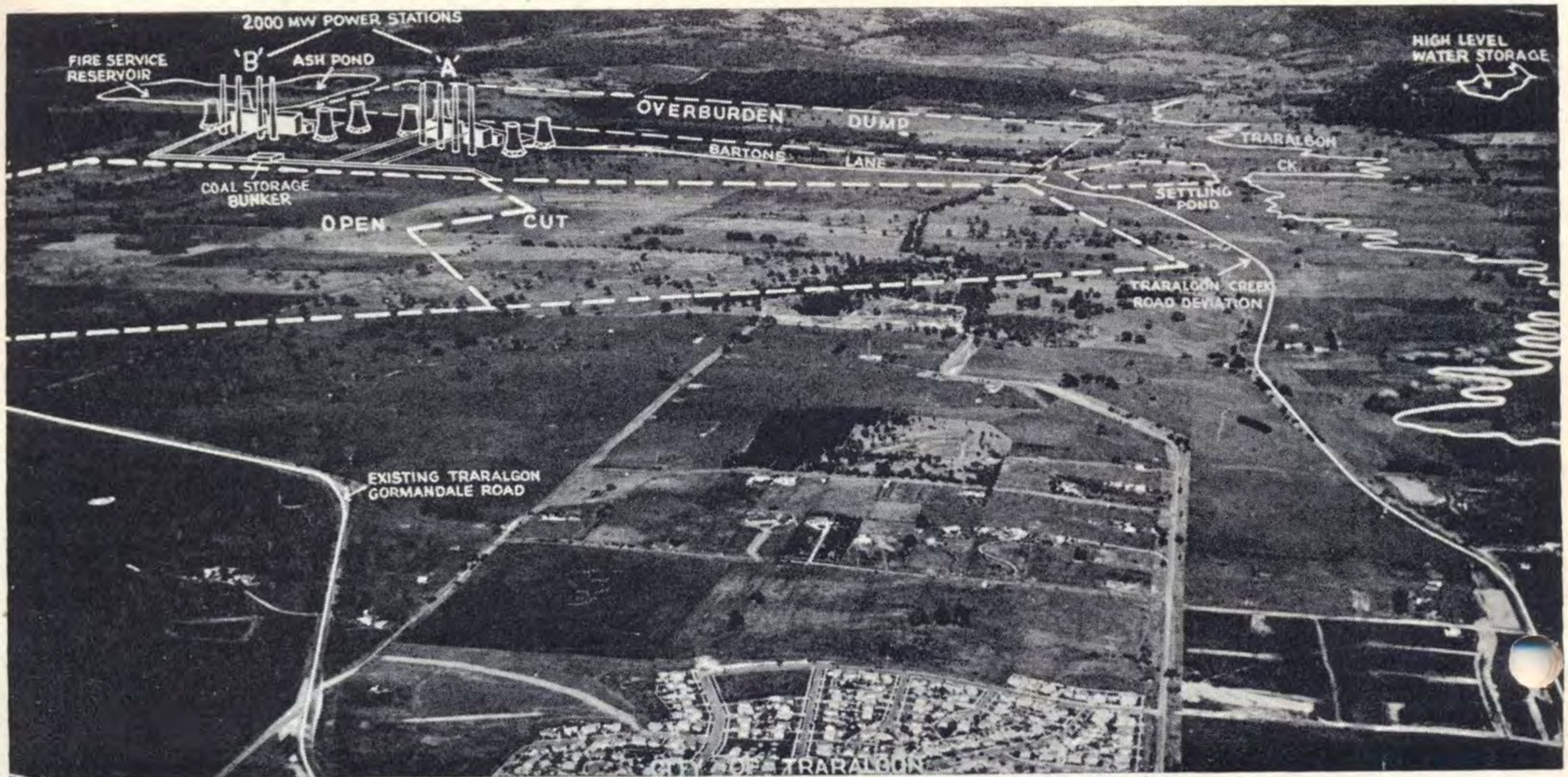
Jan gave one useful tip for library users.

Queries can be answered very quickly and efficiently if the enquirer is there in person, whereas telephone enquiries sometimes lead to confusion.

Personal contact also helps to publicise library services.

The library has now done its part in improving its own facilities . . . hopefully, personnel will take full advantage.

The proposed Loy Yang project covers a wide area, an area which is at the hearth of a far-reaching environment study. Initiated by the SEC, the study is one of the most comprehensive ever carried out in Australia and sets a high standard for investigations into environmental aspects of future industrial projects.



Projects Planning Engineer Ivor Meldrum had some interested listeners in a distinguished audience when he addressed the second National Conference on the Environment in Canberra last month.

None would have shown more interest than the Acting Departmental Co-ordinating Engineer for Operations Group, Max Williamson.

Among his long list of responsibilities is the all-important area of the environment.

Loy Yang and the SEC's concern for the environment were key points in the speech by Ivor, who is a member of a National Committee on Environmental Engineering appointed by the Institution of Engineers.

He outlined to the conference plans for the Loy Yang coalfields — plans which he said had led to one of the most comprehensive environmental studies ever carried out for an Australian industrial project.

Nineteen organisations have already been involved in studies for the \$1200 million project, which will have a greater generating capacity than the Snowy Mountains scheme and will produce six times as much electricity.

Studies cover the physio-chemical, biological and human aspects of the environment, and they involve organisations such as CSIRO, Melbourne and Monash Universities, Bureau of Meteorology, the National Herbarium, Fisheries and Wildlife Division, Forests Commission and the Town and Country Planning Board.

A major research study was an impact study carried out by Burmot (Australia) Pty. Ltd., an international company with wide experience in investigating the environmental effects of power stations overseas.

While the project will inevitably lead to major changes in land use within the project boundary, direct effects will be minimised since the central core will be surrounded by a buffer zone.

Loy Yang study

Keeping the air clean

(Continued from Page 7)

light, fluffy ash which is difficult to separate from the chimney gas flow.

When the problem coal is burned, there is a risk of increased emission of char and ash, and when there are easterly winds — there was a high proportion of easterlies in the February/March period this year—the risk of fallout is increased.

Steps being taken to improve the situation include:

- Fitting of char "skimmers" in duct walls of Yallourn 'E' station boilers.
- Installation of mechanical separators (baffles) at the entrance to Yallourn 'W' precipitators to remove char particles.
- Installation of mill classifiers on all Yallourn

'W' boilers to reduce the number of coarse fuel particles entering the station furnaces. Classifiers have been fitted to five of the eight boilers on the first 'W' unit, and the Commission plans to have all classifiers installed on both units by the end of the year.

In addition, the Commission will continue its programme of aerodynamic model tests; precipitator tests, adjustments and modifications; development in cold and hot models of a "swirl burner" — giving improved combustion — and development of an experimental precipitator to characterise the properties of various ash types, and to improve fundamental understanding of the precipitation process.

\$9-million contract for project at Yallourn "W"

Gippsland company, Sola Constructions (Gippsland, Victoria) Pty Ltd., won the contract for extensions to the administrative building attached to Yallourn 'W' power station.

The contract is valued at more than \$135,000.

The project is part of stage two of the power station, and it will provide necessary extensions to the administrative building associated with the construction of the third and fourth generating units.

Under the contract, Sola will construct a third floor on the existing administrative building.

The present structure was designed with the extensions in mind and the concrete floor for the new area was included as part of the original building.

Steel decking which constitutes the present roof will be removed and re-used as

the roof of the new third storey.

External concrete and brickwork used for the building extension will match the present facade, so that on completion the extensions will not be readily distinguishable from the original structure.

Internal features will include fibrous plaster ceilings, vinyl flooring and tinted glass windows.

The insulated and air-conditioned extension area will house chemical, engineering and administrative staff as well as providing ancillary facilities.

The area will also be connected to an existing enclosed walkway leading into the power station building.

Construction of the extensions, which were designed by the SEC's Civil and Architectural Department, is expected to be completed early in the New Year.

Visitors Centre

Workmen are making rapid progress on the new visitors' centre, construction of which has become something of a landmark on the northern end of "the ridge".

Construction is well within the limits necessary to meet the scheduled finishing date later this year.

The \$237,000 centre will provide greatly improved facilities for entertaining visitors to the Latrobe Valley, and should lead to more effective use of guide resources.

The centre will include a display area capable of housing relief maps and models, as well as audio-visual equipment to provide visitors with almost continuous documentary screening.

An upper-floor multi-purpose area will incorporate a dining room large enough to accommodate 100 guests for informal meals, and which will cater for up to 120 as an assembly room/theatrette.

The new centre will replace the existing visitors' centre at Yallourn.

retirements



SEC chairman Charles Trethowan presents a rubber (literally) cheque to Ron Osborne, to the astonishment both of Ron and his wife Barbara.

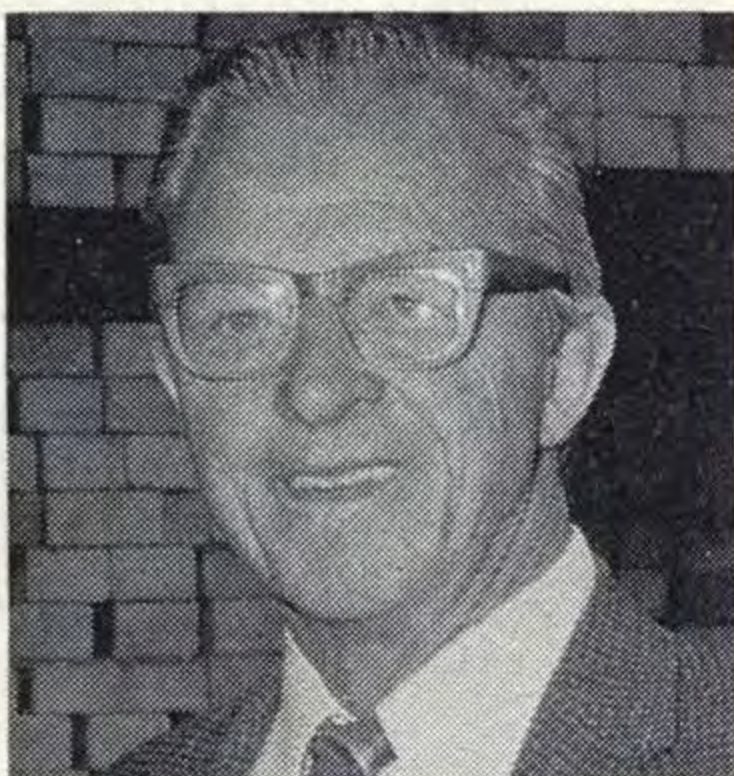
RON OSBORNE

For Special Officer Ron Osborne, the final week of his Commission career was certainly an eventful one, but no doubt the highlight of the week was a glittering send-off he received at Kernot Hall on June 26. Representatives from all over the Commission turned up to farewell a man who has been involved with electricity and finance for his entire 47-year working career. Ron's early days were spent in Bendigo with the Electric Supply Company of Victoria, but in 1931—thanks to an SECV takeover—he became a Commission employe. From his initial job as a receiving clerk he worked his way through the posts of Senior Tramways Clerk, Cashier, Paymaster, Works Accountant, Superintendent Disbursements and Payrolls, Superintendent Budgets and Statistics and Regional Accountant. In 1971, he reached the top rung of the Latrobe Valley commercial ladder when he was appointed Departmental Commercial Officer, where he assumed responsibility for the accounting, administration and materials functions. His experience over the years has taken him from Bendigo (where he made his name as something of a sportsman as well) to Kiewa and finally to Morwell. On all occasions, his work performance has been matched by his enthusiastic participation in outside activities. Ron's background has been a boon for organisations seeking someone to look after the finances; at various stages he has acted as treasurer for the Bendigo Cricket Club, Mt. Beauty RSL, Latrobe Valley Festival Committee, Morwell Technical School Council, Latrobe Valley Legacy and the Morwell Club. Memories of such experiences must have come flooding back to Ron as the Chairman, Charles Trethowan, presented him with a Pye radio/cassette/stereo complete with headphones, a drill set and—appropriately—a first aid kit, and a Wedgewood vase to Ron's wife, Barbara. On the lighter side, Ron was also presented with a real-life rubber cheque to remind him of the reputation he has gained as a scrupulous financier; and he will always treasure the small booklet of poems compiled by Data Processing Superintendent Jim Frost and his bevy of beautiful assistants. Perhaps retirement will allow Ron to fully enjoy these gifts, but since he intends to remain in Morwell, the chances are he will still have plenty of outside interests to keep him occupied.

retirements

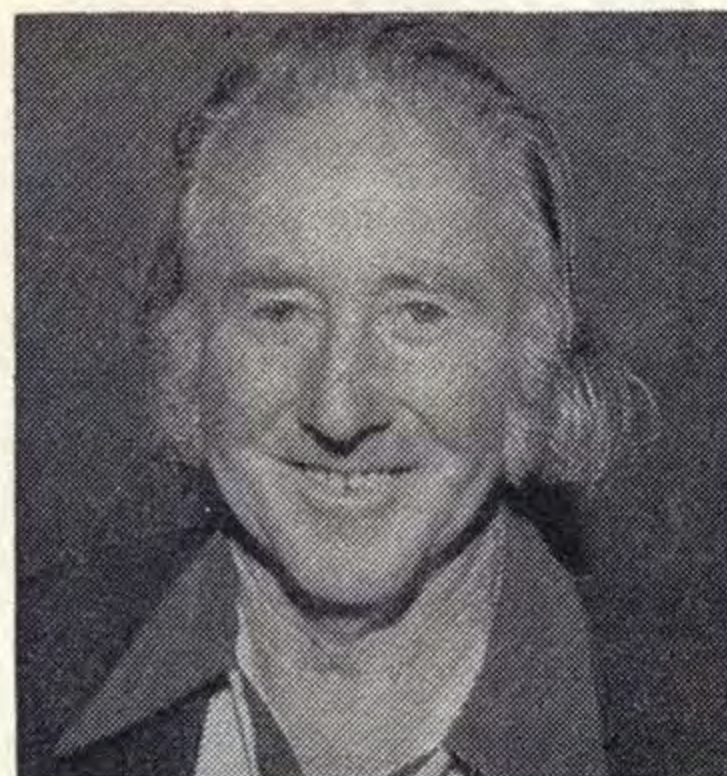
WALLY BREW

A wallet of notes was presented to Stores identity Wally Brew when he was farewelled on March 23 after almost 26 years service. A Departmental Materials Officer Col Glen made the presentation, congratulating Wally on a career which revolved completely around the Stores area. He began in 1949 as a storeman at Yallourn Stores, but after a year's experience was appointed to staff as a stores assistant gr. 1. Promotion to stores assistant grade 2 came within two years, and in 1956 he was appointed spare equipment



officer grade 3 with Morwell Stores. In 1964, he took on the task of salvage officer at Morwell, but transferred to Yallourn Salvage in 1973, when the Morwell depot was disestablished.

BILL GOONAN



The Morwell Briquetting and Power Installation lecture room was the venue for the farewell function for Bill Goonan, who retired from the Commission on

March 6. Bill has been office cleaner with Administration section since beginning with the Commission almost nine years ago, but before 1966, he was engaged in a variety of jobs ranging from boxer to builder. Cleaning Services Officer Dave Poole and Morwell Cleaning Services foreman Jimmy Watt both commented on Bill's diverse career. Administrative Assistant (Records and Cleaning) John Pemberton presented Bill a cash-filled envelope. A small farm in the Tyres area run by Bill as a sideline activity, will provide a convenient "resting place".

STEVE HARRIS

Steve Harris, who retired from the Commission last month after a long and varied career of more than 37 years, was certainly a man who knew everything there was to know about briquette-making. For the greater part of his career, Steve was tied up with the Yallourn Briquette Factory, being involved in almost every facet of the briquetting operation. He signed on in 1938 as an ashman, but over an 18-year period worked in turn as a greaser, electrical plant attendant, steam plant attendant, coal conveyor attendant and electrical press driver. In 1956, he transferred to staff and spent two years as a guide and one year as a patrolman before moving back to the briquette factory, once again as a steam plant attendant. In 1972 he moved across to Yallourn Coal Production Maintenance in the same capacity, but 12 months later was reclassified trades assistant, the post he held at retirement. On May 27, Steve was farewelled at the CPM canteen and A/Coal Production Superintendent Murray McRae expressed the good wishes of workmates by presenting him with a surf rod and reel.



GERRY INGRAM



A retirement function was held for Gerry Ingram in Yallourn Fire Station Hall on May 23 to thank the man who for years has had responsibility for fire control. In the background were innumerable trophies won by the fire brigade team in the past 50 years, many of the later trophies no doubt a reflection of Gerry's leadership. After beginning his Commission career in 1951 as a sub station officer, Gerry was appointed Asst. Fire Officer in 1952, and won promotion to Fire Officer two years later. He was stationed at the Yallourn Main Office at that stage, and it was not until 11 years later that he acquired an office at the Fire Station. Gerry recalls that the 'fifties were hectic times for the fire crew, with chimney fires and fires erupting in train trucks, a regular occurrence. But somehow the team managed and the station won wide acclaim for its ability to handle tricky situations. Former Civil Services Engineer Max Williamson made special mention of his hard-won reputation when presenting Gerry with farewell gifts of a toast rack, wall clock, wall ornament and a casserole dish for Mrs. Ingram.

EDDIE EIZENBURG



Twenty six years service with the Commission is the proud record of Eddie Eizenburg, farewelled in Yallourn Civil Works Depot canteen on May 22. Civil

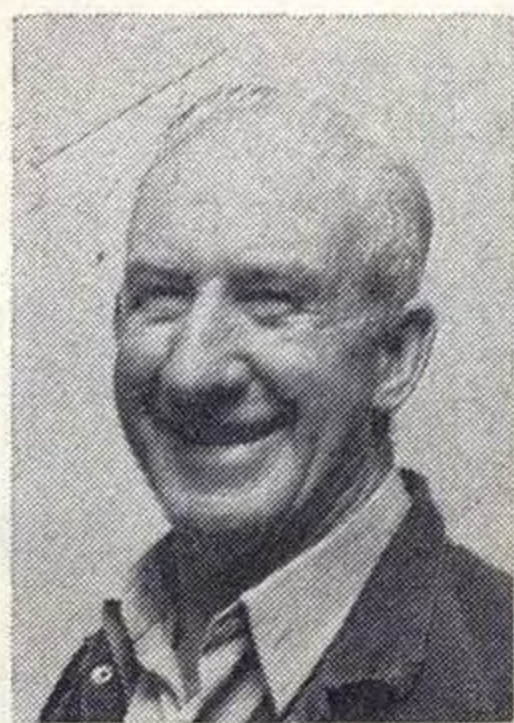
Works Engineer Tom Stillman chaired the presentation, handing over to Eddie an impressive-looking electric shaver on behalf of assembled workmates.

Eddie spent his first six years at Civil Works as a laborer, but then moved into the testing laboratory as a lab. assistant 3A, and became involved with concrete and soil testing. He was reclassified as a lab. assistant 2B in 1955, and in 1963, won promotion to L/H lab. assistant, the post he held at retirement.

retirements

SYD CURRAN

For Syd Curran, retirement offers an opportunity to indulge fully in the activities he really loves. An active, outdoor type, Syd intends to spend much of his time fishing and shooting, pastimes which bring back memories of rabbit trapping at Loy Yang "many years ago". A keen sportsman, Syd played football for Yallourn, Traralgon and Morwell Bridge — at one stage, four Curran brothers were playing in the same side at the one time — and cricket, where he played alongside the current A.G.M. (Marketing and Distribution) Bob Chapman. Workwise, Syd's career has been far less varied; his work "home" for the past 20 years has been the Yallourn open cut,



where he signed on as a labourer and worked for short periods as a euclid driver and a dredger driver before taking on the job of pumpman in 1958. In 1973 he was appointed operator grade 3, a position he held until retirement on May 23, when workmates presented him with a wallet of notes to officially mark the occasion.

ERIC WEBSTER



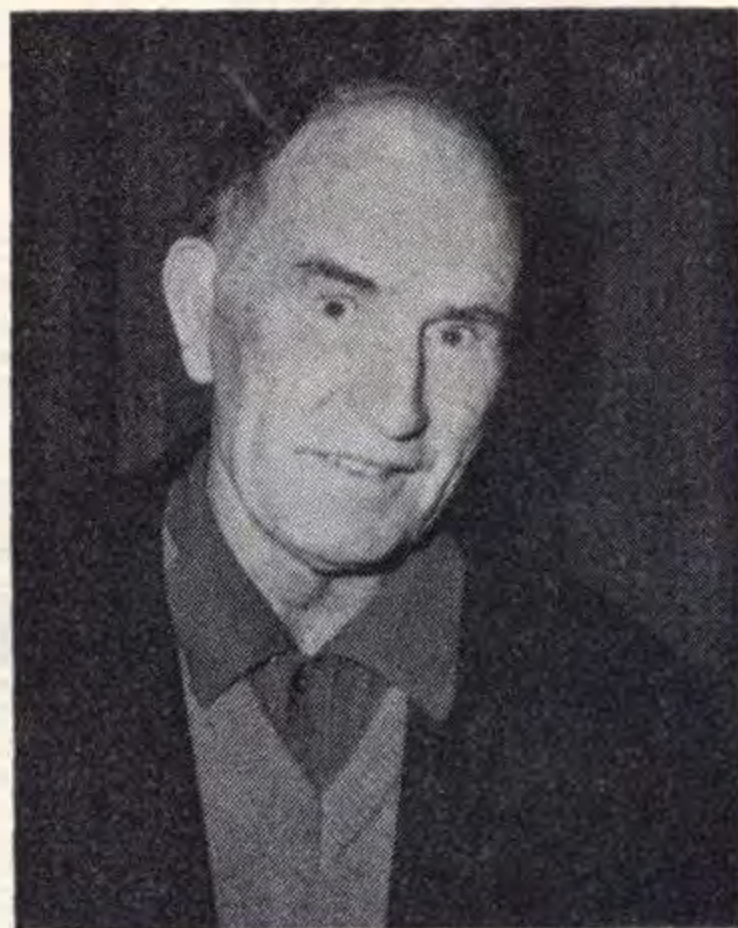
Yallourn Coal Production Maintenance lost a real asset on May 26 when Eric Webster retired after more than 33 years with the Commission. Eric has been associated with coal production since signing on as a fitter in 1941. He received a promotion to foreman fitter in 1949 and worked shift work, but became involved later in liaison work

with Central Workshops on all aspects of reconditioning and supply of machine components. Fellow workmate Jack Weir, Mechanical Maintenance Superintendent Keith Taylor, and Coal Production manager Jack Vines all paid tribute to Eric's expertise.

Eric was presented with an electric planer, an ideal gift for all those handyman tasks which will need to be done at his new residence in Inverloch. Mrs. Webster was presented with a jewel box.

MICK MORRIS

"Having more than an occasional punt on the horses" is one of the ways in which Trades Assistant Mick Morris intends to spend his retirement, so the transistor radio and wallet of notes presented to him by L/H electrician special class Geoff O'Neill on May 16 could not have been more suitable. Mick has made a lot of friends at Hazelwood Power Station since arriving in mid 1964, but in his first 12 months with the Commission he transferred from job to job



so rapidly that he had little time to get acquainted with individuals. He began in the September of 1963 as a cleaner at Yallourn Power Station, but after four months was reclassified as an electrical trades assistant. Four months after that he transferred to General Services as a pick and shovel man, but within a few weeks he was on the move again, this time as a trades assistant to the Coal Production Workshops in Morwell. Within a month, he had moved to Hazelwood Power Station, where he found a niche which lasted through to retirement.

TOM MCKAY



A large crowd of well-wishers in the Yallourn West Mess on May 22 farewelled Yallourn — and SEC — identity, Tom McKay, former supervisor of Yallourn Central Workshops. Included among the guests were former workmates now stationed at Head Office, external trade representatives, and retired personnel. Yallourn Workshops Superintendent Charlie Prust introduced Welfare Committee Secretary Joe Metcalfe, Acting Assistant Power Station Superintendent (Yallourn) George Davis, and Engineering Services Department manager

Max Gray, all of whom spoke highly of Tom's work and friendly attitude. Tom began his career with Construction Branch, Yallourn, 43 years ago, but within two years had transferred to Central Workshops. After winning promotion to L/H fitter in 1940, he climbed the ladder even further, transferring to staff as Shift Foreman, Gr. 3 in 1946, and moving through the positions of Workshops Overseer in 1955 and Workshops Supervisor Gr. 3 in 1959. Exactly 12 months later, he was appointed to the "premier" post of Supervisor, Central Workshops, where he remained until retirement. To mark a fine career Max Gray presented him with an electric grinding machine and an electric clock, as well as a pendant for Tom's wife Maisie. The McKays will reside in Newborough, where Tom will continue his association with the many people he has known since the 'thirties, when he was a star footballer with Yallourn Football Club.

S.E.C. Annual Ball

Kernot Hall

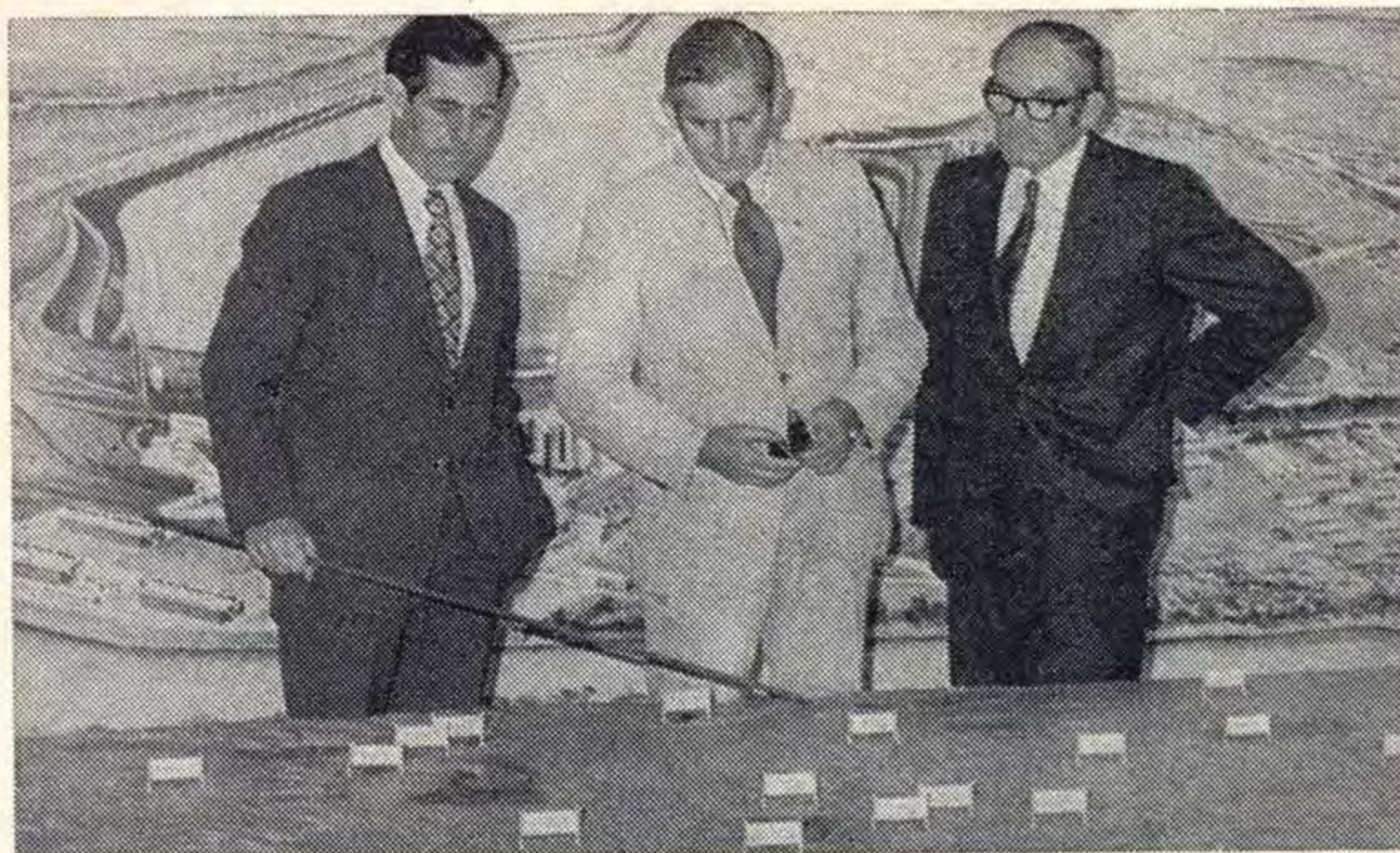
FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

Dance to the music of
Scammell's Band

Great food — Great music

Tickets: \$17 Double

Valley Visitors.....



A party of airmen from the RAAF Base at East Sale spent a day inspecting the SEC complex, taking a close look at the Education and Training Centre at Yallourn.

The visit was followed by a reciprocal trip to East Sale by members of the Education and Training Centre, who were greatly impressed with the sophisticated training equipment in use by the RAAF.

Training programmes were looked at closely, both by the RAAF and SEC personnel.

The Ambassador for Austria, Dr. Friedrich Hoess, and Mrs. Hoess, were guests of the SEC during the Ambassador's first official visit to Victoria.

Dr. Hoess, who explored with senior officers a personal interest in oil from coal procedures, had discussions with Power Generation Manager Jack Robertson and Coal Production Manager Jack Vines.

Yallourn "W" and Hazelwood power station, as well as Morwell Briquetting and Power Installation were major stops on the Ambassador's itinerary.

The Chairman of the Environment Protection Authority crowded a full

programme into a day spent here, a day during which he met AGM (Ops) Bill De Campo and all Departmental managers.

Water recirculation, stack emissions and precipitators were high on the discussion priority list for Mr. Little, who closely inspected all areas relative to EPA interests.

During a tour of Morwell open cut, he took a close look at No. 10 dredger, the area in which the Midland Highway was cut, the coal control centre and artesian water disposal areas.

Mr. Little also toured the proposed Loy Yang project area.

Early this month, the SEC works came under the scrutiny of three journalists, two from overseas and the other from Sale.

Overseas journalists Kim Sam-O (economic writer for the Korean Herald) and Mr. J. Paek (a Korean journalist with an Indonesian-based company) were both interested in the Commission's coal-winning procedures.

Both have wide reading audiences within Asia.

(Continued on Page 9)



Top Right: The chairman of the EPA, Mr. D. Little, gets an overall view of SEC operations in the Latrobe Valley from AGM Bill De Campo (left) and Power Generation Manager Jack Robertson.

Top Left: The Assistant Director General of Education in Victoria, Mr. Ray Maddocks, and his family, pictured against the background of a Yallourn "W" cooling tower.

Left: The wife of the Ambassador of Austria, Mrs. Hoess (centre) is introduced to the Latrobe Valley by Mrs. Claire Vines and Mrs. Cath Robertson (left).

Bottom Left: Education and Training officers from Yallourn, pictured at East Sale RAAF air base against a F111 background.

