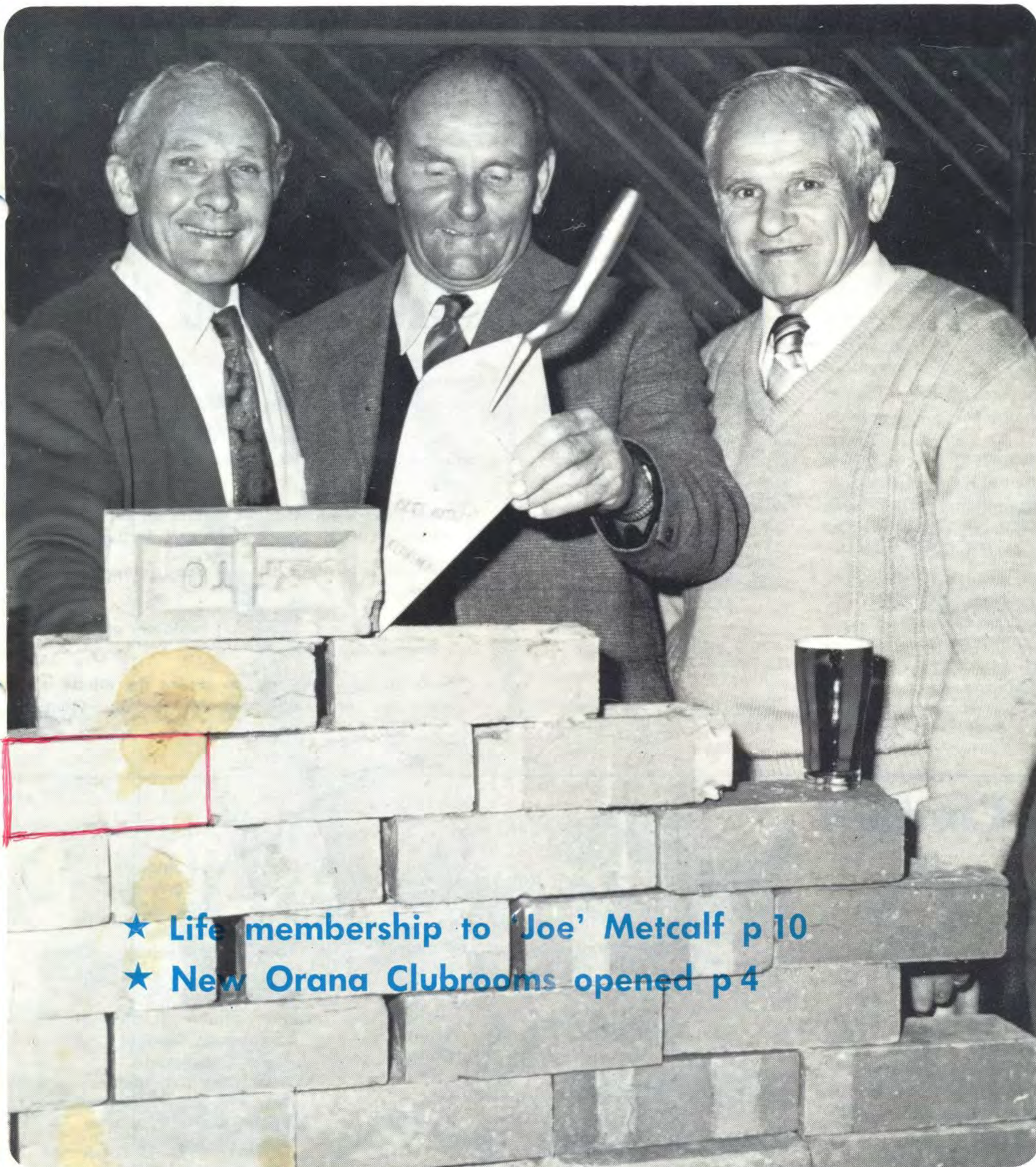




CONTACT

JULY, 1978



★ Life membership to 'Joe' Metcalf p 10

★ New Orana Clubrooms opened p 4

Annual deaf appeal receives sizeable boost

**\$1830.41
cheque**

The annual Central Gippsland Auxiliary Appeal for the Victorian School for Deaf Children received a pleasant surprise last week.

The surprise was an SEC employees' cheque for \$1,830.41—\$400 more than the previous year's total.

The money was from an appeal conducted within the SEC's Latrobe Valley works area. It brought the Auxiliary's Central Gippsland total for the year to a record \$3,100.

The cheque was presented to Auxiliary President June Mayze, Secretary Margaret Green and Treasurer Phyllis Round by SEC Secretarial Officer, Mr. Neville Thompson.

Also at the presentation, held in the Latrobe Valley Visitors' Centre in Morwell, was the SEC's Appeal Organiser, Mr. Geoff Ryan.

Mrs. Mayze expressed the Auxiliary's appreciation for the excellent support given annually by thousands of SEC employees to the appeal.

Mr. Ryan, who said the

appeal had enjoyed widespread support throughout the Latrobe Valley works areas, commented that the 1977-78 effort was exceptionally good when the 11 week power strike last year was taken into account.

Department totals: Area Administration \$278.39, Coal Production \$149.24, Engineering Services \$460.77, Power Generation \$752.61 and Transmission Operations \$190.00.

In the 12 years since the first appeal within the SEC for the Victorian School for Deaf Children, a grand total of \$9,727.72 has been raised by the SEC personnel in the old Latrobe Valley Department and Operations Group of Departments. And since the money attracts a generous \$4 to \$1 State Government subsidy, its value is considerably enhanced.

A number of children of Gippsland SEC personnel attend the school which is situated in Melbourne.



SEC's Secretarial Officer Neville Thompson (second from right) presents the cheque for \$1,830.41 to Auxiliary President June Mayze. Also pictured (from left) are Appeal Organiser Geoff Ryan, Margaret Green and Phyllis Round.

SEC masonic dinner

The 4th annual SEC Masonic dinner for Commission Freemasons will be held at the Masonic centre, Dallas Brookes Hall, Melbourne, on Friday, September 22.

Approximately 80 Latrobe Valley members attended last year's dinner, which was an outstanding success.

Buses have been arranged to pick up Latrobe Valley members en route leaving Morwell at 3 p.m.

For further information and application forms contact either:

Noel McAuliffe, ext. 5603, Ian Robinson, ext. 3290, or Bob Soutar, ext. 3348.

Those Masons intending to attend the dinner must contact one of the above Masons by Monday, August 14.

Contact



Prepared by
the L.V. Public
Relations Group
for Operations Group
employees.

WHOLLY SET UP BY THE L.V. PRINTERS, TRARALGON — MOE

Cover

BRICKLAYER Bert Hill (third from left) retired from the SEC this month after more than 50 years service. Two informal farewell functions were held for Bert, one by the Commission and the other by his workmates at the Morwell Bowling Club Recreation Centre. Pictured with Bert and (from left) Gordon Taylor, Bert and Bill Godfrey. Full story page 14.

Inside

Annual deaf appeal	2
Cannon discovered	3
Female SEC's	4
'Richfest' ceremony	5
HPS performance record	6
Area Administration	7
Service register	8
Old Yallourn photos	9
Engineering Services	10
Power Generation	11
Transmission Operations	12
Coal Production	13
Retirements	14-15
Valley Visitors	16

Mike's all at sea...

The chance discovery of an underwater wreck 400 metres offshore at Sorrento back beach six years ago created a whole new range of interests for Morwell Briquette and Power Installation shift fitter Mike Tutin; interests which still occupy most of his spare time.

A scuba diving enthusiast, Mike and Ray Palmer, of Morwell, found the wreck of the four-masted barque sailing ship *Craigburn* in 1972.

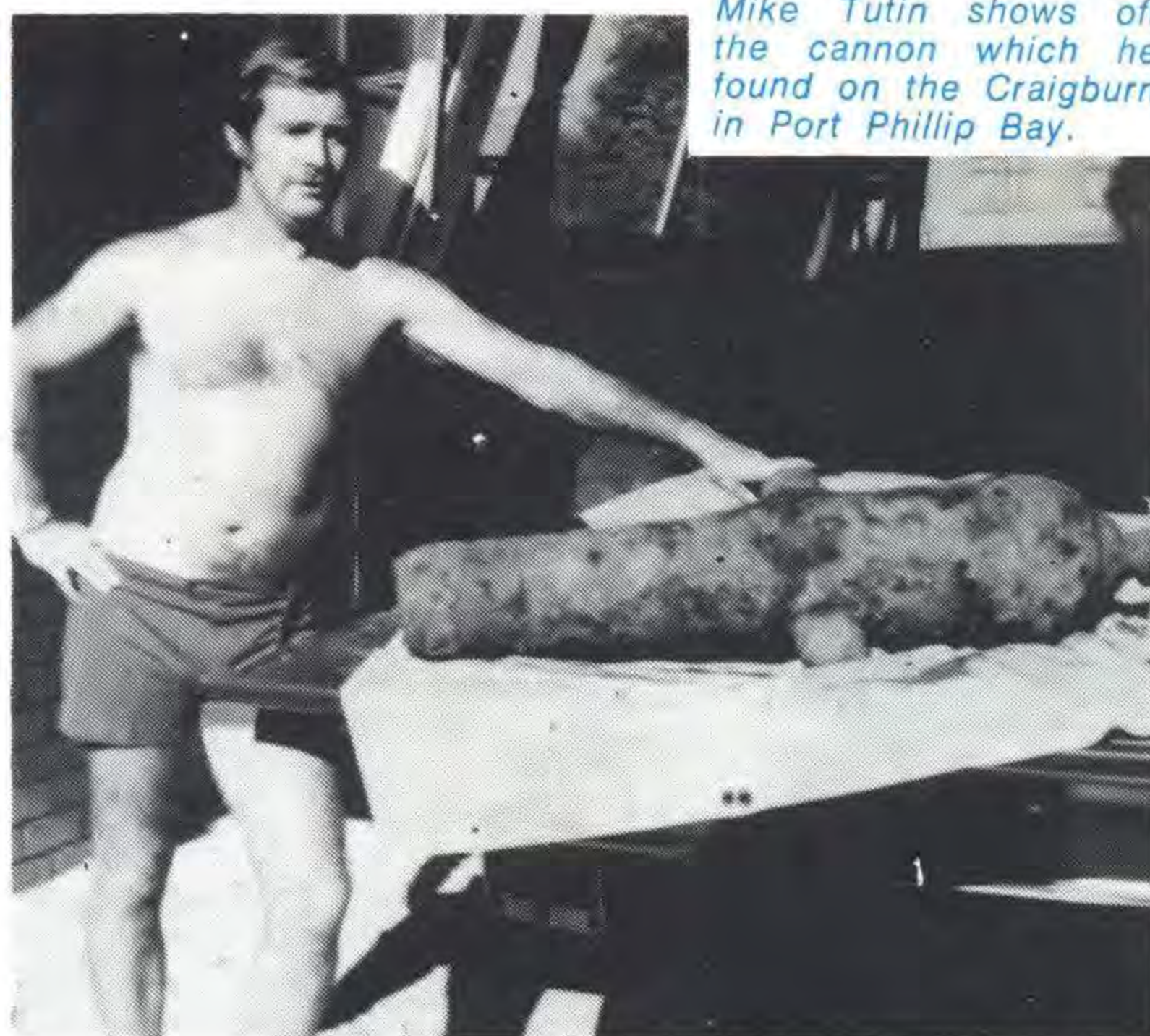
Since then, Mike has become:—

- a hunter of shipwrecks,
- a researcher of records and archives, and,
- a part-time salvager.

And he has now turned his hand to underwater filming. Current centre of interest for Mike is a cannon, recovered from the wreck and now being restored to something like its original condition for eventual public display, probably in the Sorrento Museum, a National Trust centre.

One of only three cannons which have been recovered from Victorian waters, the *Craigburn* memento has been well looked after since coming to Morwell, including a long period immersed in a bathtub to protect it against further deterioration.

By arrangement with the SEC, some lathe work was carried out on the barrell to bring it back to a reasonable condition, and the Gippsland Institute for Advanced Education has now taken over for some highly specialised electrolysis treatment.



Mike Tutin shows off the cannon which he found on the *Craigburn* in Port Phillip Bay.

Discovery of the *Craigburn* cannon caught Mike Tutin's imagination — and led to his researching the fascinating story of a shipwreck which should never have occurred.

On its way from Melbourne to Wellington in 1891, the *Craigburn* had been towed through the Rip by a tug named — ironically as it turned out — *Rescue*.

That was when its troubles began.

The towline parted, leaving the four-master helpless.

The tug offered to take her in tow again — but for a second \$500 towing fee.

The captain refused.

The pilot, in a dispute

extending over several hours and at a time when the ship was clearly in a dangerous situation, tried to talk the captain into accepting the tug offer.

Finally, he ordered the tow resumed and when the *Craigburn* skipper resisted the order, there was a brief struggle and he was overpowered and locked in his cabin.

Unfortunately, the carpenter refused to supply steam for the winches to haul up the anchors, and as the tug steamed ahead the new tow-line broke.

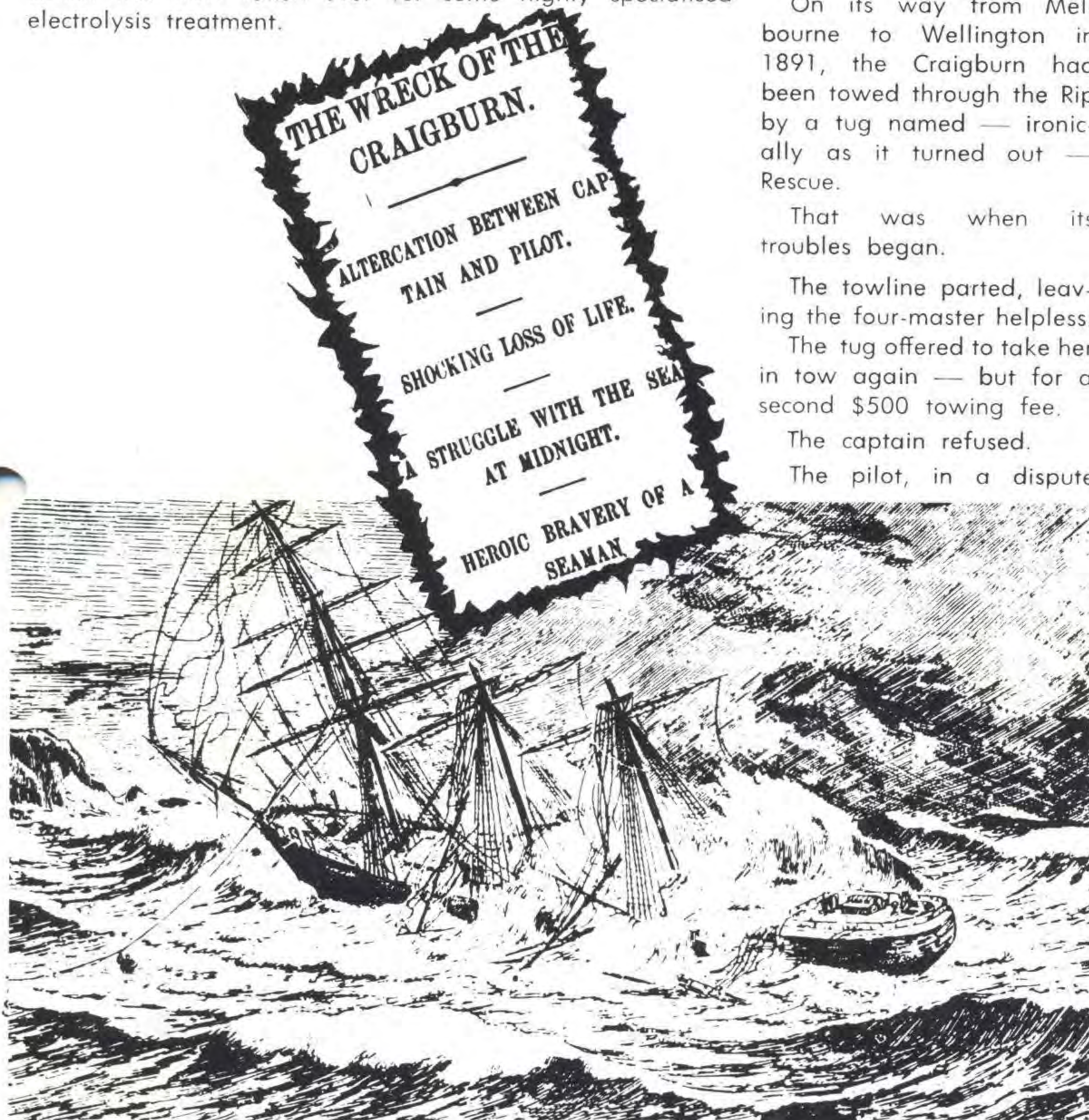
That was enough for most of the crew, who rightly saw the writing on the wall.

The pilot and 14 crewmen left the ship and were eventually picked up, but the captain refused to abandon his ship.

Twelve more crew left in a lifeboat but five drowned when it capsized before reaching the beach.

The captain and several other crew members were rescued by lifeboat and a shoreline rocket system, but the ship's mate was drowned.

Newspapers of the day filled columns on the incident and the inquiry which followed before the ill-fated *Craigburn* sank beneath the sand of the Sorrento back beach to await the arrival of scuba diver.



New \$70,000 Orana clubrooms opened



Studying the program for the opening of the Orana Club are (from left) Cr. Joe Tabuteau, Manager Area Administration George Bates, Orana Club President Alec Reaper and Mayor of Moe Cr. Don Ferguson.

Orana Elderly Citizen's Club members have officially moved into their new \$70,000 clubrooms at the Latrobe Valley Village in Newborough.

SEC Area Administration manager George Bates officially opened the modern clubroom complex at a ceremony attended by about 150 people this month.

He said successful replacement of the Orana Clubrooms was an achievement which brought great satisfaction to himself and all members of the SEC's Yallourn resettlement team.

"The Commission has always acknowledged a special responsibility to the people of Yallourn, and worthwhile projects such as this fulfil that responsibility in a very practical way.

Orana president Mr. Alec Reaper said the club was grateful to the SEC for giving it the chance to continue its development, and in magnificent premises which were a credit to the many people associated with the project.

The relocation project was financed by the SEC after independent arbitrator Mr.

Ray Burkitt recommended that the clubrooms be re-established at Latrobe Valley Village — the site chosen by Orana Club members.

The new building was blessed by the President of the Ministers' Fraternal (Moe), the Rev. Lindsay Gorfine.

The new complex is ideally situated to meet the needs of club members. It is adjacent to the 24-unit Latrobe Valley Village and only a short walk from the Newark Avenue villa unit Yallourn resettlement development, which will eventually provide a mixture of 82 one and two bedroom units.

The clubrooms complex includes a main hall, lounge, kitchen, office and toilets. The main hall has been designed to enable members to play carpet bowls and other games, and has a stage to cater for entertainment at social functions.

The area around the new Orana has been extensively landscaped by SEC Parks and Gardens overseer Mr. Dick Francis and nursery staff.

THE FEMALE SECS.

ALL FEMALES . . . and males . . . that have made donations to the Care of the Aged Nursing Home Project at Moe can claim them as an income tax deduction.

The correct method for claiming your donation to the project as an income tax deduction is to enter the words 'Donation to Latrobe Valley Hospital' and the amount — in the space provided for gifts to public institutions on your income tax return form.

If your claim has been refused, because of incorrect wording you should re-apply using the above description and ask for a re-assessment.

★

CONGRATULATIONS to Jill Hayse (Personnel) who was a member of the Trafagar C Grade polocrosse team which won the Herald and Weekly Times Pty. Ltd. high points trophy for 1977-78.

★

MANAGER Power Generation's private secretary Val Veysey decided to change her hair style earlier this month . . . and what a change. She now has an afro hair do.

★

HEATHER Lang (Yallourn Stores) and Sue Tewierik (Assistant supervisor duplicating, Morwell) attended a three day supervision course at the Yallourn Training Centre early this month.

★

UNDERSTAND Tess Zarb (Yallourn drawing office) is contemplating a three week holiday in New Zealand. Hope you have a good time Tess.

★

THAT's all for this month, however the column would like to hear from you with those newsy items on ext. 3642.

STOP PRESS

Work is expected to begin almost immediately on a second lot of gas turbines at the Jeeralang site, south of Morwell.

Approval by the Governor in Council, for the second block of gas turbines was given on July 18.

The SEC's AGM (Development) Jack Johnson says it is hoped that the \$56 million station would come in to commercial service progressively from November next year.

However, the ability of the SEC to meet load requirements is still very dependant upon the completion dates of the new units such as Yallourn 'W' and Newport

The new station will be built on Commission-owned land beside the 200 MW station already under construction.

The contract includes the provision of water injection equipment to minimise nitrogen oxide emissions.

Mr. Johnson said that by provision of water injection on the second block of gas turbines and modification of the first 200 MW block, total emissions of nitrogen oxide from the two stations would be kept to a level lower than that already licensed by the EPA for the first 200 MW block.





Siemens on-site engineer Hans Fritz (above) throws one of the three glasses onto the gas turbine structure.



Manager Power Generation Jack Robertson is pictured speaking to the large gathering. Along side him is the wreath which was raised to the station's roof.



'Richfest' ceremony enjoyed by 300 Jeeralang workers

A touch of European tradition was brought to the Jeeralang Gas Turbine Station site early this month.

The occasion was the 'Richfest' an ancient German custom of symbolically protecting buildings from evil.

The ceremony was carried out by Siemens Industries Limited, contractors building

the station. It was attended by more than 300 people including on-site workers, contractors representatives and the SEC.

A large wreath, draped with color streamers, was hauled to the highest point of the roof, normally this is done when the last roof bearer is fastened in position and signifies the completion of the frame stage. At this point the rest of the structure can go ahead.

However the Jeeralang ceremony was celebrated at the completion of the frame stage of the new machine house as a continuation of this ancient custom to bring good luck to the project.

The ceremony included the reciting of a poem, in German, by Siemens on-site engineer Hans Fritz and then translated, into English, by Siemens Public Relations Officer Peter Baddeley.

As each verse of the poem was read, Hans drank a glass of wine and smashed the glass on the structure. Three cheers were led each time, in German. All the workers on site were invited to the Australian/Italian Club after the ceremony to join in celebrations with plenty of food and drink.

NEW SEC COMMISSIONER APPOINTED

Mr. James Campbell Johnston, CBE, has been appointed a Commissioner of the SEC, effective from July 1.

Mr. Johnston's appointment was announced by the Minister for Minerals and Energy, Mr. Jim Balfour.

Mr. Johnston will fill the vacancy left by the death of Mr. Tom Scott last March. His appointment is for a period of five years.

Married with two sons and a daughter, Mr. Johnston is a former Chairman of the Melbourne Stock Exchange and has been a

Member of the Exchange since 1947.

He is currently Chairman of the Capel Court Corporation Ltd. and the Australian Foundation Investment Co. Ltd. and is a director of the T and G Mutual Life Society.

Mr. Johnston was educated at Scotch College and the University of Melbourne.

He is an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and holds a Diploma of Commerce.

Mr. Johnston is also a former Chairman of the Association of Australian Stock

Exchanges and was jointly responsible for formation of Stock Exchanges Joint Committee.



JAMES JOHNSTON

Electricity is supplied to industry, commerce, and domestic customer in all but a small number of very remote areas of the State. The growth in the use of electricity over the past 10 years was 79%.

Morwell and Yallourn open cuts have 11 huge dredgers for removing overburden and winning coal. The largest machines are capable of winning 2000 tonnes of coal an hour.

Dave's hard hat saved his life

David Warford is lucky to be alive and he can thank his hard hat that he is.

On Saturday, April 15 a group of electrical linesmen were working on an overhead line connection at Morwell terminal station.

While they were

working above, David began picking up material around the base of the pole, as he did a ratchet spanner fell about 10 metres, from above, striking him on his hard hat.

He was not injured. The incident made David eligible to be a member of the National Safety Council of Australia's Tortoise Club.

He was presented with a Tortoise Club membership certificate by Transmission Engineer Service Bill Smith at an informal function early this month.



David Warford (centre) receives his Tortoise Club certificate from Transmission Engineer Services Bill Smith (left) and Lines Engineer Gary Andrews.

Performance records tumble — Hazelwood

The record-setting run began on February 8.

Mr. Robertson said this performance had easily bettered the old station record of 2,708 hours (113 days) set early this year by unit number eight.

He said unit seven was due to come off stream any day for a boiler clean.

The SEC record for non-stop generation is held by Yallourn 'W' unit number two, which clocked up 216.5 days late last year.

Hazelwood Power Station's June generation performance of 76 per cent was the highest ever.

The previous record was set before 1971 when only seven of the station's eight 200 MW units had been commissioned.

Records are tumbling thick and fast at Hazelwood Power Station.

The station's number seven unit has been running non-stop for nearly 150 days (Note — 150 days reached July 7).

And last month the station achieved its highest ever monthly generation performance.

Manager Power Generation Jack Robertson, said number seven unit had been running at or near its 200 MW capacity for the 150 days.

ducting, gas off takes and other confined spaces.

At an informal function in the Hazelwood power station lecture room Manager Power Generation Jack Robertson presented the National Safety Council of Australia's pennant and certificate to group representative Alan McIntyre.



Group 7B proudly displayed their safety award certificate and pennant following the presentation ceremony in the HPS lecture room.

Group 7B creates history at HPS

The Hazelwood Power Station's group 7B boiler-makers, mechanical maintenance has created history.

The group has notched up 100,000 manhours without a Lost Time Injury . . . and they're still going strong. To date they have

recorded 119,494 manhours without a LTI.

The 42 man groups previous best record was 25,988 manhours.

Their work involves overhauling work on boilers, involving heavy and reasonably dangerous work, manual handling, working off stages, in coal chutes, air

For Sale

1963 Ford Cortina. In going order, suitable for parts. \$70 ONO. Phone 74 2823 or ext. 3557.



Amenities committee impressed

The SEC's Latrobe Valley amenities committee is generally impressed with the way employees have treated their amenities.

The joint management union body recently completed its annual inspection of Latrobe Valley works amenities over a six week period.

The committee toured a number of widely separated locations at Yallourn, Morwell and Hazelwood.

Committee members are:

- John Drewett, Personnel Division (Chairman)
- George Wragg and Phil Edwards, Central Gippsland Trades and Labor Council,
- Bob Rennie and Hugh Coffield, Morwell and Yallourn FEDFA sub-branches.
- Pat Harrop, MOA Latrobe Valley sub-branch, and
- Rod Doig, Amenities Officer (Secretary).

The committee visited work locations to see what changes had occurred since previous inspections in 1976 and to determine whether experience had revealed the need to change amenities standards.

The committee found that there had been significant changes since the previous inspection and amenities had generally been better treated by their users.

A number of projects have been completed, including the Yallourn workshops canteen, others are nearing completion and still more are in the advanced planning stage.

Because of the wide variety of working locations, Amenities Committee activities are broadly based.



Amenities committee members (from left) George Wragg, John Drewitt and Hugh Coffield were pictured during their tour of the Yallourn Coal Production Mechanical Maintenance depot canteen.

Annual camp was no holiday for 4-19 regiment

SEC members of the 4/19 Prince of Wales Light Horse Regiment, based at Traralgon and Sale, recently took part in their 1978 annual camp in North-western Victoria.

The camp was held in the Big Desert country in the Wimmera and Mallee. It

was the largest Army reserve exercise held in Australia since World War II.

The eight day exercise began from Netherby near Nhill to Hattah, 67 kilometres south of Mildura and involved an advance of 250 kilometres, through some of the most testing country in the State, fully racked armoured personnel carriers.



Taking a breather during their 250 kilometres advance are the SEC members of the 4/19 Prince of Wales Light Horse Regiment.

SEC employees involved were: Trooper Steve Young (Coal Production, Morwell), Corporal Garry Molloy (Morwell Briquetting and Power Installation), Lieutenant Ron Brooks (Area Administration, Yallourn), Trooper John Kus (Coal Production, Morwell), Trooper Terry O'Dowd (Yallourn Power Station), Trooper Gary Rhodes (Coal Production, Morwell), Corporal Barry Cross (Yallourn 'W' Power Station), Sergeant Dave Holloway (Morwell Stores), Corporal Les Douglas (Engineering Services, Morwell) and Sergeant Brian Kesby (Coal Production, Morwell).

Although the camp provided a break from normal work routine it was by no means a holiday.

The exercise and the desert tested members and equipment. It also demonstrated the high standard of proficiency that has been achieved by members.

SAFETY SPECTACLES SAVE RAY'S SIGHT



Morwell electrical fitter Ray Tyers believes in wearing safety spectacles while working.

It was his safety spectacles which saved him from serious eye damage in a recent incident while working in the Morwell electrical workshops. Ray was attempting to grind a chamfer on the end of a piece of pipe when the grinding wheel grabbed the work piece and hurled it into his face, striking the centre of the left lens of his spectacles, shattering the lens.

At an informal presentation ceremony in the Electrical workshops, Transmission Engineer Services Bill Smith presented the Wise Owl Club of Australia's certificate to Ray.

Letter to the Editor

Dear sir,

On May 29 this year my wife and I became residents of the Torbay Retirement Village in Torquay, Queensland — we were very pleasantly surprised to be welcomed by former SEC employees John 'Jock' Yardley (28 years service), John O'Sullivan (25 years) and Dave Irvine (39 years).

Jock Yardley — formerly of Yallourn North worked for a number of years as a pointsman on the Yallourn overburden dump spreader. Later he became tool storeman with power house maintenance electricians in the Yallourn switchyard.

John O'Sullivan — lived in the Eastern Hotel and was a loco driver on overburden for some years, he then transferred to Coal Transport, servicing coal locos in the loco shed.

Dave Irvine — lived in Yallourn North from 1927 to 1957 then moved to Morwell. Dave was employed as an electrician with electrical operations, servicing locos in the loco shed.

I knew that Mr. Frank McIver and his wife Trudy were one of the first married couples to be residents in this village, we were sorry to hear that he had passed away on February 5 this year.

Frank worked in the welding workshop at Morwell. The McIvers lived in Morwell before moving to Hervey Bay in Queensland. Up until his death Frank was still very interested in soccer and was coaching young players for the local club. In his earlier years he had played for Australia and Melbourne Hakoah.

The best to all in the SEC

Yours faithfully,

BILL BRYDSON

Service Register

COMMISSION wages and staff employees who reached significant service milestones during May are included in this month's register.

25 YEARS:

Savo Simic	Coal, Yallourn
Bill Topham	Morwell Power Station
Ewan Saultrey	Yallourn Workshops
Vincent Boyes	Civil Works, Yallourn
Ralph Nelson	Transmission, Yallourn
Terry McKane	Coal, Morwell
Harry Dyer	Yallourn Workshops

30 YEARS:

James Ludlow	Catering, Yallourn
Denis Barry-Murphy	Yallourn Power Station

31 YEARS:

Julius Tadday	Coal, Yallourn
Fred Blucher	Transmission, Morwell
Frank Williams	Civil Services, Yallourn
Colin Gordon	Yallourn Power Station
Keith Cooke	Coal, Yallourn

32 YEARS:

Charles Spark	Coal, Yallourn
Les Wurlod	Yallourn Power Station
Jack Emberton	Morwell Power Station
Ian Smith	Morwell Power Station
Andy Smith	Material & Services, Yallourn
Colin Somers	Hazelwood Power Station

34 YEARS:

George Theobald	Yallourn Power Station
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37 YEARS:

Neville Lawrence	Yallourn Power Station
Irving Baillie	Civil Services, Morwell

38 YEARS:

John Haughton	Morwell Workshops
John Arnold	Civil Services, Yallourn

40 YEARS:

William Smith	Yallourn Power Station
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42 YEARS:

Stan Goding	Coal, Morwell
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Floods in the news again-'78

The 1978 Latrobe Valley floods have been in the news over the past eight weeks and floods were also in the news in 1934.

Exceptional flooding of the Latrobe River on November 30 to December 1 shattered the levee bank engulfing the entire cut — machinery included.

Water filled the cut to the depth of 143 feet, suspending operations for several months while the extensive task of pumping out the water and repairing dredgers and other machinery was undertaken.

During the flooding, 260,000 cubic yards of overburden was washed into the open cut and from the No. 2 level alone, 120,000 yards of silt was removed in the clean-up.

An estimated 4,663 million gallons of water filled the cut.

A flood committee set up to report on the flooding proposed among other things, higher levees around the open cut.

The pictures (left) were taken during the 1934 floods at Yallourn and Yallourn North open cut.



The Latrobe River flooded the Yallourn area extensively in 1934 as the picture (above) indicates.



The Latrobe River bridge (left) on the Yallourn North road was closed for a period due to the floods.



Flood waters flowed over the Latrobe River dam behind the Yallourn power station during the 1934 floods.


**ENGINEERING
SERVICES**


Joe Metcalf (third from left) accepts his life membership from Services Engineer (Mechanical) George Davis, in the Yallourn workshops canteen. Others pictured are (from left) Franz Onger (Central Gippsland Trades and Labor Council secretary), Manager Engineering Services Ray Greenwood, Joe ????, George Davis and Colin James.

New canteen and amenities block is opened

The new \$350,000 Yallourn workshops canteen and amenities block was officially opened early this month by Manager Engineering Services Ray Greenwood.

The modern and brightly painted canteen replaces the 26 year-old Yallourn workshops canteen.

It provides a new approach to providing meals for the worker — cafeteria style.

The huge amenities block is the most up-to-date in the SEC's Latrobe Valley works area.

Both the SEC and the trade unions have worked hard for some years for the new amenities block.

It includes both staff and wages change facilities, toilets, showers and locker rooms.

The Central Gippsland Trades and Labor Council secretary Franz Onger says the new canteen and ameni-



ties block is a step forward for the needs of the workers. The facilities are magnificent but the workers will have to support the canteen, and the amenities block will have to be used and not abused.



Yallourn workshop employees line up for their lunch in the new \$350,000 workshops canteen opened early this month.

Top honor to 'Joe' Metcalf

THE Yallourn workshops Social and Welfare Club has awarded its first life membership to its Manager-Secretary Cyril 'Joe' Metcalf.

Joe's record with the Club is outstanding.

He began with the Commission in 1938 — 41 years ago — in 1944 he was appointed to the Welfare Organisation Committee as a committeeman. Two years later, 1946, Joe joined the Workshops Social Club.

He was president of the Welfare Committee for seven years and secretary-treasurer for 27 years from 1951 to 1978.

In May this year the two organisations amalgamated with Joe being elected Manager-secretary.

At an informal presentation ceremony in the new workshops canteen, Services Engineer (Mechanical) George Davis presented Joe with his life membership certificate.

Joe, who was the first engineering instructor appointed by the Commission in the Latrobe Valley, enjoys his work and hobbies of gardening, bowls and fishing.



No. 5 turbo-generator back after holiday

The Morwell Briquette and Power Installation's No. 5 turbo generator is back in production after a 12 month holiday.

The 60 megawatt turbine generator had the holiday while two of its rotors were sent to Sweden for repairs.

The unit was withdrawn from service in June last year when four rotor blade rings were damaged.

Two radial rotors were sent to Stal-Laval in Finspong, Sweden to have four new blade rings replaced — two on each rotor.

The rotors arrived back at the MBPI late last month and the unit was brought back into service on July 7.



Unloading the turbine rotor was carried out by Overseer Tom Amalos (left) and Ted Rockall (rigger).

SAFETY AWARDS TO YALLOURN 'W'

Two Yallourn 'W' power station groups have recorded excellent safety performances.

Operations group one has recorded 250,000 manhours without a Lost Time Injury, while the Electrical maintenance group 14 has achieved 100,000 manhours.

Operations Group one made up of 30 members (Charge engineers, unit controllers and assistant unit controllers) is still going strong with 268,180 manhours.

The 33 group 14 members (electricians special class, and trades assistants) ended their good performance with a LTI, on 112,206 manhours.

Both groups were presented with the National Safety Council of Australia's pennants and certificates by Yallourn 'W' Assistant Power Station Superintendent Norm Bowles at an informal ceremony in the Yallourn West Mess on June 22.



Six representatives from Group one proudly display their NSCA pennant and certificate.



Members of the Electrical maintenance group proudly display their NSCA pennant and certificate.



New communications link between LV and Melbourne

A new microwave communications link between the Latrobe Valley and Melbourne is being planned, Mr. Kevin Connelly, Chief Engineer, Transmission Development, announced early this month.

Mr. Connelly said existing SEC communications facilities had almost reached capacity and the new link would be required prior to the operation of the Loy Yang Power Station which was now being constructed.

"The new link will provide highly reliable circuits for protection signals and other data between the Latrobe Valley Power Stations and system control centre in Melbourne," he said.

"From microwave terminals at the Hazelwood terminal station and Loy Yang Power Station, the signals will follow a clear line of sight path via four repeater stations to the

South Morang terminal station.

"The repeater stations will be established at Jeeralang Hill, south-east of Churchill, a point just south of Allambee, a site near Gembrook, and a fourth site near Healesville.

"All sites have been carefully selected with environmental considerations in mind and each station will be designed to blend with the local environment.

"The repeater station at Jeeralang Hill will consist of a 30 metre tower for the microwave antennae and a low profile building adjacent to the tower to house the radio equipment. The surrounding area will be landscaped with native trees and shrubs to complement existing trees."

Mr. Connelly said it was planned to have the new communications links in service by 1980.

Soccer 'Takeover'

Yallourn will be the venue next month for the 1978 Australian National Soccer Championship for under 14 teams.

The championships, the first of their kind to be conducted in a Victorian country centre, will involve teams from Victoria, NSW, Northern NSW, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory.

The Latrobe Valley Junior Soccer League will host the championships.

The decision to stage the championships at Yallourn underlines the high standard of soccer in the Latrobe Valley — and the excellence of the sporting facilities available here.

All matches will be played at the Yallourn ovals in a round-robin competition from August 27 to September 2.

Visiting players will be billeted with local clubs, and some will become temporary Yallourn "residents".

Workshops notch up 100,000 hours safety award

The Electrical workshops section has notched up 100,000 manhours without a lost time injury.

This award was a combined effort achieved by both the Morwell and Yallourn electrical workshops.

More than 80 employees are involved in gaining the award.

To date the section has recorded 109,536 without a LTI and they're still going strong.

Assistant Chief Engineer Transmission Operations Ian McDonald paid tribute to the Workshops section for their achievement at an formal presentation of National Safety Council of Australia's certificate in the Yallourn Wess Mess.



For Sale

Viscount four berth caravan with 15' x 7' white annexe. Both in good condition, \$1,800 ONO. Phone 66 1338 after 5.30 p.m.



Members of the Electrical workshops section receive their NSCA pennant from Assistant Chief Engineer Transmission Operations Ian McDonald.

COAL
PRODUCTION

Conveyor finds a new home

A massive conveyor drive head frame for Yallourn Open Cut was moved from Morwell to Yallourn early this month.

The frame, which is more than 30 metres long, six and a half metres wide, seven metres high and weighs about 85 tonnes, was built by Morwell engineering firm, Maryvale Engineering Pty. Ltd.

It is the second drive head frame the firm has built for the Commission.

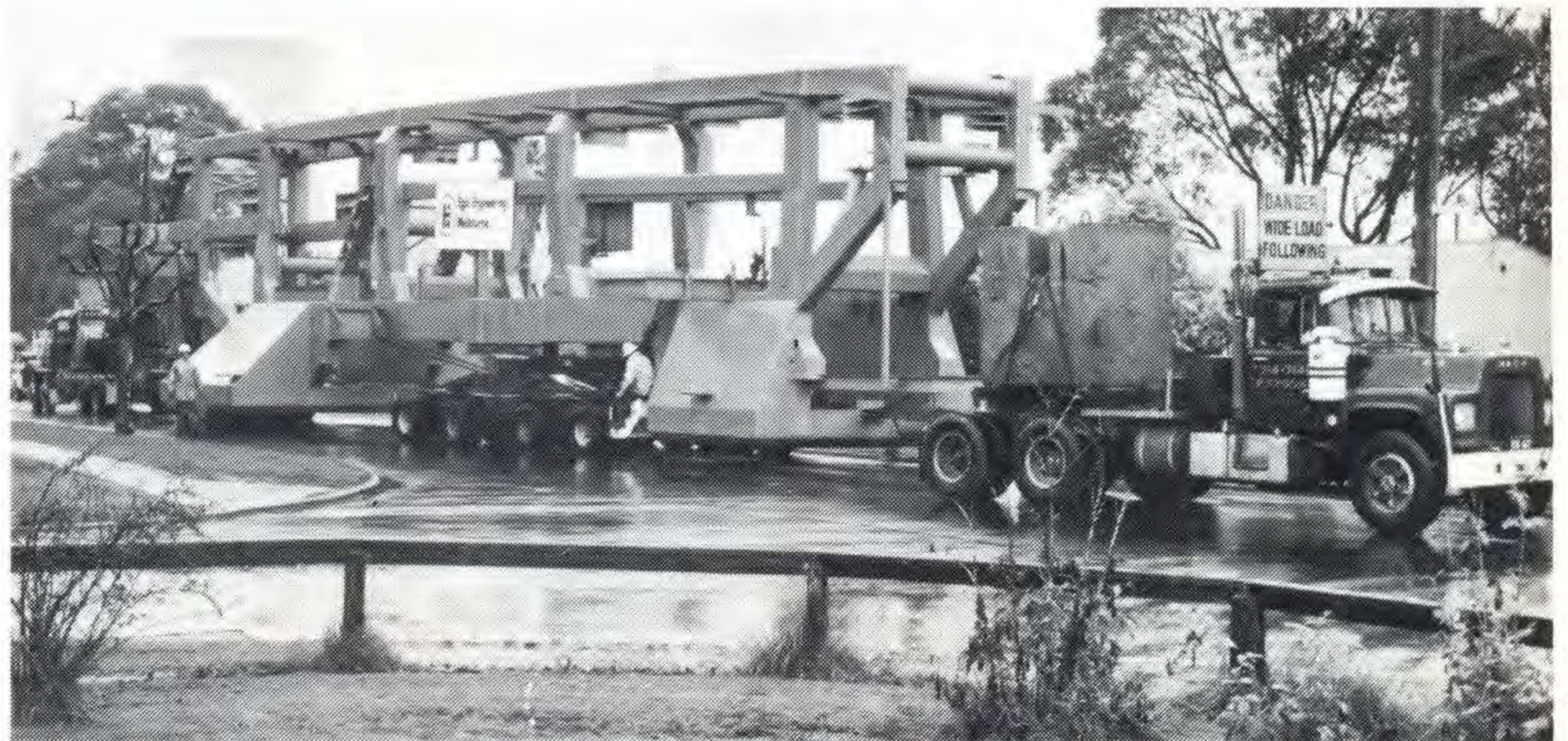
A special low loader with prime movers at the front and rear was used to transport the frame from Maryvale Engineering's plant in Tramway Road, through Tyers, Yallourn North and Yallourn to the old Yallourn Briquette Factory site.

The drive head frame will eventually be moved into the open cut for use on conveyor Y327, which will be part of a new system to supply coal to Yallourn 'W' power stations.

NETWORK

The SEC network comprises 110,000 km of power lines. Each average working day 8 km of lines are built, a power pole goes up about every eight minutes, and a new transformer is installed every 50 minutes.

Throughout Victoria about 120 additional customers are connected to the State supply system every working day — an average of about one every four minutes.



The 85 tonne conveyor head was pictured by CONTACT being transported down Green Street, Yallourn.

Soldier Sgt. Kesby is off to Canada

Morwell Coal Production electrical shift foreman Brian Kesby has been selected to spend two months with the Australian Army reserve in Canada.

Brian, a member of the 4/19 Prince of Wales Light

Horse Regiment at Traralgon will be off to foreign shores next month.

Brian has been chosen to go with a New South Wales force, the 2nd Calvary Regiment, a force of regular soldiers who are going to

Canada for a joint two month exercise.

The Army has always interested Brian, he joined the Reserve 14 years ago when he was living at Toongabbie.

The Army takes up a fair amount of time. There is a parade every Wednesday night, weekend courses and a two week camp each year.

This year's camp was held in North-Western Victoria earlier this year, Brian will return to Australia in mid October.



Brian Kesby was all smiles when CONTACT's photographer called on him last week.

retirements



"FRENCHY" GUERER

Yallourn North Extension Open Cut lost one of its team when "Frenchy" Guerer retired on June 29 after more than 24 years service.

"Frenchy" joined the Commission on April 27, 1954 as a laborer in Yallourn North Open Cut.

In 1962 he transferred to Yallourn Open Cut as a pickman and for the next three years held various positions in both the Yallourn and Yallourn North open cuts.

He was appointed as a plant attendant at Yallourn North Extension in January, 1966 and, apart from a brief period at Morwell Briquette Factory, has worked there since.

When he retired he held the position of operator. "Frenchy" and his wife, who live in Morwell, are planning a trip to France next year.

At an informal farewell at the Parkside Restaurant, attended by Yallourn Open Cut Coal Production Superintendent, Col Ferguson and Assistant Coal Production Superintendent, Laurie Baker, Frenchy's workmates presented him with travelling cases.

JIM ROBERTSON

A visit to his daughter in Algiers figured early in Jim Robertson's retirement plans.

The Algiers stopover was one of the first on a planned three-month overseas tour which included visits to Jim's homeland, Scotland, and various European countries.

Jim retired on June 19 after almost 25 years service with the Commission. He began work on September 19, 1953 as a Shift Engineer with Production Department, Geelong Power Station.

In April, 1955 he was appointed Shift Engineer, Production (Briquette), Yallourn and various briquetting operations appointments followed until in January, 1970 he was appointed Assistant Operations Supervisor, Briquetting.

Jim became programme Engineer, Planning Group, Latrobe Valley in November, 1972 and following the organisational restructure in 1974 was transferred in this position to Civil Services Division, Engineering Services Department, the position from which he retired.

Jim and his wife, who at present live in Morwell, are planning to build a new home.

BRICKLAYER BERT CALLS IT A DAY

BERT Hill would like to have a dollar for every brick he has laid for the SEC.

Bert, who was the first bricklaying apprentice indentured to the Commission, hung up his trowel last Friday, after more than 50 years service.

He joined the Commission as an office boy at Yallourn in February, 1928 and began his apprenticeship the following year.

In the past 50 years he has worked on all the Commission's huge Latrobe Valley power station projects — he even played a hand in the construction of the old Ballarat power station.

Bert, who lives in Traralgon, completed his apprenticeship at the old Yallourn power stations and then worked for 23 years at the old Yallourn Briquette Factory until it was closed.

The past six years have been spent between Hazelwood Power Station and Yallourn.

Manager Power Generation Jack Robertson presented Bert with the traditional gold watch at his farewell on July 14.

In retirement Bert hopes to travel throughout Australia and spend more time helping out on a friend's dairy farm outside Traralgon.

One thing's for certain — he won't be laying too many bricks!

ALF GOODWIN

After 20 years service with the Commission Alf Goodwin decided to call it a day on July 7.

He began with the Commission in June, 1958 as a mechanical fitter in the central workshops at Morwell and transferred to Morwell power station in October, 1959. He then received promotions to leading hand mechanical fitter then to foreman at Hazelwood power station in 1964. In November, 1967 he was appointed overseer, the position he retired from.

Alf and his wife Nicki intend to enjoy retirement from day to day. Alf's hobbies of photography, lapidary and gardening will take up much of his time.

At an informal farewell presentation mechanical maintenance engineer Les Kite presented Alf with a telephoto lens, on behalf of his workmates.

RUSS PUCKRIDGE

An overseas holiday in August is among the early retirement plans of Russ Puckridge who retired from the Commission after 27 years service on June 30.

Russ and his wife Vera intend touring England and Europe before returning home to Newborough.

They then plan to have an extensive overseas trip in 1979. Russ began with the Commission in 1951 with accounting in Yallourn. He held commercial appointments in Yallourn open cut and Divisional Headquarters and was Coal Production departmental administrative clerk on his retirement.

At an informal farewell function he received an envelope of notes from his workmates.

retirements



RON McPHERSON

A popular and well-known Commission employee, Ron McPherson retired after more than 32 years service on July 5.

Ron began with the Commission in March, 1946 as an engineering inspector in the mechanical branch power production department. In 1947 he moved to design and construction department. In February, 1955 he was promoted to Construction (mechanical) Yallourn and in June, 1962 he was transferred to Morwell. In September, 1969 he received a promotion to Mechanical Construction Superintendent Coal Division, the position he retired from.

During his time with the Commission Ron was involved with the construction of nearly all vital coal winning plant, including dredgers, stackers and conveyors. Ron has also been extremely active in the community. His main interest was legacy. He was Chairman of the Latrobe Valley Legacy Group in 1965 and President in 1975.

At an informal farewell function in the Latrobe Valley visitors centre, Morwell, Manager Coal Production Jack Vines presented Ron with an electric drill and planer and his wife Allison with some records on behalf of his workmates. Chief Engineer Fuel Department John Alexander read out some telex messages received from overseas based contractors on Ron's retirement.



JIM BAIRD

Jim Baird will have more time to concentrate on his hobbies of fishing and caravanning following his retirement on June 23.

Jim completed more than 27 years service with the Commission after beginning

in February, 1951 as a laborer at Yallourn North Open Cut.

After periods of service as a Horse Driver, Bedman, Machine Driver, Conveyor Attendant, Plant Attendant and Pumpman he was transferred to Yallourn Open Cut in November, 1964.

There he served as a Platelayer, Driver, Control Centre Attendant and in October, 1972 was appointed an Operator, the position from which is retired.

Jim is a keen fisherman and he and his wife enjoy caravan holidays. Eventually they plan to move to Wedderburn to live.



ALAN LOFTS

The Gold Coast in Queensland could be the future home of Alan Lofts and his family.

Alan, his wife Pat and family currently live in Newborough. Alan retired from the Commission after 38 years service on June 30.

He began with the Commission in March, 1939 as a junior draftsman with coal supply branch, Yallourn. Promotion to 'B' Grade draftsman came in November, 1941 and then to assistant engineer in April, 1947 and engineer in 1950.

After holding several posts in Headquarters group at Yallourn he was transferred to maintenance section, Morwell open cut in 1959. After serving in an acting capacity for some time he was appointed Mechanical Maintenance Superintendent Morwell open cut in 1970.

October, 1973 he was transferred to Mechanical Plant Engineer Headquarters Group, Morwell the position he retired from.

In retirement Alan intends enjoying his hobbies of golf, gardening and being a handyman.

At an informal farewell presentation in the Yallourn transformer repair bay, Assistant Chief Engineer Transmission Ian McDonald presented Alan with a welding set, and stereo-cassette radio from his workmates.



RON SOLLY

A touring holiday of Queensland before settling at Phillip Island are the retirement plans of Ron and Jean Solly.

Ron retired from the Commission on June 30 after more than 33 years

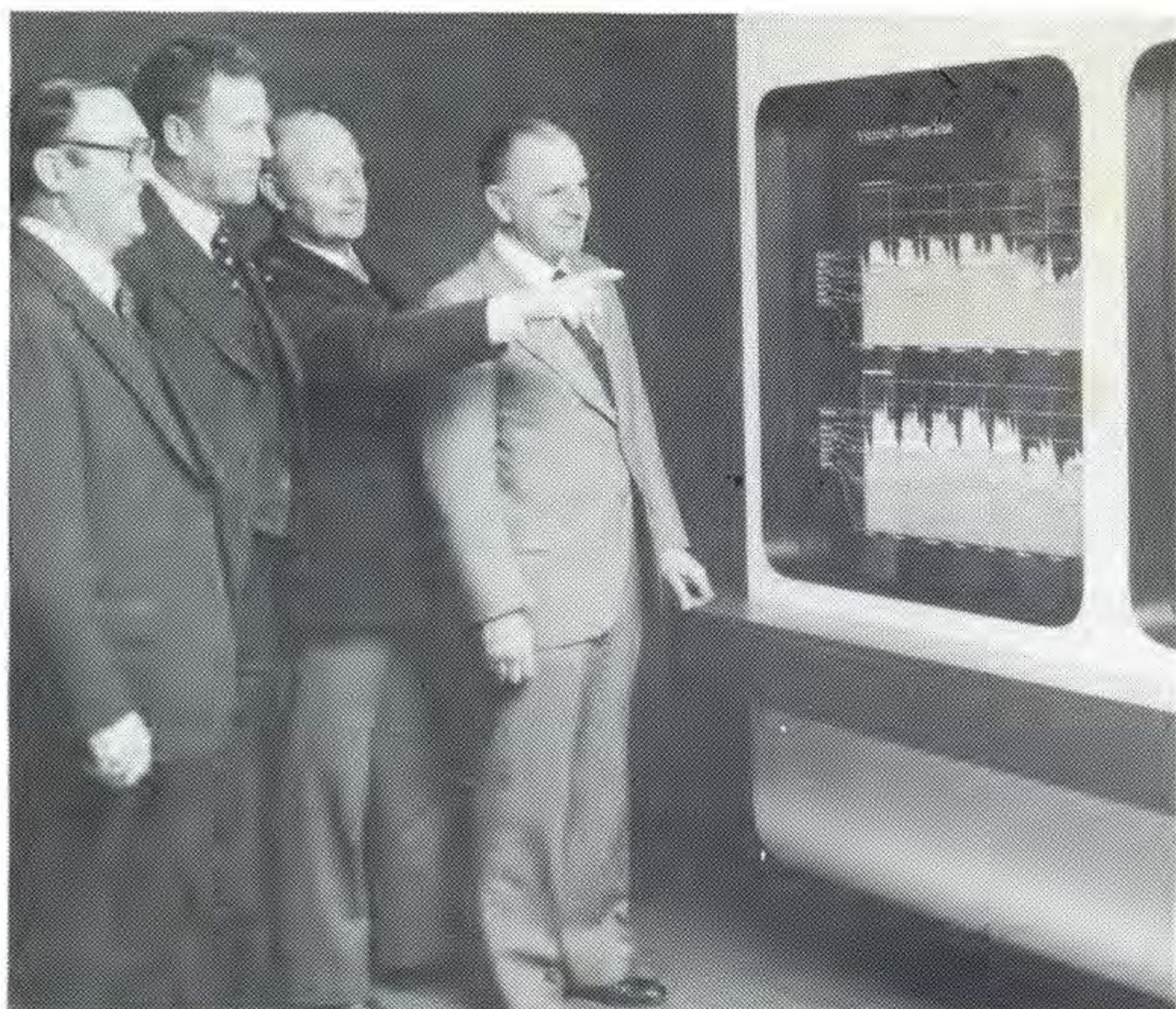
service.

He began with the Commission in April, 1945 as an electrical fitter at Yarraville then transferred to Mildura as an overseer in 1953.

In 1959 he was on the move again, this time to Yallourn transmission. He was then appointed supervisor at the Hazelwood power station in November, 1963.

He retired as a unit coordinator, maintenance coordination section HPS. Most of Ron's spare time in retirement will be taken up with his hobbies of golf and bowls.

valley visitors



Looking at models in the Latrobe Valley Visitors Centre are TRB Board of Commissioners (from left) Peter Hocking, Kevin P. O'Shea, Regional Manager Dennis Quinn and Board Chairman Alan Cook.



All smiles after alighting from their plane are the Amax Iron Ore Corporation party members (from left) Chuck Porterfield, Lowry Blackburn, Dick Millar and Dick Kneller.

VISITORS FROM FOUR CORNERS OF THE WORLD

During the past month visitors from different corners of the world have looked the Latrobe Valley works area over.

They have included visitors from Libya, America, Japan and Germany as well as thousands of Australians.

Perhaps the most interesting was the party of Government officials from Libya. They were Mailud Arabi, Leghben Savuo, Sadiq Nasir, Soloman Abada and Brian McKinlay from the Australian Libya Friendship Group.

Others included a party from the Amax Iron Ore

Corporation of America. Party members were; President Amax Coal Lowry Blackburn and vice-presidents Dick Millar, Chuck Porterfield and Dick Kneller.

The Transport Regulation Board of Commissioners took in a day tour of the Morv and Yallourn works areas. They were: Board Chairman Alan Cook and members Peter Hocking and Kevin P. O'Shea.

Numerous secondary and primary schools also toured the area. One of the primary schools was the Boisdale Consolidated school near Maffra.



Boisdale Consolidated school students took in a day tour of the SEC early this month. Their tour included the Morwell open cut and the Hazelwood power station.