

Deaney

contact

THE STATE ELECTRICITY COMMISSION LATROBE VALLEY DEPARTMENT MAGAZINE

FEBRUARY/MARCH, 1972



Overburden Slip at Yallourn

A slip occurred at Yallourn Open Cut overburden dump on December 19 last year. The stacker and tripper, together with the conveyor system fell some 75 feet below the operating level.

Repair crews quickly swung into ac-

tion, clearing up the mess and improvising a system so that a limited overburden operation could get underway.

At the same time, work began on a more permanent operational system.

This involves cutting back the length of No. 111 Conveyor and shift-

ing No. 112 Conveyor to a 1 in 15 slope leading down to the first stage level of the dump. No. 112 will then continue at a 1 in 30 slope towards the south.

The dump will then be 'keyed' against the western batter and then

be built up to the first stage level once again. This will provide a means of controlling and consolidating the slope of the dump.

The second layer will then be completed and then the third layer will be laid on top.

All this has involved the personnel of mechanical and electrical maintenance sections and of operations in a great deal of work.

They have tackled this job efficiently and with an attitude of cheerful willingness, and I should like to express my appreciation to all personnel concerned.

J. M. Schulz

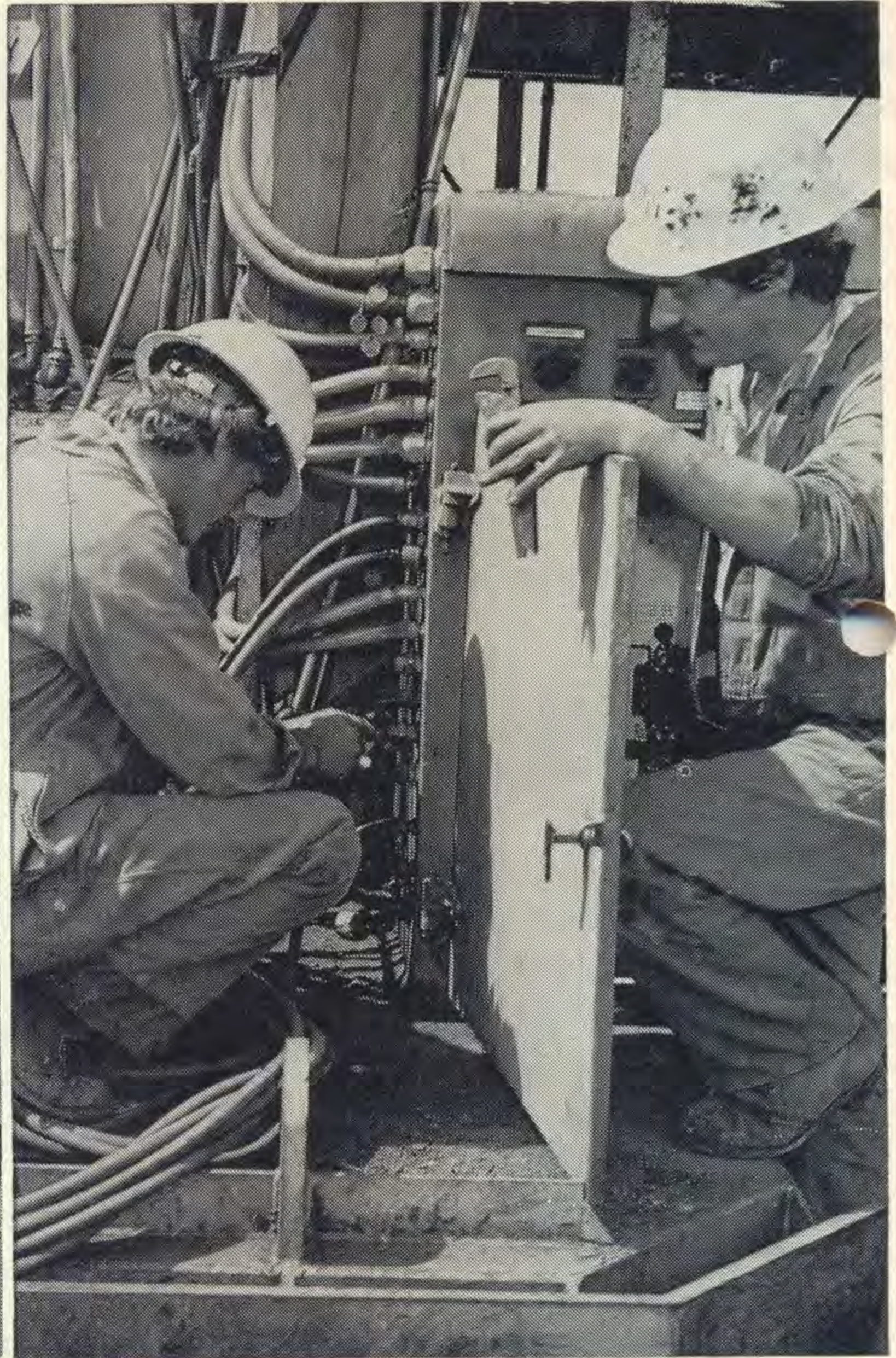
Manager,
Latrobe Valley Department



Peter Anderson, Laurie Campbell, Bill MacLean and Ron Deering, watched by crane driver Jack Richards, man oeuvre a section of a conveyor into position



Frank Holt, Phil Sheekey and Lindsay Burns fit a towing attachment to the end of No. 11 conveyor belt ready to pull the belt up to the vulcanising position.



Trades Assistant Jack Dezaayer and Electrical Mechanic Gary Radford check out some of the wiring in the conveyor system.



Preparing steelwork in the shop for a new insert for a conveyor boom are (l. to r.) Charlie Farrugia, Victor Salienko and Roger Reeves.

IT'S EASIER THAN CLIMBING LADDERS!



Discussing the heli-lift are (from left to right) pilots Mike Meehan and Albert Riley with H.P.S. Mechanical Engineer, Dick Donchi, Rigger John Keenan and Foreman Boilermaker Barry Dunn

The lining of the top section of No. 2 chimney at Hazelwood Power Station is in need of repair.

Climbing a ladder on the outside of a 450-foot high chimney is obviously a time-consuming job. An internal lift to transport workmen and materials to a work platform at the top of the chimney is clearly necessary.

How best to construct these?

The answer could well be to use a helicopter to lift the equipment to the top of the chimney and land it there.

A "feasibility test" was recently carried out and the helicopter proved that it could lift a 500lb. girder and set it on top of the towering chimney.

Don Clark, H.P.S. Superintendent, said that the test had been most successful and that using the helicopter could result in the Commission saving



one week's outage time for the men involved in the job.

Investigations into final arrangements associated with the maintenance exercise are continuing. If it is decided to make use of the helicopter, it will have to be on a day when an easterly wind is blowing so that the pilot, by flying into the wind, can maintain a hovering position above the chimney.

For Sale

125 c.c. Yamaha Scramble Motor Cycle. Running well. — Contact Ext. 2162.

Wedding Notice

Miss Phyllis Nesbitt, telephonist, Yallourn switchboard, to Robert Wair, truck driver, Transport Section, Yallourn, at the Holy Trinity Church of England, Moe, on Saturday, January 15.

Christmas Picnics in the Valley

The pictures on this page show some of the children of L.V. Department personnel enjoying themselves at the annual Christmas picnic of the Coal Production Maintenance Social and Welfare Club, Yallourn, and the Transport Workshops Social Club, Morwell branch, at Billy's Creek.



AUTOMATIC BUNKERING - A BREAKTHROUGH for YALLOURN 'W'

A significant technical advance will be achieved when the first unit of Yallourn 'W' Power Station is commissioned next year with automatic equipment for controlling the level of brown coal in the boiler bunkers.

This will be the first time the Commission has designed for automatic bunkering of brown coal.

Eight pairs of ultrasonic detectors positioned along the length of the bunker of each boiler will continuously measure the level of coal and will control the position, speed and rate of coal discharge from the travelling coal conveyors which deliver coal to the bunkers.

The detectors and controls will cost approximately \$170,000, but it is estimated they will save approximately \$450,000 in labour costs during the life of the station, and maintain a higher and more uniform level of coal in the bunkers than would be possible otherwise.

If the full benefits of the system are to be obtained, it is essential to ensure very reliable operation. Duplication of the conveyor lines, together with the addition of other items of special equipment, will provide this reliability. These will include solid state electronic equipment incorporating printed card circuitry and back-up detection equipment for checking the coal level. Advance testing of Yallourn 'W' detection equipment is currently proceeding above the boiler bunkers at Hazelwood Power Station.



He's Outward Bound

Phillip Pollutro, of Electrical Workshops, Yallourn, is congratulated by Electrical Workshops Engineer Dave McNicol on the eve of his departure for an Outward Bound course at Merrittville.

The course, which took place from December 29 to January 23, is designed to develop self-reliance and leadership qualities and includes canoeing, hiking, mountaineering and other endurance tests in the three-week programme.

SUGGESTION SCHEME CHANGES NO LONGER ANONYMOUS

As announced on page 15 of this issue the identity of Latrobe Valley Department personnel who put forward suggestions for consideration under the Suggestion Scheme will no longer be treated as confidential unless anonymity is specifically requested. This will apply to all suggestions submitted after March 1, 1972.



AERIAL MAP OF TRARALGON PRESENTED

Traralgon's new Town Hall will have a copper cylinder containing historical documents buried in its foundations.

The cylinder and most of the documents were presented by the Traralgon Historical Society, but they were

unable to obtain an aerial map of the Traralgon area.

The Commission came to the party and presented the City of Traralgon with an appropriate map. The photograph shows Principal Surveyor Bob Peters presenting Traralgon Mayor Alf Ashworth and the aerial map.

Coal Conveyor System for Yallourn Open Cut

A \$4½ million high-capacity conveyor system will be erected in Yallourn Open Cut. It will transport coal won by the new No. 12 dredger, due in service in 1974.

Since the start of operations at Yallourn, haulage on the coal levels has been carried out by electric trains, so this will be the first time modern belt conveyors will be used on the coal levels for the transport of coal at Yallourn Open Cut.

The main conveyor system includes five 54-inch steel cord belt conveyors with a total length of 9,500 feet. Travelling at speeds of 1,200 feet a minute these belts will transport up to 4,000 tons of coal an hour.

The main conveyors will carry coal from No. 12 dredger to two train loading stations at Nos. 1 and 2 levels in the open cut. After transfer to 63in. slewing conveyors, the coal will be loaded continuously into rail trucks on the existing 90 c.m. network.

The coal will then be hauled to the ditch bunkers at the northern edge of the open cut and then taken by conveyors, as required, to Yallourn "C", "D", "E" and "W" stations.

Civil works modifications to existing plant and other associated works, costing \$1 million, are scheduled to start next July. Erection of steelwork is expected to begin early next year.

L.V. RECREATION CENTRE PROGRESS REPORT

Approval has been granted by the Commission to the L.V. Association of S.E.C. Social Clubs to lease, with option to buy, 26 acres of land adjacent to Crinigan Road, Morwell.

The lease will not be taken up, however, until the Recreation Centre is considered to be economically feasible.

The Centre is intended to meet family recreational needs and will be designed to include facilities for holding a ball or cabaret type function for 1,000 people. A licensed section will also be included.

Design of the Recreation Centre will be undertaken by a syndicate of final-year students of Melbourne University's Faculty of Architecture under the direction of the Dean, Professor Lewis.

They will draw up preliminary plans and provide an artist's impression of the centre, due to be completed by April, 1972.

The Morwell Power Station Briquette Factory Social Club has put up \$500 which will be used to provide prizes for the architectural students planning the Centre.

A Board of Management has been elected to assist in planning the Latrobe Valley Recreation Centre. This Board consists of Bede Gilmore, President, of Morwell Staff, Lex Derham, Secretary, of M.P.S. & B.F., Noel Edwards, M.P.S. & B.F., Don Flanigan, Y.B.F., Pat Renehan, M.W.S., and Ron Willet, C.P.M. (Y).

When the artist's impression of the Centre comes to hand it will be published in Contact.

80,000 VISITORS IN 1971

During 1971 over 80,000 people visited the works area of the Commission's Latrobe Valley Department.

This is an increase of 10,000 over the number who visited the area in 1970.

Important News on Appliance Sales to Commission Personnel ...

HIRE / INSTALMENT PURCHASE CONDITIONS

As the financing of hire purchase transactions by the Commission has grown more rapidly than expected and has now reached the limit of available funds, it is necessary to vary the conditions under which appliances will, in future, be available to the public under hire purchase, and to personnel under instalment purchase.

1. Range of Appliances:

has been curtailed to the following:
Off-Peak storage space heaters
Hot water cylinders
Refrigerators and freezers

Clothes dryers
Air conditioners
Ranges
Briquette burning appliances

NOTE: Installation and insulation charges may be included in the total costs in appropriate circumstances for deferred payment covered by hire or instalment purchase agreements.

2. Repayment Period:

has been reduced to a maximum of three years.

3. Stamp Duty

will in accordance with an amendment to the Hire Purchase Act be recouped from the purchaser, but will be payable only on the appliance cost and not on any charge for installation.

4. Non-Contributory Insurance Cover:

In the event of the death of personnel, payment of any outstanding balance due on current or future agreements will be waived.



339 YEARS OF SERVICE

This group of Yallourn briquetting personalities have the impressive total of 339 years of service between them. Shown here with Yallourn Briquette Production Superintendent Ted Bell the others had retirement presen-

tations made to them on the occasion of the Yallourn Briquetting close-down.

From left to right, back row, are: Ted Bell (32 years' service), Bill McCleron (22 years), "Plugger" Culph

(49 years), Ray English (38 years), Ted Austin (34 years), Bill Fleming (43 years); front row: Ernie Patterson (36 years), Gordon Finger (37 years), Bill Griffiths (33 years), and George Farrugia (15 years).



Chairman Mr. Bob White and Latrobe Valley Department Manager, Mr. Bill Schulz watch Howard Beulke blow the factory whistle for the last time

YALLOURN ITS LAST BRIQUETTE

47 years and 20 million tons of briquettes after it first started production, Yallourn Briquetting Works closed down on Tuesday, December 14.

Briquette production has now been transferred to the more modern factory at Morwell.

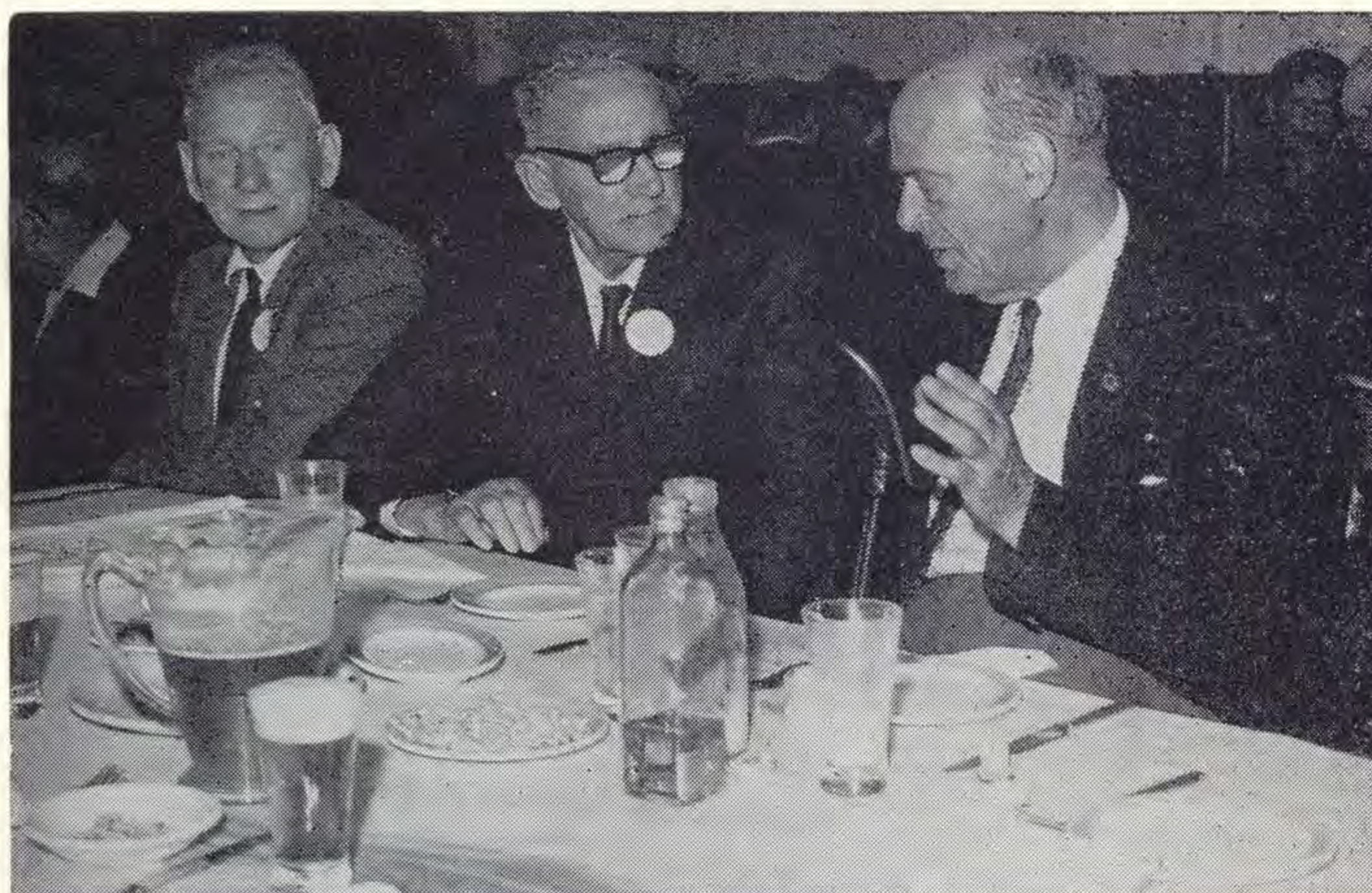
Commission Chairman, Mr. Bob White who attended the closing do- ceremonies said that 20 million tons of briquettes produced was a tremendous achievement—loaded on to rail trucks they would extend 6,300 miles.

The first commercial production of briquettes started in late 1924, with large-scale production following early in 1925. So successful was the new fuel that it was not until the winter of 1929 that production exceeded demand.

Many of Victoria's industrial plants were set up in this State largely because of the availability of briquettes at low prices.

Yallourn "A" Factory was in operation from 1924 to 1968 and produced 6.5 million tons of briquettes. The "B" Factory, which operated from 1931 to 1969, produced 8 million tons and "C" Factory which closed on December 14, 1971, had a total output of 5.5 million tons.

To achieve these production figures, almost 80 million tons of raw coal were used, including about 30 million tons for the factories' furnaces—more than one quarter of the entire production of coal from the Yallourn Open Cut.



"That's the way we used to do," Errol Stoot seems to be telling "Taffy" Davies and "Swanny" O'Brien.



Stan Walker, Hughie Graham, Joe Gordon and Bill Bowler talk over old times.

During this 47-year period the three

PRODUCE

factories maintained almost 90 per cent. operation.

After the last briquette had been pressed at Yallourn "C" the factory was officially closed down by blowing the original whistle for the last time.

This ceremony was followed by a luncheon at which there was a good turnout of old-timers from the earliest briquetting days.

To round off the day, the Welfare Club held a final Smoke Night at Burne's Oak Hall at which many memories were exchanged.



After 49 years, "Plugger" Culph's association with Yallourn Briquetting finally came to an end. "Plugger" was presented with a gold watch by Mr. Bill Schulz, L.V. Department Manager.



Tom Drew, who consigned the first load of briquettes, makes out the paperwork for the last consignment watched by (l. to r.) Jack Hanson, Col Hower, Bill Strongman and Ian McArthur.



"Eat, drink and be merry" appears to be the motto of Len Nicholas, Bill Fleming and Charlie McCarthy.



Alan Holyoak, Denny Sullivan and George Block enjoy their lunch after the closing down ceremony.

SAFETY COMPETITION WINNER

Contact's Safety Competition, which consisted of writing approximately 50 words on the subject of safety without using the letter "e" has been won by Val Leeson, an overseer with the Mechanical Construction Group of Coal Division.

Val's winning entry is reproduced below:

SHOCKING

A hand on this a hand on that,
Circuit point to lay you flat,
What a thing a shock can bring,
You cannot shout, you cannot sing,
Throw your arms all about,
A cold slab awaits no doubt,
Turn off switch, turn on know-how,
Don't just go from us now.

Val will receive as his prize his choice of an electric jug or an electric toaster.

Special Offer to Commission Staff



SUPER CONVAIR BRIQUETTE HEATERS

only \$65

PLUS 5 CWTS OF BRIQUETTES FREE

Printed by The L.V. Printers, 57a Seymour Street Traralgon, for the State Electricity Commission, Latrobe Valley Department.



Commission Secretary F. P. Chipperfield, Commissioners Sir Roger Darvall, T. P. Scott and B. J. Callinan look at the ash pumping station (see opposite page) in company with Max Gray, Manager, Services, Latrobe Valley Department and Deputy General Manager J. C. Trethowan.

COMMISSIONERS COMPLIMENT VALLEY STORES SECTION

The Chairman and Commissioners made their annual inspection of the Latrobe Valley installations in January and held their first formal meeting of the year.

Although the time available did not permit them to make a detailed inspection of the complete area, they tried to see as much of the works area as possible.

The Commissioners were most impressed with the neat and tidy appearance of the Morwell Main Stores area and commented to the Manager, Mr. Bill Schulz, accordingly. Mr. Schulz passed on these comments to Departmental Materials Officer Syd Kirchner, who had the following to say:

"It is very gratifying to receive such a commendation from top management. We all accept the fact that we are paid for our efforts in both money and job satisfaction, however, we would be most unusual people if we

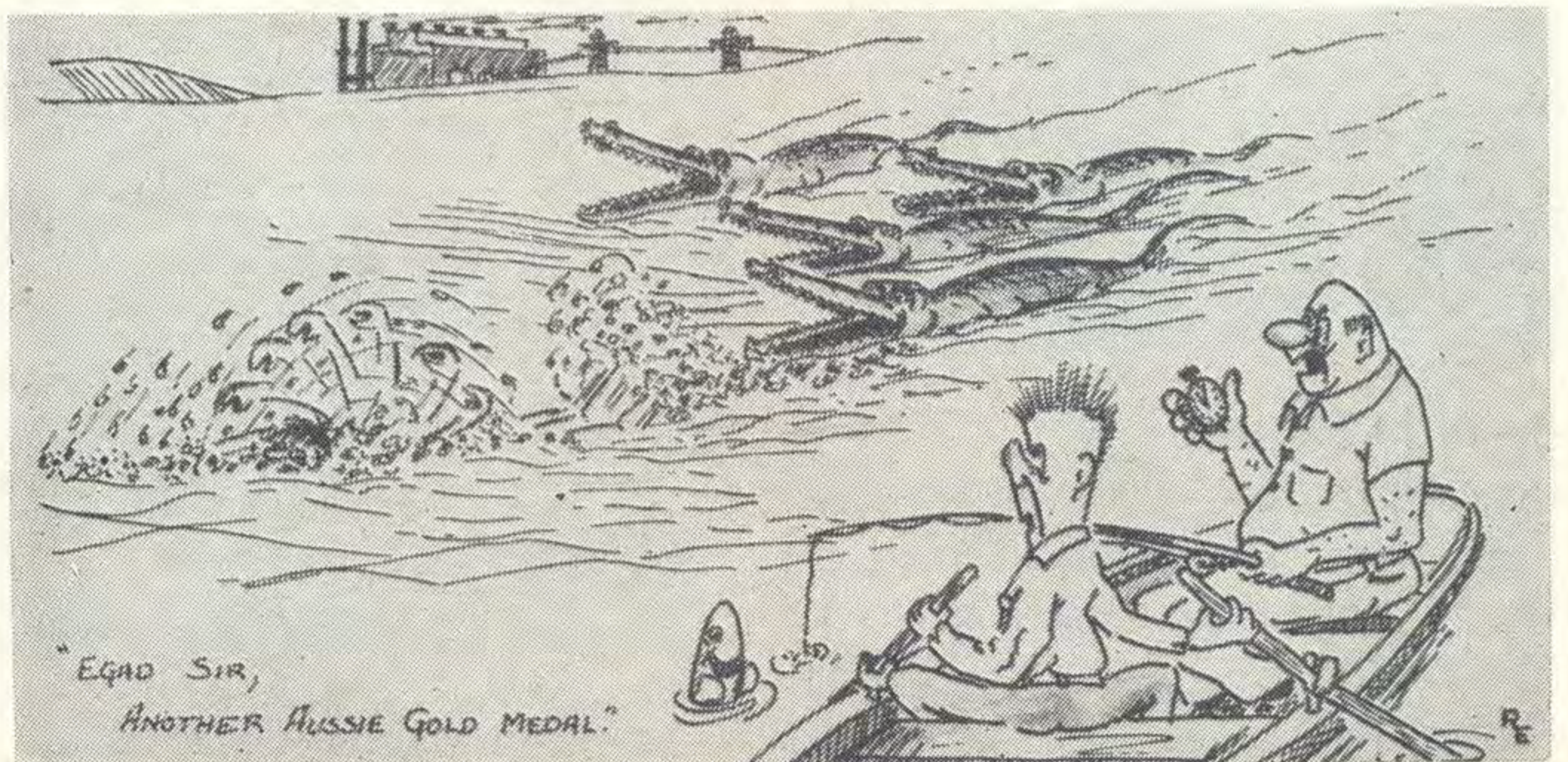
did not feel some pride in the knowledge that the quality of our work had been observed and favourably commented upon by the Commissioners.

The comments made by Mr. Schulz to me reflect great credit on all members of my section and it is very important that the results of our work which prompted the remarks made by members of the Board of Commissioners be recognised as a team effort.

In terms of human relationship, our Manager's gesture in passing on the comments of top management is very significant."

MANAGER'S NOTE:

There is room for considerable improvement in "housekeeping" in many areas in the Department. Commissioners will be on the alert on each future visit looking for improvements. Which section will be next to be commended?



Ash Disposal at Yallourn 'W'

(By Bob Shaw, Supervisor,
Construction Branch)

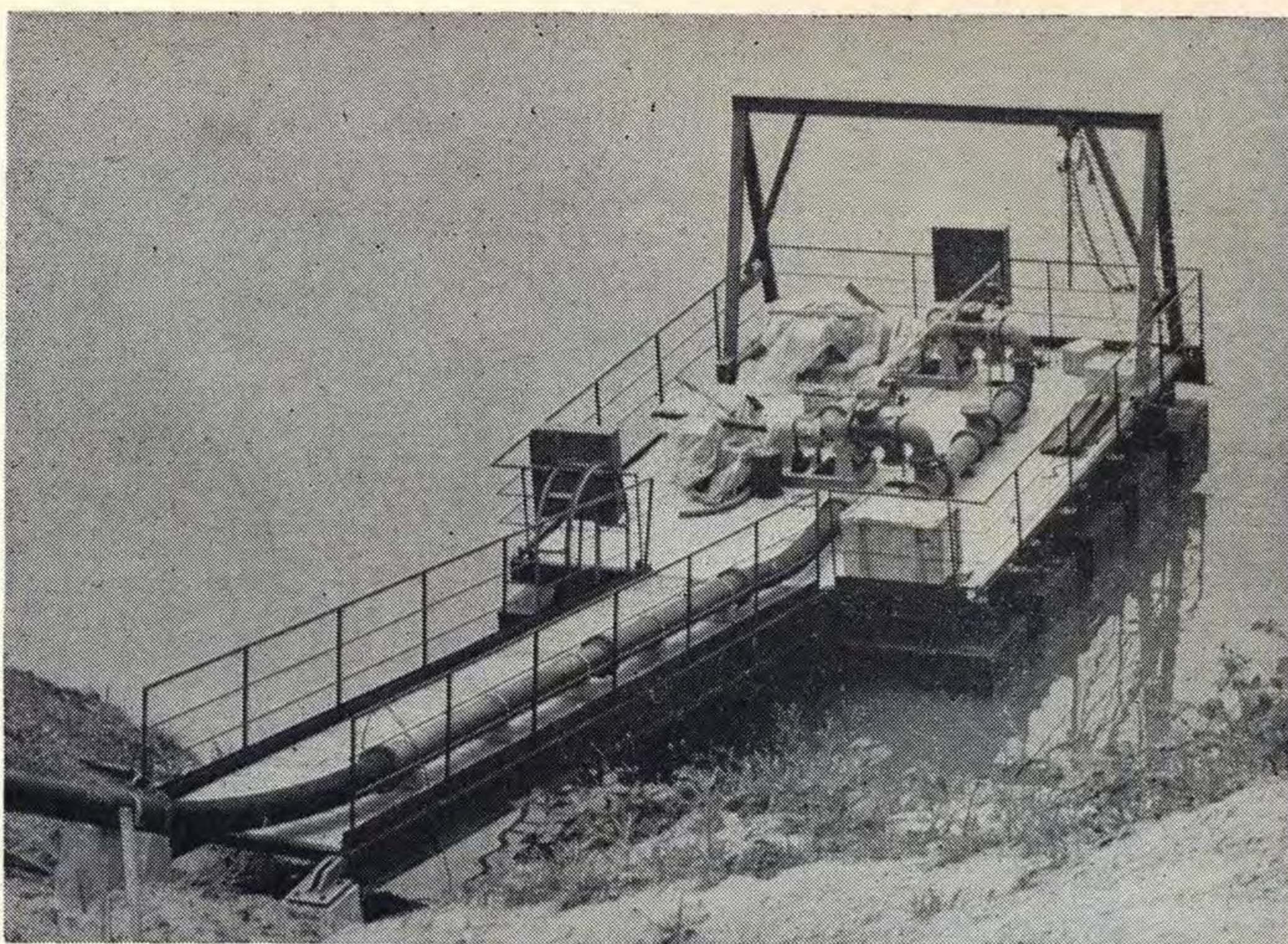
The usual visitor to a modern power station is impressed by the size and complexity of the plant and equipment and by the vast amount of fuel needed to fire so large a boiler. Seldom does anyone think of the correspondingly vast amount of ash, the waste product of the fuel, which is produced and the problem of getting rid of it. At Yallourn "W" Power Station, 600 tons per hour of raw brown coal will be used for each of the two boilers, so that, even with an ash content of only 0.5 per cent., 6 tons of ash must be disposed of each hour.

The method used is to slurry the ash with water and pump it away from the station. This raises another problem because a lot of water is needed to remove so much ash and, in this instance, it could not be taken from the Latrobe River and returned later because of the contaminating effect of the dissolved solids from the ash.

The two problems, sufficient water and somewhere to dump the ash, have been solved by using the old flooded Yallourn North Open Cut workings which provide an ample reservoir of water for recycling and a hole sufficiently large to take ash throughout the life of the power station.

From the ash disposal pumps at the station to the Yallourn North Open Cut, three miles away, the ash will be carried through basalt-lined pipes. Because of the distance and friction loss involved, two pumps must be used in series to maintain the velocity necessary to keep the ash in suspension. When the mixture reaches the open cut the ash quickly settles to the bottom and the water becomes re-usable as a vehicle.

To return the water to the tanks at the power station after the ash has



Two 'return water' pumps mounted on a barge which floats off-shore in the flooded Yallourn North Open Cut workings.

settled out, two 'return water' pumps have been placed on a barge which floats just off-shore in the Open Cut. Each of these pumps has a capacity of 1600 gallons per minute and the water thus returned to the power station is used once again to remove ash to the Open Cut.

The waste ash, which unfortunately is wanted by nobody, can be described as of three types:

1. The heavy, rather friable ash, which after combustion of the coal, drops into the furnace hoppers.
2. The heavy clinker ash which builds up into large bodies on the boiler tubes and is dislodged either by its own weight and the vibration of the boiler or by steam or water sootblowers.
3. Probably the most troublesome ash to remove, the fly ash is a very fine talcum-like ash which is carried by the hot gases through the boiler superheater and economiser tube banks and is collected by the very efficient electrostatic precipitators before it can be discharged through the chimney and pollute the atmosphere.

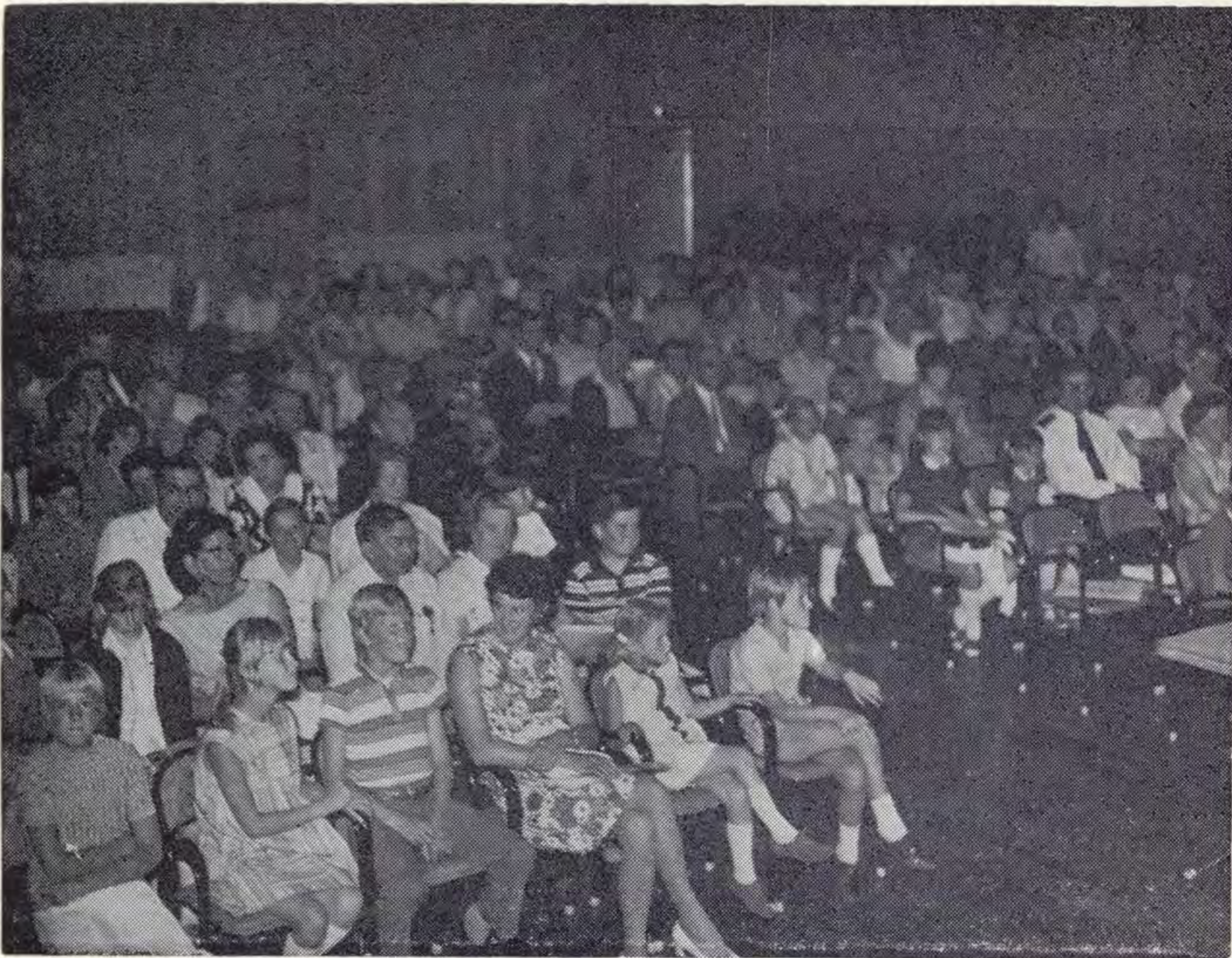
The two heavier types of ash are moved from the boiler ash hopper as

a slurry along sluice ways by means of a powerful jet of water, more jets coming in at intervals to maintain velocity until the mixture reaches the ash pump pit. Here the ash is sized and separated, the small sizes going directly to the pumps and the large clinker going to the clinker grinder where it is reduced in size by two toothed rotating cylinders, and thence to the pumps.

The fly ash is dropped into hoppers from the precipitators and passes through a sealed cell wheel into a mixing vessel where it is slurried and drained into sluice-ways where, again, powerful jets force it along to the pumps. Because of the tendency of fly ash to build up in sluice-ways and form a hard cement-like body, the high-velocity jets must be very efficient to keep the ash broken up and moving. Any build-up could very quickly block the sluice-ways and become most difficult to remove.

Thus two separate systems of pumps and pipeways are used to dispose of the ash, one to pump the ash and water mixture away from the station to a place where the ash can settle out and one to return water to the station so that as little water as possible is wasted in the process.

SAFETY SECTION



FAMILY SAFETY NIGHT

A "Family Safety Night" was held in Kernot Hall, on Monday, December 13, and was well attended as the photograph shows.

Two safety films were shown and there was a demonstration of the "kiss of life" technique.



Y.P.S. Operations Group Award

The Electrical Maintenance and Operations Group at Yallourn Power Station recently completed 114,175 man-hours free of disabling injury.

An Award of Merit and Pennant were presented by P.S.S. Arthur Ewen

to Tom Skerry, Assistant Electrical Plant Engineer. Individual awards were also presented, but six members of the group donated the cash value of their awards towards the purchase of ashtrays for the Latrobe Valley Community Hospital.

Polyester and Epoxy Don't Mix

(By Col Harvey, Safety Engineer)

Information supplied recently to me through Ron Court, the PSS at Yallourn 'W', indicates that polyester resin and epoxy resin formulations do not mix.

Fiberglass repairs are made with either of two groups of materials—POLYESTER or EPOXY. The polyester group consists of polyester resin, a promoter and a polyester catalyst. The epoxy group consists of epoxy resin and an epoxy catalyst.

Mixing the polyester catalyst and the epoxy catalyst can produce highly explosive results.

Likewise, the polyester catalyst itself, being an energetic oxidiser, is capable of starting a fire when brought into contact with any organic material.

Bear in mind that polyester and epoxy materials are **not** interchangeable. The polyester group of fiberglass repair materials should always be stored separately, in a cool, dry place, away from combustibles and should be plainly labelled.

Ron Court tells me that an S.E.C. officer has first hand knowledge of such an explosive reaction which occurred in a glass container he was using.

History records only one indispensable Man ...ADAM

The Individualist

When the other fellow takes his time, he is slow; but when I do, I'm thorough.

When the other fellow doesn't do it, he's lazy; but when I don't do it, I am too busy.

When the other fellow goes ahead and does something without being told, he is overstepping the bounds; but when I go ahead and do something without being told, that is initiative.

When the other fellow states his side strongly, he is pig-headed; but when I do, I am firm.

When the other fellow overlooks the rules of etiquette, he is rude; but when I do, I'm original.

When the other fellow does something that pleases the boss, he is polishing the brass; but when I do something that pleases the boss, that is co-operation.

When the other fellow gets ahead, he had the breaks; but when I do, it was sheer hard work.



PLANT TRANSPORT—FIELD GANGS

General Services, Yallourn. 375 manhours free of Disabling Injury



WATER SUPPLY SECTION

General Services, Yallourn. 5½ years (155,000 manhours) free of Disabling Injury



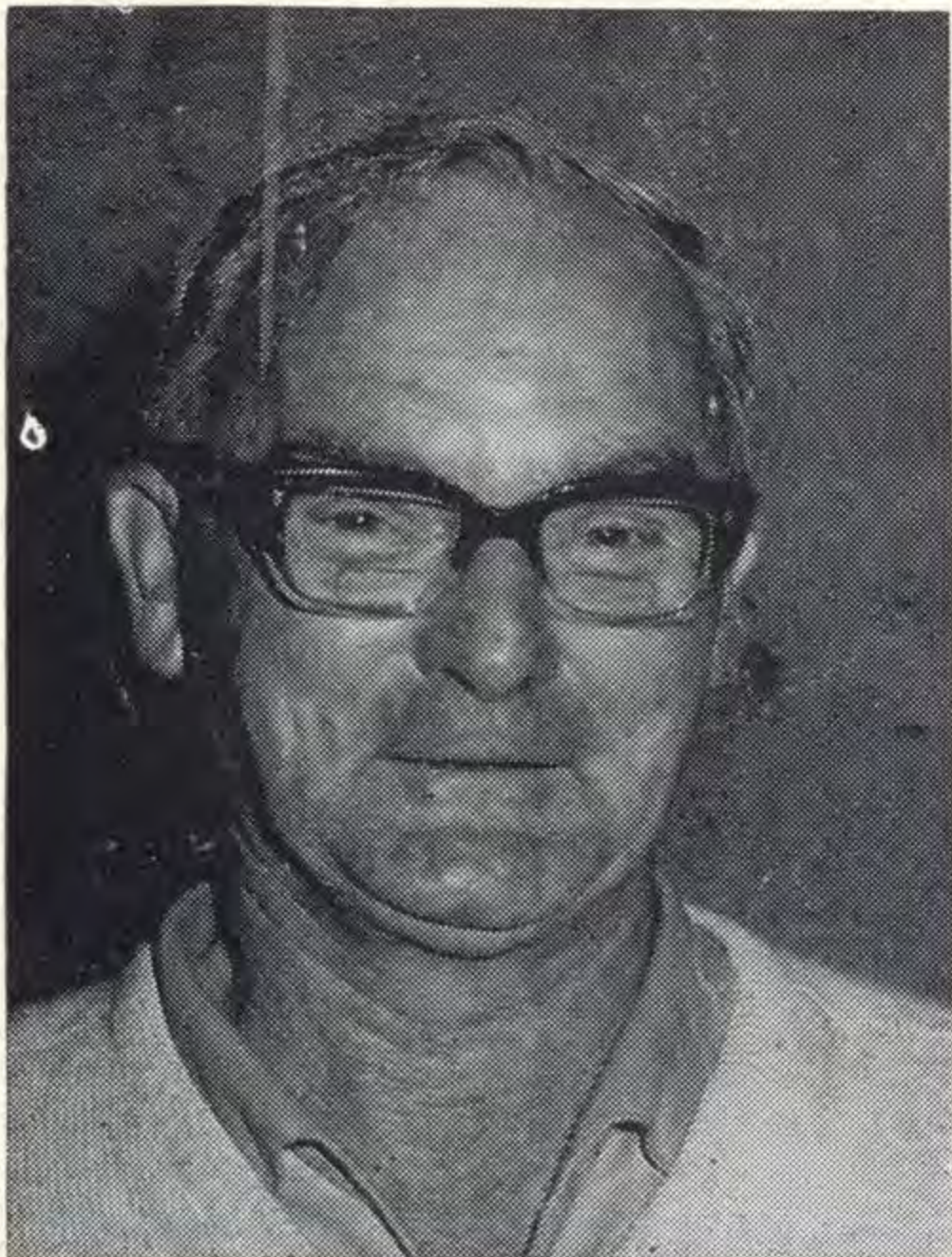
MORWELL SERVICES FIRE CONTROL SECTION

250,000 manhours free of Disabling Injury



FIRE SERVICES SECTION

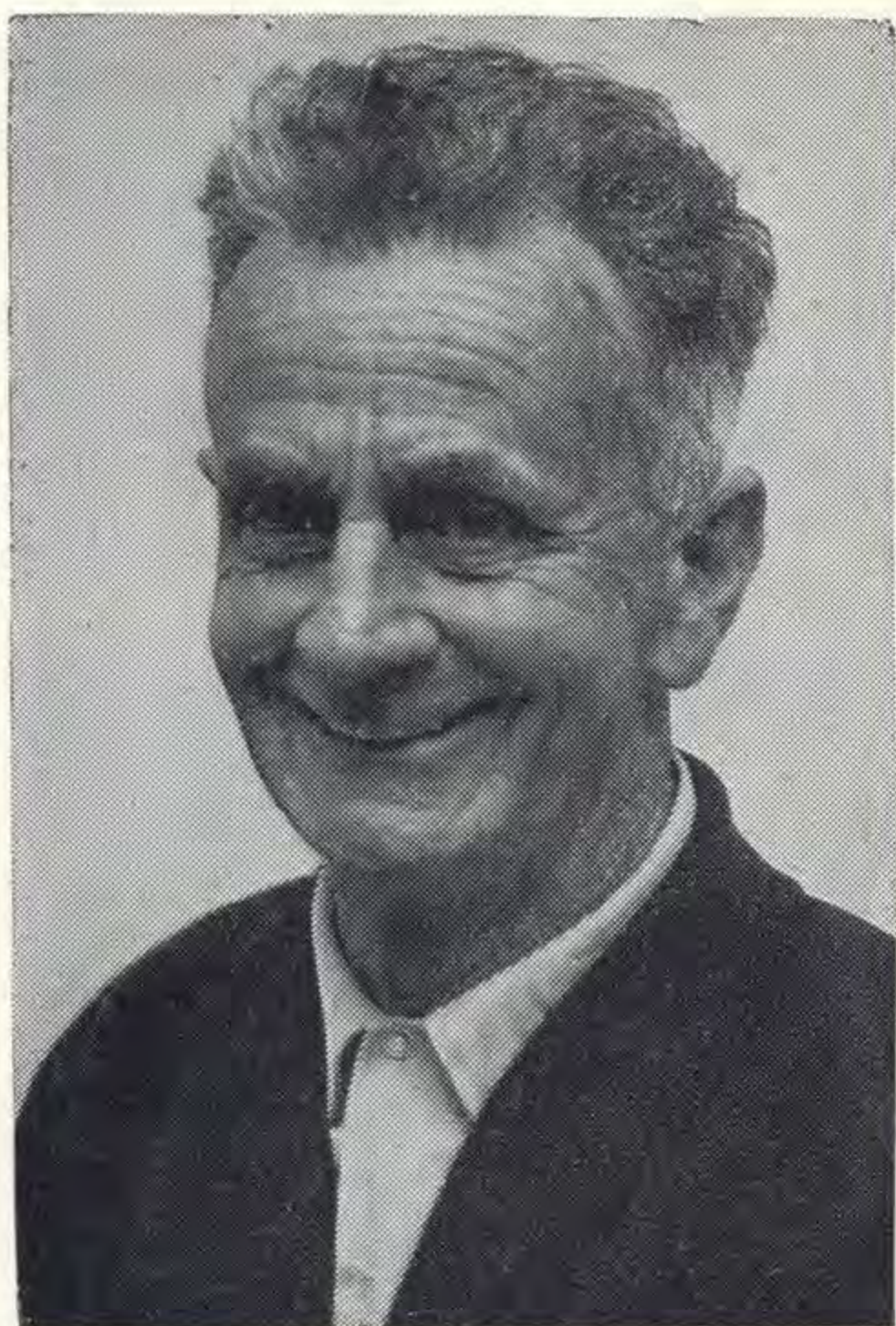
General Services, Yallourn. 23 years (375,00 manhours)
General Services, Yallourn. 23 years (375,000 manhours)



Harry Simpson, an Electrical Plant Attendant at Yallourn Power Station, retired on Tuesday, December 14, after 21 years' service.

Harry was well liked in the operations section and a large crowd of his workmates gathered to farewell him.

Power Station Superintendent Arthur Ewen presented Harry with an electric shaver on behalf of his mates.



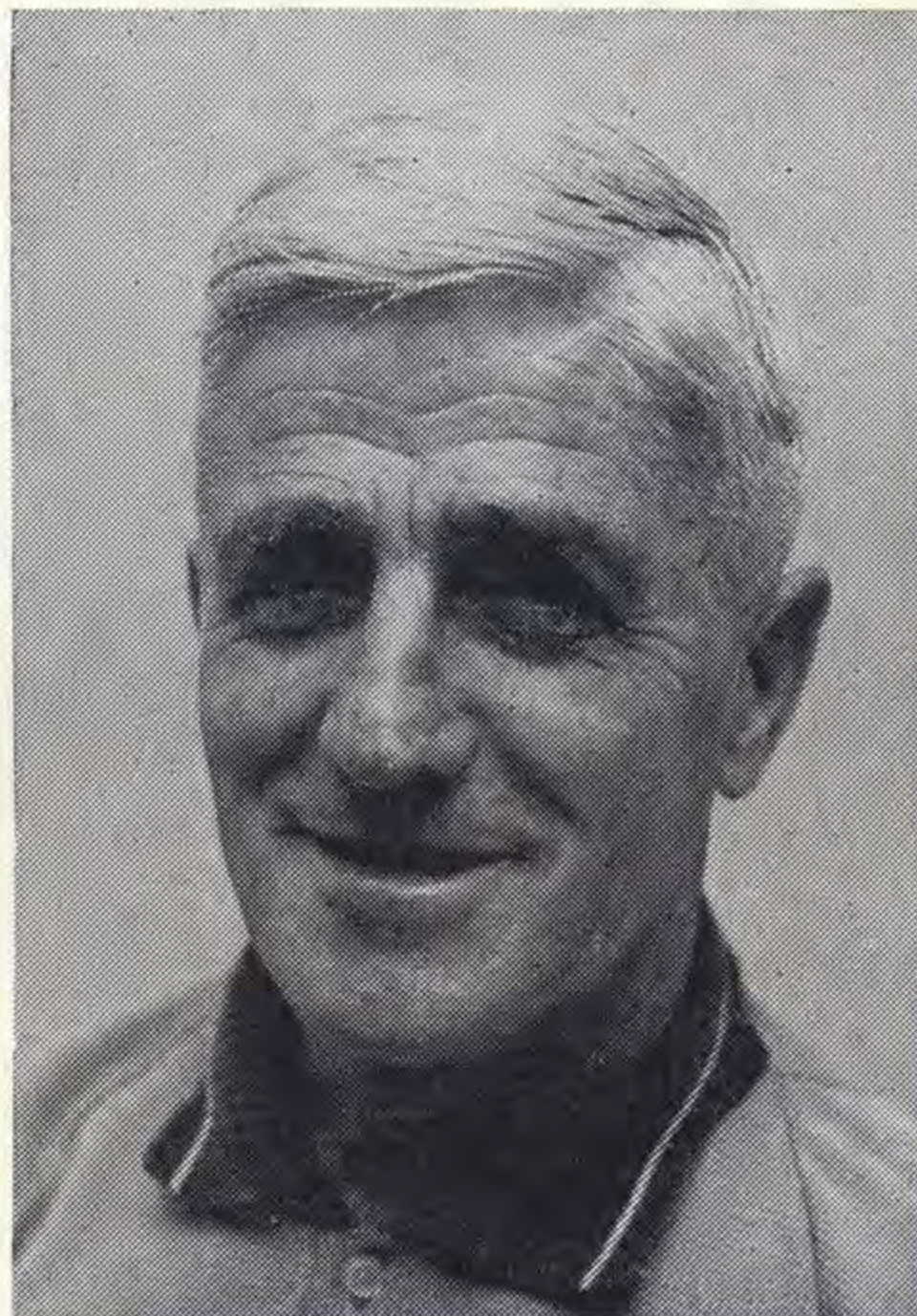
Lindsay Gill, a Leading Hand Carpenter with General Services, Morwell, retired on Tuesday, January 4, after a total of 30 years' service.

General Services Superintendent Max Williamson, referring to the mixed feelings on such occasions, likened it to watching your mother-in-law driv-

ing over a cliff in your brand new sports car.

He praised the quality of Lindsay's work over the years and prophesied an active retirement, filled with mining for gold and fishing. He then presented Lindsay with some fishing kit and an offer to share his gold mining activities. Lindsay accepted the fishing kit but declined Max's offer.

RETIREMENTS



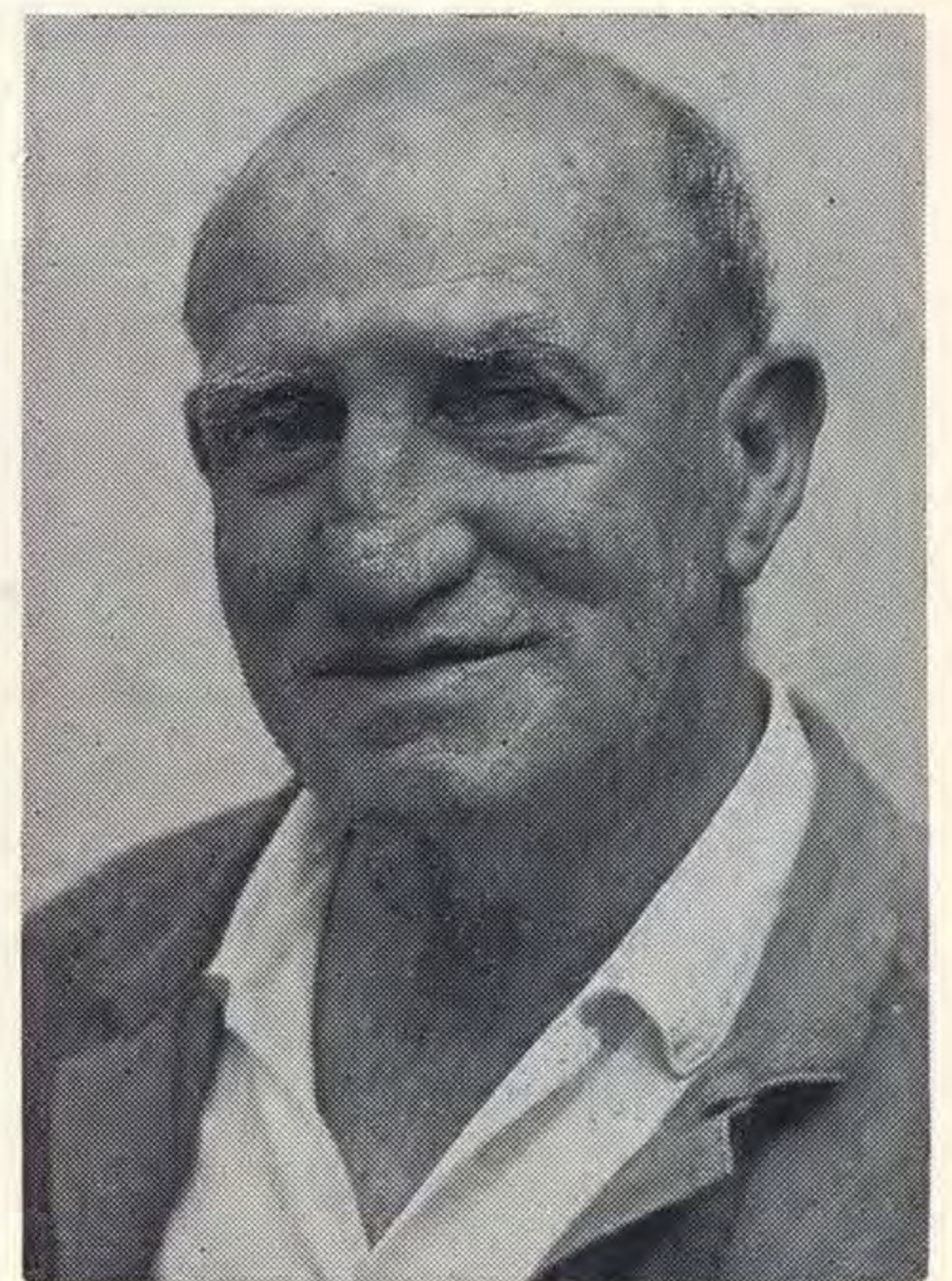
Hughie Graham retired on Friday, January 14 after nearly 42 years' service in the Commission.

Hughie started in 1930 at Yallourn Briquetting Works where he worked as a plasterer for 39 years, completing his last 2 years of service with General Services at Morwell.

A large gathering of Hughie's workmates indicated the high esteem in which he was held. Max Williamson presented Hughie with a model of his tools of trade, a fishing reel and an electric shaver.

Mr. Max Gray said Hughie would always be remembered as a fellow who "got on with the job" to the best of his ability.

Three of Hughie's sons came from other centres of the Valley to be present at his farewell. Hughie has been a great worker for the Yallourn Swimming Club and Fire Brigade for most of his life.



Kevin Comber, a trades assistant at Yallourn Power Station, retired on Friday, December 10, after a total of 42 years' service.

Kevin originally joined the Commission in 1925, but was retrenched in 1931. He rejoined in 1934 and was again retrenched. He rejoined yet again in 1936 in the Briquetting Works and this time he stayed. In 1962 he transferred to Yallourn Power Station electrical section.

A keen sportsman and church worker, Kevin intends to spend the winter months of his retirement at Bribie Island, Queensland. His workmates presented him with a wallet of notes.



Wally McWilliams, Clerk-in-Charge at Transport Workshops, Yallourn, retired on January 31 after almost 44 years' service.

Wally has always been very active in community life, is a keen bowler and farms at Newborough.

The Deputy Manager, Latrobe Valley Department, Mr. Graham Black, presented Wally with a silver tray, a desk lamp and a turbo-fan heater.

Valley to have Own Suggestion Panel

Following recent changes in the Suggestions Scheme and higher payments for accepted suggestions, further changes are to take place in the Latrobe Valley Department on March 1, 1972, when a decentralised Suggestions Panel and secretarial facilities will be introduced for a twelve months' trial.

The decentralised Suggestions Panel will consist of three local members—Chairman (Mr. W. C. Crossman), secretary (Mr. N. A. Burgin), and the Safety Engineer, plus the Suggestions Board Secretary from head office. It may co-opt other members as required.

The aim of the panel is to streamline the handling of suggestions within the Latrobe Valley and extend local interest and involvement in the scheme by participation of local personnel.

As from March 1, for the twelve months' trial period our Department will be different from the rest of the Commission in that—

(1) We will have a local Suggestions Panel, and

(2) The identity of suggestors will NOT be treated as confidential unless specifically requested.

Suggestors will then be invited and encouraged to discuss their ideas with their supervising officers, or other appropriate officers within their division. This should result in better and more fully developed ideas, and reduce the number which are impracticable or technically unworkable.

The investigation of suggestions will be expedited by enabling direct consultation with the suggestion in appropriate circumstances to obtain further information or to clarify the idea.

If developments of the original idea result from discussions held with supervising or other officers, the original suggestor will be fully credited with his idea. However, if the supervisor's contribution is beyond his normal scope he may also qualify for an award.

Opportunity will still exist for suggestors to remain anonymous if they wish to do so.

The administration of suggestions submitted under the old scheme will

be transferred to the local panel and it is stressed that the anonymity aspect of these will be fully preserved.

Towards the end of February, 1972, new suggestion forms will be placed on bulletin boards located throughout the department, and the superseded forms should not be used after March 1.

In introducing the local Suggestions Panel it is management's desire to engender further interest in productivity improvement and encourage harmonious discussion of ideas for job improvement between employees and supervising officers.

The Panel Secretary (telephone extension 2770) is available to assist you in the presentation of your idea if you so desire and you are invited and should feel free to contact him concerning any queries you may have in submitting your suggestions.

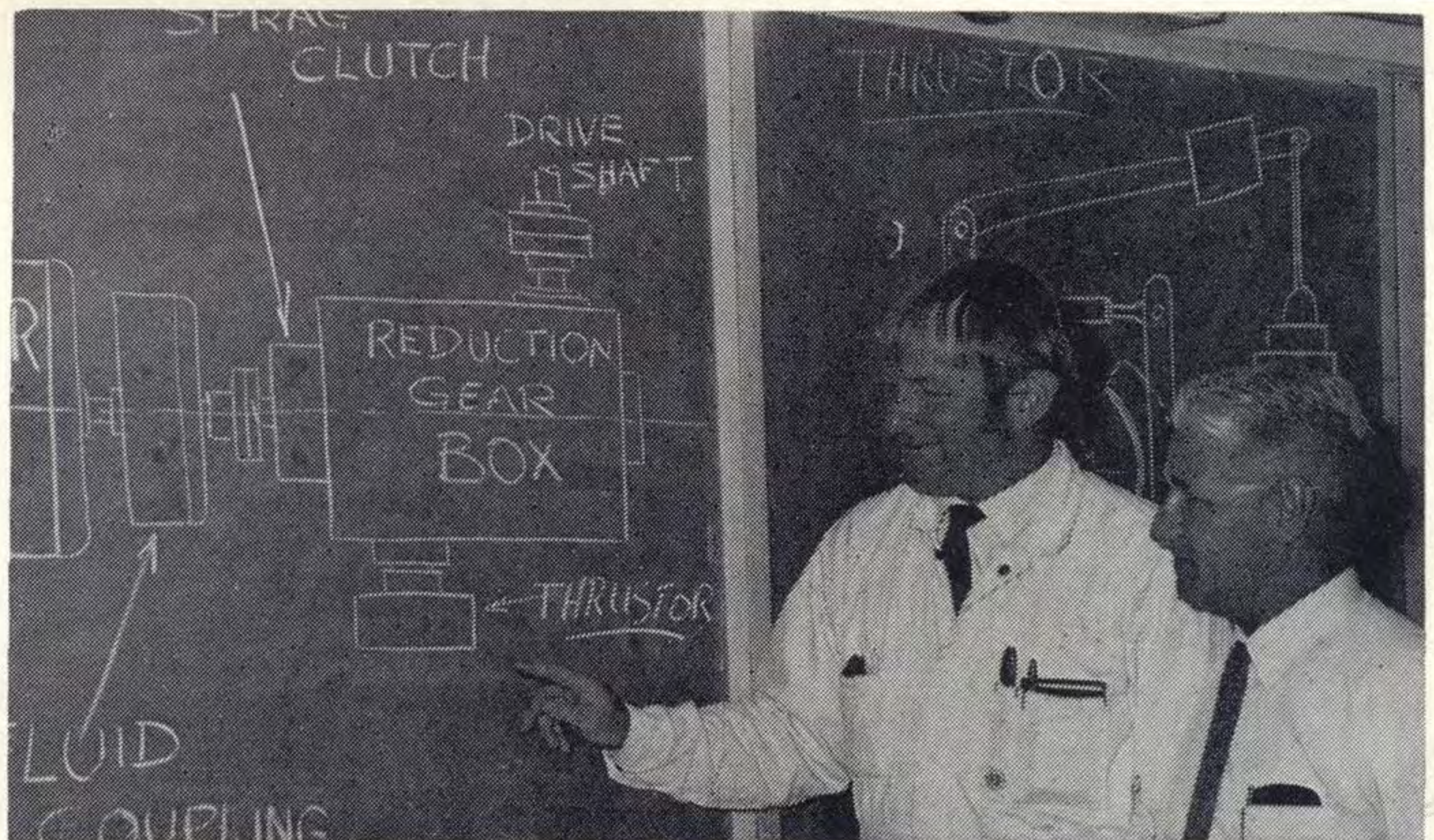
Additional information about the local Suggestions Panel, what it will mean to you and how you may qualify for an award will appear in the next issue of Contact.

\$200 Suggestion Award

Christmas was made brighter for H.P.S. Assistant Unit Controller Bob Staley when, on Christmas Eve, he was presented with an award for \$200 for his suggestion for improving the thruster brakes on coal conveyors.

The suggestion was that a time delay be fitted to the thruster brake so that the load would be taken up by the drive, not on the 'sprag' clutch, causing it to fail and the conveyor to run backwards.

Savings due to the implementation of this suggestion are estimated to be \$660 per year.



Bob Staley points out details of his award-winning suggestion to Station Operations Engineer Bert Mee.

SUGGESTION AWARDS, 1971

	Power		Coal		Services		Transmission		Commercial		Totals	
	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$
Jan.-Sept.	109	4929	36	631	32	394	38	535	14	167	229	6656
October	5	93	1	15	3	45	4	52	1	6	14	211
November	5	98	1	48	—	—	1	10	—	—	7	156
December	5	335	1	20	3	25	—	—	—	—	9	380
TOTALS	124	5,455	39	714	38	464	43	597	15	173	259	7,403
Approx. Average Awards		\$44		\$18		\$12		\$14		\$12		\$29

SPORT PARADE

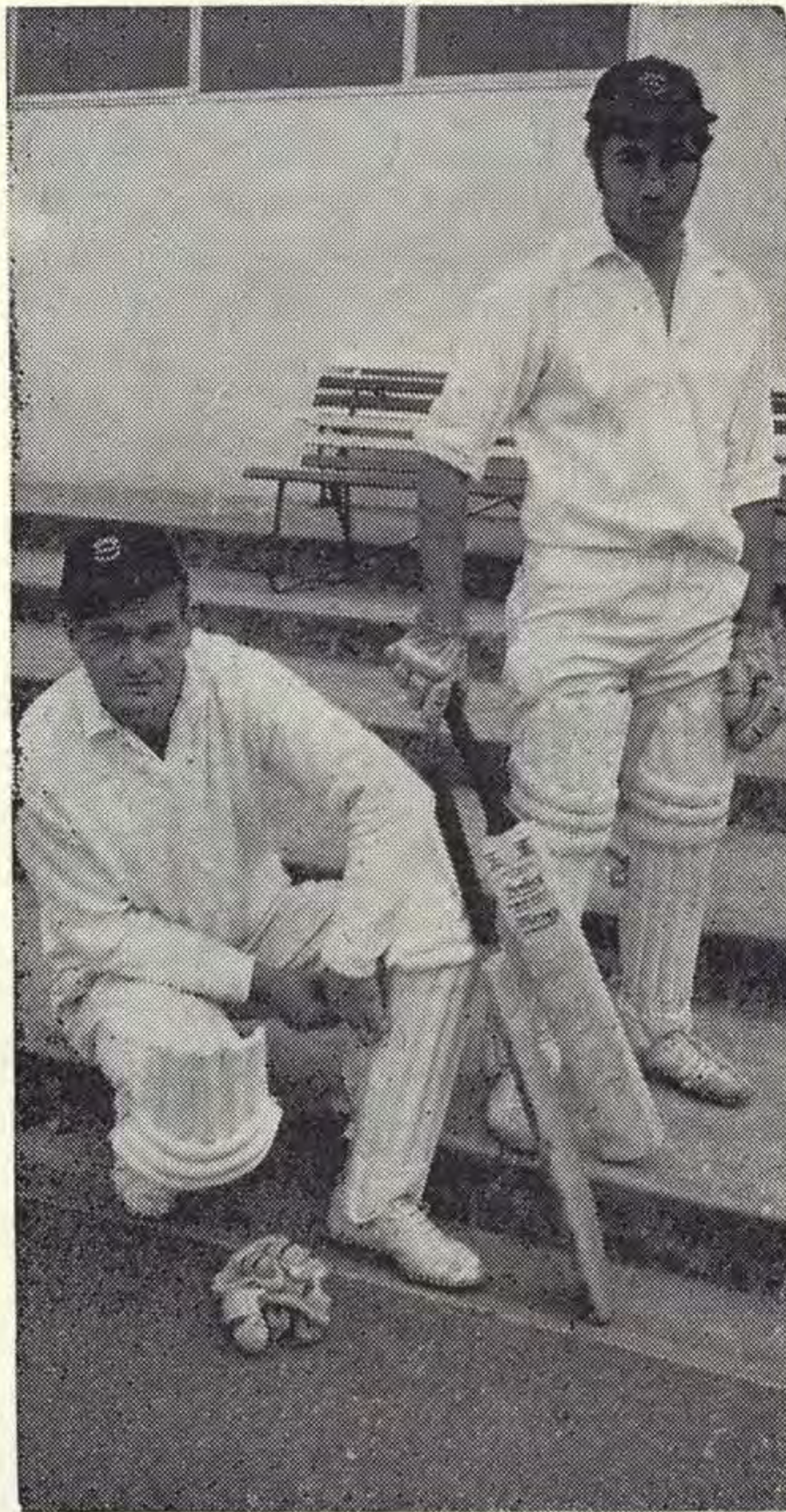
L.V. CRICKETERS PLAY FOR S.E.C.

The interstate cricket series between the S.E.C. Social League and the Sydney County Council was held this year in Melbourne from January 24 to January 30 at the St. Kilda cricket ground.

Latrobe Valley personnel who played for the Commission were Reg Bacon, Fred De Bono and John Pavich. Ken Lofts was an umpire at the two-day match.

The photograph on the right shows Reg Bacon buckling on his pads whilst Fred De Bono waits.

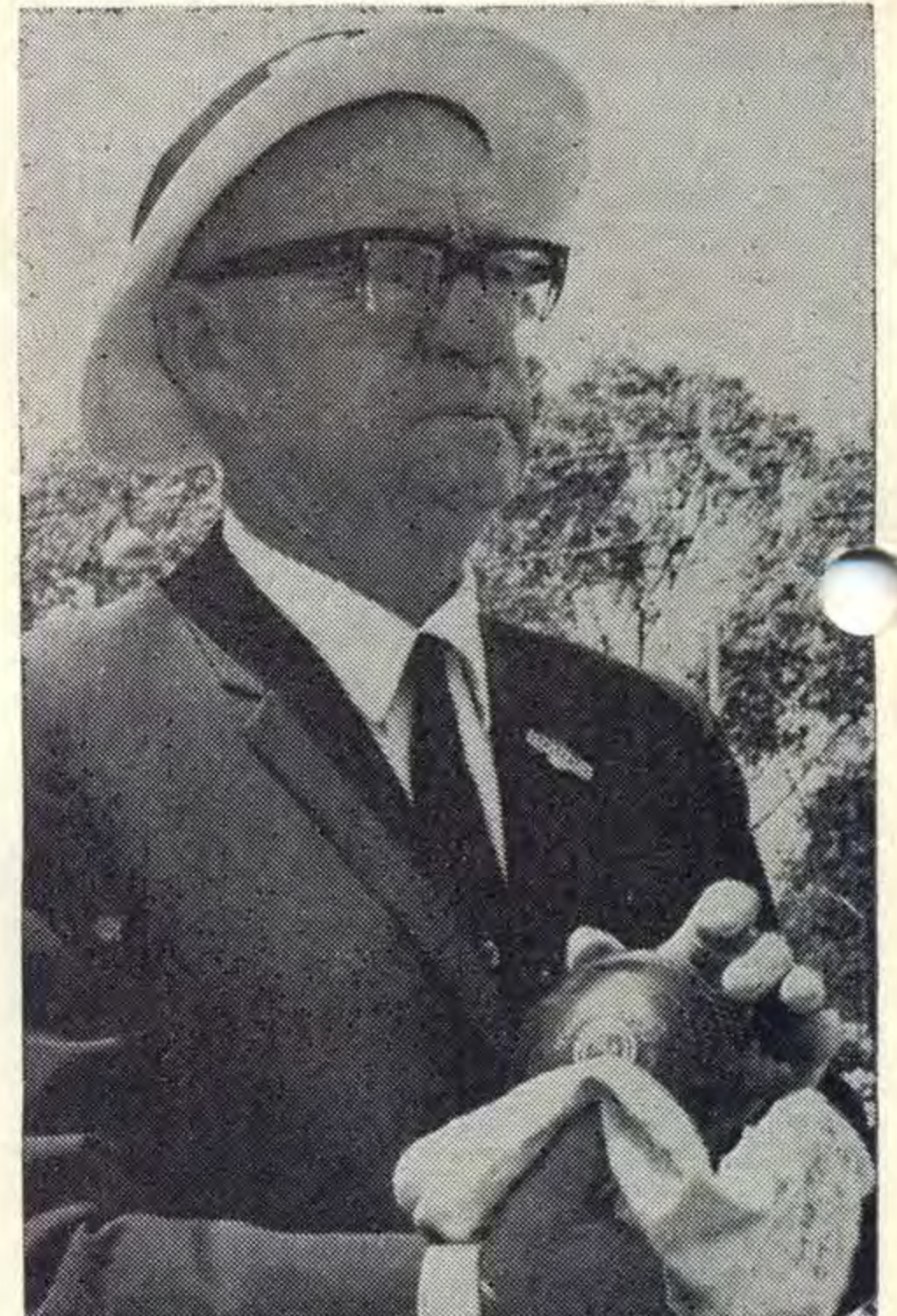
Below Mr. Borsarini, Secretary of the Sydney County Council chats with John Pavich whilst Stan Aitken and Ron Osborne (up from the Valley to cheer him on) and Rex Job of the S.E.C. Social League look on.



Australia Day Archery Winner

Seen holding the Australia Day Archery Medallion is Geoff Marland of Yallourn Drawing Office.

Geoff scored 436 out of a possible 480 to win the medallion presented by the Australia Day Council, at the Latrobe Valley Archery Club's Longwarry Carnival.



New Bowls Champion

Les Sewell, of Transport Workshops, Yallourn, won his way through the "A" grade singles competition to become Yallourn Club Champion for the 1971-72 season.

Les, an "A" grade pennant skipper has had a particularly good year on the green and his win in the final was no surprise to club members.