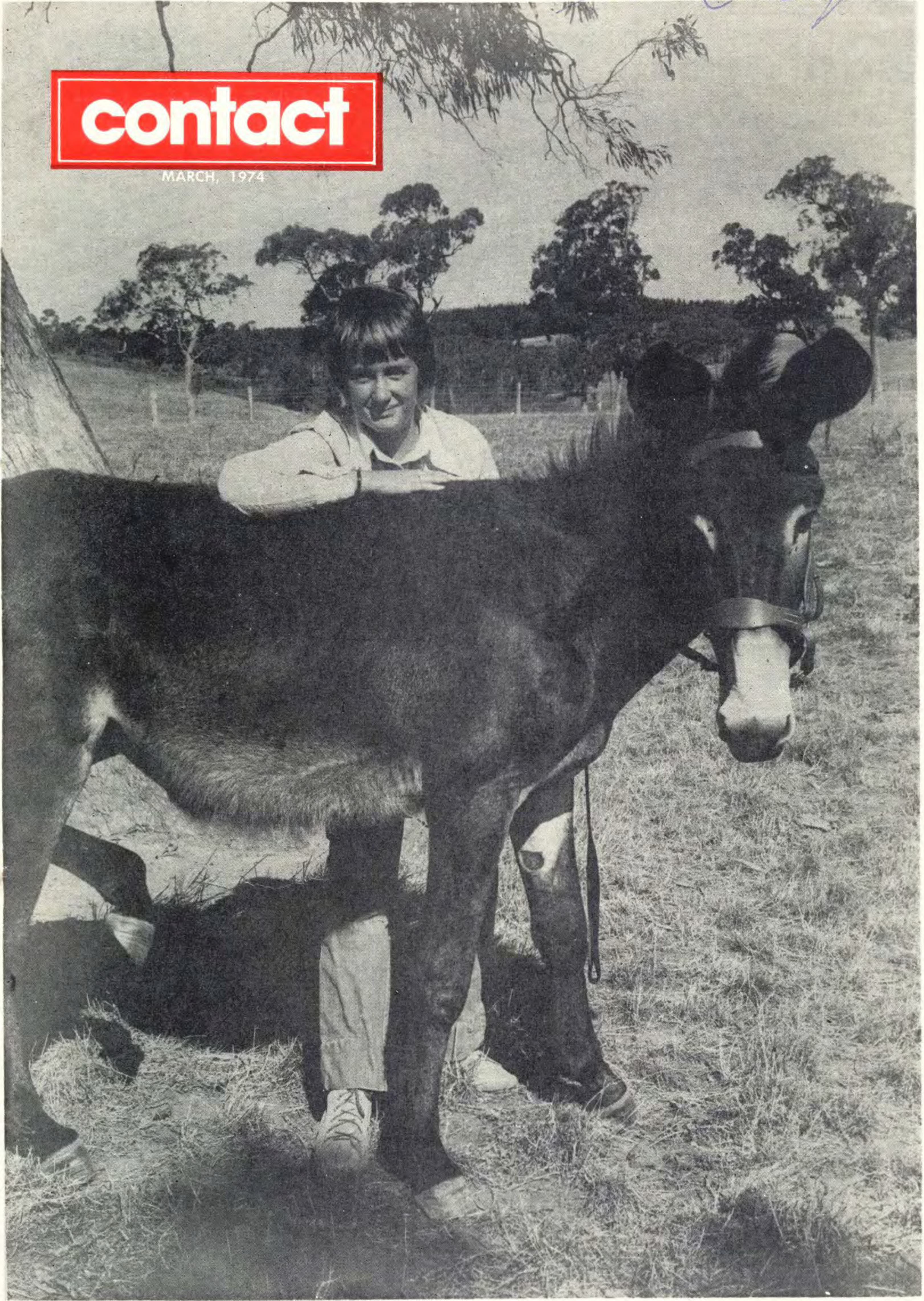


Shoonef

contact

MARCH, 1974



contact



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

Editor: Kevin Richardson

Cover

Contact goes for a cheesecake front page this month . . . but only if you're a donkey, with an eye for beauty.

Not that one need be a donkey to appreciate Bollard's Baby, a yearling captured last year at Bollard's Lagoon Station in South Australia, near the SA, Queensland and New South Wales border junction.

Pictured with Bollard's Baby is 12-year-old Karen Cowper, only daughter of assistant fire officer at Morwell, Ted Cowper, one of the intrepid overlanders who captured three donkeys on the station last year.

Karen calls the donkey Helicopter; the ears may give a clue to her reasoning.

A brief account of the donkey-catching trip is on page 12.

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Postlethwaite's make it a family affair



TRADES assistant Ron Postlethwaite, of Morwell Workshops, has only been with the SEC since November last year, but he doesn't feel lonely.

His two sons, Stephen and Russell, are also SEC employees; nephew Trevor Postlethwaite is a driver at Hazelwood Power Station (Trevor's wife Suzanne is a technical services officer at the Yallourn Power Station chemical laboratory) and a brother, Robbie Postlethwaite, is with the SEC at Lilydale.

To add to the family flavor, Ron has another son whose application for employment as an accountant is currently under consideration.

Second-year fitting and turning apprentice Stephen Postlethwaite tries his hand at lathe work, while family members look on. From left, they are Ron, Trevor, Suzanne and Russell.

Stephen Postlethwaite (19) is a 2nd year fitting and turning apprentice—he was top mechanical fitting apprentice in 1973—and Russell was in the 1974 fitting and turning apprentice intake.

When they're not hard at work learning a trade, Stephen and Russell can be found either on the football field, or on their trail bikes.

THANKS — FOR A JOB

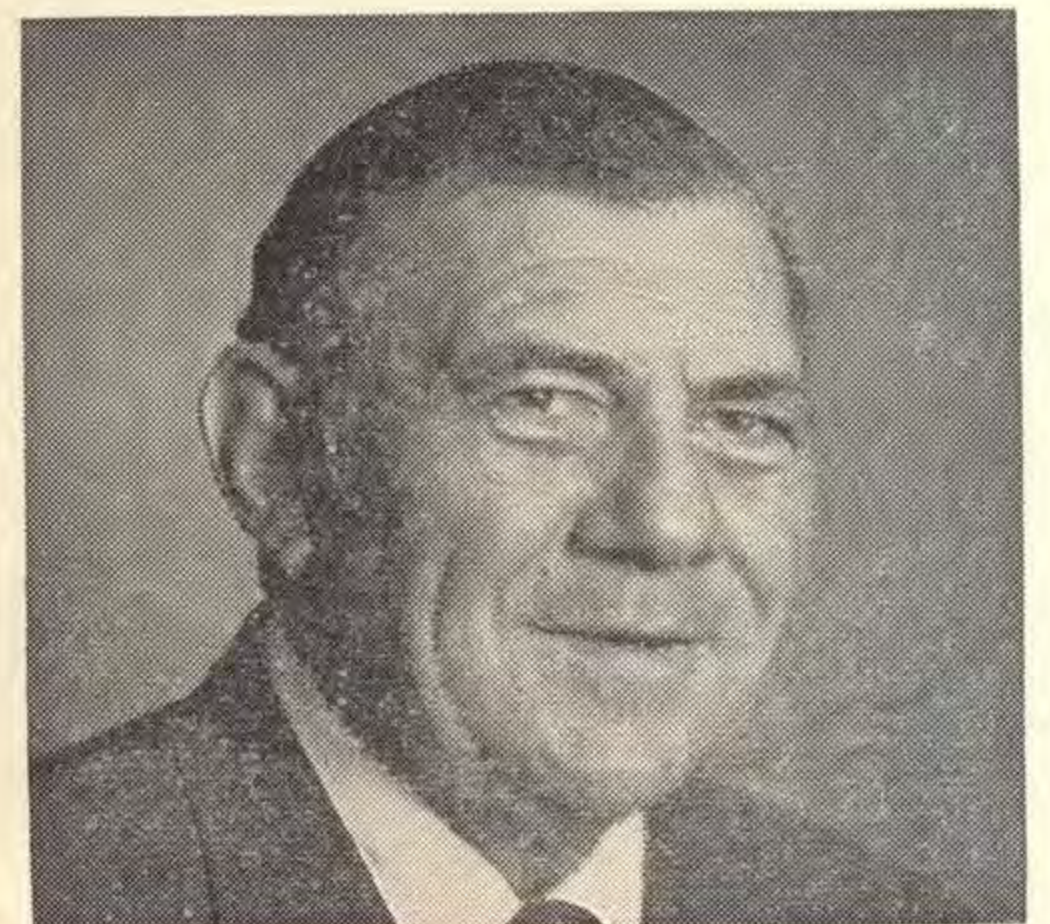
During the Board of Commissioners' visit on January 23-24, a tour of the Morwell Workshops was included.

The commissioners were particularly impressed with the industrious approach of workshops personnel toward the large variety of jobs being handled, and the resourcefulness and initiative displayed in overcoming the problems which many of the jobs presented.

Would you please convey to all personnel concerned my sincere thanks for the efforts which earned this commendation.

J. W. SCHULZ,
Manager,
Latrobe Valley Department

WELL DONE



AND THE WALLS CAME TUMBLING DOWN...

ONE of Yallourn's oldest landmarks—the 100-metre (328 ft.) chimney stack at the Yallourn Briquetting Works—will soon disappear under the wreckers' hammers.

The contract to demolish the stack and the briquetting works has been let to Whelan the Wrecker.

Although some briquettes were made from Latrobe Valley coal as early as 1894, the briquetting industry in Victoria really dates from the start of production at Yallourn in November, 1924, with the establishment of 'A' factory.

Construction of 'B' factory followed in 1931, and 'C' factory was completed in 1944.

The old 'A' factory ceased operations in December, 1968, and the works finally closed down at the end of 1971.

In its heyday, Yallourn produced more than 600,000 tonnes of briquettes annually. Total production during its 47 years of service was 20 million tonnes, using almost 80 million tonnes of raw brown coal—30 million tonnes of it in the factory's furnace.

The 80-mil. tonnes of coal represents almost a quarter of the total coal production from the Yallourn Open Cut.

In addition to its briquette output, the

associated power station generated 21.5 megawatts of electricity.

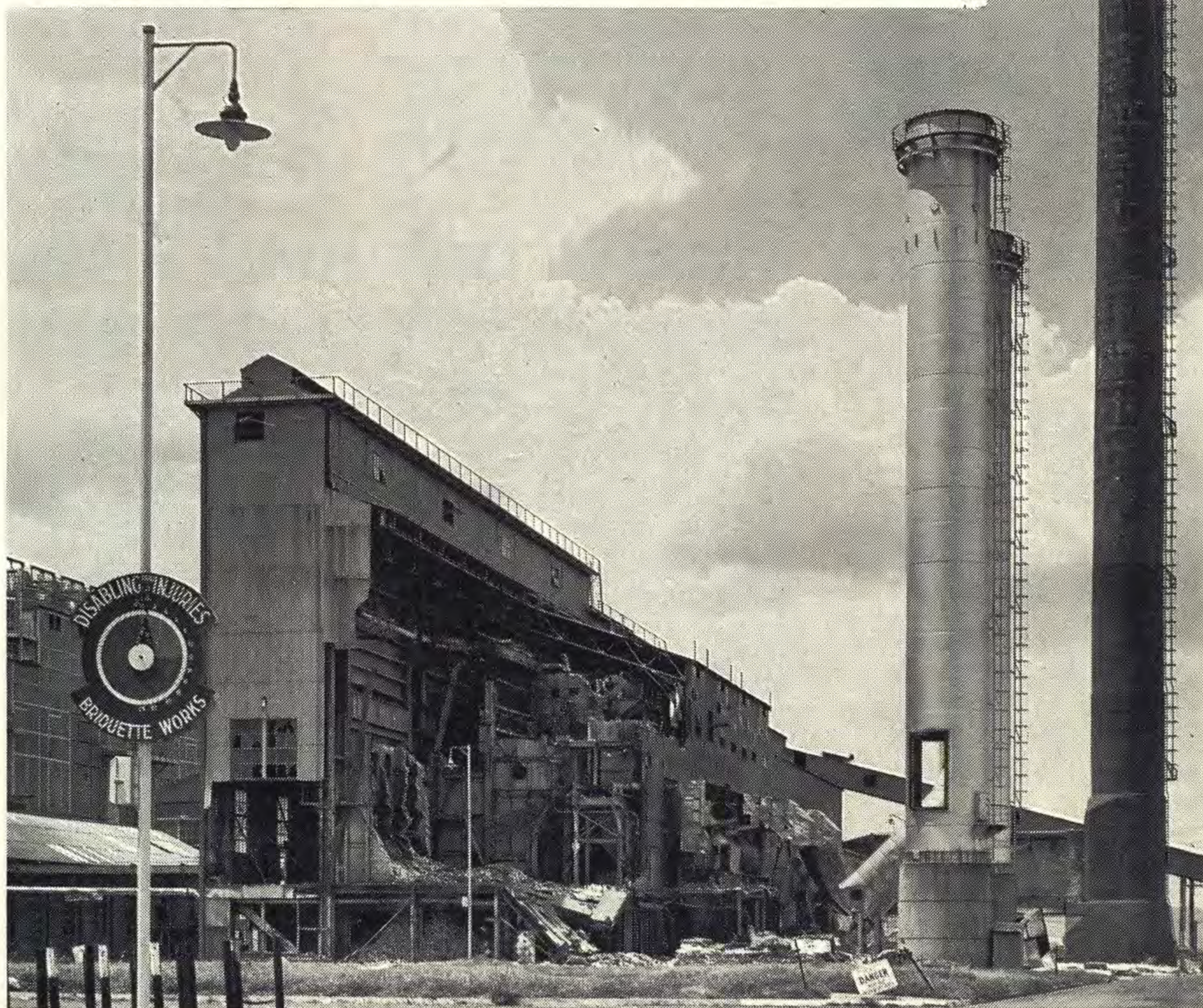
Some of this, fed into the State supply network through the Yallourn switchyard, played a useful part in meeting the State's immediate post-war needs.

With closure of the Yallourn Works in 1971, all briquetting is now centred on the Morwell factories, which began operation in 1960.

Production at Morwell has reached 1½ million tonnes annually.

Work on demolition of the Yallourn factories, expected to begin before Easter, should be completed by mid-1975.

The sign in the bottom left-hand corner of the old briquette works at Yallourn shows a nil reading against disabling injuries . . . but the works themselves are about to suffer the most disabling of all injuries—demolition. Some minor preliminary wrecking has already occurred, but as this issue of Contact goes to press, Whelan the Wrecker is gearing up for the major task of demolishing the historic building.



valley visitors

JJAPANESE industrialists, an Ethiopian engineer, two overseas students and a group of officers and senior NCO's from an Australian Army School of Signals have been among visitors to the LV Department in the past few weeks.

The industrialists, from UBE Industries Ltd., were led by company president Mr. Kanichi Nakayasu.

The Valley visit was part of a tour of Australia by the group, which was especially interested in our fuel reserves.

The two overseas students, from Canada and Sweden, were guests of the Rotary Club of Moe.

The army group was from Watsonia, where a special electronics course is being conducted for soldiers from all parts of Australia.

While at Yallourn, the army men took a close look at synchronisation of a generator.

Ethiopian civil engineer Mame Kifle, Master of Science from the Haile Selassie University, spent a day with the SEC during a visit to Australia under sponsorship of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission.

He was accompanied by fellow Ethiopian Adane Fevisa, an agriculturalist in Victoria as a guest of the Department of Agriculture.

Mame Kifle is an officer of the Awash Valley Authority, a public utility for which the SRWSC is providing an advisory service.

SRWSC civil engineer David Alexander travelled to the Valley with the visitors, who are pictured with Yallourn "W" construction engineer John McLennan.



Got an idea? Speak out and it could bring a payoff!

ON-THE-JOB observation and shrewd thinking has paid off with an \$80 suggestions award for Coal Production Overburden Day Foreman Len Stocks.

And for the SEC, the suggestion has solved a time-consuming problem.

When moving OB conveyor lines at Morwell, damage to line bridges was commonplace, resulting often in repair maintenance and a troublesome time loss.

The hydraulics on the bridges also gave trouble.

However, since Len came up with the idea of substituting cantilever structures for the bridges, conveyor transfers have gone smoothly.

Coal Manager Jack Vines said that Len's suggestion had been of considerable benefit to the Commission, and



would become a design feature in future conveyor systems.

In our picture, Len (left) receives a cheque from Jack Vines, while leading hand Joe Phillips looks on.

Jack Vines (right) hands a cheque to a grateful Len Stocks, while Joe Phillips looks on.

yallourn resettlement



CABINET TAKES LOOK AT MOE HOME SITES

THE Premier, Mr. Hamer, has given added impetus to planned development of alternative accommodation areas within City of Moe boundaries for Yallourn residents.

Mr. Hamer told Moe councillors during a State Cabinet visit on February 11 that he was impressed with steps already taken by the State Electricity Commission and Moe City, and gave an assurance of co-operation from Government departments.

“Mixed estate on the way”

Referring to the Monash Estate, Mr. Hamer said that the Housing Commission, at “a very early date”, proposed to develop a “mixed estate” of HC and privately built homes on land to be offered at “very moderate prices”.

He emphasised that the estate would be developed as a residential area for people with a wide range of incomes and interests.

During the Cabinet visit to Moe, an outline of SEC involvement in resettlement moves was given by Latrobe Valley Department Manager Mr. Bill Schulz and the Deputy Manager, Mr. Graham Black.

The Ministers were taken on a tour of sites proposed for development in keeping with the wishes of the 65 per cent. of Yallourn residents who chose Newborough as the area in which they wished to settle.

The three areas were—

Trent Street: Land for a 40-lot subdivision has been transferred by the SEC to the Housing Commission for provision of roads and drainage before sale to Yallourn residents at an attractive price.

Newark Avenue: Land has been provided by the SEC for the construction of 12 one-bedroom and two-bedroom home units for widows and retired couples. Negotiations are almost complete for a start on the project, with the SEC willing to contribute financially as well as providing land.

Torres Street: Land for an initial 40-block subdivision.

Moe City Council is currently working toward rezoning the land from agricultural to residential. Considerable adjacent land is available for long-term development.

Moe City Council is keen to see early action on land which the SEC has already expressed willingness to make available for development.

The Premier, Mr. Hamer, third from right, makes an on-the-spot inspection of land in Trent Street. Faces which need no introduction to SEC personnel are LV Department Manager Bill Schulz, Minister for Fuel and Power Mr. Balfour, Moe City Mayor Joe Tabuteau, and LV Deputy Manager Graham Black. With Mr. Black is the Minister for Housing, Mr. Dickie, and Gippsland Province parliamentarian Eric Kent is also pictured.

The Mayor of Moe, Cr. Joe Tabuteau, was known while an SEC employee as a man who called a spade a spade, and he certainly hasn't changed.

The Premier, Mr. Hamer, and members of State Cabinet who travelled to Moe last month to conduct an official Cabinet meeting in the City of Moe Council Chambers were given a quick demonstration of Joe's direct approach.

After telling the Premier that Moe Council had received “full support” from the SEC in its efforts to provide accommodation for people leaving Yallourn, he asked for Housing Commission land within Moe's boundaries to be handed over to Moe City for prompt development.

The request brought a laugh, but it was obvious to everyone present that Joe was not really joking.

Loy Yang field brings new chances

ADVENT of the Loy Yang coalfields project will herald a period of tremendous advancement possibilities for ambitious young men qualified to cope with technological change.

Latrobe Valley Department Manager Bill Schulz told Latrobe Valley branch members of the Institute of Draftsmen (Victoria Division) last month that they were representative of the type of SEC personnel for whom Loy Yang had special relevance.

"You have the intellectual capacity, qualifications, training and professionalism to meet the situation.

"You should look to Loy Yang as a challenge," he said.

Mr. Schulz pointed out that the current management team would not still be with the Commission when the Loy Yang development reached a peak, and that there was a tendency toward appointment of younger men into senior management positions.

"It is a sobering thought that when Loy Yang develops, these appointments will probably be made from the 35-40 years age group," he added.

However, despite the comments of Mr. Schulz on opportunities, several speakers during question time expressed some misgivings about the future.

A key point was the draftsmen's education curriculum, which several said "leads to a dead end."

Nor did subjects gained by draftsmen in gaining their qualifications

The Institute of Draftsmen is a national body which stemmed from the formation in Queensland 10 years ago of a draftsman's organisation, leading to formation of a Victorian Division in 1966.

The Federal Executive, formed in 1971, was recognised by the courts in 1973.

The Latrobe Valley branch, formed late last year, was the first established in Victoria.

The Institute aims to:

- promote and advance the science and practice of drafting,
- raise the character and status of the drafting profession,
- increase the confidence of the community in the employment of draftsmen, by admitting only suitably qualified personnel, and
- to collaborate with kindred societies.

provide exemption from any subjects in subsequent Diploma course studies.

Mr. Schulz replied that broadening of the draftsmen's course was clearly a subject for discussion by the Institute and the Education Department.

Beyond that, he said, it was for the individual to "set his own target,

assess where his best opportunities lie—and work toward achieving them."

LV branch president Vic Vale revealed that representations were being made for changes, but that a strong, united stand was required.

In thanking Mr. Schulz for his address, former chief draftsman (LV Department) Stan Salmon, now a Special Projects Officer, said that opportunities available to younger technicians in the Latrobe Valley were so great that, if they wished, they could plan to spend their complete working lives within the area.

However, it was essential that provision be made for those who desired to branch out into allied areas of technician work.

Because of the nature of the current technician course of education and the type of experience available, avenues for branching out were limited, he said.

"It is, therefore, essential that our branch committee press for more practical experience during training for draftsmen, and for reconstitution of the Certificate Course so that it can be developed, not necessarily to full Diploma standard, but at least into other avenues after completion of a recognised, completely terminating course.

"Discussions should be re-opened with the Institute of Engineers so that industry will recognise the registration of various technicians groups," Mr. Salmon added.

Bursary time and it's back to school . . .

IT'S back to school for these three electrical engineering students, winners of Commission bursaries for study at Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education.

Two of them, Glen Drover (centre) and Robert Garnett (right), are simply changing classrooms—Glen gained his Higher School Certificate at Maryvale last year and Robert completed a sixth form tertiary orientation course at Yallourn Technical College.

However, Ian Ulph has been hard at work for the past four years on a traineeship as an engineering assistant (electrical tester), culminating in his appointment as engineering assistant (grade 1).

His effort in gaining a bursary while engaged in full-time employment and study, brought commendation from Transmission Division Manager George Bates.

Mr. Bates commented that Ian's efforts, through continuous study while



in service, "brought him to a level at which the Commission considered it appropriate to recognise his ability and hard work."

The bursaries, for three-year courses which began on February 25, provide the opportunity for the three to gain their diplomas.

The Commission meets all fees and

pays a bursary allowance.

Latrobe Valley Department employee Stephen Orr took up a one-year scholarship on February 18.

Stephen, who holds a Diploma of Mechanical Engineering, is studying at Caulfield Institute of Technology for his degree. The Commission meets his fees and pays a living allowance.

They're keen to keep you up to date

AN up-to-date technical library is an essential element in the regular supply to Management and Divisions of information on new developments in various fields . . . but it is of no value if books and other publications remain on the shelves—unread.

A primary aim of librarian Jan Cuthbertson, who believes that the more widely known the library and the services it has to offer, the less she will have to worry about unread books and journals, is to publicise her work.

The library staff plays its part by continually working to ensure that material is brought to the notice of those likely to have a direct interest, and in some cases, new books are sent to personnel for whom they have obvious relevance.

Apart from maintaining a comprehensive stock of publications, the library services its readers' needs by:

- circulating journals of interest to specific personnel,
- making available copies of a library circular containing titles and/or abstracts of articles from current periodicals, as well as titles of new books, pamphlets and other material in head office and branch libraries.
- providing access to a translation service, and,
- supplying on request answers to enquiries for specific material or for information on a general subject.

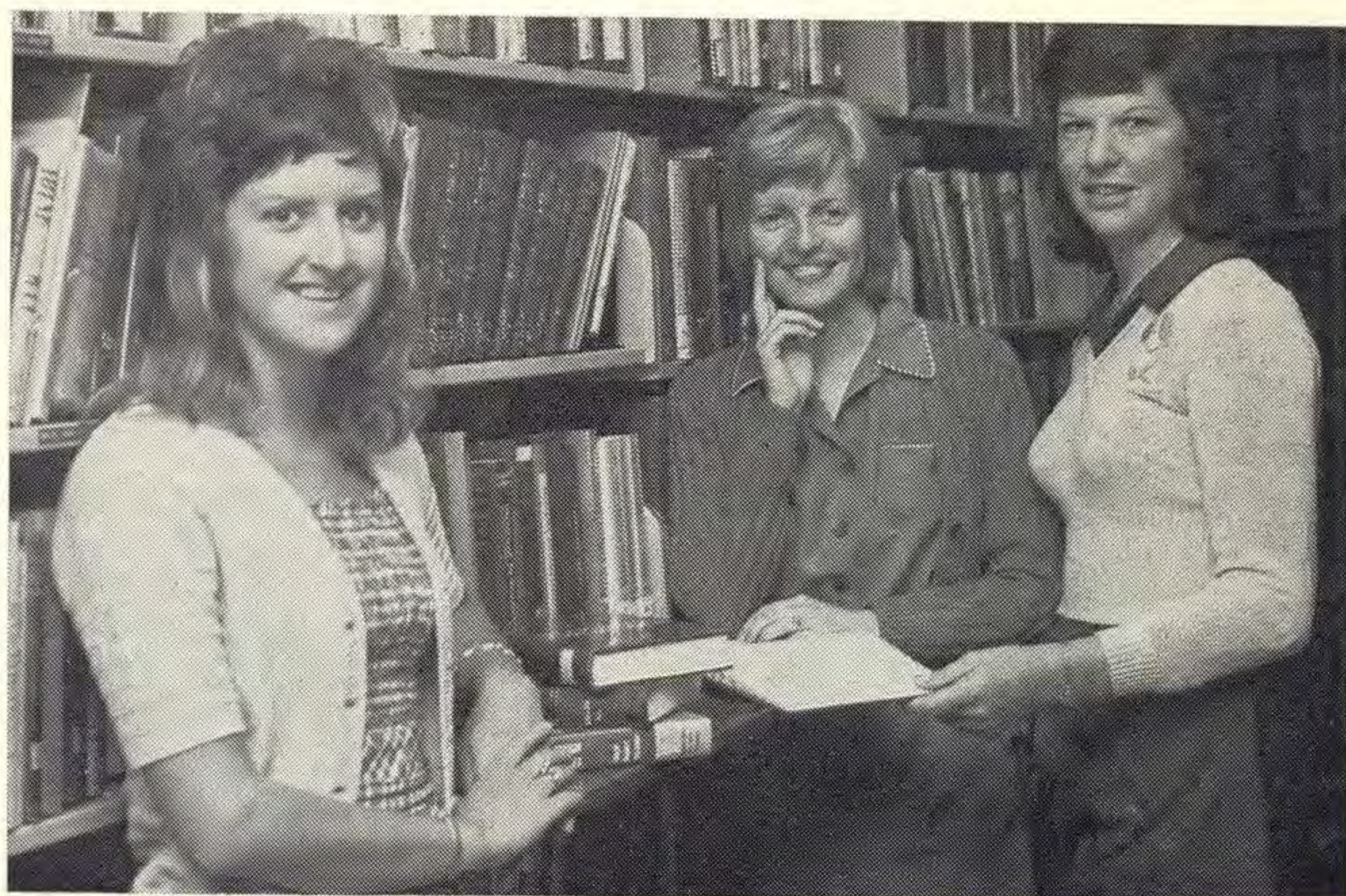
SAFER OPERATING IS NO ACCIDENT

NATIONAL Safety Council (Victoria Division) director Frank Turley makes a business of safety, and makes some telling points which emphasise the need for constant attention to safety procedures in industry.

For instance:

- In Australia, one in every five households will be affected either directly or indirectly by a serious accident this year, and,
- for every person injured on our roads, six are injured at work and another 12 suffer an injury in the home.

Librarian Jan Cuthbertson (left), new clerical assistant Maryann Bosch and Heidi Devlin (centre), pictured at the Technical Library. Heidi, after spending five years with the Commission, resigned last month.



Jan and her new assistant, former Presentation College student Maryann Bosch, a newcomer to the Commission this year, undertake research aimed at supplying a maximum of relevant information in a minimum of time for busy library service users.

Surveys show that the library is not being used to full capacity, which suggests that some people who require access to resource material are unaware of the library's existence, or do not fully appreciate its function.

The circulating of journals—750 in December last year; 1,135 in November, and 1,100 in October—is placing a steady flow of valuable information in front of busy people.

Enquiries made in the last quarter of 1973 totalled 272.

These ranged from the seeking of information on noise control and references on temperature inversion associated with pollution, to articles on generator stators in steam turbines, and information on oxidation of metal films under varying temperatures.

Generally, about 50 per cent. of queries to the technical library are by telephone, although the librarian prefers on-the-spot enquiries when requests for more detailed information on a subject or process are made.

In addition, a personal visit gives a better idea of the library's resources and the service it can offer.

Finally, if the Technical Library is to gain maximum use of its resources and effectively carry out its function, personnel should make use of it whenever possible to keep abreast of information and new developments concerning their particular sphere of operation.

PERSONAL



WHEN engineer David Krohn spends five of his six weeks recreation leave in Japan later this month, he won't spend all his time at the usual tourist traps.

For David, it will be partly a busman's holiday.

In his capacity as Acting Workshops Superintendent, Morwell, David will take advantage of the visit to inspect a number of industrial concerns.

Specific areas of interest for David will be the manufacture and use of tape controlled equipment; machine tools under order, and methods of improving welding productivity.

The inspections follow up contacts made during the recent overseas trip of Mechanical Services Engineer, Mr. George Davis.

News is our business—and yours. If you know of any news which interests you, your immediate workmates or SEC employees generally, let Contact know about it by dropping a line or phoning the Editor, Kevin Richardson, on 3228. Contact is YOUR magazine.

The day out in the Latrobe Valley for SEC personnel proved to be a model of organisation — which is why this group seemed fairly happy at the first stop — Broadway Gardens in Yallourn. Pictured from left are guide Stan Maude, Allan Love (Head Office), Tom Grimes and Rod Doig, of the PR Section, and Transportation Supervisor Des McLean. An important member of the planning team missing from the picture is PLO Bob Bridle — his bus broke down on Coach Road.



Antonio Lepre, a linesman at Oakleigh, was well organised for the Hazelwood Pondage windup to the outing. He brought a fishing line in the hope of taking home a fish meal. With him are his family, wife Laura and children Joey (seated), Michael, Fili and Tina (beside Mrs. Lepre). Hazelwood turned on perfect weather for the occasion.



How others see us ...one-day visit

Hazelwood Power Station and a mobile 505 provide an appropriate background for our shot of LV Yacht Club Commodore Ron Court (Yallourn PSS) and visitors Alison Wright (Legal Division, Monash House) and Alyson Pitman, of Melbourne.

These five children were determined not to leave empty-handed. Collecting souvenirs are (from left), Karen Hollis, Karen Collier, Trevor Ackerley, Carole Pinches and Brian Ackerley.



COMMISSION personnel from Melbourne — and some from other parts of the State — gave a very favorable verdict on their visit to the Latrobe Valley on February 24.

More than 800 visitors made the trip, requiring a highly organised operation to ensure that they not only spent an enjoyable day, but had ample opportunity to gain an insight into LV operations.

The hours of planning and attention to detail paid dividends for the visitors—for whom the accent was on a family picnic outing—and gave great satisfaction to those involved in arranging the itinerary.

However, it was the outstanding co-operation and obvious willingness of the various individuals involved which really made the day.

The work of the conducting officers and drivers was excellent; canteen staff gave their usual highly efficient—and friendly—service, and Hazelwood Power Station staff pulled out all stops to make the visitors feel welcome.

The trip ran smoothly, almost without incident.

PLO Bob Bridle, one of the key organisers, unfortunately (for him) chose Bus 7, which broke down during the morning stage, but according to passengers, Bob did not run short of words.

There was a brief flurry when one woman—apparently fearing her husband lost inside the power-producing monster—refused to leave Hazelwood Power Station.

However, Senior Public Relations Officer Stan Aitken, Allan Love (Head Office) and APRO Tom Grimes eventually persuaded her to proceed to Hazelwood Pondage, where there was a tearful re-union.

Hermann Romuss and Romeo Kabobo enjoy lunch on the lawn at Broadway Gardens at Yallourn. Romeo, a stores section officer with the Papua-New Electricity Commission, has completed four weeks of a three-month training scheme with the SECV. It was his first visit to the Valley. Hermann was formerly with the Papua-New Guinea Commission.

Richmond briquette Sales officer Dave Dodderell (left) and his family—Barry, John and Mrs. Doreen Dodderell, get the

good oil on all those switches and dials in Hazelwood PS control room. Also in the "class" are Nancy Cockram and Stephen Davies.



Charles Borg and Mary Gore, seen here providing drinks for a lineup of children, were two of a large team which gave the visitors a warm welcome and cup of tea at Yallourn. The service given by members of canteen staff drew highly appreciative comment.

The end of a perfect day. Some of the Valley's 800-plus visitors arrive at Morwell railway station to embark on the last leg of a round trip which was for many their first opportunity to see at first hand the extensive Latrobe Valley operation which provides 80 per cent. of Victoria's power.



Helping those in a world of silence



Flashback! LV Department Manager Bill Schulz, with Arch Porter and Ham Ballagh, accepts a Life Governor's certificate on behalf of the Department from Harry Powell,

superintendent and secretary of the Victorian School for Deaf Children. Also in the picture, taken in December, 1971, is Central Gippsland Auxiliary president Mrs. Jorgenson.

Getting together — and getting the message over

THERE are few secrets between Transmission Division management and the men in the field, thanks largely to an "open government" approach to Division operation.

A prime example was the discussion evening for engineers and supervisors from the division on February 27.

The third of its kind, the discussion—which began with refreshments in a socially relaxing atmosphere and buffet dinner—was an interesting exercise in communications.

Divisional head George Bates sat in what could have been a hot seat, but without showing any sign of discomfort.

The opportunity was taken for Merv Sunderland to outline major points of the proposed Loy Yang project—and for George and Merv to answer a barrage of questions.

Procedures for the reporting of electric shocks, the "energy crisis" and the SEC's briquette business outlook, effect of the recent 10 per cent. tariff increase on the Commission's liquidity position, the tradesman training programme, pre-supervisory training courses and the effects of the Princes Highway diversion around Morwell on traffic between Yallourn and Morwell SEC projects were some of the areas covered.

However, the questions were less important than the atmosphere of the

meeting, which seemed to reflect a desire from both parties for genuine dialogue.

Criticisms were levelled and explanations given, and when the explanation was regarded as inadequate, probing questions cut through to the heart of the matter.

Structured to give down-the-line representation of all sections of the division from supervisor level upward, the discussions also serve as an introduction medium for colleagues who otherwise may meet only over the phone, and more importantly, give all involved a chance to gain insight into management thinking, question decisions and priorities, and to become more informed members of a vital team.



LIVING in a "silent" world is a state difficult for those with normal hearing to fully appreciate.

For the deaf, it is simply a fact of life to which they must adjust.

The Victorian School for Deaf Children in Prahran is an organisation which has been trying since its establishment in 1860 to help children make that adjustment.

And since 1964, the State Electricity Commission's Latrobe Valley Department has been directly involved in helping the school fulfil its aim.

In the 10 years since its first association with the school, the LV Department has raised more than \$4,500 in a cause which has made an immediate impact here.

The fact that the children of several LV Department employees attend the school and its associated kindergarten has given the cause a special flavor.

Which brings us to the fact that the 1974 appeal on the school's behalf is already being planned.

Subscription lists will be distributed by appeal organisers, and if Ham Ballagh ('phone 3616) has anything to do with it, no corner of the Department will be missed.

The Victorian School for Deaf Children is a home in which 100 children from all parts of the State can reside for the 10 years of their school lives.

The all-round development of each child is fostered by the provision of a gymnasium, picture theatre, rooms for handcraft, recreation, reading, sewing, Sunday school and technical and domestic centres.

Playing fields, gardens and lawns provide a wonderful setting for the State primary school built in the grounds.

At Burwood, the School conducts a kindergarten where deaf children of parents with full hearing learn to lip-read and to say their first words.

Three cottages, each with a family of two mothercraft nurses and 8-10 children, make it possible for deaf children from country and interstate areas to be taught and prepared for school life.

A modern pre-school unit is also available for the teaching of the children of deaf parents.

The school has an outstanding record, and the cause speaks for itself—which probably explains why the response here to the annual appeal is so spontaneous.

IN YOUR INTEREST

FOR SALE: ARCHERY EQUIPMENT
1 Yamaha Bow (good condition) with Stabiliser and Sights. 1 Set of light Easton Aluminium Arrows, length 27", Type 1716 (unused) in Arrow Case. 1 Archery Glove. 1 Finger Tab (with detachable face). 1 Arm Guard. 1 Ground Quiver (stainless steel).

Full price \$115 (will separate).
Contact Briquette Canteen, Ext. 3295, or Morwell 34 1229.

FOR SALE: Trail Bike, Yamaha 360, good condition — Phone Morwell 34 1195 After Hours.

FOR SALE: Yacht, Kitty Cat Class Catamaran. Fully re-conditioned three months ago. Full Racing Rig, including Spinnaker and Trapeze. Cheap at \$375. Also National Tape Recorder for \$35. Originally National's most expensive model. Good order, going well. — Phone Morwell 34 2058, or write M. Hill (SEC Operations, Hazelwood PS), 12 Mulcare Street, Morwell.



Taken from inside the temporary cave in overburden at the Yallourn Open Cut, this picture illustrates the size of the hole gouged by a steady stream of crisply cold, clear water. The cave has now disappeared, cleared away during preparations for moving of the No. 12 Dredger.

A RECENT survey in Great Britain discovered, among other things, that industrial injuries occurring before lunch involved a significantly higher proportion of non-breakfast eaters than of breakfast eaters.

For injuries occurring after lunch, there was no significant correlation with eating habits.

The moral of this story would appear to be "enjoy a hearty breakfast for a safer morning's work".

WATCHING the world go by from inside this large cave which opened up in overburden on the Yallourn Open Cut may provide an interesting angle for the photographer, but it was not the safest spot in the LV Department.

The day after this photograph was taken, and geologist Bob Gaulton had gingerly reconnoitred the cave opening, the outer wall collapsed.

The cave, described by Bob as "a funny little anomaly", apparently resulted from local groundwater from an unknown source—perhaps a long

way away—filtering through overburden and gravel before reaching the impervious coal seam.

It then ran along the seam, gouging out a cave which extended back into the overburden for at least 40 feet.

For obvious reasons, no one was keen to explore the cave to its full extent.

Bob Gaulton said the cave was an unusual feature because of its size.

The cave was exposed during construction of a ramp for the No. 12 dredger, which began final testing last month with a view to commissioning for service.

Suggestion Scheme Awards 1973

	Coal		Commercial		Power		Services		Transmission		Totals	
	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$
Jan./Feb.	3	65	—	—	5	415	2	40	3	45	13	565
March	—	—	—	—	3	110	5	125	—	—	8	235
April/May	2	35	2	25*	6	150	6	130	—	—	16	340
June	—	—	—	—	10	245	3	87	—	—	13	332
July/Aug.	—	—	—	—	1	140	6	110	1	15	8	265
September	1	50	—	—	4	105	3	65	3	45	11	265
Oct./Nov.	—	—	—	—	12	405	6	105	—	—	18	510
December	6	160	—	—	6	160	1	100	4	225	17	645
TOTALS	12	310	2	25	47	1730	32	762	11	330	104	3157
Approx. Average Awards		\$26		\$13		\$37		\$24		\$30		\$30

NOT BOUNCERS — CROWDOLOGISTS



They used to call them bouncers, but now they're crowdologists—or, if you prefer—crowd control engineers. "They" are Commission fire control centre driver Harold 'Chook' Churchill and transport pool driver Geoff Sawyer, who spend some of their off-

duty hours at the Royal Exchange Hotel in Traralgon; all in the line of duty. 'Chook' (left) and Geoff got right into the act when they joined the musical group for an item which really sent the crowd—in a controlled way, of course.

Another Flag for Hazelwood

A SAFETY pennant to mark 250,000 manhours without disabling injury goes on its way to fly proudly from the mast at Morwell Briquette Works.

In fact, the pennant—presented last month to MBW representatives—was for 283,000 manhours, put together between August 20 and December 1 last year.

The section has a total of 469 employees.

The flag-raising ceremony was attended by Briquette Production Superintendent Cyril Morellato, Supervisor (Production and Safety) Gordon Dadge and a number of MBW personnel.

The MBW is no stranger to safety awards.

250,000 manhour pennants were gained in 1970, 1971, 1972 and 1973, while in the same period, the 100,000 manhour target was reached nine times.

The Manager's Safety Award was won in 1970-71; 500,000 "safe" hours were completed in 1970, and on

Gordon Dadge, assistant drier attendant Harry Smith and shift electrician Jim Wall admire their newest pennant, and an award of merit certificate.



February 4, 1972, the MBW reached 750,000 without disabling injury.

**To catch
a donkey
is B*...!*
Hard Work!**

DONKEYS may not be your bag, but some people will go to almost unbelievable lengths to get them.

Take assistant fire officer (Morwell) Ted Cowper, plant operator Lindsay Ganley and former SEC fitter Rod Crane.

They covered a distance of more than 2,500 miles in mid-1972 in their first abortive attempt to find and catch wild donkeys in South and Central Australia.

As well as failing in their mission, the trio lost a \$150 horse complete with \$200 saddle.

However, they headed out again last year—this time with the addition of two brothers, John and Ron Bates.

Complete with two trucks, a Land Rover and five horses, the party set out, and it wasn't long before the appearance of persistent mechanical troubles which were to lead to the demise of one of the trucks.

The party blew seven tyres on the trip; a truck sheared wheel studs and the Land Rover was put out of commission when it overturned during a wild chase.

In addition, vehicles were bogged countless times, and members of the party met with a number of disappointments in their quest, which took them through Central Australian deserts and into Burke and Wills country.

However, there was a credit side to the ledger.

The party:

- captured three donkeys,
- met some wonderful people who showed them what the much-vaunted "outback hospitality" is all about,
- saw the desert in full bloom during what one local described as "... a once-in-a-lifetime experience."
- learned a lot about themselves and their capabilities as a result of some trying episodes in the toughest of conditions, and,
- gained a store of experiences which will keep the conversational wheels turning until their next trip—this time in search of a camel.

...focus on safety

“MILLIONAIRES” MAKE IT A HABIT

YALLOURN stores personnel, by completing 1-million manhours without disabling injury since 1968, could have given the Latrobe Valley Department a national record.

The 1-million safe manhours milestone was the fourth reached by LV stores personnel.

The others were in 1968, 1970 and 1972.

At a presentation function attended by the chairman and general manager of the SEC, Bob White, and the director of the National Safety Council (Victoria Division), Mr. Frank Turley, LV Department manager Bill Schulz claimed the four pennant wins as a State record.

“And it is probably a national record,” he said.

The presentation—of a pennant and NSC Award of Honor—was attended by almost every divisional head in the Valley and by some 60 stores personnel.

With such a line-up, there was little argument when Departmental Materials Officer Syd Kirchner said he was fortunate to be in charge of “the greatest bunch of fellows in the LV Department.”

The stores group's fine achievement would not have been possible without the dedication of all members of the section, he said.

Bill Schulz echoed Mr. Kirchner's remark when he expressed the belief that there was “a much greater degree of safety consciousness displayed within the stores section than in any other LV Department section.”

He agreed that the magnificent achievement was the result of teamwork, involving individual dedication to safety principles and the active involvement of every member of the section — including the youngest trainee.

The stores personnel achievement holds a message for everyone—

“... awareness and enthusiasm is your catchcry, and it is one which needs to be adopted as a slogan throughout the Latrobe Valley Department,” Mr. Schulz said.

Admiring the award of honor presented to Yallourn personnel, are, from left, Syd Kirchner, Frank Turley (National Safety Council), Laurie Mills, Commission chairman Bob White, Bill Schulz and Rupert Bartley.



Habit well worth catching...

LATROBE Valley Stores personnel are making “a habit” of safety, and it's a habit very much to the liking of Commission chairman Bob White.

Safety, he confessed at the fourth stores 1-million “safe” manhours award presentation last month, is one of his “pet loves”.

The fact that the stores group is relatively small—the Yallourn section has an average strength of 95—made the achievement all the more commendable, Mr. White said.

He said that if the Commission as a whole could consistently maintain a level of one disabling injury per million manhours—a rate bettered by LV Stores personnel—the number of DI's would fall from 600 yearly to 40.

“You have proved that it can be done, but it is no mere matter of luck—such a target is difficult to achieve, and even more difficult to maintain.

“Yallourn stores obviously has the support of departmental heads and senior officers . . . but without the full co-operation of every member of the section, achievements such as you are being honored for tonight are not possible,” Mr. White said.

ARE you a young man . . . keen on a few beers . . . and with a troubled home background?

Then watch out!

According to National Safety Council (Victoria Division) director Mr. Frank Turley, you are a potential blot on your section's safety record.

Mr. Turley, who was guest speaker at a function on February 14 to mark the achievement of Yallourn stores personnel in notching 1-million manhours without disabling injury, said this when painting a picture of the person most likely to have an accident.

He had the case histories of 35,000 people involved in accidents to support his claim.

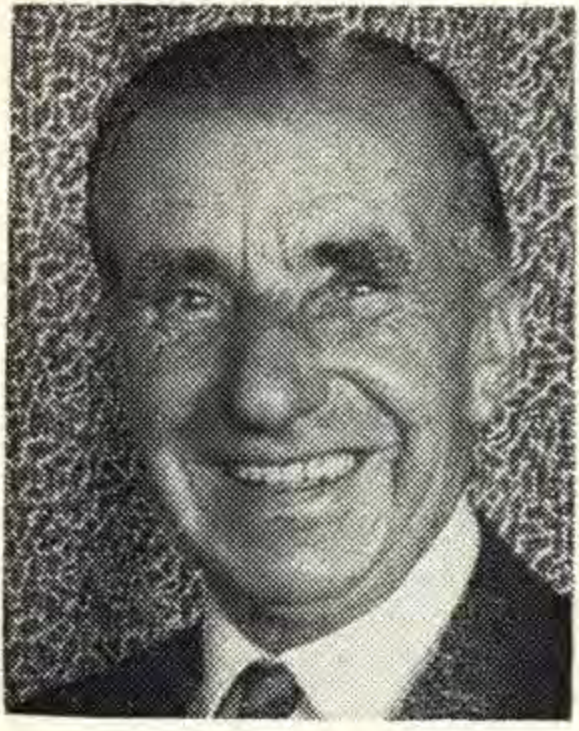
The full picture of the “accident case”, as outlined by Mr. Turley was — “. . . 21 years of age, a mood of aggression, a few grogs, trouble at home—possibly from a broken home—and frustrated.”

But if you're a 13-year-old school-girl, from a happy home, don't worry . . . accident-wise, you're as safe as a church.

Commenting on the safety presentation, Mr. Turley said that to win a million manhour award was extraordinary, while for the stores section of the L.V. Department to earn four awards was “unbelievable”.

He said the win carried a wider responsibility—to maintain the outstanding record and to influence others to take a similar attitude toward safety.

retirements



DOUG MAULL

People working at Morwell and Hazelwood areas owe a debt of gratitude to foreman

gardener Doug Maull for the garden surrounds being developed in both areas. Doug, who retired last month after spending 18 years with the Commission, is the man largely responsible for transforming the grounds of Hazelwood and Morwell from bush area to attractive garden settings.

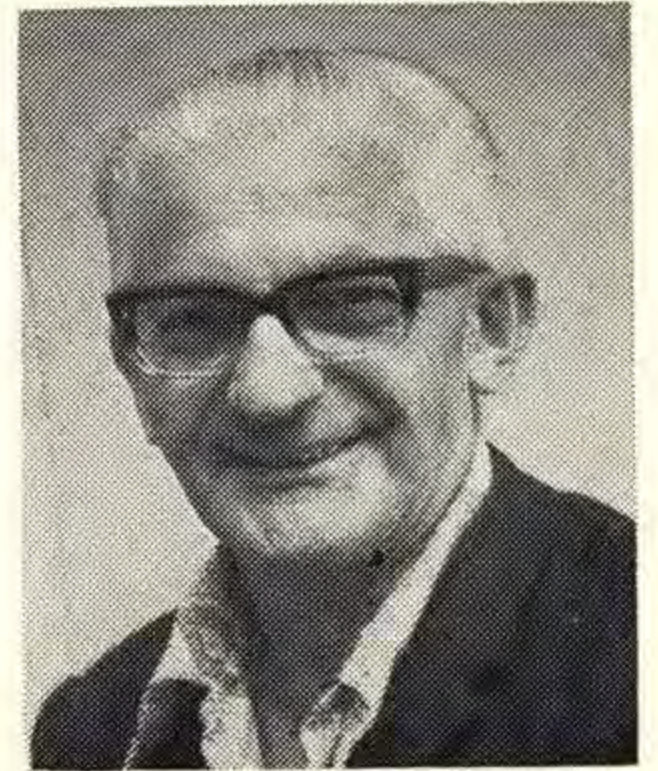
Departmental Services Manager Max Gray presented Doug with a color photograph of one of his artistic creations.

DOM PALMA

Painter Dom Palma wielded a Commission brush for the last time on December 16th, when he retired at Yallourn Central Workshops. Dom began with the SEC as a painter at the Yallourn briquette works in 1955.

JOE CROUCH

Yallourn Power Station trimmer Joe Crouch migrated here from Scotland in 1950, and when he read that carpenters were required for construction work at Yallourn, decided to try his luck with the SEC. Twenty-four years later—on February 13—Joe was farewelled on his retirement by PSS Bryce McRitchie and Station Operations Engineer Frank Tomlinson. After spending his early years in



construction, Joe worked at Yallourn PS as a fireman and trimmer.

Mrs. MARGERY DOWERS

Canteen Attendant at Yallourn Power Station, Margery Dowers retired during January after giving eight years service; mainly at the old Eastern Road Hostel. Her friends presented her with a carving set and drinking glasses



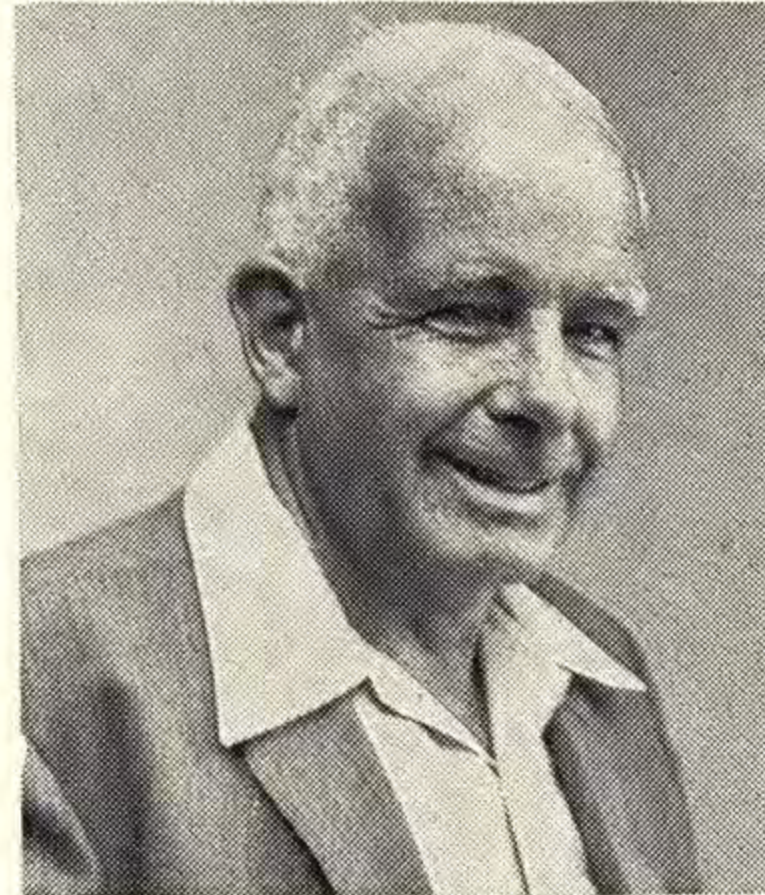
ALF REGAUSKAS

A happy retirement at Yallourn is the plan for Alf Regauskas, who retired on January 21. He was with the Commission from 1948, when he began a 26 year stint as pumpman with fire services in the Yallourn Open Cut area. Alf was among the early migrants to Australia in the 1940's, and was personally welcomed by the then Minister for Immigration, the late Arthur Calwell.



JOHN "Jack" WADDINGTON

The Tests and Communications Section lost a valued member on the retirement of Jack Waddington, who was farewelled by workmates in the Protection and Instrumentation Sub-Section on January 10th. Jack gave the SEC more than 27 years of



HAROLD HARDY

Yallourn Power Station shift electrician Harold Hardy, who retired on February 13, gained quite a reputation as a handyman. Probably his most "handy" achievement was building of his Herne's Oak home and a house at Inverloch, where he will spend his retirement. Harry began with the SEC in 1937, and became shift electrician at Yallourn in 1946.



SYDNEY ROBERTS: Retired 18-1-74 after serving the Commission since 16-12-1968, initially as a coal conveyor attendant (Morwell) and then as greaser.

KENNETH WHITMORE: Retired 19-12-1973. Spent 10 years with the Commission as a trades assistant at the Morwell Power Station.

JOHN EDWARDS: Retired 13-12-1974. Was initially a track man with Coal, Morwell, on 7-6-1963, became a platelayer in 1964 and an orderly in 1968.

ROBERT ESSLER: Retired 10-12-1973. Joined Commission on 7-7-1959, and was a cleaner throughout most of his service with the SEC.

service in the Latrobe Valley. He rose from the position of Electrical Operator in AB Station to become an Engineer within four years, and was Protection and Investigations Engineer at the time of his retirement. Closely associated with protection systems in the Transmission, Coal and Power Divisions,

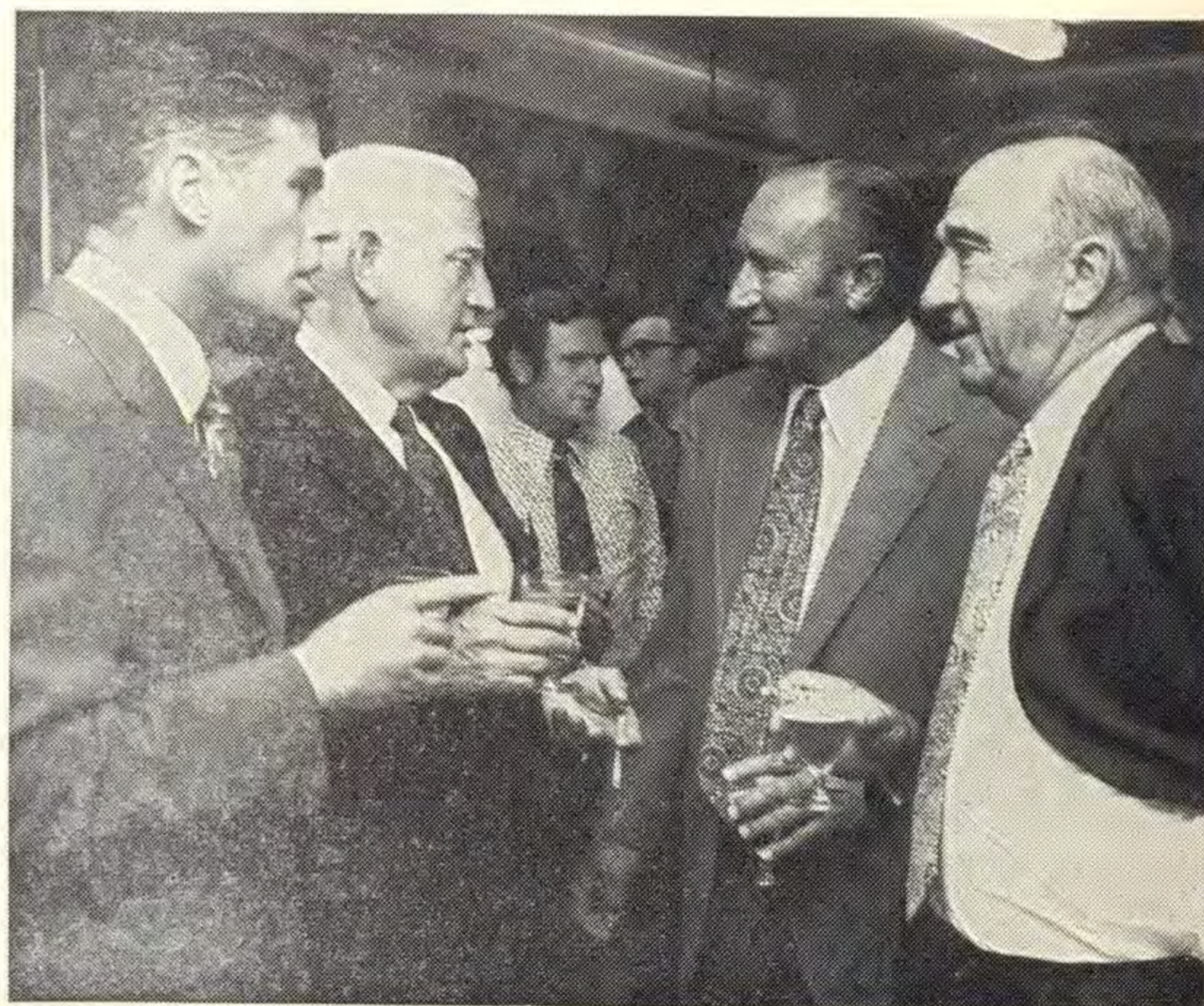
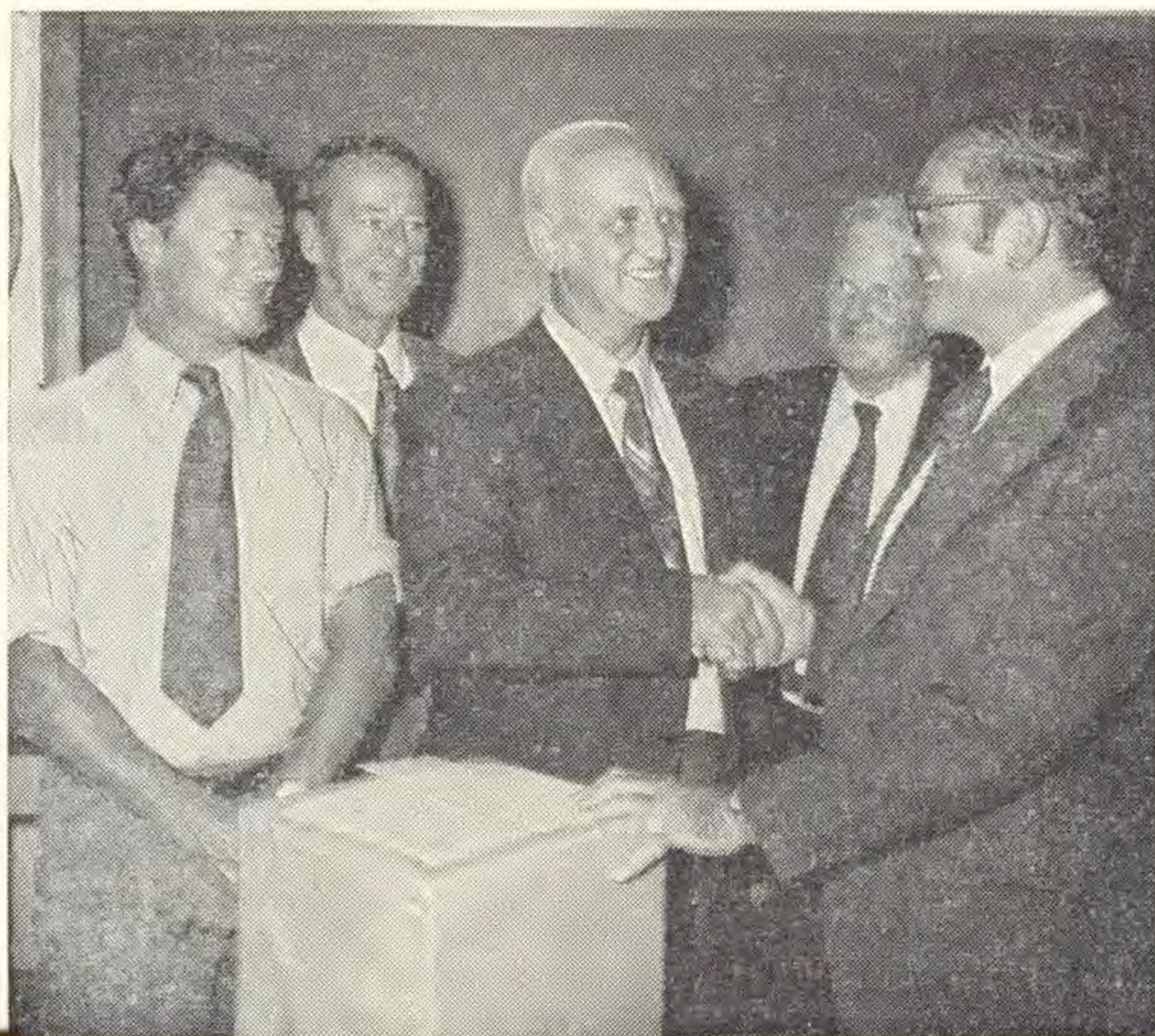
Jack also was directly involved in design and sit application, and co-ordination of relay equipment. Gifts were presented to Jack by Tests and Communications Engineer, Mr. R. F. McArthur, Mrs. Shirley Waddington was present at the function in the Visitors' Reception Centre, Yallourn.

ALLAN DUMMER: Retired 18-1-1974. Employed as fitter with Central Workshops at Yallourn from November 14, 1966 to September, 1968, when he transferred to Hazelwood Power Station.

SEPTIMUS ROCHFORD: Retired 2-1-1974 after serving the Commission since 21-1-1957, when he was employed as caretaker at Kernot Hall. After six years, he was transferred to Administration (Yallourn).

CORNELIS WOOLS: Retired 3-1-74. Joined the Commission on 22-5-1961 as pick and shovel man in the briquetting works at Morwell, and was assistant press driver on retirement.

retirements



In his 40 years in the Commission, electrical plant overseer, Bill Rodgers—who retired on February 15—saw considerable change, including the development of the Morwell Power Station, a project in which he played no small part. An electrical fitter at Richmond when he started with the Commission in 1934, Bill was sent within a year to Yallourn Power Station, where he worked mainly on construction of "B" Station. In 1948, he moved across to Morwell for general service work before becoming involved directly with construction of the MPS. In fact, he may have been the longest serving man on the site at the time of his retirement. Tributes were paid to Bill for his conscientious service and his wide range of expertise. Speakers were Turbine and Electrical Contracts Superintendent Keith Kesper; MPS maintenance engineer Clive Williams; Deputy Manager Power Jack Robertson, and MPS Superintendent Alan Castelow. They recalled Bill's contribution to construction and maintenance—and his readiness to share his vast knowledge with colleagues on the job. In his retirement, Bill—who plans to continue residing in the Wallace Street home he has occupied since 1941—will usually be found on bowling greens at Hazelwood and Ellen Street.

The name Ray Norden is synonymous with community activity at Yallourn, where his role as Municipal Works Engineer gives him an especially important part to play in town life. This was recognised at a function on February 28 to mark his retirement after serving the Commission for 25 years. Roy, who began as Assistant Civil Construction Superintendent at Yallourn in 1949, has given outstanding service to the Commission, and to Yallourn. His community record includes service with Legacy—he is a past president of the Central Gippsland Group of Melbourne Legacy—Yallourn Football Club (president for 14 years), Yallourn Bowling Club (president of Mid-Gippsland Bowling Association) and service with the Yallourn Ovals Trust. The huge and widely representative attendance at the farewell demonstrated the regard in which Roy and his wife Dorothy are held.

Tributes were paid to Roy by Deputy Manager Graham Black, Departmental Services Manager Max Gray, Civil Services Engineer Max Williamson, and Yallourn PS Maintenance Engineer John Hutchinson. First-year apprentice Daryl Keuch presented Mrs. Norden with a handcrafted sewing box on behalf of Yallourn Civil Workshop.



HILDA FLETCHER

Staff in the Administration section at Yallourn will miss canteen attendant Mrs. Hilda Fletcher, who retired on February 27 after spending nine years with the Commission.

COSTA TRATOLOS

Workmates presented Costa with an appropriate gift, a fishing tackle box, when he retired from the briquette works on February 7. Costa, an electrical trades assistant, took up duties with the SEC in January, 1963, on his arrival in Australia from Egypt.



ROBERT GOSS

Robert Goss, who retired on February 23, began with the Commission in 1957. He was a laborer at Yallourn then, but filled several other positions before becoming an elevator trades assistant in 1969.

FRANK MEEHAN

Gardener Frank Meehan, after playing his part in keeping Yallourn looking at its best, retired on February 15. He entered Commission service in January, 1968.

DAVID DYKES

David Dykes, a trades assistant in the Central Workshops at Morwell, retired on February 18. He joined the Commission in 1971.

REX BAILEY

Rex Bailey, who retired on January 31st, covered a lot of territory with the SEC; he began in field exploration at Traralgon in 1954 and was a motor driver (coal) at Morwell from 1967.

the sporting scene

THEY JUST CAN'T KICK THE SEMI-FINAL HABIT

HISTORY has a habit of repeating itself — and for the Yallourn-SEC team in the Social League cricket competition, the repeat dose has an increasingly nasty taste.

The problem is that the team has great difficulty progressing beyond the semi-final stage.

In each of the past four years, the team has survived without loss to the semi-final, only to be eliminated before the grand final.

In the semi-final on February 17, Yallourn batsmen failed to get going against a hostile Clement House attack, with the result that its participation in the 1974 series came to an abrupt end.

Dismissed for 87, Yallourn fought on well with tight bowling and fielding, but could not hold Clement House, which scored 7/93 to reach the final.

Opening batsman John White (c) and Merv Graham could hardly be blamed for the batting flop.

John scored 22, and Merv—the last batsman dismissed—put together 27, with Ken Mathison contributing 11 runs.

Top bowler was Brian Mathison, who took 5/27 in an outstanding display.

Other wicket-takers were Joe McMullen and Ern Leishman.

While the defeat brought the season to a disappointing close, the team had an excellent season, with Reg Bacon the most consistent batsman and John Pavich — absent from the semi-final lineup through injury — Brian Mathison and McMullen the backbone of the attack.

Fielding was generally good.

A highlight of the semi-final was the fielding at gully of Fred De Bono, and two great catches at mid-off by Charles Karpinsky.

• *The grand final, played on Sunday, March 3, was won convincingly by Clement House.*

After scoring 7/172 in the first innings — Trevor Hanlon top-scored with 52, and Max Grimmer added 43 — Clement House dismissed Eastern Metro for 109.

• **RIGHT:** Merv Graham (left) and John White head toward the wicket for the opening of the Yallourn-SEC innings.

• **BELOW:** Batsman Merv Graham is not taking a rest—he is flat out taking a slips catch at practice. Merv, who usually shines with the bat, became bowler for a change against Monash House on February 2—and took a hat-trick. Two of his victims went LBW and the third was stumped by Reg Bacon. Team skipper John White declined to describe Merv's delivery style.



From the 'old' to the 'new'

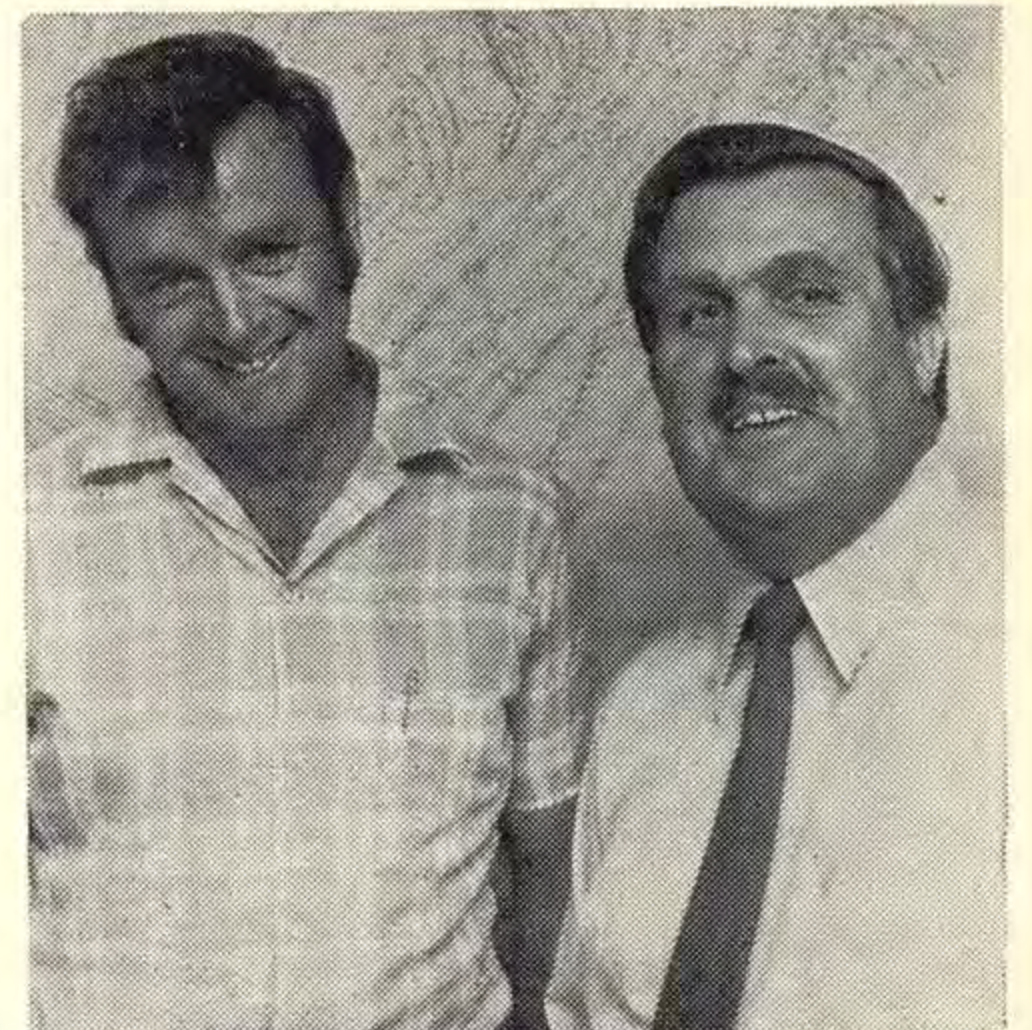
Coal Division plant operator Joe Hutchison gets some tips from Assistant Public Relations Officer Tom Grimes (right) on his new job as secretary of the Latrobe Valley Football League.

Tom retired as secretary of the League at the annual meeting on February 10 after serving for a period of five years.

Previously, he was a Yallourn FC committee member and treasurer for two years. Now he will devote his spare time to helping the Blues out with fund-raising.

Joe is no stranger to the LV League.

A former secretary of the Moe Football Club, he has represented the club at League level for some years and is regarded as a forthright administrator with some progressive ideas.



The "old" and the "new" former Latrobe Valley League Secretary Tom Grimes, Assistant Latrobe Valley, hands his books over to new Secretary Joe Hutchinson.