

*DeLooney*



# CONTACT



MAY, 1975





# GIANT LANDMARK ON WAY DOWN...

*The 100 metre tall briquette chimney at Yallourn dominates the skyline . . . but not for long.*

The 328' 8" Yallourn Briquette Factory chimney has been a Latrobe Valley landmark for more than 50 years. . . but its days are numbered.

The chimney will come down on June 21 in a brief "entertainment spectacular" which is certain to draw a large Saturday morning crowd.

Dropping of the chimney begins the final chapter in demolition of the Briquette factory by Whelan the Wrecker Demolitions .

The Valley's tallest man-made landmark, the chimney has stood since September, 1924.

Work on the chimney, which stands on an 8' 6" thick reinforced concrete raft 45' in diameter, began in April, 1923.

Even in those days, strikes were not unknown.

After 150 feet of the stack had been erected, the men on the job went on strike, claiming slightly more than double pay as "danger money" for all work above 150 feet.

The strike lasted 12 weeks before settlement was reached.

Before work could resume, all lifting gear used on the job had to be completely overhauled.

Dropping of the 2330 ton chimney is no light undertaking.

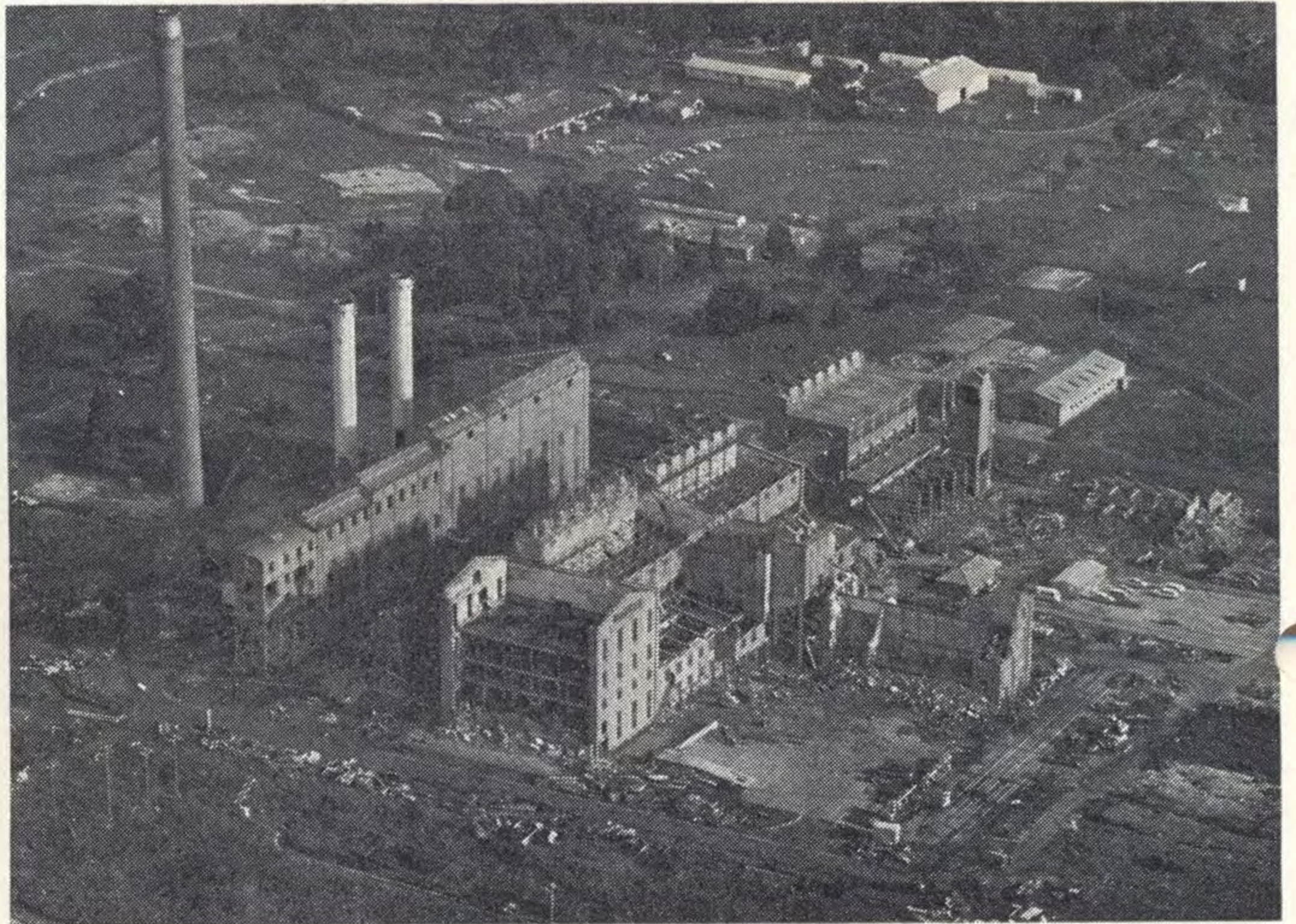
Dimensions of the concrete structure are:—

- Height: 328' 8".
- Inside Diameter: 13' 6".
- Wall thickness — Bottom: 20", Top: 6".

Inside, the chimney is lined with 4½" brick.

Demolition of the chimney will be achieved by detonating — over a 15-second period — explosives placed in 100 holes drilled in the base.

If conditions are suitable on June 21, firing time is likely to occur soon



after 11 a.m.

For Commission personnel with access to the Works Area, and who wish to watch the demolition, the levee bank road on the eastern side of the open cut should provide a good viewing point.

Outside the Works Area, higher

points in the town — such as Coach Road Lookout, or the vicinity of the reservoir — should permit a good view.

Access to the environs of the briquette factory will not be permitted, for obvious safety reasons .

## CREDIT UNION CONTACTS

Two newcomers have joined the SEC Social League Credit Co-operative Ltd. "Local representatives team".

They are ready, willing and able to provide basic information about the credit union or to arrange membership.

Ron Grant (2853) is the local representative at Coal Production, Yallourn, and Peter Leslie (5186) succeeds Bill Carrie at Hazelwood Power Station.

Officer-in-charge at the Morwell office is Barry McClure (34 1808 or SEC 3626).

## Contact



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

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### Cover

**Tweetie**, newest Grade 1 pupil at Newborough East primary school, gets more attention than most other canaries in the area — and loves every moment of it. The property of the SEC for a very short time, before moving to Newborough, Tweetie is lapping up a little attention here from teacher Margaret Gaulton and Grade 1 "birdmen" Ronald and Finley. For the full story, see page 6.



# AGM welcomes our new look

Changes to the format of the Operations Group house magazine from this issue are a small but important part of the overall re-organisation now well advanced throughout the Group.

As with the re-organisation, the changes are designed to strengthen and enhance the role of the magazine.

CONTACT provides a medium for the spread of information of a general, technical and social nature along lines simi-



lar to the former well-accepted format.

In keeping with the importance and status of the new departments, increased attention will be paid to departmental activi-

ty, and to the Latrobe Valley-based Transmission Department divisional unit.

We are currently going through a very challenging period in the history of the SEC . . . a period in which the services of an informed and involved workforce are a vital necessity .

Through CONTACT, developments affecting Operations Group personnel and the SEC generally will be covered in a way which I hope you will find both interesting and informative.

## THEY'RE WISE OWLS — WITH THE SPECS TO PROVE IT

The final chapter in two episodes which brought home to SEC personnel Laurie Azzopardi and Kerry Swenson the value of safety spectacles was written last month.

Wise Owl awards were made to both men as a reminder of narrow escapes.

Third class machinist Laurie Azzopardi was presented with his award in the Services Training Centre at Morwell on April 8.

On display were the spectacles he was wearing while grinding down rough sprocket edges after a welding job.

A piece of metal flung from the sprocket would certainly have damaged Laurie's left eye, but for the protection of the safety glasses.

Acting Mechanical Services Engineer Alan Castelov made the presentation before a large crowd, stressing the requirement that protective clothing be used whenever and wherever possible on the job.

Apprentice electrical mechanic Kerry Swenson, whose right eye was saved from serious injury when a piece of metal flew during a lathe-working exercise, received a certificate from Assistant Chief Engineer Transmission Operations, Dr. Bob Booth.

● **Wise Owl certificates are made available by the Wise Owl Club of Australia, an organisation which stems from the National Safety Council.**

Membership is open to people



whose eye-sight has been saved by the use of approved safety spectacles, or spectacles with especially hardened



lenses.

Since the first SEC employee in the Valley won an award in 1968, a total of 18 have been presented.

### LATROBE VALLEY STORES GROUP SOCIAL CLUB

An executive change-over is the main item of news from the Stores Group Social Club.

New officers are Frank Bale (secretary), Ivan Sleeman (asst. secretary), and Peter Scarce (vice-president).

Alex Hood remains president and Hans Witteveen is again treasurer.

An ambitious program of events has been set down for the months ahead.

Coming events include the annual smoke night, a football match, family night, ladies night, cricket match, bus trip, car rally, dinner dance and three film nights.

It appears that the 100 strong club is in for an active social year.

*Left: Dr. Booth presents a Wise Owl certificate to Kerry Swenson. Right: Laurie Azzopardi, pictured with the protective spectacles which saved the sight in his left eye.*



# Valley Visitors . . .

Coal Production Department Manager Jack Vines (left) gives the Premier of Queensland, Mr. Joh Bjelke-Peterson, a close look at some of the brown coal being mined at Morwell. The Queensland Premier took time out during a flying visit to Victoria for a quick look through the Works Area.



Municipal councillors have been taking a greater interest in the SEC's Latrobe Valley installations in recent months, taking a closer look at the source of most of the State's electricity.

Following the example of several other councils earlier this year, councillors from Stawell and Deakin Shires each spent a day here during April.

And other municipal visits are planned.

Several professional groups — including a survey group from Melbourne University and members of the Gippsland branch of the Institute of Engineers — have also taken time out to look us over.

Taking a specialised view of the Works Area were groups of field naturalists, a party from the Adult Education Association (Geology Group)

*Below: Assistant General Manager Peter Moir (left) pictured with the Assistant Manager of the Commonwealth Trading Bank in London, David Wood, and the Bank's Senior Assistant Manager for Victoria, Ken Long (right).*

*Below right: Public Liaison Officer Bob Bridle (right) outlines some details of SEC activities to Deakin Shire President Cr. Ted Flanagan and the Shire secretary, Mr. Bruce Pearl (right).*

and numerous individuals drawn here by a fossil find (see Page 7).

A party of 100 people, including Rotary exchange scheme students from many parts of the world — including New Zealand, Japan, Canada, USA, Argentina and the Philippines — was taken on a conducted tour during April.

At the invitation of the Regional Council for Technical Education, the Victorian Executive of the Technical Schools' Association conducted a meeting here before inspecting open cuts and power stations.

New Zealanders from the NZ Society of Dairy Science spent a day in the Latrobe Valley on May 7, and on May 14, students and officers from the Sir Gilbert Chandler Institute of Dairy Technology were guests of the Commission.

## Lord Mayoral visit to Valley

The Lord Mayor of Melbourne, Cr. Ron Walker, expanded his knowledge of SEC power generation when he visited the Latrobe Valley last month, but he also rediscovered something else . . . he was reintroduced to the

joys of train travel for the first time since he was 16.

Cr. Walker and a party of Melbourne City Councillors and several officers, accompanied by senior SEC officials, travelled to the Valley in a special coach attached to the Gippslander.

Speaking at a luncheon tendered in Morwell and attended by civic leaders from Morwell Shire and Yallourn Town Advisory Council — chairman Neil Wishart represented the Yallourn Council — Cr. Walker said he had found both the tour and train ride experiences "interesting and informative".

Responding to a welcome from SEC Assistant General Manager (Ops) Bill De Campo, Cr. Walker said that the electricity generating complex in the Latrobe Valley was "an enterprise of which the SEC and Victorians can be proud."

He said that he and his colleagues had had "useful" discussions with the SEC, with which the Council — as the largest of 11 municipal authorities which buy electricity in bulk from the SEC for distribution to 251,000 customers — has strong links.

In the MCC party with Cr. Walker were Crs Clare Cascarret, Ted Best, Michael Winneke, David Jones, James Moffat and Don Osborne, as well as the Chief Electrical Engineer, Eric Kimberley, and his assistant John Gregory.

Before undertaking a detailed inspection of the Valley complex, the party was welcomed on arrival at Moe by Moe City Mayor Jim Connaghan, who is an electrical foreman at Yallourn Power Station.







# TRANSMISSION

## APPRENTICESHIP FOCUS ON SAFETY

Apprentice Open Days are always a highlight on the Commission calendar, but none more so than on May 1-2, when parents were invited along for the signing of indentures.

Later, they were taken on a general inspection of the apprentice training areas.

Parents were invited to ask questions as they browsed through the Training Annexe and were shown the impressive equipment and facilities available for apprentice use.

A special feature on May 2 was the presentation of safety awards to members of the Electrical Training Group.

Assistant Chief Engineer Transmission Operations Dr. Bob Booth visited the Education and Training Centre to present senior Electrical instructor Peter Turner with a National Safety Council certificate and pennant for 250,000 injury free man-hours.

The apprentices, trainees and training staff of the Electrical Training Group have worked free of disabling injuries since November, 1971, lifting their total "safe working period" to 277,540 accident-free hours.

Dr. Booth took the opportunity to stress the strong SEC commitment to safety in general.

## Job swap for golfers



*Ian McDonald*



*Arthur Brogan*

Since its inception in 1926, Yallourn Golf Club has become a favourite recreational haunt for many Commission personnel.

Over the years anybody who is anything with a golf club must surely have tried the course's lush fairways, smooth-running greens . . . and refreshing "19th hole".

But behind the scenes, the role of the Commission has been no less significant with voluntary labor supplied by Commission personnel responsible for much of the course's progress.

Two volunteers recently in the news are Asst. Transmission Engineer Ian McDonald and Planning and Investigations Engineer Arthur Brogan.

Ian, secretary of the club for the past six years, has swapped places with Arthur, assistant secretary for the past two years.

Ian is the first to admit that the position of secretary in any organisation entails a great deal of time and effort especially when membership is around the 900 mark. But now he will have the time to improve his 20 handicap and enjoy the facilities which he has helped to introduce.

Arthur, himself on a handicap of 20, has been a familiar sight on the fairways over the years — driving a tractor as often as a golf ball.

The club's executive committee meets once every month, and on these occasions, Arthur will find further evidence of Commission influence.

President of the club is Noel Connelly (Surveyor-in-Charge, Yallourn), vice-president is Terry Salisbury (L/H boilermaker) and treasurer Don Malpass (Paymaster).

## *A Message from Ray Greenwood*

For me, the past few months have been an absorbing introduction to the varied work of the Transmission Division.

The overall impression I have is of a friendly and co-operative team, well trained and competent at their work.

In its two major roles — constructing, operating and maintaining our parts of the transmission system, and the provision of electrical services to other Departments — the Division has a deservedly fine record.

However, we have to keep examining our ability to meet present and future demands; and the appointment of Bill Smith to the new post of Transmission Service Engineer will help us do just that.

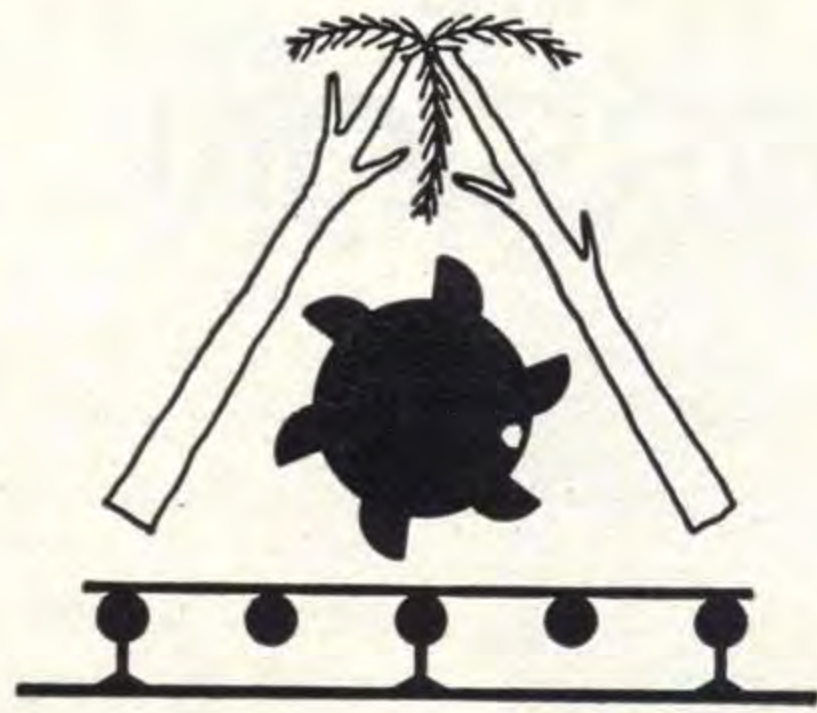
Bill will control the service activities performed by the Tests and Communications Section and the Electrical Section.

Safety is another matter which we must always keep under review.

Elsewhere on this page is a repeat of the fine safety record of the Electrical Training Group, and one which prompts a question I'll leave with you to think about.

If our youngest and most inexperienced apprentices can work for over three without a lost time accident — why can't the rest of us?





# COAL PRODUCTION

## SEC canary enjoys 'early retirement'

Geologist Bob Gaulton is known throughout the Works area (and further afield now) for his specialist knowledge, but to grade 1 pupils at Newborough East Primary School, he is a "gift horse".

Bob was the person responsible for donation to the class of a canary, a pet which the children have quickly taken to their hearts.

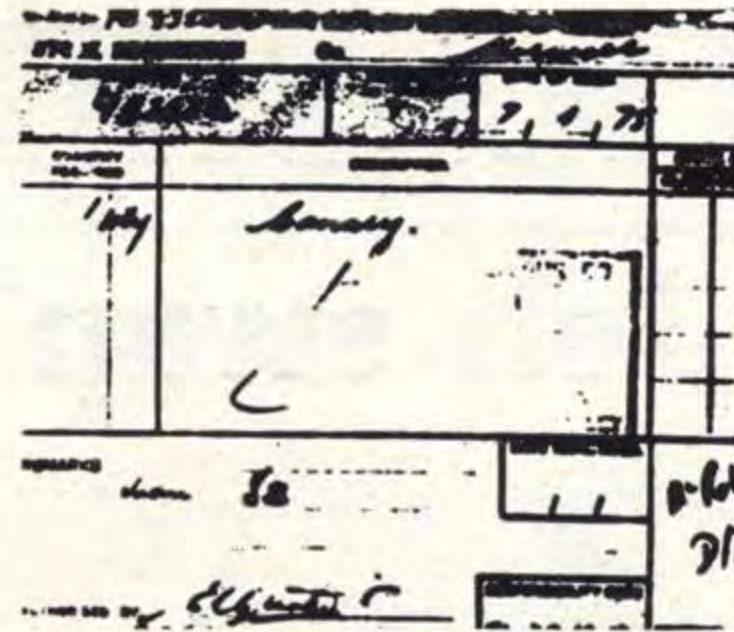
The canary had previously been used in association with a bore inspection at Loy Yang, and it was not too difficult to decide where the gallant canary was to spend its retirement.

Bob's wife Margaret is the class teacher for grade 1 at the Newborough school, and she was more than grateful to accept the canary on the children's behalf.

Two pupils in particular, Ronald and Finley, have taken on the responsibility

of 'birdmen'.

Their job is to feed the canary and ensure that he is well cared for — obviously a position which would have been flooded with applicants.



• One of the Commission's more unusual requisitions . . . one canary.

## GEOLOGIST ON THE WAY DOWN

Geologist Bob Gaulton is a man who believes in getting right to the heart of the matter . . . even when that means being lowered 21 metres underground at the end of a crane jib to examine coal seams .

Bob, using a metal cage suspended on the end of a crane jib as his "lift" was lowered into a 1½ metre wide bulk sample bore at Loy Yang.

Main purpose was to study cracks in the coal seam, noting their size and direction.

At the same time, he took samples of the coal, checking inter-seam sediments, and noting the type of coal through to the upper part of the sub-seam.

However, his main task during approximately 1½ hours underground was to determine the orientation of cracks and joints in the coal.

## Manager's Message



Jack Vines

Coal Production Department, because of the continual development and expansion of our open cuts, and changes to plant and practices in the face of increasing coal demands, is perhaps unique within the SEC.

To meet the challenge of change, we must continually adapt the skills and experience of people working within the Department to new tasks, and regroup and restrain them for future changes.

This continuing need to meet progressive challenges will, I am sure, continue to make our work interesting, and keep our Coal Production team proud of its achievements.

GOING . . .



GOING . . .



. . . GONE!







COAL  
PRODUCTION

There's no truth in the rumor that the National Museum of Victoria is striking a medal for observant dredger crewman Jim Herbert, but in view of his role in uncovering highly significant fossil bones earlier this month, they probably would like to.

It was Jim who noticed a "brown stain" on the overburden face as No. 10 dredger worked in a fire-hole in Morwell Open Cut at about 11.30 p.m. on May 8.

He and driver Terry McKay were first to inspect bones which led to the discovery of the fossil remains of at least six animals of prehistoric origin.

Palaeontologists from the Museum and Monash University have described as "incredibly lucky" the finding of the almost complete articulated skeletons of a giant kangaroo (now extinct) and a small browsing kangaroo or wallaby.

Age is yet to be determined, but it seems certain

that the fossils are in the 1-2 million years range.

The Commission has been very helpful to the scientists excavating the find, but it is the reaction of individual employees that has been most interesting.

Museum Assistant Curator Chris Tassell and Deputy Director Tom Darragh were most impressed with the skill of mobile plant operator Ray Billingsley, who saved them several days of painstaking digging.

Ray, an outdoor man with an excellent gemstone and mineral collection, took a close personal interest in the find.

The fossils were found about 60 feet below the surface of overburden in a firehole. The heavy clay in the sizeable hole was the perfect "bone-preserved", keeping the skeletons together and in a recoverable condition.

## FOSSIL 'BONANZA'



*Top: The scene behind Ray Billingsley looks more like an archeological site than the scene of overburden operations as Museum officials excavate a valuable fossil find.*

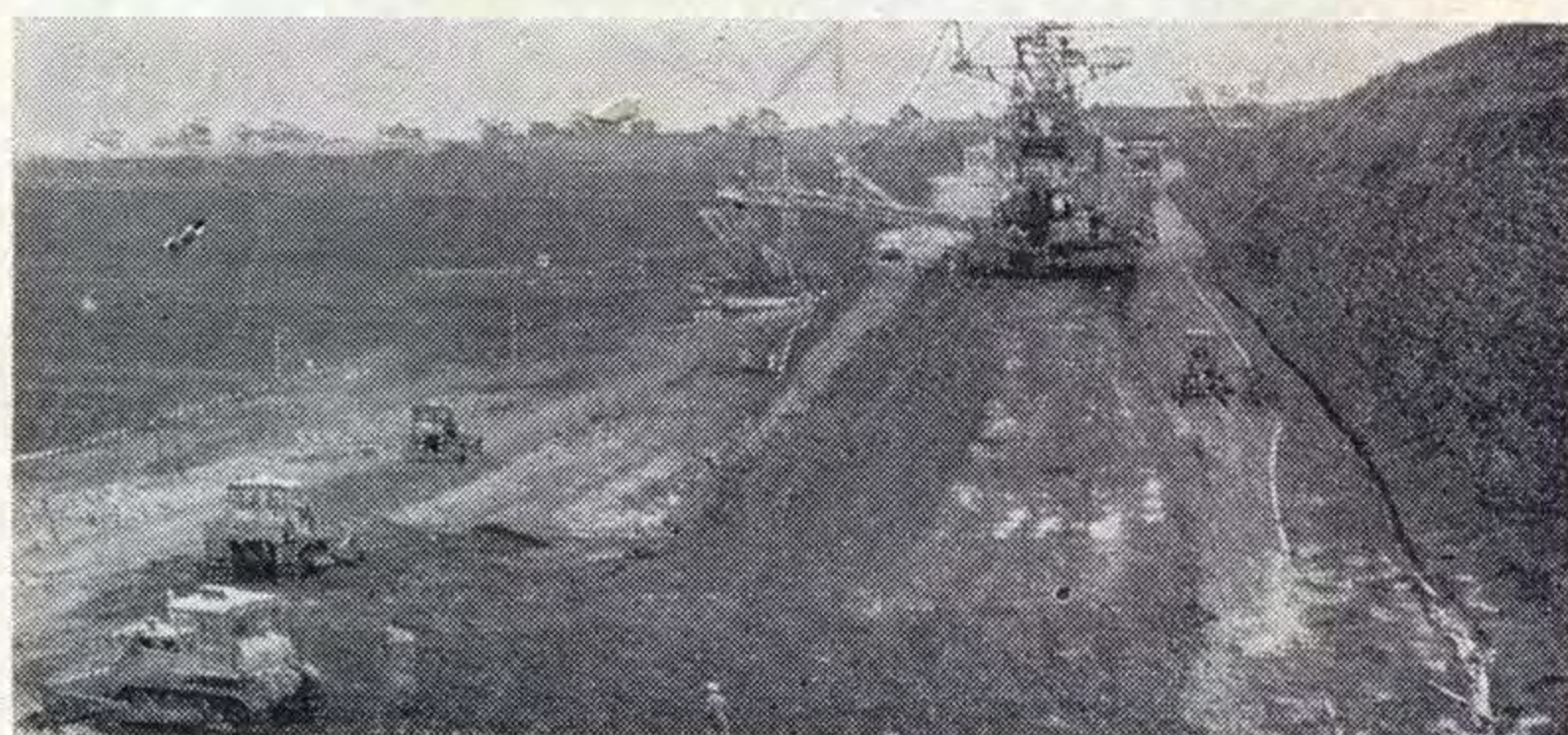
*Bottom: Two of the diggers take a close look at some of the fossil bones.*

*Bottom: Two of the diggers take a close look at some of the fossil bones.*



*Len Stocks (left), Jim Knowles and Felix O'Kane (right) discuss the route to be taken by the dredger (below).*

## Dredger on the move



They don't do things by halves in Coal Production Department.

Take the steps needed to cover the loss of No. 11 dredger when gearbox problems arose, relegating the dredger to the sidelines for almost two months.

It meant that standby dredger No. 3 had to be brought from the "reserves bench"

Easily enough said, and CPD personnel do tend to treat big tasks as routine, but for the 30 auxiliary personnel involved, it was no light undertaking.

Firstly, No. 3 had to be moved approximately 1,000 metres from No. 1 level to its working face on No. 3

level, bringing a virtual road construction team into top gear.

Bulldozers and graders were swung into action, grading the entrance ramp, and trucks dumped tons of road metal to provide a safe travelling surface.

The dredger movement was accomplished with a minimum of fuss, with water pipes and various obstacles disappearing well in advance of the dredger.

Involved in the exercise were auxiliaries, the overburden day gang and the coal day gang.

It was an impressive display of teamwork, and an indication of the value of planning.





# POWER GENERATION

## Manager's Message



**Jack Robertson**

Power Generation Department holds a special place in the Operations Group line-up, giving us a role which is vital not only to the Group, but to the entire SEC operation.

It is a role which carries a high degree of responsi-

bility, and which calls for the closest possible co-operation between all elements of the Department.

Our organisation is well-structured, with the advantage of having considerable experience at all levels.

We intend to extend further the depth of experience available to us by temporary interchange of personnel both inside and beyond the Department.

This, and other facilities available for self-development, will not only benefit the Commission, but will be in the best interest of all Power Generation Department personnel.

## LLOYD LEWIS IS MID-WEEK STAR

Yallourn "W" cricketer Lloyd Lewis ended the 1974-75 Latrobe Valley Mid-Week Cricket Association season in a blaze of glory despite the disappointment of seeing the title go for the second successive year to Police — at the expense of Yallourn "W". (see p. 16).

Lloyd gained some consolation when he won three of the five available Association awards presented at the annual wind-up in the Yinnar Memorial Hall, on April 14.

He won the —

- batting aggregate — 418 runs.
- batting average — 41.8 runs, and,
- bowling aggregate — 60 wickets.

Other awards went to Police star Hugh Tate — bowling average, 5.4 runs — and top fieldsmen Jeff Unwin and Steve Tierwik, both of Hazelwood Whites.

The fielding award was based on the votes of umpires Elmo Orchard, Harold Shillinglaw, and Alec Wiggins.

*Engineer Alf Obersby changes roles to become one of the State's top rifle shots.*



Headquarters Group engineer Alf Obersby has won himself a reputation over the years as an expert with a rifle, and he has countless trophies — both locally as a member of Moe Rifle Club and as a Victorian representative — to his credit.

Alf, a Victorian champion and Gippsland Champion of Champions, last year won the 'Melbourne Cup' of shooting — the Queens Trophy.

However, Alf has received a special honor which could well be the highlight of his shooting career.

He has been chosen by the Victorian Rifle Association to captain the Victorian team to compete in the Australian Teams Championship in Brisbane in August.

As a selector, Alf will share responsibility, along with two other selectors, to choose the 10 shooters and

## ALF HAS SHOT TO THE TOP

two coaches he will lead in Brisbane.

The championship will be conducted over a period of eight days, with competitors shooting over distances ranging from 300 - 900 yards.

They will use 7.62 millimetre military ammunition in an assortment of rifles.

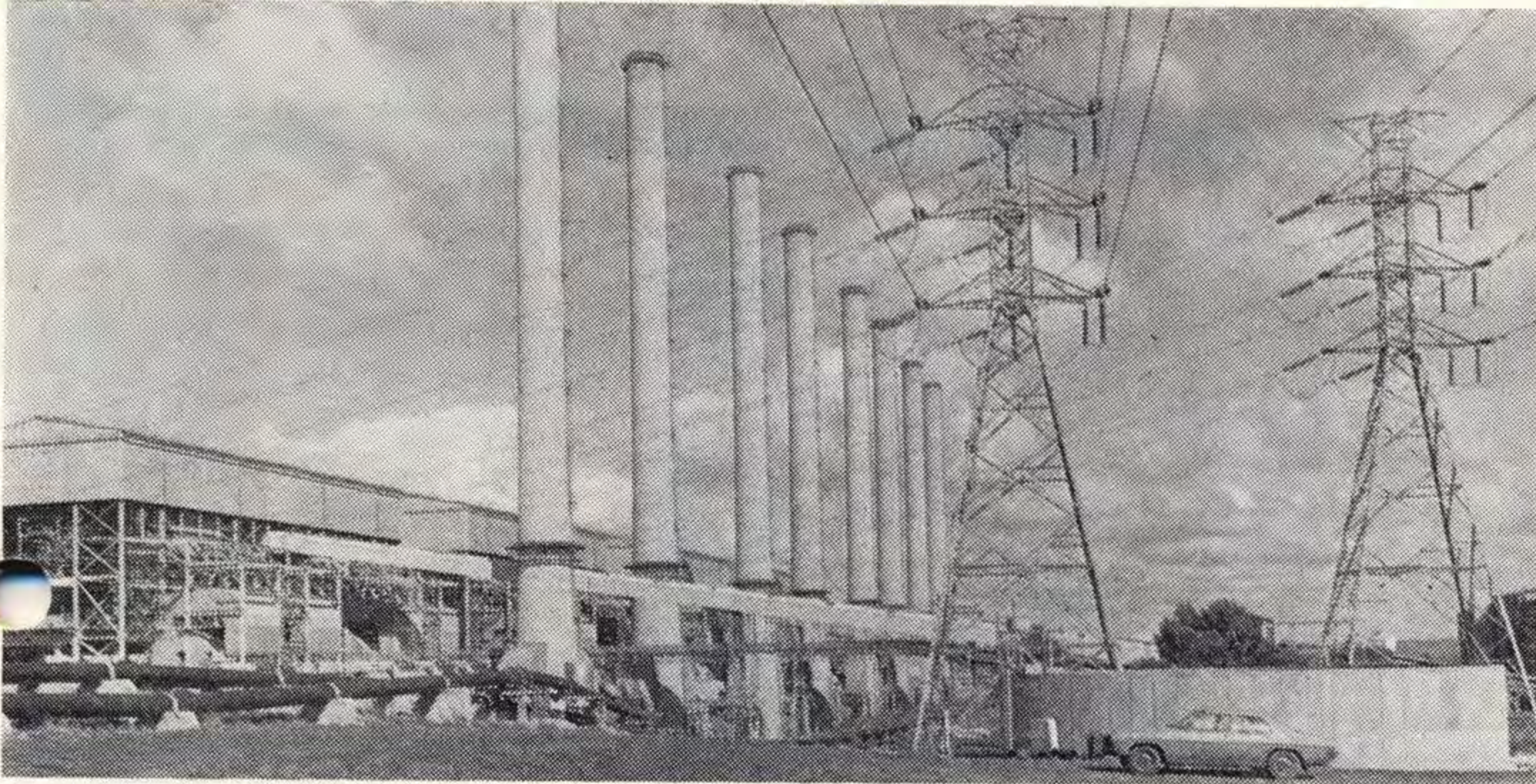
Recent performances by Victorian teams have been excellent. From their past three international starts, they went down to Great Britain, but managed to conquer Canada and New Zealand — so Alf is obviously looking for a good result in Brisbane.



POWER  
GENERATION

*Hazelwood Power Station has been in the news lately, with the station establishing several generating records. For a short spell, all eight units were in operation simultaneously.*

## HPS keeping at it



It is not unusual to see an article in Contact relating to a record set by members of the Hazelwood Power Station team in the fields of suggestion awards — or hours worked without disabling injury. However, early in May, the station itself came up with a record which may stand for quite some time.

At 5 p.m. on May 7, HPS achieved a record simultaneous run with six units, topping the previous best of 397 hours. The run finally ended at 537 hours.

The six units (nos. 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8) were in operation from April 21 to May 13, quite a long period of time when average performances are considered.

The norm is for each unit to be taken out of service for some sort of modification every 31 days, and it is also normal practice for one unit to be out for overhaul.

Average outage rate for the station as a whole is approximately one outage every five days (i.e. 31 divided by 7).

In simple terms, whereas an outage of at least one unit will occur every five days, in the 22 day period April 21 - May 13, not one outage was recorded among the six mentioned.

Engineers at Hazelwood are obviously delighted with the record run.

The best simultaneous run with seven units in operation is 258 hours.

The entire eight units have operated in unison only six times, with the longest run being 33.5 hours.

● *The fact that Hazelwood Power Station had six basic units operating so well on May 8 was one of the reasons behind establishment of another record.*

*On that day, Latrobe Valley load of 2225 MW was generated, surpassing the previous best of 2220 MW set on June 27, 1974.*

## Ideas earn dollars for Hazelwood men

*Top: Assistant Power Station Superintendent Bruce Johnston presents a welcome suggestion award cheque to Garry Dunn.*

*Bottom: Bruce looks happy about handing money (the SEC's) to George Klops.*

The Suggestions spotlight again focussed on the enterprising workers of Hazelwood Power Station on April 28 when Acting Power Station Superintendent Bruce Johnston presented two sizeable awards.

Bruce, who said that suggestion awards were extremely important, made a special plea for supervisors to do all in their power to help their men develop ideas.

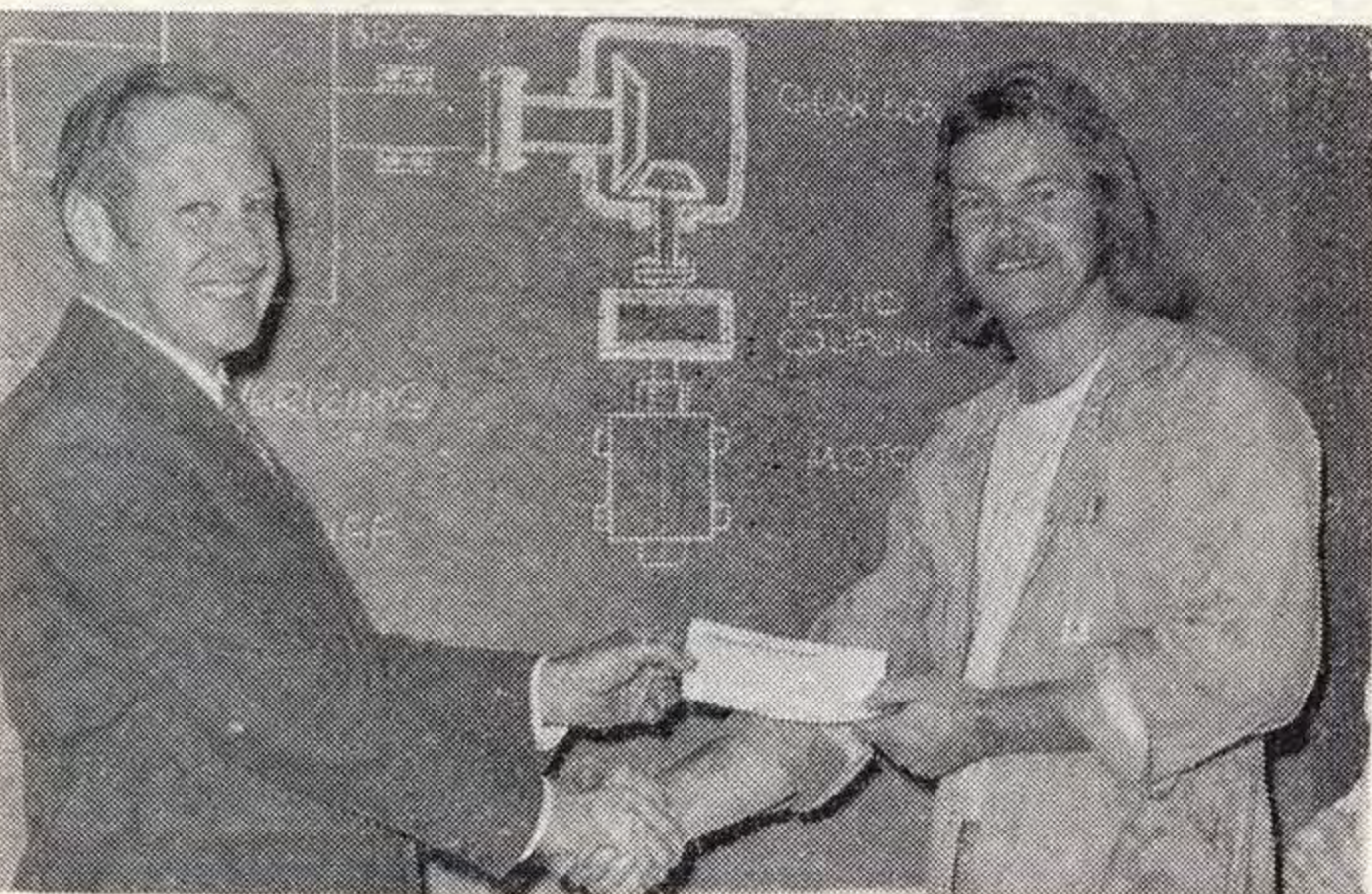
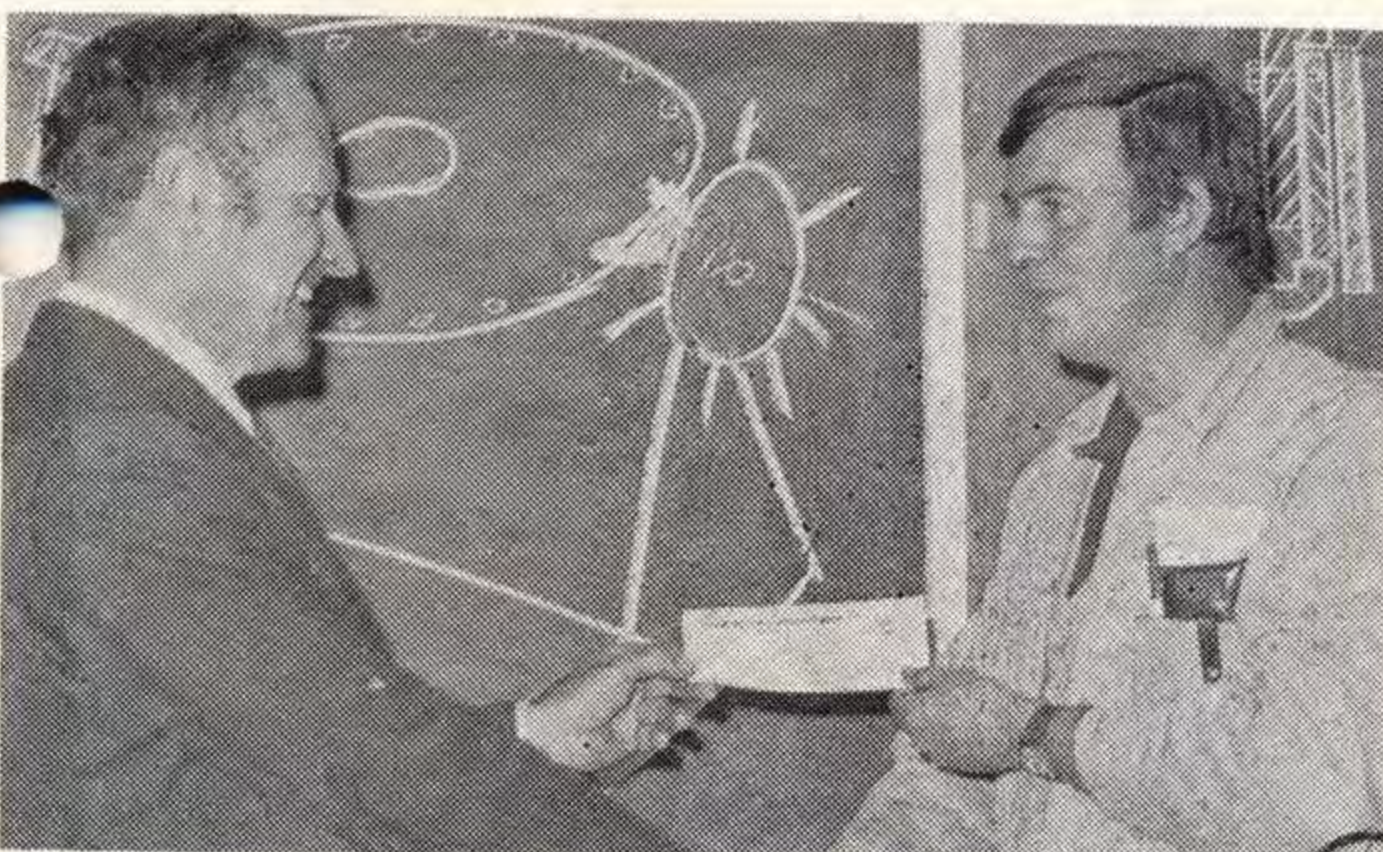
The first award was presented to fitter Gary Dunn, who constructed a labor-saving device to aid in the reconditioning of suction side end covers on ash disposal pumps.

Based on an arrangement similar to that used in motor vehicle workshops, the device has led to increased job safety and significant time savings.

Gary's idea won for him an award of \$200.

George Klops, also a fitter, received an award of \$500 for his simple and efficient method of carrying out maintenance of inboard bearings and water sealing plugs situated at the end of the drive shaft of each of the 64 main pulverising mills.

This very effective idea saves 16 man days each time the procedure is carried out.

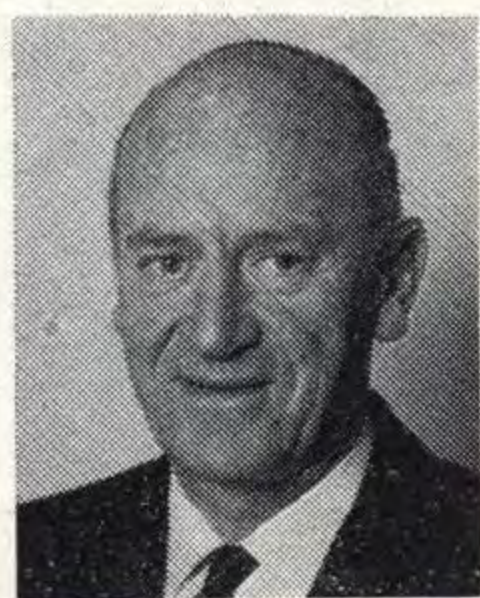






# ENGINEERING SERVICES

## Manager's Message



Max Gray

Since formation of the Engineering Services Department in November last year, considerable effort has gone into formulating and establishing the department's place in overall Operations Group activity.

While the major function of the Department will undoubtedly be to provide vital practical services to Operations Group "customers" — as well as keeping all departments abreast of services available and latest technical developments — the advent of the giant Loy Yang project presents us with a tremendous challenge.

In effect, we will be front runners in the transformation of Loy Yang from a drawing boards project to coal-winning/power generation complex.

The performance of engineering services personnel in the few months since the department was formed gives me every confidence that the challenge — and others we must face — will be met.



Survey Officer John Taylor (right), and Survey Assistants Tony Locandro (left) and Terry Bittner prepare a balloon for launching in the continuing series of atmospheric tests at Loy Yang.

Each day, a two-metre diameter balloon carries a radiosonde transmitter to a height of about 10,000 metres, transmitting details of temperature, pressure and humidity.

## SURVEY GET-TOGETHER

The party of technician surveyors and their wives who spent a day in the Morwell / Hazelwood area last month gained an in-depth understanding of the varied range of duties undertaken by their colleagues within the SEC.

Association of Technician Surveyors (Vic. Division) members from Melbourne, Heyfield, Warragul and Latrobe Valley were guests for the day of the Gippsland branch of the Association.

Approximately 60 people took part in a round of activities, which included a tour of the Works Area; a picnic at the Hazelwood Pondage Aquatic Centre and for the surveyors a close look

at the Morwell Survey Office at Hazelwood.

Morwell guide Harry Bennett made sure the visitors had a close look at SEC operations while LV yacht Club commodore Ron Court made the party welcome at the Pondage.

Principal Surveyor Bob Peters and Surveyor-in-Charge (Morwell) Barry Ross joined the party at Hazelwood, and under the guidance of Dave Bowditch and Jack Grant assisted by Terry Bittner and Tony van Rossum the visitors were introduced to the wide scope of surveying activities undertaken by the Survey Section.

State president Ken Batten and Gippsland branch president Max Harrup ex-

pressed gratitude to Bob Peters and Barry Ross for their help in organising the event.

The Association of Technician Surveyors was formed to:-

- promote, advance, maintain and make known the special skills and knowledge of technician surveyors,

- encourage the education and advancement of technician surveyors,

- to foster a corporate and professional spirit among technician surveyors, and, to

- facilitate the exchange of ideas and knowledge, pertinent to the surveying profession, between members of the Association and the community in general.




**ENGINEERING  
SERVICES**

# Climbing... by the easy way

The impressive Grove RT-75S Crane now becoming an increasingly familiar sight around the works area, is already well on the way to earning its keep.

The crane, which was delivered to the Commission in March, is an all-terrain, full-slewing, hydraulically-operated machine.

It is operated by the Crane Pool at Morwell Workshop, but regular drivers are Kevin Boothman and Ron Billson.

At the time of delivery, it was the largest crane of its type in Victoria.

The 34 tonne crane has a maximum lifting capacity of

40 tonnes, and a main boom reach of 33.5 metres — which can be extended to 43 metres.

Because it can drive and steer through all four wheels, the Grove has excellent mobility and manoeuvrability.

The tyres, which are almost two metres in diameter and 0.75 metres wide, provide good floatation and traction on poor surfaces.

Bookings for the use of the crane should be made through Harry Haby, Morwell Workshops Extension 3548 — but potential customers may have to join the queue.



• *The Grove crane has added a new dimension to the work of Engineering Services . . . a 12 storey dimension which has created a strong demand for the versatile newcomer.*

## CHOOKA TURNS BACK THE CLOCK!

*Fireman "Chooka" Churchill, of Morwell Fire Control Centre, is not the quietest of SEC personnel, but he was fairly quiet when he met an even more beautiful baby during an unusual pram ride on Good Friday.*

*"Chooka" usually dresses differently, but he agreed to turn the clock back a few years in a good cause — the Royal Children's Hospital Appeal.*



## Fire permit period ends

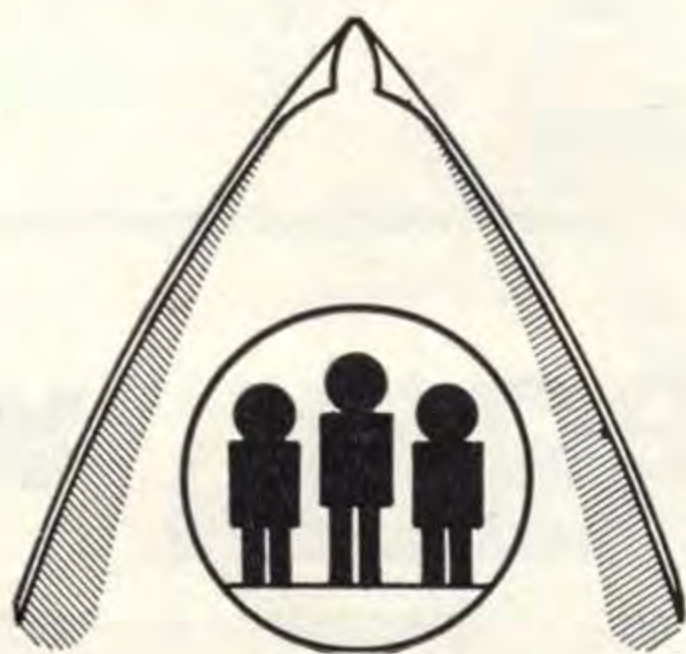
The 'Declared Fire Danger Period' for 1974-75 for Regions 9 and 10 — in which the Yallourn, Morwell and Hazelwood Works Areas are located — has been terminated.

For the area in general, certain restrictions relating to the lighting of fires are lifted, including the necessity to obtain a regulation printed permit, signed by a Proper Officer, for burning off.

However, in accordance with the Works Protection Regulations, the following fire precautions still apply outside the Declared Fire Danger Period:

- Burning of rubbish in general shall only be done in incinerators,
- fires must not be left unattended unless completely extinguished.

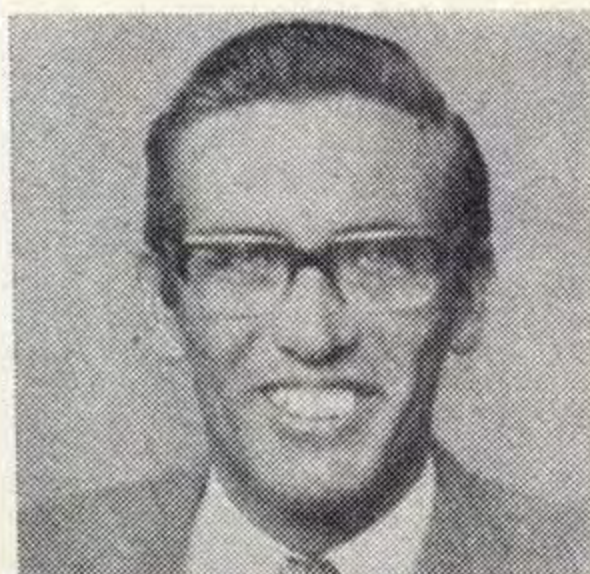




# AREA ADMINISTRATION

## Manager's Message

Recent developments — the proposed revisions to the Provident Fund are one example — demonstrate the advantages on one level of being associated with an organisation such as the SEC.



*George Bates*

However, from an individual's point of view, such benefits are secondary to the

essential element in any work situation; job satisfaction.

It is for this reason that staff development, quite apart from providing avenues for advancement, will be a major feature of Area Administration policy in the immediate future, and for the next few years.

Let there be no doubt about it.

For those interested in self-development, Area Administration will be a good place to work . . . we will provide a challenging, but rewarding role, giving all members of the team every opportunity to contribute fully toward meeting the Commission's overall objectives.

# New nursing sister appointed

Appointment of a female casualty officer to the Operations Group earlier this month lends added depth to casualty services available

within the Latrobe Valley area in particular — and it is highly experienced depth.

Sister Nola Tee, a State-registered nurse, was duty

sister at the Morwell Medical Clinic for about 13 years, the last five full-time.

She undertook her general training at the Gippsland Base Hospital at Sale.

Ideally, she has had considerable casualty experience over a far wider range than she is expected to encounter here.

Nola's appointment is part of a general upgrading of the Commission's first-aid and health facilities, which includes setting up of the excellent first-aid centre which will be her headquarters at Yallourn.

First-aid facilities here have impressed Nola, who says they provide a fine foundation for an effective service.

She's also impressed with casualty officer Peter Gleeson, whose acquaintance she resumed on her first day in the new job.

Peter, a State registered nurse stationed at Hazel-

wood PS, first met Nola when she came under his direction as a 1st year nurse at Yallourn.

Trained at Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital, Peter was in charge of surgical and casualty nursing when a community hospital operated at Yallourn.

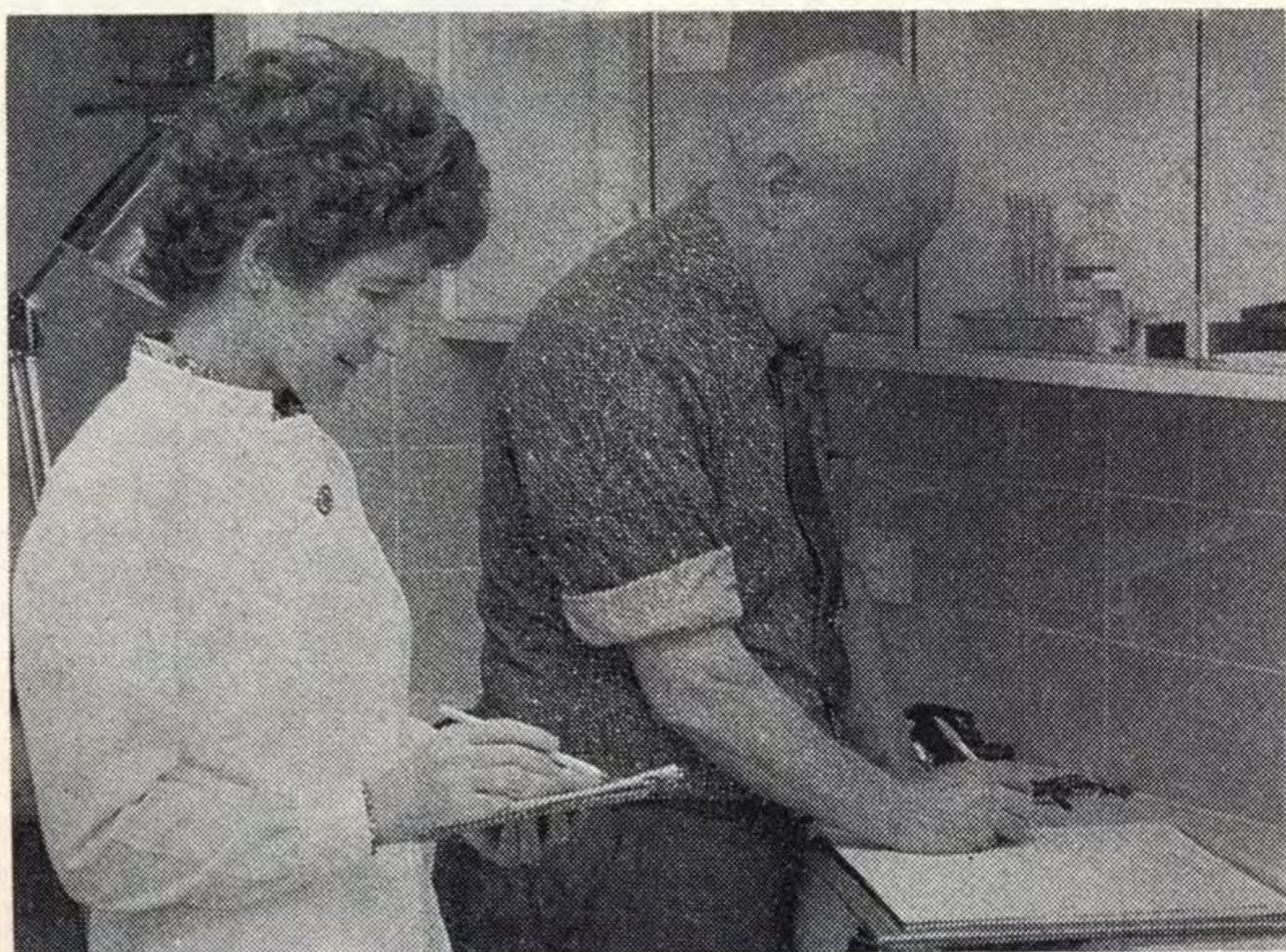
He then worked with the Gas and Fuel Corporation for 16 years until closure of the Morwell plant, when he became an SEC employee — although he was not appointed casualty officer until two years ago.

Nola Tee should feel quite at home with the SEC.

Husband Doug is a supervisor with Coal Production Department at Morwell, and 17-year-old son, Jamie, began with the Commission this year as an apprentice motor mechanic.

She also feels at home in Yallourn.

Her childhood home was at Morwell Bridge, "before it sank into Yallourn Open Cut."



*New casualty officer Sister Nola Tee and Hazelwood Power Station casualty officer Peter Gleeson, all geared up and ready to provide expert assistance.*

## FOR SALE

FC HOLDEN PARTS: Doors, Bonnet, Boot and Lid, Engine, Gear Box, Front and Rear Ends, 5 Wheels with

good tyres.

Contact: F. CARTER 3646.

Home: Moe 27 1005.





AREA  
ADMINISTRATION

# Reg's 'home sweet home'



*Reg Griffiths points out to Area Administration Manager George Bates details of a photograph taken at Yallourn in the early 1930's. Reg and his wife Edna are now well settled into their new home at Yallambee Village for the Aged in Traralgon.*

When retired SEC employee Reg Griffiths moved into a housing unit at Yallambee Village for the Aged in Traralgon last month he took with him many memories of "old" Yallourn.

Reg, who retired in 1967 after working with the Commission for almost 34 years, was the first Yallourn resident to be placed in alternative accommodation by the SEC.

And he's pleased about the whole thing.

After moving into one of the tastefully appointed units at Yallambee with his wife, Edna, Reg told Area Administration manager George Bates — "You don't know how thrilled I was to get here".

"When Yallourn Resettlement Officer Jack Penney told me the move was "on" I just couldn't believe it.

"The unit is everything I could have wished for", he said.

Reg is no stranger to George Bates, whom he first knew as a young engineer at Yallourn, where he gave him "a bit of a hand" now and then.

A picture Reg gave Jack Penney in appreciation of resettlement and other assistance he had given him encouraged him to take off on a nostalgic journey into the "good old days".

However, as he made clear, the "good old days" had their moments.

Reg has vivid memories of employment queues; "instant" dismissals; the dole and other facets of the Great Depression.

A top sportsman — he played Sub-District cricket before coming to Yallourn— Reg was opening batsman and bowler for Yallourn (pronounced Yallearn — "it was toffy in those days") and a Country Week star for years.

"We were so good that they finally had to split us into three teams", Reg recalls.

He also played football for Yallourn, later extending his YFC associations into more than 30 years. He is one of the oldest surviving members of the YFC Past Players' Association.

Reg was a trainer with Yallourn at one stage, and

he also lays claim to another distinction — he was the first professional trainer with a football team in Gippsland.

However, it didn't do him much good financially.

"The team (Morwell Bridge) used to gather for refreshments at McKay's Pub after the game, and the first round was always "trainer's shout" — which meant that I did my dough", he said.

Reg has plenty of stories, but he's not bogged down in history.

At the moment, his thoughts are on the best

place for a vegetable plot, and the garden area in front of his Yallambee unit is already beginning to look up a little.

In recent years, gardening has been a major interest with Reg, and his Yallourn neighbours will be a little sorry to lose their amateur "greengrocer".

● **The SEC is now seeking to make arrangements with the Yallambee management for another fully sponsored resident of the Village.**

## Morwell Staff Social Club

Morwell SEC staff Social Club officials have obviously found the right way to achieve a good attendance at meetings, if the annual general meeting on April 24 was any indication.

A large number of enthusiastic supporters turned out to see Rod Doig take over as president of the Club, while Bruce Lawn was elected secretary.

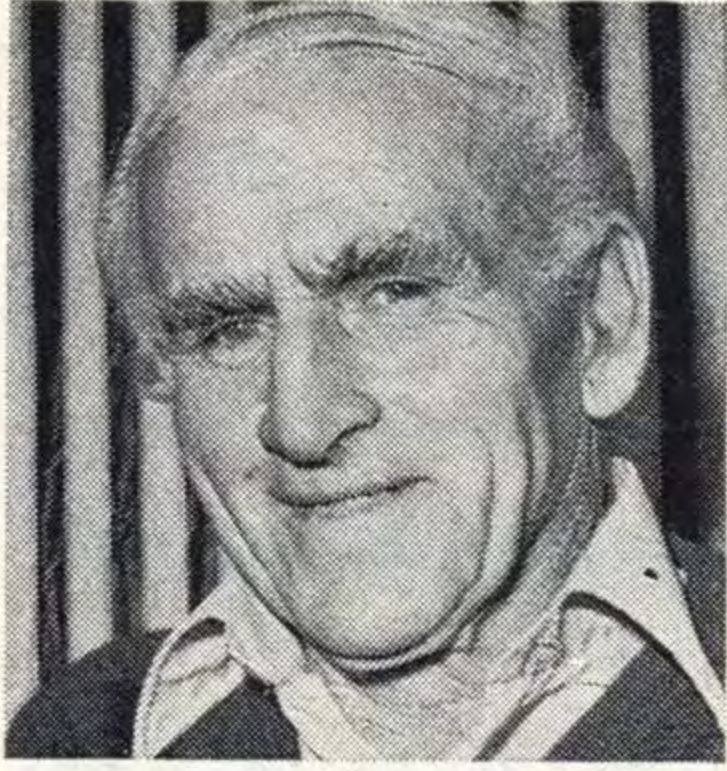
Treasurer of the past 12 years, Les Wright, will again look after the finances.

Venue for the meeting was the Starlight Room at the Morwell Hotel Motel, where refreshments were taken both before and after the meeting, but organisers say this had only a minor effect on the total attendance!



# retirements

## HENRY JAMES



Henry "Les" James, was farewelled in very familiar surroundings when he retired from the Commission on May 2. A painter with Yallourn Civil Works for his entire 28 years with the Commission, Les has done

considerable painting and maintenance work throughout the Yallourn - Newborough area. It was only fitting that his final moments with the Commission be spent in his working 'home' — an onsite construction hut in Newborough, where Civil Works Engineer Tom Stillman presented a rubber-tired wheel barrow on behalf of workmates — an ideal gift for Les' wife, who just happens to be a keen gardener. Still, if Les is looking for something to do, he could always paint his house.

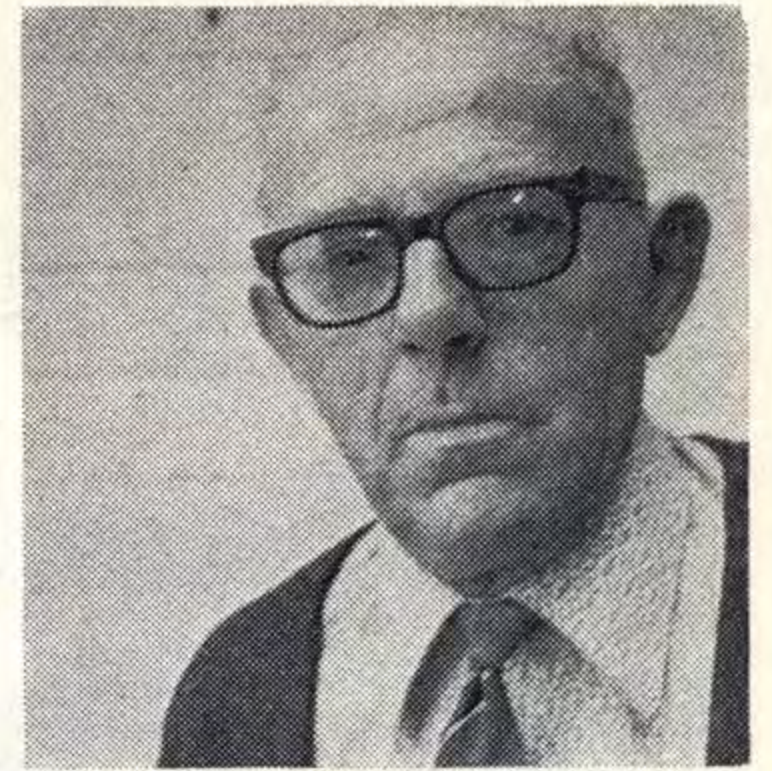
## MURRAY KANE



Murray Kane intends to leave Victoria and spend his retirement days in Taree, N.S.W., but his enthusiasm for Aussie Rules — and Essendon Football Club in particular — will not be diminished; he will now be able to watch a live telecast every Saturday. Murray has been a keen Essendon supporter for many years, a fact highlighted at

a farewell function in the 'W' Station lecture room on May 2. Power Station Superintendent Ron Court presented Murray with a wallet of notes and congratulations on his 29 years of service, most of which were spent with Yallourn Briquette Works. Murray signed on as a cleaner in 1946 and then worked as a greaser before spending 11 years as a fireman. He then worked eight years as a dry coal conveyor attendant, but was reclassified as a fireman again in 1964. Later that year he was appointed as a regulating fireman, a position he remained in until 1972. He then transferred across to Yallourn 'W' as an electrical plant attendant, the post he held at retirement.

## ABRAHAM HOOGENDOORN



Abraham Hoogendoorn, better known to his many friends as "Albert", said farewell to the Commission when he was guest of honor at an informal function in the MB & PI canteen on April 17. Operations Superintendent Jim Hill, presenting Albert with a Skil Sher drill kit, thanked him for his good work in the Briquette Factory, the place which has been his working "home" since he moved to the Latrobe Valley in 1960. Albert had previously spent three years at Kiewa as a laborer. From

1963 until his retirement date, he moved through a variety of jobs including trades assistant, cleaner, coal conveyor attendant, assistant press driver, bunker attendant and dry coal conveyor attendant.

## DON SUTHERLAND



Presentation of a pen and pencil set, shaped after a dust-spattered personnel carrier and mounted on a piece of kauri timber extracted from the local coal surface, highlighted a special retirement function for Don Sutherland on April 14.

Don, who has been with the Commission for almost 37 years, has mainly been associated with open cut operations.

He began at Kiewa as a tunneller in 1938, and after 10 years service was promoted to staff as a foreman grade 3. He transferred to the Latrobe Valley in 1959 as a spreader foreman in the Yallourn Open Cut, but in 1962 — when overbur-

den operations were converted from a rail to a conveyor system — he was reclassified as shift foreman, the post he held until retirement. Don intends to retire to the country town of Yackandandah, where the door chimes and wallet of notes he received from workmates will obviously be put to good use.

## BOB MITCHELL



A packed Yallourn Coal Production Maintenance canteen was the setting for the farewell to Bob Mitchell, a real Yallourn identity, on December 13. Bob has been with the Commission on a full-time basis since 1942, although he admits that the association began when he worked part time at the tender age of 13. Manager, Coal Production, Jack Vines, a long-time friend, commented on Bob's early days when presenting him with

a wallet of notes and a set of inscribed glasses. Mrs. Mitchell also attended and she received a bouquet of flowers.

## COLOR TELEVISION

Advice has been received from Monash House Social Club of an unforeseen delay in the delivery of Color TV sets from Japan.

People who have paid for their sets in the past few weeks will now have delivery from mid July to end of July.

Receipts for all monies will be issued shortly.

The Association of SEC Social Clubs is acting as collection agent for the Monash House Social Club, and has no control over allocations and delivery of sets.



# retirements

## BILL CARRIE

Bill Carrie, one of the real identities around the corridors of Hazelwood Power Station, was honored with a special function on May 14 to mark the end of his 26 years with the Commission. Manager — Power Generation Jack Robertson and A/Power Station Superintendent Bruce Johnston paid tribute to a career which has taken Bill to many different locations throughout the Latrobe Valley Works area. Bill began as an eager young clerk in the Yallourn Property Office, but in 1957 was provisionally appointed clerk-in-charge, Transport Workshops. After a short stay, he transferred back to the Yallourn clerical section, and then on to Civil Construction, Yallourn with a promotion to clerk, grade 2. In 1961 he was reclassified Special Officer to the Construction Engineer, Yallourn, who at that time was Jack Robertson. The two have had a close association ever since. When construction work at Yallourn began to slacken, he transferred to Administration and soon won further promotion to clerk, grade 3, later filling in as administration clerk at the Morwell Workshops for a short period until (in 1969). He was appointed to his final post, administration clerk Hazelwood Power Station. Friends he has made over this long period presented Bill with a watch at the farewell function — he also received a stack of "poker money" which will obviously be put to good use when he travels northward to examine at first-hand the prospects of seeing out his retirement in Queensland, the State in which he was born.

## BILL CORIN

For shift storeman Bill Corin, retirement will not mean sitting back in an easy chair. On the contrary, Bill will have more than enough to keep himself fully occupied. Apart from tending his garden — which



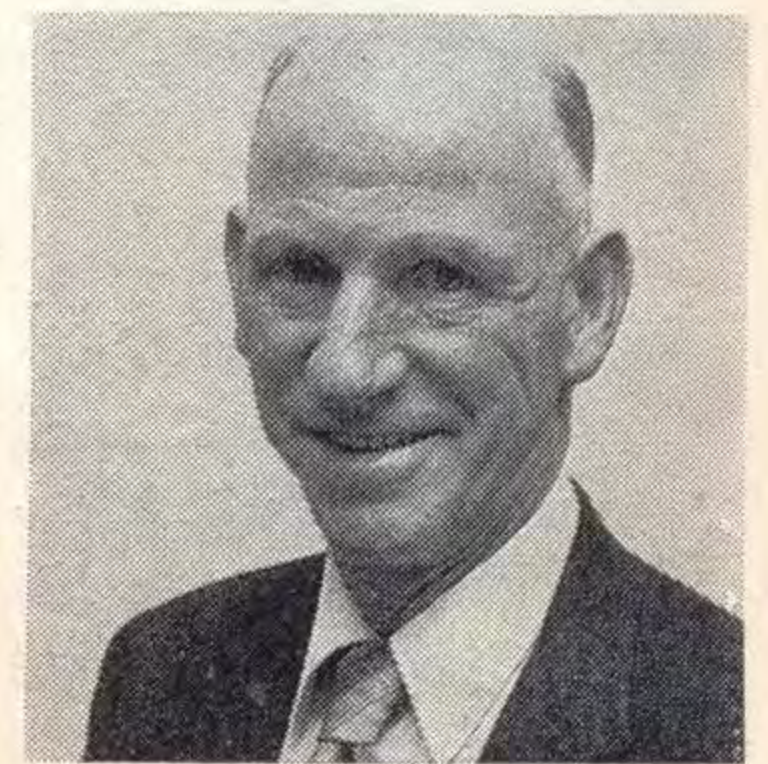
The office of Yallourn Mechanical Maintenance Engineer Col Harvey took on a festive appearance on April 9 when workmates gathered for a final cup of coffee with boilerhouse cleaner Bill Maslen, who retired after more than 15 years with the Commission. Bill's face has become familiar over the years, during which he has worked at Morwell and Yallourn.

A happy association with the Commission ended for Bill Mulhern when he officially retired in February. Bill, a stalwart at Yallourn Power Station for the whole of his 18 year service, worked originally as a motor driver, but in 1963 was reclassified as a trades assistant. He spent some time as

has gained the reputation of being one of the best in Morwell — Bill has a 'few jobs' to carry out on his "inlaws" holiday house at Lakes Entrance, after which he intends to caravan his way up the coast to sunny Queensland. Bill joined the Commission in

## BILL MASLEN

He began in 1959 at the Yallourn Briquette Factory as a cleaner, working later as an assistant press driver, greaser, bunker attendant and dry coal conveyor attendant. In 1972, he transferred to the Morwell Briquette Works as a coal conveyor attendant, but after a short stay, moved to Yallourn Power Station, where he began his final stint as a boilerhouse cleaner. Work-



mates presented him with a note-filled envelope.

## BILL MULHERN

a cleaner in 1966 before transferring back to motor driving, again for only a short time. In 1967, he began his longest stint when he was reclassified as a 2nd class machinist, the post he held at retirement. To remind himself of those years, Bill has only to glance at his new clock-radio, a gift presented by Power Station



Superintendent Don Bromilow on behalf of workmates.

1940 as a laborer with Coal Division, Yallourn, and over the next 11 years, spent time as a greaser, plant attendant and motor driver. In 1955, he transferred to Coal Division, Morwell, and after 16 months was reclassified as a storeman gr. 2. He moved across to Mor-

well Stores in 1958, winning promotion to Storeman gr. 3 in 1965, the post he held at retirement. Material and Services Officer Kevin Gould presented Bill with a radio cassette tape recorder, an ideal gift for such a keen traveller.



# John Clough is top Apprentice at YTC



*Above: Yallourn Technical College Council president Mr Val McGoldrick presents the Outstanding Student award to apprentice electrical mechanic John Clough.*

*Below: YTC vice-principal Mr. Les Phippen, second from right, pictured with certificate of Technology holders after the award presentation evening.*

SEC apprentice electrical mechanic John Clough was outstanding student at Yallourn Technical College last year.

Clough, who is continuing his studies this year in a Tertiary Orientation course at Yallourn Technical College:—

- completed a scheduled four-year course in three years,
- completed 24 modules of study with an average pass rate of more than 75 per cent,
- successfully undertook four external SEC examinations, and,
- during the same period, completed five

technology subjects, averaging 78 per cent.

The presentation highlighted the College's annual trades and technology awards night.

Awards winners employed by the SEC were:— Metal fabrication—1st year: P. Zafina. 2nd year: P. Northover. 3rd years: I. Holmes. Building studies — 1st year: D. Keuch.

Electrical fitting — 1st year: K. Tate. 2nd year: C. Thorburn. 3rd year: F. Hyett. 4th year: I. Combridge. Electrical mechanics — 1st year: A. Mills. 2nd year: J. Rose. 3rd year: P. James. 4th year: D. Chapman.

Instrument Making— 2nd year: T. Robinson. 3rd year: B. Fanning. Fitting & machining — 2nd year: P. Shore. 3rd year: P. Halliday.

Automotive Electrical — 1st year: P. Bennett. Certificate of Technology, 1st year full-time: R. Mether.

Certificates of Technology — power engineering, electrical: R. Vesty, R. McDonald, S. Lucas, M. Buhagiar, D. Stuckey. Design drafting (electrical): R. Atkins.

Higher Technician certificate — electrical operator: A. Harlow.



## N.G. TRIP FOR STEPHEN

Stephen Emery, son of Paul Emery (motor driver-Municipal-Yallourn) was a member of the team sponsored by the Victorian Government to play Australian Rules Football in New Guinea last month.

The team played eight games in an enjoyable and successful tour.

Victoria sent two teams—U/14, U/16, and Stephen was in the U/16 team.

A member of the Latrobe Valley Schoolboys' teams which competed in Melbourne in 1972-73, Stephen was in the inter-state team which played in Western Australia in 1973.

He also won the "Sun-kick" competition final last year at the VFL Grand Final.

Stephen, who attends Newborough High School, plays football with Yallourn Football Club.

