

Rooney

CONTACT



THE STATE ELECTRICITY COMMISSION LATROBE VALLEY REGION MAGAZINE — JULY, 1970

THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD PUBLIC RELATIONS

During recent years, much attention has been focused on the subject of Public Relations.

Mr Charles Trethowan has been appointed Chairman of a Public Relations Committee, recently established by the Commission and this month, in place of the usual "Manager's Message", he gives us his thoughts on Public Relations, as it affects us.

GRAHAM BLACK
Acting Manager

A PERSONAL MESSAGE



from the

Assistant General Manager

(Administration)

MR J.C. TRETOWAN

Everyone has at some time or other practised a form of personal public relations.

If we have done our best to get along with the other fellow and his family; if we have set out to be tolerant of another's point of view and mindful of his interests; if we have tried as individuals to put our best foot forward to create a favourable impression — then we have, perhaps unconsciously, been promoting our own good public relations.

Good public relations has always been important to the success of any business or organisation. Today it is vital. Public opinion is a key factor in deciding whether organisations prosper or perish.

This is especially true in the case of a public utility such as the SEC. We operate because the people of Victoria have granted us a charter to serve them and we must keep this constantly in mind.

In any endeavour to improve public relations, every employee can play an important part. It is the daily application of common sense and common courtesy by loyal, well-informed employees that provides the kind of service that wins public approval.

So far as we in the Commission are concerned, to our friends and the people around us, or those with whom we come in contact through our work, WE ARE THE SEC and some part of the impression we create — good or bad — will colour the impression the public has of our organisation.

With an organisation as large and with as many varied interests as the

Morwell MLA calls on us



On July 10, Derek Amos paid his first official visit to the Commission as M.L.A. for Morwell.

He was conducted around Yallourn Open Cut and Power Station, Morwell Open Cut and Briquetting Factory and the Hazelwood Power and Terminal Stations. He intends to return at later

dates to familiarise himself with each individual operation.

In the photograph above Derek is seen with Allan Crockett, Regional Briquetting Engineer, chatting with Walter Godden, a shift Steam Plant Attendant at Morwell Briquette Factory.

Continued on Page 2

Personal message

Continued from Page 1

Commission, projecting a favourable image to the public is a complex matter, involving many factors.

Basically, however, the public's attitude towards the Commission is formed by the impression given by individual employees. Virtually every action taken by any employee in the course of his duties has a "public relations" effect - good or bad.

Today, the Commission is faced with tough competition in the battle for the power and fuel market. To maintain its position it has to constantly watch the economics of its situation, and it needs public understanding of its motives and public acceptance of its actions.

If we choose to work WITH an organisation, then we should work FOR it - otherwise we are defeating our own ends.

Whatever each of us can do to promote unity, to develop a sense of identity with our organisation, to foster a common loyalty to our service and to one another - this we should do.

Such an attitude would soon be reflected in our day-to-day dealings with the public and would promote even greater goodwill and appreciation of the Commission's efforts to serve the people of Victoria.

SOCIAL CLUB CENTRE FOR MORWELL?

A steering committee from the Association of Social Clubs has requested Mr Graham Black, Acting Manager of the Latrobe Valley Region, to investigate the possibility of allocating Commission land in Morwell for the establishment of a Social Club Centre.

The request was favorably received by Mr Black, who has promised to look into the matter.

When further news is available, you'll be able to read it in 'Contact'.

BIRTH

McMILLIN: Mr. and Mrs. Dennis (CAO, Supplies Section, Stores, Yallourn). A son, Rodney James on 24/7/70.

PAGE 2 - CONTACT



Suggestion award winner

On Thursday, July 23, Commercial Administrative Officer John Wyatt, of Yallourn Power Station, was presented with a cheque for \$90 for a suggestion he had submitted.

John's suggestion was for a new type

of Impeller Balance. Based on the same principle as the wheel-balancing equipment used for motor vehicles, the new Impeller Balance requires only 24 manhours per year to operate, compared with 234 manhours under the old method is a total saving of roughly \$400 a year.

PUTTING YOUR PAY TO WORK

Your pay can earn attractive rates of interest when it is paid direct into various banks, credit unions and building societies.

For example, the Latrobe Permanent Building Society offers terms of 6½%, the Latrobe Valley Credit Unions 5% and the State Savings Bank 3¾%.

The SEC's own Credit Society at this stage has facilities to handle only regular deductions from pay.

Incidentally, the State Savings Bank is the only bank which will accept direct pay deposits to savings accounts. All banks will accept pay deposits to cheque accounts but these, of course, bear no interest.

It is only too easy to lose money and in these days of armed hold-up, robberies and bashings, it is unwise to carry too much cash. It is safer and more profitable to put your money to work where it is earning you interest and encourages the growth of savings.

Facilities are available at the SEC for every wage and salary earner to have

all or part of their pay deposited in interest-bearing accounts or, alternatively, payment by cheque may be arranged - some employees avail themselves of this facility at present.

Full information and application forms are available from your timekeeper, or, if you prefer, ring the Paymaster (L.V.) on Telephone Extension 2370.

FOUND

A pair of safety spectacles - NEW. The lenses are prescription, single vision and were provided by Keith Henderson, Pty. Ltd.

They were found in Moe and can be obtained from Andy Smith, Stores, Yallourn (Telephone 2852) on proof of ownership.

Yallourn Power Station Social Club's Annual Cabaret Ball

The Yallourn Power Station Social Club's Annual Cabaret Ball was held on July 10 at Shaw's Ballroom, Moe.

Almost 400 people enjoyed themselves until 2.00 a.m., dancing to the music of the Harmonisers from Morwell.

June Hamilton, the Melbourne comedienne, was the cabaret artiste.

Amongst the revellers appearing in the photograph below we can spot Peter Euman, Jack and Mrs Davis, Alan and Joyce Castelow, Liz Basten, Ron

Williamson, Ian Ipsen, Alan Weadley, Leon Barnett, Taffy Morgan, Bob Hall, Reg Weaver, Vlad Cussak, W. Risol, R. Cole and Mrs Cole.

How many can you recognize?



ONE DOOR CLOSES... ANOTHER OPENS!

THE PROSPECTS OF THE BRIQUETTE INDUSTRY IN RELATION TO CHAR PRODUCTION

By ALLAN CROCKETT, Regional Briquetting Engineer.

When the Gas and Fuel Corporation's Lurgi plant at Morwell closed, the Commission lost a customer who, in their record year, bought just over 200,000 tons of briquettes.

Although the domestic market for briquettes this year is expected to be about 530,000 tons and the industrial market forecast is 560,000 tons, the loss of yearly sales amounting to 200,000 tons meant a substantial loss of revenue. However, the outlook for sales of briquettes is far from gloomy - the increasing demand for briquettes to be used for processing into char should more than compensate for lost sales due to the advent of natural gas.

Australian Char Pty. Ltd. has started to take briquettes for their \$3 million plant at Morwell and the Colonial Gas Association has re-opened its Footscray gas works for the production of char from briquettes. Sales of briquettes continue to be made to Gippsland Cement Ltd., for the operation of their char plant at Traralgon, which went into production over a year ago.

When all these plants are operating at full capacity, their total briquette consumption will amount to over 300,000 tons a year.

CHAR USED IN RAYON MANUFACTURE

Australian Char, Pty. Ltd. is a company formed from a partnership of Elder

Smith Goldsbrough Mort, the Nissho Company of Japan and the Commission.

The company will produce hard char from briquettes by a closely controlled process to remove moisture and volatiles. Because of the precise control the briquettes retain their shape and shrink to a little more than half their original dimensions.

Char in this form will be exported to Japan for use as carbon for the carbon disulphide industry, the carbon disulphide in turn being used for the production of rayon.

Several other Japanese industries are considering the use of char in their manufacturing processes.

CHAR FOR BARBECUES

The Colonial Gas Association has carried out modifications on the retorts at their Footscray gas works, which were shut down following conversion of the Footscray-Williamstown area to natural gas.

Char is already being produced there for the production of barbecue briquettes. These retorts are well suited to produce several varieties of char to meet the needs of differing markets.

CHAR FOR CEMENT MAKING AND COOKERS

Gippsland Cement, Ltd. installed a pilot unit designed to use soft char at their Traralgon plant in 1968. The unit, which was designed by the company and the Commission, performed extremely well and resulted in six much larger char

producing volatile burners being put into service in May, 1969.

This plant now provides the whole of the fuel requirements of the Traralgon Cement Works, together with some surplus char. Gippsland Cement has been investigating markets for this surplus and it is providing supplies for the operation of slow-combustion cookers and blacksmiths' forges. Other markets are being actively explored.

FUTURE OUTLOOK PROMISING

Very large sales of char are foreseen because many newly-developed technical processes require high purity carbon; the carbon produced from Yallourn brown coal meets this high purity standard.

Few of the world's sources of carbon are as pure as our briquettes and the purer forms are almost always extremely high in price.

Investigations are now being made into the use of briquette char for metallurgical uses and the production of activated carbon. It seems certain that char will become increasingly important as a source of carbon for the chemical industry.

The world's demand for pure carbon is increasing to such an extent that the Latrobe Valley with its brown coal resources should, in the foreseeable future, be supplying a considerable percentage of this demand.





GERMAN BRIQUETTING METHODS EXAMINED

Mr L.A. Crockett, Regional Briquetting Engineer, the author of the article on Page 4, left on July 17 for about four weeks to investigate and appraise equipment and methods used for the shrink-film packaging of briquettes in Germany, together with some related aspects of marketing. While there he will also follow up developments in the briquette industry.



On Wednesday, July 22, Mr. J. B. (Bert) Dunn, Gardener, retired after 21 years' service.

Bert commenced his service with the Commission in 1949 as a cleaner at Yallourn Power Station and in 1950 joined the gardening section.

He has been a member of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade and he takes a keen interest in lapidary and in his garden.

Bert has his home in Pakenham and has been travelling, back and forth, at weekends.

At a function to bid him farewell, he was presented with a wallet of notes - the gift of his colleagues and with two personal gifts given to him by close friends.

NOW THEY CAN SIT BACK?...



Mr J. G. (Jack) Tulloch, Mechanical Maintenance Superintendent, Coal Division, Morwell, retired this month after 33 years' service.

Jack worked in the Yallourn North and Yallourn Open Cuts prior to moving to Morwell in 1955 as Mechanical Maintenance Superintendent.

Both Mr Lamin, Chief Engineer Fuel and Mr I. Wilson, Coal Production Superintendent (M), spoke highly of Jack, saying it was largely due to his efforts that such a high standard of maintenance prevailed in his section.

Jack is very active also in community life, being a keen thespian, bowler and golfer.

In thanking all assembled for his gifts of a pen and pencil set, cufflinks and a wallet with notes, Jack said how proud and pleased he was at the presence of a number of his past colleagues - some retired and some from Melbourne.

He intends to leave on a world tour within a few days of his retirement.



Mr. E. J. (Ted) McElroy, Leading Hand in Coal Handling at Yallourn Power Station, retired on July 21, after 28 years' service.

Ted commenced as a trimmer in 1942. Subsequently, he was a fireman and, later engaged in coal handling, the position from which he retired.

He is a keen gardener and is a life member of the Morwell Garden Club. He is also a member of the Field Naturalist Club.



On July 15, Mr. R. A. (Dick) Ousley retired after 17 years' service with the Commission.

A skilled Construction Builder's Labourer, Dick was engaged in general maintenance work.

Roy Norden, General Services Superintendent, Yallourn, said that Dick had always been held in high esteem by his workmates and enjoyed a reputation as a humourist.

Dick, who was presented with a transistor radio, said that he was looking forward to years of good fishing in his retirement.



Mr. F. G. (Frank) Muller-Kobald, Boiler House Engineer, Yallourn Power Station, retired on July 23 after 15 years' service.

Frank joined the Commission in 1955 at Ballarat and came to the Latrobe Valley in 1962.

Before joining the Commission Frank led a somewhat chequered career. Born in Holland, he joined the merchant navy, then became a farmer in Java. He lost everything with the outbreak of war and his wife and six children were imprisoned by the Japanese.

He then joined the Dutch Navy and during his service had three ships sunk under him. His retirement which he will spend in Ballarat, will probably seem an anticlimax after the life he has led!

Acting Power Station Superintendent Bruce Johnston, on behalf of the Operations Staff, presented Frank with an electric frypan complete with warming tray.

Do you want to improve your job?

REGIONAL
TRAINING
CENTRE

by
BOB BIGELOW,
Education and
Training Officer.

Many people are perfectly happy with the job they already have. All organisations need a number of people who are happy carrying out fairly routine clerical and manual jobs. There aren't enough jobs further up the ladder even if everybody did want one.

But, maybe you are in a fairly routine job and you really believe you are capable of and should be doing work that requires more thinking. If so, one of the reasons you have not progressed could probably be through lack of education.

Many people with the necessary ability do not have or grasp the opportunity to receive a good education. This is one of the reasons why the Commission has special arrangements for helping you continue your education if you really want to.

If you are in a routine job, perhaps you are not satisfied. Possibly, you were good at Maths or Science at school, but just couldn't afford to stay. If this is the case and if you are prepared to put time and effort into a lot of study over the next few years, maybe you should be thinking about becoming a Foreman, a Technical Services Officer, or perhaps for training to be a Unit Attendant.

These days, with such rapid development of machinery and operating methods and so much change in the knowledge required to perform most jobs, even a good basic education is not enough. In most jobs we have to keep adding to our knowledge.

If you are a young tradesman you would be very wise not to regard your education as complete because you have finished the required trade schooling. For example, in the electrical trades, a thorough knowledge of electronics is becoming essential. In the mechanical trades, new materials and lubricants are emerging constantly, in addition to the inevitable increase in mechanisation and automatic processes.

You should be thinking about acquiring the extra trade knowledge which could make you more useful as a Foreman or Inspector, or in some specialised technical job. Perhaps you should be studying Supervision or Safety at the Technical School.

If you are at present serving an Apprenticeship, there is a lot you can do now to ensure maximum benefit from your training opportunity. Apprentices who make the best progress, learn the most and gain the greatest enjoyment from their training, are the ones prepared to put in plenty of effort, ask questions and not sit around waiting to be trained.

The values of improved education are not confined only to people in technical jobs. Excellent courses, both professional and sub-professional, are now available locally in commercial work.

If you are starting to think about "returning to the books", you will want to know exactly what help you can expect.

Firstly, the Commission has a team of people, with a good knowledge of education systems and specially trained to advise

you on education matters. If you would like advice, arrange through your immediate supervisor to telephone the Technical Training Officer, Ric Crookes on 2106, the Apprentice Training Officer, Fred Douglas on 2305, or if your concern is commercial education, the Assistant Education and Training Officer, John Drewett, on 2162.

The 284 "Valley" people currently studying approved courses are eligible for paid time off for examinations and reimbursement of fees for any subjects they pass. In certain instances, having proved they can study successfully, they are given paid time off to attend classes. Special study leave is also provided in some cases.

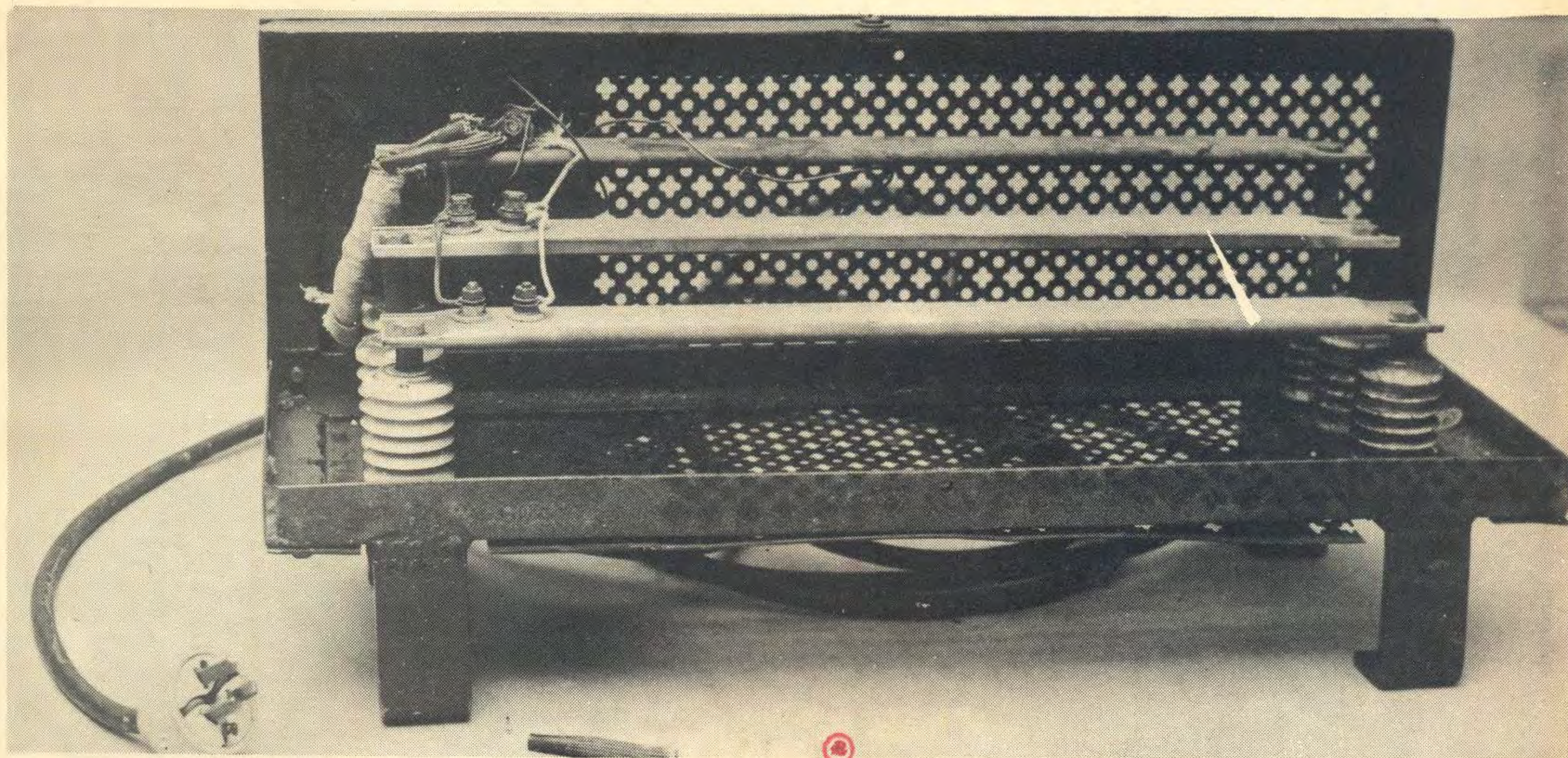
If you make really good progress with your course, you may gain one of the Bursaries in Engineering or Business Studies awarded by the Commission each year for full time study. A number of "Valley" apprentices, junior clerks and other employees have completed professional courses which would have been impossible without this type of assistance.

You will find the Education and Training team only too pleased to help and advise you on any educational problem, whether it is selection of a study program, difficulty you are encountering with a course, or even concerning the education of your children.

Provision of this service is only one of the things that take place in the Regional Training Centre. In the next issue of Contact, we shall outline the specialised service Education and Training provide to Supervisors and Managers to assist with the training of their employees.



DON'T ELECTRIFY YOUR WORKMATE



The photograph above shows the internal electrical connections of a 230V portable radiator recently handed to the Electrical Plant Section for repair.

Such appliances are commonly used to provide supplementary heating, particularly by shift personnel and this one was used in the No.10 turbine driver's cubicle located on the operating floor of Yallourn Power Station.

This heater was potentially dangerous and could have resulted in a fatality had it been switched on. The following electrical faults were detected :-

- (a) There was no earth connected to the frame.
- (b) The earth wire in the supply lead was burnt off.
- (c) One terminal stud of the top heating element was broken.
- (d) This broken terminal was bound to the element with uninsulated wire, as illustrated in the photograph.
- (e) The binding wire was in contact with the frame of the heater.

Anybody touching this heater, whilst it was switched on, could have received a fatal electric shock. Luckily, there is a wooden floor in the turbine cubicle -

imagine the result though if you had been standing on the steel grid mesh and touched the heater.

REGULAR MAINTENANCE OF ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

Statistically, ten persons per million of population die from electric shock each year in this country, the prime cause being ineffective earth connections. In an establishment where we have facilities for

regular inspection and testing of portable electrical appliances, such electrical hazards should not exist and the possibility of an employee receiving an electric shock should be negligible.

Remember, tampering with any portable electrical appliance by unauthorised personnel is not only illegal, but could lead to a positively shocking experience.



"Then I said to the wife, 'Who needs to send for an electrician?'"

APPRENTICES' OPEN WEEK

Parents of Commission apprentices showed great interest in their sons' progress at the Open Week, held from July 21 - 24. Some ninety per cent of the parents of first-year apprentices turn-

ed up at the Education and Training Centre, Yallourn. The photographs on these pages give some idea of the interest shown.



Mr and Mrs Grotts and their apprentice son Geoffrey. Mr Grotts is holding his son Stephen. They inspect a selection of tools used in exercises during first and second terms.



Left to right: Instructor R. Catchpole, Mr G. Cook, his son Gordon (apprentice electrical mechanic), Mrs Cook and Mrs Broberg. Mr Catchpole is explaining some of the finer details of the electrical mechanic's projects.



Mr and Mrs Cutts with their son James, an apprentice instrument maker and repairer. James is showing his parents the results of a soldering exercise.



From left are Mr J. Tullo, Mrs Tullo, Mrs Nevin and apprentice electrical mechanic Philip Tullo. Philip is demonstrating the operation of a pipe wrench.



A "C" clamp is shown to Mr and Mrs Buckley by their son Dennis, who is an apprentice electrical mechanic.



Mr and Mrs Davies with son Paul, an electrical fitter apprentice. Instructor M. Meany discusses Paul's work assessment graph with them.

Hazelwood Power Station Social Club

The Hazelwood Power Station Social Club was founded in December, 1963. Rod Bennett acted as chairman of the initial meeting and was elected President. Other original office bearers were Ron Wardell, Secretary and Keith Phillips, Treasurer. Some of the original committee members, Freddy Fryer, Bart Puts and Frank Romanoff have served uninterruptedly until their retirement this year.

The Social Club really started to get going with the opening of a kiosk in April 1964, with Ron Wardell as manager. Membership at this time was 78.

The first social event to be staged was a children's Christmas Party, which was held in December, 1964. This first children's party was a relatively modest affair when compared with the plans for this year's party.

To be held at the Hazelwood Recreation Reserve on December 13, this year's picnic will feature a display by the Steam Train Association of Victoria. The Association is bringing five or six steam locomotives which will run on tracks.

The Hazelwood Power Station kids are in for a bumper Christmas this year. In addition to the Picnic, block bookings have been made for the Yallourn Thespians pantomime on December 6, 7, and 8. The panto this year will probably be "Jack and the Beanstalk", though this has not

yet been finally decided.

In addition there will probably be a few goodies for the kids included in purchases made with the Christmas Hampers that the Social Club makes available to its members.

In 1967, Alan Castelow, Assistant Power Station Superintendent, was elected President, with Graham McWilliam as Secretary/Treasurer. It was during their successors' - Frank Pye and Dave Adams - term of office that the Social Club's second kiosk was opened in September, 1969.

The Social Club's sound financial standing is due in large measure to the efficient running of the two kiosks under the able management of Wally Hughes, assisted by Noel Batty, also to the Shift Lockers, run on a voluntary basis by Operations personnel.

The Social Club is actively represented in the Latrobe Valley Mid-Week Cricket Association's competition, fielding two elevens.

Last year saw their efforts pay off. One of the teams carried off the Premiership, thanks to some sterling performances by Ron Nichols, Secretary of the Shift Cricket Club and Dave Noble, President.

Premier social event in the Hazelwood Club's calendar is the annual Cabaret Ball. Last year's Ball was so well supported by members that attendance had to be restricted to members and their immediate families only.

This year the 5th Annual Ball was held at the Karma Hall and was attended by some 366 people. You can judge for yourself how they enjoyed themselves by the photograph on this page.



Dave Adams, Secretary/Treasurer of the Social Club, keeps a watchful eye on proceedings whilst he downs a beer.

Other yearly functions held by the Social Club are a Dinner Dance and a 'Smoko'. The present committee, consisting of Vic Bell, Trevor Burgess, Bert Dixon, Alf Goodwin, Gordon Loraine, George Morris, Bruce Mussared, John Naughton, Justin O'Hea, Trevor Whitmore and Harold Young, President Frank Pye, Vice-President Ray Wilkinson and Secretary/Treasurer Dave Adams, are at present investigating various forms of social activity in an endeavour to give the Hazelwood Power Station Social Club as interesting and attractive a program as possible.

Judging by the response of members so far, they seem to have found the right formula for running a successful social club.

Travellers' tales

Australians travelling abroad often find signs that torture the English language in novel ways. Here are a few examples:—

In a Tokyo hotel: "Is forbidden to steal towels please. If you are not person to do such is please not to read notice."

On a lift in Germany: "Do not enter the lift backwards, and only when lit up."

On a menu in a Swiss restaurant: "Our wines leave you nothing to hope for."



Neil and Mrs Harper, Mrs Schulz and Kurt, Mrs Fisher, Justin O'Hea, Bill Wilson, John McCafferty, Mrs Puts and Bart at the Hazelwood Power Station Social Club's Cabaret Ball.

SAFETY AWARD



On July 9, the 24 members of Safety Group 7, Yallourn Power Station Mechanical Maintenance (Bciler House group), received awards for working a year without a lost time injury.

Presentations included such useful items as: spirit levels, 3 foot rulers, car spotlights, shampoo sprays, screwdriver kits, manicure sets, wallets, multi-grips, lever corkscrews, carving knives, tankards.

Injury-free year rewarded

Awards were made to Group 14 Cleaning Gang in the Yallourn Power Station Lecture Room on Monday, July 20 for having gone through 12 months without a disabling injury.

Don Clark, Power Station Superintendent, congratulated the group on their fine record and expressed the hope that they would all be gathered together in a year's time to celebrate a two-year injury-

free period.

Bruce Johnston, Assistant Power Station Superintendent and Frank Fletcher, Mechanical Maintenance Engineer, made the individual presentations.



Yallourn Open Cut Safety Record



Safety history was made recently when the 750 men of the Yallourn Open Cut worked for 93 days without a lost-time injury.

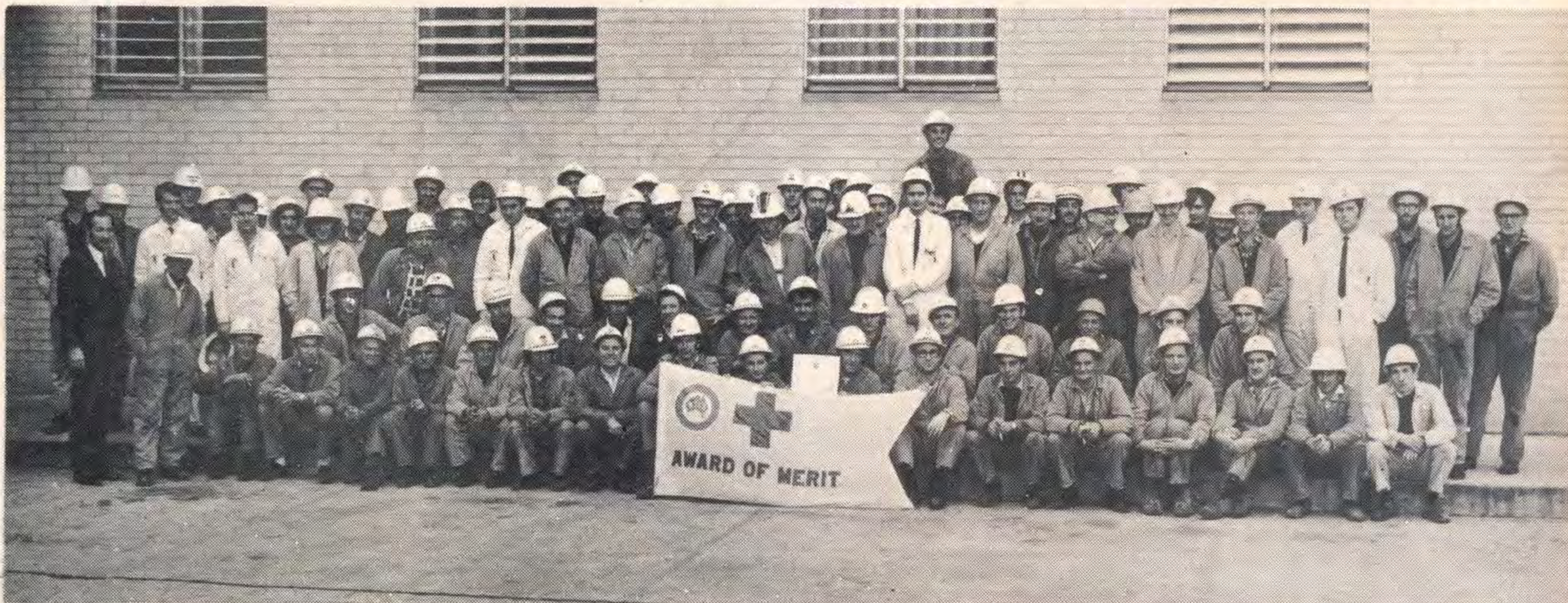
Different groups within this main group have achieved some impressive safety records. Yallourn North Open Cut was one

of the first groups in the area to work 500 days without a lost-time injury. The Overburden Operations Section (about 60 men) have four times achieved 100,000 manhours without loss of time due to injury. In Core Operations, 'C' roster worked over 1,000 days and 'D' roster over 500 days without a lost-time injury.

Safety awards will be presented to mark

these achievements. However, the Electrical Section (see photograph above) have decided to forego their awards. Instead, they have generously made a donation to the Victorian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children as a kind of thank-offering for returning home to their families uninjured.

National Safety Council award for Hazelwood



On Monday, July 13, the members of the Electrical Plant Section at Hazelwood Power Station, were presented with the National Safety Council Award and pennant

for 100,000 manhours free of disabling injury. The men of the Section completed approximately six months work free of disabling injuries to qualify for the Award.

This is the first Section at Hazelwood to reach this target and the men are now working towards the next National Safety Council target of 250,000 manhours free of disabling injuries.

FASHIONING FOSSILS

Peter Draper works with wood. He carves, turns and polishes wood and makes things such as the candlestick illustrated on page 14.

What's so special about that, you ask? Well, the wood that Peter uses is fossilised wood, anything from twenty to fifty million years old.

Found in the brown coal seams of the open cuts, fossilised tree trunks, still showing their woody structure, are found lying in the positions in which they fell many millions of years ago.

The trees include fossilised Banksia, Kauri, Celery Top Pine, Huon Pine and Yellow Woods that today are usually found, only in sub-tropical regions.

Fossilised wood is very difficult material to work. The fibre content has largely been destroyed and, when exposed to air, the wood is subjected to an accelerated drying process that leaves it hard and brittle.

To get round this and to preserve some flexibility in the wood to enable it to be worked without shattering, Peter wraps the timber in layers of newspaper at least a quarter of an inch thick. It is then stored until it has lost roughly one third of its original weight. This drying-out process takes anything up to 18 months, depending upon the size of the piece of wood.

The piece of wood, for example, from which the candlestick was turned took a year to dry.

Peter, who is a Guide based at the Visitors' Reception Centre, Yallourn, has been working with fossilised wood for the past five years. He started by making a polished cube, making up techniques as he went along.

He has made various goblets and a swagger cane, which involved filleting innumerable slivers of wood in order to gain the necessary elasticity. This project took nine months to complete.

As you can see from the photograph of Peter in his workshop, his tools are simple - a lathe, some wood chisels, files and sandpaper. Polishing he does by hand and for a lubricant he literally uses the sweat of his brow.

Peter is now concentrating on abstract sculptures. His wood sculpture "Wave" was intended to symbolise international understanding and was taken by Dr W. H. Connolly, the Commission's Chairman and General Manager, to a World Power Conference in Moscow.

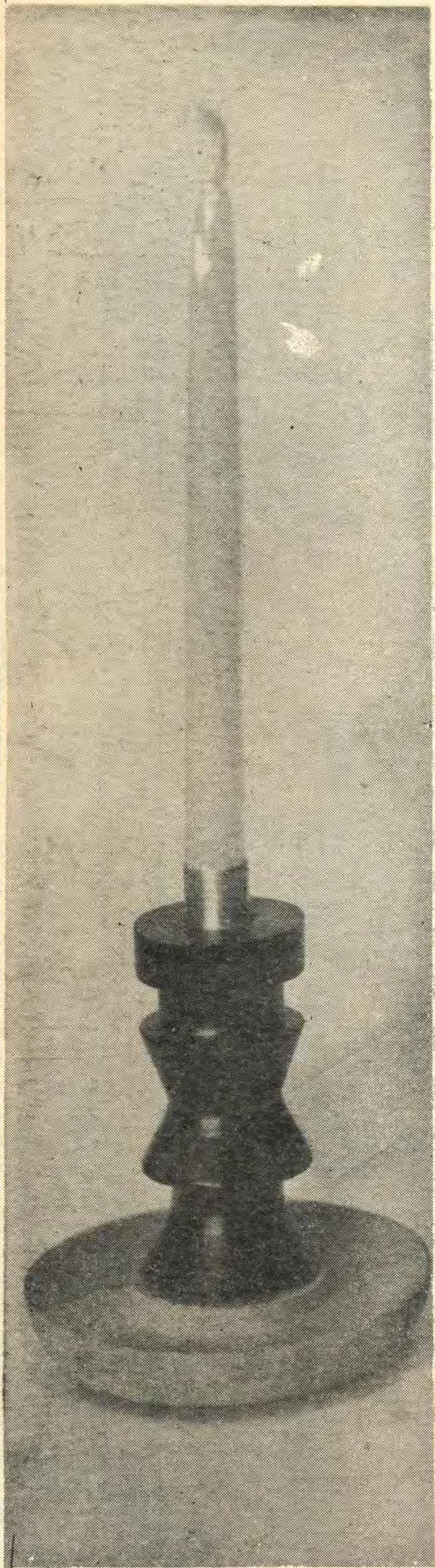
His latest sculpture is "Flight", symbolising family life.

Peter hopes eventually to have sufficient fossilised wood carvings and sculptures to be able to hold an exhibition, with the proceeds going to various charities, including the Church of England Boys' Society, in which Peter is keenly interested.



"It doesn't hurt a bit - well, not much", Theresa Zarb, Grade 2 Drafting Assistant, seems to be saying to Dr A. C. Reith. Theresa took advantage of the Commission's offer of free anti-Hong Kong 'flu inoculations earlier this month.

THE OLD AND THE NEW



The body of this candlestick is made from fossilised phyllocladus (celery top pine), approximately 30 million years old. The base is made from present-day celery top pine.

ESSAY CONTEST WINNER VISITS VALLEY



Ailsa Green, 15, a Form 3 pupil of Cann River State School, was a guest of the Commission in the Latrobe Valley on July 21 and 22, as part of her prize as winner of an essay competition - "Why I would like an all-electric home" - run by of the Gippsland Electricity Supply Branch. Ailsa was accompanied on her trip by her sister, Ruth (on the left in the photograph), and was driven down from Cann River by George Holding, District Man-

TURTLE CLUB.

WEAR YOUR HARD HAT ALWAYS



Rhoads to land

AND TO TOP IT OFF YOU ARE AUSTRALIA'S FIRST SHORTNECK MEMBER.

An outsider's view of the Valley

Each year, apprentices from all over Australia compete for the Apprentice of the Year Award. As part of his prize, the winner is given a trip to Melbourne and visits various industries and places of interest in the area.

The 1970 Apprentice of the Year, apprentice electrical fitter Gary Williams of the Commonwealth Railways Institute, spent a day touring the Latrobe Valley as part of his prize.

Here are his impressions of his visit :-

"On Wednesday morning we left Melbourne via the 'Gippslander' for Moe the starting point of our tour of the Latrobe Valley installations owned and operated by the State Electricity Commission of Victoria (S.E.C).

"A Public Liaison Officer from the S.E.C. Administration Offices at Morwell met us at the Moe Railway Station. Firstly, we were shown a model layout of the Latrobe Valley. This provided us with a knowledge of the relative positions of the towns and power stations and the vast brown coal deposits. Next, we visited the Apprentice Training Centre. Although on a much larger scale, it compared favorably with that of the Commonwealth Railways. One facet of the training scheme for apprentices that interested me was the S.E.C.'s facilities available to apprentices for training in post-apprenticeship courses.

"We then went to the construction site of the new 'W' Power Station. Even though it was in early stages of construction, it was easy to gauge the massive size it will be when completed. Yallourn township was the next place we looked at. The town, owned and controlled by the S.E.C., is to be demolished in the future to allow rich deposits of brown coal, upon which it is situated, to be obtained. From there we went to the Yallourn Open Cut, which is

responsible for supplying coal to the Yallourn Power Station and Briquette Works as well as the Morwell Briquette Works. We saw in operation the huge machines (bucket wheel and bucket chain) used for digging out the coal. After lunching at Morwell we travelled to the Hazelwood Power Station, the newest power station of the S.E.C. to come into operation. For its size (output - 1,600,000 kilowatts on completion), I was amazed at the small labour force that was required to operate it.

"My first impression gained that the S.E.C showed an interest in their employees and their welfare was strengthened after learning that the man-made lake, used for cooling purposes at the Hazelwood Power Station had been made available for recreational purposes (swimming, water-skiing and yachting) as well.

"The Morwell Briquette Works was the last place to be visited. There we saw the complete process of briquette making from its raw coal state to loading of the briquettes into rail trucks for transportation to the consumers.

"Even though a whole day was spent touring the Valley, I would have liked to have had more time to look at this well-organised industry."

JOURNALIST FOR CONTACT



Derek Johns has joined the Commission as a Journalist. He will be writing and collecting material for 'Contact' and invites all Commission personnel to contribute any items they think may be of interest to fellow employees.

Derek may be contacted at the Public Liaison Office at Morwell, Extension 3170.

CARAVAN FOR HIRE

14 ft. 6 in. 4-berth Franklin caravan only six months old, for hire - reasonable. Apply Butler, 10 Delburn Street, East Newborough.

SUGGESTION AWARDS - 1970

LATROBE VALLEY REGION

MONTHLY FEATURE

	Power		Briquette		Coal		Services		Transmission		Administration		Accounting		Personnel		Totals	
	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$
January	16	167			2	26	4	54	2	115	3	68					27	430
February	11	195	3	38	2	20	8	102	2	14					1	10	27	379
March	9	130					3	68	1	50					1	8	14	256
April	3	110	1	8	5	88	3	36	4	37							16	279
May	14	280	6	228	1	8	4	63	4	128			1	10			30	717
June	9	197			6	64	5	40	2	23	3	30	1	25			26	379
July	8	123			11	127	3	31	3	65	2	23	1	8			28	375
Totals	70	1,202	10	274	27	333	30	394	18	432	8	121	3	43	2	18	168	2,815
Approx. Average Awards \$		\$17		\$27		\$12		\$13		\$24		\$15		\$14		\$9		\$16

Our picture of the month shows David Manning, a 22 year-old of Moe, who is just commencing his boxing career, and (on the right) Arie Winkleman, late of Holland and of Australia for the past 16 years.

David, a boilermaker and Arie, a rigger, are men who work hard and participate in the hardest sport of all - boxing. With 20 years of boxing behind him, Arie at 38 years is in perfect physical condition. It has been said of fighters - it's the good ones that don't get knocked around and there's not a mark on Arie Winkleman.

Arie's record shows that he's been up with the best. 1951 - Lightweight Champion of South Holland; 1952-53 Military Champion of the Netherlands; fought in Battle of Britain Shield in London; Bronze medal - Inter-Allied Forces Championships at Munich, Germany. Came to Australia in 1954 and took the Gippsland Middleweight Championship from Vic Pearce in his first fight in Australia and in 1957 was ranked tenth in Australian middleweight division. Pushed the Australian heavyweight champion Steve Radulz closely and in 1963 retained fourth rating in the division. Defeated the number three ranker, Orlando Guerini in February 1963 and lost to top ranker Foster Bibron in the fifth round, which caused Arie's retirement from an injured arm. Yes, man, he's been with the best.

Arie Winkleman does not confine his sporting activities solely to the 'noble art of self defence'. He has been for many years the Treasurer of the Monash Soccer Club and is a life member. His experience in Holland as a bank clerk makes him able to figure and, to use his words, "I make sure they are never in the red". When he first arrived in Aussie he assisted youth as a P.T. Instructor in the Y.M.C.A. Many have appreciated his cartoons appearing in local papers from time to time. In a word - Arie is an artist with gloves, pens and pencils.

Early in 1969, Arie formed the Newborough Boxing Club and his pupils soon had top success - Bert Langenberg winning the Gippsland light-middle title and Ken Miller the lightweight title. Both Len Richards and Bert Langenberg were runners-up in the Victorian Championships last year.

The Club has organised boxing nights locally with mixed success but, says Arie, "We are not deterred and will be organising more". This from a true-blue sportsman, who knows his "trade" augers well for the future of Gippsland's boxing.

Last month this column said that memories were fading about the sporting prowess of SEC men of the 1950s. Not

Carter's column



so. From Eric Webster of Coal Production Maintenance comes word that in 1946 a combined social clubs committee was formed from Power Station (still operating); Central Workshops (now known as Yallourn Base Workshops); Coal Supply (now Coal Production); Transport Workshops (still in business); Municipal Depot (now in Construction); Main Stores (now the Stores Social Club); Briquette Factory (now the Briquette Welfare and Social Club). Two that have fallen by the wayside are Yallourn General Stores (Rockman's) and Marr and Beard's (who built many houses in Yallourn). Here then, with the new ones could be a revival of these sports.

The annual sports commenced in 1947 and enjoyed an eleven-year run. Held on Australia Day the sports were preceded by a procession of floats with the Yallourn Band. Then to a full program of sports including cycling. It was a big day.

Later the Annual Bonfire was introduced with a display by the Army. It was in 1958 that the end came - why? Little 'I.....s! But believe me - they in Yallourn knew what was meant by - "there's a hot time in the old town to-night".

Interesting to recall some of the men who organised these great sports - some still with the Commission; some retired; some have 'passed on'.

Some of the original committee - J. Benjimen; Sid Jolliffe; J. Manners; A. Rickman; Eric Webster; Viv Gore; Bill Mussard; M. Arnol; Jim Driscoll; E. Brown and Jim Field. (I know many things have improved our way of living,

but when I write of these events and similar, I feel they must have been "the good old days").

When I spoke to many people about the cups before I wrote last month's para, I heard mention of a shield. Says Eric Webster, "Somewhere around is a perpetual shield, but where I would not know....."

Look here; if some blighter is shield-snitching, come clean - there's a lot of folk who'd like to view it once again.

How do you spend your lunchtime? Face in a paper or just snoozing? There are many like Stores, Yallourn who are more active. They play a game called "Battington". And they challenge all-comers. Barry Warner is the man to contact (SEC 218). "Battington"? It's, as far as I know, badminton with small bats - and include me out - I have enough trouble with a racquet. Still, are YOU going to let Barry Warner and his storemen get away with it?

But just a gypsy warning about Warner. They have at the Stores a battington competition (don't let on I told you) of six teams "A", "B", "C", "D", "E" and "F". Well here goes - stick neck out - why not have some names, storemen? Say "A" - (Capt. M. Bouse) - Ackers; "B" (Capt Tim Harris) - Barkers; "C" - (Capt Terry Birch) - Charlies - now! now! "D" - (Capt A. Wilson) - Dogs; "E" - (Capt XYZ) - Easies and "F" - (Barry Warner) - Frogs. I'm only trying to help.