

# Getting the measure of metrics Page 10



## HOW BIG?

**SQUARE MILLIMETRE (mm<sup>2</sup>), SQUARE CENTIMETRE (cm<sup>2</sup>), SQUARE METRE (m<sup>2</sup>), HECTARE (ha), SQUARE KILOMETRE (km<sup>2</sup>).**  
**METRIC PREFIXES** kilo (k)—means thousand centi (c)—means hundredth  
 deci (d)—means tenth milli (m)—means thousandth

100 mm<sup>2</sup> = 1 cm<sup>2</sup>; 10 000 cm<sup>2</sup> = 1 m<sup>2</sup>; 10 000 m<sup>2</sup> = 1 ha; 100 ha = 1 km<sup>2</sup>

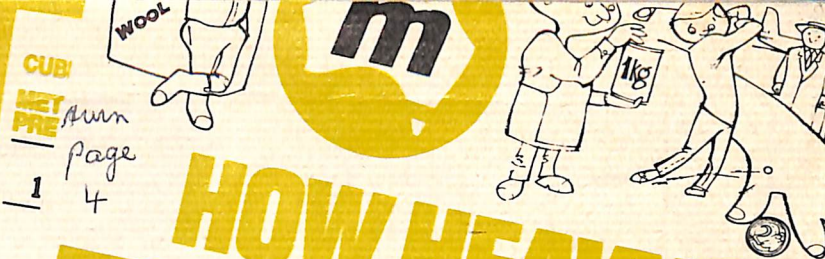
- 2 mm<sup>2</sup>** About the area of the top of a pin head
- 5 cm<sup>2</sup>** The area of the seven cent Queen's head stamp
- 1 m<sup>2</sup>** Is the area of four of these posters
- 100 m<sup>2</sup>** Is about the area of an "11 square" (1100 ft<sup>2</sup>) house
- 1000 m<sup>2</sup>** Is the area of an olympic swimming pool (50 m x 20 m)  
Is the area of a normal quarter acre building block
- 1 ha** About the area of a soccer field or of a square 100 m x 100 m
- 3-7 km<sup>2</sup>** Is the area covered by Ayers Rock

**CONVERSION TABLE:** 1 yd<sup>2</sup> = 0.836 13 m<sup>2</sup> (legal conversion factor)  
 Approximate values: 1 in<sup>2</sup> = 645.2 mm<sup>2</sup>; 1 ft<sup>2</sup> = 929.0 cm<sup>2</sup> = 0.092 90 m<sup>2</sup>  
 1 yd<sup>2</sup> = 0.8361 m<sup>2</sup>; 1 perch = 25.29 m<sup>2</sup>; 1 rood = 1012 m<sup>2</sup>  
 1 acre = 0.4047 ha; 1 square mile = 2.590 km<sup>2</sup>

FORCE  
PRESSURE

VELOCITY  
TEMPERATI  
DENSITY

ENERG  
POW  
TIM



## HOW HEAVY?

**GRAM (g), KILOGRAM (kg), TONNE (t)**  
**METRIC PREFIXES** kilo (k)—means thousand  
 milli (m)—means thousandth

- 1g** About the mass of three aspirin tablets
- 5g** About the mass of a two cent piece
- 50g** About the mass of a golf ball
- 500g** A little more than one pound
- 1kg** A little more than two pounds
- 20kg** Luggage allowance for economy class air travel
- 70kg** About 11 stone
- 1t** A little less than one ton

**CONVERSION TABLE:** 1 lb = 0.453 592 37 kg (exact)  
 Approximate values: 1 oz = 28.35 g; 1 lb = 453.6 g; 1 stone = 6.350 kg;  
 1 cwt = 50.80 kg; 1 ton = 1.016 t

Uk  
millio  
JUS?

## HOW FULL?

**CUBIC CENTIMETRE (cm<sup>3</sup>), LITRE (l), KILOLITRE (kl), CUBIC METRE (m<sup>3</sup>).**  
**METRIC PREFIXES** kilo (k)—means thousand centi (c)—means hundredth  
 deci (d)—means tenth milli (m)—means thousandth

- 1 ml** About one eye dropper full
- 5 ml** One standard teaspoonful
- 200 ml** About 7 fluid ounces
- 600 ml** A little more than a pint
- 1 litre** A familiar wine quantity
- 200 l** The capacity of a 44-gallon drum
- 1 m<sup>3</sup>** About 1 1/3 cubic yards

**CONVERSION TABLE:** 1 yd<sup>3</sup> = 0.764 555 m<sup>3</sup> (legal conversion factor)  
 Approximate values: 1 gal = 0.004 546 09 m<sup>3</sup> (exact)  
 1 gal = 4.546 l; 1 fl oz = 28.41 ml; 1 pt = 568.3 ml  
 1 in<sup>3</sup> = 16.39 cm<sup>3</sup>; 1 ft<sup>3</sup> = 0.028 32 m<sup>3</sup>; 1 yd<sup>3</sup> = 0.7646 m<sup>3</sup>

# IT'S AN ELECTRIC WORLD

Electricity has been used instead of anaesthetic injections to deaden pain during tooth drilling in dental trials in Sydney and Melbourne. A weak electric current is passed through the tooth from the dentist's drill to counter the reception of pain stimuli by the nerves of the tooth. A stainless steel clip is fastened to the patient's ear to complete an electrical circuit through the jaw. A South Sydney dentist who has used the device on 70 patients said it had been effective in 85 per cent of cases. He said he believed the device which produced the current would be useful in dentistry because it produced an instant effect whereas some injections took 10 to 15 minutes to work. It could be acceptable to people who were frightened of injections and it did not leave the jaw numb.

Remember the warmies? A nice little reminiscent piece in the "Herald" last month by a man who grew up in Williamstown recalled the good fishing at the "warmies" — where cooling water emitted from Newport Power Station was warm enough to attract shoals of fish from miles around. The memory should give some food for thought to those who feel that such discharges are harmful to marine life. In fact, overseas power stations are looking closely at establishing fish farms in their cooling pond areas because the warm water is so effective at promoting growth.

Using an electrically controlled environment, a marine biologist is running Britain's only commercial lobster farm from a small establishment behind the sea wall at Reculver, on the north Kent coast. Others who have attempted cultivation of lobsters in Britain have lost thousands of pounds because their schemes have attempted sea breeding. Known as the lobster king of the Kentish marshes, Tim Lucas keeps his lobsters in holding tanks, with part of the fattening, shell-shedding and breeding processes being carried out in artificially simulated conditions.

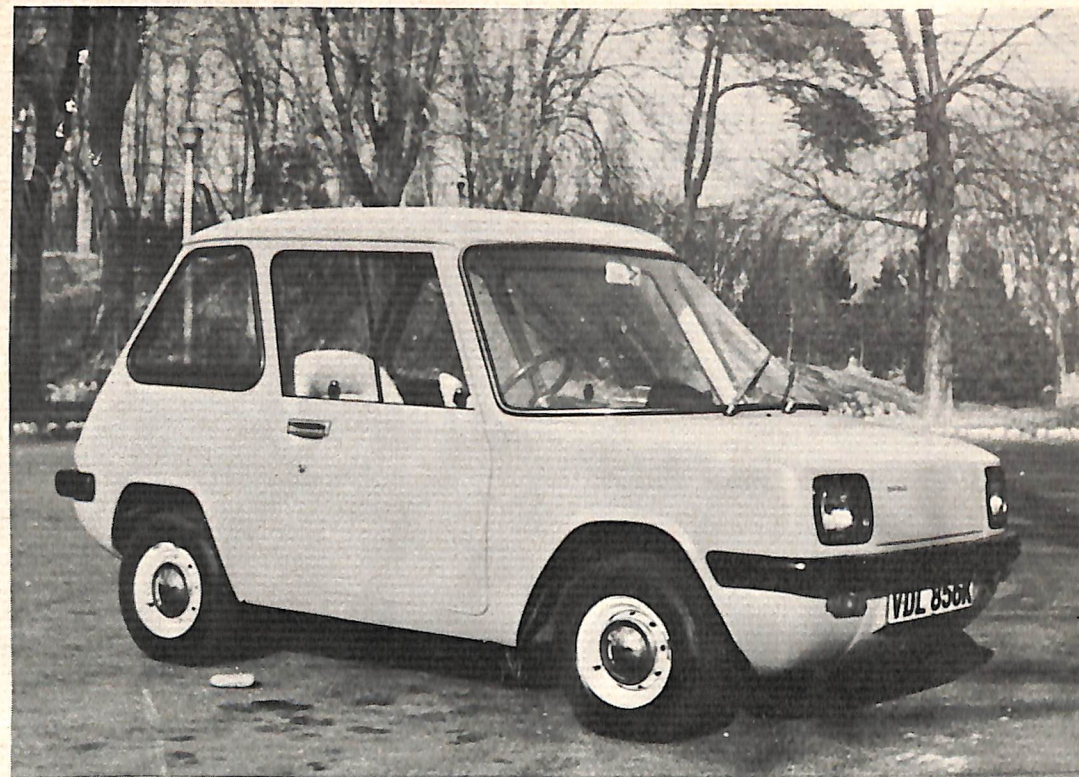
## SEC news

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### OUR COVER

July 1 is M for Metrication day, and to help you in the adjustment, this month's cover shows some of the Metrication Board's charts. To help you further, there is a feature on page 10 of this issue



## Electric car for Commission

An electric car which the SEC believes may help to usher in a new era in Australian motoring is soon to make its debut in Melbourne. The Commission has ordered the car for test purposes from the British manufacturer, Enfield Automotive Ltd.

The car is the Enfield 8000 — a small battery-driven passenger car designed primarily for city use. It is due to be delivered in a few months, along with three others ordered by Australian lead mining and smelting companies.

The car is pollution-free and virtually noise-free, and can be run at less than half the cost of a conventional small car.

According to the maker, it has a top speed of 40 mph and a range of 55 to 90 miles, depending on driving conditions. It can accelerate from 0-20 mph in 6.5 seconds and 0-30 mph in 17 seconds.

Power is provided by four conventional 12-volt lead acid batteries through a series/parallel voltage and field switching control system. An important advantage over earlier battery models is that it has a built-in overnight charger. The owner needs only to plug in to any mains supply and it is ready to go in the morning. Provided it performs here as well as expected, the car could be the forerunner of the type of runabout thousands of people will be driving around Melbourne in a few years.

Certainly the wide acceptance of short-range battery-driven electric cars would make our cities healthier places to live in. Transportation using internal combustion engines is generally recognised as the largest single source of air pollution.

On the open road, electric vehicles still cannot compete with conventional forms of transport for all purposes because of their limitations in range and performance.

However, in England there are more than 45,000 electrically powered road vehicles registered and in daily operation today, compared with 20,000 in 1945.

They have proved to be especially suitable for milk rounds and over 80 per cent of England's milk is delivered by such vehicles. They are also commonly used for mail, parcel and bread delivery and for garbage collection.

The Enfield 8000, the small electric car ordered by the Commission. Four of these will soon be in service in Australia, the other three with lead mining and smelting companies.

The next commercial breakthrough looks likely to be the small electric city passenger car of the type ordered by the SEC.

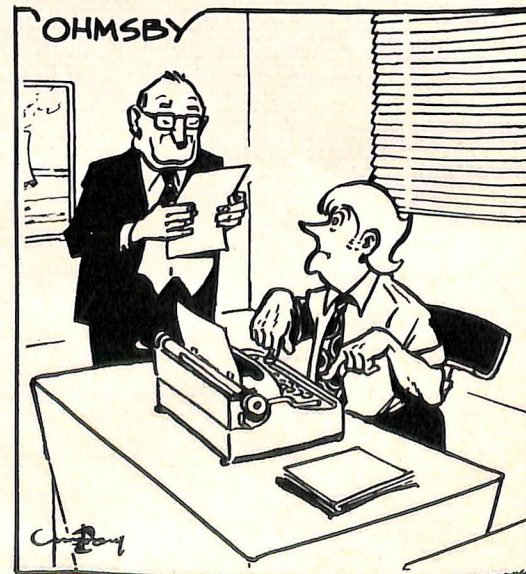
With an upsurge of research overseas into improving the power/weight ratio of rechargeable batteries, the time may not be far off when electric cars will offer a real alternative to the motorist for everyday use.

In a recent series of articles for the "Herald", motoring writer Bryan Hanrahan stated that tomorrow's motoring world will be powered by electricity.

"The future kingdom of energy is electrical power. Nothing else is showing up, even in a crystal ball. Whatever happens the future energy sources will be switched to producing electricity."

In a pertinent comment on the world fuel reserves, Hanrahan said, "So what does it matter if the Wankel rotary replaces the piston engine, or the Sarich orbital engine the rotary. Up and down or round and round there won't be anything left to make them go."

The Commission's electric car will give us an early glimpse of tomorrow's wheeled world.



"Ohmsby, it's 'Yours of the 12th', not 'yours of the 44.2 centiday'."

## Yallourn resettlement conference



Plans for the resettlement of Yallourn township are now well under way. An inspection of land areas for resettlement of Yallourn residents was held on Tuesday, May 29, and this was followed by a top-level round-table conference in Morwell the following day.

The purpose of the meeting was to enable these authorities to have preliminary discussions on the resettlement of the citizens of Yallourn. At the meeting, the SEC offered to make suitable land available for subdividing and servicing. The location of these areas will be defined after further investigations, and will be promulgated at the earliest opportunity.

All authorities represented at the meeting offered their full co-operation to enable residents of Yallourn to be resettled with the minimum of inconvenience. A survey of Yallourn residents has been in progress for the past two months and is almost completed. Preliminary indications of the needs of residents have been ascertained as a result of this survey.

A large proportion of tenants in the town who are not employed by the SEC has already been interviewed and advised of programming arrangements. Already a number of houses have been removed, but these have been unoccupied. No compulsory movement of permanent residents, other than short-term tenancies, will occur before 1979. A number of people interviewed indicated their desire to remove houses which they currently occupy to other Latrobe Valley areas. Enquiries as to the practicability of this scheme are now in progress. The SEC resettlement committee, in addition to the many other matters receiving consideration, has

directed its attention to the removal of monuments and historical items.

Following an inspection of land areas for resettlement of Yallourn residents, a round-table conference on the resettlement plans was held at Morwell. Our picture shows members of the conference. Their names, in order, appear in the last paragraph of the main story on this page.

The resettlement conference was chaired by the Commission's Chairman, Mr. Bob White. Members, shown in the picture above are, seated from left to right, Mr. P. W. Merritt (Secretary State Development Department and Member Decentralised Industry (Housing) Authority), Mr. J. A. McAuley (Secretary, Ministry of Housing), Mr. I. K. Morton (Chairman Rural Finance and Settlement Commission and Member Victorian Development Corporation), Mr. J. P. Gaskin (Director Housing Commission and Chairman Decentralised Industry (Housing) Authority), Mr. N. R. White (SEC Chairman), Mr. J. Johnson (A.G.M. Generation and Transmission SEC), Mr. J. W. Schulz (Manager, Latrobe Valley Department SEC), Mr. J. D. Swann (Co-Ordinator, SEC), Mr. D. J. R. Dunton (Shire Secretary, Shire of Morwell), Mr. K. J. Saunders (Town Clerk, City of Traralgon), Mr. R. Webster (State Co-Ordinator of Works and Member Decentralised Industry (Housing) Authority), Mr. N. Thompson (Departmental Administrative Officer, Latrobe Valley Department SEC), Mr. R. J. Pugsley (Town Clerk, City of Moe), Mr. N. G. Wishart (Chairman, Yallourn Town Advisory Authority), Mr. W. Nelson (Shire Secretary, Shire of Narracan), and Mr. G. Coulsell (Asst. Admin. Services Officer, SEC).

Two retired Commission men were amongst the Victorians named in the Queen's Birthday Honors list. Former Belgrave District Manager, Henry Senior Kaye, 69, of Belgrave, was awarded the MBE for community services and the BEM was awarded to former Mid Western Branch Office Manager, Ewen Clarke Kirton, 72, of Ballarat, for service to country cricket.

## news briefs

The Minister for Fuel and Power, Hon. J. C. M. Balfour, was returned in the May State Elections in his seat of Narracan. He held the seat with an increased majority. In the new cabinet announced late last month, Mr. Balfour retained his portfolio as Minister for Fuel and Power and Minister of Mines.

During last week's cold snap, electricity consumption in Victoria during one 24-hour term was a record 56.3 million kWh

On the same day the peak demand recorded between 5.30 p.m. and 6.00 p.m. was a record 3011 MW — enough power to run a single-bar radiator for every man, woman and child in Victoria.

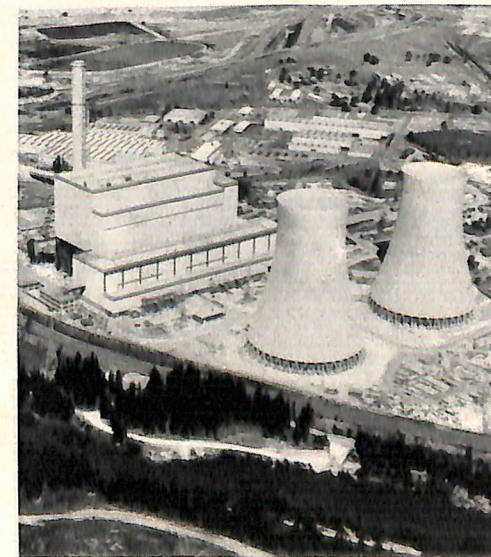
It was the first time demand on the Commission's supply had exceeded 3000 MW.

A new record morning demand of 2783 MW was achieved the following day between 8.00 a.m. and 8.30 a.m.

The previous highest evening demand in Victoria was 2916 MW on May 28 and morning demand 2756 MW in June last year.

## 'W' comes on load

Yallourn W is now on load. It built up to full load over last week, and is now an integral part of the Commission's system. The new power station was synchronised on system for a short time — about 15 minutes — as part of the test program — on Saturday, May 26. The loading was very light, about 5MW. The station was then shut down to carry out final works. Prior to coming on full load, the boilers were lit, and the station built up to capacity. Next month's issue of SEC News will carry a full report of the new Valley giant, to introduce Big W to our readers.



Two senior officers of the Latrobe Valley Department left last month on overseas missions lasting about seven weeks. They are Manager, Coal, Jack Vines, and Mechanical Services Engineer, George Davis. The purpose of Jack Vines's mission is to make a specific study of general trends in open cut maintenance management activities and equipment; to make a detailed economic comparison between overseas brown coal production costs and existing or projected costs in various scale developments in the Latrobe Valley. He will also make a study of the factors leading to decision making on replacement, modernisation and alternative utilisation of open cut excavating equipment as plant ages and as changes occur in technology, production demand and labour relations and costs. George Davis will assess current trends on the availability and utilisation of large machine tools and all aspects of maintenance associated with open cut plant and equipment, including transportation, dewatering and reclaiming equipment.

# around the Commission

## Mini distribution system

Having trouble keeping the youngsters amused over the weekends and school holidays? The Riddell family of Yarra Glen certainly don't have this problem with their son, Raymond, and may even provide some inspiration for Commission families.

Raymond has spent over three months patiently constructing a model distribution system, using as his base raw materials bracken fern, cotton and fine wire. The system is about 70 yards in length, and occupies quite an area of an unused part of the nature strip in Forest Street, where Raymond lives.

It is complete to quite fascinating detail. Distribution substations are single pole (what we refer to as VX10/4's), spur lines are fused and intersections are complete with fluorescent lamps. Cotton wool has been used for conductors.

Raymond has also constructed a pumping station and dam as part of his system, and has plans in hand for a system control centre.

The entire layout was built from Raymond's own observations, without any connection or advice from anyone involved with the SEC.

He hasn't experienced any trouble with "wind loading" — a factor to be allowed for in all SEC design, but has encountered one or two difficulties of his own. "It has withstood some very strong winds, but my big problems are dogs and wandering stock." And those cotton wool conductors. The rain doesn't help their appearance at all.

## In Uncle Bob's good books

Tom Griffin, 62, our Leading Hand Painter who is a familiar face in Clements House, was recently presented with his badge as a life-member of the Uncle Bob's Club.

With the Commission for the past eleven and a half years, Tom has been an active member of the club, holding positions of secretary for the Burnley Group and a member of the State Committee.

The Uncle Bob's Club is a charitable organisation which was formed in 1942 by ex-servicemen, with its headquarters at Riversdale. It aims at assisting the sick and crippled children in Victoria.

The club has 7,000 to 8,000 members in Victoria and has new branches in Kyabram, Shepparton, Warragul, Mornington Peninsula and groups spreading throughout the metropolitan area.

When asked how he felt about the new appointment, Tom said, "I think it's one of the best things that ever happened, which I didn't expect to get. You get better initiative to do more, particularly for Good Friday appeals." Tom added that the committee would like to see several groups formed in the SEC to help in the organisation.



4/sec news



## Ideas bring rewards

Two Commission men, Henry Duckworth of C. and A. Dept., and Basil Winter of Power Dept., are \$175 and \$50 richer respectively because of suggestions they lodged with the Suggestions Board recently.

Henry's \$175 award is the biggest gained by anyone in his department, to date. He suggested the redesigning of a cabinet which is used by Design Division to store sensitised paper that is used in a dye-line machine.

His suggestion will save money for the Commission because the new cabinet will mean less handling of the paper which in turn will reduce copying-time on the dye-line machine and cut the rate of paper wastage.

Henry is CAO, Drafting with Design Division. He said the award money would come in handy for improvements to his home. During his spare time he is keen on photography, carpentry and gardening.

Basil Winter is Maintenance Overseer at Newport Power Station. He suggested installing water sprays to lessen dust emission from boiler stacks while boilers are being cleaned at Newport.

His suggestion was considered to be an excellent one with intangible benefits to Commission employees and the community.

His award money will come in handy during his holidays. Away from work, Basil's main interest is assisting with Scouting activities in the Newport area. For many years he served as Group Scoutmaster and now he is a committeeman and publicity officer for the troop.



Basil Winter receives his award from Peter Bossens (left), and Henry Duckworth accepts his cheque from Ralph Urie.

## Road safety pays off

Survey Officer, Gordon Wright, does not believe anyone can afford to be careless on the roads. To be continuously conscious of road safety was "the only sensible thing to do", he said.

And Gordon, from Distribution Engineering Department, practises what he preaches. Last month he was awarded \$50 by the "Sun" newspaper in their Safety Driver Award.

Police, who followed Gordon in an unmarked car, said he gave a very good performance of driving, and recommended him for the award. They said he kept to the speed limit, gave accurate signals in plenty of time, kept to the left of the road and remained in the same lane, kept a safe distance behind other vehicles and gave way where necessary.

Apparently not all Commission drivers are as careful as Gordon. See the safety story on page 5.

## Retired Personnel meeting

The annual meeting of the SEC Retired Personnel Association, and the election of office bearers for 1973-74 will be held on Wednesday, July 11 at 1.30 p.m. The meeting will take place at 252 Flinders Lane.

Members are reminded that subscriptions for 1973-74 become due on that date.



# Driving to a target

Commission drivers, according to statistics, have less fatal accidents on the roads than the general community, but still we're having too many accidents.

Despite a steady decline in our annual accident rate, each of the Commission's 3,200 vehicles is involved (on average) in one accident a year.

Last year Commission vehicles were involved in a total of 3,073 accidents but by the 1976/77 financial year this figure should be down to less than 1,900.

In a memorandum to department heads in March, Acting Deputy General Manager, Bob Chapman announced the Commission's target of a 33 per cent reduction in all vehicle accidents by that time.

Looking at last year's figures this target should not be too hard to achieve, as 34 per cent of the accidents involved collisions with stationary objects. The same type of collisions accounted for 34 per cent of our accidents the preceding year and 33 per cent, the year before.

Collisions between SEC vehicles in car parks, depots and garages have dropped from 11 per cent in 1968 to six per cent of our total accidents last year. But this percentage can still be improved. This type of accident shouldn't occur at all.

Naturally the accidents that make up these statistics include everything from a scratched



Police Sgt. Des Guilfoyle and Commission Instructor, Keith Buckland (right) give pre-examination driver training instruction to Motor Mechanic, Joe Scull.

door to a car that is "written-off", but a lot of these "little knocks and scrapes" wouldn't occur if at all times we thought of the Commission's vehicles as we do of our own private cars.

Our contribution to the road toll is very low considering ours is one of the largest transport fleets operated by an electricity authority in the world, and more than 8,000 of us are authorised to drive Commission cars and mobile plant.

But according to Transport Engineer, Cliff Gilbert this should be so because none of our passenger vehicles are more than two years old, they are well maintained and we drive Commission vehicles during safe hours, avoiding the hazard of hotel 'closing time' and after party traffic.

Naturally when we are not at work and we are driving our private vehicles we fall into the category of the general community.

But during Commission time we are Commission

drivers and it is not the cars that let us down. Another way of achieving our target of a 33 per cent accident reduction would be the elimination of "minor scrapes" which account for a third of total accidents.

Cliff Gilbert is convinced that if we eliminate these scrapes and cut out all small accidents in car parks we will easily reach the target set by management.

The Commission's concern for safe driving is evident in the fact that we have seven full-time driving instructors in Transport Division. Most of them concentrate on teaching employees how to handle heavy vehicles and mobile plant equipment however, some attention is given to training passenger car drivers.

Commission licenses are only granted to drivers after careful testing, including expert advice on car handling and road knowledge.

# WHO'S WHO



Meter Reader, Bill Cecil on the job in Ascot Vale.

Few people in the Commission have more stories to tell than the metropolitan meter reader. In fact one could write an encyclopaedia on the adventures of Metro Branch's Field Staff Superintendent, Harry Giles and the 46 meter readers and 25 special meter readers in his charge.

Visiting 180 homes a day and walking from 20 to 25 miles a week, rain, hail or shine our man gets to know his customers and their dogs. They say the dog is man's best friend but some meter readers don't see it that way after being nipped by everything from a silky terrier to a doberman.

Harold McMillan, Assistant Supervisor of the special meter readers still recalls the day he called at a St. Kilda home which had a gate marked "Beware of the dog". "I decided to walk along the lawn instead of the path trying not to create attention", said Harold. "The next thing, a lady opened the door and an alsation shot out", he said. "But I passed him in mid-air, ran through the door and locked it. The lady assured me the dog was all right and brought him in the house for me to pat", he said.

But not all dogs behave this way. On the contrary some are too friendly and they follow the meter reader on his round.

And the meter readers' stories are not confined to dogs. Harold McMillan once had to call on a customer whose meter box was inside the house. He knocked on the front door three times and each time a voice said: "Is anyone there?" Opening the front-door to investigate, he saw a featherless cockatoo.

From dogs and cockatoos to carpet snakes and bees. Last year the meter on a Werribee market garden farm could not be read until a swarm of bees had been smoked out from the box which

was full of honeycomb. And then there was the time another reader opened a meter box in Elwood and discovered a carpet snake fast asleep inside. Ewood brings us to another story. A special meter reader had lost his car at the footy one Saturday and it was found by another meter reader on his round the following Monday, abandoned in Elwood.

The late Ivan Berthon is still a talking point among Metro's meter readers.

Ivan was always telling stories against himself. He had a sense of humor without really knowing it. There was the time in Koornang Road, Carnegie when he had to read a meter that was in a backyard, almost under a washing line. After he had read the meter he was walking down the road to stares of amazement from bystanders until a kindly lady informed him that a pair of ladies' panties were hooked onto his hat.

These are only a few of the stories that our meter readers and special readers have to tell. Theirs is an interesting role and between them the metropolitan meter readers make about 1.6 million calls a year.

The meter reader's job is to read the meter and render a bill. Special meter readers are the trouble-shooters. Apart from fuse-insertions and final readings for people changing addresses they handle disconnections in the case of people with overdue accounts.

But before this happens they make personal contact with the customers (often on several occasions) to ensure that they are aware of the situation and give them the final chance to pay their account.

Nevertheless even when dealing with our worst debtors, the meter reader never loses sight of the fact that he is representing the Commission and at all times pays that customer the normal courtesy.

## between ourselves

These things happen even in the best regulated organisations. In Lyle House the other day the lift service was out of order. This wasn't too bad, except the stairs were also only partly functioning, as the red safety strips were being painted on them. Oh, well, at least they didn't call a fire drill.

Sounds like Computer Services Dept.'s Technical Installations are trying for the Guinness Book of Records. At the latest count, the Department boasts two new fathers, with a further seven waiting expectantly. This doesn't include two wives who left the Department because of approaching motherhood.

Margaret Court and women's lib have been avenged — it happened during the first round of the SEC Social League's table tennis competition recently. Linda Pope of Secretarial narrowly defeated none other than SEC News Editor, Bill MacRae, two games to one, in a match that could only be described as embarrassing to we male chauvinist pigs. We're still not quite sure, however, whether it was the sheath of plastic flowers Bill presented to Linda before the event, or the badge he was wearing marked: "coached by Bobby Riggs", that produced such a sterling effort.

From Dandenong comes the tale of former Assistant Office Manager, Bill Hosking, now retired and something of a local identity. Seems Bill, a familiar figure cycling around town on his bicycle, went to the local fair and chained the bike to a fence near the "White Elephant" stall. It was sold three times.

Here's another slice of our guide to industry terminology.

**HIGH VOLTAGE LAB:** An inquisitive, charged-up domestic pet.

**UTILITY POLE:** A football player of Eastern European extraction, capable of playing several positions.

**STACK:** A Minor car collision.

**CONDENSER:** Person employed in the manufacture of evaporated milk.

**OPEN CUT:** Something that may need medical attention.

**BOILER HOUSE:** Place where some mothers-in-law come from.

**TRANSFORMER:** There are two types: (i) a successful evangelist, and (ii) a person who performs sex-change operations.

We promise that next month will be the last of the guide, so if you have any bright ideas along the same lines, send them to the Editor as soon as possible, and we'll publish the best.

## More info on new pay slips

Commission staff will soon receive more information on their pay dockets following the complete computerisation of payroll and personnel records.

The extra information will include the recreation leave balance and the details of any up-grading or other salary increase the staff member has received.

These are some of the benefits of the new system, which has been evolved after intensive work by representatives from Computer Services, Personnel, Finance and Secretarial Departments. Much of the detailed planning and implementation has been undertaken by a team from those departments under the guidance of Senior Analyst Jack Wilson.

All staff will soon receive the same type of pay docket — whether they are paid in cash, by cheque, or via their bank account.

Cash payments under the new system will be to the nearest dollar above, with adjustment in the ensuing pay. This will eliminate coin handling and make the paymaster's job easier.

In the past each employee had separate Provident Fund, pay and personnel records. This information will now be consolidated on a central file in the computer, thus facilitating processing of changes affecting employees.

The new system will bring the Commission in line with the latest overseas methods, and will be one of the few of its kind in Australia.

## Award to apprentice



Commission apprentice, Ken Lindorff, pictured above at the test Board in the Meter and Tests Laboratory, fared well recently in his trade.

Ken, from Meter and Tests, Mid-Western Branch, was awarded first prize for Electrical Mechanics, grade 4, at the annual prizegiving of the School of Mines and Industries, Ballarat. He had previously won first prize for grades 1 and 2, and was runner-up last year in grade 3.

## People, Branches in name changes

Changes in designation have been made within several Commission Departments recently. They are:

### Personnel

The Chief Advocate's title is now Industrial Relations Superintendent and his Branch retitled Industrial Relations Division.

The Personnel Superintendent's Branch retitled Administrative Division.

The Education and Training Branch retitled Education and Training Division.

### Supplies and General Services

The Buying and Contracts Groups of the Purchasing Division will be known as Buying Section and Contracts Section.

### Transmission

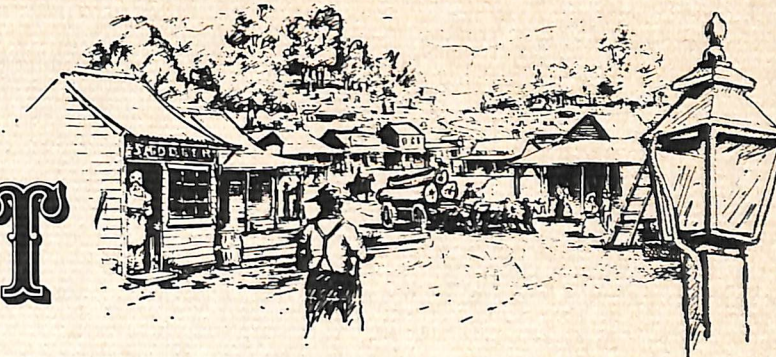
Kiewa Branch has been renamed Kiewa Division.

## Pennant for reaching safety target



Richmond Power Station received their pennant for achieving a target of 100,000 manhours without a lost-time accident from Chief Safety Engineer, Mr. Charles Polglaze, recently. The men achieved this total over a period of 20 months. The pennant is now being flown from the flagpole of the Power Station building.

# HISTORY OF ACHIEVEMENT



There has been plenty of festivity at Dandenong recently, with centenary celebrations in full swing. For 50 of Dandenong's 100 years, the SEC has played a major role in the area's progress, participating in its growth from a gas-lit, horse and buggy town to today's thriving city. Dandenong is now the administrative centre of the Commission's Eastern Metropolitan Branch.

They have a motto out at Eastern Metro — Getting Things Done. It's not a bad motto, and it's one that certainly applies.

Consider some of the Branch's

achievements. They are adding new customers at the rate of 18,000 a year. Last year they connected 47 per cent of the State's new domestic customers and 46 per cent of the State's total of new customers. They are now connecting about 50 per cent of all new customers, and a major proportion of the State's industrial and commercial growth occurs in their area. The Branch's industrial sales growth is between 10 and 12 per cent per annum — one of the highest in the SEC.

Eastern Metro have the highest overall level of electrical acceptance in any branch — even higher than some areas which do not have competition from gas. They also have the highest overall water heating acceptance of any Branch in the State, and the highest overall cooking acceptance.

Another milestone will occur in August when the Branch expects to connect their 250,000th customer.

There are still some small pockets of the Branch not on supply, but these are in areas like Mt. Tanglefoot, near Healesville, and the back of Mt. Donna Buang, where there are no people.

There are several major reasons for the enormous growth taking place in Eastern Metro. Their area covers the fast-growing eastern suburbs, where most of the new homes under construction are of a prestige nature. As Assistant Branch Manager, Kingsley Culley, points out, "Few people would build a prestige home and not go all electric".

Outside of the suburban section, the Branch includes the Westernport area and the Peninsula, where tremendous growth is anticipated.

The continuing development of the Branch is reflected in the type of work being performed there. There is a strong swing to undergrounding, and at present about 70 per cent of requests from developers are for underground wiring. Programming Engineer, Ern Rankin, has the task of programming all major works flowing through the Branch. Of almost 900 jobs currently on his list, a large percentage is for underground wiring, with Dandenong, Ringwood and Frankston the major centres of demand.

One of the jobs currently being undertaken by the Branch has a colorful history of its own. The Sanitarium Health Food plant at

Continued next page



Dave Mickle, formerly Asst. Officer-in-Charge, Dandenong, and now a Past President and Life Member of the Dandenong and District Historical Society, with the original plan of the proposed electricity supply for Dandenong, dated October, 1910. Behind Dave, who retired in 1967 is a picture of the Mechanics Institute — site of the present Town Hall — taken in 1873.



continued

**“We have a history of being a happy Branch”**

Charles Henson — Manager, Eastern Metro ESB



Warburton becomes an SEC customer this month, after using its own isolated generation since early this century. The factory has its own pelton wheel impulse turbine, which until now has supplied its electricity requirements. The growth of the factory, and lack of any additional amounts of water for increased generation, has led the Sanitarium Company to switch to SEC power to maintain increased production. The factory's power plant for many years supplied areas of Warburton with power. In fact, between 1944 and 1947, it provided supply to the SEC during peak load periods in the Warburton area.

Many of the personnel in the Branch have come from other locations within the Commission, and stayed. Branch Manager, Charles Henson, says that the growth of the Branch and the challenging nature of the work attracts people there. “The volume of work calls for teamwork and co-operation. We have a history of being a happy Branch and, like my predecessor, Austin Crawford, I try to run it as a big, happy family.”

And the family is a particularly proud one this month. Dandenong is 100 years old this year, and has just completed colorful centenary celebrations. The Commission is celebrating 50 years of association with Dandenong, having acquired responsibility for electricity supply to the Shire of Dandenong in 1923. In those days there were 800 customers — today in the City of Dandenong and environs there are 66,000.

Until 1925, the Dandenong office consisted of a small, two-roomed timber office, 27 ft. by 13 ft., in Lonsdale Street. Today, it is a modern, \$1.1 million building in the heart of the City of Dandenong. This building, opened in 1970, brought personnel under the one roof — a change from the nine different locations they had occupied at the one time until then.

With the Centenary celebrations in full swing, the SEC had an historical basis of which to feel proud. And, like Dandenong,



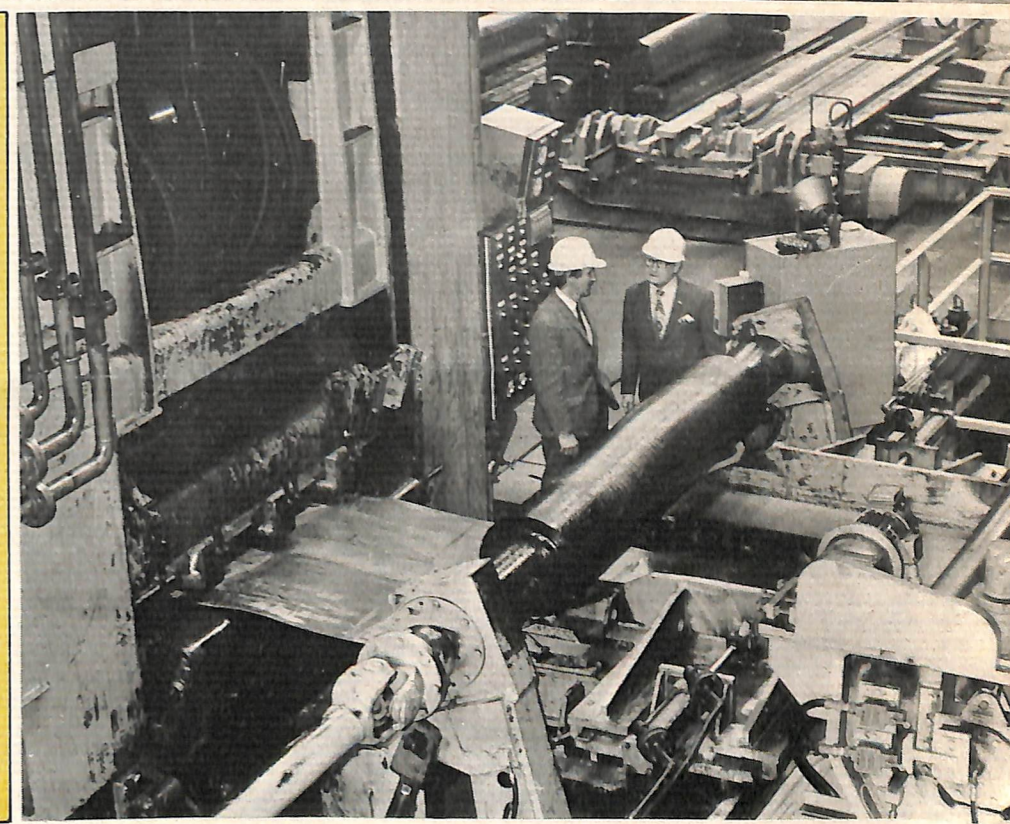
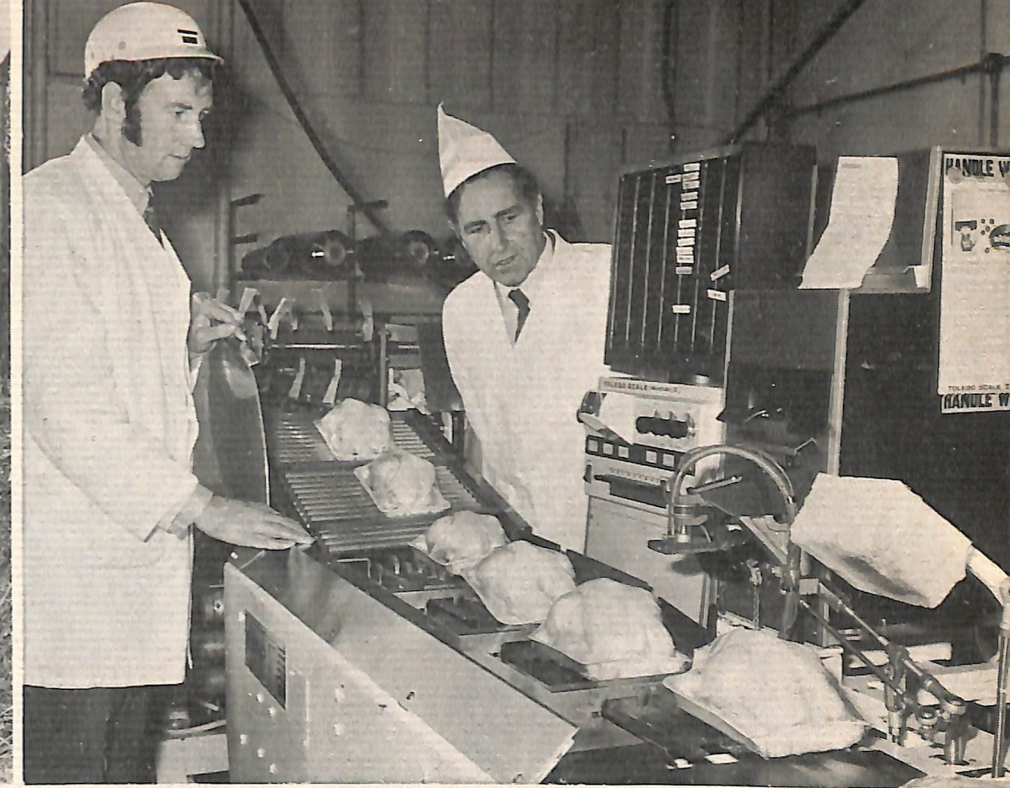
Above left: Warburton District Manager, Orm Singer (left), with Sanitarium Health Foods Manager, Jim Wilson and L/H Electrician, Ray Fairhall at the tailrace of the factory's hydro plant. Sanitarium are in the process of switching over to SEC supply, and closing their own hydro operation.

Above right: Tender chickens roll off the line at Golden Poultry, one of the Eastern Metro Branch's large customers, whose operations combine a rural and industrial application.

Right: Another large customer, in fact, one of the largest. At the recently established Hastings factory of John Lysaght (Aust.) Ltd., Branch Manager Charles Henson (right) inspects production with John Lysaght.

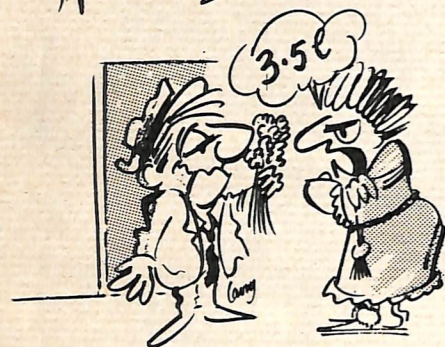
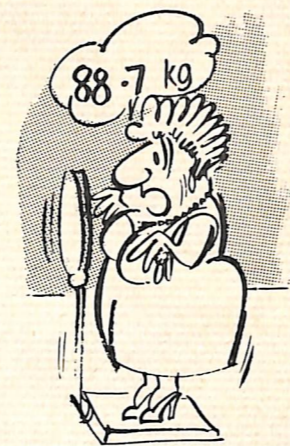
Below right: Underground wiring is really catching on at Eastern Metro, with many new estates specifying underground installation. At Regency Park, Wantirna, Leading Hand, Wally Bennett (left) supervises, from left, Bernie Minge, Russell Glenister and Arthur Massin.

Below A finished underground estate. This one is by Swift Properties (Aust.) at Glen Waverley, and all the prestige homes are Gold Medallion standard. From left are Designer, Roger Daniel, Dandenong D.S.O. Ivan Nicol, and Manager, Swifts Properties, Ray Whitcombe.





# getting the measure of metrics



If you're not already doing so it's about time you started 'thinking metric' in earnest.

We are fast approaching July 1 and that (according to a memo sent out by our Deputy General Manager, Charles Trethowan, in February this year) is the Commission's first M-Day.

To most of our fellow Victorians, the same day will mean nothing more than the start of the new financial year and a time to look forward to or dread the result of that income tax return.

But July 1 will have far more significance for us this year, because from that day on, all departments will be required to use metric units rather than the old-style imperial units in all reports, letters and inter-departmental memos.

In his directive to department heads, though, Mr. Trethowan emphasised the need for discretion in contacts with the outside public where, initially, the new units may not be fully understood.

For the next three or four years, the Commission, like any other big organisation, will be faced with certain problems arising from the transition to metric measurements.

Due to the magnitude of this changeover, the problems that will occur cannot all be immediately foreseen. One obvious problem will be duplication of stock. In our stores and depots, thousands of nuts, bolts and screws and fittings will eventually be replaced by items in metric size and for a long time items in the old and new measurements will be in stock.

During the changeover, more and more of our materials such as power poles and transmission equipment will be issued in metric sizes.

"Commission people who are worried about metrication should remember that we have always dealt with electrical units in metric measurements," says the Commission's resident metrication expert, Frank Hooper. "Kilowatts and kilowatt hours, for instance, are metric quantities," he says.

Frank, the Departmental Engineer with Development (Policy) Division, Planning and Investigations Dept., is the Commission's representative on the Victorian Government Inter-Departmental Metric Conversion Committee and the ESAA Committee 1.11 — Metrication, and is a member of the Electronics and Electrical Engineering Sector Committee and the Electricity Generation and Distribution Sector Committee, two of the committees formed by the Metric Conversion Board to plan and guide metrication.

Assisted by his Division's Senior Scientist, Syd Burrows, Senior Engineer, Bill Pridmore, and Engineer, Ray Holland, Frank has spent the past three years doing preparatory work on metric conversion, for the Commission.

His advice to Commission people is: "Don't let the metric system worry you unduly and do try not to relate back to the old system when using metric units."

Outside the Commission sphere, metres came to Melbourne many years ago with the Olympic Games and last year the metric system was introduced in Australian horse racing. Today punters would not even consider mentioning a 10-furlong race. Instead they have grown accustomed to talking about 1200 and 2000 metre races and the like.

Another metric introduction last year was that of the Celsius temperatures and this winter a zero temperature will mean a cold and frosty morning.

According to Frank metric conversion, of necessity, must be a long drawn out affair. In Victoria about 300 000 sets of scales will have to be converted, like the cash registers were when we decimalized our currency. So if all the butchers changed their scales one year the fruit merchants might have to wait until the next year and so on.

By now many of us are beginning to think metric although we don't always realise it. Metric measures are creeping in on packaged goods (sugar is in kilograms and drinks in litres) and the daily newspapers are talking about the height and weight of footballers in centimetres and kilograms.

Smokers are continually reminded of the new system every time they buy a box of Redhead matches (the metric system is featured on the labels) and there is an increasing use of the new units in retail trading, particularly in food stores and supermarkets.

The Commission's July 1, M-Day, will also be the day that freight rates, both road and rail, are converted, and postage rates will change in October.

In the Commission's particular field of interest (plant, equipment and construction materials) some 500 to 600 Australian specifications have

been selected for urgent review and conversion. The work by the Standards Association of Australia is now well advanced and each month new lists of standards in metric units are published in the SAA monthly information sheets.

The metric units to be used are S.I. units, the units of the international system which were adopted in 1960 by the General Conference of Weights and Measures. They differ only slightly from the metric units we learned at school and are fast becoming acceptable in all but a few countries of the world.

Most questions Commission people have on metric conversion should be answered by two booklets which have been distributed throughout the Commission and are readily available from Tony Richens or Kay Markey in Planning and Investigations Dept. (Ph. — M.H. Ext. 2872-73).

One book has a green cover and the other is brown. The green book, the ESAA publication "Metric Units For Use In The Electricity Supply Industry in Australia", was produced by the ESAA Metrication Committee and is intended for the use of technical people who need to select the units to be used for each particular application.

The brown book, "The Metric System Of Measurement", is an SEC publication intended particularly for typing and clerical personnel to show them how metric units should be written and typed. But this book is handy for all Commission personnel.

For the past two years or so, the metric conversion operation has been mostly a matter of planning and preparation but now it is really on the way and during the next three years we shall find ourselves becoming increasingly involved with the metric units of measurement.

Already the kilogram and the metre and the degree Celsius are no longer the specialised units they used to be and in a few years time the metric unit will be the usual one and the customary imperial unit the oddity.

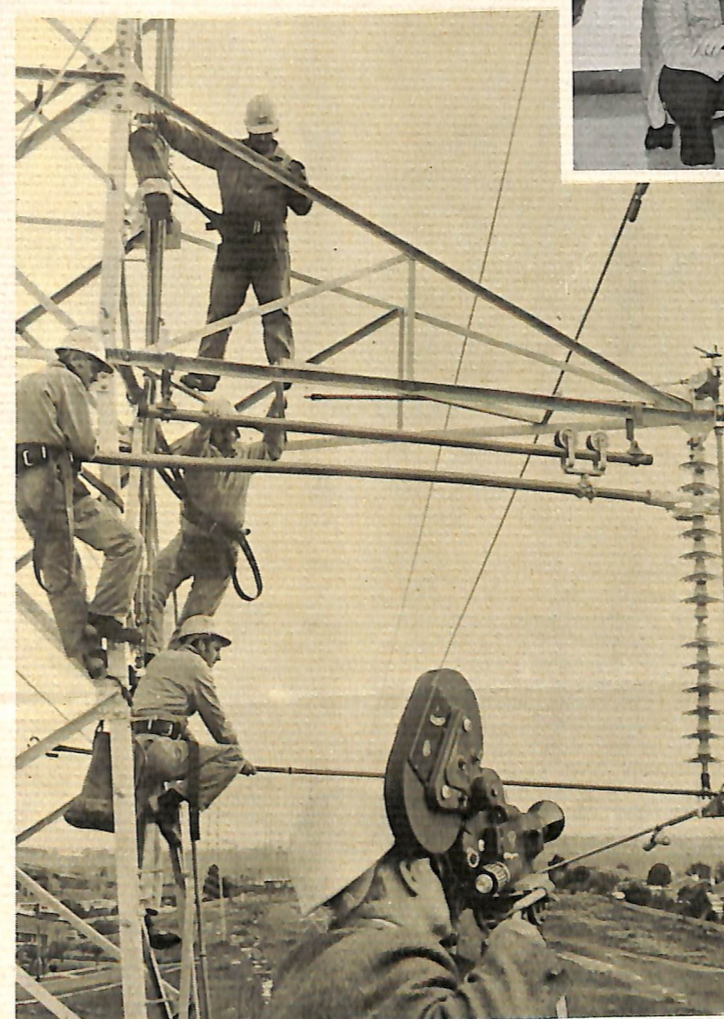
According to Engineer, Ray Holland, the best way for all of us to understand the new units is to use them wherever possible — use a metric tape to measure yourself — weigh yourself in kilograms and feel the weights of the new metric packs which are being sold in the supermarkets. In other words — THINK METRIC.

Already training sessions on 'metric thinking' have been carried out within the Commission for typists, stores personnel and other people in the metropolitan area. In the Latrobe Valley training sessions have been carried out for changing boiler and turbo-generator instruments and controls over to metric units. Commission people who have queries on metric conversion should contact Syd Burrows (M.H. Ext. 2875) on scientific matters or Ray Holland (M.H. Ext 2882) for other inquiries.

## people & places



Above: The boys from Kavanagh Street social club looked in a happy mood as they were photographed at Tullamarine airport last month — and so they should have been. They were off to the Wrest Point Casino for a weekend, the result of a social club ambition planned a year ago. They looked even happier on their return, and hope to plan a similar jaunt, perhaps in conjunction with other Commission social clubs, next year.



Left: Bird's eye view of the high-wire men. Senior Publicity photographer, Jim Hayes, from the bucket of an elevated platform vehicle, films 220kV live line suspension insulator changing for a training film. The live line changing enables insulators to be changed without interruption to supply.

Below left: Perc Dugard (left), Secretary of the Office Accommodation Committee, checks layout plans for the seventh floor of Monash House Stage 2 with Ken Reynolds. First moves to the new section will take place in September.

Below: Warburton office are ready to add their largest customer (see Eastern Metro story, pages 7-9), and this means lots of work for, from left, District Manager, Orm Singer, Relief Clerk Harry Boce and Resident Linesman, Bill Cairns.



# retirements



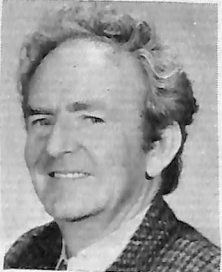
## LINDSAY AUSTIN

Lindsay Austin will take his wife to Brisbane and Cairns, paint his house, and play bowls following his retirement as CAO with Registry of Inscribed Stock, Finance Dept., on May 31. He spent 22 years with the Registry, which he joined in 1951 as a Clerk. He was upgraded in 1954 and reclassified in 1955. Later he was promoted to the position from which he retired.



## ALAN CAREY

Alan Carey will enjoy many fishing trips following his retirement. At a farewell function, he was presented with a fishing rod and basket. Alan left the Commission on May 11, following 24 years service. He joined as a Laborer at Kiewa in 1949, and retired as a Mechanical Plant Operator. Kiewa General Superintendent, Ron White, made the presentation to Alan and his wife.



## GERRY FLYNN

Gerry Flynn will spend his time fishing in Queensland and at Rye, where he has a holiday home, following his retirement from Stations Subdivision, Construction and Operating Division, Transmission Dept. on May 2. He retired as a Technical Service Officer at River Street, after more than 27 years with the Commission. He first joined as a Fitter's Assistant in 1943 and after leaving for a year recommenced at the same classification in 1946. A bouquet of flowers for his wife and an amount of money were presented to Gerry by his friends at River Street. He plans to spend the money on new fishing equipment.



## WAL HARDIE

Wal Hardie plans to fish from Coolangatta to Cairns and back, following his retirement from Transmission Dept. on May 20. He and his wife are both sunlovers and will spend three to four months in Queensland this year. They will return in time for Wal to attend to things that need doing around the home. An ardent follower of Sandringham in the VFA, Wal retired as Communications Officer with Development Division after 34 years with the Commission. He joined as a Telephone Mechanic in 1939 and was a Senior Foreman before being promoted to the position from which he retired.



## ABE HARRIS

Abe Harris hopes to spend some of his time fishing, and travelling in Queensland with his wife Wyn, following his retirement as Asst. Lecturer/Projectionist with Public Relations Dept., on May 22. He joined the Commission as a Cinematograph Operator in 1950 after working with Hoyts Theatres, and spent his early days in Publicity Branch working with the former Lecturer, the late Mr. Frank Halkyard. Following Mr. Halkyard's retirement, Abe was reclassified Asst. Lecturer/Projectionist in 1957. Abe continued this work and was responsible for the training of Commission personnel as film projectionists, until he retired.



## TOM JUDD

An electric barbecue was presented to Tom Judd who retired as Tool Storeman with Barwon Branch on May 21, after 32 years with the Commission. He commenced at Geelong Power Station in 1941. Tom has made no definite plans for his retirement but intends to laze around and take things easy.



Dudley Olver (left) is pictured after being presented with a set of golf clubs by the Acting AGM (Admin.), Peter Duncan.

## DUDLEY OLVER

A set of golf clubs and a box of golf balls were presented to Dudley Olver and his wife Lillian, by the Acting AGM (Admin.) Peter Duncan, on the occasion of Dud's retirement as Senior Consultant with Management Research Group, Management Services Dept., recently. About 100 Commission friends attended the presentation function in the Monash House Canteen. Dud's golf clubs will get plenty of use as he and Lillian intend to spend much of their time on the golf course. And when he's not playing golf, Dud will paint the house. He joined the Commission in 1937, as a Temporary Draftsman in Power Production Dept. He was appointed Engineering Inspector with Generation Branch in 1946 and Relieving Station Superintendent in 1949. In 1953, he was appointed Supplies Engineer for Generation Branch and this position was retitled Branch Works and Maintenance Engineer in 1964. Following his secondment to the Methods Dept. from 1967 to 1969, he returned to Power Dept. and acted in the post of Senior Projects Engineer for Hazlewood Power Station. In 1970 he was appointed Senior Consultant with Management Research Group, Management Service Dept., the position from which he retired.



## HEC McDONALD

Hec McDonald will attend country race meetings, follow football and miss every second he spent with the Commission following his retirement as an instructor at the Chadstone Line School on June 3. He spent more than 33 years with the Commission and worked as Assistant Linesman and Linesman at Koroit, before transferring to Chadstone in 1955. At Chadstone he was promoted to Foreman, Instructor and retitled Foreman, the position from which he retired. During the past 18 years he instructed (in the field and the classroom) trainees of all Linesmen classifications.



## ERIC SMITH

Eric Smith will spend his retirement on caravanning holidays in Western Australia, Queensland and possibly New Zealand, after 33 years with the Commission. A CAO with Secretarial Dept., he retired as the Officer-in-Charge of the Despatch Section on May 24. He joined the Commission in 1940, at Yallourn, where he was employed in a number of positions before transferring to the staff of Secretarial Branch as a Messenger in 1947. He became a Clerk in 1948 and Despatch Clerk in 1954 prior to attaining the status from which he retired. When he's not caravanning during his retirement, Eric hopes to do some gardening, carpentry and be persuaded to play bowls by his wife.



Transport Engineer, Cliff Gilbert (left), with Tom Biggart at his farewell function.

## TOM BIGGART

A wallet of notes was presented to Tom Biggart who retired as Senior Foreman with Transport Division, Supplies and General Services Dept. on May 25, after more than 27 years with the Commission. During his retirement Tom will travel overseas. A keen youth worker, he was a popular identity at Fishermen's Bend. He joined Transport Division as a Motor Mechanic at City Road in 1946, after war service with the RAAF. The following year he was appointed to staff as a

# OBITUARIES

**Mr. Con Grundell**, aged 49, on April 30. He was a Watchman with Barwon ESB and joined the Commission as a Linesman's Assistant in 1958. He left a widow and two children.

**Mr. A. Braad**, aged 54, on May 11. He was a Trimmer with Coal Division, Latrobe Valley Dept. and joined the Commission in 1961.

**Mr. S. P. Garland**, aged 58, on May 14. He was a L/H Loader Driver with Power Division, Latrobe Valley Dept. and joined the Commission in 1941.

**Mr. Vivian Lord Excell**, aged 63, on May 12. He was Briquelette Depot Manager, Briquelette Sales, Sales Dept. and joined the Commission in 1929. He left a widow and a married son.

**Mr. William Cameron**, aged 74, on April 2. He was formerly Operator, North Eastern Branch, Electricity Supply Dept. and retired from the Commission in 1963. A widower, he left three daughters and a son.

**Mr. William Edgar Reddie**, aged 67, on May 13. He was formerly Officer-in-Charge, Seymour, Electricity Supply Dept. and retired early from the Commission in 1967. He left a widow, three daughters and two sons.

**Mr. Eric Gordon Cook**, aged 66, on May 10. He was formerly CAO with Barwon ESB and retired from the Commission in 1970. He left a widow, a son and a daughter.

**Mr. J. Wilson**, aged 55, on May 4. He was a Block and Tackle Hand with Services Division, Latrobe Valley Dept. and joined the Commission in 1955.

**Mr. C. H. Osborne**, aged 63, on May 15. He was a Trades Assistant with Metro. ESB and joined the Commission in 1968.

**Mr. S. Zachariadis**, aged 63, on May 11. He was a Cleaner with Electricity Sales Division, Sales Dept., and joined the Commission in 1970.

Foreman with Engine Reconditioning Section and later his responsibilities included supervision of the Inspection Section, Holding Area and Dynamometer Section. In 1955, he was reclassified to Senior Foreman and in 1957, when the Engine Section was transferred to the Base Workshop, Fishermen's Bend, he joined the senior supervisory staff in the position from which he retired.

## MRS. DULCIE FROELICH

Mrs. Dulcie Froelich retired as Clerical Assistant with Computer Operations Division, Computer Services Dept., on June 6, after more than 2 years with the Commission. Mrs. Froelich commenced with Customer Accounting Section in 1970.

## LAURIE HOWSHIP

Laurie Howship has moved to Southport in Queensland with his family, following his retirement as Construction Foreman at Belgrave on May 11. A large gathering of Laurie's friends from Eastern Metro. Branch, and retired people attended his farewell at the Glenfern Road Construction Depot. He was presented with a mantle chiming clock, an automatic toaster and a wallet of money. Following a term of seven and a half years with the Commission from 1938 to 1945, Laurie served continuously from 1947, after working as a Construction Linesman and Leading Hand Linesman at Ringwood he was appointed to Belgrave in 1957.

## JACK LAFFERTY

Former test cricket umpire, Jack Lafferty retired as Supervisor with Transmission Division, Latrobe Valley Dept. on May 31, after 43 years with the Commission. He commenced as an Electrical Fitter at Yallourn Workshops, Electrical Section in 1929 and in 1950 was appointed to staff as a Foreman. In 1959 he was appointed to the position from which he retired. During his career, Jack saw the Electrical Workshops at Yallourn progress from a "tin shed" with 13 men to a highly skilled and specialised electrical maintenance complex employing up to 90 men. A keen churchgoer and cricket follower, Jack, in conjunction with the Trades and Labor Council was instrumental in the formation of the Yallourn Library. He intends to retire to Melbourne with his wife.

## DOUG MATTHEWS

Doug Matthews will tour Europe with his wife, following his retirement as a Patrolman with Personnel Dept. at Fishermen's Bend, on June 3. He commenced with the Commission as a Motor Driver at Yallourn in 1952 and two years later was appointed to staff as a Patrolman in the Yallourn Administration. He transferred to Fishermen's Bend in 1961.

# SENIOR APPOINTMENTS



MR. CALWELL



MR. COULSELL



MR. WILSON

**Mr. Donald Calwell**, Dip.Elect.Eng., MIE(Aust.), has been appointed Protection and Control Engineer, Protection and Control Section, Development Division, Distribution Engineering Dept. He joined the Commission in 1938 and was previously Radial Systems Engineer, Transmission.

**Mr. Geoff Coulsell**, AASA, ACIS, has been appointed Assistant Administrative Services Officer, Secretarial

# COMING RETIREMENTS

**JUNE 16:**  
Simkins, O. R., L/H Disposals Unit Operator, Coal Div., L.V. Dept.

**JUNE 19:**  
Murphy, M. H., Motor Mechanic, Transport Div., S. and G.S. Dept.

**JUNE 20:**  
Bartley, J. V., Motor Driver, Transport Div., S. and G.S. Dept.

**JUNE 22:**  
Hart, A. L., Skilled Laborer, C. and O. Div., Transm. Dept.

**JUNE 24:**  
Kendray, J. A., L/H Fitter, Central Workshops, S. and G.S. Dept.

**JUNE 28:**  
Zammit, P., Skilled Laborer, C. and O. Div., Transm. Dept.

Gibson, Mrs. E. M., Female Cleaner (Casual), River St., Richmond.

**JUNE 30:**  
Nunn, P. G., Tech. Service Off'r., Transm. Dept.  
Weeks, J. H., L/H Storeman, Ballarat.

**JULY 1:**  
Brown, K., Fitter, Yallourn P/Station.

**JULY 2:**  
Blight, A. H., Substation Engr., Metro. ESB.  
Hull, L. H., Report Off'r., Metro. ESB.  
Jones, V. M., Supply Eng'r., Metro. ESB.

**JULY 3:**  
Garing, C. A., Storeman, Stores, Footscray.  
Lapiejko, J., Cleaner, Newport.

**JULY 4:**  
Williams, T. A., L/H Storeman, Yallourn.

**JULY 5:**  
Evans, A. S., Tech. Service Off'r., Transm. Dept.  
McLellan, W. G., Underground Mains Eng'r., Transm. Dept.

**JULY 6:**  
Hobbs, P. K., Vice Chairman (Comm'l) Staff Board.  
Skinner, G. A. V., CAO, S. and G.S. Dept.  
Dunn, H. J., F'man, S and G. S. Dept.  
Phillips, Mrs. Florence, Supv'r, Nth. East ESB.

**JULY 7:**  
Forbes, W. B., Carpenter, Yallourn.  
Rippon, J. R., L/H Tool Smith, Mech. W'shops, Morwell.

**JULY 8:**  
Newton, U. J., Plumber, Constr'n, Yallourn.  
Steffen, A. W., L/H Builders Laborer, Yallourn.

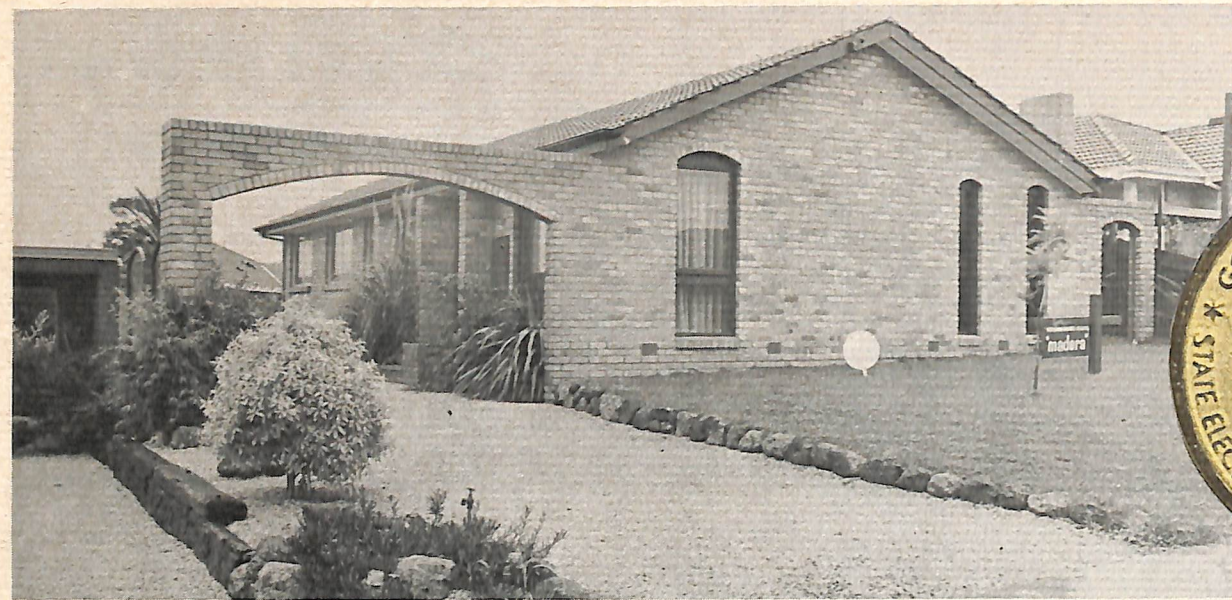
**JULY 9:**  
Garvin, J. M., Timekeeper, Gippsland, ESB.

**JULY 10:**  
Dyt, P., Trimmer, Power Div'n., L.V. Dept.

**JULY 12:**  
Winters, F. H., Supv'r, L. Valley,

Dept. He joined the Commission in 1949 and was previously an Executive Assistant.

**Mr. Tom Wilson**, BEE, Dip.Elect.Eng., has been appointed Main Transmission Studies Engineer, System Planning Sub-Division, Development Division, Transmission Department. He joined the Commission in 1958 and was previously Transmission Substations Engineer, Transmission Department.



## Gold-rush in the suburbs

In the 1973-74 financial year, there will be about 7,000 Gold Medallion homes built in Victoria. Just what makes a Gold Medallion home, and what are the advantages of owning one?

To find the answer, perhaps we should go back to August, 1967, when the SEC's Gold Medallion scheme came into being. Prior to this time, many of the State's builders were putting only the bare necessities into new homes in the way of electrical fittings.

One power point and a single light in each room were often considered adequate, and there was little regard for the functional angle of the installations. This meant, of course, that when purchasers became established in their new home, and started to add additional electric appliances, the mains capacity and switchboard were inadequate for the additional load. The additional wiring installation often cost more than the appliance which was being purchased.

The SEC decided to introduce what was considered to be minimum standards to make electricity easier to use, and approached volume builders with the idea.

In the year of its inception, only a handful of Melbourne builders joined the Gold Medallion scheme — now there are 60 volume builders participating.

The minimum standards for Gold Medallion homes include

- One lighting outlet for each room up to 150 square feet in area, with an additional light for each extra 100 square feet or part.
- Minimum numbers of power points for specific rooms, all placed for convenient use. Some examples are at least 5 in the kitchen, 4 in the living room and 4 in one bedroom.
- Permanently connected electric cooker or separate wall oven and cooking top, built-in exhaust fan in kitchen, and electric hot water service.
- Fixed space heating in the bathroom, or alternatively an electric central heating system.

There are many other important requirements for builders to follow in order to reach Gold Medallion standard, and they all mean that purchasers are getting far more value for their money. In many cases, the builders exceed the minimum standards. Gold Medallion homes are designed in conjunction with the builders, and in many cases the SEC's lighting and kitchen advisory services are used as consultants.

The designs aim to provide efficient and convenient use of electricity for the present, and also future requirements, including provision for the operation of any new appliances purchased after a few years.

Finished homes are inspected by the SEC to ensure that they meet all Gold Medallion requirements. This is in addition to normal electrical inspection.

Builders participating in the scheme compete keenly each year for the "Finest in Family Living" awards, run by the Housing Industry of Australia and the

"Herald". Awards in various price categories are presented by the SEC.

So successful is the Gold Medallion concept, that one builder specialises in beach and country holiday homes built to the required standard — and his business has more than doubled in the past couple of years. It's becoming quite a status symbol to be a "two Gold Medallion family" — just ask Manager, Sales Department, Bill Ballard or Manager, Domestic Electricity Sales Branch, Graham Cox, both of whom have joined this group.

Incidentally, the Gold Medallion is not just a name — a neat plaque is presented to each Gold Medallion home owner. And people in existing homes can also come up to Gold Medallion standard. If the purchase of a new appliance means rewiring of an established home is necessary, it would pay to bring it up to Gold Medallion standard.

Even unit dwellers can enjoy the benefits. More and more town houses and own-your-own units are now being awarded Gold Medallions.

### ENGAGEMENTS

**Jorgensen, Helen** (Typist/Clerical Asst., Sale, Gippsland ESB), to Jim Farrell of Stratford on May 14.

**Rainsbury, Garry** (CAO, EDP Control, Finance Dept.) to Lucia Faorlin on May 10.

### MARRIAGES

**Karutz, Graham** (Design Engineer, Line Design, Distr. Eng. Dept.) and Margaret Robertson of South Yarra, on May 5.

**Lucas, Kevin** (Meter Mechanic, Barwon ESB) and Erika Pozelui of Newcomb at St. Margaret's Church, East Geelong, on May 5.

**Middleton, Terry** (Trainee Distribution Officer, Colac) and Annette Lawrence of Colac at St. John's Church of England, Colac, on April 23.

### BIRTHS

**Birt**, to Charlie (Programming Division, Computer Services Dept.), and Elizabeth, a daughter, Kathryn Margaret, sister for Colin, on May 23.

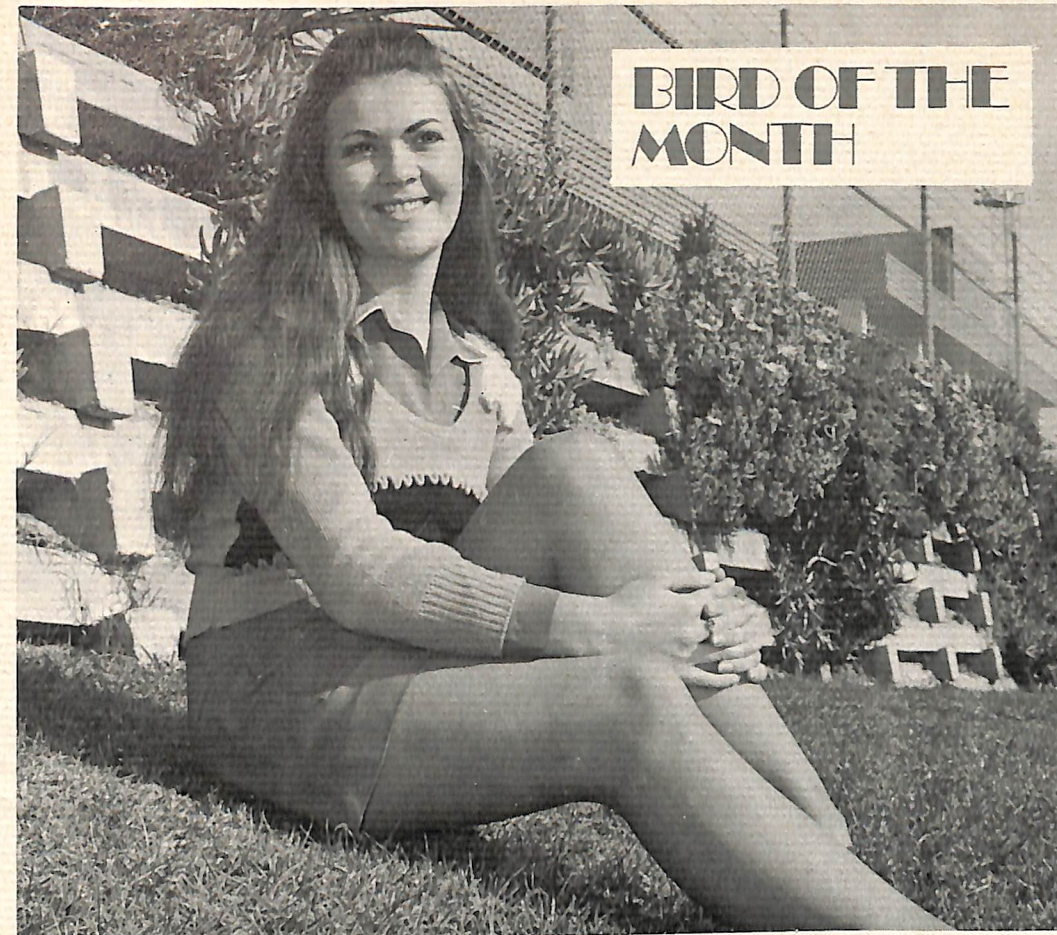
**Bell**, to John (CAO, Briquette Sales Division) and Val, a daughter, Shelley Maree, sister for Robert and Geoffrey on April 24.

**Bool**, to Bryan (CAO Distribution Services Dept.) and Maurita, a daughter, Wendy, sister for Melinda and Scott, on May 18.

**Coots**, to Geoff (Accounting, Barwon ESB) and Jenice, a daughter, Jodie Ellen on April 28.

**Hayes**, to Geoff (Briquette Sales) and Jody, a son, Richard John, on May 21.

**Nicholls**, to Colin (Acting Operational Systems Engineer, Production Co-ordination Dept.) and Ruth, a daughter, Roslyn Mary, on May 15.



## BIRD OF THE MONTH

Take heart all of you '56 rockers, the message has spread to the current generation. This month's bird, Linda Bicknell, is a staunch Elvis fan, and the rock king is her favourite male. Linda is a Special Typist with Morwell Administration, and she turns 19 this month. She likes sport, especially footy; crochet and reading. Linda is also an entrant in this year's Miss Australia Quest, and is busy organising a ball, golf tournament, cycling and an angling contest to raise money. Wish Linda luck for the regional judging about September.

## READERS SERVICE

### FOR SALE

- 1969 Falcon XT 3.5 auto station wagon, radio, heater, 12 months reg., r.w.c., white with maroon trim, very clean, \$1,680. Contact B. Allan, Monash House 3503, or a/h 874 5784.
- Hoover 612 upright vacuum cleaner, complete with all attachments, good condition, \$20.
- Vactric 3-brush floor polisher/scrubber with extra set of brushes, good condition, \$20. Both ideal for flat or holiday home. Contact Ted Kobelt, Monash House, ext. 2817.
- Millard 6-berth caravan, 15 ft., good condition, fridge, stove, etc., \$1,450. Contact Connie Lesina, Clements House 2596 or a/h 598 9243.
- Toyota Corolla 1100cc engine and chassis repair manuals with 1200cc engine supplement, \$3. Contact G. Karutz, Monash House 2764.
- Trailer, 7 ft. x 5 ft., valued \$130, sell or exchange for trailer 6 ft. x 4 ft. Contact Bob Smith, Clements House, ext. 2681, a/h 2705.
- Gent's black leather jacket, belted with button-up side pockets, good style, \$60. Ph. 398 1831 a/h.

### TO LET

- Dingley, attractive new 17 sq. BV home, unfurn. Secluded, treed setting, one mile from station, 7 rooms, 2 bathrooms, carport and lockup garage. Includes drapes, floor covs., light fittings, security intercom, etc. Small garden and courtyard, completion July. Adult tenants preferred. Enquiries PMG phone, Moe 1267.
- Fully furnished holiday bungalow at Lakes Entrance, own yard and water frontage, accom. five (two bedrooms), everything except linen. E. Parker, 21 Middle St., Lakes Entrance. Phone 55 1352.
- House at Dromana. All amenities, fully furnished for four adults plus children, half mile beach. \$35 per week. For further info, contact Terry Algie, Clements House, ext. 2714 or 874 4219.

## FLASH BACK

Our Trafalgar office has moved twice and the Commission's utility vans have changed somewhat, since this picture was taken back in the 'roaring twenties'. The photograph was sent in by Rochester Clerk, Malcolm Tullo who commenced his SEC career at Trafalgar as a Junior Clerk in this building in 1927.

In those days Malcolm shared the office on the right side of the Mechanics Institute with the District Manager and Resident Linesman. The store was at the rear of the building.

Malcolm still recalls the day he gained his first Commission licence in the old Morris Cowley (pictured). "I had to drive the local constable along a very muddy road to a farm to deliver a summons", he told SEC News. "He told me as long as I got him there and back okay, the licence was mine". The licence cost Malcolm five shillings.

Before the Morris arrived at Trafalgar the staff had to rely on a motorcycle and side-car for transport. "The Resident Linesman used to carry his ladder on the side-car and somebody would have to sit on it to keep it there", added Malcolm.

The Trafalgar office moved to Number One Contingent Street in the early 1930s when fire hit the Mechanics Institute. The next move was made in 1944 when Commission staff took over the building in the main street formerly occupied by the National Bank.

At present the Commission still occupies this building but it is manned by only a senior clerk.

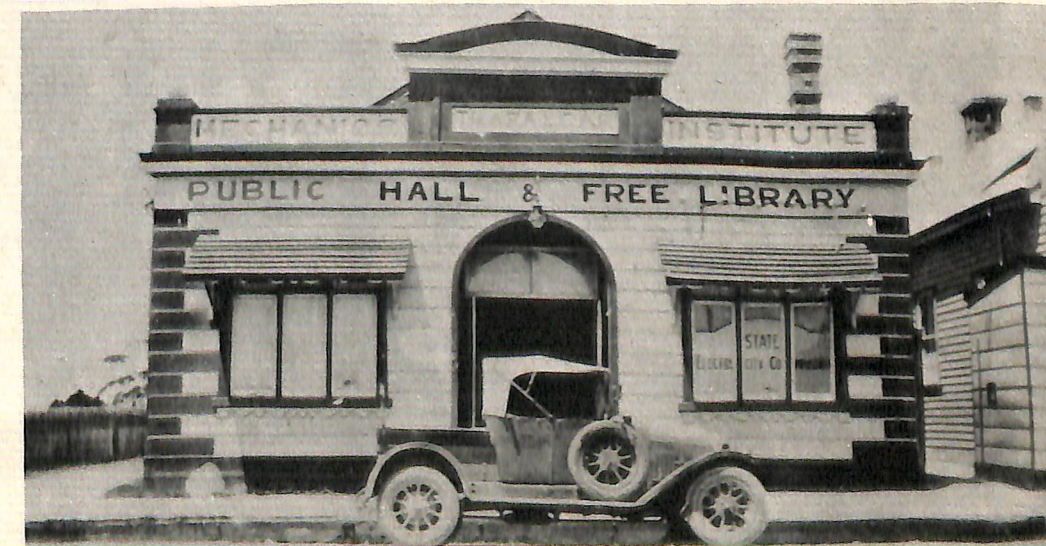
The sender of the picture, Michael Tullo was born in Trafalgar, but for the past 25 years has worked as a Commercial Admin. Officer at our Rochester office. He retires this year.

SEC News readers are invited to send in any pictures they feel may be suitable for our Flashback column. To date this column has thrived on the endeavours of Commission personnel past and present. Readers are asked to send their telephone numbers along with any information relevant to the picture they send.

## FAMILY ALBUM

### WALLY & RICHARD MYERSCOUGH

Father and son, Wally and Richard Myerscough both work in Monash House. Wally is on the ground floor, and Richard is on the fourth. With the Commission since July, 1950, Wally lays claim to the title of — wait for it — Assistant Senior Clerk, Accounts Payable (Material and Supplies). He has also served in Consumer Accounts and Footscray Stores. Richard has been with the Commission for three years, with part of this time being spent in National Service. He is in Supplies and General Service.



**SPORTS NEWS**

# River Street's Robin Hood on target

Transport Division's Lindsay Badrock (pictured) aged 16, is developing a keen interest in one of the world's oldest sports — archery.

Inspired by his father Bert (Market Development), Lindsay, a Cleaner at River Street joined the Moorabbin Archery Club recently and soon graduated from the beginners' range to shoot on the club's open range.

To compete on the open range, Lindsay had to qualify in three 90-arrow shoots using a bow which requires a pull-back of 35-pounds pressure on the string, before the arrow can be released.

The qualifying shoots were held over a term of four weeks.

Lindsay shot 90 arrows from a distance of 50 yards, 90 arrows from 40 yards and later three shoots of 30 arrows from distances of 50, 40 and 30 yards.

And shooting at targets with a bow and arrow is hardly the same as using a rifle. It is much harder to sight with a bow which has to be held steady and pressure maintained on the string before the arrow can be released.

Bows used by the Moorabbin club members range from \$30 to \$450 in price and most are accurate up to a range of 100 yards and more. The aluminium and fibreglass arrows can also cost anything from \$2 to \$20 each.

This and the fact that one needs a very strong pair of shoulders to be an archer probably explains why there are only about 700 followers of the sport in Victoria.

According to Lindsay's father Bert, who is also one of these enthusiasts, archery is a sport in which one is always competing against himself.

Another interest that Lindsay and his father Bert share is cine photography. Bert has won several prizes with his films and Lindsay recently won a novice film-making competition organised by the Ormond Movie Club, of which he is a member.

Lindsay's other interest is carpentry and he attends weekly classes at Moorabbin Technical School to further his proficiency in this craft.

To say that the Badrocks are a sporting family, is an understatement, while Bert and Lindsay are at the archery club, Bert's wife and his other two children are generally slogging away at the local tennis courts.

# Undefeated Monash try for another year of success

Monash House social club football team went through last season undefeated, and started off this season with a good win. Their aim, of course, is to achieve a similar result throughout the current season.

On May 20, Monash played Rooney Street Services at Cheltenham Park, and ran out victors by 11 points. There were two stars on the day, Monash's John Pickett, who was best player on the ground, and umpire Frank Yeomans, who made himself that rarest of breeds — a popular umpire.

Monash have an interesting season lined up, with their next game against Barwon Branch on July 1 at Queen's Park. The Geelong games are always a highlight of the season, and there should be a good attendance.

Late in July, a match will be played against a ladies' team, and more details will be published next issue. We will also carry a pictorial report of the game.

Other games for the year will be played against Eastern Metro on July 15, Bendigo on August 19, at Gisborne and Ballarat on September 16 at Bacchus Marsh.

The games are followed by refreshments, and barbecue facilities are always available.



Transport Division Cleaner, Lindsay Badrock (pictured) demonstrates some of the skill that enabled him to qualify to shoot at Moorabbin Archery Club's open range.

# Big 'uns that didn't get away

It was the sort of fishing trip most people dream about. Six members of the Collingwood Area Centre social club organised a fishing trip to Stony Point last month, where they hired a boat and hoped for the best.

Some of them had never caught a fish before in their lives. By the end of the day they had bagged 160 fish — whiting (some well over 2 lb.), flathead and leatherjackets. The largest fish was 19 in. in length.

Organiser Bill Johnson and his "merry men" are convinced that it wasn't beginners' luck, despite the fact that all the fish were caught in two-and-a-half hours, and are planning a repeat performance.

Pictured below are the boys from Collingwood Area Centre with just some of their huge haul of fish after the successful fishing trip organised by the Centre's social club.



# sport shorts

More than 120 bowls enthusiasts have nominated for the SEC Bowls Club's nine-day trip to Tasmania in January next year, for the return tournament with the Hydro Electric Commission.

In March, the club entertained 63 visitors from Tasmania who were here for the tournament. The SEC won by a very small margin.

At the sixth annual meeting of the club recently, the following office-bearers were elected for the 1973/74 season: president, Reub Townsend; vice-presidents, Alf Jones and John Conway; secretary, Roy Tabley; treasurer, Maurie Cooper.

Also elected were committee members: Harold Birchall, Gordon Payne, Alex Jarvis, Ern Cox, Austin Lynch, Ian McDonald, Bryan Bool, Alby Goodwin and Lew Hodges. Jack Chapman was elected auditor and Alex Jarvis, press correspondent.



..if you know of any news

...tell the Editor

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