



LEGACY NEWSLETTER

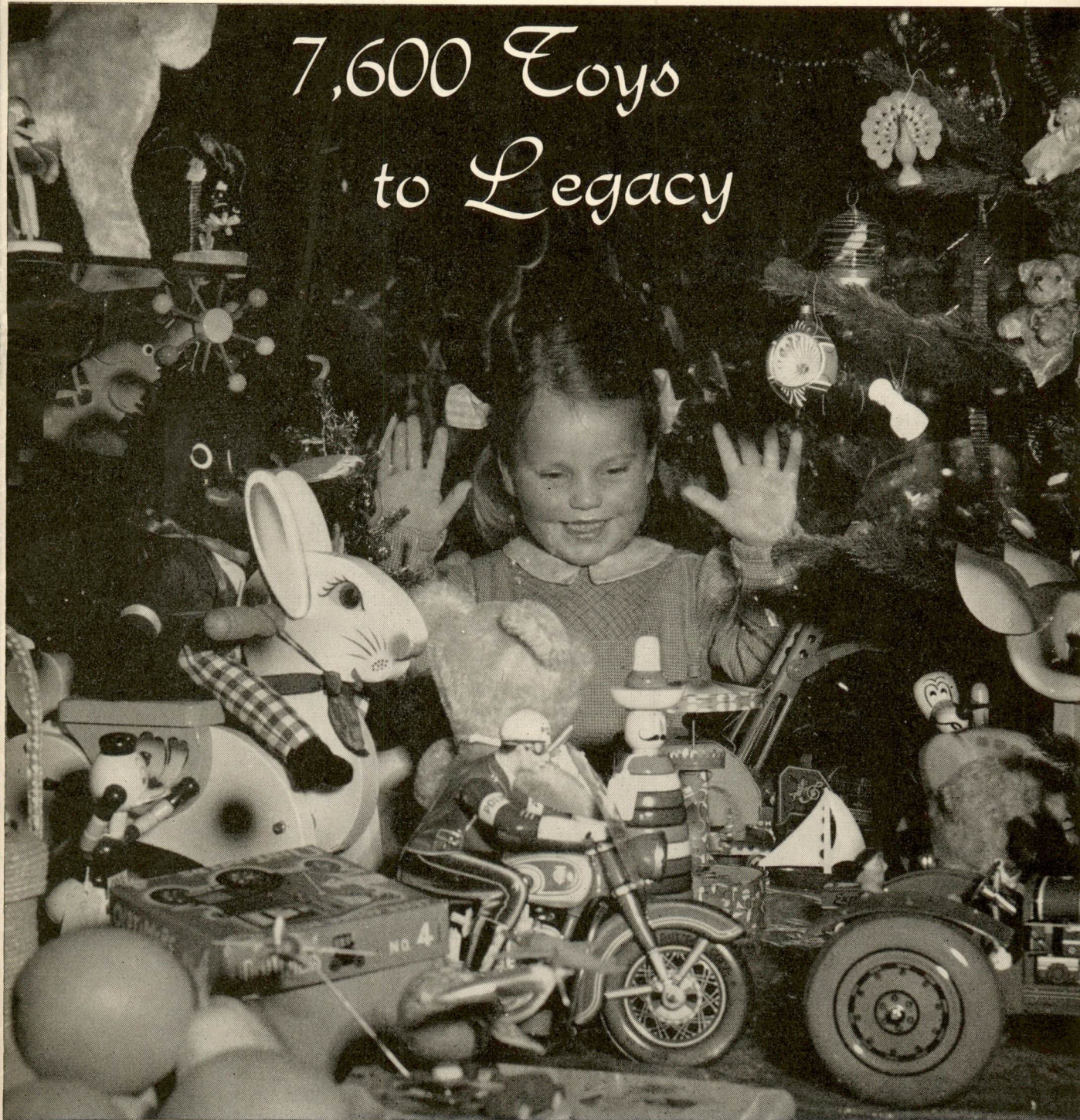
VOL. 10, No. 2

MELBOURNE, DECEMBER, 1957

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7,600 Toys to Legacy



EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HANDING OVER TOYS TO LEGACY —By courtesy of International Harvester.



LEGACY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 10, No. 2. Melbourne, Dec., 1957.

Issued regularly for private circulation among the Sons and Daughters of Deceased Servicemen and Merchant Seamen who served their Country during the Wars of 1914-18 and 1939-45, and subsequent campaigns.

Address:

THE EDITOR,
Legacy "Newsletter,"
"Legacy House," 293 Swanston Street,
Melbourne.

MELBOURNE LEGACY

Founded 1923 by The Late
Lieutenant-General Sir STANLEY SAVIGE,
K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., E.D.

PATRON AND MEMBER:

His Excellency the Governor of Victoria,
GENERAL SIR DALLAS BROOKS,
K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., D.S.O., K.St.J.

PRESIDENT:

Legatee L. W. FARGHER.

Executive Officer: IVAN E. LAYTON.

Office, Clubrooms and Dental Clinic:
"Legacy House," 293 Swanston Street,
Melbourne. Phone: FB 3564.

RESIDENCES

"BLAMEY HOUSE,"
1267 Burke Road, Kew. Phone: WY 2914.
"STANHOPE,"
1245 Burke Road, Kew. Phone: WY 2945.
"HARELANDS,"
5 Willsmere Road, Kew. Phone: WM 8520.

GIRLS' GROUPS

Senior Girls' Group (16 and over) Club Rooms,
Tuesday, 6 p.m. and 7.15 p.m.
Junior and Intermediate Girls' Groups Club
Rooms, Friday, 4.30 p.m., 5.30 p.m., 6.30
p.m., 7.30 p.m.; Tuesday, 4.30 p.m.

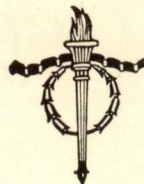
BOYS' GROUPS

Junior Legacy Boys' Club, Club Rooms,
Wednesday, 7.30 p.m.
Wednesday Boys, Y.M.C.A.: Swimming, 7 p.m.;
Games, 7.30 p.m.

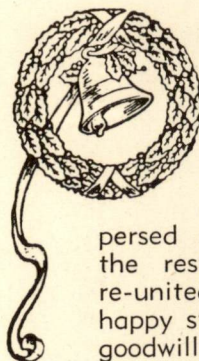
PHYSICAL TRAINING GROUPS

Auburn: Hawthorn Boys' Club Hall, cr. Auburn
Road and Caroline Street, Auburn, Friday,
7.30 p.m.
Central: Drill Hall, Sturt Street, Sth. Melbourne,
Friday, 7.30 p.m.
Coburg: Drill Hall, Reynard's Road, Coburg,
Friday, 7.30 p.m.
East Brighton: Drill Hall, Landcox Street,
Brighton, Friday, 7.30 p.m.
Fitzroy: Cr. Brunswick and Reid Streets,
Fitzroy, Friday, 7.30 p.m.
Footscray: Drill Hall, cr. Gordon and Barkly
Streets, Footscray, Friday, 7.30 p.m.
Kew: Drill Hall, Cr. High Street and Highbury
Grove, Kew, Friday, 7.30 p.m.
Malvern: Drill Hall, Mablen Place, Armadale,
Friday, 7.30 p.m.
Oakleigh: Oakleigh Cricket Club, Warrigal
Road, Oakleigh, Friday, 7.30 p.m.

Editor: Legatee KEN FIELD.



Christmas-time



AND numerous indeed are the hearts to which Christmas brings a brief season of happiness and enjoyment. How many families whose members have been dispersed and scattered far and wide, in the restless struggle of life, are then re-united and meet once again in that happy state of companionship and mutual goodwill, which is a source of such pure and unalloyed delight, and one so incompatible with the cares and sorrows of the world, that the religious belief of the most civilised nations, and the rude traditions of the roughest savages, alike number it among the first days of a future state of existence, provided for the blest and happy!

How many old recollections and how many dormant sympathies Christmas-tide awakens!

WE write these words now, many miles distant from the spot at which, year after year, we met on that day a merry and joyous circle. Many of the hearts that throbbed so gaily then have ceased to beat; many of the looks that shone so brightly then, have ceased to glow; the hands we grasped, have grown cold; the eyes we sought, have hid their lustre in the grave; and yet the old house, the room, the merry voices and smiling faces, the jest, the laugh, the most minute and trivial circumstance connected with those happy meetings, crowd upon our mind at each recurrence of the reason, as if the last assemblage had been but yesterday.

Happy, happy Christmas, that can win us back to the delusions of our childish days, recall to the old man the pleasures of his youth, and transport the traveller back to his own fireside and quiet home.

—Charles Dickens.

EMPIRE AND COMMONWEALTH GAMES, JULY, 1958

THE British Empire and Commonwealth Games are held only once in four years, and the invitation to act as host country to the athletes of the many different nations comprising the Empire and Commonwealth family, is regarded as a great honour. The people of Wales have accepted the invitation to stage next year's Games, and the Festival of Wales which will celebrate this event is an indication of how highly they esteem the honour.

The first of the present series of Empire Games, although there were earlier predecessors, was held in Canada—at Hamilton—in 1930. London was the venue in 1934, and Sydney, Australia, in 1938. Since the war the Games have been held at Auckland, New Zealand, in 1950 and at Vancouver, Canada, in 1954. In 1958 they will be staged for a second time in Britain, and more than a thousand competitors will assemble in Cardiff next July—a great number, from a greater number of countries, than for any previous Empire Games. It will be a proud occasion for Wales, for Britain and for all the Commonwealth.

We in Wales venture to forecast that the Sixth Empire and Commonwealth Games will be the best of the series so far. One of our great assets in Cardiff is accessibility. The main stadium—the famous Cardiff Arms Park, where the athletic contests will take place—is right in the centre of the city, and round it are clustered the venues for boxing and wrestling (Sophia Gardens Pavilion), for swimming and diving (the Wales Empire Pool), for the bowls finals (Sophia Gardens) and for cycling (the Maindy Stadium). The main railway station is within easy reach, and the principal hotels and shops close by, as are Cardiff Castle and the Civic Centre. So compact is the whole area that any visitor could walk all round it, and inspect the various stadia, in less than an hour.

Technical considerations have necessitated the holding of some of the events in places farther afield. The weightlifting contests, for instance, will take place in the new Memorial Hall in the seaside town of Barry, Glamorgan. This hall was a victim of the bombs of the last war and has only just been completely re-built.

The rowing events presented greater problems. No river in Wales could accommodate four crews abreast along a 2,000-metre course of reasonably still water. The organisers, therefore, turned their attention to the lakes, and the most suitable of these proved to be Llyn Padarn, near Llanberis, Caernarvonshire. Not only did it amply fulfil the stringent conditions, but nowhere could visitors see to better advantage the rugged grandeur of North Wales. Snowdon stands above, majestic and dominating, and the wild country around recalls the days of those fearless Welsh princes who defied alien rule for so long. Their own good swords and the bright spears of their followers, assisted by the terrain they loved so well, rendered them unconquerable in those stirring days. Round Llyn Padarn you may tread those redoubtable ramparts.

Fencing is now a highly technical sport with a big following, and its place in both the Commonwealth and the Olympic Games is assured. Next year's fencing events will be held in the Cae'r Castell Modern School at Llanrumney—a twenty-minute bus ride from the centre of Cardiff. Here the fine gymnasium and school hall meet all the requirements of the organisers. Finally, there is the 120-mile road cycle race, which follows a hilly course from Southerndown (twenty miles from Cardiff)—a perfect circuit, partly coastal and partly inland, through the lovely Vale of Glamorgan.

The Games will cost at least a quarter of a million pounds to stage, of which it is expected that gate receipts will bring in a hundred thousand. The balance, we hope, will be provided by the generosity of all sections of the public, including Industry, already a generous donor, and Sport, admirably led by the Welsh Rugby Union, who organised a special match at Cardiff Arms Park. This was not only a great game of Rugby but also resulted in a cheque for over £13,000 towards the Appeal Fund. Followers of cricket, lawn tennis and golf are all planning to swell the total.

With the Principality acting as host to the whole Commonwealth, Welshmen throughout the world are determined that next year's Games will prove the greatest yet.

BOYS' GROUP CLASSES

BOX HILL CLASS

A new Legacy Class for boys has been established in this area and is situated in the Box Hill Memorial Youth Centre Hall in Bank Street, Box Hill. This hall is directly behind the Box Hill Town Hall. This group conducts on Friday nights at 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. and caters for boys living in and around Box Hill. We look forward to seeing any boys and mothers living in the area.

OAKLEIGH CLASS

Since our last "Newsletter" we have pleasure in advising you that we have opened a new class at Oakleigh. It is situated in a hall alongside the Oakleigh Cricket Club Pavilion in Warrigal Road, between Oakleigh Station and Dandenong Road. Already 50 odd boys are enrolled and enjoying their evening of physical and recreational training. Accommodation is available for more boys: any boys and mothers living in the area will be most welcome.

PRESTON CLASS

We would like to advise all families living in the Preston, Reservoir and Heidelberg area that we will be opening a boys' class at Preston when suitable accommodation has been arranged. Our class at Fitzroy will be transferred to this new location, and families in the area advised when this new class will start.

ESSENDON CLASS

We have pleasure in advising our families in and around Essendon that we intend opening a boys' class in the Essendon area just as soon as suitable accommodation has been found. We will in due course be advising families with boys of suitable age of the date of starting.

COMPANY OF MASTER MARINERS OF AUSTRALIA

THE following has been received from the Assistant Hon. Secretary of the above:

"Dear Sir,

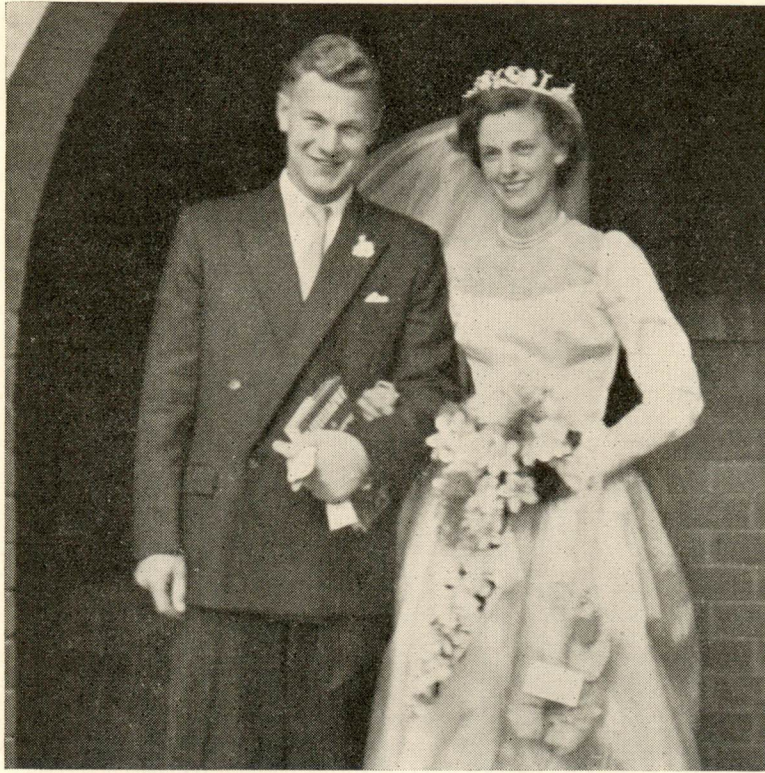
It occurs to us that you may be interested in the recruitment of Officers and Cadets, and we have therefore taken the liberty of enclosing herewith copy of a letter just received by us.

We shall be glad if you will advise us of the possibility of any of your members being interested, when we will forward you further details."

RECRUITMENT OF OFFICERS

The Company is at present having considerable difficulty in recruiting both certificated Deck Officers and suitable youngsters to serve as Cadets in the Eastern Fleet. We shall be grateful if you could mention this at your meetings or in your publications, as it is possible that your members may know of likely recruits for the Company. Prospective Deck Officers should be under 25 years of age and be in possession of their Second Mate's Foreign-going Certificates. Prospective Cadets should be about 17 years of age.

We are asking the Company's agents in Sydney to send you copies of the Company's recruitment brochures. Should you require further copies or any information regarding the Company's terms and conditions of service please do not hesitate to ask them or ourselves.



Two Junior Legatees wed on November 16, 1957 — Les. Johnson and Diane Aldous, both formerly of "Stanhope" and "Harelands."

BRING OUT A BRITON

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
Office of the Minister for Immigration,
Parliament House,
Canberra, A.C.T.

Dear Fellow Australians,

May I request your personal help to make possible an increased flow of British migrants to Australia?

There is widespread support throughout the community for the great post-war immigration programme which in ten years has added 1,200,000 people to our population from the United Kingdom and from more than 30 European countries.

The migrants have helped to make Australia richer and stronger. We shall continue to need more new settlers from all these countries if our country is to develop and be held as a British country for our children.

Because we have strong family ties with Britain we hope to provide opportunities for as many British people as possible to come here as migrants.

To widen these opportunities, I have launched a "Bring Out a Briton" campaign.

Your personal support is sought to make this campaign a success.

I therefore invite you to lend all possible assistance to special "Bring Out a Briton" Committees which are either formed or about to be set up in country districts throughout Australia.

Yours sincerely,
ATHOL TOWNLEY,
Minister for Immigration.

THEY come to the counter at Australia House in London and say: "I've got a good job here, but the wife and I know the children would have better chances in Australia . . ."

"Ever since the war, I've been thinking about what the Aussies in my squadron told me about their country . . ."

"The missus and I keep remembering that broadcast the Queen made from Australia — 'Land of opportunity,' Her Majesty said . . ."

"It's not deserting the Old Country, really. It's still in the British Commonwealth, and I could do better out there . . ."

"We don't expect a bed of roses; we'll battle hard for a chance to start in Australia . . ."

"They" are the hundreds of worthwhile, solid British family men who today are seeking an assisted passage to a new life in Australia. So far they have been unsuccessful, because they have no personal sponsors in Australia and they are not eligible for Commonwealth nomination.

"They" are the families we are asking to the people of Australia to help through the "Bring Out a Briton" campaign.

Australia wants these British people; Australia needs them. With the help of the Australian people we will get them here.

One might well ask: "What does the Commonwealth Government do to bring British migrants here, and why should we people take part in 'Bring Out a Briton' drive?"

There are three schemes by which British migrants, paying only £10 sterling towards their fares, can come to Australia in shipping berths found for them by the Commonwealth Government. The British Government pays about £6 and Australia pays the rest.

Legacy Medical Services

MEDICAL service is primarily for children under the age of 16 years—including cases referred by Country Legacy Clubs or Groups. Widows and older children are not a primary responsibility, but in cases of special difficulty, the Medical Committee is pleased to advise Contactors on medical problems.

Details of services are as follows:—

1. To advise the Board of Management on all matters affecting the health of Junior Legatees.
2. General practitioner service in the home is rendered by local Repatriation doctors, or if the family is not eligible for Repatriation benefits, by a local doctor of their own choice or by Public Hospital facilities. The primary responsibility for ensuring this medical care is that of the Contactor. In cases of difficulty, the Medical Committee will arrange adequate medical facilities.
3. Legacy provides a consultant service which should be arranged through the Medical Committee. The opinion of the doctor primarily responsible for the child's medical care should always be obtained prior to consultation, if this is at all possible. The opinion of the specialist can be obtained regarding the need for treatment, but operations and most special investigations can only be provided by reference to Public Hospitals.
4. Medical officers are appointed to Residences, and provide a general practitioner service to them.
5. A medical officer is appointed to each boys' and girls' class. He carries out an annual examination of the children attending, particularly new enrolments, as well as making approximately monthly visits for consultation. The Class Leader may contact him at any time should medical problems arise.
6. An eye survey is conducted each year on all Legacy children attending classes and in Residences.
7. Chest X-rays and Mantoux tests are normally carried out by the Health Department and it is unnecessary to duplicate these services. However, in the event of Junior Legatees not having used these facilities, the Medical Committee will arrange for any necessary X-ray examination, towards the end of each year. Such examinations are carried out through the classes.
8. **Widows:** Any widow who receives a pension, whether Invalid, Widow or War Pension, is entitled to free medical and pharmaceutical benefits. The Club does not provide a duplicate service, but there may be some special cases where a widow's health is such that some additional specialist advice or treatment is needed. Details of such a case should be submitted to the Secretary of the Medical Committee, with clinical notes from her doctor.

Finance: The Medical Committee has no funds of its own and in cases where it is considered the circumstances warrant financial aid, reference should be made to the Welfare Committee. Except in cases of emergency, the Medical Committee should always be consulted before any specialist treatment is arranged, as unnecessary spending of Legacy funds may thus be avoided.

A JUNIOR LEGATEE MAKES A GIFT TO THE CLUB

EX-JUNIOR Legatee Ronald Poole has handed the President a framed illuminated excerpt of the speech by the late Sir Isaac Isaacs, when Governor-General of Australia, in which he spoke so feelingly of Legacy.

Ronald, now a commercial artist, has produced a work of art recording those words, and these will be a treasured possession of the Club on whose behalf the President expressed his admiration and gratitude.

The Demonstration

IT is becoming almost an annual commonplace to say that the Demonstration is the best one we have yet had, but it really does seem true and this year's was no exception.

It was more than a show, it was a colourful pageant highlighted by the brilliant dressing of the girls, which added to the charm of the ballets in which the girls are evidently becoming more skilled and graceful each year.

The spectacular feats of the boys in their tumbling and vaulting were interspersed between the varied items carried out with extreme precision by the girls—the whole forming a programme of absorbing interest and of pride to all Legatees, especially those closely concerned in the classes.

Once again, Miss Domec-Carre was publicly congratulated on her latest achievement and presented with an outsize in bouquets of which her assistants undoubtedly deserved a share.

While the boys' instructors have earned our thanks and admiration for the way they have, in a few short years, turned ordinary youngsters into fine physical specimens of humanity—the same can, of course, be said of the girls though the method by which this is accomplished is somewhat different.

It would take too much of our limited space to describe in detail each item but special mention must be made of the ballet items. "The Graduation Ball," "Cinderella" and "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs"—these, in themselves, were a formidable feat of training and production and it was noticeable that the girls have added the art of miming to that of classical dancing with delightful success.

The physical education turns of the Senior Girls were remarkable for their precision, in spite of their strenuous nature, and in the Judo display the girls demonstrated that they were able to "mix it" with the boys with marked success.

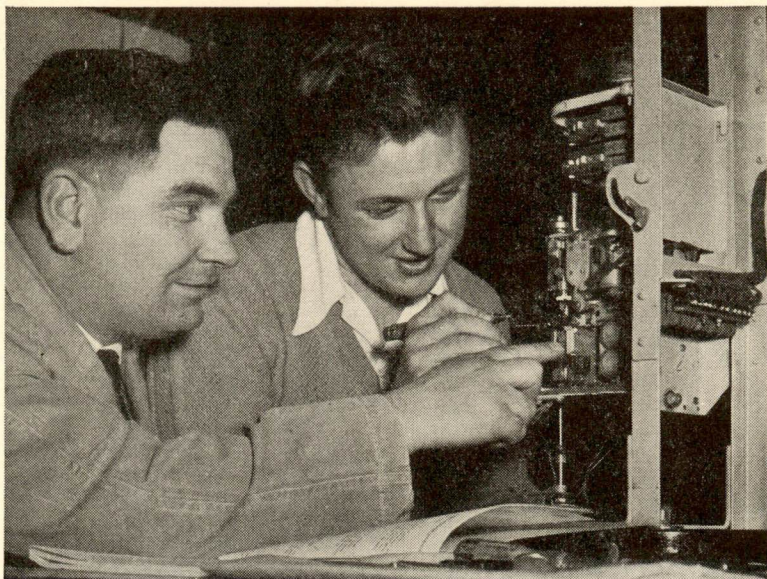
Among the special items the Speech Training Class presented a charming rendering of Gounoud's "Ave Maria," accompanied by a few singing voices, which achieved a delightful effect.

We should all remember that much of the colour and attractiveness of the pageant as a whole was due to the elaborate and vivid dressing of the girls, which represents much hard and self-sacrificing work on the part of the mothers and Senior Girls and to them we cannot be sufficiently grateful.

EDUCATION

THE responsibility today in this matter of education rests heavily on us all. Adult education is very necessary under modern conditions for the sake of democracy—for the sake of our young people. *Parents, particularly, have an educational duty they side-step in most cases. Some parents do know what their children are doing in school, and where where they stand—but not many. To almost all parents schooling is a thing apart from their every-day responsibilities. It is plain duty of the home to keep an eye on what children are doing in school. Spending an evening with a school child will be a revelation to many parents. All children need help, and they should be able to come to their parents for it. They need help in building character, lessons in patience, lessons in facing a distasteful duty honestly, and patient guidance in the hardest lesson for all of us to learn—concentration, stick-to-it-iveness. Parents should find out what the teacher thinks of their child, and why: then they could proceed in the co-operative task of developing an intelligent man or woman. Schools should not have to plead with the home for the essential co-operation in this necessary task of unification of environment, for the educating of children is not merely a school task, particularly in character building. Mothers and guardians can always bring educational problems of their children to Legacy, as it is our privilege to assist.*

YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE



Postmaster-General's Department No. 4 in a Series

THE difficulty of choosing a suitable career is one that is faced by many boys of school leaving age each year. For the technically inclined boy the job of technician in the Postmaster-General's Department is one worth investigating. Work performed in the communications field by a technician is interesting, varied and of national importance. It includes

the study of Automatic Telephony, Machine Telegraphy, Radio and Long Line Communication Systems, Television and Electrical Power Equipment.

Technically inclined young men between the ages of 15 and 18 years have an excellent opportunity to join Australia's largest business undertaking and train to take their place in the communication services of the Australian Post Office as a technician. Trainees are selected from successful candidates at the competitive examination held in September of each year. Subjects of examination are elementary Mathematics, Science, and English of about Sub-Intermediate standard.

Candidates who succeed in passing the examination and are appointed as Technician-in-Training receive five years' intensive training which includes theoretical and practical work at a Departmental School, under highly qualified instructors.

Trainees who successfully complete the training course advanced as technician. Subsequent promotion as Senior Technician, Supervising Technician or Engineer may be obtained by further study. All those with the necessary ambition, and who are prepared to work hard, will have the opportunity to rise to higher administrative positions. There is, in fact, a worthwhile future in this vital and interesting work.

Excellent salaries are paid during and after the period of training. Juniors who, on appointment, are required to live away from home will be paid an appropriate allowance. Privileges available from time of commencement in the Department are:

1. Full pay while learning.
2. Three weeks annual leave on full pay.
3. Liberal sick leave conditions.
4. Superannuation benefits payable on retirement (maximum age or invalidity).

For further information contact:

THE STAFF EMPLOYMENT OFFICER,
Personnel Branch,
G.P.O., Melbourne, C.I.
'Phone MY 4491.

NEWS FROM OTHER CLUBS

BRISBANE Legacy Bulletin (28/6/57) has this item:

Gellibrand Scholar, Dick Earnshaw: Dick Earnshaw, sponsored by Queensland Legacy Clubs, has completed a successful degree course at Manchester University. Members will remember Dick who, before going to England to do post-graduate work as the Gellibrand Scholar of his year, was a Club guest. We were all impressed with his engaging personality.

At the President's request, our Secretary read these extracts from a letter to his mother from Professor Mathew of Manchester University:

"I am very happy to say that Dick has just been awarded his Ph.D. degree and his work has been very well reported upon by the two external examiners. He has worked extremely hard—at times to the point of exhaustion, but he has a stubborn streak and is not very amenable to advice. Now that it is off his mind, he is much relieved and is looking forward to his year in the U.S., which is another feather in his cap. He has very much endeared himself to both the students and the staff here and we shall all regret his going, but he has more than earned the distinction and the experience will be a wonderful one for him.

"We have just had Professor Amies here, and I made a point of putting him in touch with Dick and they have had, I think, a very helpful conversation. I made it quite clear to Professor Amies how grateful we were that he was instrumental in sending Dick to us and that he has more than justified the trust put in him."

Further information is that Dick Earnshaw will go to Chicago University for 12 months next September, 1957, and afterwards to Manchester University.

BOOKS AND READING

BEFORE saying anything further about how to read, we should keep in mind that an author writes with a definite purpose. It may be that he intends merely to amuse us or to help us to fill in some time pleasantly—to escape for a little while from the work-a-day world in which most of us live out our lives; or he intends to supply us with facts or information about people, countries, nations, ideas, and so on; or, and this is the most important and most difficult purpose that he can have, he tries to help us to understand or to interpret ourselves, our world and the universe of which our world is an insignificant speck; that is, to give us an insight into the problems that have perplexed mankind since man became a thinking animal.

Understanding should be our ultimate goal. Without it, no one can be said to be educated, or cultured, or a useful citizen. A person might have his memory stored with an immense amount of information about many different subjects, so that he could correctly answer every question put to him in a "Quiz" session, but unless he can link up fact with fact and understand their relationship, unless, that is, he can interpret the facts and apply his knowledge to some useful purpose, his knowledge is useless to himself and to mankind.

So the most important thing to keep in mind in learning how to read is that our reading will profit us nothing unless we understand clearly what the writer is saying to us.

Have you ever wondered what is the greatest invention ever made by mankind? There can scarcely be any doubt that the invention of language is by far the most important. Almost everything that we know has been learned through the medium of language, either spoken or written. A language, as you know, uses words to convey information, orders, ideas, and so on. In all languages each word has a certain meaning and the words must be arranged in a certain way.

Unless the writer and the reader are agreed on the meanings of the words used and on the rules followed in arranging the words in groups or sentences, there can be no certainty of understanding between writer and reader. That is why schools devote a certain amount of time to the subject of English Grammar and Composition.

We British people have in English what is probably the finest language man has ever possessed. It contains about 500,000 words. Most of these words are of no interest to ordinary people. Many thousands of them are technical words used only by specialists in the arts and sciences; thousands of them are dialect words, used only in certain localities; some are obsolete words—that is, they are no longer in ordinary use. How many English words are of interest to the ordinary reader? It is difficult to fix on an approximate number. A small dictionary might contain from 25,000 to 50,000 words of interest to the general reader.

The body of words that a person knows well enough to use correctly is called his "vocabulary." You will agree that as you enlarge your vocabulary, so will you increase your knowledge, and therefore the greater will be the range of books that you will be able to read with understanding. It is thought that Shakespeare had the most extensive vocabulary of all writers in our language. It has been calculated that he used 30,000 words. Some people get along with a few hundred, perhaps not more than 400 words. I wonder how many words you have in your vocabulary?

However, its present extent is not as important as that you should begin straight away to enlarge it. And the only satisfactory way to do that is to do it systematically. You know that most of us, when we come to a strange word, slide past it and pretend that we didn't see it. Let us decide now that we'll be more sensible in future. The surest way to enlarge our vocabulary is to keep a small notebook (but not

too small) and write down in it every word that we hear or see that is not yet in our vocabulary. Look it up at once in a dictionary and write down the pronunciation and the meaning of the word. Perhaps it has more than one meaning. If so, decide in which sense it is used in the book you are reading. Keep the notebook handy so that you can look into it frequently. Do not trust your memory to retain all the knowledge that you get from the dictionary.

So another point to remember in learning how to read is to keep a dictionary always available to refer to when reading. The importance of developing the habit of enlarging one's vocabulary is being stressed nowadays by the better-class newspapers and magazines. From time to time they print lists of words and invite readers to test their knowledge of them. When you come across such lists, study them.

JIM TIERNEY

MEMBERS will learn with sorrow that our old friend died recently, aged 78. His long service as physical training instructor since the first formation of Boys' Classes is well known, until his retirement from that work, after which he became assistant custodian, as a member of the Corps of Commissionaires, at the Shire of Remembrance until 1953.

The following notes of his early life are provided by Legatee Aaron Beattie:

"Born 17th June, 1879, in London. As a small boy he was placed in an orphanage when his father died and mother married again. As a boy he worked as a barge boy on the English canals. At 14 joined the Royal Navy—served on the China Station for years—won his Life Saving Medal out in the East. He was Admiral Cardin's bowman—served in H.M.S. *Commonwealth* at Jutland, and was selected in 1917 from the grand fleet to come to Australia for the R.A.N. to act as P.T. instructor in the training ship *Tingara*.

"Left the Navy in the early 1920's, after 27 years' service, with a Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

"He was appointed P.T. director to Scotch College in early 1920's and held that job for 14 years until compelled by illness to resign.

"Appointed instructor to Legacy Boys' Class in 1926 and carried on alone for four years at Engineers' Depot, Alexander Avenue, when assistance was provided for him.

"He was very highly thought of at Scotch."

RINGWOOD HIGH SCHOOL HELPS LEGACY

THE Chairman of our Education Committee, Legatee Jim Bennett, who in his "spare" time is headmaster of the Ringwood High School, did not realise that the students at his school were so Legacy minded until recently when he received a very pleasant surprise.

The Intermediate form of girls at his school occasionally produce a Form Newspaper called "Karingal," which is an aboriginal word meaning "happy group." The current issue, a copy of which was posted to our President, was sold to all members of the staff of Ringwood High as well as to the students of that school. Even Legatee Bennett himself was "kept in the dark" as regards this effort until 6d. was demanded from him. The sales realised £7 and this amount was included in a cheque from the same school's Social Service Committee for £32 which has been forwarded to the Legacy office as a contribution to our Junior Legacy Funds. We convey our grateful thanks to all at Ringwood High for their fine effort on our behalf and we do sincerely appreciate the kind thought which prompted this gesture on their part.

Answer to Virginia

Late in the last century, the Editor of the New York "Sun" received a letter. It was written in a round, childish hand by a little girl named Virginia. Some of her smarter young friends had been taunting her that there was no Santa Claus. Was this—could this—be true? Virginia asked. The "Sun" felt so strongly about this that it answered Virginia in an editorial which has been quoted down the years. Frequently it is recalled in American papers at Christmas time. Somehow it seems to have even more point in the face of the false values of these war-torn days.

VIRGINIA, your little friends are wrong; they have been infected by the scepticism of a sceptical eye. They do not believe except what they see. They think nothing can be which is not comprehensible to their little minds.

All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect in intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of the truth.

Oh, yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know how they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy.

Oh, alas, how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no child-like faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood

fills the world would be extinguished not to believe in Santa Claus. You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your Daddy to hire men to watch all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming, down, what would that prove?

Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that does not prove that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in this world are those which neither children nor men can see. You tear apart your rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest men who ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, love, poetry, romance, can push aside that curtain and view the eternal beauty beyond. Is it all real? Oh, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding. No Santa Claus! Oh, thank God, he lives and lives for ever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.