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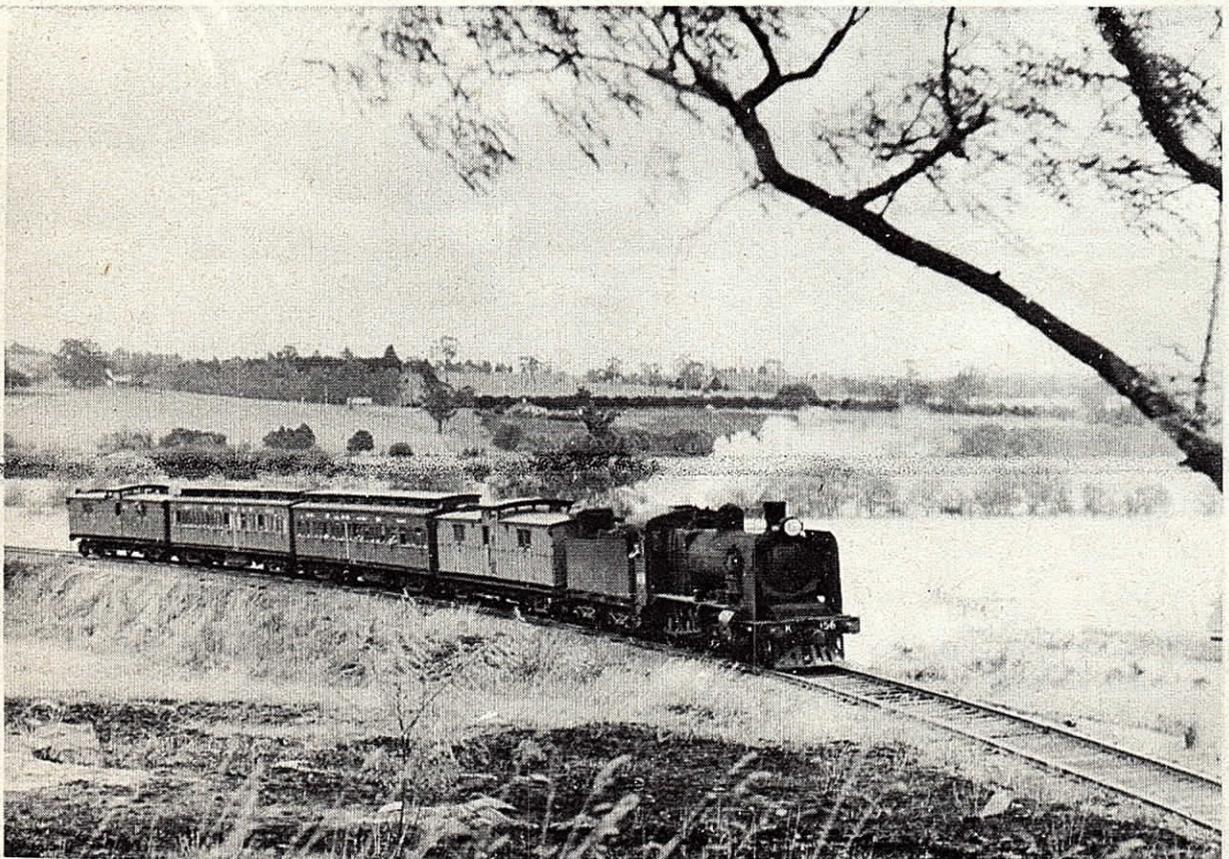
ASHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

# THE ASHWOOD ROCKET

VOLUME 7

JOURNAL OF THE  
TRAIN TOUR

DECEMBER 2nd - 7th, 1974



# THIS IS THE STORY OF THE ASHWOOD ROCKET

MADE BY SPECIAL TRAIN

DECEMBER 2nd - DECEMBER 7th 1974.

This journal, completed on the last day of the tour, includes the preliminary instructions, the daily news-sheets published on the train, and various other pages of notes and instructions.



DON'T LEAVE UNWANTED  
ARTICLES LYING ON THE  
TRACK.



DIRECT ANY COMPLAINTS  
TO THE TEACHERS.

"THE TRAIN OF KNOWLEDGE"

"T.O.K." is the Victorian Railways name for our train, which will be your home for a week. Study the following list and the sketch below so that you will be able to find your way about.

Locomotive Although the Diesel locomotive is changed according to the needs of the Victorian Railways it will always carry a large name plate with the title T.O.K.

Power Car This supplies the train with electricity and also serves as Guard's Van.

"Murray" This is the Dining Car, which seats 48 of us in each of two sittings. The kitchen is here also.

"Day Car" Next comes our "assembly room". It is an ordinary carriage with a central aisle.

Car No. 1 Girls' compartments.

Car No. 2 Girls' compartments.

Car No. 3 Mostly girls.

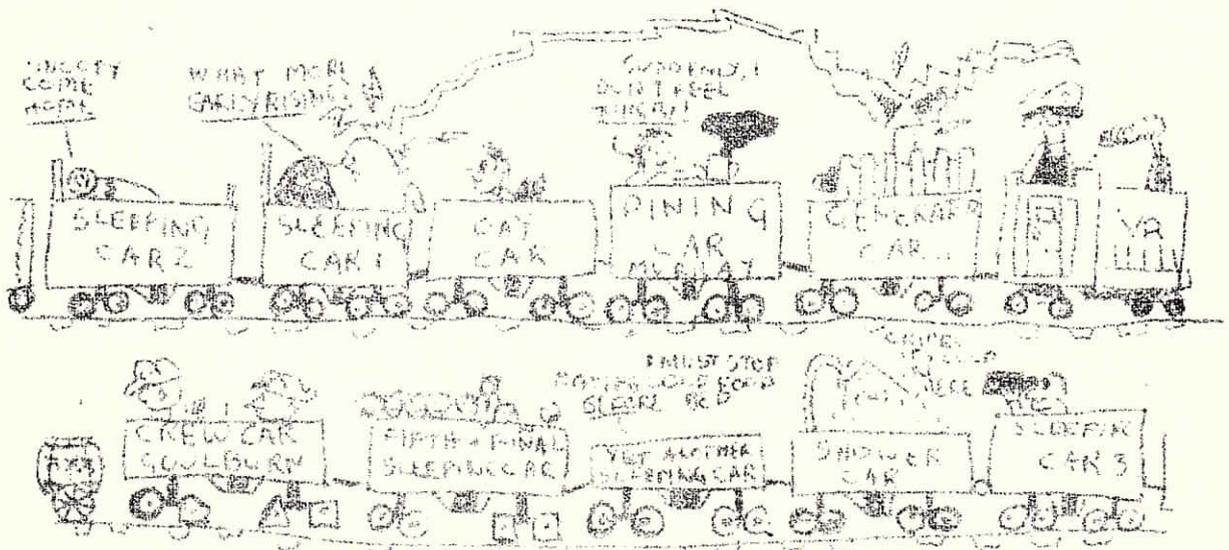
"Carey" The Shower Car.

Car No. 4 Boys' compartments.

Car No. 5 Boys' compartments.

"Goulburn" This is the car where the train staff will live .  
It is out of bounds to us.

THE "TRAIN OF KNOWLEDGE" The "T.O.K.". was first made up for MacLeod High School, but these students did not sleep on the train and they had their meals at various towns. Mount Waverley in May 1965, was the first "T.O.K." that accommodated the tourists for both meals and sleeping, though they had to make up their beds rather uncomfortably in ordinary second-class carriages. Since then, other schools have used the "T.O.K."



ITINERARY

Monday 2nd December, 1974

Spencer Street No. 10 Platform  
Corio

Geelong

Warrnambool

Dep. 8.42 a.m.

Arr. 9.50 a.m.

Bus Tour of Geelong

Dep. 11.50 a.m.

Lunch on the Train

Arr. 3.25 p.m.

Bus to Tower Hill  
and tour of Warrnambool.  
Tea in Warrnambool

Tuesday 3rd December.

Warrnambool

Glenthompson

Hamilton

Dep. 6.00 a.m.

Arr. 10.10 a.m.

Bus to "Nareeb Nareeb"

Dep. 2.55 p.m.

Arr. 3.55 p.m.

Tea on the Train

Wednesday 4th December.

Hamilton

Ararat

Eureka

Dep. 6.15 a.m.

Arr. 8.15 a.m.

Bus to Grampians

Dep. 8.40 p.m.

Arr. 11.20 p.m.

Tea on Train

Thursday 5th December.

Eureka

Ballarat

Bendigo

Dep. 7.30 a.m.

Arr. 7.40 a.m.

Bus Tour of Ballarat

Dep. 10.10 a.m.

Arr. 2.10 p.m.

Tea in Bendigo

Friday 6th December.

Bendigo

Echuca

Dep. 7.10 a.m.

Arr. 8.50 a.m.

9.00 a.m. Bus to  
Ferricoota Station,  
N.S.W.

2.00 p.m. One hour  
cruise on paddle boat.

Tea on the train.

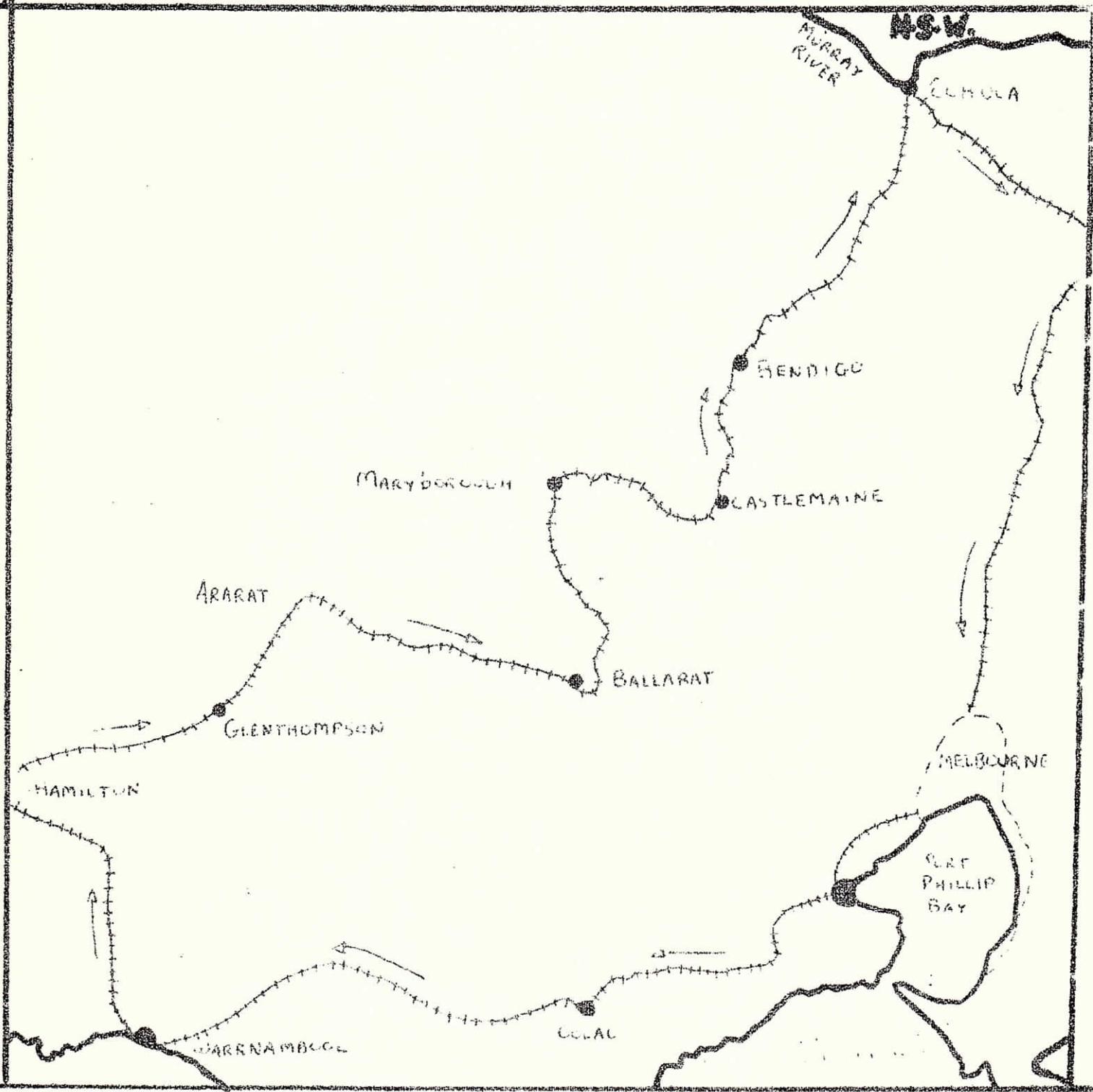
Saturday 7th December.

Echuca

Arrive Spencer Street No. 1 Platform 3.55 p.m.

Dep. 11.15 a.m.

# OUR ROUTE



## D I R E C T O R Y

Cars and Compartments are numbered from the front of the train.

### SLEEPING CAR NO. 1

1-2	Janine Bennett and Lynette Weeks
3-4	Elizabeth Bishop and Leanne Cook
5-6	Denise Braithwaite and Lesley McLean
7-8	Megan Cox and Belinda McCoy
9-10	Maree Crook and Robyn Whitfield
11-12	Jenny Breedon and Mandy Atchison
13-14	Wendy Currie and Suzanne Knights
15-16	Sharon Dunn and Vicki Horton
17-18	Merryn Dunstan and Roslyn Kaiser
19-20	Lisa Hadaway and Linda Marshall

### CAR NO. 2

1-2	Keely Heenan and Ann Lewis
3-4	Robyn Hills and Jenny Willett
5-6	Meryl Jackson and Andrea Phillips
7-8	Raelene Burt and Sandra Hannaford
9-10	Miss Rowe
11-12	Mrs. Caple
13-14	Sandra Milne and Kate Slatter
15-16	Judith Davidson and Karen McGrath
17-18	Christine Lambe and Sandra Murphy
19-20	Barbara Lang and Andrea Mitchell

### CAR NO. 3

1-2	
3-4	Janette Middleton and Maureen Ryan
5-6	Teresa Moore and Valmae Pallot
7-8	Mr. Breidahl
9-10	Mr. Blake
11-12	Robert Feddema and Andrew Holt
13-14	John Bambery and Graeme Browne
15-16	Andre Allen and Stephen Parry
17-18	Stephen Dawe and Stuart Dunn
19-20	Ian Stevenson and Jim Nicholls

### CAR NO. 4

1-2	
3-4	Peter Shaw and Michael Vadiveloo
5-6	Warwick Kerr and Greg. Dunstan
7-8	Calvin Newstead and Jeffrey Dodd
9-10	Leigh Robertson and Barrie Sharpe
11-12	Mr. McKay
13-14	Kim Stanley and Lyndon Stanley
15-16	David McAloney and Glenn Miller
17-18	Richard Symington and Craig Swift
19-20	Darren Montague and Stuart Harwood.

### CAR NO. 5

1-2	
3-4	Peter Lothian and David Moore
5-6	Stephen Neasey and Andrew Chamarette
7-8	Martin Duffy
9-10	Greg. Davidson and Greg. Palmer
11-12	Tony Fallon
13-14	Michael Wilson and Bruce Armstrong
15-16	Jeffrey Pierce and Peter Dowsett
17-18	Garry Edwards and Andrew Rodgers
19-20	Andrew Down and Peter Napper



## WHAT TO BRING AND WEAR

### GENERAL LIST

Small suitcase.  
School-bag (or smaller bag)  
for daily needs.  
Sheets.  
Pillow-slips.  
Towels.  
Toilet bag, with soap, toothbrush,  
nailbrush, comb, hairbrush, etc.  
Raincoat, preferably plastic.  
Pyjamas.  
Slippers or moccasins.  
Coat hangers.  
Needle, thread, buttons.  
Writing materials & stamps  
(special envelopes supplied)  
Shoe-cleaning materials.  
Something to read.  
Note-book or exercise book.  
Pencil and ball-point pen.  
Bathers.  
Thongs or sandals.  
Underwear, socks.  
Handkerchiefs.  
School jumper.  
Also, if desired (not necessary)  
Camera.  
Torch.  
Board game.

### FOR STREET WEAR

School summer uniform.

### FARM CLOTHES

Casual clothes, including jeans  
or something similar.

### TRAIN CLOTHES

Clothes from this list must be  
worn on the train and at certain  
other times.

Girls Spare dress or skirt or  
shorts.  
Dressing gown  
Shirt, blouse or skivvy etc.  
Boys Spare shorts, shirt, tee-  
shirt or skivvy.  
Both Long trousers of good  
appearance may also be  
brought, if desired, but  
these may be worn only in  
the evenings (or on cold  
days if a general  
announcement is made).  
No long jeans or levi  
jackets except, if desired,  
on farms etc.

### DO NOT BRING

Blankets	Transistors
Pillows	Cutlery
Sleeping bag	Crockery

NOTE At all times you will be expected to wear what you are told.  
You are a 12 year old group, not teenagers.

Boys' school uniform must include teteron (not drill) shorts  
except for any of the biggest boys who obtain permission to wear  
Bermuda shorts (junior navy) with white socks.

Shirts, etc., should be packed separately in plastic bags so  
that you can find what you want without disturbing other garments.

All clothing and other property must be clearly marked with the  
owner's name. Be sure to name (not merely mark) towels, sheets and  
pillow-slips. Put labels on suitcase and bag.

School uniform (summer, with blazer) must be worn in to  
Spencer Street, when you leave the train for home, and in most big  
towns, but not on the train.

### POCKET MONEY

\$2 or \$3 is to be sealed up in an envelope, with the amount  
and your name clearly printed on the outside, and handed to one of  
the train teachers on the Thursday morning before we leave. Enclose  
silver, not notes. In addition, take with you enough for the first  
two days - not more than \$1.

### IMPORTANT NOTES

DEPARTURE Our train leaves from No. 10 Platform, Spencer Street, at  
8.40 on Monday morning, December 2nd. Be there by 8.25 at latest.  
Some photographs will be taken then. Wait at the door nearest to  
your compartment, but do not enter the train until you receive  
instructions from a teacher.

ARRIVAL HOME No. 1 Platform, Spencer Street, about 3.50 p.m. Saturday.

IF YOU MISS THE TRAIN (It must leave at 8.40 sharp) Go to the Man-  
in-Grey and enquire for the Station Master. He will arrange for you  
to travel by a later train which will catch up to us at Geelong.  
Warning! Allow time for traffic and hold-ups if you come in to  
Melbourne by car.

ADDRESS FOR MAIL All letters for passengers on the train should be  
addressed as follows: Ashwood High School T.O.K., Railway Station  
Bendigo (or other station). Use these addresses only: HAMILTON 3300  
(post Monday); BENDIGO 3550 (post Tuesday); ECHUCA 3625 (post Thursday).  
LEAVE THIS PAGE AT HOME WITH YOUR PARENTS.

WELCOME ABOARD!

This is the first issue of your daily newspaper. It is called "The Rocket". That's not the name of the train, which is called "The Train of Knowledge" or "T.O.K." for short.

Every day you will get a news sheet like this. We suggest that you post it home straight after reading it. You don't need to keep it with you because on Saturday you will get a magazine containing this and all the other sheets. If you post each day's sheet home you won't have to write such long letters.

Happy travelling to you all! Start off by making your compartment comfortable and safe. Leave the exploration of the train until after we leave Geelong.

There's a luggage cupboard under the bottom bunk. Don't put hard or heavy things on the top bunk in case they fall off.

Change into train clothes as soon as we leave Melbourne and wear these for the bus trip at Geelong. Keep them on until you are told to change back into other clothes. Lunch will be served on the train.

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NOW - HAVE YOU REMEMBERED?

To change into soft footwear?

To hand in your pocket money? If not, take it to Mr. Blake as soon as you have changed. If you have more than \$1 with you (not counting the amount in your envelope) you must hand the surplus to a teacher straight after lunch. Keep only \$1.

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NEWS FLASH!

SCHOOL STUDENTS HIJACK TRAIN.

A remarkable disturbance occurred at No. 10 platform at Spencer Street Station when nearly 100 Ashwood High students took over a complete train. The train crew resisted but were overcome by the young invaders and the train roared off for parts unknown.

Left behind were a large number of tearful parents. Not all were weeping. Some, in fact, seemed to be very happy and at least one couple were sharing a bottle of champagne to celebrate.

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THE TRAIN CREW

There are twelve members of the train crew - all men. Each day we will introduce some of them to you in this newspaper. Remember your manners when you are talking to them. They are all "Mr." to you, and don't forget!

Mr. Napier is the Railways man who supervises all the T.O.K. tours. This is his seventh with Ashwood High. He was on the first trip, too. (Mount Waverley H.S.). That was in 1965.

At lunch time you will meet the Stewards and perhaps the Kitchen staff. The man in charge is called the Chief Steward. Try to learn their names. They will expect your manners to be very good, because they are used to serving meals on the "Southern Aurora".

Leave your table and the floor as neat and clean as you find them.

At the end of each meal, wait for the announcements - then ask your Waiter's permission to leave.

Two boys (or one) must sit at each table, but not more than two. If two, then they sit at opposite sides. You are expected to see that all requirements are passed to the girls first.

TONIGHT - WARRNAMBOOL

When we arrive at Warrnambool (3.25) be ready to go straight to the buses. Close all train windows (against possible wind or rain). Do not begin to change from train clothes until 3.10. If you wish you can wear slacks but not long jeans and not school uniform. Wear solid shoes or desert boots, not thongs.

You will buy your own evening meal in Warrnambool. You will be issued with Tea Money (60 cents) from the tour fund, not from your pocket money. Don't eat while walking in the streets. Find a quiet place to eat and don't leave any litter.

7.30 or earlier if you like, be back on the train and stay there. Do not ask permission to leave it.

8.30 Be back in your own carriage (car) and stay there.

9.30 Be back in your own compartment and stay there. Boys have their showers at about 9.45. All get ready for bed at 9.30.

10.30 LIGHTS OUT! No talking, movement or any other sound.

In the morning, do not start to get dressed or talk until you are called.

OBSERVATION TEST 1

What have you observed? For each correct answer you score 5 points.

1. What is the approximate population of Geelong? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How many miles is Geelong from Melbourne by rail? \_\_\_\_\_
3. In ~~wh~~ich direction is Melbourne from Geelong? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Describe the weather conditions today. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. On which bay is Geelong situated? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Geelong ranks as the (1st, 2nd, 3rd) port in Victoria? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Make a list of the major industries of Geelong:
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_
8. List 2 exports and 3 imports of Geelong:

a. _____	c. _____
b. _____	d. _____
	e. _____
9. List 3 types of commercially used ships you saw in the harbour:

a. _____	c. _____
b. _____	
10. For which area ~~is~~ Geelong the Port? \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: 50 points.

FIRST DAY - GEELONG AND WARRNAMBOOL

The last bit of excitement when we were leaving Spencer Street was the discovery that we had left Sandra Hannaford, Vicki Horton and Maree Crook behind, but they soon caught up to us at Geelong and didn't seem at all tired by their long run.

After the bus tour around Corio and Geelong, Stephen Neasey brought back pieces of fossil shells, millions of years old. The limestone quarries are full of them. In fact the limestone was formed by deep layers of the shells. As we were leaving Geelong Mr. Blake and Mr. Breidahl very nearly missed the train. They said they went out for a few minutes to rob a bank but got talking with a friendly policeman and after that they didn't like to spoil his peaceful morning so they decided to do the job at another place instead.

Warrnambool was cold, windy and rather wet. Tower Hill was just cold and windy. How it blew! Raelene became air-borne several times. Did you know that Tower Hill is a volcano, not officially extinct yet? It last erupted only a few thousand years ago, and that is only a very tiny scrap of time in its long history, so it might erupt again, perhaps in a couple of hundred years time - or tomorrow!

We had a quiet night, except for the incident related below.

THE MYSTERY OF THE HAUNTED SLEEPING CAR

Early in the evening some of the girls had heard the tragic story of the first T.O.K. journey. One of the boys had hidden in the cupboard under one of the girls' bunks, but she was a bit overweight and jammed the top down tight without knowing that anyone was there. They found him five days later, but by that time he was not in very good condition. In fact they had to bury him respectfully in a rabbit-burrow by the side of the line. Ever since then, it is said, his ghost haunts the carriage.

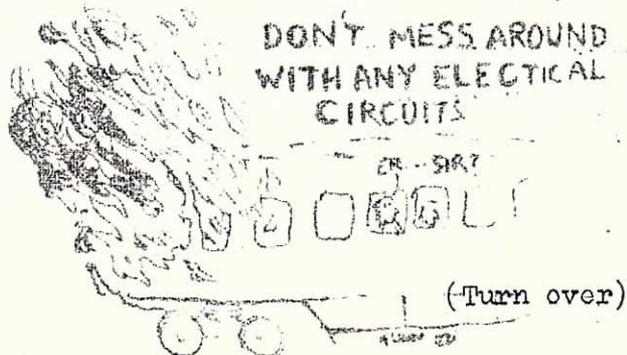
Well, last night at about three o'clock two girls heard him. Terrified, they ran to tell Miss Rowe, who assured them that it was only their imagination and went with them to investigate, rather nervously. They looked everywhere, then suddenly the noise was heard again, a ghostly "tap-tap-tap". "Aha!" said the rescuer, "I know what it is." And she charged into the compartment next door. "What do you mean by frightening these two?" she demanded. The two cupboard doors did not reply. Instead, two sleepy voices spoke behind her. The teacher retired, muttering a confused explanation, and the search went on.

"Perhaps it is Bats in the Belfry," announced Miss Rowe, and bravely climbed up on the top bunk to look. Nothing. "Perhaps it's Possums in the Porthole," suggested the First Girl. Intrepidly the teacher climbed higher. Still nothing. "Or Rats in the Receptacle," said the Second Girl. This was a horrifying thought, but they peeped cautiously into the wash basin. More nothing. "I'm afraid, girls," said the leader in a hushed voice, "it's worse than any of these. It must be Mice in the Mattress!" With terrified moans they pulled down the mattress and all jumped up and down on it for five minutes, then paused for breath. And the supernatural Sound came again! "Tap-tap-tap!" It seemed to be in code. You could almost translate it into "Let-me-out." And then they saw it. There it was, a little metal thing near the top of the door, and it vibrated as the wind shook the train.

So they all went back to bed and hid under the blankets and waited for the real ghost to appear.

WELCOME TO STEPHEN

Today a visitor joined us at Glenthompson. He is Stephen Borbiro, whose father has been getting the Tuesday "Rocket" printed for us for years. Stephen will stay with us in 5/8 with Martin until tomorrow. Visit him and say Hello.



MEET THE STAFF

Here are the names of the people who will look after the train and all its passengers. They all have fascinating stories to tell of their adventures on the T.O.K. and elsewhere, but you must wait until later issues for the dreadful details.

Supervisor	Mr. Bob Napier	Head Steward	Mr. Alan Stewart
Conductor	Mr. Alan Williams	Waiters	Mr. Daryl Morton
Chef	Mr. Reg Miller		Mr. Jeff Goyarts
Assistants	Mr. Paul Fallon		Mr. Wally Lanski
	Mr. Ivan Rato	Driver	Mr. Jack Dean
Electrician	Mr. Fred Corrie	Fireman	Mr. Clarrie McQuinn

Our driver and "Mr. Mac" are old friends, because he has driven for the Ashwood High group before. He is the "man in front" for many other schools too. The Train of Knowledge" is fully booked out (at least 40 tours a year) for 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978 and 1979 and has bookings beyond that right up to 1985. Ashwood High has a permanent booking for this week each year because we have been going the longest.

In charge of the Dining Car, Mr. Stewart is a very experienced planner of meals and caterer. He has done many trips on the Southern Aurora.

Mr. Corrie is sometimes known as "Mr. Fixit", because we depend upon him when anything goes wrong, from broken windows, leaky taps, troublesome toilets, to lights that go out and won't go on. By the way, at night he switches off one of the car circuits so that soon after dark one globe in each compartment goes off. He also looks after the showers and hot water. He likes boys and girls, except for the ones who use the train toilets when the train is at a station or passing through a town.

MILES AND KILOMETRES

In case you have been puzzled, the mileposts at the side of the line are still mileposts, but the figures on the railways maps are now in kilometres.

MENUS

Tuesday - Dinner

Chicken Broth  
Roast Lamb and Mint Sauce  
Roast Potatoes  
Peas, Swedes  
Steamed Sultana Pudding  
and Custard  
Tea                      Coffee

Wednesday - Breakfast

Pineapple Juice  
Cornflakes  
Baked Beans  
& Toast  
Tea                      Coffee

TUESDAY EVENING'S TIMES

6.00 First Sitting for Dinner.                      6.40 Second Sitting.  
  
7.00 Be on the train and stay on it.  
8.00 Be in your own Car and stay there.  
9.00 Be in your own Compartment and stay there  
9.15 Boys' Showers  
10.00 Lights out. Go to bed earlier if you wish.

## THE GRAMPIANS

These were named after a famous range of mountains in Scotland. They are at the far western end of the Central Highlands which form a kind of backbone dividing Northern from Southern Victoria. The railway between Hamilton and Ararat skirts round the edge of the Grampians, which can be seen from the train. But when we leave the train at Ararat and travel by bus into the mountains we realize just how impressive they are.

The Grampians are made of a very hard rock called sandstone (you might collect a sample to take home). The sandstones were laid down under the sea many millions of years ago and have since been raised several thousand feet by movements of the earth's crust! In many places the rocks are exposed and we can see quite clearly their original layers. The rock strata have been warped and twisted so that now most of them lie at an angle of about 30° instead of being horizontal. Millions of years of erosion by streams has removed the softer rocks leaving the hard sandstone layers to form the remarkable ranges we see today.

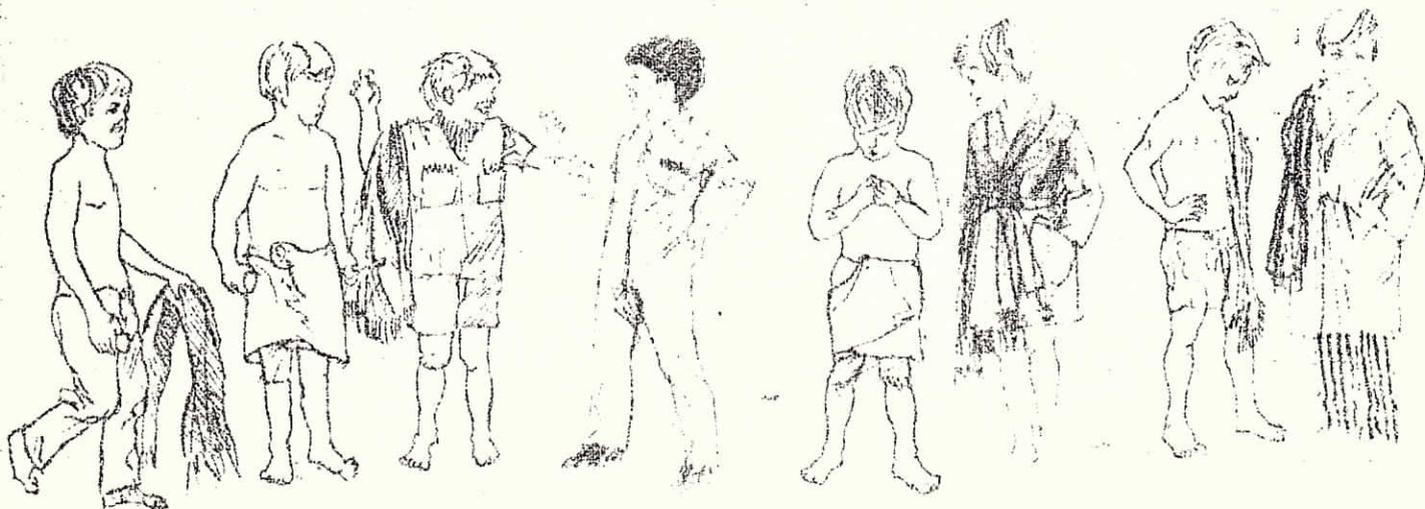
The ranges have sharp crests from which they fall away sharply in steep, rocky cliffs on one side, and slope back gently at the angle of the sandstone layers on the other. There is a very good view from Reed's Lookout and Mt. Victory. Here we find ourselves on the edge of a steep precipice which drops many hundreds of feet to the Victorian Valley below. To the south-east we can see the gentle slopes of the back of the Wonderland Range. If we turn and face northwards we can see the land sloping gently from all sides to make a natural hollow; here the McKenzie River has been dammed back to form Lake Wartook. A mile or so from where it leaves the lake the river plunges down the spectacular McKenzie Falls.

Hall's Gap at the foot of the Wonderland Range is a popular tourist resort. Many people stay there and use it as a base from which to explore the mountains. Tracks lead to a number of points of interest in the area -- and it is by walking and climbing that one can best enjoy the beauty and peace of the Grampians.

### The Wimmera - Mallee Stock and Domestic Supply System

In the western part of the Grampians the headwater of the Glenelg River have been dammed to form the Rocklands Reservoir. It holds 272,000 acre feet of water. (One acre-foot is enough water to cover an acre to the depth of one foot - about 270,000 gallons) The water is taken by channels to the Wimmera and Mallee districts in North-western Victoria, where the rainfall is low and not very reliable.

There is not enough water to irrigate large areas of crops. It is used instead to provide drinking water for stock and to fill up town reservoirs. This system, which supplies an area of 11,000 sq.m. including 50 towns, is the largest of its kind in the world. Over 10,000 miles of channels have been dug to carry the water.



OUR VISIT TO NAREEB NAREEB

From Glenthompson we went by two buses to "Nareeb Nareeb" a very large property right in the middle of the famous Western District. The station is the property of the Beggs family who were kind enough to allow us to visit the place which grazes 14,500 sheep and 2000 head of cattle. This family is related to the Fairbairns and the Frasers, and these names are very well known in Parliament.

The sheep are mainly Merinoes, well-bred and very valuable. Merino wool is the best in the world. All the sheep are shorn once a year by a crew of 6 shearers who are paid 45 cents for each sheep shorn. Experienced shearers can do about 200 a day. Shearing can often be a painful ordeal for the sheep and a messy one for the shearer as the Ashwood boys and girls found out as they watched. Cuts are not uncommon and the occasional ear is cut and needs stitching.

For some of the time at "Nareeb Nareeb" we played games. Raelene Burt supervised Rounders and was the hardest hitter and loudest barracker. Best and Fairest were Kim and Lyndon Stanley,

The first live film of "Down on the Farm", Ashwood style, was made, featuring Lisa Hadaway, Bruce Armstrong, John Bambery and a cast of hundreds, including the Indians. We are looking forward to the exciting premiere of "COKE".

ATTEMPTED KIDNAP

Actually it was a case of cubnap or foxnap. The little animal's arrival after lunch caused great excitement. It was very tame and was soon surrounded by devoted attendants who took it in turns to nurse him. When the station hand said we could take it back on the train there was excitement and glee at the thought of a pet fox at Ashwood High but, alas, permission to take it back was denied by the R.S.P.C.A. and Mrs. Caple.

The most disappointed were the chief nurses - Andrea Phillips, Ann Lewis, Lynette Weeks, Janine Bennett, Roslyn Kaiser and Merryn Dunstan.

EXPLORATION OF THE GRAMPIANS

While this issue of "The Rocket" was being printed by courtesy of the Railways Superintendent at Ararat, we were all scrambling up mountain tracks in the Grampians, with the weather getting warmer and warmer. Cheers! More news of this tomorrow.

EARLY NIGHT TONIGHT

Dinner at the same times as last night, 6.00 and 6.40. Wear train clothes or other casuals, with shoes, and stay near the train. Don't go back to the shops. No games on the platform or close to the rails.

7.30 Be back aboard the train. It moves off at 7.45.

8.00 Stay in your own cars.

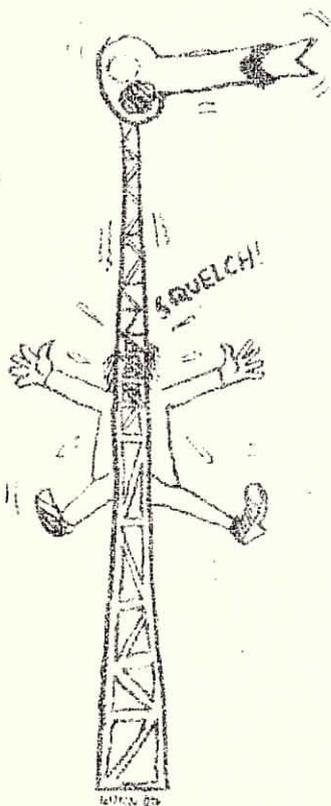
8.30 Got undressed for bed and stay in your own compartment. Go to bed now if you like (girls).

8.45 Boys' showers.

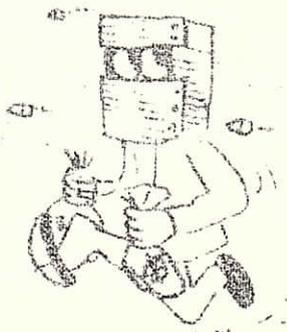
9.15 Lights out.

THURSDAY'S PROGRAM

Tonight (Wednesday) we pass through Ballarat at 10.30 and then stop at the suburb of Eureka at about 10.45 and stay there for the night. We leave there at 8.10 a.m. for Ballarat (short tour) and Bendigo (2.10, and change from train clothes to school uniform at 3.00.)



DON'T LEAN  
TOO FAR OUT OF  
THE WINDOWS



BEHAVE  
YOURSELVES  
IN  
COUNTRY  
TOWNS

BALLARAT  
QUESTION SHEET

1. How many miles from Melbourne is Ballarat?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the approximate population of Ballarat?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. In what period of Australian history was Ballarat founded?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. A famous man in Ballarat's history was Peter Lalor. What was he famous for?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. One suburb of Ballarat is Eureka. Why was this so named?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Name two other suburbs of Ballarat.  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What is the name of the partly constructed historical town?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Name two famous old churches in Ballarat?
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
9. What is the name of the lake on the outskirts of Ballarat?  
\_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: 50 points.

## THE VICTORIAN RAILWAYS

Australia's railways represent a capital asset of \$1745 million -- about six times that of the country's largest private company. The railways systems of Australia, seven of them combined, therefore, represent the number one item on the list to make up the wealth of the nation.

A few more figures: The railways earned \$474 million in 1965-6 employed 186,000 railway men and women who earned and spent \$3420 million in the Commonwealth. The railways carried 465 million passengers and 64 million tons of goods last year. The trains covered a mileage of 96 million miles last year -- two million miles longer distance than the distance from the earth to the sun. This was achieved by 2,560 locomotives, over 7,000 passenger carriages and 89,000 freight vehicles, in round figures.

The Victorian Railways with its 4,210 miles network plays an important part in the railway operations.

The first railway line in Australia was opened in 1854 between Melbourne and Port Melbourne. By now, there is in Victoria hardly any appreciable area of arable, pastoral, or non-mountainous land more than eight miles from a railway line. A remarkable performance in a hundred years. Considering that the railways have been and always will remain the main means of bulk transport for important materials and long distance and suburban passenger transport, it becomes easy to accept the Victorian Railways as the most important organization of our State. Without the Victorian Railways our industry would quickly come to a standstill, and Melbourne's two million people would be paralysed in their daily working life. Modern economy cannot exist without an efficient railway network. Admittedly we need other services, such as the supply of power, water and oil, etc., in order to carry on life in Victoria but neither of these require require an expensive and widespread organization comparable to the railways, our biggest asset.

We can be proud of our railways. The "Spirit of Progress" was the first all-steel streamlined, air-conditioned train in the Commonwealth, and this was the first air-conditioned train in the whole British Commonwealth. The Victorian Railways were the first in the southern hemisphere with rail welding; ran the first electric train in Australia; and the first dining cars in Australia. The Victorian Railways were responsible for converting the Mallee, previously regarded as worthless, into a prosperous area covered with thriving settlements and farms. This is only an example. The benefits flowing from railway operations cannot be measured in simple terms of money.



T.O.K. RECORD BROKEN

Last night the boys broke a record by all going through the showers in 12 minutes 48 seconds. (Previous record, 1973, 18.40). Only one attempt at the record is allowed each week. Tonight and tomorrow night they all have to get wet all over and, if possible, get clean also.

Our compliments to the Railways for the excellence of the shower system and our thanks to Mr. Fred Corrie for keeping the water hot and the showers working perfectly.

MORE COMPLIMENTS

To the cooks and waiters, especially Mr. Miller and Mr. Stewart for providing us with such first-class meals, also to our Driver, Mr. Jack Dean, and Fireman Clarrie McQuiem who always seem to keep us just a little ahead of time and who start and stop the train as smoothly as if it were a Rolls Royce.

A man whom you should try to meet and talk to is the Conductor, Mr. Alan Williams, who "Mr. Mac" says is as pleasant and efficient as a teacher should be, and that's a great compliment to come from our Head.

MENUS

Lunch - Thursday

Potato Pie  
Mixed Vegetables  
Pears and Custard  
Bread, Butter, Jam  
Tea                      Coffee

Breakfast - Friday

Pineapple Juice  
Corn Flakes  
Sausage, Egg and Bacon  
Toast      Butter      Jam  
Tea                      Coffee

Tea  
5 p.m.

At Favaloro's Cafe, Pall Mall  
Bendigo

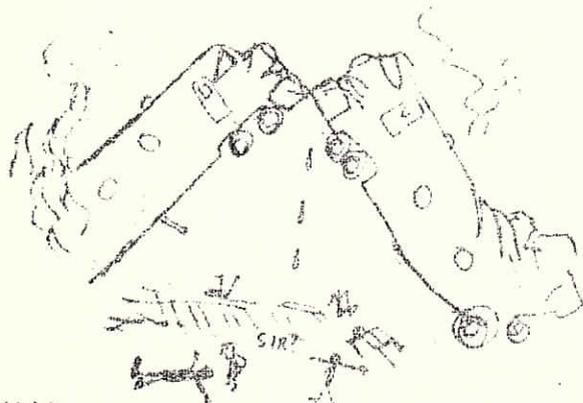
THE GOLDFIELDS

We entered the old Goldfields area at Ararat and have been in that part of Victoria ever since, including (today) Ballarat, Clunes, Maryborough, Castlemaine, Golden Square and Bendigo. On Friday morning we see the last of these famous old Gold Rush places at Eaglehawk, just on the edge of Bendigo.

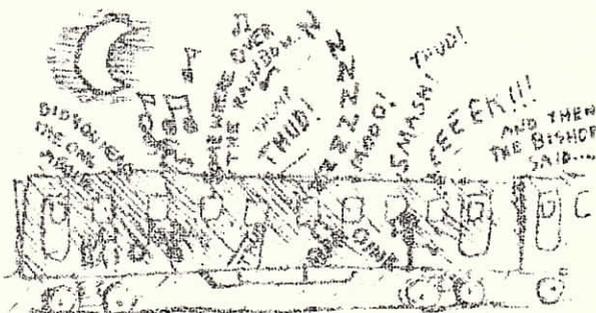
Very little gold is produced anywhere in Victoria at present, but there is plenty of it deep down in the ground, waiting until the price of gold goes up high enough to make it profitable to mine.

FRIDAY

At 7.10 in the morning, while the boys are having breakfast, we move off for Echuca, to arrive there at 8.50. Watch out for the first signs of irrigation channels (with redfin and yabbies in them), paddocks of very green lucerne and dairy farms with Jersey cows. Jerseys are a tan colour, sometimes darker, with white on them. Friesians are generally black and white.



INFORM THE TEACHER OF ANY ACCIDENT.



AFTER DARK, DON'T MAKE LOUD NOISES. OTHERS WANT TO SLEEP.

COLOSSAL COMPETITION

Match the following names in pairs:

Maree Crook, Janine Bennett, Miss Rowe, Linda Marshall, Jeanette Middleton, Andrea Mitchell, Mr. Blake, Richard Symington, Jeffrey Dodd, Robert Feddema, Calvin Newstead, Darren Montague.

..... & .....  
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- FIRST PRIZE One Chocolate Coated Hard-Boiled Egg (a Portuguese special invented by Ivan Rato)
- SECOND PRIZE Double Serve of Strawberry-and-Salmon Salad, prepared by Wally Lanski from a recipe handed to him by a dying Cossack in the Ukraine.
- THIRD PRIZE A Roast Leg of Wombat cooked in Goanna Grease and served with Hundreds and Thousands, which won fame for Chef Reg Miller at the Naringaningalook Show.

LOST IN THE WILD AUSTRALIAN BUSH

Wednesday in the Grampians was wonderful. The sun came out and the weather became hotter and hotter. One girl fell into a creek and six others plunged in to rescue her. Afterwards they hung out their clothes (all of them?) to dry near the bus.

Two or three unfit characters would not attempt the up-hill hike, but everyone else climbed to the Pinnacle and back at a very fast rate. Among those who got lost on the way back were Mr. Blake, Greg Palmer and at least a dozen others. First to realise that they were on the wrong track was Lyndon Stanley, and his brother Kim put them on the right one.

On the way in the bus the girls saw a koala and got off to watch an echidna burrow rapidly into the earth every time they tried to lift him up with a stick.

TONIGHT - THE MOVIES

After tea at Favalore's (5 o'clock sharp), there is free time until 7.15 when you must all (no exceptions or excuses) be at the Plaza Theatre. Wait quietly and be on your best behavior, also inside the theatre. Remember that it is not a Saturday matinee. No noise.

The program is THE DOVE  
Gregory Peck in an adventure story  
plus  
SUNSTRUCK.

A comedy, with Harry Secombe

30 cents each will be taken out of your pocket money for this and the tour fund will pay the rest. Please do not drop litter in the theatre or in the streets.

GOLDEN CITY QUEST

1. How much is a first class return fare by rail to Melbourne?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Which Australian explorer is remembered by a statue outside the Church of England buildings? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the present population of Bendigo? \_\_\_\_\_
4. When was the Bendigo School of Mines and Industries (Bendigo Technical College) established? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What are the names of the local newspapers?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Which large department store had its beginning on the site where Drug Houses of Australia now stands?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What are the buildings to the North-east of the High School (not in the High School grounds)?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Where is the Bendigo Art Gallery? Name the streets.  
1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Name 2 manufacturing industries now found in Bendigo.  
1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Who was the Mayor when the fountain was built in 1881?  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. Who is the present Mayor of Bendigo?  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. (a) What is the name of the Bendigo Dragon?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(b) When does he parade through the streets?  
\_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: 70 Marks.

BENDIGO - THE GOLDEN CITY

Yesterday was Bendigo Day. We had plenty of time to wander around and find places ourselves. Some went to the Bendigo Pottery, others climbed the poppet-head tower for the view, lots of us favoured the swimming pool, and many took buses or the tram and visited the old Chinatown and Joss House. A big Chinese population lived in and around Bendigo in the Gold Rush days. Many stayed on afterwards to become market gardeners. At the famous Easter Fair each year the modern Chinese still parade their monster Chinese Dragon.

ECHUCA

Today we have two very interesting excursions - one, a paddle-boat trip and the other a bus trip into New South Wales to visit Mrs. Caple's wealthy relations at Perricoota, where oranges are grown and packed. This is an old and very interesting place with many connections with pioneering days when the homestead had to be protected against thefts by aboriginals and wandering whites.

There is a very good swimming pool at Echuca, at the other end of the town. Do not bathe in the river.

Be sure to look at these interesting places and things:

Paddle steamers.

Barges, stranded on the N.S.W. bank. These used to be loaded with timber and bales of wool and towed behind the paddle boats. Echuca was once the third busiest port in Victoria!

The old timber trolley with wheels of solid red-gum.

Evans' Red Gum Saw Mill, the biggest producer of sawn red-gum in the world. This type of gum (eucalyptus) tree has very heavy timber that usually will not float. It will last for a hundred years buried in the ground as fence-posts or foundation stumps for houses.

The Echuca wharf, high up in the air to allow for river floods.

The old Customs House. Before 1901 Victoria and N.S.W. were governed quite separately and you had to get passed by the Customs Office if you wanted to travel from one to the other.

RAILWAY REVELS

Tonight we have an early tea (5.30 and 6.10) and then gather in the Dining Car at 8 o'clock for a concert. Wear train clothes, soft footwear, and wait in the Day Car until you are invited to enter. Be very quiet, especially when someone is speaking over the P.A. and when an item is on. Penalty for interrupting - sit on the floor at the back.

The fun depends on you. We must have plenty of prepared items. We want songs, but don't offer to sing unless you know all the words.



DID YOU KNOW THIS?

By the vote of the train men, Fireman Clarrie McQuienn is our champion Chess player. (From the Phantom Reporter.)

Strong Man of the Junior Staff is Tony Fallon. Don't let his slimness fool you. Alan Sedgewick is the longest sleeper (two ways). When he is really comfortable his feet stick out 10.34 centimetres over the end of a seat in the day car.

Our Mad Electrician (Greg Palmer) prefers to be known as the Train Electronics Control Officer. But we thank him for the piped music in the day car. Step cautiously when you enter his compartment or things will go Pop-pop-blam.

MY THANKS

By Mr. McKay

To the teachers, who took very little rest. Their care of the juniors made the tour a pleasant one for you and for me.

To the Junior Staff, who were all very good. Bringing two Form 4 girls (for the first time) was a great success. Mandy's and Jenny's help was most valuable and they, too, seemed to be always on the job. They did just the right thing when the "chicken pox" scare occurred. The "patients" took it very calmly too.

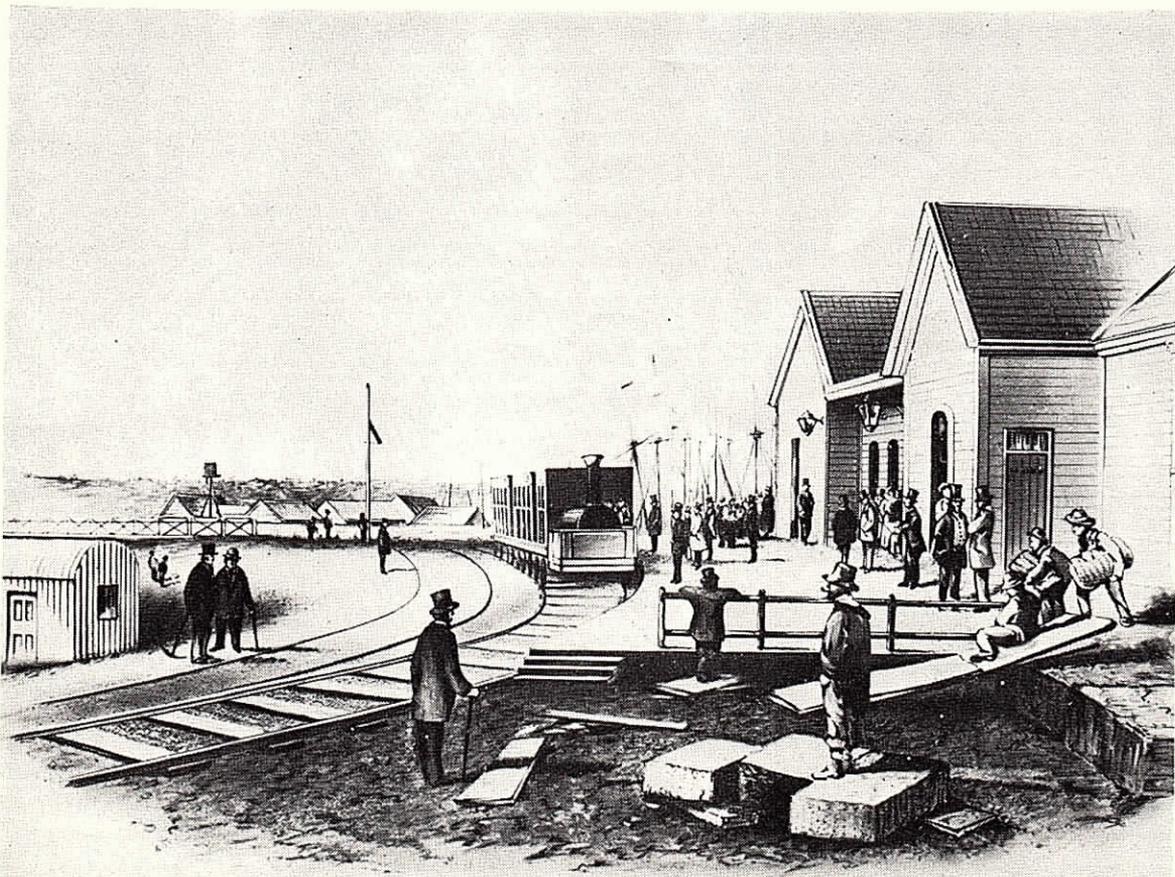
Martin Duffy's experience was one of our greatest advantages on this tour. He helped constantly and at the end of the evening I was always glad of his cup of tea. My morning tea-boys, Cal, Jeff and Leigh were very attentive and welcome too.

I have been very grateful too to the efficient four who made up my bunk each day and tidied up for me in the mornings - Peter Lothian & David Moore; Michael Wilson & Bruce Armstrong. I also appreciated Bruce's friendly greetings whenever he passed me. Others who were good at this were Stephen Neascy, Darren Montague and Andrew Chamarette, and many of the girls.

In past years not as many have thought of these little attentions, which are so much valued. Quite often, large numbers have just disappeared at Spencer Street without a word from them or their parents to the teachers.

The Form 2 group - Teresa, Valmae, Peter and David, and Peter Dowsett. They were all a credit to their parents and their schools, and I have been glad that they were with us.

Congratulations to Sandra Hannaford and her friends, who dealt with a small problem last evening very well. (Among other things, the taxi we had engaged to take us to the Plaza turned up, and then vanished mysteriously.) Martin was very helpful then too.



THE TEACHERS

Mrs. Caple  
Mr. Blake

Miss Rowe  
Mr. Breidahl

Mr. McKay

JUNIOR STAFF

Mandy Atchison

Jenny Breedon

Martin Duffy

Tony Fallon

Greg Palmer

Alan Sedgewick

