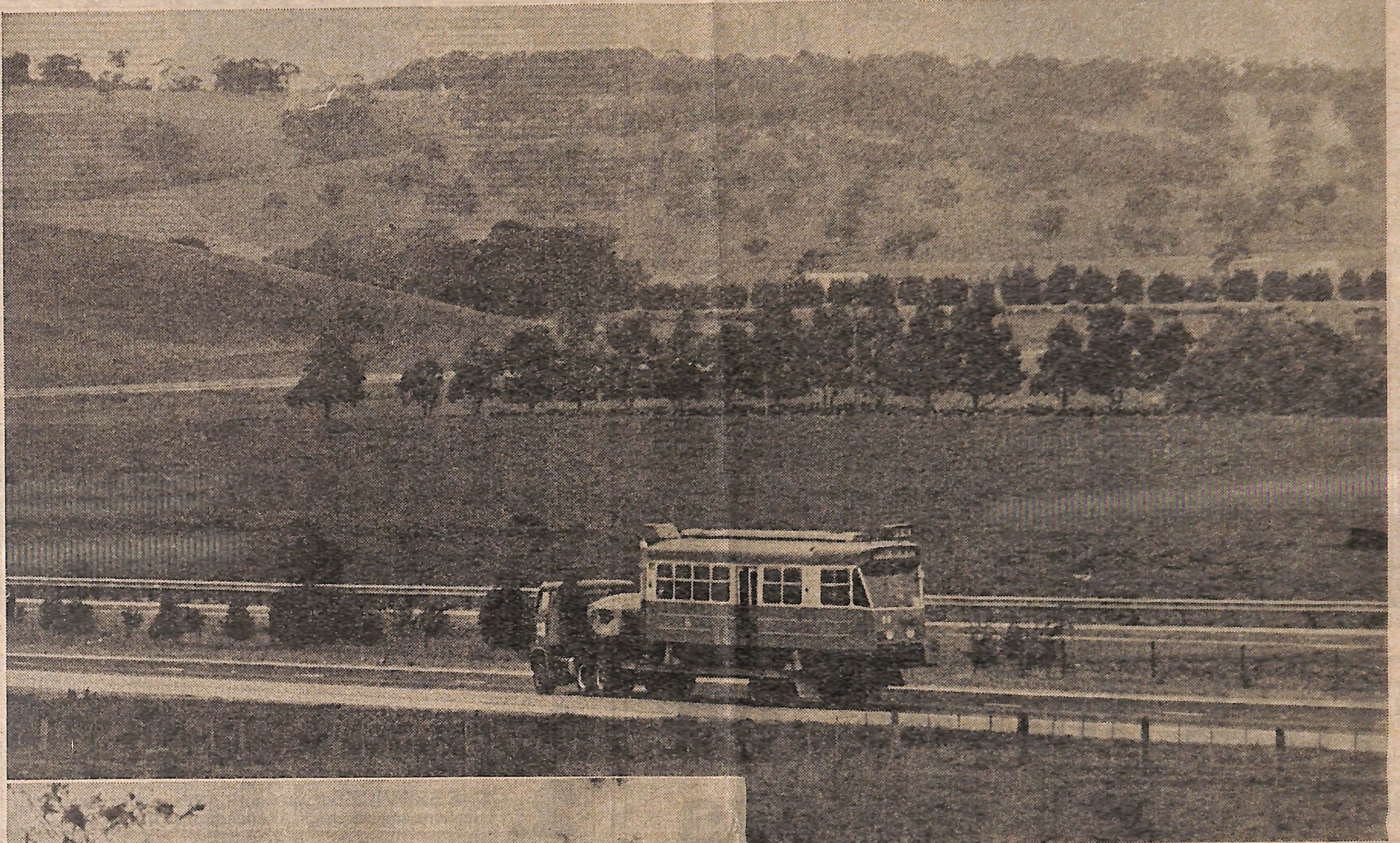


A tram off the tracks...



MOTORISTS on the Hume Highway yesterday could be excused for thinking an orange tram had gone off the rails . . .

Tram 86 had.

And although the destination read "Brunswick-Moreland Rd.", the tram — seen heading up a hill at Beveridge, on the Hume Highway — was going north of the border to Orange.

It will be part of a display next week put on by the Bathurst-Orange Development Corporation, which is planning a new town to be built between the two cities.

Trams are among the different types of transport being considered to link the new town with its established neighbors.

Pictures: IAN McPHERSON

Holding tries in two seats

VICTORIA'S ALP president and former Opposition Leader, Mr Clyde Holding, will try for a double chance of winning Labor's preselection for a safe federal seat.

Mr Holding is believed to have nominated for both Melbourne Ports and Lalor.

Nominations for both these seats closed at 5 p.m. yesterday.

It is believed there are 16 candidates for Lalor preselection.

The seat is being vacated by former Labor Deputy Prime Minister, Dr Jim Cairns.

ALP sources said last night there were five candidates for Melbourne Ports, which is being vacated by former Labor Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Frank Crean.

All nominations for the two seats are expected to be announced at the Labor Party state conference at Collingwood Town Hall at 11 a.m. today.

ALP strategists last night were pessimistic about the chances of Mr Holding winning preselection for either seat.

Mr Holding originally nominated for Lalor, but decided to try for Melbourne Ports as well

By BEN AINSWORTH

after Mr Frank Crean announced that he would not contest the next election.

ALP sources said Mr Crean's son, Simon, assistant federal secretary of the Storemen and Packers' Union, was favored to win Melbourne Ports preselection.

Left-wing activist Mrs Jean McLean, a member of the ALP's state administrative committee, is

also in for Melbourne Ports.

A big surprise was the decision by State MLA Mr Jack Ginifer not to try for Lalor. When nominations closed last night, his name was not in.

A surprise nomination for Lalor is Mr Barry Jones, MLA for Melbourne.

ALP sources favor former Sunshine councillor Mr Jack Arnell ahead of Mr Jones.

Wine had a bite

TOKYO, Fri., AAP. — A Japanese tippler found his drink had more bite than he expected when the snake he had put in it nipped him on the finger.

Shellfish dealer Masuzo Nezu, 72 was bitten by the thoroughly drunk poisonous habu, a variety of snake found only on southern Japanese islands.

Nezu had been drinking Shochu, a Japanese sweet potato wine which reputedly assumes medicinal and aphrodisiac powers when a habu is drowned in it.

He had poured his new supply into a tub and was stirring with a wire when up shot the habu and bit the clam merchant on the left thumb.

Nezu was recovering tonight.