

The State Savings Bank of  
Victoria  
Officers' Association.



INTRODUCTORY  
MAGAZINE

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This Copy of The State Savings Bank Officers' Association  
Paper has been specially printed for O. H. M. Were

a member of the Committee, as a memento of his holding  
office on the occasion of its first issue.

# The State Savings Bank of Victoria Officers' Association.

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**Vice-President:**

Mr. R. W. SUMMERS.

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Mr. S. R. CASEY.

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**Assist. Hon. Sec. :**

Mr. G. V. BULLEN.

**Committee :**

Messrs. W. N. R. BROWNING, J. DOWNING, T. J. DALY,  
G. F. FRANCIS, C. E. JENKINSON, H. W. H. McNALTY,  
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A. TULLY, O. H. M. WERE.

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## An Association Magazine.

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INTRODUCTORY ISSUE.

AUG. 1920

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It has been suggested that the newly-formed Association will be able to justify its existence "right up to the hilt" by a periodic issue of a magazine. The suggestion has gained the heartiest approval of the Committee, and it has been decided to issue this introductory number as the best means of bringing the suggestion before members and intending members.

This issue of a magazine may be regarded as the first effort of the Association for those whom it will serve. Of advantage it will be to all of them, but to those members in outer suburban and country districts it will surely be hailed as a very welcome experiment,

In calling it "an experiment," we do not mean to imply any indecision in its continuance. Those responsible for the publication require only the guarantee of the approval and co-operation of the members.

In presenting this introductory issue to members, we appeal to all those who may be able to assist us in the preparation of our magazine. The pages will be open to all willing to contribute, and will be reserved to them if they respond to this appeal in the manner desired.

The editor, who will be appointed by the Committee from time to time, will accept the responsibility for all matter published. Signed contributions must, however, be regarded as expressing only the views of the author.

### THE ASSOCIATION.

In this issue it will not be out of place to make some observations regarding the Association, and its scope for usefulness. At the first meeting of officers, held to consider the project, one member present opposed the formation for the negative reason that there was no need for such a body. In the sense that the need pre-supposed an existing state of affairs in our institution, so irksome as to necessitate interference, and so difficult that strength of numbers only could remove it, that member was right. In the sense that an association could never render any advantage, unobtainable otherwise, important enough to be called a need, he was surely wrong.

The benefits that can be conferred by the Association will consist in giving its member,

1. Authorised representation of their official character
2. Social intercourse in their personal character.

These two characteristics have been practically given official recognition by the Commissioners in the letter of the Inspector-General of 10th June. In that letter, the Inspector-General expresses his willingness to meet representatives of the Association in regard to matters affecting the staff. There have probably been many occasions in the past when the ruling powers may have been anxious, or at least very willing, to ascertain the deliberated-upon views of officers upon some matter under consideration at the time. Had the Association been then in existence, and had it been sufficiently representative of all sections of the service, there is no doubt that the Inspector-General would have found it of some help in his deliberations. And also, there have been, and will be, similar occasions when officers might wish to have representation made on their behalf to those in authority. The Inspector-General, in recognising this, has assumed that the Association exists for the purpose of building up, rather than destroying. It may safely be said here, on behalf of those taking the

initial steps in forming the Association, and on behalf of the first Committee of Management, that the intention is that all our actions shall be "beneficial alike to the members and to the Institution."

To the possibilities of the Association in its social character, a limit can only be imposed by our limited financial strength. In later issues we hope to be able to chronicle many activities of a social nature tending to strengthen the feeling of esprit de corps. The service has now become so large that many officers remain known to one another only in name; the growth of new departments in number and size tend to form us into colonies, as it were, with barriers of reserve between. The sentiment naturally exists that social companionship may most pleasurably be formed amongst those having companionship of duties, and it has been fully exemplified on those too few occasions when members of the staff have had opportunities of meeting one another. By increasing these opportunities for general gatherings and individual re-unions an easy introduction can be offered by the Association to those of us who are separated by departmental walls and Branch districts. By obtaining permanent rooms, this desire can easily be achieved, and the Committee intends to devote its efforts to this quest until success is assured. The social energies of the Association need not be confined within its own walls—scope for furtherance of the desired end can be found in promoting outdoor functions and competitions in all the realms of sport. (A collection of records of State Savings Bank officers has already been compiled for us of those who are most prominent in sporting circles, and from time to time will be published). Touring trips may be arranged amongst those who are motorists and motor cyclists. The football team seems already soundly and successfully established, and its success suggests an extension to other games. For metropolitan members all this is easy, and country members may be assured of the same readiness to include them in all possible privileges. The names of many country officers appear in the country bowlers' tournament held in Melbourne periodically, and an annual fixture of town versus country could probably be easily arranged at that time. These suggestions only point the way—members will be asked in later issues to supplement them.

But for the country members particularly it is hoped that this magazine will supply a long felt want. It will be our desire to acquaint members of items of general and individual news and gossip. In Melbourne, officers have their opportunities in chance meetings on the steps and in the corridors of head office. This magazine will take up the tale of the gossip on the steps, and the whisperer in the corridors, in the interests of those whom the voice of the city does not reach.

The Association presents this magazine as its first effort on behalf of its members.

## OUR NAME.

Many suggestions have been made for a name for our product. So many of them are so excellent that we have decided to invite suggestions from all officers. Magazine, Paper, News, Chronicle—what you like—but add a title that you consider the most suitable. A vote will be taken of the names submitted by 25th August.

## CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES.

A feature of our magazine will be contributions of officers. Some of our officers have enjoyed the distinction of having had articles and stories published in various journals. It is our intention to provide space for such matter, as our readers will always find greater pleasure in these contributions than in matter obtained from other sources. In this introductory issue we offer the following sketch to readers:—

### THE PRINCE OF CASH.

(An ADAPTATION).

Seated in his Teller's box in the head office of the ——— bank, John Shelton found himself a very busy man. The first depositor to demand his attention was a well known business man, who called for £900 in mixed cash. In less time than it takes a back alley cat to spring from one fence to another, Shelton had the money counted and placed in his hands.

"Makes me a little nervous to carry this much money with me," the business man remarked, tucking the money into an inside pocket.

"Tut, tut. That's a mere bagatelle," replied Shelton, smiling. "No man should get nervous with less than £5000 in his wallet."

And when the depositor walked off, Shelton remarked to himself:

"Funny how some people make a fuss over a little bit of money like that! Nine hundred pounds—what a trifle to worry a man! Bah!"

Within the next half hour this genial teller handed out thousands of pounds with the speed of a lightning stroke, and the ease of an artist.

He handled coin as if it were marbles. A call for anything less than "a hundred" bored him—Shelton liked to handle money—not mere "chicken feed," as he put it.

A woman asked for £200.

The fuss she made over it, the nervous manner in which she recounted the money and the care with which she pinned the little bundle of money in her bag, annoyed Shelton, but his smile didn't disappear. He was an artist in the science of concealing his feelings—that was a part of his business.

The next was a mere beggar's mite—£50. What a trifling thing to ask for—£50. Why should a man be troubled with such trifles?

By noon, Shelton passed £10,000 to depositors. He handled the large sum of money without even a twinge of his nerves, without a wince of his fine mouth. It was all a matter of detail—easily done, quickly done, and invariably efficiently done.

Year in and year out immense sums of money passed through his hands.

"You say the change is wrong. Oh, no; count it again and you'll see I'm right." Yes, they say there are 5,000,000 germs on every £1 note, but they never bother me, to be sure.

£1000? Here you are—good day. No, I don't think it will rain.

At noon, Shelton donned his hat. Before leaving, however, he stepped over to the sheet clerk and asked:

"I say, old man, you wouldn't mind lending me 2/6 so that I can dine, would you? I'm clean busted."

### STAFF CHANGES.

Some of our country members have asked us to endeavor to keep them acquainted with the staff changes made from time to time. The desire to follow the progressive movements of office companions of earlier days, and the interest in the filling of various positions are natural. Through the courtesy of the Branch Secretary, who has compiled the list here printed, and made it available for us, we are able to notify the following appointments:—

Mr. C. E. Brinsden, appointed Senior Relieving Manager; Mr. A. E. Appleton, Manager at Preston; Mr. C. D. Fethers, Manager at Nagambie; Mr. A. H. Merric, to Secretary's Department, H.O.; Lt.-Col. T. J. Daly, Manager at Koroit; Mr. R. L. Lowry, Manager at Numurkah; Mr. N. S. Fretwell, Manager at Port Fairy; Mr. A. O. T. Bunker, Teller at North Brighton; Mr. J. J. Mitchell, Manager at Dimboola; Mr. C. S. O'Leary, Teller at Box Hill; Mr. D. D. O'Connell, Teller at Carlton; Mr. J. Edwards, Teller at Hawksburn; Mr. H. S. Robilliard, Teller at Coburg; Mr. C. J. S. Wells, to Elizabeth St.; Mr. H. O. Biddle, to Richmond; Mr. N. P. Nott, to Moonee Ponds; Mr. M. P. Ryan, Teller at Mildura; Mr. J. F. La Roche, to Newmarket; Mr. G. W. Clappison, to Northcote; Mr. T. W. Gatliff, to Elizabeth St.; Mr. H. M. Wilkins, to Bendigo; Mr. W. J. Barker, to Elizabeth St.; Mr. G. Binns, to Brunswick; Mr. R. C. Praetz, to Bourke St.; Mr. A. B. P. Meadows, to North Brunswick; Mr. H. D. Peart, to Bendigo; Mr. W. E. Gilbo, to Newmarket; Mr. V. R. K. Looney, to Brunswick; Mr. W. Thompson, to Fitzroy; Mr. C. R. Strauch, to Northcote; Mr. A. C. Porteous, to Northcote; Mr. P. Bray, to Head Once; Mr. A. R. McIver, to Kew; Mr. A. D. Kennedy, to Footscray; Mr. M. E. Buckman, to Preston; Mr. G. J. Champion, resigned (Clunes), as from 31/7/20; Mr. J. T. Tomasetti, resigned, as from 31/7/20. Miss G. M. Downing, appointed to Elizabeth St.; Miss E. J. Snell, to Fairfield; Miss M. V. Llewellyn, to Elizabeth St. The fol-

lowing junior clerks have been appointed:—Mr. F. R. Hawker, appointed to Valuers' Staff, Head Office; Mr. V. F. Trainor, Valuers' Staff, Head Office; Mr. A. H. Gordon, Valuers' Staff, Head Office; Mr. E. G. Jemmeson, to Bairnsdale; Mr. N. W. Grieve, to St. Arnaud.

### OBITUARY.

We might all have reasonably hoped that our list of State Savings Bank war casualties was long since complete. To the sad list of names, however, we have now to add that of James Ignatius Cahir. He died on the 17th July, at Caulfield Military Hospital, from an illness attributable to the effects of gas. He was for about three years before enlisting on the Agency Staff at Elizabeth St., and his fellow-officers of that period, and those with whom he has worked since his return, accord him a high measure of popularity. He returned from the war in May, 1919, and since then has worked in Elizabeth St., Richmond South, and North Brighton Branches. The news of his death will be received by all his fellow officers with great regret.

### PERSONAL.

We are very pleased to hear that Captain K. G. Macdonald has very much improved in health.

Pte. A. R. Chaster, who has been for some months in the Caulfield Military Hospital, is slowly recovering.

All the discharged soldiers on the staff have resumed duty except Mr. A. W. Pearse, who has not sufficiently recovered his sight. Messrs. N. R. Williams and F. M. Horner are still on service at London.

Mr. J. Brady, of the Accountants Department, and formerly of the relieving staff, is to be congratulated on his lucky escape from serious injury in his recent accident. Waiting for an electric tram on the evening of 7th July, he was thrown by a bolting horse attached to a waggonette in front of the oncoming tram, and before the car could be pulled up Mr. Brady was underneath. The car had to be lifted up before he could be extricated, and when released he was practically unconscious. After a few minutes, however, he felt well enough to proceed to his home, and on examination it was found that a few bruises and a nasty cut on his forehead were the only injuries received. Mr. Brady has, fortunately, the evidence of many amazed onlookers to confirm this report. He attended for duty next day as usual.

Another officer, Mr. N. C. Hill (Brunswick) also has a miraculous escape to his credit, but in his case the injuries received were much more serious. Riding a motor cycle (at a pace Mr. Hill does not care to mention) he collided with a motor car travelling at right angles. Mr. Hill was thrown head-on against the car, breaking the

door with the impact. His injuries, in addition to bruises from head to foot, included a badly cut leg, and a dislocated collarbone, the latter being broken away from the chest bone. Escape from more serious injury seems only to have been avoided by the force of the collision being met by Mr. Hill's head—that portion of his anatomy was practically unhurt. Mr. Hill was absent from duty for some weeks, but has now resumed.

We shall be pleased to receive accounts from members of any happenings to fellow-officers for general information. We are all interested in one another's welfare, and an account of any achievement of our fellow-officers will always make welcome reading.

### FOOTBALL.

In the Banks' Football Association, our team shares with the Union Bank the leading position, both having won all games played. Our lads have played three competition games. Against a combined team from Royal Bank and Bank of Australasia, we scored 14 goals 15 behinds to 3 behinds; against the Commonwealth Bank we scored 9 goals 10 behinds to 9 goals 8 behinds; and against the National Bank another narrow victory was gained with a score of 5 goals 7 behinds to 4 goals 9 behinds.

In later issues we shall be able to give a detailed account of future games.

The next game will take place on 14th August, at the Fitzroy Cricket Ground. Our opponents then will be the Union Bank. As each team is unbeaten, the match will have special interest, and supporters should roll up. Some practice games have been arranged to keep the players warmed up.

And supporters—was that "barracking" the umpire in the National match quite the thing?

### GENERAL NOTES.

Elizabeth St. established a new record (since the branch was transferred from Collins St.) by balancing at 7.30 p.m. on 3rd July, beating the previous record of 1914 by three hours. The day is not far distant when we may read in the June Circular, "After having balanced its ledgers, Elizabeth St. will assist at the following branches."

One may behold in vision the procession with pens, pencils and rulers, marching round to Champion's to finish up there.

In requesting us to notify staff changes in these pages, members were probably influenced by two notices lately appearing in the daily press. The first reported the purchase of Champion's Corner by the Commissioner, the second the delicensing of several city hotels, amongst which the Queen's Arms Hotel was not included.



Malvern Branch is rather proud of having balanced for the third year in succession on 1st July—a good performance for a large branch. The staff refer to it as “The balancing hat trick.”

Metropolitan branches which balanced on 30th June were: Cheltenham, Heidelberg, Ivanhoe, Mordialloc, North Brunswick, Port Melbourne, Richmond South, St. Kilda, and Sunshine. This feat was performed in the country by Bacchus March, Beaufort, Dunolly, Kilmore and Nhill.

Those who were present at the first meeting of the Association will remember that the possible advantages of the movement were humorously summed up by one officer as—“The probable issue of a self-laudatory paper, with a picture of the President on the cover.” In choosing our first President members have evidently been mindful of the prophecy, as they have been careful to secure one whose pictorial potentialities are undoubted. Fortunately, also, members were not unmindful of the minor necessities of the Presidentship—as Mr. Cutts is not one whose face alone is his fortune. At the present stage of its existence this magazine is not exclusively devoted to the Higher Realm of Art, and our humorous friend will notice that we are able to dispense with the Presidential portrait—and suffer no harm thereby.

### FINAL NOTICES.

Will managers of branches and others please supply the secretary with staff details asked for in Circular of 23rd June—full names of officers; and will intending members kindly obtain and complete form of Application for Membership.

The members' roll has now reached 450. Let us give these figures a good lift before next issue of this magazine.

We again appeal for assistance in carrying on the magazine. The intention of the Committee is to make it a huge success. Articles, paragraphs, and advice, will all be welcome. Send to Mr. G. V. Bullen (Malvern), Mr. C. E. Jenkinson (North Brunswick), or Mr. W. H. Palmer (Elizabeth St.)

And finally—Subscriptions may now be forwarded (by permission of the Inspector-General) to an account No. 30662, Richmond South, by form 73 in the manner directed by Clause 996 (a) of General Instructions. Endorse on form names of officers subscribing and individual amounts. Now, as previously stated in these pages, our limitations are set, only by our finances. Let us know where we are—and how much.

In next issue we will be able to advise the details of the periodic issue of the magazine. The frequency will depend upon the response to the two previous paragraphs.