

Statesman



STATE BANK STAFF MAGAZINE
April, 1980 — No. 98



First in Australia

Pop-Up Screens Will Defeat Branch Bandits

A pop-up, bullet-proof counter screen to prevent armed holdups has been installed in our East Camberwell branch.

This is the first installation in Australia of a French device — locally marketed by Metropolitan Security Services — which is operating in more than 1,200 banks and other financial offices in Europe, England and Ireland.

When triggered during a holdup, the heavy steel screen rises in a fraction of a second from a recess in the middle of the bank counter, thus sealing off the entire teller and enquiry area from the public section. The screen action simultaneously sets off secret alarm systems.

A bandit confronted by the steel barrier screen is unable to see or speak to the bank staff, so is rendered powerless. He cannot hold a customer as hostage, and his only option is to escape from the bank as soon as possible.

The screen can be activated automatically or manually during a holdup. It operates by electricity and has a battery backup system in case mains power is cut off.

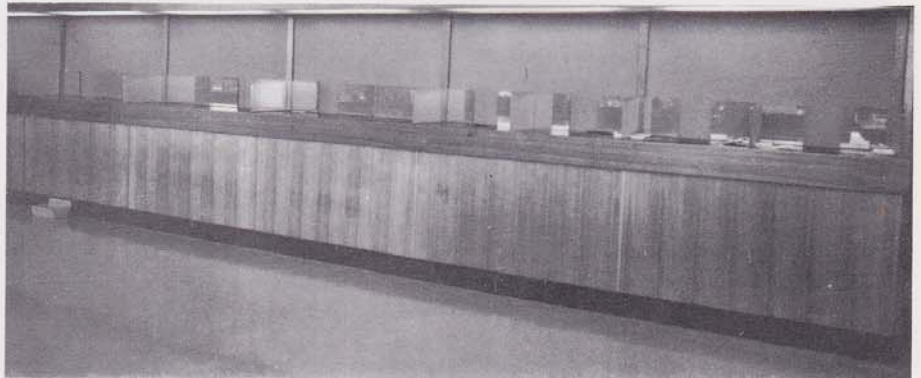
Heavy gauge revolver bullets and shotgun blasts fired at the screen in tests made practically no impression on the hardened-steel surface.

The Bank will fully evaluate the new pop-up screens, and it is expected that they will be installed at branches which are considered most vulnerable to armed robbery.

All branches are already equipped with a range of security devices and safeguards. These have proved effective in recent years by markedly decreasing the number of hold-ups at branches and assisting police in attaining a very high arrest rate.



NOW YOU SEE 'EM



NOW YOU DON'T



TOP: Staff at East Camberwell branch were lined up behind new counter concealing a pop-up screen. Then manager John Story pressed a secret button and . . .

LOWER: In less than a second, the steel security screen sprang up to completely seal the banking chamber from staff area, and thus make robbery an impossibility.

LEFT: New counter base to house pop-up screen was expertly tailor-made at our Carlton joinery works. Pictured (from left) are tradesmen Mick Earle (foreman) with Mick Vigilante and Graham Ashmore.

Statesman

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FRONT COVER: Avy Karvelis (Migrant promotions) Jacquie Stewart and Lyn Hulett (Richmond branch) and Linda Lovelace (Personnel Department) were snapped in ethnic and period garb while preparing for Richmond branch centenary on April 1.

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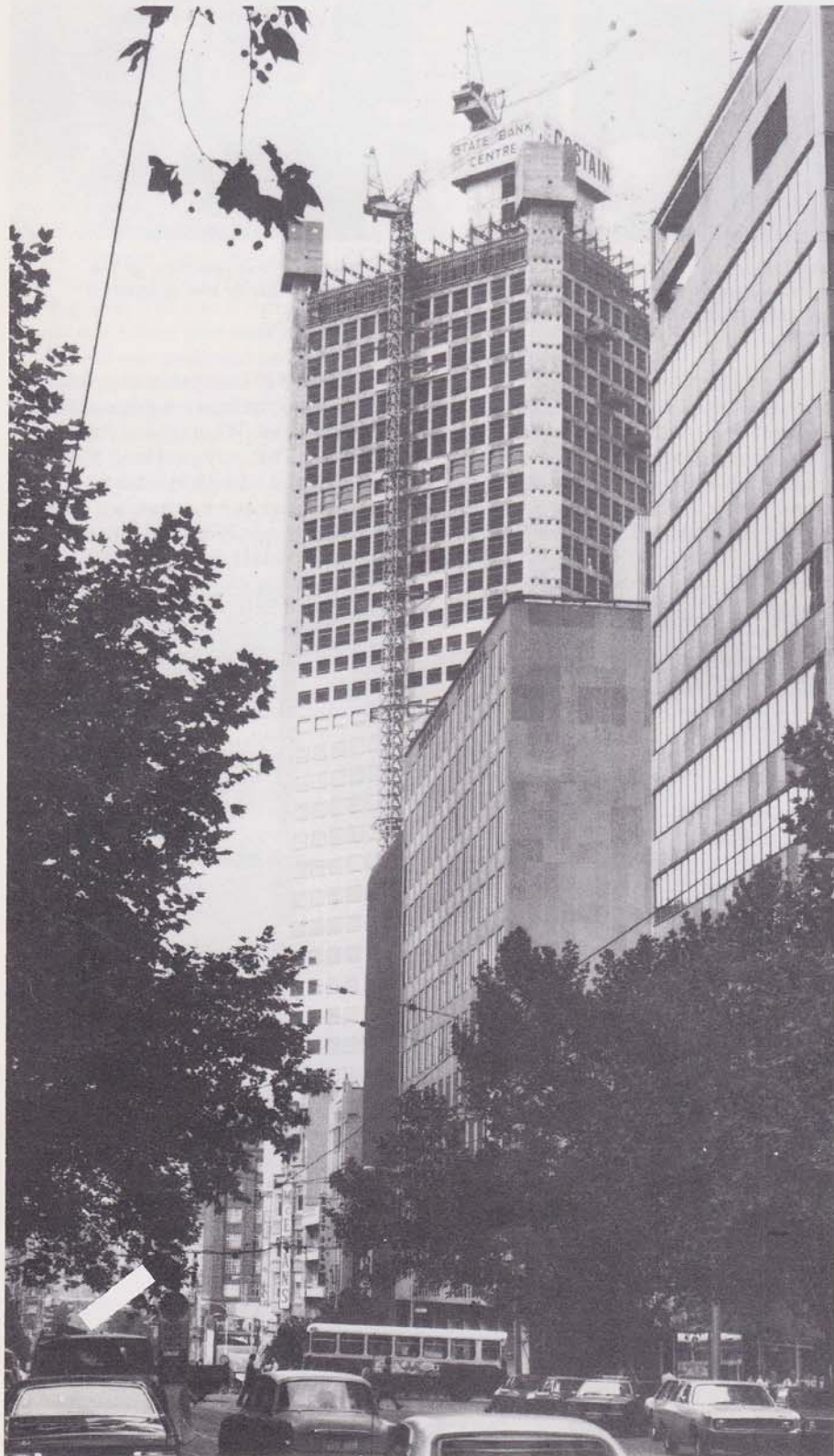
STAFF COMMENTS on the magazine are invited. The editorial team welcomes suggestions for articles and pictures, nominations for Staffer and Smiling Teller of the

Month, wedding photographs and contributions to Around the Branches, State Secrets and Teller Talk. Column paragraphs published earn \$3 for contributors.

All correspondence and contributions should be addressed to The Editor, Statesman, Box 267D, Melbourne. (Phone 60 0531, Ext. 329, 312 or 444).

Centre Reaches Peak Height

Banking Chamber Due to Open May/June



The State Bank Centre project tower core last month reached its target height of 550 feet above street level.

Meanwhile, on Elizabeth Street level, the new banking chamber was taking final shape in preparation for a May/June opening to the public. Many counter frames were being positioned. Moveback of head office departments from Hothlyn House and Century Building is still scheduled for around September.

Carpeting of tower floors commenced last month.

The Bank will occupy tower levels from 2 to 16, and eventually part of 41 (the top office level).

Food and Drinks: A temporary staff cafeteria, providing virtually all facilities, will be operating in the tower — and on each of the Bank-occupied levels an extensive 'tea' room will be equipped with vending machines to dispense tea, coffee and carbonated drinks. These rooms will be open 24 hours a day.

Medical Centre: A staff medical centre will be located in the lower banking chamber level.

Speedy Tube System: Bank departments will be linked by a very fast tube system. Large cylindrical containers will travel 'express' between floors, taking a maximum of 80 seconds per trip. (In our old building, tube carriers travelled first to a re-directing station.)

Six Lifts for Bank: Of the nineteen high-speed passenger lifts to operate in the Centre, six will serve the Bank-occupied levels, travelling at about 11 feet per second. Three other sets of lifts will serve the upper levels at speeds up to 23 feet per second (thus taking less than half a minute to travel between ground and the top level). These upper-level lifts are expected to be the fastest in Australia.



ABOVE: Steel framing for counters in the new banking centre was positioned last month.

LEFT: The tower core of State Bank Centre, seen here from Bourke Street near William Street, has now reached its peak height of 550 feet above street level.

Bogus Banker Baffles Audience of Experts



Dynamic speaker 'Richard W. Nicholls' was introduced to Australian bank education experts as a top American Reserve Bank representative.

STAFF COLLEGE SENSATION!



Puzzlement was the first reaction of the Staff College audience to the speaker's approach to banking.

A Melbourne actor posing as a visiting American banking whizzkid hoaxed an audience of bank education experts at our Baxter Staff College last month. The entertaining impostor was introduced to marketing, public relations and Bank Education Service lecturers from the various banks throughout Australia as Richard W. Nicholls, Executive Vice President of Community Education, US Reserve Banking System, a law graduate from Cornell University, and resident of Washington DC. He was actually Campbell McComas, B.A. (Hons.) LL.B. and 'Australia's professional lunatic,' of Prahran. Campbell (who has in the past hoaxed seminars of legal academics and doctors, among many others) had been hired secretly by our Chief Manager, Marketing, Trevor Craddock, to provide light relief for the Bank Education Conference at Baxter. College staff, unaware of the deception,

organised a slap-up dinner, with specially selected wines, in honor of the 'distinguished guest.' 'Nicholls' arrived wearing rimmed spectacles, and talking in a broad but authentic American accent. His address on 'EDUCATION—OUR INVISIBLE SAVINGS' began impressively with some general observations that brought loud 'hear hears' from the receptive audience. But then, as Mr. Nicholls began dropping absurdities into his dynamic discourse, his hearers became progressively astonished, puzzled and amused. Several were mildly annoyed. Here are some quotes from his speech: 'We must get kids to point their budgetary barrels in the right direction, so why the hangup hassle of confining bank education to school hours? If you want to get into what we are into in the States the kids have to be at the bank or the stock exchange three or four hours daily.'

'Why should the educational process take place when kids are pooped at the end of the day? We start our students at 6 a.m. . . . That way, working with 5-year-olds and using hypnotic suggestion, we can manage two hours of high-level telepathic communication by 8 a.m. and most of our kids have got their schooling organised as a multiple tax deduction.'

'Show your students you believe in banking . . . Always carry a passbook sticking out of your top pocket; run the bank pennant up on your car aerial; and whenever you sign anything, put a bank stamp on it as well.'

Nicholls concluded by saying: "Thank you all for having me — but then, I think you've been had too".

The speech ended with laughter and applause. Then a vote of thanks to Trevor Craddock and the Bank was proposed by Mr. Brian Chaseling, Executive Public Relations Manager of the Bank of New South Wales, Sydney.



Amusement followed as speaker 'Nicholls' began making absurd statements on bank education.



Applause greeted the end of the bogus address. Pictured at left is Trevor Craddock, Chief Manager, Marketing, who arranged the hoax.

NEW TRAVEL MOVES WILL HELP STAFF

Just announced: a new system of travel grants for staff, annuitants and families ... and an improved method for handling travel enquiries from the public at branch level.

Branch staff members who receive future customer enquiries will fill out Travel Introduction forms which will refer enquirers to their most convenient Thomas Cook/State Bank Travel office.

(Some customers using these forms will win free travellers' cheques worth \$50 from Thomas Cook, based on a monthly lucky draw.)

Mr. Hugh McMaster, who has had more than 20 years' travel industry experience, has been appointed Thomas Cook/State Bank Liaison Manager. He will handle branch enquiries, advertising and promotion. Hugh can be contacted at the Thomas Cook head office in Collins Street, Melbourne. Phone 63 2442.

The new staff travel grant will be at least 3% on the cost of travel booked through any Thomas Cook office. It will apply to:

- All Australian packaged holidays — by air, sea, coach or rail
- All overseas packaged holidays — by air, coach or rail
- All express coach and rail travel in Australia
- All sea cruises, including ship/jet packages
- All international air journeys
- Travel Insurance

(The new grant is effectively much higher than the 10% cut previously offered on costs of some parts of certain Thomas Cook package tours.)

For travel grant details, contact Jeff Thomas at H.O. Business Promotions Department, Hothlyn House, Phone 60 0531 (305).



HUGH McMASTER, new Thomas Cook/State Bank Liaison Manager.



JEFF THOMAS, our Marketing Department contact for travel grant payments.

PUZZLE CORNER

1. **DARK SECRET:** A two-kilometre-long train is travelling at 120 kilometres an hour when it reaches a two-kilometre-long tunnel. How long does it take the entire train to pass through?

2. **TANTALISING TRIP:** A parked car is facing west on a straight road. You start driving it. After travelling for a while, you find that you are a mile east of your starting point. Why?

Answers: Page 10

State Secrets by the Teller



A BALLARAT accountant's wife phoned him urgently to go home and kill a big spider on a window ledge. He rushed to the house, grabbed a torch and a 4-ft. pole, and then realised that the spider was a rubber one left by his kids.

★

NOT to be sneezed at: a customer at Box Hill Station branch is named Ah Choo.

★

WHICH staffer surprised the consultants at Thomas Cook/State Bank Travel, Bourke Street by enquiring about a passport to Tasmania?

★

DISTRICT manager is pessimistic about his teenage son's prospects of success in business. He says that the only way the lad would ever get to the top of the tree would be by sitting on an acorn.

★

AGENCY examiner says that he asked his wife to put more variety into his evening meals. She obliged, by swapping labels on her cans.

★

H.O. manager refuses to give up smoking, because he says that coughing is the only exercise he gets.

★

BRANCH clerk glanced over at girl work-mate's desk, saw what appeared to be several pieces of plaited string and asked 'Are you a macrame freak?' 'No, they're my bathers,' was the reply.

★

SHIFT worker from Central Clearing Section rose at 6 a.m., dressed in the dark to avoid disturbing his wife, and arrived at work wearing one black shoe, one brown shoe and a very red face.

★

AMONG branches listed in a recent 'Herald' classified advertisement concerning passbook inspections was LALOR PIZZA (instead of PLAZA).

★

BRANCH manager at western district cattle auction waved to a mate during the bidding, and suddenly found himself the buyer of an \$800 beast (the auctioneer did not hold him to the sale).

Staffer of the month

MAN OF MANY PARTS



Our former migrant adviser in one of his most successful stage comedy roles ('The Camel's Way').

Dean Melidonis, assistant manager at Box Hill branch, has been a part-time performer in show business for more than 20 years.

Until recently, Dean was one of the Bank's senior migrant promotion officers, specialising in advice for the Greek Community.

Out of office hours he relaxes by acting in an ethnic theatrical group, usually taking light comedy roles.

For several years Dean was a familiar personality to 3EA ethnic radio fans as a broadcaster and Greek program co-ordinator.

Last year saw his entry into TV, and he played three roles in the 'Cop Shop' series, twice as a Greek priest, and once as a tourist. He also appeared in a Channel 0 series called Grecian Scene. Currently Dean is writing a play, which he hopes will go into production in about 12 months.

Dean's wife Effie was the Bank's first migrant promotion officer.



Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser congratulated Dean Melidonis on his 3EA Greek programs.



Dean Melidonis as a Greek priest in 'Cop Shop' with Jeannie Drinan



Council Honors Bank Girl

Bankcard Department clerk, Ann O'Leary, 18, proudly shows a 'Certificate of Merit' which the City of Altona recently presented to her after she captained a junior Victorian water polo team in national titles. It was the second time Ann had gained State selection since taking up the sport less than four years ago.



Tu-Tu Divine!

When Mark Clancy lost a 'dare' to fellow Insurance Department clerk Kate Lee, he was most apprehensive about the price he'd have to pay.

Kate consulted her workmates for a likely 'punishment', and after some consideration, came up with a good one. To everyone's delight Mark had to don a bright yellow tu-tu and parade prettily around the office.

Rumour has it that Mark's services are now eagerly sought by the Australian Ballet Company.

'Motorcade' Opening For New Drive-In Branch

Cars were the stars of our Alphington Drive-In Branch official opening on March 11.

Our Acting General Manager, Mr. Murray Souter and the Mayor of Northcote, Cr. Anthony Matisi arrived in style in a chauffeur-driven vintage Rolls Royce.

The gleaming Rolls headed a motorcade including a powered mini-car, driven by a local schoolboy, a 'hot rod', a vintage M.G. Sports car and a 1930 B.S.A. motorbike with sidecar. The new, \$200,000 branch in Heidelberg Road replaced our original branch in Rowe Street and its sub-branch in Heidelberg Road.

It is only the second drive-in branch opened by the Bank (the other has been operating at Doncaster East since 1968). The Alphington Drive-In also offers extensive walk-in banking facilities (four teller positions and private interview room) and night-safe facilities for after-hours deposits.

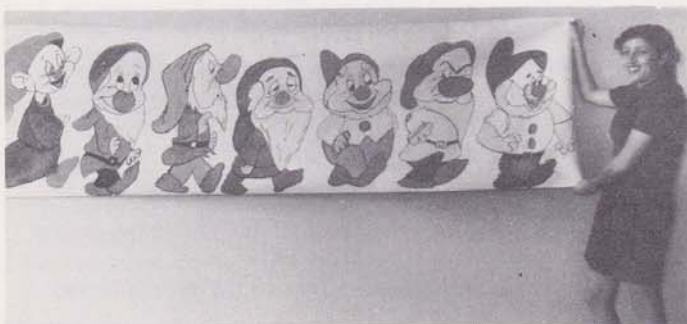
Drive-In customers park their cars beside a bullet-resistant glass window, signal the teller by pressing a button and request their requirements through a microphone. A service tray emerges from the wall to collect their books, cash, vouchers, etc., is withdrawn, and is returned when the transaction has been completed.



ABOVE: First drive-in customer on official opening day at Alphington was Peter Matthews, 9, of Alphington Primary School. He lodged a passbook deposit with teller Tony Hill.



ABOVE: Vintage vehicles, including a Rolls Royce, MG and motorcycle/sidecar took part in Alphington's opening day motorcade.



Kathy Colors 'Seven' For R.C.H. Kiddies

Kathy Zammit, 19, of Insurance Department has painted a colorful six-foot mural of the 'Seven Dwarfs' to brighten up convalescing youngsters at the Royal Children's Hospital. Detailing the characters took several weeks.

Kathy hopes that other State Bank staffers will consider using their creative talents to benefit the hospitalised.

HOW TO WIN BAR BETS

There are quite a few tricks you can use in drinking schools to win cash or free 'shouts'.

For example:

The Bet: "I bet you a large can of Carlton draught that you cannot jump over a 7-ounce glass of beer."

To Win: Place the glass of beer in a corner of the bar.

★

The Bet: "I bet you half a dozen stubbies that I can put my drink on the bar, leave the pub and without walking back in, drink it."

To Win: Put your drink on the bar, go outside, then come back in on your hands and knees, crawl to the bar and drink the beer.

★

The Trick: Say "I've been doing chores all day."

To Win: When somebody asks "What chores?" you immediately reply "That's very generous of you . . . I'll have a large beer, thanks."

★

The Bet: Hold the middle of one side of a \$2 note lengthwise between your thumb and forefinger. Let the note dangle in the air.

To Win: Ask a friend to put his thumb and forefinger on either side of the note without actually touching it. Then bet him the \$2 that he cannot catch the note when you release your grip on it.

★

The Bet: Challenge a mate to drink a large beer in 30 seconds.

To Win: He will actually down the beer in much shorter time, less than 15 seconds. Then point out that he has lost, 'because the 30 seconds is not up yet.'

★

The Bet: Announce that you are the only person in the bar who can tear a paper napkin in half.

To Win: When somebody disputes this claim, take a napkin, twist it into a rope shape, and hand it to the challenger. After he has failed to tear it, dip your thumbs in water and press them against the napkin. Once damp, it will tear easily.

★

The Bet: "I bet a bottle of Fosters that nobody can tell me who was the first sportsman to run the four-minute mile?"

To Win: When they reply "Roger Bannister", point out that he ran the mile in less than four minutes. Then say that Derek Ibbotson was the first to run it in exactly four minutes.

TRAVEL TIPS



—By
Diana Roomer

Senior Consultant, Thomas Cook
State Bank Travel, Melbourne

Those Injections . . .

When you are planning to travel abroad, your travel agent will often mention the "need" or "requirement" for you to have injections against certain diseases. The situation is rather complicated, so let's try to sort it out. The diseases concerned are smallpox, yellow fever, cholera and "other diseases", by which is usually meant typhoid. There are really two sides to the situation. The international Travel Information Manual, or T.I.M., issued to all travel agents, lists the injection requirements of various countries. The travel agent advises you what you should do additionally to protect yourself against diseases likely to be prevalent at your destination or at points en route. For example, for travel to Indonesia, the travel agent has to ensure the Consul in writing that you will be in possession of valid certificates of vaccination against smallpox and inoculation against cholera. That is the official requirement. But the Consul himself highly recommends this for your own protection, and will warn you to discuss with your doctor whether you

should take a week's course of malaria tablets before you leave.

Smallpox is really only prevalent at this time in Ethiopia and Eritrea (Africa), but, some other countries insist upon vaccination. Most Australian doctors nowadays are reluctant to vaccinate.

Cholera is mainly confined to South-East Asia, but some poorer countries, like Mexico, pose a risk from time to time. The inoculation against cholera causes irritation to some arthritic conditions, but most doctors will do it on request.

Yellow fever is present only in South America and Africa, in areas defined on a map in the Travel Information Manual. Inoculation is usually only required if you visit or travel through one of these areas.

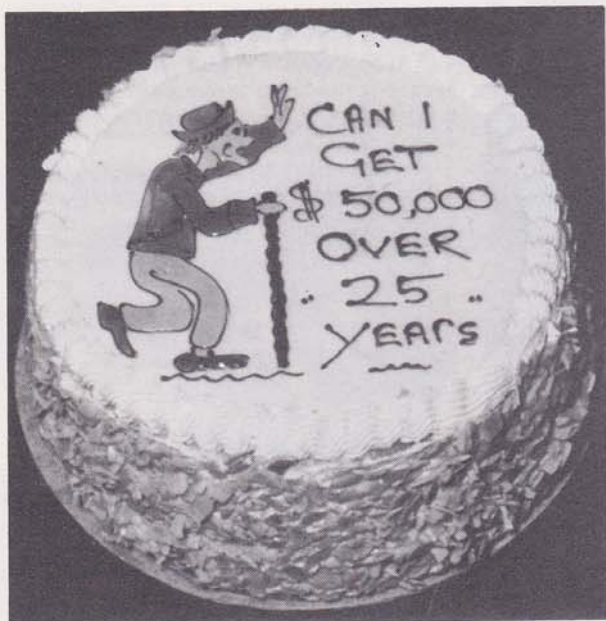
Typhoid inoculation will usually be recommended by your doctor. So the people to consult about all injections, well before planned departure date, are your travel agent and your doctor. Here are some examples of inoculation/vaccination requirements:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Indonesia | Small pox)
Cholera) essential
Typhoid) recommended |
| • Fiji, New Zealand
United States and
Canada |) none |
| • Singapore, Hongkong,
Malaysia, Philippines |) cholera recommended |
| • Europe | none required, except Cholera for certain
areas (Iron Curtain) |
| • Africa |) none unless visiting yellow fever zones |
| • China |) Cholera |



Around the Branches

by Tom Sedunary



Melton: Flavourable Loan Application

A customer recently used a novel way of sweetening up bank staff when applying for a housing loan. He presented manager Bill Amor with a 'gateau' bearing the inscription: "Can I get \$50,000 over 25 years." Bill says the cake was a gesture of appreciation from the customer who had already qualified for a mortgage loan. "Unfortunately the staff would not allow me a share in the spoils," he said. "They did not want it to look as if I were receiving payola."



Red Cliffs: Dad and Daughter

Manager Rod Bowe was delighted when his daughter Christine 17, a teller at Mildura branch, was temporarily posted to his office as a reliever.

The unusual combination of father and daughter working at the same branch was considered newsworthy by the regional daily newspaper — and by STATESMAN.

Photo courtesy of 'Sunraysia Daily'.

Frankston:

A3 Voted A1



If there were an 'Accountant of The Year' contest, tellers Pam Box and Gerri Blake would vote for branch A3. John Owens. The girls wrote to STATESMAN, saying:

"We would like the rest of the Bank to know how lucky we are to have Johnno. He is very popular, knows his work thoroughly, and is always ready to oblige. He has helped many of us with personal problems at all hours of the day and at weekends —not only with sound advice but with practical action. John has a fantastic sense of humour and we can always have a laugh with him. He takes part in all out-of-branch activities.

Huntingdale: Stand In For The Great Gary

Accountant Alan Sampson took over as captain of the Sir Garfield Sobers Invitation XI in a local competition when illness sidelined the master West Indian cricketer.

Alan led the XI against the winners of the Pitrope Knockout Cup, which was played WSC-style under lights at Springvale Cricket Ground. The team was chosen from players of other competing clubs in the Knockout Cup, together with a number of District and Sub-District cricketers.



CAR-TALK — by TS

• **CORONA COINCIDENCE:** Two head office staffers making a tour of country branches were alarmed when they reached Romsey to receive a phone query from Premises Department about their Toyota Corona 'pool car'. Seems that the unfortunate pair had mistakenly driven off, from the public carpark where Bank vehicles are garaged, in a privately owned Corona — same model, same color, and occupying a nearby bay. The deluded duo beat a hasty retreat to the City to return the car to its waiting owner.

GIANT JIGSAW: Rex Hall (Development Officer, Branch Banking Department) is trying to reconstruct a 1928 National Chevrolet sedan from a pile of panels and more than twenty boxes and bins of parts. He acquired the automotive mix-and-match a year ago when his fatherly decided to clean out a shed at his Castlemaine home. Mr. Hall (senior) had bought the disassembled Chev seven years earlier from a chap in Mirboo North. The only guide to the car's original appearance was a color slide — reproduced here in black and white — which the man from Mirboo threw in with the rest of the bits and pieces. Rex initially spent three months doing a stocktake, sometimes spending hours sifting for a specific nut or bolt. Since then he has rebuilt the gearbox and diff, and reconditioned the brakes. Many hours of scrubbing with a wire brush made the chassis shipshape and ready for priming. Rex hopes to complete the restoration project within 18 months. Some of the difficult tasks he faces include replacing a rotten timber body frame, assembling an operative engine from three defunct ones, renewing corroded sections of bodywork, and upholstering the seats. CARTALK will monitor Rex's progress.

Rex Hall with the skeleton of his 1928 National Chevrolet.



Teenage Quester

Queen Street staffer Raelene Powell, 17, an entrant in this year's Miss Teenage Quest, has already raised \$2800 for Royal Womens' Hospital from fund raising functions ranging from barbecues and balls to fashion parades and film premieres. The quest will be judged next month at the Camberwell Civic Centre. Raelene contests the title with 90 other entrants. If successful, she will be the lucky recipient of a trip to Europe for two.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

1. **DARK SECRET:** Two minutes. One for the engine and another minute for the last carriage.
2. **TANTALISING TRIP:** The car was in reverse.

Gone Fishin'



(Recent or approaching retirements)
JOHN BERRY (Sale)
SAL AQUILINA (Fitzroy West)

FISHY AND FOXY GOLF TALES

(Cartoons by Peter Gibbs of Watsonia Branch)

Two State Bankers recently had separate odd encounters with wildlife while playing golf.

District Manager Don Murphy mis-hit a ball on a wet Saturday at Werribee Park course, and plopped it straight into a dam.

When he went to the edge to retrieve the ball, Don noticed a foot-long European carp swimming near the surface. With a quick thrust of his golf umbrella he speared the fish and left it on the bank.

Question is: was the carp initially stunned by Don's ball after his atrocious drive?

OUTFOXED: Mike Negri of H.O. Branch Banking Department was playing a round at Rosanna when a fox dashed out of a clump of bushes beside the fairway, grabbed the ball, and ran off towards the river.

Mike's son chased the fox, until it dropped the ball — which was returned to play from the spot where it had been foxnapped.

The wily fox was later seen near the edge of the green. Mike thinks it was waiting in hopes that his approach shot would go astray.



Bank Girl Weds

Annemarie Mitchell (nee Girke) who has been on the staff of Mildura branch for four years, recently married Glen Mitchell, a well known trainer of trotting horses in Sunraysia.

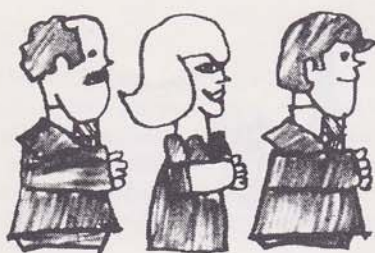
TRAVEL MOVIES FOR ELDERLIES

Middle Park branch staff have always given special attention to older-generation customers, and this was again demonstrated last month when manager John McKinnon arranged a travel film screening for members of the Middle Park Elderly Citizens' Club, at their Danks Steet rooms.

A section of the appreciative 'Elderlies' audience.



Pictured: Middle Park manager John McKinnon (left) with Mr. Rob McGeehan, manager, Thomas Cook/State Bank Travel, McEwan's office, and his senior consultant Mrs. Diana Roomer, preparing to show travel films on cruises to Fiji and other Pacific resorts.



Meet our new Managers



R. A. G. FOWLER, Assistant Manager, Lalor
Bob started collecting Australian pre-decimal coins during his stint as 'change teller' at 'Lizzy Street' in 1964. He has since amassed more than 1000 coins, the most valuable being a 1923 halfpenny. With the exception of the 1930 penny he holds a specimen of every coin minted in Australia since 1910. Bob and wife Cathy have four children aged from three to 11 years.



I. M. McLAUGHLAN, Relieving Staff
Max joined the Bank at Warragul in 1958 and after two years moved to Melbourne to take up an appointment at St. Vincent's Hospital. He has since had a four-year stretch on the relieving staff and numerous suburban postings. To keep fit Max plays both competitive and pennant tennis. He is married with two daughters aged 10 and 12 years.



G. K. STEPHENS, Wycheproof
Keith plays cricket for Watsonia and currently captains the D Grade team. During his nine years with the club he has held several executive posts, including 'president' and 'secretary'. Keith is a keen fisherman, and enjoys birdwatching and bushwalking with his family. He and wife Baiba have two sons aged eight and 10 years.



R. D. BURRIDGE, Stanhope.
Cricket and football are Sandy's main spare time occupations. His links with these sports, both as a competitive player and more recently as a club administrator and coach, span some 20 years. Sandy, wife Betty and two young sons enjoy caravanning and fishing during annual leave.



G. J. KING, Peel Street Market
Graham has been a competitive player with the Mitcham Basketball Club for 12 years. He says his "team of oldies" has an average player age of 40 years, but can still give the younger chaps a good run for their money. Graham's other sporting interests include social tennis and golf, and following 'the Magpies' during footy season. He is married to former Elizabeth Street staffer Barbara Mobbs. They have three daughters aged from five to 10 years.



G. D. CALIGARI, Assistant Manager, Watsonia.
After several years at middling-sized branches, Gary is looking forward to helping direct a large, busy suburban office. Favorite summer sparetime activities for Gary, wife Gwen and their two teenage children include gardening and excursions to the country. The prospect of winter's chill doesn't bother the Caligaris. They're all keen footy fans and spend Saturdays at the M.C.G. or V.F.L. Park.



G. R. VINCENT, Avoca.
Geoff joined the Bank at Glenhantly branch, and for the past 10 years has been stationed on the Mornington Peninsula. He is now looking forward to a change of scenery and the forming of new friendships in the country. Geoff's spare time interests include social games of squash and following the 'Saints' during the footy season. The family (two children aged seven and nine years) enjoy caravanning at holiday times.



G. C. PRENTICE, Assistant Manager, Geelong, Ryrie Street
Now that the footy season is with us again, Geoff is kept on the go attending to the many tasks allotted to him as manager of the junior team in which his two teenage sons play. Geoff says he has been involved with amateur football in Geelong for 10 years. He is married to former Ryrie Street staffer, Faye Fox. They also have an 18 year-old daughter.



B. A. BAKER, Relieving Staff.
Brian helps to dispel the commonly-held belief that bowls is an old man's game — he took up the sport 10 years ago when in his late Twenties. Nowadays he plays A1 Pennant standard with Brighton. He is also a longtime member (and former treasurer) of Brighton Golf Club. Brian's sporting commitments include administrative involvement with his children's little athletics and hockey. The Baker offspring are aged seven and eight.



T. J. SEWELL, Minyip
Trevor has an active spare time — pursuing a variety of sports, assisting at coaching sessions for the Victorian Junior Football League, and maintaining the family house and garden. He is an official of his seven year-old son's athletic club and, whenever possible, takes the family on camping holidays. Wife Diane, three year-old daughter, and second son, two months old, make up the rest of the Sewell household.



T. E. TOOMEY, Assistant Manager, St. Albans
Although golf is Terry's favourite spare time activity, he devotes most of his leisure hours to the sporting interests of his four sons. He encourages the boys, aged from four to 11 years, to participate in a variety of local activities including soccer, tennis, cricket and swimming — all of which leave little time for improving his golf handicap.



G. K. MORRISON, Assistant Manager, Melbourne University.
George devotes many weekend hours to tending and propagating native trees and plants in his one-acre garden at Eltham. His next project is to start a vegetable patch. He keeps trim at the Eltham Ecce Fitness Centre where he plays tennis and swims regularly. George and his wife Gay are proud parents of an 11 year-old son, and daughter, eight.



On the Way Up

Here are our newest classified officers, promoted in recent months to Accountant 3 status:



DOUG EVERETT
Swan Hill



JIM CREDLIN
Kerang



BERNIE FINNIGAN
Relieving Staff



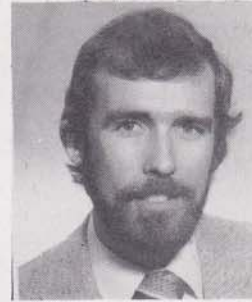
SHARON TREDREA
Kew East



SAM PETTOLINO
Elizabeth Street



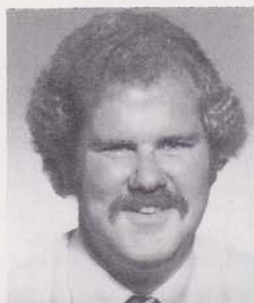
ANTHONY McPHERSON
E.D.P. Department



ROBERT LARGE
Mortgage Loans Dept



MONICA DWYER
Relieving Staff



BILL RODRIQUEZ
Branch Mech Dept.



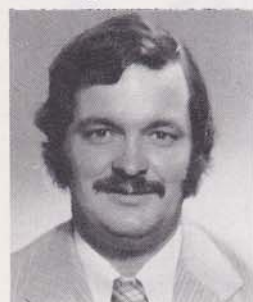
CON DI PIETRO
Endeavour Hills



LORRAINE CHRISTIAN
Moe



DEBRA WILKINSON
Relieving Staff



MARK KESTERS
Relieving Staff



STEPHEN JORDAN
499 St. Kilda Road



MARILYN BROWN
Relieving Staff



GARY EARLS
Relieving Staff



NOLA PRIDGEON
Branch Mech Dept.



MICHAEL STEVENSON
Relieving Staff



STEPHEN MITCHELL
186 Bourke Street



DAVID MANNING
Altona North



ROSS MAVOR
Fawkner, Major Road



KEN BATROUNEY
Relieving Staff

RICHMOND OLDTIMERS



(● Cartoons by Peter Gibbs of Watsonia branch)

The approach of Richmond branch's Centenary celebrations prompted several old-time staff members, now in retirement, to pen their service memories of the period from 1915 to the early 1940's:

ALEC FALCONER of Greensborough, aged 71 years. Served at Richmond 1925-26.

"As the office junior, I was always first to the bank, it being my duty to clean the ink wells each Monday morning, change the nibs and blotters daily, replenish order boxes and change date indicators.

One morning I was met at the front door by two authoritative looking gents, to wit the late "Bull" O'Halloran and Mr. W. J. Masters, together with their clerks — Les Proctor and Harold Fletcher — it being the occasion, unbeknown to me, of the Annual Inspection of the Branch, I was severely reprimanded for **NOT** wearing a hat to the office.

I saw many changes in my sojourn there such as D. F. Dwyer, J. Ashby, C. Ashmead (teller), D. Phillips, A. L. Goldsworthy, J. A. McEwan (clerks) and of course J. W. Ashby was the affluent member of the staff sometimes driving to work in his "Di. Dion. Bouton" roadster.

Sovereigns were still circulating to some extent and each Monday "Gold and Commonwealth notes" had to be reported to head office on the daily return (form 64).

Earned \$150 P.A.

I received the large amount of £2-17-7 per fortnight (£75 or \$150 per year) and was paid sometimes in gold. My mother used to love going shopping and tendering a sovereign for goods."



KEN TENNY of Ashburton, aged 72 years. Served at Richmond: 1930.

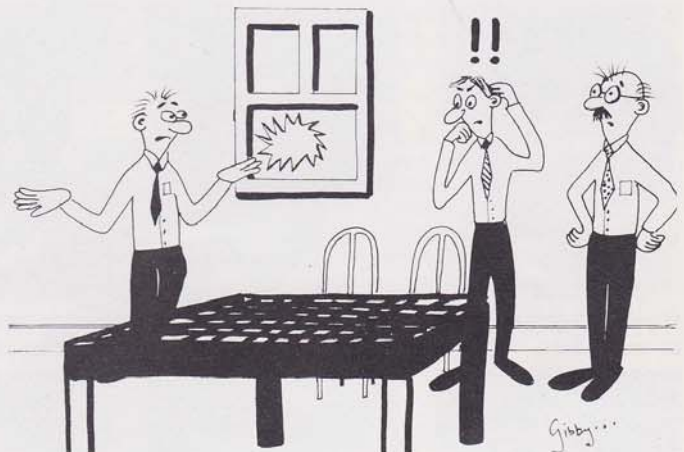
"I was there during the traumatic period of the great Depression. Being an industrial suburb, there was much unemployment with hardship among many families, their very subsistence being dependent on the "susso". (sustenance pay.)

One day, an immaculately attired gentleman with a bowler hat and carrying a brief case, asked to see the Manager. After the office table, which was used by the Manager, had been cleared of all bank papers the gentleman was personally escorted to the table upon which he placed the

elegant case, then seated himself on the Manager's padded chair. Needless to say, the staff were impressed, and were on their best behaviour. Speculation was that he was a very high official and had come to investigate some important matter. At last the case was opened and out came a set of strongroom tools, spanners, hammers, files etc. Apparently the lock on the strong room door had caused some trouble, and the visitor was an executive officer from a security firm who had come to service it.

TOILET ROLL THROWN

Manager, Reg Howard was a great conversationalist. After he had finished his lunch in the private residence, he used to come into the lunch room for a "chat". One day, a member of the staff holding a toilet roll behind his back rushed into the lunch room demanding that a colleague return to duty. He then aimed the toilet roll at this officer, who bobbed to avoid the missile when "crash" it went through the lunch room window. Amid the resultant excitement, speculation ensued as to what Manager Reg's reaction would be on his visit. The staff, anticipating something interesting, were in the offing. On his entry to the room, Manager Reg's first reaction was to gaze open mouthed at the scene before him. Then he gasped "whatever has happened here?". At this moment the perpetrator of the episode, who must have spent some very thoughtful few minutes, admitted that he was the guilty party. He explained that when he was lifting a chair across the lunch table his elbow struck the window, causing it to break. There was great rubbing of the said elbow at this stage. Manager Reg "accepted" the explanation and the window was replaced at the Bank's expense."



BILL JAMIESON of Oakleigh South, aged 84 years. Served at Richmond 1928-29.

"I had come from under the stern watch of Box Hill Manager (later Inspector) A. P. P. O'Halloran to experience, for a second time, the debonair superintendence of W. P. Gregory, the foundation secretary of our State Savings Bank Officers' Association. Gregory was a man with a pronounced flair for public relations, something as little recognised by us then as it has been overrated since the American Conquest of Australia. The others on the staff included Jack Lanigan and Norm Dunn (of Ararat Gift fame) — one of them paying teller, or it could have been both — Harold Laidler (manager's clerk), C. Armstrong (then mastering vocal sonorities), Ken Tenny, Selwyn Porter (later to achieve renown in other spheres) and the junior on my sheets, Lyle Withall.

CLARRIE ARMSTRONG of Hawthorn, aged 72 years. Served at Richmond 1925-29.

"While I was at Richmond the cable tram from the city to Hawthorn Bridge was replaced by the electric system, and the old Richmond racecourse became a housing commission area.

The two managers over the span of those years were R. A. Howard and W. P. Gregory, men of strong and distinctive personalities, the latter was the first secretary of the S.S.B.O.A., and the former had a fine and subtle sense of humour.

When W. P. Gregory, who was slightly hard of hearing, arrived, he insisted on having the telephone moved from the lunch room at the rear of

the building into a specially constructed box in the office itself. With the advent of the noisy electric trams he couldn't hear anything when one of them passed by."



REG HALL of East Malvern, aged 69 years. Served at Richmond 1937-38.

"When I started at Richmond, I was the 27-year-old junior. All the staff members were interested in sport. The manager, Len Hoy, a first-class golfer, was changed and ready to head off for the links at 3.25 p.m. on most days. Juniors to follow me were Jack Crofts (now Chief Accountant, Head Office) and Jack O'Brien (who is now a director of O'Brien Catering)."

JACK JAMIESON of Cowes, aged 75 years. Served at Richmond late 1930's onward.

"When Japan declared war we had a wild run on the bank which lasted about 3 days. I can tell you it is not a very happy feeling to find your cash drawer empty and several large amounts to be paid. Cash was not obtainable from our Bankers (NAT), so an S.O.S. was sent to H.O. Les Proctor duly arrived with £5000. Fortunately the £50 withdrawal limit without notice was in force and this helped to steady things."

JOHN McEWEN of East Melbourne, aged 84 years. Served at Richmond from 1915-19.

"I was ledger keeper at Richmond branch. We opened on Friday nights in those days and a Salvation Army band used to play in the street outside. Some of the music was so mournful that it slowed down my posting work. I can recall attending a circus in Bridge Road, on the site of the present National Cinema which now shows Greek films."



ALAN WARNER, 56, Manager of Syndal Branch. Served at Richmond early 1940's.

FINGERPRINT HOAX

After I had been in the Bank for some days, I was told that "my fingerprints" had to be registered at Head Office. Mr. Horrie Smith (the receiving teller) presented me with a card which had been neatly ruled into spaces for the fingers and thumb of my right hand. I was told to press my fingers firmly on a stamp pad, and then transfer them so as to line-up the spaces on the card, which would then be sent to Head Office.

The operation was watched by most of the staff (who obviously were in on the joke) but they did not bat an eyelid. I suppose we were all pretty naive and scared of losing our jobs in those days, and did not dare question the orders of our superiors.

It must have taken me about half an hour to clear my fingers and thumb with the Bank soap and the pumice stone.

Not until some years later did I realize that I had been the victim of one of the many practical jokes carried out on juniors.

HAT COMPULSORY

One day we had trouble in reconciling the credit with our teller's total of cheques. When we got the credit reconciled well after 3 p.m. I raced down to the trading bank with it. Naturally I was abused by the staff there. This was bad enough but when I returned to the branch I was reprimanded by the Manager because I had gone **out without my hat**.

Bank officers always had to wear suits and hats to and from the office.

MICE MENACE MEASURES

In recent months of the Mallee mice plague, Woomelang branch manager Ron Moore and clerk Ron Riordan have added a 'Mouse Patrol' to their daily routine. First thing each morning the 'two Ronnies' literally go around the traps to release the previous night's catch, and dispose of unwanted 'deposits'.

Bank staff have had to reassure some customers that the marauding mice can't get into the cash safe to nibble the notes. Meanwhile, at the residence of our MANAGATANG manager, Colin Kelly, an ingenious backyard water trap — consisting of bait suspended over a bucket filled with water — each night drowns between 50 and 100 rampant rodents.

"The mice have completely stripped my vegie garden," says Colin. "They've even burrowed down to eat carrots that are still in the ground".

DOLLS TO ORDER



Jennie Edrupt, 19, of Staff Training Centre, City, has many sparetime activities, including making (to order) rag dolls. Watch for more about Jennie and her handicraft skills in our next issue.

OUR BOWLERS BEST AGAIN:



State Bank bowlers recently won the Combined Banks Championship cup for the twelfth time in twenty-three years of inter-bank competition.

Pictured above with the trophy are (from left) skipper Bob Grisold (Manager, Brandon Park), Club President Lionel Lawrence (Manager, Clayton) and skipper Geoff Gates (Manager, Mentone) with the Club's Patron, Mr. Harry Torrens, General Manager. Geoff Gates has played in every inter-bank Contest since 1957. Geoff and Lionel Lawrence have both played in State Fours finals, and Bob Grisold has won State Singles and State Pairs titles. The fifty members of the State Bank Bowls Club include fifteen A1 Victorian pennant bowlers.



BANK TEAM IN TRAINING

Twice-weekly training began three months ago for the Bank Football Club. Pictured at one of last month's Albert Park training sessions were (left to right) BACK ROW: Alan Wheelan, Neville Evans, Alan Eacott, Bruce Whally, Steve Ferguson, Geoff Maher, Alan Stamps, Stuart Cloke, Harold Rosewarne (Coach). MIDDLE ROW: Alan Pitts, Tony Favier, Dale Bennett, Phil Holmes, Geoff Owen (Assistant Coach), Peter Wabbis, Mick McClallan, Bernie Egan. FRONT ROW: Bernie Cooney, Phil Brennan, Danny Hayes, John Ryan, Sam Perla, Nick Kelly.

Queen of Spuds!



Potato Queen Sue wearing ceremonial robe and sash.

(Photo by courtesy of Koo Wee Rup Sun.)

Sue Brown, 18, of Koo Wee Rup branch, was last month chosen as Queen of the 1980 Koo Wee Rup Potato Festival, which raised funds for the Westernport Memorial Hospital. A branch workmate, Sharon Howman, was also a finalist in the contest.

Sue's prize is a three-week trip for two to Queensland, during which she will visit (guess what) a potato festival!

Robyn Shows Grace

Robyn Lee, 19, of Preston East, Plenty Road branch performs a graceful 'arabesque' while demonstrating the gentle art of callisthenics which she has been practising for 15 years.



(Photo by courtesy of Leader Associated Newspapers.)