

Statesman

(FORMERLY PROGRESS)

FEBRUARY 1971 No. 43

THE STAFF MAGAZINE OF THE STATE SAVINGS BANK OF VICTORIA

THE
STATE SAVINGS BANK
OF VICTORIA



Statesman

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OUR NEW NAME

From this issue our name changes to Statesman — chosen because it has connotations of this bank, of journalism and of people. The magazine will continue to record the Bank's progress in terms of activities and policies, with increasing emphasis on the human element.

FRONT COVER

Here are just some of the more than 500 new, young people who joined the Bank staff during the past three months. More than half the newcomers spent a week at Staff Training Centre, city, before moving out to branches.

STATESMAN is published for the information of the staff of the State Savings Bank of Victoria. Comments from the staff on the contents of Statesman are invited. The editorial team will always welcome suggestions for future articles, letters for publication, and news of staff activities — inside and outside the bank — which are likely to interest fellow officers.

New Faces '71

HELLO YOUNG BANKERS

This year we welcome — and congratulate — more than 500 young men and women who have joined the Bank staff.

We congratulate them because they are a select group. They represent only about one-third of the total applicants who were attracted by the massive recruiting programme supervised by Staff Department's Kevin Knight.

Despite prevailing labor shortages, it is not easy to get a job in the S.S.B.

Our minimum educational standard is Fourth Form Certificate (formerly "Intermediate"), with passes in six subjects including English and a branch of maths. But this is only the beginning.

- Every applicant must go to head office or a country branch for an aptitude test involving 115 questions, and an interview lasting in all about 1½ hours.
- Having passed this hurdle, aspiring bankers are given a second interview — by senior interviewer Geoff Gates of the Relieving Staff.
- Subsequently, provided their exam passes are adequate, they are contacted and asked to supply three



NEWCOMERS Rupert Johnson (E.D.P. Audit Section) and Michele Carr (Elizabeth Street Cheque Accounts) arrive for work.

character references. If these are satisfactory, each file goes to Mr. Ron Wade, Assistant Staff Superintendent, for a thorough review.

- From here, the application goes to Mr. Don Ross, Assistant General Manager, and thence to the Board of Commissioners for approval.
- Finally, each applicant must pass medical and X-ray examinations before receiving the official letter of appointment.

GOOD LUCK, NEWCOMERS, AND MAY YOUR STAY WITH US BE LONG, HAPPY AND FRUITFUL!



MR. RON WADE, Assistant Staff Superintendent, reviews all job applications before submitting them to the Assistant General Manager and the Board of Commissioners for final approval.



MR. GEOFF GATES — the "gates" through which more than 2000 newcomers have entered the Bank during the past 4 years. He is our Staff Department's senior interviewer.



MR. KEVIN KNIGHT, head office recruiting officer, who organised our staff recruitment programmes starting in July. Advertisements, school publicity and "Careers Nights" attracted large numbers of applicants.

"My first week at the S.S.B."

"DEAR DIARY ..."

MONDAY: "Sixty of us young hopefuls met punctually at the Staff Training Centre in Bourke Street to begin our induction course. We were welcomed by Mr. Ted Webber, the officer in charge, and were then addressed by Mr. Paul Costelloe, Staff Superintendent. Mr. Costelloe told us what the bank expects of its officers: efficiency and conscientiousness . . . a pleasant disposition and good appearance . . . honesty and strict observance of secrecy. Then he mentioned some S.S.B. staff advantages: good salaries and working hours, long term security, generous housing loans and sick leave, and the excellent Staff Medical Scheme.

"Later in the day, Mr. Alf Reside talked to us about the S.S.B. team spirit, and displayed a Bank football team jumper to emphasise his theme. Then we watched a slide presentation of the Bank's history since 1842, highlighting some famous S.S.B. 'firsts', including Credit Foncier loans, school banking, computers and Christmas Club."

TUESDAY: "We spent all morning learning about postage and mail handling. I was amazed to find how little I knew about the subject. Then in the after-

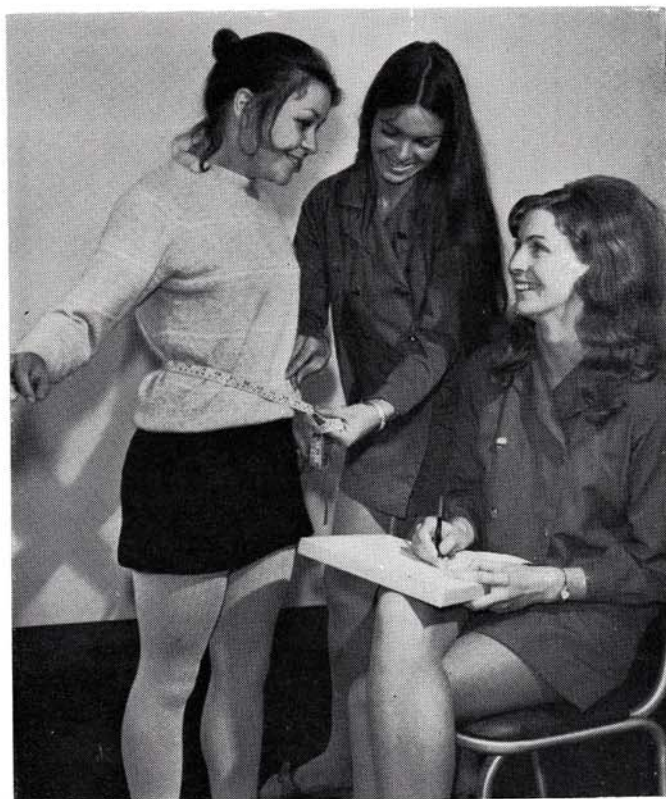
noon we had sessions on the Christmas Club and Calculation of Interest, with practical exercises. Finally we watched a film demonstrating the importance of good manners when using the phone."

WEDNESDAY: "Another session on Interest, followed by a demonstration of a Burroughs teller machine, as used in mechanised branches. We were told how mechanisation has streamlined the Bank's operations, and how major branches will eventually be connected by P.M.G. lines to the head office computers for automatic 'on line' handling of customer transactions. Other items on today's agenda were W/B (without pass book) entries, and Withdrawals procedure."

THURSDAY: "Using ledger cards and ready reckoner tables we worked some Interest Calculation exercises. Then we learned, among other things, how to issue Bank cheques and process S.E.C. accounts paid by the public.

"In the afternoon came the long-awaited announcement of our postings to the various branches. It was almost as exciting as discovering exam results."

FRIDAY: "Still more instruction on postage. Then we were told about the Bank's bursary scheme to help officers over 25 to take tertiary education



MEASURING UP: Newcomer Michele Duncan was among the scores of girls measured for their uniform by Mary Henderson of Staff Department. Vivienne Crawford, of the Training Centre, helped to take down particulars.

courses. Finally, we were given a general rundown on the type of work we would be doing in the branches, and Mr. Webber gave us an encouraging windup talk.

"From what I've seen of S.S.B. people so far, I'm very impressed. I feel I'm already part of the friendly group on the sunny side of the street."



"MR. COSTELLOE, the Staff Superintendent, told us what the Bank expects of its officers."

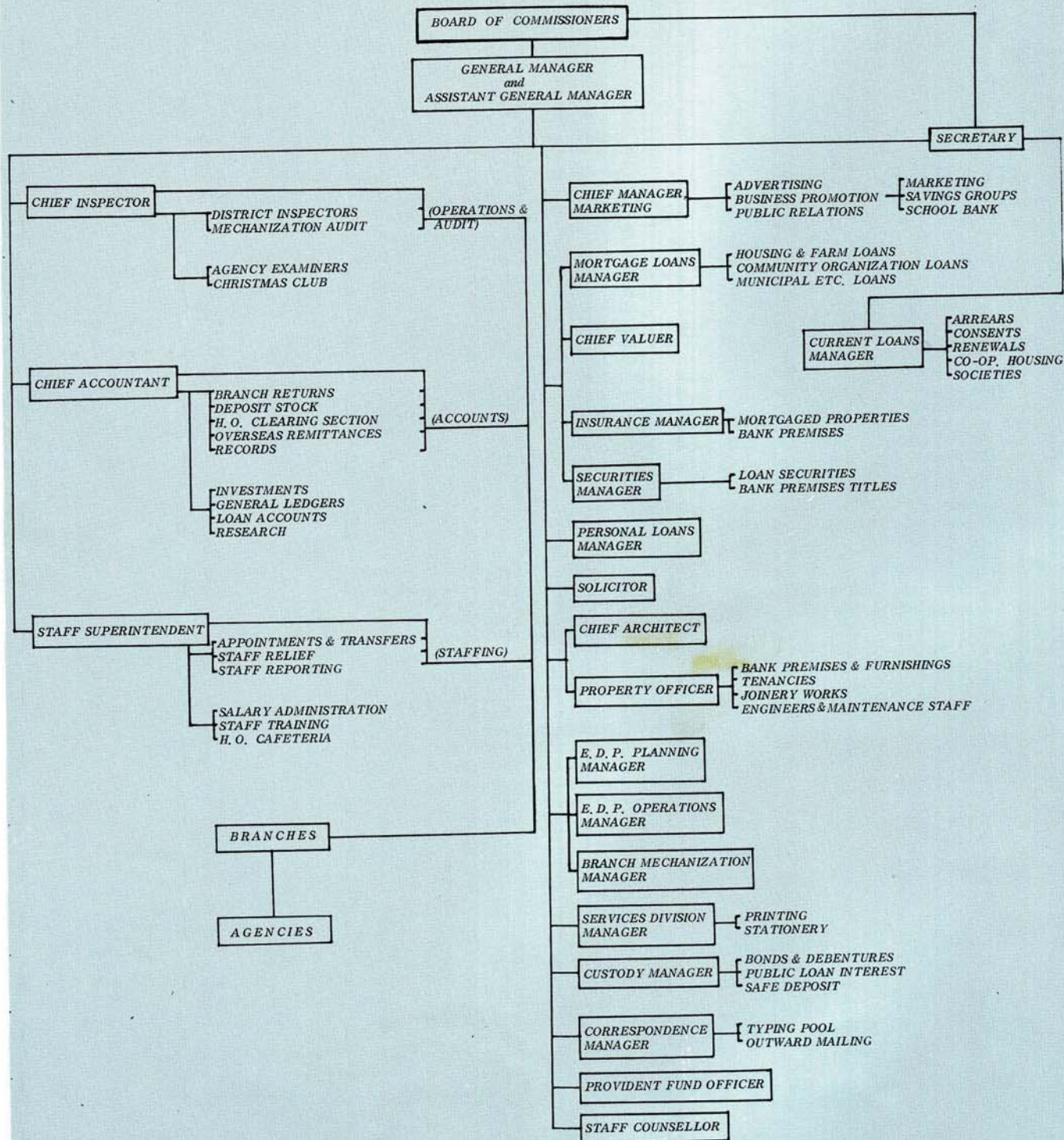
PUZZLE SPOT

1. **TAKE A PINT.** With nothing but a three-pint container and a five-pint container how can you measure one pint of water into one of them? (There is an unlimited supply of water available.)

2. **BLACKBIRDS.** Twice four and twenty blackbirds were sitting in the rain. I shot and killed a seventh part. How many remained?

3. **ABYSSINIANS.** Two Abyssinians entered a bar. One was the father of the other's son. How were they related?
ANSWERS Page 9.

S. S. B. ORGANIZATION CHART



The State Savings Bank of Victoria

Central Branch 603-006

231 Swanston St., Melbourne

19

Pay

or bearer

The Sum of

\$



Last month we scored another "first" by becoming the first Australian bank to issue pictorial cheques as an attractive "extra" for customers.

The new cheques will cost no more to produce — or buy — than the old ones. Initially they have been released to our 13 city branches.

They will be issued progressively throughout the branch network as stocks of old-type forms are used up.

The new S.S.B. cheque shows, in attractive grey outline behind the printing, a view of the modern Melbourne landscape. It can be person-

lised by overprinting of name and account number, provided the customer gives one week's advance notice.

Picture cheques, like colored telephones, are an overseas innovation that is here to stay. And we are proud to lead the way.

HOW TO RATE YOUR STAFF

It has been suggested that the following guide to Staff Reporting is perfectly applicable to bank officers, and that it would save Managers a lot of trouble!

GUIDE TO AN EVALUATION OF PERSONNEL PERFORMANCE

(adapted from Napawi Vol. 1 No. 2)

<u>Performance Factors</u>	<u>Far Exceeds Job Requirements</u>	<u>Exceeds Job Requirements</u>	<u>Meets Job Requirements</u>	<u>Needs Some Improvement</u>	<u>Does Not Meet Minimum Requirements</u>
A. Ability	Leaps tall buildings with a single bound	Must take a running start to leap over tall buildings	Can only leap over a short building with no spires	Crashes into buildings when attempting to jump over them	Cannot recognise buildings at all, let alone try to jump them
B. Work speed	Is faster than a speeding bullet	Is as fast as as a speeding bullet	Not quite as fast as a speeding bullet	Would you believe a slow bullet?	Wounds self with bullet when attempting to shoot gun.
C. Initiative	Is stronger than a locomotive	Is stronger than a bull elephant	Is stronger than a bull	Shoots the bull	Smells like a bull
D. Adaptability	Walks on water consistently	Walks on water in emergencies	Washes with water	Drinks water	Burns water when making tea
E. Communi- cation	Talks with God	Talks with Angels	Talks with himself	Argues with himself	Loses arguments with himself

SECURITY

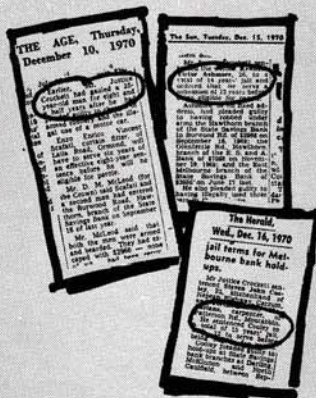
37 YEARS' GAOL FOR 3 BANDITS

—and we publicly thanked the police.

Bank hold-ups make front-page headlines and pictures. But the sentencing of captured and convicted bandits is often relegated to a single-column paragraph — or omitted from newspapers altogether.

We have been concerned about this situation for some time, so in December we decided to do something about it. We spent some hundreds of dollars on special advertisements in the Melbourne "Herald" and "Truth", announcing recent sentences imposed on S.S.B. bandits — AND WE PRAISED THE POLICE FOR THEIR

LONG TERMS FOR BANK BANDITS



THANKS TO THE VICTORIA POLICE

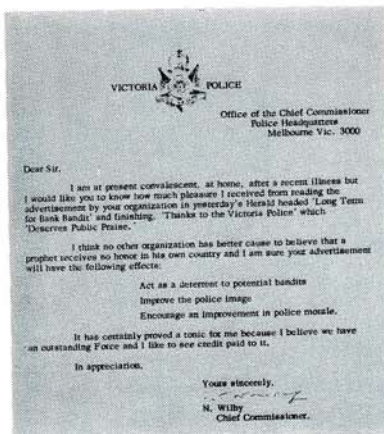
THREE MORE BANK BANDITS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED, CONVICTED AND GAOLED. THE VICTORIA POLICE FORCE, WHICH HAS CLEARED UP 4 OUT OF EVERY 5 BANK ARMED HOLD-UPS, DESERVES PUBLIC PRAISE.

THE STATE SAVINGS BANK OF VICTORIA

SUCCESS IN CLEARING UP 4 OUT OF 5 BANK HOLD-UPS. Reproduced here is a sample ad.

Soon after these ads. appeared, we received a gracious thank-you letter from the Chief Commissioner of Police, Mr. Noel Wilby.

The next development was a forthright statement — well publicised in the press — by Mr. Justice Crockett of the Supreme Court. He criticised



Hold-ups: judge criticises press

A Supreme Court judge yesterday criticised "Bonnie and Clyde" sensationalism of newspaper reports of armed robberies.

Mr. Justice Crockett said potential criminals only read of the apparently easily carried out hold-ups and seldom of the heavy sentences imposed by the courts.

"Whenever a bank is robbed it usually takes half a page of the Herald, 'The Age' or the Sun, with what one could describe as Bonnie and Clyde headlines", the judge said.

"It is all told with graphic detail. These young people think they can knock off a bank, get \$20,000, and that is all there is to it," he said.

"If one-tenth of the space devoted to pictures of banks robbed and persons held-up — with all its graphic and dramatic detail — was given to emphasising the long terms of imprisonment

McFarlane will have to serve a minimum of eight years before becoming eligible for parole.

Mr. Justice Crockett sentenced a second bank robber to 15 years' gaol and set a non-parole period of 12 years.

He also pleaded guilty to illegally using three cars.

newspapers, saying that "potential criminals read only of the apparently easily carried out hold-ups — and seldom of the heavy sentences imposed by the courts."

Not long after this comment appeared, the Melbourne "Herald", to its great credit, published a lengthy Page three news feature, telling the background story to the arrest and gaoling of bandits Steven Cooley and Terence McFarlane.

Could this "herald" a new emphasis by the press on the "aftermath" news stories of hold-up crimes?

Bare cells now for swank bank gang

'SMOOTHIE' IN FOR 12 YRS.

By JOHN LARKINS



STEVEN COOLEY, 22, who will be in jail until 21st of next year.



TERENCE MCFARLANE, 27, who will be at least 21 before he gets on and off.

Steven John Cooley, the flashy dresser with the black wig, is in Pentridge today with at least 12 years — maybe 15 — to think about his six weeks of high living.

And down at the \$12-a-night Sands Motel on the Nepean Highway, Carrum, the housemaids are shocked to find that the smoothies they knew as Steven Murray was not such a nice boy after all.

He was a bank robber — and he got caught. Mr. Justice Crockett in the Criminal Court yesterday jailed Cooley for 12 years with a minimum of 12 before he is eligible for parole.

Cooley's partner, Terence Ashley McFarlane, got 15 years, with a minimum of eight to serve.

Cooley, a Sydney kitchenhand, came to Melbourne on September 9 and booked into the Sands Motel with four other men.

Over the next six weeks motel owner Arnold Lubin, played unwitting host to a total of nine gangsters, on and off.

CURRENT STATISTICS

Victoria had 23 armed hold-ups on banks last year.

Of these, eight were at S.S.B. branches.

And six of these eight have already been cleared up by the police Consorting Squad led by Sgt. John Pedley.

In recent months, three bandits responsible for S.S.B. hold-ups have been convicted and sentenced to a total of 37 years' gaol.

GIRL OF THE MONTH



Sue Cartlidge is a seabird-watchers' delight whenever she takes a lunch-hour stroll at St. Kilda beach. And on the day we took this shot, the wafting fragrance of her Arpege perfume effectively masked the pervasive pong of sun-dried seaweed.

Sue, 21, is a clerical assistant at St. Kilda West.

Consider her fashion philosophy: "I think the mini skirt is here to stay. I can't stand maxis — they do absolutely nothing for a girl's figure." (Except hide it.—Ed.)

Sue's recreations include swimming, horse riding, attending car rallies and watching her boy friend in cycling races at the Velodrome.

She likes cooking and dressmaking — and hates "arrogant people".

Here's Sue's horoscope: "The Sagittarian woman is often fair and attractive, with a great sense of adventure and a fine sense of humor. She usually has a twinkle in her eyes, and can be open-hearted, sisterly and understanding. She longs for appreciation and affection, and is probably happiest with subjects of the other fire signs: Leo and Aries."

MAN OF THE MONTH

Ron Binks, relieving accountant, has an astonishing range of outside interests and activities. He builds immaculate hot-rod cars which are exhibited at shows. He also builds rifles and uses them to hunt deer. In his home town of Millgrove he runs the local fire brigade and search-and-rescue service. And he holds a Diploma of Youth leadership for youth welfare work.

Ron, now 28, joined the Bank 12 years ago. He has played most sports, with a preference for football. As full-back for the Millgrove team he played in the Yarra Valley League for seven years until he started wearing glasses.

Ron has no steady girl friend at present. His horoscope says: "The Aries man is a born leader, and his ambition aims at the stars. If he sees anyone in need of help he will do everything in his power to ease their burden. He is very interested in voluntary work concerning the welfare of others. He is most in tune with Leo subjects."



STATE SECRETS

by the teller

CHEQUE customer whose account was overdrawn wrote this explanation: "I married recently and have had many additional expenses. Am now on my honeymoon. Will call in to discuss my account as soon as I am back on my feet."

★
TWO red faces! Faye Dunn of head office marketing department was crossing crowded Elizabeth Street when a young man grabbed her in a crushing hug. Faye lashed out and landed a resounding face slap on the wrong bloke!

★
ONE of our St. Albans depositors went from bad to verse when he penned this poetic greeting to manager Neil McTaggart and staff:

"Any day is brighter
When it prompts a thought of S.S.B.
Especially when it gives a chance
To say 'Happy Christmas' to thee."

★
A Nairobi bank bandit recently used an original getaway plan. As he ran from the rifled bank he dropped handfuls of notes in the street. Pursuers were too busy picking them up to bother chasing him.

★
STAFF Department is still puzzling over this reference presented by a prospective employee: "TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: You will be indeed fortunate if you can persuade this young man to work for you."

★
LEDGER keeper reviewing lady depositor's cheque account in her presence came to entry "PULLOVER \$40". Lady volunteered the comment that this referred not to a garment purchase but to an on-the-spot traffic fine she was concealing from hubby.

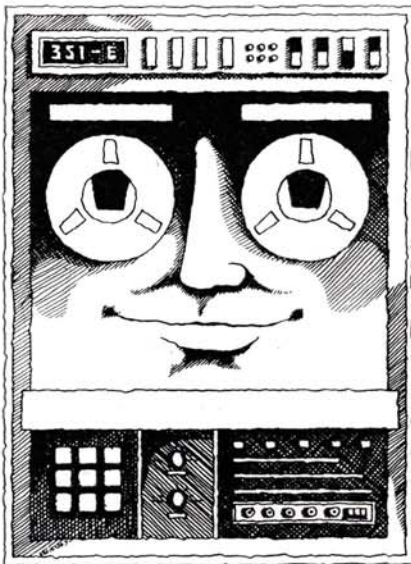
★
SINCE the arrival of his first-born, display assistant Ivan Lowe has been answering his phone extension with "I. Lowe and Son."

★
SUPER optimist of the year: Aged drunk who staggered into the Elizabeth Street banking chamber to request a Personal Loan on no security . . . "to help me get a job."

★
HEAD office accountant was away sick with dual complaints: migraine and hay fever. It could have been worse. Like seasickness and lock-jaw. Or rheumatism and St. Vitus Dance.



COMPUTER SNIPPETS



Our long-term program for introduction of on-line computerised accounting makes a great leap forward this year.

Centralisation — the system of head office processing of vouchers and tapes from mechanised branches — is being extended substantially.

By the end of this year it is hoped

to have all metropolitan Grade 1 branches — 82 in all — centralised.

We expect to receive in July this year our first Olivetti on-line teller terminal machines from Italy. These will have to undergo many months of testing to detect and eliminate "bugs" in the computer programs.

Around March 1972, after a pilot installation has been fully tested, 55 centralised branches within 10 miles of head office will begin a change-over to a limited (no-file access) on-line system.

Here's how mechanisation — centralisation — on-line changes benefit staff:

- **MANUAL TO MECHANISATION** cuts out mind-slogging calculation while making entries in pass books and ledgers.
- **MECHANISATION TO CENTRALISATION** cuts out the monotonous, time-consuming work of posting transactions, calculating interest and balancing ledgers.
- **CENTRALISATION TO ON-LINE** cuts out all walking to check the books and to make WB entries.

Following recent postal charge increases, the Bank decided to experiment with a car pick-up and delivery service for mail between metropolitan branches and head office — and for pick-ups of vouchers from centralised branches. Objective: to save money and time. Trial runs were made last month

STAFF STARS ONSTAGE: Five talented staffers presented a highly professional musical show in the Board Room last month when the Bank gave a reception to 60 delegates and wives from the Australian Teachers' Federation Conference. **FROM LEFT:** Doug Trotman (E.D.P. Planning, tenor horn), Margaret Wilson (Elizabeth St. teller, soprano), Merv Benton (School Banks, pop singer), Shirley Schill (Elizabeth St. clerk, pop singer), John Lidgerwood (School Banks, baritone). The teachers gave our show top marks.



PROUD POP: Bob Kingston, of the head office messenger staff, helps his 16-year-old daughter Kerrie plan a round-Australia free trip she won in a Paul Hamlyn contest. Kerrie starts her travels in May. She has another reason to smile . . . recently she won a Commonwealth Secondary Scholarship for tuition at Buckley Park High School, Essendon.

FESTIVE FLASHBACK

Elizabeth St. Xmas party

Here are a few of the celebrants at Lizzy Street's Christmas wingding in the R.A.O.B. Hall, city. LEFT TO RIGHT: Lily Huggins, Shirley Schill, Judy Abrehart, Lorraine Buckton, Helen Johnson, Bruce Evans, Bill Duke (Manager), Gail Green, Robyn Reid, Gail Palmer, Sue Brooks, Alf Titterton (Manager, cheque section), Julie Bennett. NOTE: Sue Brooks does not have a right arm longer than the left. THAT arm belongs to Gail Palmer.



Rendezvous for relievers

A timely toast was shared at the Relievers' annual Christmas Party at the South Yarra Club by LEFT TO RIGHT: Wayne Sinclair, Ken Osterfield, Paul Costelloe (Staff Superintendent), Val Bacon, Bill Barker and Ray Pascoe.

Big payout

This was the early-December scene at our Christmas Bank — set up in the Elizabeth Street display area — when hordes of Christmas Club members arrived to cash their payout cheques. Queues were eight deep at times, and the special team of tellers paid out more than \$120,000 on the peak day. Some of our girls donned Santa caps to add atmosphere, and the scene was filmed by GTV9 and shown on the night news session.



PUZZLE ANSWERS

(From page 3)

TAKE A PINT: Fill the three-pint container; empty it into the five-pint container; fill the three-pint container again; empty it into the five-pint container until the latter is full. Now one pint will remain in the three-pint container.

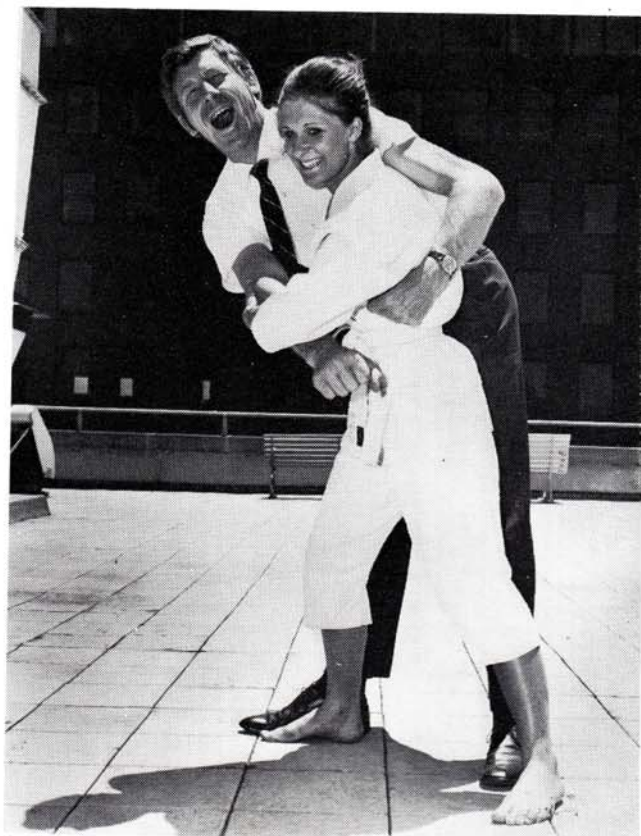
BLACKBIRDS: Four. Twice four added to 20 is 28. Four of these (a seventh part) were killed — and remained. The rest flew away.

ABYSSINIANS: Husband and wife. It would also work with Americans, but not with people who are, for example, English or French.

SPORTSCOPE



SHARON SHAPES UP: Meet Sharon Tredrea, girl cricketer, of Preston East (600 Plenty Road) branch. Sharon, 16, joined the Bank last year. She has been playing cricket since she was 12. As a member of the Preston Ladies' Cricket Club she was selected for last month's Australian Junior Women's Cricket Tournament. All-rounder Sharon's best performances to date have been a batting score of 88 and bowling figures of six wickets for nine runs. She also plays softball and netball for Oakton — and has an occasional lash at tennis, squash and swimming. You name it — she plays it. Modest Sharon's workmates describe her as "a real star at work and play".



"STOP IT, YOU'RE TICKLING" seems to be the reaction of Fitzroy V.F.L. coach Graham Donaldson (Marketing Department) as he grapples with judo player Karen Rice of Personal Loans. Karen, 17, has been learning judo for three years from George Taylor, a former Victorian champion. She has attained "Third KYU" standard, and wears a white belt. She is training at the Y.M.C.A. Judo Club for her brown belt.



BANKERS' HOPE: Commoner, a three-year-old grey filly, shown here winning last year's Preston Handicap at Moonee Valley, is on lease to 25 racing enthusiasts including seven S.S.B. officers: Reg Hayes and Peter Ball (Relieving Staff), Jim Ball (Footscray, Barkly Street), Graeme Peile (Hadfield), Ross Pomroy (Essendon North), Ralph Ewen (Sunbury) and Doug Ewen (Newmarket). Commoner, trained at Epsom by J. W. Willmott, has had three wins in 12 starts.

S.S.B. SPORTS CLUB DIRECTORY

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Grade of competition</u>	<u>Season Dates</u>	<u>Club Contact</u>
CRICKET	Victorian Junior Cricket Association - Turf Competition	From early October to late March	Ken Gellatly (Captain), Chief Accountant's Dept. head office Phone Ext. 12
FOOTBALL	Victorian Amateur Football Association	April to early Sept.	Alan Guy (Secretary) Joinery Works Phone : 347 4697
LAWN BOWLS	Inter-Bank Competitions	December-March Wednesday afternoons, and fortnightly night matches	Frank Scorgie (President) Central Branch. Phone : 663 2277
GIRLS' NET BALL	Victorian Women's Night Net Ball Association	February- July and August to late November	Jeany Tootell, Records Dept. head office Phone Ext. 278
GOLF	Victorian Inter-Bank Golf Association - also internal competitions for members and non members.	Pennant matches April and November Annual S.S.B. championship late summer. October S.S.B. Social Golf Day. Cup Day contest for all Bank staff	Graham Donaldson (secretary) Marketing Dept. head office Phone Ext. 283
MEN'S INTERNATIONAL RULES BASKET BALL	Victorian Amateur Basket Ball Association (night competition between business firms)	All year	Geoff Gourley (secretary) Christmas Club, head office Phone: Ext 285
GIRLS' INTERNATIONAL RULES BASKET BALL	"	"	"
SWIMMING	Victorian Combined Banks Swimming Association	March: Annual VCBSA swimming carnival.	Bernie Dickens (delegate) Audit Office, head office. Phone Ext. 173

BRANCH OF THE MONTH

GLEN WAVERLEY

A REAL BOOMER

Glen Waverley is a bustling, booming branch in a burgeoning area. The district swarms with young families, and the population of 95,000 rises by 6 per cent per annum.

The branch, which was recently upgraded from 1 to D — and centralised — has a high transaction level, and gains up to 150 new accounts per month. Crowds of up to 50 in the banking chamber keep three tellers continuously busy. To ease pressure, substantial extensions are planned for the building, to put staff and service rooms upstairs at the back, leaving ground floor space for two extra tellers.

Glen Waverley branch has come a long way since it opened in 1958. MANAGER HARRY BLAKE, who joined the Bank at Bendigo in 1924, is a 62-year-old human dynamo and a sporting phenomenon. Last year, this sexagenarian represented the S.S.B. in the Inter-Bank Diving Championships, gaining second place in the Open event. He played A Grade water polo in Melbourne. He plays A Grade



9.40 a.m. and the Glen Waverley banking chamber is already crowded and busy. Young families dominate the local population.

Pennant bowls, and also bowls for the S.S.B. club and two indoor clubs. Harry golfs at Spring Valley and is president of the S.S.B. Golf Club. In

earlier days he drove racing motor bikes. And when spry, sun-tanned Harry is not playing amateur sport, he finds time to preside at meetings and functions of our Branch Managers' Club. Phew!



MEET THE STAFF: Names and interests are — Back Row: Noel Berryman, 36, accountant (cricket, table tennis, youth clubs); Robert Woolley, 18, cheque clerk (golf, cricket, loud records); Ian Corlett, 25, teller ("stirring" and driving VWs); Middle Row: Warwick Tatte, 28, clerk (table tennis, Ford cars); Murray Lawn, 33, accountant (cricket, golf, skiing, squash); Keith Wickins, 38, accountant (tennis, badminton, table tennis); Front Row: Heather Browning, 17, clerk (pop vocalising with group); Robert Fisher, 18, teller (cricket and cars); Patricia O'Loughlin, 26, machinist (planning a Fiji holiday); Anne Robertson (relieving clerk); Harry Blake, manager; Robinette Emonson, 21, machinist (surfing, hockey); Lynette Humphris, 18, machinist (squash, netball); Rosalie Buckland, 21, teller (driving); Not shown: Cheryl Campbell, 24, clerk (swimming).

AROUND THE BRANCHES

— with Joan Freeman



NAGAMBIE

50 year festivity

At 10 am on the 15th December last, the scene in the small banking chamber of the Nagambie branch, opposite the lake, resembled a social gathering rather than an office open for business. It was the branch's 50th birthday, and after a brief word of welcome by manager Mr. John White, seconded by his district inspector, Mr. Max McKernan, the cake was cut by Miss C. O. Duggan, who holds account number 40, opened on the second day of the branch's existence.

The Shire President, Mr. Alan Tweddle, spoke on behalf of the visitors, then everyone had tea and beautiful savouries prepared by Mrs. White, and took a leisurely leave, first inspecting the display of historic photos of the town. All customers for the day received a piece of birthday cake and a souvenir pencil.

Included among the visitors was the Assistant General Manager, Mr. Ross, who was looking at some branches in the area and called in to wish Nagambie well on its 50th anniversary.

ST. KILDA SOUTH

Art while you bank

Our attractive Spanish-type St. Kilda South branch in cosmopolitan Acland Street has now as well become a permanent art gallery. A Melbourne collector, Mr. Pat Wakefield, whose traditional-style paintings by Australian and overseas artists are valued at \$18,000 has lent some of them to the branch for exhibition. The white-painted walls are perfect for the purpose and give customers and staff something pleasant to look at while they bank. The paintings will be changed at fre-

quent intervals. Here manager, Mr. Spence Edwards, and clerical assistant Susan Gray debate where to hang one of the paintings.

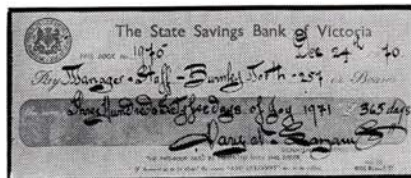


CLUNES

Our travelled calendar

The small town of Clunes has many admirers and our 1971 calendar has made a great impact there. Manager Peter Nelson has had a constant stream of callers asking for a copy of the calendar, and reports that local residents have sent them to friends in the United Kingdom, U.S.A., Belgium, Italy, Canada, South Africa and New Zealand, as well as all Australian States.

BURNLEY NORTH



Happy New Year —by order

Burnley North branch received this New Year "card" from Mr. Harry Lazarus, one of its depositors. Manager Mr. George Pollard reports

that Mr. Lazarus, a musician, who has been a customer of the branch since it opened, presents them with one every year. He always writes with a special pen, imports his own nibs and makes his own ink. Apparently he also has a large stock of our old withdrawal forms.

Incidentally, Burnley North, which moved into its striking new premises in November, reports quite an upsurge of business since the changeover. Perhaps it's the carpet — an exact replica of Len French's Art Gallery ceiling — that gives people the feeling they're getting artistic as well as monetary value.

CASTLEMAINE

Ode to a hollyhock

A hollyhock, which Castlemaine manager Mr. Jack Watmuff thought rather charming and allowed to grow and bloom when he saw it protruding through his fence, apparently had the same effect on one of his customers who felt inspired to send this poem to the Castlemaine Mail.

Beside the State Savings Bank there grows

A graceful hollyhock;

Its dainty blossoms, fragile, pink,
Compel a second look.

Though often wild, ungainly too,
A weedy garden throng;

But standing here, 'gainst whited wall,
They charmingly belong.

This valued message give to us:
Above material things;

Are greater treasures, we should save,
More lasting pleasure brings.

Our Spirit's pass-book lies within,
And daily should we make
Deposits of all lovely thoughts
We joyfully partake.

We may not all have Bank accounts,
From which our pockets fill;

But hearts with beauty may be stored,
To draw on when we will.

PROGRESS IN PREMISES

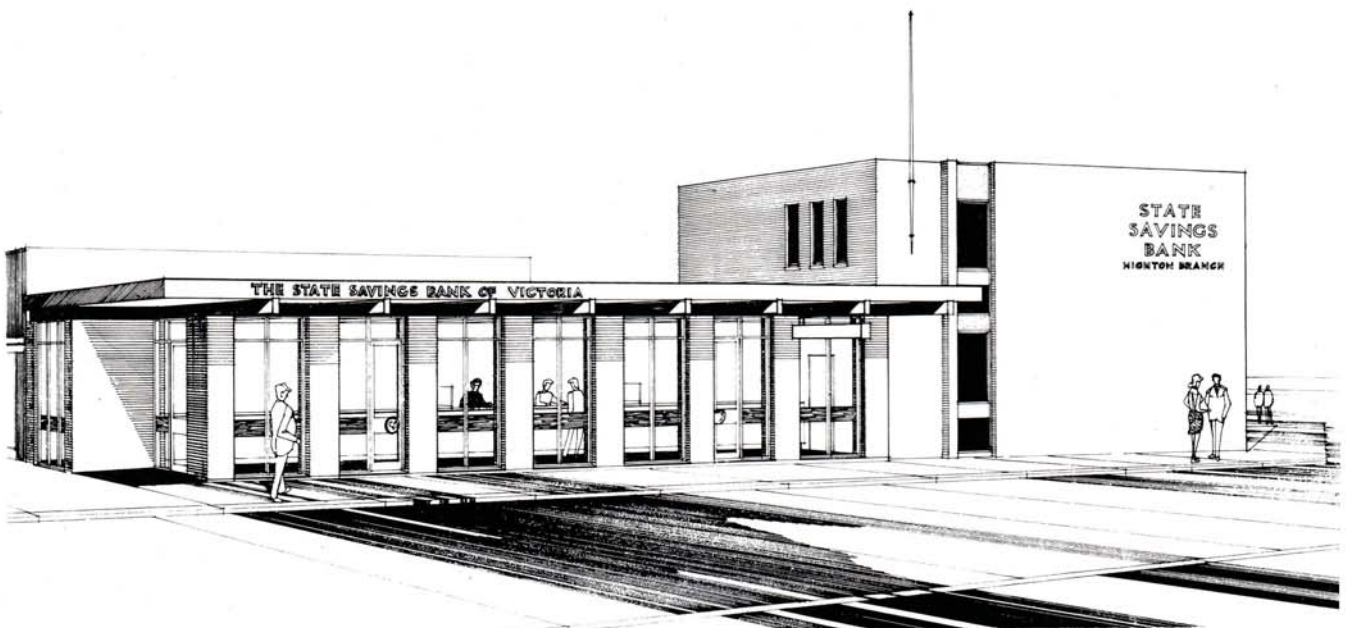


DANDENONG MARKET

Project Architects: Noad and Millott.
Construction of premises to replace the crowded, outmoded office occupied by our Dandenong Market branch is well under way. The air-conditioned building has been designed with frontages to Lonsdale Street and a proposed off-street parking area at the rear. The front entrance will be open to the street during banking hours and protected by a continuous air curtain. The sloping roof has been designed with a large skylight for natural day lighting and will be artificially lit at night. The whole of the banking chamber will be carpeted and this, combined with the acoustic ceiling, will reduce noise. Accommodation will be provided for up to nine tellers when the branch is fully operating. July is the estimated date of completion.

HIGHTON

Project Architects: G. E. Drinnan and Associates.
New Highton premises are being constructed in two stages. When the first half has been completed the existing office will be pulled down and the new building will occupy its area. The branch will have entrances to both Belle Vue Avenue and an arcade and the public will be provided with 58 feet of counter space. Staff amenities and records will be upstairs at the rear of the building. The building is expected to be ready in July.



MEET OUR NEW MANAGERS



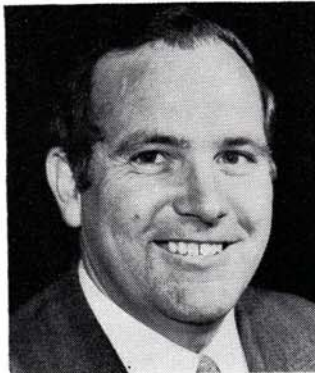
W. W. STEART,
Salary Officer.

Considering the size of Clunes, it's staggering the number of our staff who hail from there. Wally's another one. Church work absorbs a lot of his spare time. He's a Deacon of Cheltenham Church of Christ and a director of Inter-Church Trade and Industry Mission. Likes to relax with his family at the beach.



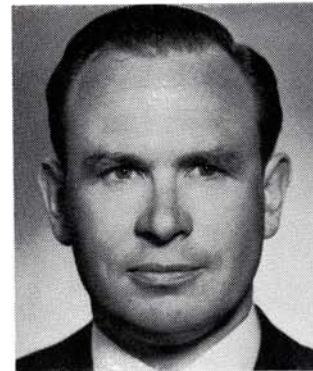
B. C. McALIECE,
Relieving Manager.

Barry plays pennant tennis and has done so for 17 years. Now restricts himself to winter pennant so he can spend more time with daughters Karen, five, and Vicki, three and a half, who are his pride and joy. He and his wife are both very involved with kindergarten committees, both at the local and State level.



M. H. MARSHALLSEA,
Senior Arrears Officer,
Current Loans.

Murray has worked in all the bank's loan departments as well as the legal department, so has a thorough knowledge of his subject. A former pennant tennis player, he's had little time for his favorite sport since moving into a new house a year ago. He and his wife have a family of three girls and a boy.



I. W. RANKINE,
Bunyip.

Although he enjoyed his work in staff training and as development officer, Ian is happy to be back in branch life. He and his wife have six children, whose ages range from 14 to two. The family have a holiday house at Mt. Martha and can hardly wait for the weekends to get down there.



W. J. CHAPMAN,
Rainbow.

Having lived all his life in Gippsland, Bill is now giving the other end of the State a try. The Chapman family, including the three children, are all keen on sport. Bill and his wife have made a hobby of greyhound racing and have raced two dogs with a fair amount of success.



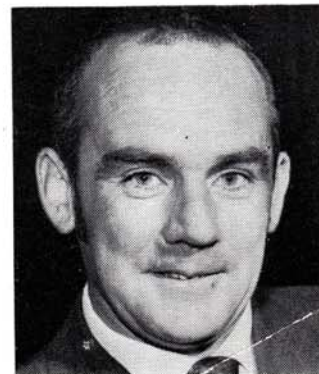
P. T. WOODS,
Beaufort.

Both Peter and his wife, Bertha, come from the country and are pleased with their Beaufort appointment. The greatest joy, however, is shown by their two young horse-mad daughters who are looking forward to joining the pony club. Peter's spare time project lately has been clearing and planting a three-acre Kallista block he's acquired.



L. H. MATHESON,
Asst. Manager, Geelong.

Lance comes from Geelong and the greater part of his bank service has been in that area. He's the captain of his local church cricket team and treasurer of Geelong Churches Cricket Association. He's to be married in a few months, so is busy looking for a home.



W. J. IRVING,
Relieving Manager.

Bill, a keen swimmer, is vice-president of Lilydale Swimming Club and has four young daughters who look like following in father's footsteps. He and his wife both come from the Ararat district and love that area. Bill is mad on cars, both old and new, and hopes to purchase a vintage car in the not too distant future.

NEWLYWEDS



ABOVE: Mrs. Bernard Dickens is concentrating on cutting a perfect slice of her wedding cake while her husband looks on admiringly. The couple were married at the Auburn Methodist Church. Bernard is on the Audit Staff of the Chief Inspector's staff, and Phyllis, nee Allen, works in E.D.P. Operations.



ABOVE: Cowes Presbyterian Church was the venue for the wedding of Barbara and Ronald Gottsche. Barbara, nee Dennert, is a member of the Cowes branch staff.



ABOVE: Mr. and Mrs. Brian Donnelly leave St. Bede's, North Balwyn, following their marriage. Mrs. Donnelly, the former Lorel Moore, works in the General Manager's department, and her bridesmaids included Suzanne Mykytiush, also of the General Manager's department, and Susan Hannan, of Kew East branch.



ABOVE: Mr. and Mrs. Garry Weston taken as they leave St. Paul's, Westmeadows. Mrs. Weston is the former Susan Lever and a member of N'ddrie branch staff



ABOVE: Both Barry Thompson and his bride, the former Carmel Williams, were members of the Ballarat branch staff at the time of their wedding at St. Columba's Church, Ballarat. Carmel is now attached to Bayswater branch, and Barry is on the emergency staff.



LEFT: Ray Walker and his bride outside St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Colac, after their wedding. Ray is on the Swan Hill staff and his bride was formerly Susan Schrem.