

Statesman

STATE BANK STAFF MAGAZINE
February, 1978 — No. 85



3 Billion Dollar Smile



Mr. Harry Torrens, General Manager.

Our total balances have passed \$3 billion (three thousand million dollars). Of this amount, \$1,000 million has been gained in the past three years. The Bank, founded in 1842, took 126 years to accumulate its first \$1 billion and six years to double it. At June 30, 1977, our deposits represented almost half of Victoria's total savings bank balances. Commenting on the recent record growth of funds, General Manager Mr. Harry Torrens said:

"The rapid growth of the Bank's deposits reflects the continued support of the people of Victoria, and their appreciation of what the Bank can do for them.

"A factor in our recent savings growth has been the increasing inflow of savings from customers wishing to qualify for housing and personal loans. In the financial year ended June 30 last the Bank advanced more than \$590 million to homeseekers and personal borrowers".



We Approach City Skyline

Our massive head office project on Melbourne's Bourke/Elizabeth corner will soon become a central-city landmark, visible for miles. The wide-angle photo shows, at far left, the Nauru tower and the Collins Street twin-tower complex, and in left foreground the London Stores building.

The 'service core' of State Bank Centre (for elevator shafts, toilets, etc.) continues to climb. Meanwhile, work is being concentrated on the 3rd-storey-

level base platform (shown near bottom of photo) which will support the tower proper. Foundations of this platform or 'transfer truss' go right down to bedrock.

More than 200 workmen are now busy on the project, and target year for completion is still 1980. It is possible that Elizabeth Street branch and Elizabeth House departments will move into the Centre this time next year, to be followed by Hothlyn House and Century Building departments in late 1979.

Statesman

Managing Editor
TREVOR S. CRADDOCK
Editor
BILL PATEY
Associate Editor
Tom SEDUNARY
Designer/Writer
DARMA YEOMANS

FRONT COVER: Pam Wright of head office Business Promotions section could be described as our own Farrah Fawcett-Majors. Any other nominations for the title? Send photos to STATESMAN.

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STATESMAN is produced at two-monthly intervals by the Public Relations section of the State Bank.

STAFF COMMENTS on the magazine are invited. The editorial team welcomes suggestions for articles and pictures, nominations for Girl,

Man 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. 312 or 444).

New Cut-Price Tours Through Thomas Cook- State Bank Travel



There are now five offices of Thomas Cook-State Bank Travel operating in the city, suburbs and country, and two more are on the way — at Geelong and Clayton.

A wide range of overseas package tours is now open to the public (more than 30 in Europe alone), and the 'land content' of these tours is subject to a 10% discount for staff and their dependants, and annuitants (see details this page).

Ernie Simpson (left), manager of Thomas Cook-State Bank Travel's main office, McEwen's Annexe, city.

Examples of tours and discounted prices:

'ISLAND DESTINATION'

12 days in Fiji, with stays on three tropic island.

Discount price from Sydney: \$501 per person sharing twin rooms — plus \$105 per extra single room — plus \$215 per child (2 to 11) sharing parents' room.

'LONDON STAYAWHILE'

Summer: 14 nights in a Bloomsbury hotel with river cruises, theatre, restaurant and casino visits, city and park tours, etc.

London air fare plus \$287 per person.

'PACIFIC HARBOUR (FIJI)'

8 days at Beachcomber Hotel luxury resort with pools, golf, tennis, water-skiing, dancing.

Discount price from Sydney: From \$485 per person sharing twin accommodation, plus \$553 for extra single room, \$203 per child (2 to 11) or \$569 for single traveller.

'EUROPEAN ENCOUNTER'

23 days in England and Europe, comprising 3 nights in London, a 14-day coach tour of Europe and 6-day coach tour of Great Britain.

Discount price in addition to London air fare: \$605 per person (May 3 & 17 departures) \$620 per person (all other departures)

'FARESAVER ASIA'

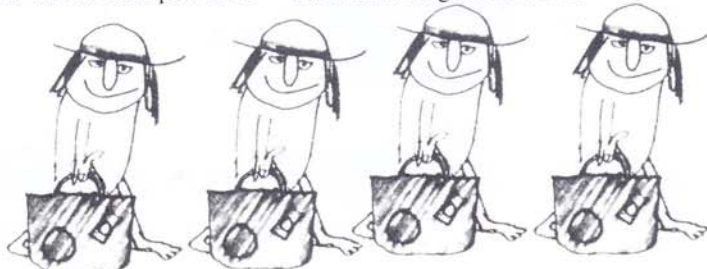
Phillipines 11 days, includes 3 days in Manila and suburbs, country tours to lakes, rapids, volcanoes, mineral springs.

Discount price from Melbourne: \$774 per person (sharing twin). Extra single room \$85.00.

'NEW ZEALAND'

11-day 'Wanderer' coach/launch tour of Auckland, Waitomo, Rotorua, Wanganui, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, Milford Sound, Queenstown.

Discount Price: NZ air fare plus \$378 — additional single room \$72.



Travel Benefits for Staff and Annuitants

WHO ARE ELIGIBLE?

1. SERVING STAFF MEMBERS and members of their IMMEDIATE families travelling with them. (Immediate family of staff member comprises: Husband, Wife, dependent children (not employed), Mother and/or Father.
2. ANNUITANTS and their wives or husbands.

HOW DO DISCOUNTS APPLY?

The standard discount of 10% does not apply to air or sea fares, but to some parts of certain packaged tour. It applies to accommodation charges, transport to and from arrival points, and excursions included in tours as outlined in the following Thomas Cook brochures:

- ISLANDS OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC (Fiji region)
- FARESAVER ASIA (Phillipines, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan)
- EUROPE MOTOR COACH TOURS (36 itineraries)
- LONDON (2, 7 or 14 nights)
- PACIFIC HARBOUR (Fiji resort)
- EUROPEAN ENCOUNTER (Three long tours).

Evidence of staff or annuitant status must be provided when making initial booking. (For staff, a note from their manager is sufficient, for annuitants, phone confirmation from head office Provident Fund staff).

All enquiries re tour details, discounts, brochures, etc. should be made directly to Thomas Cook-State Bank Travel at any of the following offices:

- McEWAN'S ANNEXE 387 Bourke St., Melbourne. (67 6481)
- FLINDERS STREET BRANCH 270 Flinders St., Melbourne. (63 8678)
- BORONIA BRANCH 226 Dorset Rd., Boronia. (762 6655)
- FOOTSCRAY BRANCH 177 Barkly St., Footscray. (689 5611)
- BALLARAT BRANCH Camp St., Ballarat. (053/31 4155).

40 years a cricketer

Steve the Wonder!

Assistant Chief Accountant Steve Mason, is at 53 the oldest cricketer playing regularly in the Eastern Suburbs Competition. He has been taking the field with the same team — Trinity Presbyterian, Camberwell — for 40 years. Mainly a batsman, he has played often as wicketkeeper. The next oldest player in the team is 24.

Steve has played nearly 400 games, and has scored more than 8000 runs. His opponents these days include the sons of many players he met in matches during his youthful years.

BELOW LEFT:

30 YEARS AGO Steve Mason was already a ten-year veteran of Trinity Presbyterian Camberwell cricket team.

BELOW RIGHT:

TODAY Steve is still, at 53, padding up for weekly games with the same team he first joined 40 years ago.

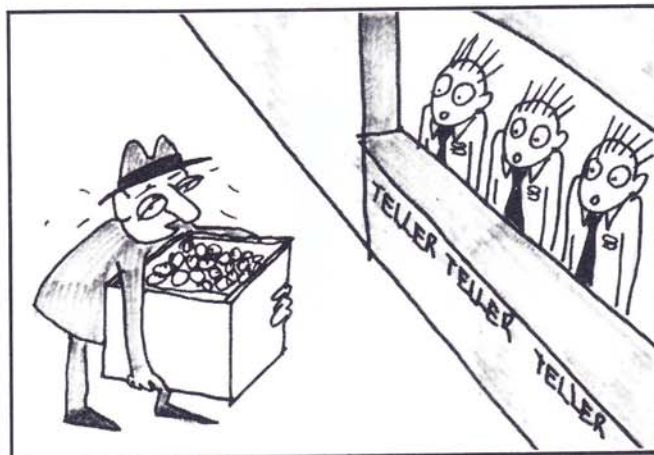


Grateful Dane

Danish economics and commerce student Arne Olsen, 24, says "goodbye and thank you" to managers and staff of the 10 head office departments he visited during his recent six months with the Bank.

Arne worked for three years in the second largest trading bank in Denmark and later went to university before being chosen as an exchange student.

He says he greatly enjoyed his Australian working holiday and gained valuable experience.



Monster Moneybox

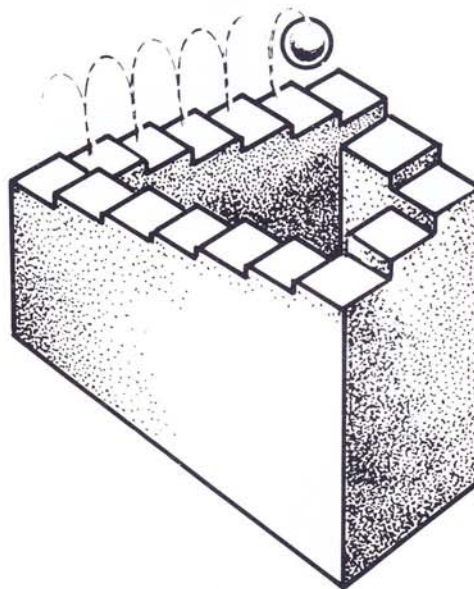
A moneybox two feet square! Can any branch beat this record? Ringwood North branch recently received TWO such monster moneyboxes, containing around 6,500 coins totalling more than \$500.

The boxes were actually World War 2 ammunition cases. They were carried into the branch, one at a time, by a middle-aged man who groaned and staggered under their weight.

They held cash collected by the depositor's recently deceased father, and the coins included about 5,000 small denominations (1c, 2c, 5c and 10c).

It took more than two hours for accountant Peter Hayne and teller Lance Morrison to count the mountain of metal. Anyone need any small change?

PERPETUAL MOTION MACHINE



● This could start a series. We invite Statesman readers to send in sketches of other perpetual motion machines.

The Incredible Shrinkers

Accountant Marty Byrne and his staff will spend 1978 making microfilm molehills out of mortgage loan mountains. Their objective: to save the Bank's time, money and storage space. They are reducing several large roomfuls of housing files into a few small cabinets of plastic cards.

Marty and his 12 miniaturisers (under supervision of Correspondence Department) are on the fifth floor of Elizabeth House, Elizabeth Street, where about 116,000 bulky blue cardboard files of housing loan documents are stored.

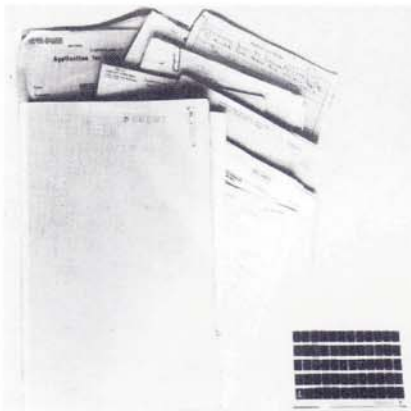
Several girls are working fulltime on micro-filming contents of the old files — averaging 40 sheets apiece.

Up to 60 foolscap pages can each be shrunk to less than stamp size to fit on a 6-inch by 4-inch plastic card. This card can be placed in a desktop machine like a large slide viewer. Each page of the file can be projected, in magnified form, on a lighted screen.

Large numbers of card viewers are being used at Mortgage Loans Department, Current Loans, and similar departments in Century Building, Swanston Street.

Whenever a file is required by staff in any of these departments (and they make more than 400 requests every week) a duplicate plastic card is supplied. This can be destroyed under supervision after inspection on a viewing machine. The original film is always retained by Home Loan Records. Under the old system, when a file went out, no duplicate remained.)

So, nowadays, several different departments can be consulting one file at the same time, and there is no risk of the original being lost.



Typical bulky old paper file containing 60 foolscap sheets is reduced to a series of tiny photos on a 6" x 4" plastic card — (right) which can be viewed in a magnifying machine.



Section of the old file room (or Press Room) which will be reduced to a few neat filing cabinets.



More than 2000 mortgage loan files, equivalent to some 80,000 sheets of paper, are being held here, in microfilm card form, by Elinor Lanyon.



Busily transferring old files to microfilm — at the rate of about 500 files a day: (from left) Chris Lucas, Maree Madden, Vicki Castellan and Carmen Vassallo.



One of the most modern microfilm machines in Australia, a reader copier capable of producing enlarged paper copies from small film images, is pictured with operator Karen Warner.

Forward with Footscray

Footscray branch has had three dramatic 'changes of face' in its 90-year history at the intersection of Barkly and Albert Streets.

The original Victorian building of 1889 was altered in 1913 and 1929 and completely reconstructed in 1958.

By 1975 the branch was suffering space shortages in all areas, so plans were developed for a new, \$300,000 buildings. This was completed in December last year, and the branch was officially opened last month.

A built-in feature is an attractive new Thomas Cook-State Bank Travel bureau, occupying the front corner of the building.



● 60 YEARS AGO the Footscray branch/residence was about 30 years old and trees in Albert Street reached to first floor level.



● CUSTOMER AREA in the new Barkly Street banking chamber is roomy and bright, with eight teller windows and two private interview rooms.



● 20 YEARS AGO the facade was modernised and the interior altered to convert the upstairs residence into rentable flats.



● WORLD-WIDE travel facilities are offered by the new Thomas Cook-State Bank bureau occupying the front corner position in Footscray branch.



● TODAY, the newest version of Footscray branch has staff amenities upstairs and a greatly enlarged ground floor banking chamber.



Pictured against a backdrop of photographic blow-ups prepared for the Bill Jones farewell function. (Left to Right) Jack Pretty (Deputy Chief Manager, Branch Banking), Murray Souter (Acting General Manager), Bill Jones, Trevor Craddock (Chief Manager, Marketing), Arnold Atkinson (Deputy General Manager, Finance), Graham Marks (District Manager).

Branch Boss Bill Retires

Popular Bill Jones, Chief Manager, Branch Banking retired on January 24 after almost half a century of State Bank service, culminating in several months in the chair of Acting Deputy General Manager (Administration). For 31 years — all the latter part of his career — Bill was involved with our branches. He mechanised them, inspected them and finally administered them — meanwhile winning the respect

and affection of thousands of officers at all levels of the service. When this issue of STATESMAN went to press, plans were well advanced for Bill's farewell dinner at Leonda Restaurant, to be chaired by Jack Pretty and attended by annuitants, executives, and managers and other-rankers from head office departments and a wide range of suburban and country branches, some as far afield as Warrnambool.

Tributes to Our Bill

Proposing the toast, Trevor Craddock, Chief Manager, Marketing — longest-serving (21 years) Executive in the Bank; said!

"Bill is the sort of person for whom one could not help but develop a deep feeling".

"Officers who worked closely with him all agree that he engendered in them an affection beyond the usual boss-staff relationships".

"He was one of the pioneers of our Staff Training operation in 1956. Then he took charge of the very important and complex program of Branch Mechanisation, a task which called upon all his special qualities of intelligence, initiative, kindness, patience and good humor".

Then Graham Marks, District

Manager, longest-serving (15 years) member of Branch Banking (formerly Chief Inspector's) Department, said:

"Bill Jones made a lasting impression on all who came into contact with him".

"In recent times I visited country branches where Bill operated many years ago. Often the first question asked by staff was "AND HOW IS MR. JONES?"

"Bill always showed concern for staff members, and took a genuine interest in them".

"One of his abilities particularly admired in the branches was his systematic tracking down of con-men, forgers and other perpetrators of fraud. He was often able to plot the movements of criminals from one area to another".

State Secrets by the Teller



WHO was the mean-spirited accountant who waited until his expectant wife's labor pains were 3 minutes apart, then used them to time a boiled egg?

★

MASSAGE parlour operator called at Southland branch to arrange a deposit transfer to his account at a St. Kilda branch. When asked to pay a transfer fee of 80 cents he protested, and offered the young male teller a free pass to his parlour to cover the fee. Teller declined, but is still wondering what the pass would have entitled him to.

★

INVESTIGATIONS officer Les Shilton automatically orders Irish Stew when it's on the menu at HO staff cafeteria. Why? Because during his 22 years as a detective Les was always saying 'Irish Stew in the Name of the Law'.

★

WOULDN'T it be a change if bandits wearing masks made of bank notes held up staff at a balaclava factory?

★

WHO was the clerk down Rosebud way who waited for two hours at the end of a local pier for 'Mud Island Remittances' to arrive by floating bottle?

★

FOR SALE: Four-poster bed, 80 years old. Would suit antique lover.

★

RELIEVER accountant was dancing with a young woman at a Christmas party when his contact lenses fell out and dropped into the front of her blouse. He couldn't take his eyes off her all night.

★

RETIRING branch manager was allowed to take his own desk home with him, because this was cheaper than having him clean it out in bank time.

★

BRANCH report on municipal loan application said 'The new road will pass through a corner of the old cemetery, provided permission is obtained from the various bodies concerned.'



Around the Branches

by Tom Sedunary



Warragul Pride of Poowong

Staffer Annette Walker was judged Belle of the ball which celebrated the fortieth anniversary of Poowong Hall. Annette is closely involved with Warragul Pony Club. As a rider, she has won several major prizes, and as treasurer she has assisted the Club to provide recreation for handicapped kiddies and adults.



Sunbury Photos Exposed

Much customer interest was generated by a display in the branch of outstanding photographs taken by members of Sunbury Camera Club. Manager Arthur George, himself a keen amateur cameraman, was pictured with teller Maureen Phillips — and this photo was taken by accountant Albert Achterberg of Woodend branch.



Thornbury West Made 'em Flush!

A depositor who was fined on-the-spot for a traffic violation was so indignant that he wrote the cheque for his fine on a sheet of toilet paper. The cheque was duly passed through the system, according to branch manager Reg. Hayes.

Ivanhoe

Poem Puzzle

The infinite years that man has watched the sky
Lifting his eyes to search the mystery
Of this immensity of space
That stirs him from his narrow human place!

A God
Angels from clouds arising, (Seraphim)
The supersonic cry of seraphim
A stretching of the spirit

Clouds coming down like curtains to console
To dim his vision, make him feel secure
Too much, too great the pressure of this height
Naked and glittering, in eyes that are unsure
So that he turns at nightfall
Gladly away from this world, no

And to the gentler night
Raises his sight into the opening field
Of moon and planets, milky swathes of light,
Released from day what splendours are revealed.

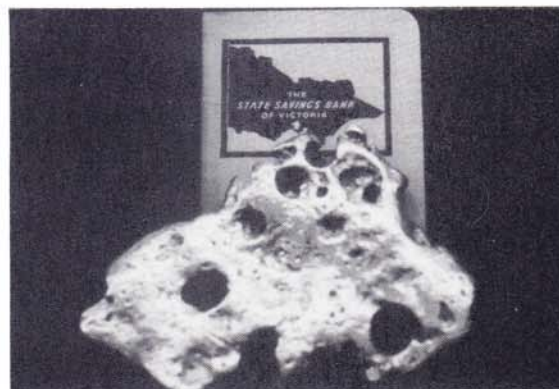
What did it hold for him?
The earth was his — the sea, his dangerous mate
He wooed and used and thought to understand
But in the sky his ladder from the land
A challenge to the mind, transcendent aim
The reaching of a veil to membrane

10-10-10 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535		FILE NO. _____ THIS MEMORANDUM FOR: DIRECTOR, FBI DATE: 10-10-10	
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Branch staff members were surprised to find that their stocks of Form 1108 (Deposit Stock Change of Name) carried on the reverse side a printed poem titled 'Flight'. Manager Don Howat, who sent it to STATESMAN, offered the following comment: "One could be excused for being surprised when the prosaic form 1108 was turned over to reveal an imaginative ode to Flight. Are we hiding our latent literary talent, or is this the new trendy image of the hitherto pragmatic State Bank?"

Wedderburn

Gold Australia



Retiring Chief Manager, Branch Banking, Bill Jones was sorting out his files when he found this photo of a gold nugget which turned up at Wedderburn in 1969. It was about twice the size of a passbook and bore a startling resemblance to the Australian continent. The nugget was melted down and realised about \$4000. Today, it would be worth more than \$16,000 for its gold content.

Geelong

Julie is a Badminton Bombshell!



Clerk Julie McDonald, 16, is among Australia's top eight female badminton players. Her 1977 performances won her three national and five Victorian titles, and the local Lions voted her 'most promising sportswoman in Geelong'.

Julie's successes included under-17 and under-19 singles and doubles championships, and she carried off the Open A-Grade Country Week singles title against some players almost twice her age. Her ambition: to represent Australia in overseas badminton competition.



Malvern North

Back Home

The branch recently moved back to its old site at 271 Glenferrie Road, following a year at a nearby temporary premises. During that period the old branch building was transformed, at a cost of more than \$193,000, into a spacious, four-teller office, carpeted and air-conditioned for all-year comfort. Bronze-finish aluminium sheeting decorates the branch's lofty ceiling and its outside walls.

Branch Staff of the month

Ouyen

THE BUSINESS BUILDERS

Ouyen (Aboriginal name meaning 'Ghost Waterhole') is claimed to be the hottest town in Victoria, and our local branch staff of three are 'hot stuff' when it comes to building business. Eighteen months ago, manager John Moore teller Stephen O'Connor and clerk Rhonda Poole set themselves the target of pushing Deposit Stock balances up to \$1 million. This figure was attained late last year and is now heading for \$1½ million. Children's accounts are helping to swell Stock totals, as are surplus funds from accounts

operated by depositors who also have accounts at other local banks. Local agents at Walpeup and Underbool also solicit Stock contributions.

Bankcard sign-ups are constantly sought from existing depositors. Local and outlying schools are visited regularly, and a display board is available at the branch for all schools to use for displaying pupils' work and social announcements, and for other local groups.

Three Hot Operators



Manager John Moore (centre) is treasurer of two local clubs (hospital and ambulance) secretary of the bowling club, member of the Lions' Club, and a volunteer ambulance driver. He is interested in all sports, and caravanning. Married with six children.

Teller Stephen O'Connor plays football, basketball, tennis and snooker, and recently ran 51 miles in a 24-hour day relay race which raised \$7,500 for a local recreation area.

Clerk Rhonda Poole, who joined the Bank last August commutes 26 miles each way between her home and the branch. Her sports activities are tennis, netball, golf and badminton.

How to say 'Sorry'

The Bureau of Personal Relationships, a body financed, unknowingly perhaps, by American taxpayers has published a pamphlet on how to write apologetic letters. The data on which the pamphlet was based was obtained trickily. Selected university students were sent out deliberately to commit some breach of good manners such as drinking too much at a party, making a pass at the hostess in the presence of her husband or spilling red wine or savoury dip on the carpet. At some time later they were instructed to write one of two sorts of letters: (A) one which apologised but offered some sort of excuse for their bad behaviour or (B) one which honestly admitted the fault but did not seek to excuse it. In addition, the controllers of the experiment decreed that some of the letters should be

delayed for a day or two and others should be accompanied by a peace offering of a single, long stemmed rose. By sneakily polling the hosts and hostesses on their opinion of the offenders' honesty, likeability and general social acceptability, the verdict of the effectiveness of the various apologies became clear. The most important thing, it seems, is to send the letter early, before the resentment of the offended person becomes fixed. The next best thing is to be unconditionally penitent and offer no excuses. But the clincher to any sort of letter is the peace offering — and flowers seem to have some special magic.

— Executive Digest

Girl & Guy of the month



Sylvie's Appetite for life

Sylvie Pecora, 19 year-old teller from Spotswood branch, has a voracious appetite . . . She eats a loaf of bread a day and loves hoeing into her mother's lasagne, spaghetti and ravioli.

Her surprisingly trim figure results from a fast pace of living. Since leaving school 18 months ago, Sylvie has kept 'on the go', and says she stops only when she is sick.

Every day after work, Sylvie and six of her close friends run and skip along the Williamstown beach. They attend a local gym regularly, and last winter trained with the Williamstown football team. Thursday through Sunday nights finds them dancing at one of their favourite discotheques, and on weekends Sylvie is often at a race-track with her boyfriend, racing-car driver Pat Lamanna. Virgoean Sylvie wants to travel, and with Mercury — the planet of speed guiding her — this is probably inevitable. She has the 'will to succeed, to serve and to persevere for good'.

Sylvie plans to 'settle down at 24 or 25, have four children and bludge'. She wants 'to marry rich' because she's a 'big spender', a 'big eater' and she is determined to drive her own Ferrari, Lamborghini or Maserati.



Captain Kevin's caps

Cricketer Kevin Lanigan is a man of many caps, and each represents important team selection at various levels during his 13-year career.

Kevin, 26, a District Manager's Clerk in Branch Banking Department, is in his second season as captain-coach of sub-district club Elsternwick. Largely due to his leadership and active recruiting (which included several State Bank staffers), the 1977/78 season has been the Club's brightest for more than a decade.

Following an impressive junior era in his hometown Maffra, all-rounder Kevin captained the nearby Tinambra club and was selected in senior Country Week teams.

After Kevin moved to Melbourne he graduated to district cricket and played the 1974/75 season with Prahran. The following year, he took over at Elsternwick and he is now responsible for sixty junior and senior players.

Kevin's Sagittarian starscope reads: He is open, happy-go-lucky . . . naturally equipped for positions of authority in which his judgement can be sought by others.

PUZZLE CORNER

1. SQUEEZE: Three women each have two daughters and they all go into a restaurant for a meal. There are only seven vacant seats in the restaurant, but each has a seat to herself. How did they manage it?
2. SUMMING UP: Write seven 4's so that they add up to 100
3. SOXPRICE: Half a dozen dozen dollars buys a dozen dozen pairs of socks. What is the price of one sock?

Answers on Page 15.

Real News

Mrs. Freda Froggett, aged 45, having produced two children currently aged 14 and 12, and figuring that she had retired from reproduction, donated the baby equipment in the attic to the Salvation Army. Four weeks later to the day, Mrs. Froggett awoke feeling oddly faint and queasy. Her trouble turned out to be gall bladder.

★

Angus Willoughby, city council candidate, was interviewed recently by the press. Asked if he believed that opinion polls were accurate, Mr. Willoughby replied that he had no reason to think otherwise. Queried further as to whether he thought he might pick up votes in the next six weeks, Mr. Willoughby replied that, in his opinion, he hadn't a ghost of a chance of being elected.

★

Mrs. Henry Wagner paraded before her husband in the houndstooth checked slack suit she had purchased that day. "Tell me the truth, Henry," she said, "does it make me look fat?"

"Well, dear, since you mention it," said Mr. Wagner, "it does make you a bit thick through the middle."

"Thank you, Henry," said Mrs. Wagner. "I appreciate your frankness, and I'll return it to the shop first thing tomorrow."

★

Eleanor Watts, aged 9, invited five of her school friends to a party on Friday night at her house. At 2 a.m., at the height of the festivities when the young ladies were squirting Cokes at each other and throwing shoes out the windows as the strains of rock and roll blared through the house, Eleanor's father knocked on her bedroom door. "Now listen, you kids," he called, "turn out the lights, turn off the stereo and go to sleep. I don't want to hear another sound out of you tonight." Within five minutes, the house was dark and quiet and all the girls were sound asleep.



'This is our new alarm button. Press it once for a bandit raid, twice for the arrival of the District Manager.'

Tale of a Comet

The General Manager of a large bank (not ours) sent the following memo to his assistant, to be passed down through the organisation:

"On Friday evening at approximately 5.00 p.m. Halley's Comet will be visible in this State, an event which occurs only once every 75 years. Please have the staff assemble in the street outside their office premises, in safety helmets, and I will explain this rare phenomenon to them. In case of rain we will not be able to see anything, so assemble the employees in the lunch room a week later and I will arrange for them to see a film of the comet."

Assistant General Manager to Staff Superintendent:

"By order of the General Manager, on Friday at 5.00 p.m. Halley's Comet will appear above our premises. If it rains please assemble the staff in safety helmets and proceed to the lunch room where this rare phenomenon will take place, something which occurs only every 75 years."

Staff Superintendent to District Manager:

"By order of the General Manager in safety helmet at 5.00 p.m. on Friday the phenomenal Halley's Comet will appear in the lunch room. In case of rain in the area outside the office the General Manager will give another order, something which occurs once every 75 years."

District Manager to Branch Manager:

"On Friday at 5.00 p.m. the General Manager will appear in the lunch room with Halley's Comet, something which happens every 75 years if it rains. The General Manager will order the Comet into the area outside the office."

Branch Manager to Senior Accountant:

"When it rains on Friday at 5.00 p.m. the phenomenal 75-year-old Bill Halley accompanied by the General Manager, will drive his Comet from the area outside the office into the lunch room."

Accountant to branch staff:

"Bill Hailey and his Comets will appear in a film presented by our 75-year-old General Manager in the lunch room on Friday, provided there is no rain."

Any Room for a Paying Boarder?

Who can provide board and lodging for State Bank officers posted to Melbourne from country areas?

These young men and women can afford to pay from \$30 to \$40 per week for dinner, bed and breakfast — sharing accommodation if necessary.

Anyone interested in accommodating a boarder should contact NEIL WESTAWAY, Staff Counsellor, at Hothlyn House, 233 Collins Street, (Phone 60 0531 (521)).



Staff Counsellor Neil Westaway is looking for landlords.

CAR-TALK

— by TS



• **VW's LATEST.** Now that Volkswagen (Australia) has moved from local assembly to fully importing its vehicles, buyers will enjoy latest European models which benefit from 'in-production' improvements. Newest addition to Passat range is the two-door model with handy hatchback tail. This year we could also see the four-door hatchback, and the Golf range with an optional diesel engine.

• **GOLF OR ACCORD?** Many prospective buyers of sporty, medium weight cars will no doubt find themselves trying to decide between a Honda Accord and a VW Golf — probably the best cars available under \$7000 in terms of performance, economy, equipment and versatility. In addition both have superb finish. CARTALK would welcome brief impressions from staffers who have bought either car (or any current make for that matter), and reasons why they chose the car they did. This data might prove helpful to other staffers facing similar dilemmas.

• **HARD LUCK** story of the month comes from a friend who, one Friday, bought a new Peugeot 504 and transferred the insurance from a four-year-old Volvo 144. On Saturday his wife 'wrote off' the uninsured Volvo. Fortunately she emerged unscathed from the crumpled Swede.

• **GOLDEN OLDIES OF THE MONTH:** Bankcard promotion officer Geoff May (left) and Clayton branch accountant Kel Hazlett own almost identical Mk. VI Bentley sedans. Built three months apart in 1951, both cars are finished in grey paintwork with interiors trimmed in blue leather. They boast 4.25 litre six cylinder motors coupled to four speed gearboxes with change levers mounted on the right hand sides of steering columns. Though maintenance costs are high, the Bentleys are extremely reliable. Geoff reports that some 5200 of the make were produced between 1946 and 1952, and in 1951 they sold in Australia for £4800. In those days you could buy a Holden for around £700.



LAZIMETRIC EXERCISES

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Run up bills. | 6. Sidestep responsibilities. |
| 2. Run down friends. | 7. Pass the buck. |
| 3. Jump to conclusions. | 8. Push your luck. |
| 4. Charge accounts. | 9. Throw kisses. |
| 5. Skip paying the rent. | 10. Bend your elbow. |

Teller Talk by Sue



WOMEN overheard in queue: "Did you wake up grumpy this morning?" "No, I decided to let him sleep in."

★

CREDIT cards are really just plastic overdrafts.

★

THE most important part of the word CONTACT is TACT.

★

REMEMBER the good old days when a dollar was worth 70 cents?

★

NOTHING seems to go right on some days. At lunchtime yesterday I felt depressed so decided to ring Dial-a-Prayer for some spiritual comfort. They hung up on me.

★

GRUMPY teller's philosophy: "I start the day's work with a smile, and get it over with."

★

BOSS: "Why am I always catching you loafing?" Junior: "Because you walk very quietly, sir."

★

NOTHING is so embarrassing as watching your boss do something you told him could not be done.

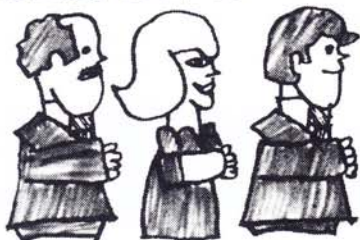
★

RELIEVING accountant complains about his two unhappy marriages. His first wife left him and his second wife refuses to leave.

★

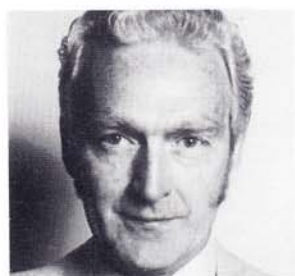
BRANCH girl who has been plagued by obscene phone calls has applied for an unlusted number.

Meet our new Managers



B. LAWRENCE, Relieving Staff

Shutterbug Brian processes his own photographs which are mostly child portraits or close-up shots. He is married with two young children and his home is surrounded by five acres of bush which requires constant maintenance. Brian's other interests include 10-pin bowling and collecting records.



C.L. CAULKETT, Wattletree Road, Malvern East

Chris, who is married with two children, belongs to a banking family. His wife is former bank employee Valma Palmer, and his brother Ken and daughter Marie both work for the Bank. Chris enjoys weekly 'get-togethers' with fellow bankers interested in table-tennis and socialising. His other hobbies include chess and carpentry.



F.J. MORTON, Relieving Staff

Bachelor John is keen on fast sports cars. He attends Victorian and interstate motor racing meetings and is a member of the Calder Motor Racing Club and the Ferrari Club. His other sporting interests include squash and golf, and he keeps fit by jogging every day.



H. JANI, Advances Manager, Personal Loans

Hermann, who is married with four children aged 12 months to nine years, is a keen Footscray Football Club supporter. During the winter months he regularly attends matches with his eldest son. His other spare time interests include fishing and 'putting brush to canvas'.



J.A.D. WALTERS, Relieving Staff

John takes a keen interest in antique furniture. He recently rebuilt an antique radio, and plans to attend a French polishing class this year. Other activities include tennis, astronomy and music. John is married with two sons.



J.C.S. YOUNG, Relieving Staff

Stewart's main sporting interests are swimming and football. He competes with the Waverley Amateur Swimming Club, and is a member of Hawthorn Football and Social Club, and the V.F.L. Honorary Time-keepers' Association. He is married with two teenage daughters.



A.W. SIMS, Relieving Staff

Bill says it was a 'great experience' being host parent to an American Field Service student who recently returned to the U.S.A. after one year with the Sims Family. Bill and his wife have a 17 year-old daughter and a 14 year-old son. Bill has been a leader at his local church youth club for the past 20 years.



P. JENKINSON, Research Officer, Research Department

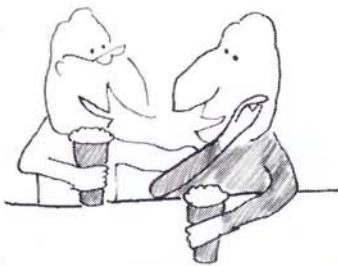
Since Peter graduated from Monash University in 1976 as a Bachelor of Economics (Hons.), he has worked in Research Department studying trends in real estate and property, and the economy in general. Bachelor Peter plays ten-pin bowls in his sparetime, and he is a hi-fi enthusiast.

SIGNS OF AGE

You're getting old when:

- There's more hair on your comb than on your head.
- You get up at night to go to the bathroom, instead of the fridge.
- You need glasses to look for your glasses.
- The little old lady you help across the street is your wife.
- Most days seem like re-runs.
- You have to be reminded to renew your subscription to *Playboy*.

On the Grapevine



Retired Officers' Annual 'Get-together'

More than 200 retired officers and their wives, and several widows of deceased officers gathered at the Lower Melbourne Town Hall for their traditional Christmas re-union. The get-together marked the 115th re-union of the State Bank Retired Officers' Club.

Official guests at the function, who were welcomed by Club President Neil Kelly, were the Bank's Acting General Manager, Mr. Murray Souter and his wife, and the

State Bank Division, A.B.O.A. President Mr. Robert Lowe.

A highlight of the re-union was an announcement by the Club Treasurer Miss Dora Kent, that members had donated \$428 to the Underprivileged Children's Appeal.

The function was also notable for the wonderful spirit of good fellowship which was generated throughout the afternoon.

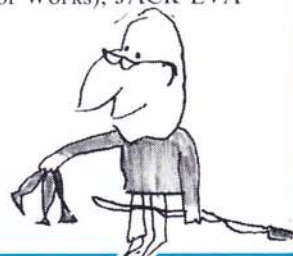
ACTIVITIES FOR ANNUITANTS

This STATESMAN service feature offers 36 suggested sparetime exercises, interests and hobbies for those who are retired, and those who would like to be:

1. Do a deep knee bend every morning
2. Straighten up for lunch
3. Bone up on the waltz
4. Tweet-along with your canary
5. Well, buy a canary
6. Gargle thrice daily with Ring-a-ding pills
7. Solicit sealed bids for your skate board
8. Take brisk trots with your turtle
9. Learn how to cheat at draughts
10. Buy a Turtle!
11. Send friendly little items to your doctor
12. Move test pattern closer to favourite sofa
13. Practice dialling all known emergency numbers
14. Grumble on the quarter hour
15. Take up licorice
16. Take up bowling
17. Give up bowling
18. Learn how to take a bath in chicken soup
19. Raise cows for fun and profit
20. Buy flock of cows and at least one of the other things
21. Wheeze like clockwork
22. Get estimates on ankle length bib
23. Renounce existentialism
24. Tell the world of your major accomplishments
25. Reflect on how easily that can be packaged into a minute and three yawns
26. Blaze a trail to the bathroom
27. Paint exercycle same colour as wall
28. Faint a lot
29. Chalk up your cane
30. Mail your ping pong bat to a vacant lot in a plain envelope
31. During morning knee bend, milk cows
32. Count your nostrils
33. Visit the floral clock
34. Read your mattress warranty
35. Tidy up your sock drawer
36. Learn how to drain swamps for fun and profit.

Gone Fishin'

The following February-March retirements have been reported to STATESMAN: BILL JONES (Branch Banking); ALAN LIVINGSTONE (Ringwood); JACK EMERY (Lalor); BILL DUNKLEY (Clerk of Works); JACK EVA (Essendon North); KEN GATES (Mordialloc)



Longest Branch Service?

Following claims in STATESMAN last year (April and June issues) of record terms of branch service by John Dyer (24 years in two branches) and Brian Noltenius (27 years, one branch) we have been informed that ALAN MILES who retired in 1974 served a total of 30 years in one branch (Bendigo) and 40 years in two branches (Bendigo and Eaglehawk). (Our informant: John Foley, manager, Mirboo North).

PUZZLE ANSWERS

1. SQUEEZE: One of the women is a grandmother, and her two daughters each have two daughters of their own. So there are only seven people in all.
2. SUMMING UP: 44 & 44 & 4 & 4 & 4.
3. SOXPRICE: 25c.

State Bank Sports Directory

<u>SPORT</u>	<u>COMPETITION</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
CRICKET	Mercantile-Caulfield Cricket Association - Turf Competition	From early October to late March	Ken Batrouney, 45 Swanston Street Branch, Phone: 63 8849
FOOTBALL	Victorian Amateur Football Association	April to early September	Steve Roberts, Branch Mechanization Dept Phone: 602 2877
LAWN BOWLS	Inter-Bank Competition	November to March. Every second Wednesday afternoon	Ralph Rowan, Moorabbin East Branch, Phone: 579 4066
	Inter-Club Competitions	November to March - once a fortnight (evenings)	
GIRLS' NETBALL	Victorian Women's Netball Association	February to July.. & August to late November	Lyn Hulett, Kew Branch, Phone: 86 6875
GIRLS' INTERNATIONAL RULES BASKETBALL	Victorian Business Houses Basketball Association (night competition)	All Year	Graeme Finn, Personnel Dept., Head Office Ext. 201
MENS' INTERNATIONAL RULES BASKETBALL	Victorian Business Houses Basketball Association (night competition)	All Year	
GOLF	Victorian Inter-Bank Golf Association - also internal competitions	April & October Inter-Bank pennant matches .. Every two months: social day for State Bank staff	Lindsay Moore, Footscray, Barkly Street, Phone: 68 2200
SWIMMING	Victorian Combined Banks Swimming Association	February: Annual V.C.B.S.A. Swimming Carnival	Rob Bowen, South Yarra Branch, Phone: 26 2289
TABLE TENNIS	Victorian Table Tennis Association	All Year	David Jamieson, Relieving Staff, Phone: 63 4826
ROWING (Banks Rowing Club)	Victorian Rowing Association	September to April	Gary Earls, Overseas Department, Head Office, Ext. 200.