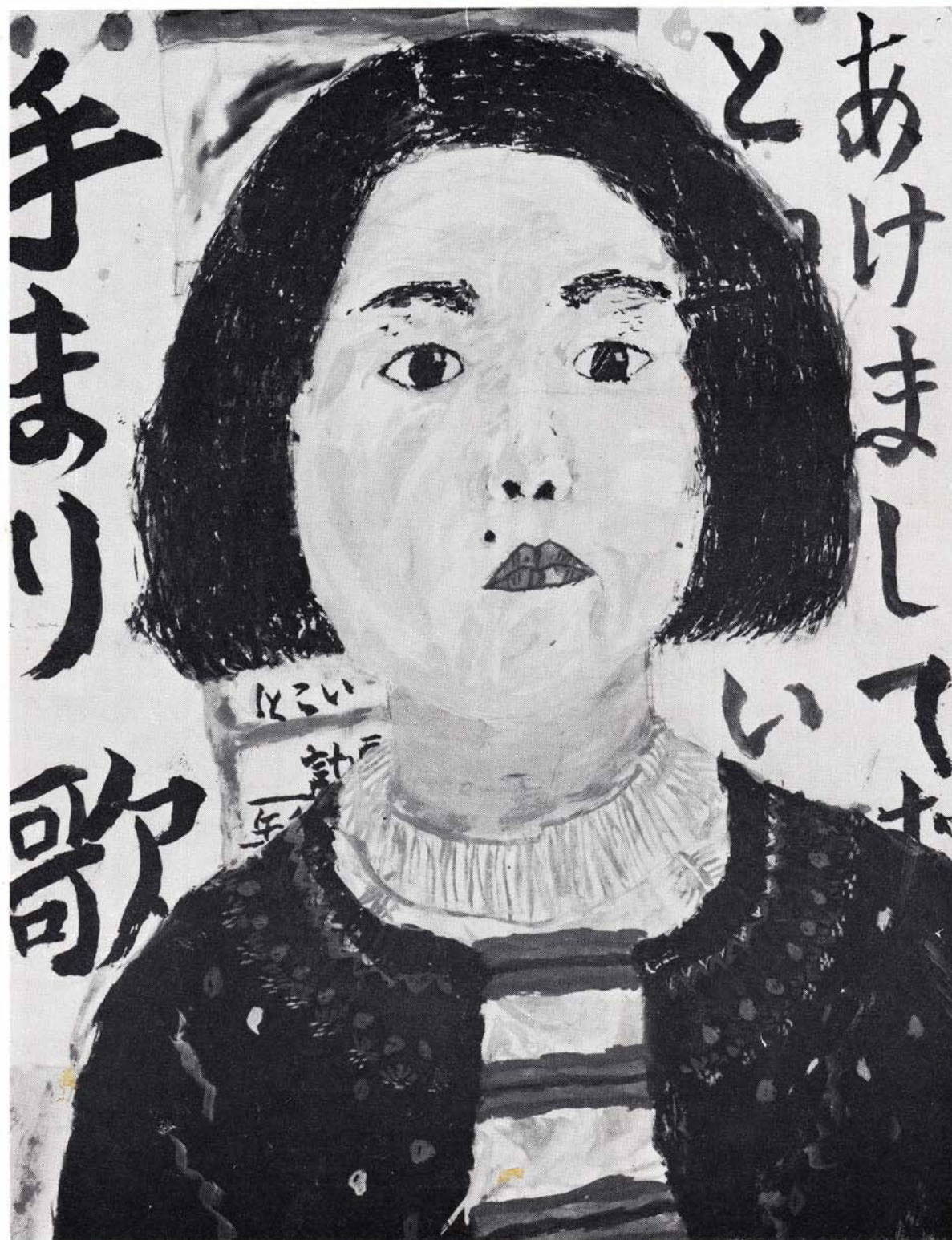


Statesman

JUNE, 1971 No. 45

THE STAFF MAGAZINE OF THE STATE SAVINGS BANK OF VICTORIA

THE
STATE SAVINGS BANK
OF VICTORIA



Statesman

Managing Editor
TREVOR S. CRADDOCK

Editor
BILL PATEY

Associate Editor
JOAN FREEMAN

FRONT COVER

SELF PORTRAIT by 10-year-old Osaka schoolgirl Toshiko Yamasaki was a Gold Award winner in the Japanese Child Art show displayed in head office during April.

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 likely to interest fellow officers.



Brews and Views JAPANESE STYLE

A fascinating display of Japanese child art, staged during April and early May in our Elizabeth Street banking chamber, was launched with traditional Japanese tea-making ceremonies.

The art show, assembled from more than 100 watercolor and pastel pictures by Japanese primary schoolchildren, was presented in association with Qantas.

Cr. Ted Best, Lord Mayor of Melbourne, performed the official opening ceremony, following introductory speeches by our Chairman of Commissioners, Professor Donald Cochrane and the Japanese Consul, Mr. Komuro.

Then came the tea-making ritual (CHA-NO-YU) conducted by members of the visiting Urasenke School in the presence of S.S.B. Commissioners and top executives and a large crowd of the general public.

While preparing the bowls of fragrant green tea, the Japanese girls explained the philosophy of the ceremony. They emphasised that, in the ancient Japanese tradition, tea is more than a refined form of taking refreshment; it is the stepping stone to attaining the four virtues of harmony, respect, purity and tranquillity.

The official proceedings closed with a buffet lunch in the Board Room, where the Japanese visitors ended their meal in the traditional Australian way — with black coffee.



CR. TED BEST, Lord Mayor of Melbourne, opening our Japanese Child Art Display.



SOCCER PLAYERS was one of the bold, colorful paintings in our Elizabeth Street display.

DISPLAY DEPARTMENT IS BRANCHING OUT

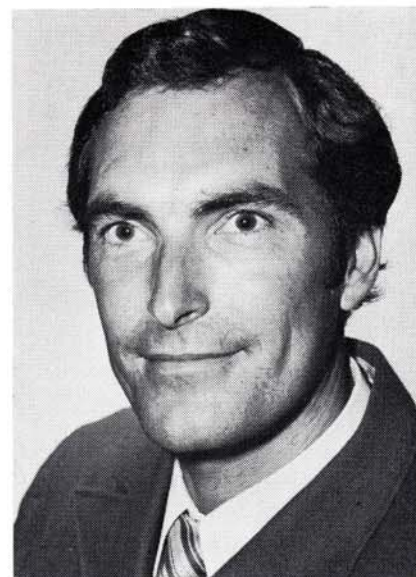
Every year some 20 spectacular and diverse displays are staged in our Elizabeth Street banking chamber. These free shows, which attract thousands of visitors, are devised and set up by our head office Display staff.

Additionally, small displays based on S.S.B. advertising themes are placed periodically in selected, suitable branches. And some branches stage special displays on non-bank themes.

New Display Officer Shaun Thorburn and his team are now geared up to extend the scope of special branch displays — on request from managers.

Special displays are usually based upon local community activities: for example, exhibits of material supplied by historical societies, horticultural clubs, art groups . . . or of handicrafts by local schoolchildren. They are designed specifically to attract local residents into the bank.

Branch managers who foresee opportunities for staging displays of this type should contact H.O. Display Officer Shaun Thorburn a few weeks in advance of the desired starting date.



SHAUN THORBURN, our new display officer operating from head office, has had long experience in devising and staging commercial displays for companies like Prestige and B.A.L.M. Paints, and has lectured extensively on interior design. His outside interests include Australian history, conservation, theatre, gardening and animals, and his recreations are weight-lifting, horse-riding and water sports. Shaun, who is 39 and single, lives on a small farm at South Cranbourne with 4 horses, a kangaroo, a dog and a cat.



LEFT: Backroom Boys of our display staff pictured at their Latrobe Street workshop with some of their paraphernalia. Left to right: John Keane, Clarrie Williams and Ivan Lowe. The fourth figure, Dummy Dora, is purely for decoration.

PUZZLE SPOT

1. MIXED MASTERS: Messrs. Arnold, Barrett and Campbell teach French, Spanish and Italian, not necessarily respectively. The Italian teacher, who is Barrett's best friend, is the youngest of the three. Campbell is older than the Spanish teacher. Who teaches what?

2. MISSING WORDS: Find the missing words in the following sentences. Each word consists of the same five letters in different positions. 'Critics often writers of detective stories whose sometimes lack conviction and appear The reputable may their plots, but the practice is not to be commended.'

ANSWERS on page 11.



A typical branch display organised and set up by our head office team in conjunction with the local manager.

COMPUTER PRINT-OUT



TESTING, TESTING

● Another step toward on-line accounting (whereby branch teller machines will be linked directly to head office computers) is shown above.

Fred Baker, an engineer from International Computers Ltd., operates special equipment in head office EDP Planning Department — to analyse test transmissions from suburban branches.

The transmissions were sent through PMG lines which ended at 12 outlet sockets (top left centre). From here the signals were received by a Line Terminator Unit (the open "box" on the table). Next, they travelled through a Data Distortion Analyser (above the Terminator). Finally they registered as green line patterns on an oscilloscope screen (top right).

Ten of the first 12 test transmissions proved satisfactory.

Next stage will be the testing on an on-line teller terminal machine, which will transmit and receive branch transaction data by PMG line link with our head office computers. This will be the first real trial of on-line operation.

● A massive new air-conditioning unit has been installed on head office roof to serve the 3rd floor computer com-

plex. Additional "climate control" is necessary to efficient operation of our new super-sensitive electronic equipment.

Computer rooms must conform to special conditions of temperature, humidity and cleanliness. Air that is too warm, dry or polluted by dust or smoke can cause a build-up of static electricity which creates interference. As a result, fictitious impulses are produced on magnetic tapes and discs — and these "baffle" the computers, causing them to stop.

The new air-conditioner, working in conjunction with other controls, should eliminate this problem for us.



THE IMPORTANT part of this picture is the carpet. It has chemically-treated electrostatic fibres to collect dust from the shoes of all who enter our computer room. Also, the EDP Operations area has a strict **NO SMOKING** rule.



Our Christmas Club advertisement has won a Certificate of Merit for TV and Cinema Commercials at Adelaide Film Festival.

We are delighted, because we have had to listen to criticism as well as praise of this advertisement. One thing is for certain: everybody noticed it.

Children, however, loved it, judging by the number of requests we have had as to where they could buy a replica of our Santa. Those used in the advertisement were not really mobile, but the product of the animator's skill. However, we might have small replicas available later in the year.

**Santa
wins
an
award**



GIRL OF THE MONTH

Carol Morris, 18, a clerk in Current Loans, is a hazel-eyed blonde with vital statistics of 35-24-36. Her ideal husband would be, she says, "gentle, sincere, passionate and at least 6ft. 2ins." Quite a tall order!

Carol has been a busy part-time model since graduating from a city mannequin school. She was the S.S.B. candidate in last year's Miss Combined Banks contest.

Her favorite things are "walking in the rain", "wild parties" and playing squash on Sundays! Her pet hates: "getting up in the morning" and "having no date on Saturday night". Carol has no steady boy friend. Her ambition is to model in England and Europe.

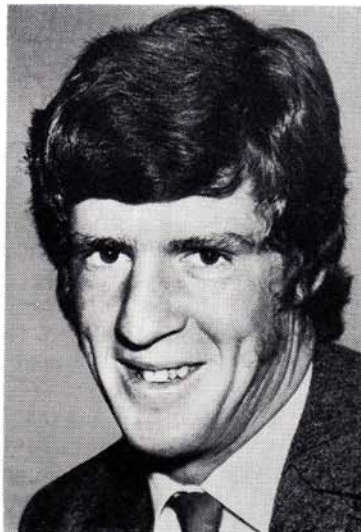
Her horoscope says: "The Taurean woman is ruled by Venus, the planet of love and beauty. She is extremely attractive and retains her bloom for many years. She thrives on flattery, craves affection and cannot bear to be taken for granted. She is one of the best hostesses in the Zodiac. Her most compatible partners would be Virgos or Capricorns."

MAN OF THE MONTH

Paul O'Brien, 20, of head office club section, is a strong, silent man, full of grit. No, not a dustman. A footballer. Paul transferred to Melbourne from Echuca branch last year so that he could train with Carlton. Now on the senior list of The Blues, he plays at full forward in the Reserves.

In 1969, Paul twice represented the Bendigo League in the Caltex Country Championships, and was runner-up for Echuca's best and fairest award. Paul's other sports include cricket, squash, basketball and baseball. He is going steady with a Prince Henry's nurse.

Paul's character by the stars: "The Sagittarian man is frequently above average height, with strong limbs and reddish or fair hair. He is the true optimist, smiling on the world in spite of troubles. His curiosity is insatiable. His aggression, when aroused, can be formidable. Outward toughness conceals a kind heart. His likely soul-mates are Leo and Aries subjects."



STATE SECRETS

by the teller

TYPIST eating her lunch in the sun on head office roof had her uniform spotted by a passing pigeon's visiting card. We liked her philosophical comment: 'Thank goodness elephants can't fly.'

OVERHEARD in the lift: 'So we went to this party and somebody suggested playing musical beds. That's the same as musical chairs, only it's harder to get a volunteer to play the piano.'

FIRST customer to enter McKinnon branch after its recent \$1,100 hold-up was a lady with a substantial deposit. As she handed over the cash she quipped: 'I suppose you want as much as you can get today.'

INSPECTOR called at bank branch (not one of ours) and found manager and staff grogging on in strong room. To give them a shock he rang the alarm bell—and in from next door came the publican with more beer.

AMERICAN tourist dropped travellers' cheques at wild life sanctuary. A kangaroo ate them and bounded off. American commented: 'Well, that's the first time any cheques of mine have bounced.'

CHARACTER explaining financial problems to branch manager: 'Actually, I'd like to borrow enough to get me completely out of debt.'

BRANCH clerk returned, highly impressed, from visit to the Arts Centre. But, he said, he couldn't understand why there were so many pictures displayed by the same painter—a bloke called Felton Bequest.

CAR emblazoned all over with the words Australia-Japan Goodwill Mission copped a parking ticket while parked near head office during our Japanese art opening ceremony.

TROUBLE with our business is that withdrawing savings is as easy as squeezing toothpaste from a tube—and depositing is as hard as putting the toothpaste back.

OPTIMIST: The 96-year-old depositor at a country branch who came in to lodge a 4-year Term Deposit.

INQUIRER phoned Elizabeth Street branch and repeatedly asked to be connected to **THE FUNERAL PARLOR**. Eventually he explained that he wanted the Deceased Accounts Section.

MISCELLANY

A supervisor's prayer

Dear Lord, help me to become the kind of supervisor my management would like me to be.

Give me the mysterious something which will enable me at all times satisfactorily to explain policies, rules, regulations and procedures to my workers even when they have never been explained to me.

Help me to teach and train the uninterested and dim-witted without ever losing my patience or my temper.

Give me that love for my fellow men which passeth all understanding so that I may lead the recalcitrant, obstinate, no-good worker into the paths of righteousness by my own example, and by soft persuading remonstrance, instead of busting him in the nose.

Instil into my inner being tranquillity and peace of mind that no longer will I wake from my restless sleep in the middle of the night, crying out: "What has the boss got that I haven't got and how did he get it?"

Teach me to smile if it kills me.

Make me a better leader of men by helping develop larger and greater qualities of understanding, tolerance, sympathy, wisdom, perspective, equanimity, mind-reading and second sight.

And when, dear Lord, Thou hast helped me to achieve the high pinnacle my management has prescribed for me and when I shall have become the paragon of all supervisory virtues in this mortal world — dear Lord, move over.

Amen.

(From "The Management Review", American Management Association.)

Hobbies can make history

The father of photography was an army officer; and of the electric motor a bookbinder's clerk. The inventor of the telegraph was a portrait painter; and of the loom a dressmaker. A farmer invented the typewriter; a poet the sewing machine; a cabinet-maker the cotton gin; and a coal miner the locomotive. The telephone was the

after-school work of a teacher of the deaf; the disc talking machine the night work of a clothing salesman; the wax cylinder phonograph of a lawyer's clerk; the typesetting machine a groceryman. A physician made the first pneumatic tyre because his little son was an invalid. The story of nearly every great invention has been the result of someone riding a hobby.

None of us may have the luck to develop a fortune-making invention in our leisure time, but having a consuming hobby may contribute greatly to our good fortune if we learn to use it as a period for resting our conscious mind and letting the sub-conscious bring out the best there is in us—of ideas, plans and solutions to problems.

JOHN K. WILLIAMS.

The art of management

Management is a professional enterprise. Visionaries are people who let their thoughts fly out into the wide blue yonder without attempting to harness them.

The manager's constructive imagination is governed by an orderly mind, viewing the possibilities, analyzing the difficulties and controlling the execution. He is both a dreamer to plot a new path and a drummer to get his people marching on it.

The manager must be an organizer. Good organization is the heart of a successful business operation. It means the distribution of duties or functions among sub-units and among individual employees in such a way as to operate at high efficiency, with production and service of the required volume and

quality at the required time, by the best method and at the lowest cost. It is the manager's duty to detect any discrepancy between a worker's potential productivity and performance, and to see that the gap is made smaller.

The manager who takes an inefficient branch or department and makes it run effectively experiences an emotional lift of no small magnitude.

It is obvious that if this could be done by the rule book there would be no special quality needed in a manager. Rules and directives can take you so far, but they do not provide the incentive to get things off the ground, the courage and stamina to lead the way through difficulties and around obstacles, or the competence to wrap up the project successfully.

(Royal Bank of Canada)

What is a customer?

- He is the most important person who will ever come into our bank — whether in person, by mail, or over the telephone.
- He is a welcome guest in our place of business . . . someone who should get the very best of service — always.
- He is someone who places his trust in us . . . someone who expects us to handle his finances expertly and in confidence.
- He is much more than a number on a cheque or deposit slip — he likes to be called by his name. Above all, he is a human being with feelings and emotions just like our own.
- He is the purpose of our work — our reason for doing what we do.
- A customer does us a favor every time he uses one of our services. We return the favor with good service, a smile and a sincere "Thank You".

"To my dear bank: I bequeath..."

An 87-year-old London spinster, Alice Wallis, left all she had to her only real friend — her bank.

When details of her will were recently announced, the bank in question, the National Westminster Group, with total assets of about \$9000 million, was puzzling over what to do with the bequest of \$37,000.

A deeply-touched bank official said: "In my experience this bequest is unique.

"It is very touching that in this modern world people can still regard their bank as a personal friend.

"One hears of doctors and clergymen fulfilling the role of friend and adviser, and it's nice to know that we, too, can be in this position."

KNOW YOUR BANK



The hive called H.O.C.S.

You can see from this picture, taken on a typical morning, that the staff of H.O.C.S. (Head Office Clearing Section) are the S.S.B.'s busiest bees.

Enter this "hive" at any time and you'll find it literally buzzing with machine and manual activity — sorting, checking, tabulating and recording — under the direction of manager Stuart Turnbull.

The H.O.C.S. team of 62 girls, two boys and three men complete a staggering total of about **half a million** clerical operations **daily**.

Their main job is to process S.S.B. cheques paid into other banks and returned to us through the Melbourne Clearing House. Up to 60,000 of these cheques arrive at H.O.C.S. daily.

Other major functions of the H.O.C.S. department include processing of all inter-branch debit and credit transactions (up to 25,000 daily). Every morning the H.O.C.S. staff open and sort some 500 bags of branch mail.

The day's work is handled by two shifts — one starting at 7.15 or 7.45 a.m., the other at 9 a.m. — and nothing is ever held over till the following day.

They do a vital job with great efficiency at H.O.C.S. — the hive where there are no drones.

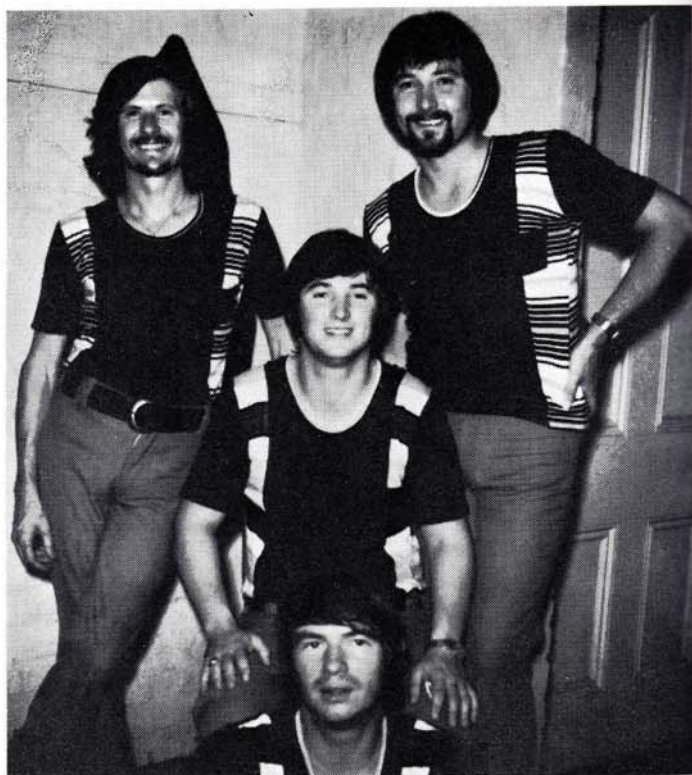
POP NOTES

4-PIECE 'JIGSAW'

RON GILBEE (top right) is a teller at Melbourne University sub-branch by day. Most nights he dispenses notes as rhythm guitarist with JIGSAW. This pop group was recently described by a leading Melbourne disc jockey as "the best in Victoria since The Mixtures went overseas".

JIGSAW has had several high-rating singles in the national top-40 charts — including "Yellow River" (35,000 copies sold to date), "Albert the Albatross" and "There's a Sign, Girl" — and is currently recording an LP for Fable label.

The group plays regularly on Friday and Saturday nights at the Dennis Hotel in Cheltenham. Leader is Jon Calderwood, lead guitar (centre). Denis Tucker (top left) is bass guitarist, and Eddie Chappell (front) plays drums.



'MOTIVATION' ON THE MOVE

TONY McFARLANE (second from right) is on the staff of Brunswick East Branch and is the main motivating force behind the upcoming MOTIVATION pop group. His fellow musicians are, from left, Charles Mayberry (rhythm guitar), Graham Bell (rhythm guitar and vocal), Peter Noss (bass guitar) and Mario Troha (drums).

The boys have worked at most Melbourne hotels and are currently playing on Friday and Saturday nights at Bundoora Hotel.

MOTIVATION'S favorite overseas group is Blood, Sweat and Tears. The MOTIVATION musical style is described by Tony McFarlane as "a bit of everything".

HOBBYIST

Collins of Custody is Cartophilist

When told that Herb Collins, head office Custody Department manager, was a cartophilist and a philuminist, our sympathetic response was: "We hope he's in the H.B.A."

Then we discovered that cartophily and philuminy are neither diseases nor disabilities. They are the hobby names for card collecting and matchbox-top collecting.

Herb, a spry and youthful-looking 61, has been an accumulator of interesting odds and ends for half a century. As a schoolboy he collected and classified birds' eggs. Then he progressed to cigarette cards — in the days when fags were 20 for a shilling. The cards, crude but colorful, depicted footballers, jockeys, animals and World War One battle scenes. Herb, then a non-smoker, managed to complete his card sets by passing all his duplicates to a pal working in a tobacconist shop. The young confederate substituted the duplicates for different cards out of packets held in stock.

During the 'twenties and 'thirties, Herb's collecting craze extended to matchbox tops, coins and stamps. He assembled some 400 match covers, many of them quaint and curious, from all over the world.

Early in World War Two, collector Collins acquired some rare (but happily worthless) Japanese currency printed in expectation of Australia becoming part of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperty Sphere.

In the late 'sixties he ventured into daffodil growing at Mt. Dandenong, producing more than 150,000 blooms.

Herb has had a long and active interest in photography, using movie, colorslide, snapshot and polaroid cameras.

His chief current recreation is indoor plant growing. He is cultivating a wide range of varieties in more than 150 pots and propagating boxes.

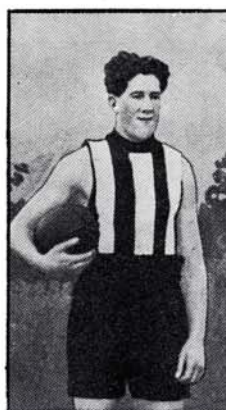
And Herb has found a new collecting interest: gemstones. This hobby will soon take him into lapidary haunts in East Gippsland.

Herb Collins is one man who has no fears of "rusting away", through boredom, in retirement.

HERB COLLINS, manager of HO Custody Department, has long been the private custodian of interesting collector's items.

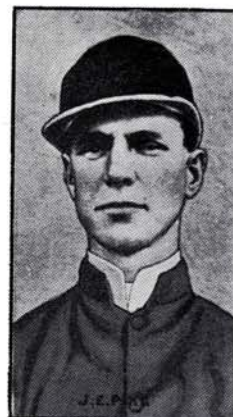


BRADMAN was one of a series of caricatures in a series issued with Turf cigarettes in the 1930s.



BILL TWOMEY, early Collingwood centre player, depicted in a card series issued with Magpie Cigarettes.

JIMMY PIKE, included in a Magpie Cigarettes jockey series of cards in the twenties, was later to become the rider of famed Phar Lap.



MATCHBOX tops from many countries are included in the Herb Collins philuminy collection.



A JAPANESE occupation-currency note, once intended for use in Australia.



YOUNG MAN IN A HURRY

Pictured above is John O'Brien (Business Promotions section) scorching through Shell Corner at Sandown at 100 mph in his Elfin-Climax racer.

John was competing in the sports car event at last February's International Meeting. He was placed fourth-outright, and first in the 1500 cc and under class.

The O'Brien racing career started in 1959, with a Cooper-Climax Formula 2 car. John then switched to Elfins.

His present steed is an 1100cc model, of lightweight

construction, with a 5-speed gearbox located on the rear axle.

Next year, subject to a suitable car being available locally or from Europe, John hopes to compete in Australian Formula 2 (open-wheeler) races.

His other active interest is politics. As an endorsed ALP candidate he contested, unsuccessfully, the seat of Maribyrnong in the 1966 Federal Election.

Currently he is using his speech-making ability to promote our School Bank services.



Veteran Scullers

Joe Dowling, 58-year-old District Inspector (left) and Don Dimsey, 45-year-old relieving manager (right) are gentlemen and scullers.

In this year's recent Head of the River race from Princes Bridge to Hawthorn, they rowed very creditably in the Veteran (over 30) Section. Their crews finished fourth and third respectively, recording times of under 38 minutes for the 5½-mile trip.

Joe and Don are the last active oarsmen of a once strong S.S.B. Rowing Club, formed 103 years ago. Joe still enjoys a social row on Sunday mornings. Don joins a group of contemporaries for return-trip rows of up to 17 miles on the Yarra on Saturday afternoons.



FACTS AND FIGURES

World's biggest savings bank

The private bank with the greatest deposits is the Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association, of San Francisco, U.S.A., with \$22,171,463,000 at December 31, 1969.

(The S.S.B. is the world's 11th largest savings bank, based on balances.)

Largest bank building

World record is held by the 813-foot-high Chase Manhattan Building in New York city. It has 64 storeys and contains the largest bank vault in the world, measuring 350 feet by 100 feet by eight feet and weighing 879 tons. Its six doors weigh up to 40 tons apiece, but each can be closed by the pressure of a forefinger.

Most valuable land

Currently the most expensive land in the world is that in the City of London. Prime freehold reached £300 per square foot in mid-1969. The 600-foot National Westminster Bank on a 2½-acre site off Bishopsgate will become the world's highest valued building. At rents of £10 per square foot on 500,000 net square feet and on 18 years' purchase it will next year be worth £90 million.

Largest and smallest notes

The largest paper money ever issued was the one kwan note of the Chinese Ming Dynasty issue of 1368, which measured 13 inches by nine inches. The smallest bank note ever issued was the five cent note of the Chekiang Provincial Bank (established 1908) in China. Its measurements were 1.13 inches by 2.16 inches.

Heaviest coins

The Swedish copper 10-daler coins of 1659 weighed up to 43½ lb. apiece. The most massive of primitive exchange tokens were the holed stone discs — diameter up to 12 feet — used by inhabitants of the Yap Islands in the western Pacific Ocean. A medium-size one was worth one Yapese wife or an 18-foot canoe.

Thriftiest Australians

The most thrifty people in Australia, based on savings bank balances, are Victorians. The "average" Victorian in December 1970 had \$721.11 in a savings bank account. The next most provident people (based on savings in recent years) are South Australians.

Then follow residents of N.S.W., Tasmania, Queensland, W.A., Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

Immigration

Some 2,600,000 new settlers have come to Australia in the 25 years since World War Two ended. The New Australians have migrated from more than 50 different countries. Our first large intake of post-war migrants was 115,000 in 1948-49.

More than half of our migrant population are of British origin. In 1969-70 financial year our migrant intake of 186,000 included 73,000 from the U.K., 26,000 from Yugoslavia, 11,000 from Greece and 10,500 from Italy. Next biggest nationality groups were Lebanese (4000) and Turkish (3800).

This 69-70 intake comprised 86,000 workers and 100,000 dependants. The workers comprised 34,000 skilled, 32,000 semi-skilled and 20,000 unskilled. The largest category of workers was that of skilled "craftsmen and production-process workers" in the metal, electrical and building industries.

English language

There are 298 million English-speaking people in the world today. The current English language consists of about 600,000 words. An educated adult uses about 2000 different words in an average day.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

1. MIXED MASTERS: Campbell teaches French. Barrett teaches Spanish. Arnold teaches Italian. Campbell cannot be his elder, the Spanish teacher, and is not the youngest (Italian) teacher. Therefore he must teach French. Barrett cannot be his own best friend, the Italian teacher. Nor can he be the French teacher. So he must teach Spanish. Therefore Arnold must teach Italian.

2. MISSING WORDS: Slate, tales, stale, least, steal.

BRANCH OF THE MONTH

St. Albans

Solid Savers

The Migrants who make up some 80% of the St. Albans population of about 30,000 are "fantastic savers", says our branch manager Neil McTaggart.

Many of these industrious newcomers from Malta, Yugoslavia, Greece and Germany work, with overtime, up to 16 hours a day. Some manage to pay off housing loans in 6 or 7 years.

Migrant savings have helped boost St. Albans balances to nearly \$3 million since the branch opened in 1958. Pass book accounts represent about \$2.8 million of this total. Balances have risen by almost \$1.2 million in the past 3 years, and this high transaction branch became a Grade 1 last year.

A high proportion of St. Albans depositors cannot speak or read English. Many take their own interpreters to the branch. Others seek and receive guidance on non-banking matters like dog licences and car registrations.

Manager Neil McTaggart joined St. Albans from Footscray South in 1965. Married with 3 children, he has lived in Essendon all his life, and formerly played cricket in the local church competition.



MEET THE STAFF — Names and interests, left to right, are
BACK ROW: Harold Lloyd, 28, accountant (cricket and football); Neville Roberts, 20, teller (cricket, golf), Con Tantsis, 22, teller and Macedonian interpreter (soccer); John Kennedy, 37, accountant (golf); Sue Bell (relieving staff); Jill Davidson, 17, junior (horse riding).

FRONT ROW: Yvonne de Gruyther, 16, junior (chess); Neil McTaggart, manager; "Wally" Teichmann, 17, clerk and German interpreter (horse riding); Sigrid Mintoff, 20, clerk (home interests); Chris Arnold, 25, teller (cricket, golf).

SORRY, GLENROY!

In our last issue we reported that Glenroy branch's balances had "topped \$200,000". The figure should have read \$4 million. The mistake was due to a technical error (the Editor goofed), and we apologise to Glenroy manager Les Smith and his team for so grossly understating their achievements. (The \$200,000 figure was actually Glenroy's increase in balances in the 6 months to January.)

AROUND THE BRANCHES

— with Joan Freeman



MITCHAM

Worth Preserving

The 41-year-old Mitcham branch has joined the growing list of our branches considered worthy of preservation by either a local or national historical organisation. Nunawading Historical Society has just issued a list of 16 buildings in the City it considers would be of interest in later years and should be preserved. Mitcham branch scored on two counts, as being of both historical and architectural interest.



CHELTENHAM

Knows his Onions

Onions bring no tears in the O'Brien household. In fact, they're the source of the proud smile worn by Dennis O'Brien, of Cheltenham branch, who won first prize for them at the Berwick Agricultural Show and followed it up with a second prize for his beetroot exhibit. Wife Helen (formerly Helen

Ellis, of Chelsea branch), who gave us the news of Dennis' success, said it was no mean effort, as most of the exhibitors were market gardeners and the O'Brien estate consists of two garden plots.

BRIGHT

Festival Winner

Bright branch took first prize for their window display in the competition held each year at the Bright Autumn Festival. The display, the work of manager Ian Wilson's wife, Margaret, had as its centrepiece an arrangement of enormous paper flowers in a stone jar which earned high praise from the judge. The festival brings thousands of visitors each year to this beautiful little town to admire and photograph its autumn tints.

DOVETON

Catch 'em Young

Doveton branch recently acquired a new customer as a result of this note

forwarded to them by the Principal of the Doveton North State School.

Dear Headmaster,

I wonder if George could have a bank form for his brother to join. He is only 18 months, but George could take it every week until he goes to school himself. Thanking you,

(signed)

A passbook with the initial school bank deposit was duly issued and one young Doveton citizen will commence school in a few years' time already a man of means.

NAGAMBIE

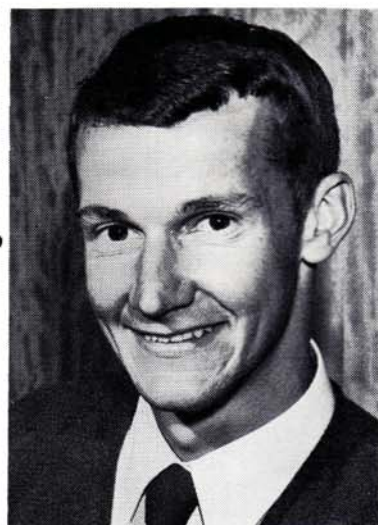
Salute to the Century

Nagambie recently celebrated its centenary with a half-holiday and a float parade, where the Governor, Sir Rohan Delacombe, took the salute. Our Nagambie manager, Peter Dunne, sent in this photo of the military band passing the official dais opposite the bank. An appropriate place to have it, incidentally, as the bank building itself is 110 years old. Before being taken over by the S.S.B. 50 years ago, it served as the local butcher's shop.



NAGAMBIE . . . centenary celebrations outside S.S.B.

ONE MAN'S HOLIDAY



● RAY STOREY . . . 680 miles by canoe.

Ray Storey, 22-year-old E.D.P. trainee programmer, recently spent his holidays paddling a 14ft. fibreglass two-man canoe down the Murray from Albury to Robinvale. He covered 680 miles in 12 days. Here are extracts from his diary:

SATURDAY, March 20: Started from Albury bridge at 1 pm with canoe heavily loaded. Weather cloudy but fine; river current fast. Plenty of snags, but most of them visible above water. New paddles caused my hands to blister after 1½ hours. I had not reached Howlong by 6.20 pm, so decided to strike camp. Set up tent, lit fire and cooked tucker. Suddenly surrounded by leaping frogs, so had to climb into sleeping bag to escape them.

SUNDAY: Rose at 5.30 am after good sleep — only one frog got into bed with me. Reached Corowa soon after midday. River continually splitting and rejoining, so it was difficult to stay in main stream. Sun very warm. Drank lots of water and had two swims. Lots of fish splashing about. Decided to change seating arrangements. Will now sit on my clothes and use sleeping bag for back rest. Hand blisters are bigger but have not burst. Made fairly good time in morning, slowed down in afternoon. Camped in swamp about 3 miles from Ovens Junction. Dined on rice and four cups of thick coffee.

MONDAY: Mozzies kept me awake most of last night. I followed the river through Lake Mulwala this morning. Covered about 20 miles by 10 am. Then carried canoe and gear for ¼-mile around weir. While ashore, bought milk, rolls and Sustagen. Stopped at 6.45 pm near Cobram bridge. Camped on beautiful sand beach with group of musical hippies. Nearby were several local town drunks drinking metho. Hippies offered me coffee and wine and I gave them some peanuts. We had a campfire sing-song with guitar and mouth-organ accompaniment until midnight. Rain started at 4 am. Hippies headed for public toilets to sleep under cover. I stayed put — and wet.

TUESDAY: Set off at 6.15 am. Reached Tocumwal by 10.45. Set up camp at nightfall near a picnic ground fireplace. Built big log fire. Was thankful I'd brought my bow-saw along to cut wood.

WEDNESDAY: Paddled off at 6.40 am in thick mist. Developed cramp in fingers and shoulders. Had to don jumper for warmth. Reached Barmah at 2.15 and bought a strawberry milkshake. Earlier, saw a tiger snake in the river — believe they are plentiful around here. Camped on sandbar where mozzies were bad. Water looked murky, so boiled it before drinking.

THURSDAY: Set off at 6.30 am and reached Echuca in hot sunshine at 8 am. River was ugly and narrow at this point, with very slow current. I rapidly weakened during the day. Camped about six miles from weir. As I bent down to light campfire my nose started to bleed profusely. Rested in sleeping bag for an hour before getting tucker.

FRIDAY: Rain woke me at 6 am. No appetite for breakfast, so took off at 6.30 and reached weir at 8 am. Walked with canoe and gear around weir, and this made me feel better. Ate some walnuts and sultanas. Rain stopped after lunch and I began to feel good. Covered many miles during the day and ate big tea.

SATURDAY: Started at 6.45 am and reached Koondrook at 10.15. Rang Mum and Dad. Bought milk, fish and chips, and canned food. Paddled non-stop for about eight hours. Reached Murrabit at 3.45. Lots of tiger snakes about . . . one tried to slither into canoe. My arms became badly sunburnt.

SUNDAY: Breakfasted on can of pineapple. Reached Swan Hill soon after midday, having covered 500 miles in eight days — a better result than expected. One of the tough things about this trip has been the intense feeling of aloneness — and the need for someone to bounce your thoughts off.

MONDAY: Up at five and away by 6.30. Passed through Nyah, Wood Wood and Tooleybuc. Saw poor old pelican near Piangil with part of wing missing. My whiskers are getting itchy. Maybe I should have packed a razor.

TUESDAY: Passing through Wakool Junction I saw four tortoises hung by their necks on a snag. Someone has a sick sense of humor — probably a fisherman who found the tortoises in his illegal nets. Reached Boundary Bend in hot, muggy weather.

WEDNESDAY: Was caught in a terrific thunderstorm at 12.45 pm. A friendly riverside farmer hailed me and gave me a hot lunch and shelter. Rainwater soaked most of my gear in the canoe and "hydrated" all my dehydrated food. I later dried out somewhat by a duckshooters' campfire. Camped at Tol Tol.

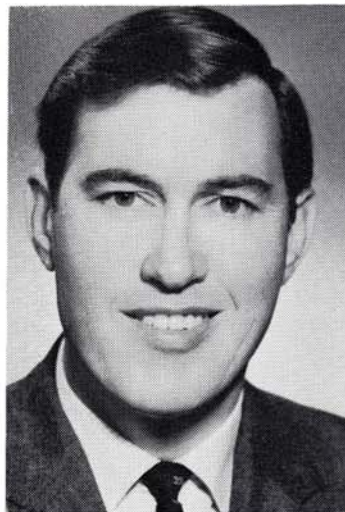
THURSDAY, April 1: Raindrops falling on my nylon tent all night were deafening. I scarcely slept. All my food was still waterlogged and inedible, so no breakfast. I finally got going at 7.45 am. After half an hour I realised I was paddling in slow motion. Wasn't able to increase pace, so paddled sluggishly into Robinvale. Left boat at caravan park, walked a mile to post office and phoned Mum and Dad to collect me. So that was it. I'd covered 680 miles in 12 days. Now it's back to home comforts and my desk at the bank.

MEET OUR NEW MANAGERS



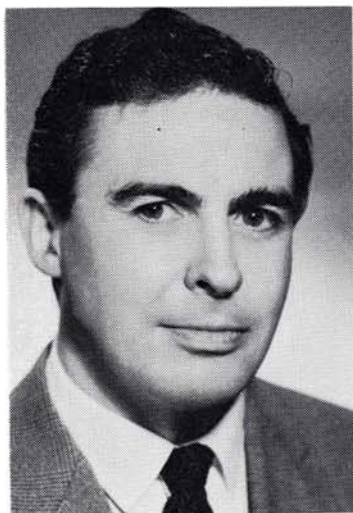
B. A. JONES,
Relieving Manager.

Brian has already had six years on the relieving staff and likes the life. A bachelor, he enjoys people and travelling, and finds the relieving staff gives him the opportunity to see the country. He's a keen snapper fisherman, plays an occasional game of squash and is an ardent Melbourne supporter.



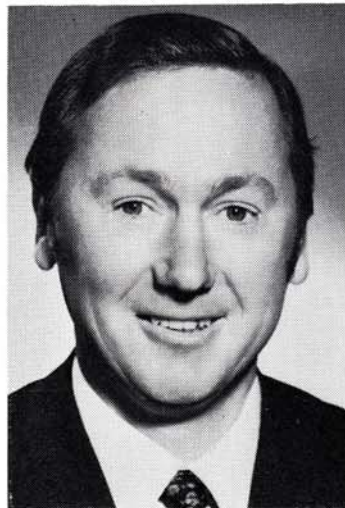
J. F. HARE,
Beechworth.

The highlight of John's trip to the last Commonwealth Games as manager/trainer of the Australian boxing team was his reunion with his family and being able to introduce them to his wife. It was 21 years to the day since John had left London to settle in Victoria. Both the Hares and their three children are looking forward to life in Beechworth.



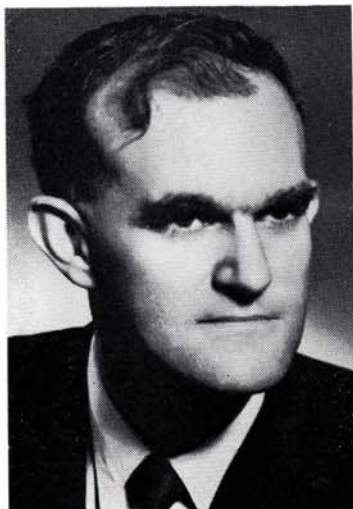
R. R. PUMPA,
Dunkeld.

Both Ron and his wife come from Portland, so are very happy to be going to a branch in the area. They and their two small children have just returned from a seven-month trip overseas, where they visited 21 countries. Oil painting and photography are Ron's hobbies, and he found plenty of inspiration for both on his trip.



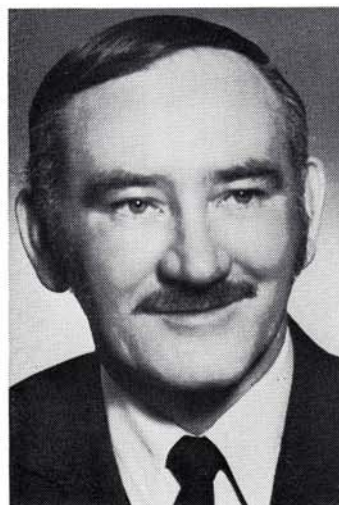
A. E. DONOHUE,
Whittlesea.

After having been connected with first-class cricket for a number of years, first with Richmond and then as coach of Caulfield for the past seven years, Alan has decided to hang up his bat. Intends to concentrate on his golf and fishing. The Donohues have a family of four. Wife, formerly Coral Miller, also used to work in the Bank.



J. S. CLARK,
Jeparit.

Working for their church and particularly the Sunday School, of which Stewart was the secretary, has occupied much of Stewart and his wife's spare time. He is a Richmond supporter and keeps himself fit playing badminton. Family consists of a 12-year-old son and two daughters, aged 10 and seven.



J. F. McCANN,
Relieving Manager.

Cricket and junior football play a large part in Jim's life. He plays cricket with Heatherhill, coaches an under 12 football team and is connected with the administrative side of different junior football teams on the Mornington Peninsula. He and his wife have two boys, aged 12 and seven.

NEWLYWEDS



Camberwell Methodist Church was the setting for the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bruton. Both Robert and his bride, nee Beverley Mitchell, are tellers in the bank, so looking after their cash should be no problem. Robert works at Riversdale branch and Beverley at Hawthorn.



Mrs. Ron McKenzie signs her new name for the first time in the vestry of St. Monica's, Moonee Ponds. Formerly Jackie McCorkell, she is on the staff of the Mortgage Loans Department.



Gregory Hoath and his new bride, nee Annette Gahan, drink a first toast in the local fountain after their marriage at St. Bernard's, East Coburg. Gregory works in E.D.P. Planning



Brendan Cogley and his br'ide leave St. Joseph's, Black Rock, for their reception. Both Brendan and his wife, formerly Amanda Butters, work in Head Office. Brendan in the Chief Accountant's Department and Mandy in E.D.P. Operations.



Mr. and Mrs. John Farmer leave St. Luke's Church of England, Vermont, following their wedding. John, formerly of E.D.P. Operations, is at present doing his bit as a National Serviceman, and his bride, nee Glenda McSweeney, is a member of Rangeview staff.