

Statesman

STAFF MAGAZINE OF THE STATE BANK OF VICTORIA October, 1975 — No. 71

● *Bouquet
for a Bankcard
girl (P2)*



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FRONT COVER: Bouquet for a Bank-card girl: Jane Perla of State Bank-card Department recently received at her office a bunch of violets and a greeting card from a grateful customer — a businessman whom Jane had helped with a complex cash advance transaction. 'What I did was really just routine procedure', says Jane, who is in the Customer Service section.

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 \$2 for the contributor.

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

Something to toot about

THREE WIN HONORS



We are entitled to blow our own trumpets about three staffers who won honors in recent weeks. Trish Auty (Business Promotions) became the first State Bank girl for several years to win the Miss Combined Banks' Ball contest. Doug Trotman (right) of Legal Department and valuer Alan McKimm were horn-playing members of the Footscray-Yarraville Silver Band — winner of the International Band Championship in Toronto on August 24. Both received letters of congratulation from Mr. Neil Kelly, Acting General Manager.

Big things ahead! Pictured opposite is an architect's drawing, prepared especially for STATESMAN, showing the State Bank Staff College which will be built next year on a 21-acre site near Frankston golf course.

The \$1.3 million college will be set amid native trees and shrubs in undulating country off Golf Links Road (postal district of Baxter), just south of Frankston proper. It will accommodate 36 course members

Staff College plan

at a time, together with full-time tutors and staff. Split-level design will give every residential room an outside view. Amenities will include a swimming pool, tennis

and possibly squash courts, billiards room and library. The beach will be less than 5 minutes' drive away. Our senior staff architect, John McCoriston, is overseeing the work of outside architects on the project. Construction could begin early in the new year.

Watch STATESMAN for progressive reports of the College as it takes shape, and for details of courses which will be conducted there throughout coming years.

ENTRANCE FROM STOTTS LANE (OFF GOLF LINKS ROAD) FRANKSTON



LECTURE ROOMS, ABOVE
THEATRETTE AND GAMES ROOM

RESIDENTIAL QUARTERS

CARETAKER

MELALEUCA TREES

POOL

WALKWAY ACROSS STREAM

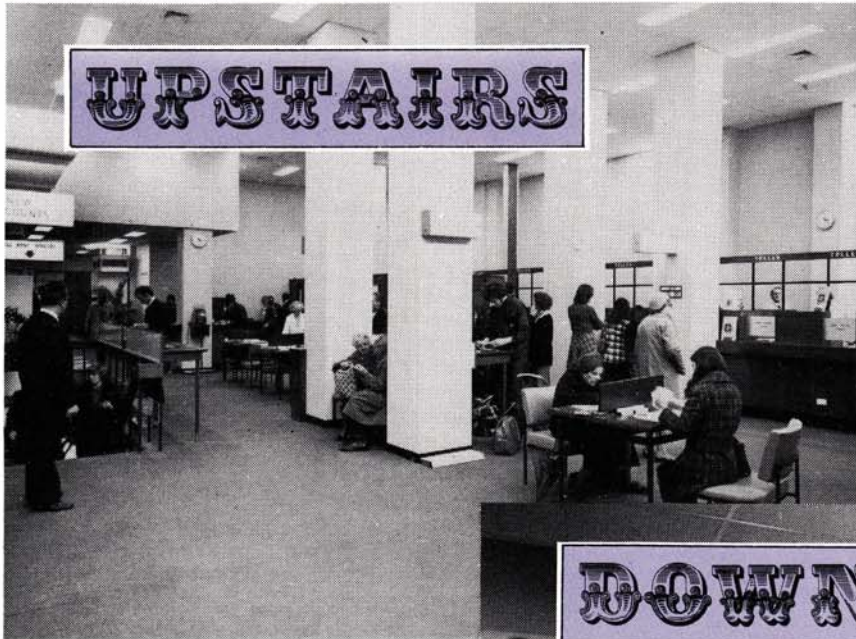
LOUNGE

RESTAURANT

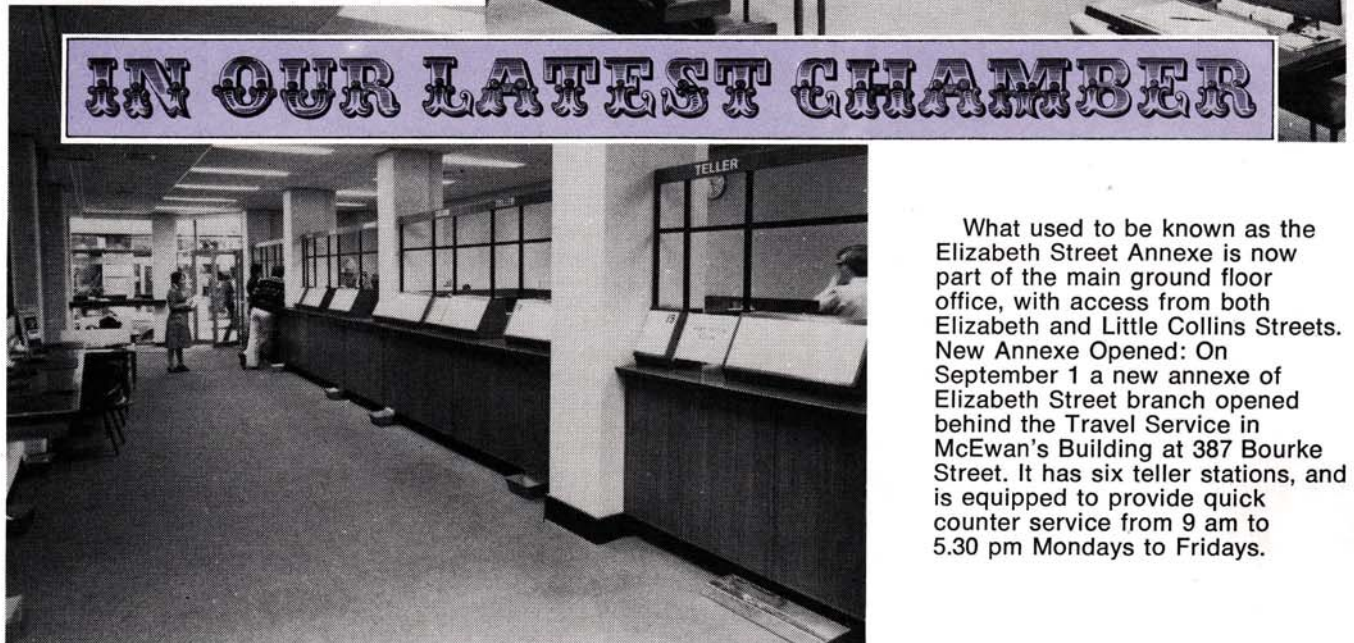
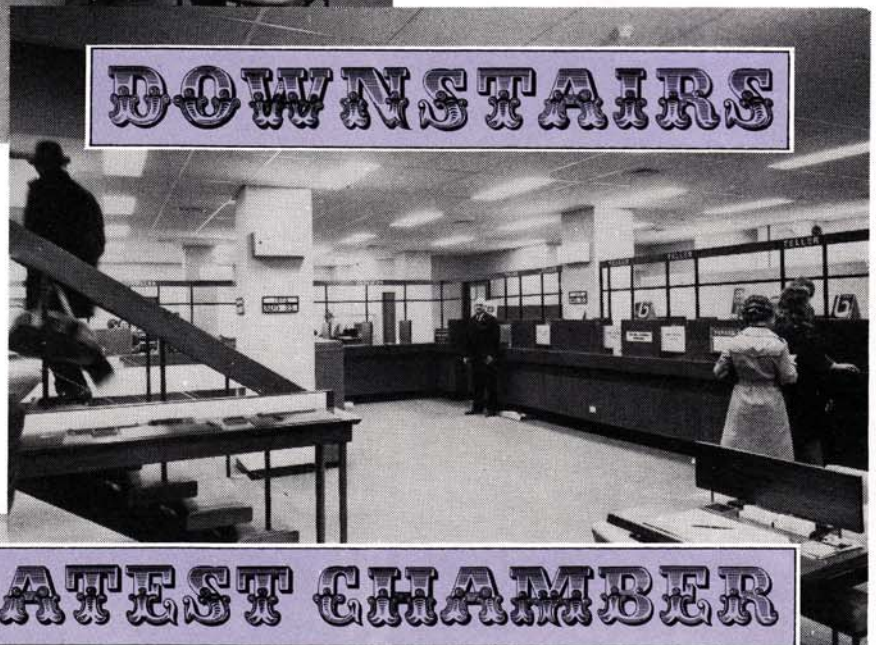
OUR STAFF COLLEGE-TO-BE: This architect's drawing shows the setting and layout of our proposed \$1.3 million Staff College to be built near Frankston golf course.

TENNIS, SQUASH COURT AREA

Temporary house for Lizzy



The basement section offers a complete range of services — passbook and cheque accounts, new accounts, enquiries, deposit stock, overseas currencies, personal loans, and so on. The branch manager and his assistant and clerks have their offices and interview rooms in this area. Stairs give access to the ground floor and directly into Little Collins Street.



Our new, temporary (for the next few years) Elizabeth Street branch banking chamber opened on August 25 — next door to the old premises. Soon afterwards the Thomas Cook-State Bank Travel Service office moved up Bourke Street to McEwan's building — and Whelan the Wrecker moved into our old building.

The temporary bank occupies two levels, and offers a much more compact arrangement of services than the old chamber provided. Basic teller services and enquiries are handled on the ground floor level.

What used to be known as the Elizabeth Street Annexe is now part of the main ground floor office, with access from both Elizabeth and Little Collins Streets. New Annexe Opened: On September 1 a new annexe of Elizabeth Street branch opened behind the Travel Service in McEwan's Building at 387 Bourke Street. It has six teller stations, and is equipped to provide quick counter service from 9 am to 5.30 pm Mondays to Fridays.

GIRL OF THE MONTH



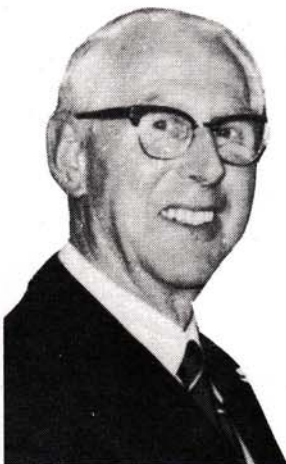
There's a melodic ring in the name of vivacious Monica Mattill, 19, a clerical assistant in H.O. Overseas Dept. She has been playing guitar for six months, and is currently learning some songs by her favourite pop groups, Status Quo and the Bee Gees.

Chilean-born Monica speaks fluent Spanish and German, and so is often asked by branches to act as a 'telephone interpreter'.

Monica is an avid reader of novels set in the nineteenth century, and she nominates Margaret Mitchell's "Gone With The Wind" as the best she has read. Sketching is another favourite pastime. Using photos as models, Monica draws pencil portraits of "interesting people" ranging from friends to pop stars. She also creates colorful abstracts with poster paints. Other spare time activities include horse-riding, ice-skating, and movie-going.

Monica lists the beach, summer mornings and animals as favourite things, but she has one pet hate: "rude, unfair people". Her ambition is "to see the world". (Monica has already visited parts of South America and Europe.)

Although she has no special boyfriend, Monica says her ideal husband would be "intelligent, a good conversationalist . . . and maybe a bit romantic". As a Sagittarian, star-wise, Monica has "zest, optimism and a friendly captivating manner. She would make an exciting partner for an ambitious and fiery Leo or Aries man".



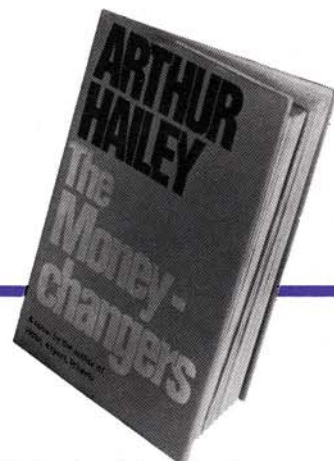
SCHOLARSHIP FOR A GOOD FARMER...

Our Acting General Manager, Mr. Neil Kelly, presented a cheque for \$3000 on August 26 to a 37-year-old farmer — Mr. Duncan McDonnell of Darraweit Guim. The money represented the State Bank's funding of this year's Victorian Nuffield Farming Scholarship. It will help Mr. McDonnell to study UK farm methods for six months. The award ceremony was staged by the Royal Agricultural Society at the Showgrounds.

Photo by courtesy of 'STOCK AND LAND'.

AMAZING TRUTHS

ABOUT BANKERS



Would you believe that a youngish woman with only fifteen years' service could be a top executive of one of America's largest banks, and manager of a leading New York branch, with authority to approve loans up to \$1 million?

Or that a senior vice president of the same bank would visit his mistress in her flat and immediately launch into a learned discussion on the ethics of charge card schemes?

These are propositions put forward in Arthur Hailey's latest novel, said to be based on extensive research into the American banking scene.

'The Moneychangers' holds plenty of interest for Australian bank officers, though it lacks the mass-market appeal of Hailey's earlier blockbusters like 'Airport' and 'Hotel'. Its main theme is a power struggle for the top job in a major American bank, following the chief's sudden death from cancer.

Various sub-plots, laced together with violence and under-stated sex, involve stock banking situations: a teller suspected of theft . . . forged bankcards . . . counterfeit notes . . . a run on a bank branch . . . the

growth of 'robot' banks. There's also a sprinkling of big company graft and Mafia racketeering.

Some of the book's declarations on banking may be true in America, but thankfully do not apply here — at least not in the State Bank. For instance:

'In banking it was axiomatic that the richest customers paid least for borrowed money; highest rates were for the poor.'

Hailey's characters, like those of other best-selling 'book manufacturers' such as Irving Wallace and Harold Robbins, are composite caricatures — very difficult to relate to real people. But, these days, the storyline is all-important, and most 'big' American authors are more concerned with royalty cheques and movie rights than with enhancing human understanding and development. Fair enough — provided that Hailey, Wallace and Co. do not pretend to be contributors to literature.

— Bill Patey

THE MONEY CHANGERS by Arthur Hailey (Nelson)
Rec. Price \$9.95



'Do I hear 20c?'

Auction at Head Office

Scores of staffers attended an auction of head office furnishings left behind by departing departments. More than 260 items were put under the hammer by our own animated auctioneer, Ross Bardrick (Project Manager's section). Highest price paid was \$181 for a large blackwood panelled cupboard with secret drawers. Lowest was 20c for a chair. The auction lasted for more than four hours — and every item was eventually sold.



SHOWGIRLS SHAPE UP: Three of the eleven girls who sold showbags at this year's Royal Show posed in their new black and white uniforms — and displayed some of their goodies, including beach balls, yo-yos and Mars bars. From left: Marcella Brennan (Marketing Dept.), Judy Bowden (Correspondence Dept.) and Sandra Rorsch (Staff Dept.). Our branch at this year's Show was redecorated to carry the Bank's new SB emblem.

Puzzle Corner

1. **DOSE:** A doctor gives you three pills and tells you to take one every half-hour. How long do the pills last?
2. **SHUSH!** Turn **LOUD** into **SOFT** in three changes, altering one letter and making a new word each time — but not re-arranging letters.
3. **SEXTET:** Three married men (A, B & C) and their wives were on a hiking trip. They came to a river which could be crossed only by

boat. But only one rowing boat was available and it could carry only two people. Because the husbands were jealous no woman could travel across in the boat with a man other than her husband. Nor could any woman be left waiting with a man on either shore unless her husband was also present. How did the six get across?

ANSWERS: Page 16

STATE SECRETS by the teller

WHICH branch manager is so strict that he blasts staff if they arrive two minutes late — and charges them rent if they arrive early?

★

SAME boss was asked by his assistant for a day off to celebrate his silver wedding anniversary. 'Great Heavens, man,' he spluttered, 'do you mean I have to put up with this inconvenience every 25 years?'

★

FROM relieving manager Lance Wilkinson we learn that the new manager at our Titles Office branch, Norman Lamb, has Barry Fry as one of his accountants. So Barry is now known as Lamb's Fry.

★

HEAD office department head's caustic comment about lazy clerk: 'When he throws himself into his work he usually misses.'

★

ANNUITANT reports that during a trip to Spain he could not make himself understood when ordering steak and mushrooms in a cafe, so he drew a picture of a cow and a mushroom. The waiter took the drawing away and returned ten minutes later with an umbrella and a bullfight ticket.

★

FOREST HILL manager Bill Pamphilon told us about a stranger who, when requested to identify himself, asked the accountant: 'Do you think this suit fits me well?' The accountant agreed, whereupon the man whipped off his coat and showed his name sewn into the lining.

★

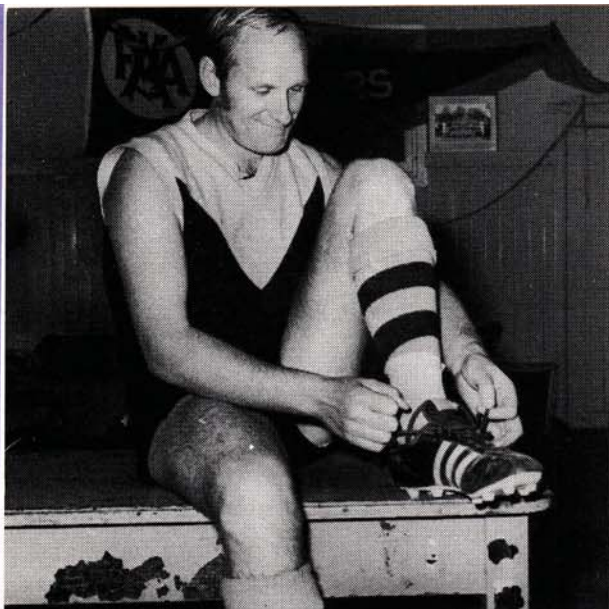
LITTLE lad, standing shyly by the escalator in a split-level branch, was asked by attendant 'Why don't you get on it?' Lad pointed to a sign reading 'Dogs Must Be Carried on Escalators'. He explained: 'I'm not allowed on, because I haven't got a dog.'

★

THOUGHT for the month: You have to be dead to get your face on banknotes — and very much alive these days to get your hands on them.

★

RED CLIFFS manager Graham McMaster reports that a depositor asked for a bank cheque payable to Camping and Outdoors Pty. Ltd., and received one made out to Champion Outlaw Pty. Ltd.



(Photo by courtesy of Leader Newspapers, Northcote.)

Reservoir, (Broadway)

FOOTY WARRIOR BREAKS RECORD

Pictured is accountant Peter Harris lacing-up for his recent record-breaking 253rd match with Alphington in the Victorian Amateur Football Association. Peter, 34, is mostly a half-back-flanker, but has played in all field positions, and has kicked more than 120 goals since joining Alphington F.C. in 1959. Over the years Peter has 'copped' his share of injuries, breaking his nose, eight fingers and two toes. Basketball is another interest. He is president of the Bank's men's basketball club and a former coach of the girls' netball team.

Footnote: Peter's younger brother Ian (A3 Reservoir) has played 140 games with Alphington, and older brother Keith (A1 Lalor) notched up 230 games

are
the
bra

—with

Sunshine

FORTRESS OUT WEST

There's a kind of 'fortress' look to our imposing new Sunshine branch premises, and the \$380,000 building has security safeguards to match. There are two bandit cameras and an on-line automatic alarm. All counters have 'anti-leap' barriers, and one-way glass panels allow the manager and accountant to survey the banking chamber from their offices. Eight teller stations and three private interview rooms assist staff in providing efficient and personal customer service. Staff amenities and a large area of rentable office space occupy the first floor. The building is fully air-conditioned for year-round comfort.



Footscray, (Barkly St.)

INDIAN GIVERS

Workmates Cliff Talbot (A1) and clerk Gary Davis, whose birthdays were on the same day in July, gave each other cheques for \$20 as presents. While Gary was day dreaming about how to spend his windfall, Cliff put a 'stop' on his cheque to Gary. However, unbeknown to Cliff, Gary had already stopped his own just-given cheque. Both tried unsuccessfully to cash their 'gift-cheques'.

— A clear case of 'cheque-mated!'

St. Albans

Father Knows Best

Clerical assistant Lorraine Ikin found this note when processing some school bank deposits:

"Please Mr. Bankman put interest on my bankbook because my Dad said."

ind
ches



h Sedunary

Burwood

HARD CASH

When customer Helen Holmes turned 21 recently, her father, Mr. Colin Tutchell, gave her a \$50 cheque—written on a brick!

The following day at Burwood branch, Helen changed her birthday brick for some 'soft' cash. (The brick was complete with account number, duty stamp and signature, and therefore was a perfectly legal instrument.) Manager Jim Harrington says that Mr. Tutchell later substituted a conventional cheque for easier filing at the branch, and Helen and her husband kept the brick for future use in their proposed new home.



• The money or the brick?
Burwood customer Helen Holmes took both.



Timboon

Quest Girl

Clerical assistant Josephine Lathouwers, 18, is Timboon's representative in the Miss Australia Quest. She raised almost \$2000 for the Spastic Children's Society, prior to regional finals at Warrnambool on October 1. Josephine's fund raising activities included dances, cake stalls and go-cart races.

(Photo by courtesy Cobden Times)

Croydon

Mystery Mail!

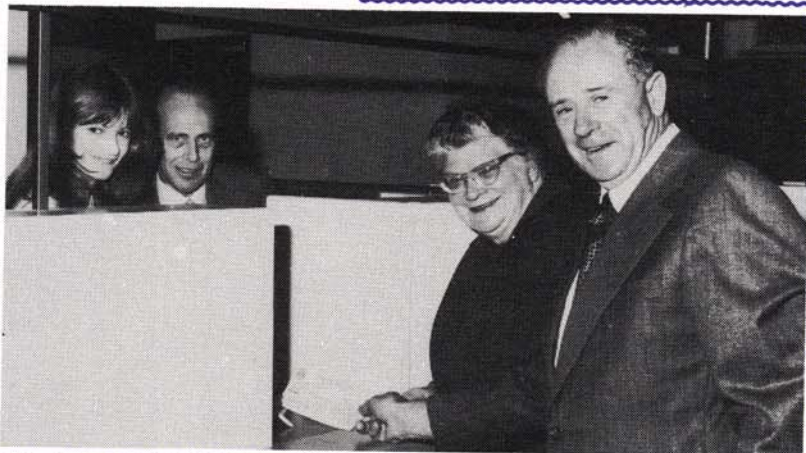
Accountant Dave Pearson reports that the branch recently received a misdirected airmail letter—almost two years after it had been posted in Sydney. The envelope was addressed: 'The Manager, S.S.B., Croydon, Vic.' but the letter inside was to 'The Manager, Y.M.C.A., Pitt St., Sydney,' and was dated 2nd August, 1973. It was from the Naval Recruiting Office, booking accommodation for two sailors for the night of August 13, 1973. Why the letter was put in an airmail envelope and sent to Croydon branch is a mystery. Dave marked the envelope 'Return to Sender', and pumped it back into the postal system.

Coburg

Tip of the Month

Branch customers Henry and Muriel Mendoza say they have the secret to winning Tattsлото: Take your street number, add some family birthdates and throw in the number of years you have been married. Bingo! This formula recently won them \$338,065—a record Division-One prize. "We will leave the money in the Bank until we decide how to spend it," Mr. Mendoza said when depositing their winnings.

The Mendozas hand their \$388,065 Tattsлото cheque to teller Helen Pastou and relieving manager Ron Grubb.



MEET OUR NEW MANAGERS



D. D. MELROSE

Relieving Staff

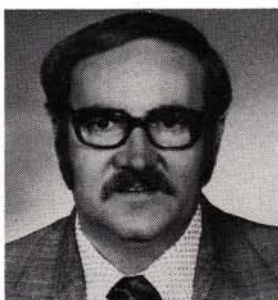
Des is honorary auditor for Dandenong Amateur Basketball Association. He has helped Hallam Football Club run social and fund raising activities for two years. Home maintenance is another sparetime pursuit. Des and Anne have a teenage daughter and three young sons.



J. B. KING

Elmore

John joined the Bank in 1956 at Warrnambool. He moved to Melbourne in 1959 but after four years returned to his hometown branch for a 10-year stint. John has worked at Seymour and Colac branches in recent years. He and wife Lyn have four children aged two to eight.



C. D. COOK

**O.I.C. Processing Section,
Central Clearing Dept.**

Des' prize possession is a very valuable, 105-year-old billiards table which he and son, 16, put to much use. Des is president of Airport West Tennis Club, where he and wife Margery play in inter-club matches. Des was senior accountant at Sunshine prior to his new appointment.



D. R. L. BORRACK

Relieving Staff

Les is a former Geelong footballer. He played 100 VFL matches before retiring in 1960. He coached Geelong West for the next three years. In 1966, aged 35, he turned to umpiring, and took charge of senior VFA games. Les has been a Geelong F.C. recruiting officer for seven years.



C. F. NIEMANN

Jeparit

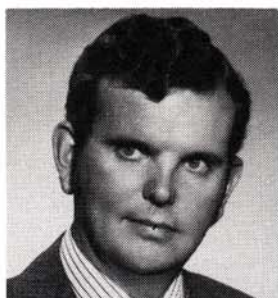
As a youngster, Clive lived on a farm. He spent his first 12 years in the Bank at nearby Swan Hill. So after six years at north-suburban branches, he is pleased to be back in a rural community. Clive and Nola have four young children. Gardening and picnics are favorite family activities.



D. R. GEORGE

Murrayville

Daryl has spent most of his career at suburban branches, so he says managing our most remote branch will be quite an adventure. Wife Lucille and their three young children agree. While in Melbourne, Daryl umpired amateur football for ten years.



M. R. MOORFIELD

**Second Officer, Deposit Stock Section,
Chief Accountant's Dept.**

Woodwork is Mel's favourite leisure-time activity. He has constructed many interior fittings for his home, including wardrobes, cupboards and shelving. Mel is a keen cricketer, and he enjoys surf fishing.



B. R. BATHOLS

Foreign Bills Officer, Overseas Dept.

Bruce has been a licensed 'ham' (amateur radio operator) for four years. He helped maintain sole radio contact with Darwin after Cyclone Tracey wrecked the city on Christmas Day. Bruce has regular radio conversations with 'hams' in Germany and Russia.



M. C. BLEACH

**Agency Examiner, Chief Inspector's
Dept.**

Max was the first regular male vocalist on television's I.M.T. show of the 1960's, making about 200 appearances and singing pop ballads of the times. Nowadays, he gives only occasional public performances due to family commitments. He and wife Bev. have three sons aged six to 12.



E. G. DIGBY

Monbulk

Eric heads our newest branch at rapidly developing Monbulk. In spare time too, he is concerned with things that grow — he is gardener at Heatherdale Primary School. Wife Cheryl (nee Easey) is a former Springvale branch staffer. They have three young children.

NEW GIVEAWAYS NOW ON SALE....

Many people enjoy the activity of lawn bowls. Others prefer the more restful pastime of a game of cards. And some people relax simply by walking around with smiles on their chests.

All types are catered for by our new Goodwill Giveaways.

Staff members planning gifts for customers, families and friends can buy various items at wholesale rates from head office Marketing Department now.

The newest goodwill giveaways are:

T-SHIRTS:

Exacto brand yellow cotton, with black 'smile' emblem and State Bank lettering. Sizes 14, 16 or 18. Clear plastic pack. Price \$2.80.

PLAYING CARDS:

Twin-pack good quality set, featuring backs in silver and red, with new State Bank emblem. Smart package. Price \$3.50.

BOWLS CLOTH:

Soft, white flannel cloth for polishing lawn bowls. Size approx. 17" square, with yellow State Bank emblem in one corner. Price 40 cents.

Previous items still available are:

PERFUMED PENS: purse-sized ballpoints, in plastic containers. Price 60 cents.

GOLD-FINISH PENS: lightweight, in gold-color boxes. Price 60 cents.

SHEAFFER PENS: Slim, black ballpoints, boxed. Price 75 cents.

GOLF BALLS: Threadwound quality, with Bank emblem. Price \$2.85 for three.

DESK SET: Comprises ballpoint pen in plastic stand. Price \$2.20.

CAR TIDY: Plastic hang-up container for small debris. Price 45 cents.

KEY PURSE: Yellow plastic pouch with key ring. Price 25 cents.

HOW TO ORDER: Send a list of items required, with a cheque payable to State Bank, to HO Marketing Dept.



GONE 'FISHIN'

Here are the latest staff retirements reported to STATESMAN:

- GORDON McGRATH (Wangaratta)
- CYRIL EVANS (Titles Office)
- GEOFF BERGER (Croydon)
- JACK BUTTERWORTH (Bendigo)
- GEORGE HILLMAN (45 Swanston Street)

CORRECTION

Our Home Loan Conditions guide in August issue of STATESMAN quoted a 9.25% interest rate on Savings Bank loans up to \$12,000. That amount should have read \$12,500!

Thanks to all the readers who pointed out the error (or, more correctly, the understatement).



CLERK in a south-eastern suburban branch suggested to his manager in late August that he should buy up extra stamps at the old 10c price, to beat the September rise.



WHICH prompts the thought: Stamps and phone calls have gone up, but at least our writing paper and envelopes remain stationary.



PEOPLE should not hold up tellers. And tellers should not hold up people — any longer than is absolutely necessary.



CUSTOMER disclosed that he once told a psychiatrist that he believed he was a set of kitchen curtains, and was promptly advised to pull himself together.



ONE of our relieving tellers was accidentally locked in the toilet at Boronia for an hour before a locksmith was able to release her. We've heard of branch relief, but this is ridiculous!



SOME counter staff should do less paperwork, more people-work.



HEAR about that other girl reliever who arrived at a suburban branch for the first time and asked the manager if her duties would be the same as at her former branch in the city. 'More or less the same' was the reply. 'OK', quipped the reliever, kicking off her shoes, 'give us a kiss and let's get started'.



"He wants to make a deposit?"

BANKCARD BOOSTERS AT BRANCHES



Liz. Butler (left) and Jeff Franklin of Bankcard department's customer service section visited Greensborough branch recently to give staff the latest news on State Bankcard, answer questions, and help solve problems. Pictured with them were

Lyn Granger (teller) and Kerry Kennedy (clerical assistant). Other teams of State BANKCARD publicists are making similar calls on many metropolitan and country branches.

Shall We Bankers Gather at the River Bank?

CALLING GENTLEMEN AND SCULLERS!

The Banks Rowing Club, representing most Victorian banks, is seeking new members — beginners, veterans and social members who are just interested in the sport in a spectator sense. The Clubhouse is on the Yarra Bank near Princes Bridge.

The B.R.C., established more than a century ago, has achieved many successes in open competition with Victoria's best rowing clubs. Many of its members have competed in

world rowing championships and Olympic events.

These days, all classes of rowing are catered for. The Club has a large number of boats ranging from 'tub pairs' for beginners to the latest 8-oared racing shells. Full

coaching is available — at times arranged to suit trainees.

Each year, at the Inter-Banks Regatta, a highlight is the State Bank Challenge Eights event.

*ANYONE WHO IS THE LEAST BIT INTERESTED IN THE B.R.C. AND ITS ACTIVITIES SHOULD CONTACT JOHN HOWELL AT OUR COTHAM BRANCH (Phone 80 4646) OR SIMPLY TURN UP AT THE ROWING SHED ON THE YARRA BANK ANY SUNDAY MORNING.

"I HELPED THE 1912 MOVERS"

To The Editor:

Sir: As one of the very few of those former officers still alive who moved from the old Market Street Head Office in December 1912, to the Elizabeth Street Head Office, I was interested in your account of the recent move from the latter building.

Removal arrangements then were primitive by comparison. Desks, tables and chairs were dumped on the banking chamber floor of Elizabeth Street. The Carrier Staff was limited, so to hasten our settling-in we of the Correspondence Staff (not one girl typist in those days) carried these items up four floors, the height of the building at that time.

Extra holidays at Xmas were given us in recognition of our efforts.

What a difference there was in salaries and working conditions in 1912! At 21 years of age, for instance, an officer was supposed to get £105 a year (\$210) but it was not an automatic increase and in my case I had to ask for a rise of £5 (\$10) a year and got it. There was no overtime paid. All we got was 1/- tea-money when working back at balance time. How things have changed!

— C. A. HAYTHORPE
(North Balwyn)



Can You Spare a Spare Part?

HOW TO DONATE YOUR ORGANS

This is serious. In fact, it's a matter of life and death—or, more properly, death and life . . . Consider three points:

1. If, through disease or injury, you lost the use of a vital organ like a kidney or an eye would you wish to have it replaced with a healthy, transplanted organ from somebody else?
2. Would you be prepared to allow any of *your* organs to be donated to sick or injured people after your death?
3. If so, do you know how to make advance arrangements for this to be done?

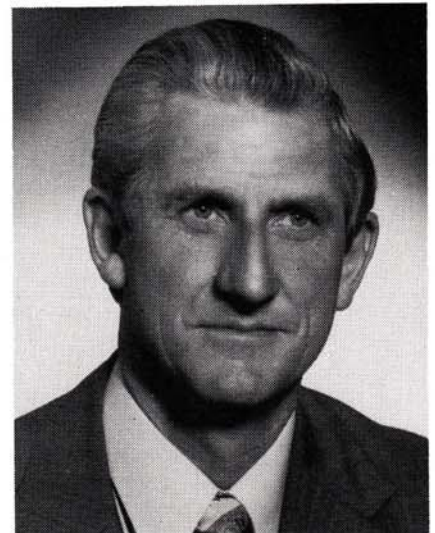
It is a simple matter to obtain Donor Cards, stating your willingness to provide transplant organs. Leading members of Protestant, Catholic and Jewish organisations

support the principles and practice of transplantation. Moral leaders world-wide regard organ transplantation as an expression of the highest humanitarian ideals.

FOR LEAFLETS providing detailed information, contact our Staff Counsellor, Neil Westaway, at Hothlyn House (Phone 60 0531) or write directly to any public hospital or:

The Royal Victorian Eye & Ear Hospital,
126 Victoria Parade,
Melbourne 3002.
(Phone 662 2000)

The Australian Kidney Foundation,
51 Queen Street,
Melbourne 3000.
(Phone 61 3921)



GREAT GRANDMA'S WASHDAY

Early this century, long before 'automagic' washing machines and 'miracle detergents', a mother wrote out the following washday advice for her newly married daughter:

1. Build fire in back yard to heat kettle of rain water.
2. Set tubs so smoke won't blow in eyes if wind is sharp.
3. Shave one whole cake of lye soap in boiling water.
4. Sort things. Make three piles. One pile white. One pile coloured. One pile work breeches and rags.
5. Stir flour in cold water to smooth, then thin down with boiling water for starching.
6. Rub dirty spots on board. Scrub hard. Boil. Rub coloureds, but don't boil, just rinse and starch.
7. Take white things out of kettle with broomstick handle, then rinse, blue and starch.
8. Spread tea towels on grass.
9. Hang old rags on fence.
10. Pour rinse water in flower bed.
11. Scrub porch with hot soapy water.
12. Go put on clean dress — smooth hair with side combs, brew cup of tea — sit and rest and count blessings.



MAN OF THE MONTH



RUSSELL PARKER, 22, a senior clerk at Prahran branch, is one of the Bank's best basketballers, and one of Victoria's top referees.

Russell is a member of the Bank's A-Grade team in the Victorian Business Houses Competition. But at 5ft. 10in. and of 'slight' build, he feels that he is more suited to refereeing the game. Since commencing in F-Grade matches four years ago, he has become one of twelve referees umpiring at Championship level. Recently he refereed an exhibition match by visiting American team, the Cincinatti Bearcats. Last month he was one of two Victorian referees officiating at the Australian Junior Championships.

Russell's aim is to referee Olympic basketball matches. His Scorpio star-sign is a good omen: It provides "courage and will-power to shoot straight to the top". His horoscope reads: "he is the strong, silent type . . . with electrifying magnetism that draws the opposite sex into his charmed circle". Those attracted would probably be born under Cancer or Pisces. Russell's current romantic status: "no steadies, but available". So girls, watch that magnetism!

The Fishlock Family History ...and all for 10 cents!

The following letter was received by our Wangaratta branch, and was sent to Statesman by accountant Murray Breach. We publish it with Mrs Fishlock's permission.

Please find enclosed an old Bank Book of mine, No 11362—with the "big balance" of 1 shilling on February 1st 1934—in my maiden name of Johnson.

My mother, the widow of the late Harry Johnson (my father) the late George Smith—and recently the widow of Geoff Germaine all of Wangaratta—is still residing at our old home. It used to be 39, and now it's 41 Grey Street, opposite main Show Ground gates, the corner house.

Sometime ago my mother gave me this old bank book to look into its value—today's interest, etc. I just threw it into a drawer and forgot about it. Now I've come across it again, so I decided to forward it back to you, and I'm asking you to check its value for me please.

If there is anything in my favour, money wise, would you be kind enough to send me a cheque for the amount to my above home address—where I now live.

I'm very curious and interested in this old book of 1934.

PS

I've just realized you have never seen me and don't know me from a bar of soap, so to speak. I could be anybody claiming to be Olive May Johnson. So I will try to identify myself a little more:

I am Olive May Fishlock (nee Johnson), the only daughter of Harry/Olive Johnson. My mother was a Tippet (Olive).

I was born Nov 23rd 1919 and was reared and educated at Wangaratta. I have a brother Bill, married with a grown family of 4, living 19 Park Lane Wangaratta Phone 21 3605. My mother is still living in our old home, now 41 Grey Street Wangaratta Phone 21 5823.

I still have one uncle, Edward Tippet, in business in Rowan Street on site of old Drill Hall (Coil Winding and Armature Winding). Two other uncles had a butcher shop (Jack/Charlie Tippet, both now dead).

Johnson was a well known name in Wangaratta in early days until my Dad died in 1935. Johnsons Lane (off Grey St. thru to Green St.) was named after my grandfather. The only Johnsons now in our family are my brother Bill and his son Harry—(named after his Grandad). My other claim is to Amy Johnson, the late

Mrs. Jim Mollison, the airwoman, who was first to fly solo from England to Australia back in the Twenties.

My brother is on the staff at "Brucks", and has been with this company since they opened in Wang. many years ago—back just before World War II started or had just started.

I hope I haven't bored you with this family history—but I mean only to identify myself to you and to claim to this 41 year old 1/- and what it may have grown into—these 41 years—if anything. The book alone is nearly an antique—and worth keeping.

Thanking you,

yours sincerely,

Mrs. Olive May Fishlock (nee Johnson)

POINT OF INTEREST: THE 1975 BALANCE IN MRS. FISHLOCK'S ACCOUNT WAS ONLY 10 CENTS (THE EQUIVALENT OF 1/- IN 1934) BECAUSE BALANCES OF LESS THAN \$1.00 HAVE NEVER EARNED INTEREST. Footnote: When Mrs. Fishlock received the proceeds of her account she wrote back "I shall treasure the old 41-year-old passbook with its 1975 crisp cheque for 10 cents as a real family heirloom."

BREATH OF THE PAST!

The following memo sent from head office to Tallangatta branch more than 50 years ago (and mysteriously preserved) was recently discovered by our Archivist, Joan Freeman:

To The Branch Manager
Tallangatta
24th August 1923

The Omega Disinfectant Company is forwarding two covers for the seats in the W.C's. These are fly proof and have an automatic disinfectant. A supply of the disinfectant and full directions accompany the seats. The old covers are to be taken off and replaced by those supplied. When in use for some time I should like your opinion of their efficacy.

Alex Cooch
Chief Inspector.

PUNTERS' PULLOUTS

90 YEARS AGO

Back in October 1885, head office Actuary, Mr. John Alsop, sent this stern Circular to all officers of the bank:

"During the approaching racing season numerous accounts are temporarily closed by depositors who

would, I feel sure, allow a small sum to remain if proper efforts were made to persuade them. It is the duty of all officers to pay attention to this matter so that the returns for November will not show a falling-off in the number of depositors."

DESLEY'S RECORD SCORE

IN SAFEWAY NEW FACES

OUR TELLER A TOP SELLER!

Radiant good looks and a bubbling personality helped 18-year-old Desley Tremayne, a teller at Monash branch, to score an all-time record in Channel 9's New Faces 1975 talent quest.

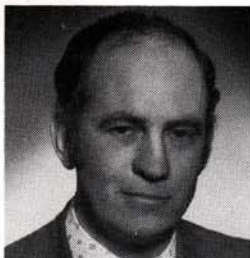
For her initial act in the show, Desley wrote and presented a commercial for the sponsor — Safeway Supermarkets. Awarding her a history-making 93 points, judges Vicki Hammond and Hal Todd described her heat performance as a 'ripper'.

Later, in the Series Final, Desley was runner-up (after a scoring error had initially placed her first), and was engaged to present a Safeway commercial on the Don Lane Show.

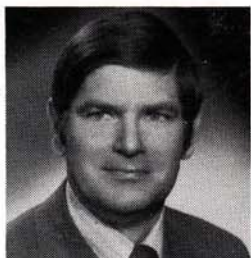
Her two New Faces appearances in August brought Desley prize money totally \$600, plus inclusion in the casting files of a leading advertising agency.



'BALLY HIGH'S' FOUR DI's



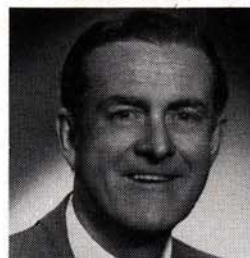
• G. S. WALTERS



• K. W. M. WICKINS



• A. H. RESIDE



• J. F. GRIBBLE

Is it more than a coincidence that four of our fifteen District Inspectors were educated at Ballarat High School?

Alf Reside, Scott Walters and Keith Wickins all attended the school at the one time, and joined the Bank in 1947-49. Jack Gribble preceded them by a few years, beginning his Bank career in 1940.

Are there any other old-school groups in the service?

DAFFYNITIONS

BLOCK: The distance between some people's ears.

DENTIST: Collector of old magazines.

GUEST TOWEL: One you look at but never use.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

1. DOSE: One hour.
2. SHUSH! LOU, LOFT, SOFT.
3. SEXTET:

1. A and his wife cross.
2. A returns alone.
3. B's wife and C's wife cross.
4. A's wife returns alone.
5. B and C cross.
6. B and his wife return.
7. A and B cross.
8. C's wife returns.
9. A's wife and B's wife cross.
10. C returns.
11. C and his wife cross.