No. 32 (New Series)

FEBRUARY, 1953

BEAUTY IN COLAC. A PEACEFUL SCENE IN THE BOTANIC GARDENS.

THE VOICE OF THE HOUSE OF FOY & GIBSON
2,500 years ago
ÆSOP told of...

"THE BUNDLE OF STICKS."

An old man on the point of death summoned his sons around him to give them some parting advice. He ordered his servants to bring in a faggot of sticks, and said to his eldest son, "Break it." The son strained and strained, but with all his efforts was unable to break the bundle. The other sons also tried, but none of them was successful. "Untie the faggots," said the father, "and each of you take a stick." When they had done so, he called out to them, "Now, break," and each stick was easily broken. "You see my meaning," said their father.

"UNITY GIVES STRENGTH."
Red Cross Needs Help

During March, the Australian Red Cross Society will make its annual appeal for funds. Symbol of aid, recognised throughout the world, Red Cross needs no boost from us. It is a simple privilege to be able to devote this space to remind readers of the call.

Regardless of race, colour, creed, and, in time of war, making no distinction between enemies, Red Cross works on a basis which, reversing the poet's despondency, might be described as "Man's humanity to man."

Around us, on every side, we see evidence of the faithful and devoted service of Red Cross. Hostels and handcraft centres. Homes, like Rockingham and Stonnington. Welfare work in a score of fields. Think, too, of the Blood Transfusion and Blood Bank and Serum services. Recall the newspaper reports of dramatic through-the-night journeys by car, when Red Cross drivers have rushed vital serum to an accident victim or hospital patient in a distant township.

Should earthquake, flood or tornado strike a hapless community overseas, the worldwide machinery of Red Cross is immediately geared to the emergency. Medical and other supplies are rushed to the spot. Capable men and women will work night and day in giving relief to the sufferers.

Freely rendered though it be, this inspired mission involves vast expenditures of money, and, like its fellow units in other countries, Australian Red Cross needs funds to replace the matériel it expends, and to ensure that its work may go on, uninterrupted.

March is Red Cross Month. Give what you can. There are various channels open. Let us name three — money, service, blood. If you would become a blood donor, contact the Blood Bank at Royal Melbourne Hospital (Tel. FJ 2183). Do you wish to help in other ways? Get in touch with Victorian Divisional Headquarters, 122 Flinders Street (Tel. FA 8151).

But perhaps the easiest form of aid — and easiest to utilize — is money. There will be many opportunities to support Red Cross when the appeal gets under way in March. Meanwhile, our own Company has set the ball rolling by organising a raffle. Sponsored by Red Cross and carrying full legal authority, this raffle offers four splendid prizes, all donated by Foy's. They are:

1st.—Astor 5-valve portable radio
   valued at £43/1/-

2nd.—E.P.N.S. Tea Service and Salver
   valued at £25.

3rd.—44-piece Canteen of Cutlery
   valued at £17/17/-

4th.—A dressed doll
   valued at £12/12/-

Tickets are available throughout our Melbourne Stores, whilst our own staff are taking it in relays to man tables in the doorways, for sale to the general public.

You do not have to make a rich man's gesture — unless, of course, you are one — to do your bit for Red Cross. Be as understanding as you can. And if a bob is your limit, you might as well exchange it for a raffle ticket. In that way, you will not only assist Red Cross to the full value of twopence — you might be the lucky winner of one of the abovementioned prizes.
Additional Directors for Boards of Subsidiary Companies

The Board of Foy & Gibson Ltd. has announced this month, the following appointments for two Directors of the parent company:—

Mr. Peter Howson: To the Board of Eagley Mills Pty. Ltd.

Mr. Gerald M. Niall: To the Board of Foy & Gibson (Stores) Pty. Ltd.

Mr. L. R. Hill Goes Abroad

General Manager of Eagley Mills, Mr. Lance R. Hill, is off this month, by air, to the United States. He will be joined there by Mr. Peter Howson—who left Australia last November on a private journey to England—and together, they will visit a number of textile mills and retail stores. It is expected that they will spend some six weeks in America.

Mr. Hill will then travel to the United Kingdom on business for Eagley Mills. Naturally, Mr. Hill will find much to interest him wherever he goes, for not only is he a Director and the administrative head of Eagley Mills, but a Director of Foy & Gibson Ltd. and a member of the Board of Bilson’s Pty. Ltd.

As this is his first trip abroad, all will wish him happy voyaging throughout. Mr. Hill expects to be back in Australia in August.

NEW ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS FOR RETAIL COMPANY.

The Board of Foy & Gibson (Stores) Pty. Ltd. has announced the appointment as Associate Directors of Messrs. Alan Durham and A. E. Trompf. The appointments date from December 11 last.

With Foy’s since 1947, when he was appointed Manager of the Ladies’ Shoe Dept., City Store. Mr. Durham has “climbed the ladder” very rapidly. In turn, he has been assistant to the City Store Manager, Group Controller, First Floor Departments, and allied sections in other Stores, and Store Manager at Fitzroy. Today, he is Merchandise Controller of Foy & Gibson (Stores) Pty. Ltd.

Mr. “Alf” Trompf has also moved around the organisation since he joined the Company in 1935. From Manager of the City China and Glassware,

Mr. A. E. Trompf.

he became assistant to the Manager of the old Collingwood Store, moving to Fitzroy in the same capacity, when we reopened that Store after the war. We next knew him as Buyer for the China and Hardware sections in the same store. Last year, he was appointed Store Manager at Fitzroy.

To these two executives, warm congratulations. May they find, in their latest appointments, further outlets for their respective talents.

Death of Sir Vernon Thomson

Sir Francis Vernon Thomson, Bart., G.B.E., died in London on February 8. Chairman of the Union Castle Mail Steamship Company, and a director of other shipping companies, Sir Vernon had a life-long association with British shipping, and his knowledge and experience were freely sought by the British Government during the war years. Created a Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 1921, he was raised to Knight Grand Cross of that order in 1936. His baronetcy was conferred in 1938.

Sir Vernon was a brother of Mr. Robert Thomson, Manager of our London Office, to whom we offer our deep sympathy.
Management Training Scheme
First Appointments Announced

The wise organisation, like the prudent man, looks to the future. Where the latter may seek security as a protection in old age, however, a far-seeing company looks to youth to ensure its continued security.

Thus it was that towards the end of last year, the parent company introduced its executive training scheme. It will be recalled that young men aged from 20-22 years were encouraged to make application for admission to the Management Training Scheme. In return for a satisfactory standard of education and first-class personal qualities, the Company offered a three-year period of training in all aspects of management technique, under very favourable conditions. This offer was not restricted to members of our own staff.

Eligible employees of the company were quick to appreciate the advantages of the Scheme, and the Selection Committee was greatly impressed by the information contained in the applications received — and by the earnestness of those who sent them. Equally interesting, were the approaches made from young men outside our organisation.

The examination of all the details of this promising young material proved quite a formidable task for the Selection Committee. Now after a most painstaking analysis and much serious consideration, a selection has been made.

Acting upon the recommendations of the Committee, the Directors of Foy & Gibson Ltd. have announced the appointment of the first trainees to be admitted under the Scheme. These five fortunate young men are:

Mr. B. H. Burman, who graduated from the Gordon Institute of Technology, Geelong, in 1952. He holds the Diploma of Textile Industries.

Mr. J. P. Byrne, a student at the University of Melbourne, where he is taking the commerce course.

Mr. D. A. Fopp, of the Advertising Department, Adelaide Store. Mr. Fopp holds the Diploma of Licentiate of Advertising from the Advertising Institute of Australia.

Mr. Peter Maclellan, holder of a Diploma of Textile Chemistry from the Gordon Institute of Technology, Geelong. Mr. Maclellan has been a member of the staff of Eagley Mills since April, 1951.

Mr. G. L. Swain. As well as holding the Diploma of Textile Industries from the Gordon Institute of Technology, in Geelong, Mr. Swain enjoys the distinction of gaining first place in the British Empire, in the examination conducted by the London and City Guilds.

As might be anticipated, the technical qualifications of Messrs. Swain and Burman almost automatically "earmarked" them for work in Eagley Mills, where, with Mr. Maclellan, their probationary period under the new scheme has already begun. Messrs. Byrne and Fopp, on the other hand, are gaining the first of their new knowledge in the retail stores.

These five young men will carry with them in their new fields of work the good wishes of everyone. We shall watch their careers with intense interest, for not only may their progress be of great consequence to themselves and to the Company as a whole — which means the rest of us — but their experiences under the Management Training Scheme will constitute, as it were, a pattern, upon which others may hope to fashion their own destinies, later on.

Good luck to them all!

The weather during the day, right up to 6 p.m., was very boisterous and showery, but the secretary said: "The show must go on," and, with an evening cold but fine, and no wind, about 80 attended. All huddled around the fire, and many a pound of steak and chops was eaten. George Ellis entertained freely with his comic recitations — and how! Vin Martlew (Bedding) kept insisting on "a feed of witchetty grubs" all the evening, but finally succumbed to Harold Wright's "Stolen Goods" of porterhouse steak and potatoes with their jackets on.

Although the attendance was a little disappointing, a good time was had by all.

CHRISTMAS PARTY.

The annual staff children's Christmas party was held during the afternoon of Saturday, December 13, from 2.30 to 5 p.m. Approximately 75 children of ages ranging from a couple of weeks to 12 years attended with Mum and Dad. Appreciation and thanks are offered to Management for financing the party "spread," etc., and to the Selection Committee.

Warm thanks go, too, to the lady helpers, headed by Miss Eva Christie.

The children had the time of their lives in our own Basement Toyland, where there were swings,
see-saws and rides on the speedboat and switchback. They heard the ventriloquist and his two dolls, and were thrilled by the sight of Father Christmas coming down the chimney to welcome them to his party. But greater still was the open-mouthed amazement of the youngsters when they adjourned upstairs to the staff tea rooms and saw the huge pine Christmas tree, fully decorated with glistening globes, tinsel, novelties, balloons and, above all, presents.

The tables were arranged in a big "T" shape so that each could see the other, and all could see the good "eats"—sandwiches, pies, pasties, cake, nuts, sweets, drinks, and ice cream, with party caps and bon bons. When the greater part of this "spread" had been demolished, Father Christmas came back, to the tune of "Jingle Bells," sung very loudly by the children, to each of whom Santa Claus gave his present from the tree (previously chosen according to age and sex). To make the occasion even more memorable, each child had its photograph taken.

Nor was this all. Finally, Father Christmas cut the huge two-tiered cake and distributed it among the youngsters. Balloons were then released and each child went home with a balloon, a gift—and filled with food. Each was thrilled with memories of another happy Foy Christmas party.

NEW YEAR BARBECUE.

By request, a further barbecue was held at Brownhill Creek on the evening of Saturday, January 17. All who attended had a great time.

We noticed Mr. Powell enjoying a succulent morsel of slightly over-cooked steak—plus ashes!

It was a very musical evening, for apart from our own Stan Giniotis, who worked himself into a Beethoven frenzy at times, there was staunch opposition from the adjacent party, with its various instruments.

We thought a few more would have attended, but maybe they had enough in the "garden" during the afternoon!

Did Bruce McGregor and Laurie Tierney enjoy themselves? Of course they did. Why not?

A SON FOR THE SECRETARY.

The birth of a son on January 31, brought great joy to the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Houghton. Proud father is Secretary of all but one of our group of companies.

Keith Allen are the names chosen for the new arrival, who finds himself with a ready-made older brother, John.

Felicitations from one and all to Mr. and Mrs. Houghton.
THE BOARD PLAYS HOST.

The Directors' annual cocktail party and buffet dinner was held on December 16, at Tintern Lodge. Situated on beautiful King's Park Road, this large private house, with its luxuriously furnished lower floor, caters admirably for small parties. A marquee with fairy lights illuminating the ink-green lawns hold promise of coolness on summer nights. Indoors, footsteps are silenced on the carpeted floors, and masses of flowers pattern the corners and staircase.

The Board, as host, was well represented by Messrs. H. L. Brisbane, W. Robertson, W. A. Manning, R. L. Manser and the Hon. Leslie Craig, and there was a warm welcome for all as they moved happily among their store executives, group controllers and departmental managers. Also present were representatives of the Press, the Australian and New Zealand Bank, and Rankin & Morrison (Chartered Accountants).

Later in the evening guests moved into the ballroom, where an open piano tempted Alan Smith and Vic Sale to start an impromptu sing song. Unable to resist, Jim Brisbane and Dick Hindley soon had their powerful voices filling the room with song. Dancing followed, whilst a small bar set up at the end of the room catered for the thirsty. Unanimously voted “one of the best,” a repetition of this enjoyable evening will be eagerly looked forward to this year.

THIS TIME, WITHOUT MAKE-UP.

By “Al. Cohol.”

On December 23 a super-duper party was held by Foy’s concert artists in Mends Street Hall, South Perth, the scene of their weekly rehearsals. The cast were present in full strength, and, as each had been permitted to bring along a friend, there was a large attendance.

The party spirit was evident from the very beginning and the evening became crazier and crazier. Musical items and games, together with music for dancing, made a gay recipe. Highlight of the programme was the mannequin competition, entrants in which were the male winners of a lucky spot dance. First on the floor was Colin Smith as the “Toni Twin.” The emphasis of his outfit was naturally on the rope wig, which suited him so admirably. Next, Doug Hodges portraying (in Edith Hume’s clothes) “Fashions for the Evening.”

Brian Charles, as “Sweater Girl No. 1” was followed by Kevin Maher, as “Sweater Girl No. 2.” Closely behind them came Les Riley as the “Old Bag.” Ladies’ foundation garments were featured by the next two mannequins. Jimmy Stout, as the “Dyomee” girl demonstrated a new economical type of bra, easily acquired by merely stretching one’s roll-ons up to the armpits. Jack Hayward then displayed the new exterior corsets with binder twine suspenders (commented Jack, “I’m not sure what its name is, but I’d hate to sit down in it . . . and they still call women the weaker sex!”) Our Super Social Sleuth reported that while the other entrants in the competition certainly put everything they had into the job (and also into some weird articles of clothing), Brian Charles was adjudged the winner “on points.”

Everyone present enjoyed themselves thoroughly, and the boys certainly had the girls on their toes during the egg contest. What a yolk!
The star attraction on the table was a beautiful birthday cake to celebrate Les Riley’s 21st and Ray Applin’s 20th. These boys are two of the most popular members of the company, and everyone joined wholeheartedly in singing the usual toasts to them. Congratulations and thanks are due to the special committee responsible for organising the evening: Marj. Summers, Billie Mitchell, Phyllis Spinks, Les Riley, Jimmy Stout, Brian Charles and “Chief Urges” Alan Smith. Another note of thanks is to the Social Club for their donation towards the happy evening. The very kind gesture was appreciated by all.

CRUISING DOWN THE RIVER.
By Popeye and Olive Oil.
Yo! ho! ho! and a bottle of coke — or something!
After a hot and tiring day, Foy’s Pirates boarded the good old “Zephyr” and went sailing down the River Swan for their first moonlight trip for 1953. As far as the weather was concerned, the gods could not have been kinder to the sea-loving Vikings from Voys. (Vo? are Ve?) A full passenger list proved the popularity of the event, and at 8 o’clock the boat slid silently from the wharf to the strains of “Down Yonder” — and we use the word “strains” in its fullest sense, as the boys and girls were giving a full-throated rendering (vide Webster: to rend or tear asunder) of their opening chorus!

Doing the rounds of the ship at frequent intervals, it was evident that the happy team included someone from every section of the shop, accompanied by a lot of their mates who came along to join the fun. Many were content to sit quietly around and enjoy the beautiful cool breeze, or watch the familiar landmarks silhouetted in the dark by floodlights and surrounded by city and suburban neon signs, whose on and off flickerings were reflected in the clear water of the Swan. Those who felt the need of something more stimulating gathered round the piano and Victor’s playing, which was touched up in real nautical fashion by Reg. Church (Toys) with his Swanee Whistle. All our M.C. needed when dancing was a jockey, then we could train him for next year’s Perth Cup. Everyone on the floor will agree, especially those who collected his booms.

Two juvenile pirates seen enjoying ice creams and watching pranksters at the Point were Ronnie and Geoffrey, small sons of Ron Withnell (Mercy). Eric Corrigan (Electroplate) was unable to do
much pirating because he was accompanied by his recently-acquired bride, Sheila, but that didn’t stop them having a good time.

As the “time’s up” whistle was sounded, some of the boys and girls of the Ballet couldn’t resist doing a finale of high kicking, which pleased their teacher very much, and made him go all pop-eyed.

After their frolic round the floor the gang were well warmed up for singing and fun-making, so on leaving the tea rooms and once more joining the “Zephyr” they were soon well into the sway of their favourite melodies. Those in the lower regions of the ship were content to drink quietly (?) with their shipmates, while quite a few up forward and around the poop deck looked as though Cupid had joined the passenger list.

Community singing was the main attraction of the top deck, with Vickie Harrison’s (Laces) little daughter, Theressa, taking a very leading part — quite a cute little recruit to the band of Jolly Rogers.

Mr. R. Fraser (Staff Superintendent) and Mr. J. Webster (Accountant) made sure of not missing the fun — they had front stall seats for themselves and their families.

Voices were raised high right throughout the trip, and as the ship was moored to the jetty there was a fervent touch put into the “Maori’s Farewell” — but it was nearly “walk the plank” for Brian Charles with his wonderful piece of acting, which fooled even the Captain!

Happy hearts were shown in cheery goodnights as the crowd left the decks to retire to their hammocks with more delightful memories of another of Foy’s river trips.

VITAL STATISTICS.

From Bonnie Disbrey.

ENGAGEMENTS.

Best wishes to the following on their engagements:
- Miss M. Wellington (Sportswear), in November.
- Miss B. Mannion (Electroplate), in December.
- Miss B. Ashcroft (Grocery), in December.
- Miss J. Malloch (Office), in January.
- Miss B. Taylor (Despatch), in December.
- Mr. H. Bird (Despatch) to Miss A. Struck (Furniture Factory), in December.
- Miss G. Jesson (Merchandise Office), in January.

MARRIAGES.

Good luck to the following, who have recently taken up matrimonial duties:
- Miss M. Burke (Staff Training Office), December 5.
- Miss N. Bailey (Staff Office), January 24.
- Miss V. Griffiths (Teenage), December 13.
- Miss J. Dufall (Cafeteria), January 3.
- Miss D. Stewart (Despatch), February 14.

21st BIRTHDAYS.

Congratulations to the following on receiving the key to majority:
- Mr. L. Riley (Mercery), December 20.
- Miss P. Neals (Kitchenware), December 27.

BEREAVEMENTS.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Mr. J. Wardrop (Manchester) and Mr. K. Reynolds (Furniture), who have recently had sad losses in their families.

RETIREMENTS.

The month of December witnessed the leave-taking of three stalwart and loyal employees, all of whom carry with them sincere wishes for the very best of luck in the future.

Mr. S. Golding retired from the Bedding Department, to which he was first appointed in 1913. This fine record of 39 years of loyalty and service could rarely be bettered.

At a presentation held on Christmas Eve, the General Manager, Mr. R. L. Manser, presented Mr. Golding with a cheque from the Board of Directors’ a clock and a wireless chair. The good wishes of the management and staff accompanied these gifts.

Mr. M. Kaukau retired from the Tailoring Work Room at the end of 19 years’ service. Known as “Peter” to his friends, he will be missed by his fellow workers. Mr. A. Smith, Group Controller Men’s Clothing, presided at the presentation of a clock, while, later, Mr. R. L. Manser, the General Manager, had pleasure in presenting a cheque from the Board.

Mr. J. W. Flanagan retired from the Store after nine years with the company. He joined the staff as a night watchman, but was later transferred to the lifts. It is in this latter occupation that most
of his friends will remember him. The Social Club found him an active and dependable helper, always ready to offer when assistance was needed.

At a gathering in the Men’s Locker Room, Mr. R. Fraser, Staff Superintendent, on behalf of his many friends, presented Joe Flanagan with a pipe-smoker’s outfit. Mr. E. R. Norman followed this with another presentation of a reading lamp, as a token of appreciation from the Social Club.

BACK STAGE RAMBLINGS.

By Jack Hayward.

I have quite a lot of news for the first issue of “Service” for 1953, but would first like to wish everyone all they wish themselves for the coming year. Not only do I send this greeting from myself, but also from every member of our happy little theatrical group.

It is with much pleasure and a feeling of pride that I write of our final efforts for 1952. These commenced with an evening of one-act plays, followed by our Christmas Revue (both of which have been mentioned in these columns already). We then decided to go further afield, and on December 10 we took the Revue to the Hollywood Repatriation Hospital, where we entertained the patients. Unfortunately, we had to appear with some gaps in our cast — Colin Johnston had had his appendix removed that day, Al Clark was on his way East, and Brian Charles could hardly speak. Consequently I had to appear in so many scenes that I met myself coming on and going off. But the evening was a great success in every way, and there were many expressions of thanks, not only from the hospital authorities, but also from the patients themselves.

Community singing was the great attraction in the bus on the way home. I am told it sounded mighty like parliament in session! The front portion of the bus was competing with the back benchers, while those in the centre were having a community concert all of their own! If noise went for anything, the singing left nothing to be desired.

Our second performance was on December 17, at Melville Rehabilitation Centre, and everyone, audience and artists alike, had a wonderful time. From curtain rise to curtain fall, the show went with a swing and finished with those on stage and those in the audience wishing each other the season’s greetings across the footlights. Supper was welcomed by all, after which came the journey home in the special bus. This, of course, was the signal for more community singing, but it proved most enjoyable this time, because, for once, everyone sang the same song at the same time!

Sports Parade

TABLE TENNIS.

By Pat Congdon.

“Be champs, chumps!” This is a warning to all staff who lunch in the Staff Cafeteria on Tuesdays. Perhaps it is too late! Maybe many of you already bear the scars of the battlefield, for Foy’s Girls’ Table Tennis Coaching Class has been under way for several weeks now.

What obstacles were we had to overcome! We have learned to ignore the sarcastic laughs of young Merv.; borne the gay banter of the electricians; braved the loud guffaws of the dart brigade and turned our backs upon the critical eyes of Jack Hayward, as he surveyed the scene from the depths of his cane chair. If we can survive these nerve-shattering difficulties, we are surely fit to take our place in any table tennis world! Seriously, however, the girls are dead keen; they practise assiduously, and there’s even some talk of their coming in at 8 o’clock for a solid hour’s play before the bell.

So far, the field has been limited to girls, but any newcomers (especially boys between the ages of 19-21) will be welcomed with open arms. Girls, if you think you’d like to play this good, clean indoor sport, even if you have never picked up a bat before in your lives, come up and see how you like it.

Boys, if you are interested, start the queue at the top of the stairs. But please don’t block the girls’ playing area. Hoping to see you all there next Tuesday at 1 o’clock.

SWIMMING.

By Bill Bennie.

Cecil Bros. Shield, 1952.

This year it was decided to enter a team to compete for the Cecil Bros. Shield. This shield, presented by a Perth shoe store, is competed for over a distance of 220 yards, each swimmer swimming 55 yards. It was originally proposed to hold the race on December 11, but, owing to unex-
pected wet weather, it was postponed until Friday, December 19, when conditions were more favourable.

In spite of mishaps and late training, Foy's team put up a beautiful bit of team work on the night of the race. The team comprised three men and one woman, all amateur swimmers. We had a bit of bad luck, however, as one of our swimmers, Miss Joy Turnbull, was taken ill with laryngitis the day before the race. Another lass, Miss Anne Drent courageously stepped in, and, without any training, joined the team, although she, too, was handicapped by earache on the night of the race.

The team finally comprised Miss Anne Drent, with Messrs. Alf Game, Bruce Marsden and Bill Bennie. The race went off without a hitch from start to finish, the night being calm and the water warm. The results were as follows:

First: R. Bennett Dental Staff.
Second: Bank of New South Wales, Perth Branch.
Third: Dalgety & Co.

Followers of amateur tennis will be pleased to know there is no truth in the rumour that Mr. Ron Parker (Heavy Electrical) will turn professional.

PERSONAL Patter FROM Perth.

By Jack Hayward.

Once again Christmas is over and everyone is setting out on a New Year full of new and good resolutions. Personally, I only made one New Year resolution — and that was not to make any!

It's hard to think of our Staff Training Officer as anything but Miss Burke, although she is now Mrs. Salter. Congratulations, and good wishes to you both!

I understand the honeymoon was notable for some expert teamwork with the car! How many punctures was it? Five punctures and four blow-outs, we heard, plus a few other things. At least, it should have given you a good grasp of Mr. Salter's vocabulary!

Eight lovely legs which stopped traffic alongside Perth window, belong (in pairs, respectively) to Joan Waters (Ladies' Shoes), Muriel Farquhar (Hosiery), Marj. Summers (Pharmacy), and Betty Stuart (Hosiery). Stockings modelled were Holeproof Paris Nylons with coloured heels and seams, and the Department had a busy time coping with the demand.

Where did Foy's come? Well, we came eighth, which wasn't too bad considering what we were up against. The winning time was 2 minutes 42.3 seconds; Foy's team's time was 3 minutes 1 second.

Next year we intend entering a team and if we start training early, I think we should stand a chance of getting a place.

TENNIS CLUB.

By Des Cullen.

Every Saturday afternoon the tennis enthusiasts are in action at Robertson Park. Pleasant surroundings, a good court, and a jolly crowd of members make these afternoons most enjoyable. The Switchboard has supplied us with two members — a very gifted player in Mrs. Phil Western, and in Miss Clare Safe, a player with a surprising court vocabulary.

Our most talented player is Mrs. Kath Coles, wife of our most improved player, Glen Coles (Heavy Electrical).

Am glad to report that Mavis Flynn has recovered from her appendix operation. She may be minus her appendix, but she's plus a nice diamond ring on her finger. In fact, she and Ken Jones pulled a fast one on us, and she now also wears a plain golden ring! All the best to Mr. and Mrs. Jones.

In the Staff Cafeteria, Mrs. Minchin gives me a cup of tea with a bright word. I pass on and get a cheery smile from Scotty (Mrs. Smith) and Ella (Mrs. Heaton), pass further along the line...
until I get to Lorraine Fair. She gives me another happy smile — but I can't pass her without paying for my cup of tea!

At the recent Rehab. concert, Kevin Harris (our "lights" man) made his debut as an actor. Must say he cuts a fine figure on stage.

At a recent picnic in National Park, I saw quite a new type of beauty treatment. One of the girls had cheese rubbed into the roots of her hair. Mouse traps are baited with cheese, so she may have been trying to find out whether "he" is a man or a mouse!

Saw famous stage star, Jessie Matthews, in the shop one day. Foy's seems to be quite a favourite haunt for visiting celebrities.

I understand it's not unusual for people to get separated sometimes at parties, but am still trying to figure out how one couple at a city beach party on New Year's Eve ended up in King's Park. It's quite a walk, even by car!

I know taxis were in heavy demand during the festive season, but think Billie Mitchell could have got something speedier than a child's trike!

Must get Vickie Harrison's husband to do his Mexican hat dance at the next party. I'm very curious!

NARROGIN NEWS.

By K. Dundas.

For the sake of sentiment, the usual heading of our notes has been retained. Perhaps a more suitable one (for this issue, anyhow) would have been "Vale Valli," because, since our last report, we have said "goodbye" to Jack Valli, who so nobly came to the fore when needed and kept us on the map in "Service."

To use his own words, Jack Valli has "returned to his first-love," having forsaken the buying (and trying to sell!) of our Dress Goods, to take up a position with one of our local newspapers, "The Reliance Weekly." We miss your chatter, Jack, but if you can keep the pen going as merrily as before, we're sure you'll get the "scoops" you desire. Anyhow, if the Anniversary Issue early in January was a sample of your ideas and work, we can only say "Congratulations, and keep it up!"

Some go, others come. Such is life in Narrogin, anyway. We take this opportunity of welcoming Frank Sandilands and Brian Sullivan. The former hails from Merredin and has joined our Domestic Department, while Brian Sullivan has thrown his weight in at the office. Brian is no newcomer to the Foy organisation, having ticked up quite a few years in Perth office. To both Brian and Frank, we give a hearty welcome, and wish you many years of happy service in Narrogin.

An item of interest, not only for Narrogin, but for all those who have the pleasure of knowing them, is that by the time this issue goes to press, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Manning will be on the high seas aboard the "Himalaya." Mr. Manning is combining business with pleasure, and in company with Mrs. Manning and their son Ian, will be spending the best part of this year in England and the Continent. We are sure there will be a lot of interest to hear on his return. In the meantime, we wish them all a happy holiday and a safe return.

Just prior to Christmas, the male members of the staff joined together in a complimentary dinner to Mr. Manning. It was a very good dinner, enjoyed by all, as was the sparkling social evening which followed. Mr. Pres. Manning (Manager at Katanning) made the trip and joined in the fun. We were not quite sure at what point Mr. Pres. became air-borne, but to lock up at Katanning, make a call at Wagin on the way, and sit down to dinner in Narrogin at 7 p.m. is not a bad effort.

Incidentally, some interesting early history of our Store was told at the dinner, so that as well...
as enjoying a pleasant evening, we learnt that, after all, life is not so hard nowadays as we sometimes think.

At an assembled gathering of the staff, prior to their departure, Mr. and Mrs. Manning were the recipients of a set of Trip Books, which we know will be filled with points of interest to be passed on at a later date.

We congratulate Mr. Don Manning on his appointment as Acting Manager during Mr. Will's absence. Also, Gordon Granger, who has taken over Mr. Don's departments, Men's Clothing and Mercery, for the period.

Another recent departure is that of Mrs. Nuttall (Domestic), and we wish her a happy time in England, with all that she desires in her visit "back home."

Other staff activities over the festive season were the Christmas party for the kiddies, with a visit from Father Christmas, and a picnic on New Year's Day to Pumphrey's Bridge. The former is an annual event; the latter, a "first" this year. But, judging by comments, it seems as though this might also become an annual event.

Enough from Narrogin. To close, we wish everyone in the Foy organisation, a happy year's trading.

KATANNING KAPERS.
By Yvonne Kessell.

My very first rambling must be a hearty thank you to all members of the Foy Family for the Christmas and New Year greetings which we received. Speaking of the New Year, I need hardly mention that we of Katanning wish all our "relative" stores a wonderfully prosperous year for 1953. May it be an all-time high among the many "milestones" of Foy & Gibson!

On the subject of the festive season, our Social Club held a Christmas party — and what an evening! It was a WOW!! When first talked about, Mr. Bailey (Asst. Manager) made the startling suggestion that the evening's entertainment was to be left entirely in the hands of two appropriate singing of some well-known carols. As it was not convenient for us to have a Christmas Tree for the younger children of the staff, it was decided by the Social Committee to send to every child under 14 a Foy's bond to the value of ten shillings. I think you will agree that this was an excellent idea, and, as you may imagine, was greatly appreciated by staff members with kiddies.

Congratulations are overdue to Mr. and Mrs. Len Mosscrop on the birth of a daughter, Gail. Len (Hardware) says this is just the thing, as they now have a pigeon pair.

Since the resignation of Mr. C. Slattery, Mr. C. McMahon has been promoted to Grocery Manager. We wish him every success.

Recent additions to our Staff are: Anne McLeod (Office), Brian Hastie (Mens' Wear) and Frank Arthur (Office).

Emma Trimming (Office) is leaving us soon. We wish her every success in whatever road of life she may follow.

When in Albany recently, spotted Owen Weise (ex office). He seems to be very satisfied with his new surroundings.

Every year on New Year's Day, the small town of Woodanilling (close to Katanning), holds a very interesting Sports' Day. They attract a bigger crowd each year, and the prize money is really worthwhile. The day ends with a ball, which a great number of Katanning folk attend.

On December 21, Katanning was favoured by a concert on the Prosser Oval, given by the local
brass band. Of course, carol singing was the item of the night, and these were beautifully rendered by the Methodist Church Choir. The only thing wrong with these Sunday night band concerts is that they're much too few and far between.

The Katanning Trotting Club held their first meeting on January 3. The weather was good, bright moonlight making it a very suitable night for Trots, and the racing was well and truly up to standard.

Cheerio, "Service." We love reading your columns, and do hope for a bright and continuous future for you.

COLLIE CALLING.

By "Coaldust."

Hello, everyone! Since the last issue, the Collie Social Club has been busy. On December 1, we conducted our first annual dinner. This was an outstanding success, and congratulations to our committee are again due.

At this function, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Angell honoured us with their presence. Unfortunately, Mr. H. L. Brisbane and Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Manser were unable to be with us, and Mr. Angell brought their apologies.

Here is an excerpt from the local press about the dinner:

FOY'S FIRST STAFF DINNER AT COLLIE.

Sound Progress in Three Years.

Through the efforts of the Social Club and the Management, Foy's Collie Store held its first staff dinner in the Friendly Societies' Hall, on Monday night. There was a big attendance of employees, their wives and friends. Among the guests were Mr. R. C. Angell, Manager of Foy's country stores, and Mrs. Angell, of Perth.

Progress that Foy's has made at Collie in the past three years was outlined by the branch Manager (Mr. C. Stark), and also by Mr. Angel. Confidence in the future of Collie and in the future of the branch was expressed by these two speakers.

The firm's Social Club chairman (Mr. George Wittorf) presided at the dinner. Several toasts were honoured, and special reference was made to the excellent catering carried out by Mrs. Stone.

Good Fellowship.

The good fellowship that existed between the employees and the management was mentioned by Mrs. Zilko, who was called on to propose a toast to the management. She said the Social Club's activities had the sincere support of the branch Manager and the buyers in the various departments.

"We are making every effort to foster a family spirit in the staff," Mr. Stark said, in reply. "It is only three years since Foy's came to Collie, and a lot of progress has been made since then. When Foy's took over its present store there were only 20 employees — today there are 53. That, in itself, is a good indication of the progress that the firm is making at Collie. There has also been a big increase in turnover, which speaks well for the future of the branch."

£1400 for Charity.

Through the efforts of Foy's Collie Social Club, £1400 had been raised for local charities in little more than 12 months. Mr. Stark also said:

WE FAREWELL VAL. ROSEL.

It is with some regret that the Company bid adieu, on December 31, 1952, to one of our most capable and popular members, Miss Val Rosel. Val left our employ to take up housekeeping. She was married to Mr. Andy Della on January 3.

Married recently in Collie, W.A., were Andy Della and Val Rosel. Happy bride worked in Grocery Department, Collie Store.

A presentation of a Ranleigh Tray and Wine Service was made to this lass. Mr. Stark paid tribute to Val as a worker on our staff, and, on behalf of all, wished her the best for a happy future life.

THERE'S MONEY IN MANJIMUP!

Readers will recall the report in our October issue, of the drive by the people of Manjimup to raise money for the Ambulance sub-centre. The usual contribution to the "Meanderings from Manjimup" column in these pages having gone astray in the mails, apparently, we report the result of this appeal by quoting directly from the front page of a recent issue of the "Manjimup-Warren Times":—

KAY JOHNSTON IS AMBULANCE QUEEN.

Pioneer's Daughter is Crowned in Spectacular Setting.

The biggest crowd ever to gather in the Manjimup Town Hall, witnessed, on Friday, the crowning of Kay, 18-year-old, Manjimup born, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. K. Johnston, and grand-daughter of pioneer businessman, 84-year-old William Johnston, for whom it was a happy occasion.

The ceremony was the climax of a period of two and a half months of high-pressure organising, during which five lovely young girls representing Foy's, Timber, Tobacco, Farmers and Services, raised the magnificent sum of £3416 for the Manjimup St. John Ambulance sub-centre. Additional to this is £200 anticipated as profit from the ball.

The appeal resulted from steps taken by Foy’s Social Committee to promote such a contest in the name of the St. John Ambulance; soon, four other candidates were found and the competition began.
For the ball on Friday night the Town Hall was given a false ceiling with black and white streamers (the colours of the ambulance) and, as such, it was a test of the ability of Mrs. Lorna Roberts. With the addition of clusters of balloons, the finished effect was a triumph.

Across the stage was a huge banner, "Foy's Charity Ball." On stage was the Balingup Black and White Band. Below, on a special low dais, was Noel Mouritz's Band. With two bands, continuous music was available to ball patrons for the first time.

A 12 ft. long blackboard was placed above the entrance to the hall, on which progressive totals for the queens were quoted. The last 20 seconds of the voting time was "gonged off." A period of suspense followed. At 11 p.m. a slip containing the final count was handed to Mr. John Barker, Chairman of Foy's committee.

To thunderous applause he announced the total proceeds, which far exceeded the wildest anticipations of those behind the campaign.

Queen Arrives for Crowning.

The five contestants, headed by Kay Johnston were heralded by a fanfare from the band and walked slowly to the stage. There the winner received the special robe, and mace, and was crowned and congratulated by Mrs. H. L. Brisbane, wife of the Chairman of Directors of Foy & Gibson (W.A.) Ltd., Perth. The other four queens were grouped two on each side.

To each of the five, Mrs. R. C. Angel, wife of Foy's Branch Stores Manager, presented a gold wrist watch, and extended heartiest congratulations on their wonderful performance. In expressing sincere thanks to his own staff, who championed the contest, Foy's Manjimup Store Manager, Mr. H. Low, said that the ultimate result had gone beyond their most sanguine hopes. It was impossible to thank each one who had worked so hard for the success of the appeal, but to his own staff, the other candidates, and their committees, and the public, there was a real debt of gratitude owing.

Pioneer Drove First Ambulance.

It was a particularly happy occasion for Mr. William Johnston to see his grand-daughter crowned queen. He recollected how he had taken up the first business block in Manjimup 42 years ago, and in that year drove the first "ambulance" to Bridgetown. It was a wagon drawn by two horses.

Mr. H. L. Brisbane said the outcome of the appeal reflected widely on the generosity of the people of the district. When Foy's came to Manjimup and amalgamated with the Manjimup Trading Co., they gained something more than a business connection; they found ready-made goodwill and the friendships of men like Messrs. Wm. Johnston and J. W. Magereson and a lot of fine people held in high public esteem.

On behalf of Foy's committee he handed over the cheque for £3416, and expressed the hope that the cause of St. John would prosper from it. The chairman of the St. John Ambulance committee (Mr. L. Thompson) thanked Mr. Brisbane for the donation and pointed out that only in June last was the suggestion made for another ambulance. The committee's own endeavours proved fruitless until Mr. Barker offered to take up the cause, and the outcome was now history. He paid tribute and thanks to all those who had worked so splendidly. He said he was president of the R.S.L. sub-branch in 1942, when a short campaign was responsible for the raising of £700 to purchase the ambulance. Now, after 10 years, it appeared that a new one was in sight. In support of the claim for a new ambulance was the increase in Perth trips, which, in three years, had risen from 13 to 25 this year. Incidentally, he said, 22 of the Perth trips this year had been done by Mr. Percy Andrews (applause).

Mrs. Thompson then presented each queen with a three-strand pearl necklace from the St. John sub-centre. In turn, the queens presented posies to Mesdames Angel, Thompson, Brisbane and Low.

Dancing was then resumed under the capable direction of Mr. W. Adams, who was M.C., while, at intervals, patrons went to the R.S.L. Hall there to partake of a delicious supper. Here the volunteers did a herculean job, and it was necessary to request the band to play for an additional hour until 3 a.m. to allow the huge supper commitments to be met. It was almost daybreak when the various members went their various ways home, at the close of Manjimup's greatest night ever.

To Miss Kay Johnston, who is, of course, a member of the staff of Foy's, Manjimup, goes the applause of all others in our organisation, with sincere congratulations to the other four girls, who, not only did so well in their individual candidatures, but, jointly, were responsible for raising £2257 of the £3416 gathered in. Miss Johnston's total being £1059.

Everybody admires a good loser—except his wife.

* * * * *

The original mistake was inventing the calendar. This led, in due course, to having Mondays.

The man who can make a woman listen, usually does it by talking to someone else.

* * * * *

A lot of women are trying to see who can get the most out of an evening gown.
VALE BILL ASHYB.

With feelings of profound loss do we think of Bill Ashby, who met with a fatal accident whilst riding his bicycle on December 22, 1952. Bill was 51 years of age.

Commencing at Eagley Mills on trucking on July 19, 1920, Bill Ashby soon became a hosiery presser, a job he was to follow for a number of years. From the 1930’s, he moved to the Fitzroy store, where he was a salesman in the Mercery Department. During recent years he has been on the staff of the knitting mill, in charge of Hosiery Knitting Stock and Control. Mr. Ashby was an able man in all sock matters.

All his hosiery workmates regarded him as a good sport for, although not an athlete himself, he took a keen interest in all activities. The last time the majority of Eagley folk saw Bill was on the occasion of the Eagley children’s Christmas party, where again he was a ready helper, this time as the genial fellow operating the merry-go-round for the kiddies all the afternoon.

For many years Bill Ashby was a great church worker, firstly at the Methodist Church in Wellington street, Clifton Hill, then at Penders Grove, Thornbury, whilst later life saw him at the Baptist Church, High street, Croxtown.

Appreciated by all who came in contact with him for his unfailing good humour and willingness to give a hand whenever he could, he will be greatly missed.

To his widow, his daughter and his son-in-law (Mr. Allan Medforth, Collingwood Despatch) we offer heartfelt sympathy in the great sadness which has come to them.

BASKETBALL REVIEW.

Before long we shall be all set for another season of basketball. What the future holds for us, is in the lap of the gods. Whether we shall gain some new girls with plenty of talent, and who are keen enough to train hard, we do not know.

Over the last three years we have been fortunate with our “A” team, in having seven girls keen on the game — and keen to do well. These are the girls who get to the top; their performances over these years are really something.

This year we want to be able to build up our “B” team into a strong combination. For this team we need new blood; but they must be girls who are going to be keen on the game and also willing to give up a small amount of their time for practice once a week. Surely there are a few girls around the mill who have played basketball at school. If so, come along and carry on from where you left off and learn some more about the game. Once you get started and mix in with our happy group, you will never regret it. You can get full particulars by getting in touch with Beryl Remfrey, Secretary of Eagley Basketball Club, or Mr. W. Lyons, both at the Mills General Office.

Let’s have a peep through the keyhole and look at the “A” team’s seven stars. This is a line-up well worth looking at, because they have a remarkably excellent record. In actual home-and-home games, they have not been defeated for three seasons. Here is the line up:

In defence we have Carrie Cain (Captain) as Goal Defence. Here is a girl who is a really great leader, and knows how to keep her team togethet. She also keeps them calm at critical moments. Carrie has a sure pair of hands, and when on her game, is a really good leaper at outmarking her opponents. Her only fault in play is that at times she lets her opponents wander. When it is a hard game, then we see her game lift to a high standard.

In defence is Denny Baxter, a really good defender, full of fight and determination. Denny is a girl able to anticipate her opponents’ moves and so intercept many balls around the basket which could be dangerous.

These two girls have done a good job together for three seasons. They have also developed on the court into a hard hitting pair, who, very early in a match, have their opponents frightened of them. Off the court, they are as gentle and romantic as any other glamour girls!

Defence wing holds Norma Flanagan, a very fast-moving girl (only on the court, boys!), and a very quick thinker in a tight spot. Norma is the most versatile girl in the team, being capable of playing equally well in any position on the court.

Attack wing is Joy Andrews, a fast-moving girl, who is developing into a very accurate pass, which is a great asset to any goal thrower around the basket. The only thing holding Joy back with her game is herself. She is her own greatest opponent. When in the mood, we see flashes of brilliant basketball; then something will upset her concentration and it is gone. If she can overcome this,

Carrie Cane.

Denny Baxter.

Norma Flanagan.

Joy Andrews.
we will have an attack wing capable of defeating any defence wing that is placed alongside of her.

Centre is Barbara Pearson, a real tiger in action. It is goodnight to anyone in her way when she is after the ball. Barbara is an ideal centre player, being an excellent fighter — one who will never give in until that final bell — and a wonderful position player.

In attack we have Eileen Cain, a new member of the “A” team, having been promoted from the “B” team half-way through last season. She fully justified her position, especially in last year’s Grand Final, where experience and temperament play a large part. Although lacking in experience, Eileen proved she had the temperament and came through with flying colours. She still needs to gain a little more confidence in herself. When she does, I am sure we shall see a really good player developing.

Now we come to the girl who has the responsibility of converting all the good play of the other six girls into a score. Yes, the Goal Thrower. Without a good girl up there, no matter how good a team is, their play is wasted unless a score can come from all their effort. The girl in this case is Shirley Baxter. A player with a ton of ability, fast, and a really good leap. When on her throwing, she will hold her own with any girl in the game. Her position play and flashes of brilliance are something well worth looking at. Yes, some of you footballers could learn a thing or two here! Last year Shirley won the award for Best and Fairest for the second time. Her sister, Denny, has also won this award, so it seems to run in the family.

By the way Eileen Cain is a sister of Carrie, the Captain of the team. We go in for sisters in a big way!

One girl who plays a great part in keeping this line-up of stars together is the secretary, Beryl Remfrey. Beryl, unfortunately, has been unable to play for the past two seasons owing to an accident. In carrying out her duties as secretary, she has shown that she is just as capable as she was when playing. When playing for the team, her position was defence wing and centre, where her wonderful passing became one of the main features of her play, and a great opening for team play. Beryl was also one of the most promising junior cricketers and softball players in this State, and I am sure that it will not be long before she is making her presence felt once again in all these spheres. We certainly hope to see her out for practice early this coming season.

—“BASKETEER.”

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY.

The Directors of Eagley Mills again gave much pleasure to children of employees when they held a Christmas Party on December 8 last for all kiddies aged from 3 to 12, accompanied by their parents.

Many were the favourable comments made afterwards upon the toys, the electric train, rides around Treasure Island, the merry-go-round, and the afternoon tea. But most mentioned of all was Father Christmas.

With attention divided between Father Christmas and the camera, little Marie Hutchby, nevertheless, was a happy participant in the fun at the Eagley Mills Christmas party. Marie has the unusual distinction of having both a parent and a grandparent working in the Mills, the latter, Mrs. C. Hutchby, being employed in the Blanket Finishing Room. Her father, John Hutchby, of the Weaving Department, is, unfortunately, ill.

Bill Davis (Eagley Warehouse) tells us that Father Christmas only could come once a year — otherwise his legs would wear out! But if our Father Christmas found he had undertaken a big job, he evidently relished it, for he was voted the best ever. We are wondering when he is going to start growing his whiskers for next year.
because they are the only Father Christmas "decoration" he needs to cultivate. He is just endowed by nature with all the rest of the attributes.

The sincere thanks of all go to the management for providing this grand afternoon's entertainment, and to the team of helpers who so kindly assisted in making it such a memorable occasion for the youngsters.

Mutual Aids Begins 5th Year With Fine Record

With the chairman, Mr. J. G. Doig, presiding, the fourth annual meeting of Mutual Aid members was held in the City Store on Thursday, February 12.

The secretary's report revealed that during the year 70 members received payments totalling £1628/10/-, as against £792/0/8 paid last year in respect of 66 members. This substantial increase in the degree to which claims were met is made more noteworthy by the fact that there was a slight drop in membership. The difference is negligible, as the following figures show:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fitzroy C'wood</th>
<th>Prahran</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1952-52</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952-53</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>387</td>
</tr>
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but any reduction in membership could mean a corresponding lessening of income, and it reflects great credit upon the Trustees that by wise administration in the building up of the Fund, they were able to make such liberal grants to claimants.

As was reported to the meeting, many quite large claims were received during the latter part of the year. They arose from cases of hardship so extreme that the Trustees were moved to act to the limit of generosity. It is heartening to know that the strain was thus eased for those who were compelled to seek this relief.

Despite the slight shrinkage of membership, income for the year increased from £1529 to £1717. Half of this amount was paid by the Company (which has always contributed on a £1 for £1 basis) and the members of Mutual Aid expressed, once again, their deep appreciation of the Board's generosity in subsidising the Fund in this way.

The warmest thanks were tendered also to the Store Advisors for their sympathetic and understanding co-operation in making first contact with claimants and for the most helpful reports submitted by them for the guidance of the Trustees.

The large disbursements notwithstanding, the
Fund is in a strong position, the balance-sheet showing a credit balance of £1766, compared with £1629 last year. Those who administer the Fund deserve the congratulations of all for their fine efforts and achievements.

During the year, Mr. F. A. Hunting, Trustee; Mr. K. Campbell, Trustee and Treasurer, and Mr. E. Doig, Auditor, tendered their resignations. There were accepted with the utmost regret, and the Trustees recorded their deep appreciation of the splendid service rendered by each of these office-bearers.

Mr. R. Freestone has joined Mr. M. R. Sinclair as an Auditor of the Fund. The excellent work done by these two gentlemen was warmly acknowledged by Trustees and members alike.

The meeting closed with a vote of sincere thanks to Mr. Doig for his inspiring work as Chairman. This is no "seat warming" job, as the Chairman of Mutual Aid has a dual responsibility in that his position are combined the safeguarding of the interests of both the members and the Company.

In accordance with the rules, the Trustees retire after the annual meeting, but are eligible for re-election by the member-groups within the various stores, at separate meetings held shortly after the annual meeting.

We are happy to record that the following people will hold office during the year 1953-54:

**Chairman of Trustees:** Mr. J. G. Doig.

**City:** Trustee, Mr. E. H. Jones. Advisors: Miss G. Goodbrand and Mr. L. Francisco.

**Collingwood:** Trustee, Mr. J. McCuskey. Advisors: Mrs. V. Simpson and Mr. H. Anderson.

**Fitzroy:** Trustee, Mr. T. Chatto. Advisors: Mrs. F. Fraser and Mr. E. Stone.

**Prahran:** Trustee, Mr. S. Thomas. Advisors: Miss M. Pratt and Mr. L. Tully.

**Secretary:** Mr. E. H. Jones.

**Treasurer:** Mr. T. Chatto.

### THE PURPOSE OF MUTUAL AID.

Briefly, Mutual Aid is a helping hand in time of need or distress. A man or woman is suddenly faced with an immediate problem or a dark future. A serious illness may cause near disaster to a family’s finances.

When troubles of this nature threaten it is remarkable how friends are moved to help. But those colleagues themselves may be in a position to offer only modest assistance, no matter how willing the spirit which moves them. This is where Mutual Aid comes in.

Acting as a channel through which the most humble gifts can pass, Mutual Aid makes it possible for a substantial grant to be made, in £s let us say, in place of the stream of odd shillings which might flow to the recipient, if those who proffered help acted individually.

Through Mutual Aid you can help your pal, or anyone else who is in trouble, by means of simple weekly contributions on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly Salary</th>
<th>Contribution per Week</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than £2/10/-</td>
<td>One penny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£2/10/- but less than £5</td>
<td>Twopence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£5 but less than £7/10/-</td>
<td>Threepence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£7/10/- but less than £10</td>
<td>Fourpence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£10 and over</td>
<td>Sixpence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you are not a member of Mutual Aid, give this wonderful scheme some thought. For apart from the glow you can feel in the satisfaction of having helped your neighbour, the time could come when the aching heart is YOURS. Should that happen, you would then learn the full significance of Mutual Aid, for it is like the tide, it flows out—and it flows in.

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### Colac Chronicle

Compiled by Les. Atyeo.

**FASHION BUYER LEAVES COLAC.**

After a period of service of some 16 consecutive years and another two years away back in 1910, Mrs. I. Marks retired from Bilson's in December. Mrs. Marks was Manageress and Buyer of the Fashion Department, where she made many friends during her long service. On leaving, a presentation of a cabinet of cutlery was made by Mr. Miles on behalf of the staff, and in a neat speech in reply, Mrs. Marks remarked on the spirit of good fellowship which had always existed between members of the staff, and she thanked all those who had helped her so much over the years.

**BON VOYAGE.**

Early in March, Mr. and Mrs. Alan Bilson, and their daughter Fay, will leave for England, where son, Ian, has been for the past two years. The family plans to be away for about 12 months, and, of course, will "do" the Coronation.

**PEOPLE IN THE NEWS.**

Recent departures from the Colac Store have been Miss Preece and Mrs. Binns. Miss Preece, Correspondence Clerk, has returned to her home in Mount Gambier, whilst Mrs. Binns, of the Boys' Department, has retired, to live with her daughter in Casterton. Both ladies received gifts from the staff, as well as the best wishes of all for their happiness in the future.

A departure from state rather than from station was made since the last issue by Miss Eileen Embray, who has now become Mrs. Perce Menzies. Mrs. Menzies has been a very popular figure in the Fashion Section for some nine years, and we are all pleased that she will continue in that capacity.

Congratulations were showered on another very popular member of the staff when Miss Margaret Callahan (Display) effectively displayed a fine set of gems on a certain finger of her left hand. To Margaret and her fiancé, Mr. Bill Dillon, we extend best wishes.
After a sojourn of a year or two in Corowa, Mr. Ken Donohue has rejoined the Furniture Department, whilst Mr. Garnet Cook has rejoined the firm — this time in the despatch section. A warm welcome is given to both our former colleagues.

We are pleased to report that the condition of Mr. Chester Baker (Furniture) has improved considerably, but, although he is getting about a little, he is still not well enough to cope with the difficulties of the euphonium he plays in the Salvation Army Band. "Chester, we all wish you well, and a speedy recovery!"

COLAC SUFFERS ANOTHER DISASTROUS FIRE.

The destruction by fire of the Lake Colac Rowing Sheds and 13 craft, at 3.40 a.m. on January 23, was a great blow to one of the town's finest clubs. The whole structure, situated on the lake's edge, and its contents were completely destroyed. Included in the contents were trophies won during the club's 76 years' existence, as well as many photographs of early programs, which were of great historical value and, unfortunately, irreplaceable. The public response to a rebuilding appeal has been most encouraging, and the prompt and unsolicited donation of £100 from our own Company has been greatly appreciated.

THE CREEPING TERROR.

The Melbourne press has lately given prominence to the effects of the flooding of Lake Colac, which has gained the title of "The Creeping Terror." The name, though rather sinister is, nevertheless, an apt one, as the water is relentlessly creeping over valuable pasture land in its passage to the Barwon River and then to the sea.

Up to two or three years ago, the level of Lake Colac was well below its overflow, and the series of "depressions" known as Lough Calvert was covered with some of the finest strawberry clover in the State. Then came a period of wet seasons, and Lake Colac, fed by two creeks — the Baron-

Terror."

garock and Deans — filled up, finally to overflow into Lough Calvert until today some 12,000 acres of fine pastures are covered with water, in places up to 15 feet.

The flood has now crept to Eurack, about 12 miles from Lake Colac, and reference to maps of a similar occurrence, which took place about 1850, shows that it will gradually creep on until it reaches the Barwon River. But this is a slow business, and in the meantime much valuable land is laid waste and farmers and the country at large suffer from the effects of the devastation. So it is planned to cut a channel through an adjoining lake, a total length of approximately 12 miles, directing into the Birregurra Creek — which is rather a flattering title for a meandering depression — and so to the Barwon.

If this plan is carried out, a system of locks would be required to control the flow into the Barwon, so that it would not enter when the river could not accommodate the extra flood. This can be done by making a permanent pondage of part of Lough Calvert. The State Rivers and
Water Supply Commission Engineers are working on the plans. All that is needed is money, and that problem is receiving the attention of the State Government.

More National Safety Awards for Foy Drivers

Issued in connection with the "Freedom from Accident" competitions of the National Safety Council of Australia, further awards have been made to many of our men in the Retail and Mills Despatch Departments. The presentations were made at Collingwood on Thursday, February 19, by Mr. R. S. Forbes, Secretary of the Council.

These are the men who were honoured:

First Year Certificate.—G. BAKER (Eagley), and ALAN KANE.
First and Second Year Certificates.—ROBBIE GRAY, BRUCE HARKER, CHARLIE ROBINSON, and JACKIE CADDELL.
Third and Fourth Year Certificates.—HERBIE ROGERS.
Fourth Year Certificate.—RUSS EVANS, PHIL WARTON, CHARLIE TAYLOR.
Fifth Year Silver Medallion and Sixth Year Bar.—WALLY GREGORY.
Sixth and Seventh Year Bars.—ANDY RENNIE, LAURIE MALCOLM, LES TULLY, FRANK BELL, MAC BURNS.
Seventh and Eighth Year Bars.—TOMMY BREWER, EDDIE BAKER.
Tenth Year Gold Medal, Eleventh Year Bar.—GRAHAM FIELD (Eagley).
Eleventh Year Bar to Gold Medal.—DAVE MEAGHER.
Twelfth Year Bar to Gold Medal.—MAL FORBES.
Thirteenth and Fourteenth Year Bars.—CHARLIE MATHIESON (Eagley).
Fourteenth and Fifteenth Year Bars.—FRANK CUNNINGHAM.
Fifteenth Year Medal, Sixteenth Year Bar.—GEORGE MOATE.
Eighteenth and Nineteenth Year Bars.—JACK WARTON.
Nineteenth Year Silver Bar, Twentieth Year Gold Badge.—F. W. MARTIN.
Twenty-first and Twenty-second Year Silver Badges.—TOM KELLY.
Twentieth Year Gold Badge, Twenty-first and Twenty-second Year Silver Badge.—BERT ALDRIDGE.

The congratulations of the Council are matched by our own pride, when we say "Well done, you chaps, very well done!"

Chapel Street Chatter

On Christmas Eve, we took part in the very fine presentation of a writing desk and china cabinet from the company, and a standard lamp from the staff, to Miss Grace Young, Buyer of Wools, Needlework and Haberdashery, on the occasion of her retirement after 40 years' service. In addition to her own fine contribution to the company's welfare, Miss Young has, over the years, trained many young juniors and given them a good grounding in her various sections. Every one wishes Miss Young the very best of luck, and continued good health in the years to come.

Mr. J. Sauer, Manager of Dress Materials, leaves us at the end of this month. The open road is calling, and we wish him all the best.

Miss Molly Baird, Buyer for Jewellery, Handbags, Stationery and Perfume, has now been transferred as Buyer to Wools, Haberdashery, Needlework and Perfume, while Miss Elsie Edis, Buyer for Laces and Umbrellas, has taken over Jewellery, Handbags and Stationery. To these two young Buyers we offer hearty congratulations and every success in their new spheres.

Mr. Frank Gurry, our Carpet Manager, was transferred to the City during this month, and we welcome Mr. R. Davies to his place. Our very best wishes are extended to them both.

Mr. L. J. Rooke, our Store Manager, has been elected President of the Prahran Chamber of Commerce. We are quite sure this honour has been conferred on him for the energy and help he has given in every direction. It is also an honour to Foy's that he had been chosen so soon. Heartiest congratulations, Mr. Rooke.

Anne Mavric, of Perth Office, enjoys the sun at National Park. (Note: There are some trees in the picture, too!)

Members of our staff attended a buffet tea on January 21, to farewell Mr. Frank Hunting, our Staff Supervisor, who has been transferred to a new position in the City store. After a very hearty tea, Mr. L. J. Rooke, in a very fine speech, spoke feelingly of Mr. Hunting, and all his close associations with Prahran staff matters. Mr. L. Jones supported him, and Miss Kitchin spoke for the ladies. Various other members then rose and gave personal thanks to Mr. Hunting. Obviously
touched very deeply, Mr. Hunting rose, and for a few moments, found it just a bit too overwhelming to start. However, he made it—and what a speech!

We shall long remember the words spoken by Mr. Rooke and Mr. Hunting on this occasion. The presentation to Mr. Hunting of a mantel clock and leather brief bag was made by Mr. Rooke.

Following Mr. Hunting's transfer, a new Mutual Aid Trustee had to be nominated, and Mr. S. Thomas, Buyer for Manchester, was selected. Also Mr. L. Tully was chosen to be advisor for the male staff, and Miss M. Pratt for the ladies.

The children's Christmas party on December 20, was a grand success. Ninety-two children were present, and the merry-go-round, submarine and aeroplane rides were in great demand. Later, games were played in the park close by, where the youngsters were entertained by our happy-go-lucky clowns, Mr. H. Watson and Mr. A. Dorman. a popular pair indeed! Then back to the very festive kiddies' party. Father Christmas (Mr. Lewis) arrived with gifts for all, and brought to an end a very happy afternoon.

Very many thanks to one and all for their help in giving the children such a treat.

**Au Revoir, Margaret Riggs!**

If the Town Hall clock suddenly fell out of its tower, the difference it would make to our daily habits would be comparable with the feeling of loss which we in Foy's felt on Friday, January 9. That day, a woman finished her work in the

Her last day, after 64 years — but Miss Margaret Riggs was still smiling.

—(Photograph reproduced by courtesy of “The Argus.”)

Glove Department of the City Store and went home. She had done that often, of course. But this time, it wasn't quite the same — for Miss Margaret Riggs wasn't coming back.

So far as we can calculate, Margaret Riggs, at the moment of her final homegoing, had been associated with Foy's for 64 years and about 2 months, 2 days and 9 hours. But we are afraid that the last figure may have to be amended to “7 hours,” for, on January 9, Margaret seemed to neglect her duties somewhat whilst she posed for press photographers and was interviewed by a bunch of reporters, who were much more interested in the “64 years” end of her service record.

What a record it is! Even in our own organisation, where we have had — and have — so many examples of outstanding long service, there has been no one quite like Miss Riggs, and we shall be very surprised if her achievement has been equalled or surpassed very often, either in Australia or beyond. To be quite fair, we should mention that since she completed 50 years with us, in 1938, Margaret Riggs has been a part-time employee, having come in to “give a hand” at the busy week-end period. But it was a “permanent” part-time attendance, in that she never failed to turn up and never worked anywhere else, betweentimes.

It was in November, 1888, that Miss Riggs joined Foy’s. She came to us straight from school — and just stayed. What's more, she stayed in the same department, the gloves. When she started in the old Collingwood Store, hosiery and gloves were one section. Later came a division. Miss Riggs remained in the gloves, and when the City Store was opened, she moved to Bourke Street to bring a wealth of knowledge and experience with her.

Much of Miss Riggs' life with us in the early days was outlined in an article which appeared in August, 1948, issue of “Service,” in celebration of her 60th anniversary. Summarising this now, it might be said of Margaret Riggs that “gloves were her love.” Gloves — and the people who wore them, that is — for the story of the glove is, to a marked degree, a reflection of the social changes among the community at large.

When Miss Riggs first handled gloves, everybody wore them. Such gloves, too. The woollen glove had not appeared, nor had anyone heard of artificial silk. Instead, gloves were fashioned from lisle, fabric, cashmere, and pure silk, or fine skins like kid, gazelle, reindeer, suede and lamb. One beautiful skin in great demand in the old days was ibex. Remember, too, that for the ball or the theatre 40 years ago, woman's shapely
arm was usually sheathed to the elbow in a soft, multiple-button skin glove.

Allied to the glove section at the turn of the century was a section where silk tights were sold. These tights, which were fully fashioned from sheer silk, were in great demand for use in opera, ballet, pantomime and, of course, the circus. In the course of her work Miss Riggs met many people famous in the theatre. She recalls public favourites like Flora Graper, Violet Varley, Florence Young and Nellie Stewart, whilst among the men was that idol of the "galllery girls," Howard Vernon.

Reminiscing the other day about those exciting years, Miss Riggs mentioned that following the appearance of that earlier article in "Service," she had been made very happy by a visit from Howard Vernon's daughter, whilst among other callers were relations of Violet Varley.

As her completion of nearly 65 years' service would indicate, Miss Riggs has been long blessed with good health, and a most enviable vitality. Her mind is as clear as crystal but she never lets memories of the past cloud her view of today. One could imagine that Miss Riggs has always been "as modern as the moment." That would explain her capacity for gaining the interest of people — and creating a lasting impression. Certainly among her happiest recollections are the friendships among both colleagues and customers which have spanned many years.

Indicative of these is the regard for Miss Riggs held by various members of the Foy family. Although it was so long ago as 1888 that Miss Riggs did her first day's work with us, the partnership between Francis Foy and William Gibson had ended four years before. In other words, there was no Foy in the business when she started. Yet over the years, connections of the original Mark and Francis Foy have paid friendly visits to our stores, and there was always a thought for Miss Riggs. She has been such a tangible link with the old days.

Again illustrating the place which Miss Riggs holds in the memories of those who have "grown up" with us, but outside our walls, is the visit to the City Store some little time ago of a middle-aged businessman from Western Australia. Approaching Miss Riggs, he asked where he could get gloves for himself. When directed to the men's store he replied, "But can't you fit me with gloves yourself?" As she explained that the men's and women's departments were quite separate, Miss Riggs sensed from his teasing insistence that there was more behind his questioning than the usual enquiry, so she asked, "Why did you come to me for gloves?" With a chuckle, came the reply, "Well my mother used to tell me that when I was a child and we lived in Melbourne, many a time you sat me upon the counter and tried gloves on for me."

This remark has bearing, of course, upon the fact that 40 or 50 years ago, the well-dressed family was markedly "glove conscious." Gloves were even fitted on children in perambulators. Moreover, purchases were on a family basis. Half a century ago, offices and other places of business were not thronged with the freedom-enjoying teenagers we know today. When the young girl of good family needed gloves, it was mother who took her — and her sisters — to the store and outfitted the lot of them.

Social conventions imposed similar restrictions upon the beau of 1910. Not for him the selection of stockings as a sweetheart gift for birthday or Christmas. Gracious, no! Girls just didn't have legs in those days. But the young bucks "went to town" with gloves for their beloveds, and at appropriate times of the year gloves were specially packaged in lots of three or six pairs, so that Augustus, on bended knee, could tender a chaste, but impressive, gift to his demure Emily. As Miss Riggs recalls with a smile, such gifts were not as extravagant as they sound — by today's values — since the dearest gloves cost in the region of 10/6 a pair.

Thus does history unwind as Miss Riggs looks back over her long association with Foy's. She knew the old Collingwood Store before the subway was built; before even the first of the mill buildings was erected. Well does she recall the rising of the Fitzroy Store, for which the sub-

Miss Riggs as we knew her in 1906.
were the services of our own uniformed commis-
sionaire, Mr. Ward.

Thus has Melbourne grown; thus has Foy &
Gibson marched with progress. Thus, too, has
Margaret Riggs matured in sweetness and dignity
with the years. Difficult is it to find words to
express our feelings as we watch this remark-
able woman withdraw from our ranks and retire
to private life. As we reach for a phrase with
which to farewell our young octogenarian col-
league and friend, our thoughts seem to crystallise
into a single sentence:

"MARGARET RIGGS, WE ARE VERY HAPPY
TO HAVE KNOWN YOU."

CITY STORE PARTY MADE YOUNGSTERS
VERY HAPPY.

The rafters of the Dining Hall, Bourke Street,
echoed again and again the cheers and laughter
of the children who attended the annual Christ-
mas party, on December 20. Ninety-six children
Father Christmas, received vociferous greetings
from the young guests. To their utter delight,
Father Christmas sat at the party table, which
was laden with balloons, popcorn, lemonade, ice
cream and jelly. After thrilling rides in the flying
boats, every child received a present from Father
Christmas, and there was a final roar of appro-
val when a balloon and a box of lollies were
indisputably placed in each pair of little hands.
Unanimous was the decision, "Jolly good show."

Apart from the purpose of ensuring that the
kiddies enjoyed themselves, the afternoon showed
the wonderful social spirit with which all present
worked for its complete success.

Mr. A. J. Thomas, Store Manager, on behalf
of all executives, thanked the committee for the
capable and smooth organising of the party.
Thanks go also to Mr. R. Pestell and Mr. J. G.
Doig for their great help, with special mention of
Miss Grace Goodbrand and Mrs. L. Rowe (Staff
Office). Nor could appreciation be greater of the
contribution from Mrs. Berry and her girls, who
worked so well on the vital job of catering for
the children and providing afternoon tea for their
parents.

Scattered around today are 96 children with
memories of another grand Christmas party.
—LES. MCEWAN.

VOICE OF THE VOYAGER

Service afloat during the war years brought
Londoner Fred Baines to Australia. He liked the
country so much that in 1951 he came back, as a
civilian, and found a job in the Men's Sportswear,
City store. Now Fred is on the move again,
determined to see as much of the world as he can.
He left for England on February 3. The night
before he sailed he wrote the following note:

"Could I, through 'Service,' thank all my
colleagues of the lower ground floor, for their
parting gift to me. I have enjoyed working
with them all, and hope that one day I shall
see them again.

"I have very high hopes of seeing those two
tennis enthusiasts, Kevin Byrne (Workwear)
and Kevin Matear (Boys' Clothing), playing on
the centre court at Wimbledon, my home
suburb, one of these days.—Yours, etc., F.
Baines."

To Fred Baines, good luck from us all. His
London address, by the way, is 17 Cochrane Rd.,
Wimbledon, S.W. 19.

The Quiet Corner

For some, the happiness we wished each other
such a few weeks ago, on the eve of a New Year,
have been diminished by the loss of someone near
and dear. To those who have known such sor-
row, we offer our sympathy. We think of:

Miss D. Craike, Haberdashery, Bilson's Pty. Ltd.,
Colac. Her sister died on February 2.

Miss Thelma Kirkwood, Hosiery Knit, Eagley
Mills, whose mother died on February 11.

Mrs. Elsie Wright and her children, whose hus-
band and father, Mr. William Wright, well
loved in the Men's Clothing, City Store, died
on January 31.

"The Will be Gone"
The Gibsonia Social Club

HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR BASKETBALL.

[Mr. Bill Lyons, who contributes the following notes, is well known in the Social Club sphere. Working in the Staff Office at Eagley Mills, Mr. Lyons has long been in close contact with all Mill employees, and, with his keen personal interest in Basketball, he slipped very easily into the position of Coach, when, with the launching of the Social Club, Basketball was taken up with great enthusiasm, particularly by the girls at Eagley. Bill Lyons, who has been coaching the Mill teams for some eight years now, draws on his wide experience to give guidance to them and to all others who play, or would like to play, this great game. —Ed. “S.”]

I hope this small contribution will assist those who are keen on improving their basketball — both girls and boys.

Eleven Hints on Passing.

1. The first fundamental to learn is that of handling the ball.
2. In receiving the ball go to meet it. It may be at an angle — catch it; then straighten out.
3. Do not pass to a girl going away from you.
4. Pass across the floor. The pass is less apt to be intercepted.
5. Time your passes — don't throw wild.
6. Pass to the region of the waistline. The passes are more easily handled. You can then pass without adjusting the ball.
7. Pass to a position where a team-mate can get it.
8. Do not “telegraph” passes.
9. Learn to receive and pass in one motion.
10. Throw quickly and accurately — not too hard.
11. Pass only to the girl in position to receive the pass.

Causes of Tumbling.

1. The hard pass.
3. The inaccurate pass — too high or too low.
4. Fatigue.
5. Not keeping cool.
6. Weak fingers and wrist.

Morale Builders.

1. Develop a good shot. Baskets win games.
2. Live the part. Think of the game —on and off the court.
3. In offence, do not attempt to repeat the manoeuvre which the defence has shown it can cope with.
4. Sustained ball handling adds beauty and baskets to your game. Develop your ball handling.
5. A fast, deceptive player is dangerous. Develop your speed and deception.
6. The mind player is more effective than a muscle player.
7. Learn to pace yourself — don't go at top speed throughout the game. Develop change of pace.
8. Display a lot of determination. Don't be afraid of names, players or clubs.
9. Keep your eyes “peeled” to correct mistakes. Repetition makes the master. Try to avoid repeating the same mistakes.
10. Don't get discouraged if you are not tall — champions come in all sizes.
11. The best teams are usually happy families — not debaters.
12. Think of the team — not yourself.
13. It is better to train today than wait for tomorrow to be outclassed. Stay in condition. Do not neglect your practice.
14. The tougher the competition, the faster you will improve. Soft games knock you out of shape mentally and physically.
15. Never take a pass standing still. Move toward the ball.
16. A “spark plug” is needed by every team.
17. Don't be a “prima donna” or a “lone wolf.” Seven girls make a team.
18. Don't be sensitive to criticism. Listen and
28. Learn to organise your game while the ball is in motion.
29. Learn to do things with or without the ball when you are guarded closely.
31. Orchids are not handed out in any sport for mediocre efforts.
32. No matter how good a team is, it is never too good to beat itself if it gets over-confident.
33. A great player is one who hates to lose, prepares not to lose, and burns up inside when she does lose.
34. A losing team needs your help more than a winning team. Be loyal.
35. A great player is one who can rise to the occasion in an important game.
36. Great players can be recognised by their movements.
37. Don't squawk when you get a bad break. Take it in silence and wait for a better day.

—W. LYONS.

"as a bright and merry child"*

Their acts unsung, their movements almost stealthy, a band of golden-hearted people in the Melbourne retail stores has been spreading help and kindness in many directions during the past 19 years. They call themselves "The Sunbeam Club."

As a club, the Sunbeam must be unique in one respect. It doesn't really know how many members it has! The committee doesn't measure its strength from a count of heads. It is the contents of a collection box, the proceeds of an occasional raffle, or the receipt of a gift of goods for distribution, which are the true sinews of the club.

Of course, the handful of earnest supporters who take the box around, have a fair idea of who are the "regular supporters" of the club and its work, and the box probably goes their way as instinctively as a calf seeks its mother. But it matters not if any of the previous week's givers should have to "give it a miss" now and then. On the other hand, the box would not be held aside if a newcomer, made curious by its purpose, should reach into pocket or purse for a simple coin.

In other words support of the Sunbeam Club is essentially voluntary. He who gives today, enters into no contract to give eternally. Nor is there any frown for he who gives not at all. It would be hard to pick another body of "do-gooders" which functions so smoothly and effectively on absolutely free will offerings, as does the Sunbeam Club.

Let us make one thing clear. This reference to the club is not in the nature of an appeal for new members — although, of course, the greater the resources of the club, the more it will be able to achieve its purpose of sending sunbeams in directions where a ray of brightness can mean much.

No, our main purpose in referring here to the club is to tell a little of the work which Sunbeamers are doing, for it is well worthy of record. Moreover, many of those who have joined the

*Webster's Dictionary gives the following as a secondary definition of "sunbeam": "One who radiates happiness as a bright and merry child."

Company's ranks in recent years, may not even be aware of the club's existence or its aims. We have another reason for writing, which we shall mention later.

Briefly, the club seeks to bring good cheer where a shadow may lie. Over the years, this helping hand has reached out in many directions — carrying diverse gifts. Books, toys, cups and saucers, ball point pens, and the like, have gone out to children. There have been handbags and trinkets for little girls. Food, flowers, and comforts have been sent to the sick.

During the war and post-war years, food parcels went overseas. Today the deliveries are local. Not infrequently a little hamper of good things finds its way to the home of an old ex-employee who may have had a tough break.

Readers may recall the photograph in our last issue of some of the beautiful dolls which were distributed at Christmas, 1952. The Sunbeam Club was behind that move, which gave great joy to more than 200 children.

Generally speaking, these gifts are made indirectly. The parcels go out to Hospitals, Missions, Kindergartens, and such places where there is close knowledge of a lonely life, an unhappy home, or a child who lacks the chances of its playmates. It has been the writer's privilege to read some of the letters of appreciation which have been received since Christmas from those who placed these gifts from the Sunbeam Club where they would provide the greatest happiness. All are moving, not only from the warmth of gratitude expressed, but by the revelation of the opportunities which exist for the reception of such kindness as flows from the Sunbeam Club.

From this batch of golden-worded messages, we have asked the permission of the club to publish the following extracts from the letter of a spokeswoman for a religious organisation:

"Some people might say when a family is in want, that they do not deserve help, because of bad management, drink, etc. Well, we know all that, but then there are the poor little longing eyes and that hungry-for-something-nice
look, which later develops into craftiness or some such complex.

Also, there is always a chance that in helping this odd one or two, they may at last respond by a reforming of bad habits and so find salvation.

You, and people like you, are helping people like us to do something for God and His poor, which we otherwise would find hard to accomplish."

So, you see, the penny or two that may be contributed weekly to the Sunbeam Club can do more than put a toy into baby hands. A gesture the care of an incapacitated child, it, in itself, a never-ending source of pride to Sunbeam members. But the bed itself created yet another avenue for doing good, for the cot contains a patient. Occupying the bed today — and for every day of the past five years — is a little girl named Leonie. She was admitted to Frankston from a humble home so many miles away that her parents are seldom able to visit her. But at Leonie's bedside at Christmas, stood Mrs. Gwen Oakley, Miss Dorothy Cochrane and Mr. Michael Pankow (all of the City Store), bearing gifts from the Sunbeam Club, and little Leonie, whose affliction necessitates her lying face downwards, knew that love had not passed her by.

Just as its members are almost incognito, so, too, do those who guide the club, move unostentatiously. But we can tell you this. If anyone is looking for an opportunity to participate in this inspired work of bringing a little happiness to those who, for health, or other reasons, may find it hard to battle with life unaided, Miss Grace Goodbrand, Welfare Officer, City Store, or Miss Florence Cole, Maintenance Office, will be glad to escort them across the threshold of the Sunbeam Club.

And this brings us to that other reason for referring to the club, which we mentioned in an
earlier paragraph. Actually, this is our justification for writing all that you have now read. In a recent note Miss Goodbrand asked if she could send the following message through "Service":—

"I would like, through your columns, to thank the Buyers, Controllers and Staff for the help and co-operation they have given me over many years for the Sunbeam Club. Also, in all my other work, I have had much help from many, for which I am most grateful.

—GRACE GOODBRAND."

We felt that this tribute would have greater significance to an even wider field of readers, if it were prefaced by a little of the history of the Sunbeam Club.

Readers Say . . .

It was in 1940 that "Service" was first issued in its present form. Today, we have well over 3000 readers. Most of them, we hope, are interested readers. But many, unfortunately, are "silent" readers.

There is a small, but very loyal, band of regular correspondents who record the activities of their colleagues and report happenings in their particular sections of our organisation. The contributions from these good people are an earnest endeavour to estimate the tastes of all, in this matter of company-wide news.

As to whether these commentaries achieve their objective of holding the interest of others, we are often "in the dark," for the simple reason that "the others," generally speaking, maintain a solid silence.

Thus, there was an added pleasure in receiving at Christmas, a letter from Mr. R. J. Reid, of London office. After conveying his greetings to all the Foy Family in Australia, Mr. Reid, who has been acting as Secretary of the London company since the recent retirement of Mr. E. J. Heim, writes:—

I would like to mention the pleasure derived from "Service." A number of us here have little or no prospects (in the ordinary course of things) of making direct personal contact with you on the other side and "Service" does fill in, very happily, the large gap still left after we had had the pleasure of meeting some of the people from Melbourne and other parts.

Perhaps, one day, we shall have atomic-powered super-comets to enable members of the office here to take it in turn to deliver the weekly "office" and "shipping" letters, and thereby meet everybody.

In the meantime, many thanks to the Editor and staff of "Service." Thank you, Mr. Reid. Your remarks are...
heartsening and helpful. And we are sure that everyone here is glad to know that our "opposite numbers" in England have found, in "Service," the means to become acquainted with people in the Australian companies, who do not, normally, "make contact" with London through the ordinary channels of business communication.

Mr. Reid's note reminds us that, recently, we received two other encouraging messages. Lack ing an appropriate spot to print them, we had put them away among our lavender sachets, whence they are now extracted for general perusal.

Mr. A. L. Powell, Store Manager, Adelaide, has this to say:

"The distribution of 'Service' is looked forward to in Adelaide and avidly read by all. I can assure you that when it does not arrive, enquiries come from hither and thither as to when the next issue is coming out."

In a personal letter written since his retirement, Mr. Stan Davies, our former Western Australian correspondent, writes:

"You are doing a splendid job. 'Service' is definitely a morale builder, and I know that in the Perth Store, each issue is eagerly awaited."

Naturally, we do not expect bouquets by every mail. But we do like to learn what readers are doing — or what they are thinking. So, whether you are a would-be correspondent or just want to hurl a brick, pick up your pen and write, brother, write!

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**NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE.**

By John Vandereit (Perth Store).

Sawdust Houses.—A Mr. P. C. Lotte, of Leiden, succeeded in making building materials from sawdust. The material is very strong, cheap, and less inflammable than wood. It can be nailed, and is water repellent.

So you better get in touch with him before starting to bribe your local brick manufacturer.

**Tinned Food.** — Tinned food has to be used quickly once the tin is opened. A new method of canning makes it possible to use only the quantity that is wanted. The rest stays in the tin and can be kept safely till next time.

The contents are under pressure. A special top allows the housewife to release the pressure.

**Employee of the Month.**—This idea is used in the C. A. Norgen Co., in Denver, U.S.A. Once a month a committee (formed by management and employees) selects a worker, who has distinguished himself by suggesting an improvement. He or she receives a reward. The same thing happens at the end of every other month, until, at the end of the year, an employee of the year is chosen. A certificate is issued, together with a reward of £75.

**Sit-n-service.**—An American novelty, of course. The customer sits down at a rotary counter. The counter shows all articles for sale. All articles are numbered. When the counter operates, the article he or she wants is delivered with a small parcel for the typiste. A card says, "A little present for a hard worker!"

**4,000,000,000,000 Combinations.**—No, this is not a sales announcement of a ladies' wear department. It indicates the variety of key combinations of a newly-designed type of lock. This new Nilsson lock, which is patented all over the world, has a key resembling a modern punch card, with holes of various types and sizes. It is leaf thin and fits in a narrow keyhole. The lock is opened by putting the key into the keyhole and taking it out again. No turning, no twisting. The Nilsson lock is intended, in the first place, for safes and bank vaults.

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**Scented Wallpaper.**—Wallpaper printed with flowers looks pretty in suitable surroundings. But its effect is multiplied, when these flowers fill your room with a fragrant smell.

Drynams Ltd., Shaftmoor Lane, Birmingham, specialises in this scented wallpaper. It is much in demand by London's upper ten.

"Have a Lolly!"—When buying a typewriter from a well-known manufacturer in New York, the future user receives a surprise. The machine is delivered with a small parcel for the typiste. Inside the parcel is a booklet with instructions and a box of chocolates. A card says, "A little present for a hard worker!"

**4,000,000,000,000 Combinations.**—No, this is not a sales announcement of a ladies' wear department. It indicates the variety of key combinations of a newly-designed type of lock. This new Nilsson lock, which is patented all over the world, has a key resembling a modern punch card, with holes of various types and sizes. It is leaf thin and fits in a narrow keyhole. The lock is opened by putting the key into the keyhole and taking it out again. No turning, no twisting. The Nilsson lock is intended, in the first place, for safes and bank vaults.

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**Personalities**

City elevator controller LES McEWAN has been elected Publicity Officer of the Camberwell Football Club. His efforts to interest the public in this Association club should be worth watching, for Les has been a terrific harracker for Richmond. If he hits out fore and aft, the "Tiger's" stripes might well be cut down to tripes!

Popular Collingwood Despatch identity, W. F. McFADYEN was married to Mrs. MABEL CANN on February 12. There is a "Foy foundation" to this happy match, for Mrs. Cann was a saleswoman in the China Department, Fitzroy. May many joys await you, Mr. and Mrs. Bill McFadyen!

Sincere congratulations to VAL WATERMAN (Children's Wear, Adelaide), who celebrated her 21st birthday on January 22.

After 13 years' service, Miss JESSIE FEDLEY, Eyekey Mills, (Serge Drawing), left on December 12, to be married. To Jessie and her husband, every happiness for the future.

We hear that ATHALIE ASPLIN (Office, Adelaide) had announced her engagement to George Coomblass. Congratulations and the best of luck to this happy couple.

Mrs. JACK Ray (Head Typiste, General Office, Collingwood) resigned on February 12 to take up domestic duties, in earnest. Known to us for the greater part of her service as Pauline Park, Mrs. Ray was the last remaining girl of the old "Gilpin Mail Order," which played a big part in building
the trade of the 90-odd shops, which later became widely known as F. & G. Stores. Yet Pauline is still aged only 22, as we go to press. May your home be richly blessed, Mr. and Mrs. Ray.

NORM BROWN, Manchester, City, has wooed and won SHIRLEY MILLER. The engagement was announced on December 22. Shirley moved around a bit before she left Foy's a year or two ago, having worked as a stenographer in the Reserves at Collingwood, in the Controller's Office.

Alma Christine, daughter of Wally Dudley (No. 2 Combing, Eagley Mills), rates camping as fine and dandy. Snap was taken by the Goulburn River during Christmas holidays.

Third Floor, City, and, for a short period, in General Office. Norm has been toying with the idea of taking up baseball. It's to be hoped he perseveres with this, for Shirley was a keen Foy basketball player. They would make quite a fast-moving pair. All joy to them both!

Broad smiles down Eagley way, where WILL RYAN (Hosiery Scour) and his wife CHARLOTTE (Finishing Room), have been celebrating the arrival, on January 11, of grand-daughter Lorraine Iris. Proud mother, MRS. HOLT, we recall as Isobel Ryan, of the Hosiery Winding.

Half-pint of concentrated charm, BETTY SIMMS (Advertising, City) has been swept off her feet by husky Brian ("Nick") Taylor, of the Queen's Navee (Australian blend). The diamonds slipped into position on February 7. They are making the most of the next few weeks, as Nick is sailing shortly to distant shores. Anchors away, you two!

SHIRLEY MITTEN (Teeners, Adelaide) is engaged to Trevor Mortimer. Congratulations from us all!

MURIEL STEVENS (H.P. Office, Collingwood) was married to Don Battenally, at St. Joseph's Collingwood, on January 16. A long and happy partnership for them both.

So hale and hearty does he look nowadays, that the recollection was nearly banished from our mind that HARRY BEST (Warehouse, Eagley Mills), had a considerable spell from work, due to illness. Glad to have you back, Harry. Keep up the good work.

Their many friends were thrilled by the announcement of the engagement of BERYL GRINDELAY (Hosiery, City) to FRED. HENDERSON (Men's Shoes, City). It's a good start by a great pair.

It's happened — by George! And this time, the Docket Office is RIGHT! Demographic Department's figures for December 18 DID show an increase of 1. Young Peter William is the proof. Heartiest congratulations, Mr. and Mrs. "Bill" George!

The DOUG. FRAZERS have been walking on air since February 9, when young Elizabeth

"Inhibitions be blowed!" said Gladys and Edith Hume, at Perth Christmas party. Lucky "meat-in-the-sandwich" is Vic Sale, always in demand as a pianist.

Louise took her first peep at the big world. Doug earns his crust by leading the retail ticketwriters out in Fitzroy. Mrs. Frazer is remembered as Miss Nuttall, of the City Store.

From Collingwood, news of two engagements. EVELYN FARNAY (General Office) listened most carefully to Walter Denny on December 26 —
and, seemingly, found his words entirely agreeable—whilst MAUREEN ROWLAND (Docket Office) made up her mind after what Fred Crapper had to say, on December 21. To all foursome, our best wishes.

Quickly noticed and much admired was the engagement ring on the hand of MISS SIMPSON (Ladies’ Underwear, Adelaide). Lucky dog is Ron Rose. Ain’t life grand!

RITA O’HALLORAN (H.P. Office, Collingwood) was a beautiful bride on December 20, the day of her marriage to Don Magee, at St. John’s, East Melbourne. We can but echo the good wishes which have been expressed already. Among the bridesmaids were Collingwood Office glam.-girls, MARGARET KEIR and PHYLLIS LAMBERT.

BARBARA SULLIVAN (Share Office) left for Perth on January 12 to become a resident in the West. Not a bad idea, either. Good luck, always, Barbara!

Petite EILEEN HASTINGS (Maintenance Office, City), kept a very important appointment with William Alma at the Congregational Church, South Melbourne, on January 17. Well known throughout the City Store, the bride-to-be received a most impressive array of lovely gifts from colleagues and Company. Our best wishes, once again, Mr. and Mrs. Alma!

At the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Eric Corrigan. Smiling bride won the heart of Eric between his labours in Electroplate Department, Perth.

No one enjoyed himself more than young Geoffrey Goodall at Adelaide’s Christmas party for the youngsters.

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ODDS AND ENDS.

Supporter, to candidate, after an election address: “A great speech, sir! I liked the straight-forward way you dodged those issues.”

Another reason you can’t take it with you—it goes before you do.

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The safest way to knock a chip off a fellow’s shoulder is to pat him on the back.

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