MACHINES ARE HUMMING AND GIRLS ARE HAPPY AT NEW EAGLEY ANNEXE AT PRESTON.
(See page 5.)

THE VOICE OF THE HOUSE OF FOY & GIBSON
The Editor Regrets . . .

With this issue, for the first time, the size has had to be reduced through lack of contributions.

Someone has let us down!

Was it—

YOU?

It may surprise readers to learn that there is more work involved in printing the present 24 pages than the usual 32. Not only will publication be made easier therefore, but "Service" will maintain its desired representativeness and variety if each section and every employee will do his or her bit to add to the news.

The next issue will be published in June. Contributions—and remember, photographs, sketches, etc. —are required by 1st June.

Please don't make the Editor's job any harder.
A Wind from Westminster

Much has been written about the Coronation. Much will be seen by the many who will have journeyed to London from other lands. The tradition, the pageantry and the participants, all will blend to make a picture, unforgettable. It is likely to surpass anything witnessed in the long-distant past, wherein so many of the ceremonies of 1953 had their origins. Possible is it that, never again, shall we see a tableau so moving as the crowning of Elizabeth II of England, and of the several countries which constitute the British Commonwealth.

Yet, amidst the dazzling splendour of mediaeval garb, the glitter of swords, the sparkle of coronets, and the all-pervading panoply of history which the grey walls of Westminster Abbey will embrace in June, a single, simple act will have greater significance than all else. In truth, significance is not enough. Rather should we accept it as an example, a plea, indeed a challenge to place our own feet firmly on the path which the new Queen will tread until the last minute of her reign.

We refer to the Royal act of dedication—of the surrender of self to service. Queen Elizabeth II will pledge herself to the cause of her people—the cause of the baron and of the barrow-man; of the citizens of Manchester and the citizens of Melbourne; to our cause—and yours.

This is no empty gesture; no lip service to tradition. It is the essence of the Christian doctrine. It is—or should be—the purpose of the very existence here, of each and every one of us.

Only to Royalty and other national leaders is given the privilege of devoting a lifetime’s activity, in the broadest sense, to the interests of the people of a country, a commonwealth or a continent. The work of the priest, the doctor and the missionary can cover the widest field, but to those of us of lesser stature, the goal should be the regulation of self-conduct to the best of our ability, through all channels which involve contact with our fellow men and women. Thus to live out our lives is roughly a combination of an understanding of the Parable of the Talents, with the application of the Golden Rule.

One of the setbacks which many of this generation have known in their search for perfection is undoubtedly the toppling of ideals by the rapidity with which conditions in the world about us tend to change. At the beginning of the eighteenth century, or perhaps a better comparison would be afforded by quoting the sixteenth century—or any other before that, if you wish—our forebears could look forward to living out their allotted span on what might be called an even keel.

The din of war touched only the battling few. Pestilence cut a swathe now and then. But the tiller of the soil, the potter at his wheel, the weaver at his loom, and their like, could on the whole earn a steady crust and enjoy it. With the industrial revolution came the hunt for raw materials, the search and competition for markets. More troublous times began. Where the farmer of, say, 1730 feared the physical gale or storm, the generation of 1930 was equally apprehensive of what are known as economic blizzards.

And, as the general fortunes of a community rise and fall, so do conditions change. These may not only affect the cost of a house or an egg, but the very surroundings in which we live, including the human element. A job is lost. People we have known move away from us. We feel lonely. We feel frustrated. Yet, notwithstanding all these setbacks, we must never lose sight of our own individual purpose; of the part we have to play, be it prominent or humble, in fulfilment of our very creation. To those to whom these changing conditions may at times be disconcerting we can but say this. Think of the line of your own descent. In the case of most adults, the man of today has already replaced his own grandfather. In turn, we must contemplate the substitution of our grandchildren for ourselves, in the long march of time. Between those two events we have a life to lead, a destiny to fulfil.

In London, at the Coronation, on the second of June, a Queen will publicly acknowledge a personal responsibility. She will pledge herself to millions of people. As her words are carried from Westminster to the four corners of the earth, like leaves on the wind, heed them. For it is our duty to follow her example, and to do our best, in justice to ourselves and our fellow men and women.
Overseas Tour of Mr. L. R. Hill Cut Short

Sympathy for Mr. L. R. Hill, General Manager of Eagley Mills, is widespread — and for more reasons than one.

As announced in our last issue, Mr. Hill left for the United States late in February, on the first leg of an extended visit overseas. It was subsequently arranged that Mrs. Hill and his daughter, Jean, should join him, on a private visit, when he reached England. Before he had completed his tour in America, however, and almost on the eve of her departure for London, Mrs. Hill became ill. Such was the anxiety caused by her condition that all thoughts of her journeying to England had to be abandoned and Mr. Hill was impelled to return to Melbourne by the first available plane.

The acute disappointment which this change of plan must have caused to Mr. Hill and his family is shared by his many friends throughout the organisation. Mr. Hill had not been abroad before, nor has Mrs. Hill left her native land. However, compensation for this break-up of arrangements is the news as we go to press, that Mrs. Hill is making good progress, with every indication that after a period of quiet convalescence, we shall be greeting her again in those sections where we have known her so long and so well.

That this day of complete recovery is not far distant, is the fervent wish of us all.

Change of Management at Colac

Following the amalgamation of Bilson's Pty. Ltd. with our own company, in June, 1952, Mr. L. A. Hitches, formerly Merchandise Controller, City Store, was appointed Manager at Colac.

Unfortunately, a bout of ill-health made it necessary for Mr. Hitches to relinquish this position, and he has returned to Bourke Street, where he has been appointed Controller of Hardware, Electrical, China and allied Ground Floor sections. During his stay in Colac, Mr. Hitches did a great job, being warmly regarded by both the townspeople and the store staff. Parting was a great wrench for him, but he should find much consolation in the knowledge that he has left behind, in Colac, many good friends, who will still watch his future movements with great interest.

To succeed Mr. Hitches as Colac Manager, the Board of Bilson's Pty. Ltd. has appointed Mr. L. J. Atyeo. As he has been with that company for 21 years, he is well known throughout the district, and there are many in the Melbourne stores who have come to regard his quizzical smile as a sort of trademark, and to like him for his friendly disposition.

Les Atyeo has had a colourful career, and has played almost as great a part in the public affairs of Colac, as a town, as in the progress of the store itself.

As a lad, he studied Architecture at the Brunswick Technical School, later becoming a junior draughtsman with a firm of structural engineers. He joined Bilson's in 1932. World War II saw his enlistment in the 2/10 Field Coy., Royal Australian Engineers. He was commissioned while on service in Singapore, where he became O/C Bomb Disposal Unit. Unhappily, he was taken a prisoner of war at Singapore.

When the guns were silent once more, Les Atyeo returned to Colac — and Bilson's. Into both his job and civic affairs, he threw himself with an energy little impaired by his war-time experiences. In 1949, he was elected to the Town Council. He became Mayor in 1952. The Colac Apex Club knows him as Foundation President and life member, and he is Vice-President and a life governor of Colac Hospital. As well, he is Vice-President of the Colac Legacy Club.

Married, he has two children, Jenny, aged 6, and Donald, just 3.

It seemed superfluous to ask him about hobbies, for, with his many interests, it's a wonder he has time for meals, but he confesses to an interest in football, tennis and golf, at all of which, he claims — with typical modesty — he is an indifferent player.

To both Mr. Hitches and Mr. Atyeo, the good wishes of all, for success and happiness in their new spheres of work.

DEATH OF MR. K. M. NIALL

Australia lost one of its best-known mining and pastoral men, with the death, on April 11, of Mr. Kenneth Mansfield Niall. Among other interests, he was Chairman of Goldsborough Mort & Co. Ltd., a distinguished office which his father, Mr. J. M. Niall, also had held.

Mr. Gerald M. Niall, a Director of Foy & Gibson Ltd., and of Foy & Gibson (Stores) Pty. Ltd., is a son of Mr. K. M. Niall, and to Mr. Gerald, and the members of his family, we offer our deep sympathy.

The Quiet Corner

Whether this record contain one line or a score, its message is unaffected. Grief is not measurable. Whom it touches, could not know more. Thus, whilst two names only are added here to the eternal scroll, the burden has been equally heavy for those who are left to mourn. In their sadness, our sympathy goes to:

Mrs. A. D. Harris, and her family, and all other relatives of Sam, House Stationery, City Store, who died on February 20.

Mr. Donald R. Horne, Tailoring, City Store, in the loss of his mother on February 8.

"Thy Will be Done"

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Mr. Donald Horne, of the Tailoring, City Store, has sought these columns to convey to his colleagues among our staffs his deep appreciation of the sympathy which was expressed, in many forms, following the death of his mother on February 8.

The kindness and understanding underlying these messages were, in Mr. Horne's words, "of great comfort to my father, brother and sister, as well as myself."
KNITTING MILL EXPANDS.

As indicated in the picture on our front cover, Eagley is spreading its wings. To cope with the demands of our popular brands of underwear, the Mills have opened a new annexe at Preston. Purchased last year, an existing factory in High Street, Preston, has been extensively remodelled, with full regard for the comfort of the staff, as well as efficiency in production. Machinery has been installed on a spacious layout. Modern lighting fixtures are in profusion. Locker and wash room facilities could not be bettered. There is a bright canteen.

A good job at Eagley has long been the goal of many a worker. With our name on the building, therefore, and the added attraction of comfortable surroundings, and up-to-date amenities, it is no wonder that a full staff for Preston was recruited without difficulty. All told, the new annexe houses 64 employees — all female. A happier band would be hard to find. Although most of them have been employed there for the greater part of this year, we haven’t had the opportunity before to say in these pages, “Welcome to Foy’s.” This we do now, with the sincere hope that in the case of the new-comers, this will be the start of a long and pleasant association.

The work at Preston is entirely make-up. The underwear fabric, for use by both sexes, is cut at Collingwood. When the making is completed in the annexe, the finished garments are returned to Oxford Street for pressing and inspection. In charge at Preston is well-known Eagley identity, Len Ebdon. Forelady is Miss Doris Bentley, popular leader at the old war-time centre in another part of Preston. Mrs. Richmond is Assistant Forelady.

Mill Management is very proud of the new annexe, and of those who “make it tick,” and if the smile on the face of Mr. Bob Croll, Knitting Mill Manager, has looked even broader lately, you can be sure that the success of Preston has a lot to do with it.

MR. P. J. CAHILL JOINS EAGLEY MILLS.

One of the problems associated with our wide-flung “empire” is that news sometimes travels the long way round. Thus it is that in this journal, we have not had an earlier opportunity to extend a welcome to Mr. P. J. Cahill, who occupies the recently-created position of Production Manager of the Knitting Mill at Eagley.

A Sydneysider, Patrick John Cahill, worked for some years in New Zealand but he came to us last November, from the John Brown knitting factory in Bendigo, bringing with him sound knowledge and wide experience of the knitting industry.

As a matter of interest, Mr. Cahill finds it easier in Victoria to respond to the pronunciation of his name as “KAYLE.” The more usual rendering...
Good layout gives freedom of movement and, therefore, adds to the comfort of these girls at Preston Annexe.

— and the one he knew first — is “CARL.” But in New Zealand, they called him “K'HILL.”

But, like the rose, he’s as sweet by any name, and we wish him full success in his important job.

“SERVICE” LOSES A STOUT SUPPORTER.

In November, 1950, Collingwood Office “struck oil.” A shorthand typist came in looking for a job. As such creatures were rare sights in Smith Street, in those days, she was engaged on the spot, and for her first job she was flung into the maelstrom of helping the Editor to get out the Christmas issue of this journal. The seed thus sown must have found fertile soil, for when, in April, 1951, our young friend transferred to Eagley Mills, she became the main channel for collecting and passing on to “Service” news of Mill happenings. Her job at Eagley made it easy for her to get to know the staff, for Evelyn Mary Blayney was “right hand” to Miss E. Henderson, then Personnel Officer. Later, when Miss Henderson moved to new fields, it fell to Mary Blayney to carry on with quite a lot of Staff work.

Now, Miss Blayney herself has left us. With her departure on April 21, a gap in the ranks of “Service” correspondents has been created. Maybe it will be hard to fill—but the Editor’s job will be made still harder if it takes too long to find a successor. Who will volunteer?

Meanwhile, our thanks to Mary Blayney for her conscientious and sustained efforts to keep Eagley “on the map” in these pages, and our best wishes for full success wherever her path may lead.

A man usually looks at a lot of limbs before he finds the apple of his eye.

Western Whispers
Echoed by Moira Burke.

FIFTY YEARS WITH THE PERTH STORE!

On the 3rd of March, a simple ceremony in the Staff Training Lecture Room marked the completion of fifty years’ service by Walter Mulgrave. With store executive, group controllers and departmental managers around him, Mr. R. L. Manser, General Manager, paid sincere tribute to Mr. Mulgrave’s outstanding record of service to the company. As a token of appreciation, a cheque was presented from the Board of Directors with the accompanying congratulations and good wishes of all those present.

Walter Mulgrave can be seen daily behind the counter of the Cash Office—his head buried in large ledgers—looking every inch the accountant. His chief comment about his length of service is

— and the one he knew first — is “CARL.” But in New Zealand, they called him “K'HILL.”

But, like the rose, he’s as sweet by any name, and we wish him full success in his important job.

“SERVICE” LOSES A STOUT SUPPORTER.

In November, 1950, Collingwood Office “struck oil.” A shorthand typist came in looking for a job. As such creatures were rare sights in Smith Street, in those days, she was engaged on the spot, and for her first job she was flung into the maelstrom of helping the Editor to get out the Christmas issue of this journal. The seed thus sown must have found fertile soil, for when, in April, 1951, our young friend transferred to Eagley Mills, she became the main channel for collecting and passing on to “Service” news of Mill happenings. Her job at Eagley made it easy for her to get to know the staff, for Evelyn Mary Blayney was “right hand” to Miss E. Henderson, then Personnel Officer. Later, when Miss Henderson moved to new fields, it fell to Mary Blayney to carry on with quite a lot of Staff work.

Now, Miss Blayney herself has left us. With her departure on April 21, a gap in the ranks of “Service” correspondents has been created. Maybe it will be hard to fill—but the Editor’s job will be made still harder if it takes too long to find a successor. Who will volunteer?

Meanwhile, our thanks to Mary Blayney for her conscientious and sustained efforts to keep Eagley “on the map” in these pages, and our best wishes for full success wherever her path may lead.

A man usually looks at a lot of limbs before he finds the apple of his eye.
that he has had many happy times and made many wonderful friends.

His first day with the store was 1st March, 1904. As a lad of 14 employed in the office, he drew the princely sum of 12/6 per week. This was 2/- over the average wage—7/6 for girls, 10/- for boys. Mr. Mulgrave remembers that when he applied for the position, he had to appear before the Company's General Manager, Mr. G. Rae. After a successful interview, he was called upon to sign a declaration—which enabled the company to dismiss him at a minute's notice!

His first position was in the Dissection Office—"punching dockets," as it was then called. Through the years, he continued in the office, moving from one section to another. The office then was very different to the well-lit, well-ventilated and attractively laid out department that we know today. Wood partitions topped with glass divided the various sections. And through the glass, Mr. Rae kept a watchful eye on his staff.

Members of the Gibson family were frequent visitors to the Perth store in the old days. Among the many duties of young Walter was that of delivering the latest newspapers to Mr. William Gibson when he passed through Perth on his way to London. Walter Mulgrave remembers particularly the friendliness of the founder and the personal interest he took in his employees.

With the outbreak of the 1914 war, Walter Mulgrave's new responsibilities took him further afield—to Europe. Serving in the 16th Battalion, he had the misfortune to be taken prisoner in France and spent two years in a prisoner-of-war camp in Germany. The ill-treatment and malnutrition of these years left its mark physically. After the cessation of hostilities, he returned to Foy's and resumed his position in the office.

Although Walter Mulgrave heads his family list with 50 years of service, other members have achieved outstanding records, too—his brother Andy, 47 years; his wife, 13 years, and his sister, 13 years. Between the four Mulgraves a grand total of 123 years. Surely, something to shout about!

It is the hope of all who know him, however, that the record will not rest here, but will continue to increase. In these days of flux and uncertainty, and the restlessness of youth, the steadfastness and loyalty exemplified in such people as Walter Mulgrave provides an anchorage and guide for those who follow.

FASHION PARADE USHERS IN BRILLIANT CORONATION SEASON.

By Pat Congdon.

Whether it was the added interest of the Coronation influence in fashions or just the ever-increasing confidence in our store, the biggest crowds ever seen streamed into our recent Fashion Parades in Perth. It was a case of "standing room only" at every session—even with the expanded seating capacity of 300 chairs. Two sessions were held daily, for the three days, Tuesday 17th to Thursday 19th March, with an additional lunch-hour parade on the last day. The latter was immensely popular with the working girls.

The Parade was divided into 11 units, with everything from sports clothes to suits, from coats to bridal wear, influenced by the Coronation. Colours, too, were influenced by the Coronation, giving us rich, dazzling, heraldic hues like robe red, Elizabethan gold, Crown emerald, Tudor rose, jewel blue, Gothic grey, Edinburgh green, and so on.

Accomplished models, Judy Stenberg and Margaret Healy, showed us the type of coats which would be favoured in London this year. Fabrics were different. Even shapes were different in the 1953 coats. Nubbly poodle cloths and soft duvetynes made their appearance, as did a fabulous creation in black and white flecked "knop" cloth.

Sultry Ingrid Soltau modelled this lovely embroidered evening frock at Perth Fashion Show. A new-comer to Australia, Miss Soltau took part in a recent "Miss India" contest.
Tent and pyramid styles were definitely out. In their place, we saw the new straight-column silhouette, and also the loose-trend, with the low-slung belt treatment.

Headlines in evidence were small and head-hugging, with new and interesting versions of the beret shape well to the fore. New and flattering

In this crisp bouffant frock, teen-ager Judy Baker modelled for other teen-agers at Perth Fashion Parade.

types of veilings appeared, whilst for trimmings bold jewels and clips sparkled in prominence.

In frocks we found that waistlines were small—perhaps smaller than they had been since the first Elizabeth. Skirtlines swung in a modified fulness with pleats popular; also the long-flared line, with hip-accent borrowed from the Tudor fashions. A feature of this section was the appearance of the "middly" frock in regimental-red flecked wool. Important fashion point to notice here was the long waist (or low tunic line) with swirls of pleats falling from beneath the newest cuffed peplum.

Starring in the spotlight of evening fashions was the romantic bouffant silhouette of the Elizabethan era. Waistbands, collars and yokes were studded with pearls, silver-thread tinsel and clear cabochons again following the Coronation trend. Off-the-shoulder styles, in flowing tulle and billowing organdie, were first favourites once more with the teenagers.

Mention must also be made of the team of mannequins. Eleven of Perth's leading professional models were engaged, and they were considered, by many, to be worthy of parading along with Australia's best.

Mr. George Gardiner, our Fashion Group Controller, has been the subject of much congratulation for the success of this, his first, Fashion Parade.

FOOTNOTE: Pat Congdon is too modest to mention her own contribution to the Parade—an interesting, informative and well-written script.—S. M. EATON (Advertising Manager, Perth).

DAISY HODGSON SAYS FAREWELL.

There's been a gap in the Perth store family since the 8th of April. Filled now, in affectionate memory only, is an empty chair, whose occupant will be sincerely missed. It belonged to Miss Daisy Hodgson, who has retired.

A familiar figure, controlling the Lay-by and Store Stationery departments, Miss Hodgson has always been regarded with affectionate respect by those in contact with her. Ever-understanding, obliging and helpful, Miss Hodgson set a standard of co-operation and kindliness, which any successor would be proud to uphold.

Daisy Hodgson arrived in Australia from Bristol at Christmas, 1919. She was accompanied by her mother and sister, so it really wasn't so lonely and frightening in this new land. With business acu-
office of the Furniture Factory, where she remained for the next two years. Although modest and unassuming, her ability soon became apparent. "I've a nice little job for you," Mr. Conochie said to her one day, and led her into the dress department. From there she was transferred to the office and eventually assumed responsibility for the store stationery. At one time, she claims, she didn't know the difference between grease-proof and tissue paper, but the efficiency with which she cared for the store stationery proves that she learnt very quickly!

One memorable day, in March, 1937, Daisy Hodgson stood before Mr. Donnes, who informed her that it was intended to open a lay-by department. He then asked her to take charge of it. She shouldered this new responsibility with her usual competence. The war brought changes to the Perth Store as elsewhere, and the lay-by department was closed down. But this did not limit the activities of Daisy Hodgson, who promptly took over the problems of the issue and control of ration coupons for the entire store. When rationing ended, she resumed again her responsibilities in the lay-by department.

Reticent and retiring about her personal interests and achievements, Daisy Hodgson maintains that there is little about her that would interest others. "I'm just an ordinary person—I've had to work for my living like everyone else and I've just done my best." This statement sums up Miss Hodgson's attitude to the people around her. Her first thought always for the other person, and ready and willing to acknowledge the best in others; yet, at the same time, almost inarticulate about her own abilities and contributions to common happiness.

Daisy Hodgson sailed for England on April 13th on an extended holiday. She plans to visit her brothers, whom she hasn't seen for 33 years, and it will be months before we see her again. When she does return, we expect an early visit from her, for she has left many friends here.

ALL ROADS LEAD TO ROCKINGHAM.

Rockingham—bright sunshine, wide bare sands, the cool inviting sea, shady trees and lawns, plenty to eat and drink and good company. All these add up to the Perth Store Annual Picnic for 1953.

A regular convoy of buses transported the crowd from Perth to the picnic grounds. The early morning clouds may have frightened some, but Old Sol soon appeared with promises of brilliant sunshine. Large posters tacked up on the trees of the sports ground announced to all and sundry that Foy's had taken possession.

"Something for Everyone" may seem a trite way of describing the entertainment offered, but it's nevertheless true. The sun, the sea, the beach, the enchantment for kiddies of the local aviary, or perhaps the black swans bowing to their own reflection in the nearby pool. At lunchtime, the gypsy atmosphere of families eating under the trees, gathering around the bright fire to fill their teapots with the bubbling water. Crowds of youngsters milled around, munching sweets, eating their fill of ice cream and fruit and quenching their thirst with icy cold ginger beer.

The afternoon sports programme embraced the whole family—mother, father, elder sister and brother and the toddlers. Those who didn't participate stood on the sidelines and cheered their favourites. Some events caused much excitement and some, such as the sack and three-legged race, had spectators doubled with laughter. Seen among those enjoying themselves were Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Manser, Mr. C. Colebrook and Mr. L. A. Pye, who has the West from the Eastern States.

As soon as the last race had been run the crowd moved around Mr. R. L. Manser, who presented the prizes. Winners were:

**Children's Races.**

1. **Girls' Foot Running.** 9-11 years.
   1st ... Valerie Fitzgerald
   2nd ... Rita Spinks
   3rd ... Diana Stackhouse

2. **Boys' Foot Running.** 9-11 years.
   1st ... Graham Wright
   2nd ... Mervin Cole
   3rd ... Harry Rowe

3. **Girls' Foot Running.** 12-14 years.
   1st ... Merle McNamara
   2nd ... Rosemary Rowe
   3rd ... Barbara Wilkie

4. **Boys' Foot Running.** 12-14 years.
   1st ... B. Murphy
   2nd ... Alan Machin
   3rd ... Don Greenhill

**Adults' Races.**

5. **The Directors' Dash.** Women.
   1st ... Daphne Blackie
   2nd ... Margaret Markham
   3rd ... Lynette Duffy

6. **The Chairman's Championship.** Men.
   1st ... Frank Rattigan
   2nd ... Les. Riley
   3rd ... Brian Elliott

7. **The C.C. Cup.** Married Women.
   1st ... Mrs. Platt
   2nd ... Mrs. Munsie
   3rd ... Mrs. Drewery

8. **The Norman Handicap.** Old Buffers.
   1st ... Mr. H. Rowe
   2nd ... Mr. J. Jewson
   3rd ... Mr. F. Jenkins
At the Perth Annual Picnic, competitors line up for "The Directors' Dash." (Hard to understand why there isn't a single Director in sight!)

Toddlers' Races.
   1st ................................ Carol Rowe
   2nd ................................ Linda May Learmont
   3rd ................................ Heather Halliday

    1st ................................ Bruce George
    2nd ................................ Brian Leader
    3rd ................................ Graham Fitzgerald

11. Girls' Foot Running. 6-8 years.
    1st ................................ Judith Lockhart
    2nd ................................ Pamela Machin
    3rd ................................ Kay Hitchcock

12. Boys' Foot Running. 6-8 years.
    1st ................................ Con Spinks
    2nd ................................ Brian Fitzgerald
    3rd ................................ Trevor Grubnau

Visitors' Races.
13. Ladies' Open Handicap.
    1st ................................ Kathleen Markham
    2nd ................................ Rosemary Rowe
    3rd ................................ Jill Sykes

    1st ................................ Mr. A. W. Beckett
    2nd ................................ Mr. D. Dover
    3rd ................................ Mr. A. Vuckman

Adults' Races.
    1st ................................ Mr. F. Marchant
    2nd ................................ Mr. J. Fitzgerald
    3rd ................................ Mr. Graham

16. The Robertson Relay. One lady, one gent.
    1 Kathleen Markham 1 A. Vuckman
    2 Daphne Blackie 2 Kevin Maher
    3 Margaret Markham 3 Frank Rattrigan

    1st ................................ Rosemary Rowe & Brian Elliott
    2nd ................................ Daphne Blackie & Les. Riley
    3rd ................................ Heather Harwood & Ida Bennison

    1st ................................ Jim Blackie
    2nd ................................ Ida Bennison
    3rd ................................ Merle McNamara

19. Tug-o'-war. Winning Team:
    1. Mr. R. McDiarmid
    2. Mr. J. Kelly
    3. Mr. H. Rowe
    4. Mr. B. Elliott
    5. Mr. Tom Blackie

The sports over, there was still time for another dip in the sea before the buses drew in to take the weary and satiated picnickers home. What a day it had been! Most had enjoyed themselves thoroughly, but there were some who had worked very hard to ensure that the organisation progressed smoothly. Voluntarily, they had proffered their services, and to these wonderful people the Social Club Committee says: "Thank you very much. We couldn't have done it without you!"

VITAL STATISTICS.
From Bonnie Disbrey.

Engagements.
Congratulations to the following, whose engagements have been announced:
- Miss J. Harrison (Confectionery), 4th March.
- Miss H. Ward (Office), 28th March.
- Miss L. Watt (Mail Orders), 25th March.

Marriages.
Best wishes to the following, who have recently taken up matrimonial duties:
- Miss E. M. Perry (Cafeteria), 21st February.
- Miss V. Robson (Grocery) to Mr. S. Sinclair (Grocery), 21st March.

Bereavement.
Our deep and sincere sympathy goes out to Mr. R. Phillips, of Display, in the recent sad loss of his mother.
WELCOME BACK, ANDY MULGRAVE.

The old saying, "You can't keep a good man down," must surely have been coined for Andy Mulgrave, for he is back at work again after an illness which lasted for over four months.

Soon after the opening of Toyland in November, Andy (or Father Christmas, as he is more affectionately known at that time of the year) contracted yellow jaundice, followed by other serious complications.

As Andy lay fighting for his life, we wonder how many times little incidents from his heydays flashed through his mind. We'll bet he heard those crowds thundering and cheering once again, as he jumped the 18th chair to give him the World Roller-skating title!

And when the crisis had passed, it's a certainty that Andy immediately started counting off the days to next Christmas, when he would be back once again with his beloved children, sitting them down on his knee, as he has done for the past 30 years, and talking to them in his own inimitable way.

Welcome back, Andy! It's grand to see you looking so well.

PERSONAL PATTER FROM PERTH.

By Jack Hayward.

The holiday season saw quite an exodus to the Eastern States.

Betty Anderson (Cafeteria) went to Brisbane with the girls' softball team. Beryl Atkinson (Cafeteria) made for Sydney, by plane, in March.

Another attractive lass to go tripping is Dot West (Tobacco), well known also as a member of our ballet. Besides seeing the Eastern States, Dot flew over to Tasmania.

National training in the R.A.A.F. claimed Kevin Harris (Electricians), who has been making his presence felt at Pearce.

Two very pretty additions to our ballet are Thelma and Yvonne James.

Bonnie Disbrey (Staff Training) is back at work again after holidaying at Albany. Unfortunately, we had no sleuth present, so there's no further news of her doings.

Candy Corner is always busy, and those two charming ladies, Rhoda Eversden and Isla Flematti, never fail to outdo their stock for sweetness.

On the opposite counter is another popular lassie in Mary Blood, who can often be seen chaining down the gorgonzolas before letting them out for an airing.

Another favourite personality around this section is Mrs. Terry Wright. An outdoor girl, Terry can often be seen exercising on the Esplanade during the lunch hour.

COLLIE CALLING.

By "Coaldust."

Since our last communication, the heat has taken heavy toll of our energies. As a result, no social activities have been organised by our Social Committee. However, it's an ill wind that blows no one any good, and Val Heil has been busy behind the Coca-Cola Bar. To staff generally, this new installation has been quite a boon.

Renovations seem to be the order of the day in Forrest Street, Collie. Not to be outdone by the local butcher, who has built for himself a

Greatly appreciated feature of Perth's Annual Picnic was the effort of a large band of workers, most of them voluntary, in bagging fruit, and other preparations needed for the greater enjoyment of all.
new shop, Foy’s have begun renovations, and workmen are now in the process of “face lifting” the store. It is also the intention of the Company to renovate and modernise the old butcher’s shop. This will then house our furniture department — according to Mr. Harris.

Social.

Congratulations are the order of the day to Mr. Roy Prior, who has recently been promoted to the position of Hardware Buyer. Mr. Prior, who, formerly, was Mr. Harris’ right-hand man, will now concentrate entirely on furniture and floor coverings.

We must also congratulate Miss Barbara Gray, who recently announced her engagement to Mr. Bill Bastow, of Collie.

Several girls from our store recently paid a visit to Perth with the soft-ball team. Collie didn’t win, but from all reports the girls had a really enjoyable trip and are hoping to be selected next time the Collie Association sends a team to the capital.

Numbers of the staff have returned from holidays looking fit and well — and ready for another 12 months’ hard work. Amongst these lucky people are Mr. Dransfield (Grocery), and Mrs. Dransfield (Haberdashery). According to George, he caught all the fish in the ocean. But, we’ve heard fish stories before! Also back are Pat Prosser, Val Sanford, Estelle White, Joan Mumme, Joy McLaren, May Williams, Pat Gibbs, Mrs. Rosel and Brian Busson.

Before this issue goes to press we will have said: “It’s been so nice to know you,” to Wendy Bamford (Mantles). Relinquishing sales talk for housewifery, Wendy was married to Mr. Alan Banks at Easter.

We’ll now ring off, with best wishes to all in the “Foy Fraternity.”

KATANNING KAPERS.

By “Kessell.”

Hi Ho Serviceites! I’m trying to sound out an introduction to the Katanning holiday season. There’s been a seemingly unending cycle of people going on holidays — half their luck! We are thinking of Mrs. Giles (Office); Mr. N. Giles (Furniture); Mrs. A. Saxby (Materials); Miss N. Blundy (Cashier); Miss R. Walters (Hosiery); Mrs. M. Keay (Hosiery); Miss T. Ashton (Confectionery); Mr. A. Rafferty (Dispatch); Miss M. Henson (Hardware); Miss L. Addis (Office); Miss L. McFarland (Showroom); Mr. L. Edwards (Boots); Mr. K. McAuliffe (Boots); Miss E. Webb (Showroom); Mr. H. Tylor (Office); and Miss G. Gray (Grocery).

Well — I ask you!! Had my own name appeared on the list I should have had plenty to relate. But, as circumstances are, I haven’t.

Congratulations to Aileen Saxby and Arthur Timms, both of the Dress Material Department, who recently announced their engagement. Our best wishes go to this couple.

Have you heard this howler?

A customer in the Furniture Store ordered a Cyclone stretcher. Upon receiving her account she was amazed to see entered to her:—

1 Hurricane Bed.

On March 28 there was a Gala Sports Day in Katanning. A number of metropolitan athletes visited the town for the occasion, which was to aid the Katanning Kindergarten Association. Mr. Futter (Men’s Wear) is a very keen supporter of this body.

We welcome to our staff, Miss Ida Combes (Grocery), and Mr. John Moorehouse (Hardware).

The temperature in these parts has been keeping itself really high for quite some time, but I
I notice the Material Department is erecting displays of winter goods — giving the weather a hint, no doubt. Even Miss Webb (Showroom), is bringing forth brimming racks of coats and raincoats. Well, here’s hoping!

Noticed in the “West Australian” newspaper the other day that the Katanning Swimming Pool takings have reached a record high this summer. There is a snack bar there now — “Uncle Tom’s Cabin.” Just the shot for hamburgers, etc.

All winter sports committees are moving into action with meetings, selections and fixtures for first matches, everything is being made ready for the “kick off.”

Cheerio, “Service.” Next time I write, I’ll have had a vacation and you’ll have a job restraining me to less than a couple of pages.

---

**News from Adelaide**

By Brian Bell.

[Owing to pressure of work, Adelaide copy for this issue consists entirely of staff news, which ordinarily would be mingled among similar paragraphs from other sources under “Personalities.” The items are printed here, however, under the familiar Colonel Light statue, in order to keep Adelaide “on the map.”—Ed. “S.”]

**TABLE TENNIS.**

The new season is now under way, with Geoff Carr (Ticket Office) as Secretary, and Dick Cossey (Mail Order), Treasurer. Members are very keen at practice and the “all-powerful” selectors are Bruce Gowing (Carpets), Ken Taylor (Mercery), Dave Hewitt (Grocery), Denis Bugg (Electrician), and Dick Cossey. We are looking forward to seeing many of the lady members of the staff proving their prowess at the tables in the basement.

So, be in it, girls!

**FIRE! FIRE!**

We have a hero in our midst. At 2 a.m. one recent morning, our jovial Advertising Controller, Bert Bache was motoring home through Edwarstown, when he noticed a truck ablaze in someone’s driveway. With great presence of mind he aroused the slumbering householder, who tackled the fire, much to the excitement of his family of youngsters, attired in the bare minimum of summer slumberwear (more bare than minimum, apparently!) Bert then raised the Fire Brigade and the episode ended rapidly.

But the 64 dollar question is, what was Bert Bache doing out at 2 a.m.?

**FAREWELL.**

Reluctantly, we have said goodbye to Jack Bargwanna, Workroom Foreman, after five years with the Company. Liked by all, Jack takes with him every good wish for success, whatever be his future calling.

**COME ON IN!**

We welcome to the staff Jimmy Moore, Maintenance carpenter. Jim is an original “Tobruk Rat.” We hope he stays with us for many years.

Greetings to Doreen Hazell, of London, who has joined our staff. Doreen is a very keen table tennis player, in fact, it looks as if Lucy will have to smarten up her smashes now!

**PLUS.**

To Bruce Crawford (Carpet Layer) and his wife, we offer congratulations on the birth of their son, Bruce. Mrs. Crawford will be remembered as the former Lil Hewish, of Basketball fame, and, for several years, in the Workrooms.

If Frank West (Boyswear) and Kevin King (Advertising) seem to be wearing bigger smiles than usual, it’s for very good reasons. They have both become proud fathers for the second time. For Frank, a girl; for Kevin, a boy. Congratulations, chaps!

**INDISPOSED.**

Sorry that Miss Sue Kelly (Millinery) had to extend her holidays, owing to sickness.

Marie James (Underwear) has been convalescing minus an appendix.

**WED.**

The marriage of Marj Morris (Handbags) was celebrated recently. Marj, now Mrs. Pollard, has the good wishes of one and all.

On Saturday, April 4, the smiling bride at St. Bartholameus’ Church was Iris Macgowan (Work-
room), looking lovely in white slipper satin. Her bridesmaid was Margaret Genhirs (formerly Workroom). The happy bridegroom is Allan Edwards.

Pat Cotter (Hosiery) became Mrs. Southcott on March 28, at Saint Theodore's Church, Rose Park. All the best for the future, Pat, from all at Foy's.

OOPS!

Few salesmen have their efforts rewarded as well as Mick Roney (Shirts). Recently, Mick sold a shirt to a Dear Old Soul, who acknowledged his help in a letter of praise. Inadvertently, however, the scented package was delivered to Mrs. Roney. But everything is now O.K.—after some explaining!

HI HO, SILVER!

Dave Hewitt (Grocery) the firm's champion rough rider, has been seen giving a grand display on the most spirited horse at Grange. Dave has also been seen at the chemist shop, purchasing large quantities of liniment!

JUST US.

If you want to obtain any information on sunburn treatment, consult Pat Siney (Elevators). Pat "copped the lot" recently on a deep-sea voyage to Ediburgh. Our advice for next time Pat, is "Pull your head in."

Joe Evans (Buyer, Wools), probably the most one-eyed football supporter in Adelaide Store, had a red and white dahlia presented to him recently — grown by Clarrie Bon (Maintenance). Joe reckons even the Dahlias are becoming North supporters!

Stan Giniotis (Carpets) has been in great demand for his superb playing of the accordion. He has now started a new hobby — and it's not Vodka. Stan breeds "rats," and, believe us, there is money in it. Ask Stan.

Miss Cora Koiphan (Maintenance) is back again after a fortnight's holiday in Melbourne. Adelaide is O.K., says Cora, but the Melbourne males have real personality! Wonder how she found out?

Fred Summerfield (Buyer, Carpets) spent his holidays at Port Noarlunga. Fred fishes from midnight "till the wee small hours. But Fred, whose boat did you have? We would really like to know!

BUT HE DIDN'T GET THE BIRD!

However critically friends may express themselves at times, one wouldn't, in all fairness, ordinarily associate Ernie Jones, Manager of the Youths' Clothing, City Store, with a dead duck. Yet, circumstances established such a link recently.

When the bang-bang season opened in March, someone found a bird at Lake Connewarre. On its leg was a metal tag, put there by the Fisheries and Game Department, as part of its check-up on fowls fly before they fall. The tag requested the finder to return it to the Department with details of the place of discovery. This the hunter did, scrupulously observing the only details contained on the tag...

As a result, the covering envelope was delivered to Ernie Jones. For the tiny tag bore the legend:

Dept. 50,
F. & G
Victoria.

Either the mail sorter reads our advertisements—or he has never downed a duck!

Farewell, Old Friends!

Retirement has claimed three seasoned veterans of Foy's—and three well-loved colleagues. They are Miss Flora McDonald (Hosiery), Mr. Dave Harris (Elevator Controller) and Mr. A. C. Nicholls (Manager, China and Glassware), all of the City Store.

Flora McDonald joined Foy's in November, 1911. Her first job was in the Knitting Wools in the old Collingwood Wood, and she remained in Smith Street until 1943. An illness during that year kept her "out of circulation" for a few months. When she returned, she was posted to the City Store. For a time, Miss McDonald worked in the Neckwear. Later, she was transferred to the Hosiery, where she added new friends to the many she gathered during her long career with the Company. Her period of service inevitably points to the number of birthdays which Flora McDonald has celebrated. Yet, a teen-age figure and neat ankles are completely baffling to the would-be calculator.

He is known to so many as, simply, "Nick," that we had almost forgotten that Mr. Nicholls had any Christian names—and even today we must confess that we don't know which of "Alexander" or "Cameron" is favoured in his family circle. Not carelessly, therefore, but with affection, do we record that "Nick" came to Foy's in July, 1925. He was appointed to the China Department, became its Manager in 1946, and served the entire period of nearly 28 years with us, among the cups and saucers, dishes and vases, which he knew—and loved—so well.

The story of Dave Harris was told in the October, 1952, issue of "Service" in an article headed "When the Stanley Steamer Conked Out," Dave came to Australia from London in 1912 as personal chauffeur to Mr. John Maclellan. Eye trouble in the late '20's necessitated his giving up night driving, and Dave Harris became a driver in Collingwood Despatch. He switched over to the City Store in 1930. Counting in Dave's years of private driving (and there was a definite "Foy connection" about them), it means that, between them, our three old friends can account for about 110 years' service between them.

Each in his or her sphere served the Company well, and established a fine record. Although tributes to their work and their loyalty were paid warmly at the respective farewell presentations, it is not easy to convey the "wrench" which both they and we know in the breaking of these long associations. But, as these former colleagues begin to enjoy their periods of new-found leisure, we hope that among their joys they will long hear the echoes of our thanks for a job well and truly done. Always will they have our best wishes for contentment and good health.

They voted for Jones!

Burly Ernie Jones, Manager of the Boys' Clothing, City Store, and Trustee and Secretary of Mutual Aid, has found a further outlet for his talents and energy. Earlier in the year he was elected to the Brunswick Council, filling the vacancy caused by the death of Cr. Jack Holbrook.

Our congratulations, Cr. Jones!
REBUILDING COMMENCES.

A fire is such a spectacular happening, that witnesses — apart, that is, from those who may be vitally interested in the building — seldom give much thought to one aspect of the disaster. It is that the time taken to replace the structure is usually in inverse ratio to the rapidity with which the flames consumed the building and its contents.

But that does not mean that unnecessary delays occur. In the interval since fire gutted part of the Colac Store in September last, a lot of thought has been given to the outline and the amenities of the new structure. Plans are now complete. The burnt-out portions of the old building have been demolished and rebuilding commenced.

Possibly the most outstanding feature of the new area will be the vista. Where, previously, partition walls virtually divided this part of the Colac Store into three separate shops, the new structure will be spanned by steel roof trusses 73 feet wide. These will provide an area of 130 feet by 73 feet, without a single supporting column to interrupt movement or view.

Access to this area from those parts of the building which were not affected by the fire, will be through two 24-feet openings in the east and west walls. The spaciousness of the new area will thus be apparent from adjoining sections, as well as from the street. Another innovation will be the installation of "radiant heat." This method of warming the store in winter, for the greater comforts of customers and staff alike, is achieved from a network of piping sunk into the floor.

The contract for the new building has been let to Taylors, of Geelong. Apart from a few key men, the entire labour force is being recruited in Colac. All steps will be taken to ensure that, within the shortest time possible, the people of Colac will be presented with shopping facilities which will be second to none in the rural area of Victoria.

HOSPITAL BENEFITS FROM MANNEQUIN PARADE.

To aid the Colac Hospital Appeal, Bilson’s ran a most successful Mannequin Parade in the store on March 17. A very large audience gathered to see the displays of millinery, knitteds, square dance outfits, frocks, skirts and coats, modelled by well-known mannequins, Judy Lancet, Greta Miers, Bettye Jackson, Elaine Ellis and Mrs. Everett. Highlight of the show was undoubtedly the final item, when Bettye Jackson, arrayed in a lovely gown made from over 30 yards of billowing lace and net, appeared as "The Bride of the Season." Bettye was attended by Greta Miers and Judy Lancet, each wearing a gown of grey net and lace, cut on more classic lines, and which
made a beautiful contrast to the flowing bridal model.

As a result of the Parade, some £70 was raised. For much good work "behind the scenes" credit goes to the Messrs Hamilton, McLeod and Burzaco, and Mr. Hutchinson, of the Colac Store. Now we do not forget the encouragement and aid from Messrs. Neil Neville, Frank Ogle and Jim Sharp, of Melbourne.

DEPARTURES.

On leaving Bilson's Pty. Ltd. after 10 years' service as Credit Accounts Officer, Mr. C. W. Burnett was presented with a travelling rug by the staff. Mr. Burnett is commencing business in Colac as an Insurance Consultant.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Kirk left the Men's wear and Fashion departments respectively to set up home in Adelaide. We understand that Ted has since joined the staff of the Adelaide Store.

Another departure from the Men's wear was Mr. Ian Fedderson, who has obtained a position as accountant with a Colac garage.

WE LOSE A WELL-LOVED COLLEAGUE.

On March 16 Mr. Jack McBain, of the Hardware Department, died suddenly from a heart attack. The late Mr. McBain, who had been in indifferent health for some time, was mourned by all members of the staff and a wide circle of friends, as he was a most obliging, extremely courteous and understanding person. He leaves a widow, to whom our sympathies are extended.

Two events of great interest to the staff at Colac took place recently, when 21st birthday parties were given in honour of the Misses Marjory Skinner and Nola Lourey. Both girls are machinists — Nola in the office and Marj. in the workroom. Congratulations and a great number of gifts were showered on the respective guests of honour. Among the guests at Marj.'s party were some 25 or 30 of her school friends of the Deaf and Dumb Institute, which she formerly attended.

HE BATS IN A NEW TEAM, NOW!

Mr. R. Freestone, formerly assistant accountant at Head Office, Collingwood, has been appointed accountant of the Colac Store, where he has already taken up his duties. We welcome him, and hope that he will enjoy to the full the happy way of life which we all know.

FLOODING AT COLAC.

Further to the article in our last issue, we are pleased to report that work is well under way to complete the channels to drain flooded Lough Calvert into the Barwon River. It is expected that the flow will commence at about the middle of April, and, although the Lough will only be reduced in depth by about three feet, this will bring considerable relief to those who have had a great portion of their property under water for some time. Depending on the severity of the coming winter, the flow will again be resumed probably in September, when the level of the Barwon will be able to take it, without causing damage further downstream.

The best way to get rid of a noise in your car is to let her drive.

Chapel Street Chatter

By "Peep."

Two names claim pride of first place in this column. The Company's celebration and recognition of long service usually takes place towards the end of each year, and official reference to all employees concerned will doubtlessly be made in a later issue of "Service." But we in Prahran have had good reason for throwing our hats in the air twice, in the recent completion of 50 years' service by two of our colleagues.

This great moment has come for Rex Hutton, of the Hardware, and Arthur Smith, Despatch. We do congratulate them both, once more, from the heart, upon this outstanding record. Actually, it is hard to believe that the occasion has really happened — so lightly do the years sit upon our distinguished friends.

We understand that, privately, Mr. R. J. Macel- lan entertained our two friends at dinner at Scotts Hotel, to mark the occasion. To the rest of us, this was a very happy gesture, in view of the close association between Mr. Roy's father, Mr. John Maclellan, and the Prahran Store, with both Mr. Hutton and Mr. Smith knew so well, in their early days, as Macelellan's "Big Service."

Congratulations to Mr. F. H. Kermode, who has been appointed Manager of the Dress Materials.

Probably the news will appear elsewhere in the issue, but we are happy to state that First Prize in the recent Red Cross Raffle conducted by Foy's was won by Mr. Nowlan, of the Dress Materials.

Prahran Basket Ball went into action this month. First match was on April 22. We played Slionons, and won. Second match and second win, against Harbour Trust, on April 29. Team consists of M. Kerr, D. Langley, B. Kennedy, B. White, D. Craig, M. O'Neill and P. Strapp. Colin Corboy is Coach. We have been put up to "D" grade.

Miss O. Brooks, Baby wear, and Miss M. Orchard, of the Gloves, have been putting in some excellent work, displaying new season's coats and hats. Their whole performance was so good that they were asked if they were professional mannequins.

A MAN WITH A HOST OF FRIENDS.

A feeling of sharp, personal loss swept through the City Store when news spread of the sudden death of Sam Harris in the evening of Thursday, February 20. Nor was this sadness confined to Bourke Street, for Sam Harris was known in many other sections of our organisation and in circles beyond.

With his face crinkled by a rarely-absent smile, Sam Harris faced the world with a cheering presence. Recalling his quiet manner, it will probably surprise many to know that he was with the company for more than 33 years. Commencing in the Collingwood Despatch in 1920, Sam transferred to the City Despatch in 1932. In 1947 his versatility was recognised in his appointment to take charge of the House Stationery.

Here, Sam Harris really flowered. Nothing was ever too much trouble. Those who made contact with him in this section—and who didn't?—invariably gained the impression that Sam had just one mission in life—to meet the request of that particular moment. One came away from the
A Fine Effort for Red Cross

Mrs. Mackay’s remarks were directed especially to members of our own staff — and here we include all our colleagues in the Mills, of course — who not only did such a sterling job in manning the tables where tickets were sold, but bought so many tickets themselves.

To facilitate the drawing of the winning tickets, Red Cross brought in its own barrel, and, without more ado, Mrs. Mackay pulled up her sleeves, and, after the barrel had been turned by Brian Bridges and Rod Sinclair, of the City Store, plunged her arm in. This she did four times, until the following tickets had been drawn:

1st Prize—Astor 5 Valve Portable Wireless.

2nd Prize—E.P.N.S. Tea Service and Salver.
Mr. R. Thomson, 52 South Street, Wodonga, Victoria. Ticket No. 374.

3rd Prize—Canteen Cutlery, 44 pieces.
Miss J. Russo, 548 Bay Street, Frankston, Victoria. Ticket No. 1014.

4th Prize—Beautifully Dressed Walking Doll.
Mrs. Keleher, 5 Erica Ave., East Malvern. Ticket No. 4704.

To these lucky prize winners, we add our own congratulations to those of Red Cross.

For a moment, maybe, we felt a twinge of embarrassment when the identity of the winner of
the first prize was revealed, for Mr. Nowlan proved to be a salesman in the Dress Materials at our Prahran Store. A moment later, however, we were as overjoyed as he was, for in view of the number of tickets taken by our own people, it was by no means inappropriate that one of the four prizes should be won by a member of the staff.

Interesting points about the other winners are that Mr. Thomson, who won the tea service, is one of the drivers of the Spirit of Progress, in the guards’ van of which, the parcel was carried to Wodonga. There was no comparable equipment in Mr. Thomson’s home, so he assured us he was looking forward to “giving Mum a first-class cup of tea” in the future.

There was a beaming smile, too, on the face of Miss Russo, when we met her, for she is engaged to be married, and her hope chest didn’t include cutlery. Mrs. Keleher, winner of the fourth prize, is a resident of Sydney, who is staying in Melbourne.

Accompanying Mrs. Eccles Mackay, were Mr. L. G. Stubbins, Red Cross Director of Appeals, and Mrs. Val Robieson, Public Relations Officer—bright souls, both. Our three friends then became our guests at afternoon tea, where they were joined by Grace Goodbrand (Welfare Officer), John Gorbutt, J. G. Doig (Staff Controller), Mrs. Eccles Mackay, Mr. Thomas, Mr. L. G. Stubbins (Red Cross Director of Appeals), Norm. Stephenson (Fashion Controller), Frank Ogle (Controller first floor, City Store), Laurie Marshall (Fitzroy), Mary Blayney (Eagley Mills), Norm. Payne (Men’s Clothing) and Arch Griffiths (Controller, Men’s Store).
thing of an embarrassment in turning to such organisations as yours again and again. However, it is most encouraging to know that there are organisations and individuals who realise that the work of Red Cross is a continuous one."

Our reason for printing this letter is to emphasise the great interest of the staff towards the work which has been shown by our own staffs in the welfare of Red Cross. Major-General Norris' letter but reaffirms the thanks which we have expressed in an earlier paragraph.

---

**Staff Training: New Phase**

Promoting from within our own ranks, wherever possible, having long been an integral part of Company policy, it follows that encouragement to the Staff to gain knowledge beyond the day-to-day routines, should receive close attention.

Over the years, the method of bringing new knowledge to the younger people and additional knowledge to the more experienced, has varied with the "background" of the administration of the training department. Those among us whose minds go back a few years, will recall a period of instruction which had what we might term, the "academic slant." Studies included purely cultural subjects, and there was discussion upon matters beyond ordinary retailing activity.

Some there were, who raised an eyebrow at such departures from the "how-to-make-it-a-docket" school of approach. Surely, however, even the most prejudiced mind could hardly claim that anything under the title of knowledge is harmful. And, after all, if we can produce good citizens, we haven't exactly failed in our task!

More recently, Staff training was tackled from the buyers' angle, with the accent upon merchandising. Today, concurrent with the launching of the Management Training Scheme (first appointments under which were announced in our last issue), Foy & Gibson (Stores) Pty. Ltd. has introduced a new note in its liaison with staff, in the instruction field.

Naturally, opportunities for advancement will not be restricted to those who were selected for the original Mutual Aid trustee, and it is for the purpose of giving all who will take it, the opportunity to get a better grip of the present-day problems of retailing, that this new phase of staff training has been planned.

Briefly, it might be said that the new method of guidance is on an "open" basis. Such emphasis as there is, hinges upon the importance of the customer, with the natural corollary that he or she who can forge — and hold — good customer-store links, is the ultimate builder of business.

In charge of this new phase of training is Mr. Frank A. Hunting, who relinquished his position of Staff Supervisor at Prahran and moved to the City Store, where the lecture theatre has been opened. Basically, the talks which Mr. Hunting has planned for these classes will give "students" a good understanding of company policy; full instruction regarding all store systems and guidance in matters of customer-store relationships.

Up to this point, the instruction might be classified under the grand familiar heading of "Staff Training." But those who are aware of something of Mr. Hunting and his wide experience, will be aware that his approach to merchandising and retail techniques is refreshing. He has "angles" of thought which give a stimulating touch to his talks. A round-table discussion with Frank Hunting is no dry-as-dust lecture on how to write a docket.

Already, many of us have heard Mr. Hunting's opening talks. There's pep in every paragraph, and punch in every period. Such agile thinking is not surprising, however, for Frank Hunting has had a variety-packed career. Apart from his shrewd outlook upon current topics, therefore, he can draw upon a rich storehouse of experience to give his listeners a lively and purposeful address.

In the retail selling field, Frank Hunting can look back upon service with Maclellan's "Big Store" in Chapel Street (now better known as our own Prahran Store), Boan's in Perth, London Stores, Melbourne, his own business in Yallourn, Buckley & Nunn and Craig, Williamson's Melbourne City and Harringay grounds. The following year, he took 30 racing motor cyclists overseas, and introduced Australian dirt track riding to England. His teams raced on 14 tracks, including the famous White City and Harringay grounds. The following year, he took a team of English riders to Melbourne, where they raced at the old Exhibition Oval. In promoting and furthering this sport, Mr. Hunting made two more journeys to England, with another two trips to South America.

Yet, whilst abroad, Frank Hunting never lost interest in retail merchandising. In New York, he took an intensive staff training course at Macy's, which today, claims to be the world's largest store. In London, he found opportunity to study the training schemes of Selfridge's and Harrods.

It was in 1937 that Mr. Hunting came to us from Craig, Williamson's, where he was Staff Manager and co-House Manager. Within our own ranks, we have known him as Floor Supervisor, City, chief A.R.P. Warden during the war years, and latterly, Staff Supervisor at Prahran. He was an original Mutual Aid trustee, and today, is still Secretary of the Combined Gibsonia Social Club.

Thus, his audiences, both present and to be, can rest assured that Frank Hunting is no textbook lecturer. He's been "through the mill," with the best of us.

**AND SPEAKING OF STAFF TRAINING . . .**

If you have felt that our emphasis upon the importance of extending a sincere welcome to the customer is too laboured; if you have felt that such advice is superfluous anyway, since you are quite sure that all people are naturally courteous all the time — then mark well, the following comment made by one of our country customers in a letter written on April 15:

"On the few occasions I have been to Melbourne I have had service from your store, and also courtesy, which is often a hard thing to find in the city. May your firm go on prospering always. Yours sincerely,

(Mrs.) M— P—."

See what we mean? The opening smile of greeting, the little extra warmth of interest in the customer's need, are, so often, qualities which are "hard to find."

Any sales assistant who can move a customer to change his appreciation of this kind has definitely lifted himself—or herself—out of the "rank and file" class.
Have you ever had a camping holiday? Some of Foy’s Western Command recently spent a few days at Mandurah and I accompanied them, as I felt in need of a quiet and peaceful holiday away from the noise and bustle of the city. How wrong can you be? Hay Street at its peak hour would be sleepy hollow in comparison.

Our first worry was transport. Having arranged this, we set off in a convoy with Brian Charles (Display) as our noble pathfinder. With a screaming of brakes and grinding gears, we made our first stop at the home of Glenis Jacobs (Confectionery) who had quite evidently misunderstood our arrangements as she had enough luggage for a trip to Europe. Having persuaded her — gently or otherwise — that it was only an informal camping trip, we eventually got her to dispose of several cabin trunks and boxes, and she compromised with three suitcase, two armfuls of clothes, and “penny dreadfuls.” What she did with all this is still a mystery, as she lived in the same things all through the trip.

Arriving at Mundurah, we erected the tents. Harry Faulkner proved a great help, but, if he hadn’t put his foot through one of them, we’d have had a couple of extra pounds to buy bottles of food.

Despite our ears being blocked with cotton wool because of insects, we were kept awake most of the night by the incessant chatter of Betty Matthews (Perfumery). Now we understand why her husband is always so tired!

The first morning being Sunday, we decided to sleep in, but not so Dot West (Tobacco), who is a real outdoor girl. She was up at daybreak to go fishing. Receiving no other support, she dragged Harry with her, but he didn’t object, as he was still asleep and didn’t, in fact, wake until Dot tied him to her line and threw him in for bait.

Later in the morning, the whole gang went fishing, but the only things biting were the mosquitoes. These were so big that there was almost a traffic jam when two of them tried to get into the tent at once.

Returning to camp, we had a delightful lunch that Marj. Summers and Betty Matthews (both of Perfumery) had prepared. We learned after that their respective husbands had been teaching them to cook for weeks in preparation for the trip.

Jimmy Stout (Mercery) is a wonderful asset on such a trip. He never travels without a bottle of chili sauce, which proves most efficacious for snakebites, hiccups, and for use with the soldering iron.

Our trip into the township was quite an occasion for the local inhabitants, who had never seen real live hillbillies. It was a close shave for Jack Summers when the local sheriff almost arrested him on suspicion of Mau Mau activities, but, thanks to the “strong arm of the lawless,” Ken Matthews, we succeeded in convincing him that Jack was harmless. The “ohs” and “ahs” of the locals blended extremely well with the “ughs” of Glenis and her boy friend, Les Riley (Mercery), also known as Big Chief Chookfeathers.

It was definitely not a quiet or restful holiday, but everyone had a wonderful time and no-one could wish for a friendlier or happier team of partners in crime than this wonderful group of no-hopers to be found in Foy’s Western approaches.
Much “Face Lifting” in the City

Bourke Street employees can skip this column. Having survived the din of carpenters’ hammers and the general inconveniences from the shifting of stock and fixtures, they know all about the recent department moves in the City Store.

Yet today, we feel sure that like staff elsewhere, they feel proud of the results of all our planning. Take the first floor, as an example. With the exception of one corner, where the gowns and overalls make a brave display, the new layout has been completed.

And what an attractive floor it has become. Designed broadly on the “separate shop” principle, the new locations of the shoes, dress fabrics, underwear and college wear, would warm the heart of the Hollywood producer of glamorous “musicals” in technicolour. On all sides, is the soft glow of pastel shades. These vary with the various sections, yet merge from partition to partition as smoothly as the colours of the spectrum.

The “rounded square” of the Ladies’ Shoes, beckons to the luxury of sage green walls, against which, the seats in coral-red leather form a link with the darker green carpet. Illuminated shadow boxes not only highlight the quality merchandise which rests within them, but blend the surrounding colour schemes as deftly as the artist’s brush whirls the paints on his palette.

Immediately adjacent is the cotton counter, where a canopy of blush pink picks up the tint of pink-grey from the island fixture opposite, which dominates the new Underwear. And each of these treatments contributes in harmony, to the mist grey, which identifies the College Wear.

Not all the ingenuity of our artists and designers, however, could vie with the kaleidoscope provided by the fabrics of the Silk Department. They are a rainbow in themselves, and would probably look as good if the maintenance team had hung sugar bags on the walls. Instead, there are neon-lit canopies, graceful, sweeping counters, and an ingenious system of suspending the fabrics on horizontal rollers. Thus, colour or pattern can be demonstrated to a customer by a pull-and-unwind movement instead of the over-and-over unwrapping method, when materials are wound flat.

Perhaps the most outstanding feature of the floor is the diagonal layout of the Underwear. Whereas other sections are “foursquare” to the building lines, or dependent upon the walls for “background,” the Underwear fixtures run across the floor on a line from the Bourke and Swanston Streets corner. This effect is literally heightened by the main counter. Forty-three feet long and eight feet high, its angular run rises from the floor like a tinted Gibraltar.

Naturally, we are proud of this conversion. But these descriptions of the new lines and colours are not given in a spirit of boasting. It is just that we are conscious of the fact that this gracious and warm plan will add greatly to the convenience and comfort of those who visit this floor. And, in keeping with the service which we have given to the people for 87 years, we know that we have added considerably to the attractions and facilities of metropolitan shopping.

Here, it is fitting that we should mention another recent change. In the nearby annexe, nursery furniture, formerly part of the Infants’ Department, has been considerably enlarged as to the range of the stock, and now functions “on its own feet.” In conjunction with the Bedding (Fourth Floor) this new section is managed by Mr. George Assender, who joined Foy’s in January last. We wish him well.

Reference to furniture naturally brings us to the minor upheaval on the Fourth Floor, which City

Lionel Jackson, Manager, Travel Goods, City Store, was married in January, 1928. The honeymoon was spent at Point Lonsdale. In January this year, Mr. and Mrs. Jackson went back to Point Lonsdale to celebrate their Silver Anniversary. Above, left and right, are Mrs. Jackson and Lionel, snapped at Point Lonsdale 25 years ago. Centre is Mrs. Jackson today. In his current picture Mr. Jackson had a beach hat pulled so far down that we couldn’t find his face, but he’s altered so little, that it doesn’t matter. Mrs. Jackson will be remembered by many as the former Hilda Fenwick, of the Ladies’ Underwear, in the old Fitzroy Store. And, forging a further link with the Company, their son Geoff works in the Boys’ Mercery, City Store.

21
OFF TO THE CORONATION!

Around 4 o'clock, on Thursday, March 26, there was an unaccustomed silence in General Office, Collingwood. It wasn't a lack of work which had silenced the usual chatter of the typewriters and accounting machines. There just wasn't a soul in sight who could have made a noise!

But, down the passage, something stirred. It was the heart of Frances Bradley. For there, in the staff room, surrounded by all the colleagues she knows so well, Miss Bradley sat, as guest of honour, at a surprise party. With Head Office Accountant, Harry Harris as host, the entire office staff and friends from elsewhere had gathered to bid farewell to Miss Bradley prior to her sailing.

One is always on thin ice when speaking of long-service by a woman. Yet we would fail to do justice to Frances Bradley — "Fran" to her intimates — if we did not describe her as a "foundation member" almost, of Foy's in Collingwood. That bright eye and broad smile which have beamed across the Cash Deck counter which she has superintended for quite a long time, belong to a woman who has been with the Company since May, 1908.

Like many people, Frances Bradley had a lifelong desire to travel, and particularly to see England. And like some people, she might have achieved that ambition when her job was done. But this is Coronation year. London has become the mecca of all voyagers. And, as Coronation ceremonies do not take place at frequent intervals, Miss Bradley reasoned that while London would look good at any time, London en fête for a Queen's crowning would be better still. So she asked for — and received — leave of absence.

Naturally, this fulfilment of her wishes caused much excitement in Collingwood office. It's a long time since anyone thereabouts made a trip overseas. Thus, there was much high spirit (no lip licking, please — we served tea, only!) at the "bon voyage" party. Host Harris spoke particularly warmly of Miss Bradley, and rounded off a graceful tribute with the presentation of a really superb suitcase as a parting gift from all friends. Had she not been safely booked in a comfortable cabin, Frances might have managed to paddle her way to London in this bag, such was its handy size.

And then, just to stem the moist drops which were beginning to appear in Miss Bradley's eyes, Harry Harris handed over a mystery gift from a group of anonymous well wishers. This parcel seemed to contain miles of wrapping, and as each layer was folded back boxes of this and packets of that cascaded on to the table. The gifts, all bearing humorous tags, had been selected with a rare sense of fun. They covered just about every emergency Miss Bradley could meet from shipwreck.

The last of these offerings broke up the party in gales of laughter. As she rose to express her thanks and say farewell, Miss Bradley—evidently in need of Dutch courage—had, firmly clutched in her hand, a familiar bath-room requisite with which she tapped the table, as if to underline her remarks. But, as we discovered afterwards, she was completely unaware of what she was holding.
when, referring to the voyage, she concluded with the words: "This is something I've wanted to do all my life."

To Miss Bradley, who sailed on the "Mooltan" on April 7, we wish the greatest holiday of her life — and a safe homecoming.

---

**Personalities**

We can't remember an event which caused more personal and widespread pleasure than the announcement, on March 25, of the engagement of MARJORY BOREHAM, of the City Tube Room, and RAPHAEL (RAY) GARCIA, Men's Suits. Marjory is well known throughout the Store, because her work brings her into contact with all and sundry. Ray, too, has many friends. The ring is a truly magnificent solitaire diamond. Congratulations, once more, to a popular pair.

All good wishes to ALAN BROGAN (Internal Audit), who celebrated his "21st" on March 22. The calendar merely "caught up" with him in this case, for Alan has long worn easily, the dignity and calm of manhood.

From Prahran, news of the engagement of MISS E. VOGELL (Knitwear) to Mr. N. Clarke. We like it, too!

---

At the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. R. Mackenzie, at Wesley Church, William Street, Perth, on January 24. Formerly Miss N. Bailey, of the Staff Office, the bride made a lovely figure in her gown of white all-over lace.

Despatches delayed somewhere or we would have referred sooner to the additional joy which came to JUNE FAHEY (Lay-by, Fitzroy) on Christmas Day last. Lucky "other party" to the engagement is Robert Hoseason. To the future Mrs. Hoseason, our good wishes — even though they be out of season.

BERT WILLIAMS (Finishing Room, Eagley Mills) had a great holiday at Cockatoo in March. Says the creek is full of blackfish, trout and eels. Other amenities are the swimming pool, dance hall and cinema. This is not a free "plug" for Cockatoo. Just giving you the comments relating to some pictures Bert sent in, but which were, unfortunately, unsuitable for reproduction.

Departed from Merchandise Office, City, is MRS. L. TAAFFE, formerly Secretary to Mr. J. G. Doig, Staff Controller. Her goal, Sydney,
where marriage to Mr. D. Stuart Clark was planned for April’s end. We miss her smile — but wish her well.

ELAINE FITZPATRICK (Docket Office, Collingwood) has received her diploma as Associate of the London College of Music. Subject? Teacher of Elocution. We’re proud of you, Elaine.

On a recent trip to Sydney, GEO. TREVILLIAN (Assistant Controller, Ground Floor, City) was invited to draw the numbers in the N.S.W. State Lottery. Didn’t do him any good — but he made a couple of nurses at Sydney Hospital very happy.

Among those present at the Garden Party at Government House on March 7 were HELEN TURNER (Haby.) and BEVERLEY WHITE (Confectionery), both of Prahran. If greater charm were radiated by any other guests, we haven’t heard about it.

Merry-eyed GLADYS YOUNG (Mercery, City Store) released good news on April 18 — she accepted weighty diamond from Stan Wood, of Bendigo. Suppose this just had to happen, for every day Gladys is showing someone how to knot a tie, which is much the same as tying a knot! Engagement has put a new beam on the face of proud “Pop,” Charlie Young, foreman painter, of the Maintenance squad.

Love flew into Hire Purchase Office, Collingwood, on March 28, and touched JUNE McFARLANE. Ronald Airs, of Northcote, now proudly refers to June as “my fiancée.” We’re pretty happy about it, too.

Proud and happy were MR. and MRS. TEDDY FRENCH, on March 24, when they could look back on 25 years of contented married life. Ted works in the Cashmere Spinning, Eagley Mills, and we knew Mrs. French for 22 years in No. 1 Combing. Our congratulations, too — and may they enjoy many more anniversaries.

On March 17, she whom we knew well as MARGARET SMALL (Lay-by, Fitzroy), produced a son, Geoffrey Thomas. We share the joy of Mr. and Mrs. Boyle.

MRS. M. QUINN (Hosiery, Prahran) left us on April 1 for marriage at Easter to Mr. R. Hobson. A honeymoon in Tasmania marked the commencement of a happy partnership. Good luck to them both.

The Mounties may always get their man, but full marks to Constable Jack Bourke, of Moe, for getting a girl — and what a peach! Thus “arrested” is JOAN CRAWFORD (was Mum a film fan?), of Hire Purchase Office, Collingwood. Like us, they’ll long remember the date, April 3.

Warm thanks to Ron Parker, Perth Store, for his excellent photographs.

“SERVICE” is Published bi-monthly by FOY & GIBSON LIMITED 130-152 Smith Street, Collingwood.

Editor: JOHN GORBUTT.
Art Panel: J. S. SHARP, GARRY McGUIRE.
Editorial Office: c/o Foy & Gibson (Stores) Pty. Ltd., Bourke Street, Melbourne, C.1.
Library Digitised Collections

Author/s:
Foy & Gibson

Title:
Foy & Gibson newsletters

Date:
1947-1967 (incomplete)

Persistent Link:
http://hdl.handle.net/11343/21262

File Description:
Service no.33 April 1953