Like a common surname, a clan tartan, or a family crest

"SERVICE"

acts as the link between all members of the widespread Staff Family

of

COX BROTHERS

The medium for conveying news to, and publishing reports from, every member of this happy band, "Service" is distributed to all personnel of the following companies:

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COX BROTHERS (AUSTRALIA) LIMITED
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Broken Hill
Cessnock
Lismore
Maitland
Tamworth
Wagga Wagga

SOUTH AUSTRALIA
Adelaide
Mt. Gambier
Port Augusta
Port Pirie
Renmark
Whyalla

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Melbourne
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Bendigo
Box Hill
Fitzroy (Bulk Store)
Geelong
Horsham
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(inc. Office, Despatch, Workrooms, Reserves, etc.)
Melbourne
Prahran

FOY & GIBSON (W.A.) LIMITED
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Suburban
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Collie
Katanning
Kojonup
Manjimup
Mt. Barker
Narrogin
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COMBINED SYDNEY BUYING OFFICE,
Stafford House, 263 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

LONDON BUYING OFFICE
235 Regent Street, London, W.1

HEAD OFFICE
COX BROTHERS (AUSTRALIA) LIMITED
75 Flinders Lane, Melbourne, C.1.
Kings and Cakes

For many, the end of June is a turning point in the activities of the year. In the majority of business organisations, the 30th June is the time to strike a balance; to open a fresh page of the ledger—and hope that the future will be of greater significance than the past.

In the main, Business plans for the future. How often do we hear the remark: “What happened yesterday is past history. Forget it!”?

Time may prove to some future generation, that this is sound advice. Elsewhere, however, there is a tendency to concentrate upon PAST happenings; to dwell upon the why’s and wherefore’s of the words and deeds of men—and, sometimes, women—who lived centuries ago.

How long, one wonders, will this continue? For how long can it remain a practicable course to follow? Look at it this way. If the school boy of 50 years ago had to “swot” unmercifully to get even a glimmering of the myriad events which marked the passage of the years between, say, the year 1 and the year 1900, how will the young scholar of the year 2000 manage to cram in all that ADDITIONAL history of the years which will separate the end of the 19th century from the close of the twentieth—so much of which has already painted for us, an overcrowded canvas?

One ponders also if he who will be about to greet full manhood in the year 2000 will have any great need to be concerned about those somewhat bloodthirsty accounts, in the history books of today, of the restless movements of the Vikings, the Goths, the Vandals, the Magyars, the Tartars—even the early Greeks or Romans. The young man of 2001—yet to be born—could have cause to be far more concerned about influences, social or political, which may rock Earth to its polar axes in, say, 1984.

In what may then be—to use a current phrase—a “push button” world, will the 15-year-old have the opportunity to pause long enough, in his survey of the centuries behind him, to absorb stories like that of careless King Alfred and the burnt cakes; or of King Canute and the disobedient tide?

If one can judge by current trends in the spreading of knowledge, the position, in fifty years’ time, will show a marked swing towards the fields of technology. Science, engineering, management and the like could play a far greater part in the training of mankind for what may be an even more mechanised system of living than we know, today.

Already, the United States has emphasised the advantages of technological “know-how.” Yet, among “outside” observers of Russian endeavours, America is prominent in pointing to the stupendous strides taken by the Soviet Union in the training of its young people in all branches of science. Published extracts from John Gunther’s latest work, “Inside Russia,” give staggering details of the facilities provided for students in the gigantic, “skyscraper” University of Moscove.

Wherever the lead, however, others will follow. Already, voices are being raised in Great Britain pointing to the shortage of scientists and the inadequacies of training facilities. International rivalry between the two world wars was sometimes described as an “arms race.” Before long, we may witness a “scramble of science” between the countries of the world—in both East and West.

Here, however, it is not our intention to enter the sphere of international politics. More are we concerned at this moment, with reminding readers that new signposts seem to be springing up along the road to the future. If we do not heed them, we could lose our way.

There was, undoubtedly, something endearing about those romantic figures of early history to whom we were introduced, at school. Scorched cakes, knights in armour, highwaymen and pirates—all such were food for the young, romantic mind. Who will deny the pleasure derived from a first reading of “Robin Hood”?

But, enrich our language though it may, the speech of Henry V before Agincourt, as enshrined by Shakespeare, may not be of the greatest help in a world of electronic valves and scientific formulae. There can be few people, even today, who are not dependent upon the triumphs of the scientist, the chemist, or the engineer. Yet, even among those who make close contact with the myriad products of laboratory research—even among those who are concerned with the selling of such goods, as their daily livelihood—there is often, we fear, only the haziest conception of the processes of manufacture.
Who, for example, among the thousands of people who sell nylon stockings, knows how, or from what, the basic yarn is produced; or of the intricate machines which render this hosiery full fashioned, seamless or snagproof?

Who, among the staffs of departments handling plastic goods, knows how a hair comb, a length of garden hose, or a simple egg-cup is produced?

One could multiply such examples a thousandfold. To what degree the questions could be answered satisfactorily, we do not know. But should there be more head-scratching than ready replies, we can but point to the fact that facilities for learning abound. There are books galore, awaiting the questing mind.

And we venture to think that a little more learning from such sources might be no less advantageous in preparing ourselves—and our children—for the world of tomorrow, than a concentration upon Phoenician tin trading, Egyptian pyramid building—or the adventures of Ned Kelly.

**OUR CHEST IS STILL EXPANDING!**

In the making up of each issue of this journal, one point calling for constant watchfulness is the list of stores, printed on page 2. Hardly a month passes, it seems, that we are sending off a special instruction to our printers regarding the re-setting of the type and the re-arranging of the columns on this page.

The reason? Just that the names of more towns have to be added. With the opening of each new store, the list has to be revised. For this, the June issue, no less than three additions have been made. We are now serving an eager public at Victoria Park, in Perth, W.A.; and in Morwell and Stawell, in Victoria.

The Victoria Park Food Store operated by Foy & Gibson (W.A.) Ltd. was opened on May 28, and a detailed description of this fine and successful unit is given in the "Western Whispers" columns, in these pages.

The other two new enterprises are further extensions of the Cox Brothers chain. On June 3 we commenced business in Morwell, a key-town of the prosperous Gippsland district of Victoria which, in this particular locality, is sometimes referred to as the Latrobe Valley. It has also been described as the Australian Ruhr, because the enormous brown coal deposits in the district are the source of the major supply of electric power in Victoria. At nearby Yallourn are the enormous power stations and briquette making plants of the State Electricity Commission. In the not distant future, Morwell itself will be the source of another form of power, in the form of household gas made from the same brown coal.

The new Cox Brothers store is situated in Commercial road, Morwell, a focal point in the shopping area. The building has an 18 ft. frontage and a depth of 60 ft. In charge is Bill Hartican, who has been with the company some 11 years. He commenced at Ararat, and remained there until about 18 months ago, when he was created what could be described as a "Mobile 2 I/C," in which capacity he served at Albury, Canberra and Melbourne.

As if to demonstrate Mr. Hartican’s own faith in his first appointment as Manager, at Morwell, he was married in Canberra, 11 days after the Gippsland opening day, and happily enough, his wife is at the moment working alongside him in the store.

The new store at Stawell, a rich farming district near the Grampian Mountains, was opened on June 19. Situated on Main street with a frontage of only 15 ft. and a depth of 40 ft., it nevertheless carries a full range of stocks with the exception of furniture.

Enjoying his first management at Stawell is Mr. Keith Watson, who joined Cox Brothers in Melbourne in 1952, and worked mainly in the Bulk Store in Fitzroy until 1954. In that year he decided to go abroad, and literally worked his way round the world, visiting Great Britain, the Continent and Canada. Upon his return in 1956, he rejoined Cox Brothers, at Warrnambool, and then moved to Box Hill as 2 I/C. Stawell followed.

The opening of these three stores brings the total number of units within the Cox Brothers group to the impressive total of 64.

**THE FRONT COVER**

In London, during World War II, the Cathedral dedicated to St. Paul, generally regarded as the masterpiece of Christopher Wren, was struck by aerial bombs which seriously damaged the High Altar. With infinite skill and care, stone masons and other craftsmen have lovingly built another altar. Erected as a memorial to the men and women of the Commonwealth who were killed in the two wars, this new High Altar was consecrated on May 7, in the presence of the Queen.

This fine photograph of the impressive structure was taken by the London "Times."

At the Foy (W.A.) Annual Ball, the Deferred Payments section was smilingly represented by (1. to r.) Pat Carbarns, Pat Liddelow, Janet Lasky, Eileen Lauchlan, Pat Johnson and Ray Stein.
ROYAL HONOUR FOR MR. NOEL FORSTER

It was announced in The Queen’s Birthday Honours List that Her Majesty had awarded an M.B.E. to Mr. Noel E. Forster. The citation stated that he had been created a Member of the Order of the British Empire “... for valuable services to the Commonwealth as Honorary Chairman of the Woomera Store Board in 1953-55.”

Mr. Noel Forster

In our organisation, we know Mr. Forster, as readily, as General Manager for South Australia. He has been with Cox Brothers since 1928. From time to time we get brief official news releases about the Woomera undertaking. By and large, however, all happenings thereabouts are veiled, for obvious security reasons. But we reveal no secret in recalling that in earlier days, a store was built at Woomera for the use of personnel at the site. Eventually this was handed over to the Army Canteen Services for administration. But for 18 months the store was controlled by a Board. It is for his work as Chairman of this Board that Mr. Forster’s services have now been publicly recognised.

On behalf of readers everywhere, we offer warm congratulations to Mr. Forster.

OVERHEARD IN A FOY CITY ELEVATOR

Customer (obviously English, with a marked county accent): “Do I g-a-w oop, t’bu-u-y bla-a-nkets?”

Attendant: “Third floor, madam. Manchester.”

Customer (misunderstanding, but firm): “Na-a-y, Yorkshire!”

THE CARAVAN MOVES ON!

It seems no time at all—in truth, it was in our last letter—that we announced the arrival of Miss Rona Main of Snows, Mr. Roy Dunstall and Mr. Jack Thomas of Foys Melbourne. Now regrettably, we have to report that they are all on their way home.

However, their arrivals and departures were not without incident. Miss Main arrived at London Airport six hours behind schedule; Mr. Dunstall, seven hours late, and Mr. Jack Thomas, a mere two. Departing, Miss Main was held up in Copenhagen for several hours through oil troubles in the engine of the plane. Mr. Dunstall left, as planned—but was back in the office, here, the following morning! His plane had developed trouble in the hydraulic system during the first landing in Germany and it was returned to London for attention. Finally, Mr. Thomas was forced to keep an all-night vigil at his hotel—forunately Arthur Annis of this office and Mrs. Annis were there too, to keep him company—because his flight was delayed from 8 o’clock in the evening until 6 o’clock the following morning.

So, if any one of them, on arrival, had been a little apprehensive of the future, they were definitely loath to leave us, at the last minute! All of us in London office thoroughly enjoyed their presence here and we look forward to meeting them all over here again in the—may we hope—not too distant future.

BUS STOP!

Apart from the delays already mentioned, our visitors, like ourselves, were affected by the London bus strike. Not so much perhaps in the everyday moving about in London, but in the case of those buses which take travellers to and from London Airport. These are supplied by the London Transport, the group that is on strike. Generally in this office, the absence of the buses has had little effect on arrival times at work. Small adjustments, one way or another, have reasonably ironed out these problems pretty well. (Did anyone ever have a better excuse for arriving late?) The main weight of carrying those passengers who normally use buses has fallen on the Underground system which, really and truly, has been working "to capacity." Somehow, one always thought that "saturation point" had been reached.

From HUGH LIMB
London Manager, Cox Brothers (Australia) Limited

London Letter

London

Letter

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before the strike. It has been amazing that these extra passengers have been able to get in, one way or another. The surface trains, too, have received their increased share of passengers, but have not been so full to suffocation as the Underground.

This view of Piccadilly Circus, London, from Piccadilly itself, looking east, gives a vivid impression of the "deserted" look of Central London during the bus strike. To some Australian eyes this might seem a pretty busy scene in view of the existing traffic. Normally, however, there are upwards of 2000 double decker buses running on London's streets.

("Times" photo)

TAKING STOCK OF THE SITUATION

Whatever the conditions now, in the Underground or on the railways above ground, one thing is certain. The atmosphere in central London is considerably fresher and cleaner than it was when hundreds of buses were belching forth their diesel fumes. Even though many additional private cars have been brought into use during the strike, their exhausts do not match those of the buses.

Traffic, for several days after the commencement of the strike, was pretty haywire, as many of the private cars were in the hands of "week-end" drivers. But now, after four weeks, the movement of traffic is far more regular; in many directions, it is quicker.

Striking evidence of the density of London's traffic is provided by a recent survey made by the Metropolitan Police. Here are the figures showing the number of vehicles which passed certain well known points, in central London, on a typical day, between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. This count was made before the strike began, of course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All Vehicles</th>
<th>Cars</th>
<th>Commercial Motor Vehicles</th>
<th>Cycles</th>
<th>Buses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hyde Park Corner</td>
<td>91,010</td>
<td>40,233</td>
<td>15,364</td>
<td>3,203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliament Square</td>
<td>66,115</td>
<td>28,342</td>
<td>14,959</td>
<td>3,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingsway</td>
<td>44,941</td>
<td>16,532</td>
<td>11,229</td>
<td>2,677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monument</td>
<td>34,996</td>
<td>12,278</td>
<td>12,226</td>
<td>2,298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mansion House</td>
<td>31,791</td>
<td>11,878</td>
<td>8,510</td>
<td>1,848</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It was calculated that with the suspension of bus traffic due to the strike, there was an increase of about 10 per cent. in the number of cars.

But, 91,010 vehicles in motion at Hyde Park Corner, within the span of 12 hours! Assuming that there were no peak periods and that the traffic flow were even, this total represents a traffic

Challenger in the America's Cup, Britain's "Sceptre," sails down Holy Loch towards the Clyde, on her first outing under sail.

("Times" photo)
movement at Hyde Park of 7583 vehicles per hour or 126 vehicles every minute! And note that roughly 1 in 12 of these vehicles is a large double-decker bus!

AND AHEAD?

Much is being written in the papers about the future of the buses, now that many people have found alternative ways of getting to work. Whilst it is certain that at some time or other bus services will be resumed, there is undoubtedly a strong case for a reduction in the number of buses, particularly at peak hours. It is not impossible that we shall witness gradual persuasion to induce people to use the Underground—be it a gentle persuasion or some more forcible means. But if this should come about, considerable alterations and additions will have to be made to the Tubes, with protracted plans hurried along into completed projects.

The Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens at Wisley near London attract many visitors. Some remain to enjoy this peaceful beauty, until the setting of the sun. ('Times' photo)

THEY'RE GOING UP—WITH A SPLASH OF COLOUR!

As the world now knows, the big feature of Paris Haute Couture shows this year was without a doubt the shorter skirt. Is it knee high—or 1 inch below? When the first photographs of these new models appeared, the remark frequently overheard from the fair sex was: "Never, NEVER NEVER!" But the influence of the nabobs of fashion is insidious. And then there is the female prerogative regarding change—whether of mind or hemline. Daily, more and more succumb to the delightful—and sometimes whimsical—dictates of Paris.

High on the fashion list—bracketed, indeed, with short skirts—are coloured stockings. Gone, the flesh and autumn shades. With a flourish has arrived the new hose, in shades of blue, green, lilac, pink. The smart young lady works on the principle of one colour, with shades of the same colour toned in, in place of last season's contrasting colours. She buys a deep lilac suit, light lilac shoes and stockings tinted to the merest whisper of lilac. In another shade of lilac will be purse and hat. Then a perfume to top it all, and "voila!" she is the walking dream of 1958! All this is just fine for me, of course, but what a headache for the poor men who never quite fathom women's fashion trends!

Wimbledon fashions have also been in the lime-light. Tch! Tch! Panties, in gold lame! As worn in Paris by the American tennis player, Miss Karol Fageros. These glittering wisps have been banned for a showing at staid and dignified Wimbledon. (My own feeling on the subject is that we English could probably stand the shock of a bit of glamour of this sort.)! Now it's anybody's

WELL! WELL!

My wife and I went to the theatre with Roy Dunstall to see "The Mousetrap" by Agatha Christie. Incidentally, this play is enjoying the longest run in London ever—even beating that all-time record breaker "Chu Chin Chow." During the interval, when Mr. Dunstall went to buy some choc-ices, he bumped into someone. There were greetings on both sides. Later—when the ices had melted—he told us excitedly that his friend was a Melbourne man.

Back home, the two of them travel to work daily, on the same train from Brighton Beach! Didn't somebody once say "It's a small world"?
THE GOOD DOYLE

To end on a regretful note, Mrs. B. J. Doyle, who has been with this office since its opening in 1952, has left us. Originally, she was Mr. Carthew's secretary; she has been my secretary for more than three years. Mrs. Doyle is now expecting her first "happy event," and so, whilst we are extremely sorry to lose her, our wish for her and her husband is that they will know to the full the great happiness that only such occasions can bring.

TALES FROM THE TAMAR

Told by W. CUMMINS
(Merchandising Manager, Cox Brothers (Australia) Ltd., Northern Tasmania)

TASMANIAN DEVILS

How many of our Mainland friends have seen, or even heard of, the Tasmanian Devil? Found only in this Island State, this animal is about 28 in. long, measured over head and body, and has a short hairy tail. Its teeth are so remarkably strong that it has been known to escape from fox traps by biting off its own gripped limb.

Although the Tasmanian Devil is said to be untameable, some have been domesticated. When reared in captivity, they have become friendly and playful, forgetting their savage nature.

In its natural surroundings, the Devil usually makes its lair in a hollow stump. The young—nearly always born about May—remain in the mother's pouch for several months.

SPORT AND RECREATION

Our cricket enthusiasts have played a team from McKinlays, another department store in Launceston. Due to a mix-up over starting time, our team arrived at 1 p.m. Our opponents turned up at 2 o'clock. We feel this hour's delay had the desired psychological effect of bringing victory to our opponents!

Top scorer for the day was Jack Steer, whilst bowling honours were shared by Clem Brown, John Hollingsworth, Robert Sheppard and Bob Harrison. (Could there be any more?) Warren Wade was so keen to score that he quite often met the ball half way down the pitch! John Gill, our medium-pace bowler, was like a second Tyson, with his long run-up.

Later our XI engaged a team from yet another store—Maples. And again we went down fighting! On this occasion, we attributed our disaster to the efforts of Mrs. G. Meek, who flies through the air with greatest of ease. Although on our staff, when she saw the desperate situation of Maples, she batted for them! Becoming almost their top scorer, Maples were thus helped to victory.

In this match Bob Sheppard was top scorer, whilst bowling honours were shared by John Hollingsworth and Clem Brown.

Could be that the ranks of Tasmanian crayfish were sadly depleted during the holidays of Harry Reisz, our Furniture buyer. He sure is keen! We've heard fantastic stories about size and number of crayfish allegedly caught and eaten, on our West Coast.

Clem Brown came back, full of vim and vigour, from a holiday in South Australia. Warren Wade also returned—but with painter's elbow. Most of his holiday was spent on top of a ladder!

NEWCASTLE NEWSLETTER

From ENID DAVEY
(Cox Brothers (Australia) Limited, Newcastle)

FESTIVAL OF LIGHT

There were great doings at Tamworth recently when a new—and novel—form of celebration was inaugurated. It was styled "The Festival of Light." Tamworth was the first place in Australia to have streets lit by electricity, and the Festival was planned to commemorate the 70th Anniversary
of this momentous occasion. The people of Tamworth are very proud of the distinction.

A combined church service held in Tamworth Memorial Town Hall was attended by nearly 1500 people. The guest speaker was Dr. H. S. Wyndham, Director-General of Education in New South Wales.

Shops and streets were colourfully decorated, and a great deal of time and effort went into the organisation of numerous events. These included scooter races, Billy Cart Derby, barbecue, displays of electronics, Persian art, and Chinese photography. A parade of agricultural machinery through the streets also created much interest. The main attraction was the Parade and the crowning of the “Queen of the Festival” on the final night.

A display of rhythmic dancing and gymnastics at the Tamworth No. 1 Oval by some 1900 school children was another highlight of a very exciting week. The display culminated in a spectacular finale. The flood lights at the oval were extinguished and the children performed a mass dance in which they formed two concentric circles, with 500 of the children holding multi-coloured, conical torches. The precision work was perfect—the result of many hours of patient training.

Unhappily, amidst the revellings of the Festival came the grim news of Tamworth’s acute water shortage due to the prolonged drought. The shortage is the most serious in ten years. Water is allowed for domestic purposes only, and to add to the district’s discomfort came a plague of grasshoppers.

A SON IS BORN

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Sole, whose son was born, appropriately enough, on Mother’s Day, May 11. Mr. Sole is one of our outdoor representatives.

WE SCORE A SCORE!

On April 22, the Newcastle store celebrated the 20th Anniversary of its opening. Well, we may not have come of age yet, but at least we’ve left our ‘teens behind!

BLANKETS AHOOY!

Our outside representatives have been dismayed by the continuing “Indian Summer,” for there is a competition afoot in the matter of the sale of blankets. But with all this warm weather, nobody’s interested!

WINTER CABARET IS HUGE SUCCESS

By REG LEE (Display Manager)

The Annual Cabaret, held at Winn’s Shortland Room on June 7, was an evening of splendid entertainment. Both as to attendance and thorough enjoyment, the Cabaret was proclaimed by all to be the “best yet” of a whole run of happy and successful functions.

WINNER OF “QUEEN CONTEST” IS ANNOUNCED

Highlight of the night was the crowning of the Cabaret Queen. Although only a short time was
Miss Loretta Johnson (Office) is crowned “Cabaret Queen” by Social Club President, Reg. Lee, at Cox Bros. Newcastle Winter Cabaret.

alotted, this contest, which was run in conjunction with the Social Club's Annual Winter party, had kept excitement at a high pitch, from the moment that the contestants were nominated, and here we renew our thanks for the marvellous co-operation of the staff and friends.

The winner's name was “top secret” until 10.30 p.m., when it became my privilege as President of the Social Club to announce her name. But prior to that the four candidates were warmly congratulated upon their splendid work—and results. To each was presented a wristlet watch.

Then came the news which had been eagerly awaited for so long. The winner! She is Miss Loretta Johnson, who represented the Office. Loretta's success was loudly applauded, and after her “crowning” she was presented with a large sheaf of lovely flowers and the prize—a handsome contemporary mantel radio.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Matthews could not be present, unfortunately, because they were holidaying with their family at Port Macquarie, but popular guests on this occasion were Mr. Ron Dunn (Tamworth Branch Manager) and his wife Nance. They were well rewarded for their 180 miles trip by the warmth of their welcome, their enjoyment of the entertainment, and by the stirring of many pleasant memories.

Staunch supporter, Mrs. Betty Robertson (Cessnock Branch) was again responsible for the attendance of a large party from Cessnock.

AT CESSNOCK

As the turnover of staff at Cessnock is small, comings and goings are of interest. We have said farewell to Mr. David Hall, who for health reasons had to move to Sydney and is now employed in the furniture department at Snows. His place at Cessnock has been taken by Mr. Max Hennessey. Another to join Cessnock staff is Mr. Neville Harris. We welcome them both.

The four candidates in the Newcastle “Cabaret Queen” contest were Mauveen McElhinney (Hosiery), Loretta O'Connor (Underwear), Loretta Johnson (Office) and Eileen Wrightson (Display).
"THE ENGAGEMENT IS ANNOUNCED . . ."

Miss Valerie Mahl, Showroom Staff Cessnock, has announced her engagement to Mr. Robert Hughes.

Miss Cecily Green of Newcastle Office and Mr. Albert Whitla have announced their engagement. We extend to them all the very best wishes.

Miss Valerie Mahl of Cox Bros. Cessnock and Mr. Robert Hughes. Their engagement was announced recently.

Colac Chronicle

By IRENE TATE

WE HELP THE ANTI-CANCER APPEAL

To support local efforts to assist the Victoria-wide Anti-Cancer Appeal, the spearhead of which in Colac has been the Mayoress, Mrs. J. C. McLen- nan, we staged a fashion parade in our store. Aside from the most worthy purpose and in addition to the great interest which a display of fine clothes always arouses, this parade was quite a social event in our community, for among the audience of over 200 was the wife of the Premier of Victoria, Mrs. H. E. Bolte. The Colac "Herald" report of the night ran into two columns on the front page. The parade was jointly compered by Beryl Nagle, of Foys in Melbourne, and Stephen Dattner, Australia's well-known fur trader. Gowns and furs were modelled by Irene Everett, Betty Butterworth, Anita (a lovely girl from Germany) and Carol Ankers.

On the fashion side the arresting collection included sportswear, day wear and evening wear.

In the course of his own inimitable commentary upon furs, Stephen Dattner mentioned that Russian Fitch had become almost the fur-of-the-season this year. This beautiful skin was shown in many styles. But there were admiring eyes for a full-length mink coat, as well as for several lovely creations in ermine.

There was also great interest in a full-length coat of Australian water mole which, Mr. Dattner claimed, would create a riot in fashion centres overseas, if it could be exported. It happens, however, that the number of animals available is so limited, that only a few garments can be made and these are all retailed locally.

OUR GRIP WAS FIRM

With feelings of great pride, interlaced of course with the affection which comes from long years of association, have we said farewell to three good men who have retired recently after long service with the company. They are:

Frank Fay (Despatch)—16 years' service.
John Libbis (Despatch)—36 years' service.
Stan Usher (Grocery)—46 years' service.

An interesting point of the very long service with which Mr. Usher is credited, is that not all these years were served beneath the Bilson roof. Actually, Mr. Usher began work "next door" in the well-known former Colac grocery establishment known as Sunderland & Sears, in 1912. In 1941 both the premises and the business of Sunderland & Sears were taken over by Bilsons and the new owners were equally happy to acquire the services of Mr. Usher also. Thus, whilst technically he has been a Bilson employee for some 17 years, he has virtually "stood behind the same counter" for some 46 years.

Also gone from our ranks are Miss Helen Madge, Hosiery, who has moved to Ballarat, and Mrs. Elaine Taylor, who has retired to give full time to home duties.

ON STRENGTH

Newcomers are Miss Nola McMillan to the Haby; Miss Jan Veale to the Switchboard, and Mr. Colin Baker as outside representative. Once again a warm welcome to them all.

In new surroundings is Mrs. Joan Coghill, who was transferred from the Hardware to the Knitting section, where she is a centre of interest each day as she makes up all manner of knitted articles on the latest home knitting machines.

THEIR TEMPERATURES ROSE

Illness claimed Miss Doris Trewhella, Ladies' Shoes, and Miss Fay Pappin, of the Haby. They were both in our thoughts each day.
Snow Scenes at Sydney Central

Described by MICKI JOLSON
(Training Officer, Sydney Snow Pty. Ltd.)

RETIREMENT OF MISS ELSIE HENDERSON

Last issue, we reported the retirement of Miss Isobel Woodward after 37 years' service with the Company, and announced that her position as Glove Buyer had been taken over by Mrs. Madeleine Greig, who began her career with Snows as a member of the casual staff.

HISTORY ALMOST REPEATED

Now comes news on almost the same pattern. Towards the end of April we lost another veteran in Miss Elsie Henderson, Perfumery Buyer, who retired after just over 30 years' service. Mrs. Phoebe Rodgers, who was appointed cosmetics buyer in Miss Henderson's place, follows Mrs. Greig's success route almost step by step. She started as a casual on the Ground Floor, became a permanent saleswoman and then, second-in-charge of Cosmetics. Finally, on April 29, she was appointed Buyer.

On the day Miss Henderson retired, the Company gave her a farewell party and an attractive clock-radio. From her pals in the store, there was a very chic beauty case. Just as she was leaving the store, the girls in her department had a grand lark. They presented Miss Henderson with a manicure tray which had remained unsold in the perfumery department for nearly 15 years! All attempts to sell it having failed, this article had become almost a store heirloom! Miss Henderson thought it was a great joke!

GIRLS GALORE!

Two Snowites were able to relax for the first time in many months when, on May 15, each became the father of a baby girl. They are Branch Controller Stuart Landless and our Silk Screen artist Harry Pointon.

WHAT IS SILK SCREENING?

In businesses—like our own—where the process is an everyday standby, we are apt to toss off, a reference to "silk screening" quite offhandedly. Actually, I suppose, there are those among our hearers who look very wise about the term, but who, in reality, haven't a clue as to what the process of silk screening is all about. Maybe we should explain the process, in relationship to Harry Pointon's job as silk screen artist for Snows. Briefly, this is what happens:

In a retail store, where hundreds of copies of the one illustration are required for display, ticket headings and posters, it would be impossible to
produce them all, individually, by hand. So the artist usually designs the one original poster. From this stencils are cut. These stencils are permanently affixed to a screen, or “ground” made from silk, organdie or metal cloth.

Paints are then forced through the stencil and deposited on the surface to be printed, thus forming a facsimile of the original design. In this way hundreds of copies may be “run off,” in a manner not altogether dissimilar from the working of a Gestetner duplicating machine. This method is known as silkscreen processing, because, originally, silk was exclusively employed for the screen.

Although a silk screen printer is not necessarily an artist, Harry Pointon does both the designing and the actual printing, with the help of 17-year-old Philip Robotham, who is studying the full technique of silk screening at Sydney Technical College. The basic principles of silk screening came to us from the earliest civilisations of China, Egypt, Syria and Greece. There is evidence that the method was known in long-lost Pompeii. Each of these ancient usages contributed something to today’s modern processes.

**FOOLED ‘EM!**

Ladies Shoe Buyer, Eddie Lyne, visiting Melbourne for the Cox Brothers Shoe Buyers’ Conference, attended a showing of the latest shoes at Bedggood’s factory.

Present were Mr. H. G. Bedggood, his sales manager, and several other top executives of Bedgooods. After spending quite a time explaining the many fashion points, Mr. Bedggood asked Eddie Lyne what he thought of the range.

E.L. hesitated for a moment or two. Then, very seriously, replied: “I’m very, very disappointed!”

Faces dropped! The Bedggood men jointly assumed the looks of a bunch of unhappy spaniels.

Continued E.L. “I repeat: I am most disappointed — disappointed that I haven’t enough money available to buy the lot!”

Smiles broke out once more. But for a few tense seconds, those Bedggood bigshots were really worried men.

**ENJOYING THE “RELAXED LINE”**

One of the most interesting positions in any retail store is that of fashion promoter, and no one could have tackled this fascinating assignment with greater zest than our own “hemline authority,” Mrs. Pat Thomas. But whilst she found in her job, a complete fulfilment of her sparkling talents, her doctor came to take a more detached view. Eventually he became very firm, giving as his verdict, the blunt directive: “Take it easy or your health will suffer.”

If there is one quality which Mrs. Thomas possesses to a marked degree it is common sense. Most regretfully, she has retired. But having to relinquish her work was a great wrench. From us all, heartfelt wishes for carefree days, ahead.

Her successor, Miss Ann Benson, has settled into the position in record time. Almost the day after she arrived she had to take over the organising and compering of our Kiddies’ Mannequin Parades, held in our Children’s World on the Fourth Floor. She hardly had time to take a breath, before she was getting caught up in all the bustle of publicity work.

**THE BREATH OF INTERSTATE AIR!**

Many interstate visitors from the Cox Brothers organisation visit Sydney each year. But, often, they come and go so quickly that we don’t see much of them. There’s even less chance of a good pow-wow.

During the past few months, however, we’ve had two visitors who did stay long enough for us to say “Hello.” One was Mr. J. R. Laurent from Foy’s (W.A.), the Group Controller of Furniture, Floorcoverings, Electrical, Radio, etc. He and our own Controller of Travellers, Mr. Reg. Kimberley, went into cahoots, discussing all phases of “outside” selling.

Mr. Laurent seemed to have started a cycle, for only a few weeks later, Mr. Pat Bowman from Foy’s in Melbourne arrived here with a similar purpose. Mr. Bowman is well known to Coxites. He’s been Manager at Lismore and was Deputy Manager of the Newcastle store before transferring to take control of Foy’s team of outside men.

Practically a whole week was spent with Mr. Kimberley in travelling around with several of our teams of men, followed by a close study of the internal workings of our credit systems, as applied to outside selling.

**SNOWS ON TV**

Every Thursday at approximately 1.15 p.m., Snows sponsors a four-minute spot on one of the most popular mid-day housewives’ programmes on Sydney television.

Each week, a member of our buying team has

Well-known Sydney TV personality “Captain Fortune” entertained young visitors to Snows “Children’s World” during the school holidays. On his knees are Sherryne Munce (daughter of Ted Munce, Electrical Buyer) and Beverley Wilson (daughter of Mr. Jack Wilson, Staff Manager). In front, young Wayne Munce, aged 7, and at left, preoccupied by some other attraction, Gregory John, the 18 months old son of Mr. Wilson.
gone along to demonstrate a particular line of merchandise, something that really lends itself to visual demonstration. So far, our TV stars have been Mrs. Heather Joynes (Coat and Suit Buyer), Mrs. Daisy Chateau (Corsetry Buyer), Mr. Eddie Lyne (Ladies Shoe Buyer), and, of course, our new Fashion Promoter, Miss Ann Benson. Miss Rona Main, just returned from another wonderful around-the-world trip, is booked for an early appearance.

When Eddie Lyne appeared he quoted some very interesting statistics about Selby shoes. Selby has 157 fractional fittings, 25 different shapes and an overall variety of over 2500 combinations. We haven't yet discovered if E.L. worked that one out all by his little self.

WATT'S COOKING!

That, in a nutshell, could describe the recent transition of a well known identity of Foys City Store. For Miss Olive Watt, Assistant Controller, Ground Floor, has retired to make housekeeping her main activity, from now on.

Looked at from that angle, many will envy Miss Watt perhaps; certainly all will wish her the same happiness in this new phase of life as she has obviously enjoyed in her long career with Foys. Her seldom-hard-to-raise smile alone is an indication of her attitude towards life—and her job.

Making all allowance for the endless demands of her daily work in the store, Miss Watt had a good deal to smile about, for in her career of nearly 23 years with Foys she achieved a great deal. Not many of her sex have covered so much ground or notched their progress to the same degree. To the best of our knowledge, you could still count on the fingers of one hand the number of women who have won the rank of Controller.

During recent years, Olive Watt's administrative sphere has encompassed a number of ground floor departments. One of these, however, is the section in which she first started and with which, perhaps, her name will be most readily associated. That was the Hosiery. In earlier years, when Miss Watt had the stocking counters more or less directly under her wing, there was no more astute buyer or better merchandiser. Twice, she went overseas to buy for her departments. Although she moved always in high gear—leaving no one in doubt as to who was “at the wheel”—Olive Watt never failed to enliven the staff she led and to draw from them a matching enthusiasm as they went about their own individual tasks. As the result, her girls adored her.

Nor was this affection for a woman leader limited to those who shared the labours of that part of the busy ground floor of the City Store. Olive Watt made and kept firm friends throughout Foys. Consequently, the day of parting, May 30, was a sentimental wrench for a whole lot of people. There were gifts of a nest of tables and a lovely vase from the company, presented by Mr. L. E. Williams, General Manager. Her own staff and friends presented her with a steam iron, a toaster and a Junior Mixmaster. But possibly the parting gesture which Olive Watt enjoyed most was her farewell party. With much understanding, Management handed over the Directors' Dining Room to Miss Watt's many women friends, and we understand that “Les Girls” settled down to one of those hair-raising shindigs, which marks the exclusive “hen party.” Maybe “hair-raising” is not the most accurate description. From what little we could gather afterwards, these festive femmes really let their hair down!

Unfortunately we cannot be more specific; cannot, in fact, give any details—for the door was locked, bolted and barred! Even the keyhole seemed to be stuffed up! But everyone had a rip-roaring and happy time.

We feel quite sure that Miss Watt has not the slightest doubt of the company’s warm regard for her, for adequate tributes have been paid already. But we would like to round off this report, with the assurance that Foys had—and will retain—a deep appreciation of a fine woman’s very substantial contribution to the company’s prosperity for nearly a quarter of a century. We are sure we speak for everyone within the Foy organisation and elsewhere, in expressing the hope that Olive Watt will derive from her years of leisure a feeling of fulfiment and joy no less than she knew during her long association with the company.

FOOTNOTE: A message from Miss Betty Armstrong of the Hosiery Department, on behalf of all present at the above party, to express the warmest thanks to Mr. L. J. McEwan of the City Store for his magnificent service as “butler.” His tireless ministrations helped to keep the party “afloat,” from beginning to end.

Pretty Velia McKay won applause for her folk dancing, at a recent Cox-Eco Social Club “Bohemian Night.” Velia is a member of the Office staff.
... and as the curtain rises, a complete change of scene meets our gaze.
Hitherto, as the play has unfolded, the principal characters have stood against backdrops which have led us from Victoria to South Australia; from New South Wales to Western Australia. Now the setting reveals a new locale—Tasmania. But long was the journey before this destination was reached!

The stories which have appeared in this series have been marked by a more or less common characteristic. Each of our distinguished colleagues has been a member of the staff of one or another of our group of companies for quite a long time. The "youngest" has "answered the roll" for 25 years; the veteran, for 53 years. Between them, they averaged 35 years of splendid service.

But, as has been mentioned, in selecting these most interesting records which have been presented under this heading, long service has never been a dominating consideration. Rather has it just happened that those whose lives have encompassed a wide variety of experiences have lived longer years. This, in turn, has meant a correspondingly long association with the employing store.

Now, from Tasmania, comes the story of an employee who has served Cox Brothers for just three years! The pendulum has swung through its arc. As a result we meet—for only the second time in this series—a woman. And we greet not only a comparative newcomer to our ranks, but a newcomer to our country.

This is the story of Anna Piwowar, a native of Poland, who arrived in Australia early in 1955. In relating this story of a fellow worker and a fellow citizen, management in Hobart has created the opportunity to renew the greetings which our various companies have extended to so many people who found friendly refuge in Australia when the ravages of war had made life in their homelands either bleakly uncomfortable or physically impossible.

In much the same way that Irishmen may be hailed collectively as "Paddy" or the Welshman as "Taffy," there was coined in Australia, when this mass migration from Europe began in the early post-war years, the all-embracing phrase, "New Australian." It is a term which tends to lead others to think of these new citizens as if they sprang from a common stock—or had identical reasons for leaving Europe.

Now and then, instead of contemplating these "New Australians" as a group, in the mass, we should regard that earnest-looking young man who had to flee from Lithuania; the middle-aged, careworn woman who was torn from the family hearth in Latvia; the "stateless" person who comes from "nowhere" because the original frontier of his country was pushed about a bit in the patchwork peace-making of the post-war period. His birthplace became embraced in a new territory, which offered no home to him.

Such people, multiplied by tens of thousands, are the new citizens of Australia. In many cases, they have qualified for full citizenship, by becoming naturalised. In outlook, by desire, they are Australians. Only a trace of accent in speech or perhaps taste for food which we "Old Australians" have not yet got round to sampling, will reveal that Europe has born his mark.

But above all, they are human beings; creatures of flesh and blood, with nervous systems which register joy—or pain—like anyone else. Before they reached Australia, many knew great suffering—be it physical hurt or mental anguish. Now they have begun a new way of life in a new world. Had any of us been similarly displaced by the upheavals of war, would we not have craved such an opportunity to live anew?

As Mrs. Edward Drelich, the former Anna Piwowar finds life in Australia happy and peaceful. That's her husband with her.

(Hobart "Mercury" photo)

In our companies, many a helping hand has been extended to these people from other countries, by finding work for them. Six years ago (when "Service" was published from the Head Office of Foy & Gibson Ltd.), this journal printed a leading article entitled "Tomorrow's Heritage." In this, we made a plea for understanding of the plight of the men, women and children who were brought to Australia from Europe, in ship after ship. We supported
this article, by selecting at random from these “displaced persons” who were earning their livelihood in Foy’s, nine young people who typified the diversity of nationalities which had so widened our acquaintance. We gathered these youngsters in the Foy Board Room at Collingwood and photographed them. The picture appeared in the April, 1952, issue of “Service.” It is reproduced again, now. Here you see a boy and a girl from Lithuania; a girl born in Egypt of Maltese parents; a young woman from Vienna; a man from Italy; another girl born in Egypt, but of Greek parents; a young woman from Latvia; a teenager (with the most beautiful red hair we have ever seen) from Holland and a young man from Hungary.

We have known many others, from distantly-spaced birthplaces, in the years between. Now—and almost as a crystallisation of the wartime experiences and subsequent rehabilitation of so many of these newcomers from the countries of Europe—this brief outline of the life and adventures of Anna Piwowar.

As Miss Piwowar was born in 1936, much has been compressed into her 22 years. She was born in the little village of Szerzyny, in Poland, where her father owned a farm. She was the second youngest of a large family. When Poland was invaded in 1939, little Anna was but three years old. But even at that tender age, she began to know severe trial.

Shortly after the invasion, Mr. and Mrs. Piwowar were driven from their home and themselves, with all but two of their children, in Russia. Here they were to remain for two years. Great were the hardships of those early days of the war in Northern Europe. Civilian populations, swept aside, as the tides of battle ebbed and flowed, knew terrible privations. During this period of unbelievable hardship and anxiety, Anna Piwowar lost both parents. Her mother and father died in exile.

As armies moved and battlefronts receded, so fluctuated the plight of the evacuees. But a ray of new hope—dim though it might have seemed at that time—began to shine upon the orphaned Piwowar children. These remnants of the once-fluctuated home were rescued by Polish troops and through the influence of a high-ranking officer of the Polish Army, the younger Piwowar children were evacuated to Teheran, in Persia. Here they dwelt for some six months, living in different orphanages; scattered, as a family unit.

Showing unbelievable enterprise, an elder sister managed to reassemble the children. In a single group, they were then moved to a Polish refugee camp just outside Karachi, in India. There, by an amazing coincidence, these harried Piwowar children were rescued by Polish troops and through the influence of a high-ranking officer of the Polish Army, the younger Piwowar children were evacuated to Teheran, in Persia. Here they dwelt for some six months, living in different orphanages; scattered, as a family unit.

Once again the hearts of this little band were uplifted, for the older girl took charge of the family. One of her first acts was to arrange for the younger children to attend school. They managed to complete two years of education. Then the Karachi camp was closed down and the Piwowar children were sent to Kolhapur, some 150 miles south of Poona, in the province of Bombay. Here they lived for another three years. But tragedy which had dogged these children since war had cut them adrift from the safety and protection of home and parents, struck again. The elder sister who had “mothered” the youngsters for more than five years of life in India, was accidentally drowned while spending a holiday from the hospital with them.

As if Dame Fortune then felt a twinge of conscience and decided that it was time the bewildered Piwowar children were dealt “a couple of aces,” uplifting news came from a most unexpected direction. During their journeyings across the world, the family had lost touch with an older sister, who had served with the Polish Army. As the countries of Europe settled down in their uneasy post-war rehabilitation, the girl who had been a soldier managed to reach England. By devious means, she began to trace the movements of her sisters from whom she had been separated for so long. These Piwowar girls really showed amazing determination in their efforts to reunite the family and to build on the ruins of war’s misfortunes, a new way of life for all.
Today, Anna Piwowar answers to another name. In Hobart, she met a fellow countryman, Edward Drelich, who had arrived in Tasmania, via Germany, in 1950, and found employment with the Tasmanian Hydro-Electric Commission. Anna Piwowar is now Mrs. Edward Drelich. They have been married for nearly three years.

Where this story has its saddening aspects, the incidents are not related with any intention to harrow the minds of readers. What befell Anna Piwowar at a very tender age and onward was experienced, to greater or lesser degree, by thousands of others.

The stars which, some believe, guide our destiny, are hard to read at times. They may shine brightly for some; from others, their light is often obscured. That is life.

Let us hope that, from now on, life will be good for the former Anna Piwowar—and all like her, who may have trodden a troubled path.

"THE FATHER OF ADELAIDE"

If to the many official designations used in a large and widespread organisation like our own, a title such as the above were to be added, there could be little doubt as to the individual upon whom this honour should be bestowed. For there lives in South Australia today, a remarkable man who qualifies, in more ways than one, for acclaim as "The Father of Adelaide."

It was he who carried the name of Cox Brothers to South Australia. That was in 1924, when the first office was opened in small premises in Gresham street, Adelaide. In private life, our well loved, veteran colleague has known the joys of family communion, for he has two sons and a daughter. Finally, if sheer personal qualities—and even appearance—were considerations in appraising a "father," our distinguished friend would surely "lead the field," for in his attitude towards his fellow men, be they his contemporaries, or markedly his junior, he's just that type which any of us would proudly acknowledge not only as a parent, but as a wise counsellor and friend.

This fine citizen is Mr. Henry David Black who, with his wife, lives at 47 Grandview grove, Toorak Gardens, Adelaide, the home of their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Evans.

From the official view alone, it is fitting that this tribute be paid to one who played a long and tireless part in establishing the business of Cox Brothers in South Australia. But this year, Mr. Black's full life has been marked by two quite memorable achievements. Only a few weeks ago, Mr. Black celebrated his 90th birthday and, on May 11, Mr. and Mrs. Black celebrated their Diamond Wedding anniversary. The accompanying photograph shows this loveable couple on that day when they could look back upon a full 60 years of happy married life together. Incidentally, Mrs. Black will celebrate her 90th birthday next October.

Henry David Black was born in Nelson, New Zealand, but came to Australia as a young man. Early in his career, his interests led him to store-keeping and, virtually, he followed this calling for nearly 70 years. During that time, he established successful ventures, in turn, in Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia.

The forging of the link with Cox Brothers occurred in the early 1920's when Mr. Black sold his country store interests in the Riverina and came to Melbourne. Shortly afterwards, he joined Cox Brothers, when the headquarters of the company was in Brunswick street, Fitzroy. With the decision to extend activity to South Australia, it was Mr. Black who was chosen to blaze the trail. Later, the business in Adelaide was administered through a subsidiary company known as Cox Brothers (Adelaide) Limited, of which Mr. Black became a Director in September, 1925.

From the modest beginning in Gresham street, the office was transferred about a year later to Ruthven Mansions, Pulteney street, and this remained the Adelaide headquarters until November, 1938, when the move was made to the present building in Rundle street.

For many years, in fact, until the time of his retirement in 1946—when he was approaching 80 years of age!—Mr. Black functioned as the company's Credit Manager in South Australia. But as he held office also as Assistant Manager, his...
advice was sought in many directions of the company's work in that State.
Throughout his exceptionally long and active association with business, Mr. Black has been an earnest churchman. His particular enthusiasm was for youth welfare movements.
When it was announced that Mr. and Mrs. Black were about to celebrate their diamond wedding, they found friends everywhere, gleefully remembering. Over 100 congratulatory telegrams and other messages poured into their home, and the house was filled to overflowing with flowers and other gifts. A host of these friends joined Mr. and Mrs. Black at afternoon tea on Sunday, May 11. There were greetings from our Chairman, Sir Frank Richardson, Mr. G. A. Bitcon, and others in the company with whom he was associated for many years. The company was directly represented at this memorable party by South Australian Manager Mr. Noel Forster, who was accompanied by Mrs. Forster, and Mr. and Mrs. Agnes Stogdon, former colleagues of Mr. Black.
On behalf of readers everywhere, we add our tribute to two delightful people; in Mr. Black himself we salute a man who, from a lone beginning, pioneered the establishment of our wide interests in South Australia, with great enterprise and endless loyalty. All who worked with him loved him—as an executive and as a man.

THE FOAMING TANKARDS HAVE GONE!

In February last, Foy & Gibson Limited announced the purchase of the property known as the Cosmopolitan Hotel at the corner of Swanston street and Little Bourke street, Melbourne. Within a few weeks, the hotel had closed. Any army of workmen swarmed in, for the urgent job of converting a residential hotel into an executive office block, and during the weekend May 24-26, the first non-selling section from the adjacent Bourke street store moved into the new "headquarters." The moves was the Advertising Department. From the moment that Foy's became part of the Cox Brothers group in 1955, advertising has worked in top gear. The layout men, artists and copy writers needed more elbow room than their cramped location on the top floor (virtually the roof) of Foy's City Store permitted. Because of its shape and manner of construction, the hotel building does not offer ultra spacious accommodation, but the Advertising Department now has a compact suite which is larger than its former home.

Advertising led the way, in this exodus from Bourke street to Little Bourke street, because it was desirable, with heavy schedules in hand, to make the move with a minimum of interruption. All other offices were transferred early in June.

Inevitably, we suppose, this latest extension of Foy activity to Swanston street will be referred to, for some time to come, as the "Cosmopolitan Building." Actually, the former hotel is officially identified as "Gibsonia House," as recently attached name plates indicate. And herein are now housed the General Manager, both Deputy General Managers, the Merchandise Manager and his assistant, Merchandise Control, Staff Office, Staff Training, Maintenance and annexes of the Showroom and Tailoring Depts. The only non-selling function remaining in the Bourke street store is Display.

THE "TOWER" IS NOT ORNAMENTAL

On the eastern boundary wall of Foy's City Store, a curious looking structure is rising. Many of the public, viewing this from street level, have possibly been puzzled as to its purpose. When the plans for the City Store were drawn in the early 1920's, provision was made, in both foundations and structural strength, for the building to contain seven storeys above the ground. The one bit of external evidence pointing to this, throughout the years between, has been the illuminated indicator over each lift which carries the legend: "B-1-2-3-4-5-6-7." The plans with the customer of 30 years ago, however, were met by carrying the building only to the 4th Floor, with
The new structure on the roof of Foys City Store to hold the lift machinery. Two of the three existing elevators will now rise to roof level (where the workman is standing). The third will run to that level already encased in concrete. Structural work on this "tower" is now almost completed.

(Photograph by Phil. Coach, Foys)

a "half floor" on the northern boundary of the roof.

With the freeing of the space hitherto occupied by all those offices which have now been moved into the hotel building, every inch of the basement and the four floors above will now be available for retail selling. This will mean an entirely "new look" for the 4th Floor, because to gain the utmost advantage from these moves, another is to be made. The existing Dining Room on the 4th Floor of Foys with its huge adjacent kitchen, is to be moved to the half-floor above, where at present the staff cafeteria is situated.

In future, this half floor, i.e. at 5th Floor level, will be entirely given over to food requirements. The major part of the area will hold a public cafeteria, with the staff section immediately alongside it. The new kitchen will serve both.

This innovation, however, involves yet another big structural alteration, for like the escalators, the two banks of elevators, numbering six lifts in all, have run only to the 4th Floor, the lifting mechanisms being housed on the "roof," or rather, that part of the 5th Floor, which has been "built on."

With the need now for customers to be transported to the 5th Floor level, some elevators must run one floor higher than in the past. Rather than make "two bites at the cherry" (which would have been more expensive as well as more inconvenient because of the double dislocation of trading, in addition to complicated structural work) it was decided to raise the lifting machinery of the three elevators on the eastern wall to the equivalent of an eighth floor level, thus serving the needs of a 7-storied building-to-be.

To achieve this, the steel work of the original building (whose girders have always projected through the roof, it readiness for extension) has been added to, on one bay only. As the accompanying picture shows, Foys roof now holds the very unusual sight of what is virtually a 4-storied building, one bay wide and deep, rapidly rising on the roof of an existing 4-storied building! Therein, lifting gear will now raise two elevators to the 5th Floor and one to "7th Floor" level. And in the extra floor space thus provided (for only part of this area will have to be utilised for the elevator wells) the Display Department, with its much assorted paraphernalia, will be housed. Mr. Ken Bandman and his team will thus occupy one of the finest "penthouses" in Melbourne.

THE NEW ADDRESS IS "226 SWANSTON STREET"—NOT "THE PUB!"

Meanwhile, the migrant administration of Foys, in settling down in its new headquarters in the converted Cosmopolitan Hotel building may, at times, feel an added strength in the knowledge that its desks and office equipment sit on quite an historic spot. The site of this hotel is very definitely linked with the earliest days of the City of Melbourne. The name "Cosmopolitan" was borne by this hostelry for some 32 years only, a change being made by the licensee who took over the business in January, 1926. For nearly 50 years prior to that, the hotel was known as the "Ballarat Star." But for a period of over 30 years, earlier still, this inn was known simply as the "Star Hotel," the name given to it when the first licence was issued on April 18, 1843. In other words, this prominent corner site in Swanston street was continuously occupied, as licensed premises, for just one month short of 115 years, for Foys obtained the building premises on March 18 this year. To put it another way, what Melbourne knew until a few weeks ago as the "Cosmopolitan Hotel" was a form of business which had operated continually in the same location—although under different ownerships—since the City of Melbourne itself was only nine years old! An amusing incident comes to mind following that reference in the preceding paragraph to "one month short of 115 years." To be more explicit, Foys took possession of the building on March 18 this year. This entry was nearly gained the day before, but as Pat Byrne, Foys Assistant Maintenance Controller (who naturally had a pretty busy time whilst the alterations were in progress) recalls: "With a name like mine, how could they do such a thing to me! St. Patrick wouldn't have liked it at all!"

To speak of the tremendous job of adapting this hotel building to Foys needs as "alterations" gives little clue to the magnitude of the tasks involved, nor does it pay the tribute deserved to the planners—and the workmen who carried it out. For as the architects Howden & McLean
proudly claim, this was one of the quickest recon-
struction jobs ever achieved in Melbourne. The
first of the contractors began work on Wednesday,
March 19. The first Foy department to move in
was functioning, in its new quarters, on Monday,
May 26. Between those two dates was a period
of just 68 days, including weekends.
With the exception of the windows at Ground
Floor level, there is little to indicate, externally,
the extent of the structural changes made inside
the building. Where once the small hotel window
building was an unusual circular staircase, but
as this took up rather too much space in a valu-
able position, it has now been removed and a fire
enclosed stairway built at the rear of the building.
Near the Swanston street frontage, a new stair-
case has been installed, alongside the lift, to
connect the ground and first floors only.
From the bedrooms on the upper floors not only
were plumbing, lighting and other fixtures torn
out, but nearly all the dividing walls had to be
demolished. In planning the new office suites,
the forest of ladders and scaffolding on which painters and electricians moved like spiders across their webs, there was a need for constant watchfulness in avoiding the moving rip saws of carpenters as they strove to hold positions between the feet of ladders. Even greater care was necessary in sidestepping trestle tops loaded with wet cement, where bricklayers moved in cramped space to erect new walls. And there was always a chance, upon turning a corner, that a plumber’s head would be lying on the floor, as he reached beneath the boards to rip out some ancient piping.

All these workmen did a marvellous job under most uncomfortable conditions, and we go on record now, with a full meed of praise to each of them.

**LINKING TWO CORNERS OF AN ENTIRE CITY BLOCK**

Nor has the structural work of alteration ended here. Photographs may suggest, and the passerby’s view tend to confirm, the impression that Foy’s City Store, on the corner of Swanston and Bourke streets, is a corner building only. Actually, of course, it is “L” shaped, the “long stroke” being formed by an annexe (dating from the days of the old Bussell Robson Store which stood on part of the site now occupied by Foys) which runs northward along the eastern boundary and gives access to Little Bourke street. Here stands a loading dock, receiving room and a parcels depot, for the assembling of customers’ parcels for delivery to the main despatch, in Collingwood.

As can be seen from the accompanying ground plan, a right-of-way separates the western wall of this annexe from the rear of the remaining premises in Swanston street. This alley opens behind the rear wall of the hotel building. Only a few feet separates the two buildings at this point, but access has been made still easier by constructing wide doorways, each facing the other, at ground floor level of the two buildings, whilst a glass enclosed bridge has been built, linking the first floor of the hotel building with the Corset Salon, on the first floor of Foys annexe.

Incidentally, this narrow thoroughfare is known as Star alley. Evidently called after the original hotel, the name must have been used for at least 80 years—it might well be over 100—so that this little laneway is possibly one of the oldest public passages in Melbourne.

As can now be appreciated, there was a very great deal of detailed work involved in this job of reconstruction which was carried out in such record time. As well as our thanks to the contractors, our warmest appreciation is now expressed to Foys own staff, maintenance and other-
wise, who co-operated in a hundred and one moves, with endless energy and enthusiasm, despite difficult conditions and even discomforts. Just to mention one more finicky detail which had to be allowed for in the plan, we could instance the movement of office desks and other equipment. The new staircase built in the hotel building has to turn, in short flights, within such a confined space, that it was impossible to move a desk from one floor to another by this means. Allowance had to be made therefore for every bulky piece of furniture to be hoisted by block and tackle outside the rear wall, for entry through window apertures left unglazed until the last chair, table and filing cabinet had been transferred.

With this extension of Foy activity to the site of a business which had been carried on for well over 100 years—although the existing building is of much more recent vintage—one might have thought that some treasured relics of earlier days would be discovered—especially in the cellars! "lifted" from a Hollywood studio set, is actually sitting on the floor of the old night cupboard!

A ROOM WITH A VIEW!

Due to the dimensional limitations of the hotel building, all the Foy executives now housed within its walls have had to accept accommodation proportionately smaller than the offices they occupied in Foy's store. But although these rooms, constructed from old bedroom space, may be a little more compact, many of them have quite an atmosphere, often contributed by the design, the placement or even number of windows. For example, Mr. L. E. Williams, the General Manager, now occupies a smaller but definitely gracious room containing three windows which reach almost to
the floor. This is the corner position on the first floor (see photograph). In his previous office on the 4th floor of the City Store, Mr. Williams faced south, and prominent in his view were the spires of St. Paul’s Cathedral and the “globe” on the roof of the Tivoli Theatre. Today, from his large windows, he can look down upon busy Swanston street, where once earlier occupants of the hotel saw only horse-drawn vehicles on this old city artery. But the General Manager’s view also extends straight down Little Bourke street, towards Elizabeth street. As a wag remarked, he can “keep his eye on Myers!” To which there could be made the understanding observation that, conversely, our friends down the street are equally likely to be “keeping an eye upon Foys”!

But, momentarily disturbing though this transfer of administration from Foys corner to 226 Swanston street may have been, there is the great satisfaction, to all concerned, that the removal of these non-selling activities to this new location has freed, on the 4th Floor of the Foy store alone, almost 7000 sq. ft. of space which can now be used with the utmost advantage for retailing purposes.

As well, the vacation of the 5th Floor area by Display and Advertising, etc., will release nearly 4400 sq. ft. for the new cafeteria project, and with the movement of part of the despatch activities to “Gibsonia House,” approximately 1000 sq. ft. of the ground floor of the annex has been added to the adjacent selling area. All told, therefore, this widespread transferring of functions which began with Foys occupation of the Cosmopolitan Hotel building will mean that some 12,300 sq. ft. of floor areas can be opened up for greater direct service to the public.

And so another phase in the development of the City of Melbourne has been witnessed—and another chapter written in the History of Foys.

THE HAPPY HEART

Departing colleagues frequently seek these columns to make acknowledgment of gifts and other expressions of goodwill tendered at the time of their retirement. Space for this purpose is gladly provided, but quite often we phrase these notices on behalf of our friends.

In the case of Miss Olive Watt, who retired from Foys on May 30, we gladly print in full the letter of thanks we have received from her. It is addressed to the staff of all Foy stores in Melbourne:

“Having had time to think of all the lovely things that have been said of me and the very beautiful gifts that were presented by the staff of our three stores, I wish with all my heart to express my very sincere appreciation and thanks to all, also for your demonstration of affection and good will towards me. I will always treasure these years of friendship that it was my good fortune to enjoy.

“It is my sincere wish that you will all have a very satisfying and enjoyable future with Foys.”

Yours very sincerely,
OLIVE E. WATT.

WRITTEN IN RUNDLE STREET

By WARREN BOTTOMLEY

[Yet another new name appears in this issue—at the top of this column in fact. Ron Bottcher, who has contributed the news from South Australia for some time, has been appointed Collection Manager in Adelaide. His place as Display Manager has been taken by Mr. Ray Rogers. To each, our congratulations—with grateful and graceful acknowledgment to Mr. Bottcher for much fine cooperation in adding to the comprehensive coverage of “Service.”

As it happens, Ron Bottcher is unable to continue as Adelaide correspondent and Ray Rogers sees little opportunity to seize HIS “inheritance.” But smiles all round are being worn as there steps into the breach, Warren Bottomley, a member of the Display staff. It’s all yours, Warren B! Due to this changeover, there was no news from Adelaide in the last issue. Consequently the incidents mentioned in the following report cover a longer period than usual.—Ed. “S.”]

We lost a great mate on April 8, when Mr. Graham Dunk, of the Office staff, retired, after 27 years’ service.

As well as being a happy man, Mr. Dunk is very proud of his fine record. He certainly made his start in somewhat unusual circumstances. In September, 1931, whilst living at Renmark, he visited Adelaide for the September Show. Impressed by Cox Brothers’ general display, he sought an interview with the Adelaide manager, and asked if the company would be interested in being represented...
in the river districts, with Renmark as headquar-
ters. This suggestion was favourably received, and
within a week, Mr. Dunk was back in Renmark,
launched on the job. His territory embraced Berri,
Monash, Barmera, Cobdogla and Glossop, which he
visited fortnightly.

Graham Dunk

His journeys were made hazardous at times by
the periodic floods. With the water up to the run-
ning boards of his car, he’d have difficulty in being
sure that he was still on the road. Then, as the
floods were receding, he would often have to leave
his car on the main road, and walk to customers’
homes through mud and debris. But as he says,
“I always got through.”

He has very happy recollections of his life in
Renmark. Among other activities he formed the
Renmark Table Tennis Association, which later
was to form part of the South Australian Table
Tennis Association.

In the Adelaide store, Mr. Dunk’s first job was
that of a ledger comber. After a few years he
looked after interstate removal advices and the
country branch audits. At the time of his retire-
ment, he was busily engaged with the many duties
connected with the Office Counter.

Among farewell gifts was a rosewood barometer
and thermometer set, from the Social Club.
Departing, Graham Dunk wished both the com-
pany and his many friends the best of luck. We
could not do better than express the same thoughts
for him, for all time.

ON THE BALL

We now have a Girls’ Basketball Club. Members
are Judith Menz (Stationery), Judith Donnon
(Frocks), Helen Jarvis (Children’s Wear), Pam Wil-
kinson (Ladies’ Shoes), Dorothy Stewart (Hosiery),
and Margaret McArthur (Gloves), with Bernadette
Green (Hosiery), as Captain and Raylee Minear
(Jewellery), Vice-Captain. Valerie Musolino (Mr.
Powell’s Secretary) is the Secretary.

The girls look extremely smart in grey uniforms
carrying the monogram “C-F.” These tunics were
provided by the Social Club, aided by the girls’
own efforts in raffling a cake donated by Mrs.
Poldon (Mr. Benson’s Secretary) and some decor-
ated pots (the gift of Mrs. Hillier).

Whilst the girls have known the “ups and downs”
sometimes experienced by new teams, they at least
knew the joy of winning their first match. Unfor-
tunately, the team was weakened a little after that
when goalie Raylee Minear injured her ankle dur-
ing the play and Bernadette Green suffered a
longish illness. However, as some compensation,
the “C-F” girls played against a team of men of the
store and despite many spills—won! The specta-
 tors found this tussle as enjoyable as did the
players.

All wish them luck, as the season advances.

THE PATH ASCENDS

Although the news has already broken, it is fit-
ting that we record here the appointment of Mr.
Ron Bottcher as Collection Manager and Mr. Ray
Rogers as Display Manager, in succession to Mr.
Bottcher.

To them both, every success and much satis-
faction.

ENGAGEMENT

Again our congratulations to Marcia Nelson,
Office, and Keith Richards, Manchester, whose
engagement was announced on May 9. Ours must
be a nice romantic roof!

WEDDING

A girl with a host of friends is Lorraine Kraft.
After six years with the company—the last five in
the Sportswear, after 12 months with Mrs. Brogan
on the Fashion Floor—Lorraine was married on
February 8 to Mr. Keven Stretch at the Method-
dist Church, Semaphore.

One of her bridesmaids, Mrs. Pat Green, formerly
Miss Musson of the Underwear, had arranged a

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Kitchen Tea, whilst Miss Churchill, the Sports-wear Buyer, had arranged a delightful Pantry Evening at her home at Brighton. Her sister, Pauline Kraft, was the other bridesmaid.

TO HEARTH AND HOME

On May 27 we said farewell to Mrs. Audrey Baverstock, who has resigned to devote full time to domestic duties.

As Audrey Ryan, Mrs. Baverstock began her first job in the Foy & Gibson store here eight years ago, coming straight from school. She carried on with Cox-Foys after the amalgamation. Originally on the “Special Tables,” she was transferred to the Wools and Haby, where her attention to customers was always marked with a very friendly smile.

May she know every happiness in the future.

THE POPULATION GROWS!

Quite a spate of babes, of late. Once more we congratulate:—

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Neil, whose daughter, Kathryn Rebecca, was born on May 11. Ken earns his crust in the Advertising.

Keith Smith, Ground Floor Controller, and his wife, upon the arrival on April 30 of Kathryn Anne.

The Men’s Mercery was represented in this “Daughter Derby” by Stefan Fruss, whose wife gave birth to Stefany Maria on April 29.

ROAD TOLL

Aija Vezis, of the Ticket Writers, suffered injury in a motor car accident on May 18. The whole store was as one in its thoughts for her.

DEATH OF MISS SYLVIA CAPORN

News reaches us from Western Australia of the death of Miss Sylvia Caporn. A talented pianiste, Miss Caporn was widely known in musical circles in Perth. She was also a most popular broadcasting and concert artist.

The loss of Sylvia Caporn is felt particularly in Foys, in Perth, for this well loved woman was not only the sister of Mr. Bill Caporn, Group Controller and President of the Staff Social Club, but was, at one time, a member of the staff. Miss Caporn retained her maiden name for professional purposes. In private life she was Mrs. Le Cornu.

To all those to whom the death of Sylvia Caporn will mean so much, great sympathy and understanding are tendered.

REACTION WAS NOT ENTIRELY UNANIMOUS

We just couldn’t manage a census in the affirmative direction, but we do know that the reaction of one reader to the “All the World’s a Stage” article in our last issue was marked by a raised eyebrow. Not that even his concern was too serious. Of the 1200 odd words we used to refer to the life and career of Dick Hindley of Foys W.A., only two of them met with a cool response from our lone reviewer.

But we admit he had cause for comment. Due to the wires being crossed somewhere, we referred to Mr. Hindley’s son, Robert, as “aged 2,” whereas it should have been “aged 12.” Actually Bob won’t be celebrating his twelfth birthday until October 5, but who wouldn’t feel a bit T-E-Nacious about that missing “1”? Now, at last, we’ve got it right.

Bob’s our boy!

IT’S COMING!

The Joy Ball

will be held at the

PALAIS DE DANSE, ST. KILDA ESPLANADE

WEDNESDAY, 6th AUGUST, 1958

Tip-Top Orchestra ★ Variety Floor Show ★ Balloons and Novelties
Prizes ★ Scrumptious Supper

See Your Ticket Secretary for Plan

TICKETS

FOYS
City: Miss L. Noli
Prahran: Mrs. M. McCurdy

COX BROTHERS
Bourke Street:
Mr. J. Osborne

CALLINGWOOD:
Mrs. B. Gall
Mrs. A. McIntyre
Mr. L. Holland

Head Office:
Miss D. Matheson

L. J. McEWAN
Hon. Sec.,
Foys Combined Social Club
Phones: FB 049 and WA 3773

35/- (inc. Tax)

SINGLE
WE OPEN A NEW STORE!

On Wednesday, May 28, yet another chapter was added to the Foy saga of 63 years of retail trading in this State. This was the day of the grand opening of Foys Food Store on Albany highway in Victoria Park, a thickly populated industrial area, less than three miles from Foys, Perth Central.

FOOD SALES IN THE MODERN MANNER

This up-to-the-minute Self Service Store covers an area of 7500 sq. ft. and has a car park at the rear which provides free parking space for approximately 200 vehicles. The store was specifically planned and built by Foy & Gibson (W.A.) Ltd. to provide the finest shopping facilities for the residents of Victoria Park and those rapidly expanding suburbs nearby.

Upon entering the store through huge sliding glass doors, the visitor is impressed by great width and depth of the building. Significant, too, is the ample room for comfortable movement by shoppers along the grocery aisles. The latest in open, self-service deep freeze units provide all requirements in this department and bulk refrigerators for low or medium temperatures keep fruit and vegetables garden fresh. Cakes and pastries are brought in on regular and frequent transport schedules from Foys own recently completed new Bakehouse, at Perth Central.

One special feature of the construction of this fine new store, which is unique in Western Australia, is ease of access. There are front and back public entrances from Albany highway and the Car Park at the rear. Check-outs at both entrances provide smooth and speedy public movement, after shopping is complete.

VICTORIA PARK APPRECIATES THE COMPLIMENT

All at Foys, Perth Central, have watched the building, the opening and the progress of this new store with great individual interest and pride. Because the Victoria Park Food Store is comparatively so close to the Hay street headquarters, one could easily develop a “paternal pride” in a “new department.” But let there be no misunderstanding of the “individuality” of this latest unit of the Foys (W.A.) group. Just as Will Fyffe used to claim, in song, that “Glasgow belongs to me,” this modern Food Store “belongs” to Victoria Park and its adjacent areas. The local people left no one in doubt about their reception of this fine new shopping amenity which Foys has offered to them. On the opening day, more than 3000 customers passed through the check-outs. That was a Wednesday. By noon, on the following Saturday, another 7000 shoppers had paused by the cash registers. In other words, 10,000 visitors made their purchases during the first 3½ days of trading.

The spacious layout and attractive fixtures of the new Foy Food
THE GUIDING HAND

The man who has played a vital part in the outstanding success of the venture is Swiss-born Manager, Fred Ehinger.

Proudly flanking the new Food Store at Victoria Park, Perth, are (l. to r.) Messrs. Frank Luke (Merchandise Manager and Associate Director), Fred Ehinger (Manager, Food Store), Vic Fenn (Sales Manager and Associate Director), with Eric Jones (2 i/c Food Store), all of Foy & Gibson (W.A.) Ltd.

As a young man, Mr. Ehinger received his diploma of accountancy in Switzerland. For ten years he worked with a large American textile company. Then came a decision to strike fresh ground, in Australia. After four years with Charlie Carters Pty. Ltd. of Perth, in charge of General Office staff, he joined Freecorns Chain Stores as Branch Supervisor and executive. With that company he gained valuable experience.

For long, the Swiss have been looked upon as experts in the field of food preparation and service. Some of the world’s finest hotels are in Switzerland, and many of the leading hotels in other countries owe their success to Swiss management or participation. From hotel service to self service was not an unbridgeable gap and, by many, the Swiss are regarded as pioneers in the chain store, self service field.

Mr. Fred Ehinger himself can speak with considerable authority on this latest trend in retail selling. What’s more, he has the happy knack of being able to convey his knowledge and plans in simple and enthusiasm-raising terms, to those who work with him. His interest in his team is keen and wide.

And so, in a single utterance, we can now give warm welcome to him and his staff to the ranks of the Foy Family; congratulate them all upon a magnificent opening, and give them our best wishes for continuing success.

LONG SERVICE LEAVE IS OFFICIAL!

There are still among us those who are sufficiently young in heart to regard the first day of the fourth month as “April Fool’s Day”—as good a time as any to play practical jokes and “catch the other bloke.”

But here in Western Australia, the 1st April 1958 will long be remembered by a very large section of workers for an entirely different reason. On that day, following an agreement between the W.A. Trade Unions Industrial Council and the W.A. Employers Federation, approximately 100,000 employees covered by State awards and agreements in private industry, practically became “beneficiaries” of Long Service Leave—with no “catches” to it!

It took the State Arbitration Court about an hour to ratify the agreement which then came into operation, immediately.

Within a few hours, Managing Director W. J. Yeomans addressed an eager gathering of some 58 eligible Foy personnel and broke the glad news

Store at Victoria Park, in Perth. The view is from the front entrance.
of their entitlement to 13 weeks long service leave after 20 years continual service and 6½ weeks for each subsequent 10 years service.

Well, it was sudden! The quick enactment left most of us gasping—with the grey matter working overtime with details of near and long future planning.

Such safe topics as the weather, “See you at the Show?” or “What’re yer doin’ at Christmas?” have now been replaced by the more exciting “Where are you going for your Long Service Leave?”

Oh, yes! Thirteen weeks is really nice to contemplate!

ENGagements
Miss Audrey Quaife, Mail Order, to Mr. Peter Gregory, on May 3.
Miss June Leslie, Soft Furnishings, to Mr. Raymond Morris, on May 17.
Glad tidings, indeed!

Marriages
Miss Joan Crowe was a lovely bride at her marriage to Mr. Mervyn Gascoigne at the Ross Memorial Church, West Perth, on April 12.
Mrs. Gascoigne is our Receptioniste, at Perth Central.

WELCOME
It’s “Welcome back” to Mrs. Clem Smith, formerly Buyer of Hosiery, who has returned to the company as Buyer for Ladies’ Sportswear and Skirts.

Rhythmic Revels at the Annual Ball
By George Dickson
(Social Club Secretary)
A happy crowd of something like 400 Social Club members, friends and guests gathered at the Embassy Cabaret on Tuesday evening, May 6. They were determined to make this year’s Ball something to remember—and they succeeded!
“A Night in Havana” was the theme, and the Display boys made an excellent job of decorating the Cabaret. Ron Jenkins Orchestra provided the music and some first class entertainment.
A novelty Rock’n Roll item caused a riot of fun, and Colin Griffiths of the Display department gave an exciting demonstration of the South American Tamboo. The supper was excellent. Although we danced until 1.30 a.m., most of the happy throng were ready to go on till dawn.
The Annual Ball is certainly a popular event in the Social Calendar.

Third from left is Mrs. Andrew (Cafeteria) at the Foys (W.A.) Annual Ball. Her husband Fred Andrew is on her left. To her right is their son, Kevin. At left, Miss Joan Brooker, a friend.

Partners for Life
It’s not often that we miss a news item. But this is a despatch which should have been mailed a little sooner.
On March 15 Gary Congdon (Advertising) was married to Miss Olga Somerfield. The name of Congdon will be remembered by many readers, for not so long ago, Gary was the correspondent to “Service” hereabouts, and in that field, he succeeded his sister Pat, now Mrs. Torpy.
Blessings upon a happy home!

Albany Album
By Ken Davis
(Foys, W.A.)
This is a Busy Place!
As part of our aim to let our brothers and cousins in distant places learn a little more about
life in this town of ours, we want to relate a few
details about the Albany Woollen Mills.

The West Australian Worsted and Woollen Mills
Limited was formed in 1923. It was—and still
is—the only woollen mill in this State. The com-
pany's capital virtually represents the vision and
enterprise of more than 2000 shareholders, large
and small, who wished to make a contribution
to the economy and progress of their State.

Associated with the company during its early
years was Sir James Mitchell, who laid the foun-
dation stone of the Albany Mill. The mill was
located at Albany, to secure the advantage of its
soft and temperate climate—an important factor
in the manufacture of high-grade textiles.

Like many another organisation, the company
faced problems at the start, but as time went on,
the enterprise steadily headed towards the strong
position it occupies today. Mill production in-
cludes fine worsteds, blankets, travel rugs, flannels
and other piece goods. It is the major industry
in Albany and fills an important economic place.
The number of its employees is some 255, the
largest in the district.

And just to prove that Albany is looking to the
future, there are extensive additions in the course
of construction to provide for more machinery
and plant extensions.

**OUR MARCHING GIRLS**

The winter is more or less a period of recess
for these teams of active girls. But “Foys Regals”
practise once a week, in preparation for the public
displays planned for next summer.

**NEW FACES**

We welcome to our happy family Eileen Mc-
Bride (Hosiery), Bill Hilder (Grocery), Rhonda
McInnis (Haberdashery) and Les Goode (Hard-
ware).

**STILL "IN THE DOUGH"**

Our Baker, Max Day, has decided to face the
problems of private enterprise. He has purchased
his own bakery business at Boddington. We wish
him every success. There's a welcome, too, for
his successor in "our family."

A familiar view of the Albany Woollen Mills.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

A familiar face in our country stores is that of
Keith Hale, who hitherto has been greeted, regu-
larly, as a representative for Paterson, Laing &
Bruce. Now he has joined Foys as Fashion Super-
visor of Branches.

**ENGAGEMENT**

We record, with much pleasure, the announce-
ment of the recent engagement of Shirley Batt
(Post Office Staff) to Mr. Keith Stephens.

**MYSTERY**

We understand Bill Morris, Grocery Manager,
and Bob McGough, Accountant, recently went to
Perth on their holidays—without their dear wives!
If other husbands want to know how they did it,
they’ll have to come to Albany store and find out,
because no-one else can. Of course, it's just pos-
sible that the two B's (Bob and Bill) are not
kidding us when they claim they really do "wear
the pants."
“LET’S HAVE A PARTY!”

Social Club members are looking forward to the next get-together. The last one was our Annual Christmas party at the Town Hall. That really was a worthwhile social. The children in particular enjoyed themselves immensely—except of course when old “Benjamin” Mallin came on as Father Christmas. Even his own child was baffled by the appearance of this quaint looking Santa!

KATANNING KAPERS

By ARTHUR KNIGHT

THE VIEW WAS FROM THE PAVEMENT

It’s a long time since our last report to “Service.” However, we have broken the ice again and we promise some interesting jottings in future.

On March 21 a Fashion Paradette was conducted in the main window of the store. A large crowd witnessed the display of sportswear, day frocks and ballerinas. They were modelled by several of Foys customers and two members of the staff, Ailene Pope (Stationery) and Verlie Addis (Haby). The paradette was organised by Miss Lillian McFarland (D.P.M. Showroom).

BUSY AS A BEEHIVE!

Since then we have had a variety of popular demonstrations, including washing machines, knitting machines, kitchen units, electric drilling machines, cookery, and the services of paint and colour consultants. Most of the demonstrators have been ably assisted by Len Mosscrop (Hardware) who, by the way, is now in the enviable position of being due for long service leave. Len has been associated with the store for 22 years.

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who, in passing, is a keen golfer. After years of following that little white ball over the fairways, etc., etc., he recently broke his handicap of 24 by 8.

ON THE MOVE

It was with regret that we said farewell to Len Edwards (Footwear), who was transferred several months ago to Manjimup Store. Not content with depriving us of his own bright presence, Len took with him his fiancée, Pauline Foster (Cosmetics). However, Pauline is no longer his fiancée. They were married on April 26. We wish them all the best for the future.

GAY TIME AHEAD

The Social Committee is planning an evening party. If it is half the success of the Christmas Social, we can look forward to a most enjoyable gathering.

MANJIMUP MEMOS

By R. B. WRIGHT

FISHING

Rod Wright (Asst. Manager) calls it "Mug's luck." Certainly his trout fishing friends have no other explanation of how he grassed a 4-lb. Rainbow trout at his first attempt, during a recent weekend. As the picture indicates, Rod seems very pleased with the result.

GOLF

The "Golf Bug" has really bitten hard this year. John Whyte (Mgr.), Harry Browning (Menswear D.P.M.) and Robert Johns, also of Menswear, have all become keenly associated with this popular sport. I hear tell that on their first day on the links John attempted to short cut through a mighty Karri. It didn't pay. He had to take a smart "about turn" and try again—this time, from about 50 yards further back!

Miss Andrea Le Comte, Electroplate, Foys, (left), with friend Elaine Carr, found the Perth Ball an exciting occasion.

WEDDING

Len Edwards, our Footwear D.P.M., and Pauline Foster of Showroom (both ex-Katanning) were married at Katanning on April 26. They spent a two-week honeymoon, touring. Our best wishes to them.

SOCIAL

The recent Staff Social was a very enjoyable affair, with the M.C. duties most capably carried out by Robert Johns. On this occasion, Mrs. Stout (Cashier), who is now residing in Perth, was regretfully farewelled and presented with an Espresso coffee pot. The Social Committee is anticipating a busy time ahead, as they are spon-
soring a local lass, Rossi Pugh, in the forthcoming “Miss Australia” Quest. There are plans also for a Spring Ball, the proceeds of which will be donated to a selected local organisation.

We wish them the best of luck with these ventures.

KNOWING HIM WAS GOOD

It is with regret that we have said farewell to Mr. Harry Low of the Trading Co.

Harry left Kalgoorlie in 1945 to accept the Manag ership of the Manjimup Trading Co., and he occupied this position until Foys acquired control of the company in 1951. Mr. Low was then appointed Manager of Foys, a position he held until his retirement in 1956. But because of his knowledge of the district and its people, as well as of the Agency lines (which are still carried on, under the name of Manjimup Trading Co.), Foys retained his services to manage this section, which is now a subsidiary of Foys.

Harry Low will be greatly missed by all members of the staff and the many customers who have become his very good friends.

He intends to retire in Manjimup, but has in mind the purchase of a new car and caravan in order to travel with his wife to the eastern States. Primarily, he plans to visit a married daughter in Queensland and then move on to the Barrier Reef.

We all wish him the very best of luck on his trip and “Happy days” in his retirement.

MOUNT BARKER JOTTINGS

By “COMPERE”

“Hi there!” This is Mt. Barker, in the Foys (W.A.) group, calling all readers of “Service”—for the first time!

We have read “Service” with interest, over many years. Now we feel it’s time we entered the picture ourselves. In particular, those fish stories! Boy, Oh-Boy! We can beat them, any day of the year!

But, a little about ourselves. Area population is approximately 4,000, spread over about 5,000 square miles; town population, around 1,100. We are 223 miles from the capital, Perth, and 32 miles from Albany, “The Southern Seaside Resort” of the West. Rainfall averages 28-30 inches, although this year, since Christmas, we have had only five inches. That’s excellent for staff enjoyment, but not for business, as we all know. Apple growing is our chief district income, but sheep also are coming to play a big part. In good seasons, the two apple-packing centres here pack 500,000 cases for export.

Our store is situated in the centre of the main street. We also have at the end of the “town block,” a furniture store with floor coverings, electrical goods, etc. The main shop has a selling area of approximately 2,500 square feet. Staff numbers 25.

The social round is a bit quiet at this time of year, except for small, indoor evenings and the like. September starts us rolling again. The first event will be Foys “Spring Ball,” a function organised every year for some charitable organisation in our town. The date this year, Friday, September 12. How about it? If you can come along, you’ll be warmly welcomed.

[News from Mount Barker makes it more than a red-letter day; it is practically a gilt-edged occasion! Well, now you’re “in,” fellers, keep it up. The space is all yours.—Ed. “S.”]

NEWS FROM NARROGIN

By “MYOBB”

HAPPY LANDING

In May, John Rykes (Menswear) left us. He is on his way to Holland to see members of his family. Mr. and Mrs. Rykes hope to tour elsewhere in Europe, if conditions are favourable. It is their intention to make this a “working holiday” and so cover some ground which they have not seen before.

All told, Yvonne and John will be away from Australia for upwards of 12 months.

One small section of the crowd which thronged the Victoria Park Food Store on opening day. Hatless, in the immediate foreground is Mr. Frank Luke.
ENGAGEMENTS
Robert Drew (Domestic) and Miss Mary Potts of Narrogin have announced their engagement. Wedding bells may ring later this year.

SOCIAL CLUB
The Club Committee under the leadership of Mr. Hiller (Hardware) and Miss Blight (Manchester) conducted a really successful social evening in the C.W.A. Hall. As usual, members were invited to bring friends. This they did, and in chatting with these guests we were completely assured that it was indeed a very happy party.

UP THE LADDER!
Betty Cawley, our junior typist, has left us to enter the office of a Stock firm in Narrogin. Good luck, Betty!

AROUND THE CORNER
By JOHN L. CREMEAN
(Staff Training Officer, Foys Melbourne)

THE BALL TAKES SHAPE
Arrangements are well in hand to ensure that the big social event of the year—Foys Annual Ball—eclipses all similar functions of the past. The energetic and hard-working committee is sparing no efforts to make the 1958 Ball one to be remembered. Already inquiries from intending participants indicate that bookings should be made as soon as possible to avoid later disappointments.

New members of the Committee this year are Miss Lolita Noli and Miss Yvonne Dolphin, representing the City Store, and Miss Deirdre Matheson, from the Head Office of Cox Brothers. Office-bearers of Foys Combined Social Club are:

President: Sir Frank Richardson.
Vice-Presidents: Messrs. L. E. Williams and F. A. Houghton.
Chairman of Committees: Mr. L. A. Marshall.

Audit: Mr. M. R. Sinclair.
Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. L. J. McEwan.

Committee:
City Store: Misses L. Noli and Y. Dolphin.
Prahran Store: Mesdames M. McCurdy and M. Walters, and Mr. G. Kirkham.
Collingwood Office: Mrs. B. Gall.
Collingwood Despatch: Mr. L. Holland.
Cox Brothers: Miss D. Matheson (Head Office), Mr. J. Osborne (Bourke street).
The Ball will be held at the Palais de Danse, St. Kilda, on Wednesday, August 6.

NEVER A DULL MOMENT!
During recent weeks, the City Store has been a hive of exciting activity. The “Kids Carnival” opened up a real treasure chest of attractions, and grown-ups as well as youngsters were quick to appreciate the many “crowd-pleasers.” The attractions were legion. Famous League footballers, bike racing champions, stars of TV and radio. One thinks of the ever-popular clowns of television, “Zig” and “Zag,” from Station HSV7, “Happy” Hammond, and the famous Gerry Gee, accompanied by his ventriloquist compere, Ron Blaskett. TV personality Judy Jack also gave delight to the hosts of young people that attended the Store during the Carnival. A highlight of this entertainment was the live performance before a packed Saturday morning audience of the celebrated HSV7 “Hit Paraders.” This was compered by a member of the team who is one of our own staff—John D’Arcy.

As always, the services of Len Francisco of our own staff were also in demand. His excellent presentation of Punch and Judy to voracious juvenile audiences was most warmly applauded.

Planned for the not-so-young, but having unique attraction for all ages, was the touch of the Orient provided by the fascinating Japanese dancers from the “Cherry Blossom Show” at Her Majesty’s Theatre. These so-graceful visitors from Nippon modelled the new chemise look, in day and evening wear, on the Fashion Floor.

Some people visit Queensland’s lovely beaches to find the sun. There are other attractions. These two are Sylvia Millard (Footwear) and Maree Volkmer (Office) of Cox Bros. Newcastle, who thoroughly enjoyed a recent holiday at Coolangatta.
THE WARM HEARTS OF MELBOURNE

Immediately following the recent tragedy at Lakes Entrance, when two young married fishermen lost their lives in a drowning fatality, Management placed a collection box at the main entrance to the Store. This was flanked by large photographs of the families of the deceased men. The response from customers and staff alike was most moving. In a little over a week (the currency of the appeal conducted by the “Sun News-Pictorial”) this box yielded a sum of £256/10/-, a response which reflects the generosity of all who gave so readily.

In the same strain it is most gratifying to note the outstanding success of the current Anti-Cancer Campaign Appeal. The remarkable response to “Operation Door Knock” on Sunday, June 1, together with other large direct donations, ensures that the target of £500,000 will be greatly exceeded. Foys Stores at Collingwood, Prahran and City have played—and are still playing—their parts in the complete picture, and a very generous donation from the company will be followed by a substantial donation from the staff. Fuller details will be given in the next issue of “Service.”

Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Smith after their marriage at Holy Trinity, Coburg, on April 26. Foys City Store, in particular the staff of the Tube Room, previously greeted the bride as Ettie Compte. Her bridesmaid was Maureen Smith.

CROSSROADS

With regret we report the departure of two well-known personalities from the City Store. Miss Olive Watt, Assistant Controller, Ground Floor, has retired after more than 20 years’ service with the company. There were handsome parting gifts from Management and from her many friends and colleagues among the staff. Miss Watt takes with her into her well-earned retirement the good wishes of all with whom she has been associated during the many years of her excellent service.

Also departed is Mr. “Bill” Prosser, who resigned on May 24 after eight years of fine service in the Fashion Shoes Department. Bill, too, carries with him good wishes from his colleagues for future prosperity in the new sphere that he has entered.

THE RED CARPET GETS AN AIRING!

Mr. Roy Dunstall, Controller of Carpets and Linos, has returned from his buying trip abroad, looking particularly well. It’s a pleasure to see him back again.

ENGAGEMENTS

Two young ladies from the Corset Salon recently announced their engagements. They are:

Miss Mona Huxley to Mr. Max Donnell of Hawthorn.

Miss Lorraine Spitzer to Mr. G. Isaacs of Elwood.

Hearty congratulations to all parties, with a sincere wish for a very happy future.

At a recent trade fashion show in Perth were Cox-Eco buyers Mrs. H. Chippington, Sportswear (centre) and Miss Elsie Tidey, Knitwear (2nd from right). The name of the model, unfortunately, is not known.

“UNTO THE THIRD GENERATION . . .”

Can’t understand how we missed reporting that Mr. Bob Alexander, Salaries Office Manager, in addition to his other and many-sided abilities, is now playing to perfection the role of grandfather! On March 26 Bob’s daughter, Mrs. Lois Quon, gave birth to a fine daughter. Congratulations from one and all to one and all!

Whilst on the subject of parental responsibilities, Ron Wright, who formerly was a popular member of the Display Department, but who is now with Taubmans, was recently presented by Mrs. Wright with a second daughter. Again, our congratulations to a fine couple.
"TIME ON MY HANDS"

A familiar face is temporarily missing from the Hardware Department. Manager Alan Lindsay is absent on well-earned long service leave. The universal opinion is that Alan deserves a superlative holiday, for his responsibilities have been many during the past year. Yet he has a never-failing capacity for surmounting any number of obstacles.

GREAT NEWS!

Three members of the staff are making very satisfactory progress after illness. These are Messrs. Les Wigg (Hardware), Len Taggert (Electrical Equipment) and J. Hands (Cleaning Staff). May complete recovery be speedy and permanent. We think of them, all the time—and miss 'em.

WHO SET THE EXAMPLE?

One wedding can cause much joy. Two, in the same office, is really exciting. But how to describe the reaction of friends when both mother and daughter, working together, become brides?

On March 22, Miss Lucille Jackson, Maintenance Office, was married to Mr. John Farrelly at Wesley Church, Melbourne. Exactly six weeks later, on May 3, her mother, Mrs. Evelyn Jackson, of the Maintenance Staff, which means that she frequently pops in and out of her daughter's office—was married to Mr. Roy Dellar—also at Wesley Church!

Isn't life lovely?

DOWN BEAT

People go overseas for a variety of reasons, but few, surely, have such a self-sacrificing purpose as Mrs. Pat Hooke of the Millinery, who left on the "Arcadia" on May 19. Mrs. Hooke has a young son, Wayne, who is not only a good pianist, but an expert on the drums, and she has taken him to England with the one idea of advancing his musical career. The many friends she has left behind in Bourke street will await news of his progress with great interest.

Chapel Street Chatter
By MARY McCURDY
(Foys, Prahran)

Life hereabouts, of late, has been like the movements of the revolving door of a busy New York hotel. There have been so many "comings and goings" that we've nearly dislocated our neck, keeping track of them all!

AU REVOIR

As those who have left took with them our sincere wishes for success in all sorts of new surroundings, let's record the leavetakings first.

Mrs. Phyllis Kinna, Manageress, Millinery, has gone to new pastures. Our tribute, presented by Store Manager, Ray Crow, a rhinestone brooch.

Mrs. Nell Ashman (Ladies' Shoes) was presented by Staff Supervisor, Glen Doig, with a travelling clock and gift of hosiery.

Since her departure, we have heard the news of the tragic death of Mrs. Ashman's fiancé, Mr. Percy McLachlan. He died, suddenly, whilst on a train journey.

There were a travel rug and a set of saucepans for Mrs. Nellie Dugan (Office) to mark her resignation. The presentation was made by Mr. Doig.

This was a busy day for our popular Staff Supervisor, for the same evening we farewell Miss Joyce Gratidge of the Haby. Her parting mementos were an ear-ring and necklace set and perfume. Joyce has taken up secretarial work.

Beryl Galliott, Office, Cox-Economic Perth, with the unusual cake which made happier the celebration of her 21st birthday on April 30. The frock on the doll on the cake is an exact replica of the dress which Beryl wore on this occasion.

Also departed from the Office is Mrs. Ada Jaggers. Office work of a different kind claims her attention nowadays. From us all—and again from the hands of J. Glen Doig—a handbag, brooch and ear-rings and handkerchiefs.

Finally, there were handshakes aplenty for Arthur Dorman of the Manchester (formerly Furniture). On our behalf Mr. Doig presented Arthur with a gladstone bag.

To each, whatever the path ahead, our renewed good wishes for the future.

COME ON IN!

Like a contra entry, there are names to be posted to the credit side of the staff ledger.

Mrs. Jean Lewis has been appointed Manageress of the Millinery Department.

In charge of Manchester, these days, is Mr. Alec Chambers.

As Sectional Controller, Jeff Brown has transferred from Collingwood. Before that, he was at Bourke street.

And, reminiscent of a "prodigal son" almost (although it's hard to imagine so gentle a nature running to any excess!), Mr. Dick Rhodes has
returned to Prahran to take charge of the combined Shoe Sections.
An extra pair of hands to help Dick Rhodes, are those of newcomer, Henry Poscoe. There's warm welcome for all—and may each enjoy great success.

ON THE MERRY-GO-ROUND

Arising from some of the above appointments, others now face new directions.
Mr. Bill McFarlane, former Manchester Manager, has been transferred to Bourke street as Buyer of towels.
And to take charge of the Children's Shoes, City Store, Mr. Fred Henderson (Shoes Sections) has returned to Bourke street.
We wish 'em well!

THE DOCTOR HAD TO CALL

Reports from the sickroom have been higher than average—but, all told, the news is better today.
Miss Beryl Rowley (Wools and Haby) had to enter Footscray Intermediate Hospital for surgical attention.
Mrs. N. Birch had the bad luck to know the need of a hospital bed whilst on holiday in Adelaide.
And we think of both Jack McCurrach and his wife, Laurel. Mr. McCurrach will be a patient in Heatherton Sanatorium for some months to come. Laurel McCurrach, of course, is a member of the Office Staff.
Chins up—and temperatures down!

SPARKLING NEWS

Not a soul in the place who wasn't thrilled by the announcement of the engagement of Miss Ruth Dickenson (Jewellery and Handbags) to Mr. Hank Hoekstra, formerly of the Farren Price Department, Prahran.
There were rubies alongside the diamond!

“75”

Gaye Lyons, faithful secretary to the Company's Secretary, V. T. Tilley, and general ray of sunshine about the place, left us on June 3. In private life she is Mrs. Roy Watters, and domestic life will claim her full attention from now on.
Miss Lyons has been succeeded by Sandra Russell. To her place on the Reception Desk, 4th Floor, Deirdre Matheson has moved, and replacing her as secretary to Mr. Geoff Hall is newcomer, Pat Brown.
Also departed is Carole Austin from the Buying Office. In her place we welcome Marlene Bates.
Lorraine Banfield, secretary to Mr. Ken James, has had her trials of late. A spell in hospital for a nasal operation was followed by the sad experience of the loss of a beloved grandmother.
Willowy blonde, Beverley Knott—well known to all visiting buyers—collected another “crown” on June 5, when she was judged “Girl of the Moment” in the TV session of that name which is part of the “Late Show” put over Melbourne station HSV7. With a record vote of over 5000, Beverley took home prizes of nylon stockings, footlets and a Max Factor beauty pack.

As our editorial assistant, the name of Margaret Holmes has appeared in these columns from time to time since mid-1955. Now, in tribute, we present her as Mrs. Andrew Fabiny. This delightful picture of the bridal pair was taken as they left the church, on April 19 last.

Mrs. Jean Thomas has been appointed Secretary to Mr. G. A. Bitcon, General Manager. She succeeds Miss Rosemary Mitchell, who has resigned. For each, full success.
There's welcome, too, for Mrs. Jean Hawksworth, who keeps the staff dining room a warm and cozy spot.

COLLINGWOOD CALLING

Through BETTY GALL
(General Office, Foy's)

“I WILL…”

Some live the quiet life. Others can't seem to keep out of the headlines. In the last issue we chirruped our greetings to Lillias White (Invoice Office) on her 21st birthday. Now she is married—on May 10. We gave her a rousing send-off at a staff gathering on May 7. Nice presents too! Her marriage to Mr. Clifford Wearne at Holy Trinity, Thornbury, was attended by many office friends. She looked utterly sweet in white satin brocade. The bridesmaids wore blue; a flower girl, pink. And the honeymoon? What could be happier than a three weeks tour which included Surfers' Paradise and Sydney?

“BYE, BYE!”

Two friendly faces are missing. Beverley Grant (Cycle Billing) and Barbara Scarff (Docket Office) have left for new ventures. There was an umbrella—and our love—for each.
Attractive bride, in a well composed picture, is Mrs. Clifford Wearne. She was married at Holy Trinity, Thornbury, on May 10. Office staff at Foys Collingwood knew her as Lillias White.

“SHAKE!”

Once again, it's welcome to Elsie Conisbee, who has transferred from Store 8 to the Docket Office.

PLUS ONE

Joyce Chard, formerly of Hire Purchase Office, gave birth to a daughter, Jennifer Anne, on May 26. That makes a lot of people happy!

FRIENDLY FOES!

MYERS v. FOYS AT FOOTBALL

By KEITH TYRELL

(Ticket Writers)

A challenge by Foys Ticket Writers to the Myers Ticket Writers was promptly accepted. The match was played at Gisborne Ground on Sunday, May 25. If our friends down Bourke street enjoyed themselves only half as much as we did, this must have been one of the happiest games on record.

After an inspiring speech by Captain-Coach Noel Rogers, the teams took the field in very heavy rain. Players had difficulty in standing up, in the mud. Myers, however, were quickly into stride with systematic football and had a very handy lead at the first change. Our opponents kept this advantage for the majority of the game —right until the last term. Then, Foys fought back, in grand style, to force a very well-earned draw—6 goals 10 points each.

George Morton, Manager of Myers Ticket Writers, had generously donated a handsome trophy for the winner. As the game was drawn, we shall now play for this trophy on a best-of-three basis. The winner will hold the trophy. Details of the next game will be announced later.

Indicative of the fine sportsmanship and good fun which marked this “battle of the Giants” is the inscription on George Morton’s trophy. This is in the form of a medallion on a chain (to be hung round someone’s neck!) and carries the inscription: “The Myer-Foy Perpetual Medallion to be held by the winner of the sissyest game of football played this side of the black stump.”

Nor did the participation of the Myer team end here, for they brought along also a trophy for presentation for the best Foy player afield. This was a bottle opener which was awarded to Foy rover Tom Whitfield.

Our team played as a team should, but it is still fair to mention the outstanding play of Ken Foster in the ruck and the excellent defence of Allan Schwab, Laurie Adamson and Bob Bryant. For his fine dashes and keen anticipation, especially during the last quarter, Alan Satori was likened to Brendan Edwards of Hawthorn. But every player backed up his captain to the hilt.

No one wishes more than Margaret Simpson (centre) and Barbara Robinson (right) that they could be back at Surfers’ Paradise. Smiling sunbakers are members of the Office staff of Foys, Collingwood. They were snapped on holiday in April. At left, a friend.

If there's one thing the team needs, it is more supporters, and when the date and place of the next match have been fixed (details will go up on the notice boards) it is hoped that a sizeable crowd may roll up to watch this Myer-Foy clash. Meanwhile, there is wide appreciation of the work of team manager Bill Caton, and handclaps all round for the great sportsmanship of the Myer team.

FOOTNOTE: Arising from this new venture in the field of inter-store sport, it is hoped that table tennis teams representing the two companies will also be hitting-off in the near future.
STAFF TRAINING IN FOYS:

NEW APPOINTMENT

When Mr. John L. Cremean moved from Cox Brothers, Head Office, to Foys, Bourke Street, in 1956, it was anticipated that his knowledge and wide experience would be available for the important work of staff administration.

But various turns of events frequently drew Mr. Cremean away from his desk to the tasks of Staff Training, where he proved an exceedingly popular leader. Unfortunately his work here was interrupted firstly by the illness of Mr. J. Glen Doig, Staff Controller, then by the temporary appointment of Mr. Doig's successor, Mr. Alan Wild, as Acting Store Manager at Collingwood, and finally by the fact that owing to the many structural alterations carried out in the city store, physical space for the Training Centre could not always be found. If ever a man could conscientiously claim that he never knew whether he was Arthur or Martha, it was John Cremean!

Now conditions have improved all round. With the transfer of store administration itself to “Gibsonia House” at 226 Swanston Street, it has been possible to provide a convenient and comfortable area for staff training in that building. But equally important, good fortune has brought to Foys doorstep a woman who is remarkably well equipped to take charge of the Training Centre and thus relieve Mr. Cremean.

Newcomer is Mrs. Violet Condie, recently arrived from England, where she had enjoyed great success as Personnel and Training Officer with the Bon Marché store in Gloucester, a major unit in the chain of English department stores operated by the famous British company, Debenhams. She held this important position for 10 years, before coming to Australia.

Born in Aberdeen, Mrs. Condie blends with a ready smile and a marked charm of manner, a soft Scottish accent, a combination of purely personal qualities which, allied to her considerable abilities, should not only dissipate any “schoolroom atmosphere” from her tutorial work, but will undoubtedly endear her to staff, everywhere.

We wish both Mrs. Condie and Mr. Cremean—who can now devote full time to assisting Mr. Wild in the many-sided work of staff administration—days of complete fulfilment in the months ahead.

The Quiet Corner

The sun sinks: the tides recede. And as if governed by the same mysterious rhythms of the Universe, a life ends, bringing grief to those who watch and wait. We think, understandingly, of:

Miss Lorraine Banfield, Head Office, Cox Brothers, in the loss of a beloved grandmother.

Miss Mary Rhodes, Confectionery, Foy-Bilson’s, Colac, in the death of her father.

“Thy Will be Done”

OLD FOY BOYS GET TOGETHER

By JOHN MINKS

[We publish this report for two reasons. Firstly, it’s good to have news of a great gang of chaps who were very much “part and parcel” of the former Foy store in Adelaide. In the days before Foys was linked with the Cox group, however, the Adelaide store, as well as sending its own buyers away on trips to Melbourne and Sydney, was a sort of “half-way house” for all Perth executives travelling eastwards, and for Melbourne directors and the like who visited Western Australia from Head Office, in Collingwood. Consequently, Adelaide people had the opportunity to meet Foy folk from BOTH sides of the continent. It is largely for the enlightenment of these former colleagues to the east and to the west, many of whom are still with our organisation, that we give this news of erstwhile Adelaide teammates.]

The dinner was organised by John Minks, who will be remembered as Office Manager of Foys, in Adelaide.—Ed. “S.”

On Thursday, June 5, a get-together Dinner was held at the Robin Hood Hotel at Norwood, near Adelaide. It was attended by 30 members of staff of the former Foy & Gibson store in Adelaide.

Mrs. Barbara Burns, Office, Cox-Eco, at a Social Club “Bohemian Party” held on May 21. Mrs. Burns had other reasons for looking happy. The day was also her 21st birthday, and that’s her husband, partnering her, in celebration.
Some of them had many years' service with the old organisation. Others still continue to serve the new.

Present (and with indication of their latter-day activity, in brackets) were:—P. S. Dixon (former Manager—retired), J. R. P. Hignett (own business), H. North (Charles Birks), Bill Leane (Cox-Foys), M. Durham (Myers), T. Pitkin (Cox-Foys), T. Hughes (Miller Anderson), R. Miller (Cravens), T. Jury (own business), P. Wasleys (Cox-Foys), J. Crump (Cox-Foys), J. Herde (John Martins), F. Brown (own business), L. Leaver (K. Traverse & Co.), J. Minks (Industrial Supplies), I. O'Brien (John Martins), L. Collins (Cox-Foys), F. Summerfield (Cox-Foys), G. Castleton (Gollin & Co.), P. Lewis (own business), H. Watt (Myers), H. Mant (Myers), E. Frith (Charles Birks), R. Baxter (Agent), G. Allan (Eglintons), J. Higgins (Clutterbucks), L. Wilson (own business), K. Sears (own business), G. Sturgess (Perth), J. Tonkin (Radio Station 5KA). The tempo of the entire evening reflected the true spirit of a family reunion.

At right, Erica Dabrowski of the Infantswear, Cox-Eco Perth, who recently acquired Australian citizenship by naturalisation. Here she is with a friend at a recent Social Club party.

It was a great privilege to be able to elect as Chairman for the occasion, a very great and former "boss," who was loved by all. He was Mr. Philip S. Dixon. We also enjoyed the brief stay of Mr. Percy Lewis, who has not enjoyed the best of health for some time, but who is overcoming his handicap as only Perc. Lewis could.

Each one of those who sat down to dinner contributed, by his very presence there, to the general and happy note of "Gosh-it's-good-to-see-you-again," so that one doesn't seek to single out individual talents. But it is worth mentioning that Handle Watt brought with him an old ditty written by Jimmie Tonkin some 20 years ago—and there was Jimmie, once again, to sing it, in person. The lines of this song contained reference to many of the old Foy staff of other days and it was heartwarming to see these members sitting side by side, once more, as they listened to this recital of their "peculiarities" in other days.

Lionel Collins brought his violin and played many old numbers which brought back memories of the days when we all worked together. Old photographs brought along by other guests produced many laughs and comments.

Mr. Ted Davis, Mine Host of the Robin Hood, knew most of those present because for many years he was the licensee of the hotel adjacent to Foy's in Adelaide. His menu of soup, fish, roast turkey and sweets, served with the appropriate wines, left no palate unsatisfied.

There were speeches by P. S. Dixon and George Sturgess (who was over from Perth) which touched on the old days and old personalities and set everyone in nostalgic mood. Other eloquent talkers like Handle Watt and Harry Mant contributed to the same happy atmosphere. Jimmie Tonkin, who was well known for his topical creations, held everybody in tears of laughter and remembrance.

It was a great night, made so by the meeting of a grand lot of mates whose friendship had been welded firmly, when fellow employees at Foy's. There was a unanimous decision to make a function of this kind a "must," either once a year or every other year. We're determined to toast in unison, as often as possible:

"THE BOYS OF FOYS"

If I may voice my quite personal reaction to a very moving occasion, I give in this brief phrase:—
"The bundle of sticks still remains bundled."

Mr. and Mrs. R. Wattus leaving St. Mary's Church, Maitland, after their marriage on April 19. Mrs. Wattus, the former Audrey Mills, is a member of the Office staff of Cox Bros. Maitland, N.S.W.
FOREST FIRE
By STAN ELLIOTT
(Manager, Cox Brothers, Mt. Gambier, S.A.)

Most members of the staff, wherever they may be throughout Australia, will have read something of the forest fire tragedy which struck this district on Easter Saturday. Newspapers everywhere carried reports of the eight men who perished in this holocaust.

At first, the flames licked only the floor of the forest. Then they reached the break in the rows of pines. In one horrible second, the flames raced straight up the trees which, in some cases, among these mature pines, were about 100 ft. high. The fire leapt along the tops of the pines, encircling the men who had entered the break, in an endeavour to stem the fire there.

Dwarfing the house beside them, these trees are an indication of the tall pines which burnt like torches in the recent forest fire at Mt. Gambier. second unit which got out with 12 men made a hair's breadth escape. At the inquest, later, one of these survivors described their terrifying experience in these words:

"So fierce and close were the flames, and so dense the smoke, that the driver could not see his hand before his face as he drove along the sandy firebreak. But in one of the three other trucks which were bogged down in this sandy stretch, some men saved their lives by remain-

ing in the cabin, even though the intense heat had melted its windsheen. One man wetted his handkerchief and stuffed it in his mouth, he then poured water from a bottle over himself and a companion, and finally played the fire extinguisher over the inside of the truck cabin."

One marvels that a single person could live, after enduring such heat and conditions.

According to another report, the fire itself seemed to create a whirlwind or vortex by the time the roaring flames had reached the break. At the same time, the normal wind velocity increased suddenly. With a mighty roar, the fire became an inferno. Another survivor, who was seriously burnt, has stated that of all the horror of this experience, it is the noise of this terrific roar which haunts him.

The extent of the material damage alone was calamitous. But far outweighing this loss was the tragic death of eight men. This toll might have been so much heavier had not another 28 men, hopelessly placed, managed to save their lives by quick thinking among their ranks. There were men who actually moved right through the flames which had surrounded them and managed to make their escape. Great was the concern and sadness over the death of the eight victims, but widespread, too, was the practical sympathy and generosity of the people of South Australia who contributed to the Relief Fund which was so promptly opened to assist the relatives of the victims. In little over a month £18,000 was raised. This included a sum of £1300 collected by the Timber Workers' Union. There was a donation of £100 from our own company.

FOOTNOTE: Mr. Elliott is able to write knowledgeably and feelingly about this fire, for his 17-year-old son is a member of the local Emergency Fire Service, and was, at one stage, within three chains of the men who perished.—Ed. "S."
Library Digitised Collections

Author/s:
Foy & Gibson

Title:
Foy & Gibson newsletters

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Service no.56 June 1958