COX BROTHERS SALES AT NEW PEAK
Half Year Brings Record Results

The Directors of Cox Brothers (Australia) Limited have announced that retail sales for the half year ended 31st January, 1959, were a record at £9,732,224. Compared with £8,674,613 for the corresponding half of last year, this figure represented a turnover increase for the period of 12.2%. Interim dividends declared out of net profit for the half year will be:

- 31% on the Ordinary shares issued prior to 15th December, 1958.
- 31% on the new issue Ordinary shares (which ranked for dividend on 16th December, 1958) a quarter of that rate. The dividend on all Ordinary shares is at the rate of 71/2% per annum.

- 3½% on the “A” Preference Shares.
- 3½% on the “B” Preference Shares.

The total dividends amount to £204,198. These include dividends on preference shares in Foy & Gibson Limited and Sydney Snow Pty. Ltd., and the ordinary and preference shares held by outside shareholders of Foy & Gibson (W.A.) Limited. The subsidiary companies have declared their usual preference dividends.

Dividends are payable on the 30th April next to shareholders registered at 5 p.m. on Wednesday the 25th March.

WE OPEN 75th STORE

Cox Brothers latest branch store was opened at Moe, a thriving centre in go-ahead Gippsland, on February 12. It was a very successful opening with the store crowded, all day.

Manager at Moe is Mr. David Thompson, who came from Mildura where he had been second-in-charge. He has a staff of five. The shop is in Moore street, the main shopping thoroughfare of the town. It has a frontage of 20 ft. and a depth of 50 ft.

THE FRONT COVER

It is not often that we print pictures of our own buildings on the front cover, for most of us are so familiar with the details of these “homes” of others that such photographs would have little news value.

But the picture carried on Page 1 of this issue also carries something which is extremely newsworthy—a unique clock. It is the only clock of its kind in Australia. Further details of this time-keeping wonder will be found on Page 18 under the heading “You’ll Find It First—at Foys.”
"He is a Gentleman"—The Chairman, in Moving Farewell Tribute to Mr. L. E. Williams

THE MILESTONES OF TIME

When the hands of the clock in the Rooftop Cafe at Foys Melbourne Central showed 5.30 in the afternoon of Thursday, 29th January, they registered the first moments of an event which will remain firm in the memory of many, for various reasons.

For example, there was already beginning to foregather, away from their workaday surroundings, the largest assembly of employees that the City Store had seen for many years. One would possibly have to go back to 1947, when Mr. G. S. Moore, an earlier General Manager, retired, for the picture of a comparable throng.

There was about to take place also a change of administrative significance, for the man in whose honour this party was arranged was, in effect, "the last of his line." Mr. L. E. Williams was retiring as General Manager. Henceforth the executive leader of Foys will be known by the title of Managing Director. As announced last December, the holder of this new office is Mr. J. N. Watt.

In some organisations the General Manager attends a board meeting only by invitation, whereas a Managing Director, being a Director, is naturally a member of the Board. But, for many years, in Foys, the General Manager, almost coincident with his appointment, has been offered a seat on the Board of Directors. Mr. Williams had been a Director since 1951.

Within Foys therefore the two designations would have little between them, in substance. Possibly the most marked difference—is in the spelling!

But, without doubt, the most moving thought prompted by this gathering of the 29th January was the realisation that the guest of honour, Llewellyn Eli Williams, was standing in the place he loved so well, for the last time—as its leader. Mr. Williams' term of office as General Manager of Foys ended on the night of the 29th January. We shall, however, greet him, in the future, as a Director, for he has been asked to retain his seat on the Foy Board.

"A BOND IS SEVERED"

In such circumstances, one sensed a little poignancy in the air, as the trays of savouries passed, on their first round. Such feelings were mirrored also in the opening words of the Chairman's farewell tribute to Mr. Williams, delivered later in the evening. Sir Frank began: "This party was planned to be a happy occasion. But I am not a hypocrite. At this moment I am sad, for this Company is now about to say "Goodbye" to a man I have known for many years—long before the association of Cox Brothers with Foys. Tonight, a bond is being severed."

MR. WATT APOLOGISES FOR LIMITED GUEST LIST

At this point, we are moved to interpolate a remark made later in the evening by Mr. J. N. Watt. Referring to a comment by the Chairman, that he had wanted to arrange a farewell dinner, as part of the Company's tribute to Mr. Williams—an offer which the latter had graciously declined for the one simple reason that he preferred the sort of gathering where he could move around

Llewellyn Eli Williams, recently retired General Manager, as Foys remember him.

(Dickinson-Monteath Studio)
and mingle freely with his friends—Mr. Watt assured his listeners that had it been physically possible the Company would gladly have invited 1000 guests. In other words, if every employee, in the four stores which bear the name "Foys," could have been present at this leavetaking of the retiring G.M., that is the way the Company would have liked it.

But few is the number of places where a thousand guests can be readily accommodated at a Cocktail Party. The Rooftop Cafe is certainly not among them. And as it was most appropriate that this farewell to Mr. Williams should take place under a Foy roof, the Company had no alternative but to select its guests on the basis of a complete representation of all sections. Thus, each of the 150-odd guests had been invited, not only as individuals, but as "stand-ins," as it were, for a group of other employees who simply could not be "fitted in," in the Rooftop Cafe.

Even so, Mr. Watt made a public apology to all those other members of the staff whose names it had not been possible to add to the guest list. His thought was quite personal; his sincerity obvious.

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FINE IS HIS RECORD

It is doubtful, however, if the presence of 1500 people would have made more affectionate the gaze of Mr. Williams as his eyes scanned the ranks of the 150 colleagues who stood around him, as the counterparts of their co-workers. Deep was his pride as he moved continuously around the floor, exchanging reminiscences. Many of those with whom he chatted had known Llewellyn Eli Williams throughout his long association with Foys. The service of some exceeded that of the retiring G.M. Mr. Williams joined Foys in 1935.

In any large and long-established company, retirements must take place throughout each year. Many in Foys and almost all of those present at this party, had often gathered around a departing colleague; had heard appreciation and affection expressed in the many phrases which are appropriate to these occasions.

But it is doubtful if any of the guests at this party had ever before listened to such an analysis of a man's character and such an estimation of his abilities and achievements as Sir Frank Richardson's tribute to Llewellyn Eli Williams. To ensure that everyone was completely "in tune" with the feelings of the directors, Sir Frank took the unusual step of reading aloud the letter which the Board had written to Mr. Williams. Not only did this message convey the Company's appreciation of Mr. Williams and his work; it listed, in detail, the progressive appointments he had received during his 23 years with Foys. It is an impressive record. Read merely as a reference, this letter would have "got him a job anywhere," did Mr. Williams need one.

A TIME FOR LEISURE

He doesn't, of course. For, as Sir Frank announced with one of his boyish grins: "I have revealed a few confidences tonight. Now I am going to break another. He doesn't LOOK like it, but our good friend has reached the age when retirement beckons."

Nor were warm tributes all that this letter contained. As the Chairman told his listeners, the envelope also held a cheque for a sum which, when invested, would give Mr. Williams a nice income for the rest of his life, "even if he lives to be 100!"

We got the picture but missed the joke which brought these smiles to Mrs. Olive Bindon (Sportswear Buyer), Elva Emmins (Merchandise Control) and Molly Headland (Coat Buyer), all guests at the farewell party to Mr. L. E. Williams.

MOMENTS OF HISTORY

It is a fact, of course, that Sir Frank Richardson had known Mr. Williams for many years before the takeover of Foys by Cox Brothers in 1955, and, as he stated at the party, he had always had a great personal regard for him. This good feeling between the two men was more clearly revealed, following the two "disclosures" which the Chairman made this night.

The first related to that early part of 1955 when Melbourne buzzed with rumours of the plans of various business groups to acquire control of Foys. Some of these schemes involved the even-
tual disposal of the business—even the premises—on a piecemeal basis. Deeply concerned because he feared that the staff of Foys might be the first to suffer if any "outside interest" had taken over, with the one intention of "cutting the place to bits," Mr. Williams took the personal responsibility of asking Sir Frank to come to his home one night in 1955. In the course of the ensuing conversation, Mr. Williams put the direct question to Sir Frank Richardson: "Had Cox Brothers thought of moving in the direction of merging with Foys, with the object of retaining Foys as a complete retail organisation?"

From that moment the wheels began to turn. The rest is history. By August, 1955, Cox Brothers had so moved. The Cox-Foys absorption was completed. And here in January, 1959, was Sir Frank, in the dual capacity of Chairman of both companies, to make public acknowledgment of the part played by Mr. Williams—a role he took, it will always be remembered, because of his regard for the staff who had served him so loyally.

Little could he have realised in those early days of 1955, however, how even more closely he was to be drawn to the employees of Foys, whose welfare he had so faithfully sought to safeguard.

Just how tightly the bond was to be drawn was revealed by Sir Frank's other "disclosure" at the farewell party. The guests heard the Chairman say: "... and the Board of Cox Brothers stipulated (that is, when the takeover move was in measurable sight of successful completion) THAT MR. WILLIAMS REMAIN AS GENERAL MANAGER OF FOYS, UNDER THE NEW REGIME."

To this Mr. Williams agreed. And therein was the raison d'être for this gathering of 29th January, 1959. We had been bidden to say farewell to a man who had reached the age when retirement could be enjoyed.

**GIFTS, IN AFFECTION**

Having reviewed, in fine detail, Mr. Williams' splendid record of service, the Chairman then presented the guest of honour with a most unusual clock. Of attractive design, this timepiece has a movement of baffling ingenuity. Its self-winding mechanism is motivated by variations of temperature. So long as the mercury in the nearest thermometer moves, either way, to an extent of not less than two degrees (which, under any but quite abnormal conditions, it must, as might follows day) this extraordinary clock will tick on merrily—for ever! This was the gift of Foys, as a company, to Mr. Williams.

On behalf of the Managers, Buyers and other friends among the staff, Mr. Richard Gretgrix, of the Carpet Department, then presented to Mr. Williams a magnificent canteen of cutlery. Mr. Gretgrix won this privilege because he had worked beside Mr. Williams from 1938 onwards, in those days when the G.M. had closer interests in the Furnishing Group.

Mr. A. J. Thomas, Merchandise Director, then proffered to Mr. Williams a large sheaf of the loveliest flowers—the Company's thought for Mrs. Williams, who was not present at this gathering.

Sir Frank Richardson (centre) stresses a point in a humorous anecdote related to appreciative audience consisting of (1 to r) Messrs. J. N. Watt (Man. Dir.), L. E. Williams, A. J. Thomas (Merch. Dir.) and R. Gretgrix of the City Carpet Dept. The latter had just presented the staff's farewell gift to Mr. Williams.

**MANAGING DIRECTOR'S THANKS FOR PARTY EFFORT**

Finally, Mr. J. N. Watt added to his remarks (already reported here) by offering the sincere thanks of all to the staff of the Rooftop Cafe, and those other helpers who had so efficiently and readily contributed to the smooth running of the catering details of this party.

**OPPORTUNITIES IN RETAILING ARE LIMITLESS: THE CROWNS OF LEADERSHIP ARE EVER TO BE WON**

And so a well-loved figure passed from the busy scene of day-by-day retail administration, in Foys in Melbourne and Foy-Bilsons, Colac. Llewellyn Eli Williams, lean of build, upright in carriage and always well groomed, looked the leader to perfection—and fulfilled the allied responsibilities of General Manager with conspicuously successful. Apart from all else, his silver-haired presence and quiet manner will be missed, on all sides.

It might be thought from these descriptions of the man that we have endeavoured to paint a word-picture of that masculine type which certain American magazines love to portray under captions like "Men of Distinction." But Llewellyn Eli Williams needs no such editorial "make up." The impact one gained from meeting and knowing Mr. Williams was just the natural impression of the man himself. In the same way is the
The tributes paid, the presentations made, the Chairman, Sir Frank Richardson, clasps the hand of Mr. L. E. Williams in farewell. At back, Mr. J. N. Watt.

WHAT GREATER ACHIEVEMENT?
And that impression, as long-lasting as any stamped metal, was most clearly conveyed in a phrase used by Sir Frank Richardson, in acknowledgment of just one of L. E. Williams' many good qualities. In Sir Frank's words: "HE IS A GENTLEMAN."

MISS EVELYN BAILEY RETIRES FROM FOYS

As we mentioned in our report of the recent retirement of Mr. Fred ("Peter") Dawson—and we had the same thought in mind when we bade farewell, last September, to Miss Violet McNamara—Foys acquired more than the stocks and the right to continue using an honoured old name when Ackmans, one of Melbourne's best-known furnishing houses, went out of business at the end of 1938. Ackmans also rendered to Foys some good people.

There were others, as well as the two former colleagues mentioned above. Among them was Evelyn Bailey. All were welcomed to the Foy ranks. All made friends and continued their careers contentedly under the new banner. But of them all Miss Bailey became the most widely known of the "migrants." She stepped straight into a niche which was distinctive because it was newly created. The passing years were to make her job far more responsible—although she had no inkling of that in December, 1938.

Those with longer memories will recall that in order to offer the public better facilities to inspect its stocks of furniture, furnishings, etc. (which, for some years thereafter, were marketed under the new name "Foy-Ackmans"), Foys opened a new store in Flinders Street at the end of 1938. It was alongside the Mutual Store, on the other side of Degraves Street. Its manager throughout was Mr. L. E. Williams. As a busy executive he needed a secretary. Evelyn Bailey got the job. And she went on doing just that until she retired on December 23 last. That brought her service with Foys to just 20 years. But prior to the "transfer," she had worked with Ackmans for more than 15 years. Consequently, Foys were proud to look upon her as one of its loyal "veterans"—with a fine record of 35 years' work.

Quiet, almost shy, Evelyn Bailey was the ideal private secretary. Because she did most of her work behind closed doors, not many people saw her at her labours. But there could have been few who were not aware of how diligently she attended to her responsible duties. She always "had her head down to it."

We could perhaps look in another direction for the yardstick with which to measure Miss Bailey's effort. The man for whom she worked so long and so devotedly made his own mark in Foy history. From Store Manager at Flinders Street, he returned to Bourke Street (because the Government commandeered the Flinders Street building for its wartime needs) to manage the Furnishing group. In 1948 he was appointed Manager of the City Store and, in 1950, became a Director of Foy & Gibson (Stores) Pty. Ltd. A year later he was appointed General Manager of the whole Foy retail organisation and in the same year he joined the Board of that company.

Throughout all these moves, Evelyn Bailey was quietly and efficiently "at his elbow" and it would not be unfair to assume that her tireless and self-effacing loyalty must have eased considerably the heavy and responsible load carried by Mr. Williams.

Keenly interested in tennis, as a player, Evelyn Bailey loves, too, her home and her garden. Long may she enjoy the greater leisure time which now begins.
Western Whispers

Recorded by SYD WRIGHT
(STAFF MANAGER, FOY & GIBSON (W.A.) LIMITED)
(FOYS, W.A.)

HOW WONDERFUL THEY WERE!

The very walls seemed to move from the pressure of the great sigh of relief heaved by over 700 weary but still patient and good-natured employees when the closing bell rang throughout Perth Central at 5.25 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Within the space of only a few minutes, the great store was empty. Only the hot air and floor debris remained as silent evidence of the greatest Christmas shopping spree on record.

So much of the credit must go to our loyal team of assistants, in the selling and non-selling sections of the staff, including the parcels delivery men. Nor do we forget those folk whose toil commences when we say "Cheerio" upon leaving each night—the Cleaning staff.

To one and all who cheerfully gave so much extra effort, we say "Well done and very many thanks!"

PROMOTIONS

The following appointments are announced—

MR. R. C. PARKER (2 i/c Heavy Electrical and Radios) to Acting Department Manager of that Section.

MR. R. D. PATTENDEN (Bedding Department) to 2 i/c of Heavy Electrical and Radios.

MR. J. P. DUNCAN (Men's Shoes) to Buyer, Men's Shoes.

Congratulations and good luck to each of them.

A DISTINGUISHED COLLEAGUE RETIRES

On a bright summer's morning, in January, 1912, an 18-year-old lad signed on at Foys in Perth, for the first time and, with considerable enthusiasm, settled in as a Junior Clerk. On February 2, 1959, the one-time teenager left the Store, for the last time, as an employee. After 47 years' loyal service with the Company, Henry Whitehouse had retired.

Born in Glasgow, Henry Whitehouse had been employed by the firm of A. & P. Stevens of that city, as time-keeper and assistant wages clerk. He had thus gained valuable office experience which served him well in his first job in the land of his adoption, Western Australia. After a period in the P.O.D. and Entry Office, he was transferred to the Mail Order Department, where he remained until the outbreak of World War I. In June, 1915, young Harry enlisted in the First A.I.F. and saw service in France with the 32nd Battalion. After hostilities ceased, he came back to Foys, to take charge of the P.O.D. and Entry Office. That was in January, 1919.

In 1921 Mr. Whitehouse became a cashier in the Counting House under Mr. John Bowman (later the Company's Secretary and since retired) and worked in that capacity until the retirement of Mr. Wally Mulgrave, Manager of the Counting House, in 1954. Henry Whitehouse succeeded Mr. Mulgrave.

Always an active member of his local R.S.L. Branch (for 10 years he was Treasurer and is today a committeeman) Henry will find much to keep him occupied in the period of leisure which now begins. And in the near future he intends taking up bowls.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Whitehouse. As Manager of the Counting House, Mr. Whitehouse retired from Foys Perth on 2nd February after 47 years' service.

With long-service leave to his credit, Mr. Whitehouse plans a long holiday with his wife, visiting friends in Melbourne. Later, they will visit Tasmania.

A sturdy Scot, who just doesn't look his age, Henry Whitehouse should enjoy many, many happy years of retirement. That this will be his reward is the earnest wish of his many friends among both young and old at Foys, Perth Central.

At the large gathering of friends who assembled to bid him farewell, Henry Whitehouse was presented with Management's gift of a radio set. This was handed to him by Secretary and Associate Director R. G. H. McKay, in the absence of Mr. W. J. Yeomans, Managing Director. From his many friends among the staff Mr. Whitehouse received a travel case and rug, presented by Mr. C. S. Wright, Staff Manager.
WE MADE A LOT OF PEOPLE HAPPY

By GEORGE DICKSON, Social Secretary

The evening of December 10 was a wonderful time for the 250 children of Social Club members who, with their parents, attended the Annual Christmas party in the cafeteria.

A Puppet Show in Continental style opened the programme. The clever impersonations of celebrities were thoroughly enjoyed by both children and adults. Then came the BIG moment. Father Christmas arrived. Little faces beamed with joy as jovial old Santa distributed presents. The Social Club provided plenty of ice cream, cool drinks and sweets. There was supper for the grown-ups, too.

No one could doubt the popularity of the Annual Christmas Social Evening, held at the Alfresco Gardens, Kenwick, some nine miles from Perth on the Great Eastern Highway. On Saturday, December 13, 350-odd members of the Club arrived by private vehicles and hired transport, to enjoy yet another happy party. With barbecue packs and refreshments supplied by the Social Club and an orchestra for both the indoor and outdoor dance floors, we saw a complete picture of happy social friendship as gay groups seated themselves among the cool ferns and shrubs, and coloured lights heightened the smiles of the dancers.

As someone remarked, "this evening's enjoyment was the climax of the festive season."

Then there was the delightfully informal function held in the Cafeteria on the evening of Tuesday, December 16. This was the Annual Christmas buffet dinner given by the Directors of Foy & Gibson (W.A.) Ltd., to their Management, Group Controllers and Department Managers.

In the prevailing hot weather, "Coats off!" was the order of the night and the example was set by our hosts, Messrs. W. J. Yeomans (Managing Director), R. G. H. McKay (Secretary), E. Hearn (Director) and Associate Directors, Messrs. G. J. Gardiner, V. A. Fenn, G. H. Wilson and F. S. Luke.

Newcomers to this annual get-together who were formally introduced were Mr. V. A. Fenn (Associate Director), Mrs. Sadie Leech (Secretary to Mr. Yeomans), Mrs. Marjorie McQuilkin (Fashion Consultant), Bob Ewers (Accountant), Roy Nicholas (Manager, Deferred Payments), Bob Swannell (Manager, Florists), John Lording (Manager, Grocery), Ted Andrews (Manager, Stationery and Books), Don Tyler (Manager, Pharmacy and Cosmetics), Peter Katavatis (Manager, Men's Wear), Fred Ehringer (Manager, Victoria Park Branch), Jack Gardiner (Manager, Cafeteria and Catering), and Ron Parker (Acting Manager, Heavy Electrical).

Also present were visitors and retired employees like Mr. Ned Norman (Store Manager) and Mr. Wally Mulgrave (Manager, Counting House). There was an apology from one very old friend—our former Secretary, Mr. J. Bowman.

After the traditional Christmas pudding had been served as the final dish—and all the threepenny pieces accounted for (?)—there was the dancing, very ably compered by Master of Ceremonies, Jim Brisbane.

Between times, Mr. Yeomans spoke very briefly—and humorously—to introduce our Paymistress, Mrs. Lindley, better known to all as Miss Shirley Murdoch, who, despite her reluctance,
made the speech of the evening with her "Christmas Message."

There's a word of praise here for the ladies, in general. Looking so smart, cool, and therefore refreshing, their presence added a gay note to what might otherwise have been an uncolourful "bucks' party."

We rounded off a delightful evening with Christmas carols and as the satisfied guests departed, each voted this Directors' Party the "best ever."

**BETROTHAL**

The engagement of Mr. Brian Jones, Manchester, to Miss Helen Price, of South Perth, was announced on December 13.

**ANOTHER REMARKABLE MAN SAYS "GOODBYE"**

In 1880, when Bendigo (Victoria) was known as Sandhurst, Australia gained a new citizen. The proud Hocking parents named him William Henry.

Twenty-six years later Foys met William Henry Hocking for the first time. And during the following 53 years Foys, in both Perth and Melbourne, were to know—and appreciate—Mr. Hocking as a Manchester salesman for varying terms which aggregated nearly 30 years of fine service.

It was Mr. George Freeman, Manager of Foys Perth (and also well known before that as a buyer in the old Foy store in Collingwood, Victoria), who gave Mr. Hocking his first job in Foys in 1906. He stayed for four years and then left to take a job on the goldfields for 12 months, but he came back to the Hay Street store and resumed work in the Manchester Department until October, 1912.

In that year he moved to Melbourne for family reasons and the Foy store in Chapel Street (then known as Maclellan's Big Store) snapped him up—again for the Manchester. In 1915 Mr. Hocking went back to Perth, but not to Foys. He served for two years with Montgomery's of Boulder City, and was then appointed Manager of a Manchester house in Collie, a position he held for 20 years.

But Foys seemed to hold a fascination for him and in 1940 he returned to the Perth store to be reinstated in the Manchester Department. And there he remained until his retirement on January 7 this year. This great old man made many friends among the staff. He was also widely liked by many customers, who would ask "to be attended by Mr. Hocking." He was a first-class Manchester man, always capable of producing impressive sales figures. One of his treasured possessions is the letter of introduction which Mr. George Freeman gave to him in 1912. It was to be presented in Melbourne to Mr. Sam Gibson, who was William Gibson's nephew.

And on that distant day, nearly 47 years ago, Mr. Freeman wrote:

In eight weeks out of every ten, Mr. Hocking tops the weekly sales figures. On the first day of the Fair, his book will total £160-£180.

Manchester salesmen today, wherever they are, will appreciate the significance of those figures when it is recalled that the £ in those days possibly bought six or seven times as much as it will today.

Here in Perth we are immensely proud of Mr. Hocking. A widower, he will be taking up residence with a niece in whose care we all hope he will enjoy the relaxation and rewards he so richly deserves.
ALBANY
ALBUM
Kept by
SALLY POWELL
and
DENNIS HALL

Miss Sally Powell

CENTRE OF ATTRACTION

With craftsmen needed for new buildings such as the hospital and meat works, the influx of visitors is still high and the town is constantly progressing. Eight hotels report that accommodation is unobtainable. The camping area at Middleton Beach has more than 300 caravans and Emu Point Park is overflowing. Each caravan has its quota of sunburned occupants. The weather here has been the finest for years. After a hectic day, nights are cool.

Notice that Mt. Barker people, only 34 miles from the water, are very regular visitors, even though they refer to Mt. Barker as “The City” and Albany as just “a port.” (Our authority, Mr. Tutt, Mt. Barker.)

STAFF PARTY

Better late than never—we have to be driven!—this report on our Christmas Party. This was well attended with several guests invited. The overcrowding of our cafeteria made the tribe very sociable or, maybe, they all just wanted to be near the mounds of food—and the barrel! With visitors made welcome and guests and staff mixing readily, the party soon got under way, with the happiest results.

Thanks of all staff go to our Manager, Mr. Margetic, for the Christmas Party arrangements.

FOYS REGALS MARCHING GIRLS

Foys Regals gave an outstanding display at Middleton Beach as part of the Australia Day Regatta before an estimated audience of 3000.

The girls are now practising hard for the Australian Championship to be held in Brisbane in March. And “practise” means marching on Mondays and Thursdays after work until 7.30, on Tuesdays and Fridays in the early morning from 6 until 7.30 a.m., and on Saturday afternoon from 3 until 5 p.m.

Efforts to raise the money for the trip to Brisbane are ceaseless. The target is £780—a whole lot of money!—but the girls are confident

In Western Australia, where "Marching Girls" have a large public following, there is no smarter looking team than the "Regals," sponsored by Foys in Albany. Girls are practising hard for the Australian Championships to be held in Brisbane, in March. Tiny mascot, Susan Powell, plays her part with enthusiasm and dignity.
they will achieve it. They are looking forward to the trip with great excitement, since, for most of them, it will be the first taste of travel outside Western Australia.

The “Regals” team consists of June Swarbrick, Jean Goodridge, Pam Goodridge, Faye Bailey, Wendy Powell, Beth Brown, Judith Godenzic, Margo Began, Maureen Shirley, Elizabeth Clark and Gwen Fisher (who was absent when the photograph was taken), Sally Powell, and Susan Powell, Mascot.

Both Powell girls, Sally and Wendy, work at Foys.

[Note: Miss Sally Powell forgot to mention that she is the leader of the "Regals" team.—Ed. “S.”]

**FOY GIRL IS “MISS ALBANY”**

The Australia Day celebrations gave us more than national pride. For, in a perfect setting on the green lawns of the Esplanade Hotel, the Albany heat of the “Miss Sunshine Quest,” conducted by “The Weekend Mail,” was made known. Great was the excitement when it was announced that the winner was Miss Wendy Powell. Wendy, what reluctantly. Unlike many entrants in such competitions, Wendy has no aspirations to become a model. Her interests apart from marching are swimming, dressmaking and dancing.

No one was more surprised by the result than Wendy Powell but, like many surprises, her success had its pleasant side, for her prizes included a swimsuit, Polaroid sunglasses and a cash award of £10. As well she will later travel to Perth, at the expense of the sponsors, for the final judging of the “Miss Sunshine Quest.”

**WITHDRAWAL FORMS**

Grocery Department Manager, Bill Morris, has “fallen by the wayside.” And after the Christmas rush, too! Bill left us to take a position outside the company in our hot capital, Perth. He'll be missed more than somewhat, not only by the staff but the Apex Club, Repertory Society and other organisations for which he and his wife were keen workers.

To Bill the Apexian and Mrs. Morris the Henpexian, “Good luck” from all.

Pat Smith, who recently left her job as cashier, has assumed even more important duties—those of mother-to-be.

Our best wishes go with petite Janice Jewell, who took Mary Cotton’s place in the Dress Materials. Janice has ventured into a business of her own. Opened a much-needed afternoon tea shop, called “Julianne.”

**DEPOSIT FORMS**

Our new Grocery Department Manager Mr. Cecil Hille has much sense, having just arrived from hot Perth, where he had a grocery store in Bulwer street. Mrs. Hille has had to remain in Perth as their child is in hospital there. We have assured Cec. Hille that once the youngster reaches Albany there'll be no more worries about sickness.

New to the Office—and incidentally our first staff change for four years—is blue-eyed Pat Collins. Pat, who came straight from school to her first job, handles the Sales and is settling-in well.

There's a welcome, too, for pretty Marie-Anne Burgess, new to the Haberdashery.

**INTEREST PLUS**

In the presence of a huge crowd, the annual “Australia Day” ceremony was held at Victoria Square. Parading to the Silver Band of Albany were the Marching Girls. Teams which gave this impressive performance were the Magpies, the Crewettes and Foys Regals.

With her blonde curls bobbing, tiny Susan Powell, mascot of Foys Regals, attracted a lot of attention.

**TRUE OF FALSE**

Two of staff went fishing. Just after closing time. Big crowd on wharf. But no fish until we—er—they got there. In the excitement of pulling ‘em in, I—er—one chap leaned over too far. Mouth open too far, also!

Results: 2 dozen herring, plus upper set of dentures—in 30 ft. of dark water!

(Fink I’ll haft to start safing upf at vunce.)
WE'RE GETTING A BIG GIRL NOW!

With the coming of the new year, the town of Katanning celebrates its 70th birthday.

Reviewing the years briefly, we see that Katanning has a proud record, including many “firsts.” For example, it was the first inland town to be lit with electricity; first to have bitumen-paved streets; first to build town saleyards—and the first to enjoy a swimming pool. The town has long had adequate sporting and social facilities, and, above all, of course, an excellent shopping centre.

The number of houses constructed last year and in course of construction at present indicates that by the time the 75th Anniversary comes around, Katanning will still be one of the largest inland towns in Western Australia.

Incidentally, the store itself can hold its head high among the civic celebrations, for the first part of the building was erected in 1889, following the completion of the Great Southern railway system. The business was then conducted by Piesse Bros. It continued under that name until 1908, when a partnership with Max Richardson & Co. began and the store traded under the latter name until 1950.

PEOPLE WE KNOW

Although many of the townspeople and district residents have been holidaying of late, we have been as busy as ever, with stocktaking thrown in, for added measure.

As in most inland towns, the people of Katanning go to the coast for holidays, and our own Reg. Norman (Floor Coverings), Chris McMahon (Grocery) and Len Mosscrop (Hardware D.P.M.) were lured to Albany.

There’s been wide sympathy for Eric McFarland (Manchester) who had to enter hospital for an operation. Reports from his sister Lillian (Mantles), however, indicate that Eric will be back with us again shortly.

Mr. A. Radford (Hardware) retired at the end of January after 47 years’ service in the store. A proud record indeed. To Mr. and Mrs. Radford, we extend our best wishes for the future, and we hope they enjoy a wonderful holiday when they tour the Eastern States in March.

THE TRUNK HAS STURDY LIMBS

Katanning store has two branches. These are in Kojonup and Tambellup, each approximately 30 miles from the parent store.

Manager at Kojonup is Mr. Eric King. Congratulations go to Mr. and Mrs. King following the recent birth of a daughter.

Mr. Pat Walker (Menswear) recently announced his engagement to Miss Val Haggerty. A keen sportsman, Mr. Walker has been associated with the firm for 11 years.

To future issues of “Service,” Kojonup is planning to contribute its own independent budget of news. Fine!

At Tambellup there is a staff of four—J. Brown (Manager), J. Hall (Grocery), Miss R. Offer (Drapery), and Miss E. Jones (Grocery). Miss Jones is to be married shortly.

They make merry at Foys in Albany. Ready to toast something or other at a recent store party are Rhonda McInnis (Haby), Janice Jewell (Dress Mat.), Mavis Draper (Fancy), Eileen McBride (Hosiery), Coralie Nevile (U’wear) and Don Cotton (Warehouse).

MANJIMUP MEMOS

By ROBERT JOHNS

“MERRY” IS THE WORD

“The tumult and the shouting dies . . .” One wonders what could have inspired Kipling to compose those words, seeing that he wasn’t in Foys, Manjimup, at closing time Christmas Eve! “Hectic” is the only word to describe those last three shopping days. And Christmas Eve capped the lot!

OFF TO A GOOD START

On December 18 members and friends of our Social Club made their way to the Hotel Manjimup for our first Annual Staff Dinner. This was followed by a social evening. Everyone had a wonderful time.

One member obviously enjoyed himself thoroughly. He was heard to remark afterwards that similar events should be held—EACH WEEK!

GAMES AND FUN

On December 20 the Warren Co-op. challenged our boys to a cricket match. Our Manager (who was captain of the day) had a bit of trouble raising his “Test Team.” Then Cyril Searcy and his son Kevin (Grocery) brought home a “pair of ducks” and Doug Major and Rod Wright nearly
rivalled them. But John Whyte and Harry Brown- ing stepped in and cut and drove with great dexterity and Keith Mickle (Hardware) handily accounted for a bunch of wickets.

In the last issue I mentioned my hopes of being able to write something about Messrs. Browning and Whyte. It’s good to be able to report that neither has disgraced himself. To date, Mr. Whyte leads with a score of 100 not out. Mr. Browning follows closely with an 80.

Quite a pair!

PERSONAL

There’s a welcome to newcomers Eileen Page (Groceries) and Patsy Thomas (Mantles) and good wishes in particular, for Alec Dunn, who has taken

over the substantial responsibilities of Grocery Buyer.

Patsy Thomas breaks into the news for other reasons. Recently she celebrated her 21st birthday —and the same night announced her engagement!

Also engaged recently is Kathie Polich.

The whole staff beams on these two happy people.

It’s good to have Bert Piggott (D.P.M. Hardware) back with us after a severe bout of tonsillitis. Couldn’t have picked a worse time. Messed up his Christmas dinner!

WE REMEMBER

The death of Mr. George Major, referred to in “The Quiet Corner” of the last issue, was a great shock to all in Manjimup store. As Departmental Manager of the Food Groups, Mr. Major was known to everyone. He had just returned to the store after taking part of his long-service leave when he was suddenly taken ill. He died shortly afterwards.

In George Major we lost a lovable and loyal colleague and to his widow, Mrs. Madge Major, and to Mr. and Mrs. Doug Major (of the Office in the Manjimup Trading Company, a subsidiary of Foys) we offer renewed sympathy.

God called—and he followed.

MOUNT BARKER JOTTINGS

By ‘‘GIGGLES’’ and ‘‘BUSTER’’

With the joys of stocktaking over, we are now looking forward to the fruit season. Apple growing is the main industry in this area and an excellent crop is expected at the end of February.

The Annual Christmas Social was another huge success. We are now hoping to arrange a Picnic and Barbecue at the seaside.

We must also congratulate Collie on holding their first Barbecue. They say the idea came from the November Bonfire. Down here, we have a suspicion their new manager might have thrown a hint or two!

A further welcome—this time, in print—to Mr.

Bill Waldrum, our Accountant. This extends to his family, too. Sorry we missed this official greeting in the last issue.

For the sake of our Manager, some fish stories are OUT this month. But one we must pass on. Fishing at night, a member of the staff left his rod on the sand for a few minutes—unattended. Not only did a fish take hook, line and sinker—but rod and reel as well. Bertlef angler declares his fishing career has ended.

Talking of sport, here’s an effort our Test selectors might note. In a recent cricket match, Eric Randall (Grocery) TOOK ALL TEN WICKETS FOR 23 RUNS OFF SIX OVERS. Howzzat?

Congratulations to Miss Ailsa Drage (Grocery) and Mr. Steve Pomeroy, upon their recent engagement.

Better fish stories may be floating around soon. Bill May (Hardware) will be back from holidays.

NEWS FROM NARROGIN

By REG. NASH

GOSH, IT WAS GOOD!

The Annual Christmas Dinner and Social was a very happy event. The dinner was held at the Hordern Hotel.

Highlight of the social evening which was held at the adjacent C.W.A. Hall was the one-act play
"Bargain Sale" put on by some of the staff. The sudden disappearance of Meryl Sully through a supposedly closed door was an exit not mentioned in the script. But it was much enjoyed by all—except Meryl! I doubt if Meryl would like even to rehearse the turn, if asked!

**MAPLE AND EUCALYPT**

We have welcomed Mr. Jack Wass to the staff of the Furniture Department. He comes from Canada and seems to be catching on fast to the "Aussie" way of life—and faster still to some of our expressions!

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**

This is holiday time. Mr. Norrish, our Manager, enjoyed himself at the seaside, taking an extra week as part of his long service leave. He has given 37 years of service, commencing at Richardsons, Katanning. Then followed periods with other branches before coming to Narrogin.

Whilst away, he was relieved by Mr. Harry Clarke, ex Perth Store. I believe he is looking forward to returning to the city and we are wondering why. Is it the heat? Is it US? Maybe it's the mosquitoes? His way of killing them is unique. But no details are allowed here! Anyway, it's been good to know him.

Others who have been away are: Mrs. Parnell (Mantles), who did a lot in her one week in Perth—she found time to fly to Kalgoorlie, to see her daughter—and Mr. Bill Norwell (Footwear), who came back with a good sun tan. (No questions answered!)

Mrs. D. Lindley, better known to the staff of Foys W.A. as Miss Shirley Murdoch, their Paymistress, gives encouragement to Mr. W. J. Yeomans, Managing Director, as he cracks a festive bottle at the store Christmas Party.

From **HUGH LIMB**

(LONDON MANAGER, COX BROTHERS (AUSTRALIA) LIMITED)

**IT'S A BUSY WORLD**

From all accounts, the Christmas retail trading created an all-time record. Since then, the Winter Sales—most of which start soon after Christmas—have also been an outstanding success. Now, stores and shops face what they call the "between season." This phrase applies more to the fashion sections than other sections. Retailers must decide as to whether to display new spring merchandise or still carry on with winter wear. For the man in the street and, perhaps, more especially his women folk and the children, there is no doubt at all as to what season it is. It is WINTER!

**GRIM TOPIC!**

The new year, since its beginning, has been a miserable one. We have had many frosts and of all things, fog. Diverging, for the moment, from thoughts of fashions, it has been interesting to read of the prolonged period of heat wave conditions which Melbourne endured during January-February. Press cables told us of those trying days when the thermometer registered 107 deg. We gasped! Then we had a look at our own thermometers. Twenty-seven degrees! And even lower! Well below freezing point! Thus did Mr. Fahrenheit make us all suffer—at both ends of his scale!

Just as these high temperatures in Australia brought fatalities among old and young, so have we known tragedy here from the unexpected and unpleasant fogs. At one time, fog and smog were discomforts to be associated with the month of November. In December, one expects snow—although thoughts of Christmas tend to banish the weather and its vagaries to second place in the mind. There can be more snow with frost in January. February betokens lots of rain. So much so that, in some districts, this month has long been known, alternatively, as "fill-dyke." March is the month of the winds. Remember the old tag? "In like a lamb—out like a lion"—or vice versa.

During the early days of this month (February), however, we have been beset not only by frost and ice but the worst fogs of winter. Many unfortunate people, suffering from bronchitis and asthma, have been forced to stay indoors or seek assistance in hospital. But spring is not far away
—although we seem to have waited an eternity for its coming.

**FROCKS OR FURNITURE?**

Back to retailing; in particular, to fashions and fashion goods. There are reports that, unlike other store departments, these sections suffered some setbacks during 1958. The exact reasons for any such recession are difficult to pinpoint. But any downtrend could be due, in part, to the Government relaxations regarding credit in the latter half of the year. The easing of the previous restrictions undoubtedly encouraged people to buy high-priced items like carpets, furniture, electrical apparatus, etc. Always coveted, these goods could not be bought freely because of prohibitive high purchase terms. Now such purchases are within everyone’s reach. Little or no deposit; easier repayments.

The busy telephone switchboard in London Office is operated by Miss Shirley Earl. Shirley is standing because the board had to be raised from the floor to enable this photograph to be taken.

**COLOUR ABOUNDING**

The window displays of the West End stores give no cause for misgiving, however. The majority have elected to fill their windows with spring merchandise. Apart from the fur shops, very little winter clothing is to be seen. The predominant colour—within 100 yards of this office at any rate—appears to be Nasturtium, a shade which earlier made its bow as Tangerine. Another and softer shade which is known as “Milky Orange.” Yet, study the young things in the street and what do we find? Black stockings, dark blue stockings, green stockings and yellow—all with short, black skirts. Some of these stockings are of knee length. When the knee is covered, however, it is impossible to decide if the girl is wearing ordinary stockings or tights, leotards or a “Cat suit,” as the fashion-minded call them here. But strong colours are “the thing” in stockings at the moment. Their composition varies from wool to lisle to heavy nylon.

**WELCOME VISITORS**

We are looking forward to greeting Mr. Jack Thomas, Merchandise Director of Foys, in the near future. Then in April we shall be awaiting Miss Ethel Dolman (Buyer of Frocks, Foys, Bourke street) and Miss Molly Headland (Coat Buyer, Foys, Melbourne Central). They will be swiftly followed by Mr. A. E. Brown (Merchandising Director of Cox Brothers).

Already we have had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Barry Balmer of the Mens Store of Foys, in Melbourne. He had worked his way across Europe after landing at Naples, finding jobs for varying periods in Rome, Milan and Zurich. In London, he is hoping to find a job at the Swan and Edgar department store in Piccadilly. He has been attending a course on Retail Trading in general. Melbourne colleagues will recall that Mr. Balmer was working in the Record Bar at Bourke street at the time of his departure.

Miss Michelle Yeomans, daughter of Mr. W. J. Yeomans, Managing Director of Foys, Perth, arrived here last week with a friend from Western Australia. Other visitors we are looking forward to meeting are Mr. Harry James of Hobart with his wife and daughter Pauline, and Mr. and Mrs. E. Hearn, a Director of Foys W.A., with their daughter and Miss Gandy.

**OTHERS ON THE MOVE**

Mr. Bill Browning of Cox Brothers is now making arrangements to return to Australia via America. He expects to work a while in New York before finally leaving for Melbourne.

We understand that Mr. John McPherson (Cox Brothers, Bourke street) and his wife are now in Detroit, our last message from them being a Christmas greetings card.
Managing to squeeze a “Stop Press” line into the last issue, we were able to make mention of the opening of our latest branch store at the appropriate time—December. Now that we have got our breath back again, let’s take a closer look at this bright new store.

Prior to our entry, the Murray Bridge store was a depot of Goldsborough, Mort and Co. It was a place where stock was handled and stockmen foregathered. But it was a spot well known by the citizens of this river town.

With its opening as a branch of Cox Brothers decided, the Maintenance and Display teams marched in. The job of converting the premises to the attractive shopping centre it is today was a feat of which we are all proud—and that pride is shared by the people of Murray Bridge.

Exteral辅, the building may not have the architectural lines of a Fifth Avenue boutique, but the appeal is made wonderfully gay by colourings of grey, white and red. The effect inside is delightful. Against a floor of royal blue, the walls of citrus green and ice blue blend strong but pleasing relief. Among store fittings, black wrought iron and shining glass bring out the multiplicity of colours of the wide ranges of merchandise. The building has a frontage of 24 ft. and a depth of 45 ft.

Opening as it did early in December, when the volume of Christmas trading began its daily increase, the new store enabled us to offer a splendid variety of merchandise to our Murray Bridge customers. Incidentally, keen eyes will have noticed that we trade in Murray Bridge as “Cox-Foys.” This is the only place in Australia outside Adelaide where the name is used.

Opening Day was made quite an “occasion.” To ensure smooth running, the local and new staff was supplemented by a large team of helpers from Adelaide, headed by the South Australian General Manager, Mr. Noel Forster. With him were Miss Bernie Green, 2 i/c. Accessories; Miss Margaret Egan, 2 i/c. Children’s Wear; Mrs. Alyth Claufton, 2 i/c. Fashions; Mrs. Joan Marsh, Sportswear; Mr. Joseph Benson, Merchandising Manager; Mr. Ray Rogers, Display and Maintenance Manager; and Mr. Eric Tuohy, Credit Manager. These experienced people provided solid assistance indeed in preparing the new store for smooth service during the first days.

There’s a special pat on the back for Mr. Ray Rogers, who was responsible for so much of the sheer physical preparation of the building.

The Manager at Murray Bridge is Mr. Sydney Oliver, and he is assisted by Mrs. Marjory Barbagy and Miss Elaine Kuchel.

Mr. Oliver is a local man who had a business of his own before joining Cox-Foys. He was thus already well known in the district.

Again, our congratulations to Mr. Oliver and his staff upon the success of the “launching” of the Murray Bridge store. All wish them continuing success.

“IT’S THE LOVELIEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR”

As always, the Annual Staff Christmas Party was a bright and lively success. It is a matter of endless wonder that staff who work at top pressure for the week or fortnight preceding Christmas manage to turn up so full of life, immediately they reach the “cleared” Third Floor. Here they
Fixtures and fittings worthy of a city salon grace the new Cox-Foy store at Murray Bridge, S.A.

were greeted by laden tables and a good supply of cold, sparkling ale.

Soon they were joined by the executive staff and Management, who had paused, on their way, to exchange greetings in the Manager's Office. The customary toasts being honoured, the tables were whisked away and the evening's dancing commenced.

This year there was a special toast. Miss Jean Tebble, our departing Underwear Buyer, was leaving on Christmas Eve to fly to the West—to become Mrs. George Tweddle. The toast in her honour was proposed by Mr. A. L. Powell, Store Manager, in the absence of Mr. Noel Forster, who unfortunately was indisposed. With her reply, Miss Tebble was accorded the honour of cutting our traditional Christmas Cake.

We extend our congratulations and best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. George Tweddle, and shall long retain in mind the picture of Miss Tebble as she left the store, showered with confetti by a milling throng of excited youngsters.

ALL AROUND US

Wearing a white ballerina of flocked nylon, Kay Wolf (Office) was married to Mr. Les Allen at Sacred Heart Church, Semaphore, on 10th January. She was attended by Nita Rake and Pam Bickmore, two of her friends among the Office staff. The bridesmaids were in iridescent pink stiffened nylon.

Following a reception at the R.A.O.B. Hall, Semaphore, they left on a motoring honeymoon, interstate. Later, Les and Kay will live at Exeter.

A pretty wedding was that of Miss Dorothy Stewart to Mr. Eric Fauser of Cleve, on Saturday, 14th February. The ceremony took place at the West Croydon Baptist Church. The reception was held at the Norman Memorial Hall, Kilkenny, and the happy couple have now made their home at Cleve.

Widespread were the congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Cox following the birth of a son, Timothy Stephen, on the 3rd January.

Mrs. Molly Jones, who was in our Charge Accounts Office for some years, has left us to visit her daughter in New Zealand. We wish her well in the land of the kiwis.

The appointment of Mrs. Betty Grant as Buyer of Gowns and Corsetry Departments was announced at the beginning of this year.
A few days later came the news that Miss Phyl Churchill would be undertaking the Buyership of the Underwear Department, retaining at the same time her position as Buyer of the Knitwear Department.

Mrs. Pat Wilson (known to many as Pat Dyson) has rejoined the Company as Buyer of the Sportswear (formerly held by Miss Churchill).

These changes necessitated a little reshuffling of staff, but already departments seem to be settling down very well.

May it be a good year for all concerned.

“YOU’LL FIND IT FIRST—AT FOYS”

Australia’s “Wonder Clock” Greets Melbourne

Just as the Foy store in Melbourne Central dominates the intersection of Bourke and Swanston streets, so was the clock which surmounted the great doorway a focal point of the building. It would be impossible to estimate the millions of glances, deliberate and unconscious, which were cast up at this friendly and convenient clock.

The thousands of people who throng Bourke street throughout the day and far into the night would check the time from Foy's clock, as a matter of course. How much more anxious and vital, we wonder, were the checks made by those who organised street processions—particularly events like the Royal Visit—which have swept from Bourke street into Swanston street on a schedule which demanded split-second timing!

At night, when boy meets girl, as so many do, “at Foy's Corner,” the young hero who made the rendezvous for 7.30 p.m. would look up triumphantly at Foy's clock and know that he was “on time”—just as his shapely partner, arriving breathlessly at 7.35—again Foy time—hoped that the romance had not been ruined at the start!

From all such random thoughts it can thus be assumed that not only has the Foy clock played a very close part in the movements of Melbourne's million, but it kept them up to the mark by keeping accurate time. And this firm custom of checking with Foy's clock ran its smooth and accurate way until mid-day on Friday the 20th February.

At that hour, there was switched into operation in the familiar position of the former clock, a most remarkable piece of mechanism for recording and announcing the hours and minutes of Melbourne's day. Foy's now possess the only clock of its kind in Australia—thus supporting the oft quoted saying “You'll find it first—at Foy's.”

Not only do the electronic marvels behind this clock demand that it have a “dial” different from any clock ever seen in this country before, but the new Foy clock will keep such dead-accurate time that we would not be surprised, should one of the ballistic missiles which are now hurtling around the Heavens, like motor cars on the road, manage to get near enough to the sun to drop some form of greeting from Earth, if the message runs something like this: “Listen, feller, you're slipping. Last Thursday you were 2.5 seconds out with Foy's clock. Get a move on!”

This claim is not as exaggerated as it might sound, for the makers claim that if Foy's clock should vary by so much as 15 seconds in three months, there would be something radically amiss which an army of technicians would be most anxious to investigate and correct.

Earlier, we referred to the dial of Foy's clock. Foy's former clock did have an orthodox face although it was square in shape instead of the more conventional round. But the unique clock which Foy's has now given to the City of Melbourne hasn't a face at all, strictly speaking. It certainly has no hands and there are no indications of the minutes or hours by the customary dial-edge markings.

In place of the familiar “1-12” figuring found on most clocks and watches, Foy's newest clock—or as it has been presented to Melbourne, “FOYS TIME”—consists of four panels, set side by side, rather like the speedometer of a motor car. From each panel, a figure glows, proclaiming the hours and minutes. At a few moments before noon therefore, “FOYS TIME” will announce the hour as “11.59.” At the precise hour of twelve, three of these lighted figures “dissolve” and “FOYS TIME” reads “12.00.”

Shortly after the last war, an attempt was made to market wrist watches which told the time in a similar way. Those with longer memories will recall that the face of the watch was actually a rounded metal cover, very like the back of the
clocks, will show that hour precisely, just as it is recorded on the master clock.

So far as we can gather, about the only thing which this master clock can not do is to stretch out an automatically impelled "arm" and polish the glass of its own case!

Here then is Foys latest act of service to the city of Melbourne. There is no other clock in Australia like "FOYS TIME." It is Foys who made it possible for the public to benefit from this most unusual form of time recording. So much credit goes also, however, to those who devised the master clock and worked out the intricate details of the transmitting mechanism between the master clock and the illuminated panels of "FOYS TIME."

Three discreet initials on the dial of the master clock give clue to its makers. The letters are IBM, signifying International Business Machines,

At the farewell party to Mr. L. E. Williams, the "Young Peoples World" at Bourke street was represented, among others, by Garth Manton, Vin Healy, Mrs. A. Summerton and Bryce Pullen.

the vast United States engineering concern whose name has become so very familiar in recent years because of its association with the manufacture of gigantic electronic "brains." Some of these computing machines are already in use in Australia. One well known life assurance society has recently installed a model which, among other things, will compute in a fantastically short time, the amount of the bonuses payable each year to its millions of policy holders.

The second "partner" in this joint effort which conceived "FOYS TIME" will surprise some. It was none other than Automatic Totalisators Limited, whose engineers have had to grapple with not dissimilar problems, in establishing a link, at frequent intervals, between the amount of money wagered on various horses and the odds, which the Tote offers, in consequence. This knowledge was of vast help in working out the details of transmitting the time from the master clock to the electric globes which announce that same time, in hours and minutes, to passers-by, in the street.

Finally, very solid help was contributed by Claude Neon Industries Limited, who designed, fabricated and erected the four panels which constitute the "face" of Foys fabulous clock and erected above it, in fluorescent tubes of glowing scarlet, the letters of the legend which bids fair to become a household phrase in Melbourne: "FOYS TIME."

Snow Scenes at Sydney Central

Described by MICKI JOLSON
TRAINING OFFICER, SYDNEY SNOW PTY. LTD.

[For some weeks, towards the end of last year, Miss Jolson was away from the store, on extended leave. Her doctor had ordered her to "take it easy." During her absence, we lacked news of our colleagues in Sydney. As to that, it is fair that we should remind readers elsewhere that for a long time, Snows has published its own broadsheet, just as "Service" itself was, at one time, the house journal of Foys. So the newshounds of Liverpool street have all their work cut out at any time filling the pages of Snows bright "Staff News." There was no one to pick up the pen which Micki Jolson used to write to "Service."

Miss Jolson is now back at her desk, full of her customary enthusiasm. We give her welcome to this familiar spot, in these columns. News of our other friends in Snows is equally welcome.—Ed. "S".]

CHANGES

This month (February) we bid farewell to Mr. Len Gardner, Controller of the Lower Ground and Fifth floors, who retires owing to ill health. His position has been taken over by Mr. Keith Goddard, who has been with the Company for some months as Manager of the branch store at Dee Why.

Another executive who has had to resign his position owing to ill health is Mr. Chas. Brown.
Buyer of Furnishings. Mr. Len Cairncross, Buyer of Blinds, who has, as well, been assisting Mr. Brown for some years, succeeds Mr. Brown.

Mr. Michael Mahoney, Buyer of Cottons and Woollens, now has the Silk Department under his control, following the appointment of former Silk Buyer, Mr. Bert Harris, to Branch Management.

When Miss Esme Banks resigned her position as Buyer of Handbags, Miss Anne Benson, our Public Relations Officer, was chosen to replace her.

We are happy to report that our Underwear Buyer, Miss Nell Harvey, has successfully undergone a serious operation. She'll be convalescing for some time yet, but we all hope it will not be too long before she's "back to normal."

Welcome was the visit of Mr. Arthur C. Rowe, Buyer of Gloves and Hosiery at Foys Melbourne.

**Imagine Eliza Doolittle's answer to this one!**

I'll say it again. It's a small world. During my recent brief holiday in Melbourne I bumped into six Sydney retailers and one manufacturer in quick succession. On the night I went to see "My Fair Lady," who should be sitting in the next seat but a lass with whom I had gone to school in Sydney. Hadn't seen her for ten years—and she was in Melbourne on holiday, too.

Incidentally, Melbourne people make much of the fact that they get many of the big stage shows before Sydney does. There's nothing to boast about, really. In theatre circles over here it's recognised that the shows are "tried out" first—in the provinces!

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**Quiet Wedding**

One of our charming sales assistants, Helen Campbell, of the Sportswear, came back from holidays recently. Greetings were profuse, for that reason alone. Then the wedding ring was noticed! And she hadn't said a word to anyone!

**Fingers are crossed!**

Seems that all Corset Buyer, Mrs. Daisy Chateau, has to do to win lottery prizes is to go away on holiday. Invariably, she returns to find at least two of her tickets have won prizes. She's just done it again! Because she is so lucky, everyone wants to take tickets with her. Ten of us share two tickets in the big £100,000 Opera House Lottery with her. If only we could find some way to get her another holiday next month—when this mammoth lottery is drawn!

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**Nostalgic Note**

A welcome message from John McLauchlan, formerly of London Office, who recently returned to England after a two-year spell with Foys in Melbourne.

Referring to his first impressions on arrival, John writes: "It seemed unreal. Was this the same England? Was London always so grimy looking? Was it always so cold? Were the people so—seemingly—unfriendly? Then I realised that I was seeing things with 'Aussie eyes.'

Our former colleague also notes that: "...like the worm, the long-suffering British public has turned. No longer are they accepting without complaint bad transport, shoddy goods and poor food. Shops and stores are now being more careful with their merchandise."

The "Aussie eyes" have been swivelling back this way, too, it seems. John McLauchlan adds: "I think about Australia, the fine weather—a little too fine, sometimes—the smell of the gums, the beer—and the good friends I made. With time on my side, I may know them again, one day."

The letter ends with warm regards to all friends in Foys and Cox Brothers.
The Social Club’s Annual Christmas Party was transplanted for the 1958 show. Usually this is held in one of the city’s ballrooms. But in December last we went outdoors. To Al Fresco Gardens, a most delightful spot, at Kenwick, some nine miles north of Perth.

The weather was all our way. The good, warm night was ideal for relaxation, and the convivial spirit never flagged, as the night progressed.

Some 200 people attended, and they danced happily to music by the “Swing Kings.” The Club President, Mr. Vic Barnett, introduced the General Manager, Mr. A. W. Garvey, who, in extending his good wishes to those present, paid warm tribute to the staff generally. He praised not only the work done by each but the high degree of team spirit they had maintained throughout the year.

During the evening there was a demonstration of Highland dancing by our expert exponent of folk and national dancing, Velia Mackay, of the Office.

The year could not have ended in happier vein.

MARRIAGE

December 27 last was the occasion of a pretty wedding, when Jean Soothill, secretary to Deputy Manager, Mr. R. Gummow, was married to Mr. John Watts. The wedding was solemnised at St. Aidan’s Church, Claremont, and followed by a reception at the J. C. Smith Memorial Pavilion of the Nedlands Cricket Club.

For many years Jean has been intimately connected with the Girl Guide movement in Western Australia. She has charge of her own Brownie Pack, all of whom paraded at the church to form a guard of honour for the young couple.

ENGAGEMENTS

The Christmas season brought a spate of engagements among the young things on the staff. Cordially we think of:

Margaret Robb, a youngster who joined the Company some five years ago and has “grown up” with us. Having “been the rounds” of several departments, she now assists in the frock section of the Showroom. Margaret’s engagement to Mr. Neil Keith was announced on Christmas Eve. What nicer Christmas box for the lucky lad?

Patricia Buckley, with whom we rejoice in the announcement of her engagement to Mr. Brian Wilkes on the 5th December. The Buckley family has had a long association with this Company. Pat’s elder sister, Shirley, gave the old Economic some eight or nine years’ service prior to her own marriage a few years ago, and Pat emulates her sister in every way, in her conscientiousness, ability and deportment. If you ask us, Brian “sure knows how to pick ’em!”

Miss Linda Teague (Office), who announced her engagement to Mr. Alf Waldon on January 10. Miss Teague has had many years’ association with Cox Brothers.

A comparative newcomer to our ranks, Pat North (Office), who accepted diamonds from Mr. Phil Harris on the 20th December last.

All at Cox-Economic wish these happy people “Good luck.”

It might be a bit of a memory now, but this is how Frank Harvey, Ted Marks, Ron Sullivan, Yolanda Vigilante, Thelma Marks and Harry Watson enjoyed the Cox-Eco Christmas party.
Marking the end of the year in its usual happy way, Management entertained the staff at a Christmas Party held in the Carpet Showroom, at close of business on Christmas Eve. It was very gay, the music and dancing being particularly enjoyed.

Our gracious hostess was Mrs. H. C. James, wife of the Hobart Manager. She was assisted by Mrs. Don Caire, whose husband is the Accountant. Special guests were Mr. P. J. Everard (former Hobart Manager) and Mrs. Everard, Mrs. Ted Catlin and Mr. H. C. Orbell (Auditor) and Mrs. Orbell.

Mr. P. J. Everard (former Hobart Manager) with Mrs. Everard, Mrs. Ted Catlin and Mr. H. C. Orbell (Auditor) and Mrs. Orbell.

Mr. Ted Catlin Retires

With the entire staff foregathered under such pleasantly relaxed conditions, the holding of this party was an unusual opportunity to give a rousing send-off to Mr. Ted Catlin, who retired on Christmas Eve.

Mr. Catlin joined the Company in Hobart on 5th April, 1935, and throughout this fine period of well over 23 years' service, he was in charge of the Menswear Department. An ardent cricket supporter, Ted Catlin at one time played in competition games. Another interest is singing. For more than 20 years he was a member of the Hobart Orpheus Club, one of the oldest—if not the oldest—musical groups in Australia. The Club is well known in Hobart from its subscription concerts, given in Hobart Town Hall. Mr. Catlin, who sings tenor, was also a member of Wesley Church Choir for many years.

Paying full tribute to the many qualities of this fine employee and good citizen, Mr. Harry James presented Mr. Catlin with a Sunbeam Frypan from his many friends in the store. The Company's farewell gift was an Astor Transistor Radio.

NEW BUYER FOR MENSWEAR

Mr. Hugh Wilmot has been appointed Buyer of Menswear in succession to Mr. Catlin. With Cox Brothers since 1931, Mr. Wilmot joined the company in Launceston. He served a while in Queens-town before transferring to Hobart.

Mr. Hugh Wilmot, recently appointed Menswear Buyer, Cox Brothers, Hobart.

A BUSY LIFE

On 24th January Ken Crompton of the Mercery celebrated his 21st birthday. Meeting the responsibilities of full manhood and making a career in mercery would keep many a man pretty well occupied. But Mr. Crompton, a naval reservist, spends most of his spare time at the Naval Depot—as a cook! And as if that made him hungry for more activity, he's off to Sydney in March for training in under-water exercises and demolition work!

DEATH OF MR. HERMAN ANDERSON

At the moment of going to press came the news of the sudden death, on 2nd March, of Mr. Herman Gunnar Anderson. Known to all in Foys as Manager of the Despatch Department in Collingwood, which serves all the Melbourne Stores, Mr. Anderson had been with the Company since 1927.

To his widow and children we offer deep sympathy.
NEWCASTLE NEWSLETTER

From ENID DAVEY
(COX BROTHERS (AUSTRALIA) LIMITED, NEWCASTLE)

HOOOTS, MON! THEY BUR-R-RNT THE B-R-R-ANDY!

As guests of the Staff Christmas Party, we were delighted to welcome Mr. Alan Carthew (Managing Director of Sydney Snow Pty. Ltd.) and Mrs. Carthew. The Shortland Room of Winns, Newcastle, was again the setting for this happy gathering, but this year we changed the plan. Instead of supper, a buffet dinner was served. The dishes would have delighted the most critical gourmet. There were cocktails beforehand.

Most memorable incident was the Presentation of the Pudding. With all lights extinguished, the chef, in full regalia, was “piped in” by a member of the Newcastle Pipe Band with measured step worthy of a Guardsman in the Trooping the Colour ceremony. There can be few who are not stirred by the sound of bagpipes. But the chests of the Scots! You could see them expanding!

And the chef? Ah yes! As he made his way around the hall, he bore aloft the most magnificent plum pudding, gloriously aflame with burning brandy.

Later there was dancing and other items of entertainment. The party was a great success and thanks were expressed, once more, to the Social Club President, Mr. Reg Lee, and his enthusiastic committee.

LET’S CONGRATULATE . . .

. . . Mr. and Mrs. Noel Pickett on the birth of a son, Brett, on December 24, 1958. Noel (whose own birthday, incidentally, is December 25) is second in charge of our Despatch Department. He’s a mighty proud man these days.

. . . Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bradford, who, in January, 1956, after many years of waiting, adopted a baby boy, who was named Norman David. At the same time, they lodged an application for a baby girl. Now, to their delight, they have taken possession of Joyce Vivienne, who was born on January 5, just two days before Norman’s birthday. Mr. Bradford, Despatch Manager at Newcastle, is a very thrilled man. All we can add is that Norman and Joyce are two lucky little children to be adopted by such a fine couple.

THE CHAMP!

For the second year in succession our popular collector, Mr. Bill Kynaston, has won the Wallsend Fishing Club’s Points Score Competition by collect-
Our colleagues at Cox Brothers Newcastle know how and when to relax. The Christmas party brought together this group. L to r, Mr. Vic Seydek (visitor), Miss Sheriff (Cashier), Mr. Varney (Office), Pat Johnson, Colin Johnson and John Ford (all visitors), Mrs. Bev Harrison (Office) with Peggy Ford and Marilyn Perkins (both visitors). Standing, Mr. and Mrs. Turnbull, the latter a former member of the office staff.

FAREWELL

Due to ill-health, our popular and courteous lift driver, Eric Searles, has to retire. He has been with us for 41 years. We are all sorry to lose him and with much sincerity we wish him well in the future.

HURRIED VISIT

Walter Cummins (Merchandise Manager of Cox Brothers, Launceston) breezed in and—breezed out. Says that he would not leave the “Apple Isle” “for all the tea in China.” But what about all the coal in Newcastle?

ACCIDENT

John Grace, son of our Maitland Manager, was injured in a recent car accident. As John had worked in the store during the Christmas period, we had come to know him well, and staffs everywhere sincerely hope that John’s recovery will be rapid and complete.

COLLINGWOOD CALLING

Through BETTY GALL

(GENERAL OFFICE, FOYS COLLINGWOOD)

WEDDINGS

Miss Valda Polkinghorne, of the Docket Office, was married to Mr. Keith Jones at the Church of England, Greensborough, on 20th December.

Mr. Peter Rodriguez, of the Shipping Office, and assistant to Mr. Bill George, Docket Office, was married to Miss Glenda Dew, of Moorabbin, at St. Patrick’s Cathedral on February 28. Peter is known in the City Store, as he worked in the Menswear, before transferring to Collingwood, a couple of years ago.

The Summer Competition of the Victorian Table Tennis Association ended on 17th December. Foys entered two teams. One was runner up in the D.3 Division. In E.3 our team finished 5th.

Three teams have been entered for the Winter Competition which commences on 24th March.

CRICKET

The boys played three matches. Against Vealls, we lost by 13 runs. In the game against the City Store team, we were defeated by over 100 runs. Vern Craig of the City team was 100 not out. 'Nuf said!

Later we played Dunlop Rubber and won—by ONE RUN!

FOOTBALL

Seems we’re better with a goal than a wicket! The team was undefeated last season. Games were played against Myers, Treadways, Vealls, McEwans and Coles & Garrard. Now we’re on deck to play social matches each fortnight.

LIFE’S WAY

Many people remember Yvonne Manly as Secretary to the Collingwood Store Manager, the position she held when she retired, for marriage, on 9th January, 1958. Some, with longer memories, will recall her as the youngster whose bright smile illuminated the Mail Order Department, when that section was housed in the City Store.

But all will be happy to learn that Yvonne, who is now Mrs. Bill Hays, gave birth to a son on the 26th January.

MADE AND LAID!

Week in, week out, the Carpet Workroom pursues its even way. We don’t find a lot of news there. But there’s a headline now. Norm Wilkins, cheery cutter and layer, is a daddy once more. And the arrival of Julie Ann on 3rd January brings a sisterly interest into the life of young Geoffrey Norman.
AROUND THE CORNER

By JOHN L. CREMEAN
(ASSISTANT STAFF CONTROLLER, FOY & GIBSON LIMITED, MELBOURNE)

He's been greeted so warmly—and so often—on all sides, that a word of welcome hardly applies to our thought for MR. ARTHUR C. ROWE, Buyer of Hosiery and Gloves. Still, greet him we do in this column, for although Mr. Rowe commenced duty in November last, we overlooked his appointment in our notes for the December issue.

The 5th January was a sad day for many people—certainly for all in this store. Colleagues everywhere mourned the death of JAMES THOMPSON LANDERS. Prior to the brief illness he suffered before his death, Jim Landers had worked as a Supervisor in the Mens Store at Bourke street for many years. But his career in Foys was more varied than that. When he joined Foys in 1937, it was as a member of the staff of the Dress Materials. During the war years, however, when so many of the younger executives were engaged elsewhere, Jim Landers became Manager of the Department and held that position until 1948.

He was a man widely experienced in retailing, and during his long life he had worked with many well known department stores. Years ago he served for a time with Robertson and Moffatt, now long since disappeared from the Bourke street scene.

There was a further link between Foys and the Landers family in the person of Mrs. Gladys Landers, his wife, who pre-deceased him. She had worked as a cashier at Foys in Collingwood from 1908 until 1913.

Our deep sympathy is expressed once again to all members of the two families, including the many grandchildren.

Showing no signs, either in manner or movement, of the accident she suffered at home last year, MISS LAURA BENNETT is back in the Travel Goods section. Long may she remain untroubled.

MISS LUCY GOOD of the Frock Department retired after 17 years' fine service with the Company. From her many friends, a beautiful handbag as their farewell gift. Incidentally, Mrs. Good has sought this column to offer her thanks to all concerned for their affectionate thought.

Most of us—and many customers too—look upon genial JOE SHEPPARD as an institution among the elevator drivers. He's certainly been with Foys for a long time. But how many know that for several years before he came to the store, Joe Sheppard worked at Eagley Mills which was owned and operated by Foys prior to 1955?

Nor does Joe Sheppard's versatility end there. Shortly before Christmas we lost the services of the relieving Santa Claus. Into the spare red suit and flowing whiskers stepped Joe Sheppard—and did a marvellous job.

It's still in order to give EDDIE GREELEY of the Dress Materials a pat on the back. This will convey congratulations to him and Mrs. Greeley upon the recent arrival of young Michael Anthony.

Miss Belle Wilson (Manageress Toiletries) shakes the hand of Mr. L. E. Williams and puts a smile on his face as she bids him farewell.

Much sympathy for MARK WILSON, Food Controller, who has had to re-enter hospital for a further operation. He's had more than a fair share of sick bed during recent months, but latest reports are that Mr. Wilson is making good progress.

His career with Foys having spanned many years and much history, ARTHUR SMITH of the Manchester retired on 12th February. Mr. Smith...
joined the Manchester staff in Collingwood in January 1907 and worked there until 1931. When he rejoined Foy's in 1941, he was posted to the City Manchester and remained there until this year. His upright and slim figure belieing his years, Arthur Smith could nevertheless look back a very long way because he's one of that fast-diminishing band of Foy employees who worked alongside the co-founder, William Gibson.

All wish him well in his retirement.

Another man with fine service who also retired in February is Mr. Howard Hutchins of the Carpet Department. He too began his career with Foy's in Collingwood, and except for a break of some 18 months in 1935-37 he would have been with the company for 36 years. As it was, he could proudly claim a fine record of 34 years' service.

May the days ahead be happy for him, as well.

Staff of the Corset Department saw a lovely wedding on 3rd January when Miss Joan Booth of the Salon was married to Mr. Mal Meekle. The wedding was celebrated at Holy Trinity Church, Thornbury. Many others in Foy's know Mr. Thomas' Merchandising Manager of Cox Brothers, and Mr. A. J. Thomas, Merchandise Director of Foy's, are covering much of the globe in search of new merchandise.

WOULD-be tourists from Sheffield arrived to add to the happiness of Ron Duncan, when news came that little Maree Elizabeth had undergone an operation. Current reports indicate good progress.

Wishing you a very happy year ahead, and hoping you'll enjoy a fitter and more comfortable 1980, is the Staff of the Corset Department.

Staff of the Corset Department saw a lovely wedding on 3rd January when Miss Joan Booth was married to Mr. Mal Meekle. The wedding was celebrated at Holy Trinity Church, Thornbury. Many others in Foy's know the bridegroom through his business connections with the company.

The Corset Salon, by the way, shivers when feet are mentioned. No sooner did Mrs. Green-wood and Mrs. Walsh return to work after nursing broken foot bones than Mrs. Murphy had to stay at home with foot trouble. But at least the accident list is down by 50 per cent. We all hope that our three sufferers will soon be able to put their best foot forward.

A further reassurance to Annette Hackett of the Rooftop Cafe of our feeling for her and her father. The latter recently underwent an operation. Current reports indicate good progress.

Smiles throughout the Office on 8th January when news came that little Maree Elizabeth had arrived to add to the happiness of Mr. and Mrs. Ron Duncan. Ron is Office Controller.

May-by staff gave a whoop of joy when Joan Hume returned after two weeks' absence through illness.

CRISS-CROSSING THE GLOBE

On Friday, February 6, two of our executives set off on journeys which will take them to many distant places. Mr. A. E. Brown, Merchandising Manager of Cox Brothers, and Mr. A. J. Thomas, Merchandise Director of Foy's, are covering much of the globe in search of new merchandise.

Jointly they flew to Hong Kong, en route to Tokyo. There their paths diverge. Mr. Thomas' next destination is London. His U.K. business completed, he visits the Continent, then back to London for flight to the U.S. He is due back in Melbourne on June 5, after calls at New York and San Francisco.

Mr. Brown's movements are "clockwise." From Tokyo, he flies to Honolulu. Thence to San Francisco, Los Angeles, Washington and New York. On to London. He will then make many contacts in Continental countries before flying back to Melbourne, where he is expected on June 27.

SO LONG, BILL JENNER!

Even the long lines of fluorescent tubes don't quite make up for the light that went out in one corner of the Mens Store at Foy's, Melbourne Central, on 30th January when Bill Jenner wrote his last docket.

A Mens Store man since 1931, Mr. Jenner was almost a "foundation stone" of this section. As he recalled, the Bourke street store was in course of erection when he joined Foy's. The actual building job was spread over several years because the store was erected in three sections, to permit trading to be carried on. When Bill Jenner started, the Mens Shirt Department was housed in part of the old Orient Hotel, the largest of the former buildings which stood on this site. The bar counters, still in position, had to serve as store counters. Bill Jenner, who is about "five foot something," reckons he just about got his chin over these counters, when serving customers—with shirts, that is.

For shirts and pyjamas were the merchandise that Mr. Jenner handled exclusively, throughout his 28 years with Foy's. He knew all about these garments; in fact, it is doubtful if any other man in Melbourne knew more. As one colleague put it: "He's even an expert on buttonholes." Certain it is that more than one General Manager has been heard to say to his secretary, when leaving his office: "I'm going down to the Mens Store. Have to see Bill Jenner about some shirts."

Now this much-liked colleague has retired. Mr. A. J. Thomas, Merchandise Director, headed the party in the Rooftop Cafe at which management and friends alike assured Bill Jenner of the affection he enjoyed, from all sides. Presented to Mr. Jenner was a wondrous three-light floor lamp and table combination—the gift of the company—and the Company's cheque, just presented to him.

"Give Bill a big hand, boys!" cries Mr. Jack Thomas, Merchandise Director (right), as Mr. Jenner gazes intently at the Company's cheque.
Most stores hold Christmas parties, and nearly all of them give details to "Service." From the view that we might thus be flogging a familiar horse, we could have achieved some distinction by refraining from mentioning our own marvellous celebration last December.

But how could we do such a thing? The Foy-Bilson party has become such a feature of Christmas festivities in Colac that our local paper, the "Herald," devoted 16 inches to its report on our party and splashed the article under a two-column heading!

At this, the second successive gathering of its kind organised on a store-wide basis, some 200 members of the staff and other guests enjoyed a chicken dinner, served buffet style. As host for Management, our General Manager, Mr. L. G. Atyeo, gave special welcome to Mr. J. N. Watt, since appointed Managing Director of Foys. As well, Mr. Watt is a Director of Bilsons Pty. Ltd. Also present were Mr. Alan O. Bilson (another Director of Bilsons) and his brother, Mr. F. O. Bilson.

The meal over, the rest of the evening was devoted to variety entertainment which fell little short of Tivoli standards. Among the many items greatly enjoyed were a piano duet by MARY MEARNS and SADIE PETERSON; "Mental Telepathy," BEVERLEY SHENFIELD and G. PARRY; a female mime by JEFFREY GRAHAM; solos, LES CROFT; strong man act, BILL CATON; dance, JOY EUMAN; piano solo, BOB DOAK; "Marvelous Magician," JEFF GRAHAM; cornet solo, MR. BAKER; leg shows, TODD GUNN, EMILY KERR, GEORGE LIGHT, STEPHANIE KALITSKY; comedy water act, BILL CATON & Co.; comedy act, "Daisy, Daisy," JENNY DAVIS and RAE LEWIS; solo, BEVERLEY SHENFIELD; "The Only Man on the Island," by BILL CATON, with MISSES MARGARET TIBBITS, STEFANIE KALITSKY, BARBARA ALLEN, MONICA MALONE, MAUREEN KLEIN, NOLA LAUREY, JANET NICOLSON, HELEN HAYDEN and MRS. BARBARA OBORNE as the adoring females.

At the end of this happy night Mr. H. Miles, on behalf of the staff, thanked management for its kindness and generosity in providing the good things for this party. He also expressed appreciation to the organising committee and those other helpers in the catering and entertainment fields who had worked so hard to bring pleasure to the rest of their colleagues. The organising committee for the party were Mrs. C. Williams, Mrs. Armstrong, Mrs. Euman, Miss B. Shenfield, Miss J. Bethune, Mr. T. Dowell and Mr. L. Quigley. Mr. L. J. Tully was the chairman.

This gay tableau erected on the verandah of the Foy-Bilson store in Colac last Christmas won the hearts of all local children. Behind the right-hand window of the cottage Santa Claus peeped down. Those are HIS footprints on the roof.

Colac Chronicle

By IRENE TATE
ENGAGEMENT

Many people in Colac, both within the store and without, were made happy by the recent announcement of the engagement of Stefanie Kalitsky (Office) to Mr. Keith Goers, of Tanunda, S.A.

THE HAMS WERE HOISTED!

Novel touch in our Christmas trading was the most enterprising step of hanging hams on a rotary clothes hoist. Food purchasers could see clearly what they were buying—and their attention was drawn at the same time to all the virtues of the clothes line itself.

Chapel Street Chatter

By MARY McCURDY

(FOYS, PRAHRAN)

NEVER A HAPPIER NIGHT!

There have been lots of Christmas parties. And maybe they all follow the same pattern, more or less. But never could one regard a gathering of this kind as “just another party.”

That’s why we register here our still warm memory of Prahran’s Christmas merrymake, held on 16th December. It was a case of “All present” where the store bods were concerned. As well, we had the pleasure of welcoming, as special guests, Mrs. Ivor Jolliffe, wife of our Store Manager, and Messrs. J. N. Watt, A. J. Thomas and Neil Neville, from Bourke street.

Dancing and community singing provided tons o’ fun. Surprise of the night was Jim Eddy (Dress Materials), who sang “Some Enchanted Evening,” and then switched with equal—but appropriate—feeling to “When Irish Eyes Are Smiling.” To cap these splendid renderings Jim added a few fancy steps to the dance. There are those who are prepared to swear that Jim Eddy has legs of indiarubber, which somehow he had managed to conceal from us until then.

The fact that the Christmas pudding was brought from its hidey-hole by Mr. Jolliffe deserves a line to itself.

For the many service etceteras, which added to our enjoyment of this night, the thanks of all are expressed once more to Mesdames Ball, D. Flecknoe and Dorrie Himbury.

THE KIDS SAID “GOOD-OH!”

And to round off, your correspondent writes on behalf of all parents on the Prahran staff to offer their sincere thanks to management for the wonderful combined party for the children of employees, which took place in the City Store. The Mums and Dads enjoyed themselves as much as the youngsters. And when children say “It’s O.K.”—rest assured it must be O.K.

DING! DONG!

That’s the bell noise, of course. NOT a description of married life! Yet to reach the real battling stage are:

Mrs. Joyce Sharp (Jewellery) and Mr. Charles Cox, who were married on 26th December, and,

Joyce Wiffen, Corsets, who was married on 24th January to Mr. Brian Girving, at the Methodist Church, East Brighton.

For Joyce Sharp a parcel of linen. To Joyce Wiffen, gifts of a silver tray and a set of harlequin sweet dishes.

LIFE GOES ON!

Glenys Barratt is still starry-eyed. Sister Elaine has presented her with a niece named Glenda.

Not often that we can catch our Prahran friends in a group. In this bright picture are many well known identities of Foys in Chapel street. “Ring-ins” are first two figures on left, W. Gully (2 i/c Carpets) and Frank Ogle (Grd. Flr. Cont.—partly hidden), both of Bourke street. Then, Ivor Jolliffe (Prahran Manager), Arthur Beveridge (Windows), Mr. L. E. Williams, General Manager, Keith Elliott (Electrical), Mrs. Mary McCurdy (Fancy), Beryl Rowley (Handkerchiefs, etc.), Les Jones (Supvr.), Fred Perry (Soft Furn.), Miss R. Poxon (Hosiery), Harry Watson (Mercery), Miss L. Giles (Manager’s Sec.), Chas. Canham (lifelong Prahran identity, but now of City Store) and T. A. (“Phil”) Garlick (Furn. Cont.). All were guests at the farewell party to Mr. L. E. Williams.
Even more elated is Mr. Tony Pittorino, Boys-wear. A son, Anthony William Donald, was born on 8th January. Congratulations to Pat and Tony, from all at Prahran.

Mr. Don McNeil, Elevators, left early in January. From the staff, a handsome portmanteau, presented by Supervisor, J. Glen Doig.

Newcomer to the "Ups and Downs" Brigade is Mr. Henry Vincent, to whom welcome is hereby renewed.

A picnic hamper was our farewell gift to Mrs. Myra Jordan, Manchester, who left to take up home duties.

Mrs. Anthony of the Office has left. In her place, we welcome Miss Julia Strohhaker.

**ADVERTISING ASSET**

A well known American organisation operating in Australia advertises widely as the "3M Company." Not in opposition, but with equal pride, Foys puts forward its "3M Girl" in the person of Mrs. Margery Matthews, who was appointed Sales Promotion Officer on the 12th January. Not only has Margery Matthews had considerable experience in radio and journalism, but she has been active directly in the retail field, having been a buyer of both Cosmetics and Sportswear at Hicks.

In this lively job of Sales Promotion at Foys Melbourne Central, Mrs. Matthews succeeds Miss Beryl Nagle, who had to resign for health reasons late last year. Good wishes are therefore twofold. For Mrs. Margery Matthews, much success. For Beryl Nagle, a brighter outlook all round as this new year unwinds.

Mistress (engaging chauffeur): "Are you a careful driver?"

Applicant: "Very definitely, Madam. Every accident I've been in has been the other fellow's fault."

**OUR PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE GOOD FRIENDS**

To each issue of "Service" there is invariably a copious flow of photographs, and we thank all those good people who submit these pictures.

In Foys (W.A.) we have as well two sound colleagues who devote much of their time to taking pictures of other people. We think of Mr. S. Willsdon Jones and Mr. Ron Parker of the Perth store.

In Foys, Melbourne, there is no more enthusiastic camera man than Mr. Phil Coach of the Advertising staff. To him are we indebted for the splendid souvenirs of the farewell party for Mr. L. E. Williams, and the excellent shots of "FOYS TIME," which appear in this issue.

Their co-operation and their enthusiasm are warmly appreciated.

**The Quiet Corner**

Just as each day ends, so must Life run its course. We can anticipate the change which midnight brings, because a day, as we know it, is measurable. Life is not. And, in this uncertainty, we tend to rely upon the morrow to renew those joys to which we have become accustomed. Alas for our hopes. For some, each new dawn brings grief. We think, with deep sympathy, of—

Mr. Jack Baker, Manager, Girls Collegewear, in the death of his father.

Mr. Percy Brigham, Elevators, whose mother has died.

Mrs. Audrey Frazer, Accounts Office. Her mother has died.

Mr. Robert Simmons, Maintenance, following the death of his mother.

Each of the above mentioned colleagues works at Foys, Melbourne Central.

"This Will be Done"

On 24th January Miss Jeanette Wiffen (Switchboard) was married to Mr. Malcolm Eden at the Methodist Church, East Brighton. The day was made doubly happy because her sister Joyce, of the staff of Foys, Prahran, was married, same time, same place, to Mr. Brian Girving.

We have said farewell to Mrs. Bill McLennan who, as Lorraine Banfield, was secretary to Mr. Ken James. Homemaking will be Lorraine's full time job, from now on.

Now diligently serving Mr. James is Miss Beverley Knott, who "moved down" from the Buying Office, where she was secretary to Mr. A. S. G. Stevens, Menswear Controller.

Miss Knott's life will be more exciting in Miss Knott's life. More recently she announced her engagement to Mr. Bob Kennedy.

Appointed secretary to Mr. Stevens is Miss Rosemary Valpy.

Other newcomers welcomed are Miss Helen Rice, Share Department, and Miss Margaret Gable.

A word of welcome due also to Mr. Ted Catlin. Recently retired as Buyer of Menswear, Cox Brothers, Hobart, Mr. Catlin is "lending a hand"
to Mr. Vic. Warne whilst the latter battles on with added responsibilities during the absence, abroad, of Mr. A. E. Brown, Merchandising Manager.

From all at "75," affectionate thoughts for Mr. Vernon Tilley, the Company's secretary. On medical advice, he's taking an extended holiday. If we could drink a toast, it would be simply: "Good health!"

Mr. and Mrs. John Watts after their wedding in December last. Friends at Cox-Eco Perth knew the bride as Jean Soothill, Secretary to Mr. Ron Gummow, Deputy Manager.

Well known at Cox-Eco Perth are Bertie Gillam, Edna Perry and Rose Rothery. All are buyers, their departments being laces, handbags and millinery respectively.

Miss Helen Price of South Perth with fiancee Brian Jones of the Manchester, Foys, W.A. Their engagement was announced on 14th December.

Meet a lot of Newcastle friends! Here gathered at the store Christmas party are, 1 to r, Tony Smith (Office), Barb Lawson (ex Office), Alan Grieve (Manchester), Delma Smith (Mr. Tonks' Sec.), Jim Darroch and Joan Pascoe (both visitors), Judith Grieve and Ron Grieve (Mercery Buyer), Diane Gordon and Robert Kitcher (both visitors), Joan Petrie (Accessories Buyer) and Max Curram (another visitor).
Library Digitised Collections

Author/s:
Foy & Gibson

Title:
Foy & Gibson newsletters

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Service no.60 February 1959