A Christmas Message from the Managing Director

Again this year I am privileged to use a section of the Christmas edition of our News Service to endeavour to make more personal contact with you, and to wish you and your families happiness and good cheer for the festive season. This seems to be the only way of attempting to do during the hectic week or two before Christmas Day. Nevertheless during this period I hope to be visiting all our Stores, and will see many of you personally.

The year ahead of us well indeed be a challenging one, and with competition as it is, we should develop with it. It is well to remember, however, that we spend so many of our waking hours in the company of our colleagues in business, and each needs the other’s help, both on a personal and a commercial basis. So many friendships are made and developed, and it is important in times of stress be able to rely on them. This, I am sure, has been your experience, and I am delighted to have this opportunity of thanking you as I do now for the part that you have played, and the loyalty that you have shown during 1964 in particular.

Competition is a great stimulant, and friendships are great insurance, and with these two factors so much a part of our life we must confidently look to 1965 as an interesting and rewarding year.

I do hope that you and your families derive full benefit from the happiness and joy which pervades the Christmas period, and that the New Year endows you with good health and success.

For a number of the Institutions, Foys provided the transport and — for all the guests involved — happy memories of the day. Mornings, drinks, baloons, fairy floss, and gravy bagedges were available without charge.

It would be inviabed to single out any particular person, or persons, as most responsible for these great events in the sombre lives of the little ones. It suffices to state that all who participated in any way in prolocating the two functions were amply rewarded by the laughter and joy of the children.

And — just a passing thought — Foys is mighty proud to provide this treat every year for these young Australians. It seeks to do its bit, in the best way, for the under-privileged of our City, and from Orphanages, Nurseries, Homes for Neglected Children, and from Orphanages.

A MORSHEADS GIRL TO REPRESENT TRADERS

A signal honor has come to Morsheads, Miss Lorraine Dobyns, of the Cosmetics Department, who has been selected from eight other competitors to be "Miss Bridge Street Traders".

The competition is being promoted to raise funds for the Ballarat Orphanage Centenary Rebuilding Appeal, and all staff wish Lorraine all the best in her essay.
CLASSIFIED
ENGAGEMENTS
Sincere congratulations are conveyed to the following staff members whose engagements have been recently announced:—
Miss Joan Francisco, Merchandise Office, City Store, and Mr. Wayne Robinson.
Miss Fayc Raymond, Frock Department, City Store, and Mr. Robert Humphries.
Miss Kay Bath, Corset Department, Brights, Geelong, and Mr. Colin Williams.
Miss Dawn Watts, daughter of Mrs. Peggy Watts, Manageress, Maids' Department, Brights, and Mr. Lawrence De Grandi.
Miss Irene Payser, General Office, Brights, and Mr. Ronald Plumbidge.
Miss Lorraine Rees, Confectionery, Morsheds, Ballarat, and Mr. Lloyd Harvey.
Miss Barbara Pollinghouse, Underwear, Morsheds, and Mr. Henry Fraser.
Miss Rita Langin, Downtstairs Office, Bowring's, Mildura, and Mr. Bob Chase.
Miss Fay Cordingley, Morah Salon, Store, Bowrings, and Mr. Malcolm Jenzen.
Miss Pat Greer, Travellers' Office, and Mr. Geoff Bowen.
MARRIAGES
Every good wish for future happiness, health and prosperity to the following people who recently celebrated their marriages:—
Miss Montfoot, Hosery Department, Brights, Geelong, and Mr. P. O'Brien.
Miss Colleen Murphy, Tick's Office, Brights, and Mr. W. Ellis.
Miss Gloria Cotter, Jewellery Department, Brights, and Mr. Emmanuel Aquilina.
Miss Mari Struyker, Manufactory Workroom, Brights, and Mr. R. Deutalo.
Miss Margaret Elsberry, Fancy Goods Department, Myers (Bendigo), and Mr. Vic McLeay.
Miss Kay Sellwood, Display Department, Morsheds, Ballarat, and Mr. Ian McMultien.
Miss Pauline Hunter, Fancy Department, Morsheds, and Mr. Russell Pike.
BIRTHS
Foy's "News Service" extends its best wishes to the following parents who were recently blessed with additions to their respective families:—
Mr. and Mrs. E. W. George, a daughter (Fiona Mary). The proud father is Manager, Docket Office, Collingwood.
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Costelloe, Myers (Bendigo), a daughter (Joanne Elysie).
Mr. and Mrs. Miss Rule, Myers (Bendigo), a son (Brett Antony).
Mr. and Mrs. Barry Walder, a daughter (Melissa Gay). Mr. Walder is employed at the Merbein Store of Bowrings.
OBITUARY
With very great pleasure, we record the fact that no bereavements were reported to "NEWS SERVICE" during the month.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
At the request of the staff member named in this column, we convey to all readers and colleagues the following messages of appreciation:—
From Mrs. Bailey, of Ladies' Suits, City Store, for the many kind messages and "Get Well" cards received during her recent illness.
From Miss Shirley Hurry, Cosmetics, Prahran Store, and Mrs. Alma Thomas, Corset Salon, Prahran, for the kind messages sent to both during recent illnesses.
A SEASONAL THOUGHT
Say the magic word — "Christmas" — and immediately loving visions are conjured up.
Nowadays, when we understand so much, and have faith in so little, even miracles seem completely out of date. There are few mysteries left to solve, and yet the greatest miracle of all.
When a Man came from nowhere with a Message, never wrote a word of it to be preserved, taught it only to groups of needy illiterate people, never travelled further than 10 miles from His native village, and said all He had to say within the space of three brief years, He completely changed the world.
This is what we celebrate — This is Christmas.
THE MAGIC CAVES OF 1964
Ever since Foy's "News Service" made its opening how to an appreciative audience, we have never failed to make some reference at Christmas time to the animated tableaux that have been amongst Foy's many contributions to the spirit of the Festive Season.
This year we are privileged to make a similar reference. The famous Roof Top Caves in this year of Grace — 1964 — carry out, in faithful detail, the glowing story of "Puss-In-Boots". Ten magnificent window presentations diverge excerpts from the ever-attractive story.
In sequence, the windows convey the various episodes, viz.:—
Bel (the master) and Puss on a pair of boots; Puss traps a rabbit; Puss presents the rabbit to the King; Puss accompanies the King and his daughter on a riverside drive; Puss saves his master from embarrassment; Puss destroys the Giant's Castle; The Giant changes to a lion; The Giant changes to a mouse and is despatched by Puss; Puss welcomes the King, his daughter and his own master, to the Castle; And Puss becomes Chief Minister of the Kingdom.
Each one of the many figures, and of the settings in the series, is made to meticulous scale and the rich Oriental dressing of all of the animated characters is a veritable triumph.
Lighting effects, and the marvellous landscapes, leave nothing to be desired. The designer of the tableaux was Mr. Ken Bandman, Display Controller, and full credit goes to this gentleman, to all of the members of the Display Staff, to the electricians and to the seamstress who faithfully carried out the far-reaching plans.
Let it be truthfully stated that the 1964 Cave reproduction conforms — and in some ways, even excels — the mighty spectacles of previous years.
BENDIGO V. BALLARAT AT CRICKET
A matter of sporting interest is the fact that the first cricket match Myers (Bendigo) and our colleagues from Morsheds of Ballarat.
A very even battle saw Bendigo successful by the narrow margin of 15 runs. Details are as follows:—
MYERS: 115 runs (Max Boyle, John Stead 20, Peter Bower 21, Bob Watson 6, Lewis (Ballarat) 5 wickets.
MOIRHEADS: 100 runs (Gordon Boyle (Bendigo) 4 wickets.
The match was played at Maryborough, from all accounts, players and spectators had a most enjoyable day.
CITY

Many "welcome backs" have been given Mrs. Margaret Bailey, who resumed duty after a long absence on sick leave. This popular lady was saying "An Revoir" to a friend about to proceed on a long voyage overseas, when she had the misfortune to fall and break her arm.

We’re glad to report that Mrs. Bailey has made a good recovery from her accident.

A REAL HARD LUCK STORY

Of all the hard luck stories of the year, this one must take some beating!

For quite a time, Miss Symons and girls from the Third Floor have formed a syndicate of eight, and have purchased a weekly ticket in Sydney’s £100,000 Opera House lottery. Early in November, the syndicate was advised that it had missed the colossal First Prize by ONE NUMBER.

Although the consolidation prize of three tickets in the next Lottery was acceptable, the thought of "what might have been" is still with the unlucky investors.

Mr. Bert Raffin is absent on sick leave at the present time, and all staff wish the gentleman a speedy and permanent recovery.

Miss Judith Watson, of Merchandise Control, celebrated her 21st birthday on 11th November. Judi tells us that the occasion was a party at her home, and from all accounts, this was an outstanding success. Heartiest congratulations, Judith.

THIS IS THE SITE FOR A PICNIC

Although the Combined Staff Picnic is still a "long way off", the selected venue of Maddington Park, Barcaldin Marsh, has already been scrutinized by a representative of the Social Club (Mr. Reg Myers) with a keen and critical eye.

Reg states that the Park is a perfect setting for a Picnic, and we must agree with his opinion.

We now present a gracious letter from an appreciative customer.

A GRACEFUL LETTER FROM AN APPRECIATIVE CUSTOMER

Although it’s not usual, we feel that the letter we have the privilege of publishing in this issue of "News Service" is a very real stimulus to our customer service and one that clearly shows how efficient attention receives prompt recognition.

Here is a copy of a letter received by our Managing Director during the month.

"Landscape", Tallarook.

Dear Sir,

I hope you will not think I am wasting your valuable time, but I should like to thank you for your courteous and encouraging letter. Please accept my warmest thanks, and may Foy’s, with its helpful, cheerful and efficient staff, remain the friendly Store it has always been.

A Happy and a Prosperous Christmas.

Yours faithfully,

(D. A. ALLSHORN)

PRAHRAN

New staff welcomed during the month were Mr. Vern Tobin (Furniture) and Mr. J. Schwartz ( Carpets). To them both, we wish a happy and prosperous future at Foy’s.

We’re sorry to report that three estimable people, well and favorably known to Prahran staff, have had the misfortune to undergo operations.

They were Mrs. Lucas (Cafe), Mrs. Campbell (Switchboard) and Miss June Myers, daughter of Mr. Reg Myers, Mail Order.

With some pleasure, however, we report the fact that all are making excellent recoveries. Our good wishes go to the three persons concerned.

Mrs. Fay Brown, of the Office, registered an excellent performance in the leading role of the play "Paint Your Wagon". All members of the staff who witnessed Fay’s performance agreed that the young lady was an outstanding success.

COLAC

The small budget of news from Colac is concerned with staff movements during the month. Details are as follows:

New Stagers: Mr. P. O. Scammell (Men’s Wear), Mrs. McInnes ( Haberdashery), Miss D. Martino (Haberdashery) and Mr. L. Spokes (Furniture).

To them all, a hearty welcome to Foy-Bilsen's.

On Holidays
Mr. B. John (Office) who is spending his vacation in Adelaide.
On Sick Leave
Mr. F. Duncombe (Men’s Wear). To this gentleman our best wishes for a speedy and permanent recovery.

GEELONG

A WELL-KNOWN PERSON AT GEELONG

November saw the spectacular arrival of our old friend Father Clancy, now an elderly gentleman arrived in Toyland on Gala Day, and was enthusiastically greeted by hundreds of starry-eyed youngsters.

Santa’s home this year is an enchanted castle where he sits upon an imposing throne gaily dispensing good cheer to his multitudes. No doubt he is considering seasonable toys for orders.

Staff movements during the month were as follows:

New Arrivals:
Miss Dianne Beckley (General Office).
Mrs. E. Salmond (Frocks).
Mrs. J. Carty (Jewellery).
Mrs. W. Vaugan (Furniture).
Miss F. Wilkes (Cosmetics) and Mr. M. Sefton (Men’s Wear).

To these newcomers Brights give a hearty welcome.

Return From Sick Leave:
Miss Noel Gaylard (Women’s Shoes) has returned to duty after her sojourn in hospital and all staff are delighted to note the lady’s complete recovery.

On Sick Leave:
Mrs. Wendy Symons (School Wear) and Miss Mary Xouris (Hosier) are both in hospital for appendix operations at the present time.

To both young ladies we convey our best wishes for their speedy and permanent recoveries.

We make a special note to convey our deep sympathy to Miss Mirrenwey on her recent accident. The accident was a serious one and she sustained severe head injuries. All staff join in conveying condolences to this popular young lady, coupled with the sincere hope that she will be speedily and safely through her present misfortune.

BENDIGO

The bowling "bug" has severely bitten three of our respected colleagues in the persons of Mr. K. Seconbee (Manchester), Mr. J. Douglas (Men’s Wear) and Mr. J. Burns (Controller).

Greatly aided by the advice and tuition given by two confirmed Store devotees, each one of the three recruits bids fair to becoming an expert in the particular game being espoused.
TABLE TENNIS TEAM CONTINUES ITS SUCCESS

It's interesting to record that Myers table tennis team is still on top of the ladder in the Bendigo "C" Grade competition.

Up to now, the team is undefeated, and there is every reason to believe that the proud record will be maintained for the rest of the season.

A most interesting night was spent at Myers during the month, when Mr. W. B. Bowring, Managing Director of the great Mildura Store, gave a vivid, and racy, account of his recent world trip.

Although the accent was naturally, on retelling, the many incidents recounted by Mr. Bowring made an excellent night. A welcome comment on the appreciative audience was the presence of Mr. Lev Dunn, Managing Director of Morsheads, who was accompanied by a number of other staff members from Ballarat.

MILDURA

CAR TRAIL AND BARBECUE A SUCCESS

The Social Club recently promoted a Car Trail and Barbecue, and the event turned out to be a great success.

Results of the trail were: 1st, Mrs. Norma Atkin, with co-navigators Mrs. Margaret Cox and Mrs. Lois Green (all of the Grocery Department); 2nd, Mr. Geoff Lamb, who chauffeured his navigator, 3rd Mr. John York (representative from the Hardware Department).

The barbecue at the end of the Trail was voted by all to have been something really special.

Mr. W. B. Bowring, Managing Director, entertained staff in the Valencia Room during the month, and gave a most interesting account of incidents, and impressions of his recent overseas tour.

Mrs. Jean Challen, a popular staff member, recently spent some time as a patient at the Base Hospital. We're glad to report, however, that the lady has made a good recovery from her indisposition.

New staff welcomed during the month were: Miss Rhonda Lacey (Haberdashery), and Mr. Tom Gledhill (Manchester).

We regret to advise that Mr. W. C. ("Bill") Bowring is an inmate of the Base Hospital at the present time. To this popular executive officer, we extend our commiserations, coupled with all good wishes for a speedy and permanent recovery.

BALLARAT

There were some welcome additions to Morshead's staff during November. These were staff from the recently-closed Cox Bros.' Ballarat Store, and were as follows.—

Mr. H. Hocking (Garpets) and Miss B. Chester (Ladies' Shoes).

To the three people, a hearty welcome to, and a happy future at, Fray's.

Return From Sick Leave

Miss Lynn Bell (Ladies' Shoes), Mr. Ron Harris (Piece Goods), and Mr. Girvan Patterson (Men's Wear).

We're glad to note that each of the foregoing staff have made excellent recoveries from their indispositions.

During October, a Night Car Trail was promoted by the Social Club. The route traversed was through the Ballarat district to Lake Burrowmeent — a distance of 30 miles.

Results of the Trail were:
1st, Mr. A. Black; 2nd, Mr. J. Tweedale; 3rd, Mr. V. Coppley.

With deep sympathy we convey our condolences to the following drivers who finished as our correspondent states — in the "Bogged, bushed and bewildered class": Mr. F. Shearer, Mr. P. Fyffe and Mr. J. Jennings.

With charming diplomacy, the report on the cricket match against Myers of Bendigo refrain from giving the scores, or the final result.

This omission, however, is rectified by the report from Myers itself, and although this shows that Morsheads lost a very keen tussle, it is agreed by all that a great time was had by the participants.

Ballarat is now hoping for a return match, and we are assured that the previous result is certain to be reversed.

DANDENONG

Staff movements during the month were as follows:

Return From Leave

Mrs. Lindsay, Mr. Sheildrick.

Return From Sick Leave

Miss M. Higman.

Mr. P. Batten sustained a nasty accident to his knee whilst playing football, and this necessitated an operation. Although our friend has not yet resumed duties, latest report is to the effect that he is making an excellent recovery.

CHADSTONE

Mr. Chris Farnham (Ground Floor Groop) attained the age of 21 years during the month. The occasion was fittingly celebrated by a party at the home of Chris’s parents, and a number of Store colleagues were amongst the many guests at a gay and festive gathering.

New Staff

Mrs. N. Greenman (Furniture).

Mr. W. B. Bowring, Managing Director of the great Morsheads, gave a vivid, and racy, account of his recent world trip.

The tentative changeover date for most businesses will be announced by the Government in the near future. On this date it is expected that a good proportion of the community will start to operate on decimals.

MAKING SENSE FROM PENNIES TO CENTS (PART 2)

The rapid expansion of the Australian economy in the 1950’s sparked off a new interest in the principle of decimal currency, and in February, 1959, the Commonwealth Treasurer announced the appointment of a Decimal Currency Committee to advise on how and when and on what terms the reform should be effected.

The Decimal Currency Committee of seven members, headed by Mr. Walter Scott, C.M.G., presented its report in August, 1960. It reached the conclusion that the adoption in Australia of a decimal currency based on the 10/- cent system was desirable. The Committee estimated the cost of converting monetary machines which would be economically worthwhile converting, and it also established a blueprint for the changeover process.

The Committee’s report, which covered all aspects of its terms of reference, was considered by the Government who reaffirmed its belief in the principle of adopting decimal currency in Australia.

Two outstanding Government compensation matters remained to be resolved. They were the nature of compensation for machine conversion costs, and the possibility of reforming the coinage system itself.

On coinage, it had long been evident that changes were necessary in the composition and, in some cases, the size of coins, irrespective of any decision on decimal currency. By world standards, the existing pennies and half-pennies were too large and heavy, and with the rapid rise in the world price of silver and copper, it was unviable to continue production of the existing silver and copper coins.

Late in 1962, the Government received a report on these outstanding matters, and a Cabinet Committee on Coinage was formed. In April, 1963, the Cabinet Committee’s recommendations were made public. It determined the decimal units to be used; a principle was established for compensation to a large proportion of owners of machines requiring conversion; and the appointment of a Decimal Currency Board was approved.

The Decimal Currency Board was charged with overall supervision and liaison. It was to act as an advisory body on major financial issues and to implement decisions by the Government on these matters. The Board was also required to keep itself informed of planning for the changeover in all sections of the community and to advise whenever it could, with such arrangements.

The task of changing to decimal currency is an immense one and, to some degree, will affect every person, firm or body in the country. Because of the size and complexity of the task — more than 350,000 monetary machines alone will require converting, and a completely new system of coinage and notes will have to be minted and printed — a fairly lengthy preparatory period is necessary.

The only organizations which will be required to change to decimal currency on changeover day will be banks. Present plans are for all banks to close for three or four days prior to the changeover date. During this time they will close off their pounds, shillings and pence accounts, convert all balances to decimals, and open on the changeover date.

From the changeover date, all banks will be required to change to written in decimal currency but, during the transition period, they will supply exchange points, and change coins to up to 10/-, and notes to up to 100 cents.

The basic unit of the new decimal currency will be the dollar. The dollar will be equal in value to 10/- and made up of 100 cents. As in the case of sterling, notes will be issued in various denominations — one, two, ten, and twenty dollars.

There will be six coins in the new decimal currency system: 50 cent, 20 cent, 10 cent, 5 cent, 2 cent and one cent pieces.

(To be continued)
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