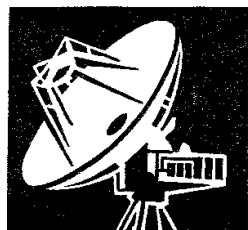


RESEARCH LAB REPORTER



PRODUCED BY RESEARCH LABORATORIES, 59 LITTLE COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE

"RESEARCH LAB REPORTER"

Research Laboratories
"Open Days"



Our "Open Days" are planned for September 15th - 18th, 1969, inclusive, when the Laboratories will be open continuously from 10 am to 4.30 pm. The morning of the 15th is reserved for members of an official party hosted by the Director-General and the whole of the 18th will be reserved for students.

The success of this function is dependent upon YOUR co-operation and assistance in the work to be done in preparing the exhibits, conducting the demonstrations and providing the services and facilities to care for the general public, our friends and colleagues.

This is our opportunity to demonstrate and describe our achievements and objectives to people who are interested and you are asked to advise your Sub-sectional Clerk the names of those whom you would like to invite. Arrangements are in hand to publish a most descriptive brochure, a copy of which will be forwarded with each invitation.

It is almost nine years since a similar function of this nature was conducted by the Laboratories. Let's ensure that our efforts will far surpass those of 1960!!



2.

Personal Glimpses.

Leonard Michael Harris, B. Sc., F.A.D.G. Planning and Research

It is not unusual in an organisation as large as the Australian Post Office for many officers to be in the position of knowing their Divisional Head in name only, yet never having the opportunity of seeing him "in the flesh". This is not the case, however, for the majority of members of the Research Laboratories.

Mr. Harris commenced with the Department as a Cadet Engineer in June 1926. After graduating as Bachelor of Science in Physics at the University of Melbourne, he joined the Research Laboratories to work in the field of line communications. Except for a break of six years (1955 - 1961) on long line equipment work, he remained with the Laboratories, taking charge of its operations in 1961. In 1964, he was promoted to the position of First Assistant Director-General, Planning and Research, which position he still holds.

Mr. Harris has led delegations to C.C.I.F. and C.C.I.T.T. Conferences and also attended the Commonwealth Conference on Satellite Communications held in London in 1962. In 1963 he led a delegation to the Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference on Frequency Allocation for Space Systems and Radio Astronomy held in Geneva by the International Telecommunications Union.

To most of us "L.M.H." is a familiar figure but these days, unfortunately, due to heavy commitments, his visits from the Ivory Tower are restricted to official tours or farewell functions for old colleagues.

* * * * *

3.

Presentation to Lord Casey

To mark the occasion of his visit to the Laboratories last August, the following letter was sent to Lord Casey by the Director-General:-

"In August of last year, you visited my Department for the express purpose of inspecting the Departmental Research Laboratories.

The occasion was one of considerable significance and honour for the Department as a whole and especially so for the people in our Laboratories whose work you inspected. Their pleasure at the visit, and the stimulation they received from it, was further supplemented by the interest and professional understanding which you displayed in our research activities.

Naturally enough the visit was referred to in the Post Office Annual Report for 1967/68. I would like you to accept a souvenir copy of the Report, and specimens of the stamps featured on its cover, together with an album of photographs recording your tour through the Laboratories.

It is our hope that these mementoes will bring to mind in the future one of the small, and we trust, pleasant episodes in your distinguished service as Governor-General."

* * * * *

Assignments

Overseas

Bill Otto, Communication Electronics has just returned from a visit to Texas, London, Paris, Amsterdam, Eindhoven, Darmstadt, Ulm, Munich, New York and Holmdel. The main purposes of Bill's visit were to study and assess present and future trends in communications in regard to the transmission of voice, high speed data and television phone signals and to attend the I.E.E.E. International Symposium in Microwave Theory and Techniques and the I.E.E.E. International Communications Conference.

* * * * *

Eric Craig, Advanced Techniques departed early this month, his main ports of call being Ottawa and Washington. Eric will attend and participate in the International Working Party set up by C.C.I.R. Study Group IV to consider the technical factors governing the use of the geo-stationary satellite orbit in addition to attending the 31st Meeting of the Technical Sub-Committee of I.C.S.C.

During his stay in Washington, he will have discussions with Brian Perkins regarding plans for future satellite communication experiments.

* * * * *

"Nullaboria" or "Dits from the Donga"
by Jack "Dusty" Reen

Scene: A blasted heath. Stunted tree and salty bush. Thru pitchy nightglimmers a faery palace, shimmering, eerie. Rich carpets, gentle lights, witching music.

The New Eucla Motel, W.A. - and the beer still on

Enter out of the night, from their horseless carriage:-

Able	- An Admiral	}	Officers of the Queen's Electroneers
Baker	- A Captain		
Charlie	}	Gentlemen of the Field Force	
Easy			
Fox	- An intrepid birdman, coachman to Able and Baker.		

Able, Baker. - Ancients, balding, cynical of eye, come to see that the Queen's Gold be not illspent in this Venture, that the Decibels so hard won be straight and true, with more height and gain in the height-gain curves than e'er before.

Charlie, Easy - Young, fresh from field victories, having wrestled with Nature and subdued her. One bearded like the pard, one parky, from having trained his catapult over 56 leagues and hit Mallabie smack on (aligned without signal, nice surveying, Lyle!)

Dog - Asleep in bar corner.

They enter the Unbelievable Inn, summoning a serving wench strapping, comely, indiscreetly bodiced.

One speaks:-

"Three beds, girl, and vittles."

Wench: "Can give yers a double and a single and Cook's just cleaned down the stove so steak's off."

Able, Baker, Fox:

"A double, 'tis hazardous beyond the call of duty."

Wench: "Might find a folder in the storeroom."

A folding cot is arranged. Fox graciously accepts same. Vittles are brought (meat pies with inbedded ice crystals).

Fox: Dreaming yet of wrestling with Nature, plots a campaign.

Ploy 1 Chair edged into aisle, wench squeezeth by.

Fox: " 'Tis lonely in this accurst place?"

Wench: "Yus."

Ploy 2 Looks vacant

Fox: "My room number has slipped my mind. Knowst thou it?"

Wench: "Arf a tic, I'll look up book."

Baker: Having won double bed, ponders strategy to retain vacant possession.

Roll of drums off

Enter a strappy fellow, rude, lusty (from his semi-trailer). He rivets wench with steely eye, continuing thus immobile for several minutes. A strange electricity leaps between.

Fox: " 'T' was a tiring day, a good night to you, sires - I'll to my folding cot."

Exits

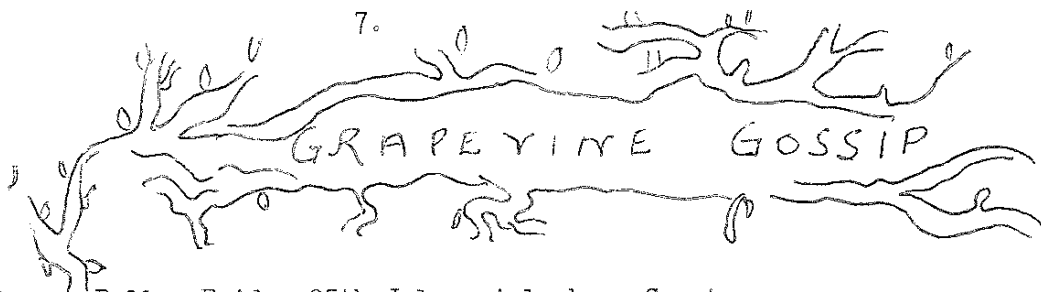
EPILOGUE:

And lo, beyond the witchy hour, wench and this rude fellow sat in the dim hall and played patience. And fox slept in his trundle bed. And Charlie and Easy pointed their Rover to Mallabie S.A. And whilst sweeping onwards through the dewy morn, a carriage wheel bounded up and by them, and disappeared into the gloom. With the red hot end of the flactured axle glowing like a ruddy rocket.

And so the West was won and that harsh land bent to Man's Will (bar for Fox). And in the calm dawn, that Land yielded its crop of fat big Decibles, fair and true.

And the three-legged carriage limped to Tottenham Auctions.

* * * * *



Supper Ball - Friday 25th July - Aylesbury Court

Arrangements are well underway for the Ball Committee's second venture of providing mid year entertainment for past and present members of the Labs. Should you know of any past member whom you think may be interested, contact Ash Conroy 7904 and he will see that they are suitably advised.

Despite the "cloak and dagger" person in Block C who is busying himself in destroying or defacing the Ball Posters, the Committee has received bookings from 340 (already an increase of 30% on 1968). This function shows promise of exceeding the good time we enjoyed last year. The location features a large dance floor; dancing until 2.00am with a sleep-in on Saturday and there is a feast of prizes to be won.

* * * * *

David Richards, Lines and Switching Library has a double role as he belongs to the Viaduct Players who are enjoying playing to packed houses with "A Man for all Seasons."

* * * * *

Is there some kind of contest being waged in the Switching area or who is Wragging who? Appears Nifty Norman went to the same salesman at the same firm to purchase a Falcon similar to his boss's. Perhaps John Lewis is after a more comfortable ride to work each morning.

* * * * *

Congratulations to Bernie Smith, Transmission, who received his Ph. D on 7th May at the University of Adelaide. This unassuming crow-eater not only possesses a fine academic brain but also argues the merits of Melbourne footballers and seems to know more about their talents than the average local supporter.

Also to John Semple, Radio Systems who has been advised of his

Degree of Master of Engineering Science at the University of Melbourne.

* * * * *

Alan O'Rourke took a quick look at the required duties of the Information Officer and decided he needed three weeks in sunny Queensland to fortify him for the job ahead. After hearing of his adventures of towing a caravan inland through three States, it's no wonder some folks prefer to jet away for a brief rest.

* * * * *

A warm welcome is extended to Robin Blair, Radio Systems, who has been promoted from Queensland but is not over-impressed with our Melbourne weather.

Also to Greg Martin who has returned from New Zealand after two years L.W.O.P. during which time he successfully completed an M. Sc. Eng. at the University of Canterbury. Greg also spent a fair amount of his leisure moments scaling the surrounding mountains and indulging in many miles of bush-walking.

* * * * *

Greetings to our new starters amongst whom are Faye Richardson, Diane Ellard, Garry Lee, Greg Walsh, Roger Gosney, Tony Bundrock, Jim English and Harold Gielewski.

* * * * *

In answer to many enquiries, it is not true that we have two new members in the Labs. Executive Group. They are out two old stagers returned home again - Svend Dossing (from the Administrative Staff College) and Albert Seyler (from furlough and also a short term with Bell Labs.) Incidentally, if you want any trees lopped on your properties, consult Svend who is fast becoming an expert with a chain saw.

* * * * *

It is with great sadness we farewell Block A's paragon of pulchritude (Mrs.) Sylvia Drummond on 20th June. Now that hubby, Ian, has returned to civvy life after his tour of Vietnam, Sylvia has decided to obtain a secretarial position closer to home so that she can more easily cope with her household chores. Her typing efficiency and pleasant personality will leave a big gap in our ranks.

* * * * *

Saw Vin Roche, Transmission, taking home two mousetraps following his scare while watching T.V. the other evening. However, he still hasn't figured out a suitable snare for those Sunday morning pink elephants.

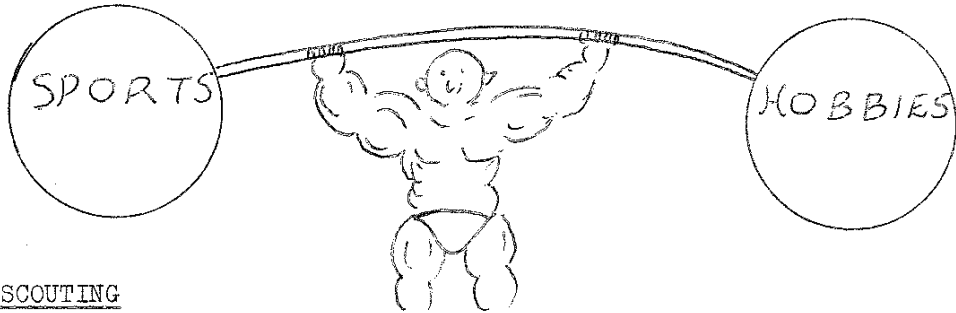
* * * * *

Bon voyage to Ros. Whitton, Main Library, who is taking a few weeks leave to fly to Ceylon. Any advice on the type of wardrobe a gal needs for such a trip would be appreciated.

* * * * *

As we go to press we are all concerned with the unfortunate accident suffered by Rod Higgs when driving home on the evening of 29th May. Get a move on Rod and make that quick recovery for those wedding bells in September.

* * * * *



SCOUTING

Congratulations to the "quiet man" Ed Sandbach, A.D.G. Apparatus and Services who was presented with the Medal of Merit by the Governor, Sir Rohan Delacombe, at a recent reception of distinguished people in the Scouting movement.

Ed has devoted his time in Scouting to leading the Rover Section, the oldest group of boys in uniform. He is Assistant Area Commissioner for Rovers. An expert mountaineer and skier, he has led many organised hiking and skiing parties to many little known parts of Victoria as well as taking a leading part in the Scouts' Rover Section ski hostel at Warburton and Mt. Baw Baw and in maintaining the Mt. Bogong Chalet.

* * * * *

At the same Government House reception a Certificate for Good Service was awarded to Gwynne, wife of Bob Kett, Telephony. Gwynne is an Assistant Commissioner for Training at Scout headquarters and also holds a second warrant, that of Assistant Cub Master of 4th Malvern, a position she has held since 1954. We sympathise with you Bob - another husband who is easily tied up in knots, no doubt.

* * * * *

GOLF

Frank Arter, General Services, has joined that immortal band of the "Hole in one-ers" - not once but TWICE - in three weeks. These phenomena took place at the Royal Cow Paddock, Waverley (3rd and 12th greens). On both occasions, Frank used his favourite "chipper" (a No. 5½ iron) to perform the feat. Despite Alva Allen's claim that he is the reigning champion, Frank is adamant that his efforts have warranted his taking over the title.

* * * * *

SAILING

"Aye Aye Skipper" - a familiar enough term used on ships and in naval establishments but not the words you would expect to hear around our Laboratories. Nevertheless, this saying is quite common in the Equipment Development area since the old salt Les Murfett has been elected Commodore of the recently formed Preston Yacht Club.

Heartiest congratulations Les (sorry - Commodore) from we land-lubbers of the Labs who have always been aware of the smooth sailing of your crew. It is still safe for us to sail our boats on Edwardes Lake?

* * * * *

SNOOKER TOURNAMENT

The sign of a misspent youth. With a \$10 side bet hanging on the result, a hushed audience at the "Golden Cue" watched the exciting battle of Frank Hanratty - Doug Wilson versus Kevin French - Steve Mihajlovic

This particular establishment provides a "coin-in-the-slot" arrangement and after 30 minutes when the lights went out Frank and Doug had won by amassing a score (?) of 22-19.

* * * * *

LAPIDARISTS

The Victorian Division of the Australian Postal Institute has established a Lapidary Club and is inviting members who are prepared to join in this popular, rewarding and interesting hobby.

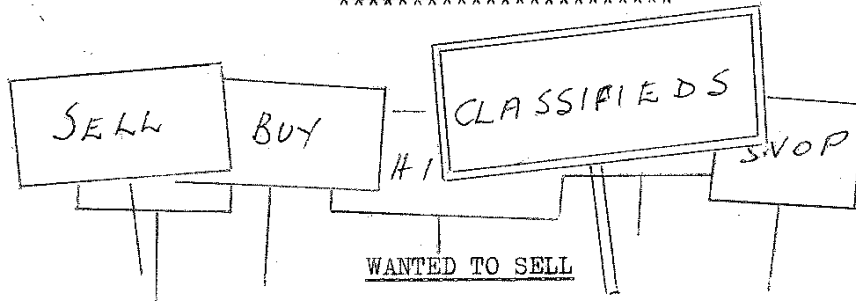
The Club offers a well equipped work room, instructive lectures, regular outings to various gemstone localities and an up-to-date library.

This is a hobby which is of interest to all of the family and the Lapidary Club extends an invitation to any prospective members, to visit their workroom on any Wednesday evening, 2nd Floor, 666 Bourke Street, Melbourne.

* * * * *

FOOTBALL

Congratulations again to Kevin Bartlett who gained selection in the Victorian team to compete in the Australian National Football Championship to be held in Adelaide this month. Cheer up! Tiger supporters you had your moment of glory in 1967.



Moulds for making skin diving weights - 4 available @ \$1.50 each.

Eric Dodge 6876

12" L.P. Records (Mostly mono) Show scores and light orchestral, including G. & S. excerpts. Mint condition. Reasonable offers accepted. Details of titles, etc. available from :-

Peter Ramsden 7991

Camera-Enlarger - Thornton - Pickard $\frac{1}{4}$ plate camera. F6.8 Ross 7 in compound homocentric lens - gives exceptionally flat field. Extension bellows allows close-ups - ideal for copying work. Complete with 5 double side plate holders and tripod. Also a complete set of aluminium castings suitable for converting into an enlarger. Some machining of castings would be necessary. \$20.00 the lot.

Ken Keir 7991

WANTED TO BUY

Baby's High Chair, in good condition

David Mattiske 6343

Movie Projector, aeroplane quality, submarine price

Alva Allen 7964

* * * * *

MARRIAGES

Library Lesley Kennedy - David Lamble

Crossbar Development Peter Bowtell - Margaret Manson

Radio Equipment Val Rech - Lyndl Campbell

Pulse Systems Bernie Smith - Patricia Scarse

* * * * *

*$\pi^2 \times \infty$
?
 $\sqrt{49}$*

Log. 939

Postwork

Posers

a+b

Log. 239

$2x^2 + \sqrt{3}y$?

1. Ancient Hindu Poser

The square root of half the number of a swarm of bees is gone to a shrub of jasmine, and so are eight-ninths of the whole swarm. A female is buzzing to one remaining male, that is humming within a lotus, in which he is confined, having been allured to it by its fragrance at night.

Say, lovely woman, the number of bees.

(John Erwin 7298)

* * * * *

2. A Miller-gram

Suppose we have three pendulum bobs swinging on three strings. These pendula have lengths as follows:

10 centimetres; 40 centimetres; 90 centimetres.

Lets clock their motion. For simplicity count the time for 20 oscillations for each. The times you will get will be roughly these: for 20 swings of the 10 centimetre pendulum, 13 seconds; for the 40 centimetres pendulum, 26 seconds. Quick now - what will the time be for the 20 swings of the 90 centimetres pendulum?

(Ashley Conroy 7904)

* * * * *