

"RESEARCH LAB REPORTER"

"Free Shoes for All the Workers"

It is well known that the investigations carried out in the Labs. are in many fields and, unfortunately, it is also a fact that these investigations are performed in quite a number of buildings. These buildings occur randomly throughout the eastern end of the City of Melbourne and this leads to problems in communication between the various sections. Indeed, some members of the staff seem to meet only at the various hostelries, round this end of town, at Christmas.

This is a poor situation and during my recent stint as Information Officer I gave this matter some thought as I walked from Block "A" to Block "C" to Block "F" to Block "T" to Block "W" and almost to Block "R". The solution, I think, is to issue "free shoes for all the workers". Only then will they feel happy about trotting from building to building knowing full well that the leather they wear is the Department's own.

Of course this will mean some work for Frank Arter. He will have to get a range of solid Australian leather shoes in the store to cover the requirements of all Labs staff (as we range from Geoff Gebhardt to Hec Ruddell this will be quite a job - it will require fractional fittings, of course). These shoes will have to be fully tested at Environmental Physics (especially to ensure that they are satisfactory for tromping from Carlton to Watkins!)

Once this is done the problem should be solved. There should only be a few exceptions to this and of course these can be arranged through the well worn "349" purchasing procedure. Some exceptions are:-

- (i) J.P.O.'s an attractive yet hardwearing shoe is required for our young lady J.P.O.'s who are always on the move from building to building. The latest Dutch lightweight racing clogs would be the solution here.
- (ii) Rollo Brett would need a somewhat heavier shoe this would make it easier for him to put his foot down.
- (iii) There would need to be a special conference model with a solid heel this would be used for pounding tables.
 - (iv) Charlie Bates, who drives the Falcon with its very light controls, would only need light shoes.
 - (v) Ash Conroy, although portly, is light headed and consequently light footed (Newtons third Law) and he would also only need light shoes.

At this stage what needs to be done is to press for the introduction of "free shoes for all the workers" and all available avenues (both official and unofficial) should be explored by the Lab's staff. (If people complain about such a movement then agitators can always claim that they only wanted to put their foot in it!)

Pending construction of a large "Research" building "free shoes" appears to be the only solution available to the communication problem and when it is introduced the new happiness of all the staff can only lead to a better Research Laboratories.

"Let our boots be leather
And there'll be no whether
These boots will be got.
All we have to do
Is to find a shoe
And get it O.K.'d by J.L. Knott".

(JOHN LEWIS)
SWITCHING GROUP

In Nemorian

Rodney Francis Higgs

We of the Research Laboratories extend our sincere sympathy to Mr. and Mrs Higgs and to Virginia Wells for the very sad loss of their loved one and our colleague, Rod, who passed away on 7th July, 1969.

R. I. P.

Do You Know?

Japanese Government Science Fellowship

As in past years, the Japanese Government has offered one Science Fellowship to a research worker in Australia, engaged in the fields of material and applied science.

In general terms the Fellowship extends over a period of seven months commencing April/May 1970. The Japanese Government will provide return economy air fares for the Fellow (but not his family) and pay a living allowance of 80,000 yen per month (equal to \$200 Aust.). It can be assumed that a successful applicant from our Department would continue to receive his salary in full. The nominee would be expected to enter into a bond with the Commonwealth.

Nominations forms are available from Tom Broughton (6344) and must be submitted to P.R.B. by no later than 16th September, 1969.

In 1963, Gavan Rosman was a successful applicant (intending applicants should peruse R.L. Report No.5911 for helpful information). Bill Williamson was successful last year and will return from the Land of the Cherry Blossom in December this year.

LABORATORIES ANNUAL SUPPER BALL

This year's Supper Ball proved to be a very enjoyable function. It was held on 25th July, at Aylesbury Court, Brighton which offered everything needful for such an occasion - including an excellent dance floor. Our guests included the Director-General, Mr. J.L. Knott, unfortunately Mrs. Knott was a victim of the flu' and could not attend, the F.A.D.G., Planning and Research, Mr. L.M. Harris and Mrs. Harris and the S.A.D.G., Planning, Mr. R.W. Turnbull and Mrs. Turnbull. Some 320 attended and danced away the hours too quickly.

The meal was apparently nourishing since much energy was dissipated on the dance floor in the more active of the Terpsichorean steps.

Many excellent prizes were distributed during the evening and the Ball Committee was relieved that they abandoned the idea of a "Belle of the Ball Award". It would have been impossible to choose an outright winner as the bevy of beautifully groomed lasses present would have done justice to a Miss Australia Judging.

This year's unofficial title of No.1 male dancer went to Frank Shields, Senior Painter closely followed by last year's title holder, Robert Kam, Chemistry Division. Norm McLeod, Switching Group, again proved his suppleness by almost turning himself inside out during several unrehearsed exhibitions.

Frank Arter, General Services, was pleasantly surprised when Rollo Brett on behalf of the Laboratories Golf Club, presented him with a suitably inscribed trophy to commemorate the occasion of his double feat of a "hole-in-one" earlier this year. The unusual trophy was designed by Alva Allen and the manufacture, over many weeks was a closely guarded secret.

Thanks to the efforts of Mary Elliot and Max Greig, it is expected that the Laboratories may receive some favourable publicity in a future issue of the A.P.O. Magazine.

Planning is already under way for the 1970 function when it is hoped that attendance may top the $400~\mathrm{mark}$.

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Greetings from Former Staff Members Abroad

When Albert "Doc" Seyler returned from his business "holiday" as Consultant at Bell Telephone Laboratories he brought greetings from John Limb, Peter Wallace, and Mike Subocz. It is understood that they celebrated happy staff reunions in the U.S.A. in the Limb residence at New Shrewsbury, N.J.

Although Mike is still on our strength, Albert was unable to extract from him any statement as to whether and when he will be returning. He seems to enjoy very much the remuneration and the driving of a big Buick apart from the debugging of some air navigation equipment at Suizer's plant in up State New York.

John Limb has, as previously reported, joined the permanent staff of the Electronic Systems Research Laboratory of Bell Telephone Laboratories super Laboratories at Holmdel. There, he is successfully compressing the bandwidth of Picturephone signals, a job he has been well trained for at the University of W.A. and in our Research Laboratories.

Peter Wallace, racing about in a brand new Mustang, is earning big money by custom-designing computer control systems for industrial processes for a firm, Systems Engineering, on the famous Route 28 around Boston.

Somehow, however, they all want to come back eventually to this fair country and in the meantime send their nostalgic greetings.

Ros Whitton, (Main Library) just returned from a holiday in South East Asia, declares that Sundays in Kuala Lumpur are as quiet as those experienced in Melbourne. No risks and ideal for an Aussie girl to wander safely seeing the sights alone.

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A story heard recently about the British Civil Service could be imagined taking place in the Laboratories. In the branch in question, the time of arrival each morning was marked in an attendance book. Alongside the time had to be written, if one were late, one's excuse.

It was a common and unchallenged practice for the first man on the list to write "sore throat" or "indigestion" and for succeeding entries to be ditto marks. One morning a man who normally was never late arrived just late enough to have to provide an excuse even though he was the first to sign that morning. He had been unusually delayed because his wife had given birth to twins the previous night.

Imagine the surprise of the attendance clerk when he found 28 ditto marks under the excuse "wife had twins" for not arriving on time!

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Sideburns seem to be all the rage lately and Multichannels Division claim they have a candidate who makes Jeff Bate's mutton chops look second rate. Have a good look at <u>Bill Yelverton</u> next time you visit Block C.

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Due to fitness of "Mr. Victoria", Douglas Wilson, many of us had less to spend this month. Doug joined the Walkathon, conducted on behalf of Community Aid Abroad, and recruited several sponsors from the Laboratories. The contributions were for such a worthy cause, so we did not press Doug for proof of his feat although someone did mention they suspected he was given vehicular assistance during the eleven miles journey.

Ted Hulley, Switching Group has made his name as a pop vocalist. Recently returned from a skiing holiday at Thredbo, it has been learned that Ted featured in a talent quest. Although he failed to take first prize it was a unanimous vote that Ted's efforts took more than the usual amount of COURAGE.

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Ian McGregor has just received the good oil that his thesis "Design of RC Active Filters using Feed-Back Techniques" has been accepted by the University of Melbourne. Consequently his Ph.D will be conferred later this year.

Congratulations Doctor!

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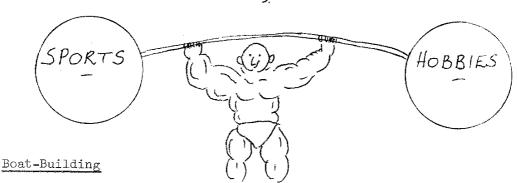
No names - no pack drill!

Staff in a certain sub-section relaxed a little recently when their Engineer Class 4 proceeded on a fortnight's recreation leave. Enquiring about his health on his return it was discovered he had spent his leave doing a tour of some well known vineyards. A saintly smile appeared on his face as he related his experiences, however, it was disappointing that he failed to bring back any samples for his colleagues. Perhaps he is reserving them for his house warming later this month.

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Congratulations to John Kalisz, Model Shop who attained his majority early this month.

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John Hughes (Path Evaluation) and Lyel Perkins are building virtually identical boats side by side in the Perkins' garage. Not a single vehicle can be squeezed into the garage these days. A large V.8 blocks one entrance and a jet unit the other, whilst the floor has long since vanished beneath mountains of wood shavings and glue drips, etc. The only slight variation between their boats is that one has a conventional propellor and the other a jet unit drive.

When building is completed it has been agreed that a race will decide who possesses the faster boat. The loser will write the performance report for the benefit of future interested ark builders. Should you see either of these gents with luminous reddish-brown spots in prominent places, don't be alarmed as they are glue spots and not the dreaded ph'tang disease.

AMATEUR RADIO

Our No.1 "Ham", Ray Jepson, Lab. Equipment "enjoyed" a very busy week of recreation leave early this month. In recent years, due to family commitments and lack of space, Ray's radio activities have been limited and confined to the temperature extremes of an external workshop which also doubled as a "ham shack".

Now that his three sons are married there are two spare rooms in the house; one has been claimed by Mrs. J. for a sewing room, the other is the reason for Ray's recreation leave. He is furiously redecorating it as a prelude to removing his recently acquired S.S.B. receiver and transmitter to a more comfortable environment. A further project which

is nearing completion is the installation of a directive antenna atop a 50 ft. lattice tower. From the comfort of his new quarters, at the flick of a switch he hopes to direct his transmissions to any part of the world. It is rumoured he also hopes to equal or better the signal strength reports received from overseas by a certain "rival".

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FOOTBALL

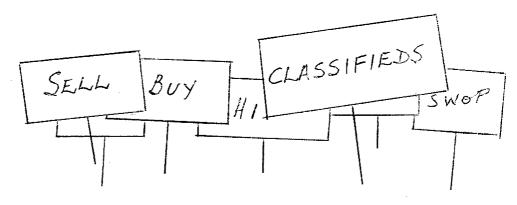
Research V Duplicating Section

		SCORES		
Research	4.2	7.8	10.13	13.15 - 93
Duplicating	2.0	3.0		6.6 - 42

On Sunday, 24th August, a large crowd of staunch supporters went along to No.11 Oval, Albert Park to witness the challenge match between Research and Duplicating. Captain Peter Dalliston won the toss and after a hectic first quarter with honours even, Research began to pile on pressure as Duplicating showed signs of wilting. Entering the final quarter with a deficit of 9 goals Duplicating battled courageously but were outclassed by Research who ran out comfortable victors by the big margin of 51 points.

Research dominated because of a very strong half forward line with Ralph Simpson and Colin Barling providing many opportunities for John Zigmantis (3.5) and Greg Walsh (2.3). Bill Fitzpatrick was solid in defence and others who showed flashes of brilliance included Doug Daws, Colin Rogers, Peter Dalliston, Terry Elms, Wilson McOrist, Michael McGaffin, 'Rocky' Cuzzupi and Bill Kuys. In addition our centreman gave a dashing display for four quarters but unfortunately his long hair obliterated his number and we were unable to identify him though some spectators considered it may have been Peter Quinn.

Perhaps the biggest factor in Duplicating's defeat was that being short of players we loaned them Frank Dalmau.



WANTED TO SELL

Transistor, Mitsubishi 10, 3 Band, Model 10X-718, plus leather carrying case but without aerial or ear plug. Will accept reasonable offer.

Stephen Brady 6953 F

Assortment of children's prams, pushers, trikes, trolleys, etc. Any reasonable offer.

Lyel Perkins 7067

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179 Head, complete and 179 Bare block with cam followers - Best offer.

Denis Page 7332 C

Pack Rack, full length station sedan, side and rear gutter fittings, as new, Bargain \$12.

Ashley Conroy 7904 A

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Childrens Kites, made to order, you provide the material, order early to avoid the Christmas rush.

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Frank Arter 7308 A Charles Bates 7909 A

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ENGAGEMENTS

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Apparatus and Services	Jenny Redfern to Les Davis				
Lab. Equipment	Kevin Bartlett to Denise Kilcullen				
Lab. Equipment	Colin Barling to Netta Harris				
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MARRIAGES					
Administrative Services	Michael Shanahan to Lee Norrish				
Switching Group	Tony Romagnano to Angela Cartolano 6/9/69				
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BIRTHS					
Administrative Services to	Brian and Sue Lafferty - daughter, Cathryn, Jane				
Labs. Limousine Pool to	Charles and Margaret Bates - son, Alan, Charles				
Computer Group to	Brian and Valerie-Jean Warren - son, David, Brian				
Ex-Comm. Electronics to	Graeme and Robin Pearce - son, Scott, Bradley				
Propagation Research to	Edwin and Jenny Fall - daughter, Justine, Clare				
Lab. Equipment to a	Tony and Clare Stevens - daughter, Varlea, Jane				
Electrical Standards to	Ian and Carmel Davidson - son, Sean, Michael				
Switching Processor to a	Fred and Mary Symons - son, Peter, Andrew				
Electrical Standards to a	Alex and Margaret Slamin - son, Andrew, Alex				

BIRTHS

Physical Sciences to Tom and Astrid Lindsay a daughter, Birgitte, Belinda

Cooby Creek Station to Peter and Ann Kelleher a daughter, Mary, Brigid

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PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to:-

Don Raines - to the Methods Section in the near future,

Noel Teede - Solid State & Quantum Electronics

Russell Anderson

Laurie Bridgeman

David Clerke

Model Shop

A hearty welcome to:-

Keith Guilliard - Sub-Sectional Clerk, Communication
Electronics (Keith is no stranger to
many of us - having spent some time in
the Instrument Repair Section prior to
joining the Staff Suggestions Board).

Gay Godwin - Main Library

Howard Fegent - T.O.1 Switching

John Hullett - Engineer Cl.1, Pulse Techniques

Wilson McOrist - Physicist Class 1, Material Physics

<u>Jim Lloyd</u> - Physicist Class 1, Environmental Physics

David Dorevitch- Engineer Cl.1, Circuit Theory

Jenny Redfern - Steno-Secretary, A.D.G. Apparatus & Services

<u>Vicki Nitschke</u> - Typing Pool, Block A.

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DISCOUNTS

Our notice boards are continuously advertising special prices and discounts for various items obtainable direct from manufacturers or by contacting the Australian Postal Institute.

For your information in additional wholesaler is now added to our list $\boldsymbol{\mathsf{-}}$

V.F. Trainor Pty. Ltd., Carlow House, 289 Flinders Lane, MELBOURNE. Vic. 3000

Mr. Denis Trainor supplied the prizes for the Research Labs. Ball and also the last two A.P.I. Central Office Balls. The showrooms have a fine display of a large range of items with the exception of manchester and toys. Members of the Laboratories are cordially invited to inspect the showrooms at any time to select a gift for that special occasion.

A folder showing both wholesale and retail prices of the range of goods available is held by Ash Conroy, Room 236, Block A.

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A Statistical Paradox

Consider a binary coded P.C.M. channel with a constant probability of error p=.001. The average distance between errors is 1,000 bits.

If we choose a bit at random then the average distance to the next error is also 1,000 bits. So is the average distance from the last preceding error to the randomly chosen bit.

Since the average of a sum is the sum of the averages, the average distance between the error preceding and the error following a randomly chosen point is 2,000 bits. Yet the average distance between errors is 1,000 bits. Doesn't this run counter to intuition and common sense?

Send your solution to this paradox to the Probability Division. For the neatest correct solution (accompanied by a fee of 20 cents) Phineas Glick will present a prize of two coca-cola bottle tops.

Solution will be published in the October issue.