



Cockle Creek News

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POTTED BIOGRAPHIES



EDWARD ARTHUR WILSON.

Born in Helensburgh, South Coast, in 1899, Ted completed his schooling there ere entering the Railway Service at 14 years of age. His first job on railway construction work introduced him to transport work, commencing as a driver of a horse and dray. Four years later, he commenced plate-laying in the Wollongong district; this was the forerunner of 18 years plate-laying throughout the State. Ted possibly has walked more miles along the permanent way than most of us have ridden. His last four years with the Railways were in the capacity of ganger.

In 1935, Rhondda Colliery became the scene of his activities where he commenced contract plate-laying. The latter part of 1937 saw Ted at Sulphide as a plate-layer, and three months later, on the retirement of Sid. Lucas, was appointed ganger with Jack Freeman as his leading-hand. In 1948, he became staff-foreman in charge of the fettlers. Incidentally for the uninitiated, he defines plate-laying as "laying the railroad," whilst fettling is "maintaining it."

Ted has been married twice and has a daughter 27 years of age and a son 14 years old. His wife, former Thelma Hall, of Werris Creek, confirms Ted's opinion that the Lakeside favourably compares with the South Coast. Living in their own home at Teralba the garden is a composite of beauty and utility that is a credit to them. Leisure hours are given to the garden or to touring in the Vauxhall, often accompanied by their three grand-children.

GEORGE ALBERT PORTUS.

Wickham born in 1911, George commenced his schooling there. When eight years of age the family moved to Auburn, and his schooling was continued at Auburn and then Granville Technical School where he obtained his Intermediate Certificate.

Returning to Newcastle, he worked 12 months at Goninan's ere becoming apprenticed fitter and turner to Australian General Electric Co. After two years apprenticeship at Newcastle he transferred to Sydney where, still with the A.G.E. Co. he completed his indentures. During the next four years George accepted any work offering, these being the depression days of 1932/36.

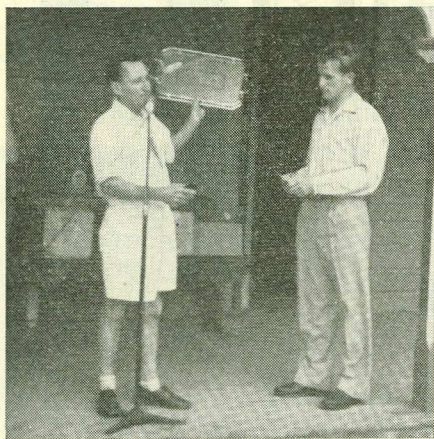
The magnetism of home seemed to attract him and he returned to Newcastle in 1936, working at his trade with the Commonwealth Steel Company. Joined the Railway Workshops five years later and remained with them until coming to the Sulphide in 1951, where to-day he can be found as a shift-fitter.

George married Miss Esme Woolmer of Islington, in 1937, and they now have five children — three girls and two boys — the eldest being 15 years old. Living at Argenton, the garden receives its share of attention in an attempt to wrest a supply of vegetables for table requirements.

A former Rugby League player, he received a good grounding in the game — Vic Hey, the coach of the All Australian League team, being his fellow team-mate, and he still appreciates watching first class games. Another interest is that of greyhounds. In the past George trained many a good dog and this to-day he endeavours to turn to pecuniary advantage in picking the "good-uns."

An ounce of appreciation is worth a pound of pressure.

Annual Works Picnic



Mr. W. Ingham displaying trophy won by Don Connelly.

The picnic was held at Speer's Point Park on Friday, 21st October and was very well attended by members of the Club and their families. Early morn indicated a day threatening a downpour of rain but to the joy of all, the weather was kind—the rain withheld—and the day turned out to be one of the best. Full advantage was taken of the occasion and the crowd of happy children and parents were very well catered for. Entrants to the sporting events were many and the events were keenly contested. A sufficiency of fruit-drinks and ice creams kept the children happy, whilst the merry-go-round and the miniature train worked overtime. The boat, too, was used to capacity.

The sporting events resulted in a triumph for Don Connelly who annexed both the Sulphide Championship and the Sulphide Handicap. The tug-of-war developed into a battle of brawn that was no walk-over. The introduction of a Catch-the-Duck competition engendered quite a lot of interest that was hardly warranted, seeing that the ducks were too easily captured. The lucky balloon competition turned out to be very popular and should be regularly included in our programme. Some criticisms of a minor nature have been noted and should be of value to us in our future activities. By and large the crowd

voted it an excellent day and hundreds have assured us that the day was an entire success. To Wal England, for excellent organising, goes a special vote of thanks; Jeff Dick who complained that he didn't have as much to do as usual also receives our thanks; to all who assisted in any way—particularly the committee who worked hard as refreshment and sporting stewards—we express our appreciation.

We were pleased to see amongst us quite a number of retired employees, amongst whom we noted Messrs. W. Walton, W. Richards, P. Jepson and H. Hawkes.

For those who missed the results of the **Guessing Competitions**:—

No. of peas in bottle—656. Winner, Mrs. E. Hall, 653. Length of string—24 yds. 1½ ins. Winner, Mrs. L. Elliott, 24 yds. 1½ ins. Length of ribbon—22 ft. 10 ins. Winner, Mrs. E. Wuolanne, 22 ft. 10 ins. Mr. W. Ingham, Senior Vice-President, presented the trophies during the afternoon.

Results of the sporting events were:—

JUNIOR SECTION.

Girls 12-14 years: Joan Charlesworth 1, Hazel Hughes 2, Mary Portus 3.
Boys 12-14 years: Ted McGrath 1, Joe Walters 2, Cliff Youngberry 3.
Girls 10-11 years: Leatrice Gibson-Brown 1, Marie Cremers 2, Elsie Portus 3.
Boys 10-11 years: Douglas Hall 1, Robert Anderson 2, Maris Skujins 3.
Girls 8-9 years: Christine Wansbrough 1, Nella Jermolajew 2, Leoni Sullivan 3.
Boys 8-9 years: Frank Gorman 1, Don Nelson 2, John Thurston 3.
Girls 6-7 years: Valerie Gibson-Brown 1, Carol Anderson 2, Judith Conolly 3.
Boys 6-7 years: Arthur Portus 1, Allan Davis 2, Peter Ristich 3.
Girls 4-5 years: Janet Redriff 1, Susan Puddy 2, Jenifer Gorton 3.
Boys 4-5 years: Darryl Pobji 1, Darryl Lloyd 2, Carl Hunt 3.

SENIOR SECTION.

Junior Men's Handicap: R. Walters 1, B. Sinclair 2, A. Davies 3.
Single Ladies' Race: H. Hughes 1, M. McGrath 2, M. Portus 3.
Married Ladies (Under 30 years): Mrs. C. Gagler 1, Mrs. D. Redriff 2, Mrs. G. Hamilton 3.
Married Ladies (Under 45 years): Mrs. U. Connor 1, Mrs. J. Nelson 2, Mrs. W. Trotman 3.
Married Ladies (over 45 years): Mrs. R. Filmer 1, Mrs. H. J. Hawkes 2, Mrs. W. Ingham 3.
Sulphide Championship: D. Connelly 1, R. Nelmes 2, D. Dillon 3.
Young Buffers, 40-50 years: E. Hawkins 1, E. Charlesworth 2, C. Walters 3.
Young Buffers, 50-60: A. C. Needs 1, W. Ingham 2, R. Hughes 3.
Old Buffers, over 60: D. Davies 1, J. Tait 2, A. Hughes 3.
Sack Race (open): B. Sinclair 1, E. Forster 2, P. Williams 3.

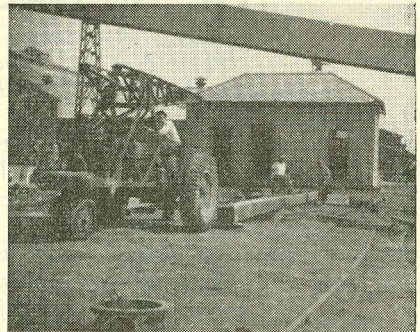
(Continued on Page 3)

(Sulphide Annual Picnic Cont. from
Page 2.)

Sack Race (8-14 years): Margaret Brown
1, Peter Sams 2, Hazel Hughes 3.
Egg & Spoon Race (ladies): Mrs. Redriff
1, Mrs. W. Trotman 2, Miss E. Hall 3.
Egg & Spoon Race (men): W. Trotman 1,
E. Forster 2, E. Hall 3.
Staff Ladies' Race: D. Coates 1, U. Connor
2, A. Appleby 3.
Stepping Distance (100 yds.): Jerry Hanson
1, Mrs. R. Forster 2.
Sulphide Handicap: D. Connelly 1, D. Dillon
2, W. Trotman 3.
Committee Men's Race: W. England 1, R.
Conolly 2, K. Wiltshire 3.
Departmental Tug-of-War: 1st Superphos-
phate, 2nd Cement.
Lucky Ballons: N. Lowe, 1, D. Carr, 2,
C. Connelly 3.
Catch-the-Ducks: E. Hawkins.

B. P. DAVIES, Hon. Secretary.
Sulphide Welfare Club.

Traffic Office Removal



Hauling Traffic Office to new site.

The accompanying photograph was taken on the occasion of shifting the Traffic Office to a new site. A trailing cable was fitted to the telephone system and communications were continued with the outside world even during removal — Messrs. Rutherford and Webb were able to maintain their work schedule with scarcely any interruption.

If buildings could only speak, what a story the Traffic Office would have to tell! In its history would be unfolded the story of "Sulphide." Formerly used as an Employment Bureau and located near the present P.I.D. office, a section of it in 1937 became the original Boolaroo Bowling Clubhouse, whilst the remainder was re-sited and became an office for A. Johnston, Traffic Officer, and headquarters for the transport crew. Later, Jim Webb took over under Superintendent of Traffic & Yard, Wal Rutherford. Of late, the building has housed Messrs. W. Rutherford, S. Hoare and J. Webb in their respective offices.

The present removal became necessary to enable the approaches to the road-hoppers of the conveying system to the fertilizer and pyrites storages to be completed.

DID YOU KNOW

That reindeer milk is so concentrated that two drops will turn black coffee white? However, this is counter-balanced by the fact that the reindeer, when milked, gives only about a cupful at a time.

Obituary

Mr. Thomas Edward Baker.

The death of Tom Baker removes from the retired list one of the best known personalities of the 1900/1940 era of the Cockle Creek Works. Tom came to us fresh from his seafaring experiences and was for many years engaged as a fitter under Works Engineers, Jack Martin, Alex Reid and W. W. McNaughton. He eventually became Works Engineer and had for his assistant the late T. G. Butterworth. When Mr. R. J. Donaldson vacated his position as Chief Engineer in order to take up an appointment in Brisbane, Tom was appointed as Chief and held this position until retirement. His son, Geoff, received his engineers training at the Works and like his father also engaged in marine work and was a member of Works Staff for some years.

Tom will be remembered by all of his acquaintances as a bluff hearty type of Britisher who under stress could use some picturesque language known commonly as "Australian liquid fire" but withal was a most kindly and lovable character.

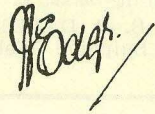
To son Geoff, and daughter, Mrs. W. Hadaway, we extend our sincere sympathy.

THE MANAGER'S MESSAGE

On Friday, 21st October, the Annual Works Picnic was held at Speer's Point Park and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Picnic Committee on the very successful function which they organised.

The threatening weather treated us kindly and a large number was able to enter into the full sports programme, whilst I noticed that the kiddies did full justice to the catering in the way of ice creams, fruit-drinks, etc.

My only regret was that owing to the pressure of business my own time at the picnic was limited. However, I, and I am sure all of us, enjoyed the day, and again I express thanks to all who contributed to its success.



The Essential Elements for Plant Growth (3)

In respect to the trace elements, or micro-nutrients as they are sometimes called, probably the most important to date has proved to be molybdenum. Molybdenum is necessary for protein production, and also to enable the nitrogen fixing bacteria in the root nodules on the legumes to do their work. Its degree of availability is dependent on the degree of acidity of the soil, for where severely acid conditions prevail molybdenum, although probably present in adequate quantities, is completely insoluble and so unavailable to the plant. Here the use of a molybdenised superphosphate has overcome this limiting factor, and after a period of years where soil fertility has been built up to a high level, it is problematical whether again any further additions of molybdenum will ever prove necessary for adequate plant nutrition. It is certainly not recommended to use molybdenum super more frequently than once every five years, and the rate of application of the molybdenised super should not be in excess of about 2 cwt. per acre.

Manganese is also an important trace element and tends to become a limiting factor on the more alkaline types of soil. It is essential in the making of chlorophyll in plants; where a deficiency does prove evident it being possible to correct it by an application of manganese sulphate.

Just as manganese may be a limiting factor on alkaline soils, so it can be available in too great a quantity on severely acid soils, and here at times manganese toxicity has been evident in plant growth on soils which appear to be severely acid.

Boron, too, is important, particularly in pomes, beets, turnips, etc. Its availability is bound up again with the degree of acidity of the soil and boron deficiency can be introduced by over-liming.

Copper is needed for both plants and animals, and in the case of the latter, a deficiency can cause steely wool in sheep, and other disorders, while with zinc a fairly high requirement is evidenced in orchards, etc., although pastures have responded in other States to added applications of this element.

Iron is the last of the trace elements, and although it is very necessary, particularly for the formation of Chlorophyll, it is very rarely that a deficiency is ever encountered in any of our Australian soils.

All these nutrients in the soil are present in a very complex pattern, and the availability of all must conform to, within certain limits, the availability of all the others. A deficiency or an excess within the desired limits will in itself have a serious effect on the resultant plant growth. (To be continued).

From Avonmouth



Messrs. JOHN H. YOUNGMAN and GEOFF. E. FLACK.

From Avonmouth, England, we have been glad to have with us at Cockle Creek, Messrs. J. H. Youngman and G. E. Flack, both on their first visit to Australia.

Mr. Youngman, Assist. Chief Engineer with the National Smelting Company and Mr. Flack, a member of the Group Technical staff, are both here in connection with zinc sintering at Cockle Creek. It is interesting to record that they have worked together on previous occasions on Sulphide Corporation projects involving visits to Germany and Italy to view a developmental T.L. Roaster and alternative types of roaster.

Mr. YOUNGMAN: After a mechanical engineering training and subsequent engagement in the engineering industry, Mr. Youngman joined the National Smelting Company at Avonmouth in 1925, in charge of the drawing office. Here he was engaged on development work which included the original Sintering Section, the Vertical Retort process for zinc, the Fertilizer Plant (now Fisons Limited) and a number of other Group projects. He served with Mr. A. E. Higgs for a number of years; is an Assoc. Member of Institute of Mech. Engineers; while outside the office, Mr. Youngman enjoys a game of golf. By happy coincidence, on a recent trip to Port Pirie, he ran into an old acquaintance, Mr. A. K. Bruce, whom he had not seen since pre-war and who was also on a first visit to Australia.

Mr. FLACK: Moved to the Bristol area from Devonshire in 1934 and, after a short period at Bristol Grammar School, joined the National Smelting Company in 1937 as a junior in the Laboratory. By 1944 he had become an Associate of the Royal Institute of Chemistry and was engaged on miscellaneous analytical and investigational work now largely undertaken by the P.I.D. After some 12 months on the plants he joined the Group Technical Staff which has brought him into contact with most of the technical activities of the I.S.C. Group. Mr. Flack has

been actively concerned with schemes for the development of the Cockle Creek works since 1949, has therefore been indirectly interested in our day to day activities and has been a keen reader of "Cockle Creek News" since its inception in 1950.

Still single, Mr. Flack's hobbies include photography, radio and motoring.

"HUNTING FOR SHELL."

To locate new shell deposits an extensive shell survey was carried out in the Hunter River, including Sandy Island, North and South Channels and adjacent areas.

The main equipment for the survey was a "spearpoint." It consists of 5' lengths of steam pipe ($\frac{1}{2}$ "), the first length having a pointed end. Up to a 35' length has to be used at times. By penetrating the surface or river bed with the spearpoint, the presence, nature and depth of shell deposits, if any, were determined. Experience was quickly gained with the spearpoint and even the size of shell present could be determined.

A special post hole digger served for sampling the shell deposits. This had an extension handle and when working in water depths up to 20' against a racing outgoing tide, it was often very tricky to obtain sufficient samples.

It was very simple to do a survey on land (mud was the only danger) but it became really exciting sometimes when working off a dinghy or launch. It is still a wonder that none of us succeeded in falling into the water, although I had on one occasion a very difficult decision to make—whether to let a piece of equipment go overboard or my mate, Ron Bath. I decided on the equipment and haven't had a restful night since.

Our faithful companion and launch skipper, Harry, was of very material help with his excellent local knowledge. He handled his launch skillfully and supplied us with the blackest tea we have ever tasted.

LASZLO J. BANATHY.

MENTIONED IN PASSING.

Many a girl who dotes on romance finds she has married the anti-dote.

AROUND THE

ENGINEERS.

(By "Bimbo").

At St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Wallsend, in 1930, Miss B. Steel changed her name to Fogo, making Bert a very happy man. Congratulations to **Mr. and Mrs. Bert Fogo** who celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on September 27th.

George Muir hits the headlines as the proud father of twin daughters. We extend our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Muir and are glad to know that mother and daughters are well;

REMEMBER.

Remembrance Day: 11th November.

December "News" — closing date for items: 15th November.

Fred Goodman Farewell Social (Staff): 18th November.

Christmas Tree: See December "News" for details.

we also congratulate George on his selection as referee for the international soccer match Australia versus South Africa.

Recently **Bob Thurston** handled a couple of wooden patterns that were approximately 60 years old. It would be interesting to compare the craftsmanship against that of the present day.

Should any "News" collectors care for autographed copies of this issue, **George Portus** will oblige for a nominal sum.

We are glad to see that **Jim Redriff**, who had a run of ill health, is quite O.K. now. Cheers, Jim!

Along with twin brother Peter, **Dave Moore** recently celebrated his 21st Birthday at a party in their honour, held in the Welfare Hall. Dave excelled himself in the speech he made. Congrats., Dave.

TIME STUDY.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Bob Gibson on the birth of a son. We are glad both Mrs. Gibson and babe are doing well.

Our hearts have all been touched by the tragic loss of Peter, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Harcourt Nettle. On behalf of all their many friends we offer the bereaved family our very sincere sympathy.

COLLIERY.

By the time we are in print, two employees now on long service leave should have returned.

Joe Johnson, who has been to the "Old Dart," will surely have a lot to recount. What with the experiences encountered and the bargains obtained en route, we doubt whether he will have any words left to discuss fishing prospects at Frazer Park.

Bill Icton spent his leave locally and even spared a Saturday afternoon away from soccer to assist his brother-in-law in painting the house. You can call around our way any time you're ready, Tiger!

CEMENT.

Jack Youngberry is a great believer in the March of Science. He has enlisted expert agricultural advice in his battle against the Victoria Street blackberries.

We are pleased to see **Tom Adamson** making a good recovery from his recent illness. Whilst "convalescing" Tom is back in his old job of relief operator to the great relief of all supervisors. (No reflection on your crane driving, Tom!) At the moment Tom is adding another string to his bow by operating the Bates Packer during **Bill Willoughby's** absence. We hope to see Bill back in good health very shortly.

It is easier to work safely—than

DEPARTMENTS

Meanwhile **Ted Davies** from the Yard Dept. is doing a good job in Tom's place on our shell crane.

George Skelton has transferred to the Yard Dept. where we expect he will shortly become one of Mr. Rutherford's right hand men. At the time of writing, George is deputising ably for that important unit in our organisation, **Chas. St. Julien**, Works Messenger.

Bob Paterson is enjoying a month of his long service leave, and we should think he deserves it, too, after 30½ years on the job! Wotta record.

We are thinking of starting lectures on Political Science in crib times at the Plant Laboratory. Anyone interested please see **Leon Szymczak**, class tutor.

Intrigued by "V.N.'S" tall story of last month our loquacious shift tester, **Henry A. Barrett**, has entered the arena with one of his own efforts — good for you, Bluey.

Rex Hilton received some attention at the Medical Centre recently. Appreciation is a grand thing and we were pleased to see a beautiful bunch of flowers adorning the Centre soon after Rex's visit.

FERTILIZER.

Again we commiserate with **George Rockell** in his continued ill health. We are wishing the best for you, George, and hope you will soon be around again.

Steve Bell has hied himself off to Port Macquarie whilst on annual leave. He reckons a spot of fishing and a few birthday celebrations — anyone's — will keep him well occupied.

It will be good experience for **Phil Happ** in relieving during Steve's absence. We are sure of a good effort once he gets his teeth into the job.

TRAFFIC.

Away on holidays at the moment is **Jim Webb**. We are wondering whether the 21st Birthday Party he recently attended made too big a demand on him, necessitating this holiday. Some anonymous friend left the following advert on the Editor's desk:

"Ladies and Gentlemen — If you desire your daughter to be graceful, have good carriage, and the figure that men admire, send her to the Webb School of Dancing. All types of dancing are taught on hygienic, padded floors (first aid men in at-

VISITORS.

We have been glad to welcome to Cockle Creek recently:

Mr. Woollam, from Simon Carves, England, accompanied by **Mr. R. A. Warburton**, of the East Coast Farmers' Fertilizer Co., Napier, New Zealand.

A party of chemists from Courtaulds (Australia) Ltd., under their Chief Chemist, **Mr. D. B. Bentley**.

Mr. G. H. Duncan, Principal, Newcastle Teachers' College, who addressed the Staff Society.

tendance). Further information can be obtained at the Traffic Office." — What's it all about, Jim?

OFFICE.

We are indeed sorry to lose **Mrs. Elaine Coates** from amongst us. Elaine has decided to keep house, and was farewelled by quite a large group of well-wishers at the Main Office when a presentation was made by **Mr. H. D. Black**. His eulogistic remarks are heartily endorsed by us all.

Bert Jones didn't stay long amongst us and has moved on to other work in the City.

We welcome **Pam Johnston**, our new typist, daughter of **W. G. Johnston** of the Super Department. We trust Pam will be happy here.

(Continued on Page 8)

to try to explain the accident.

AROUND THE DEPTS.—Continued.

Our commiserations to Mrs. Robertson on fracturing her ankle just at the most inconvenient time. Daughter Margaret was married on the following day (and a very pretty wedding it was) and poor Momma showed great fortitude in meeting all her obligations, despite the terrific pain she was in.

Albert Wright travels de-luxe these days having acquired a new Morris Oxford. He could have done worse — had he got married he would have found it more expensive.

We extend a welcome to Mary Hawkins, our new comptometer operator, who was formerly employed at Palings and Whitaker's.

To Mr. and Mrs. A. Ken Wansbrough and family we extend our deepest sympathy in the sad loss of Mr. Wansbrough's mother.

Did anyone notice Brian Gesell at the Picnic? He was there — although 1500 ft. up in the air. Good flying, Brian.

BUILDING TRADES.

Cardiff people are wondering why Keith Collinson attended their picture-show to see "The Man Called Peter." Came out blowing his nose very heartily, too!

Jack Dobell has moved on to fresh pastures at Wangi. Sorry to lose Jack — we wish him well.

At last Edgar Hall has been given a job to his liking. He's painting the Welfare Hall, and this allows him to bring brightness into quite a number of lives.

ELECTRICAL. by "Cy"

Harry McGovern and Perce Beacher are at present enjoying their annual holidays at North Haven accompanied by their families. They have departed from their usual custom of a bush holiday; so it's from "shooting rabbits" to "shooting the rapids." We are now looking forward to the tails (tales) of the "big-uns that got away."

Building projects at Speer's Point are well under way, being assisted by two members of our department. Some say, "Leave it to George," whilst others, "Leave it to Arch." Anyway, by Xmas we are expecting invitations to house-warming parties.

Know Our Apprentices (6)



EDWARD FORSTER.
Apprentice Lead-Burner — 5th year.
Boolaroo born; Boolaroo and Central Schools.

Having reached 3rd year at Central, Ted followed his father's footsteps to Sulphide as brother Bob, apprentice plumber, had done before him.

Sporting activities — soccer and surfing.

BEST WISHES.

Along with our best wishes we send a cheerio to Tommy Pearson, ex-Sulphider and ex-digger. Tommy has been in Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and at Yaralla the past five months and we are glad to report that he is responding to treatment. In a letter he writes of a severe operation on May 19th to be followed shortly by two minor ones. Having been with us around forty years, since the smelting days, he is well-known to Sulphiders. All the best Tom, we'll be seeing you.

W. A. Webb (Bert) is another old identity to whom we send our best wishes. Now on long service leave, he is undergoing treatment for hernia. Bert is another hitting the forty year service mark. We trust you will soon be back amongst us, Bert.

The judge had just awarded a divorce to a wife who had charged non-support.

"And," he said to the husband, "I have decided to give your wife £25 a month."

"That's fine, judge," the man replied, "and once in a while I'll try to slip her a few bob myself."

SULPHIDE WELFARE CLUB

GENERAL.

With our picnic now over we look forward to the Xmas Tree. As each year brings its own experiences to us, we should learn from them, and every function should be an improvement on the previous. We of course are looking forward to the time when we shall be able to order the weather to suit.

The picnic lists will be utilised for the Xmas Tree. Should there be any vital alteration in your family list, please contact Secretary.

You will have noticed the vast improvement in the interior of the Club Hall; this is only the beginning of our planned progress. This year should be a red-letter one in our club history—we are hoping to obtain our Liquor License, effect alterations to the Club House, redecorate inside and out, install additional lighting on the bowling green and, if there is sufficient enthusiasm in the tennis section, establish this as a going concern. This month we invite any interested to join our new recorded music section which purposes starting shortly.

B. P. DAVIES, Secretary.

CRICKET CLUB.

Since our last bulletin we are happy to announce that Mr. W. H. Wadsworth has once again accepted the position of Patron of our Club for the year 1955-56. After the effort on 15th October, we think perhaps he should also be appointed coach!

Results of the first three games of the season were:—

8th October. Sulphide Welfare 111 (Hawkins 38, Hunt 30, n.o.); d. Teralba 104 (Hunt 5/21, Hawkins 2/19, Garfoot 2/23).

15th October. Shortland 4 for 133 (Dick 2/2, Scarfe 2/35); d. Sulphide Welfare 49 (Muir 23) and 37, (Sherring 11, n.o.).

22nd October. Sulphide Welfare 81 (Hunt 32); d. Hexham 68 (Muir 4/30, Hunt 3/4).

We were particularly pleased with the win on the 22nd October after the game against Shortland. The match against Hexham was marked by good bowling from George Muir and Mick Hunt, solid fielding from Arthur Sullivan and Joe Robertson, and some exceptional catching by Ted Hawkins and Mick Hunt. The latter's phenomenal effort of hauling in an almost impossible slip catch ended the Shortland innings.

We are sorry to lose Reggie Gibson following a very nasty crack on the head against Shortland. We hope Reg. is now feeling much better. Don McLean has stepped into Reg's shoes and has surprised us with his expert ability. Didn't know you were related to Oldfield, Don! Keep up the good work.

—J.H.S.

RECORDED MUSIC CLUB.

Arrangements are now being made to establish a recorded music club on the Works. By the time this is published the inaugural meeting will have been held and the officers and Committee appointed. Quite a number on the Works intend joining the club and a good supply of records along with a radiogram are to hand.

Please contact Mr. J. J. Dick or the Organiser if interested.

T. DICK, Organiser.

THIS MONTH'S TALL STORY.

Talking of sharp knives in "Tall Story" in September issue of the "News":—

Well, me and my mate, Curly, bumps into a ghurka when we were fighting at Gallipoli. These ghurka blokes, used to fight with long bladed knives like swords, which they kept very sharp, and with which they reckoned they could take a man's head off with one swipe.

Well! This ghurka takes a swipe at Curly.

"Missed, you B——," says Curly. "You shake your head and see," says the ghurka.

Poor Curly, that was the last time he shook his head, as it fell off at his feet.

—“BLUEY” (Cement Plant).

The Army psychiatrist wanted to be sure that the newly enlisting rookie was perfectly normal. Suspiciously he said: "What do you do for your social life?"

"Oh," the man blushed, "I just sit around mostly."

"Mmmm—never go out with girls?"

"Nope."

"Don't you even want to?"

The man was uneasy. "Well, yes, sort of."

"Well, why don't you?"

"My wife won't fet me."



ACCIDENT REPORT FOR FIVE WEEKS ENDING 3/10/55.

	No. of Accidents	Lost Time
Acid	1	Nil
Super	1	Nil
Cement	2	Nil
Colliery	Nil	Nil
Engineers	8	2
Building Trades	Nil	Nil
Traffic & Yard	Nil	Nil
Shell Dredge	1	Nil
TOTAL	13	2

Frequency Rate: 2.6 (Previous 3.2).
Severity Rate: 451 (Previous 499).

It is remarkable how many accidents can occur through tripping — some of these can be serious, particularly if you fall into further danger. This month's cartoon is very timely — 25% of accidents over the last three periods have been due to this cause.

H. NETTLE, Secretary,
Accident Prevention Committee.

The young lady had just been released from the hospital after an operation. She inquired of her physician, "Will the scar show?"

The answer was: "That depends entirely on you."

TEN COMMANDMENTS OF FIRST AID.

1. Get him free and lay him down.
2. Look him over from sole to crown.
3. Treat bleeding, breathing, poison quick.
4. Keep him warm with covers thick.
5. Call a doctor and tell him all.
6. If unconscious no drink at all.
7. Keep the curious far afield.
8. Cheer and comfort with wound concealed.
9. Do not panic and cause him fright.
10. Notify relatives of his plight.

FATIGUE.

The plant superintendent was interviewing a man for a job.

"How long did you work in the other place?"

"Sixty-five years."

"Sixty-five years?" exclaimed the superintendent, "how old are you?"

"I'm forty."

"Tell me, how could you work sixty-five years, when you are only forty years old?"

"Overtime."

It takes hundreds of nuts to hold a car together, but it takes only one of them to scatter it all over the highway.

- LEAD -

CHEMICAL PLUMBING AND LEADBURNING

Lead as a medium for the construction of Chemical Plants has been in use from the very earliest days of chemical practice, and particularly since the early part of the seventeenth century. Whilst it is a metal possessing certain disadvantages, these are greatly outweighed by the other excellent properties which it possesses.

A remarkable feature of lead is the amount of valuable services that has been obtained from the application of a metal possessing such weak mechanical properties. Lead is one of the earliest known of all metals, and was used extensively by the Phoenicians.

Pessimistic views have been expressed by investigators to the effect that lead may soon be considered a luxury unless new deposits are located, owing to the heavy drain upon the world's resources of this metal by the chemical, plumbing and electrical industries (all of which are large consumers of lead). But the time is far distant when the chemical engineer will be called upon to furnish a substitute for this element. Nature has indeed provided us with vast resources of lead, and it is difficult to imagine what other material could have been adapted to supplant it had these resources been lacking.

Chemical Symbol: Pb (from Latin Plumbum)
Atomic Weight: 206.39
Specific Gravity: 11.4
Melting Point: 622-633°F, 328-334°C
Tensile Strength: Cast Lead 1,800 lbs.
Milled „ 3,320 „

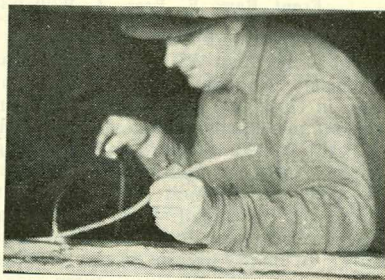
Properties: Lead is a soft but heavy metal, bluish grey in colour, very malleable and easily cut. It has a bright, metallic lustre when freshly shaved or melted, but tarnishes very rapidly on exposure to the air. This tarnishing is due to the action of acids, and of the oxygen and carbonic acid gas (CO₂) in the air.

Diluted sulphuric and hydrochloric acids have little action on lead. Concentrated hydrochloric acid, however, slowly converts it into lead chloride and nitric acid rapidly dissolves it. It expands considerably when heated and contracts when cooled. Repeated expansion and contraction may cause distortion or fracture, as for example, in the sheet lead on roofs exposed to the sun's rays.

The peculiar softness and ductility of lead, apart from its low tensile strength, render the metal an excellent material for the construction of chemical plants. It may be fused or melted and cast at comparatively low temperatures, or modelled, bossed, or worked cold by the process known as "bossing lead."

As an acid resisting material, lead stands unique in many respects, having peculiar and outstanding advantages not possessed by other metal of reasonable cost. From its very extensive application as a resistant to sulphuric acid and other acids, has arisen the term "Chemical Lead" or as it is sometimes called "Virgin Lead."

Lead Burning: The discovery of "leadburning" or more correctly, the autogenous welding of lead, dates back several centuries. The methods adopted during the earlier years of its discovery consisted of pouring molten lead into a "V" joint previously prepared between two pieces of lead. Before the introduction of autogenous welding of lead by the method known as "flame leadburning," lead chambers, etc., were soldered. In the




Allan Rees working on an Acid Chamber

application to chemical lead work, the soldering process was not found satisfactory especially when applied to the jointing of large chambers, as the unequal expansion of the solder and lead soon developed fractures, especially where the chambers were subjected to high temperatures. Moreover, this type of joint is susceptible to galvanic action which

Continued on Next Page.

SULPHIDE



ITS WORK AND ITS WORKERS

LEADBURNER CREW



L. to R.: Messrs. T. Smedley, E. Collins, L. Mason, R. Nelmes, J. Brogan, A. Rees,
B. Sinclair, E. Alley, E. Campbell, L. Young.
Front Row: E. Rees, J. Williams (foreman), J. Grew and E. Forster.

LEAD—Continued from Page 11.
precludes its use in many chemical processes. Another disadvantage of solder is that the acid fumes used in chemical processes will readily attack the "tin" in the solder, thus leaving a porous joint or seam.

In 1837 a French engineer, De Richemont, invented the first aero-hydrogen blowpipe for the autogenous welding of lead, hence flame burning as separate and distinct from lead casting. It is probable that this invention led up to the subsequent design and construction of oxy-coal gas, oxy-hydrogen and the present type of oxy-acetylene type of blowpipes.

This discovery marked an epoch in the history of leadburning inasmuch as it enabled a localised high temperature flame to be directed to the welded joints, thereby reducing expansion and subsequent contraction to a minimum and obtaining a perfect autogenous weld by fusing in the joints

a strip of clear lead. Furthermore, the minute flame obtainable by these means coupled with its high temperature, enabled leadburning to be accomplished by upright, underhand, and overhead manipulation, in addition, of course, to its use upon flat surfaces thus establishing the application of flame burning or fusing to the jointing of lead.

Owing to the low tensile strength of lead, where large chambers are subjected to a considerable difference in temperature, great care and judgment must be exercised to provide ample support to prevent distortion.

—W.H.W.

ANOTHER RECORD.

An all-time record for output from No. 4 Fertilizer Plant Bagging Mill was established during the week ending 31st October. Bill Luxford's team achieved 1,409 tons—good work fellows.