

Founded 1960

ALBURY AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN

Affiliated with the Royal Australian Historical Society and the
Royal Historical Society of Victoria

No. 142

March, 1975

Price 5c.

Patrons: ALD. C. E. BUNTON, O.B.E., MR. G. C. MACKIE, M.L.A.

President: MR. L. RIGG

Secretary/Treasurer:

MISS C. KLINGE, 744 Pemberton Street, Albury, N.S.W. 2640

Registered for posting as a periodical — Category B

Annual General Meeting

Annual General Meeting, held Tuesday, 10th December, 1974, in the C.W.A. Hall, Kiewa Street. The President, Mrs. L. Quiggin, presented the Annual Report, covering the many activities of a hard-working and successful year, including the special ceremony at this year's remembrance gathering, in November, at the Hovell Tree, featuring the Sesqui-Centenary of the Hume and Hovell Expedition, with the attendance of our special visitors — all descendants of the original party.

In the unavoidable absence, at short notice, of Mrs. Derkenne, who was to have taken the Chair for the election of Officers, the Guest Speaker for the evening, Mr. Landon, kindly consented to officiate in this important matter for the Society and the elected Officers for 1975 are as follows :

President — Mr. L. Rigg.

Senior Vice-President — Mrs. L. Quiggin.

Vice-Presidents — Mr. C. C. Hazelwood and
Mrs. A. Davies.

Secretary and Treasurer — Miss C. Klinge.

Minute Secretary — Miss L. Staton.

Committee — Mrs. Christian, Mrs. Frank Boyes, Mrs.
G. Brown, Mr. W. W. Fielder, Miss A. Fletcher,
Mrs. M. L. Hazelwood, Mrs. D. Heywood,
Mrs. T. Rigg, Mrs. E. Schilg.

Research Officer and Archivist — Mr. W. W. Fielder.

Publicity Officer — Miss C. Klinge.

Bulletin Editor — Mrs. M. L. Hazelwood.

Auditor — Mr. C. E. Bunton, O.B.E.

Guest Speaker

We thank Mr. E. R. Landon, F.A.I.M., Chief Executive Officer of the Albury Base Hospital for the very interesting and comprehensive talk he gave, basing it on the history and management of the Hospital over the years. The evening concluded with a happy social 'get-together' over a buffet supper.

The Society wishes to thank Misses Beth and Chris Klinge for the floral decorations which so enhanced the appearance of the hall. It so happened that other folk who would have shared this work were not able to do so and Committee members in particular wish to express their thanks, knowing the time and work entailed for two people.

Subscriptions

Members are reminded that 1975 Subscriptions are due and as for last year are now \$1.50 Annual and Life Membership \$20.

Society Bulletin — Annual Meeting Decision

The A.D.H.S. regrets, that owing to the increased costs of postage and printing, it is impossible to continue the usual Monthly Bulletin, and for the present, the Bulletin will be published only every second month. We hope this decision will meet the case. Most other Historical Societies have found a similar curtailment necessary, yet a published Bulletin is essential to the life of such Societies. We gratefully appreciate the fact that our printer has kept costs of our Bulletin as low as possible, a gesture to assist the Historical Society.

March Monthly Meeting, 1975

The March Monthly Meeting will be held at 8 p.m., Tuesday, 11th March, in the C.W.A. Hall, Kiewa Street. Pictorial records of Albury buildings. Recommendations by the National Trust of New South Wales. (Come and see for yourselves what Albury has, and how many you know. Bring your friends). Program continued with slides of early advertisements and buildings in Albury of date 1894, and others. Visitors invited to all monthly meetings.

November Monthly Meeting, 1974

Guest Speaker, Mr. Brennan, titled his illustrated talk, "To England via the Islands" and gave a new concept of a trip to England by the unusual and varied scenes and experiences on the many islands that were their ports of call on this particular journey.

'Chips' was John Francis Huon Mitchell, 3rd son of William and Elizabeth Mitchell (Mungarbarena) and 11 years old when he came with his widowed mother to this district. The 'Woradgery', or Weri-ari tribe roamed the country between the Murray and Murrumbidgee rivers. The Mitchell family tolerated

and befriended the aborigines, and 'J.F.H.' and his younger brother (Jim) made friends and learned the language and spent time hunting and fishing with the tribal people. 'J.F.H.' wrote quite a lot of them and their customs, etc.

Gifts

Albury City Council: Photographic slides of historic buildings in Albury; Mrs. Howard per Miss Staton: Old fashioned workbasket and items within; Mr. E. Barker: Bull-lead, horse hitching hook — (at Chubb's Saddlery Shop at the corner of Dean and Townsend Streets, on every verandah post was one of these hitching hooks), rubber tobacco pouch, twist air-tight closing, still holding tobacco, serviette ring, carved from sea-shell from Pacific Islands, and other sea-shells, triton and scallop shape; Mrs. Josephine Erdely: Photo of "Stoneleigh", residence of Dr. Kennedy, Swift Street; Mrs. Batstone, per Mr. D. J. Bryan: Silver serviette ring, manicure set, large shoehorn and button hook, match-box cover; Mr. Christie: Special thanks for securing and bringing to Museum, small roll very old type barbed wire.

Summer, Albury, January 1894 (The Border Post)

Intense heat prevailed during the last week in January. Registrations for the week were as follows: January 19th — 98 degrees; 20th — 103; 21st — 102; 22nd — 103; 23rd — 102; 24th — 100 degrees.

What was the story ?

To be sold at the Police Office, Belvoir, Saturday, 8th March, 1862, at 12 noon, the undermentioned confiscated property:- 48 Bottles of Ale; 45 Bottles of Porter; 6 Bottles of Pale Brandy; 1 Small Keg containing about 1 Gallon Dark Brandy; 1 decanter Dark Brandy; 1½ Bottles Port Wine.

AN EARLY MISSIONER

James Backhouse, who came from England to Van Diemen's Land in 1832, was the first member of the Society of Friends to engage in missionary work in Australia. Accompanied by George Washington Walker, he travelled throughout the colonies inquiring into the welfare of the inhabitants, as a result of which many changes were brought about for the betterment of conditions for the settlers, convicts and aborigines. Following are some extracts from his "Narrative of a Visit to the Colonies", published in 1843:-

"Several of the convicts who arrived by the "Elizabeth", had belonged to a society of thieves in London, who limited their number to forty members, admitted by their captain, at any age, but preferring the young. They were distinguished by marks, which occasionally had been changed because others had imitated them. They met at certain times to be trained to expertness in pocket-picking, and to divide their booty, which was expended in dissipation and profligacy, unless any of their number were in prison; in which case a portion was devoted to paying counsel for them on their trial. Several other societies are said to exist in the metropolis of England. Some of the juvenile prisoners had

been confined on board a hulk before being sent to Van Diemen's Land. In this situation they appeared to have corrupted each other greatly. There is much ground to apprehend that the juvenile hulks are nurseries of vice and crime.

"I had some conversation with a person who was brought to the Colony in 1804, at the time that Lieut. Governor Collins first formed a settlement in V.D. Land. At that time she was but a child; and on landing was lodged with some others under a blanket supported by sticks near the place where the Commissariat office now stands in Hobart Town, which at that time was covered with wood. After spending a night there, they were removed to the spot where the village of New Town now stands, and lodged in a hollow tree. Here they were first visited by the aborigines, with whom the children were often left, and who treated them kindly. Provisions becoming scarce, the people often cooked maritime plants collected on the sea shore, which bear to this day, the name of "Botany Bay greens". Sometimes they collected for food the refuse of the blubber of whales, out of which the oil had been taken by whaling vessels, and which was washed up on the shores. At length the pressure of hunger was so great, as to oblige the Governor to give leave to some of the convicts to go into the country and shift for themselves. Many of these committed outrages upon the natives, whose animosity toward the white people thus became excited at an early period, notwithstanding many years elapsed before they were in open hostility.

"We visited the House of Correction for females, termed the Factory, a considerable building of several wards, with apartments for the Superintendent, and a chapel. It contains about 230 prisoners, who are employed in picking and spinning wool, and in washing for the Hospital, Orphan-school, &c. Most of the inmates sleep in hammocks, and every thing about the place is very clean. On being sent hither for misconduct, the women are dressed in a prison garb and have their hair cut off, which they esteem a great punishment; and in some cases they are subjected to solitary confinement.

"On the following day we visited a chain-gang of upwards of 100 prisoners, at Bridgewater, 11 miles from Hobart Town; they were employed under the superintendence of a military officer, in making a raised causeway across a muddy flat in the Derwent, and were generally in good health, notwithstanding the water here is not of the best quality; but like much in the Colony, contains a large quantity of alumine. A guard of soldiers under arms stood over the prisoners while we addressed them in the barrack yard. They were quiet and attentive, and we were well satisfied in having gone to see them."

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May, 1975

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Secretary/Treasurer:

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April Monthly Meeting

Guest Speaker, Mr. Len Rigg, from a volume of history, entitled "Victoria and its Metropolis, Past and Present, Volume 2. The Colony and its people in the year 1888", gave a reading covering the Ovens and North Eastern District in the period around that year. It dealt with the early development of the area and its inhabitants, activities, with the recorded information of the lives and occupations of many of the early pioneering families of the district, whose descendants still reside in the area. It proved fascinating hearing, the reading covered 45 to 50 minutes but at the end of that time, members were still interested and asked many questions.

Programmes for May and June

The necessity, because of the very high Postal Charges, of issuing the Bulletin every second month only, makes satisfactory information re monthly meetings difficult. Where possible, notifications for the two months ahead will be given, but members and friends are asked to remember the usual interesting and informative monthly meetings will be held as usual. The President or Secretary may always be contacted for positive information re the second meeting.

May Meeting

The May Meeting of the Society will be held at 8 p.m., Tuesday 13th, in the C.W.A. Rooms, Kiewa Street. Guest Speaker Mr. Claud Hazelwood — Subject — Based on private papers and his father's records, the working life of a big Riverina Station 88 years ago. All work and travelling then by bullock team, horses or "shank's pony". This is history that made the prosperity of today.

June Monthly Meeting

The June Meeting will be held at 8 p.m., Tuesday, 10th June, C.W.A. rooms, Kiewa Street. Our Guest Speaker will be Mr. Alan Frost, whose topic will be the very interesting "History of the Honey Industry". Honey is an important export from Australia and a large export is from Albury. Please keep this date for June in mind.

Reminder

Please remember Subscriptions are due. Annual \$1.50; Life Membership \$20.00.

RECOLLECTIONS OF A "BUCKEEN" OR WARRAGUL RAID

At Thurgoona, Albury, N.S.W. (1853)

'Twas in eighteen fifty-three, it might be four,
That "Warraguls" came down, it is thought half a score:
To "Buckeen" the peaceful "Woradgeri" tribe,
And eat of their "Gouri", their strength to imbibe —
These nomad wanderers, unsettled and rude,
Like all such race, are with nerve-fear imbued,
So when Buckeen-warriors, raid camp outright,
The boldest by day are but cowards at night.
Afore dawn or morn, the moon then on the wane,
These fiends crept stealthily, through ripening grain:
Then surrounding the camp, their weapons let fly:
Death or wounds to the sleepers 'neath their "miami".
The deep sleep of the hour, the darkest 'fore dawn
was broken by the screams of a mother forlorn,
For her boy the victim for cannibal feast
was snatched from her grasp by a demon-like beast.
To heighten their terrors, the "gunyahs" were razed:
And at Thurgoona stead lay wounded and slain
Boomerangs and spears flashed deep in the dazed,
A picture, I hope, we may ne'er see again.

"Chips" (J. F. H. Mitchell)

October 16th, 1905.

"Warraguls" or "Buckeens" — Blackfellows on the warpath.

"Gouri" — fat.

"miami" and "gunyah" — temporary abode.

Recollections of a "Buckeen" or Warragul Raid poem should be read in conjunction with paragraph beginning "Chips" on Page 2 of our March Bulletin.

History of the Commercial Banking Company

This Bank opened in Sydney on November 1st, 1834, the 3rd Australian Bank, but we deal here with its branch in Albury. On March 7th, 1859, the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney, opened a Branch at Albury, on the corner of Townsend and Smollett Streets, in premises where the Gloucester Hotel now is. At that time the population of Albury was approximately 600, and the whole Police District contained only 2,116 people. The first Manager of the branch, from 1859 to 1861 was Mr. Richard Sweet. Other Managers to follow were :

1861-1867: Mr. T. B. Gaden
1867: Mr. William Shields, who
retired on account of ill-health.
1867-1877: Mr. J. F. Skinner
1877-1889: Mr. D. J. Abercrombie
1889-1913: Mr. W. S. Burt
1913-1917: Mr. P. I. Addison

1917-1933: Mr. T. Barnett
1933-1939: Mr. A. J. Anderson
1939-1956: Mr. H. R. Braine
1956-1969: Mr. T. B. Ryan
1969-1975: Mr. D. G. McGregor
1975: Mr. W. Ebbeck

On the 1st January, 1890, the Bank transferred to premises in Dean Street owned by the Australian Mutual Provident Society, where the A.M.P. Building is now situated. Nine years later, it moved to new premises erected by T. H. Mate & Co., where it occupied the eastern portion facing Dean Street. In 1911, the Bank purchased the premises of the Australian Bank of Commerce on the corner of Dean and Kiewa Streets, and moved in during November of that year. In 1936, the 50-year-old building was demolished and the existing premises erected at a cost of £12,000. A tangible association with the opening of the branch in 1859, is a wooden date case, which, after 67 years' daily use in the bank's Albury office was presented to the late Colonel Wilkinson in 1926, he then being the oldest customer. The date case is still in use in the office of Messrs. Wilkinson, Twomey and Kell, solicitors of Dean Street. The old gold scales still preserved are another association with the Bank's early days in Albury. Gold was discovered in the river and its flats at Black Range (now known as Lavington) and Nailcan Gully on the Western Hill. On one occasion, the bank sent one hundredweight of gold, then valued at £8,000 but now worth £25,520, to Sydney under escort. In 1865 a crushing mill was established to crush the ore from Nailcan and Black Range. Gold was discovered in other parts of the district but not in very payable quantities and production dwindled away after 1900. This Bank always endeavoured to play its part in the development of Albury and District, and in 1937, it helped to establish the co-operative building society here. In the century since it opened its Albury branch, the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney has expanded till represented in all States by hundreds of branches. It extended to Victoria and South Australia in 1927, when it amalgamated with the Bank of Victoria Limited. In providing financial assistance and banking services, banks move with the changing era of banking, and in due course, this one founded a subsidiary, the C.B.C. Savings Bank Limited, and in 1958, established a new hire-purchase company in which it has a 40% interest. Corowa Branch opened October, 1887, safe sent by steamer to Melbourne then by train to Wahgunyah!

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

(Gleaned from issues of "The Albury Banner" of April and May, 1875)

NEW TYPE OF WAGGON.—A substantially built specimen of what is termed a "platform waggon" was turned out a few days since from the workshop of Mr. Ellis, wheelwright, of this town, for Mr. Sawyer, of Jindera. For the purpose of transporting particularly heavy loads, probably no better kind of vehicle could be desired. Being a good deal lower than similar vehicles, it is consequently much easier to load.

COBB AND CO. give notice that their Royal Mail coaches leave the Exchange Hotel (Townsend St.) daily at 4.30 a.m. for the Ten Mile Creek, Tarcutta, Wagga Wagga, Adelong Crossing,

One Hundred Years Ago (continued)

Gundagai, Yass, Goulburn and intermediate towns. Parcels are carried at moderate rates, and may be left with Mr. Lewis Jones, local agent.

UPPER MURRAY.—Another effort is to be made to secure police protection and the regular administration of justice in that area. Apparently unaware of the great changes that have taken place during the past ten years, no provision has been made by the Government for the safety of people in the settlement of the head waters of the river. In a tract of country comprising many thousands of square miles and containing hundreds of families, a policeman is seldom or never seen; and from the Mitta Mitta to the Murray—from Tallangatta to Tintaldra—there is neither police station nor court-house.

RIVER NAVIGATION.—Owing to the late heavy rains, the rivers are now again becoming navigable, and the first steamer of the season was despatched on 6th May by McCulloch and Co. from Echuca for the Upper Murray.

SWEEP-OL!—Mr. John Sharp, of David Street, informs us that he has just received from Melbourne a splendid machine for chimney-sweeping, and is prepared to carry out all orders entrusted to him with the utmost care and on reasonable terms.

CAUTION.—Persons in charge of carts and drays will do well to avoid leaving their vehicles unattended in the streets. The new by-laws of the Council are very strict upon the point, and several persons have already been fined for a breach of the regulations. Only a few days since a penalty of 20s. each with costs was inflicted upon two offenders in this respect. This may appear somewhat severe, but considering the danger resulting from a bolt taking place in any of the principal thoroughfares, the fine is not too great.

LAND SELECTIONS taken up at the Albury Land Office during April and May included the following: James McLaurin, 167 acres at Yarra Yarra; Fred Hart, 100a, Munderoo; Thos. Alexander, 100a, Munderoo; F. Kilminster, 40a, Mullengandra; Alice Price, 100a, Brocklesby; Jane Whitehead, 320a, Bringenbrong; Jas. Whitehead, 320a, do.; Wm. Whitehead, 200a, do.; Sara Whitehead, 120a, do.; Jas. Waite, 60a, Wagra; W. Day, 310a, Mohonga; Margaret Day, 320a, do.; August Burdack, 250a, Jindera; E. Habermann, 320a, Burrumbuttock; Fairlie Cunningham, 320a, Munderoo; Wm. Stewart, 320a, do; Jas. Bell, 120a, Wagra; John Moody, 250a, Germanton; Hugh McDonald, 320a, Dry Forest; Catherine McDonald, 320a, do.; Jessie McDonald, 100a, Mullengandra; R. Taskis, 120a, do.; Alexander McCracken, Munderoo; Henry Hillier, 160a, Wagra; Thos. Kennan, 220a, Germanton; Wm. Schultz, 50a, Jindera; Thos. Latham, 320a, Mullengandra; Michael Leonard, 320a, Ryan; Fred Mitchell, 160a., Yambla; Grace Mitchell, 160a, do.; John Purtell, 200a, Mountain Creek; Dora Purtell, 320a, do.; Mary Purtell, 320a, Carabobala.

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Programmes for July and August Meetings

Variety Programme

Tuesday, 8th July, 8 p.m., C.W.A. Rooms, Kiewa Street, 10 slides, each of varied subjects, from different members, who will give the Commentary on their own showing.

August Meeting

The August meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th, at 8 p.m., C.W.A. Rooms, Kiewa Street. Guest Speaker, Mr. C. C. Hazelwood, who will give a further instalment of the life and work on Mahonga Station, before the turn of the century. A picture of the problems and successes in the running of a big station and its stock. A cordial invitation to these pleasant evenings is given to all interested.

Subscriptions

Halfway through the year; will any who have overlooked this matter please assist by forwarding same, or giving such to a Society Officer. Annual \$1.50, Life \$20.

The Society is happy to have 'hosted' school classes to the Folk Museum, making special opportunities to do so.

General Meeting, May 13, 1975

Mr. Claud Hazelwood, guest speaker, turned back the pages of history, to the life of our forbears who were part of the working of a Pioneer Station over 80 years ago, when large acreages and sheep numbers, good horses and good dogs for the long hard day's work, produced the unsurpassed Merino sheep that made Australia's name.

June Monthly Meeting

The Frost family have been "in bees" since 1905, at "Killarwarra", near Wangaratta. Leb and Will Frost moved hives to the Murray in a dray, and by train from Wangaratta to the Grampians and back. At their bee-keeping peak, they ran 3000 hives. In 70 years produced 10 thousand tons of honey. They pioneered bee-keeping in North-East Victoria and Riverina. Alan and Rheita Frost specialise in honey-comb packed in plastic boxes, which is sold in Adelaide, Melbourne, Brisbane, Sydney and Canberra. Mr. Alan Frost has worked in honey processing in England, did Extension Bee-keeping for 3 years in Canada and 6 months in the U.S.A.

Guest speaker, Mr. Alan Frost, used a fine series of color slides to accompany his talk on "The Honey Industry" and its value to Australia as an important export, 40% being exported. The U.S.A. imports Australian honey, Europe must import to serve its requirements, and in 1972, exports to Japan rose to 3,082,000 lbs. following a strong and continuing demand. The Australian Honey Board handles the export of honey. A licence must be held and the standard is controlled. It is sent in 44-gal. drums, 3 to the ton, 15 lbs. to the gallon. Honey will keep for long periods and no refrigeration needed. To those people — most of us — who only see bees on plants in our gardens, and are usually wary of them, the honey bee's life and work is a sealed book, and to turn its pages is to unfold the fascinating and amazing story of this hard-working, intelligent, little creature, which, by the way, earned \$3,635,000 in export income for Australia, in the year ended 30.6.72. An equally important aspect is that bees are necessary for the pollination of plants for seed production. The orchardist nowadays pays to have hives placed in his orchards at suitable times. Many commercial crops depend on bee pollination, for example, lucerne seed producers. Unfortunately, despite strong demand for pure Australian honey, bee-keepers are finding it increasingly hard to find feeding grounds for bees. A steady reduction in natural eucalypt scrub, the major source of Australian honey, is taking place and every acre of forest and scrub removed is a serious loss to the industry. We should all be interested to protest against the unnecessary removal of native scrub and preserve, wherever possible, and it still exists, native forest lands.

* * * *

Goonambil Station

*Transcription of a letter to Duncan Rankin — from W. Huon,
Wodonga (Station), 26th October, 1907*

Duncan Rankin Esq., Goonambil Station —

Dear Sir,

In reply to your note of 20 inst., the Goonambil Station was taken up in the 1840's by the late Charles Huon.

The only water on the station at that time being in what was called the Goonambil Lagoon, as there never was no certainty when the Billabong Creek would run, in fact I believe the Billabong for seven years never ran below Walla Walla.

Mohonga Station had been previously taken up by the late A. A. Huon.

In 1850-1851 the whole country including Urana was without a drink of water, and 8000 sheep on Nowranie Station perished for want of water.

I remain, yours faithfully,

W. Huon.

Peeps Into The Past

In 1844, land with a frontage of 44 feet to Kiewa Street, was sold by the C.B.C. Bank to the Albury Club for £150. The Club still occupies this site.

1885 "Sheep are selling very freely at good prices, 5/3 to 11/- for wethers and ewes. A lot sold at the former price on Monday, have since changed hands at 7/- and the demand is increasing".

Wool Clips: Average clip — 1 bale to 100 sheep.

Other sheep sales: 4/6 per head cash.

5/6/86: Lighting by gas for 12 months cost £24.8.6.

October, 1887: Corowa branch opened — safe sent by steamer to Melbourne, then by train to Wahgunyah.

December, 1887: Tocumwal Branch opened — Extract from letter to Head Office requesting £15 for purchase of horse for Tocumwal Manager.

"There is also another ground upon which I think the cost justified and that is if an officer in a place such as Tocumwal, where there is no pastime occupation, amusement or society, has a horse, he can get away from the public houses in the afternoons and so escape temptation to drink, into which so many fall in the backblocks, as the Bank has experienced."

1888: Branches recommended at Mulwala, Jerilderie and Urana, also Broken Hil.

19.10.1899: Moved into Dean Street premises owned by T. H. Mate & Co.

12.3.1902: Application for telephone made. There were 57 subscribers in Albury at the time.

The A.D.H.S. thanks the Commercial Banking Company for these notes from its old records, which give the picture over the early years of local development in Albury and district.

Note : "Average clip — 1 bale to 100 sheep, — about 3 bales today, with improved breeding techniques and conditions.

Notes from Albury publication, early 1895

A very old resident of the Wodonga district passed away on April 7 at Bungoona, Huon Lane, in the person of Mrs. Paul Huon, the mother of Mr. John Huon of that place. The deceased lady was step-mother of Mr. William Huon J.P., of De Kerilleau and the Mother of Mr. Henry Huon of Wodonga, Mr. John F. Huon of Bungoona and Mrs. James Mitchell of Table Top, near Albury. She was nearly 83 years of age at her death. Huon Lane was between Bethanga and Tallangatta.

Albury Historical Society

FINANCIAL MEMBERS — 1975

- *Albury City Council
- Allan, A. J.
- Allan, Mrs. A. J.
- Anderson, J. H.
- Anderson, Mrs. J. H.
- Albury Chamber of Commerce
- Angus, Colin
- *Burrows, P. D.
- Barnes, Miss E.
- Bryan, D. A.
- Bryan, D. J.
- Butt, A. T.
- Brown, Vernon
- Ballhause, Mrs. M.
- Barker, E. L.
- Brennan, C. J.
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- Brown, Mrs. Gwen
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- Chubb, T.
- Colquhoun & Co., A. G.
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- Doran, T.
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- *Geddes, Mrs. B. A.
- Godden, Mrs. L. M.
- Guy, Darryl
- *Hazelwood, C. C.
- Hazelwood, Mrs. C.
- *Heywood, Mrs. D.
- Henwood, Mrs. E.
- Henwood, John
- Heath, F.
- Hunter, J. D.
- Holloway, Mrs. J.
- Hume, Stuart
- Hart, Mrs. E.
- Hovell, A. Ross
- Hovell, Mrs. A. R.
- Hovell, John H.
- Irwin, Mrs. G.
- Irons, K. J.
- Jindera Pioneer Museum
- Jewell, Mrs. J. A.
- Klinge, Miss C.
- Kroeber, Miss S.
- Kiley, J. A.
- Kiley, Mrs. J.
- King, Mrs. M.
- Laycock, Mrs. F. C.
- Livsey, John
- Livsey, Mrs. J.
- McDonald, Mrs. R. H.
- MacDonald, Mrs. J.
- *Martin, D.
- *Mitchell, Hon. T. W.
- *Moll, O.
- *Moll, Mrs. O.
- *Mackie, G. C., M.L.A.
- Murray Valley Development League
- Marks, Ald. R.
- Morley, Mrs. N. H.
- Morley, Mrs. (Wagga)
- Nugent, P. L.
- Nicholson, Mrs. M.
- Nagle, Hon. Mr. Justice
- O'Malley, Bro. J. P.
- Odewahn, Mrs. O.
- Paech, Mrs. E.
- Patman, Mrs. M.
- Paton, Mrs. W. G.
- *Perry, Mrs. M.
- Perry, Mrs. L.
- Pidgeon, Mrs.
- Presgrave, Mr.
- Quota Club
- Quiggin, Mrs. L.
- Roach, Ald. J.
- Ryan, L. T.
- Robinson, Mrs. D.
- Rigg, L. L.
- Rigg, T. Mrs.
- Read, Mrs. Jean.
- *Sutherland, P.
- *Schneider, Mrs. E.
- *Siems, Mrs. R. A.
- Stedman, G. M.
- Stedman, Mrs. G. M.
- Staton, Miss L.
- Schilg, Mrs. O.
- Stelling, H.
- Student, Mrs. J.
- Seymour, Mrs. P. F.
- Smith, Mrs. E. M.
- *Snow, R.
- *Snow, Mrs. R.
- St. Joseph's High School
- *Tietyens, Angel & Jackling
- Talbot, Miss M.
- Thompson, Miss K.
- Thompson, Mrs. D. A.
- The Scots School
- Thomas, Mrs. E.
- Vernon, Miss M.
- Vickers, P. G.
- *Webb, S. P.
- *Webb, Mrs. S. P.
- Watson, Mrs. A. D.
- Watson, Miss P.
- Wenke, A. J.
- Williams, K. D.
- Wells, J.
- Wittmann, Miss H. M.
- Watson, Mrs. I.
- Wallace, Ald. P.

Founded 1960

ALBURY AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN

Affiliated with the Royal Australian Historical Society and the
Royal Historical Society of Victoria

No. 145

September, 1975

Price 5c.

Patrons: ALD. C. E. BUNTON, O.B.E., MR. G. C. MACKIE, M.L.A.

President: MR. L. RIGG

Secretary/Treasurer:

MISS C. KLINGE. 744 Pemberton Street, Albury, N.S.W. 2640

Registered for posting as a periodical — Category B

September Monthly Meeting

The September Meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th, at 8 p.m. in the C.W.A. Hall, Kiewa Street.. Repeat programme, by request. Supplied to the Society by the Albury City Council, Pictorial Records of Albury buildings (being recommendations by the National Trust of N.S.W.), will be shown and the program continued with slides of advertisements by early business in Albury, and further buildings of date 1894. This is your city — come and see what you think worthy of preservation. The Society would be glad to hear any authentic information about these places and the people associated with them. Also to receive for safe-keeping, or loan, any photographs of early Albury.

August Monthly Meeting

The vast sheep empire of Mahonga Station was the subject of Guest Speaker, Mr. Claude Hazelwood's talk, which recalled the pastoral development of Australia in the pioneering days. Through the association of his father with the property, Mr. Hazelwood was able to outline the Station's expansion into a successful Merino Stud, and the formation of the Mahonga Company. Also, the day-to-day life and work, including camp-drafting and the arduous fighting and control of bush-fires, in the days of water-carts consisting of a dray and a barrel, and all bucket work with a couple of horsemen to keep the men's water-bags filled.

Gifts

The A. & D.H.S. thanks Mr. Alan Bryan for interesting old advertisements (framed), (from Mr. Claude Lillyman's Chemist Shop), also Ice-cream making Churn.

The Days That Are Gone

The following information on Postage, from an Albury publication, 1894. Town letters delivered in town where posted — not over 1 oz. — one penny, for every additional ½ oz. — one penny. Letters can now be sent to Jindera, Bungowannah, Yambla, Bowna, Thurgoona, Moorwatha, or anywhere within a radius of 12 miles from this office, for a penny per ½ oz.

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from Page 1)

Country letters, under $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. two pennies, every additional $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., two pence. Inter-colonial letters, New Zealand, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia — not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. — two pence. Newspapers printed and posted within the colony are transmitted free of charge (if not exceeding 10 ounces), excepting newspapers posted 7 days after the date of publication, which are subject to a charge of a $\frac{1}{2}$ penny for every 10 ounces. Newspapers published in this colony and addressed to Victoria, Queensland or Adelaide, must bear half-penny postage for each 10 ozs. or fraction thereof. Book packets within the colony — for every 4 ounces or under, one penny up to 5 lbs. weight.

Notes by J. F. H. Mitchell — "Chips"

(John Francis Huon Mitchell, 3rd son of Elizabeth Mitchell (Mungabareena), from "Ravenshoe", Ravenswood, Vic., June 3rd, 1914).

In June, 1850, the beginning of the worst drought old pioneers had experienced for some years, I had to take charge of 5,000 starving ewes and lambs from "Mungabareena" and "Thurgoona" and seek for pasture in the then unoccupied country of the "wayback". With four men, and self, a start was made to cut the Major's (Major Mitchell's) blazed track to the Billabong and West and meeting with some feed on the edge of the salt-bush country, near "Mahonga", we had dreadful work for men, horse and dogs, to keep the flock on camp during the night, else the sheep would have scattered far and wide, an easy prey to the "Warragul" (dingos) which were numerous and daring.

My staff was divided into three-hour watches, and as there was nothing for it but to keep men, dogs and horse on the move continually (to keep the sheep on the camping-ground) the "watch" was indispensable to mark the passing hours and give equal rest to the men. It was the most trying night's watching I ever experienced, and I have had a few! The watch from 1 to 4 o'clock is the most trying, and the "Watch" being handed to one of the two watchers, a young man of Pickwick's "fat-boy" proclivities, viz. fond of sleep, finding the hours lagging, thought, as he said, by way of excuse, that the time-piece was at fault and in the endeavour to force open the bull's eye glass-face, smashed it to smithereens and broke off the hour hand; so it was thought to be a case, "vid de vatch" as "H" the German said. Tom knew about as much of the mechanism of a watch as a cat about its grandmother! The watch was returned to me with an unmistakable grin as probably it was thought night-watching would be ended; in fact I sniffed revolt (now called a strike) impending; but one shepherd, Dan Healey (who had a horse and fine dogs) refused to join the discontents, thus incurring the hatred of two of the would-be strikers thenceforward, but saving the situation! To return to the "Watch".

Finding the internal economy A.1, I put my ingenuity to the test, and getting a rifle bullet, hammer and file, looked for something to beat or mould it into the form required for a new case. The pole-pin of the bullock-dray, having a nice convex, smooth and rounded head, was just what the "Kargee" (Doctor) ordered, so with some patient and careful hammering and trimming with knife and file, fitted the edges into the groove, which formerly held the glass-case or face. This lead substitute was an undeniable success as a protector to the hands, the only drawback having to open the case when desiring to know the time. My next concern was to supply an hour-hand, the metal one being broken off at the revolving spindle. As the minute-hand had escaped injury, the hour-hand was my "bete noire" and for some time I could not think of a contrivance to take so important a place.

My bush kit offered no aid, string was useless, wood equally so. What else were there? "Eureka", try a horse hair! Pulling one from my nag's tail, I soon put the thought to test and within an hour the old Watch was itself again. The hair tied tightly revolved with the spindle, as with the lost hand and served equally well. For five months the old fellow ticked bravely on, keeping excellent time, but be sure I never trusted anyone with it, and if the cook wanted the "toime av day" he had to ask "Mr. John". When returning to civilisation, I thought my old friend worthy of a brighter face (same as of old), so sent it to Melbourne for that purpose. I was told the watchmaker declared he never saw a more ingenious contrivance and offered to buy it as a curio. Having to take the sheep on to the "Bogongs" Snowy Alps, the watch never reached me again and as the gold-discovery took place in 1851, my old ticker was "lost to sight" if to memory dear.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

(Gleaned from issues of "The Albury Banner" of August and September, 1875)

SMASH IN DEAN STREET.—An accident attended with considerable damage to property took place yesterday (7 Aug.) in Dean Street. A team of bullocks which had been loading up in Mr. Selle's yard, was coming up the right-of-way separating the premises of Mr. Higgins and Mr. Selle, when for some cause the bullocks swerved; and, taking the dray violently onto the foot-path, carried away several of the verandah posts. This, however, was not all. A horse standing in a dray close by took fright at the smash, and ran into the bullock team, so injuring one of the animals that it had to be killed.

PATENT HOBBLE STRAP.—We learn from a Melbourne journal that Mr. R. C. Thomson, saddler, of Albury, has succeeded in obtaining a patent for his newly invented hobble strap, the peculiarities of which were described at length a few weeks since in the columns of this paper.

THE FLOODS.—Although the river at Albury is now (18 Sept.) not so high as it has been, lower down the valley it is still in high flood. On a recent morning it was at a greater level than it had been since the big flood of 1870, and still rising. Many people have been compelled to leave their homes; and at the sawmills of Blair and Co. operations had to be suspended for the past three months because of the continued flooding.

RIVER NAVIGATION.—A steamboat — since the opening of the railway a rare sight indeed — yesterday (13 Aug.) put in an appearance at the port of Albury. She proved to be the "Freetrader", with a cargo of salt from Swan Hill. It is believed that steamers are likely to be more frequent at the port in future, while the rains continue. By the "Riverna", which arrived at Albury on Wednesday (18 Aug.) with a cargo of potatoes and other merchandise, and sailed downstream yesterday, Messrs. Edwards and Easterly, millers of Corowa, despatched 1000 bags of flour and 100 bags of bran to Moama.

BEECHWORTH GENERAL SESSIONS.—Patrick and John Kelly, two boys, were charged with having stolen a horse, the property of David Boyd, near Benalla. Patrick was acquitted, and John found guilty of receiving.

SEVERAL LEVERETS have lately been shot near Bathurst. It is to be hoped that some steps may be taken to prevent this destruction of newly acclimatised game in future. It seems that the leverets had come from the hares on Mildura estate. Mr. Joseph Smith introduced several from the sister colony two years ago, and turned them loose on his property with the object of allowing them to breed.

THE FIRST WOOL which has arrived at Wodonga during the present season passed through Albury on Monday morning last (13 Sept.), from Coonong station. During the afternoon of the same day a number of teams came through the town heavily laden with wool bearing the Brookong brand.

LAND SELECTIONS taken up at Albury Land Office during August and September included the following: Thomas Keighran, 320 acres, Henty; Johann and August Heinke, each 320a., Burrumbuttock; Wm. and Thos. Sloane, each 320a., Mulwala; Thomas Heriot, 237a., Thugga; Jas. Ayling, 320a., Thugga; Thos., Honora and Margaret Dunleavy, each 320a., Gibson; Wm. Wealand, 320a., Mulwala; Thos. Doogan, 320a., Burrumbuttock; E. Patterson, 400a., Cumberoona; D. Nyhan, 320a., Mountain Ck.; Thos. Mitchell, 240a., Hume; Michael Wenke, 114a., Walla Walla; Thos. Cosgrove, 320a., Thugga; John and Jas. Hawkless, each 320a., Goombargana; Alex Seberry, 100a., Brocklesby; Angus McLeod, 100a., Castlestead; John C. Turner, 320a., Corowa; Wm. Perry, 40a., Hindmarsh; Wm. H. Williams, 380a., Little Billabong; Fred. Zobel, 140a., Piney Range; Michael and Jno. Finn, each 200a., Carabobala; Annie Gregson, 114a., Hovell; Thos. Gibson, 320a., Burrumbuttock; Mary Dalton, 160a., Goombargana; W. C. Green, 403a., Coreen.

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Secretary/Treasurer:

MISS C. KLINGE. 744 Pemberton Street, Albury, N.S.W. 2640

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November Monthly Meeting

The usual monthly meeting will be held at 8 p.m., Tuesday, 11th November, in the C.W.A. rooms, Kiewa Street, when an attractive programme of colour slides and commentary by Mr. and Mrs. P. Webb will be presented. Interested visitors are invited to all monthly meetings.

October Monthly Meeting

Guest Speaker, Mr. A. D. Presgrave based his talk on Goolwa, S.A., with its special interest to Albury. Though so far away, it is linked to Albury by the Murray River itself. The 120 foot steamer, Albury — imported in 1855 and assembled at Goolwa by Captain Francis Cadell — under Captain George Bain Johnson, reached Albury, 1,368 miles from the sea on October 2, 1855, "to the great delight of the inhabitants of that thriving district", — and so began the lucrative river trade that continued for years, by many river steamers.

Anniversary Gathering at The Hovell Tree

This will be held on the afternoon of Friday, 21st November. Albury and District Schools will be invited as usual, and the Holy Spirit School, Lavington, has been asked to take the leading part and present the story. The form of the afternoon's programme that has become traditional will be observed. Seating will be provided, but it may be as well to bring your own folding chair if possible. Details will be advertised in the Press before the function. It is hoped that members of the general public will endeavour to attend and join with the schools' appreciation of our local historic past and show their own appreciation of the Guest School's work.

Gifts

The A. & D.H.S. thanks the following donors of historical items, and for the opportunity to preserve them: Mr. Percy Burrows — Sewing Machine, Sitz bath — a vintage item! Tool for cutting grooves in Mill-stones, Protractor for marking grooves in the Mill-stones; Miss L. Costello — Well-preserved zither.

November 9th, 1975

A special ceremony will be held at the Hovell Tree on the afternoon of Sunday, 9th November, to mark the centenary of the death of Captain William Hilton Hovell. We are pleased that Mr. and Mrs. Ross Hovell will be present to join in this tribute to honour the famous man, to whom, with Hamilton Hume, we owe the first centering of interest in this area and the location at a later date of the Albury we are proud of. The programme will be similar to that held last year at the Hume Monument in the Albury gardens to remember the centenary of Hamilton Hume. Members of the Historical Society and citizens are invited to be present. Some seating will be provided.

Matthew Peasley

It seems in danger of being forgotten that the first curator of the Albury Botanic Gardens was Matthew Peasley, who died at Noorangong, Victoria, on July 21, 1918 at the age of 74. He was entrusted with the laying out and planting of the grounds, which in his time, included the Sports Ground. Mr. Peasley also planted the avenue of Plane trees in Smollett Street, which was regarded as one of "the glories of Albury". Mr. Peasley's successor was John Howard.

Changing Times

BOWNA — a township situated on the main Sydney road, about 12 miles from Albury and 2 or 3 miles from Yambula Railway Station. There are two Churches, Presbyterian and Roman Catholic, and the Rev. Mr. Bates, C. of E. minister, occasionally preaches at Bowna and uses the Presbyterian Church. Post and Telegraph Office, Money Order and Savings Bank in charge of Mrs. F. A. Foord. Telephone also, to Wagra and Jingellic. Public School, Mr. J. Daley in charge, 60 scholars attending. Two hotels, "The White Horse" (J. Boundy) and "The Ivy" (Thomas Latham). There is a flour mill, two general stores, (Matthews and Millsons), and Brown's blacksmiths shop. Police Station in charge of First-Class Constable Wilkinson. The main road to the Upper Murray turns off at Bowna. Mails are despatched to Wagra, Tooma, Maracket and Ournie, twice a week, also to Germanton daily. Crawford and Co's. Coach also runs twice a week from Bowna to Upper Murray. Bowna Creek flows past the township of Bowna, where it receives the waters of the Mullengandra creek and is fed in its course by that and the Dead Horse, Four Mile, Table Top and Gerogery Creeks on its way to the Murray about 10 miles east of Albury. The Albury and Sydney road crosses this creek at Bowna. This township was inundated by the waters of the Hume Weir on 25th October, 1934, the first sod of the embankment turned by Sir Ronald Munro Ferguson, at 3.30 Friday, 28th November, 1919, and when, in 1961, the weir was filled at its new raised level, the destruction of the town was complete. In the drought years,

1967 and 1971-72, when the waters of the Weir receded back to the old river bed, it became a great attraction to old residents and the general public to visit the location, and for some, to walk the old streets and recall the past, this being quite unknown to many present local people.

Moorawatha

According to an 1894 publication, Moorawatha was described as a village 22 miles from Albury in a westerly direction. The Courthouse for the district is at Howlong, 6 miles off. There is a Church of England (St. Mary's), in which worship is conducted by the Rev. W. Hose and services by the Lutheran minister, Herr Sempendorfer. A new Public School with an attendance of 44 children, A. T. Pittock the teacher. Miss Scheetz conducts the Post Office and a bi-weekly mail arrives from Howlong on Wednesdays and Saturdays, returning on Tuesdays and Fridays. There is a good road from Moorawatha to Gerogery Railway Station, all cleared of timber, and bridges and culverts constructed over the worst places. Farming and viticulture are the chief occupations of the inhabitants. "The Olives Estates" (Mr. Mitchell) lies close by and joins the large and well managed vineyard of Mr. D. Reid. Moorawatha is distant 8 miles from Brocklesby railway station, which is the nearest station.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

(Gleaned from issues of "The Albury Banner" of October and November, 1875)

DEATH OF CAPTAIN HOVELL.—An Australian pioneer, who has seen a few small settlements develop into flourishing communities, and enter on the first stage of a national existence, has gone to his rest. Captain Hovell, the associate of Mr. Hamilton Hume in the great work of exploring the country from Lake George to the shores of Port Phillip Bay, a work of exploration that led to the discovery of the Murray, and the natural capabilities of the country now known as Victoria, and hastened its settlement, died in Sydney on Tuesday, 9th. November. Mr. Hume and Captain Hovell will always be prominent figures in the history of Australian settlement, on account of their memorable journey in 1824, from the farthest advanced settlements of New South Wales through an unknown country to the arm of the sea, where the flourishing town of Geelong has since sprung into existence. Near to where the intrepid explorers fixed their camp when they first sighted the head waters of the Murray and close to the thriving town of Albury, a monument commemorates their achievements, whilst close to where it has been erected, stands a tree on which the name of Captain Hovell is engraved on the bark—the letters having been cut during the time the explorers were encamped; the tree bearing the name of the leader of the party, Hamilton Hume, was unfortunately fallen, in ignorance of its value as a historical relic, sometime

since. Considering the value of the discoveries made by Hume and Hovell, and the assistance then rendered by their intrepidity, perserverance, and heroic endurance, to open up a country for settlement that is now the happy home of hundreds of thousands, it might be expected that care would be taken to keep the monument erected at Albury in decent repair.

JINDERA.—Mr. Rau, of Jindera, announces a capital programme of racing and other sports to be held at the Adelaide Hotel, Jindera, on the Prince of Wales' Birthday.

PIGEON SHOOTING.—A pigeon-shooting match took place on the afternoon of Saturday last at the Turk's Head Hotel. A number of sweeps were made up, and the shooting was tolerably good. Winners of the principal events were Messrs. W. Dight, P. W. Jackson and W. Lyne.

NEW POLICE BARRACKS.—The commodious and substantially built, but particularly hideous structure, destined to do duty as the police barracks in Albury, is now almost finished; and the nearer it approaches completion the more noticeable is the ugliness of the building. In spite of this drawback, however, the termination of the builders' contract will no doubt be very welcome to the Superintendent of Police and his subordinates, the present temporary barracks being inconveniently situated almost at the outside of the town.

WODONGA SCHOOL.—There is at last a prospect of the speedy removal of the old dilapidated building formerly used at the Wodonga School, which has long been an eyesore by reason of its squalid appearance, and an inconvenience on account of its preventing the free circulation of air in the new school-house.

CRICKET.—At the recent meeting of the Border Cricket Club the annual election of office-bearers took place, and resulted as follows: President, Mr. J. Walker Jones; vice-presidents, Messrs. E. Brown and Chas. Dight; committee, Messrs. Goddard, Cass, A. Frew, Nagle, J. McGovern, Hyman and W. Conley. It was decided that a scratch match should be played at the weekend on the ground of the club.

SPARROWS NOT WELCOME.—The recent introduction of sparrows into the neighbourhood has called for a large amount of indignation on the part of vigneron and fruit-growers. The matter was brought before the Borough Council at its meeting on Wednesday, when Ald. Thorold spoke forcibly in referring to the destruction caused by these birds. Following a brief discussion on the subject, a motion was carried to the effect that a reward be offered for the head of each sparrow.

FLOUR MILL AT CHILTERN.—Mr. W. T. Pyke, of Wodonga, is erecting a flour mill at Chiltern, and the work is being so rapidly pushed on that it is expected the mill will be ready to commence operations immediately after harvest.

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Annual Meeting

This important meeting will be held at 7.45 p.m. ($\frac{1}{4}$ to 8) on Tuesday, 9th December at the C.W.A. rooms, Kiewa Street. After the presentation of the Annual Report by the President, Mr. L. L. Rigg, Ald. C. E. Bunton will take the Chair for the Election of Officers for 1976. Feature subject to follow will be a project prepared by pupils of Tallangatta High School, comprising slides and taped material portraying the "Old and New" Tallangatta and the "change-over". Supper and the last social gathering for the year, will conclude the evening. The Society extends a cordial invitation to all interested people, especially to other Historical Societies, also members of other Albury organisations.

Special Ceremony, Friday, November 9, 1975

At the Hovell Tree, on the actual date, 100 years after the death of Captain William Hilton Hovell, the President, Mr. L. Rigg, welcomed descendants, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Hovell and their grandson, Daryl Guy, who had come from Canberra for this occasion. Wreaths were placed at the historic tree by Mr. Ross Hovell and on behalf of the Society by the President's wife, Mrs. Thelma Rigg. An impressive address by the Mayor of Albury, Ald. C. E. Bunton, O.B.E., was followed by a fine rendering of the "Last Post" by young cornet player, Ricky Belt. The Society's guests were entertained by the Committee to afternoon tea at the conclusion of the ceremony.

Regional Conference of Riverina Historical Societies

The regional conference of Riverina Historical Societies was held on Saturday, 15th November. The host society was Wagga Wagga and the venue the Riverina College of Advanced Education's new and only partially completed complex, near the agricultural college. Albury Society President and two other delegates from Albury were able to attend and with delegates from about 15 Societies heard a wide variety of subjects dealt with by specialised speakers. It is hoped to hold such conferences annually.

Annual Hume & Hovell Gathering

The annual Hume and Hovell gathering was held on Friday, 21st November. The program followed the usual form, beginning with the flag raising and singing of the National Anthem. The ceremony was performed by 3 of the 6th Albury Venturer Group, Trevor Reeves, Chris Newman and Damien Currie, whom we thank for their good work, which gave impressiveness to the ceremony.

In perfect weather and a delightful setting, a clever and dramatic presentation of the narration was given by the guest school, The Holy Spirit School, Lavington. From the gaily dressed 6th Class School Group, sections of the story were dealt with by selected boys and girls, specially attired for their parts, which covered wide aspects of the authentic story they gave. Lack of space prevents further detail except to name the children taking part. Introducing the speakers, Kevin Gaal. Then in order — Michael Kerley, Ann Dean, Sarah Davern, Elizabeth Higgins, Kerryn Dick, Karen Tobin, Paul Packer. We thank Mr. Phil Quin, 6th Class Teachers, for bringing their own loud speaker system.

The program was in the hands of the President, Mr. L. Rigg and the chief speaker for the day was Ald. C. E. Bunton, whose so-fitting phrase, "When the Courageous arrived here" was the key to his address. The Society felt honoured, that our other speaker, Mr. Tom Mitchell, only so very lately returned from abroad, accepted the invitation to be present and travelled that day to be with us here. He told us of his visit when overseas, to relatives of Captain Hovell, so again relating the past to the present.

The lowering of the flag by the Venturers concluded a ceremony to remember. Newspaper and AMV4 representatives and photographers were present and good pictures were shown that evening on TV. We extend thanks to all these people.

Mr. Ron Angel

The A.&D.H.S. thanks Mr. Ron Angel for the trouble he went to in supplying and getting to us the very fine enlargement of a horse team and load of wool in Smollett Street, about 1905.

Vale, Tom Doran

It is with much regret we record the death of Mr. Doran, of Wirlinga, who had been a member of the Society since its formation. Our sincere sympathy is extended to Mrs. Doran in her great loss.

Annual Report

To our Patrons and all Society members, it is my privilege to report briefly a summary of the Society's activities during the past twelve months. At each of the monthly meetings held at the C.W.A. Hall, Kiewa St., Albury, we have presented members and guests with a program of entertainment as briefly detailed hereunder.

December 74, Mr. E. R. Landon, F.A.I.M., Chief Executive Officer — "Albury Base Hospital, History & Development"; March, 1975, Pictorial records of Albury buildings. National Trust recommendations and slides of advertisements of Albury business life in 1894; April, 1975: Mr. L. L. Rigg, President — "Victoria and its metropolis, past and present, the colony and its people in 1888, N.E. Victoria; May, 1975: Mr. C. C. Hazelwood, Vice-President, "The working life of a big Riverina sheep station 88 years ago"; June, 1975: Mr. Alan Frost, "History of the Honey Industry"; July, 1975: From different members, 10 slides each of varied subjects, each person gave the commentary on their own showing; August, 1975: Mr. Hazelwood, Vice-President, "History continued of Mahonga Station, a vast sheep empire", "Pastoral Development in pioneering days"; September, 1975: Repeat program, by request, Albury City Council Pictorial Records of Albury Buildings (National Trust, N.S.W.); October 1975: Mr. A. D. Presgrave, "The early settlement of Goolwa Port, S.A. and development of the River Boat Systems"; November, 1975: Mr. P. Webb, Narrative of slides on a fascinating caravan journey around Australia — the rugged and beautiful N. and N.W.; December, 1975: Tallangatta History. Pictures and taped material by Tallangatta High School students.

Our sincere thanks and appreciation extends to all who have prepared and presented these excellent programs.

Visitors to the Museum during the past 12 months (2240) ranging from every State in the Commonwealth. The great interest shown is pleasing and encouraging. Attendances by several school student parties were conducted through the Museum. These visits are considered to be a valuable and worthwhile exercise for the educational benefit to students. Committee considered that poor attendance during mid-week (Wednesdays) in the winter months did not warrant staffing the Museum then, so decided to close on Wednesdays for the time being and reconsider the matter later. Committee also decided during the early part of the year to issue the Bulletin each second month only, in an endeavour to keep printing and postage costs within reasonable limits.

A wide variety of articles have been presented to the Museum during the year but unfortunately we lack space to present them for exhibition. The Society's greatest need is money and buildings for display purposes, and with the proposed establishment of the Australian National Heritage Commission's headquarters in the City of Albury, perhaps some of our problems in this direction may be answered.

Requests from several sources for information on various matters and articles have been supplied to enquirers, as is usual.

During the past three years, operation of the water wheel has been prevented on many occasions by floods, and, some consideration is being given to resiting the "wheel".

On Sunday, 9th November, the Society arranged a special ceremony for 2.30 p.m. at the site of the Hovell Tree to commemorate the centenary of the death of Captain William Hilton Hovell. Mr. Ross Hovell, a grandson, and Mrs. Hovell attended, together with Master Darryl Guy (10 years), a great, great grandson of the explorer, and they placed floral tributes at the base of the famous tree. A good attendance and good weather favoured the gathering, a most satisfactory and pleasant celebration took place, 100 years after the death of our noted explorer.

Again on Friday afternoon at 3 p.m. on the 21st November, the annual ceremony at the Hovell Tree to commemorate the discovery of the Hume (later Murray) river by Hume and Hovell, was conducted in the manner now traditional. The main part of the proceedings being the presentation of the account of the expedition journey in tableau form, by students of the Holy Spirit School, Lavington, and the raising and lowering of the flag by senior scouts, both parties to whom the Society extends thanks for fine presentations.

The Society also wishes to thank many folk who have assisted during the past year: Albury City Council, The Mayor, Senator C. E. Bunton, O.B.E.; Mr. Croft and his City Park staff; Border Morning Mail; Wodonga Express; AMV4; 2AY; 2CO; and many others who have individually assisted the Society.

I personally wish to thank those of our own members for their co-operation and assistance throughout the year, to achieve, I trust, a satisfactory conclusion to another year of Society activities, special thanks being extended to Vice-Presidents, Secretaries, "Bulletin" editor, all office-bearers, committee members, and auditor, Patron C. E. Bunton, O.B.E.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity to extend to all members and readers, on behalf of Mrs. Rigg and myself, the "Compliments and Greetings of this Festive Season" together with a wish for a peaceful and prosperous 1976.

L. L. Rigg, President

Our Society calls on all members to assist in locating old photographs and records — in particular any relating to the site of Albury River Boat Wharf and associated buildings in the vicinity of the Hovell Tree site.