MORWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS published monthly, except December

The Society meets every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm at Collins Street Primary School

Secretary: Mrs. E. McMaster phone 34 1149

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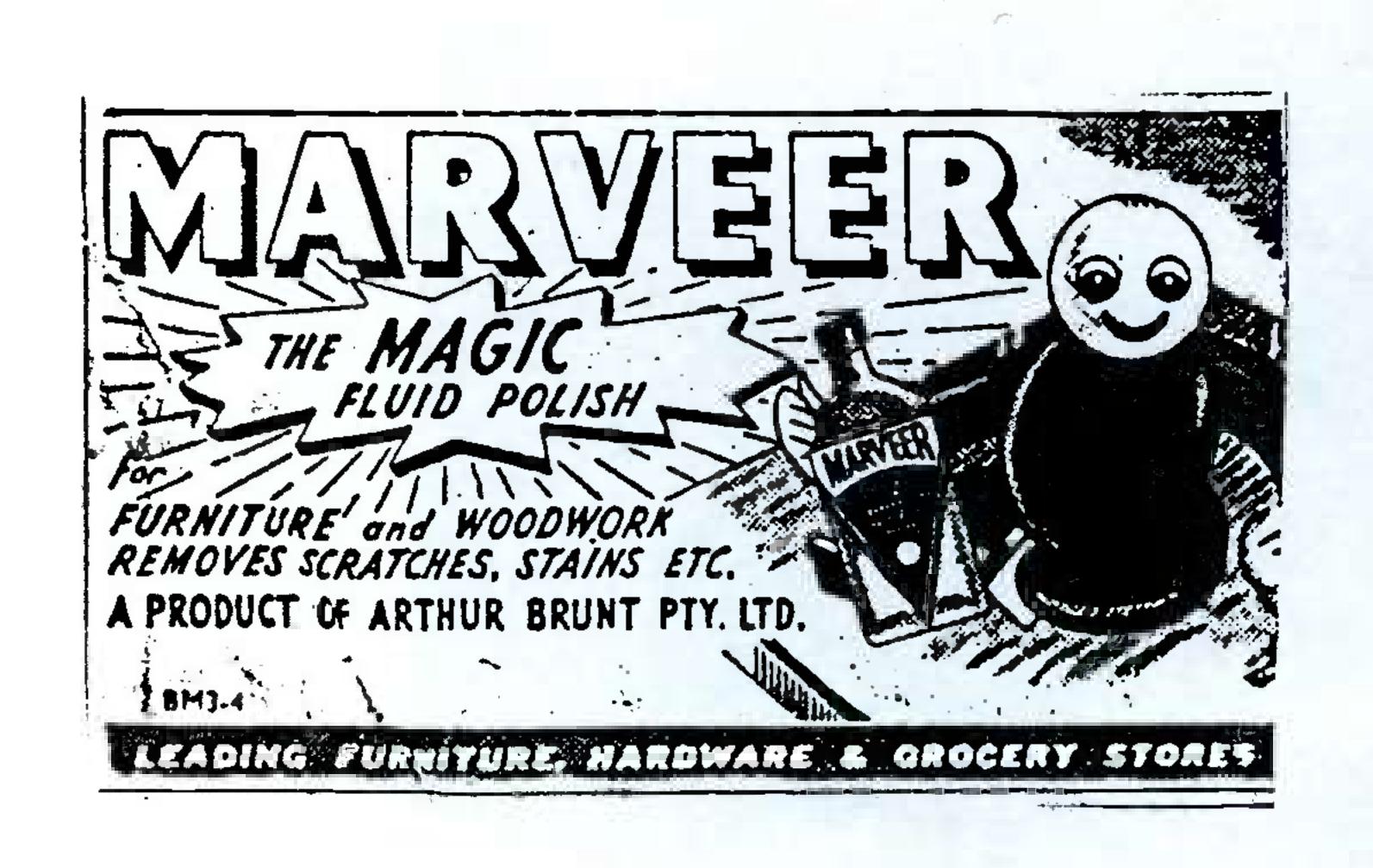
AUGUST 1989

WELCOME TO THE AUGUST NEWSLETTER

The progressof our book is most encouraging. A title has been selected. Please see the notes in the newsletter. Many thanks must go to the hardworking "book" committee.

This newsletter contains some information from very early editions of the Advertiser. One hopes that the photocopies are reasonably easy to read.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY AUGUST 15, 7.30pm





Mr. Forsythe was the headmaster at the school. Other teachers at the school that Mrs. Smith remembered besides Miss McDonald, were Myrna Mueller and Miss D. Smith. The latter was the daughter of the Anglican Minister who lived next door. She used to climb through the fence to get to school and apparently students used to gather to view her arrival - especially the boys!

Bell's old brick house was occupied by the Fenners family at this time. They had five children, Harold, Ella, Stan, Frank and Clarrie.

Other people and places Mrs. Smith remembered were Mr. Clark, the plumber, and Poppy, Wilson's Cake Shop, Martin's Fruit Store, McRobert's Store and Mr. McFeeters who worked for Wilson's Bakery and made gorgeous Scottish pies. He lived on the highway in a house that Buckley Senior had previously lived in - near Jane Street.

Then there were Butters Boarding House and Hares and Guys and Stubbs, Sharpes, McKays and Barry's Hotel, Varys - Alan, Hugh, Fran, and Mills Store.

We come to the end of Jean's notes from her talk with Mrs. Smith, now 3 years ago. Ellen or Nell (I wonder which she prefers) hopes to visit her family at Hazelwood North either late August or September this year (1989). It would be good if she could manage to attend one of our meetings whilst she is in the district.

MORWELL FAMILY HOTEL

W. MURDOCH,

Late of the Cricketers' Hotel

BEGS to inform his numerous Friends and the Public Generally, that he has Purchased the above well-known Hostelry, and has thoroughly Renovated and newly Furmished it Throughout. He now offers FIRST-CLASS ACCOMMODATION for Travellers, Visitors, and Others.

FIRST-CLASS ALCOCK'S BILLIARD TABLE.

Wines and Spirits of the Best Brands Procurable.

Horses und Buggies On hire.

GRASS PADDOCKS FOR CUSTOMERS' HORSES ONLY.

STABLING AND CIVILITY GRATIS.

W. R. STEPHENSON,

SADDLE & HARNESS MAKER.

MORWELL,

(Next door to Cricketers' Hotel.)

ALL KINDS OF SADDLES AND HARNESS MADE ON THE PREMISES.

Guat's Saddles from £5; Laddes' do, from £5; Sets of Buggy Harness from £6; Sets of Heavy Cart Harness from £6; Cart Saddles from £1; do, Breachings from £1 up, All other articles at equally Low Prises.

All Kinds of Harness Always on Hand.

CRICKETERS' HOTEL,

MORWELL.

R. O'FLARHERTY,

THIS HOTEL has First-class Accommodation for Boarders and Travellors.
Winos and Spirits of the Best Quality. Good Stabling and Stock-

CHEAP GENEAL STORE.
Mirboo North.

WILLIAMS lugs to inform the inhabitants of Mirlson and district, that he has opened a GENERAL STORE AT MIRISON NORTH, Greeckes, frommongery, Crockery, Drapery, Boots and Shoon, supplied at LOWEST PRICES, SUITS Made to Order. Fit and Style guaranteed.

Highest Price given for DAHLY and other PRODUCE.

A. LAMB.

Butcher and Baker

CARRIGG BROS. Yinnar General Store.

WHOLESALE and RETAIL.
GROCERS

Produce Merchants.

WANTED KNOWN:
CHEAPEST HOUSE IN THE
DISTRICT FOR

GROCERY, OILMEN'S STORES.
TINWARE, CROCKERYWARE
IRONMONGERY, AND GENERAL MERCHANDISE.

FLOUR, POLLARD, BRAN, CHAFF, WHEAT, PEAS & POTATOES Constantly on Sale.

Cali Buyers of Putter, Eggs. Clare, and Colonial Produce in any quantity.

ON SALE:

BOOTS AND SHOES in Great Variety.

MEN'S AND BOYS' SCITS, AND DRAPERY.
Of All Description.

Kerosene, 14a Case; Candlea, (Sperm)
7d; Herrings, 8d; Teas, (good line)
from 1a 1d; Rice, 23d; Sugar, 23d;
Tobacco, 2s 9d.

Agent for the Daily Telegraph and Weekly Times.

NOTICE.

JOHN CRIMMINS.

COMMERCIAL ROAD, MORWELL,

BEGS to autounce to the Public that he is prepared, to BPILD WARRONS, DRAYS, WARRONETTES, and BURGRIES of Kvery Description.

First-clara timber used. Workmanship gnaranteed. Impoction invited.

P. CRAWLEY,

BAKER AND FRUITERER,

Mirboo North.

Mortwell Butchery. C. W. HOWLETT

1/12/1886

NEWS AND NOTES

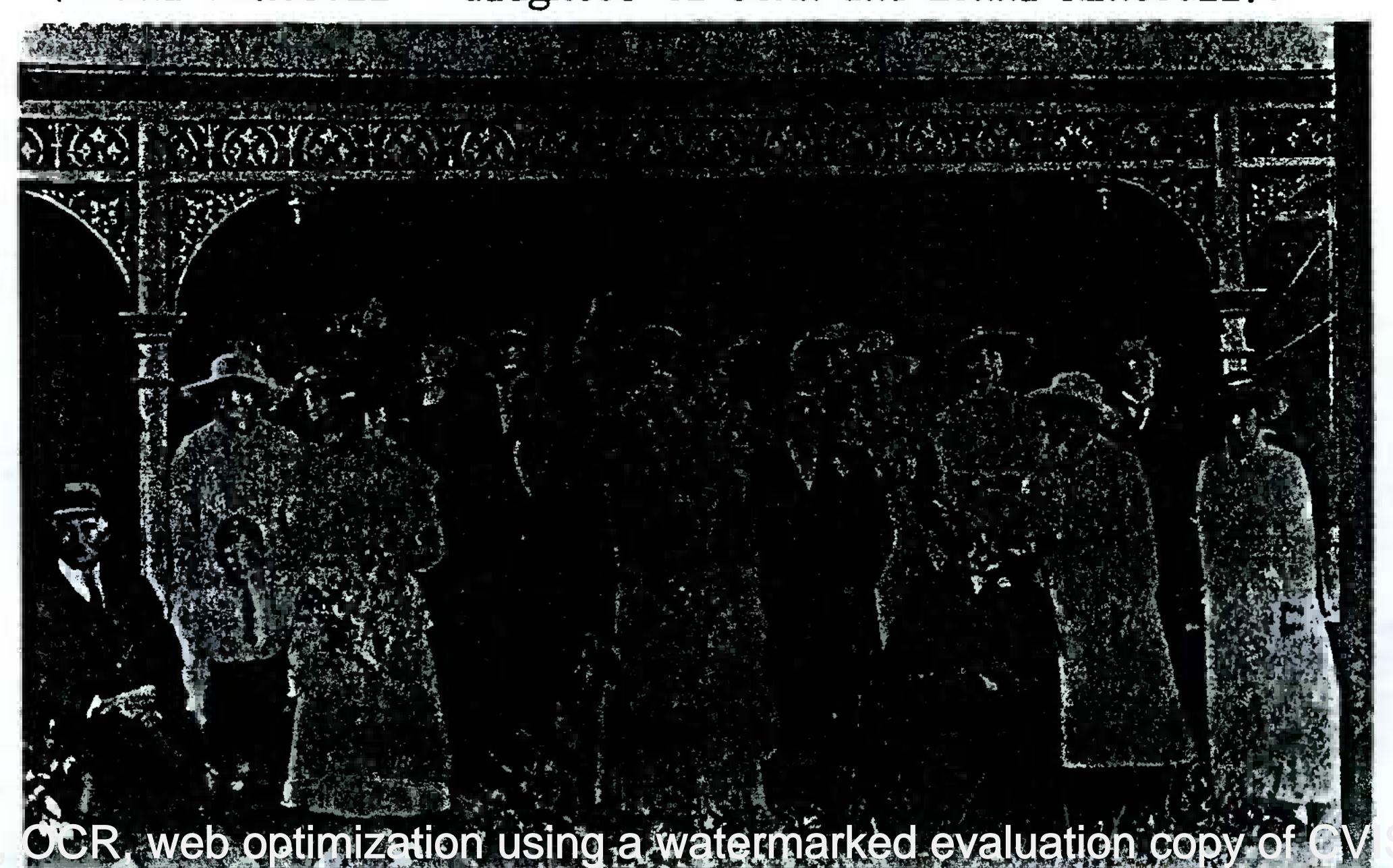
The Ivan Maddern Memorial Seat, stolen earlier this year has been replaced by Morwell Shire council. The new seat has been installed in such a way that would-be thieves will have to use considerable skill and force (not to mention oxy-equipment) to remove it. A large brass plaque has been obtained by the Society and this will be mounted near the seat.

Progress Report on THE BOOK:

- 1) It now has a title: "Glimpses of Our Past Early Morwell & District" and a sub-title: "The First 100 Years".
- 2) It is approaching its final draft and will hopefully be with the printers before the end of August. Our aim is to have it on sale in time for Christmas gift-giving.
- 3) It's looking GOOD! Please give it advance publicity whenever and wherever you can.
- 4) We have been fortunate enough to obtain a number (fifty odd) of excellent photographs from Mr. Adrian Walker of Yinnar South. These are prints from original glass plates, mostly taken by Mr. Walker's late father, Martin, well-known Morwell councillor. The prints illustrate many facets of rural life in the area from around 1900 to 1940.

There was an error in last month's newsletter. The photograph on p.7 was not of the wedding of Jack K. Rintoull but that of his sister, Zenna. In this issue we reprint the photograph with the correct caption.

Below: Wedding of Zenna Rintoull to John Henry Wood Williams. (Zenna Rintoull - daughter of John and Zenna Rintoull).



NEWSLETTERS

INDEX FOR 1988 (First five months)

- JANUARY 1988 1. End of era for Morwell Secondary Schools and Pre-school.
 - 2. Portion of Kurnai College Morwell Campus information sheet.
 - 3. Reminiscences The Green family
 - 4. Articles on narracan and Hazelwood or Churchill (from Express 1987)

FEBRUARY 1988 1. Indian Hawkers

- 2. Extract from 1919 Victorian Directory re Morwell Shire including Yinnar.
- 3. Extract An Economic History of Morwell A.D. Spaul
- 4. Express article about McRoberts' store.
- 5. History of Bowling Club from Express 1970.

MARCH 1988

- 1. Report of visit to Billy Hillier's grave.
- 2. A Childhood in Sunshine Prue McGoldrick

APRIL 1988

- 1. Report of excursion to Morwell Bridge and Morwell West.
- 2. Reminiscences Mrs. Dorothy Bartlett nee Dodemaide
- 3. Some memories of Morwell in the 1920s Mrs. A. Ringin.

MAY 1988

- 1. Report of M.H.S.to Regional Meeting 7/5/1988
- 2. Reports of the unveiling of the plaque at Anzac Looket, Hazelwood Pondage.
- 3. Photo of Godridge family at Morwell Bridge.
- 4. Names of early settlers on the Hazelwood estate.

MORWELL IN THE EIGHTIES.

The first item in this month's reminiscences will be of special interest to members who joined in our Society's excursion to Driffield in January, 1987. Those who would like to refresh their memories should turn back to our Newsletter of February 1987. There they will find an account of the excursion and also a copy of an article from the Herald of 22/7/85, giving more details of the shed.

- All items below found in copies of the Express on dates shown.
- Tues.2-4-85 Prizes in the 150th Anniversary Award competition at Field Day at Warragul. Mr.&Mrs. Frank Lawless get third prize for old milking shed.
- Tues. 9-4-85 Forum probes A.P.M.River plan
- The four published books of poetry by Morwell grandmother,
 Mrs. Nell Hodgson have proved very popular.
- Thurs. 11-4-85 Plan for Morwell's post-primary schools complete. The Morwell-Churchill Post-Primary Schools' Committee report.
- Tues. 16-4-85 Collection of data for time capsule. Maryvale High School Students and staff will collect for their own time capsule.
- Thurs.9-5-85 Shire backs retailers boost for Morwell. Morwell Shire Council will pour more money and effort into helping Morwell's Central Business District retain dominance of the Latrobe Valley
- Tues.21-5-85 Child Care Centre cash concern. Morwell's child care centre will open in mid-July with 35 places but committee concerned about govt. cut-back.
- Tues.28-5-85 Road fund crisis government grant inadequate.
- Tues.4-6-85 Set for singing stardom 16 year old Morwell schoolgirl Carolyn Down to perform on Melbourne T.V. talent show New Faces.
 - New Housing Commission homes take on a new look. Ten new homes being built in Beattie Cres.
- Tues.25-6-85 Thieves bite the Helping Hand. The Bargain Barn opportunity
 Shop in Buckley St. has been broken into twice by would-be thieves.
 There was little of value to steal but they left a mess.
- Thurs 27-6-85 150th Anniversary events in Latrobe Valley have bben exciting, covering all aspects of communication. People of Latrobe Valley should be proud of their contribution, says Jill Cain, Coordinator.

Wa regret to say that Mr Malcolm M'Donald, of Hazelwood, is still in a most critical condition, due to the effects of an appendicitis. Drs. M'Lean (Morwell), M Lean (Traralgon), and Hagenauer (Sale), are watching the case, and two trained nurses are in attendance on the sick man.

I HAVE just opened up a new line of Saddles, Bridles, Harness of all kinds, and general Saddlers' requisites. The Best Stock in the district to choose from. F. G. Goldsworthy, Saddler, Morwell.

BEVERE colds and pleurisy is at present very prevalent throughout the district and we are sorry to say there are a number of bad cases. On Sunday, Mr Hocking, of Middle Creek, was brought into Miss Townsend's private hospital, suffering from pleurisy in a severe form, and on Monday, Mr W. J. Brown, of Morwell, was admitted to the Sale Hospital suffering from the same complaint. We join their many friends in wishing the sufferers a speedy recovery.

On Sunday afternoon last, Mr and Mrs A. W. Witt, of Morwell, set out for a drive along the Morwell-Traralgon road. They, however, had barely reached the State School when they met Dr. Horne, of Traralgon, coming along in his motor-car. The machine, as usual, was making a great noise, and although Mr Witt considered there was nothing that would frighten his horse, the "panring" and "puffing" car caused the animal to take fright and "shoot" across the road, towards the railway fence. The near wheels of buggy struck the face of the footpath, which is about eighteen inches in height, with the result that Mr Witt who was sitting on the off side, was thrown heavily on to the hard road. Fortunately his body fell clear of the vehicle, but one of the wheels passed over right hand inflicting a very ugly and painful bruise. He was also bruised about the head and face, but, we are pleased to say, was not seriously hurt. Mrs Witt, who had a baby in her arms, was, fortunately not thrown out, but the reins being out of her reach she was powerless to stop the horse. Master Jack Brown, however, happened to be close by at the time, and succeeded in bringing the horse to a standstill. Seeing the accident, Dr. Horne stopped the car and went to the assistance of Mr Witt. Needless to say, Mr and Mrs Witt did not continue their drive.

THE middle-aged woman, Mrs. Dauit, who (as stated in our last issue) was admitted to the Gippsland Hospital suffering from severe burns through her clothing catching fire while she was attending to a kettle at an open fireplace at her home, near Morwell, has (says the "Times") improved, and the doubt that she would succumb to her injuries has been overcome, although she will hereaster be a cripple. At first the burns were so severe that the woman was unable to feel the pain, but now that an improvement has sent in she is suffering severely.

Owing to the scarcity of feed the Nambrok farmers are doing very well out of their straw stacks. Some of the farmers (says the "Spectators") have wisely preserved their straw for the past couple of years, and they are now reaping the benefit of their forethought. The other day Mr. R. Farmer sold his stacks for £91, and Mr McNabb refused £1200 for his hay and straw stacks.

OBITUARY.

DEATH OF MR THOS. CRANWELL.

We regret having to record the death of an old and most highly respected resident of the district, in the person of Mr Thomas Cranwell, of North Hazelwood, which sad event took place on Wednesday evening last.

Deceased, who was born in Essex, England, had reached the ripe old age of 84 years, and was a colonist of over fifty years standing. Prior to leaving England, deceased married Miss Emma Bolding, sister of Mr George Bolding, of North Hazelwood, and in coming to Australia, he was accompanied by his wife and two children. Soon after arrival, Mr Cranwell commenced farming and dairying at Braybrook, near Melbourne, which he carried on successfully for many years. Whilst at Braybrook, his partner in life passed away, and a few years later Mr Cranwell and members of the family came to this district where they have resided for over twenty years.

Deceased enjoyed good health till he reached the age of four score years, when he received a paralytic stroke, since when he has been an invalid. He was a man most highly respected by all with whom he came in contact, and much sympathy is expressed for members of the family in their sad bereavement. The following are daughters of decased: - Mrs Babb, Mrs Btevenson, Mrs N. M'Donald, Mrs H. Thompson, and Mrs S. J. Thompson, whilst Messrs Able, Joseph and Albert Cranwell are his sons. With the exception of Mrs Stevenson (Croydon), and Mr Able Cranwell (Malvern), all the members of the samily reside in this district.

The remains of deceased will be interred in the Melbourne Cemetery this afternoon, beside those of his wife, when the burial service will be conducted by the Rev W. Seamer, of Morwell.

KEMP'S CRUSADE.

Branch of A.N.A. on Tuesday evening last, Mr Kemp, Secretary of Ballarat Anti-Vaccination League delivered an address on the subject, during which he stated that Vaccination had been the means of turning a beautiful white baby into a black one, the lymp having been taken from a black child.

ADVERTISER: FEB 7 1907

DUR BROWN COAL

Matters in connection with our brown coal, are slowly, but, we believe, surely, moving ahead. The English company that has secured a lease of Mr Buckley's property are now communicating direct with Mr Buckley, and in all probability the company will purchase the property. A very excellent plan of the property and township of Morwell (drafted by Mr Sinclair, shire engineer) has just been prepared, by order of the company and sent to England last week. The company also ordered samples of the fire-clay-met with between the surface and the coalto be sent to them. The work of procuring the samples of clay was entrusted to Mr G. Billingsley. The task, however, was no easy one, as the material wanted is down about seventy feet, and there is at least fifty feet of water in the bottom of the shaft. To stand at the mouth of shaft and look down is not very inviting, but Mr Billingsley armed with an auger, and a piece of rope, visited the mine recently in company with Mr Buckley, and it was not long before he got to work. Having descended the shaft a sufficient distance he placed the rope round his waist and secured the end to portion of the timbers, as he had no desire to fall into the water below. a matter that could easily have happened. Having thus saleguarded himself he set work with the auger, and by boring through the timbers was able to draw out sufficient clay for a sample. This he brought to the surface, without mishap, and the clay has since been shipped to England.

We understand that in addition to the coal, the clay and other "by-products" are likely to prove profitable to the company if the mine is developed, but it is the intention of the company to make further tests before work is commenced. It however, is almost a certainty that at no far distant date work will be commenced and so confident are one or two local residents that they have purchased property adjoining Mr Buckley's land, and we sincerely trust that their hopes will be fully realized.

A few days ago the boiler, popplt-heads, and other working year connected with the mine were inspected by Mr W. Corbett, senr., on behalf of the company. We understand that on examination Mr Corbett found the boiler and poppet heads in real good order. His report has been forwarded to the company.

MR GREEN'S NEW ESTAB-LISHMENT.

Nearly thirty years ago, just after the Gippsland railway line was opened, there was just the usual pub, store, and blacksmith's shop in Morwell. aMr J. Green, who then had a drapery business in Rosedale, being a shrewd man, observed that "coming events were casting their shadows before." He recognised that Morwell was a "coming place," and resolved forthwith to open a branch business here. A block of land in Tarwin street was secured, opposite to where the Morwell State School (conducted by the late Mrs Rintoull, then Miss M'Crory) was situated, and directly opposite old post office site. Mr W. Allen, one of the first builders to enter Gippsland, and even then a resident of Rosedale for more than twenty years, was engaged to erect the premises. A galvanised iron building, afterwards known as the "Iron Store" was duly erected, and in those days was considered a first-class place, and much before most of the other buildings in the township. In due time all arrangements were complete for opening of branch, except one very important matter, that of securing a manager. Mr Green, however, had a trusted, and reliable assistant in his shop at Rosedale, namely Mr Andrew Gay, who accepted Mr Green's offer to manage the Morwell branch. In due time the "Iron Store" was opened, the manager sleeping on the premises. Business, however, specdily increased, and the manager's sleeping apartments were required for stock. Mr Allen's services were again brought into requisition, and he built rooms at the rear. Still the business, under Mr Gay's capable management, continued to increase. The additional rooms were required for more stock. Mr Green then erected a nice dwelling house close to the shop, for the manager and his family, and requirements were thus met for several years. Subsequently Mr Gay, who was very popular with all sections of the community passed away, death being due to cancer. His son. Mr A. Gay, who was also in Mr Green's employ succeeded his father in the management of the Morwell branch, which he conducted successfully. He, however, went to South Africa a few years ago, and the management of the business fell to Mr Green's eldest son, (Mr Arthur Green) who has been equally as successful in the minagement of the business as his predecessors. For a considerable time the old store and additious were found to be inadequate to meet the requirements of increasing business, and for the third time the services of Mr W. Allen, still of Rosedale, but now an old man, were sought. Mr Green had such confidence in Mr Allen that he simply explained to him that new premises were required. and gave him the dimensions of the buildings he wanted him to erect Mr Allen did the rest. He was archltect, builder, clerk of works, and f everything else thrownin. The work is

the state of the s

was so planned off that Mr Green was enabled to carry on business as usual during the progress of the work, without inconvenience to customers, and it might be here said that the whole-work has been carried out to the entire satisfaction of Mr Green, senr., and that of the manager, (Mr A. Green). Although not generally known here Mr Allen is by no means a stranger to Morwell In addition to the work carried out by him for Mr Green, he also erected Mr J. Rintoull's present blacksmith's shop. During the progress of that building Mr Rintoull's old shop was destroyed by fire, when Mr Alien and his men rendered valuable assistance in saving buggies and other stock. Then in 1887, on the occasion of the Queen's Jubilce, when there were great celebrations, Mr Allen was specially engaged to roast a bullock in the show grounds. It rained in torrents all day, but Mr Allen succeeded in his difficult task, and there are still many in the district who remember eating a piece of that bullock, which was donated by the late Mt John Macmillan.

Mr Groen's new establishment is 52 feet in length and 45 feet in width, with 14 feet ceilings. The structure, which is of brick (manufactured by Morwell Pottery Coy.) is divided into two compartments. one being 30ft in width and the other 15 feet. There are separate entrance doors to each compartment, whilst entrance is also gained to each place from the inside by a large archway in the centre of dividing wall. The ceilings, which are pine lined, are painted a light grey, with blue bordaring; the flooring being of Jarrah timber from Western Au tralia. The windows extend right across the front of shop, in very large panes, to feet in height. The doors are also of glass to within eighteen inches of floor, and are fitted with Norton's patent attachments to prevent slamming. The brickwork in front of building has been cemsn. ted, and the footpath asphalted. The verandab is a striking one with massive cast frieze and fringe and pannelling. Above the verandah the face of building is set off with Wunderlich steel lining, upon which name, etc.

is painted in large letters. Inside the establishment are 75 feet of fine counters, with panel fronts and New Zealand Kauri tops French polished, which are very striking. The interior of windows-for show purposes—is 12 feet by 6 feet. and 13 feet in height. They are fitted up with mirrors, gilded rods, and other up-to-date fittings, and enclosed with panel work and glass to ceiling. There is a cashier's desk, close to archway, which commands a view of both abops, and four large show tables in the centre of main shop, also nickel racks, mirrors, etc., etc., which add to the attractiveness of the laterior. There are separate departments for various goods. On the right, in large shop, are haberdashery, fancy goods, gloves, laces, Manchester goods, etc., whilst on the left are mens' clothing and hats, dresses, underclothing stc. and in the centre millinery. In the other compartment are boots and shoes and bulk stock. Each depart. ment is replate in every way, and to say the least, it is a fine and wellstocked establishmest.

MORWELL ADVERTER

lifted bodily to a growth the At the same time another wairlwind came from the west en Micholson street, and the comment forces junctioned at the comme end of Main street. A horsemespproaching from the bridge mand back, and leaving the horse, marcel into the gardens for safets. A cyclist was blown over and in ma hine wrecked, but he emple mury Sheets of iron, brick as the coces of timber were whirled like feathers. They commage in their descent by strains the roofs and sides of buildings maker downward course. The without procooded across the Minel River again within a mile where it first struck it. Boates perfies on the river had aircade assumed for the shore, and fortuniting escaped. The storm seemed to and itself in Jones's Bay, about a me sarther on, clearing a track through a paddock of maize. Former midents of Western Australia ambibe the visitor as a "willy-wull Norton's Club Hotel and star were the most damaged build but the two-story brick building occupied by Mr C. Marriott, multigist, and Mr G. Dean, cab property, received a great strain, crain showing through the brick water. The entire brick front of Mr Taylor's shop was blown out, warme wooden building close by, forman occupied by Mossrs Permewas Wright and Co., was entirely www. Serious damage was Hay. ward's butcher shop, we corner of the brickwork being amolished. Norris's Club Hotel hamarvellous escape, only a portion of the rear bung damaged. Mr meer's brick residence had a portion of the roof carried away, whilst will a dozen other buildings were more or less damaged.

Morwell in the 1920's Reminiscences of Mrs. Nell Smith (nee Rogers) as told to Mrs. Jean Rodgers.

An article with the above title appeared in our Newsletter, July, 1926. We now know there were some errors in that article so we have reprinted it here hopefully having got all the facts right this time.

We have another reason to be very grateful to Mrs. Smith. Shortly after her visit to Jean in 1986 she sent (via her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Gavin Smith of Hazelwood North) photostated capies of snapshots of Morwell brick-works in Jane Street and the mening of the Swimming Pool in Commercial Road in 1926. Recently at our request Mrs. Smith who now lives in Rochester, Victoria, had these photos reproduced and sent them to us for our book.

(Revised) Reminiscences of Mrs. Ellen Smith (nee Rogers)

Recently (i.e. in 1986) our member Mrs. Jean Rodgers had a visit from Mrs. Ellen Smith (sometimes called Nell) whose family lived in Morwell in the 1920's. Although Mrs. Smith was only about 8 years old when the family left here, her memories of places, people and events of Morwell are very clear indeed.

Eller Rogers (now Mrs. Smith) was the third daughter of George Alexander Rogers (spelt without the 'd' so no relation to Jean). The family lived in Jane Street and her father managed Morwell Brick Works from 1922 to 1928. Then they moved to Albert Park and opened a butcher's shop and also had a picture theatre at Port Melbourne. This theatre was built by Mrs. Smith's late grandfather, Mr. Alexander Smith, in the early century. Alexander Smith was M.L.A. for Melbourne Ports at the time.

Miss McDonald (the late Mrs. Rintoull) taught Ellen Rogers at Commercial Road School in grade 1. Other members of the Rogers family all attended the state school in Morwell. They were George, Elsa, Mavis, Nell and Sylvia. Ellen remembers going to the silent pictures at the Mechanic's Hall in Tarwin Street and two boys ringing hand bells to advertise the pictures. She also remembers ordering ham sandwiches at Furlonger's Ham and Beef Shop to take home for supper. The seating at the pictures was long forms with one rung backs.

The old concrete swimming pool with a fence around it was not forgotten. Neither were the neck to knee swim-suits their mother made for her and her sisters. Later the band hall was built next to the pool and I think the first Bowling Club was there, too.