

Stop Press

The 18th October was a great day for the boys of the Switching Sub-section. On this day, for the first time they were able to carry out a conversation using the I.S.T. Switch, which as you know can interconnect speech channels that are pulse code modulated. (This proves the TV advertisement that you need a garage before you buy a Rola door.

The PCM systems were provided by Alan Fowler's Division and were installed by Mike Hunter and Dick Francis. At the same time Andy Domjan and Co. busily prepared the necessary interconnection facilities. Ossie Lambert worked out most of the implications on the switch itself, Neil Chandler was responsible for the production of the master clocks and input clock and Paul Dunn designed a large part of the line equipment. They are all to be congratulated for the success of the project.

The Laboratory model which is a model Time Division Multiplex Exchange has the ultimate capacity to interconnect 24 speech channels and it is the forerunner of the Field Trial IST Exchange. This exchange will be introduced first in the metropolitan network in 1970 and will have the capacity to interconnect 16 PCM systems with 384 speech channels.

"RESEARCH LAB REPORTER"**In Memoriam.****Trevor Alfred Housley.**

We of the Research Laboratories extend our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Housley, her daughters and son for the very sad and sudden loss of our Director General early this month.

R.I.P.

Personal Glimpses

Bill Metzenthen, Engineer Class 1, Telephonometry Division

Bill's first association with the Laboratories started in 1965 when he came to us as a vacation student and spent just over three months in the Pulse Systems Division. Subsequently he gained his Fellowship Diploma in Communications Engineering at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and returned to us, this time as a member of the Telephonometry Division. He is still continuing formal academic study in Mathematical Statistics at Monash University with a view to broadening his training and eventually gaining B. Sc. qualifications.

Late in 1967 the Secretary-General of the I.T.U. advised this Department of a course programme to be offered by the Philips International Institute of Technological Studies at Eindhoven, Holland, during the 1968-69 academic year. The course offered is built around the theme "Signal Handling" which is highly relevant to telephone communications.

Bill was encouraged to apply because of the particular relevance and potential value of the course to his present and future work in the Laboratories. It is now history that his application was successful and he departed for Holland last month for a period of one year. As a course participant he will receive training for part of his study term in the factory and laboratory departments of the Philips organisation in Holland. This experience will provide a valuable opportunity to become familiar with the methods and techniques of one of the major telecommunication equipment organisations in the world and whose Australian affiliates are becoming increasingly important in the telecommunications industry in this country.

Congratulations Bill!

Do You Know

Some people have all the luck. While we are battling through the day in our little cubby holes John McLeod and Tony Romagnano, Telephone Standards are enjoying a full week jumping the daily rattler between Servicetown and Melbourne.

About eight years ago we conducted noise level tests on diesel locomotives at the request of the Victorian Railways. Recently the Railways Union made further approaches to the Commissioners to extend these tests to the later model locos under full load conditions. So John and Tony complete with sound level meter and associated paraphernalia have undertaken weighted noise readings and an octave band analysis which means (I think) a measurement of the amount of noise in a range of frequency bands covering the audible spectrum.

As a special reward for meritorious devotion to duty the route for the final day of testing was varied to the Lilydale - Healesville line. I should imagine that John and Tony have become expert topographers after this exercise.

Recently, the Environmental Physics Division escaped from the city. The job was done quietly and unobtrusively one Saturday morning and was completed before anyone realised it. Was it an unflattering co-incidence that they were moved before the Governor-General's visit? The city had become too much for them. Parking fees and fines were absorbing too great a percentage of incomes. Some people's grumbles about traffic noise were becoming more of a nuisance than the noise itself.

A man of many talents, Keith Minnitt, Subsectional Clerk, Equipment Development, takes off for a month's furlough later this month to do the spade work in preparation for a beautification programme for the Minnitt residence. Lets hope the summer lives up to its name Keith so you can reap the rewards of your labour by spending many hours reclining in the new sun-room.

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In our last issue we made mention of a proposed car trial being organised for the near future (we hope). It is expected to be a most comprehensive affair as Jenni Kett and Doug Wilson have spent every week-end since last August inspecting various itineraries in addition to holding lunch time and after work conferences. They are to be congratulated for the many hours of personal effort they are contributing to this forthcoming event. We are very sorry to hear of Doug's present illness and sincerely hope to see his smiling face peeping around our doors very soon. A big cheerio Doug!

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OFFAGEN-ONAGEN. Recently Bill Kretzschmar, Technical Assistant Grade 2, Equipment Development Group reached the retiring age of 65 years. After 10 years of service we were reluctant to see such an experienced body disappearing from the vicinity of the Crystal Laboratory. However a farewell presentation was arranged and when Les Murfett was in the middle of his breezy address a phone call was received which completely altered the proceedings. Les had to forgo his prepared farewell and demonstrate his art of ad lib as Bill had been reprieved for a further two months. Well done Bill.

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Albert Seyler has returned from recreation leave looking a ball of muscle. Much leaner and sporting a sundowner's tan Albert has spent his time moving into his new home at North Croydon. If anyone is anxious to spend a day in the healthy outdoors I'm sure a working bee could be arranged to get the garden into shape.

Barry Cranston, Lab. Equipment, has just returned from a self conducted wandering holiday around the Broken Hill area. After much digging at a place called White Hills (about 200 miles North of Broken Hill) he collected a few opals. However he decided that the amount of dirt he had to shift makes it very hard work.

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It was a sad day for Watkins when Dick Slade had cause to bid farewell to Gordon Walker and Bob Cornish who have left the Laboratories for greener professional pastures - Gordon to C.S.I.R.O. and Bob to B.H.P. At a farewell luncheon attended by 50 colleagues, Ed Sandbach and Dick made presentations and extended to both best wishes for the future.

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Per favour of Harry Wragge we had the pleasure of reading a most descriptive letter from Mel Ward, Switching Group, at present on an official overseas visit. Despite the intense pressure to which one is subjected during these visits Mel has carefully planned his personal hours to see as much as possible of the urban and surrounding areas of the places he is visiting officially. At the time of writing he was based in Antwerp after having visited the Belgian towns of Ghent, Bruges, Brussels and Louvain. Unfortunately there is not sufficient space available to publish the entire letter but the following extracts provide interesting reading

"We really love Antwerp and would gladly spend much more time here. We have walked its main streets and its little back streets and it all has such tremendous character. We really can't imagine how some of the Australians here find it dull and uninteresting. The people are more formal than the English races but are very friendly and helpful with the language problem. Most speak excellent English but even if they don't we manage with a French, sign language, and Flemish mixture to communicate pretty well. Everyone looks very prosperous and there is almost no sign of the long haired youths so common in England."

"The Flemish have a great sense of fun and love a festival. There was one here in Antwerp two weeks ago - a combined celebration for the liberation of Belgium and for the traditional Guild Festival. There was a procession with national costumes, guild costumes, flag wavers, giants, stilt walkers, folk dancers, etc. we watched this and then joined in the festivities in the old market place and by the old Stein on the Scholdt. We couldn't understand half that was going on but had a great time. A Belgian whom we met introduced me to the old Trappist beer which is made still by the monks in some monasteries in Belgium. And a right purity old brew it was too! I gathered that what I tried is called "double" but the real purists drink "triple" which is twice as strong again"

"In Ghent we were lucky enough to see their Festival of Flowers which is only held once every two years. Part of the procession was being televised for a Eurovision serial and we were invited to take part as extras. No pay unfortunately but some director may realise our hidden talents and whisk us off to stardom.

We have found the Belgium food very good, particularly one of their favourite dishes - mussels (moules) and pommes frites. However they insist on eating their meat half raw and in the case of Filet Americain it's completely raw (steak mince with herbs, vinegar.) I haven't had the courage to try that yet.

Did you know, by the way, that Belgium drivers don't have to have a driving licence. It really seems like it too - crossing Frankryklei is a major undertaking. However the authorities compensate for this by having very rigorous car tests - particularly brakes."

John Hughes, Path Evaluation has purchased a boat in readiness for the forthcoming summer. John is now on the lookout for an all girl crew - it seems he is interested in pirating on the high seas.

Sports



&



Hobbies

Ham Radio

Dick Fitzsimons, Lab Equipment, has been concentrating with his amateur radio in the lowest frequency band allocated for his particular group, namely 160 metres (1.8 - 1.8.6 MHz). With 22 watts and using telephony he has achieved successful two way communication with all Australian States - the best dx being New Zealand. The ultimate dx in this band is to reach the U.S.A. and Great Britain. So keep trying Dick.

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Darts

Bob Barclay, Instrument Section is still continuing to make the feathers fly (and quite accurately). Despite the handicap of an injured thumb on his throwing hand - an "on the job" mishap requiring stitches - Bob is to play in an elimination match arranged to select a representative team to tour New Zealand. The tournament is being arranged by AMPOL who have donated a considerable sum of money to assist in the finance of the programme. Best of luck Bob.

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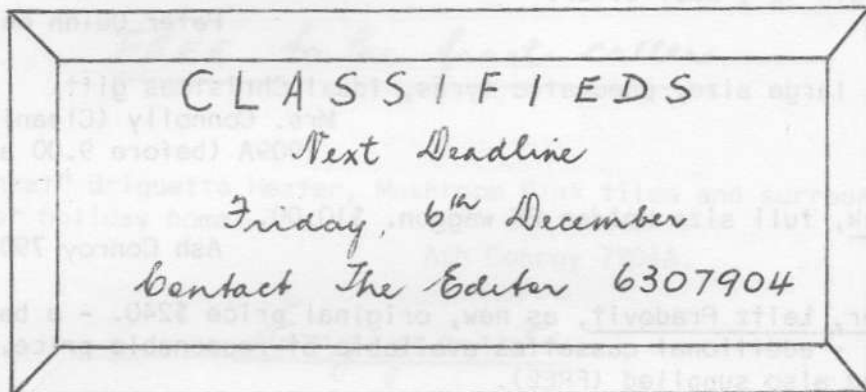
Golf

IT'S ON AGAIN! Another Research golf day has been arranged for Saturday, 2nd Nov. at the Ivanhoe Links - first group to hit off at 9.15 am. Bets are being laid left and right, the Labs will be inundated with Tatt's tickets after the event. All the details are on your notice boards and Alva Allen (7964) is eagerly awaiting your applications. You don't need to be a golfer to come along and enjoy yourself - just look at the scores of the "champs" from the last contest. Their final figures looked like Don Bradman's batting average in his prime.

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CRICKET

Speaking of Don Bradman reminds me that we have a "dark horse" in the Lab. Equipment Division who is reputed to be better than average in the cricketing world. Unfortunately he is a particularly modest and quiet type of ~~engineer~~ chap and our reporters are having extreme difficulty in obtaining any details. However we shall keep trying.



WANTED TO HIRE

Car Trailer (approx 6' x 4') required urgently to transport suitcases, snorkels, flippers, buckets, spades, etc of 9 Conroys to Sorrento - needed from 2nd Jan - 23rd Jan. 1969.

Ash Conroy 7904A.

Wanted to SELL

Regrigerator, 6.6 cu. ft. B.G.E., sealed unit, full width freezer chest, excellent order \$55.00.

Ken Keir 7991W.

Model Airplane, "TOBOR", Radio Controlled, Wing span 4'6", Length 3'2", Width 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", Best Offer.

Peter Quinn 6613W.

Scooter, large size, pneumatic tyres, ideal Christmas gift.

Mrs. Connolly (Cleaning Staff)
7909A (before 9.00 am)

Pack Rack, full size Holden EK waggon. \$10.00.

Ash Conroy 7904A.

Projector, Leitz Pradovit, as new, original price \$240. - a bargain at \$150. - additional cassettes available at reasonable price. Brand new stand also supplied (FREE).

AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION ROOM 236 2ND FLOOR, BLOCK A ANYTIME.
RING 7904 or 7932.

Bicycle, 27" semi racer, with extras, excellent order. Best offer.

Peter Quinn 6613W.

Fog Lights, oval type, "NOTEK" one pair, high quality brand new, $\frac{1}{2}$ price (whatever that is).

Lyel Perkins 6876T.

T.V. 17" Portable, ASTOR, indoor aerial, excellent working order \$50.00.

Peter Quinn 6613W.

Wanted to Buy

Bicycle, Boys 26", working order.

Mrs. Connolly (Cleaning Staff)
7909A (before 9.00am)

FREE to the first caller

"Wonderheat" Briquette Heater, Mushroom Pink tiles and surround,
ideal for holiday home.

Ash Conroy 7904A.

Engagements

Switching Group Norm McLeod to Miss Pam Peart.

Model Shop Trevor Reynolds to Miss Cathy Fallace.

Marriages

Radio Systems Alan Mitchell to Arlene.

Pulse Systems Jack Kelly to Judith.

Births

Crossbar Development to David and Coleen Mattiske, a son - Andrew David.

Probability to Mr. & Mrs. Graham Raymond - a daughter.

Promotions

John Kelly
Dave Harcoan
Arthur Forecast
Alan Adamson
Ted Hulley
Frank Hanratty
Barry Hawkins
Howard Timbury
Roy Potter
Jim Blake

Jim Frood
Doug Wellington
Barry Cranston
Jim Frood
Joe Blake
Jim Thomas
Lyel Perkins
Eddie Fall
Dick Francis
Harry Ellis

Noel Wolstencroft
Boyd Rayment
Dave Thompson
Alan Mitchell
Frank Coates
Peter Dalliston
Peter Dawson
Eric Dodge
Ben Juska
Brian Brimmel

Congratulations to all.

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Laboratories Annual Christmas Party

Arrangements as usual in the hands of the ever-reliable Ray Jepson. Further details will be circulated in the next few weeks.

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A GLOSSARY OF "OFFICIALESE"

(PART ONE)

A PROGRAMME:	Any assignment that can't be completed by one phone call.
CHANNELS:	The trail left by an inter-office memo.
STATUS QUO:	This means we're in.
TO EXPEDITE:	To confound confusion with commotion.
EXPEDITER:	One who does same while flying in air craft and staying at good hotels.
EFFICIENCY EXPERT:	A guy who trains expeditors.
CO-ORDINATOR:	A guy who has a desk between two expeditors.
LIAISON OFFICER:	A person who talks well and listens better, but has no authority to make a definite statement.
CRITERIA:	Measures which the other guy uses to under-estimate what you have already over-estimated the deal to be worth.

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Little Son: "Mother, do fairy tales always begin with 'Once upon a time'?"

Mother: "No dear, not always. They sometimes begin with, 'My love, I will be detained at the office tonight.'"

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