

## MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE SETS THE THEME FOR THE 70's.

"National Co-ordination" — that is the theme adopted by our inaugural National Conference, held, appropriately, at Canberra on 11/12th April.

Over 30 management personnel from all state branches and head office discussed a wide range of subjects. Many had the opportunity of meeting people from other States for the first time.

Mr. Stewart Wallis, Deputy Managing Director, outlined the Company's plans and prospects for the future and left no doubt that we are facing a challenging and exciting period of development. He emphasised the importance of maximum utilisation of all resources if the goals of the seventies are to be successfully achieved.



"The Conference in Session"

The conference discussed methods of improving efficiency through standardisation of procedures in various areas. Further developments in this regard can be expected in the near future.

In addition to the more formal business of the conference, the agenda included a round of golf and, for the less active, a cruise of Lake Burley Griffin.

Arrangements for the conference were very effectively handled by the staff of the A.C.T. Branch.



John BAKER, Peter DAWS and Harry CHARITON, relax on Lake Burley Griffin.

## MR. NORM WOFF JOINS THE BOARD.

Congratulations are extended to our Company Secretary — Mr. Norm Woff on his recent appointment to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Woff joined the Company in 1962 and was appointed to the then newly created position of Chief Accountant. He held this position until he was appointed



Company Secretary in succession to the late Mr. Cec Ryan in January, 1970. He was educated at Melbourne Boys High School — as were some other members of the staff — and through Night School studies qualified as an Accountant in 1949. He has since qualified as a Chartered Secretary in 1963 and a Cost & Management Accountant in 1965.

He is married with six children, whose ages range from four to thirteen years. He hopes one day, to be able to continue his tennis and squash activities which have been interrupted in recent years.

We wish him every success in his new position.

## COMPANY MOTTO

At the Canberra Management conference it was suggested and adopted that we should have a Company Motto which will convey in a few words the image and expertise of Leighton.

Once again the staff are invited to participate by forwarding, through your Branch Correspondent, any suggestion you would like to offer.

A successful entry will entitle the originator to a suitable tangible reward.

## EDITORIAL STAFF

G.P. CASTIEAU, Editor  
A. RAE  
D. YOUNG  
L. BLOOD  
H. CHARITON  
C. MURRAY

Sydney Office  
Melbourne Office  
Brisbane Office  
Canberra Office  
Sydney Office  
Bankstown Office,  
Sydney.



## NEWS FROM QUEENSLAND.

### ACACIA RIDGE DEVELOPMENT.

Work has now commenced on the "Satelite Town" of Ridgewood which was reported in the first edition of the Leighton News Letter.

To date approximately 50 acres of the land has been cleared, thus permitting access for the surveyors so that final designs can be completed.

Engineers are M.A.K. Thompson and W. Wilson

Surveyors are R.S. Jones, Flint and Pike.

### STORY BRIDGE EXPRESSWAY

The official opening of the bridge took place on 18th May, 1970 and was attended by senior cabinet ministers, the Lord Mayor and senior personnel from government departments.

The opening followed the standard procedure for the official opening of most bridges; that is the cutting of a ceremonial ribbon and the official handing over of the project by Leightons.

### ATLAS COPCO

The office and warehouse have now been completed. This project was the first design and construct contract in Queensland.

### FUTURE PROSPECTS

The Queensland branch has recently been successful in submitting the lowest tenders on two major projects. The first was the Ross River Dam at Townsville and the other the reconstruction of Kemp Place in Brisbane.

## N.S.W. CONTRACT NEWS

### SCIENCE AND LABORATORY BUILDING ST. AUGUSTINE'S COLLEGE, BROOKVALE.

Site work has just commenced for the reinforced concrete frame structure for the laboratory block.

The contract calls for completion of the project by November, 1970, including the supply and installation of all desks and laboratory work benches.

Project Personalities:

George Halford — Building Foreman.

### KINGSGROVE — FACTORY FOR F. MULLER P/LTD.

Work has just been completed on a 300' x 150' Warehouse Building and associated roadworks. The contract was completed on schedule whilst still maintaining full production and facilities in the adjoining factory and warehouse.

Project Personalities:

Denis Milsen — Building Foreman

### SEVEN HILLS — AUSTRALIAN SEWINGS PTY. LTD. WAREHOUSE, FACTORY AND OFFICE BLOCK EXTENSION.

Recently completed on schedule, this project has now been taken over by the client.

The building work comprised of two separate warehouse and factory buildings plus additions to the internal executive office suites.

Project Personalities:

Bill Shannahan — Building Foreman

Paddy Carr — Civil Foreman

### CLYDE — SHELL CO. OF AUSTRALIA LTD. SWITCHBOARD AND OFFICE.

Work has recently been completed on the new office and switchboard building for a new polypropylene plant being built at the Clyde Refinery.

This Plant will be the first of its kind in Australia with all construction work being supervised by Dutch and English specialists.

Project Personalities:

Ron Scott — Building Foreman.

## SYDNEY KINGSFORD SMITH AIRPORT

When the first aircraft rolled onto the concrete apron of the new International Terminal at Kingsford Smith Airport, beneath it was a complicated engineering structure which gave the designers some unique technical problems.

The aprons, parking areas and roadways surrounding the terminal building all were the work of Leighton Contractors Ltd. They had to be designed to meet the special requirements of the giant 'Jumbo' jets with their fantastic wheel loadings and carrying capacities.

The 'Jumbo' jets spread their 742,000 pounds (laden weight) over 18 wheels. To support this weight, 14 to 18 inches of reinforced concrete was required.

The foundations for this concrete layer had to be specially prepared.

Leightons started on the project about 2 years ago. The first task was to carry in 750,000 tons of sand from Kurnell and Malabar which was used to compress the clays and silts beneath the surface which had been deposited through by the Cooks River.

The contract for the sand fill surcharge alone was worth \$1 mill.



Sydney Kingsford Smith Airport — International Terminal —  
General View of Car Park.

To prepare the apron areas, the site was flooded with water and then rolled with one of the biggest rollers in Australia. The roller was weighted with iron ingots to 200 tons and it took three bulldozers, totaling 1,000 hp to pull it.

The roller compacted the sand to nine feet below the surface. When this was done, six inches of crushed stone was spread over the area and compressed.

Then the maze of service trenches which run under the aprons were dug. These trenches were difficult to excavate and line because water was found less than two feet below the surface. All the trenching had to be done behind closed sheeting.

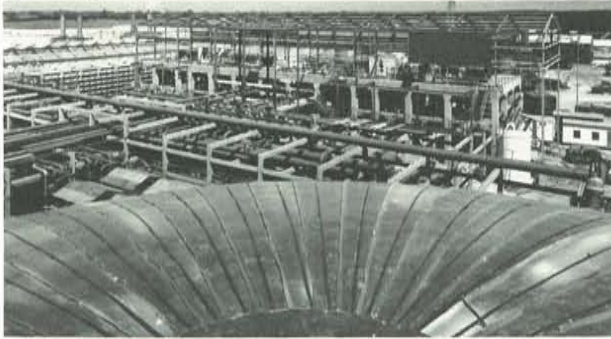
A special concrete plant was set up on site. This plant poured out 100 cubic yards of concrete an hour to feed the paving train which laid the apron.

The paving train — the only privately owned one in Australia — is fully automated and gives a maximum deviation in level every 10 feet of only 1/8 of an inch.

The paving train laid a total of 55,000 cubic yards of concrete for the aprons which cover just on 100,000 square feet.



The plant is being built to process the natural gas and crude oil from the offshore rigs in Bass Strait. The natural gas from the plant is piped to Melbourne and the crude oil will be piped to Long Island Point in Westernport Bay.



*View overlooking complicated concrete structures — Cooling towers, compressor and piperacks.*

Earthworks at the gas plant site began in November 1967 and full scale construction began in February 1968. In order to accommodate the large number of workers required the joint venture erected a camp beside the site. Up to 400 men lived in this camp and at times over 600 lunches were served to the work force.

As well as large scale earthworks Leighton were responsible for the foundations, concrete superstructures, fireproofing of steelwork, drainage, and site levelling and surfacing. Several large precast concrete structures were erected using units cast on site in three large precasting beds.

The joint venture is the main subcontractor to Hudson Engineering (Australia) Ltd., the Australian subsidiary of Hudson Engineering Corporation of Houston, Texas. All the design work for the project was done in Houston and all on-site supervision is by Americans.

The project for Leighton is being built by its Industrial Projects Division which is also building another facility for Esso-B.H.P. at Long Island Point.

## LEIGHTONS BACK YOUTH ACTIVITY IN BEAUMARIS

The legacy of constructing a number of refrigeration tank foundations for the Esso-B.H.P. Fractionation Plant at Long Island Point in Victoria was the largest single-piece big top in Australia — a huge canvas marquee over 110 feet square or to put it simply, a marquee large enough to cover two normal building blocks. It was necessary for the Company to acquire such a tent in building the tank bases as the contract requirement called for all materials to be perfectly dry throughout construction.

On being approached by a group seeking to involve the youth of the Beaumaris area in the staging of a Revue over the vacation, the Company made the tent available free of charge. The end result was the involvement of some 250 persons in the 15 - 20 age group to "very" successfully stage a first class "Revue" to capacity houses of 600 people on all of six nights.

The Company should be rightly proud in having been associated with such a worthwhile programme.

## LATE NEWS

We are told that the tent recently won the award of merit for "Unusual and Imaginative uses of Canvas" given by the Australian Canvas Products Association.

## GOVE JOINT VENTURE OPERATIONS

Gove peninsula is situated approximately 400 miles east of Darwin in Arnhem Land and the area has proven bauxite deposits of 2000 million tons. Bauxite, the source of aluminium, was discovered in Arnhem Land after world war II. Nabalco Pty. Ltd. a consortium of Australian Companies and Swiss aluminium company Ltd. has undertaken to develop the bauxite deposits at an



*General View of Alumina Plant Site.*



*Partly completed excavation work in the plant site.*



*Fishing at Gove*



Surrounding the aprons is a further 18,000 square yard area of hot mix asphalt which adjoins 42,000 square yards of grass verge turfed by Leighton Contractors.

The tunnels beneath the aprons carry all services to the aircraft — water, air conditioning, fuel, oil, telephones, electricity, and compressed air. The compressed air is used to start the jet engines of the aircraft.

The services were laid underground to obviate the need for the fleet of trucks which previously surrounded each arriving and departing aircraft.

There is room for 2,500 cars in the sealed carport built by Leightons at the new overseas terminal. Trucks carried 90,000 tons of crushed rock from Prospect for the car park and roadway foundations. The Prospect quarry also provided another 35,000 tons which was used on the aprons.

The roads and parking areas was sealed with 17,000 square yards of hot mix asphalt and to drain them seven miles of underground pipe was laid.



Sydney Kingsford Smith Airport — International Terminal — Concrete Aprons.

The forty acres of grass surrounding the terminal was put down by Leightons using a new technique. A green-coloured, plasticised mulch containing grass seeds was sprayed over the area. This compound held the sandy soil in place and protected the seeds.

Leighton Contractors also built the pumping station for sewerage from the terminal building.

Leightons Project Managers for the airport work, Peter Cockerill, and Peter Gregg said the overseas terminal contracts — which were worth in excess of \$4-mill. to Leightons — had presented many engineering problems, but the greatest problem of all had been the need to co-ordinate the work with the other contractors involved.

## FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

In the last month work has commenced on three new Contracts in the Australian Capital Territory.

*Belconnen Town Centre* consisting of roads, hydraulic services and two pedestrian underpasses. The client's National Capital Development Commission and the Consulting Engineer D.J. Dwyer and Associates. Major quantities involved are approximately 500,000 cubic yards of earthworks, 8,700 feet 'twin' 72" diameter concrete stormwater pipes, 115,000 sq. yds. of gravel pavements.

The area will form the first stage of a complex of offices, shopping malls, recreational facilities and light service industries catering for the Belconnen area of

Canberra. The first buildings are due to commence in June, 1970 — seven office blocks for Government Departments. The design was carried out by Mr. John Andrews a prominent Australian Architect who for many years practised in Canada.

Roy Alexander is the Foreman on the site and John Charles the Surveyor.

*Southern Cross and Kingsford-Smith Drive* will add to the system of arterial roads in the Belconnen area. This section of arterial road links the suburbs of Scullin, Higgins and Latham. The work is being carried out for the N.C.D.C., the Consulting Engineers are L.T. Frazer and Associates. The Contract value is \$538,000 and involves the construction of 6,000 ft. of expressway type carriageway with two reinforced concrete pedestrian underpasses. Keith Jones is the Project Engineer.

*Belconnen 12D and Weston Creek 7A* form Stage 3 of the current long term Engineering Contract with the Department of Works.

This stage is the largest so far, comprising 635 blocks in two separate areas of Canberra. This is in line with the current N.C.D.C. policy of increasing the output of serviced blocks of land in Canberra by 25 per cent. The value of this stage is \$1.72 million involving 162,000 cubic yards of earthworks, 149,000 sq. yds. of pavement.

George Sealey is the Foreman on Weston Creek 7A and Keith Jermyn is the Foreman on Belconnen 12D.

Other points of interest on the Canberra scene are:—

## AUSTRALIAN ROAD RESEARCH BOARD FIFTH NATIONAL CONFERENCE.

The Australian Road Research Board will be holding its Fifth National Conference in Canberra from 23rd to 28th August, 1970. Our company has been asked to organise a technical tour for parties of delegates to the Conference on the Wednesday and Friday of that week. A tour of the Capital Hill Ring Road is being planned and discussion during the tour will be led by members of the Canberra staff.

The Australian Road Research Board Conference is attended by top Research and Construction men in Civil Engineering fields associated with road and pavement construction and our company takes it as a compliment that this project has been selected not only for discussion but as a technical tour.

## ROYAL VISIT TO CANBERRA.

We have received the following letter from the Honorable P.J. Nixon, Minister for Interior and reproduce its text in full:—

"Dear Mr. Blood,

On behalf of the Australian Government, the National Capital Development Commission and myself I would like to express sincere appreciation for the special contribution you made towards the success of the Royal Visit to Canberra, particularly in relation to pressing the work associated with the Carillon to completion.

I would be glad if you would also convey this appreciation to those other members of your firm who were closely associated with the subject works.

Yours sincerely,  
Peter Nixon"

## VICTORIAN NEWS

### ESSO-B.H.P. GAS PLANT.

Leighton, and its joint venture partners World Services and Construction Pty. Ltd., have almost completed the first two stages of the Esso-B.H.P. Gas Plant near Sale, Victoria.



estimated cost of 310 million dollars. Their proposal calls for the establishment of a bauxite treatment plant for the production of alumina, a bauxite mine, harbour facilities for the handling of bulk and general cargo, and a town for 3,500 people.



631 Scraper working on Conveyor Formation.

Your company is the sponsor of a joint venture with Atkinson International (Australia) Pty. Ltd. and has provided the key personnel for the project. The total value of contracts undertaken at Gove is approximately 8.3 million dollars and involves two prime contracts for Nabalco Pty. Ltd. and a sub-contract for Noyes Bros. Pty. Ltd. and Dillingham Engineering Pty. Ltd.

The joint venture's main contract is nearing completion and has involved the grading of the alumina plant site, the construction of a 12 mile long composite road formation to service the overland bauxite conveyor,



Some of the Gove Equipment

the construction of a 20 mile long water supply pipeline with associated storage reservoirs, pump station and treatment plant and the construction of a 2 mile long open concrete channel to service the alumina plant. The grading of the alumina plant site and the construction of the overland conveyor formation entailed the removal of 370,000 cubic yards of rock, the handling of 1.4 million cubic yards of other than rock material and the construction of 24 miles of service roads.

The joint venture has just completed its second contract for Nabalco which involved the erection of 30 houses at the Mt. Saunders Village and the construction of all services and roads for the village. The village,



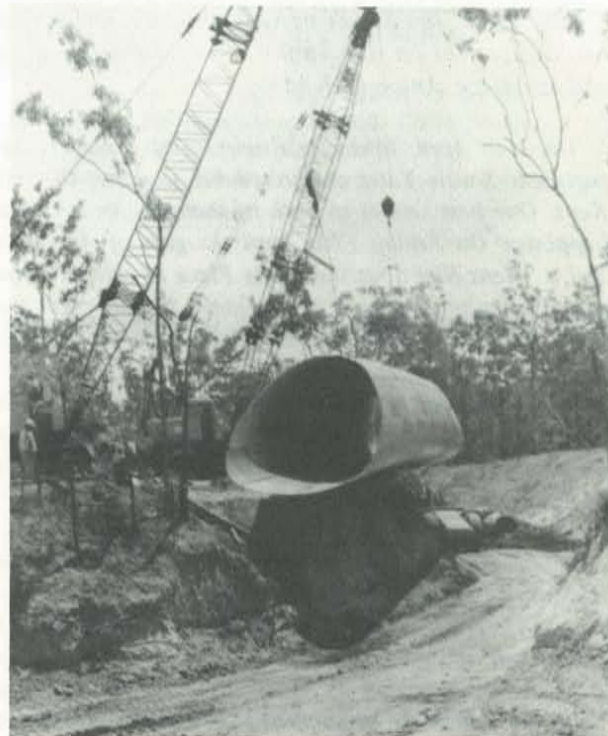
Safari Trip, Arnhem Land —  
Tom Day, Sid Baker, Wally King, Nigel Poole (front)

consisting of 100 houses, provides married accommodation for Nabalco's and contractor's staff and it is situated near the site of the future Town of Nhulunbuy.

Electrical power for the project will be supplied from a steam power station and the joint venture is presently involved in the excavation and construction of foundations for the power station.

Before bauxite can be processed the ore has to be crushed to produce material with a particle size of less than one inch. The main crushing station is being constructed by Noyes Bros. Pty. Ltd. and the joint venture has a contract to construct the plant foundations and the general civil works associated with the crushing station.

Some of the heavy earthmoving equipment has been shipped back to the eastern states and it is anticipated that all operations at Gove should be completed by August, 1970.



Installation of a  
Vehicular underpass



## SNIPPETS

### GOVE

Syd (Car 20 Cedric) Baker performed Anzac Day honours by leading a contingent of about 300 residents to the dawn parade held at the old Catalina base at Drimmie Head. Syd. and ex R.S.M., was later seen at the Anzac's boozy breakfast held at the Prospect Camp in a far more relaxed state, and was still later seen in an even more relaxed state supporting the back of a ute with some of the real die-hards.

Day-trips either fishing or safari trips inland, are a common pastime on Sundays off work. These trips usually result in either the boys near running out of fuel, catching far too many fish, or getting bogged in buffalo wallows. Anyway these trips are inevitable topics of good conversation and memories of our teams stay in Gove.

John Bendel (Quantity Surveyor) is to be congratulated on his engagement. John achieved this feat whilst on site at Gove, with his fiancée in Sydney which indicates that distance makes the heart grow stronger. Well done John! and we wish you and your wife all the best for your wedding on 18th June and for the future generally.

### VICTORIA

Ross McLeod, Civil Engineer, recently resigned to accompany his wife on an Asian Tour. If the opportunity arises, he hopes to work while overseas. Good Luck Ross.

Julie Ross, Jim Earle's popular secretary, announced her engagement on 4th April. Congratulations to Julie and her fiancée, Anton Richards.

On 25th April, Bridgette Robinson of Accounts Department South Yarra celebrated her wedding to Geff Kent. Our best wishes to both of them for their future happiness. On Friday 17th April the girls of Accounts had a "Hens Night" at the Savoy Plaza to celebrate the event. In spite of threats by the males to gate-crash the party, a swinging night was had by all.

We are pleased to welcome Mr. John Foster, who has taken up the position of Project Manager, Design and Construction. John, a former Cold Stream Guard, has a keen interest in all forms of boating.

Tibor Katz has finally relinquished his control of Accounts Payable, to set up Victoria's E.D.P. Department. After eight years his contemporaries have found it difficult to work in the peaceful surroundings. We are wondering if there is any truth in the rumour that he recently invested in a hair cut, in case the computers started addressing him as "Hair Von Katz".

### A.C.T.

The following personalities have been recently appointed to the construction staff in Canberra:

Arthur "Nobby" Clark who previously was engaged in real property surveying in the Wollongong area and has been appointed as a Surveyor in Canberra.

Nick Fominas who for some time has been engaged as a chainman on work with the company is now upgraded to a Surveyor.

Wal Hilton who has had considerable experience in bridge and building construction throughout Australia has been appointed as a Senior General Foreman on similar types of construction with our company in Canberra.

New members of the clerical section in Canberra are:

Pat Hemetsberger,  
Hazel Goodwin, and  
Jan Small.

### QUEENSLAND.

Col Greeves has recently returned from South East Asia and Japan. Some particularly interesting stories now circulating in the Brisbane office.

Gary Dobrich recently represented Brisbane in the Bulimba Cup series against Toowoomba. He had a lot of trouble in putting the ball into the scrum, and subsequently has been repositioned by his own club Wynnum-Manly.

### SYDNEY.

Highly popular and efficient Denyse Elphinstone, for 3 years Secretary to Stewart Wallis, recently resigned to travel overseas.

Her farewell party was held at Sydney Office and beyond.

Bon Voyage and Good Luck, Denyse!

There was once an accountant called Hardy,  
Who played soccer on Sunday, well hardly,  
When called on to kick the pill,  
he didn't get quite such a thrill,  
in fact he felt more than ill,  
what a way to treat an ankle,

An excuse for a few days off work? well hardly.

(contributed).