



LEIGH CREEK.

15th JUNE, 1955.

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Issue 3.

Price 1d.

It was with little thought as to subject matter that I agreed to further my literary career by doing this article, and subsequent reflection has brought forth the rather unpleasant realisation that some thought would have to be given to what was to be said.

The main purpose of "TOPICS" existence is to bring to us news about ourselves and our activities (could be depressing, I agree), and it would be unreasonable, could be unwise - though not necessarily irrelevant - to talk about the Status of Women in Primitive Societies, or Modern Manifestations of Artistic Expression, no matter how brilliant and tactful the subject handling.

The rejection of numerous fascinating possibilities and critical examination of acceptable material finally resulted in a choice between (a) "The Impact of Pest Deficiency on the Bottle Trade" and (b) "What's To Do?" (b) won!

During the past five years round about five hundred meetings of one sort or another have been held in Leigh Creek, the purpose of most of them being to help a section or the whole of the Community.

An observer at these meetings would have had two main impressions (1) that attendance at public meetings was fair, poor or worse - mostly worse: (2) that the faces at committee meetings were very, very familiar.

There could, of course be reasons for this state of affairs; bad publicity, rotten weather, not too clear an idea of what it was all about, and so on - on the other hand it could be a case of "Oh well, I don't suppose it's all that important" and that sort of thinking means one more empty seat.

That we have a community well endowed with generosity is obvious: people ARE willing to help in many ways - the receipts of the school committee over a 3-year period were close to £900. One evening devoted to raising funds for the recent Bush Fire Appeal brought better than £70 -but, and there is nearly always a 'but', the Community also needs the time of its members. People should attend public meetings; they should know what's going on; they should have a say in matters that may affect themselves, their children, their friends.

So what about it - there are things to do and up to now too few people have been doing them. Perhaps you may ask what's being done? Well, here are a few items -

The School Committee - its function? Numerous activities mainly devoted to fund raising for school children's amenities.

The Infant Welfare Committee - Similar activities for the younger children.

The Kindergarten Committee - Likewise for the younger yet.

The Hospital Committee - Amenity fund-raising for and administration of the Hospital.

There are many others - C.W.A., Scouts and Cubs, Dramatic, Racing, Car, Garden, Tennis Badminton, Cricket and probably some others - all needing the active participation of members of our community.

There's certainly plenty to do, isn't there?

COAL FACTS'!!!

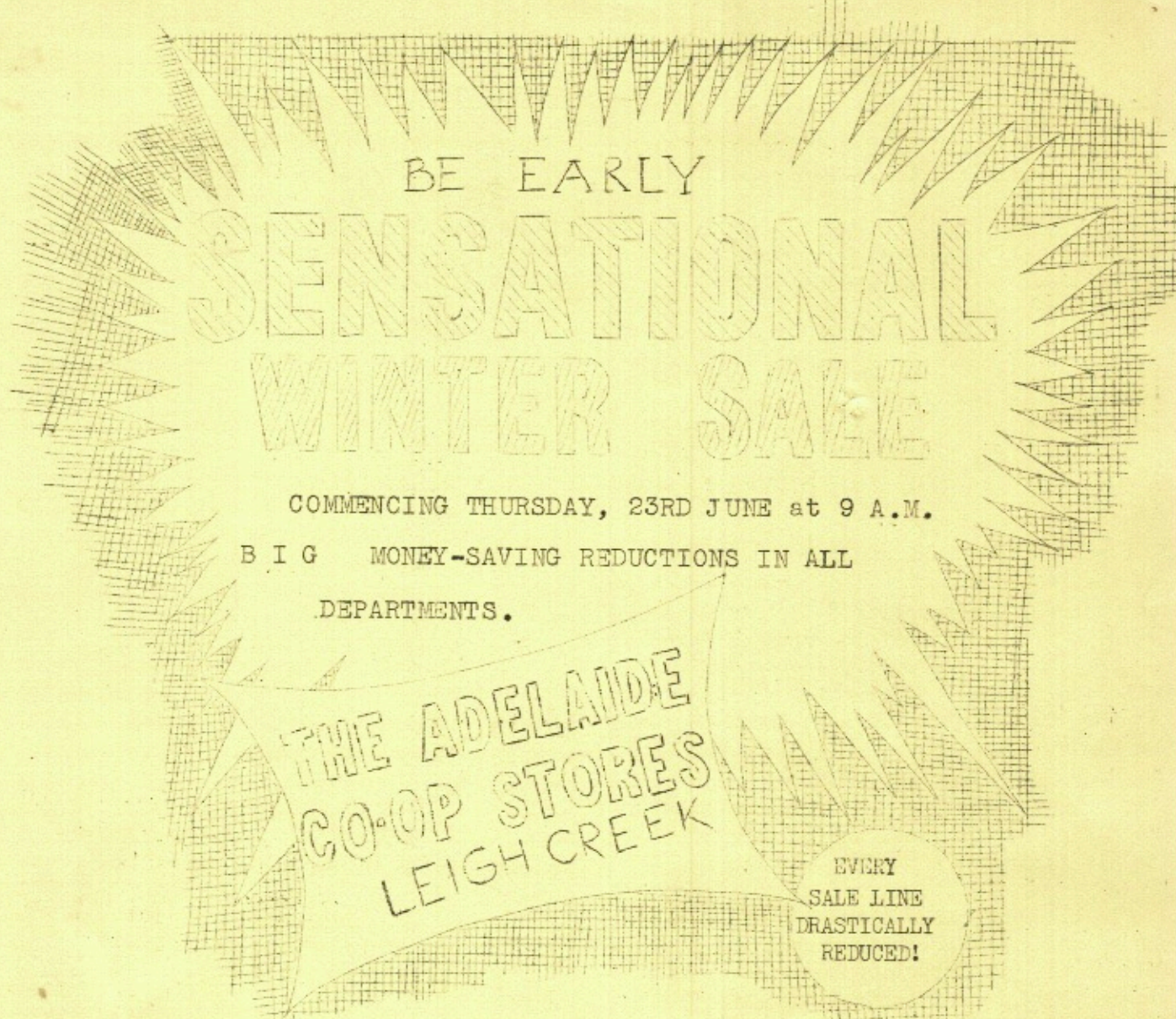
Since Open Cut Operations started here in 1942-3, 2,62,988 tons 14 cwt. 1 qtr. 3½ lbs. of coal have been dug.

Also 8,838,716 cubic yards, 3,3179 cubic feet of overburden have been removed, not including the dust in your houses!

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Commonwealth Railways are now moving Leigh Creek coal to Port Augusta over the new Line between Brachina and Stirling. The narrow gauge coal trucks are moved onto standard gauge flat-tops, which have had rails laid on their decks, at Brachina and transported pick-a-back fashion over the new section of trackage, to Stirling.

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BE EARLY

SENSATIONAL WINTER SALE

COMMENCING THURSDAY, 23RD JUNE at 9 A.M.

B I G MONEY-SAVING REDUCTIONS IN ALL
DEPARTMENTS.

THE ADELAIDE
CO-OP STORES
LEIGH CREEK

EVERY
SALE LINE
DRASTICALLY
REDUCED!

AROONA June 18th. (By A.N.S.S. Service)

To-day Aroona Dam reaches the stage where curves begin to appear at the top, in fact we have heard it described as beginning to acquire the Marilyn Monroe look.

Since our last report we are told that the wall has risen another 12 feet and can now hold back 48 feet of water. We are now keeping up to a target of a six foot rise each week. I would like to give you here a rough outline of the work involved, and the tasks done by the various gangs in keeping this average up.

The carpenters come into action first, lifting, lining and leveling the form-boards. Sixty of these form-boards, each weighing 450 lbs. are placed each week. To help handle these heavy forms the carpenters call on Bob Reed & his "Flying Fox," or Mick Harrison with his fork lift. When the form-boards are in place, (sometimes even before) Kel Corbell and his team of expert cleaners get rolling. These boys, incidentally, all come from Greece, have to clean off the area and make sure that no dirt particles or foreign bodies are left for they would mar the weld of the fresh pour of concrete to the set one. The way these boys get on with their cleaning, I'm sure many house wives would like to have the gang turned loose to help with the house cleaning occasionally.

Once the cleaners are out of the way, Al. Faddy and his concrete gang take over and then tension rises woe-be-tide anyone who wants to borrow the 'Fox' or gets in the way. When

the concrete starts to flow they keep it rolling non-stop through rain, hail or sunshine until the form-work is filled. To keep the job running smoothly we need water, air, cement, machines and electricity. Keeping these services going we have Jack Boyd and his offsider, Bert Strangeways putting together, then taking apart and moving miles of air line and water pipes. Our fitter Lionel Armstrong keeps busy between, fitting and moving water pumps, mending and repairing jack-hammers and vibrators, bending copper seals and hundreds of other jobs that come his way. Sparks are handled by our electrician Clive Wells, who between fitting contacts for the 'Fox' the conveyor or mixer, and attending to all the other electrical equipment, finds time to help the boys unload cement. Getting the cement out to us is of course an important part of the programme, capably handled by Jack Tully and his big Mac. Getting us all out to the job and home again at night plays no small part in our schedule and that department is well handled by Sid Hennessy with his bus.

Were we running a Lucky and Unlucky Man Competition, this weeks candidates would be 'Captain' Art Pilmore and 'Skip' Skipper respectively. Art tried a spot of wrestling with a Dozer and was lucky the dozer wasn't really serious .. hope to see you back soon Art .. & Skipper has been unlucky in mislaying a form scaffold, a seven pound hammer and a claw Hammer somewhere between the top of a monolith and the bottom of the Dam.

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LEIGH CREEK GARDENING COMPETITION

The most obvious conclusion which could be reached from last year's Garden Competition is that where maintenance (tidying up, weeding, etc.) was hastily carried out, a considerable number of points were lost.

We now know that after weeds are removed little other form of surface cultivation is necessary. However, in heavy soils such as you experience in Leigh Creek it is sometimes necessary to break the surface because of the hard surface formed following watering. Where practicable if a light coating of creek gravel could be put on the surface, this will greatly assist in obviating the constant use of a hoe or some other implement.

If regular maintenance is carried out to all sections of the garden, frequently the poor growth of plants could be covered up. Light dressings of complete fertilizers should be given periodically and the soil disturbed as little as possible. Lawns should be carefully edged and mown regularly, watered and given at least two dressings of complete fertilizer.

Annuals should be planted early and careful use made of them in shrubberies. Planting should be carried out according to heights and also their spread. Shrubs should have all dead wood removed from them, but unless in a formal garden or in tubs should not be trimmed into regular shapes. The shrubbery as well as any trees in the garden should be watched for insect pests and diseases, and suitable sprays

used to combat them. This aspect of home gardening is equally important under the heading of "maintenance" as are the soil cultivation, correct planting of annuals, etc.

To those of you who are entering your garden this coming season I offer my best wishes for success, and that you maintain that standard set last year.

(Mr. T. R. N. Lothian)

Mr. R. Gray (Flinders Nurseries) will visit Leigh Creek during the first week in July. Those wishing to have Mr. Gray personally, deliver plants or shrubs from the Nursery, should contact either Mr. Frank Edwards, J. Wurst, D. Tennent or J. Kapochany as quickly as possible.

BLACK APHIS BECOMING PREVALENT

Myrtle and Bebiela hedges throughout the town have become badly infested with Black Aphis. This pest is easily controlled by the use of "Follidol" E.605, which can be purchased through the Garden Club at 4/11 per half fluid ounce, or 16/6 for four ounces. Four drops added to one pint of water makes a very effective spray.

Lecturer: "Suppose I placed a pail of water & a pail of beer on this platform & brought on a donkey, which of the two would he take?"

"He'd take the water," came a voice from the gallery.

"Ah, ha," replied the Lecturer, "And why would he take the water?"

"Because he's an ass," was the reply.

VISITORS

Visiting friends in the town and district over the Race week-end, were two former Leigh Creek couples, Jim & Mrs. Hasse, and Lawrie & Mrs. Kimber. We are indeed sorry that the weather man wouldn't co-operate with us during their visit. However, despite the unusual cold damp days, both couples were heard to remark how much they enjoyed meeting their old friends and seeing familiar haunts again. We hope they will not delay too long before visiting us again.

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Choosing ideal weather in which to visit son, and daughter-in-law, Jack & Val. Allen, and at the same time inspect Leigh Creek's coal industry, are Jack's mother & father, Mr. & Mrs. M. Allen of Swansea, N.S.W.

Mr. Allen is enjoying some long-service leave from his duties at Newcastle, N. S. W. where he is interested in the production of Newcastle coal.

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Our thanks go to Mrs. D. M. Smith of Henley Beach, for a letter of appreciation for the hospitality given by the folk of Leigh Creek during Mrs. Smith's recent holiday as the guest of Mr. & Mrs. Harris of Sixth Street. Mrs. Smith writes she was agreeably impressed with our homes and gardens, and the "ever ready cup of tea." The highlight of her visit was a party arranged by Mr. & Mrs. E. Coster, where she was able to meet many of our towns people. Mr. Jaensch's alacrity in providing our guest's transport to the airport was very much appreciated.

Mrs. E. J. Lambert of Norwood, pleasantly surprised son and daughter-in-law, Ken and Edna, by dropping in for a short visit last week. Mrs. Lambert brought with her (for Edna) a shiny new Riley, which we expect Ken will want to borrow for the Car Club Rally.

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CRICKET CLUB NEWS

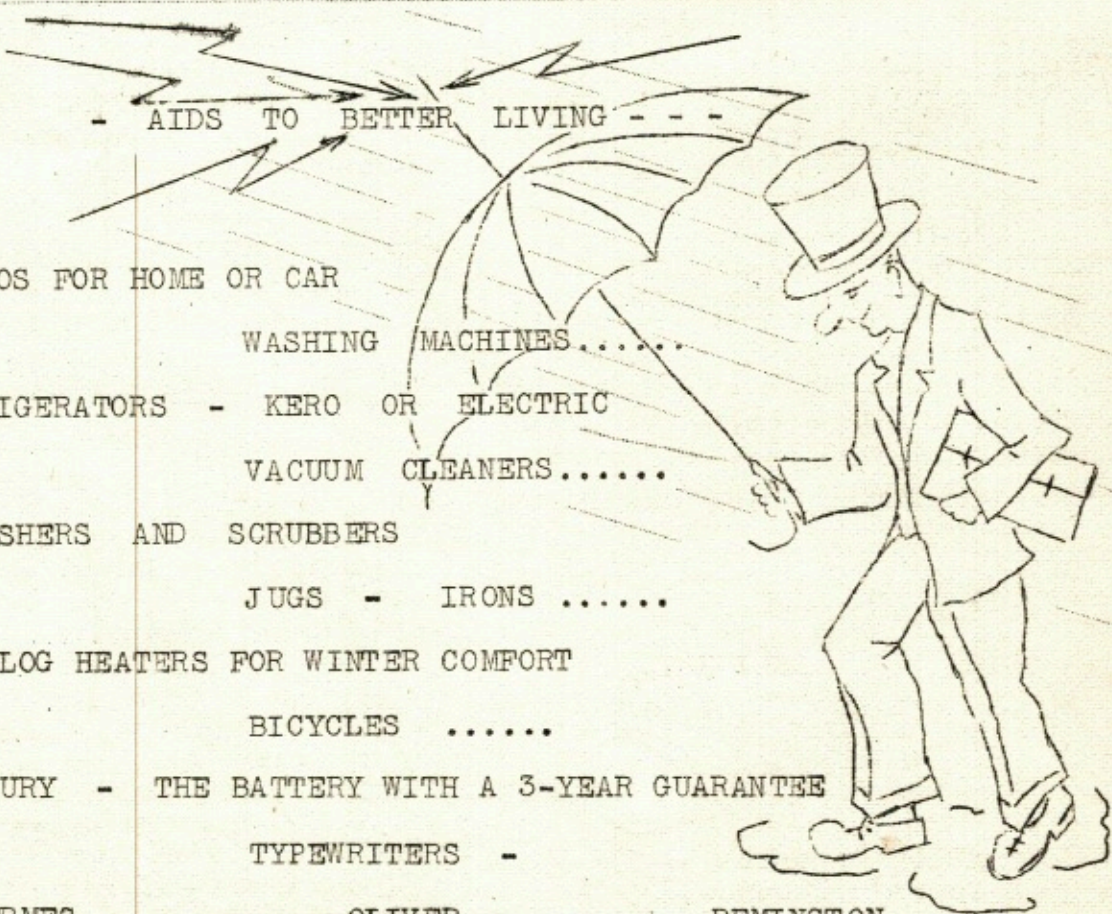
Because of a soft pitch and threatening rain no match was played on Sunday June 5th.

Sunday June 12th., Peter Strathearn's Repair Shop Eleven, played a Stores team Captained by Con. Hopkinson. Stores batting first scored twenty, before opener John Taylor was bowled by Mauric Page. Page using a following breeze to great advantage then captured three wickets in short order, including the 'hat-trick.' Stores were then 5-21. Merv. Thomas whose eye was in, came to the rescue of the batting side with a solid 33. Stores thus finished with a respectable total of 86.

The Repair Shop batsmen confronted with some very hostile bowling by Mike Brewer & Lyall Kempster, were always ill at ease. Gordon Thomas with his left arm slow spinners, carried on when the opening bowlers retired and Strathearn's team were bundled out for 37.

DETAILS: Stores 1st. Innings 86, M. Thomas 33 J. Taylor 16, L. Kempster 14 BOWLING; M. Page 6-36, L. Feehan 2-3, K. Corbell 1-6 Repair Shop 1st. Innings 37, M. Page 11- BOWLING; L. Kempster 4-12- G. Thomas 4-4 M. Brewer 2-14.

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IN FACT.....

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CHURCH NEWS AND VIEWS

SERVICES

On Sunday 12th, June; First after Trinity, Andrew Beare, son of Mr. & Mrs. T. Beare, was admitted into the Fellowship of the Christian Church by the Rite of Baptism.

SUNDAY 19th, June; Second after Trinity (7 p.m) the Preacher for this Service will be Mr. Brian Ward. Your Attendance is desired to show your appreciation of the young men who answer the call to service.

SUNDAY 26th, June; Third after Trinity, 11 a.m. Please note the morning Service. The Sacrament of Baptism will be observed.

VIEWS.

The congregation last Sunday was agreeably surprised at the new condition of our floor. It has long been a "thorn in the flesh" to the ladies of the Guild, who are responsible for the cleaning. The design and coloring of the interior of our Chapel is distinctly American. The accent is on light colors and simplicity. Mr. Tom Beare and Mr. Bill Dicker are mainly responsible for the latest change.

Our thanks are due also: Mr. Bill Spence who volunteered to 'grain' the seats, and also for his advice on the latest 'Face-Lift'

THOUGHT FOR THIS ISSUE:

John 3:3 A.V. "Except a man be born again, (his nature be changed) he cannot see the Kingdom of God."

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GUILD OFFICERS ELECTED

At the Annual General Meeting of the Inter-denominational Church Guild, held on June 8th., officers for the coming year were elected and plans for further improvements in the Church furnishings were formed.

Officers elected were:
President: Mrs. C. Gust, Vice-Presidents: Mes., N. Wilson and J. Nicholls; Secretary; E. Jaensch Treasurer; Mrs. I. Ironsides, and Committee Member, D. Brown and J. McKerlie.

Plans for purchasing a carpet for the Church were formulated and arrangements made for a Church Birthday Party.

At the conclusion of the Meeting sprays of flowers were presented to Hospital Matron Miss M. Coyne and Mrs. T. F. Robbins, who acted as judges of the display of aprons members have made, in preparation for their fete, planned for October.

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ST. BARBARA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

June 19th., HOLY MASS .. 7.30 a.m. & 10.00 a.m.

" " BENEDICTION 7.00 p.m.

Sat. 18th., CONFESSION..... 6 - 7.30 p.m.

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Replying to the tributes paid to him at a testimonial dinner, Herbert B. Swope said: "I cannot give you the formula for success, but I can give you the formula for failure -- Try to please everybody."

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