

# COMPTOMETER NEWS

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## MUNICIPAL TRAMWAYS TRUST, ADELAIDE

The above illustration shows the battery of the latest Model "J" Controlled Key Comptometers and the operators at the Municipal Tramways Trust, Adelaide.

The unqualified success that has attended this installation brings added laurels to the Comptometer and reflects credit on the operators.

The orderly appearance of the calculating room is typical of the Tramways Trust offices. The Chief Engineer and General Manager, Mr. W. G. T. Goodman, by whose courtesy the photo was taken, supervised every essential of the installation.

He personally interviewed and engaged each operator and authorised the ideal equipment of desks, chairs, lockers, etc. This has resulted in a maximum of efficiency and output, while the young ladies are very appreciative of the comfortable conditions under which they are working. Indeed, they help to swell that world-wide group who have proved that the Comptometer paves the way to pleasant and profitable positions.



## THREE ADELAIDE COMPTOMETER OPERATORS.

Misses E. McCormick, Gladys Rippon and Olive Wallis.

These Graduates having attained a high standard of general education, passed into the Adelaide Comptometer Training College, and from thence into the business world, where they are proving their ability to uphold the traditions of Comptometer efficiency.



### "MEET ME AT THE FOUNTAIN."

The above shows a group of happy Comptometer operators from the Municipal Tramways Trust, snapped in the Adelaide Botanical Gardens. They have a warm and affectionate regard for their teacher, Miss Maxwell (in the centre of the group), and she has proved a real companion and friend to them

### BRISBANE GRADUATES' SEPTEMBER DANCE.

The September meeting of the Brisbane Comptometer Graduates' Club took the form of a Dance, which was held in Edwards' Tea Rooms on Thursday 19th September. There was a very large attendance, all Club members being most enthusiastic and bringing many friends to join in the fun.

It was a particularly happy setting, the decorations being carried out with Iceland poppies, lilies and asparagus plumosis; the stage was transformed into a veritable fairy bower.

A Jolly Miller Dance helped to make everyone feel at home at the beginning of the evening, and things went with a swing from then on. A novelty Monte Carlo Dance was won by Miss Birrell and her partner.

Those present included: Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Cramb, Misses M. Kelly, H. Austin, E. and V. Heunert, E. Bytheway, M. Powell, Deuel (2), H. Baxter, T. Franzen, M. Birrell, B. Osborne, J. Sawers, M. Grant, M. and N. Ferlier, O. Sullivan, K. Bedford, M. Pugh, G. Clothier, E. Martin, E. Lowry, V. Twine, A. Bree, J. Jones, M. Alwell, N. James, V. Parrott, T. Singer, D. Manson, V. and G. Cramfield and M. Johnston. Messrs. A. Boyd, N. Churwin, A. Baxter, A. S. Hurwood, J. Keron, C. Hoffman, N. Burnett, J. Molloy, J. Boden, A. Bennett, M. Jones, A. Hill, E. Roe, J. Cusack, F. and D. Aland, J. Black, B. Buchanan, N. Walker,

W. Gibson, C. and K. Marr, M. S. Smith, D. Mason, R. Bell, R. J. McCullagh and A. Gibson.

### JUST A CLUB NIGHT!

Last month the B.C.G.C. decided to have a Social Evening for members only. It was such an enjoyable evening that everyone present agreed on the desirability of repeating the event. During the evening a novel competition was held and caused much hilarity. Everyone knows the old trick of pinning on the donkey's tail; but someone had a brain wave and suggested a modernised version—instead of the donkey the Comptometer was used and the company was asked to pin on the little red Release Button. Miss E. Bytheway and Miss Probert proved equally skilful, but when pitted against one another Miss Bytheway proved herself the winner.

The delightful musical programme arranged by the committee included a banjo-mandolin selection by Miss Probert, two vocal numbers by Miss Edmonds, and pianoforte solos by Misses G. Clothier and V. Twine.

### Felicitations to our President.

Miss Bytheway is the first member of the B.C.G.C. to surprise us with the significant circlet of diamonds, and we take this occasion to offer her every good wish for her future happiness.

### "ROMANCE AND SWEETS." (From Sydney.)

The Sydney Club's November meeting was held on Wednesday evening, 20th, at Beale's Salon, George Street, Sydney. A large number of members and their friends were present.

This meeting introduced the first of a series of Educational meetings, at which business men of Sydney will address the members of the Club.

The address on this occasion was given by T. Poole, Esq., General Manager of Messrs. Stedman, Henderson's Sweets Ltd., the subject being "The Romance of the Confectionery Industry." Mr. Poole set out to prove at the back of this great industry there was a romance, and in the course of his address, took the audience back as far as 500 B.C., showing that sweets were even then in great demand, right down the ages in Spain, Mexico, and India. He told of the evolution of the Sweet Industry. Mr. Poole also touched on the relationship of employer and employee, pointing out what had been done at Sweetacres by the employers for the employee and by the employees for themselves in the matter of Welfare Service.

The speaker touched on Honour and Integrity in business, and referred to an address he had heard by Mr. E. R. Peacock, Governing Director of Peacock Bros., in which he had mentioned Marshal Field, in Chicago, and their policy of marking their goods plainly, showing exactly what they were.

Samples of confectionery, as made in earlier years and at present, were shown, and afterwards these were distributed among the audience to try, and particular interest was taken in the sample as made in earlier years, the name of which was "Swaggering Dick."

Mr. Poole's address was particularly interesting and received close attention.

The President of the Club, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Poole, pointed out that the Club should consider it a compliment to them, when a busy man such as the lecturer, who had very wide interests, was prepared to give up an evening to them. The motion was supported by Mr. Dodd, of the Goodyear Tyre Co., and carried by acclamation.

During the evening a number of musical items were rendered, those who contributed to the programme were: Misses E. Grahame, R. Smoothey, J. Gibson, I. Cordery, L. Green and Mr. H. Cosgrove.

Diplomas and Badges were presented to a number of Graduates by Aubrey Halloran, Esq., who commented on the value of Comptometer operating as a profession, and the opportunities for independence which it offered to efficient operators.

An interesting and delightful evening closed at 10.20 p.m.

### Honorary Life Members.

Mrs. Lawson and Mrs. Dickson, who will be remembered by Graduates as Miss Symonds and Miss Costa, past teachers of the Comptometer School, were present at the above meeting and were accorded an enthusiastic welcome as they received their Club Badges as Hon. Life Members of the Club.

### A Visitor from the U.S.A.

The President introduced Miss Tobey, a Comptometer Graduate from New Norfolk, Virginia, U.S.A., who has just arrived in Sydney. The members gave her a real Australian welcome.

### TENNIS.

The M.C.G.C. Tennis Club has just settled down in new quarters at Milton Street, St. Kilda. The membership is now 25, but the present accommodation allows for about five more members.

Every Saturday afternoon challenges are played off to see who can hold the top rung of the ladder. Members have resolved to work hard from the beginning of the New Year with the idea of challenging a Club in one of the other States during 1930. A perpetual trophy, the nature of which is to be decided by the Club, has been promised for the winning team in Interstate matches by Mr. E. R. Peacock, Governing Director of Peacock Bros.

A comfortable room, with tables, chairs, crockery and hot water is provided at the courts for the sole use of the Comptometer Tennis Club.

You are invited to join now while there are a few vacancies.

Secretary: E. SILK, C/o. Messrs. William Haughton & Co., 545 Little Collins Street, Melbourne.

Captain: D. C. MORRIS, C/o. Messrs. Peacock Bros. Pty. Ltd., 486 Bourke Street, Melbourne.



### BY THE WAYSIDE.

The M.C.G.C. held a Charabanc Picnic at Hurst Bridge in September.

## "LET THERE BE LIGHT."

[An interesting letter from Miss J. Maske, who recently joined the staff of the Electricity Commission, at Yallourn, the centre of Victoria's marvellous brown coal industry.]

Dear C.G.'s,

Let me take you for a day's outing. It is a wonderfully sunny day, and we set off quite early on our never-to-be-forgotten trip. Following the Prince's Highway, we pass through Pakenham, Berwick, and on into the more hilly country around Drouin and Warragul. Everything is pleasing to the eye and gaining in interest, because we are approaching our goal—the electrical centre of Victoria, namely Yallourn.

As we pass through such typical country towns as Trafalgar, Yarragon and Moc, with their railway station, a few straggling shops and a scattered house or two, we wonder if Yallourn will be another such place, or perhaps it will be mainly a "canvas town."

Now we leave the comparatively flat ground, for the road leads us into the Haunted Hills—those which are so well known for their "haunting" peculiarities. Here we have a track with numerous turns and bends and alternate hill and gully, which makes it exceedingly interesting. Suddenly we leave the hills, and ahead of us stretches, it seems to us, miles of a wide, straight road lined with trees. Ah!... here is something, a notice board bearing the name Yallourn. Just a mile further and we will enter this Electricity Town.

What a surprise awaits us! The last bend brings into view tarred streets, formed footpaths, nicely kept gardens, and, above all, up-to-date brick and wooden houses. Here is something we did not expect to see. In quick succession come the brick Railway buildings, the large hotel, and as we follow the street to the left, tennis courts and bowling green (yes, lit with electricity) and the Provision Store. But here is a sight that pleases the eye—everywhere are lawns and gardens, each side of one street, up the centre of another, in a spare block near the store, in fact, in every available spot a wonderful display of flowers is to be seen.

Now we must see the works. Off we go again, and in a few minutes reach the entrance to the Power Station and Open Cut. We obtain a permit from the office (and, girls, it is an office; not a pokey little wooden place, hot in summer and freezing in winter, but a two-storied brick building with heaps of room, and above all, plenty of light) and walk on down the incline to the works. Here also we meet with lawns and flowers in abundance. The visit to the Power Station and Boiler

House is very interesting, but leaves us with the feeling that after all we ordinary folk know comparatively nothing about electricity. Next we visit the Open Cut, where most of the coal is taken from. This is a wonderful sight, and leaves a lasting impression. There are big machines at work here—the Dredger, the Ruston Shovel and others—all employed in getting the coal from its resting-place into trucks, which take it to the Bunkers, which in their turn load it into trucks for either the Boiler House or Briquetting Factory. This Open Cut is all coal, sides and bottom alike, down already to a depth of 70 or more feet and covering an immense area. It is truly wonderful that just under a few feet of barren land this wealth of coal has been hidden for years untold prior to its discovery. It would seem, to the average visitor, that the supply is inexhaustible. Also we visit what is known as the Brown Coal Mine, where earlier operations commenced. This is quite different from the mine just visited, in that it is above the ground in the form of a hill of coal, and has been worked from ordinary levels, not from feet below the surface.

Now the day is going and we must be returning. We pass through the town, leaving the Works and Briquetting Factory on our left, and start on our 98-mile journey for home, convinced that after all "the Paradise of Victoria" is not such an exaggerated name for Yallourn and its surroundings.

### MELBOURNE COMPTOMETER GRADUATES' CLUB BALANCE SHEET, 1929.

#### RECEIPTS.

Subscriptions	£22	2	6
Sale of Badges	11	0	0
Receipts from Entertainments and Social Events	80	18	0
Sundry Receipts	2	15	4
Savings Bank Interest	0	5	0
	£117	0	10

#### EXPENDITURE.

Hire of Halls, etc., for Social Events and Charabanc Trips	£79	8	0
Blazer Badges	9	12	0
Library Books, etc.	4	16	9
Printing, Stationery, Stamps and Advertising	12	0	8
	£106	7	5
Credit Balance	10	13	5
	£117	0	10

30/9/29.

### REPORT OF THE FIRST YEAR OF THE MELBOURNE COMPTOMETER GRADUATES' CLUB.

Presented to the Members on 14th  
October at Peacock House.

During the early part of last year the thought was expressed by several Comptometer operators in Melbourne that opportunity should be made for the Graduates to keep more closely in touch and to continue the associations and friendships of college days. With this in view, a meeting was held on September 18th, 1928, to which every Comptometer operator in Melbourne was invited.

The meeting was held at Peacock House, with Mr. Edgar H. Peacock in the chair, and there were about 120 operators present. With the success in mind of the Clubs in other parts of the world and the Sydney Club, it was moved that a similar Club be formed in Melbourne. This was carried unanimously and officers were elected. Supper was served at the close of the meeting.

A general meeting followed on October 3rd, when members were enrolled and the Rules of the Club were presented and adopted.

A survey of the year's activities shows a social gathering of some nature every month, with one exception—the month of July. All members will appreciate the fact that pressure of business crowds out pleasure, and this month being annual balancing time, no meeting was held.

The first event which marked the official opening of the Club was held in Queen's Hall, Collins Street, on October 31st. A large gathering attended. Graduates' diplomas and badges were presented, and every one seemed to enter into the spirit of the occasion.

When the warmer weather came, on November 24th, an afternoon at Sandringham was arranged for swimming and tennis. Early tea was served on the lawns at Sandringham House, and every one enjoyed the outing.

As a Christmas festivity, the members made a party to the Capitol Theatre. The picture was "The Four Sons." There was weeping, but not "gnashing of teeth."

The first general meeting after the opening of the Club was held on January 23rd, 1929, at which Mr. E. R. Peacock gave a very interesting talk on his trip to Japan. At this meeting particulars were

given of the formation of a Tennis Club, arranged by your committee.

In February a charabanc drive and picnic to Monbulk was arranged. In the same month followed the opening of the Tennis Club at St. Kilda, with Miss M. Hughes as Captain. The next month the much-talked-of Seaside Camp became a reality. Members spent the week-end at Seaford. Events: Fancy dress swimming and beach sports. This week-end has ranged itself amongst the most popular features of the year.

In April, after a special meeting of those interested, a Physical Culture Club was commenced, under the direction of Bjelke Petersen.

The third general meeting showed another step in the progress of the Club, when the suggestion of badges for blazer pockets was made to the girls. Thirty-eight orders for badges that night showed the popularity with which the idea was received.

There is no room for doubt about the success of the Dance held in Ormond Hall on May 22nd. The general opinion expressed afterwards was that a better dance had not been attended that season.

On June 17th a Book Evening brought in nearly 100 books and 10/- in cash. This started the Library, which now has 32 subscribers. The total number of books at the present date is 175. Eventually this Library will be moved into the Club Room, when the hopes of the members take material form. The other item of interest for the evening was a talk on figures by Mr. E. R. Peacock. The educational value of this was appreciated by all.

The programme for the last three months of the year included nights at the Glaciarium and the Regent Theatre, and another charabanc picnic to Hurst Bridge.

Interest is now lively in connection with preparations for an entertainment to be given in December by artists—100% Comptometer Graduates.

We regret to report that during the year the following members of your committee found it necessary for various reasons to retire: Misses Picking, Kirkpatrick, Pollard, Johnson and Darrock. Their positions were filled by Misses Hope, Burrows, Sharp, Mortley and Mirams.

Thanks are due to Mr. E. R. Peacock for his very interesting talks and to Mr. Edgar H. Peacock for his active interest and support at all times.

The first of a Series of Talks specially written for Comptometer Operators.

The business girl of to-day is not always quite fair—sometimes she wants to be on a par with men, and yet she expects certain privileges because she is of the "frailer sex." So often employers say: "Oh, she was all right as an operator, but the desk was a little too low, the light was either too bright or too dim, and no matter where she sat there was always a draught."

Is it any wonder that we sometimes receive this request: "Send us a girl that isn't home every other day because she doesn't feel well, one who isn't objecting to this thing or that thing in the office."

One of the greatest obligations we owe the office is that we keep ourselves in the "pink" of condition. Why? because it means Pounds, Shillings and Pence to ourselves as well as to our employers every time we are absent because of sickness. This is the reason why many firms are now requiring physical examination before employing anyone and also insisting upon them periodically.

The company is interested, of course, if they are losing money because of your poor health. But isn't it more important to you? Aren't you interested? Don't you want to enjoy life—don't you want to be attractive—don't you want to do splendid work? Yes, you do, and you can't unless you are urged along by a good healthy body and a good healthy mind.

Time will not permit us to go into a lengthy discussion on hygiene, but we will mention the common causes of ill-health—bad posture, bad breathing, lack of exercise and sleep, ill-chosen food and their attendant ills.

Posture—how unattractive is the person who stands and walks awkwardly! Stand with the head straight above the shoulders, chest carried up and forward, the abdomen flat. The feet, in walking, should be placed parallel—not "toed out." Get out in the sunshine and walk. There is nothing more invigorating or easy to do.

Sitting correctly is just as important as standing correctly. No book-keeper, stenographer, Comptometer operator, or other person called upon to do desk-work should permit the head to be tilted forward or the neck bent. Leaning forward should be from the hips.

The food we eat is more essential in keeping the body fit and in normal weight. One who is overweight is usually slow of mind. The underweight person has not the necessary stamina to stand strenuous demand made by her work. Your weight is normal when you are not

more than 7 per cent. underweight or 20 per cent. overweight. Choose your food carefully and eat in moderation.

The beneficial effect of exercise is too well known to need any discussion. Office workers need complete freedom and relaxation of mind and body. Most "brain fag" is unnatural and unnecessary and can be cured if you will get out in the open air and do something you like to do. Then go home and get at least eight hours of sleep every night. You cannot spend the energy of the body without replacing it or there will be injurious results.

Last of all, get the habit of being pleasant. This attitude is strongly reflected in your health. Irritability, worry and other pessimistic traits are usually developed by the individual below "par." This is what we mean by "keeping mentally fit."

Good health is important to everyone of us and seems largely within our own control. Study the causes of ill-health and then keep yourself in the "pink" of condition by living right, working right and playing right.



Miss Thelma Pearce.

CONGRATULATORY.

The Bjelke-Peterson Gymnasium Class Medal (1929) has been won by Miss Thelma Pearce (Shell Company).

The M.C.G.C. offers congratulations to her and to Miss W. Johnson (State Savings Bank), who won a Certificate.