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of

No. 35.

..... THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS .....

17th August, 1951.

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T H E H A L F Y E A R L Y G E N E R A L M E E T I N G

REMEMBER that this meeting will be held NEXT FRIDAY, August 24th, in ROOM 56 (2nd Floor), and be there at 8 pm sharp! Main business will be the presentation of half-yearly reports from the various sub-committees, so that all members will have the opportunity of getting a general picture of Club activities during the last six months. We'd like to hear your comments and your suggestions for improvements, and hope you'll spare a little time in the coming week to ponder Club affairs.

NOTICE OF MOTION: (Also on the agenda for the Half-Yearly Meeting)

"That Clause 8(b) of the Constitution be amended to read 'seven days' instead of 'fourteen Days', and to Clause 10 (b) be added the words 'at least seven days' notice to be given inwriting to each member." (Moved by Gordon Coutts).

This was read and fully discussed at the July meeting, but will be open for any further discussion before being put to the vote next Friday.

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COMMITTEE NEWS

New Committee Member: At the last General Meeting Lloyd Reynolds was elected to fill the vacancy caused by Jock Low's resignation. Lloyd has always proved willing and capable whenever help was needed in Club activities, and we are confident he will give valuable service on the Committee. He has been appointed a member of the Walks sub-committee, and will be in charge of Program arrangement.

Kitty Mitchell, who was elected the previous month, is now on "The News" sub-committee, and will be able to employ her abundant energy tracking down "hot news" and helping pass it on to you.

Ken Grant has resigned his position as Club Representative on the Federation Search and Rescue Organization, and in his place the Committee has appointed Keith Murray who we believe will carry on this work very ably.

Last Friday the Committee Meeting was held in the new room for the first time, and members felt the benefit of quiet and uninterrupted discussion. (It's rumoured they're going to make an appeal for hot water bottles or foot-warmers before next meeting - heated discussion alone doesn't raise the temperature much! And the temperature of that room certainly needed raising.)

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY, FEDERATION OF VICTORIAN WALKING CLUBS - At its last meeting the Federation Committee appointed Frank Pitt to this position. We congratulate Frank and feel sure he will fill this position very capably.

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FROM THE WALKS SUB-COMMITTEE

THE SPRING PROGRAM was issued on July 27th, and those who have not yet obtained their copy may get one from the Walks sub-committee. (N.B. Programs are not posted out.)

PLEASE NOTE THESE ALTERATIONS: 1. For the following three walks :-

<u>AUGUST 26th</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER 16th</u>	<u>OCTOBER 21st</u>
(Boronia-Mt Olinda)	(Ferntree Gully-Mt Morton)	(Boronia-Mt.Dandenong)

TRAIN TIME should be 8.55 am instead of 9.15 am.

2. On August 19th Gordon Coutts will lead the St.Albans walk for Tom Stoodley.
  3. " Sept. 2nd Lloyd Reynolds " " " Plenty R. " " Frank Burt.
  4. " Oct. 14th Frank Burt " " " Ringwood " " Lloyd Reynolds.
- (Ticket to buy for this trip is 2 R Mooroolbark)

5. SHOW DAY - Buy Macedon 2 R ticket.

GARFIELD - GEMBROOK TRIP - Those going on this trip should arrange for the leader to obtain their tickets, to avoid having a number of individual applications to the Tourist Bureau. See the leader at least a week ahead.

WALKS SUB-COMMITTEE (cont.)

VAN DEPARTURE TIMES - Please note that Sunday vans now leave Batman Avenue at 8.55am - and that means 8.55 sharp! The last suburban train to arrive at Flinders Street is due in at 8.43 am., so adequate time has been allowed for everyone to reach the van punctually. Especially on weekend trips, be early enough to allow time for stowing packs etc. - the time shown on Program is the time the van should leave, NOT the time for you to come panting and dodging the traffic to reach the van, remembering at the last minute that you want to buy a couple of bananas at the fruit stall !!

A REMINDER - Do you intend taking part in any of the CHRISTMAS WALKS? And if so, have you added your name to the appropriate list? These extended trips need long-range planning, as arrangements for transport and packing in food have to be made well ahead. Leaders will soon be going ahead with this, basing plans on the number already booked in, and late-comers may find themselves carrying food for a whole trip (just imagine the anguish of having to continue on dried spuds when the rest of the party is joyously tucking into peaches and cream!) or left out altogether. The five proposed trips are listed on the notice-board, there is a reference map showing the routes to be followed, and if you want further guidance the Leaders or the Walks Sec. will be happy to discuss the nature of the various trips with you.

THE FEDERATION DAY WALK (October 28th) will be led by the Women's Club, but no details have been announced yet.

FEDERATION FIXTURES for 1952 are as follows: Field Weekend 22nd - 23rd March;  
Track Clearing, 10-11th May; Annual Day Walk, September 21st.

TONIGHT, we are most fortunate in having Mr Alan Fosdick to talk to us. Well known to photographers, Mr. Fosdick is also an excellent field geologist and a keen walker, and what he has to say to us should be most valuable and interesting.

Last month Norm Richards talked to us on the topography of our walking country; and introduced us to the idea of planning a route through new country based on a general knowledge of the land forms etc. which characterise a particular area.

Remember that these talks, on subjects of practical interest to us in walking, are given on the THIRD FRIDAY each month, from 8 to 8.30 pm, and if you want to be present, please be in the Clubroom at 8pm sharp.

Bushwalking may yet have a place in a regular radio session. For some time members of the Federation Committee have felt that walking should be represented "over the air", and that plenty of interest would be aroused if it were. Since we are sure Bushwalkers would support this idea, our Secretary is writing to the A.B.C. suggesting that a session on outdoors topics be made a regular feature. If the suggestion is eventually adopted, we will want to have ready plans for a really worthwhile program, and we'll be looking to members for suggestions. What good ideas will YOU have?

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S O C I A L N E W S

HOSTS AND HOSTESSES - We've mentioned this subject several times before, but this month we have good progress to report, for the scheme has been running smoothly for several weeks. As you know, our idea is to help newcomers feel at home in the Club by getting to know other members, how the Club is run, and what activities there are. So far this month Margaret Dark and Jock Low have been looking after our visitors, and have enjoyed getting to know them. Marie Gillespie will do it tonight, and in following weeks we'll have Roma Bee, Jock Low and Horst Eisfelder. (The name of the Host or Hostess for each evening will be on the Social Secretary's notice board.)

THEATRE NIGHTS - Thirty tickets were sold for "Bell, Book and Candle", a particularly enjoyable show, for which we had a night on the 14th of this month.

Our next theatre night will be for the Borovansky Ballet - watch the Notice Board for date and other details. Keep in mind, too, these other shows for which Marie will be arranging Club parties in coming months: "The Moon Is Blue", "Seagulls Over Sorrento" and "Kiss Me, Kate".

CHRISTMAS DANCE, December 6th - Jerram Hall has already been booked for this, and we're giving you the date in plenty of time so that you can be sure to keep it free. Mark it in your calendar now, before you forget!

Last month a big audience enjoyed Johnny Ball's films, taken during trips to Southern Queensland and the Northern Rivers District, Eastern Victoria and South-Eastern N.S.W. - a few scenes that spring to mind are the most impressive Mount Warning, beautiful veil-like falls in a deep-shadowed valley of Lamington National Park, Surfers' Paradise, and (what bathos!) Bug Town. Scenes taken on recent Club trips met with warm applause (and impolite comments!).

NEW MEMBERS

We are very happy to welcome three new members, and hope they will enjoy many years of walking with us. They are

Barry Brown ..... 24 Besant Street, Moorabbin, S.20.

Ursula Rice ..... 137 Tooronga Road, Glen Iris, S.E.6. UY 5094.

Joyce Wilkinson..... 24 Craigmere Street, East Malvern, S.E.5.

(N.B. Remember to add these names to your address list. Lists still available from Sec.)

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P E R S O N A L

\*\*\*We have three September weddings ! We're breaking as many records as the price of wool was ! First to take the plunge are Jo Thompson and Don Sellar, who are to be married in All Saints Church, East St.Kilda, on September 1st, at 4 pm. With Bill Kirk to give the bride away, Paddy Mallet as bridesmaid and Keith Murray as groomsman, they should be very happily launched into their new life, and we wish them lasting happiness..... This will be a rehearsal for Paddy and Keith, as they are to be wed just four weeks later, on September 29th..... We also wish every happiness to Gwen Roberts and Fred Soutter, whose wedding takes place in the Holy Advent Church, Malvern, at 11 am on September 15th.

\*\*\* We hear that Laura Howie, who has been working in Coonamble, N.S.W. for several months, has become engaged recently. Congratulations. Laura - we hope this won't mean that you won't be returning to Melbourne.

\*\*\* Congratulations, too, to Ruth Aron who became engaged last month, and is very busy preparing for her wedding in October or thereabouts.

\*\*\* We were very sorry to hear that Tom Stoodley injured his ankle on a walk recently, and still has his leg in plaster, although he is able to walk a little now. We hope it will be right again very soon, Tom.

\*\*\* Geoff Christensen left on the "Mooltan" on August 6th, and in a note from Adelaide he said the trip had begun smoothly. On the preceding Friday, Norm presented Geoff with the traditional boot, which soon acquired many signatures. Geoff asked that at Christmas time, when we're out on the track, probably in hot sunshine, we think of him shivering in Manchester !

\*\*\* We've heard news of a few of our travellers lately - Betna Dryden in Ireland .... Pam Abbott hitch-hiking through Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Norway and Sweden.... Betty Horsley, now in Berlin at the Peace Festival, wrote from Rome..... Dave Varns who has moved further north after a couple of months in Brisbane, where he went out on several trips with the Brisbane Bushwalkers, and who wishes to be remembered to Bushwalkers here.

\*\*\* Best wishes to Geoff Harris, who celebrates his 21st birthday next week.

\*\*\* We noticed Bill Shaw in the Clubroom the other Friday in his Air Force uniform, and understand he'll be at Laverton for a while.

\*\*\* There's a pathetic story of a certain young committee member (feminine) who cannot undertake to telephone anyone because she cannot reach high enough to speak !

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A L O N G T H E T R A C K

This month we've had some rare experiences. The most memorable - at least for the thirteen who took part - was Gwen Roberts' Mt. Tanglefoot, Mt. St. Leonard trip. Rather, we should say, that was the trip planned, for owing to the unprecedented weather, much of it had to be abandoned. At first it was quite a thrill, to encounter so much snow - we wouldn't recommend you to ask members of the party now what they think of snow, and we certainly couldn't print their answers ! At times they were plodding through thick snow, sometimes sinking through into the under-lying slush, with thick drizzle limiting visibility to a few yards. But after all, the Program said "Tough"! Gwen's party, by the way, were all men. Three of them pushed on ahead, and were able to reach the van before it left. The others had to remain overnight at the hut, and didn't arrive home until Monday, but fortunately the three who went ahead were able to notify their "next of kin" and allay any worry.

The other weekend trip, Kitty Mitchell's Gembrook - Powelltown, was also timed to coincide with the snow three weeks later. There had been heavy falls on Egg Rock, and more fell while they were climbing Mt. Beenak. There was already over 3" there, which made very heavy going. They camped in the hut on Beenak, which was just as well as it poured all night. A roaring fire kept their spirits up, and the six of them slept huddled together round the fire - it may be noted that with unusual courtesy two men took the end positions thus keeping the draughts from the ladies. On Sunday the weather improved, and "from Beenak to Powelltown there was a race, with everyone going h--- for l----- looking for short cuts", to quote the leader. She also mentions that "Baden climbed the fire tower, and consequently had only five minutes for lunch." There seems to be a moral to that somewhere.

Egon Donath supplied the seventeen people on his trip with the usual number of fences . For part of the way a pram accompanied the party - the carriage of Master Peter Baker..... There were 25 on Margaret Dark's walk.... Horst Eisfelder led the You Yangs trip in place of Emil. There were 28 in the party. A good spring was discovered with water for lunch, whereas usually on this trip water has to be carried.....Ted Field and party really went to Stringybark Creek !! ..... Ken Grant led the Hurstbridge - Cherry Tree Gully trip for Paddy Mallet, with 27 in the party. High-light of the day was definitely the matador act.The party was peaceably lunching by the creek when a Jersey bull appeared quietly nearby, while Donald McKinney (or was it Douglas?) was going in that direction to get a drink. Each stood his ground for a few moments, until the bull without warning lowered his head and charged, and to the horror of the onlookers tossed Donald. With miraculous speed the party packed up and transferred to the high bank of the creek, wondering whether to try and divert the bull's attention, "or what". Luckily the bull couldn't have been feeling really mad, for he gave up the attack. Donald received an injury to his leg, but was able to complete the trip, and we trust has suffered no further complication . A jersey bull is certainly no Ferdinand.

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LIBRARY NOTES

Ever tried waterproofing your matches by setting them in a block of paraffin wax for your wet weather walking? That's just one of the hints for walkers to be found in the University Mountaineers' Report on Equipment which is in our Library. New members would be wise to read it before buying new equipment, and "old timers" needn't look smug because there's a lot in it for them to learn also.

"Walkabout" and "Wild Life" are subscribed to by the Club, so why not take one home to read the articles and study the photographs and see if you can click the shutter at the right moment to produce some comparable shots for the Club's photo album. Librarian Keith Murray will be glad to lend you the magazines and to receive any photos.

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-----DATES TO KEEP IN MIND-----  
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- AUGUST 24th..... HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING, Room 56, 8pm Sharp.
- " 31st..... Book for Van Trip Lerderderg Gorge.
- September 7th..... " " " " Sunbury - Clarkefield.
- " 21st..... Lecturette, 8 pm Sharp.

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