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VOL. 48—No. 18

CIRCULATION 9000 COPIES WEEKLY

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 1968

NEW HOMES FOR BALMAIN?

What can be done to cause major real estate developers to take an active interest in the Balmain-Rozelle area in respect of residential re-development?

"The Link" has been examining this question this week.

In this paper's opinion, the subject has taken on an air of urgency following the further plans for industrialisation of the district.

Anxious to give voice to the considerable body of local opinion favouring home-unit construction, we have interviewed a number of authorities and others concerned with this matter and have observed the following to be among the major considerations affecting the issue:

★ Big industry is rather vigorously pursuing a

policy embracing use of vacant land for their activities. Such efforts would include extension of Australian National Line operations, for provision either of a second Tasmanian ferry terminal or of other roll-on-roll-off cargo facilities.

Land Values

★ The direct result of this increase in industrialisation could well be a steeper than normal rise in the value of land suitable for industry.

This would price out major home-unit development unless planning authorities took immediate and direct action to encourage residential re-development, which action would include re-zoning.

★ Authorities such as the State Planning Authority and Leichhardt Council are faced both with local opinion fighting further industrialisation as well as the inexorable demands of industry for use of this area (especially along the waterfront).

Duties of the authorities require them to tackle the question of zoning and re-zoning in the face of new development and the demands of developers (who could, of course, include home-unit builders). Leichhardt Council's planning scheme enters into consideration here. In it, certain areas are zoned for waterfront industrial usage.

In Favour

The State Planning Authority is keeping a close watch on residents' objections to plans of this kind. A spokesman told "The Link" that it

was very much in favour of re-development of city and near-city areas for residential purposes, although it was also a matter for the Local Government authorities to give their judgment on such development.

He felt Leichhardt Council would favour that policy for Balmain.

The real problem, however, appeared to be finding private developers who would operate in this area, the spokesman added.

"It is a matter of persistent plugging to encourage this development," he said. "We have encouraged re-development in other older areas such as Kirribilli and Lavender Bay. There appears to be quite a demand for residential development in the city and near-city areas by people who are tired of travelling long distances to their work."

Zoning

"The N.S.W. Housing Commission has shown a lot of interest in the Glebe area. I have no reason to think it would not be interested in Balmain."

"The Link" took that thought along to the Housing Commission. Its attitude, according to a spokesman, was that it was interested in Balmain, but had found difficulty in sighting vacant land suitable for home-unit development. Cost of land governed the vital question of rentals.

Asked if its attention had been drawn to the land embraced by Cameron and Church Streets

Leichhardt Rotary

Leichhardt Rotary Club celebrated its 10th annual Change-over meeting on June 28 at the Amory Club, Ashfield.

Incoming office bearers are: President, Mr. C. Patterson. Directors, Messrs. H. Mooney, E. Drane and K. Driscoll. Secretary, Mr. J. Gibson. Treasurer, Mr. N. Rowe. Sergeant-at-arms, Mr. K. Titley.

Thanks were given to the Ladies' Auxiliary for their support in raising funds to assist performance of community projects, which included presentation of insulated food trolleys to the Queen Victoria Maternity Hospital and Aldergate Hospital for the Aged.

and Curtis Road — on which stood a disused factory — the spokesman said it had, but the Commission had rejected the idea of acquiring it for home-unit construction because of its industrial zoning, which would increase the cost of development.

"The Link" also approached Lend Lease Homes with the problem. A company representative said they were definitely interested in Balmain as an area for home-unit activity, but had found a scarcity of suitable land for erection of 3-storey walk-up flats which would satisfy Council requirements.

If such land were available, he said, his company would be interested in examining the proposition.

Column NINE

LOCAL DISCREPANCY

When has a real and practical approach been applied to the Residential Development of Balmain and Rozelle?

Morts Dock was wide open to be purchased, NOT at an exorbitant price, but at 10/- in the £ of its real value — the Housing Commission, Leichhardt Council and the Labor MLA showed absolutely no interest — WHY? A stroke of the pen could have rezoned it.

The Chamber of Commerce made an approach to the local member and also obtained much publicity through the major papers.

Some 2,500 flats or home units could stand today, where in its present state it services only the Tasmanian Terminal.

The blame for lack of residential development here can only be attributed to the decadent approach of the Council and the disinterest of the Labor representative.

A Council is needed with a 1968 approach. Even that is 9 years overdue, for it was 1959 that the backward trend first occurred.

How ridiculous it is for Labor Caucus to delve through Council agenda before the Council meeting — Decide what they will vote for — and what they will be against — then, by sheer weight of numbers, bulldoze their prior

decision to a Yes Result.

The outside factory building forming part of Morts Dock holdings was inspected last Friday, and there stood a completely empty shed and an unused street running right through it.

What's up, Mr. Degen, with you making your presence felt? Here is an ideal development site — the Housing Commission have stated they would be interested, and if nothing takes place, there will be no doubt where the blame lies.

Council only has to return the street and rezone the factory and you only have to make an approach. See it is rezoned "Residential".

Lack of development here appears to be the complacency of both the Council and the Labor member.

WHY? — are they afraid that an increase of another 7,000 people would be a threat to their positions, or is it so wonderful to be judge and jury of the destiny of this area?

Mr. Degen and members of Council, it's up to you now to make a move — NOT for the elevation of the Labor Party, BUT for the development of Balmain and improvement for those residents who make your positions possible.

For Service



Mr. F. D. Scott, of Balmain, proudly shows his wife the meritorious service medal he received from the General Officer Commanding Eastern Command, Major-General J. W. Harrison, C.B., C.B.E., at a ceremony at Victoria Barracks. Mr. Scott, a Warrant Officer First Class, retired from the Army a week before the ceremony. The medal is awarded for 22 years' valuable service.

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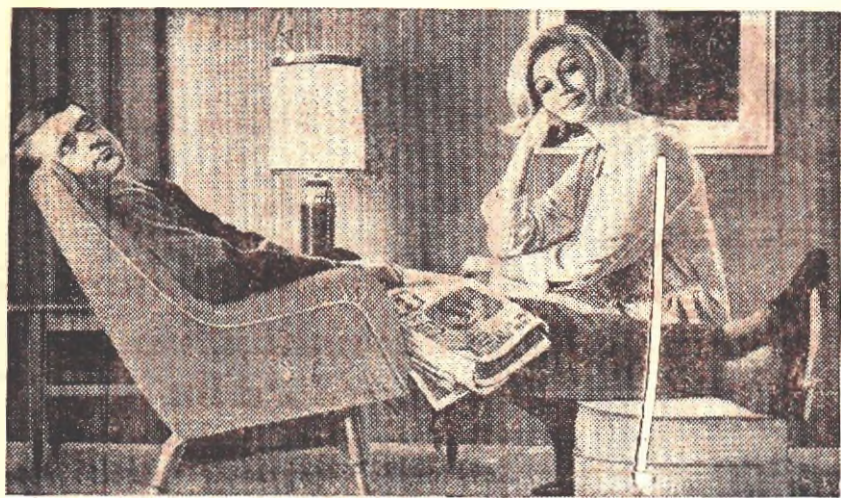
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Watch House Restoration

The lease of the Balmain Watch House to The Balmain Association has now been finalised and approved by the Minister for Lands (Mr. T. L. Lewis), from whom the National Trust holds the property as trustee.

Thus assured of continuing occupation, The Balmain Association has commenced restoration of the building in accordance with plans approved by Trust honorary architect, Mr. J. Fisher.

The lease is for a five-year period, with the option of a further five years, at a "peppercorn" rental.

Immediate plans include the provision of a new roof for the cell block at the rear, the front verandah and the old kitchen.

As funds become available, further work will be undertaken.

The grille's made at Long Bay Gaol have been installed, some of the windows have been repaired, and other preliminary work has been carried out.

The Association hopes to complete restoration work within three years. In the meantime it will gradually make more and more use of the premises.

First interior room to be restored will be the old charge room, which should eventually resemble its earlier Victorian appearance.

New Body

The Balmain Association is a member of a new body just formed—The Civic Trusts Council of N.S.W.

Objective of the council is to co-ordinate and assist member organisations towards preserving natural assets. Other members are Avalon Preservation Trust, Bee-croft-Cheltenham Civic Trust, Central Coast Civic Trust, Parramatta Trust, and West Pennant Hills Civic Trust.

Its intention is to provide a central voice through which the constituent bodies can promote their general aims, although the local trusts will remain responsible for initiating any action they desire or agitating for individual objectives.

CODOCKS EVENTS

G Grade suffered their first defeat of the season (3-9) at Leichhardt Oval. They were without their regular players, R. Lennon, N. Navonski and P. Giess.

F Grade lost again. Next week they should win by a big margin.

E Grade had another convincing win—15-2.

D Grade won 22-2 against Denistone. All players really combined.

C Grade again spear-headed through to a well-deserved victory—11-2—with young Han-nerman giving an outstanding display. Mick Hart kicked one goal out of three attempts. Ross Bevan played a worthy

game, but unaccountably was sent off in the second half.

Barney Collins' father, Bede, a well-known Bal-main identity has passed away. Deepest regrets from the club.

Last Saturday night's entertainment was by John and Tamari, two of the most versatile international dancers seen at the club. Sunday night entertainment was by Mr. Batman, Freddy Tira.

The band, The Soul Directors, are fast becoming favourites with their request numbers.

Next week's entertainment will be by the international mystic, Aly Khabar.

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THIS IS VIEW FROM BALCONIES



OPINION

A.N.L. PLAN

I read with interest the report in the last issue of "The Link" of Leichhardt Council's decision to meet representatives of the Australian National Line to discuss its proposal for a second roll-on-roll-off berth in Mort Bay.

I consider the report unfair in that it implied Council approval of the proposal.

Several aldermen and the Town Clerk made it clear that A.N.L. had forwarded its proposal to Council merely as a matter of courtesy.

Ald. W. Dougherty, an independent, said he well remembered the chairman of the Australian Coastal Shipping Commission saying, when the matter of the terminal for the Empress of Australia was before the Council, that A.N.L. as a Commonwealth body could do as it wished regardless of any decision of Council.

(Editorial note: We fail to see that any aspect of our report implied Council approval.)

—D. T. Allan (Balmain).

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Death Of "Boy From Balmain"

The atmosphere of Balmain-Rozelle in the early 1900's was recalled last week with the death at the age of 71 of Mr. James Brunton Gibb—a "boy from Balmain"—well-known teacher of the art of speech and a pioneer of radio in Sydney.

Mr. Gibb, who lived in Five Dock, was born in Balmain North, son of "Jim" Gibb, hairdresser and tobacconist of Darling Street, who was one of the best-known identities of the district.

He enlisted in the first A.I.F. when he was 18, and while on active service became a member of the Anzac Coves, a concert party in which the baritone Harold Williams also served.

When he returned to Australia Mr. Brunton Gibb studied speech and became outstanding as a teacher. He had a studio for 47 years in the old Paling's Building.

Amenities

He entered radio in its infancy in the early 1920's.

In World War II he was amenities officer at the 113th Repatriation General Hospital at Concord.

He is survived by Mrs. Brunton Gibb—who is known as actress Ethel Lang and plays Meg Macarthur in the radio serial, "Blue Hills"—and by two sons and two daughters.

Mrs. Gibb told "The Link" that Mr. Gibb's father used to supply sporting results to the sporting fraternity of Balmain in the days be-

fore radio, when very few people had tele-phones.

"This was about 60 years ago," she said. "I remember my husband telling me that his father would get the news, by runner I think, and post it on a board outside his shop. The whole of the sporting people of Balmain would collect there to read it."

"My husband—who went to Gladstone Park School (known as the Pigeon Ground)—grew up in this atmosphere of love of sport.

Barracker

"To the end of his days he was a terrific barracker for the Tigers. I drove him across to Leichhardt to watch them play a couple of Sundays ago, and he came home like a school-boy."

"He used to fight the Tigers' battles through the Press. He wrote a letter some time ago when he thought the selectors had done the wrong thing. Even when we were abroad he used to wear the black and gold colours."

Mrs. Gibb said her own parents had had a cake and confectionery business in Rozelle, where they had lived until moving to Drummoyn, so her husband had married "a girl from the district".

She recalled that he had been closely associated with Balmain Hospital, having arranged and compered the entertainment at the annual directors' receptions.

"He was a man of tremendous affiliations," she said. "He was proud of the district from which he came."

Boys' Club

Rugby League: Week-end results: C Grade lost to Codocks 2-8. D Grade lost to Ryde R.S.L. 5-10. E Grade lost to Dundas Juniors 0-2. F Grade (1) beat Dundas Juniors 36-0. F Grade (2) lost to Rydalmere 0-20. G Grade won on a forfeit from Dundas Juniors. H

Grade—still undefeated—won 3-0 against Balmain Christian Bros.

Soccer: Under 12 beat Northbridge 5-1. All-age had their first win of the season with a forfeit from Apollo.

Events: Chocolate wheel at the corner of National and Darling Streets, Rozelle, next Saturday, 9 a.m. **Ladies' Auxiliary** will conduct a wig party at the club premises, next to Balmain Town Hall, on July 23, at 8 p.m.

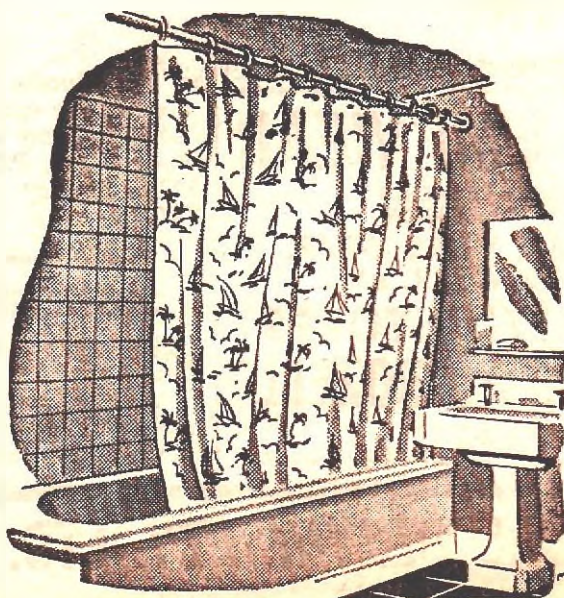
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Balmain—Campbell Street.
9.30 a.m.: United Methodist-
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9.30 a.m.: Morning Worship
Combined Methodist and
Presbyterian Service.
7.15 p.m.: Evening Combined
Service, Methodist Mission,
Montague Street.

Rozelle—St. Paul's.
10.45 a.m.: Sunday School.
11.00 a.m.: Church Service.
7.15 p.m.: Evening Service.
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10.15 a.m.: Sunday School
7.30 p.m.: Evensong.

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9.30 a.m.: Holy Communion.
9.30 a.m.: Sunday School.
7.15 p.m.: Evening Prayer.
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9.30 a.m.: United Service,
Campbell Street—
7.15 p.m.: United Service,
Montague St., Balmain.

Rozelle—
9.30 a.m.: Rozelle Methodist
Mission.
Sunday School.
11 a.m.: Rozelle Methodist
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'Army' Helps Needy

The Salvation Army launched on July 7 its Red Shield Appeal to raise funds to help its expanding services to needy people.

The appeal will last until July 21. After distributing 700,000 leaflets

teams of collectors will call at homes for donations.

With "Help knock out need" as its slogan, the Army seeks to raise \$1 million in Australia to help in its fight against poverty. The N.S.W. quota is \$200,000.

Last year the Army spent \$3,900,000 on its social welfare work and suffered a deficit of \$153,000. It gave practical and spiritual help to over a million Australians. This included caring for 1,500 senior citizens, 1,200 children, 3,000 alcoholics, and 1,500 unmarried mothers. The missing person's bureau found over 200 people, and more than 230,000 free meals were distributed.

All gifts \$2 and over are tax deductible. Donations can be sent to the Salvation Army Appeal Headquarters, P.O. box A229, Sydney South, 2000.

SHIVERERS

The Sydney Shiverers' Club's final at Dawn Fraser Pool last week resulted: C. Hansell 1, F. Garlick 2, A. Barclay 3.

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R.S.L. NEWS

Illegal "U" Turns

Soccer: Four wins, two draws, two losses.

The Under 12—at the bottom of the ladder—were unlucky to be beaten 1-0 by Concord (leaders), who beat them 8-0 in the first round.

Sports Club News: Next meeting, July 16, 5.30 p.m. Outside fishing trip, July 21 (launch leaves Snails Bay 5 a.m.).

Deaths: Arthur Deane, club member, Tommy Maloney (Lockhart), who had lived all her life in had lived all his life in Balmain. Deepest sympathy to their loved ones.

Entertainment: One Sunday afternoon show this week—The Stipal

Sisters from Indonesia, starting at 3.30 p.m.

In Hospital: Royal Prince Alfred—B. Boyd and R. Popen. Balmain—A. Durham and S. Warren. Yaralla—T. Newburn, D. O'Rourke, H. Hooper and J. Carey. Sydney Eye Hospital—A. Renneberg, Snr. Also C. Lawrence (hospital not known to date).

A heavy onus rests upon the N.S.W. motorist who makes a "U" turn, for where a collision occurs in these circumstances it is usual for the turning driver to be charged.

The Motor Traffic Regulations specify that a driver must not make a "U" turn across separation lines or unbroken lines marked on the road; nor should he make one at an intersection controlled by traffic lights or where a notice specifically prohibits it.

Drivers about to make a "U" turn, or in the process of making one, must stop if there is any danger of collision or any likelihood of interference with the free movement of traffic. They may make or continue the turn as soon as they can do so with safety and without causing interference to others.

BOWLS

Gladstone Park results are:

Mixed Fours: Final—Jack and Jean Gibson, Cec and Mac Kemp.

Men's Triples: Final—F. Jordan, J. Dean, H. Jacobsen 21, W. Benjamin, T. Collins, J. O'Keefe 20.

Riverside Pairs: C. Kemp and A. Conlon have entered the fourth round.

Gala Day: Target achieved again, with a cheque for \$484 to the hospital.

Results of hampers: A. Munro, R. Hedley, B. Mantaan.

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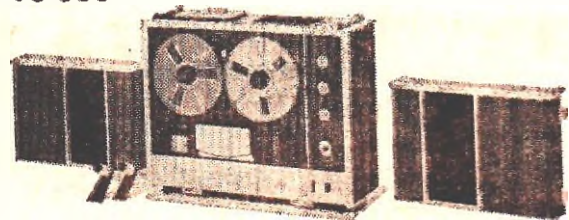
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TIGERS' CORNER

By "Black Eye"

Once again "The Tigers" proved what an unpredictable team they can be by their sterling performance against Saints at the Cricket Ground last Saturday.

They were defeated 21-10, but only after a hectic and bruising match in which they held the lead for the entire first 60 minutes. Only after a disputed try did they relinquish their lead: Preston took what appeared to be a forward pass, to score in the corner.

It is only natural that "The Tigers" suffered a let-down from this try and allowed Saints to pile on two more.

It was, however, heartening to Balmain supporters to see their team improve on the performance displayed the previous week against Souths. To hold St. George try-less for such a long period is indeed something to be proud of, and should give "The Tigers" the encouragement they need as they advance towards the semi-finals.

Just a little luck in the first half and Balmain could have altered the result completely, as they looked like scoring on numerous occasions, only to be pulled down a yard or so short. One thing emerged from the game: Balmain from here on are not to be sold short, as, with a full team, they are capable of upsetting any team.

Good Play

Jack Spencer, Harold Browne, Terry Parker and David Bolton all played particularly good games.

Only last week I mentioned that Harold Browne's penetration was badly needed, and this was visibly borne out against Saints. He constantly made long, searching runs, in which his speed and elusive running constantly evaded the defence. Tries were not scored, but only last-minute tackles prevented several.

Dave Bolton again proved what an asset he is to the club. To be able to bring up a player of Dave's calibre is indeed a fortunate position to be in; but one must wonder how he continually is overlooked for First Grade. He still appears too good for Reserve Grade.

Jack Spencer seems to be improving each week. Against Saints he played a blinder in both attack and defence, and must surely be at his top again.

Big Artie's value was demonstrated in no un-

certain terms. He gave the Dragons plenty to remember him by. I feel they will be very happy if Balmain do miss the semis, as a further encounter with him, as well as Outten, Ruebner and Killeen would not be something they'd look forward to.

Ability

Young Terry Parker showed up much better than on the previous week, and is possibly settling down better. His ability is undoubted, and he will eventually become a regular First Grader.

Peter Provan, as usual, played his heart out, and tackled hard — as did Peter Jones and Laurie Moraschi. Keith Barnes, whilst still a great inspiration to the team, does appear to have lost his speed and doesn't make the ground one would expect from a First Grade full-back. His goal kicking is still unsurpassable, however.

and he will always rate the top goalkicker in my book.

Next week-end we meet Newtown, and, although this team are improving, Balmain should prove too solid.

Awards

The Bennett's Electrical Centre award went to Harold Browne, with Peter Provan gaining 2 points and Arthur Beetson 1.

Reserve Grade, who were also weakened by the drain on their players, went down, but are still in a good position on the ladder.

J. Smith was awarded the "best and fairest" award, with 2 points to J. Bragg and 1 to G. Fryer.

Another brilliant win by the Third Grade side prevented a complete rout by St. George. This team looks better every week, and must loom as our best bet for a grand finalist.

The award for "best and fairest" went to L. Anderson, with 2 points to G. Barnes and 1 point to P. Fardell.

Progress points.—First Grade: P. Provan 18, K. Outten 15, P. Jones 9, G. Leo 8, A. Beetson 7, G. Ruebner 6. Reserve and Third Grade: K. Outten 21, R. Watterson 18, J. McCarthy 13, R. Leis 13, J. Bragg 12, T. Parker 12, J. Smith 10.



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Sunday, 21st July: Sports Club Outside Fishing Trip. Launch leaves Snails Bay, 5 a.m. All moneys must be in by Sunday, 14th July.

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BRUCHART, Ernie. — In loving memory of our dear friend who passed away 14th July, 1966.
Sadly missed by Olive, Iv, Frank, Jack, Joyce and families.

CLARKE, George. — Fondlest memories of my husband George, who passed away 14th July, 1964.

Always remembered by his wife, daughters, Cath, Ruby, sons George, Golden and Bert and their families.

FORSTER. — In treasured memory of our darling sister, Amelia Maria Forster, who passed away 9th July, 1964.

Always loved and remembered by her sisters and brothers (The Cashman family).

FULTON, Venus. — Passed away 11th July, 1967. In loving memory of our dear mother.

God watched you as you suffered.
He knew you had your share.
He gently closed your weary eyes.

And took you in His care.
Sadly missed by your loving family, and George.

FULTON, Venus. — Passed away 11th July, 1967. In loving memory of my dearest mate, Vin.
When the evening sun is setting,
And I am all alone,
In my heart becomes a longing

For you to come back home.
If I could have my dearest wish,
With trembling lips I'd pray,
Dear God, turn back the hands of time

And give us yesterday,
My heart still aches with sadness,
My secret tears still flow,
For what it meant to lose you, Vin.

No one will ever know,
Sadly missed and remembered for ever—George.

PLUMMER, Agnes Edith. — In loving memory of our dear mother and grandmother, who passed away 10th July, 1965.

Your memory, Mother dear,
Will never grow old.
It's locked in our hearts
In letters of gold.

You can't come back, we know it's true,
But some day, Mum, we all come to you.

Inserted by her loving son Doug, daughter-in-law Laura, grandsons Ron, Bobbie, Geoff and their wives and great-grandchildren.

PORTER, Robert, passed away 10th July, 1967.
Sadly missed by Aunt Reta and Great Auntie Ciss Little.

SMITH, Ada, passed away 12th July, 1965. In fond memory of my mother and her sister.
Reta Skinner and Auntie Ciss Little.

SMITH, Ada. — Passed away 12th July, 1965.
PORTER, Robert. — Passed away 10th July, 1967. In loving memory of my mother and son.

Thoughts of years we spent together
Hold memories that will last forever.

Always remembered by Ethel and Frank Sloane, also Carolyn Porter.

RETURN THANKS

Your kind expressions of sympathy are deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged from N. Smith and family, 44 Phillip Street, Balmain.

Mrs. R. Westberg, Bess and Ted, wish to thank relatives and friends for kind expressions of sympathy in the loss of their dear husband, father and father-in-law, George Westberg.

DEATH NOTICE

JOHNSON, Horace Stephen (Mick). — June 25, 1968 (suddenly) at his residence, 4 Waite Avenue, Balmain, dearly beloved husband of the late Maud Johnson, and loved brother of Rupert, Dulcie (deceased), Reginald, Leslie, Lorna (deceased) and Linda, aged 70 years. Privately cremated.

VAUGHAN, John. — June 28, 1968, at hospital, late of 39 Lilyfield Road, Rozelle, beloved husband of Annie, and loved father of John and Martin, father-in-law of Marie, and loved grandfather of their children, aged 74 years. R.I.P.

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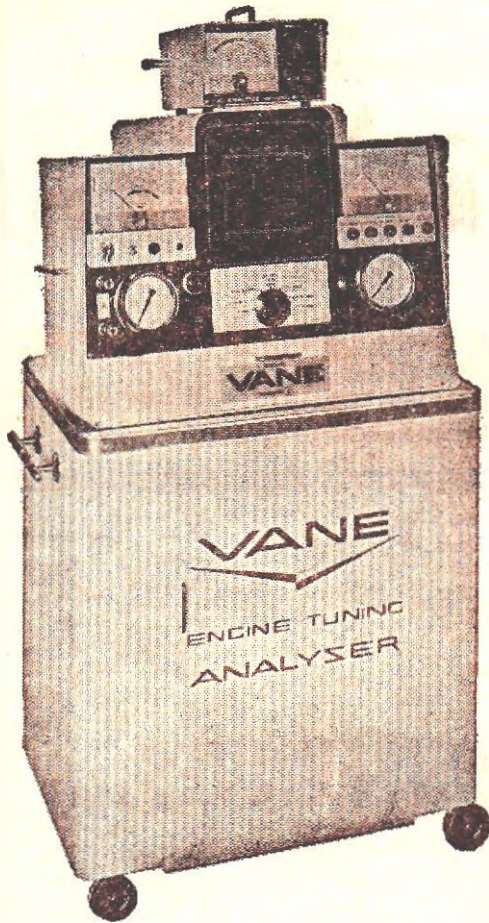
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