

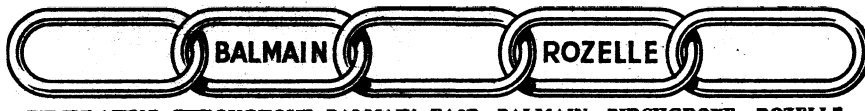
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THE LINK



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VOL. 50—No. 41

CIRCULATION 9000 COPIES WEEKLY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1970

Hospital Tells Of Greater Service — And Some Problems

Balmain Hospital's annual accounting, as detailed in the official reports for 1969-70, presented to the recent annual meeting, told of notable advances in service to the community, major development plans, and the manner in which the administration is tackling the problem of shortage of nursing staff.

In her address to the meeting, the recently-elected President, Mrs D. J. Wakefield — who succeeded the late Mr W. F. Pinerua — said that the year had highlighted the general shortage of nursing staff confronting hospitals generally in N.S.W.

Balmain Hospital had felt the effect of the reduced number of girls available or interested in training as nurses.

Mrs Wakefield said a number of committees had been established at a State level to investigate ways of overcoming the critical situation which was developing.

She was hopeful that the activities of those committees would not be too late.

Many sophisticated developments had taken place to save and prolong life, and the mortality rate from practically every disease was declining.

However, the more intensive medical care required in modern times, and the more complex techniques used in caring for the sick, the greater was the demand on the nursing staff in numbers, skill and knowledge.

Fortunately, said Mrs Wakefield, Balmain Hospital had no difficulty in obtaining trained nurses, and quite a number of part-time nurses had been engaged to compensate for the fall-off in the number of girls

wishing to train as student nurses.

In addition, the hospital had been registered as a training hospital for enrolled aides, and quite a number of girls were responding to this rewarding side of nursing.

On behalf of the Board, Mrs Wakefield expressed thanks to all who had contributed to the conclusion of another satisfactory year in caring for the sick.

These included the staff, and particularly those who gave their services voluntarily, such as the Pink Ladies, members of the Auxiliary and the various clubs and schools who had worked so hard to raise money for the hospital, the honorary medical staff, and members of the various religious organisations who encouraged and supported the spiritual needs of patients.

Painting

The annual report was adopted on the motion of the President, seconded by the Honorary Treasurer, Mr Francis Turner.

This year's printed report has an unusual cover—an attractive reproduction of a painting by Mrs Essex Williams of the original building of Balmain Cottage Hospital.

The painting was arranged by Mr T. Speight, a patient and friend of long standing of the hospital.

Mr Speight, who was present at the meeting, formally handed the painting to the matron, Miss MacLaren, who is to hang it in a prominent

Publication Date Of "The Link"

Next week's issue of "The Link" will be published a day earlier than usual—on Tuesday (December 22) instead of Wednesday.

Deadline for advertisements and editorial matter will be Monday, December 21, at 12 noon.

ed by different officers, commenced with the recording of the death in July, 1970, of Mr W. F. Pinerua, President of the Board from 1961.

To commemorate his memory and efforts on behalf of the hospital, it is proposed to call the hospital's new pharmacy, when constructed, the Wal Pinerua Pharmacy.

The detailed planning of the proposed new extensions as shown in last year's report has been undertaken by the Department of Public Works, and it is hoped that a Ministerial announcement to proceed this financial year will be made shortly.

The hospital has been asked to raise \$50,000 towards the anticipated cost of \$800,000 of new Casualty - Outpatient facilities.

At the time the report went to press \$12,000 had been raised through the support of business houses, clubs, associations and people of the area served by the hospital.

Continued on page 9

COUNCIL WORKS ADJUSTED TO MAINTAIN RATE

Leichhardt Council last meeting decided to maintain the property rate at 3 cents in the dollar on unimproved capital value of all rateable land in the municipality. To do this it was necessary to adjust the estimates of expenditure for the year, which would have involved an additional .1 cent in the dollar.

The Mayor, Ald. L. J. Rodwell, said aldermen felt that this was not the year to raise the rate, and that it was generally felt that the rate was high enough as it was.

Had the estimates submitted been adopted without the three adjustments decided on, the engineer's works programme for resheeting roads and footpaths would have had to be cut severely.

This was not to the aldermen's liking. They decided to make these adjustments:

- Reserve for town planning—reduced from \$48,290 to nil.
 - Plant replacement—reduced from \$60,000 to \$24,310, a saving of \$35,690.
 - Costs of reconstructing Lilyfield Road (a major work required for heavy traffic, costs being shared with the Department of Main Roads)—reduced by half to \$32,500, a saving of \$32,500.
- Total saving—\$116,480. Ald. Rodwell told Council in 1971.

Column NINE

COUNCIL FINANCES

Decision by Leichhardt Council not to increase the property rate again this year will be met by grunts of satisfaction from ratepayers.

The aldermen have shown full appreciation of ratepayers' views by agreeing that this at least was not a year in which a further increase could be swallowed by the public.

That the rate could be kept static while maintaining the ordinary works programme — road and footpath resheeting, health services and so on — is another reason for satisfaction.

Whether this situation can continue into 1972, of course, is highly problematical, unless some magical touch is able to restrain the continued general increase in costs.

Property owners naturally must accept the principle that they should be expected to pay their share of the increased public costs brought about by inflation.

Their property values rise along with other costs.

Nevertheless the central administrations—State and Federal—have shown virtually no regard for the ratepaying section of the community by refusing to face up realistically to Councils' financial worries.

Each Council, of course, has its own responsibility to administer its finances faithfully and with proper regard for local problems.

However, there's a fairly quick limit to what can be done with available finances in times of continuing inflation.

And local works become more and more important to the average householder as local responsibilities grow.

The time is long overdue for a get-together between Federal, State and Local Government

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DECEMBER 20th at 7.30 p.m.

Carols by Candlelight—Lane Cove Municipal band, Balmain Christian Brothers Choir. United congregations of the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian churches.

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Carols by Candlelight and Holy Communion. 11 p.m. until midnight. Hear the peel of bells.

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BALMAIN CHILDREN'S PLAY GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY

10.30 a.m. Tuesday, December 22nd 1970
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Mothers please bring a plate.

Play Group Reopens Tuesday Jan



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 20th December:
 7.30 p.m., Carols by
 Candlelight.
 Lane Cove Band.
 Christian Brothers'
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 United Congregation.
 24th December:
 11 a.m., until midnight,
 Carols by Candlelight
 and Holy Communion.

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 OF ENGLAND**

4th Sunday in Advent
 9.30 a.m., Holy Communion.
 7.15 p.m., Carol Service.

Rector: Rev. H. Voss.

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 ST. JOHN'S
 PARISH CHURCH**

4th Sunday in Advent
 6.30 a.m., Holy Communion.
 7.30 a.m., Parish Communion.
 10.15 a.m., Holy Communion.
 10.15 a.m., Sunday School.
 7.30 p.m., Evensong.
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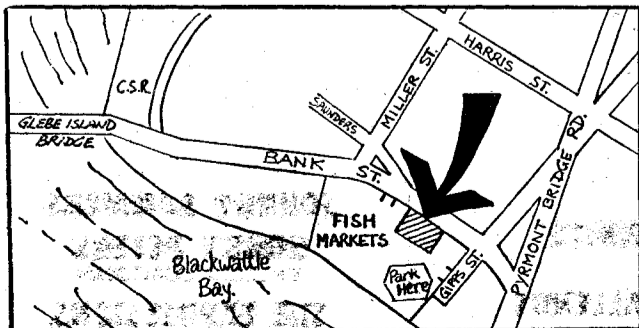
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COUNCIL BOWS TO S.P.A. WARNING ON HOME UNITS

Strong opposition by the State Planning Authority, with a warning that the Minister for Local Government would consider alternative action should the opposition be ignored, has caused Leichhardt Council to disapprove the amended application for a high-rise block of home units on former Council land at East Balmain.

The application was on behalf of the developer, Karl Developments Pty. Ltd.

It was for an eight-storey block containing 36 flats and a residential building containing eight 2-storey apartments fronting Nicholson, Brett, Gallimore and Lookes Avenues.

The eight-storey block plan was an amendment to a 15-storey block proposal which had been objected to by the State

Planning Authority. Council had approved of the proposal, and advised the S.P.A. to that effect.

However, the reaction of the S.P.A. was very firm, and its reply was reported at last week's meeting of Council. It was to the following effect:

The S.P.A. objected to the proposal on the same grounds as formerly.

These were:

- That the proposed

development would be out of character with existing development in the locality and would be likely to create a precedent for similar development.

• The high-rise tower proposed would adversely affect the skyline of the area and would be detrimental to the amenity of the neighbourhood.

• Erection of the high-rise building would be contrary to the provisions of the foreshore scheme.

The S.P.A. said that Council no doubt knew that it was not bound under the County of Cumberland Planning Scheme Ordinance to give effect to the S.P.A.'s views, and might approve an application notwithstanding the Authority's advice.

Also by a reduction in the height of the building to reduce it under 80 ft. the views of the Height of Buildings Advisory Committee and the Minister might also be disregarded, even though the height reduction could not render the building less objectionable from a planning or amenity point of view.

Direction

The Minister was concerned at the situation, and had directed that Council be requested to give serious consideration to the S.P.A. views and not to approve of development contrary to those views.

The S.P.A. said: "The Minister has further directed that the Council be informed that if it does not accept this advice and approves of development which is not in accordance with the views so expressed, the Minister must give serious consideration to suspending the land from the provisions of the County of Cumberland Planning Scheme and revoking the consent so granted."

"In this event the Council would be responsible for any compensation for abortive expen-

diture which might be payable arising out of the revocation".

Zoning

The S.P.A. added that it now proposed to make a complete revision of the zoning, particularly of lands with direct frontage to the water and all lands adjacent thereto.

This would be to determine whether such areas should be re-developed and the nature of such re-development, and whether any such lands should be reserved for public access and/or recreation purposes.

In this regard the Authority would be consulting with the Council at a later date.

Following the advice of its solicitor, Mr V. Pike, and the recommendation of its Town Planner, Mr A. Kenna, Council decided that the amended application by Mr S. Klein, architect, on behalf of Karl Developments Pty. Ltd. be refused.

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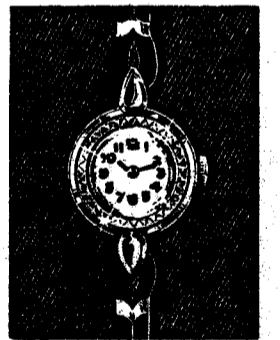
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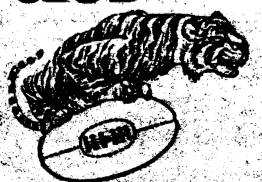
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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18:

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2 BANDS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19:

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on earth . . .
and goodwill
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Start of New School Year

Next year classes and enrolments in N.S.W. State schools will start on the second day of the new school year.

The first day of term 1 will be free of pupils to enable the school organisation to gain a smoother start.

Terms 2 and 3 will start classes on the first day, as at present.

MYSTERY OF HOLE IN THE GROUND

Mr Roger Degen, M.L.A. for Balmain, says that the mystery of the \$341,000 hole in the ground near Glebe Island Bridge has deepened.

He has been investigating this matter for the past year.

Mr Degen said the other day that the hole

had originally been dug as preparation for a new wheat storage terminal, but had been refilled when the project plans had been deferred.

"According to the Maritime Services Board", he said, "The site was excavated, but as work on the silos could not proceed it was leased until June, 1971, as a storage area for filling."

"It now appears that this extraordinary arrangement could delay a start on the new silos."

"Trucks are still dumping soil and rocks on the site, despite the Premier's announcement that work on the new silos would commence this year."

"I can't see how this could happen. This site has been leased until June next year and is being used to store filling."

Mr Degen said he would ask Mr Askin just what was going on with the strange project.

Blind Bowlers At Balmain

The Balmain Blind Bowling Combination (Bert Hussey, captain) will be playing at five different clubs during the next few months.

They will play at Balmain Bowling Club on January 17.

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R.S.L. NEWS

News from Balmain-Rozelle R.S.L. Club.

Another Club member passed away last week — Russell (Sandy) Sinclair, at the age of 85. He died in his sleep at Balmain Hospital.

Russell was one of Balmain's old identities, and has been well-known for over 30 years for his fine work for the old age pensioners of Balmain.

His companions speak most highly of his behind-the-scenes work in Meals on Wheels and kindred pursuits.

This Thursday night there will be another euchre tournament, as on Friday night the Sports Club will be having their prawn, presentation and cabaret night for their members only.

The Monte Carlo on Sunday night was won by Teddie Foster and Kathy—but Kathy drew the five of diamonds, so this Sunday the jackpot will be worth \$20.

A reminder about two special dates — Sunday, December 27, and New Year's Day, Friday, January 1.

On the Sunday, since next day will be a public holiday, the band and refreshments will continue an hour later—till 11 p.m.—with special guest artists in Clayton Davis (one of the best trumpeters ever to visit Australia) and newcomer Michelle Ferguson.

On New Year's Day the Club will present The Incredible Two, who have just finished a long contract at the Les Girls Night Club.

Congratulations are in order to Jim and Mrs Farthing on becoming great-grandparents, their grand-daughter Foss giving birth to a baby girl, Kylie.



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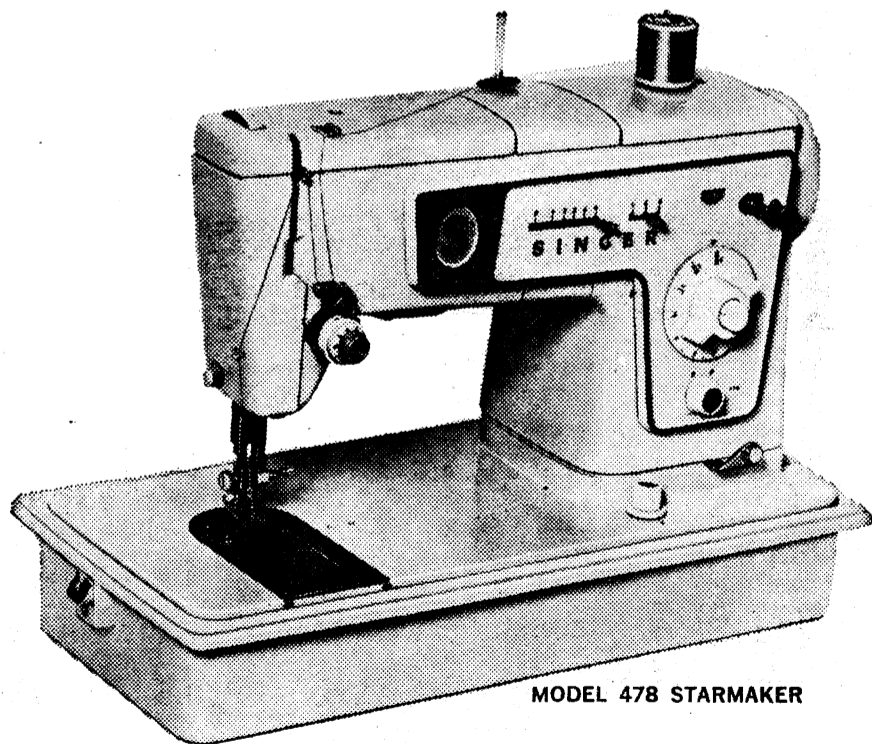
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An Unusual Xmas Party In Balmain

A Mickey Mouse cartoon, classical mime clown, a pile of comics and a jazz band will be "background" to an unusual party at the Presbyterian Church Hall, Campbell Street, Balmain, next Saturday, at 2.30 p.m.

The event is the annual Sunday School Christmas party, expanded by the new minister, Rev. Andrew Soos, with the help of some of the adults of Balmain.

Rev. Soos hopes eventually to make the church a centre for creative activities for children and a launching place for adult creative endeavour.

The complex of buildings, including a century-old stone church with crypt and a large church hall with separate rooms, offers a lot of space for activities.

Rev. Soos hopes eventually to restore the buildings and open them to community use.

Co-hosting the occasion are Mrs Elaine Bates, who runs a children's wear shop, Snips and Snails, in Darling Street, and Richard Liney, who will bring his collection of children's toys (ranging from life-size puppet heads to musical instruments).

Mrs Bates's husband's jazz band will lend a hand, and Mrs Bates hopes to give a free gift to each child attending.

Richard Liney expects that, with the "toys" he is providing, the children will offer competition to the adult band.

Both Rev. Soos and Mrs Bates see the occasion as a prototype for various events they want to see happen next year.

Visitors and friends are invited to attend the function.

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CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Balmain and Rozelle churches are combining in a Carols By Candlelight programme again this year.

It will be held in the grounds of the Housing Commission flats in Elliott Street, off Lagan Avenue, this Friday, December 18, at 7.30 p.m.

A bright programme of Christmas music will be presented, led by the Salvation Army band and songsters from Belmore, with community carol singing interspersed with solo items.

Candles will be on sale for 18 cents, with carol sheet, proceeds to go to the Christmas Bowl Appeal.

There will also be a bowl into which direct donations to the same cause may be placed.

People of any age or creed, whether attached to any local church or not, are invited to go along and enjoy a first-class programme and to join in the singing of well-known and loved carols.

How To Swim Campaign

The National Fitness and Recreation Service of N.S.W. will conduct a massive water safety education campaign from mid-December to late January.

It expects to teach 85,000 school-age children how to swim, at 250 centres in city, suburban and country centres.

Every available pool in the State will be used, and 1,800 specially trained teachers will provide instruction.

All schools are now accepting enrolments.

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to all

Balmain-Rozelle R.S.L. Club

Phone: 82-2569 Members' Phone: 82-1601

Special Notices: The Club has engaged for New Year's Day, the 1st January, the Incredible Two who have just finished a long contract at the Les Girls famous Kings Cross Night Club.

Thursday: Knockout Euchre Tournament, \$40.

Friday: 8 p.m., Sports Club Presentation Night.

Saturday: 9.30 a.m., Club opens, 12 o'clock Snack Bar opens, 8 p.m., Francis Shaw, Australia's greatest impersonator.

Sunday: 9.30 a.m., Club opens, Sick Parade, Ray Seagar, Comedian, 3 p.m., Live Show, Les and Lee Barry, Power Bros., backed up by the mystic quartette, 7 p.m., Dance Night, Jackpot Monte Carlo worth \$20.

Thursday, 24th December: Christmas Eve, 8 p.m., Mike Todd.

Thursday, 31st December: New Year's Eve, 8.15 p.m., Boys Blue, 10 p.m., Eddie Mendoza, 11 p.m., Noel McKay, 12 p.m., Bart Morrison on the Bagpipes.

Friday, 1st January: 9.30 a.m., Club opens, 12 o'clock, Snack Bar opens, 6 p.m., Secret Ball, \$20, mixed lounge opens 8 p.m., the incredible two female impersonators from the Les Girls famous Kings Cross Night Club.

Hospital Report

Continued from page 1

Balmain Rotary Club has undertaken to raise \$4,000 to equip the proposed Wal Pinerua Pharmacy, and the activities of the Balmain Auxiliary should see collections for the appeal reach \$20,000 by Christmas.

However, much remains to be done if the target of \$50,000 set by the Hospitals Commission is to be achieved during 1971.

Rising Costs

Last year there were increases in salaries for practically all sections of the hospital staff. The Board hopes that in time the new salary rates will help to attract more girls to the nursing field.

Salaries and wages last year totalled \$1,052,950, compared with \$956,274 for 1969.

Bed costs rose from \$17.65 per patient per day in 1968/69 to \$18.60 for 1969/70. This figure, however, is well below the average costs for hospitals of similar size in N.S.W. and reflects the result of the economy drive during the year.

Outpatient attendances continued to rise—70,250, compared with 65,537 the previous year, further emphasising the urgent need to replace the present inadequate facilities.

The adjusted daily average of patients was 221.9 (214.9 the preceding year). New patients totalled 35,089 (26,563 the year before).

Operations numbered 2,498, or 260 less than in 1969 due to the shortage of nursing staff, a condition existing in nearly every hospital in Sydney.

The cardiac unit, consisting of four beds with an individual monitor for each patient, was completed, but up to the time of compiling the report it could not be opened through lack of nursing staff.

The General and Enrolled Aide Registration examinations were increased to four and three respectively, resulting in an increase in successful candidates.

There were 28 general graduates, six midwifery graduates and 18 enrolled aides, an increase of 22 all told.

During the year there were 679 births at the hospital, 13 of them multiple.

Lectures, films and visits to the maternity unit in preparation for motherhood have been conducted by the maternity staff for antenatal patients and their husbands.

These were well attended and proved beneficial to many patients during their confinement.

Shelter At Birchgrove

Leichhardt Council has agreed to general plans submitted by the Australian Stevedoring Industry Authority for a new pavilion shelter to be built at Birchgrove Oval.

This would provide an all-weather shelter for waterside workers awaiting transport to the Snail's Bay dolphin berths.

In addition it would serve for spectator viewing of cricket at the oval.

The structure in mind is a brick and decorative concrete block building on a reinforced concrete slab with patent steel roofing.

The grandstand would seat 120 persons.

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Noise Of Aircraft

Leichhardt Council has received copy of the minutes of a meeting on October 8 between representatives of the State Planning Authority and Councils affected by the Department of Civil Aviation's Noise Exposure Forecasts.

The estimated N.E.F. level for Leichhardt Municipality is that 46% of the area would be affected in varying degrees from 20 to 35 N.E.F. units.

Council decided to await the latest forecast and the evaluation of the current noise situation now being prepared by the Department of Civil Aviation, and deferred consideration of the matter for 28 days.

About 11 Councils were considered to be in the flight path, some of them being in a worse situation than Leichhardt, with a forecast of 40 N.E.F. units.

Balmain area is considered to be one of the fortunate sections of the municipality in this respect.

The flight path appears to be very closely above Leichhardt Town Hall, so that the present severe noise there is expected to grow worse.

Road Work

The following further streets in the Balmain-Rozelle district have been resheeted:

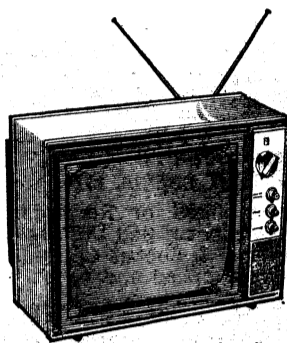
Balmain—Dick, Duke, Little, Short, Phillip, College and Gladstone Streets, Jagers Lane, and lanes off Campbell and Duke Streets.

Rozelle—Crescent, Toulon, Joseph, Starling and Elliott Streets, and Roseville Lane.

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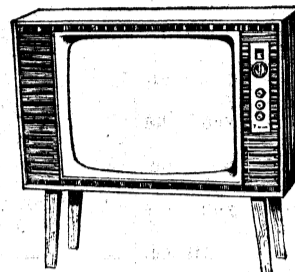


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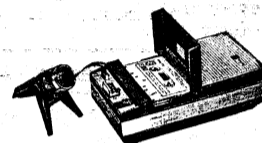
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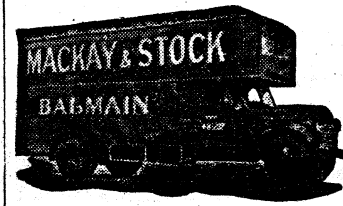
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