

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SA PUBLICATIONS

### Journal

The *Journal of the Historical Society of South Australia* has appeared annually since 1975, with the exception of 1978 and 1980 when there were two issues. Back issues of all numbers except 1, 4, 9 and 10 are available at \$12.00 each (postage included). Note however that stocks of some issues are running low.

The contents of each journal are listed in the 'South Australian History in Journals' guidesheets included in Newsletters No's 77 (July 1988) and 79 (November 1988).

### Newsletter

Back issues of more recent years' issues are available at \$1.00 each.

### Guidesheets

These leaflets are made available gratis by the Society as a community service to promote history beyond its membership. They are issued as supplements to its Newsletters and additional copies are normally available in the Mortlock Library and the History Trust head office.

- No. 1 South Australian Local History 1. Guides, Indexes & Bibliographies (1978, out of print)
- No. 2 Good Reading in South Australian History (Revised edition 1987)
- No. 3 South Australian History in Journals—A Select List of Articles (1981)
- No. 4 Making History (1988)
- No. 5 South Australian History in Journals—2. A Select List of Articles (1988)
- No. 6 More Good Reading in South Australian History (1992)

### Occasional Paper

E.J. & J.R. Robbins *A Glossary of Local Government Areas in South Australia 1840-1985* (1987) \$3.00 + \$1.00 postage

### Joint Publications

S. Marsden & R. Nicol (eds) *The Politics of Heritage* (1990) [with the History Trust of S.A.] \$7.50 + \$1 postage. Available direct from the History Trust only.

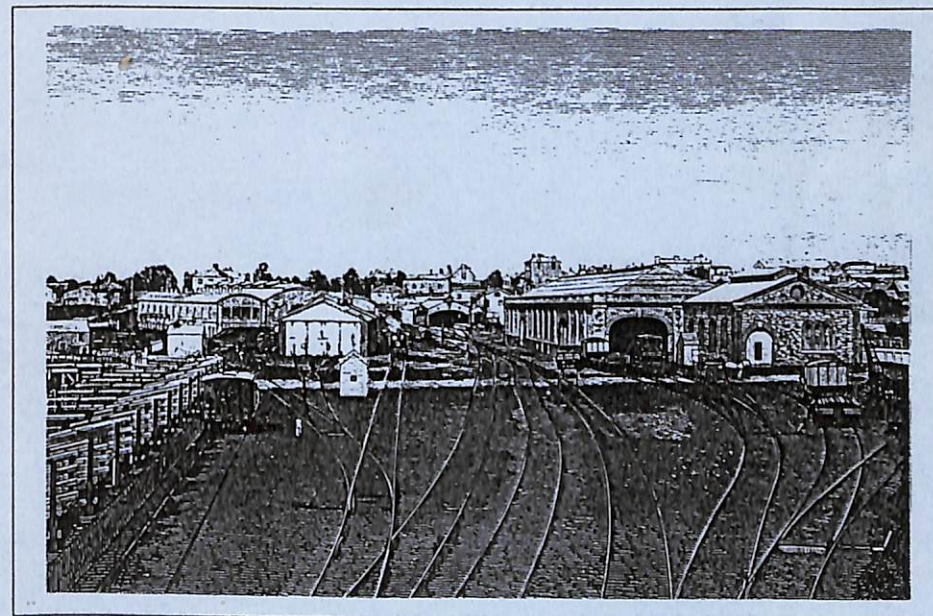
various *South Australian Gazette and Colonial Register* A facsimile reproduction of volume 1, 18 June 1836 to 29 December 1838. (1988) [in association with the S.A. Government Printer] \$35 (limp) or \$75 (hard back). Available direct from the Government Printer and selected Adelaide bookshops.

### 'Insights' Series

R. Nicol & B. Samuels (eds) *Insights into South Australian History volume one: Selected articles from the Journal of the Historical Society of South Australia* (1992) \$14 postage paid. \$12 for orders of 5 or more.

# The Historical Society of South Australia Inc.

Newsletter No. 104 January 1993



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## THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

Institute Building, 122 Kintore Avenue, Adelaide 5000

### OBJECTS

- (a) to arouse interest in and to promote the study and discussion of history, especially South Australian and Australian history
- (b) to promote the collection, preservation and classification of source material of all kinds relating to South Australian and Australian history
- (c) to publish historical records and articles
- (d) to promote the interchange of information among members of the Society by lectures, readings, discussions, field trips and exhibitions
- (e) to co-operate with similar societies throughout Australia
- (f) to do all such things as are conducive or incidental to the attainment of any of the above objects

### COUNCIL

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*FOUNDED IN 1974*

Cover Illustration: Entrance to Adelaide Railway Station c1970s

## Forthcoming Events

### Lectures

5 February

**Dr Peter Bell**

'South Australia's Mining Heritage—The Strange Case of the Working Mine'.

Dr Peter Bell, a historian of the Australian mining history, takes another look at South Australia's mining legacy through an outsider's eyes. What economic impact has the mining industry really had on South Australia? What are South Australia's greatest mining triumphs? And disasters? What impact did the Cornish miners have on our heritage? And the Welsh miners? The German miners? What does economic colonialism mean in the South Australian context? Who were the colonisers? Who became rich? And can that be the breath of scandal arising from a well-known South Australian mine? The talk will be illustrated with slides.

5 March

**Emeritus Prof. G.J. Fraenkel**

'Hugh Cairns, South Australian Rhodes Scholar and Lawrence of Arabia—Protection of Motor Cyclists'.

Cairns was the son of the village carpenter in Riverton. By a succession of scholarships he entered the Medical School in Adelaide and Balliol College, Oxford, serving twice in the First War. He became the first Nuffield Professor at Oxford. Thomas Edward (he liked to be known as T.E.) Lawrence was the second of five sons of a de facto union of a member of the gentry and his nurse maid; via Modern History at Jesus and Magdalen College he was involved in Military Intelligence in Arabia by 1914, joined the Army, the Royal Air Force, The tank Corps and the RAF again. Their common ground was motor cycles.

### Tour

28 March 10.00a.m. Bus Tour.

Bookings ph. Marcia Dunshore 381 7429 a.h.

In association with east Torrens Historical Soc.

'Toilers of the Hills'

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## Society News

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### Tour

Toilers of the Hills—A tour of the historic fruit-growing district of East Torrens.

Sunday 28 March 1993 from 10.30a.m. to 3.30p.m. (BYO lunch)

The East Torrens area lies in the steepest part of the Adelaide Hills to the east of Magill and Burnside. It was settled by woodcutters soon after the foundation of the Province of South Australia. Since the 1850s the area has been an important fruit and vegetable growing area. The terrain is essentially hilly dissected by deep gullies. These physical constraints have influenced the pattern of settlement and land use.

The work settlements or townships in East Torrens are Norton Summit, Montacute, Cherryville, Ashton, basket Range, Summertown, Uraidla and Carey Gully.

The tour will be led by members of the East Torrens Historical Society. It will present aspects of the historical development of the area—its horticultural industries, townships and significant buildings.

BYO walking shoes and lunch (drinks provided).

Meet at the War Memorial North Terrace, Adelaide 10.00a.m. Cost \$16.00

### The 1993 Programme

As usual, members will find their copy of the full 1993 programme enclosed with the newsletter. *Please note the change of venue for the first seven meetings of the year.* The State Library Lecture Theatre and other parts of the Institute Building are being refurbished. Council had planned on the need for an alternative venue for the February meeting, but shortly before Christmas was informed by the Library that the refurbishment project was so delayed that the facilities would not be available until the second half of the year. Urgent need for action had produced what I believe is a very good solution to a difficult problem. We will now hold our monthly Friday meetings in the Prince Philip Theatre at Prince Alfred College. This will allow us to continue in an historic building, centrally located for the majority of members and with the added advantage of off street parking in the College grounds. The theatre has been refurbished recently and has facilities for supper. Members travelling by public transport will find council members at the gate to guide them to the theatre, which is on the ground floor of the main building. Given usual building delays, we should plan on

PAC as our venue at least until July/August. Details of any changes, and progress on the Institute Building, will be included in Newsletters.

Once again, the programme is full and varied. I hope members have had a pleasant holiday season and look forward to seeing you during the coming year.

Robert Nicol  
President.

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## Nominations for Council

Nominations are hereby called for the positions of President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, and eight council members. Nominations must be proposed by members and endorsed by the nominee to the effect that they are willing to stand. They must be forwarded to the Secretary by 13 February 1993.

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Historical Society members and friends at the tour of historic North Road Church of England Cemetery, August 1992

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## DOCUMENTS

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The following letter was sent by Mr Brian Donaghy of Aldgate, the letter was written by his mother-in-law who is now in her eighties.

### Gran from England

Gran dearly loved us come to her cosy room for a talk. She would probably be cooking on her little stove—she had her own ideas about food.

'You don't put enough 'body' into it. A spool should stand up in the porridge and it should be served with salt and butter.'

I would reluctantly taste a little as a price for her goodwill and her tales.

'I was eight years old in 1856 when we Mellowships arrived in South Australia by a sailing ship from England. My frock was a decent midcalf length and I had plenty of petticoats'—with a glare at my brief look of the late 20's—'You could see the lace of my long drawers. My straw hat had a flat brim with long ribbons floating down the back.

'That was a long, long trip. Three or four months, I think. I remember playing with the box of buttons my grandma had given me. She didn't think we'd be able to get any in wild Australia. Father was affected badly by the trip. It was said it was the moonsickness. He should never have slept on deck in full moonlight. But it didn't affect mother. When we left the ship in Port Adelaide she saw the bullock-dray ready to take us to Adelaide town. So she hitched up her crinolines and walked.'

I wish I had gathered more of these small vignettes of Gran while opportunity offered. But the few I have give a glimpse of her quality.

She was educated: 'An academy in Adelaide took a few young ladies. I learned to write a fine hand, to count and to sing.'

But the academy offered only a few years teaching. Her real education came from her mother. She was proud of the training, hard though it seemed to me.

'I learned to starch lace and to stiffen and polish my brothers' high collars; we starched our petticoats and aprons, a clean apron every day and one with lace for Sunday. My brothers' boots had to be polished. They'd put them out and woe betide me if I didn't get the four pairs done smartly. My mother gave me her 'recipts' for cooking and taught me had to handle bread and pastry. We would prepare the baked dinner on Sunday and carry it to the bake-house for cooking. She sang while she worked. Mary known a lot of songs. Always a good girl, Mary.'

Mary was the youngest and my Mother. She did remember the songs and was able to add to Burl Ives traditional airs when he was visiting Australia.

'Your mother deserves to have her good gas stove. Though I managed well with the camp oven. I had the first in the line when it was being built to Alice Springs.

I was a young woman when I travelled to Port Augusta. We wore our very best. When the girls were stepping down from the gangplank the men would lift their hats and ask the girls to marry them. There was such a handsome man—tall, with blue eyes and long golden moustaches. But Jack Long was courting me then. he would ride the twenty miles every weekend to see me. I was seventeen when I married him.'

The part of her married life she recalled most often was the period during which her husband was builder-contractor on the line to the Alice. The children, ten of them, had arrived by then. My mother, the youngest, was born at Hergott Springs.

'We lived in tents, of course. But your grandfather always saw that we had a good board floor. We took in some of the young fellows. Your grandfather didn't like it. But they needed the cooking—so many young men were dying of typhoid. But I saw to it that we were right. I kept everything washed with lime.'

That was Mum's duty, and one of her early memories is of her and her nephew Graham, tiny as they were, painting the fowlhouse with whitewash.

Gran not only nursed the young men. She kept them in order as well: 'Bill came running over to the kitchen. Kate and Melia were changing for the concert and a fellow was watching their hut. I took the poker and went after him. He ran away but I nearly got him. Then he jumped down the quarry. I threw stones at him. We didn't see him again.'

Grandfather suffered at least once from her disciplinary measures. 'He was off with his violin again. So I threw a dish of fat on him. It didn't do any good. He'd always go any time they asked him.

'But I surprised him. The Ghan camel train came through and I bought some lovely taffetas. We got the fashion books from Adelaide. The next concert Kate, Melia and I wore our new dresses. When we came down to our seats your grandfather stopped playing and bowed low. You should have seen his face when he realised who the ladies were!'

Beautiful daughters and strong sons developed along the line to the Alice. Kate came into the picture when I asked about the Aborigines:

'They were hard to teach. Kate had to take the whip to them once. It was north of the line, no white woman had ever been so far north at that time. She would go with her husband on the mail run, taking Graham with them. There'd been a murder so the police decided to take a couple of the tribe to Adelaide to see the hanging. They were very interested and ready to explain to the tribe when they got back. So when Kate looked out from the camp she saw the whole mob of them under a tree with Graham with a rope

## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HISTORY IN JOURNALS 2

### - A Select List of Articles -

Articles published in journals often remain unknown to many of their potential readers. This guidesheet aims to remedy that. It continues the listing of historical articles, but not reviews, in the *Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society of Australia: South Australian Branch* (PRGS) and the complete list of articles in the *Journal of the Historical Society of South Australia* (JHSSA) commenced in guidesheet number 3. That guidesheet covered volumes 59 (1957/58) - 79 (1978) and numbers 1 (1975) - 8 (1980) respectively.

Titles are reproduced as they appear at the head of each article. Occasionally a note in square brackets has been added at the end to amplify a title. An asterisk indicates that a journal is out of print.

Back issues of the JHSSA are available from the Society, 122 Kintore Avenue, Adelaide 5000 at \$12.00 each, postage included. Copies of the *Proceedings* can be obtained from the Royal Geographical Society, State Library Building, North Terrace, Adelaide 5000 for \$25.00 plus postage. The *Proceedings* changed their name with volume 87 (1987) to the *South Australian Geographical Journal*.

An index to *South Australiana*, the other major South Australian historical journal, can be found in volume 23 number 2 (September 1984). The journal ceased publication in 1985. Other articles can be found in the journals of local historical societies and by reference to the *Index to Journal Articles on Australian History* first compiled in 1976 by T. Hogan et al and subsequently by V. Crittenden et al.

### JOURNAL OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

#### Number 9 (1981) \*

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| P A Howell           | 'More Varieties of Vice-Regal Life' pp 1-53.  |
| J Tregenza           | 'Charles Reade, 1880 - 1933: town planning missionary' pp 54-79.                        |
| C Bridge             | 'R G Casey's contribution to Australian war policy, 1939 to 1942: some myths' pp 80-90. |
| R Clyne              | 'At war with the natives: from the Coorong to the Rufus, 1841' pp 91-110.               |
| L F Crisp            | John Medway Day: A South Australian who in 1893 went east, not west' pp 111-117.        |
| R R St C Chamberlain | 'Rex v Edwards: comments' pp 118-120.   |
| R Parsons            | In Search of South Australian Maritime History: A comment' pp 121-123.                  |
| J Young              | 'Reply' pp 123-126.   |

#### Number 10 (1982) \*

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| W A Sinclair | 'Urban booms in nineteenth-century Australia: Adelaide and Melbourne' pp 3-14. |
| A D Hunt     | 'The Bible Christians in South Australia' pp 15-31.                            |
| J Cashen     | 'Masters and Servants in South Australia, 1837-1860' pp 32-43.                 |

- R Linn (ed) 'Scenes of Early South Australia: the letters of Joseph Keynes of Keyneton 1839-1843' pp 44-60.
- M Saunders 'Opposition to the Vietnam War in South Australia, 1965-73' pp 61-71.
- C Dowd 'The Adelaide Kindergarten Teachers College, 1907-1974' pp 72-83.
- B Dickey 'Care for dependent children in South Australia in 1888' pp 84-91
- J A Daly 'Adolph Leschen: the "Father of Gymnastics" in South Australia' pp 92-98.
- J Playford 'The myths of the Adelaide Club' pp 99-103.
- R Jennings 'Secretarianism as an election weapon: the Port Adelaide campaigns of 1927' pp 104-110.
- S Edgar 'Rex v Edwards: comments' pp 111-116.
- D Watts 'Rex v Edwards: comments' pp 117-121.

#### Number 11 (1983)

- P G Edwards 'Dr Walter Henderson - A South Australian in charge of an Australian Foreign Office, 1924 - 1930' pp 3-14.
- W Vamplew 'From Sport to Business: The First Seventy-Five Years of Horse-Racing in South Australia' pp 15-33.
- R Schumann "'Charity, Work, Loyalty": the Catholic Women's League in South Australia' pp 34-47.
- H Jones 'Lucy Spence Morice and Catherine Helen Spence: partners in South Australian social reform' pp 48-64.
- J Scarfe 'Edith Fergusson: churchwoman, philanthropist and Governor's lady' pp 65-91.
- D Hilliard 'Dissenters from dissent: the Unitarians in South Australia' pp 92-104.
- R R St C Chamberlain 'Rex v Edwards: comment' p 125.

#### Number 12 (1984)

- C McKeough & N Etherington 'Jubilee 50' pp 3-21.
- J Tregenza 'Two notable portraits of South Australian Aborigines' pp 22-31.
- various 'An Historical Occasion: the launching of *Sir Thomas Playford*' pp 32-43
- D Kilner 'The Labor Party and the Industrialisation of South Australia, 1935-1938' pp 44-59.
- D Chaput 'The Burra Burra question: to ship or to smelt?' pp 60-75.
- V A Edgeloe 'Three early Adelaide graduates of distinction.' pp 76-89. [T H Beare 1859-1940, C C Farr, R L Robinson]
- S C Dawes 'Captain John Finnis. The expansion of the pastoral industry in South Australia.' pp 90-103.
- C Nance 'Making a better society? Immigration to South Australia 1836-1871' pp 104-122.
- M Boothby 'Memories of my bush life' pp 123-134.

#### Number 13 (1985)

- G L Fischer 'The South Australian Archives Department: its founders and contribution to South Australian historical studies 1920-1960' pp 5-29.
- C Finnimore 'The Pursuit of Taste. The early years of the South Australian Society of Arts' pp 30-44.

- R Thornton 'Practical Patriots: the work of the Cheer-up Society in South Australia 1914-1964' pp 45-56.
- A J Stimson 'River Town - Goolwa in the 1870s and 1880s' pp 57-78.
- J R Robbins 'The First Adelaide Corporation' pp 79-90.
- P Gifford 'Dr Handasyde Duncan' pp 91-99.
- V A Edgeloe 'Three More Early Graduates of Distinction' pp 100-110. [R D Kleeman, G E M Jauncey, F E Williams]
- P Sumerling 'The Darker Side of Motherhood: abortion and infanticide in South Australia 1870-1910' pp 111-127.
- R Jennings 'The Chowilla Tramway' pp 128-138.
- J Wanna 'The Motor Vehicle Industry in South Australia to 1945' pp 139-144.

#### Number 14 (1986)

- J Bannon 'The Alienation of the Adelaide Parklands' pp 5-18.
- J Jenkin 'The 1901 Royal Visit to Adelaide: An Account by William and Gwendoline Bragg' pp 19-34.
- R Schumann "'...In the Hands of the Lord": The Society of Jesus in Colonial South Australia.' pp 35-50.
- R Linn 'The Discovery and Settlement of the Fleurieu Peninsula and the Angas/Bremer Region 1802-1861' pp 51-66.
- M Barker 'A Migration of Wiltshire Agricultural Labourers to Australia in 1851' pp 67-82.
- B Stacy "'Good Roads are the Best Test of Civilization": South Australian Road Making 1836-1936' pp 83-106.
- G L Pretty 'Australian History at Roonka' pp 107-122.
- C Stevenson "'Boundless Salvation": The Rise of the Salvation Army in South Australia' pp 123-136.
- V A Edgeloe 'Four Nineteenth Century Graduates' pp 137-148. [W E Cooke, W G Duffield, W Kingsmill & F W Young]

#### Number 15 (1987)

- P A Howell 'The Quest for Truth in History' pp 5-15.
- J Raftery 'God's Gift or Demon Drink? Churches and Alcohol in South Australia between the Two World Wars' pp 16-41
- D Hood 'Adelaide's First "Taste of Bolshevism": Returned Soldiers and the 1918 Peace Day Riots' pp 42-53.
- P L Fletcher 'An Adelaide Woman of Interest: Agnes Milne, Inspector of Factories, 1896-1906' pp 54-64.
- Y Nagata 'Japanese Internees at Loveday, 1941-1946' pp 65-81.
- H Jones 'A Postscript to the Life of Catherine Helen Spence' pp 82-92.
- G R Henning 'R G Dun & Co: The Adelaide Connection' pp 93-109.
- A Geddes & M Hammond 'Agnes Nesbit Benham: Sexual Reform and Socialism in Adelaide' pp 110-123.
- B Samuels 'South Australian Local Histories, 1836-1920' pp 124-129.
- K White 'Medical Professionalisation in Nineteenth Century South Australia' pp 130-142.
- J Wanna 'The History of Organisational Development in the South Australian Coachmakers' (Vehicle Builders') Union' pp 143-157.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA: SA BRANCH

Volume 81 (1980-81)

- C Harris 'Oases in the desert: the mound springs of northern South Australia' pp 26-39.
- T Stevenson 'Miasmas, morbidity and milieu: mortality in Victorian South Australia' pp 40-58
- G W Symes & B J Ward 'Charles Todd and the Overland Telegraph' pp 59-73.
- B MacDonald 'The last Ghan' pp 74-78.
- S Dawes 'Towards identifying the first travellers overland from Adelaide to the north west bend of the River Murray' pp 79-85.
- K Peake-Jones 'The History of the Society' pp 86-88.

Volume 82 (1982)

- P Donovan 'The Exploration Myth: Exploration in the Northern Territory until the Second World War' pp 34-47.
- K Peake-Jones 'The Other Mawson' pp 64-70.
- B MacDonald 'Restoration of John McDouall Stuart's Grave' pp 71-73.

Volume 83 (1983)

- R Grandison 'The Relocation of Fifteen Sites Painted by S T Gill whilst accompanying the Horrocks' Expedition of 1846' pp 12-21.
- E Guy 'Between the Lines: A Glimpse of the Brock Family' pp 22-32.

Volume 84 (1984)

- G Campbell-Kennedy 'The Historical Development of the Mapping Resource in South Australia' pp 1-10.
- C Nance 'Wakefield's Scheme and Land Ownership' pp 22-34.

Volume 85 (1985)

- K Peake-Jones 'A History of the Society "in Cameo" presented prior to the Centenary Dinner at Beaumont House on March 16, 1985' pp 9-11.
- various 'Biographical Notes on Society Worthies of the past' pp 17-42 [Sir S Davenport, Baron F von Mueller, T Gill, A T Magarey, S Newland, Sir J L Bonython, Hon J Lewis, A A Simpson, Sir A G Price]
- K Peake-Jones 'The Elder Scientific Exploration Expedition, 1891: A Study of Incompatibles' pp 54-67.

Volume 86 (1986)

- J Browett 'A Geographer's View of the South Australian Wine Industry' pp 1-8.
- P L Fletcher 'Thomas Gill - A Diligent Man.' Sketch of Thomas Gill, CMG, ISO, JR, 1849-1923 pp 9-23.
- E Stokes 'To the Inland Sea.' Charles Sturt's Expedition, 1844-45' pp 40-47.
- R M Schmid 'Old Motpena Outstation, 1929 and 1983' pp 48-50

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around his neck. They were about to illustrate on him. But Kate drove them off.

'Actually, your grandfather had a respect for the tribes. He'd been lost in the Macdonald Ranges and they had saved him from dying of thirst. He brought some pieces of golf he'd been given. But he'd never say where it came from. He didn't want people interfering with the tribes.'

She loved to speak of her eldest son. 'Jack could always win at tossing the caber. Once, the night before the sports, the gang laid for him; they gave him an awful bruising. But they didn't win their bets. Jack won again. He was a good boy, Jack, he liked polishing opals and gave me some beauties. You should have seen them.'

We were never to see them. She had given them all away to various friends. Another of her gifts was trouble to her daughters: 'When the men had been out shooting they always brought back more than we needed. Bush turkey and wild duck make good eating. I never wasted them. The girls would pluck them and I'd save the down for pillows and then the dressed fowl were taken by the children to other families. Some of them were a bit feckless.

'My girls always kept neat. If one of them had a hole in her apron her father would put his finger into it and rip it to the bottom.'

This pride in appearance was not a mere vanity, when combined with her practical charity. One story I remember vividly: it was a result of her own suffering, for she was to lose her man to the railroad.

'He was coming home in the dark and his horse threw him. (Was it premonition about that violin?) He was still unconscious when the first train came through. I had to identify him.' After all those years she still shuddered. 'I was not going to let that happen to another woman. When Billy Potter list his head in the shunting yard I put him together and had him looking decent when they brought her to see him.'

She accepted the difficulties in her life, remembering mostly that which had made her laugh or cry. She never spoke of personal discomforts. A query: 'What was the weather like Gran?' brought a brief: 'Sometimes it was hot.'

Then she'd remember something odd: 'There were the willy-willys. We had a new dishpan and the wind carried it away and landed it fifty feet up on a pinnacle of rock. It was still shining when we left.

'There was not much rain: the flood came down the dry river beds without any warning in the sky. Once, all your grandfather's papers got wet through, including thee genealogy he was so proud of. We spread them out on the rock to dry. But before we could stop her, Peggotty the goat had eaten the lot. The boys used to point her out as the family tree.

'Another time we were on the Cooper and we had word of rain. I sent the children to the teamsters camping in the riverbed to ward them. They laughed—next morning, there they were in the fork of a tree—camp, wagon, horses all gone. They had to stay there for 12 hours.'

After grandfather's death the family moved to Broken Hill, where the boys could get work and Gran could keep the younger members by nursing. She would look after the households as well as care for mothers and babies. It seemed the only trouble she had with this strenuous programme was with her fashionable boots. After a case 'my feet would be killing me. I'd leave the trap and I'd say to Mary 'Pull of my boots and rub my feet and give me a cup of tea! She was a good girl, Mary.'

Broken Hill during the strike, Albany when it was new and elegant, Fremantle at the time of Western Australia's importation of convicts—Gran's memories were kaleidoscopic.

She was visiting a friend in the Fremantle hospital when the convict gang was working on the building. 'I'd have my pocket full of three twists of tobacco and as I passed along I'd drop them by the poor men. 'Thank you, madam, thank you,' they'd say.'

Gran was to die at 92, disturbed because she missed the beautiful pink bedjacket which Mum had made for her.

## ARTICLES

Preface from 'The Disabilities of South Australia under Federation.' The Case for South Australia, 1930. (SA Government Printer 1930)

Premier's Office, Adelaide,

December 13th, 1930.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Joint Public Accounts Committee of the Commonwealth Parliament.*

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration a statement setting out the disabilities which the State of South Australia suffers under Federation and embodying a claim for a special grant as compensation therefor. This statement has been carefully prepared by the State Advisory Committee on Public Finance and is submitted as an impartial and dispassionate recital of the detrimental effect of Commonwealth policy upon the Finances, Industry, and Commerce of South Australia, and to show the need for a substantial monetary grant from the Commonwealth upon grounds of necessity, equity, and justice.

The Advisory Committee has endeavoured to state the case for South Australia in a manner calculated to place fairly before you the real facts upon which we rely to substantiate our claim and with due regard to the interests and obligations of both the Commonwealth and the State. I say most emphatically that it must not be considered as an appeal, *ad misericordiam*, to the charity of the Commonwealth Parliament, but a claim for a necessary and proper adjustment of Commonwealth and State financial relationship.

The dependance of the States producing for export upon the Commonwealth Parliament for financial assistance to offset the losses inflicted by Commonwealth policy is now realised to be an inevitable result of Federation. Had the "per capita" payments been greater or had South Australia's share of customs and excise revenue collected in this State not declined, our position would be less difficult. In order to make the "per capita" payments the Commonwealth would have been forced to collect more revenue by means of direct taxation. Since direct taxation is collected largely on a taxable capacity basis while the "per capita" payments return it in proportion to population, this would have resulted in New South Wales contributing nearly twice as much per head as South Australia in 1929-30, and both States receiving back the same.

That the result of depriving the States of much of the indirect taxation was likely to cause difficulty in State finance was foreshadowed by State Premiers who met in frequent conference, in the early years of Federation to discuss State and Commonwealth finances. Speaking at a conference in Sydney in 1906, Hon. W. Kidston (then Premier of Queensland) said:—

"If the Federal Treasurer seriously broaches into the amount which we are now receiving from customs revenue, I see no possibility of Queensland raising a sufficient amount of new taxation to make good the deficit."

That is precisely what has happened to us, and South Australia's share of customs and excise revenue collected in this State had declined from 80 per cent. in the years 1901-10 to 17 per cent. in 1926-27. Since that year the special grants from the Commonwealth have to a slight extent relieved the pressure on the State, but the effect upon our finances is, nevertheless, severe. Added to the burden of Commonwealth direct taxation this makes the business of financing the State's domestic operations a problem of great difficulty. It is true, of course, that all the States were similarly affected, but the unequal distribution of the benefits of the tariff and its damaging effect upon unsheltered export industries made the diminishing proportion of customs revenue returned to the States a heavier sacrifice in those States dependant principally upon export production.

From 1910 until 1929 there was a progressive decline in the proportionate amount of customs and excise revenue returned to the State, and although the "per capita" agreement was superseded by the financial agreement of 1927 the new arrangement effected very little, if any, improvement in the position of South Australia.

In the year 1928 an enquiry into the finances of South Australia was held by a Commonwealth Royal Commission. The enquiry was consequent upon a claim by the State for an annual grant of £750,000. The statement of claim then presented has been followed in the preparation of the present case, and the general principles previously laid down have been adhered to. The information has been brought up to date, the arguments further elaborated, and previous criticism of our data and conclusions, which we had had no subsequent opportunity of contesting, has now been dealt with.

It has previously been argued that some of South Australia's financial troubles are due to factors within her own control and should not be laid at door of the Commonwealth. In this connection our expenditure upon Railways, Developmental Works, and Land Settlement has been brought into question. This is frankly admitted in the case presented to you, and we have endeavoured to isolate any unwise expenditure and exclude it from our claim against the Commonwealth. It is pertinent to remark, however, that during the four years 1923-24 to 1926-27 our expenditure upon Railways included the huge sum of £600,000 paid to the Commonwealth as customs duties.

Our expenditure upon Development and Land Settlement should be considered in relation to the national problem of the exploitation of our natural resources, and the incalculable benefits which South Australia has conferred upon the Commonwealth as a result of that expenditure. In effect, I submit that much of our developmental work was experimental and that some of it was bound to be unsuccessful, and that Australia as a whole benefited by both our successes and our failures in the all-important field of primary production.

South Australia pioneered wheat culture, the development of agricultural implements, reclamation of scrub land, and agricultural education and research. The initial and successful pioneering spirit in agricultural development, which dates from the birth of our State and is seen in the efforts and experiments of the first settlers (1836) in the growing of wheat, has been maintained throughout the years, and to South Australia belongs the credit for many of the outstanding developments in Australian agricultural practice.

In 1842-3 John Ridley invented the stripper, and his machine embodied a principle which has been used in all subsequent harvesting machines.

In 1876 Smith Bros., of Ardrossan, constructed the multiple furrow stump-jump plough which made possible the reclamation of large areas of mallee country in South Australia, Victoria, and Western Australia.

South Australia was the first State to develop an export wheat trade and for a long period she was the granary of Australia. South Australian farmers were largely responsible for settling the Wimmera district of Victoria and in opening up the mallee country, and they have penetrated into every State, taking with them the improved cultural methods developed in South Australia.

The main improvements in cultural practice largely initiated in South Australia were the following:—

- (1) The practice of fallowing.
- (2) The general use of superphosphate.
- (3) The use of a rotation cropping system, adapted to the climate and soil.
- (4) The development of varieties of wheat peculiarly well adapted to the environment.

Professor Custance, of Roseworthy College, was the first to draw our attention to the extraordinary response of wheat to phosphates, and later

Professor Lowrie educated the farmers to the advantage of sowing soluble phosphate on all wheat lands; subsequent research produced results which have enormously increased production throughout Australia.

In the realm of wheat breeding, South Australian scientists and farmers have produced types of wheat of enormously increased productiveness and ability to resist disease.

The discovery and development of subterranean clover and the natural outcome of its exploitation, namely, the use of superphosphates as a top dressing for pastures, which originated in South Australia, is one of enormous value to the Commonwealth and appears likely to revolutionize live-stock farming.

An Agricultural College and Experiment Farm was established at Roseworthy in 1885 to provide for instruction and research in agriculture. A system of Agricultural Bureaux was established in 1888, and in 1902 a Department of Agriculture was established to promote the advancement of rural interests, and in the Waite Agricultural Research Institute we possess an institution of unique importance for the progressive development of Agricultural industries.

The cumulative effects of this policy of experiment, research, and sustained effort is well illustrated in our wheat yields for, notwithstanding the continuous expansion of the wheat belt into drier and poorer areas, the average yield per acre in South Australia for the decade ending 1926 was 12.44bush. as compared with 4.74bush. for the decade ending 1896.

It is true we have spent some money unwisely, but the general results of our policy of encouraging the development of primary production have been of incalculable benefit to Australia, and although we have to bear the cost the nation has shared in the profits.

Evidence will be called to prove the statements contained in the case, and every effort will be made to facilitate your enquiry and assist you in determining the vitally important matters which have been entrusted to your consideration.

Professor Melville will be in constant attendance to assist your Committee and my Government; the members of the Advisory Committee, public officers, and representative citizens will be constantly available to help you in any way you may desire.

My Government, and the people of South Australia generally, appreciate this opportunity to put the case of the State for financial assistance before your Committee. We believe that it will be given that fair and impartial consideration which it merits and that the results will be an adequate recognition and compensation for the financial losses we sustain from the operation of Federal policy.

Yours faithfully,

L. L. HILL,

Premier.

## Remember that Heavenly Ginger Beer? A History of Sharpe Bros.

*David Sharpe*  
**A\$29.95+\$6.75 Pack & Postage**

Sharpe Bros. had a factory in Adelaide from 1907 to 1935. John Sharpe was made a Justice of the Peace in South Australia not long before he died in 1926.

The history of Sharpe Bros, cordial manufacturers, is traced from its conception in Cumberland, England, through its beginnings in New Zealand and then Australia in the early years of this century, until its absorption into the worldwide Cadbury Schweppes empire in 1972.

The peculiar difficulties of a family business which spanned two generations are described, as are the adjustments required to fit into the Tarax stable of soft drink companies after 1962.

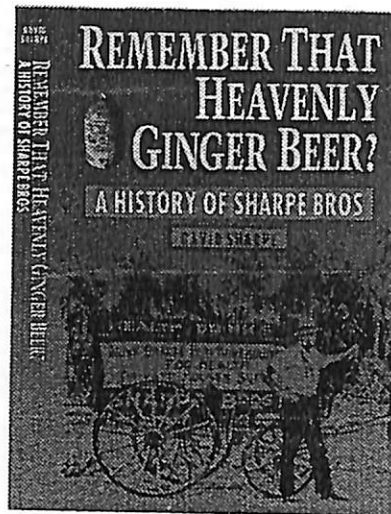
Originally driven by a desire to produce healthy non-intoxicating beverages, Sharpe Bros became well known to the older generation for their brewed drinks in one gallon stoneware jars. Collectors will see where their pieces fit into the chronology of jar development.

The near 50 places which hosted a factory over the years are detailed for the local historian. Photographs include the once familiar horse drawn home delivery wagons, motor vehicles, factories and managers.

Tables compiled from the records of the business provide a rare insight into the management of a small private enterprise through boom, bust and shortages of the 1920s, 30s and 40s. Some of the later employees named will be recognised by families and customers.

The demise of the Melbourne firm and continuation of Sydney following the decline of the jar trade is documented. The Sharpe name lives on as part of the Cadbury Schweppes home delivery company and on many a jar in an antique shop.

This book will tell those with an interest in our social and economic history about a unique soft drinks business, remembered most fondly for its heavenly ginger beer.



ORDERS TO: D. Sharpe, PO Box 10, Carlton North Vic 3054

## COMMUNITY HISTORY CALENDAR

### On-Going Events

- 1st weekend of each month Saturday & Sunday 10.00-3.30** Adelaide Gaol: Guided tours available Port Road, Adelaide. Further information Ph. 216 7741.
- 1st Thursday of the month 7.30** Aurora Heritage Action Inc. Meetings, Metropolitan Hotel, Grote Street
- Weekdays 11.00-2.00** Australia Post Postal Museum, Ground floor, 2 Franklin Street.
- 3rd Sunday of each month 2.00-4.00** Glen Osmond Mines Tours: tours are conducted by members of the Burnside Historical Society. Bookings on 366 4200 (ask for Angela).
- Last Wednesday of the month** State Conservation Centre of SA. Clinic Day for advice on preservation, restoration and repair of historical and artistic works. Ph. (08) 223 1766
- Every Sunday 2.00-4.30** Historic Cummins: The Cummins Society conducts Open Days with guided tours. Sheoak Ave., Novar Gardens.
- To August** Art Gallery of SA. South Australia Decorative Arts. Contemporary South Australian decorative arts have been collected by the Gallery since 1884 when a silver presentation casket made by Henry Steiner was donated. Both historical and contemporary works have been acquired since then, for display and reference, in order to develop a comprehensive collection of decorative arts produced in this state. South Australia furniture, ceramics, metalwork and jewellery will be featured. Historical works from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries as well as recently-made works will be on display until August/September 1992.
- Saturdays 2.00-4.00** National Trust of South Australia. Burra Burra Branch: Market Square Museum. Adult \$1.00, Child \$0.50, Family \$2.50
- Sundays 12.00-2.30** National Trust of SA. Moonta Branch Museum.
- Wed/Sat/Sun 1.30-4.00** National Trust of SA. Victor Harbor Branch. The Old Customs and Station Master's House.
- Sundays 11.00-4.00** National Trust of SA. Victor Harbor Branch. The Old Customs and Station Master's House.
- Thursdays 10.00** South Australian Cricket Association Inc. Adelaide Oval Tours. Conducted tours from the South Gate. Approx. 2hr duration.
- Tuesdays 2.00-4.00** Yorke Peninsula Family History Group's library s housed within the N.Y.P. Public Library and is available to members during library opening hours. Volunteers are available Tuesday afternoons to assist the public or members. Fees apply to non-members.