

THE MORWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Published every month except December.

The Society meets every 3rd Tuesday of the Month 7:30pm Collins St. State School Library

FROM THE MARCH MEETING

Members are asked to submit names of possible guest speakers to the secretary for meetings later in the year: perhaps people from local businesses, farming families and/or those who have contributed to community service.

It was suggested that the Society draw up a list of names of original settlers and old identities, and that their descendants be approached with a view to obtaining a family history.

Another suggestion that may appeal to members is to trace the origins of street and road names in the Morwell Shire. A variation would be to document the origins of street/road names in the new sub-divisions - Bridle Estate, Hazelwood Heights, Churchill Heights just to name a few.

THE TYPICAL AUSSIE

From **Australia - A Social and Political History** by Gordon Greenwood,

"....The particular problems of Australia were producing, even before 1850, a distinctly Australian type. The Australian was taller, heavier and healthier than his English parents. Sunshine, wheat bread and fresh meat were the daily diet of most colonists, and by 1850 three generations of native-born had been nourished on this fare, with evident effects on physique and mental outlook. The Australian was tough and vigorous, even belligerent, and inclined to be confident and self-reliant. He developed early an equalitarian spirit and so resented patronage and servility and was reluctant to admit inferiority to anyone...."

Is there a distinctly Australian type in 1985?

Access to old records

GENEALOGISTS, historians and interested members of the public will soon have easy access to pre-1900 births, deaths and marriages information.

For some time genealogists have been asking the Victorian Government to have pre-1900 indexes placed on microfilm to assist those who wish to pursue family and historical research using the records of the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages.

As part of Victoria's 150th anniversary celebrations, funds have now been allocated to the registry to undertake a modernisation program to put this information on microfilm over the next six months.

When the work is completed, microfiche of pre-1900 births, deaths and marriages will be available to the public on the payment of the prescribed fee and this access will greatly assist people engaged in family research or seeking historical information.

THE LV EXPRESS MARCH 28 1985

Local history is more than scissors and paste

THIRTY YEARS ago a young Geoffrey Blainey pointed to the need for local historians to break away from "scissors and paste", the mere patching together of slabs of record and reminiscence without the constructive intervention of a critical and generalising mind.

That has been done. Few local histories nowadays lack patterns and themes, and many both inform and delight their readers by achieving a sense of place and by showing the interaction of individual lives with the activities and attitudes of the whole community. Some also put their localities into broader regional, state, national and international contexts.

Histories are like icebergs that topple unless the visible book is supported by an unseen structure of investigation. From the raw

data of census and rate book, from public and private records, from newspapers, minute books, reports, pictures, interviews, quite large sub-structures are raised, which often do more to furnish the historian's mind than to flesh out individual paragraphs or pages. But the donkey work must be done, with the result that behind the finished book there lies a mass of notes and indexes.

Until recently such bodies of notes have had little significance. History began and ended with books. But nowadays personal, family and institutional research takes many people down to the level of detail represented by historians' notes. Much research time, for instance, at Sovereign Hill has been saved because all the files and indexes from 'Lucky City', a history of Ballarat from 1851 to

Weston Bate

1901, have been lodged at the local municipal library.

Since Blainey wrote about "scissors and paste" in 1954, remarkable changes have also occurred in community attitudes. We turned from dependence on Britain to a greater self-reliance, the search for Australia's roots strengthened. The quest for personal identity through genealogy has flooded the inquiry desks of the Public Record Office and the La Trobe Library and there is a growing interest in the social context in which our forebears lived. The success of many historical parks indicates how strong that appetite can be.

Increased awareness has stimu-

lated new approaches. Melbourne's Living Museum of the West has put great emphasis on the collection of people's memories. In a pilot program at Ballarat, Euan McGillivray of the Museum of Victoria and Matthew Nixon of RMIT are copying family photographs and carefully indexing information about them, so that they can become meaningful elements of Australia's heritage.

THE AGE

23-3-85

PERSONAL DIARIES

Interesting paragraph found in the R.H.S.V History News - February 1985 - by courtesy of the East Gippsland Society. "Why don't you decide to record some of the earlier memories on paper? Too often we cherish our forebears' diaries, but do not bother with keeping our own for the benefit of future generations."

T. C. KLEINE, from Victoria and Riverina ; a biographical record of some of the pioneer families of Victoria and the Riverina (1933).

Mr. T. C. KLEINE, one of the most prominent business men in Morwell, is the son of the late Mr. Thomas Kleine, who carried on the present butchering business for thirty years.

Mr. T. C. Kleine was born in Morwell in 1895, and educated in the local State School. After leaving school he was apprenticed to the

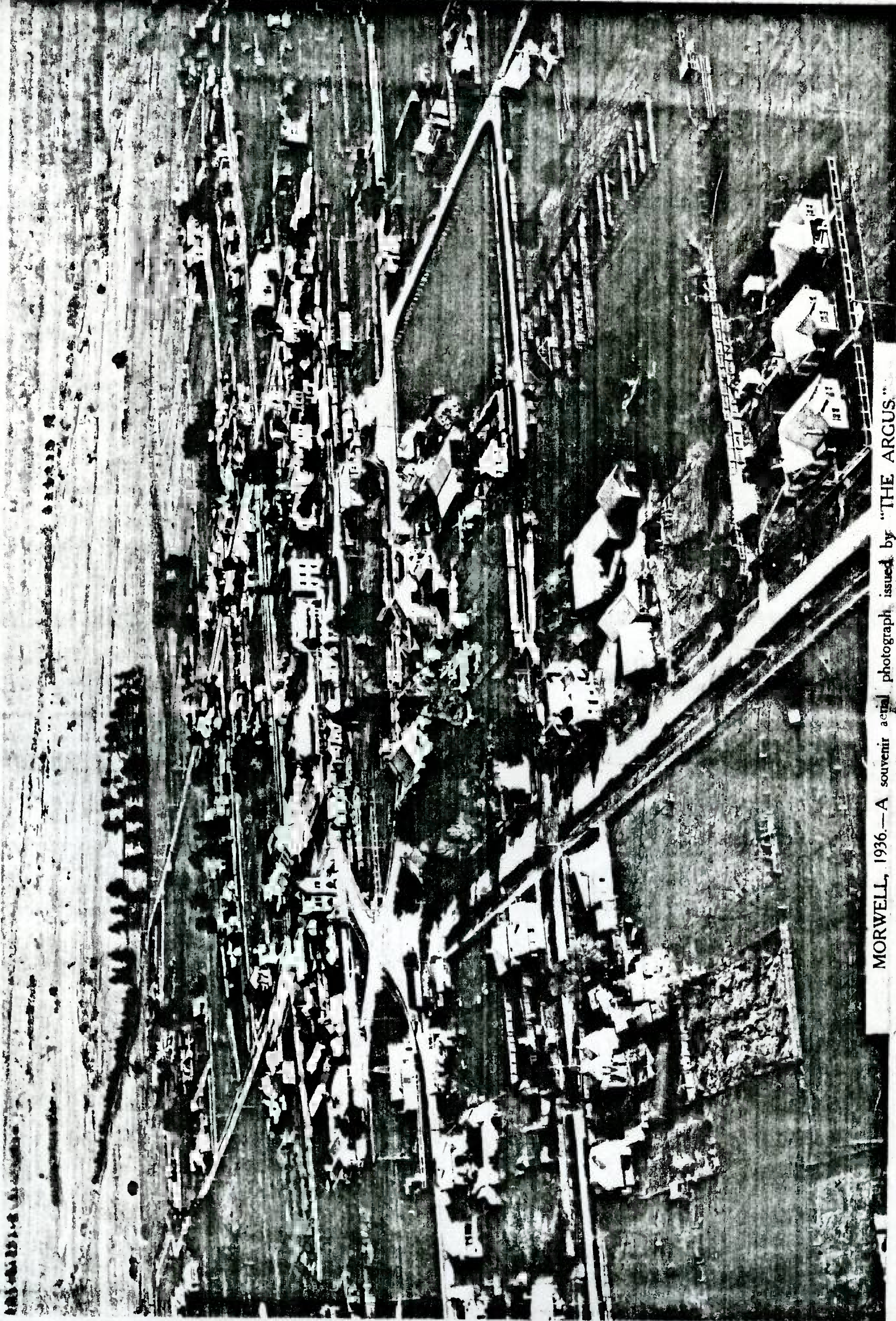
butchering business under his father for about ten years, and in 1916 he acquired a business of his own in Cowwarr, which he conducted for two years, before selling out and returning to Morwell, where he purchased the original business carried on by his father for thirty years. He has built up a very prosperous and progressive business throughout the Morwell district, and is proprietor of one of the most flourishing concerns of its type in the country districts of Victoria.

Mr. T. C. Kleine has taken a prominent part in all the local activities, and has been President of the Country Master Butchers' Association of Victoria. He has given his valuable support to every movement for the welfare of his district, and was the moving spirit in the very successful "Back to Morwell" celebrations held in October 1929. He is also Past District Grand Master of the M.U.I.O.O.F. His wife was a Miss Daisy Hare, the daughter of the late Mr. Arthur Hare, of "The Ridge," Morwell, and there is a family of two sons and three daughters.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO MAY NEWSLETTER

Items for inclusion in the May newsletter should be given to Leo Billington, Jess Cafisco, or Claire Wood by Monday, April 30.

** Next meeting Tuesday, May 21.



MORWELL, 1936.—A souvenir aerial photograph issued by "THE ARGUS."



THE SEC CREDIT UNION CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED

Congratulates MORWELL

on celebrating 100 years of service and progress.