

1-FOR-2,000 MEN BASIS

Clubs want bars

Sydney, Thursday THERE should be a club licence for every 2,000 workers, a club spokesman said today.

He was Mr. James Comerford, president of the Union of Registered Workers' Clubs.

Mr. Comerford told the liquor Royal Commission that workers' clubs were at a disadvantage when new licences were issued under the 1946 act.

They did not have the premises or finance that they did now.

Not exclusive

Mr. Justice Maxwell: Your members must be members of a trade union? Some clubs have that rule.

Plenty of quite decent persons who may wish to join a workers' club may not be members of a trade union?—We provide for business people to join.

Mr. Smyth (for the U.L.A.): A worker who did not want to belong to a union would not be admitted?—No. If an unlimited number of club licences was issued it would have a disastrous effect on the average public.

Comerford said that miners coming to the surface about 3 p.m. liked what they called a "black pint"—a drink which washed down the coal dust.

Money for home lost

Mrs. Rosina Potnik, a migrant of Westcourt St. West, yesterday lost in a city store £245 she had saved towards the cost of a new home.

The money, all in notes, was in a bag in her pocket.

She did not lose it as she was leaving a Bourke St. store.

Mrs. Potnik intended using the money to buy cement.

The money is asked to find the money at Russell St. police station.

Firms won't write car insurance - risk too high

SOME Melbourne insurance companies were refusing to handle car risk business, a senior insurance executive said yesterday.

An "Argus" reader said yesterday she was told by one company it would not renew her car policy unless she gave the company all her other insurance business.

One company in a letter to clients this week stated: "Your motor car policy is the only insurance you have with us and we can invite a renewal only if you transfer to us any policies you have with other companies."

An insurance official last night said: "This might seem tough, but we are forced to do it."

He said companies could not refuse third party car insurance but could "decline ordinary car risk insurance."

With the present accident toll on the roads, insurance companies were paying out £150 for every £100 in premiums received, he said.

He added: "Insurance companies are prepared to take the 'bad with the good,' but some companies are refusing to accept a client's car risk insurance when his other insurance business goes elsewhere."

The official said car insurance was a world problem.

U.S. insurance companies paid out \$100 million in 1951 because of the high accident rate.

N.Z. finances "in mess"

Wellington, Thursday New Zealand was in the worst economic mess for 25 years, Mr. Walter Nash, Labor Opposition leader, said today.

Mr. Nash was Labor Government Minister of Finance for 14 years.

He said prices had risen faster than wages, financial reserves were much depleted, and chaos had been introduced into importing.

House building was out of reach of the ordinary man, but the position of the wealthier classes had been greatly improved. — A.A.P.—Reuters.

Alleged theft from blind

Perth, Thursday Alan Clifford Evelt, 36, accountant, was today committed for trial on a charge of having stolen £1,238 from the Blind Institution at Maylands.

The institution's manager alleged in court that Evelt told him he did not know what he had done with the money.

Trams kept going

Only a few trams and buses were cancelled yesterday because of a 24-hour stoppage by migrant conductors.

The stoppage was in protest against increased tariffs at tramway guest houses.

The migrants spent two hours of their 24-hour stoppage waiting outside the Tramway head office in Little Collins St. while a deputation saw Board officials.

The deputation asked that the guest house tariff be reduced again to £3.3 a week.

It had been raised to £4.5 a week.

The Board promised to consider the deputation's requests, and the migrants will go back to work today.

She wants a public outcry to help mentally sick

MRS. J. G. NORRIS yesterday called for a public outcry to force sweeping changes in mental hospitals.

She said she had been appalled by conditions at Kew Mental Hospital and Cottages.

"If our community would not tolerate anything but modern hospital conditions for the mentally ill we should not have the present spectacle of primitive and insanitary institutions," she added.

Mrs. Norris, president of the National Council of Women of Victoria inspected the hospital recently with two members of the council, Dr. Youner Ross and Mrs. F. G. Tuddenham. There was very little priv-

Victoria's luckiest girl was still bewildered



Eighteen-year-old Diane Bell was still trying to convince herself yesterday that she really was Miss Teenage of Victoria, 1952.

Diane had her busiest day since she entered for the quest several weeks ago.

She started with three radio interviews.

Then she visited her workmates in the city store in which she is a trainee buyer.

After that she helped put up the curtains in her parents' new home at Heidelberg. That's what she's doing on the left.

Artist adrift at sea

Darwin, Thursday A R.A.A.F. bomber is searching the Timor Sea for "Rear-Admiral" Jack Fairweather, adrift in rough seas on a tiny raft.

The "Rear-Admiral" told a lugger crew who spoke to him the other day that he was "making for Dilli, in Timor."

He asked: "What way do I go?" and the lugger crew told him: "Straight on—for 300 miles!"

Fairweather refused offers of help.

Fairweather's raft is made of three aircraft belly tanks lashed together with wire. It has a driftwood deck and a tattered sail, and carries a little food and water.

Lived in hulk

The "Rear-Admiral," an artist and beachcomber, got his name in Darwin because his home has been in the rear portion of a rotting hulk on the beach.

Before that he had lived in a disused railway truck in the bush, but possums barked at him at night and ate his food, so he "went on the beach."

He arrived in Darwin from "somewhere south" two years ago, and is believed to have relatives in Sydney.

In Melbourne last night, artists said Fairweather was well known in Melbourne as Ian Fairweather. They described him as "very shy and very temperamental."

OPERATION ON AIR CHIEF

Washington, Thursday General Hoyt Vandenberg, Air Force Chief of Staff, a serious abdominal operation yesterday.—A.A.P.

Woman "was like maniac"

A 31-YEAR-OLD woman, who "fought, screamed, and kicked like a maniac," after she had been arrested on May 1, was fined a total of £25 in the City Court yesterday.

She was Edna O'Reilly, of Moor St., Fitzroy.

She pleaded not guilty to charges of having assaulted a taxi-driver and two policemen and having damaged a car clock and police typewriter.

Jack Buckner, taxi-driver of East Brunswick, said O'Reilly, a passenger in his cab, asked him whether it was day or night. It was 9.40 p.m.

When he told her it was "night," she swore. He asked her to leave the taxi, and she replied by hitting him several times over the head with an umbrella.

Buckner said he "jumped out of the cab," and O'Reilly smashed the glass on a dashboard clock.

Detective H. V. Norton said he arrested O'Reilly. At Russell St. C.I.B. office she threw a typewriter on the floor and kicked, punched, and screamed at him and another detective.

Mr. H. O'Halloran, for O'Reilly, said that O'Reilly had been drunk and did not remember anything. She was ordered to pay £10 2 6 costs.

Gaol tribute to dead warder

PENTRIDGE GAOL warders will march in tribute today at the funeral of Senior Warden Leonard Maher — known as "The Prisoners' Friend."

Warden Maher, 49, collapsed and died while at work on Wednesday.

He had been at the gaol for 25 years.

Prisoners knew him as the "right man to talk to if you were sailing close to trouble."

The prisoners will not work today, because gaol overseers will be at the funeral.

Inland sea has gone

Wonthaggi, Thursday The Powlett River mouth, blocked in last week's three-day gale, has been reopened.

But sea water, pounded across in 20ft waves, salted many acres of rich dairying country which may be lost for years.

A sandbar had blocked the river mouth and prevented the water escaping.

It was released by property holders behind the mouth of the river and the Dalyston bridge, a distance of about four miles.

Meet the L.C.P.'s new chief

Mr. Joh Muir Anderson, 37, former commando and paratrooper, is the new Victorian president of the Liberal Country Party — the youngest it's ever had.

The L.C.P. State council elected him yesterday.

Mr. Anderson says that party policy should be inspired by party members, not by politicians.

"The L.C.P. must become a people's party," he says, "or collapse."



"False alarms a menace"

Wonthaggi, Thursday Wonthaggi Borough Council has asked the Country Fire Authority to make its permanent officers available to the Education Department to lecture children on the importance of respecting fire plugs and alarms.

Cr. Keltie said that abuse of these fire-fighting essentials had reached dangerous proportions.

Paul Bram FOR QUALITY. A Fantastic New Diamond Engagement Ring £35. A Lovely matching Diamond Eternity Ring £22 10. A Superb New Claw-set Diamond Ring £10. Above: Dainty Diamond Ring £38. Lady's 30ct Gold Wristlet £22 10. Diamond Eternity Ring £22 10. Others £15 10 to £30. WRITE FOR CATALOGUE. REMODELLED. £12/15/- Beautiful Lady's Chrome 15 jewel Swiss lever, fully guaranteed. Others £10/10/- to £15.

GEELONG SOCIETY SHOWS STAMPS WORTH £8,000. Geelong, Thursday Stamps valued at more than £8,000 were on show in Geelong City Hall today. They were shown to commemorate the 21st anniversary of the Geelong Philatelic Society.

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