QUESTIONNAIRE . . . YOUR ANSWERS

There is always some risk involved when you ask people to express an opinion. You may not like what they tell you. But, when we printed the questionnaire in the last issue of the Road Runner, we really did want to find out what people think about the magazine.

The majority of the response indicates a strong feeling that the Road Runner should remain a people-oriented magazine. At the same time, most readers would like to have more in-depth articles.

By far the most popular feature at present is “Peek Into the Past,” with “About People” a close second.

The replies as to the kind of features people would like to see included in future were interesting and a little surprising. Most frequent request by a large margin was for more articles featuring the work of various branches. Interest was pretty evenly divided between Department plans and policies and articles about highways outside British Columbia.

Surprisingly few people favoured cartoons. Those who did added qualifications such as “only if they are in good taste” and “only one in each issue.”

The most controversial suggestion was “Letters to the Editor.” While more people favoured this than those who wanted cartoons, a large number made specific comments opposing the idea. The general feeling is that the Road Runner is not the place to air beefs.

It would take too much space to list all the comments and suggestions received, but there were some which appeared quite frequently. The inclusion of photographs in colour was the one repeated most often. There were also a fair number of requests for more frequent publication, and none that we should go out of business altogether! Some people felt quite strongly that the Road Runner is fine as it is, and no changes should be made.

In making up the questionnaire, the editors were very careful not to ask which feature people dislike most. This strategy was unsuccessful, however, because you told us anyway. It may get us into a lot of hot water to admit it, but the plain truth is that at present the “Safety” page is at the bottom of the heap. Before the Department’s Training and Safety Officer gets too upset, we should quickly add that this is not an indication that people are not interested in safety. They are, and said so quite plainly. The problem seems to be that, in its present form, the “Safety” page is rather repetitious. The editorial staff and safety people will obviously have to get together to bring more excitement to the subject.

If the Road Runner is to remain an employee magazine which reflects the interests of all Departmental people, there must be two-way communication between readers and editors. We had some ideas of our own about how to make the Road Runner more dynamic. Now we have a cross-section of your interests we can go ahead with a plan of action.
During the past year I have said on a number of occasions that the Department of Highways will encourage public participation in decision-making. Now this process is being put into practice. Public hearings have already been held in the Snipes Creek area to discuss the effects of a local upgrading project, and in Squamish to discuss problems related to a potential slide hazard. In February, a series of public meetings will be held in the Nelson-Revelstoke area to hear the concerns of local people with regard to the old wooden bridge at Gerrard. The major concern here is that construction could damage the Gerrard trout-spawning beds.

It will be some time before we can completely evaluate the effectiveness of such citizen involvement, but the reaction so far has been encouraging. Getting Department people together with concerned citizens can really clear up a lot of misunderstandings on both sides.

The public hearings so far have not dealt with major projects. But in each case the matter discussed is of vital concern to local residents. These are the people we particularly want to hear from. With the help of our Regional and District staff, meetings have been arranged and advertised so that it is as easy as possible for the public to attend.

Based on these experiences, the Department will develop a model for conducting public inquiries.

GRAHAM R. LEA
Minister

Ontario Couple Likes Us and Our Highways

Like most Government departments we get our share of complaints, probably more than most. Sometimes it takes an outsider to appreciate what we are up against and how we cope with it. The Minister received a letter recently from Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Minifie of Coburg, Ont., who had just completed a motor trip to the West Coast and back.

This is what they said, in part:

"It was a perfectly delightful holiday, we cannot accept our blessings without passing along, to your Department, our appreciation of the work being done, and that has been done, on your highways among the mountains to make travelling for all people as safe and comfortable as possible. The beauty of the mountains is awesome and, for your continued efforts and foresight, our thanks . . . it made a wonderful journey for us."

Some members of the Avalanche Task Force on the Yellowhead Highway, 45 miles west of Terrace, with Department personnel. Visible, left to right, are Jeff Freer, Technical Assistant; Steve Evans, Geotechnical and Materials Branch; Merle Sproul, Assistant Regional Highway Engineer, Prince George; and D. D. Godfrey, Chairman of the Task Force and former Regional Highway Engineer, Region 1.

COVER PHOTO
Left, Bill Malcolm, and Mike Lewis, driving truck, as District employees participate in truck rodeo; story on page 4.
SAFE DRIVING TRUCK RODEO – McBRIDE

This event took place on October 8, 1974, with employees from the three McBride depots, the local Construction Branch, and the Regional Landscape section participating. The rodeo included a written test for each of the events, followed by the fine field events illustrated in the accompanying photographs.

Points were allotted for each event according to the degree of difficulty. Total points obtainable being 350. However, the course was sufficiently difficult that no one obtained the maximum. Ross Cook of the McBride depot received top marks with 323 points.

Prizes were awarded for the first- and second-place finishers in the 4-ton and ¾-ton categories. A trophy was also presented to the depot with the highest average score among its operators. Region 2 officials acted as judges. They were: Ed Rotzander, Trev Evans, Dan Harve, Stan Palapaski, and Elle Cummings. First- to fourth-place winners in the 4-ton category were ROSS COOK, JOHN DUERKSEN, WAYNE SCHNEELL, and JACK WALKER; and in the ¾-ton, RON GOODELL, TIC WIL LIAMS, KIETH SANSON, and C. STILL.

McBride District Highway Manager D. P. Doyle believes that the rodeo was successful in emphasizing truck-driving skills and the dangers of complacency. The District hopes to make the rodeo an annual event.

The Serpentine proved to be more difficult than it looks, first through forwards and then back through.

Back up, around the barrel, and between the barriers, which have a maximum of 12 inches clearance on either side of the track.

The offset alley. The second set of barrels are offset 10 feet from the first set with a clearance between barrels of one truck width plus 2 feet.

The Saanich District First-aid Team placed THIRD in the Lower Island Zone Senior First-aid Competition held last May in Victoria, and SECOND in the Senior Novice Event in the Vancouver Island Mine Safety Association Competition in Nanaimo last June. Left to right, Bill Friesen, manager; Bob Shiplock; Paul Wade; Marjorie Pelton, coach; Keith Barfield; Joe Ardin, captain; Hector Garner, and Dave McElhan. The coach, Mrs. Pelton, is the holder of an industrial first-aid ticket. During competitions the team practices three hours twice a week.
The Department of Highways Traffic Patrol was formed in 1958 and consists of three N.C.O.'s and 33 Patrolmen. During the summer months this strength is increased by 26 temporary Patrolmen who work at the busy ferry terminals. The patrol is responsible for traffic control at five major ferry terminals—First Narrows Bridge, Second Narrows Bridge, Oak Street Bridge, George Massey Tunnel, Port Mann Bridge, and all the approaches to these facilities. Patrolmen are sworn in as reserve constables in the Vancouver City Police, West Vancouver Police, and the RCMP, giving them a wide authority.

In the past 12 months the patrol recorded 445,919 miles, dealt with 13,816 stalled vehicles, investigated 1,087 accidents, prosecuted 2,880 drivers, issued 1,127 warnings, and arrested 31 impaired drivers. Additionally, they had to deal with and investigate 31 suicides and attempts, numerous assaults, drug and firearms offences, stolen vehicles, escaped prisoners, and many other offences.
PROMOTIONS

H. R. BAYDEN has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Nanaimo. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Cowichan.

W. D. DAWSON has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Kamloops. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Kelowna.

J. M. INKIN has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Prince George. He was formerly Engineering Aide 3 at Prince George.

T. J. WILTON has been appointed Mechanic 3, Rossland. He was formerly Mechanic 2 at Nanaimo.

D. I. YOUNG has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Nelson. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Vancouver.

H. R. BAYDEN has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Nanaimo. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Cowichan.

W. D. DAWSON has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Kamloops. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Kelowna.

D. W. LENTZ has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Kamloops. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at North Vancouver.

R. L. TICE has been appointed Machine Operator 5, Burnaby. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Hope.

R. J. SCHONBERGER has been appointed Machine Operator 3, Geotechnical and Materials Testing Branch. He was formerly Labourer at Hope.

R. F. MARTIN has been appointed Machine Operator 3, Geotechnical and Materials Testing Branch. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Nelson.

W. J. STEPANUK has been appointed Road Foreman 1, Mayne Island. He was formerly Machine Operator 6 at Saltspring Island.

D. H. JEFFREY has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Nelson. He was formerly Engineering Aide 3 at Nelson.

G. L. FREDERICKSEN has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Nelson. He was formerly Engineering Aide 3 at Nelson.

J. A. MARUNCHAK has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Cranbrook. He was formerly Engineering Aide 3 at Cranbrook.

D. J. MORRISON has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Cranbrook. He was formerly Engineering Aide 3 at Nelson.

VIRGIL J. SWANSON, Engineering Assistant with the Design and Survey Branch in Region 1, has won through competition the position of Technician 1 in Design and Survey, Prince George. Virgil began with the Department on Vancouver Island in 1966, and moved to North Vancouver in 1967. He is married with two sons. His hobbies are gardening and spectator sports.

KEN CORRIGAN recently won through competition position of Timekeeper Clerk 3, in the Prince George District office. Ken has been with the Department since December 1973 and is married.

ERROL C. REDMAN, formerly Engineering Assistant with the Construction Branch in Kelowna, has won through competition the position of Engineering Assistant with the Design and Survey Branch, Regional office, Kamloops. Errol started with the Department in June 1964 and has worked throughout Region 2. He is married and has two children. His main interests are sports, including badminton, basketball, bicycling, and softball.

WILLIAM PELFECHE, Machine Operator 6, Prince Rupert District, has been appointed Road Foreman 2, Salvus Camp, Terrace District. Bill started with the Department in November 1968. He is married and has a daughter. His hobbies are skiing, fishing, camping, and photography.

H. W. BOGNER, Foreman 1, Lillooet District, for the past three years won the position of Foreman 1 at Burns Lake. Mr. Bogner, who has been with the Department of Highways since 1957, has six children.

A. RATRRAY has been appointed Road Foreman 2, Fort St. John. He was formerly Machine Operator 6.

D. H. PHILLIPS has been appointed Bridgeman 2, New Westminster. He was formerly Bridgeman 1 at Comox.

W. A. BULLEN has been appointed Mechanic 2, Rossland. He was formerly Mechanic 2 at Nanaimo.

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D. H. PHILLIPS has been appointed Bridgeman 2, New Westminster. He was formerly Bridgeman 1 at Comox.

W. A. BULLEN has been appointed Mechanic 2, Rossland. He was formerly Mechanic 2 at Nanaimo.

J. A. RUMPEL has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Kamloops. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Kamloops.

R. L. TICE has been appointed Machine Operator 5, Burnaby. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Hope.

R. J. SCHONBERGER has been appointed Machine Operator 3, Geotechnical and Materials Testing Branch. He was formerly Labourer at Hope.

R. F. MARTIN has been appointed Machine Operator 3, Geotechnical and Materials Testing Branch. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Nelson.

W. J. STEPANUK has been appointed Road Foreman 1, Mayne Island. He was formerly Machine Operator 6 at Saltspring Island.

D. H. JEFFREY has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Nelson. He was formerly Engineering Aide 3 at Nelson.

G. L. FREDERICKSEN has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Nelson. He was formerly Engineering Aide 3 at Nelson.

J. A. MARUNCHAK has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Cranbrook. He was formerly Engineering Aide 3 at Cranbrook.

D. J. MORRISON has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Cranbrook. He was formerly Engineering Aide 3 at Nelson.

J. M. INKIN has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Prince George. He was formerly Engineering Aide 3 at Prince George.
A. R. ALLEN has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Prince George. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Quesnel.

W. J. PILH has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Terrace. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Terrace.

L. G. ROE has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Terrace. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Terrace.

E. A. GREEN has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Quesnel. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Quesnel.

A. B. BALOGH has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Victoria. He was formerly Engineering Aide 3 at Victoria.

T. S. T. WONG has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Burnaby. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Burnaby.

R. L. LEWIS has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Victoria. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at McBride.

N. D. O'NEIL has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Victoria. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Falkland.

R. G. WINKLER has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Victoria. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Port McNeill.

A. R. ALLEN has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Prince George. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Prince George.

G. A. P. FOISY has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Prince George. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Prince George.

D. A. KIRK has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Prince George. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Prince George.

M. T. THOMPSON has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Prince George. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Nakusp.

D. A. KIRK has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Prince George. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Prince George.

M. T. THOMPSON has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Prince George. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Nakusp.

K. W. LUKOWSKY has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Victoria. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Victoria.

W. N. HUHN has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Burnaby. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Burnaby.

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E. G. PUDEK has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Burnaby. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Burnaby.

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R. G. BUCHANAN has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Geotechnical and Materials Testing Branch, Kamloops. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Kamloops.

R. G. BUCHANAN has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Geotechnical and Materials Testing Branch, Kamloops. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Kamloops.

D. W. FRASER has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Prince George. He was formerly Engineering Aide 3 at Kamloops.

D. W. FRASER has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Prince George. He was formerly Engineering Aide 3 at Kamloops.

G. E. DOWNING has been appointed Bridge Foreman 2, Nanaimo. He was formerly Bridge Foreman 1 at Vanderhoof.

M. LIPPA has been appointed Bridge Foreman 2, Victoria. He was formerly Bridge Foreman 1 at Osoyoos.

R. A. JOHNSON has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Nelson. He was formerly Auger Drill Foreman at Nelson.

R. A. JOHNSON has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Nelson. He was formerly Auger Drill Foreman at Nelson.

P. J. SCHECK has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Prince George. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Prince George.

W. E. WYATT has been appointed Bridge Foreman 2, Nanaimo. He was formerly Bridge Foreman 1 at Vanderhoof.

T. C. BAYNTHON has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Victoria. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Vancouver.

W. E. WYATT has been appointed Bridge Foreman 2, Nanaimo. He was formerly Bridge Foreman 1 at Vanderhoof.

T. C. BAYNTHON has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Victoria. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Vancouver.

R. E. HICKS has been appointed Road Foreman 2, Atlin. He was formerly Road Foreman 1 at Falkland.

W. F. WYATT has been appointed Bridge Foreman 2, Nanaimo. He was formerly Bridge Foreman 1 at Vanderhoof.

J. R. CRIDER has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Victoria. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Victoria.

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R. E. HICKS has been appointed Road Foreman 2, Atlin. He was formerly Road Foreman 1 at Falkland.

J. R. CRIDER has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Victoria. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Victoria.

W. F. WYATT has been appointed Bridge Foreman 2, Nanaimo. He was formerly Bridge Foreman 1 at Vanderhoof.

E. E. REYNOLDS has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Prince George. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2 at Prince George.

L. STREETER has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Squamish. He was formerly Engineering Aide 3 at North Vancouver.

R. J. STI CHER has been appointed Bridge Foreman 2, Victoria. He was formerly Bridge Foreman 1 at Osoyoos.

L. RUJLEDGE has been appointed Road Foreman 3, Honeymoon Creek. He was formerly Road Foreman 2 at Deep Lake.

R. J. STU CHER has been appointed Bridge Foreman 2, Victoria. He was formerly Bridge Foreman 1 at Osoyoos.

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PEEK INTO THE PAST

Work on Okanagan Highway south of Vernon around 1940. Second World War probably ended hand-labour construction by gangs of men, or most other kinds of construction for that matter.

Readers Respond – Identify Members of Yale District Staff, 1939

In the last issue we ran a picture of the Yale District staff 1939, but no names were available. We have since learned that the photo appeared in the April 1940 edition of British Columbia Public Works, a Department publication which was put out for a couple of years around that time. The photo, together with one of C. H. Dunsmore, which we also carried in the October RR, appeared in an article entitled “Yale District” by S. D. H. Pope, Assistant District Engineer. Personnel are, left to right, back row, R. J. Curnow, A. J. Pasmore, J. A. Miller, Dr. J. J. Gillis (M.L.A.), Fred Lowe, Paul Herwenen; second row, Frank Kilbride, C. R. Kirby, Art McIntosh, and C. H. Dunsmore; front row, Ray Stephenson, Herbert Leaning, J. B. L. McDonald, and Henry Campbell.

A new employee of the Department in 100 Mile House took the October RR home; her father, Richard Cross, recognized his uncle, Herbert Leaning, in the photograph. Mr. Leaning worked for the Department for many years; in his later years he was Superintendent of the Hope to Spences Bridge section. He died in 1955 and was buried in Lytton.

Just prior to going to press the RR also received letters from H. L. Campbell (right front in the photo), T. L. Taverna, recent superannuant; and Miss M. D. Pope, daughter of S. D. H. Pope, who was Assistant District Engineer at Merritt and who took the picture, all identifying the people in the picture.

The picture was supplied by WHAYNE CHAPPELL, then in the Merritt office, now District Office Manager in the Kamloops District. We cannot help wondering how many more photographs like this one are stored in some seldom-used file, waiting for an alert field editor to dig them out for use in the RR.
From the Public Works Journal, April 1940, comes this picture of a supply train resting at Cascade on its way to Camp McKinney in 1896. Camp McKinney, a gold-mining centre, is just north of Rock Creek, between the Kettle and the Okanagan Rivers. The supplies had to be brought from Spokane to Bosberg on the Columbia River, where they were ferried across, then up the Kettle River to various points above that river in British Columbia. Note the cost of meals on the middle left side of the photograph—25 cents!

Old Caterpillar bulldozer working on the Okanagan Highway in a cut at Okanagan Falls. Photo is dated November 30, 1940. Licence-plate on the machine has "PW" prefix for Public Works Department.
MISS V. "RONNIE" NEARY, Headquarters Accounts, retired in September after 38 years' continuous service with the Department. Ronnie started work with the then Department of Public Works in 1936 as a Stenographer in the Engineering Branch. In 1939 she went to the Accounts Branch, Appropriations office, and through the years to the position of Supervisor.

Ronnie supervised all phases of Department appropriations ledger work, including the setting-up of ledgers from the annual estimates and capital commitments, the recording by mechanical means of detailed expenditures, the issuing and posting of work orders, preparation of financial reports, maintaining a semi-monthly Comptroller-General record, and the preparation of financial statements for Departmental officials and the annual report.

Her long service went from a budget of $14,665,441 for Public Works in 1936/37 to the combined Highways and Public Works budgets of $229,040,401 in 1974/75.

Ronnie was honoured at a luncheon banquet attended by 80 of her co-workers, Departmental officials and friends, where she was presented with a long-service plaque and parting gift.

A retirement party was held recently at Rock Creek, Grand Forks District, for FRED SCHORN who has been with the Department for over 32 years. He originally served as Foreman in the Bridgesville area, later assuming charge of a larger area when Bridgesville and Rock Creek were combined.

JOHN (SHEP) SHEPHERD, Bridge Foreman, Nanaimo District retired recently after serving 25 years with the Department. Shep's many friends in the Department wish him a happy retirement.

MRS. MARY KAMENKA, Stenographer with the Lillooet District for 20 years, retired recently. A retirement ceremony was held with J. P. O'Toole, District Highways Manager, making the presentation.

ARTHUR HOLZ-WORTH recently retired after working for the Department in Prince George since 1949. Art is married with three children and eight grandchildren. He enjoys hunting, fishing, and gardening and plans to do a lot of these in his retirement.

FRED THOMSON, Machine Operator 4 at Squamish, North Vancouver District, for the past 10 years, retired last October. Before going to Squamish, Fred had worked as a Powderman for five years at Lillooet. He will continue living in Squamish. His hobbies are fishing, gardening, and travelling. Fred is married with two daughters and five grandchildren.

HUGH S. CARNIE, Road Maintenance Foreman 3 at Houston, Burns Lake District, retired recently after 18 years with the Department. His fellow employees made a presentation to him to mark his retirement. Hughie's hobbies are building birdhouses and landscaping.

ERNIE MALMO, Bridge Foreman, has recently retired early from the Nanaimo bridge crew. Ernie was a very capable employee in all phases of construction work. His many friends in the Department wish him well in his retirement.

LAWRENCE J. TURNER, Machine Operator, Cranbrook District, retired last October after 18 years' service with the Department. At a dinner in his honour he received a presentation from his fellow-workers. Larry is married with three children and 11 grandchildren. His hobbies are fishing and hunting.

NOLAN ANDERSON, Vanderhoof District, recently won through competition the Road Foreman 2 position at Fort St. James replacing Roy Dyer. Nolan had been a Road Foreman 2 at Atlin for three years prior to his transfer. He is married and has two daughters.

ED PETERSON, Foreman 1 at Clinton for the past four years, has obtained the position of Foreman 2 at Creston. A presentation was made to Ed and his wife by fellow-workers at Clinton.

A. R. McEOD has been appointed Engineering Assistant, Geotechnical and Materials Testing Branch, Kamloops. He was formerly Engineering Aide 3, Kamloops.

B. HEAVEN has been appointed Engineering Aide 3, Geotechnical and Materials Testing Branch, Kamloops. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2, Kamloops.

B. WAGG has been appointed Bridge Foreman 2, Victoria. He was formerly Bridge Labourer at Vernon.

R. G. LAW has been appointed Bridge Foreman 1, Victoria. He was formerly Bridge Foreman 2 at Osoyoos.

D. L. JAMISON has been appointed Bridge Foreman 3, Victoria. He was formerly Bridge Foreman 1 at Sicamous.

G. S. JOHNSON has been appointed Mechanic Foreman 1, Port Clements. He was formerly Mechanic 4 at Revelstoke.

C. M. STEIN, auxiliary employee, was appointed Labourer in the Alaska Highway area.

J. A. DAGASSO, auxiliary employee, was appointed Labourer in the Rolla area.

M. J. REGNER, auxiliary employee, was appointed Labourer in the Rolla area.

E. A. BOTTLE, Labourer, was appointed Machine Operator in the Pouce Coupe area.

R. W. WALDIE, Labourer, was appointed Machine Operator in the Rolla area.

WALTER HARRIS, Grader Operator, Prince George District, recently won through competition the position of Road Foreman 1 at Nazko, Quesnel District.
EARLE K. LLOYD, the recently appointed Personnel Officer in Region 3, is from Calgary where he worked for the Alberta Provincial Government as Personnel Officer in the Public Service Commission. Prior to that he worked for the Federal Government for eight years as Personnel Officer in the Departments of Agriculture, National Parks, and the Federal Public Service Commission. He is a graduate of Brigham Young University with a B.Sc. Earle is married with two children and enjoys skiing, golf, and tennis.

WILLIAM RILKOFF, Region 4 Paving Branch, started with the Department Paving Branch in Prince Rupert in 1971 after graduating from BCIT in civil and structural engineering technology. He is married with a son. Bill enjoys outdoor activities, especially fishing and camping. His hobby is repairing and working on automobile engines.

CRAIG THOMPSON has been appointed Engineering Aide 3-4 with the Paving Branch, Headquarters, effective April 1, 1974. He was formerly Engineering Aide 2. Craig started with the Department at Kelowna in the spring of 1971, and has worked on numerous projects throughout Region 2. When not working Craig can be seen flying around the country, being the proud owner of a pilot's licence. He is married and his interests are flying, sports, and horses.

Dwight D. Nickel, Region 4 Paving Branch, has worked for the Department of Highways Paving Branch since 1970 as a permanent employee and since 1973 as a student after returning to the University of Manitoba to complete a B.A. degree in music. Dwight is married and his hobbies include fishing and music, especially singing with his guitar.

ANNETTE STAPLEY recently returned to the Regional Pav­ ing Laboratory in Prince George after traveling extensively through southern Europe. Annette is married and enjoys housekeeping, canoeing, and skiing.

MARGARET LAR­ son, Clerk 3, Prince George District office, has been with High­ ways for one year. Prior to that she worked for the Department of Public Works for several months.

The Good Hope Lake Maintenance Establishment is one of the farthest north in the Province. Due to the isolated location, the establishment has its own diesel power plant, its own water system, bunk houses, trailers for married employees, and a recreational centre. Shown here are some of the employees located at this northern post.

The establishment was started in 1955 to maintain the Cassiar Highway from Cassiar to the junction of the Alaska Highway, near Watson in the Yukon Territory. The camp is located 60 miles south of the British Columbia-Yukon border and 20 miles north of Cassiar.

Since the camp was established, the road has been extended to Dease Lake. The road between Dease Lake and Stewart was opened in the fall of 1972. During this time the Good Hope Lake camp has been the marshalling yard and distribution point for the entire area.

JOCK RATTRAY is the Senior Road Fore­ man in the area and has been in charge of the camp since its inception. His wife, EVELYN, runs an excellent kitchen, feeding, in addition to Department personnel, an assortment of people from truckers to tourists who have wandered from the beaten path.

These fine photographs came to the RR courtesy of G. A. WARRINGTON, Region 4 Mechanical Superintendent, who took them on one of his regular trips to the area.
NEW SPEED LIMIT SIGNS

The Road Runner published an article about the Sign Shop just 10 years ago in the January 1965 issue. But we felt that recognition should be given to the important "behind-the-scenes" role played by the Sign Shop crew in the recent Province-wide introduction of reduced speed limits.

Once the decision was made to lower speed limits, the big question was, "How soon can the Department be ready to put the changes into effect?"

Sign Shop Supervisor Arnie Davies calculated that the actual work of manufacturing the printed overlays could be completed in about three weeks. Despite some initial delay in getting materials, Arnie and his nine-man crew kept pretty well to schedule. Something over 17,000 adhesive-backed overlays were shipped out to District offices, to be installed by regular maintenance crews. Although in some Interior areas cold weather slowed down the work, the bulk of the new signs were in place within eight weeks.

It is too soon to assess the effect of the reduced speed limits, but public reaction has been very positive. Mail on the subject ran seven to three in favour of the lower speeds.

While the new signs were being made, the Sign Shop became a popular subject for newspaper photographers. With the introduction of some metric distance signs this April, and the complete changeover to metric speed limits scheduled for 1977, the Sign Shop crew may decide to hire a press agent.

Plastic overlays were used for the initial speed limit change, but a steady supply of metal 55-m.p.h. signs is needed for replacement. Ken Borbel, Assistant Sign Painter, gets on with the job when he can take time out from posing for photographs.

Left, Douglas Bowell, Labourer, and Warren Stillman, Assistant Sign Painter, remove a freshly finished project sign.

Bill Bescher, Shop Foreman, does the lay-out for an 8 by 4-foot guide sign.

Sign Shop Supervisor Arnie Davies displays part of the detailed index system which enables him to keep track of signs all over the Province.
REGION 1 CONFERENCE

The setting and facilities of the Harrison Hotel provided an ideal atmosphere for the 56 officials who attended the conference, 27 of whom were accompanied by their wives.

The theme of the conference, "The New Department of Highways," was the common basis of the addresses, beginning with the introductory remarks and welcome by P. J. Carr, the Regional Highway Engineer, and including addresses by the Honourable Graham Lea, Minister of Highways; Howard Sturrock, Deputy Minister of Highways. Other talks were given by Jack Lisman, Highway Safety Engineer, emphasizing his ideas on highway safety; Jim Lawrence, Regional Personnel Officer, on the role of personnel administration and the manager; Garth Shearing, Communications Engineer, on the new communications system being introduced in Region I; and Al Limacher, Senior Personnel Officer, spoke about some of the ramifications of the Union Agreement. John Fryer, General Secretary of the BCGEU, spoke on the same subject from the union viewpoint. Earl Lund, Maintenance Management Engineer, outlined the Maintenance Management programme.

Slide presentations were given by Tom Miard, Senior Associate Deputy, on European roads, Don Johnson and Bernie Penner on the Upper Levels construction project. Other guests included R. G. Harvey, Associate Deputy Minister; Ray White, Region 2 Highway Engineer; P. B. MacCarthy, Senior Maintenance Engineer; Don Lang, Region 4 Construction Engineer; Wayne Harding, Administrative Assistant; Tom Johnson, Services Engineer.

NECOSLIE BRIDGE BURNS

In the early morning hours of October 22, 1974, the bridge over the Necoslie River near Fort St. James was set on fire. The structure was closed to vehicular traffic and the Vanderhoof bridge crew was called out to determine extent of damage.

Officials from Prince George Region and Vic Vickers, Bridge Engineer from Victoria, were on the scene shortly thereafter. By October 24 the bridge was declared safe to vehicles up to 3 tons.

October 25, men and equipment were on the job building approaches for a Bailey bridge. The Prince George bridge crew joined forces with the Vanderhoof crew and worked from the opposite shore. By November 2 the Bailey was in place and open to traffic. It is expected that the burned structure will be replaced sometime in the near future.

TRANSFERS

A. R. (Art) Watson, Road Maintenance Foreman, was recently transferred from Burns Lake District to Birch Island, Kamloops District. Art started with the Department on April 1962 at Trout Lake and went to Burns Lake in 1970. He is married and has five children. His hobbies are fishing and hunting. Burns Lake District Highway Manager L. M. Wagar made a presentation to Art on behalf of his fellow employees.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

T. N. (Bud) Vye, Mechanic in the Kamloops District garage, raises Great Pyrenees dogs as a hobby. Bud is active in the Kamloops and District Kennel Club where he was chairman for the three-day dog championship show held in Kamloops on the Labour Day weekend. One of the activities at the show was the presenting of a ribbon for the best Canadian-bred dog by the Honourable David Stumpf, Minister of Agriculture. Shown with Bud are Chief, 18-months-old, and Vyette, 2-year-old.

Cecilia Puga, Stenographer in the Prince George Regional office, left December 7 for a trip to Australia. Cecilia won a competition for Secretary of the Year sponsored in Prince George by CP Air and received as her prize two first-class tickets for her trip. She was away six weeks.

SAFETY AWARDS

Award of Distinction presented to members of the Gladie Ferry, Nelson Highway District. Left to right, Brian Kelly, Regional Safety Officer; Nick Dentooff, Head Ferryman; and P. P. Makonis, Ferryman.

Bronze Safety Award to the Aleza Lake road crew, Prince George District. Silver Safety Award to the Prince George District survey crew. Bronze Safety Award to the Vanderhoof bridge crew.
ON THE JOB...

Ponce Coupe District crew replacing one of the large box culverts originally put in during the Second World War on the Alaska Highway. This 10-foot-diameter 174-foot-long multiplate is at the bottom of a 35-foot fill.

Ray Gould, Machine Operator, Nanaimo, is very pleased with the excellent results obtained from a new ripper attachment on the cut blade. The attachment was designed and built in the Nanaimo Mechanical shop.

Frank Brown, Sign Maintenance Man, Saanich District, is seen above putting the finishing touches on the totem pole located in front of Victoria’s Legislative Buildings. This task he performs yearly and many tourists go home with pictures of Frank in action.

Howard Clark, Road Foreman 1, Vanderhoof District, is shown above obtaining dust-control material. The oil distributor was a welcome sight to country dwellers who found the dry summer created very dusty conditions.

This grader in the First Narrows yard shows the roll-over protection which is being installed on all graders and loaders throughout the Province. The revolving amber light is hinged to allow entry into shops where there is insufficient clearance.

Kamloops District bridge crew recently assembled a Bailey bridge for a temporary detour on the Trans-Canada Highway at the Valleyview Overpass. Left to right, R. O’Brian, Labourer; T. Chiarotti, Bridgeman; and D. Jones, Bridge Foreman.
The radio room in Kamloops is the centre for radio operations for the Province during holidays, week-ends, and after office hours, as well as normal working hours. J. H. (JOHN) GILLIS, radio and teletype operator, is shown at the radio console after a busy early morning. Behind him are the telex machines and a map of the Province.

Clouds of dense smoke roll skyward as a Department oil-distributor truck and tank burn on Kenny Dam Road near Vanderhoof. It was a hot day in September and the hot MC2 oil is thought to have been ignited by a spark off the wiring or muffler. Both units were completely destroyed.

The Saanich District bridge crew installing a 90-foot horizontally polarized log-periodic antenna for the Department of Transport and Communications. The antenna was designed and constructed by the Highway Communications Division for high-frequency radio communication with Government aircraft, primarily for medical dispatch purposes. It provides communication with aircraft in flight anywhere in the Province. The radio site is remotely controlled from the dispatch office at the Patricia Bay Airport. Barely visible at the top of the antenna is Jim Richards, temporary Bridge Foreman in the Saanich District.

The new shop at Nazko, Quesnel District, built by the Quesnel bridge crew.

WEDDING

DELIA WEHLE and STEPHEN (STEVE) REYNOLDS were married in Victoria on September 25. Steve is Transportation Projects Engineer with the Planning Branch, Delia, a Registered Nurse at the Victoria Jubilee Hospital. Both have a keen interest in the outdoors.

SNOW-PLOUGH WARNING DEVICE APPROVED

Increasing traffic density and independent ideas on snow-plough and (or) sanding warning devices have created problems for the Department in warning the motoring public of these operations. Headquarters, therefore, undertook a study of several warning device arrangements and the legalities involved, and have now produced a standardized approved warning device system to be used during snow-plough sanding operations.

All trucks equipped with underblade for snow-ploughing will have two red flags mounted on the outer extremities of the front bumper, designating the overall width of the truck and the underblade.

Two 9-inch amber lights will be mounted at the rear on the top outside corners of all road sand spreaders. These lights are designed to minimize the buildup of snow on the lens and make them more readily visible. The lights will flash alternately approximately 90 times per minute and will be used at all times while road sanding is in progress. This light system has been authorized by the Motor-vehicle Branch for the exclusive use of the B.C. Department of Highways.

It is the hope of the Department that when the public is made aware of these provisions for their safety, that motorists will use caution when approaching or overtaking a snow-plough or sander.
DEPARTMENT FERRY RESCUES FIVE DURING STORM

The Department's ferry, MV Nimpkish, recently rescued five people from a storm-lashed island near Alert Bay after their trimaran sailboat was driven aground in a gale gusting to 60 m.p.h.

The ferry and crew were secured at Alert Bay dock unable to make their run to Port McNeill because of high winds when they answered a radio call, November 11 about 11:30 a.m., and proceeded to Haddington Island, about 4 miles from Alert Bay and due south of Sointula on Malcolm Island. There they found the sailboat hard aground on the north side of the island with five persons aboard, two of them signalling in distress. The Nimpkish put a lifeboat over the side manned by two deckhands, Gordon Sandvigge and W. R. ter Brugge. They went ashore and picked up the five survivors and brought them back to the ferry where they were taken to Alert Bay. While the men were ashore they were able to assist in securing the damaged sailboat as well as guiding the survivors to the lifeboat.

Skipper of the Nimpkish was Capt. Frank T. Brown, the Engineer was A. Wright, and the Mate, K. Watt. The whole operation lasted from 11:30 a.m. until 3 p.m., when the Nimpkish arrived back at Alert Bay with the survivors aboard. The sailing trimaran was Dawn Treader, owned by Rene Baril. His passengers were Craig Murray, Glen Wilson, Ann Milligan, and Sue Kruger.

Left, Capt. Frank T. Brown, and Deckhand Gordon Sandvigge, in the wheelhouse of the MV Nimpkish.

Area served by the MV Nimpkish; note Haddington Island, south of Sointula, scene of the rescue.

The first ferry service between Alert Bay and Kelsey Bay began in 1939 because the Union Steamship Company had withdrawn its passenger service. This new subsidized service lasted until early 1961. Later that year Coast Ferries placed their Island Princess in service beginning with service four days a week; this was gradually increased to seven days a week in 1966.

The need for more direct service to Port McNeill and the amalgamation of several school districts with a new senior-secondary school at Port McNeill prompted the Department to improve the service by purchasing the Uchuck, which was renamed Sointula Queen and served as a "school bus," later finding increasing use by others as well.

Further improvement of roads on Vancouver Island and the need for an automobile ferry connection to these roads for the residents of Cormorant and Malcolm Islands brought about the building of the MV Nimpkish, which went into service July 1973. This 16-car, 150-passenger vessel crossed Johnstone Strait between Alert Bay on Cormorant Island, Sointula on Malcolm Island, and Port Alice on Vancouver Island seven times in a 16-hour day.