MVB Improves Efficiency With Word Processor

Always looking for ways to improve its operation, the Motor-vehicle Branch has come up with a time and money-saving word processing machine.

Clerks in the driver safety and improvement section were typing 3,500 letters a week and completing 600 to 700 computer cards a day, with each card requiring the driver’s licence number, full name, name code, effective date, and file number of each letter.

June Byers, Administrative Officer in charge of the section, believed what was needed was a machine that could take names and addresses and merge them with a basic letter which had already been keyed onto the program disk.

June told factory representatives the machine had to be compatible with the computer system where you could type in a master letter, have merging capabilities, and also be able to store and recall.

That was two years ago and today, because of June’s resourceful thinking, the Motor-vehicle Branch has its word processing machine. Suspension data is keyed into a terminal, stored on a disk, and the office assistants are now producing twice the work they did before.

Clerks type letters of suspension, letters of reinstatement, probation letters and assessment letters. First the name and driver’s licence number is typed on the letter, then to avoid a computer-oriented letter, a person’s file is reviewed and any variable factor is noted on the letter so as not to lose that personal touch a dictated letter might give. The letter is then merged with the body of the letter taken from the disk.

The machine sorts alphabetically and numerically and there are 75 letter variations on a disk. A typical keypunch command might be file, print—Letter No. 1, merge, sort, and automatically justify print—and the machine would then put the letter together.

June started with the Motor-vehicle Branch on a temporary basis in 1963 working short stints in the addressograph section, the mail order of licence-plates during the issuing period, helping with cash sheets in the issuing office, assisting in the general office for a brief period and finally coming to rest as a permanent typist in Driver Improvement. From 1971 to 1976 she worked in driver records and then returned to safety and improvement section.

June is a graduate of the AETNA Driver Improvement Group Leadership Training Program, sponsored by the well known AETNA Insurance Company in the United States. She is on her third year of Executive Development Training Program at the University of Victoria and is a graduate of Public Service Commission’s Public Administration Course.

“I approached the over-all problem with the idea of making the change in two phases—phase one would be to acquire the equipment and have the staff key in the name and address and in phase two, which we hope to have shortly, we will be able to draw the driver’s record up to the screen, make the decision as to the type of letter which should be sent, and tell the machine to print the appropriate letter,” she says.
MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Now that the Government is well into the First Session of the Thirty-Second Legislative Assembly after receiving a new mandate, I wish to remind all personnel of the Ministry that a rededication to the service of the people of British Columbia should be uppermost in everyone's mind.

Last year in the reorganizational plan for government ministries the Premier honoured me by increasing my responsibilities to include an expanded Ministry of Transportation, Communications and Highways, as well as a Directorship of the British Columbia Ferry Corporation and the development of a transportation system to serve the needs of the Province.

As anyone familiar with government can understand these responsibilities cannot be successfully discharged by one person. A dedicated staff, working as a closely knit team, is the only way we can overcome the many problems which inevitably arise within a large and complex organization like ours. I do not have to emphasize that team work is necessary for success. You can be sure that as Minister I will do everything I can to see that the machinery is in place for this team approach. In the past three years we have achieved considerable success in our programs and I would like to see this trend in productivity, accomplishment and attitude continued. I will support our staff in all their undertakings as decisions are made and I ask in return for their support. We are all here to provide a first rate service and a good product to the people of British Columbia.

ALEX. V. FRASER
Minister

As you know the integration of the former Ministries of Energy, Transport and Communications and Highways and Public Works added about 1,000 employees, as well as more and varied activities, to the Ministry. Energy, Transport and Communications published its own in-house magazine called the Carrier and Highways has for many years had its Road Runner. Senior officials decided that the two publications should be integrated to best serve the combined staffs of our new Ministry and this is the first issue in that form. The choice of a name was a problem. Long-time readers of the Road Runner did not want to see that name dropped or changed after 17 years. At the same time the newer and younger Carrier had its loyal following and support. For this reason we have decided to simply combine the two names, with Road Runner coming first in deference to its age. The magazine will of course now contain personnel news plus feature stories and regular departments on the activities of all the sections of the expanded Ministry. As there are many more people in the Highways section than in the other two, Highways personnel news will occupy more space. However, because of the diversity and importance of activities carried on by Transportation and Communications we will try to provide balanced coverage of all three sections in our features and departments.

R. J. BAINES
Executive Editor

THE ROAD RUNNER & CARRIER

Volume 16
Spring 1979
No. 1

Published Quarterly by the
Ministry of Transportation, Communications and Highways
Victoria, British Columbia
Ray Baines, Executive Editor
Arthur J. Schindel, Editor
C. N. Shave, Co-editor

Field Correspondents

Field Correspondents

Cover Photo

Omnipresent Mount Baker rises snow-capped on the eastern horizon. This photograph is evidence of spring in the Lower Fraser Valley, Aldergrove-Trans-Canada Highway, and the end of winter patrols, snow removal, and all for another year.

—Photo by Jack Brown.
PROMOTIONS

DAN DOYLE, P.Eng., Regional Maintenance Operations Manager at Nanaimo, has won through competition the Regional Highway Engineer position in Region 5, Terrace. Dan began his career with Highways in 1960 in the Engineers-in-Training Program; he worked on construction projects for three years. He spent the next five years as District Highways Manager, first at McRae, then New Denver and Kamloops. When Region 5 was formed he became the Regional Maintenance Operations Manager. He is married with three children. His hobbies are golf, fishing, cross-country skiing, and carpentry.

STAN PALOPSKI was successful in the bid for District Highways Manager, Terrace District. Stan is married and has three children. He started with the Ministry in 1937 as the Construction Branch. Since then he has worked for the Paving Branch and as Landscape Supervisor in Kamloops. Stan enjoys such hobbies as building houses, which is now changing to fishing and skiing since his transfer to Terrace. Stan was initiated to the Terrace District office. Sam was previously employed at Craigmont Mines in Merritt.

STAN ISBERG recently won the position of Foreman A in the Merritt District office. Sam was previously employed at Craigmont Mines in Merritt. Stan was scheduled to start work in Merritt on April 2, 1979.

DONALD F. MacSWEEN recently won the position of Senior Property Negotiator in Headquarters, Victoria. Don began his Government service in the Kamloops Land Registry Office in 1960, moving to Highways in 1962 and transferring into the Property Services Branch in 1966. He has worked out of all property negotiation offices in the Province, and has held the position of Regional Property Negotiator in both Prince George and Nanaimo. Don is married with two children and will be looking forward to putting down some permanent roots.

SAM BURNSTEIN recently won the position of Office Assistant 2 in the Merritt District office. Sam was previously employed at Craigmont Mines in Merritt.

MONA SHARPE has won through competition the position of Regional Radio-Telex Operator, Region 1, Burnaby. She has worked in the regional office since April 1974. Mona and her husband, Neil, have recently bought a new home and spend most of their spare time remodelling.

RANDY J. CAMERON, Fernie Highways District, was promoted to Bridge District. He began with Highways as an auxiliary and became a regular in February 1978. Randy married recently and he and his wife are planning a one-month trip to Scotland next year. His hobbies are photography, four-wheeling, motor-cross, and he holds a private pilot's licence.

LIL VERESCHAGIN won through competition the position of Clerk 3, Timekeeper in the Grand Forks District. Before joining the Ministry Lil was employed with Granby Mining Corporation. Some of Lil's many hobbies include reading, swimming, riding her 10-speed, and softball.

BRIAN SORLEY recently won through competition the position of Engineering Assistant in the Golden District. Brian previously worked for Highways in the Bridge Construction Branch travelling throughout the Province from 1956 to 1974, at which time he went to work for the Municipality of Salmon Arm as a survey technician. In 1976 and 1977 he was travelling again, this time as an instrument man for the CPR. On his weekends or days off he can usually be found at the airport because his main hobby is flying.

BILL KOPACH won a promotion through competition to Engineering Assistant 3 in the New Denver District office, September 1978. He has been working for the Ministry for eight years. Bill is married and has a 9-month-old son. Favourite pastimes are skiing and hockey, although he enjoys most other sports. His greatest ambition is to build his own log house.

A. W. (AD) BUCKLE recently won through competition the position of District Technician in the Kelowna District. Ad has a total of 22 years with Highways, having served in McRae, Dawson Creek, and with the Construction Branch. He is married with seven children and has recently settled in his new home. Ad's leisure-time is taken up fishing, canoeing, and skiing.

BRUCE McGORMAN recently won through competition the position of Engineering Aide 3, Regulatory at Kelowna. Bruce is a 1971 graduate in civil engineering from Waterloo University and he has been with Highways two years. Before coming to Highways Bruce spent two and a half years touring Australia, where he met and married his wife. In his leisure time he enjoys racket ball, photography, restoring antique furniture, and doing stained glass work.

LARRY PETERS recently won through competition the position of District Stockman in the Kelowna District. Larry goes to Kelowna from Kamloops where he worked in the District Stockroom. Larry has been with Highways for seven years, which comes after 29 years of service in the Transport Division of the RCAF, with service both in Europe and Canada. Although he mainly enjoys spectator sports now, he still likes to go salmon-fishing and, when possible, to visit his grandchildren.

MONA SHARPE has won through competition the position of Regional Radio-Telex Operator, Region 1, Burnaby. She has worked in the regional office since April 1974. Mona and her husband, Neil, have recently bought a new home and spend most of their spare time remodelling.

RANDY J. CAMERON, Fernie Highways District, was promoted to Bridge District. He began with Highways as an auxiliary and became a regular in February 1978. Randy married recently and he and his wife are planning a one-month trip to Scotland next year. His hobbies are photography, four-wheeling, motor-cross, and he holds a private pilot's licence.

LIL VERESCHAGIN won through competition the position of Clerk 3, Timekeeper in the Grand Forks District. Before joining the Ministry Lil was employed with Granby Mining Corporation. Some of Lil's many hobbies include reading, swimming, riding her 10-speed, and softball.

BRIAN SORLEY recently won through competition the position of Engineering Assistant in the Golden District. Brian previously worked for Highways in the Bridge Construction Branch travelling throughout the Province from 1956 to 1974, at which time he went to work for the Municipality of Salmon Arm as a survey technician. In 1976 and 1977 he was travelling again, this time as an instrument man for the CPR. On his weekends or days off he can usually be found at the airport because his main hobby is flying.

STAN ISBERG recently won the position of Foreman A in the Merritt Highways District. Stan previously worked for Highways at Princeton, Pentiction, Fort St. John, and Good Hope Lake. Stan was scheduled to start work in Merritt on April 2, 1979.
RITCHIE HAROLD, Technician 2 at the New Westminster District, won through competition the position of District Co-ordinator, Technician 1, in the Kamloops District. Ritchie started with Geotechnical Materials Testing Branch in Quesnel and then applied for a District Co-ordinator position. He was promoted to District Co-ordinator in 100 Mile House and then went to Kamloops. He has been with the Ministry for seven years and has training in Civil and Structural Technology at BCIT. Ritchie is married with one child and his hobbies include most sports, canoeing, and camping.

BRIAN WALLS has won through competition the position of District Co-ordinator, Technician 1, in the Kamloops District. Brian started with Geotechnical Materials Testing Branch in Quesnel and then applied for a District Co-ordinator position there. He was promoted to District Co-ordinator in 100 Mile House and then went to Kamloops. He has been with the Ministry for seven years and has training in Civil and Structural Technology at BCIT. Brian is married with one child and his interests include most sports, canoeing, and camping.

JULIE ACRES, Clerk-Stenographer at the Terrace regional office won through competition the position of District Co-ordinator, Technician 1, in the Kamloops District. Julie started with Geotechnical Materials Testing Branch in Quesnel and then applied for a District Co-ordinator position there. She was promoted to District Co-ordinator in 100 Mile House and then went to Kamloops. Julie has been with the Ministry for seven years and has training in Civil and Structural Technology at BCIT. Julie is married with two children. Her activities include camping, golfing, and travelling.

BOB DAVOREN, Kamloops District, won through competition the position of District Co-ordinator, Technician 1, in the Kamloops District. Bob started with Highways 16 years ago with the Mechanical Branch, then to District Survey, and now with District Engineering Regulatory. Bob is married with three children and his interests include hunting, fishing, and camping.

CAM MACLEOD, Region 2, Kamloops, has been promoted from Engineering Aide 3 to Property Negotiator 1. He began with the Ministry seven years ago and spent five years with Construction Branch in the Lower Mainland and one year with Design and Surveys in North Vancouver. Cam has completed two years of a four-year diploma course in Urban Land Economics at UBC and plans to complete the rest through correspondence. He is married and enjoys ice hockey and golf.

GURMEL S. KAINTH recently won through competition a Technician 1 position with the Design and Surveys Branch in North Vancouver. Gurmel started with Highways in 1972 as an Engineering Aide 2 with the Construction Branch at Beaver Cove and Kelsey Bay, working on the Island Highway project. In April 1974 he won through competition a position as an Engineering Aide 3 with the Design and Surveys Branch, and one year later was promoted to Engineering Assistant. Gurmel is married with three children. His hobbies are working in his garden, fishing, travelling, and real estate speculation.

GARRY DAWSON joined Highways in July 1974 with the Testing Branch in Victoria as an Engineering Aide 2. In January 1977 he transferred to the Design and Surveys Branch in North Vancouver, and has recently won through competition the position of Engineering Aide 3 with the Urban Design Section. Garry is married and recently became the father of a girl. His hobbies are hunting and fishing.

GLORIA BENNETT recently won through competition a Clerk 3 position with Traffic Engineering Branch. She has been with Highways since July 1977 and she enjoys tennis, boating, sewing, and skiing. Gloria is a real asset to the morale of the Branch.

JENNY NIEMAN, recently won through competition a Technical Assistant 3 position with Traffic Branch at Headquarters. Jenny has been with the Ministry for four years. She enjoys travelling to Reno every year. Her hobbies include art work, cooking, and car racing.

MICHAEL N. SMITH has won through competition the position of Technical Assistant 4 with the Design and Surveys Branch in Region 6. Mike joined Highways in November 1974 as an Engineering Aide 3 the Design and Surveys Branch in Region 1, having previously worked for the Nova Scotia Highways Department. He is an avid boating enthusiast and lives aboard his 36-foot sail boat. When he goes to Nanaimo he plans to take his "home" with him. His hobbies are photography and scuba diving.

WALLY PIDSKALNY, Kamloops District, recently won through competition the position of Engineering Aide 3, Regulatory. Wally lived in Churchill, Man., before coming to Kamloops. He is married and has been with the district for six years.

FRANK HAWLEY recently was promoted to Machine Operator 4 at Westbank in the Kelowna District. Frank, who has been with Highways for 10 years, is married with four children and lives in the Westbank area. Frank enjoys both snow and water skiing as well as bowling and camping in his spare time.

G. R. LeTOURNEAU recently won through competition the position of Machine Operator 7, Fort St. James area, Vanderhoof District. Jerry was previously in the Hazel Lake District as a Machine Operator 4. He is married with two children.
E. B. (BERT) WILKINS, Executive Director Planning, was the guest of honour at a large gathering held in Victoria on May 3, on the occasion of his retirement from the Ministry. Bert joined the Ministry in 1936 as Senior Paving Engineer, working up to his present position which he assumed in 1974. A veteran of World War II he was an Engineering Officer on discharge, after which he worked for the Federal Government as District Airway Engineer with the Civil Aviation Division of the Ministry of Transport at Edmonton. He was with the Federal Government for 10 years before joining the Provincial Highways Department. Bert, his wife Terry and their two children, Elizabeth and Graham, were at the retirement gathering where this popular and respected staff executive was honoured. A third member of the family, Mrs. Katherine Mitchell of Calgary, was unable to attend. Presented to Bert by Al Rhodes, Assistant Deputy Minister, Administration, was a Meritorious Scroll from the Provincial Government. Deputy Minister, R. G. Harvey, presented the guest of honour with a turntable and a slide projector on behalf of the Ministry and staff. A large number of letters, telegrams, and messages of congratulations were read by T. R. Johnson, Assistant Deputy Minister, Operations, with stories of Bert’s service in the Ministry recounted by F. A. MacLean, Assistant Deputy Minister, Transportation. Many retired public servants who had worked with Bert over the years attended, as did several engineering organizational firm representatives. Bert was made a Life Member of the Canadian Good Roads Association.

JOHN KRASTEL, Road Maintenance Foreman, Gabriola Island, Nanaimo District, for 33 years, was honoured recently at a retirement party held for him in the Nanaimo Yard. John began with the Ministry in the Fraser Valley in 1947. He worked for a short while with the Paving Branch and was a Grader Operator at Deroche and Mission before being promoted to Road Foreman. John was born at Estevan, Saskatchewan, and served with the Canadian Army during the war. He is married and has three children. He plans on travelling a good deal during his retirement.

EDNA PATON retired March 13, 1979, after 31 years of service with the B.C. Government in Victoria, the last 17 of it with Highways. Edna began her public service career in 1935 with the Motor-vehicle Branch where she retired until 1949. She then left the civil service until 1962 when she went to work for Highways as a Clerk-Typist in the Insurance and Safety office. She was reclassified to Clerk-Stenographer 2 in September 1963 and to Clerk-Stenographer 3 on October 1, 1967. In April 1977 Edna became Clerk-Stenographer 4 and worked for Executive Director, Operations, until her retirement. Her efficient and cheerful service earned her the respect of those with whom she worked. She was honoured at a retirement luncheon in the Strathcona Hotel, Victoria; among the 70 people in attendance were five Regional Mechanical Superintendents. She received a meritorious certificate from Deputy Minister R. G. Harvey and gifts on behalf of the staff from T. R. Johnson, Assistant Deputy Minister, Operations. Edna plans to spend a great deal of time travelling, and with her other hobby of raising hunting dogs.

MEL BUSCHERT, Yardman for the Vernon District, retired in January this year. He started with the Highways in August 1971 with the K.118 gravel crusher for Region 2 based in Kamloops. He transferred to Vernon in 1976 to the Yardman position which he held until his retirement. His hobbies are travelling and fishing. He and Mrs. Buschert will continue to reside in Vernon.

ERNIE DEAN, Mechanical Foreman, Revelstoke District, retired last July. He started with Highways as an auto mechanic in 1959 in Williams Lake, Ernie has two daughters and nine grandchildren. He intends to build a block basement under his mobile home and new kitchen cabinets in the porch after retirement. His hobbies are lapidary, carpentry, and gardening.

W. G. HELMSING, Grand Forks District Highways Manager, retired after 18 years of service with the Ministry. Before that Bill worked 28 years in the oil industry. He started employment with the Ministry in Vernon as Highways Manager where he stayed for five years. His next move was to the Merritt District as Manager for seven years. Bill then managed the Grand Forks District for six years. A retirement party was held in his honour by his friends and employees from all over British Columbia. Gifts were presented to him on this day from the Grand Forks District staff and his many friends.

ELIZABETH (BETTY) PRANG-NELL, Clerk 3, Equipment Branch, Highways, who began her public service with the Department of Health in 1936, recently retired and was honoured by her fellow-workers at a banquet in April, after 42 years of service. She transferred to Public Works in 1938 and to the Accounts Branch that same year as Clerk 3. She transferred to Equipment Services in 1943 and was promoted to Clerk 2 in 1947 and to Clerk 3 in 1968. Elizabeth has been interested in many years in the study of anthropology and B.C. Indian culture. She is assisting with writing a book on Mungo Martin, Indian totem carver, and hopes to finish this in retirement.

MIKE FARYNUK, Machine Operator at Enderby in the Vernon Highway District, retired recently after 27 years of continuous service, all of it at Enderby. Seventy of Mike’s fellow-workers and friends honoured him at a farewell party on October 27, 1978. Presentations were made, among them were some of Mike’s homemade tools, newly painted and beribboned. Mike had established a reputation of being able to fix anything, if a tool was not available he would make it. He was also known for his consistent good humour and willingness to help wherever it was needed.
The Nelson Highway District held a retirement party on November 28, 1978, for these seven employees who had retired or were about to retire. Together the seven employees represented a total of 200 years of service. The party was attended by more than 300 friends and fellow employees, including the following superannuents: Perry Scott, Charlie Jeffs, Bert Fleet, Gerry Towgood, Dave Carmichael, and Joseph Coté.

JOHN PAUL, Machine Operator, Nelson District, retired June 30, 1978, after 23 years of service. He began with Highways on June 7, 1955, as a Labourer but he worked at a number of positions from Padman to Machine Operator until his retirement. He and his wife Mildred, who also retired in January 1979 after 22 years of service with Forestry and Finance, are enjoying retirement visiting their children and grandchildren, also gardening, fishing, dancing, and bowling. After taking a trip on the Queen of Prince Rupert, their future plans call for a cruise to Alaska.

GLEN YATES, Mechanic 3, Nelson District shop, retired November 30, 1978, after 14 years of service. He began with Highways on August 31, 1964, as a Heavy-duty Mechanic. He and his wife, Annie Laurie, enjoy travelling, fishing, boating, and outdoor camping. A presentation was made to Glen by Bill Kortegaard, Mechanical Foreman, on his last day at work, November 9, 1978.

LE ROI COTE, Road Foreman, Nelson District, retired February 28, 1979, after 43 years of service. He began with Highways on October 15, 1936. He worked at a number of Machine Operator positions, working his way up to Road Foreman. Le ROI joined the Armed Forces in 1939 and returned after the war in 1945 to full-time service with the Ministry. He and his wife Dorothy, are kept busy visiting with their family and grandchildren, and learning all about raising chickens. A retirement party was held on November 18, 1978, to honour Le ROI at which time he was presented with gifts on behalf of all his friends in the region. He was joined by his father, son, and daughter, who helped him celebrate this special occasion.

JOE BROWN, Grader Operator, Nelson District, retired December 31, 1978, after 32 years of service. He began with Highways on January 7, 1944, as a Machine Operator and worked the majority of his service as a Grader Operator in the New Denver District and later in the Nelson District. He and his wife Edna are enjoying their retirement at Appledale, where they garden and golf. A presentation was made to Joe on his last day at work, April 12, by Clark Abel, Road Foreman.

EDWARD (ED) H. SANGALA, Mechanical Foreman, Fernie Highway District, retired in November 1978 after 29 years of service with Highways, all in the Fernie District. Fernie District employees presented Ed with a gift at their annual Christmas party. Ed also received a plaque, Russ Broughton, Rossland Mechanical Foreman, made the presentation on behalf of all the Mechanical Foremen in Region 3. Ed is a member of the Fernie Elk Club and enjoys travelling.
DAVE MURRAY, retired from Francois Lake ferry, Burns Lake District, in February, after 19 years as a Mate with the Jacob Henkel and more recently the Omineca Princess. He has no intention of moving south. He and his wife will continue farming and haying on their lakeside lot overlooking Francois Lake. His other hobbies include gardening and woodworking in his new shop.

LAURA STEVENSON, New Westminster District's Payroll Supervisor and respected employee of four years, has recently taken an early retirement. Laura and her husband, Lloyd, are planning on pursuing their interests in the future. A trip to the Truro area of Nova Scotia, where Laura was born, is on their agenda, as well as some camping throughout British Columbia.

ALLAN KINSEY, Road Foreman 2, Invermere, retired recently. He started work with Highways in Golden in 1951 as a Grader Operator. By 1967 he had been promoted up to a Machine Operator 7 and also a winter shift foreman. In 1970 he was transferred to Achalmer as a Foreman 2 where he held that position until his retirement in September 1978. Al is married with four children.

CARL S. SHAW, Golden District Highways Manager, has retired after 32 years of service. He started in 1947 as a Technician, and in 1950 became the Resident Engineer in Kamloops and then transferred to Cranbrook. In 1951 he was the Senior Resident Engineer in Merritt, and from there moved to Terrace as District Superintendent. Then in 1965 he transferred to Golden as the District Highways Manager where he remained until his retirement in November 1978. Carl and his wife have retired in Creston and after purchasing a new home will be kept busy landscaping and gardening. Aside from growing a green thumb, Carl is an active Shriner and keeps in touch with his friends around the world on his ham radio.

A. R. (MONTY) MONTGOMERY, Machine Operator, Kamloops Region, retired in January after 27 years of service. Monty has 50 years of trucking experience and estimates that he has driven about three million miles. He was in the RCAF in Sherbrooke, Que., and worked as a bus driver in Kamloops before coming to Highways. He is interested in the history of British Columbia and its wildlife and hopes to do some fishing and more travelling. Monty is married, has two children, four grandchildren, and would some day like to fulfill a dream of seeing the Mardi Gras in New Orleans.

RAY WOODS, Yardman at Westbank in the Kelowna Highway District, retired last year after 30 years of service. After many years as Machine Operator in the Westbank area, Ray was reclassified to Yardman for health reasons in 1975. The Kelowna District employees presented Ray with a gift and the presentation was made by fellow long-time employee, R. J. Martin, who commenced service with Highways on the same day in 1947. Ray will continue to reside in Westbank.

ELIZABETH (LIL) WHITE, Executive Secretary to Deputy Minister R. G. Harvey, was honoured by her co-workers and friends at a luncheon April 11, at which she received gifts, best wishes, and a meritorious service certificate. Lil was retiring after a 15-year career which began in October 1964 when she was hired as a Clerk-Stenographer 2, serving in that capacity for the Senior Paving Engineer (Highways). She transferred to the Right-of-Way Branch on April 1, 1965, and in September of the same year she was promoted to Clerk-Stenographer 3 as secretary to the Senior Bridge Engineer. In 1971, Lil was promoted to Clerk-Stenographer 4 in the executive branch, was reclassified to a "five" in December 1973 to Executive Secretary, holding the position as Mr. Harvey's Secretary until her retirement. The word "retirement" to Lil is just a word. As she golfs, gardens, cooks, sews, reads, and plays bridge her days will be active.

BERT WARD has retired as Aircraft Maintenance Engineer with the Air Services Branch recently after 30 years of service. Bert had the longest employee record with the Branch, having started on May 9, 1949. To celebrate his farewell, Branch personnel and friends gathered in the airport flying club lounge to give him a send off. Phil Perry, Air Services Director, made a presentation on behalf of the staff. Just prior to leaving for the last time, Bert was again in the spotlight as Premier W. R. Bennett took time out before leaving for Vancouver to present Bert with his meritorious service award. Bert and his wife plan to remain at home for a few months then travel to New Zealand and Australia, to be followed by a trip to England and then back to Central Saanich.

CAROL G. ROUSELL, Tug Operator at the Clayhurst ferry in the Dawson Creek Highway District, is the first person to retire from the ferry crew. Carol commenced employment at this ferry in 1964 and was a steady, reliable employee. He will be missed by the crew and the regular users of the Clayhurst ferry. The ferry crew gathered and wished Carol and his wife, Olive, a happy retirement.
LESLE WILMOT, Road Maintenance Foreman, Fort St. John, recently received his 25-year service award. Les, who has lived in Fort St. John since 1927, began with Highways in 1953. Prior to becoming Foreman he was a Truck Driver, Grader Operator, and Temporary Foreman. His 25 years of service have all been spent in Fort St. John. He enjoys boating, gardening, fishing, and hunting in his leisure time.

FRANK BAXTER, Truck Driver, Kelowna Highways District, recently received his 25-year service award. W. J. McDonald, District Highway Manager, presented the award.

KEN BROOKBANK, Stockman, Fort St. John District, went to Victoria last December to receive his 25-year service award. Ken began with Highways as a Labourer in Little Boulder camp on the John Hart Highway. Subsequently he was a Truck Driver and Timekeeper before moving to Fort St. John as a Stockman in 1957. Ken spends his spare time farming in the summer and curling in the winter.

AL BILCIL, Machine Operator 4, Creston Highway District, received his 25-year service award in December 1978. Al began with Highways in 1953 as an Engineering Aide with the location crew on the Salmo-Creston cut-off. Three years later he transferred to the construction survey branch working on the Boundary-Paulsen and the Salmo-Creston projects. In 1963 he transferred to the Creston District crew where he has worked up to the present time as a Truck Driver, Temporary Foreman, and Co-ordinator. His hobbies are gardening, fishing, and hunting.

ROY WALKER, District Office Manager, Chilliwack District, was presented with a 25-year service certificate by Premier Bill Bennett at Government House, Victoria, in December 1978. During the past 25 years with Highways, Roy has worked in Victoria, Nanaimo, Fort St. John, Merritt, and Burns Lake before coming to Chilliwack in 1974.

LESLIE WILMOT, Road Maintenance Foreman, Fort St. John, recently received his 25-year service award in Victoria. Leslie, who has lived in Fort St. John since 1927, began with Highways in 1953. Prior to becoming Foreman he was a Truck Driver, Grader Operator, and Temporary Foreman. His 25 years of service have all been spent in Fort St. John. He enjoys boating, gardening, fishing, and hunting in his leisure time.

A special occasion for Bob Gaines, Bridge Branch, who was unable to attend the 25-year award service banquet in Victoria. Presenting the award to Bob was R. G. Harvey, right, Deputy Minister, at the New Westminster Safety Banquet.
ABOUT PEOPLE . . .

M. J. O’CONNOR, P.Eng., Regional Highway Engineer, Terrace, was transferred to Burnaby, Region 1, in the same capacity. He began with Highways in 1969 at Headquarters with the Planning Branch. In 1971 he became District Highways Manager in McBride, a year later he was transferred to New Denver as Manager, and in 1974 he went to the Prince George District where he remained until 1977 when he won a promotion to the Regional Highway Engineer in the newly formed region in Terrace. Mike is married and has three young sons.

KEITH BESPFLUG, Regional Geotechnical and Materials Engineer, Region 1, recently transferred from Victoria where he was Special Projects Engineer with the Geotechnical and Materials Testing Branch. Keith earned his B.Sc. at the University of Alberta and then worked with Alberta Water Resources and a private geotechnical consulting firm prior to earning an M.Sc. from the University of Toronto. He then worked for the Alberta Department of the Environment prior to joining the Ministry in 1974. In 1975 he received an award from the American Society of Civil Engineers for his work on innovative foundation design in areas of deep seasonal frost penetration. He is married with two children.

PATRICIA DAVIS, Clerk Stenographer 3, Region 1 Headquarters, is Secretary to the Regional Operations Manager. She was educated in Sheffield, England, and on leaving school worked as a junior secretary. Three years later she achieved her ambition and became a policewoman in Sheffield where she worked for nine years in various branches, including the criminal investigation department as a detective policewoman. Pat then devoted the next seven years to home-making. In 1974 she and her husband, Roy, together with their two children, emigrated to Canada, and Pat obtained a position with the B.C. Ministry of Health. In May 1978 she won through competition her present position. Pat enjoys playing the organ and is an assistant cub leader.

JAMES E. STEVEN, District Highways Manager, Williams Lake, has 26 years of service with the Ministry. Prior to 1962, he worked with the Construction and Location branches. Jim has been a Manager in the Lillooet and Prince Coups Districts prior to coming to Williams Lake in 1970. He is married with four children, two of them still at home. He has an interest in most sports, especially hunting and fishing.

JOHN HAMILTON, Road Maintenance Foreman in Ashcroft, Vernon Highways District, began with Highways at Prince George in 1955. Beginning as a Labourer, he progressed to Truck Driver and Road Foreman 3 before leaving for private industry in Enderby in 1968. He rejoined Highways in 1971 and worked as a Truck Driver and Construction Foreman prior to promotion to his present position. His spare time interests are fishing and carpentry.

CORS VERHAGE, Road Maintenance Foreman at Cherryville in the Vernon Highway District, began with Highways in Vernon with the slash crew in 1964. He transferred to Lumby in 1965 and won through competition the Foreman position at Cherryville in 1978. His pastimes are jogging and refereeing hockey. While in Lumby, Cors was active in civic affairs, serving among other things as an alderman.

WANDA L. LAZARUCHUK began with the Design and Surveys office in North Vancouver in April 1974. She was recently reclassified to the position of Clerk-Stenographer 3. Wanda has been taking BCIT night courses as her ambition is to get into personnel work. Her hobbies are painting, skiing, cycling, and reading. She is married and has a teenage daughter.

KAREN KURUCZ joined Highways as an auxiliary Clerk 1 with New Westminster Highways District in July 1975. In February 1977 she won through competition an Engineering Aide 1 position with the Design and Surveys Branch in North Vancouver. She has recently been reclassified to an Engineering Aide 2. Karen is an active squash player and enjoys outdoor sports, especially running and biking.

GEORGE WARD, Kamloops Region, Property Negotiator 2 is from Vancouver where he was involved in real estate sales. George is single, interested in golf, hockey, and skiing and has been with Highways for two years. He has a bachelor of commerce degree and studied urban land economics at UBC.

LINDA WALLACE joined the Kamloops Highway District a year and a half ago. She was recently promoted from Office Assistant 1 to Clerk 3, Timekeeper. Linda worked with the Ministry in Prince George and Burns Lake as Timekeeper from 1964 to 1969. She is married, has two children, and she enjoys bridge, softball, and curling.

JOHN MARRIOTT, Road Foreman at Duncan in the Nanaimo Highway District, has been with Highways for 17 years. John has moved around considerably since leaving the central crew. He has been in Duncan for two years. An active cubmaster, he also enjoys outdoor sports and camping with his wife and two sons.
JACK PROKOPETZ, District Office Manager, Williams Lake, started with the Ministry in 1972 as an Office Manager Trainee in the New Denver District. In 1976, Jack won through competition his present position. Jack finds the large area and big construction programs a challenge. Jack is married with two children and is interested in carpentry, gardening, and curling as well as several other sports.

WALTER WEISS, Mechanic 2, Grand Forks District shop, was born and took his apprenticeship in the city of Oberhausen, West Germany. He arrived in Canada in 1958 in Regina, Sask., where he worked for about seven years, then he went to Edmonton for three years, and construction in the Northwest Territories for another six years. Walter began with Highways as a welder in 1974 and is presently a Mechanic 3 welder. He enjoys fishing, soccer, working around his home, and most sports.

GEORGE BELL, Yardman, Williams Lake District's longest service employee, started in Nanaimo in 1959, moving to Williams Lake in 1955. During his service in Williams Lake he has been a Machine Operator and a Signman. In 1967, George was given the Yardman position for health reasons. George has four children, enjoys travelling, and is an avid CB radio buff.

BARRY PATTERSON has been with Highways for one year and is Property Negotiator 2 for Region 2 at Kamloops. Barry worked in Calgary as a fee appraiser before coming to Kamloops. He is married and enjoys golfing, reading, and hiking.

LLOYD HAVENS, Machine Operator 3 with Highways in Burns Lake since 1956. Lloyd is temporary road foreman for the summer and shift foreman during the winter months. He is married and enjoys the lakes district area opportunities to hunt and fish.

JOHN LEGRABOFF, Mechanic 3 in the Grand Forks Highways District, began with the Ministry of Highways in 1952. His hobbies include fishing, hunting, curling, gardening, and landscaping.

ETHEL EVENESHEN, is a Clerk 3- Timekeeper and has been in the Burns Lake District office since 1975. Ethel's extra curricular activities include curling, camping, and schotfisching. She is married to local fire chief and she has two teenage children.

DAVID L. SWOBODA is currently Apprentice Mechanic in the Fernie District shop and hails from Merritt. Dave is single and enjoys skiing, hunting, and fishing.

RAYMOND CHAMBERLAIN, Office Manager, Equipment Branch, received his 35-year service award and gold watch in December 1978. He began his service as Junior Clerk with Public Works in 1943, shortly after he transferred to the Accounts Branch. He then worked in Pouce Coupe and Kamloops as Office Manager Trainee, and became Office Manager in Penticton in 1948. He moved to Victoria that year and was subsequently appointed Office Manager of the Equipment Branch. Ray is an ardent fisherman and golfer.

MARY JEAN GRANT, Office Manager, Construction Branch, received her 35-year service award and gold watch in December 1978. She began her Government service in 1943 with Public Works and worked as a Typist, Bookkeeping Machine Operator, Clerk-Stenographer, Clerk, and was promoted to Intermediate Clerk 2 in 1952. In 1957 she was reclassified to Senior Clerk and transferred to Highways. She was reclassified to Clerk 5 in 1968, and Clerk 6 in 1970. She was promoted to her present position in 1978.

EARL KLINE, Mechanical Foreman, Creston Highway District, received his 35-year service award in December 1978. Earl began work with Highways in the Nelson shop as a Mechanic Helper in 1943. In 1949 he was transferred to Creston, the district's only mechanic, later that year he was given a helper. After 16 years in the old district shop, both shop and yard crews moved into new quarters in 1965. During his years as Mechanic Foreman, all in Creston, he has seen district equipment increase from 12 to 63 units. There are now 11 employees in his shop. Earl's many interests include square dancing.

KENNETH B. CHARTERS, Mechanic in the Burnside District, retired in September 1978 after 35 years of service, all of it in the Burnside District. He was highly regarded by his supervisors and fellow workers. In December 1978, Barney received his 35-year service award and gold watch.
ABOUT PEOPLE . . .

DON KING arrived in Burns Lake from Fort St. John last August as an Engineering Assistant. Don and his wife, Edith, are settling into Burns Lake and Don is looking forward to the golf season.

ALEX ALLAN, Technician, Landscape Maintenance Section, Victoria. Alex came to Victoria from Glasgow, Scotland, in 1964. After a short spell at a Victoria shipyard, Alex started with Public Works in 1966 and commenced with the Ministry in April 1978. He is married with two children. His main interests are soccer and reading.

BOB WILLIAMS, Assistant Foreman at Cassidy in the Nanaimo Highway District. Bob began with Highways 24 years ago. He is married and has three daughters. His hobbies are farming and fishing.

JOHN HENSTOCK, Machine Operator 1, Nanaimo Highway District, has been with Highways for seven years. He is married with three children.

BRUCE NIXON, Machine Operator 7, Lake Cowichan, Nanaimo Highway District, has been with Highways for six years. He is married with three sons. His hobbies are hunting, fishing, and other outdoor activities.

VERN HUNTER, Machine Operator 3 at Cassidy in the Nanaimo Highway District. He has been with Highways for seven years. He is married and has two children. Vern has been Shop Steward for six and a half years. He enjoys skiing and stock-car racing.

ALBERT EVANS, Road Foreman at Cassidy in the Nanaimo Highway District, has been with Highways for 19 years. He is married and has three daughters. He enjoys fishing and camping.
BRENDA NOVAK, Clerk-Stenographer 3, began working for Highways in September 1978 as Secretary to the Property Services Branch in Victoria. She was previously with the Public Service Commission and the Ministry of the Attorney-General. Brenda is the single parent of a 14-year-old adopted child, Sean.

CHRIS McCOLL, Machine Operator 3 at Cassidy in the Nanaimo Highway District, has been with Highways for five years and is recently married. He was a winner in the 1978 Track "Roadee" held in Cassidy. He enjoys all outdoor activities and is an avid skier.

CORRIE TEN BOHMER, Stenographer, is a recent addition to the Fort St. John District office. She is a newcomer to Fort St. John, formerly living in Calgary where she worked for Transport Canada. She has an 18-month-old son and enjoys music, writing, good movies.

MIKE MAGLIO, District Office Manager, Golden District, recently left the Ministry to join the Auditor-General's office, Victoria. Mike commenced work with the Highways as a Timekeeper Clerk for six years, went to work for the Forest Service for a year and a half and then returned to the Highways in Golden as the District Office Manager.

The Ferry District, Courtenay, began as a separate administration on April 1, 1978, and moved from the Courtenay District office to its present address, 554 Fifth Street, Courtenay, in November 1978. There are 425 employees in the district which encompasses all Highways ferries which operate on Vancouver Island from Thetis Island in the south to Alert Bay in the north. The Ferry District Manager and office employees are shown below, missing is recently appointed employee, Marie Scarfe, Timekeeper.

PETER D. HUGHES has been appointed District Ferries Manager for Region 6 in Courtenay and was previously Senior Captain of the Denman Island Ferry. Peter was born in Whitehorse. He has worked for the Ministry since 1972. Prior to working with the Ministry Peter and his wife and two daughters lived in Chemainus where he worked for a towing company. He is an avid baseball fan and can be found enjoying the B.C. Lions at spring training camp.

JOANNE DAVIS, Clerk 3 Timekeeper, Courtenay Ferries District, has been with Highways off and on for 11 years. Joanne and her family live in Cumberland and enjoy camping, fishing, and exploring all parts of Vancouver Island.

JEAN GADSDEN, Clerk 4 Timekeeper, Courtenay Ferries District. Jean has been with the Government since 1965 starting out in Port Alberni and joining the Highways in 1975. Jean is known throughout the Province for solving timekeeping problems. She enjoys riding her bike everywhere. Jean and her husband live in Courtenay and enjoy travelling.

COLLEEN DAWSON, Clerk 3 Timekeeper, Courtenay Ferries District in September 1978 moving from Nanaimo with her new husband. Previously she worked for BCBC. Colleen's hobbies include finishing their newly built home, sewing, and cooking.

PETER V. EPP, chairman of the safety committee and acting Driving Trainer in the Williams Lake Highway District. Peter rejoined Highways two years ago as a member of the bridge crew and spent considerable time in the carpenter shop. In 1978 he became Driver Trainer and his short term aim was to improve operators. His efforts appear to be successful. Peter is married with three children. His hobbies are hunting, fishing, and cross-country skiing.

CAPTAIN T. E. "ED" ASHE, is the Senior Ferry Captain on the Omineca Princess. Ed, who lives with his family at Southbank, has been crossing François Lake for the past 11 years. His imposing (Peter Ustinov look-alike?) appearance makes him an easily recognizable figure in the Burns Lake area.
ABOUT PEOPLE . . .

BARRY LANGELOO has joined Transportation's Engineering Branch as Pipeline Technician, a newly created position. Born and raised in Holland, Barry came to Canada in 1958. He worked as a surveyor and inspector on highways construction projects in British Columbia for both Provincial and Federal Governments, as a professional staff member of Boy Scouts of Canada, and until 1979 was employed with Westcoast Transmission where he headed up a topographical section and was involved in much of the preliminary field location and design of high-pressure gas pipelines built by Westcoast over the past eight years. Barry is a graduate of UBC in business management and in May of this year will have completed an industrial management course at BCIT in natural gas and petroleum engineering. He has also applied for certification with the Society of Engineering Technologists of British Columbia. In his new duties, Barry will review and process high-pressure pipeline submissions, ensure compliance with the Pipelines Act and codes, and maintain associated records. Married with three children, he enjoys hiking, camping, skiing, and stamp-collecting in his off-hours.

CAROLYN REED is Clerk-Stenographer 3, Transportation and Communications, with the Transport Policy Analysis Branch. She joined the Branch in November 1978 and prior to that worked with the Alberta Health Care Insurance Commission as an Executive Secretary. Born in Callas, Maine, Carolyn was educated in Edmonton and is a graduate of the Victoria Composite High School there. She is married with one child and enjoys cross-country skiing, bowling, camping, hiking, cycling, and knitting in her spare time.

FLORENCE BALL, Office Assistant, Telecommunications, comes from Wainwright, Alberta, and worked in Calgary before moving to Victoria nine years ago. Before joining the B.C. Government she worked with Federal Manpower, Florence is married with four children, all living in Alberta, and her spare time is taken up with sewing, knitting, skating, and curling.

TOM HAMILTON has joined the Telecommunications Branch as Senior Tramway Inspector for Telecommunications' Engineering Branch. Born in Toronto, Tom was educated at Barrie, Ont., and is a graduate in Computer Technology from Lakehead University. Prior to his new appointment he was working as a consultant to the ski industry specializing in identifying and solving management and operational problems. His previous employer was Horseshoe Valley Ltd., Barrie, Ont., where he held the position of general manager responsible for overseeing six department managers and 150 employees. He is married and besides skiing, enjoys golf, fishing, hiking, and cycling.

ANTHONY (TONY) BENNETT has been appointed Telephone Consultant with the Telecommunications Branch. His job involves the verification, certification, consolidation, and preparation of orders for telephone and associated systems for the various ministries and Crown corporations. Tony comes from the Armed Services where he held the rank of Lieutenant-Commander prior to his new appointment. He is married with four children and is currently working toward a Master's Degree in Public Administration at the University of Victoria. He enjoys fishing and gardening and is presently building a cottage on his property at Wise Island near Victoria.

PAUL SERGEANT is a Clerk 4 with the Vancouver East Motor Licence Office. Born in Eckville, Alta., Paul came to Victoria in 1953 and finished his schooling. He joined the Motor-vehicle Branch Georgia Street office in June 1975, and transferred to the Vancouver East office in April 1976. In his present capacity, he works at one of the ticket sales offices, and issues drivers licences, permits. Married with one child, Paul enjoys music, swimming, and hiking in his spare time.

SHELDON NICKEL, Office Manager, Chilliwack Motor Licence Office, has been appointed Special Programs Supervisor, Driver Exam Section, Motor-vehicle Branch, Victoria. Sheldon will administer three programs—the driver education incentive program, which deals with ICBC rebate for students completing a recognized driver training program; the monitoring of the driving school industry throughout British Columbia; and the driver certification program, designed for large trucking companies and corporations carrying out extensive driver training and evaluation. Prior to becoming Office Manager at Chilliwack in 1974, Sheldon conducted driver exams for nine years and before that was an owner-operator of a service station. He is married with two children and includes woodwork, camping, and fishing among his hobbies.

ALFRED MARCHTALER is Secretary to the Director of the Motor-vehicle Branch, Driver Licence Division. Born in The Pas, Man., Adeline was educated in Victoria. She was an assistant ballet instructor for six years and then taught ballet for two years with the Florence Clough Dance Academy. In the fifties she moved to Vancouver for eight months and then transferred to Victoria, where she worked as a driver examer for 17 years. She came to the Motor-vehicle Branch in November 1976. Adeline is married with four children and enjoys golfing, bowling, gardening, gourmet cooking, and baking.

GORDON RUTHERFORD is Head Stockman with Transportation and Communications. Gordie started out with the Ministry of Education's Textbook Branch as a Stockman 2, 17 years ago. In 1967 he transferred to the Motor-vehicle Branch as a Stockman 3 and was reclassified in 1974 to a Stockman 4. Gordie is responsible for shipping and receiving all supplies, as well as ordering stationary, forms, and uniforms. His outside activities include soccer, bowling, and camping. He has been married for nine years and has two children.
GORDON LLOYD is a Research Officer with the Transportation Policy Analysis Branch. Born and educated in Nanaimo, Gordon attended The University of British Columbia where he graduated in 1974 with a bachelor of commerce degree in transportation studies. Among his many responsibilities are studies concerning the activities of the two national railways in British Columbia, analysis of B.C. Rail, and other companies operating in the Province. Gordon is single, enjoys tennis and floor hockey, and is a sports car buff.

ARNOLD W. CLARK, is Manager of Methods Development and Administration of the Motor-vehicle Branch. Born in Prince Edward Island, Arnold worked in audit and accounting with a national company for a number of years and was a trust officer and relief manager for various eastern branch offices. He has courses in business management, personnel management, accounting, budgeting, computer technology, and data processing. Arnold joined the Motor-vehicle Branch in October 1973, and his current duties involve suspensions, budgets, accounts, refunds, financial responsibility, and methods development. In his off-hours Arnold likes to cook and enjoys curling, skating, swimming, and bowling.

RON RUDD is Office Manager for the Maple Ridge Motor Licence Office. Born and educated in Vancouver, Ron started 20 years ago in the Vancouver Land Registry Office. In 1961 he transferred to the Motor-vehicle Branch Office on Georgia Street. In October 1966, Ron went to Cranbrook as a Driver Examiner 2, moved to Victoria in August 1968, and the following year in May, was transferred to Maple Ridge as Office Manager, where he presently heads a staff of five. His outside activities include bowling, the local air cadet squadron and the Kiwanis Club, of which he is a past president. He is married with four children, two married.

SUSAN PAEGE is an Office Assistant with the Transportation and Communications Transportation Policy Analysis Branch. Born and educated in Edmonton, Alberta, Susan worked five years with Alberta Government Telephones, after which she travelled throughout British Columbia before finally settling down in Victoria. She started with the Government in May 1978. In her off-hours, she likes to work with stained glass, pottery, and she enjoys camping and fishing.

DEBBIE ROBINSON, Office Assistant, Transportation and Communications, Victoria, started out with the Government in June 1978. She has also worked with Crown Counsel, Family Court, and prior to joining Telecommunications worked with the Motor-vehicle Branch. Born in Victoria, Debbie is a graduate of Victoria High School and has taken a clerk-typist-receptionist course at Camosun College. Outside activities include acrylic painting and taking singing lessons (mezzo-soprano) at the Victoria Conservatory.

WAYNE McINTYRE, Office Assistant, Transportation and Communication Administration, studied at Camosun College in Victoria for two years before joining the Government. While at college, Wayne worked with the B.C. Forest Service and also had an unusual job as a chicken catcher with Maplewood Poultry Farm. Wayne was born in Halifax and is a graduate of Esquimalt High School. In his off-hours he enjoys playing softball with the Sidewalk Men’s League, badminton, swimming, tennis, and string art.

GEORGE THACKER, Driver Examiner, Mission, was a Driving School Instructor in Prince Rupert and Terrace before joining the Motor-vehicle Branch in August 1974. Born in Vancouver, George started out as a Driver Examiner in Burnaby, and did stints in Prince George and Prince Rupert before coming to Mission in 1978. He is married with one child and enjoys fishing, camping, cross-country skiing, and travelling.

TINA WALKER, Supervisor of Transportation, Communications Accounts Office, started out with the Motor-vehicle Branch as a Junior Clerk in 1966. In 1971 she went to the Registrar of Companies office and after a year, returned to the Branch as a Clerk 6. Born in Folkstone, Kent, England, Tina spent five years in Africa, where her father, a member of the British Army served in Ghana for two and a half years, and Nairobi, Kenya, for another two and a half years. Tina started school in Nairobi and finished in Victoria when her family moved to Canada in 1957. She graduated from Victoria High School in 1966. Tina is married and has one child. Her outside activities include ladies field hockey, ladies softball, watching hockey on television, and dancing.

JEAN HOOD is a Clerk 3 in Administration, Transportation and Communications, Victoria, but besides that she looks after two sons, is building a new house, and is three credits short of a degree in business administration which she plans to get through night school at Camosun College. Before joining the Government two and a half years ago, Jean was an assistant manager at the Hudson’s Bay Company in Victoria for seven years. In her present position she looks after the computer mailing list, supervises the mail room, and is currently involved in an inventory of all Transportation and Communications office equipment.

MEREDITH MANN, Assistant Supervisor of the Motor-vehicle Branch driver records section in Victoria, knows what it is like to move around. Born in Halifax while her dad was in the navy, Meredith and family moved from Halifax to Ottawa, then to Victoria, back east to Moncton, Shearwater, Halifax, returning to Victoria in 1961. Meredith is an arts graduate of University of Victoria with a German major. She also has a course in computers and is presently taking the correspondence course in public administration. She worked in Economic Development from December 23, 1974, until March 14, 1977, then moved to Motor Vehicles. Meredith is married and enjoys skiing, tennis, jogging, sewing, and reading.
PEEK INTO THE PAST . . .

The Princeton shop crew in 1963, left to right, Ray Dykhuse, Foreman, now Foreman in Courtenay; George Kassa, Mechanic; Lloyd Turner, Mechanic, now retired in Princeton; George Hansen, Apprentice, no longer with Highways; Ike Pleash, Machinist, retired in Princeton; Win Pilling, Welder, retired in Princeton; Lou Schull, Mechanic, now deceased; Lloyd Perplecta, Stockman, now with Forestry.

Scenes from a pick-and-shovel period in the mid-thirties on what is now the Hope-Princeton section of Highway 3. Top left, one large power shovel and two or three hand shovels widen section of the highway near Princeton. Above, snow on the ground at the same period. Only one of three men identified is Andy Pringle on the left, now deceased. Left, man section of the Hope-Princeton is now covered by great depth of mine tailings as road is relocated. Story is that this was known as Sugar Hill Corner because of truck loaded with sugar caught fire and burned there.

A sign in the late 50's located at Tank Creek on the Trans-Canada Highway in the Merritt Highways District, read "Watch for Trolls". Dictionary describes a troll, "as any of a race of supernatural beings, variously conceived of as giants, dwarfs, or Imps living underground or in caves". Maybe the "Imp" was the one who appears to have changed TRUCKS to TROLLS. Or maybe it's just close to Sasquatch country.
This photograph, taken on October 17, 1946, at the launching of the Kootenay Lake ferry, Ansecomb. The launch site was the old CPR ways a short distance upstream from the highway bridge over the Kootenay River at Nelson. Built to replace the sternwheeler, Nasookin, she was christened by Mrs. Herbert Anscomb, the wife of the Minister of Public Works. It took Mrs. Anscomb three attempts to break the traditional bottle of champagne on Ansecomb's bow.

During his speech prior to the launching, Mr. Anscomb stated "In 30 to 40 years this ferry will begin to creak and groan and people will say the Ansecomb has had its day and will see another take her place."

Photographs of the Alberni-Sproat Lake road taken April 22, 1923. A memo accompanying the pictures stated that there were no expenditures on this road except for snowploughing and

Thirty-three years have passed since that remark and Ansecomb is still going strong but it has had two major structural changes. The first was in 1960 when the house work was raised to give more overhead clearance. Then in 1972, Ansecomb was stripped to the car deck, being completely rebuilt with an all steel house work of a different appearance. She was also re-engined at this time and as a result should see many more years of service.

Ansecomb’s launching, on a warm fall day, was witnessed by a large number of public officials, visiting delegates, as well as hundreds of Nelson residents whose boats formed a sizeable flotilla and whose cars jammed the parkway area and filled the streets for blocks around. Ansecomb was put into commission on June 17, 1947.

—Photograph and information by Frank A. Clapp

Photographs of one day’s patching in the City of Alberni raising "approximately $15." The memo was signed, W. V. Beavan.
The Grand Forks District won the annual Region 3 Safety Award with a zero accident frequency; the district also won the Achievement Award for the most improved district. These and other awards were presented at a banquet and dance in Midway on April 6, 1979.

The Merritt Highway District won the annual Region 2 Safety Award with the lowest frequency ever achieved in the region. The awards were presented at a banquet and dance in Merritt on March 23, 1979.

The Region 3 Award for the district with the best vehicular accident record also went to the Grand Forks District. R. E. Johnson, Regional Mechanical Superintendent, holding the award, made the presentation to this representative group of district employees, left to right: G. F. Botsinski, Machine Operator; R. Byhre, Machine Operator; W. G. Helmsing, District Highway Manager; B. Pavran, Bridge Design; R. E. Johnson, J. A. Anderson, L. Hallstrom, B. Hallstrom, Labourers.

D. R. "Roy" McLeod "Memorial Safety Award for lowest personnel accident frequency" is the lowest year-end total ever recorded in Region 2.
Roy Gittins, Regional Highways Engineer, left, presented the Pinning Award for the most improved district to Sam Reid, centre, Bridge Foreman, and Ernie Scott, retired Senior Road Foreman, at the recent safety banquet held in Merritt. This banquet was awarded to Merritt Highways District for lowest personnel accident frequency and for the most improved district.

The New Westminster District was the winner of the Annual Safety Award in Region I. Awards were presented at a banquet and dance in New Westminster on March 16, 1979.

Left to right, Al Walisser, District Highways Manager; Maria Stanish; Walter Dockstader; Corky Johnston; Byron Alexander; P. J. Carr, Executive Director of Operations; Rollie Burton; members of the New Westminster Safety and Health Committee accepting the Annual Achievement Safety Award.

Bob Burnett, left, Regional Property Negotiator and chairman of the regional safety and health committee for Region 2, presented Rick Meidinger, Regional Surveying Engineer, the “Branch Safety Trophy,” for the best branch safety record for 1978.

Bill Leitch, Co-ordinator of Accident Prevention, Public Service Commission, presenting the Good Housekeeping Award to John Bolleman, Technician, Hope District 16, who accepted the award in behalf of the employees in the Hope, Boston Bar, and Allison Pass Foremen areas.

The original Region 1 Safety Award was retired and presented to N. W. Wells, District Highway Manager, Chilliwack, who originated the award in 1964. In making the presentation, P. J. Carr, Executive Director of Operations, right, stated that the Chilliwack District had won the award on five separate occasions.
The annual Region 6 Safety Award for 1978 was won by the Burns Lake District. This award and others were presented at a banquet and dance in the Burns Lake Civic Centre on March 20, 1979.

Les Johnson, left, Chairman of the Saanich District Safety Committee accepts the Annual Region 6 Safety Award for the best safety record in the region from R. G. Harvey, Deputy Minister.

A. E. Rhodes, Assistant Deputy Minister, left, presents the Achievement Award for the most improved district to Don Bryant, Chairman of the Port Alberni Safety Committee, who accepted the award on behalf of the district.

Don Doyle, Region 6 Maintenance Operations Manager, now Regional Highway Engineer in Terrace, left, presents the Good Housekeeping Award to Don Bryant, who accepted the award on behalf of the Port Alberni District.

Gordon Robertson, left, Region 6 Driver Trainer, presents the Safety Award for the lowest vehicle accident frequency to Don Britton, member of the Port Alberni District Safety Committee, who accepted the award on behalf of the Port Alberni District.

Hugh Hollins, left, Region 6 Safety and Health Officer, presents the Award of Distinction to Jerry Blythe, Project Supervisor, who accepted the award on behalf of the paving branch. They won the award with a nil accident frequency rating.

Bud Loveström, Senior Road Foreman, right, for 100 Mile House, presents At Bishop from the Bridge Lake crew with a Gold Safety Certificate for a record of 110,000 man-hours without an accident.

Don Martin, Director of Paving, Headquarters, left, presents the Achievement Award for the most improved district to F. J. R. Martin, Smithers District Highways Manager.
The editors wish to apologize for two errors in the Winter 1978 edition of the Road Runner. On page 8 the photographs of Gordon Watson, Machine Operator, Fort St. John, and Vince Franklin, Stockman in the Dock District, New Westminster, were switched. Gordon's photograph appeared with Vince's write-up at the bottom of the second column and Vince's picture appeared at the top of the third column with Gordon Watson's write-up. Also on page 15 of the same issue a photo and caption covering a Good Housekeeping Award for R. Dyer, Road Foreman, mentioned that he was from Fort St. John. This should have read Fort St. James.

You can now receive an award for wearing your seat belt. Workers' Compensation Board recently came up with what is known as WCB's "Belt Up" Award—a certificate and a belt with a specially designed buckle. The award is given to persons involved in accidents who were protected because they wore seat belts.

Vernon District Highways Manager Pat Dean, left, presents certification to Mechanic 2, Certificate to Brian Hunter, Terran, centre, as Mechanic Foreman Stan Davies observes. Tom began his apprenticeship in Victoria, after six months he went to Terrace for 18 months, and then went to Burns Lake for two years before moving to Vernon. Tom now has a permanent position as Mechanic 2 in the Vernon Shop.

You can now receive an award for wearing your seat belt. Workers' Compensation Board recently came up with what is known as WCB's "Belt Up" Award—a certificate and a belt with a specially designed buckle. The award is given to persons involved in accidents who were protected because they wore seat belts.

The editors wish to apologize for two errors in the Winter 1978 edition of the Road Runner. On page 3 the photographs of Gordon Watson, Machine Operator, Fort St. John, and Vince Franklin, Stockman in the Dock District, New Westminster, were switched. Gordon's photograph appeared with Vince's write-up at the bottom of the second column and Vince's picture appeared at the top of the third column with Gordon Watson's write-up. Also on page 15 of the same issue a photo and caption covering a Good Housekeeping Award for R. Dyer, Road Foreman, mentioned that he was from Fort St. John. This should have read Fort St. James.

You can now receive an award for wearing your seat belt. Workers' Compensation Board recently came up with what is known as WCB's "Belt Up" Award—a certificate and a belt with a specially designed buckle. The award is given to persons involved in accidents who were protected because they wore seat belts.

CORRECTIONS

The editors wish to apologize for two errors in the Winter 1978 edition of the Road Runner. On page 3 the photographs of Gordon Watson, Machine Operator, Fort St. John, and Vince Franklin, Stockman in the Dock District, New Westminster, were switched. Gordon's photograph appeared with Vince's write-up at the bottom of the second column and Vince's picture appeared at the top of the third column with Gordon Watson's write-up. Also on page 15 of the same issue a photo and caption covering a Good Housekeeping Award for R. Dyer, Road Foreman, mentioned that he was from Fort St. John. This should have read Fort St. James.
NAME OF THE GAME IS SAFETY

If the exacting safety procedures and thorough checking carried out on Government aircraft by John Jameson and his staff are any indication, users of the Air Services Branch are in good hands.

The Ministry's Air Services Branch maintenance staff is part of a smooth operation that provides a service second to none in Canada. The personnel have a strong pride in the condition of their aircraft and their attitude is that nothing will compromise safety.

"The standards we go on are basically Ministry of Transport, the manufacturers, and our own. We are inclined to be even more meticulous," says John Jameson, Maintenance Chief.

"Our maintenance requirements and schedules are laid down by the aircraft and component manufacturers. Parts have a limited life and must be inspected or replaced at the varying times laid down by the manufacturers. There are times when these are varied but always to the side of safety with the approval of Transport Canada."

The Branch currently has eight aircraft, including three Cessna Citations, two Beechcraft King Air 200's, one Beaver, an Otter, and a Beechcraft Tradewing. The Beaver is stationed at Kamloops.

The ground staff consists of eight engineers, three storeman, and two labourers. Two of the engineers are ex-air force and the remainder are from industry. Job requirements call for at least three years in the business and a valid engineer's licence.

"The majority of the men have been in the business for seven years or more and their backgrounds vary which is a big help," says John. "This type of experience, together with the turbine and pressurized aircraft programs we have been able to get them through, makes them very well qualified," he adds.

To keep up with the latest technological change, both pilots and engineers have access to an audio-visual library containing slides and tapes sent from the factory which outline procedures for daily inspections, operation of equipment, and just about any phase of flight operations required.

John started with the old Boeing Aircraft Company in the inner harbour of downtown Vancouver where he underwent a four-year apprenticeship. He served in the Army Tank Corp during World War II and in 1946, upon discharge, joined Canadian Pacific Airlines in Edmonton to work in their Yellowknife operation until 1948. He then spent the next two years with Imperial Oil Explorations Department in Calgary. In 1965, John came to work with the Air Surveys Branch and from there to Highways, where he eventually rose to Supervisor of Maintenance.

The Branch operation is up there with the best of them, says John, and that includes corporate flying by oil companies, Ministry of Transport, Ottawa, Ontario Provincial, and anything the prairies have to offer. "As for the Air Ambulance role, I believe we are up to par if not surpassing most of them," he adds.
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Members of the Fort St. John Highways District, “Roadrunners” Hockey Club, recent winners of the Annual Chetwynd Recreational Hockey Tournament held in Chetwynd in February. The team also won this tournament in 1978. This year’s tournament involved teams from Fort St. John, Dawson Creek, Chetwynd, and McKenzie; eight teams who could not dethrone the defending champions. The team has been playing together for three years and has achieved an impressive record. Left to right, front row, Lloyd Helton, Lawrence Harding, Mark Good, Homer Good, Jerry Harvey, and Ben Close. Back row, Al Rattray, John Leahy, Bruce Craig, Dean Davit, John Abbott, Mark Goldback, and Dennis Cullion. Missing from the picture are Kelly Good, Toby Thoveson, Rick Harrison, Robin Sall, and Ron Neilson.

A team from Highways Headquarters won second place out of 57 teams from various ministries and Crown corporations in the annual B.C. Government Employees’ inter-office five-pin bowling tournament held in February in Victoria. The four-member team totalled 3,921 pins for the four-game series. Team members were, top, Cliff Parker, General Office; middle row, left, Bill Baugley, Administrative Assistant and Wally Chamberlain, Financial Services; and below, Shirley Vivian, Personnel.

Forty curlers from Highways Headquarters participated in a bonspiel on March 17, 1979. First place winners were Paul Witzer, skip; Brenda Grant, third; Sheely Allan, second; Corey Scott, lead; second place were Vic Barrett, skip; Shirley Vivian, third; Linda Stringer, second; Carl Robinson, lead; and third place, Gordon Robertson, skip; Rita Fisher, third; Keith Malcolm, second; and Sandra Peters, lead.
New Operations Group Formed as Part of Geotechnical and Materials Branch

The Operations Group of the Geotechnical and Materials Branch has recently been formed to combine the drilling, geophysical, and rockwork section under one new roof. All operations now work out of 3149 Production Way, in the Lake City Industrial Complex on the Lougheed Highway in Burnaby.

Frank J. Morey has moved south from Prince George to take charge as Supervising Geotechnical Engineer, Operations, John D. Austin, Site Investigation Engineer, and Brendan Gordon, Engineering Assistant, have been transferred from Victoria.

Lawrence Keller, Drilling Superintendent; Wayne Soglo, Assistant Drilling Superintendent; Tom Reid, Equipment Foreman; Peter Pringle, Storeman; and Ralph Hayward, Stockman, moved from the old drilling section quarters at Willington Yard to form a strong team. In addition to this nucleus, there are six three-man drill crews based in Burnaby who service the whole Province investigating slides, bridge foundations, proposed subdivision areas, and the whole range of drilling jobs.

Directed by the Geophysical Services Engineer AI Brown, a variety of geophysical surveys are available for geotechnical investigations.

Basic soil and rock properties and bedrock depths have been investigated by seismic methods, supervised by Lorne Johnston since the mid 1960's. Ken Lukawesky is presently the seismic crew chief.

Resistivity operations are supervised by Ted LaRose, a veteran of 20 years in geophysical exploration, aided by Rick Conte, resistivity crew chief. Recently developed electromagnetic techniques have proved effective in gravel exploration and soil surveys.

In addition to developing new techniques and instrumentation, Rex Crider handles blast monitoring, vibration studies, and other special projects. Also available are borehole geophysics, shear wave studies, gravity and magnetic surveys.

In the draughting office, Judy Hutchins is a capable member of the group.

The Rockwork Investigations Section is composed of Barry Eastman, Rockwork Engineer; Cameron Scott, Assistant Rockwork Engineer; Bill Richards, Rockwork Technician; and Doug Wright, Rockwork Assistant. Barry and Cam assess problems and recommend corrective measures for the maintenance of rock slopes throughout the Province. For this they get assistance from Bill, who has had vast practical experience in setting up and supervising major projects such as Hells Gate in the Fraser Canyon. Doug maintains the slope monitoring studies in addition to his duties of assessing stability problems and co-ordinating the activities of the headquarters rock-scaling crew. The latter crew, under foreman Jack Rupert, are on the move constantly, keeping the highways clear of falling rock by hand-scaling, drilling, and blasting, and by the installation of protective screening and rock-bolting.

New arrivals are Pat Rieck who arrived to help set up the office organization assisted by Brendan Gordon. Also new is Debbie Pombert from the Region I office who is taking over receptionist and general office duties from Pat.

Extensive travel by the drill crews made it impossible to get photographs of all Diamond Drill Foremen; missing are Ed Budzko, Walter Johnson, Paul Roch, and Scaling Foreman Jack Rupert.
MESSAGE CENTRE
Traffic Volume Increases

The volume of traffic handled last year by the Government Message Network in British Columbia increased by 32 per cent according to a Telecommunications Branch report.

In 1978 the total had risen to over 7.8 million words for a monthly average of 652,935, which compares to over 5.6 million words in 1977, for an average of 474,085 per month. In addition, 5,330 documents involving graphics, handwriting, and alphanumeric information were handled by the facsimile network currently connecting eight locations in British Columbia.

Machine rental, traffic toll charges, plus salaries of Message Centre and field staffs amount to approximately $166,000 or 2.1 cents per word handled. (A telegram sent via CN/CP Tel costs 16 cents per word full rate and 8 cents per word for night letter.)

Telecommunications Consultant Bill Krogel, who is in charge of the Network, commented that a well thought out message eliminates the redundant and irrelevant comments always evident in a telephone conversation, plus the fact that the sender and recipient both have an accurate "hard copy" of what was said.

"Even though the over-all volume of traffic continues to grow," he added, "there is still a great deal of available network capacity."

Motor Licence Office for the Birds

Art Duncan, Driver Examiner at Maple Ridge, heard some unusual air brake sounds when he went to the parking-lot recently to do a test on a Class 3 vehicle.

It took a little time to determine why he heard chirping instead of hissing.

On the lot looking lost and forlorn was a blue budgie which allowed Art to gingerly pick it up and carry it to the staff lunch-room where employees cleaned out their coffee money to buy a box of bird seed.

"The consumption of food didn't stop there," reports Art, "he was trying to eat my lunch." At any rate the staff cared for the budgie for a day and a half before Edith Forster, Clerk 3, took it home.

At last report an ad had been placed in the lost and found column in the Maple Ridge Gazette which did a write-up along with a picture.

Vancouver East Motor Licence Office Staff
Warm Hearts and Cool Tempers With Free Coffee

The staff at Vancouver East Motor Licence Office did not have to provide free coffee for the long line-ups of people recently waiting for licence-plates but they did anyway—out of their own pockets.

With 10 wickets and two coffee pots going full perk, it worked out to between 150 and 200 cups, with coffee, sugar, cream, and disposable cups all paid for out the employee's coffee fund in an effort to ease the long wait created by the last-minute licence rush. Not only that but employees shortened their own coffee and lunch breaks to handle the crowds.

We understand that employees in other offices also cut back on lunch and coffee breaks to better serve the public.

SHERIFFS RECEIVE RADIOS

It can be rather lonely and dangerous for a Deputy Sheriff travelling from Vanderhoof to Vancouver with a van load of prisoners and no radio contact, but not any more, thanks to the Ministry's Telecommunications Branch.

Recently, Deputy Sheriffs in 17 communities throughout British Columbia were supplied with radio base stations and there are now more communities slated to have them installed shortly. This means that a Sheriff can now be in touch with his office at all times by car radio and once beyond the 70-mile radio range, he can resort to B.C. Tel's MobilTel which enables him to contact Sheriff's offices on a normal B.C. Tel channel until within range again.

All equipment was supplied, paid for, and installed by the Telecommunications Branch which will also service them.
ON THE JOB...

A truck and camper crossing the Aero bridge recently constructed by B.C. Hydro over the Columbia River just north of Revelstoke on the Mica access detour road. Note construction, four Bailey spans supported on floating pontoons which are held against the river current by anchored cables.

Films and actual construction were used in the course of an Acrow Panel Bridge Seminar held March 20 in Cloverdale to give Region 1 officials and bridge crews an insight into the parts and construction of this new type of bridge.

Recently the Highways ferry MV Omineca Princess was used as a cable layer for B.C. Tel. The joint operation was a complete success and the 4-km cable laying across François Lake was completed in less than a day.

Near completion is the new loco Overhead structure on the Barnet Highway, New Westminster District. This forms the eastbound twin crossing of the CP Rail through Port Moody. The existing structure, seen to the right, was constructed in 1951. This was a more direct route compared with the old Dewdney Trunk wagon road.

The Ellison Overhead, north of Kelowna, is presently being widened by a contractor to accommodate the recent four-laning of Highway 97. The work is proceeding under the direction of Bridge Branch Project Supervisor A. A. Talbot.
Under the direction of Bill Hucal, temporary Road Foreman, the Salmon Arm District dusting crew is preparing the right-of-way on Eagle Bay road for future road improvements. With the good weather conditions in early spring the crew covered a lot of ground but took time out for this picture. Left to right, Bill Hucal, Jason Rogers, Mylza Kentel, Bruce Halverson, Ken Hubbe, Don Jacobson, and Sandy Mowers.

Merritt Highways District bridge crew installing a 7′6″ × 12′9″ × 8′ multiplate culvert to be used as a cattle underpass by Douglas Lake Ranch.

Mild temperatures and damp conditions brought down numerous avalanches in the Province and Fernie was not excluded. February 13, this slide 25 km west of Fernie stopped within a few metres of the Southern Trans-Provincial Highway at Morrissey. Huge avalanche winds constructed at the base of the slide by Ministry equipment in previous years had a considerable effect in restricting the movement of the slide.

Quoita Queen II is guided into dock at Campbell River with Capt. Ian G. Scott at the wheel. The vessel makes daily runs between Campbell River and Quadra Island. Capt. Scott has been skipper of this ferry since 1959 and was previously with B.C. Ferries. Also in the wheelhouse is auxiliary deckhand Bill Sanders.

Left to right, Menno Schmidt and Dave Horn, Highways electrical crew, who look after the signal installations throughout the Okanagan Valley and operate out of the Vernon District.

The Kelowna District bridge crew get a chance to try out its new truck while building a bridge over Trout Creek on the Princeton-Summerland Road. Shown here with the new truck is, left to right, N. Neilson, Bridgeeman; H. Wiens, Bridgeeman; and A. Mazarak, Labourer.
The Elko sand pit, Fernie District, has salt stored in this fabricate structure made of laminated 2 x 4's. It holds one and a half ear loads of salt and it is 12' wide, 14' long, and 10'1/2' high. Note the old flex-beam guardrail which have been utilized as a retaining wall. The interior is shaped like a funnel for ease in discharging salt through opening in bottom. Long periods of salt storage are avoided because caking of the material makes for poor distribution into the trucks.

ON THE JOB

John Bolleman, District Technician and Avalanche Co-ordinator at Hope, makes periodic trips by helicopter to various sites on the Coquihalla route to take snow samples and readings from precipitation gauges and hydrothermographs which record temperature and humidity. Top, John Bolleman, left, and Allan McDonald, right, weigh the snow sampling tube with the help of the helicopter pilot, Fred Fawdrich, at Boston Bar Creek, Site 266. Above, Allan McDonald reads the precipitation gauge at the same site.

Highways snow blower working in the Sutton Pass area of Highway 4 west of Port Alberni in the Alberni Highway District. This 5-km mountain pass is the gateway to Pacific Rim National Park and receives 600 cm of snow annually with an elevation of 175 m.

The Westbank patching crew, Kelowna Highway District, placing skin patch on Route 97 near Summerland. Left to right, L. Bevan, Labourer; Ronn Barker, Road Maintenance Foreman; and Kent Coburn, Machine Operator 3, shovelling asphalt from the truck.

Vernon District sign crew putting up the final signs on the newly widened Highway 6 into Vernon. Left to right, Les Johnson, Ray Bastion, and Roy "Dooley" Gregoire.
Ajter Williams Lake District was transferred to Region 4, the Regional Mechanical Superintendent, Geoff Warrington, made a familiarization trip through the district. Shown in the Bella Coola area, left to right, Geoff Warrington; Edwin Gordon; Bill Telford, Senior Road Foreman; and Cliff Dodge, Mechanical Foreman. The Cat was being used for construction on Highway 20.

A typical winter work scene in the Southbank country, across Francois Lake, Burns Lake District.

Oscar V. Arndt, Construction and Maintenance Foreman, Dawson Creek Highways District, on the job clearing a frozen culvert along the boundary road which provides access to the Grizzly Valley gas field and the NE Coal Reserves.

Cranbrook Highways District rebuilding Sheep Creek bridge three spans. Lowbed is stopped on the old bridge and the new bridge structure is on the right. Cranbrook bridge crew in foreground, left to right: Lynn Beaton, Bridge Labourer; Brian Merrick, Bridgemen 3; and Dominic Angelozzi, Bridge Labourer. H-piling were driven by Cranbrook bridge crew to form abutments. Job was under supervision of Mike Magus, Regional Bridge Engineer, and Albert Connah, Bridge Foreman.

After Williams Lake District was transferred to Region 4, the Regional Mechanical Superintendent, Geoff Warrington, made a familiarization trip through the district. Shown in the Bella Coola area, left to right, Geoff Warrington; Edwin Gordon; Bill Telford, Senior Road Foreman; and Cliff Dodge, Mechanical Foreman. The Cat was being used for construction on Highway 20.

A view of Golden Highway District front-end plough and tailgate sander racks recently fabricated by the district shop and road crew. Hanging at a balance point, the units can be mounted onto a truck by one man. In addition, a covering metal roof will be constructed to eliminate ice and snow build-up under vehicles' front wheels.

NEW ACCIDENT FORM PAYS OFF

The new Motor-vehicle Accident Reporting Form, in operation for two years, is "the greatest thing since sliced bread," according to Steve Green, Traffic Analyst with the Motor-vehicle Branch. "The police are pleased, the Motor-vehicle Branch is happy, and the various ministries receiving computer data have never had it so good," says Steve.

It started in 1974 when the Superintendent of Motor-vehicles asked Steve to come up with a new system that could be computerized, would provide more accident data and be faster than the old system in which the driver completed the report and the production of summary statistics by manual procedures was always three or four months late.

Steve canvassed other jurisdictions across North America and different parts of Europe and finally decided on a system similar to that of New York—a revolutionary style at the time. "We copied their form and went a few steps beyond, adding other functional items," he said.

Today, instead of motorists filling in the forms, police in 143 law enforcement agencies perform this function and then forward them to the Motor-vehicle Branch where they are checked for accuracy before being passed to the B.C. Systems Corporation for keypunching on computer.

The data, once tabulated, has many applications. The Ministry of Health uses statistics on seat belts; the Emergency Services Commission requires statistics to find where ambulances should be; parks and outdoor recreation department of the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing, checks the location of snowmobiles, four-wheel drive vehicles, all-terrain vehicles, and other off-highway vehicles and carries out studies on animals and their impact on traffic accidents; the Ministry of Attorney-General uses it for their "Counterattack Program" to determine alcohol involved traffic accidents; Weight Scale Branch extracts accident data involving heavy commercial vehicles, and the Motor-vehicle Branch checks data on accident damaged school buses for inspection purposes as well as volatile fuels, radioactive materials, chemicals, and infectious samples.

Steve Green, standing, checks over some of the forms with his staff prior to forwarding them to computer.

It is more of an operation system as opposed to a statistical gathering system," notes Steve. "We can take it on a daily basis and extract high-risk drivers that are getting into problems and taking appropriate action. There is also a police data package which automatically returns data back to the police on a monthly basis telling them where the problems are, what vehicles are getting involved, what is causing the accidents, where they are located and at what times."

Steve says his group works closely with Highways and has 60 per cent of British Columbia on a location system so they can pinpoint any specific accident within 50 metres of the occurrence. This is important in the determination of whether something is wrong with the road. There is also an automatic output to the Highways Safety Branch which is concerned with Government vehicles involved in accidents.

There are now four other provinces in Canada which have adopted a similar system—Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Quebec.

PHONE FILING SYSTEM STREAMLINED

When your telephone bill is $1 million a month you need a fast and efficient filing system, it was decided by the Telecommunications Branch which pays B.C. Tel for the use of 7,000 Government telephone lines.

Recently the Branch changed from a card filing system to a rapid reference, colour coded, open shelf system, featuring faster retrieval and filing capabilities all accomplished by a multi-coloured label designed by a Toronto firm. A clerk, for example, requiring a specific file can see the file as he or she walks toward it.

Under the old system, cards were filed by telephone number and each card contained the file number of orders on one side and an inventory of maintenance on the other for that particular telephone. Completed orders to the telephone company were all filed geographically by town or village with the exception of Victoria which was filed by ministry.

With the new system, each Government telephone number in the Province will have its own file folder containing a complete inventory of equipment charged against that number as well as a history of service associated with the number from the time it was installed. If there is more than one number at one address, the files will be cross-referenced. The change should speed up the paper flow by simplifying the process of determining that charges are correct.

The changeover also ties in with a new billing system recently introduced by B.C. Tel which will include a separate printout for each telephone number showing current equipment inventory, as well as a record of long distance calls made from that number during the previous month.

HISTORICAL SKETCH—In 1959 the Department of Commercial Transport was established, incorporating the former Railway Department, the weigh-scale section of the Highways Department, and the commercial section of the Motor Vehicle Branch, then under the Attorney-General. Among the Acts administered were Railway Act, Pipe-lines Act, Industrial Transportation Act and Mines Rights-of-way Act. In 1973 a Minister of Transport and Communications was established by Order in Council and the Legislature passed a Department of Transport and Communications Act. This act transferred to the new Department the Motor-vehicle Branch from the Attorney-General, data processing from Industrial Development, aircraft operations from Highways, and Lands and Forests; telecommunications service from Public Works, Motor Carrier Branch from the Public Utilities Commission and B.C. Ferries from Highways. In October, 1976 all "Departments" became "Ministries" and Energy was added to Transport and Communications. At the same time air services went to the Provincial Secretary and Computer and Consulting Services transferred to Finance. B.C. Ferries became a Crown Corporation January 1977. In December 1977 air services was returned to Energy, Transport and Communications and then in December, 1978 the latter was amalgamated with Highways to form the present Ministry of Transportation, Communications and Highways under Alex V. Fraser.
MISCELLANY

Friends and co-workers of PETER BAKER were saddened by the news of his sudden death on December 22, 1978. Peter, 47, began in the Peace River area in 1963 and after having worked in various locations, including Prince Rupert District, he was promoted to Technician 2, Training and Safety Branch in Victoria. Peter is survived by his wife, Gillian, and three children.

DAVE REDDICOPP, Mechanic in the Vanderhoof District since 1965, died suddenly on April 17, 1979. He is survived by his wife and three children.
Highway Crew
Move Petroglyph Boulder

This petroglyph boulder originally located at Fulford Harbour has been recovered by the Provincial Government nearly two and a half years after it was removed by a local resident and placed on his own land. It was moved by Highway crews to the Ministry yard until a more permanent location can be found. Removal by the resident contravened the Archaeological and Historical Sites Protection Act.

A writ was served and access for removal of the boulder was gained by staff of the Provincial Archaeologist's office who were assisted by the Conservation Division of the British Columbia Provincial Museum and the Ministry of Transportation, Communications and Highways at Ganges.

This team operation carried out by the Highways crew proved to be one of precision and timing in moving the 4-ton rock and careful handling to protect the soft sandstone surface of the large boulder, 5 feet in diameter.

Left to right, Herb Winfield, Ken Stevens, and Frank Keopple.

Russ Broughton, right, Mechanic Foreman of the Rossland District shop, discussing with L. E. Craft, Mechanic Foreman from Langford, the benefits derived from modification to underbody truck ploughs. Russ and his capable crew developed a rolled quarter-inch plate molded and welded to the underbody plough in such a manner that snow coming off the blade is thrown clear of the shoulders and over the post guardrail. This modification is equally effective with dry or wet snow. The Rossland District has now sought permission to modify all underbody ploughs since the past three winters have proven it very beneficial.

Space Age Technology
at the Intersection

With increased road widths and traffic volumes, the days of the simple traffic controller are numbered. New vehicle traffic control equipment is the latest in microprocessor controlled solid state devices, space age technology at the intersection, with the new equipment comes new servicing problems and procedures. To master these new techniques, Traffic Engineering Branch puts on its seminar in Victoria.

Electrical staffs from all regions were represented in Victoria for three full days of theory and practical hands-on-experience. The seminar was held in Traffic Branch Victoria shop under the watchful eye of Dave Donaldson. The boys from the shop, Dave Trodd, Larry Cuthbert, Paul Nirwan, and Graham Murray demonstrated the equipment and assisted in the training, which consisted of two days of wiring controllers, testing, and troubleshooting.

A technical session was held on Thursday with guest speakers Stan Wiseman, Purchasing Commission; Mike McSorley, Audio-electronics, Victoria; and talks by Herb Coupe, Director of Traffic Engineering; Steve Lohr, Alex Ferguson, Neil Vickers, and Trev Bagot.

Region 2 electrical crew, left to right, J. Foley, C. Haack, and D. Hall, Regional Electrical Foreman.

Region 3 electrical crew, left to right, Dave May, Bruce Tall, B. Smith, and D. Johnston, Regional Electrical Foreman.