



The names they are achanging

GANG Gang, multi-faceted creature that he is, hits a hockey ball around a field each Saturday. To say that he actually plays hockey might be drawing the bow a little but he does make the side.

And it's the side he wants to talk about. Once Gang Gang used to have sporting colleagues with names like Ponsonby, Smythe, Tange, Russell-Clarke (yes, that one!) Now he shares the field with Agius, Camilleri and Jorritsma.

All of which leads to Dr Gio Andreoni, the University of New England's senior lecturer in Italian.

There is, the doctor says, "Australianness", a language written and spoken in Australia every day by people learning to be Australian but loving to be Italian. "... it is a way to cope with Australia while retaining an Italian identity", Dr Andreoni says.

He points to the word 'pizza' as an example. Pineapple and ham pizza never saw the inside of a Neapolitan pizza house, nor did a prawn pizza. But they have found their way into usage in this country. There are more examples, connected mainly with the tobacco-growing industry and sugarcane industry.

Gang Gang also travels a lot. Recently he was in Melbourne, his home town, and drank coffee in a Carlton cafe early one Saturday morning. The dear doctor is right — drinking coffee all around were young, probably second-generation Italo-Australians, plainly proud of their Australianness (discussing the footie and the races) but still fiercely Italian (tactile, noisy, emotional, extrovert).

They knew what the doctor meant. The country is much the better for them and their ilk.

PAYSLIP SLIP-UP

FOR a few hundred public servants in Canberra there was an unaccustomed addition to their pay packets yesterday — a small cheque for around \$2 or \$2.50, depending on their circumstances.

The circumstances were that they were members of the Administrative and Clerical Officers Association, or the Australian Public Service Association, employed in a small corner of the Defence Department and in the ACT Schools Authority, whose union dues had not been deducted from their pay in pursuance of the Government's decision to chastise those unions for maintaining bans on various activities last month.

Other members of the two unions received their normal pay packets, slightly expanded by the dues the Department of Finance is no longer deducting.

But in the two corners of the bureaucracy mentioned, the deductions were made as usual, and Finance decided the best way to set matters right was to pay back immediately the money deducted.

The slip-up at Defence, which apparently affected about 200 staff members, was ascribed by a senior Finance man to "a reshuffle of pay centres, which meant a tricky result from the computers".

The Schools Authority situation seems slightly more straightforward. The maintenance of deductions there was discovered when the authorities "took a second look at the list". In other words, the first time around they forgot about it.

IT WAS TOO A FRIENDSHIP

READERS who observed our Page 1 item yesterday about a TAA Fokker Friendship which went out from Brisbane on Tuesday to escort in a crop-duster pilot anxious about his fuel pressure and who heard the ABC news report attributing the "rescue" to an F111 may have been just as confused as we were, as TAA was and as the RAAF was too.

From what we can gather the confusion arose in the mind of a Brisbane journalist who was told that an F27 (airline jargon for the Friendship) had gone out on the mission.

Say it fast enough on a telephone and F27 could come out F111 except that TAA does not fly them. Nor does the RAAF fly the F27.

OUR READERS RESPONDED

THE Indo-China Refugees Association rang Gang Gang to tell us we get results. The small par about storage facilities — the lack of them for the organisation — brought nice response and the fridges, gas stoves, et al given for incoming refugees now have places to be put.

GET 'MONEYWISE': IT'S SIMPLE

YOU might call it a survival kit for our times.

It's a small, buff publication, 'Moneywise — a Guide to Personal Finance', produced by Brendan Pentony from the James Cook University of North Queensland. Mr Pentony is not one to obfuscate. Simplicity is his keynote.

Take, for instance, this thought: "In the current state of the economy it is

SIGNS OF NCDC MAN



The footpath outside the YMCA in London Circuit, and photographer Gerrit Fokkema's view of what he called the footprints of NCDC man. What story lies behind the phantom marks in the concrete? Did a beast stalk the highways of Civic? Will future generations see the steps as part of a mystic rite? Will von Daniken visit Canberra to discover the true source of Stonehenge?

THRILLING MISPRINT

LONG-standing custom would normally decree that we would have drawn attention to this item from John Jessor's travel-page piece last Monday under the "Correction" heading.

This may not have been appropriate, however, except to say that the reporter did not add the "s" to the second word.

A strip in one of the older Bangkok taxis is good value in terms of cheap thrills.

There may be those who would agree with either version.

LET HIM WHO IS WITHOUT SIN . . .

FIRMLY into the "do as we say, not as we do" camp this week went the Australian Federation of Travel Agents.

The federation president, John Webb, fired not a few shafts at the Government over its lack of understanding of the problems of the Australian tourist industry, but managed somehow to overlook that his 1,200-strong annual convention was being held in Manila.

Moths in the limelight



Sharon Humphries, left, Yvonne Manderville, Christy Pintaric, Karen Fuller and Eija Sutinen in a scene from 'The Insect Comedy' at Stirling College. The girls are playing moths.

IN BRIEF

Report backs free trade

AUCKLAND, Wednesday (AAP) — A report published today suggests that New Zealand and Australia should work towards setting up an unrestricted free-trade area.

"The changing world economic climate dictates that action is now urgently required", the report, prepared by the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research, says.

It notes that the New Zealand-Australia Free Trade Agreement is not a vehicle for closer economic integration.

WELLINGTON, Wednesday (AAP) — The New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr Muldoon, said tonight there was no guarantee at this stage that New Zealand would go ahead with proposals for closer economic and trade links with Australia.

"We're investigating it", he said. "There's no guarantee that we'll go ahead with it. But it's worth investigating."

Inquiry stopped

MELBOURNE: The Australian Broadcasting Tribunal stopped yesterday an inquiry involving Victorian community radio station 3CR after the withdrawal of complaints by the Victorian Jewish Board of Deputies.

The board had said some of the station's programs were anti-semitic. But groups affiliated with 3CR now have approved alterations to the station's internal broadcasting guidelines.

President's son

President Carter's eldest son, Jack, 32, and his wife, Judy, 29, arrived in Canberra yesterday on a private three-day visit before their week-long stay in Melbourne for a community education conference.

Mrs Carter will speak at the conference which has been organised by the International Community Education Association.

Georges jailed

BRISBANE: Senator Georges (Lab, Qld) was jailed in Brisbane yesterday for eight days for refusing to pay two \$25 fines for being in last month's illegal street march to protest against the Queensland Government.

OTC charges

The Overseas Telecommunications Commission announced yesterday that from August 31 basic telephone charges to Nauru would fall 25c a minute to \$1.25 and that a new "call a number" system would cost \$3.75 for the first three minutes.

Record buy

SYDNEY: Stanley Gibbons International, the stamp dealer, has paid more than \$9 million for a single collection of United States postal envelopes from a New York financier. This was 10 times the previous highest price for a single collection, the company said when it announced the purchase in Sydney.

Mayor to stand

DARWIN: The Mayor of Darwin, Dr Ella Stack, has been endorsed by the Country-Liberal Party as a candidate for the next Northern Territory elections, due in August, 1980. She will stand in the suburban seat of Fannie Bay.

Accidents

ACT Police reported 24 road accidents, two of which caused injuries in the 24 hours to 8pm yesterday (15/8).

CORRECTIONS

The appointment of a new Soviet Ambassador to Australia is to be submitted to the Governor-General, not the Governor-General-in-Council, as reported yesterday.

"Whistling in the Dark" will begin at the ANU Arts Centre next Saturday night at 11. It was not on last night, as reported in Timespan yesterday.

INDUSTRIAL NEWS

Government plans law for countering militant workers

MELBOURNE: The Federal Government is preparing legislation to make it easier for employers to take action against militant workers.

The move is being taken to overcome delays caused by procedures required under the Conciliation and Arbitration Act. It will go before Parliament in the Budget session which begins on Tuesday.

The legislation parallels industrial laws adopted by the Federal Government and its authorities which allow them to stand down public servants involved in disputes.

Plans to change the legislation were outlined to employers last week by the Minister for Industrial Relations, Mr Street.

Mr Street intended to tell union leaders too, but they boycotted the meeting of the National Labour Consultative Council in Melbourne in protest against the laws affecting public servants.

The Government is also planning a major overhaul of the Conciliation and Arbitration Act, but is believed to have decided to shelve the changes until after the next session of Parliament.

Officials believe the Act, with thousands of amendments since it was brought down in 1904, has become cumbersome.

The Government is expected to appoint a senior lawyer to study the Act and recommend procedures to streamline it.

Meat workers to meet

A compulsory conference over the dispute involving meat workers at Canberra Abattoir was held in the Conciliation and Arbitration Commission in the ACT yesterday and the results are expected to be put to a meeting of the meat workers this morning.

Officials of the Australian Meat Industry Employees Union and the Confederation of the ACT Industry, acting for the abattoir, attended the conference.

Unionists continued to picket the abattoir yesterday.

The ACT Trades and Labour Council voted last night to hold a meeting on Wednesday to discuss action to have charges dropped against 24 meat workers arrested at the Canberra Abattoir on Tuesday.

The council decided to consider a 24-hour stoppage and a running campaign till the charges were dropped.

The meeting also decided to accept an application by the Hospital Employees Federation of the ACT for affiliation with the TLC.

Mail-run survey among businesses

Canberra businessmen will soon be asked by business organisations whether they need the second morning mail delivery they currently enjoy.

A field manager for Australia Post, Mr Garry Evans, said yesterday that Australia Post was looking at the "economies" of the second delivery of business organisations to do so.

Australian mail was generally reduced to one delivery a day in 1968, but two were retained in the inner-city area of Canberra and all State capitals.

In Canberra the second delivery "goes out" at 11am. Mr Evans said an average of 2,562 letters were received daily by Australia Post for delivery in

this area, of which an average of only 183 went in the second delivery.

Nevertheless the second round took four postmen an average of 1½ hours to cover the area they had covered at 9.30am.

A survey by the staff at the Canberra City Post Office in May prompted the present inquiry, and the survey was part of an economy drive which had been undertaken by Australia Post since it became a commission in 1975 and had "had to break even on expenditure".

Many inner-city businessmen said yesterday that they used boxes at the post office for their mail and some whose mail was delivered said they were unaware of the 11am "drop".

Dine-Out cancels charity contract

Canberra Dine-Out has cancelled its contract with the ACT Society for Physically Handicapped Children.

Dine-Out has been operating in Canberra since 1975. It sells a book of vouchers for \$30 which allows concessions at about 20 restaurants and several cinemas in the ACT.

Publicity for the company has shown in the past that a percentage of the company's profits went to the charity.

The society's president, Mr Harris Boulton, said last night that letters to former members of Dine-Out recently had made no mention of the fact that the contract between the society and the company had been terminated on

May 21, with effect from September 1.

The manager of Canberra Dine-Out, Mr Tony Ingelton, said in Melbourne last night that no final arrangements had been made between the company and charities for fresh contracts.

The contract with the ACT Society for Physically Handicapped Children had been cancelled because of unfavourable publicity the company had received in Melbourne two months ago.

"We thought we were helping this charity in various States but the press publicity in Melbourne suggested we were using them, so we decided to cancel all our contracts", he said. "We will still be helping the society in the ACT but in a different way."

Qld Premier warns PM on taxes

GYMPIE: The Queensland Premier, Mr Bjelke-Petersen, said yesterday, in a renewed attack on the Fraser Government, that it was obvious it had "missed the bus" in predicting the threshold of taxation acceptance by Australians.

"You'd have to be blind Freddy to not know that the cry is going up everywhere that taxes have reached the stage of being beyond what is acceptable", he said.

"When you get to the stage of companies — who should be paying the biggest share of taxes in Australia — going off shore to Singapore and other places, then it's quite clear you've missed the bus."

"They've overtaxed the people to the extent that they've brought about the situation where Australia is losing thousands of millions of dollars a year in taxes because of tax-avoidance schemes."

He conceded that his recent strong criticism of the Fraser Administration over taxation was an echo of similar criticisms he made of the Whitlam Government and of Mr Hayden, now Federal Leader of the Opposition, when he was national Treasurer.

"I did say these things about Whit-

lam and Hayden and their socialistic policies and I'm very sad that I have to say the same things today", Mr Bjelke-Petersen said.

"All I'm trying to do is alert the Prime Minister and the Federal boys in Canberra that all is not well with the Liberal machine down there."

He denied statements by the Federal Treasurer Mr Howard, yesterday that it was up to the Queensland Premier to cut taxes locally instead of asking Canberra to do it, and at the same time asking Canberra for more State finance.

"We're doing everything we can here in Queensland", he said. "We've forced them to abolish gift and death duties, we have the lowest payroll tax in Australia, we've abolished road taxes and we have other items on the move."

"But the areas that really matter to every Australian — personal income tax and private company tax — are Mr Howard's areas and that's what we are arguing about."

"When you're driving out those who should be paying the highest taxes, then it's obvious you've overplayed your hand."

Pragmatism over principle is Premier's success recipe. — Page 12.

Many Civic retailers 'feel poor'

Almost a third of the retailers in Civic consider themselves poor, a study by the Canberra College of Technical and Further Education has found.

The study, by final-year management students, found that 79 per cent of businesses were in a worse financial position than five years ago and 64 per cent worse off than one year ago.

But 90 per cent felt Civic had a future as a major retail outlet and a focal point in Canberra.

Shoppers questioned were not as optimistic. The most popular answer to the question of what would influence them to shop more frequently in Civic was, "Nothing".

Thirty per cent of retailers considered their financial state poor and only 11 per cent considered it good.

1,000 children in helmet show

More than 1,000 schoolchildren from the Woden Valley and Tuggeranong are expected to take part in a safety helmets for cyclists promotion at the Torrens Primary School tomorrow morning.

The promotion will begin at 10am. A large procession of cyclists, led by the Minister for the Capital Territory, Mr Elliott, will travel over a 1,000-metre course around the school at 11.40

before the promotion concludes shortly before midday.

A spokesman for the promotion to have cyclists, especially children, wear approved safety helmets, Dr Henry Pang, said last night that nine schools would be involved.

"Friday's event will be filmed as part of a special film that's being made to help popularise bicycle safety helmets", he said.

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