

FREE CATALOGUE FOR

RUBBISH



CLEANING MELBOURNE'S STREETS

EXHIBITION FROM 5 APRIL 2006

RUBBISH GARBAGE, JUNK FILTH, SQUALOR
EXHIBITION DATES 5 APRIL to 24 JUNE 2006

DIRTIER SIDE OF MARVELLOUS MELBOURNE
CITY GALLERY MELBOURNE TOWN HALL SWANSTON STREET MELBOURNE

GALLERY HOURS
MONDAY 10AM - 2PM
TUE TO THU 11AM - 6PM
FRIDAY 10AM - 6.30PM
SATURDAY 10AM - 4PM

CAITLIN STONE EXHIBITION CURATOR

TO THE **EDITOR OF THE ARGUS**

AFTER AN ABSENCE OF ABOUT A YEAR AND A HALF FROM MELBOURNE MANY OF MY FRIENDS ASK ME WITH PRIDE IN THEIR EXPRESSION: **'DO YOU THINK OF THE CHANGE IN MARVELLOUS MELBOURNE?'**

CERTAINLY I SEE WONDERFUL CHANGES, BUT I ALSO SEE MOST UNTIDY HABITS **WITHOUT FEAR OF CONTRADICTION** THAT MELBOURNE AND ITS SUBURBS, TAKEN AS A WHOLE, RIVAL ANYTHING I HAVE SEEN ON THE CONTINENT OR IN GREAT BRITAIN FOR THE CARELESS UNTIDINESS — DIRTY TINS, PAPERS, BROKEN BOTTLES ARE EVERYWHERE

TRAVEL ONE MAY BY TRAMCAR FOR MILES AND NEVER LOSE SIGHT FOR AN INSTANT OF WASTE PAPER...

J. COSMO NEWBURY, ARGUS, 21 JANUARY 1898, 6



A GROUP OF MELBOURNE SCRAVENGERS C. 1890 (CITY OF MELBOURNE ART & HERITAGE COLLECTION)

BROKEN GLASS ~1.44%	COMPOSITION OF MELBOURNE HOUSE GARBAGE AND CHANNEL REFUSE (not including street sweepings) IN 1900	IRON ~33%
CINDERS COKE ~26.55%		BONES ~1.03%
OLD TINS ~1.11%		VEGETABLE MATTER ~13.28%
SCREENINGS, SAND, OR FINE DUST ~42.81%		RAGS ~1.68%
CLINKER, STONES, E.C. ~132%		STRAW OR FIBRE ~1.63%
PAPER ~7.36%		SMOKE INDUSTRIES SUCH AS FROM SMELTING — AS WELL AS FROM DOMESTIC HEATING — THICKENED THE AIR



RATS AT SIXPENCE A HEAD

THE INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES AT BRIGHTON REPORTED TO THE LOCAL COUNCIL ON MONDAY THAT 888 PREMISES **~ had been visited ~**

THERE WERE **THOUSANDS OF RATS** THAT MIGHT AT ANY TIME ENDANGER THE HEALTH OF THE TOWN

721 OF WHICH WERE FOUND CLEAN AND WITH DRAINS IN GOOD ORDER, WHILE **26 WERE WITHOUT DRAINS, 44 HAD DRAINS, AND 79 YARDS HAD ACCUMULATIONS OF RUBBISH...**

AS ONLY 20 HAD BEEN PURCHASED BY THE COUNCIL HE MOVED THAT THE PRICE SHOULD BE **RAISED TO 6D.** ~ per head ~

THE AGE, 9 MAY 1900

AUTO-ELECTOR (MOTOR VEHICLE) ATTENDANT \$40.25 (per week)

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES (MELBOURNE CITY COUNCIL) award, 1968

AUTO-ELECTOR (MOTOR VEHICLE) DRIVER \$46.50 (per week)	FOREMAN \$53.00 (per week)	GARBAGE TRUCK (MOTOR VEHICLE) OTHER \$44.35 (per week)	WATER FLUSHER (MOTOR VEHICLE) DRIVER \$48.00 (per week)
BULLDOZER OPERATOR ~ GARBAGE TIP ~ \$50.20 (per week)	GARBAGE TRUCK (MOTOR VEHICLE) COMPACTION TYPE \$46.85 (per week)	UTILITY TRUCK DRIVER \$41.50 (per week)	EMPLOYEE DISINFECTING PITS AND LANES \$38.70 (per week)
STREET SPRINKLING, SWEEPING AND PICK-UP MACHINE DRIVER \$48.00 (per week)	MUNICIPAL LABOURER \$39.90 (per week)	TIPMAN \$42.30 (per week)	

EXTRACTS FROM THE DIARY OF WILLIAM SEXTON ASSISTANT INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES FOR THE CITY OF MELBOURNE

'TUESDAY, 4 JANUARY 1898: REFUSE EMPTIED ON VACANT LAND EAST SIDE OF 83 NEWRY STREET

COULD NOT FIND WHO DID IT. GAVE NOTE TO DRIVER OF **NO. 44** FOR MR MITCHELL TO HAVE RUBBISH REMOVED'

'MONDAY, 7 FEBRUARY 1898: FOWLS KEPT. YARD DIRTY. CAUTIONED ~ to ~ LIME WASH ~ and ~ REMOVE RUBBISH ~ VERY OFFENSIVE'

THURSDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 1898: CAUTIONED TENANT TO KEEP RECEPTACLES IN YARD AND SEE TO IT THAT DUSTMEN REMOVE REFUSE REGULARLY

TUESDAY, 21 MARCH 1899: REFUSE THROWN FROM RESTAURANT AND OYSTER SHOP OCCUPIED BY LIVINGSTONE 132 SPENCER ST ON LAND ON NORTH SIDE OF PREMISES; ~ MR LIVINGSTONE NOT IN ~

LEFT WORD WITH MRS L TO SEE THAT IT IS PLACED IN RECEPTACLES AND REMOVED THREE TIMES A WEEK

TWO MELBOURNE CITY COUNCIL GARBAGE COLLECTORS, C. 1880



'A FOUL SICKENING STENCH' 15 LOADS WERE DEPOSITED IN IT EVERY DAY, AND A FOUL, SICKENING STENCH AROSE FROM IT, WHILE A STREAM OF FILTH WATER TRICKLED FROM ITS BASE INTO THE MOONEE PONDS CREEK WHICH IS ABOUT 17 YARDS AWAY

AT YESTERDAY'S MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH, INSPECTOR DUNKLEY REPORTED THAT HE HAD VISITED A TIP BELONGING TO THE CITY COUNCIL AND SITUATED WITHIN THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK ~

IT WAS, HE SAID, A DUMPING GROUND FOR THE REFUSE AND GARBAGE OF THE CITY

THE TIP WAS QUITE UNCOVERED WHEN HE INSPECTED IT ON THE 13TH INST., AND HE DID NOT SEE ANY ~ rats about it. ~ BUT THERE WAS LITTLE DOUBT THAT THEY WERE THERE...

IS ALMOST USELESS FOR HOUSEHOLDERS TO CLEAR THEIR PREMISES OF THE VERMIN IF NO PROPER EFFORT IS MADE TO EXTERMINATE THEM ~ at the tips ~

THE AGE, 22 MARCH 1900



BOTTLE-O

'IN EVERY TOWN IN EVERY STREET, JUST LIKE A PLICEMAN ON HIS BEAT, THERE GOES A MAN YOU'RE SURE TO MEET, HE IS THE BOTTLE-O. OF BOTTLES HE CAN'T GET ENOUGH, HIS SACK WITH THEM HE LOVES TO STUFF, AND IN A VOICE THAT'S LOUD AND GRUFF, HE CALLS OUT BOTTLE-O. AND AS HE'S DRAWING NEAR, THESE WORDS RING IN YOUR EAR, BOTTLE-O, BOTTLE-O ...'

ELLA OGILVY, 'BOTTLE-O'



MOTOR-SWEEPERS

'AFTER AN INSPECTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL'S NEW MOTOR SWEEPER AT WORK ON DUSTY ROADS, THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE YESTERDAY DECIDED TO **RECOMMEND THE PURCHASE OF THREE MORE MACHINES,** AT A COST OF £1,125 EACH

THE MOTOR SWEEPER PROMISES TO ~ REVOLUTIONISE ~ STREET-CLEANING METHODS ~ IN THE CITY ~

THE CITY ENGINEER ~ {MR H. E. MORTON} SAID YESTERDAY THAT MOST SUCCESSFUL TESTS HAD BEEN MADE ON ST. KILDA ROAD, SYDNEY ROAD, AND WELLINGTON PARADE

EARLY STREET-CLEANING, HE SAID, "KNOCKED UP" HORSES BY 9 O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING BUT THE MOTOR SWEEPER, AFTER RAPIDLY COMPLETING ONE OF THE MAIN CITY STREETS, SPED OFF, AT 15 MILES AN HOUR, TO BEGIN THE CLEANING OF ANOTHER LONG THOROUGHFARE

A TIN ON WHEELS AND HAND BRUSH

'TO CHARLIE JACKSON, EX-OVERSEER OF COLLINGWOOD CITY, OUR BEST WISHES FOR A LENGTHY AND PLEASANT term of retirement ~ ~ ~ ~ ~'

CHARLIE COMMENCED WORK IN THE MUNICIPAL SPHERE IN 1902 AS A SWEEPER FOR THE MELBOURNE CITY COUNCIL AT THE PRINCELY WAGE OF ELEVEN SHILLINGS PER WEEK WITH AN ADDED ONE SHILLING FOR WORKING SATURDAY AFTERNOONS, HIS RUN BEING FROM FLINDERS STREET OVER PRINCES BRIDGE AND THEN FLINDERS STREET TO RUSSELL STREET

HIS EQUIPMENT WAS A TIN HAND SCOOP AND BRUSH, WHICH LATER ADVANCED TO A TIN ON WHEELS AND HAND BRUSH'

THE COUNSELLOR: OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FEDERATED MUNICIPAL AND SHIRE EMPLOYEES' UNION OF AUSTRALIA MELBOURNE METROPOLITAN EDITION, VOL. 6, NO. 3 (1959): 15

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS ~ special thanks to ~

~ EDDIE ~ BUTLER-BOWDEN CITY OF MELBOURNE;

CATHERINE HOCKEY, CITY OF MELBOURNE;

~ ANNE-LOUISE MUIR, ~ HERITAGE VICTORIA ~

~ AND MOST OF ALL ~ JASON BENJAMIN

DESIGNED BY ROUND