

For an Extended Holiday or a Peaceful Week-end LIBRARY

The ...

21 SEP 1994 MH Don

HEALESVILLE, CALL NO. MARYSVILLE, and WARBURTON

DISTRICTS.

A region of green valleys and hillsides clothed with tall timber. Fern glades and waterfalls. Delightful picnic spots and camping sites. Beautiful walks and drives.

Healesville and Warburton are in direct rail communication and a couple of hours' journey from the metropolis.

Service cars run daily from Healesville to Marysville over the famous Blacks' Spur.

The Healesville, Marysville, and Warburton Districts.

THE country surrounding the rail termini of Healesville and Warburton shown on the map on the reverse of this folder contains features of natural beauty which constitute them a perpetual attraction to the tourist. The high ranges, with their many fine peaks and spurs clothed with grand specimens of eucalyptus, form the watershed for innumerable creeks, which, flowing through beautiful gullies rich with ferns of every description, invite the lover of Nature to a nearer study of her charms.

Starting from various stations on the two lines—those to Healesville and Warburton-it is possible to travel either by vehicle, on horseback, or on foot along well-made roads or clear-cut tourist tracks which afford access to the many points of scenic attraction —lofty mountain peaks, fern glens, crystal streams well stocked with trout, and sparkling waterfalls-which glorify this tourists'

Alike for those making a day trip and those who purpose to extend their stay at any point in this land of enchantment, ample accommodation of good quality is everywhere available.

The Healesville District.

The railway line to Healesville runs through LILYDALE, an oldestablished and picturesque township on the Olinda Creek. The attractions here for visitors are varied. A beautiful walk is that along the shady banks of the Olinda Creek, and by easy grades the summit of any of the surrounding hills can be reached. There are large freshwater swimming baths in the town and many pretty camping grounds in the vicinity. The local tennis court and bowling green are available for visiting players. Lilydale residents have their own pack of foxhounds and hunting is indulged in.

The line then traverses the fertile flats of the Yarra Valley, and passes through Yering, with extensive vineyards, famed for the quality

YARRA GLEN, the next township passed, comprises several stores, a post and telegraph office, State school, a couple of hotels, boarding-house, and a number of private residences. Sport in the locality is good, hares and rabbits abound, while ducks, snipe, and quail are to be had in season. The fishing in the Yarra includes English trout, perch, and blackfish.

From Yarra Glen a road runs northerly to Steel's Creek, about 5 miles distant, and at about 7 miles it reaches the eastern boundary of the Kinglake National Park. This area, which has been recently reserved, comprises about 13,800 acres. The road then runs north by a little east to TOOLANGI, a mountainous holiday resort picturesquely situated on the Dividing Range, the watershed of the Yea River and the tributaries of the Yarra, a distance of about 14

CHRISTMAS HILLS, a dairying and agricultural district occupying an elevated position on the Dividing Range, is distant 5 miles from Yarra Glen. Here are situated the country residences of many Melbourne citizens, and its invigorating climate attracts a large number of visitors who find ample accommodation in the several guesthouses in this locality.

Healesville.

The railway journey, which for the last 10 miles follows the course of the Yarra, terminates at Healesville, a township prettily situated on the Watts River, a tributary of the former stream, and lying in a lovely valley almost encircled by the hills of the Dividing Range and its spurs. Here the tourist will find ample accommodation provided by large hotels and guest-houses with many private houses studding the hillsides. Those desirous of exploring easily the many accessible beauty spots may do so by means of daily motor services running across the Blacks' Spur and thence to Narbethong, Marysville, and Alexandra, or may join one or other of the excursion trips to the different points of attraction in the district.

A very efficient motor service is available in Healesville for the enjoyment of visitors.

Into the Watts River run a number of tributary streams and along all these valleys the rapids, cascades and waterfalls, fern bowers, and wealth of varied vegetation prove inviting to visitors who, by wellchosen tracks, can wander at pleasure in almost any direction assured of finding much natural beauty to enjoy.

Tennis, bowling, and croquet are provided for, the courts and greens being charmingly situated on a bend in the river right in the township, and visitors may enjoy the privilege of membership of the Golf Club on payment of a nominal fee, and may play on the local links in Queen's Park. The undulating nature of the ground and the beautiful surroundings make it a most attractive course. The greens are well grassed and the fairways exceptionally good and the links should give real pleasure to the most fastidious golfer.

Healesville to Toolangi.

The popular route by which to reach Toolangi is from Healesville along the first section of the Mount St. Leonard-road, and turning into the valley of Myer's Creek, along which a pretty scenic road passes over the line of the aqueduct conveying Watts River water to Melbourne. At about 4 miles it runs close to the Myer's Creek falls, and then ascends to the Dividing Range, on which Toolangi is situated, 10 miles from Healesville. This is a much favoured resort, commanding as it does very extensive views, easy access to the Yea River, pedestrian tracks leading through the very inviting valley to the Sylvia Falls, and revealing the beauty of the beech

Smedley's Falls, and the summit of Mount St. Leonard, are other attractive spots within easy distance. On the return journey to Healesville the newly constructed Country Roads Board road down the valley of New Chum Creek should be used. It is a well-graded descending road, requiring practically no motive power for several miles on the downward run.

Don Valley Road.

An important road, known generally as the "Don-road," runs southerly from Healesville to Launching Place, and from this access is obtained to Mount Riddell (4 miles) by turning off at the cemetery corner, following a cross road to the left for about a mile, and then the blazed track to the summit.

From this same road a well defined track follows the Badger Creek to the weir, a most picturesque spot at the foot of Mount Riddell, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Healesville, and here rustic tables and seats are provided for the convenience of excursionists.

Rising on a somewhat zigzag course, the Don-road leads past Wade's Lookout and on to Malleson's Lookout—7 miles, and 1,400

feet above sea-level-from which most extensive views may be seen. A branch road bearing away westerly gives access to a popular resort on Mount Toole-be-wong (Nyora)-2,600 feet above the sea.

At about 8 miles on the Don road Panton's Gap is reached, this being the point at which the fine scenic road to Ben Cairn and Mount Donna Buang leads away easterly.

Mr. J. A. Panton, Police Magistrate, and Mr. Malleson, solicitor, of Melbourne, were the two pioneers who opened up the beauty of this locality to visitors.

Continuing past Panton's Gap, at about 10 miles, the well-known Malleson's Glen is passed, and at 14 miles, at Launching Place, connexion is made with the Melbourne to Warburton main road.

Healesville-Ben Cairn-Mount Donna Buang-Warburton -29 miles.

This pedestrian excursion is described in a later paragraph as from Warburton (see page 14) but should tourists wish to make Healesville the starting point, the route lies along the Don road, a level stretch of 2 miles, until the Badger Creek is crossed. From here the road gradually rises, passing Wade's Lookout (3 miles) until Malleson's Lookout (7 miles) is reached, and from this point of vantage magnificent views of the surrounding country are to be obtained. About a mile farther on is Panton's Gap, a prominent point from which the road has been formed to give access to Ben Cairn, one of the finest

view points in the State. From here it continues along the southern side of the range and joins the Warburton-Dorna Buang road about a mile and a half below the summit of the mount.

Should the trip be made to extend into two days, the most favorable site for an overnight camp, owing to there being a good supply of water, is close to Ben Cairn. Water can be obtained by following a track into a gully off the road just below the summit.

Condon's Gully, which is a magnificent fern glade 4½ miles from Healesville in a north-westerly direction, is reached by following the St. Leonard road, then turning to the right along the bank of the Watts River, and crossing this stream and Donnelly's Creek, continue along the track past the turn-off to Donnelly's Creek. About half-amile farther on lie the Aqueduct and the Echo Tunnel in a fenced enclosure, along the upper side of which the track passes onward to Condon's Gully.

A track has been cleared from the head of Condon's Gully to the top of Mount Monda, continues along the top of the range and leads out on to the Blacks' Spur road, which is then followed back to the township. The extension of the track from Condon's Gully provides an opportunity to make a circular pedestrian tour for those who are not averse to mountain climbing and spending the night in the open From a clearing on the side of Mount Monda a magnificent panoramic view is obtained, but as no water can be had on the summit it is advisable to make provision for this before leaving the gully.

Healesville to Marysville.

The main road from Healesville to Marysville runs in an easterly direction, and from 2 to 3 miles out fine views of the newly constructed Maroondah Reservoir are obtained. This large water storage is now a scenic feature, the embankment over which a roadway has been formed being clearly visible from the main road.

Rigid control is exercised by the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works over this reservoir and its surroundings, in order to maintain the purity of the water supply to the metropolis. By the flooding of the valley the old track to the beautiful Mathinna Falls, 7 miles from Healesville, has been submerged, but it is hoped to arrange with the Board for the provision of other access.

Two miles along the Marysville road there is a turn-off to the right, just past Gracedale House, and this follows the aqueduct for a further mile to the Graceburn Weir. The bank of the channel forms an easy and pretty pathway, and although the weir itself is not an extensive work, it is set in most beautiful surroundings. A pathway, reached by the stepping stones below the weir, follows along the right-hand side of the stream for a mile or more, and provides frequent glimpses of beautiful river scenery.

Six miles from Healesville, along the Marysville road, will be found the slip panels which give access to the track (indicated by a noticeboard), which, turning to the right, continues to the camping ground at the foot of Mount Juliet; the summit of the mount is 3,630 feet above sea-level, and is distant between 9 and 10 miles from the township. It is a stiff climb from the camping ground to the top, and the summit is indicated by a cairn of stones. Water is obtainable about a mile from the summit from a spring flowing from the roots of a large tree on the north side of the track and within a few yards from it. If the trip is made at a time when there is reason to believe that the spring may not be flowing it is advisable to carry water from Mosquito Creek, which is crossed soon after leaving the road. A splendid camping place, to the east of the cairn and a little below it, exists at the summit of the mount. As Juliet is one of the highest peaks in the district the line of vision from the summit is entirely uninterrupted, and the views in every direction are superb.

Morley's track turns to the right about 300 yards past the rotunda at Fernshaw, on the Blacks' Spur road, and, after following for some distance the course of Morley's Creek, ascends to the summit of the Dividing Range at Carter's Gap (5 miles), where it joins the boundary track of the Metropolitan Board of Works and continues in a northwesterly direction for a further 2 miles to its junction on the crest of the range with the Blacks' Spur road.

The Blacks' Spur.

No visitor to Healesville should return without making that most delightful of all excursions—the trip across the famous Blacks'

By taking advantage of the motors run daily from Healesville this may be brought comfortably within the compass of a day's outing. The cars connect at the railway station with the first train from Melbourne, and, passing through the main street of Healesville, commence the gradual ascent of this excellent road. The first place of interest on the route is GRACEDALE HOUSE, 3 miles out, a magnificent and commodious house of accommodation standing in spacious grounds, which commands a magnificent outlook over the Yarra flats and to the far distant metropolis. Along the road past Gracedale House are many beauty spots, notably Etta's Glen, Jessie's Bower, and Truganina Falls, and 7 miles out the Watts River is crossed at the site of old Fernshaw, at an altitude of 750 feet above sea-level. The buildings which once formed the little hamlet of Fernshaw—a halting place for teamsters on their way from Healesville to the gold diggings of Wood's Point-were removed, when the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works took possession of the water reserves of the district, to prevent the pollution of the Metropolitan water supply. Ferns abound along the course of the river, and at this point our present Queen Mary picnicked with members of her suite when on a visit to this State in 1901. The car continues on its way beyond Fernshaw across the summit of the Spur and down the northern slopes of the Dividing Range past "St. Ronan's Well," near the 11-mile post. This is a good camping or picnicking spot, water being plentiful, and seats have been placed in convenient places. The next point of interest is THE HERMITAGE, 13 miles, a favorite house of tourist accommodation established by the late Mr. J. W. Lindt, who carved this artist's home out of the dense forest.

At the summit a height of nearly 2,000 feet is attained, and en route many beautiful fern gullies are passed in which stand magnificent specimens of eucalyptus, some rising to a height of close on 300 feet. Descending the farther slope towards the

Hermitage, breaks in the timber afford splendid views of the Cathedral Range, of Mount Strickland, and many other lofty hills. Within easy walking distance of The Hermitage are one or two charming fern gullies which are well worth visiting. Davis' Gully has a notice board showing the way in from the road, and a track has been cut through it, going down one bank and coming up the other on to the road again at a point only a few yards removed from the entrance. Mallory's Glen is another pretty feature.

The next stopping place is NARBETHONG, a mile farther on. This quiet little hamlet lies on Fisher's Creek, and is a popular holiday resort with hosts of summer visitors.

Around Narbethong are many delightful and easily accessible spots. A most enjoyable outing may be made via a track which passes through a fine fern gully on Fisher's Creek, then to the range and back along the Spur road, a total distance of about 6 miles. A shorter journey may be made to Mount Dom Dom, a distance of 2½ miles. A different route may be taken homeward by walking from Mount Dom Dom along a tramway line to its junction with the Blacks' Spur road, and thence back via The Hermitage to Narbethong, a 5-mile round walk. This tram-track passes through some very fine fern-tree country. A more extended trip may be taken to Archer's Lookout by turning off the road to the left at the Hermitage and following the track past

Soon after leaving Narbethong a good track turning off to the left up Stony Creek may be followed either to the top of the range, 6 miles distant, where excellent views are obtainable, or continuing onwards the Murrindindi Falls will be reached.

Good camping sites will be found on a Government reserve close to the township, and in the local streams—Fisher's Creek and Dom Dom Creek-trout, bream, and blackfish abound. Two miles beyond Narbethong is "ST. FILLAN," at the junction

of the Marysville and Buxton roads. This establishment, on account of the attractiveness of its surroundings and the excellence of the fishing in the vicinity, is extensively patronized. At this point a junction is made with the road leading northerly

by Buxton to Alexandra, and by this route tourists can reach the

great Eildon (or Sugarloaf) Reservoir, which stores 306,000 acre feet of water for the irrigation of the Goulburn Valley lower country. Near the junction also is the outlet of the "Acheron Way," the newly constructed road opening up the beautiful Acheron Valley

and linking Marysville and Warburton (see page 15). Six miles farther on, at the foot of Mounts Grant and Strickland, is MARYSVILLE, 22 miles from Healesville, and 1,600 feet above

Marysville.

Marysville has been described as a tourists' paradise, and justly so. Its distance from the metropolis, accessibility, height above sea-level, wonderfully even climate, guest-houses equipped with modern conveniences, and the prevailing beauty of the whole district, all render it a most desirable place in which to spend a vacation. In addition, the village enjoys the boundless blessing of an inexhaustible

In the number of fast running streams, waterfalls, view points high up on the mountain sides, the magnificent forests and dense vegetation of great variety, there is presented a combination such as is difficult

All the valleys are adorned by the glorious foliage of the spreading beech trees, the light-green foliage of sassafras trees, the taller growing blackwoods and the magnificent straight-boled towering blackbutts, and screened by this wealth of foliage are the crystal streams, here forming deep pools, there rippling along rocky beds, or, in the deep and mist-filled gorges, tumbling over rocky ledges and developing waterfalls magnificent in their setting.

Much time can be devoted to visiting the surrounding beauty spots either by car or on foot, while those who are disinclined to go far afield are well catered for as there are numerous short walks through the bush to fern gullies, waterfalls, and view points in close proximity to the

The Beauty Spot, a dense mass of tree-ferns of varying heights with numerous smaller ferns, lies almost within the township boundary.

Michael Dene, a short track through a very pretty fern glade, leads to the Wishing Well and the Taggerty River. The Steavenson Falls can be reached by a walk of less than an

hour. The foaming mass of water tumbling over the successive cascades presents a striking sight. Nothing more pleasing of its kind can be seen than in the valley of the Taggerty River along the Talbot Drive, through the appropriately named Valley Beautiful, the Beech Grove, and the Forest of Arden

its rocky course is a long succession of waterfalls, cascades, and rapids, with here and there an inviting pool for the trout-fishing enthusiast. Unfortunately the Forest of Arden was swept by fire a few years ago, when the magnificent old beech trees, hoary with age, were destroyed, but the valley is gradually recovering much of its pristine

past the Meeting of the Waters to the Keppel Falls. The river in

At a distance of about 10 miles along the Wood's Point road are the Cumberland and Cora Lynn Falls. These are the delight of all visitors. From a camping ground on the side of the road a wellbeaten foot track runs for nearly half-a-mile through a fine avenue of tree-ferns to Cora Lynn Creek just below the falls. The pathway has been continued down the creek following the rushing waters to the junction with Cumberland Creek nearly a thousand feet below the camping ground and returns along Cumberland Creek, passing a series of cascades back to the starting point. This triangular circuit can be covered in an hour and a half without any excessive effort in climbing, and it encompasses for its whole length the very choicest valley scenery to be found in this continent. It is the glorious combination of beech, sassafras, blackwood, silver wattle, and musk trees, and huge fern trees rising from a carpet of dwarf ferns and mosses, with giant blackbutts towering over all, associated with the music of the rippling streams and the roar of the waterfalls, that invests this place with an irresistible charm.

Wilks' Creek.

From Marysville the excursion to Wilks' Creek is an easy one. A branch road has been made leading southerly from the main road for a distance of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles; thence a foot track runs through a magnificent forest of blackbutt trees into the beech groves adorning the creek and up to the abandoned wolfram mine at its head. This trip is one to be specially recommended, and the full journey can easily be made on foot if desired, in which case a foot track is followed from the township to the end of the formed road.

For those with a taste for more strenuous pleasure there are foot tracks to Mount Strickland (4,000 feet), Mount Kitchener, Keppel's Lookout, and Mount Gordon.

Not the least interesting part of a Marysville holiday is the car journey over the Blacks' Spur from Healesville railway station (see page 7). For impressive grandeur there are not many scenes to equal those afforded on this trip. Fern gullies abound by the roadside, and at almost every turn glorious vistas of the blue cool mountains present themselves through gaps in the thick timber and varied undergrowth.

Tourists can now continue the journey past the Cumberland Camping Ground to Wood's Point.

The Warburton District.

The tourist desirous of visiting this district by rail from Melbourne travels as far as Lilydale—231 miles—and turns off there on to the branch line which passes through MOUNT EVELYN, the highest station on the line, where are a couple of guest-houses.

Mount Evelyn is on the northern slopes of Mount Dandenong. Within walking distance, along graded roads which follow the hillcrests, magnificent mountain and valley views may be obtained. To the north, Hereford road offers an extended view overlooking Mount Juliet and Donna Buang and to the east the beauties of the Yarra Valley, with the O'Shannassy aqueduct winding around its southern side, are disclosed. Mistletoe Bend, a mile from the township on the Olinda Creek, is an ideal camping ground. The locality is noted for its wattle and coloured heaths, and some rare varieties of wildflowers are also to be found. The berry farms, for which the district is famed, present a wonderful contrast with the varied shades of green carpeting the tilled fields.

Motor coaches run to Silvan, 6 miles distant in a southerly direction, and visitors can obtain accommodation at one or other of the guesthouses in this locality.

Fishing is possible in the Olinda Creek, and rabbits abound in the

Continuing on through WANDIN and SEVILLE the line skirts the Woori Yallock Creek and traverses country also famous for the excellence of its fruit—raspberries, strawberries, currants, &c., being grown in great profusion.

At WOORI YALLOCK, a few miles farther on, the line approaches nearly to the Yarra. An hotel and a couple of guest-houses here provide accommodation for visitors. There is good fishing in the river and in the Woori Yallock Creek, and rabbits are plentiful in the district.

At LAUNCHING PLACE, the next station, the stream flows within a biscuit-throw of the local hotel. Many trips may be made from this centre, one in particular, that to the Little Yarra gullies, over 7 miles of good road, being an enjoyable outing, while a stroll by the pathway along the river bank, called the Queen's Walk, will serve to while away a pleasant hour or two.

There is splendid fishing (trout, blackfish, cod, and perch) in the main stream as well as in the Little Yarra, Don, and Hoddle's Creek, and also good sport for the gun.

Launching Place to Healesville.

From this point a road runs along the Don Valley northward and then north-west to Healesville, a distance of 14 miles, and passing en route Malleson's Glen, Panton's Gap, and Malleson's and Wade's Lookout. This link between the rail terminals forms an enjoyable pedestrian day trip, as passengers alighting from the morning train at Launching Place may easily cover the distance to Healesville in time to connect with the evening train returning from that station

Near the junction of the Yarra and its tributary, the Little Yarra, is YARRA JUNCTION station, with a boarding establishment near at hand. The hills and valley hereabouts abound in a wealth of wildflowers and delightful short walks around the township are those to Britannia Valley and Bridal Falls, Yankee Jim Gorge and Cascades and the beautiful Don Valley. Driving trips can be made to Malleson's Glen with its fairy bowers, the great Ben Cairn, and to Gilderoy, reached by a road which traverses country noted for its picturesque beauty. Situated on the spurs and ridges that feed the Black Sands Creek, an excitable little water-course choked with moss-grown logs and mostly hidden by ferns, Gilderoy makes a strong appeal to the tourist who loves wild tangled undergrowth, spreading tree ferns, and big timber. One of its show places is Myrtle Gully, which is reached by an easy track. The gully recedes for a couple of hundred yards up a gentle slope, its chief feature being the wonderful variety

and luxuriance of the ferns which are there in thousands. Another interesting trip is that which can be made along the tramway line of the Victorian Hardwood Milling and Seasoning Coy., which extends back into the ranges for a distance of 10 miles to the terminus at Powelltown, the saw-milling centre. The train calls at several stations (of which Gilderoy is one) on the short journey, and an interesting time may be spent in watching the process of reducing the huge logs felled in the adjacent forest from tree trunk to sawn hardwood

A splendid walking trip is possible along the ridge of the hills through fern and forest country from Yarra Junction to Warburton, a distance of 14 miles.

Millgrove.

From MILLGROVE station a tram track runs northward along the valley of the Dee River to the Ben Cairn-Donna Buang road (4 miles) and, although on a very steep grade between the mill and the road,

11

provides, for pedestrians, a means of reaching either summit. Ben Cairn is 3 miles in a south-westerly direction, and the tourist can continue along the road to its junction with the Don road near Panton's Gap (5 miles), from which point Healesville is 8 miles distant in a northwesterly and Launching Place about 6 miles in a southerly direction. Donna Buang lies to the eastward 4 miles from the track and road junction, and from the mount Warburton can be reached either by the road (12 miles) or by the short track (6 miles).

Warburton.

The branch line reaches its terminus at Warburton, $47\frac{3}{4}$ miles from Melbourne. The accessibility of this resort makes it most popular for a day's outing or a week-end trip, whilst its wonderful river, fern gully, and mountain scenery offer fresh delights daily for a holiday of longer duration. The township is furnished with electric light, a good permanent water supply, postal and telegraph facilities, and a continuous telephone service, and possesses an hotel and a number of well-equipped guest-houses; there are also cafes, garages, and a goodly array of shops and the usual characteristics of a thriving township.

Flowing in good volume right through the town the River Yarra is the great feature of Warburton, and many delightful hours may be spent traversing the "Lovers' Walks" on either bank. Numerous bush roads, old timber tramways, and pedestrian tracks exist to lead the visitor through gullies of tree-ferns, beech, and sassafras to rippling cascades and waterfalls, over hillsides covered with giant mountain ash and up to the summits of such well known peaks as Donna Buang and Ben Cairn, as well as to the lesser mountains.

Visitors will find facilities to indulge in such pastimes as tennis, bowls, croquet, &c., and a fine recreation reserve, prettily situated on the bank of the river, provides for sports meetings. The Yarra being a noted trout stream good sport is assured for the angler in its many

Among the local industries there are many extensive saw-milling plants operating in the district, and large quantities of sawn timber and palings are despatched from the railway station. Some of the best known beauty spots to which walking, riding, or

driving excursions are organized are those to :-The La La Falls, the trip to which can be made in half a day, but an enjoyable picnic day can be made of it by taking lunch and boiling

the billy by the creek side. The track to the falls leads along the bank of the Four Mile Creek through veritable fairy bowers of giant treeferns, sassafras, beech, and Christmas bush.

Ben Cairn is another inviting place for a walking trip (see Millgrove

Scotchman's Creek and the Trout Hatchery are three-quarters of a mile distant. A road follows the east bank of the creek, whilst footway keeps in close touch with the stream the whole of the way.

A delightful round trip of about 9 miles can be made through Millgrove and Wesburn, then up the old Warburton road which climbs into the ranges along Yankee Jim Creek, with its sparkling cascades. Old Warburton lies on a saddle between Mounts Little Joe and Tugwell. The road then crosses the upper waters of Scotchman's Creek and descends gradually to Warburton.

A winding track works its gradually ascending way to the summit of Mount Little Joe (1,500 feet), from which a fine panoramic view of the whole of the Upper Yarra Valley is obtained.

A popular half-day drive is that to Britannia Falls (7 miles) via the Old Warburton road, the last three-quarters of a mile of the way being made on foot. The falls descend in several cascades for a total depth of about 150 feet.

The O'Shannassy Weiris reached by a beautiful drive along the Wood's Point road through East Warburton. Following the course of the Yarra many charming glimpses are to be had of the stream. Eight miles out the river is crossed and the O'Shannassy River is followed for another 4 miles to the weir. A cleared space with fire-place and seats offers a delightful spot for picnic lunch. About 2 miles past the O'Shannassy bridge on the main road is the Peninsula Tunnel, which in the early gold-mining days was driven through a hill to divert the waters of the Yarra so that its bed could be prospected.

Part of the water of the river still runs through the tunnel. Just above Warburton lies Wonwondah, a Seventh Day Adventist Colony, with many substantial dwellings standing in its own grounds. A reservoir constructed on the Rocky Creek supplies the motive power which electrically operates the different industries of the settlement. The adjacent Wonwondah Falls, on Rocky Creek, are a series of rapids descending in all about 100 feet.

A sanitarium conducted by this religious body attracts a large number of visitors every year.

Warburton-Mount Donna Buang-Ben Cairn-Healesville.—29 miles.

One of the most attractive features of this beautiful district is Mount Donna Buang, which rises to a height of 4,080 feet and dominates the township. A vehicle road ascends by easy grades from Warburton to the summit of the mount, a distance of 12 miles. Crossing the river close to the Adventist Settlement it runs northward to Cement Creek, nearing which the full beauty of the lovely mountain gullies reveals itself. The creek is crossed at an altitude of 2,200 feet, and immediately beyond is the "Turntable." At this point, about 51 miles from Warburton, a good shelter shed, fire place, and controlled water supply have been provided, making it a very desirable picnic place. One road leads away to the right, this being the beginning turns sharply to the left, sweeps round the head of the Yithan Creek, passes some noted view points overlooking the extensive Yarra Valley. One at about 8 miles is furnished with seats and controlled water

The section on to the Ben Cairn turn-off at 10½ miles is in the flowering season a floral avenue of Christmas bush (Prostanthera). Beyond the Ben Cairn junction for about 11 miles the road quickly rises on several sharp turns to the top of Mount Donna Buang, at about 12 miles from Warburton. This summit, 4,080 feet above sea-level, is the highest elevation within its distance from Melbourne, and is now crowned by a fine lofty steel tower, rising 65 feet above the surface. It has three platforms, from which visitors now have a wide uninterrupted view over the tree tops in all directions, taking in Western Port and Port Phillip Bays, the You Yangs, Mount Macedon, and the far off Alps and Baw Baw—an impressive scene of vastness and grandeur.

The tower serves the purpose of a look-out station in summer for

the detection of forest fires, and has telephonic connexion. The road from Warburton to Cement Creek turn has been metalled, also sections above the turn, the aim being to enable motorists to travel up the road as far as possible under bad weather

As there is no water available at the summit, a supply should be obtained near the Ben Cairn turn for use on the top if desired.

The trip via Warburton to Mount Donna Buang forms a pleasant objective for a week-end at any season of the year; there is no peak of the same altitude so easily accessible from the metropolis, and while in spring and summer-time the outlook from the summit is magnificent in its panoramic beauty, in winter there is the added attraction of the heavy mantle of snow which during the colder months lies deep upon its crest. Ski runs have been prepared, and the snowsports ground is one which can be visited by tourists within the compass

A pleasant way of making the trip is to take the Saturday evening train to Warburton, stop overnight, then making an early start after breakfast on Sunday, reach the top by mid-day, and, after having partaken of a picnic lunch, return in time for the evening meal and to catch

the homeward train. About a mile below the summit of Donna Buang the road to Ben Cairn and Healesville branches off. Traversing the southern slope of the range it has only slight undulations, and in the 4 miles to Ben Cairn the traveller enjoys a succession of varied views of bush, plainland, and distant hills. A short walk from the road and the tourist is on the crest of Ben Cairn. This is a great mass of rock furnished with a wire-netting screen on its southern edge for the safety of observers. Over 3,000 feet below lies the wide valley of the Yarra, with the townships of Warburton, Millgrove, Wesburn, and Yarra Junction showing up clearly in the scenic picture. To the extreme left is Donna Buang, and as the gaze sweeps round it rests on the Baw Baws and the Beenak Ranges. On a clear day the waters of Port Phillip and Western Port Bays are visible, and such landmarks as the Exhibition Buildings may be picked out with the naked eye. It is a view to linger over. From here the road continues round the end of the Ben Cairn Spur and by easy grades down the steep slopes bounding the upper reaches of the Don, crosses the head waters of this stream and then through the Don Gap, passing at a high level along the verge

of the broad and deep Badger Valley. About 6 miles from Ben Cairn the Healesville Launching Place road is met at Panton's Gap, and the journey is continued into Healesville via Malleson's Lookout, a further distance of about 8 miles. (See also page 5).

The Acheron Way-Warburton to Narbethong -23 miles.

A most delightful excursion may now be made from Warburton up the Mount Donna Buang road to Cement Creek turn, where, at an elevation of 2,200 feet, the "Acheron Way" commences, and of this "Way" it may be said that it is incomparable as a glorious scenic avenue. Rising in its course, and passing round the heads of numerous gullies embowered in beech, it ascends to the Acheron Gap at about 5 miles, and at a height of about 2,600 feet, then entering the head of the Acheron Valley it winds its way down again through beech forest, giving access to waterfalls, and crossing to the western side reveals masses of beech foliage, with a forest of noble eucalypts on the slopes.

It connects with the Marysville road near the Buxton junction, thus opening up great possibilities for touring. (See page 8).

The different circular trips that may be made in this district, in the summer time, will prove a delight to many motorists.

A few of these are: Warburton to Ben Cairn and back through Launching Place; Warburton up the Acheron and the Blacks' Spur to Healesville, thence by Ben Cairn back to Warburton; Melbourne to Warburton over the range by Ben Cairn to Healesville and back to Melbourne; Healesville to Marysville via Ben Cairn, Cement Creek, the Acheron Way, and back over the Blacks' Spur.

From Melbourne also the motorist can reach Alexandra, taking in en route Warburton, and travelling by the Acheron Way to St. Fillan, thence by the Buxton road; or turning off to Marysville, take the Taggerty Valley road to Buxton, and on to Alexandra.

It is to be noted that these scenic mountain roads, not being metalled, cannot be traversed in safety in wet weather, and during winter months they must necessarily be closed to traffic, both in the interest of safety and to prevent serious damage to the roads. Motorists, therefore, before attempting these journeys under doubtful weather conditions, are advised to make inquiry at the Tourist Bureau in order to ascertain if the roads are open for traffic.

The BUSH FIRE is the dreaded possibility in the beautiful districts herein described, and to all travellers a very earnest appeal is made to take the most scrupulous care when lighting fires for picnic purposes, and to see that they are extinguished before the ourney is resumed. In the recognized camping places the con structed safety fire places only may be used.

By Authority: H. J. GREEN, Government Printer, Melbourne. 15