

built across the river and then onto the mills.

The timber itself is very finely textured, has a low shrinkage quality, is soft, easily worked and light. It also has high resistance to attack by rot or marine organisms. Because of this it is held in high regard as a ship-building timber and for furniture making, joinery and wood turning.

Apart from actually making furniture, Martin designs the pieces he wishes to make. His latest project is a roll-top study desk, made totally from Blackwood. He has made all his bedroom furniture and has also restored some antique furniture.

Constable Rosenberg has no regrets at having made the move to Tasmania. He finds the work interesting and challenging with plenty of variety in the inquiries he has to deal with.

He and his family enjoy the beauty of Tasmania and the friendliness of the Tasmanian people. By the time he leaves, his whole house could be proudly furnished with 'Rosenberg' designed and made furniture.

## Busting the big-noters

**I**N December 1986, three workers congregated in the office of a garage manufacturer and watched as one of them placed a \$100 note on a photocopy machine and copied one side of it. With a few attempts, the reverse side was lined up with the first side, cut out and, hey-presto!, instant money.

This note was given to one of the other workers present so he could play games on his friends. Instead, that evening, this, this group of friends and their girlfriends went to a speedway meeting where the note was uttered in payment for some drinks.

Statements were taken and inquiries made, but the identity of the person who uttered the note was unknown and hence the case was filed 'offender unknown'.

In March 1987, the former wife of one of the workers, who knew about the earlier incident, jokingly said to the maker of the first note: 'Have you made any more of that money lately. I've got a few bills to pay.'

The next day he turned up with nine \$100 notes hot off the photocopier. The joking remark made earlier went as far as her uttering three of them, one successful. During one of the unsuccessful

## LETTERS

Sir,

On 7 June a bomb threat was received at this hospital. We were forced to evacuate some 300 patients, together with the staff caring for them, from the hospital's main ward building.

The successful evacuation under very trying circumstances was a real tribute to all concerned. Once the building was declared safe all patients were quickly returned to their wards. The contribution of members of the Australian Federal Police played a significant part in the success of the operation.

Please pass the sincere thanks of the patients and staff of this hospital to all those members of your organisation who helped us in our time of need.

**Dr Denis Smith**

Acting General Superintendent  
Repatriation General Hospital Concord

Sir,

During my absence in Melbourne, my house was broken into and valuable jewellery was stolen. The intruder made quite a mess which was a distressing job for my daughters to tackle.

Senior Constable Ian Corey of Woden Police Station was of great assistance to them in every way. They were very impressed with his calm approach and his outstanding courtesy.

We are all very grateful and would like to register our gratitude in a formal way.  
**Mrs. M. Lynch**  
Curtin ACT

Sir,

I am writing to place on record the compliments I have received here in the Northern Region commending the high standard of production of our magazine *Platypus*. Only this morning I received a letter from Brigadier D.A. Formby, Commander, 1st Military District, Victoria Barracks, Brisbane, who stated in conclusion: 'I find it most interesting

utterings at a Kentucky Fried Chicken outlet, the cook who refused to accept the note was astute enough to jot down the registration number of the vehicle the lady was driving.

After an article in the Hobart Mercury the following day about the counterfeit money being circulated, two anonymous phone calls were received confirming the information obtained from the registration inquiries.

Search warrants were obtained and the woman was picked up. Ashes were found in a fireplace with a serial number corresponding to the serial number on the hundred dollar note she had successfully passed two days earlier. She later admitted to burning the other eight notes and was convicted and sentenced to six months suspended sentence. She stated that she had found the nine \$100 notes.

The newspaper printed a heart-rending story, headed 'Crime of Hunger'. The article began: 'A debt-ridden mother of three...'

This provoked a further anonymous phone call giving further sketchy information which some surveillance on the garage manufacturer filled in to give a fuller picture of the persons involved. A couple of search warrants later, combined with a little questioning, led to the conviction of the maker of the notes (\$1200 fine) and the person who uttered the note in December 1986 (six-month suspended sentence).

An attempt also was made at using a colour photocopier to print \$10 notes but information received caused the AFP to

search the house after only half the note was made.

The Crimes (Currency) Act 1981 is worded: 'A person shall not take, or begin to make, counterfeit money...' (Section 6). The court case is pending.

