

FINALLY, THE SOUTH-WEST BOOK!

A comprehensive work on all aspects of South-West Tasmania - history, natural environment, recreation and conservation. 300 pages, 400 black and white photos, maps and diagrams. The book has finally been released. The price is only \$11.70. The book can be obtained by mail order or in person from

THE SOUTH-WEST TASMANIA COMMITTEE
399 Pitt Street,
Sydney, 2000

BUGHSTOPS BILL '70 OCT. 5.

WHAT'S NEW

As it grows into winter all the shops are pushing their winter stocks. Mt. Equipment have fibre pile jackets which appear to be quite warm. Various books are now out on winter sports:

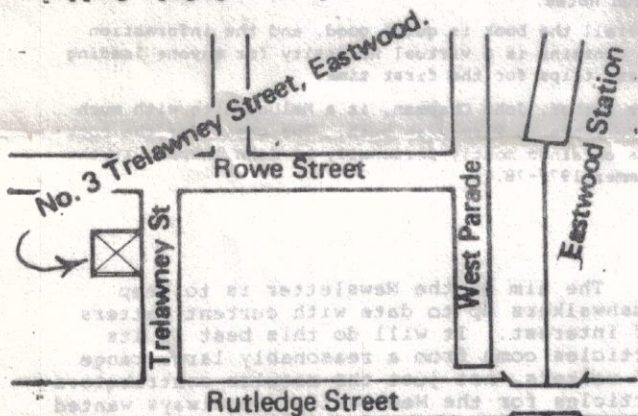
- BOOK REVIEWS
- An Introduction to Ski Touring - NSW Ski Assn. \$2.50
 - Snow Camping (an American production) \$3.60
 - Ski Touring in Australia - Australian Alpine Club \$4.50
 - And on a slightly different subject, John Chapman has written a Walker's Guide to South-West Tasmania \$5.95

EASTWOOD CAMPING CENTRE

ALL THE USUAL GEAR:

Fairydown sleeping bags, abseiling gear, parkas, packs tents, boots, groundsheets, lightweight food, AND MUCH MORE.

Agents for Lands Department and Division of National Mapping topographical maps.



EASTWOOD CANVAS GOODS AND CAMPING SUPPLIES
3 TRELAWNEY STREET, EASTWOOD.
PHONE: 858-2775

The Federation would like to welcome the N.P.A. of A.C.T. (P.O. Box 457, Canberra City) as its latest affiliated member.

TASMANIA CRAZED: POWER MANIA

If Queensland is the Australian equivalent of America's sultry Deep South, then Tasmania may be likened to the hillbilly States of Kentucky and Arkansas.

Like the legendary Dogpatch, USA, the Tasmanian backwoods are reputed to be a remarkable refuge of incest, inbreeding and idiocy. However, a more prevalent and disturbing characteristic of Tasmania is the high incidence of a mental aberration known to the medical science as hydroelectronmania.



This condition, endemic to damp, insular and mountainous regions, may be colloquially described as a combination of water on the brain and power madness. In its most virulent form, it causes its victims - local politicians and technocrats are especially vulnerable to indulge in the perversion of Pedderastay.

This deviate behaviour may be defined as the rabid ravishing of unsurpassed natural beauty in an uncontrollable lust for excessive hydro-electricity.

In its milder manifestation, hydroelectronmania is indicated by an irrational impulse to expand the output of power to promote industrial development and population growth.

What makes this urge pathogenic in Tasmania is the delusion that such development is (a) attainable, (b) desirable and (c) to be pursued regardless of any other consideration.

In offering this diagnosis, I am not suggesting that Tasmania was wrong to exploit its mountain water resources to generate electricity and to attract some important industries dependent on abundant power.

The trouble is that Tasmanian Governments and the Hydro-Electric Commission - and even ordinary citizens - have become hooked on hydro-electricity to the point of obsession.

Their distorted perception has led them to exaggerate the benefits, overestimate the demand and misjudge the ill-effects. It has also deprived them - like alcoholics or drug addicts - of a clear recognition of when to stop.

The Tasmanian people should be persuaded to forget their power crazed dream of industrial development and realise that their greatest asset is the natural beauty and tourist potential of their island. Finally, if there is any truth in the recurrent rumours that Tasmanian politicians are easily bought, perhaps the Commonwealth should make a takeover bid for the whole Tasmanian Government and declare the State a National Park. - from "The Age" Melbourne.