

MANSFIELD FORESTRY INSPECTION

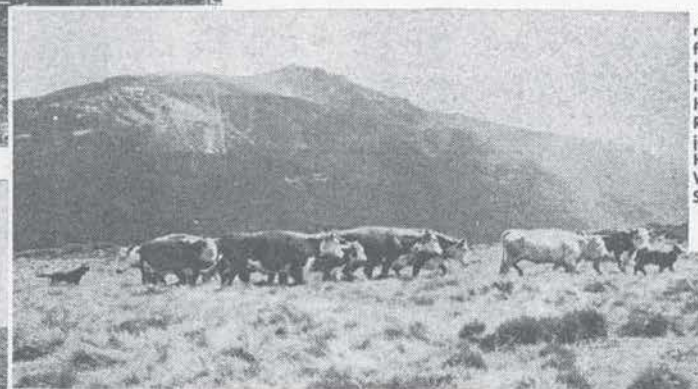


A group at Lovick's hut on Mt. Lovick.

The Forests Commission and Soil Conservation Authority recently completed a bi-annual inspection of the high mountain cattle grazing leases in Mansfield forest district.

Members of the Mountain District Cattlemen's Association, Lands and Agricultural Departments, Mansfield Shire Council and Mansfield Conservation Group were also in the inspection party.

The inspection began at Merrijig and the party travelled in four-wheel-drive vehicles on to the Great Dividing Range crossing into the Howqua Valley headwaters and the Jamieson River valley to Mt. Clear. Return journey was via Mt. Lovick, Howqua Gap, Mt. Stirling, Mt. Winstanley and the Razorback Spur.

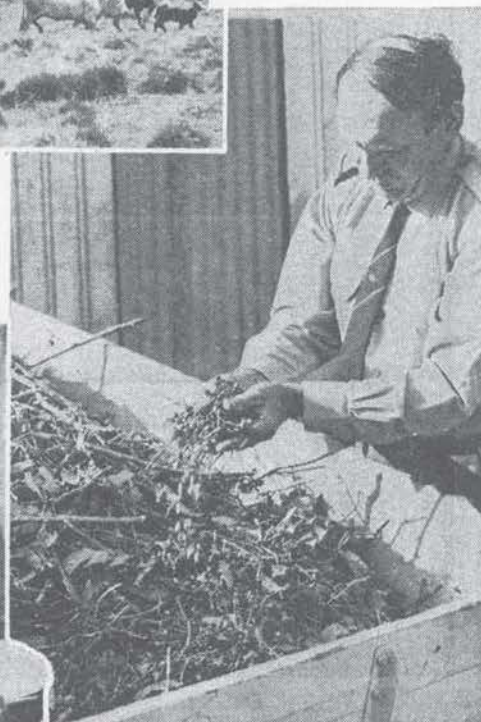


ABOVE: Cattle grazing on Mt. Stirling.

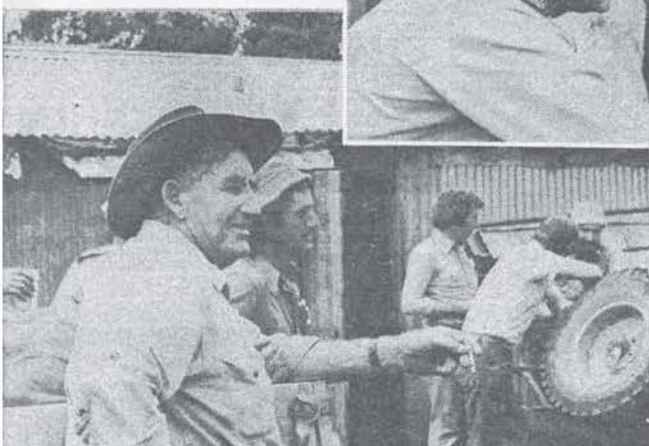


LEFT: The convoy of four-wheel-drive vehicles on Mt. Stirling with cattle in the background.

RIGHT: Breakfast at Pike's Flat. Forests Commission officer, Mr Les Simpfordorfer (left) and Mr Graeme Stoney, cattleman.



Divisional forester, Mr Russ Ritchie (Wangaratta), examines gum nuts (alpine ash) before they are placed in a rotating cage for the extraction of seed. The cage rotates for 36 hours in a temperature above 45 deg.



LEFT: Cattleman, Mr Col Murphy (Mansfield), during a rest period at Lovick's hut.

RIGHT: Loading logs on to a logging truck in the Queen Spur area.



Mr Ian Ada, beef industries officer at Benalla and Mr Bob Diprose, agricultural consultant at Benalla, inspecting white clover and native grasses on Mt. Stirling.