

ORBOST HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.



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NEWSLETTER

JUNE, 2005

BANK OF VICTORIA

'SNOWY RIVER MAIL'

Thursday evening, September 22, 1921

NEW BANK BUILDING

By the erection of a new building for the conduct of the business of the local branch of the Bank of Victoria, the township has received a very imposing addition, of which the people of Orbost may be justly proud. The building occupies a fine position, and is calculated to serve admirably the purposes for which it is intended. For the design, Mr A. McNaughton, the bank's architect, is responsible. The construction of the building was carried out under the direction of the foreman, Mr H. Heatherley.



Entering the front door of the bank one finds a commodious chamber, fully equipped with up-to-date requirements. The counter and teller's desk present a very pretty appearance, having been dressed with French polish by Mr Morrish, jun., who represents Mr F. A. Morrish, of Melbourne. Desks, with apartments for pass books, securities, etc., are provided, as well as a stand for the copying press. Close by is a stationery room, provided with numerous shelves. A clerk's lavatory, well fitted up, is conveniently placed behind the banking chamber. One essential feature is the strong room, which certainly appears to be true to its name. In it will be placed the safes, while it will also be useful for storing securities and other valuables as a safeguard against fire. The banking chamber opens into the manager's room, which is a very fine one, with a large window facing Nicholson street and admitting an abundance of light. This room is provided with a cupboard, and the telephone is to be installed. Passing through the back door of the manager's room one enters a large passage, which runs about 50 feet through the residential part of the building and has its outlet through the door of the bank. A large linen press is in the passage, and rooms open out on each side. There are three bedrooms, one of which is very large and provided with a wardrobe. The bathroom, where hot and cold water can be turned on, the wash house, the pantry, and the kitchen, are all nicely equipped. A large dresser and a Lux oven are conspicuous in the kitchen. Among the most important rooms are a fine large dining room, and last, but not least, the drawing room, which is finished in first-class style and has its window facing Nicholson street. Four entrances are provided to the residential part of the building, the principal one being fitted with an electric bell. The electric light is installed throughout the building.

Outside are provided a stable, a feed house, a buggy shed, and two outhouses. The space available for the garden is nicely laid out and suggests interesting possibilities.

The building is beautifully finished and presents a fine appearance outside and inside. A tile roof covers the banking chamber, the manager's room, and the drawing room, the remainder of the roof being of iron.

One conclusion that naturally forces itself upon anyone who inspects the new building is that the authorities of the bank have plenty of faith in the business that they expect to transact in the far-famed district of Snowy River.

