NATIONAL TRUST TO EXAMINE ILLAWARRA BUILDINGS:

The National Trust representatives will inspect places suggested for preservation during the long Queen’s Birthday weekend. Mrs. Mackreth will conduct the visitors from Wollongong to Berry.

SHIP FROM BULLI MAKES SEA MYSTERY:

Christina Fraser, collier which loaded at Bulli jetty in 1933, provides an unsolved sea mystery.

The ship had met trouble on 7th March, 1927 when it struck at the Gibbon bombora but was floated off and repaired.

The loss of the ship was brought to our research officer’s attention by a telephone call from Mr. Col Mansell, who with other city council men, brought the matter to light in a discussion.

The Australian Encyclopaedia, Volume 10, page 11 gives details of the ship.

After loading at Bulli the collier sailed for Melbourne but, with its crew of 17, disappeared off Gabo Island on June 24. Nothing has ever been heard to show its fate.

Charles Kingsford Smith, famous navigator, then at the height of his fame carried out a search from the air but no trace of it was found.

The Bombo, blue metal boat out of Kiama, bound for Sydney, provides no mystery but a great tragedy. Loaded with 650 tons of blue metal it capsized and sank off Wollongong on February 22, 1949. Only two of the 14 crew members reached shore alive.

GOLDEN MOMENTS OF YESTERDAY:

The “Illawarra Mercury” in recent weeks has been publishing an absorbing series of old photographs of the Illawarra district and its people.

They have proved of intense interest to the citizens of the city and to people beyond.

With some correction here and there of the captions the pictures might well be reprinted on art paper in book form for there would doubtless be a big demand for copies for preservation.

OUR ERUDITE PRESIDENT:

From the days of Barry Jones, George Black and Frank Partridge, I have interestingly watched Bob Dyer’s “Pick-a-Box” Session on Channel Seven whenever I had the opportunity. About six weeks ago, persons from the Wollongong area, appeared on the screen and after two or three unsuccessful contestants, Mr. Oaks of Bulli Hospital answered three of the five questions, then, to my amazement, Bill McDonald appeared. He answered the five and has been answering practically every question since, defeating at least 16 contenders, or more. At the same time winning $12,000 or more worth of articles and money. $500 was one win, a Chrysler Valiant car another and a trip for two around the world by Qantas, have been won.

Keep the good work going, Bill and good luck to you. N.S.K.