HARTLEY-LITHGOW EXCURSION — October 14th-15th:

The Society is planning a week-end excursion to the Hartley and Lithgow district on Saturday and Sunday, 14th and 15th October. Historically and scenically this is one of the most interesting districts of the state. We intend to travel one way via Katoomba (the old Bathurst Road) and the other via Richmond and Kurrajong Heights (Bell's Line); and, as those who were on the Orange trip in 1968 will remember, both routes are full of interest.

Within a few miles around Hartley and Lithgow are such features as Mount York, from which Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth beheld the Promised land, and down which Cox's Road plunged so abruptly; Major Mitchell's Victoria (or should it be Vittoria?) Pass; Hartley, the most unspoilt of colonial villages, with Mortimer Lewis's celebrated Court House (1837) and its convict relics; Hassan's Walls, Eskbank House, and other highlights of Lithgow, whence came the pre-New-Australian influx of migrants to Wollongong; the remains of Hoskins's Ironworks, the parent of A.I.S.; and, of course, that marvel of early railway engineering, the Zig Zag. On the last we have our own authority; for the rest the Lithgow Historical Society will provide guides and expert comment, and an interesting and enjoyable trip is assured.

BUT we have to organise overnight accommodation. Therefore, we have to ask you to signify your intentions, and to pay a deposit, earlier than usual. We expect the trip to cost about $20.00 a head for adults and $13.00 for school-age children. This would cover bus fare, overnight motel accommodation, breakfast on Sunday and admission to historic buildings. It would not cover dinner on Saturday night or lunch on Sunday. (We will probably ask you to bring a picnic lunch for Saturday).

So that we can make sure of the accommodation we want, intending excursionists are asked to give their names, and pay a deposit of $6.00 each, to Mr. Fleming at the August meeting, or to ring Mrs. McCarthy (29-8225) and post in their deposits to the Treasurer, Box 1030, Wollongong, by Friday, 4th August. We must know as soon as possible whether there are enough members interested to make the trip practicable; and we cannot guarantee accommodation for late starters. So, in the Society's interests and your own, we ask you to book early.

Be in it!

MEETING NIGHT CHANGE SERIOUSLY PROPOSED:

The Society's Council is seriously considering changing the night of the week for our meetings — after some twenty-eight years.

Thursday has served well for all that time but changing business conditions have brought the experiment of Thursday late night shopping, with parking difficulties for members.

Whereas on the tablelands late night shopping has been received with mixed feelings on account of the cold nights and whilst Sydney itself is divided concerning the profitability of the venture, Wollongong has at least experienced difficulties of car parking even though some shops do not open on Thursday nights.