

"All that is necessary
for the triumph of
evil is that good
men do nothing . . ."
— EDMUND BURKE.



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*Record-breaking Queen: happy, glorious, modest: Gordon Rayner of **The West Australian** September 13, 2015 reported the special day of the Queen thus: "She accepted it was a "special day" as she became our longest-reigning monarch, but the Queen was, as ever, the very embodiment of understatement..."*

Elizabeth II became Britain's longest-reigning monarch

As of 5.30pm Wednesday 11th September, the 89-year-old had been on the throne for 63 years, 216 days, 16 hours and approximately 30 minutes - surpassing the reign of her great-great-grandmother Queen Victoria.

Congratulations to her.

An Interesting and Lengthy Family Tree

Whenever I read a newspaper's sneering description of our Royal Family being of German (and therefore implying, Nazi) descent I think of Her Majesty's Family Tree and the fact that she can trace her British heritage back 1500 years. Australians of British heritage see themselves as part of that heritage even if they can't trace their own lineage back that far.

In his book "The Royal Line of Succession: The British Monarchy from Cerdic AD534 to Queen Elizabeth II", Patrick W. Montague-Smith (a former editor of Debrett's Peerage) gives his readers a look at the 'interesting and lengthy family tree' of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II which stretches back to a remote period in the history of the four nations which form the United Kingdom, as well as having blood ties with nearly all the royal families of Europe. Not only is she a direct descendant of William the Conqueror, but also of the ancient Royal House of England.

He tells his readers: "The Queen's ancestry is traced back through the great patriot king, Alfred the Great, who heroically resisted the Danes to Egbert, who, as king of Wessex, achieved supremacy over the other kingdoms, thus laying the foundations of a united England.



On her blue Karl Ludwig coat the Queen wore a diamond-studded bow brooch originally owned by Victoria and passed down to her by Queen Mary, one of a set of three ordered by Victoria from the royal jeweller Garrard in 1858.

Egbert's line goes back through generations of shadowy kings and princes of Wessex to the Saxon invader, Cerdic, who founded his kingdom and died in 534.

Nearly 1,500 years and fifty-three generations separate him from Queen Elizabeth, but continuity of kingship has remained. The family tree stretches for generations beyond Cerdic to remote Saxon chieftains who held sway in a territory near the Baltic in what is now Schleswig—Holstein.

We here enter the realms of legend, for it is not possible to determine the accuracy of these ancient genealogies beyond stating that there may be some truth in them, for they were carefully handed down from generation to generation, until in the 9th century they were preserved for posterity in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle.

For twenty-six years conquering Danish kings sat upon our throne, but this does not break the Royal Family tree. Both The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh descend from Astrid, sister of the mighty King Canute. The Danes, once our feared enemies, are now closely bound in relationship with our Royal Family. Queen Alexandra (consort of Edward VII), Princess Marina, Duchess of Kent, and the Duke of Edinburgh, all members of the royal House of Denmark, have enriched the Royal Family with Viking blood.

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(continued from previous page) The Queen descends from the kings of Scotland and Ireland through both her parents. King George VI was eleventh in descent from King James VI of Scotland, who succeeded the first Queen Elizabeth as sovereign of England, thus uniting the two kingdoms to form Great Britain.

King George VI also descended from Brian Boru, the most famous king of Ireland, who reigned from 1002 to 1014. The Queen's mother, Queen Elizabeth wife of George VI, also had royal Scottish and Irish blood. Her direct ancestor, Sir John Lyon, married Jean, daughter of King Robert II of Scotland, who granted him the lands of Glamis, still possessed by her family. She is also the great-great-granddaughter of the Marquess Wellesley (brother of the great Duke of Wellington), whose lineage is traced through the O'Briens, first family of Ireland, to King Brian Boru, from whom they take their name.

The Queen's Tudor ancestors brought Welsh blood to the Royal Family. Henry VII, the first Tudor king, descended from the princes of North and South Wales. His queen, Elizabeth of York, was of royal Welsh lineage from the princes of North Wales through the border family of Mortimer. The family tree of both branches united in a common ancestor, Rhodri Mawr (Rhodri the Great), who in the 9th century brought nearly all Wales under his rule.

As both The Queen and her consort, the Duke of Edinburgh, are great-great-grandchildren of Queen Victoria, they thus share descent from sovereigns of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales.

BRITISH HISTORY MAY HAVE TO BE REWRITTEN

'Super-Henge' Revealed: A New English Mystery Is Uncovered by Elizabeth Palermo, *Science Magazine*
<http://www.livescience.com/52112-super-henge-discovered-near-stonehenge.html>

The remains of a massive stone monument, 15 times the size of Stonehenge and located just 2 miles (3.2 kilometres) away from the famous site, were recently discovered by British archaeologists.

The stone monoliths were found buried beneath the bank of the Durrington Walls "super-henge," one of the largest-known henges in the United Kingdom, and could have been part of a huge Neolithic monument, the researchers said.

LiveScience reports: The finding, announced on Saturday (Sept. 7) at the British Science Festival in Yorkshire, could mean that everything researchers think they know about Stonehenge may need to be "rewritten," according to Paul Garwood, a senior lecturer in archaeology at the University of Birmingham, in the United Kingdom, and the principal pre-historian for the Stonehenge Hidden Landscapes Project — the group that discovered the stones using noninvasive, remote-sensing technologies.

It is not yet clear whether the stones were put in place at the same time as those of Stonehenge, nor do the researchers know how the stones were used. However, those who study the mysterious rock monuments of the U.K. previously thought that only Stonehenge and one smaller henge located near the famous monument featured significant stone monuments. Now they know that isn't the case.

The 90 or so huge stones discovered at Durrington Walls may have originally stood nearly 15 feet (4.5 metres) high before they were pushed over some 4,500 years ago, according to the researchers. The stones were then buried under a bank of earth that measures about 130 feet (40 m) across and nearly 10 feet (3 m) high in some places.

This massive bank forms the outer perimeter of the Durrington Walls "super-henge."

Durrington Walls is also surrounded by a 58-foot-long (17.6 m) ditch that forms an enclosure around an area that is approximately equivalent to 1 mile (1.5 km) of land. Inside the bank of the henge are a few smaller enclosures and timber-ringed circles. The massive landscape monument is associated with a settlement dating back about 4,500 years, to the Late Neolithic period, the researchers said.

The super-henge was constructed at the site of a natural depression in the landscape near the river Avon that was surrounded by a chalk scarp, or sharply edged hill. The newfound stones may have formed an artificial wall to the south of the hill, creating a C-shaped "arena" that once could have been the location of springs and a valley leading into the Avon, according to the researchers.

While none of the stones have been excavated yet, the researchers think they could be related to the only large stone within the Durrington Walls henge. Known as the "Cuckoo Stone," the presence of the 7-foot by 5-foot (2 m by 1.5 m) block of sarsen stone suggests that the buried stones may also be sarsen stones - the same, locally sourced stones that were used to build Stonehenge.

"This discovery of a major new stone monument, which has been preserved to a remarkable extent, has significant implications for our understanding of Stonehenge and its landscape setting," Vincent Gaffney, professor in the School of Archaeological Sciences at the University of Bradford in the U.K., said in a statement.

While researchers have yet to excavate any of the stones, it's possible that they were brought to the site of Durrington Walls at the same time that similar stones were brought to Stonehenge.

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(continued from previous page) Last year, Gaffney and other researchers with the Stonehenge Hidden Landscapes Project announced the results of a four-year survey of the landscape around Stonehenge. The survey was performed using the same noninvasive technologies, such as ground-penetrating radar, that led to the discovery of the huge stones under Durrington Walls.

In their survey, the researchers found that Stonehenge is far from a lonely pile of massive rocks standing in a field. It's actually part of a complex network of so-called "ritual monuments" that includes other areas encircled by wooden posts, timber, stones or earthen banks. The researchers also found that the Cursus, an enclosed, rectangular area to the north of Stonehenge, features two ditches at either end that line up with the Stonehenge's "avenues," or processional paths leading in and out of Stonehenge, which align with the sun's movement during the midsummer solstice.

Source: <https://www.sciencenews.org/blog/science-ticker/superhenge-once-lined-stonehenge-neighborhood>



A village in southern England near Stonehenge has boasted an imposing stone monument of its own. As many as 90 large stones once surrounded Durrington Walls before being intentionally buried, archaeologist of the University of Bradford announced on September 7 at the British Science Festival.

Durrington Walls dates to around 4,600 years ago. Ground-penetrating radar has revealed a set of massive stones, some of which were up to 4.5 metres high, lying under an earthen bank bordering part of the site. These stones were pushed over and covered by soil used to construct the bank, Gaffney said. As many as 30 stones remain intact. Other stones are fragmentary or denoted only by massive pits. The newly discovered stone row may date at least to Stonehenge's inception, nearly 5,000 years ago, Gaffney speculated.

‘WHO CALLED THE COOK A BASTARD?’

by C. Stanton Hicks

A personal account of a one-man campaign to improve the feeding of the soldier.

\$18.00 posted within Australia Heritage Book-mailing Service, P.O. Box 27, Happy Valley, South Australia 5159. Phone: 08 7123 7131



This little light-hearted account of the neglected importance of the army cook, aims to alert the man in the street to the fact that **Food is Life**, and that the preparation of foodstuffs with the **least wastage of essential nutrients** is fundamental to national health and to the national economy.

Food production has been all too long an item of financial calculation.

It is an integrated biological process calling for a totally different mode of thinking.

It was realised that the Australian Army in war was **tactically restricted**, and the nation **strategically endangered** by food wastage, both **gross and nutritional**. The scientific use of foodstuffs by well-trained cooks and food managers (caterers) became essential to victory. It required a savage war to create this food revolution, and threatening world famine will, of itself, ultimately force food restriction on this nation.

How long will it take for the people of Australia as a whole to realise the double jeopardy of such a situation? The dangers are limitation of our domestic food supplies, and the outside threat of authoritarianism which will steadily advance by cynical promise to famine-stricken peoples, of better times - in the future!

Brigadier Sir C. Stanton Hicks 1972

ONE DETERMINED MAN CAN MAKE THE WORLD OF DIFFERENCE TO THE OUTCOME

Cedric Stanton Hicks (1892-1976) was born on 2 June at Mosgiel, New Zealand, son of George Henry Hicks, NZ-born factory worker, and his wife Sarah, née Evans, from England. He attended Ravensbourne Public and (on a scholarship) Otago Boys' High schools. While at the University of Otago (B.Sc., N.Z., 1914; M.Sc. Hons, 1915; M.B., Ch.B., 1923), he earned an income by demonstrating chemistry to medical students, lecturing to evening-classes and teaching photography at the Dunedin School of Art.

In his spare time he played tennis, water polo and Rugby Union football, represented the province in rowing, swam competitively, managed the Otago University *Review* and was an executive-member of the Students' Association. By his own account, in 1916-18 Hicks served as a non-commissioned officer in the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. He assisted Professor J. K. H. Inglis in the synthesis and production of Chloramine-T for use against meningitis among the troops.

Under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act (1908), Hicks was appointed government analyst in 1918 and also worked as police toxicologist for the provinces of Otago and Southland. His earnings helped him to complete his medical degree. Meanwhile, he undertook research into several branches of chemistry and was elected a fellow (1922) of the Institute of Chemistry of Great Britain and Ireland. Awarded a Beit medical research fellowship in 1923, he travelled to England and studied at Trinity College, Cambridge (Ph.D., 1926), where he pursued his interest in the pathology of the thyroid gland. The fellowship gave Hicks an opportunity to carry out research in Switzerland, Germany and the United States of America.

He came to Adelaide in 1926 to take up a Sheridan Research Fellowship and lectureship in Mammalian Physiology at the University of Adelaide. He was appointed Professor of Human Physiology and Pharmacology from 1927, a position he retained until 1958 when he became Emeritus Professor. Between 1926 and 1936 he made several field trips to Central Australia to study the basal metabolism of indigenous Australians.

During the Depression he studied the dietary patterns of five hundred families receiving relief. The university awarded him an M.D. in 1936 for his thesis on the application of spectrophotometry 'to biochemical, physiological and medico-legal problems'. He was knighted in 1936 for his services to medical science.

A member from 1936 of the Commonwealth Advisory Council on Nutrition (subsequently the nutrition committee of the National Health and Medical Research Council), he took a leading part in surveying the diets of Australian families.

Sir C. Stanton Hicks offered his services to Army Headquarters during the Czechoslovakian crisis of 1938, a year later he found himself garbed in the uniform of Lieutenant of Infantry in the A.I.F. In February 1940 Sir Hicks was appointed temporary captain, Australian Military Forces, and performed part-time duty as catering supervisor, 4th Military District, Adelaide. He was transferred to Army Headquarters, Melbourne, in June. As chief inspector of catering, he began a campaign for applying scientific principles to the feeding of troops.

His achievement in overcoming resistance to his proposals was considerable: on 12 March 1943 the Australian Army Catering Corps was formed, largely due to his persistence. Having been promoted temporary Lieutenant Colonel (1941), he was posted as first director of the Corps; by the end of WWII it numbered some 17,000 officers and soldiers. Hicks altered the basis of the allowance for military rations from a monetary to a nutrient entitlement, improved the pay and promotion opportunities of cooks, established schools of cooking and catering, devised new methods for preparing food, supported the service's adoption of the Wiles steam-cooker, and designed jungle-patrol, emergency and air-drop rations.

In 1944 he visited Britain and the U.S.A. to promote his ideas. In November he was seconded to the Australian Imperial Force as temporary colonel.

Relinquishing his appointment on 31 January 1946, he was recalled for part-time duty in 1947 and transferred to the Retired List as honorary brigadier on 10 March 1952. The army retained him as a scientific food consultant, in which capacity he supervised the Defence Food Research Establishment at Scottsdale, Tasmania.



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THE WILES STEAM COOKERS by J. Kenneth Wiles (son of James Fletcher Wiles)

James Fletcher Wiles was born in 1873 and served in the South African Army at the age of 17. He was awarded the South African Medal with 3 clasps. He was one of the few survivors of the Wilmansrust disaster.

As a young soldier Jim observed that there was an urgent need of catering equipment for the front line troops. Being one of the youngest in the Regiment he spent a lot of the time cooking meals and conceived the idea of a mobile steam cooker, instinctively realizing that steaming vegetables was much better than boiling them.

The Wiles Army Steam Cooker was first developed and manufactured by James (Jim) Fletcher Wiles of Ballarat, Victoria, just prior to the 1914-18 war. The basic principle was a horse drawn travelling kitchen, being a combination of Steam Boiler, Roasting Oven, Hot and Cold Water Tanks and Limber (storage box). The boiler was connected via pressured hoses to large steamers or stock pots.



(1914-1918)

The unit could be transported by horses into an area and if necessary, the wheels detached and the unit lowered, for more convenient cooking

After several trials before Military Boards, under the worst conditions it was adopted by the Defence Department for service during the 1914-18 war. Once accepted by the war office, the establishment of a factory in Ballarat, Victoria occurred. The factory produced over 300 cookers for the Commonwealth Government. These units were used under active service conditions in Australia, Egypt and France.

After the cessation of hostilities, owing to a decision to standardize all equipment to British Army methods, the Australian Army discontinued use of the Wiles Cooker and reverted back to the antiquated methods of Soyer stoves, (wash boilers) Dixies, Mud trenches and Mud Aldershot ovens.

Jim Wiles was very disappointed with this decision and sold his engineering workshops at Ballarat and purchased an irrigated fruit-growing property near Cadell, South Australia. Unfortunately the dried fruit industry collapsed and he lost everything, having no alternative but to abandon the property and settle in Adelaide, just prior to the "Great Depression".

In 1929 Jim Wiles decided to set up an Electroplating Plant in Adelaide. He had no capital and relied on his sons to support him. As a note, in 1930 he was the first to introduce Chromium plating to Adelaide. Chromium plating set a new standard in Decorative Electroplating.

After many years of hard work, the company was finally successful and became well known in industry. During this period Jim frequently talked to his sons of the advantage of the Army having good cooking facilities. These family talks became more intensive in the late thirties when it appeared that war was imminent. Just prior to his death on 11th August 1939 Jim Wiles requested, should war break out, that the four brothers again submit proposals to the Defence Department for the making of the steam cookers.

J. Kenneth Wiles (Son of James Fletcher Wiles) visited the Keswick Army Barracks to discuss with Major Lenton the advantages of the steam cooker. The Major mentioned the difficulties encountered in the previous war and forecast very accurately the same problems would again be encountered. My brothers and I decided in spite of this to build a cooker and submit it to the Army.

We had no working drawings so worked from photographs of the earlier unit. The model developed had a 'double oven' design and further enhancements which included a multifunctional use for static as well as mobile camps. This was based on the wheel removal of the original unit converting it to stationary. We worked around the clock to complete the first prototype on 28th November 1939. The concept was submitted to officers of Keswick Army Barracks 4th Military District.

Major Lenton was very impressed and arranged for Base Commandant Brigadier Martyn's permission for testing with the Keswick Garrison Battalion who consisted mainly of returned First World War veterans. The battalion cooks were very enthusiastic and the message rapidly spread of their new equipment for cooking. Colonel H. Tolley (Commander of the Royal Engineers) and Major Stevens (Assistant Commander of the Royal Engineers) reported that the steam boiler was of a sound design and quite safe to be used. Major Lenton also reported the improved wood/fuel economy. With this further information I presented the concept to Army Headquarters; Victoria Barracks; Melbourne.

Progress and interest was slow

At the suggestion of Major Lenton the cooker was moved to Gawler - 18th Light Horse Machine Gun Regiment - under the command of Brigadier Blackburn. This Mobile Regiment gave the cooker considerable field-testing, one being the movement of the entire regiment from Gawler to Kingston Park and back. Meals were supplied without difficulty.

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Opposition by Army officers was developing and a stalemate occurred. Dick had received unofficial approval to continue working with the army cooks on the cooker. He camped with the battalion at Gawler; then at Cheltenham racecourse. I had also made frequent visits to Army Headquarters Melbourne without any further development. At this time Major Lenton had co-opted into the Army Sir Stanton Hicks, Emeritus Professor of Human Physiology and Pharmacology from the University of Adelaide, C.St.J., M.Sc., M.D., Ph.D., F.I.C.

Sir Stanton Hicks eventually founded the Australian Army Catering Corps and became the first director of Catering A.M.F.9.LT.

Taken from “Who Called the Cook a Bastard” (2nd Lt.) Hicks:

I visited the 18th Light Horse (Machine Gun Regiment) in camp at Cheltenham racecourse. Lenton had sent me there to see this new steam cooker. The Commanding Officer was Lieutenant Colonel Arthur Blackburn V.C. He was delighted, as he expressed it, to have someone with intelligence to look at the performance of the mobile steam cooker that was on trial feeding his unit.

*Arthur Blackburn had compiled a complete record of its performance. Its fuel consumption was only 30 per cent of the official issue. **Within 20 minutes of lighting the fire it was ready to prepare a meal, and it could cook on the road whilst travelling at normal convoy speed, and supply a battalion with a two-course meal. Four gallons of water could be boiled for tea in two minutes.***

Soup, stews and vegetables steamed so that 'troops will eat them and return for more', as the Commanding Officer said and continued, 'There must be something important about this, and you are just the one to find out'.

Lieutenant Colonel Blackburn could not restrain his enthusiasm, so satisfied were his troops with meals produced by this cooker. He insisted that I go on bivouac with his unit in order to watch it closely in action. Little wonder that the CO was enthusiastic. It was a revolutionary idea.

The Wiles Steam Cooker kitchen was catering for 494 men. It is quite capable of catering for 550. Food when cooked was palatable. Burnt food no longer occurred, especially in the case of porridge, stews, etc., foods containing a large liquid content.

During ‘convoy movements’ the cooking unit had the effect of basting meat rather than roasting, i.e. fat being continually thrown over the meat. This is preferable for taste and ensures the juices are kept in the meat.

A continuous supply of boiling water of approximately 76 gallons was also on hand for making tea.

Over the 55 day trial catering for an average of 380 men, the average daily consumption of wood was 478 lbs. This shows a 79% saving of fuel as the average daily allowance of wood for 380 men is 2,280 lbs. Also the 478 lbs of wood would still be sufficient fuel catering for up to 550 men.

Convoy movements of approximately 25 miles per hour could be maintained without any loss of efficiency or delay by the cooker. A speed of 35 mph was maintained for some miles on good roads. The kitchen is trailer mounted and at higher speed (>25 mph) the kitchen sways, making movement around the kitchen for the cooking staff difficult.

As a fixed unit it can be used for any type of camp or unit. Its efficiency is a very high standard, being its hygiene, economy and compactness. Everything needed for the cooking of meals is part of the unit. During convoy movements, when the Commanding Officer decides to stop to feed his regiment, the kitchen is already there and running and the food can be served hot without any lost time, thus maximizing traveling time and reducing delays in getting on the move again.

The Electroplating Factory was carrying the financial burden for the development of the Cooker. This created a clash with "The Industries Assistance Corporation" a semi-government South Australian organization set up to assist industry. We had already obtained a loan from them to expand our Electroplating Plant during a very difficult cash flow period. Eight or nine months had elapsed with no prospect of official Army acceptance. Considerable discussions had taken place at Army Headquarters with mixed results. Most Army Officials were keen to use the cooker but no one would take the step forward.

With the war expanding Woodside camp was established, with each campsite area having kitchen facilities for a battalion of men. A feature of these campsites being many Soyer Stoves, and a huge Aldershot Oven situated in the center. The Aldershot Oven burnt down the wood to form a hot ash. The smoke generated was incredible. The oven did not have good flues.

Sir Stanton's inspection of this horrified him. He discussed with us the possibility of developing and installing a cooking unit with a capacity for 600 men.



The Stationary Unit

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By mid 1940, 16 stationary cookers were installed at Darley Camp, Victoria. This was followed by further orders for 20 more units for Narrellan and Liverpool Camps, NSW. By this stage the British Air Force were interested and some 30 odd units were installed in various camps throughout Malaya.

Mobile Cooker

Towards the end of 1940, Stationary units were well established in various camps throughout the Commonwealth. Efforts to obtain recognition for the Mobile Cooker had been futile. Then at the suggestion of Brigadier Bundock, Captain Stanton Hicks and Colonel Tolley, the Euchunga citizens presented the first mobile cooker to the Army in March, 1941. We received a request to build 5 Mobile Cookers for an urgent requirement in the Northern Territory, to operate and supply meals for a group under the command of Brigadier Loutit to be known as "The Darwin Overland Maintenance Force (D.O.M.F.)". The objective was to build a road from Alice Springs to Darwin. We leased a property at Sturt Street Adelaide but in a very short period we again needed to increase the factory area. Our work force by then had increased to 60 men.

The well fed road teams completed their all weather two lane highway under the most pressing climatic and working conditions, two months under contract time and what is more, without a single complaint. Brig. H. Bundock of 4 MAD accepted the plan of Captain Sir Stanton Hicks to supply Army cooks and our mobile cookers to feed those road construction gangs without reference to A.H.Q. It was a wonderful opportunity to try out the Wiles cooker under strenuous service conditions. The Mobile Cookers were usually sent ahead of the men to have meals ready at a base further up the track. By this time most Army and Airforce base camps throughout Australia were using or having installed Stationary Cookers.

On 26th March 1941 the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria through its President, Mr. Rowe and Secretary, Mr. Scott-Clarke, decided it was time the Army used Mobile cookers. They accordingly arranged for citizens of the town of Leongatha, Gippsland, Victoria to present one to the Army. This was a great day for the town and it was considered by the Mayor as the greatest influx of Brass Hats the town had ever seen. I had the pleasure of hearing Quarter Master General Cannan, until then not enthusiastic regarding mobile cookers, who, during his speech of acceptance indicated how necessary it was to have mobile equipment.

BAM

On the 30th October 1941 the Contracts Board in Adelaide in conjunction with the Board of Area Management issued order No. 7126 for 25 mobile cookers. The order created another problem.

All material steel etc. throughout Australia had come under the control of Ministry of Munitions and whilst reasonable priorities had been given us for material for stationary cookers Contracts Board could not obtain priorities for us from Ministry of Munitions. We produced the 25 by borrowing and exchanging material with other manufacturers. Eventually Ministry of Munitions sent an officer Mr. M. Montieth to investigate the cause of the delays for completion of the order for 25 Cookers which by then had been transferred from Board of Area Management to their control.

With the likely entrance of Japan into the war a new outlook had developed and Army realized that total mobility would be required. War Cabinet, on the 2nd February 1942, issued orders for 275 Mobile Units in addition to the 25 being currently produced. It was recommended that in the interest of the feeding of troops, Wiles Bros. and associates organization be instructed to produce continuously, and that they be aided by the necessary priorities for steel and other material acquisition.

With current orders in excess of 275 mobiles, on 6th June 1942 M.G.O. placed orders for an additional 500 units: production required delivery of 5 to made by 5/8/42 increasing to 50 per week by 2/9/42, destination to be advised later. This ended the long battle for acceptance by the Army. Acknowledgment and appreciation must go to brother Dick and my other brothers, Captain Sir Stanton Hicks, Col. Tolley C.R.E. 4.M.D. and Major Stevens. The demand for Stationary Units, spare parts, castings etc. was considerable. All factories were flat out on production and our work force had increased to 300 men.

The demand was so great that mobile units were placed where they served an urgent need. They were used on rail transport where it was carried by truck to feeding points, beach heads, in sea transport where it was lashed on deck, in field hospitals, trans-shipment points and dock operating units.



The Senior Cooker

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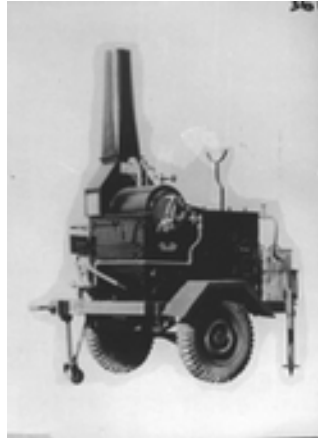
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With the acceptance of the large 4 four wheeled mobile cooker, Army Catering Corps suggested we develop a small two wheel cooking unit to cater for 100 to 150 personnel to be towed by a jeep or possibly dropped by parachute into inaccessible areas: weight not to exceed 1 ton. We submitted our ideas based somewhat on the design of the horse drawn unit developed by our father. Within 2 months we produced a unit consisting of a wheel design similar to a jeep, a light axle and frame. On this was mounted boiler, roasting oven, four small steamers or stock pots, 1 cold water tank for boiler supply and 1: 20 gallon copper insulated tank.

The cooker was tested and immediately accepted by Army. Because of its size and possible confusion with the large 4 wheel unit it was named

"The Junior Mobile Cooker".

Considerable numbers were used by Army and Airforce. Although its use did not become effective till the later stages of the war, it was extensively used by the Army until 1980. It is pleasing to have recorded in a booklet produced by the Ministry of the Army of the types of Army equipment made by Australian Manufacturers, with a



foreword by General Sir Thomas Blamey Commander in Chief Australian Military Forces and comment by Hon F.M. Forde Minister for the Army.

During the war Australia was responsible for considerable scientific and technical development in equipping, feeding, and providing medical treatment for the Australian Military Forces engaged in operations in the South West Pacific Area.

Much of this work had direct and significant bearing on the successful prosecution of the war against Japan. It is an achievement of which not only the Australian Army, but the Australian manufacturers, scientists and

engineers, associated with various Government Departments, the Universities, and private and corporate civilian organizations, who contributed to it, can be justifiably proud.

My brothers, staff, and I, working together as a team, consider we made a useful contribution to the war effort and a lasting memory to an incredible man, James F. Wiles, soldier, Inventor, Engineer.

The Mobile Steam Cooker, as developed by Messrs. Wiles Bros. in close co-operation with the Staff of the 4th Military District, as it existed during the first year of hostilities, represents the final realization of the idea of an old South African veteran, who was determined to do something towards improving the feeding of the soldier. It made its first appearance in its earlier form on active service in 1914-18. Today it embodies the results of improved technology, as well as of mechanization of the Army, and provides the most efficient move or in concentration.

The Wiles Mobile Steam Cooker is a fitting tribute to the work of the Army Cook, and to the memory of its soldier inventor J.F. WILES.

Brigadier Sir Stanton Hicks, M.Sc., M.D., Ph.D., F.I.C., F.C.S. Director Army Catering, H.Q., Allied Land Forces, S.W. Pacific Area



J. Kenneth Wiles and Lt. Colonel Sir Stanton Hicks

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