



AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING COMMISSION

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

September 15, 1976

MEMO TO ALL STAFF Pot Plant Polishing

In order to achieve the Commission's new goal of "one hundred cents worth for every dollar spent" it has been decided to make economies in a number of areas. Not only will certain ABC programs be sold to commercial interests, but there will also be significant economies in the area of office maintenance.

Accordingly, the services of the firm of contractors who hitherto have been responsible for the care and maintenance of pot plants within the St. James Building have been dispensed with, effective from October 1.

As from that date each Department in the St. James Building will be responsible for the maintenance of their own plants and pots. Each Department shall forthwith appoint a Pot Plant Polishing Officer to carry out these duties. Each P.P.P.O. will be issued with the following equipment:

- 1 feather duster
- 1 plastic watering can
- 1 thermometer
- 1 hydrometer
- 1 can "Mr. Sheen"

Pot Plant Polishing Officers will be functionally responsible to the newly created position of Supervisor of Plants (Splant). Splant's office is located on the fourth floor of the St. James Building. Splant will replace empty cans of "Mr Sheen" with full ones upon presentation of the used can.

There are two points that P.P.P.O.s should note:-

1. Pencil sharpenings should not be placed in the pots as these constitute a fire hazard, especially when taken in conjunction with the propensity of some personnel to use these pots as ash trays.
2. The Supervisor of Plants, Mr. A. Spidestra, has drawn it to my attention that some personnel have been tampering with the pot plants in a fashion calculated to excite the few but offend the many. The practice of growing real flowers (for example, geraniums) in ABC pots is to cease, since ABC pot plants have been specially cultivated to look like plastic. Any plants that look like real flowers would detract from the overall image and destroy the rigid conformity that I have been at pains to establish.

CHAIRMAN