



*Covered van No. 114, "Black Maria" at Newnes Junction, 1938.*

*E.M. Stephens.*

of a siding at the junction awaiting a buyer. Its subsequent fate is unknown.

The Clyde Engineering Company built ten "D" class four-wheeled trucks, with steel underframes and wooden bodies in 1910. These were numbered 151 to 160 inclusive but only seven could be located in 1938, the others having presumably "perished by the wayside". As built they had the name "COMMONWEALTH OIL CORPORATION" emblazoned on their sides. This lettering was later supplanted by "JOHN FELL & CO. LTD", and were handsomely finished with light grey bodies, black ironwork, and lettered with chrome yellow shaded in black. The dimensions of these open trucks were as follows:- Length over headstocks 18 feet 2 inches; Width 8 feet 9 inches; Height above rail 6 feet 4 inches; Wheels 36 inches diameter; Wheel-base 10 feet.

Eight of these "D" trucks, mostly stored at Newnes Junction about the 1940 period, were acquired by the Australian Iron and Steel Company and placed in their service in unaltered condition, except for the side stanchions which were strength-

ened and a coat of light red paint. They were re-numbered 1 to 8 and coded "ND". Their intended use at Cringila was in the handling of steel scrap but they proved far too frail and Nos 1, 4, 5, and 6 later served as breakdown trucks, carrying re-railing ramps, packing, etc., and located at four extremities of the works, ready for use should an emergency arise.

In the earliest days of the Wolgan Railway a very old type of goods brake-van, road number 10860, was purchased from the Railway Department. This vehicle had its body frame arranged outside the planking, thus giving a smooth interior. It had a double roof and it is possible that it ran on six wheels and also that the floor was of heavy sheet-iron to afford greater weight for hand-braking, a feature of the older type of brake-van. Unfortunately a fire destroyed this van, the circumstance of which are not known to the authors.

Two four-wheeled goods brake-vans were built by the Clyde Engineering Company in 1910 and numbered 201 and 202. They were plain honest to goodness vehicles with mean looking duckets at