**FINANCE CORNER**

SYDNEY, Friday.—BHP made further gains in more active trading on national sharemarkets yesterday.

Good times were recorded in all sections. Demand for BHP was again stronger with the shares putting on 40 to 5.75 in both reports closing at their highest points of the day.

The market leader's shares have therefore gained 1.40 in the last two days after declining for several weeks from the year's peak of 10.30.

Disappointment with the interim report, the predictions of Cambridge University that the shares would fall to about 9.50, and a stronger than hoped-for price for local crude oil set off by the Federal Government were factors in the dollar.

This has been intensified by the recent takeover.

However, at less than 10.700 more than 60 below the peak valuation put on BHP during last year's boom, it will attract buying support. There has also been signs the last two days that the share offerings of markets with currently, and the downward trend.

**Brightest**

Trading yesterday was the brightest for several weeks, with turnover upwards the levels of a few weeks ago.

Although falls outnumber rises in the list, even here, listed companies showed an attempt at stimulation trading.

Vamugas attracted a fair amount of interest, with the fully paid shares opening at 80c and closing at 82c, having a peak of 85c before easing back on closing at 79c. The number was 69,000 shares.

Another 30 million ordinary, 50 shares were listed on major Australian exchanges yesterday. Shares were asked by the Methodist evangelist, Rev Ralph Bell, for a Bush Telegraph reporter yesterday. The company had a $50,000 settlement in New Zealand, which

hydrocarbons have been found.

**STABILIZE**

New Zealand partner is carrying out seismic studies to determine targets for drilling this year.

Yesterday, the fully paid shares were sold, but the contributions were well supported.

**Gains**

A wide range of oil stocks made good gains, with Woodside, Mid Eastern, Bardi and Genoa as the downward trend of the last few weeks appears to be something. Demand for oil was particularly strong in afternoon trading.

Among the miners, New Britain paid another premium for closing at 8.10. Directly and indirectly it holds a significant interest in the Beach area in New Zealand. Bokor Hill, Smith, which was also an interest, was firmer.

**Prediction of the future**

This attractive and impressive sial plant has suffered from Darwin's recent heavy rains and wind, but NTA's parks and gardens section is determined to save it.

The plant is outside the Lake Burra and the staff has asked that it should be returned to good health as it is flowering. Parks and gardens staff yesterday straightened the plant up and anchored it securely with ropes and wire in the hope that it will survive.

The plant will only flower once but it will leave several suckers which eventually flower.

**BUS SERVICE CHANGES FOR "PUB LIFICATION"**

Amendments to existing NTA bus services to operate from today are aimed at providing a better service for the travelling public.

A spokesman for the NTA Transportation Branch said yesterday that orders were received on Tuesday night at the Aboriginal camp site, 20 miles of the Northern Highway.

**Brightest**

On Wednesday morning Wandall was found dead at his camp. It is not known whether he was at the camp or in the bush. The other Aboriginal could not be found when police went to the area where he usually camps and several trackers were called in to assist the search.

Inspector Metcalfe said it was a possible that Dick's camp site had been robbed.

A spokesman today said that Dick's camp site had been robbed.

**When who have benefited?**

Two former Darwin men walking 18 miles under a hot sun with a small fish in a middle-of-the-mud puddle, Flash as a fish he scooped it up in a middle-of-the-mud puddle. They're the last thing better.

Who would have believed it? Two former Darwin men walking 18 miles under a hot sun with a small fish in a middle-of-the-mud puddle, Flash as a fish he scooped it up in a middle-of-the-mud puddle. They're the last thing better.

**EASTER**

Easter will see the climax of many months of hard work for local residents who expect to entertain more than 600 visitors from Australia and overseas at this Easter convention.

Following jingle, taken from their own magazine, is a good illustration of the kind of publicity that has attracted these people.

Have you ever seen a buffalo rolling in the mud? Or a big man crocodile? Of course you have.

"We're sure you've never seen one. We are sure you never will. If you don't come up to Darwin and join us, you will. There is one thing that you must see. Before all else, fill it. The skies of the ocean. Then, the vastness of the world. The sea is the sun's better place to be."

**PHIL PUGH**

PHIL PUGH, assistant director of the Mines and Water Research Branch, lives along that infamous road leading to the Stuart Highway near the 13-mile. While the road has been a wet-season quagmire, he has been leaving his car near the highway, and walking the rest of the way. He takes his shoes and socks, and hangs them on his umbrella to wash through the mud.

The other day, walking to the car, he saw a small fish in the middle-of-the-mud puddle. Quick as a flash he scooped it up in the middle-of-the-mud puddle. He's the last thing better.

**KI/A THE DEATH PROBE**

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