

FLOWER POWER

SEVEN or eight years ago Reg Dyson was given an orchid which hadn't flowered for eight years and he got it to bloom in the first 12 months—from then on he was hooked.

He started planning about that time for his retirement and realised that orchids would be the ideal hobby to go with the home he was going to build at Noosa in Queensland.

It all came together in August when Reg retired after 24 years with the Board.

He joined in 1958 as a construction engineer, after spending eight years with the South Australian Engineering and Water Supply Department. Reg, who comes from Warrnambool, had applied for a job with the South Australian Commission and was asked to come to the MMBW Head Office to be interviewed by the South

Australian engineer-in-chief. He said he has always regretted not asking the Board at the time if there were any jobs available — he could probably have joined eight years earlier.

He started as construction engineer with Project Group C and, over the years, has been construction engineer in each of the districts, North, South and West, three times in each case, and also had three years as an O&M area engineer, ending up as Southern Construction area engineer until recently.

He then joined a new group under the then Deputy Secretary Graeme Wight and

Assistant Engineer-in-Chief Bill Morgan to oversee the design and construction of new Board buildings, such as the extensions of the Southern depot and the new Northern regional complex.

After Reg's first success with orchids, he realised he had found the ideal hobby and started to build up a collection to fulfill his requirements for after he retired.

With his recently completed house in Noosa, he's got all he's been looking for—a satisfying hobby, a place to hibernate in the winter and a place, too, where he can prop his fishing rods and watch the lines from his front window if the weather is inclement.



REG DYSON with part of his collection of beautiful orchids.

THERE was a joint farewell for Reg Dyson and Jack Tilley at the Southern Region complex at Moorabbin on August 20. The photograph below shows, left to right: Brian Carland, Southern Area Engineer, who was Master of Ceremonies at the function, Reg Dyson, Jack Tilley, and Bill Lockington, Chief Construction Engineer.

