

Sunshine Advocate

Migrant family's life is tale of misfortune

1st February 1962 Page 4

MIGRANT FAMILY'S LIFE IS TALE OF MISFORTUNE

Mr. and Mrs. John Stoellinger, of St. Albans, migrated to Australia from Austria six years ago, excited at the prospect of making a new life. They have met more than their share of misfortune.

Their misfortunes seemed to reach a climax on Tuesday when their neat six-roomed weather-board home in View Street, St. Albans, was destroyed by fire.

Mr. Stoellinger, 41, and his wife Margaret, 41, carried their three children, Augustine, 9, Jon, 6, and Brigitte, 18 months, to safety with only seconds to spare.

The fire broke out about 3 a.m.

TWO ACCIDENTS

A year after the family came to Australia, Augustine, then aged three, was involved in a car accident, the scars of which he still has today.

Two years later Mr. Stoellinger was lucky to escape death when a bucket of cement fell on him while working as a plasterer at the Hume Weir.

But he suffered head and spine injuries, and was in hospital for

months. The accident left him permanently incapacitated.

A bright note for the family, however, is that they have a two-roomed bungalow in the back yard to live in temporarily.

For B