



Dawn



at the G.P.O. Sydney, for
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A MAGAZINE FOR THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE OF N.S.W.

April, 1953.

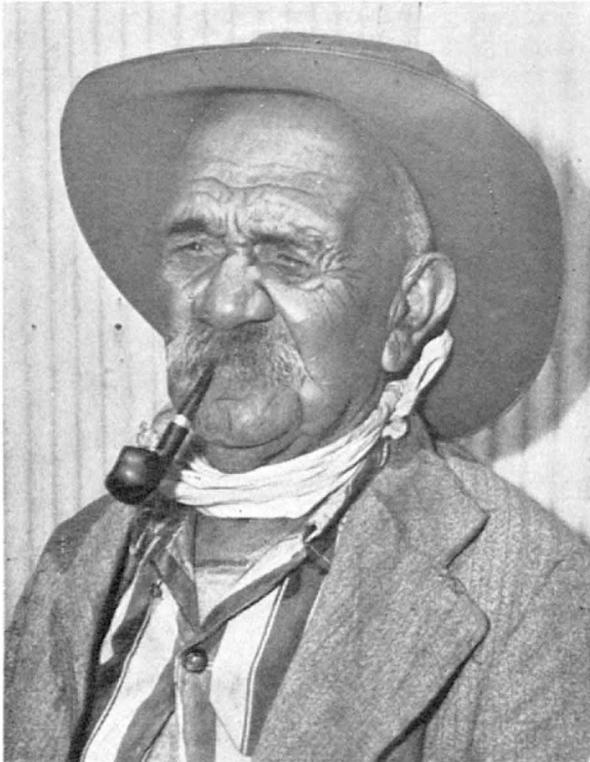




OUR COVER

Harry Lang . . . a real Australian. One of Boggabillas best-known and best-loved characters Harry Lang has been a wonderful horseman and an outstanding athlete.

After more than half a century of strenuous activity in the out-back, Harry is now content to reminisce and watch the youngsters at play.



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THE POLICY OF ASSIMILATION

CHILDREN PLAY IMPORTANT PART

by

C. J. BUTTSWORTH

Chairman, Aborigines Welfare Board



In last month's issue of *Dawn* I expressed the view that aboriginal people would become completely assimilated if they adopted habits and standards of living similar to those of the white community, and that one of the main differences at present was the poor type of housing so many aboriginal people provide for themselves. It has been said that his home is an Englishman's castle. This is true not only of an Englishman, but of all civilised people. Home is the cornerstone of our existence, and there should be the strongest urge within all people to make their homes comfortable and beautiful, happy places in which to live with their families, places to be kept clean and tidy and to be made pretty with paints and flowers. The owner of such a home takes great pride in it. He spends most of his spare time doing odd jobs of upkeep and improvement, and this gives him an interest and a great deal of real pleasure. Without such an interest, leisure time could be a burden and a source of unhappiness.

The people to be considered most of all are the children. At school they learn many things the purpose of which is to help them to a better way of life. It would greatly assist this purpose if after school they had nice homes to return to with their own interests in the home. The young girl growing into womanhood should have a room of her own, with all the little knickknacks she will find pleasure in providing. If your children are able to take pride in bringing their friends to visit their home, those friends will be happy to have your children back to visit them. There would be no difference between dark and white if both had similar standards of home life.

Money has a Real Purpose

I mentioned before that so few aborigines have attempted to build homes for themselves despite the fact that for years many have earned good wages. The only reason for this that can be suggested is that they fail to recognise the real purpose money is intended to serve. Housing is estimated to represent one fifth (one fourth would probably be nearer) of the average wage, and wage rates are fixed on this basis. In other words, it is intended that the average worker will require to devote £120 to £150 each year towards a home. Just think what it would mean by way of housing improvement if, say, 2,000 aboriginal wage earners in

this State devoted that much of their earnings towards home building. It would mean a total outlay of from £240,000 to £300,000 in every year. Keep in mind that although this amount of money has been received for housing purposes year by year, it has been spent on other purposes in most cases; few have much to show for their money and the many still live in sub-standard dwellings which are an eye-sore on the fringe of country towns. Local townspeople complain unceasingly about these places and will not allow their children to visit the dark children who live there.

Self Help is Best

We have come to look upon governments as responsible for giving assistance to those who are in need. It is very questionable, however, whether this view is justified when the person is in need, despite the fact that he is earning a good income and should not be in need. In any case, there is no help half so good as self help, and every man of independent spirit should begin early to plan and build his own home. The first step is to open a savings account and bank regularly as much as possible. The savings will soon grow till enough is in hand to start building.

Since my previous article was written, I received a report from a district police officer on the application for an exemption certificate by an aboriginal living in an outback district. Here are some of the facts set out in the report:—

“The applicant has a wife and nine children; he is a good worker of strictly sober habits; looks after his family in a manner which is a credit to him; home is clean, well kept and well furnished; has a savings account of £300; general conduct is excellent and he is more respected in this district than many of the white people.”

As I said previously, it is the adoption of different habits and standards of living that keeps people apart from one another. That racial differences are only minor factors is shown clearly by the report on this man who has solved the problem of assimilation so far as he and his family are concerned. I do not doubt many more are able to do the same, but there are ways in which the public and the Board can help, and these will be the subject of my next article.

NEW SOUTH WALES . . .

A Busy State!

Each year, the Government Statistician issues a Year Book, and this very important little publication tells us many important things about the State in which we live.

The area of New South Wales is 309,433 square miles. This includes Lord Howe Island, a dependency of New South Wales, of 5 square miles, but does not include the Australian Capital Territory of 939 square miles.

The greatest length of the State, from north to south, is 683 miles and the greatest width, from east to west, is 756 miles.



POPULATION

New South Wales has a population of 3,388,437 and its capital city, Sydney, has a population of 1,610,580.

MARITAL STATUS

Sixty-five per cent. of the people in New South Wales are over 21 years of age and under 65, and 46 per cent. of the people are married.



SCHOOL STATISTICS

There are 529,689 children attending public schools in New South Wales and these children are taught by 13,613 teachers.



BEER AND WINE CONSUMPTION

The people of New South Wales are a thirsty people and last year they drank 66,021,000 gallons of beer, and 5,643,000 gallons of wine.



TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBERS

One in every seven people in the State has the telephone connected to his home and altogether there are 330,368 telephones.

TRAFFIC REGISTRATIONS

This is a very mobile State and every year sees thousands of new vehicles on the roads. There are 338,640 registered motor cars in New South Wales, 196,295 motor lorries, and 47,552 motor cycles. Unfortunately we also have a great many road accidents . . . indeed far too many. Last year alone, 741 people were killed in road accidents in New South Wales and 12,637 injured.



AIRWAYS TRAFFIC

Our people are also rapidly becoming "air conscious" and last year in this State alone, 1,102,471 people travelled 628,342,000 miles by air.



RAIL TRAVEL

There are 6,113 miles of railway line in this State and every year the railways carry over 26 million people as well as 18 million tons of freight (including livestock).



HOUSING

The average Australian couple strive to own their own home as quickly as possible, and accordingly the building industry is one of the most important in New South Wales. Last year, 23,273 new homes were built in this State. This does not include government buildings.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE FIGURES



The people of this State are great fruit eaters and statistics show there are 302,389 lemon trees, 177,281 mandarin trees, 1,057,077 apple trees, 555,143 peach trees, 134,910 plum trees and 167,624 cherry trees. On the vegetable side we produce each year 52,020 tons of potatoes, 10,535 tons of carrots, 1,937 tons of onions, 21,969 tons of pumpkins, 1,803,439 half cases of tomatoes, 924,314 bushels of peas and 289,516 cases of lettuce. What a magnificent salad all that would make!



LIVESTOCK

At present, we also have 3,620,953 head of cattle, 53,676,000 sheep, 292,829 pigs, 6,879,000 fowls and chickens, 165,000 ducks, and 195,000 turkeys.



DECREASE IN HORSE BREEDING



At the Royal Easter Show last year, one of the cattle judges deplored the fact that our horses were on the decrease and statistics show just how far our equine population has fallen.

In 1939, we had 531,355 horses whereas now we have only 310,600.



EGG PRODUCTION

Last year, New South Wales produced 78,661,000 dozen eggs.



FACTORY EMPLOYMENT

In New South Wales, there are no less than 17,129 factories employing on an average 407 people each, and meeting a yearly wages bill of £211,399,000.

Garden Competition Again

Seed Firm's Fine Gesture

The generous gesture of a Sydney Seed Firm has made it possible for a large-scale garden competition to be held again this year for all Aboriginal schools in the State. Last year the competition was won by Nanima School and it will be this school that will have the honor of having its name first inscribed on the beautiful shield which has been donated by Arthur Yates and Co., one of Australia's leading seed merchants.

Nanima will hold the shield until it is awarded again at the end of September, and it is expected that the Editor of *Dawn* will make the presentation at Nanima in the very near future.

Donating the shield to *Dawn*, one of the Directors of Arthur Yates and Co., Mr. E. Gattenby, said, "It is our desire to help you in your most commendable efforts to improve the lot of the Australian aborigine and it is hoped the provision of this shield will help attract as much interest as possible in the competition. Additionally, we would like to donate 100 packets of vegetable and flower seeds which could be used either as a prize, or you may desire to distribute them well beforehand so they could be used for growing the products which would be shown at the competition."

The Editor has decided that the packets of seeds will not be used in conjunction with the schools' competition but will be made available to Station residents for their home gardens.

Two packets of seeds will be forwarded to the first fifty people writing in to *Dawn*. Readers must enclose a 3½d. stamp for return postage.

The school competition for the Arthur Yates shield will be open to all Aboriginal schools in New South Wales and will be conducted between June and September, inclusive.

There is no entry fee but all schools wishing to enter must advise the Editor of *Dawn* by 1st. June



Three Bellbrook beauties, Maureen Holten, Laurel Cohen and Judith Holten.

BOGGABILLA . . . A RIVER STATION !

Pictorial Scenes from the Village

Resting peacefully on the bank of the McIntyre River, Boggabilla Aboriginal Station presents a picturesque setting for the visitor who has travelled the dusty roads from some other nearby township.

Location

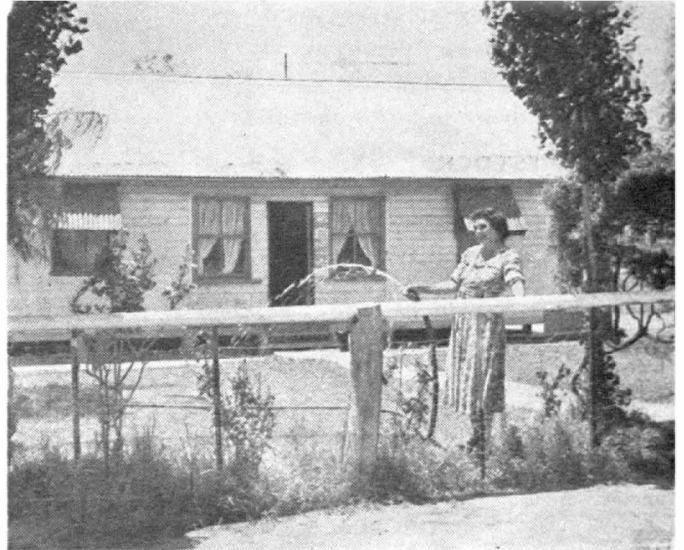
The Station is built some ten or eleven miles out of Boggabilla township and one has only to cross the river to be in Queensland.

Area

Altogether the station covers some 40 acres of cleared level ground and at the moment has a population of 218 residents. Of this number 106 are children. It speaks well for the people of Boggabilla when statistics show that 35 of the 37 able-bodied men on the Station are in outside employment, working on nearby stations shearing, droving and ringbarking.

Stock

There is plenty of room on the Station for cattle, and at present the residents have 10 milking cows, 27 dry cows, 22 calves and heifers, and 4 horses. Practically every male on the Station, young or old, is a good horseman.



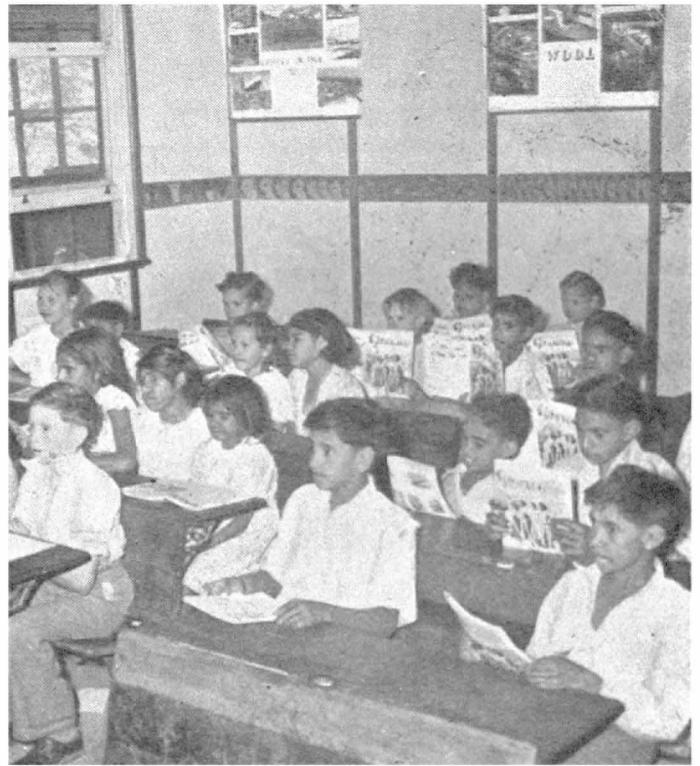
The cottages on the Station are all weatherboard, with galvanised-iron roofs and in most cases are in good order and neatly kept. Every cottage has a good water supply pumped up from the nearby river.



Boggabilla has some of the real old-timers of the State like Harry Lang (our "coverboy" this issue), centenarian Charles Dennison or Kate Cubby, pictured above, who likes nothing better than to sit by the fire with her wireless and her old pipe.



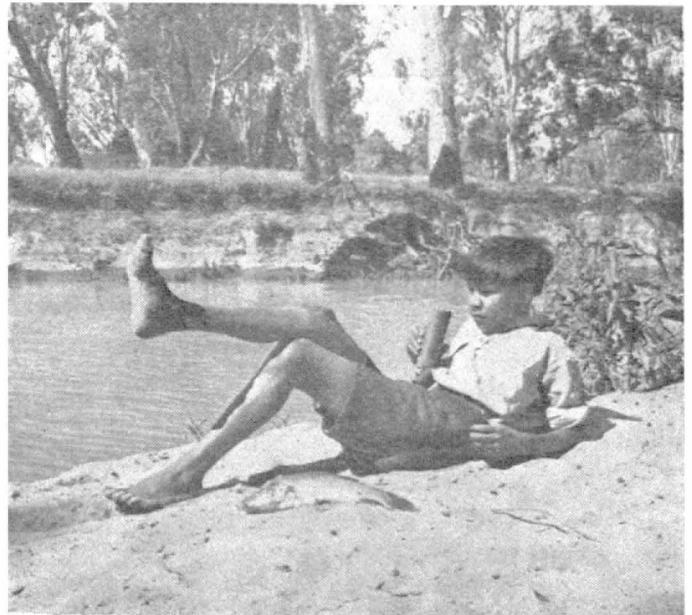
One of the most valuable, and interesting features of the Station's administration is the weekly clinic day, when the mothers, summoned by a big bell hanging from the clinic verandah, bring their youngsters along for a regular check up. This regular treatment has considerably improved the health and welfare of Station children.



Boggabilla school has a big attendance, and the students are encouraged to take a keen interest in arts and crafts. Many of them are good artists.

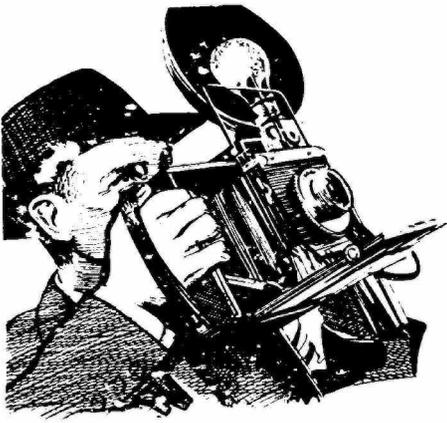


Many of the cottages have nice family gardens where the residents grow their own flowers and vegetables and some have healthy lawns . . . a pleasant change from the far too often dusty yards.



The nearby McIntyre River, with its ever plentiful supply of "yellowbelly," cod and perch, offers a welcome respite after a hard day's work or a long day in the classroom. This fisherman is taking it easy but apparently he's already had some luck.

OUR ROVING CAMERAMAN



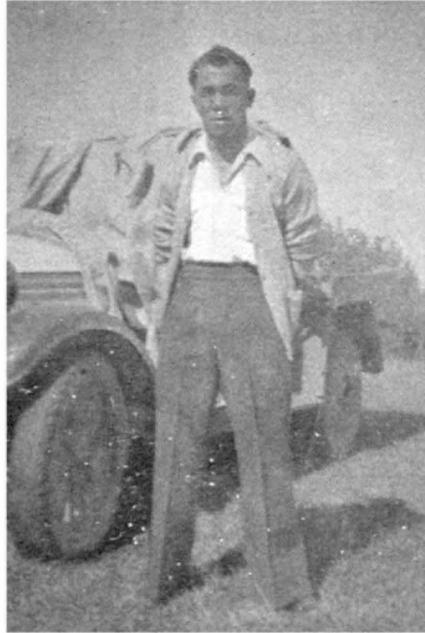
THE aboriginal people in this State are scattered over a wide area, so far apart that many of them may never meet, but the magic camera can bring to us intimate glimpses of these people and enable us to become better acquainted with each other.

If you have photos at home, similar to those you see published in *Dawn*, send them along and thus add to, and maintain, the interest in your fellow men and women.

2/6 will be paid for each photograph published. But be sure and write your name and address plainly on the back of each photograph.



Miss Thelma Bolt, of Cabbage Tree Island, goes all nautical in her crew-neck pullover and "gobs" cap.



Edgar Rhodes is another Cabbage Tree Islander. Edgar is a keen all-round sportsman.



Another of the Bolt family from Cabbage Tree Island. This is Miss Margaret Bolt.



Phyllis Briar, of Condobolin, met the cameraman on a shopping expedition.



Cabbage Tree Island must be a very healthy place to produce youngsters like young Wayne Bolt pictured above.



George Chatfield, of Burra Bee Dee, sets out to collect the morning milk.



Allan Marlowe, one of Cabbage Tree Island's leading footballers, with a young friend, Artie Williams.



Lewis Cook is one of the real glamour boys of Cabbage Tree Island.



Ten-year-old Mary Bolt, of Cabbage Tree Island, looks rather doubtfully at the cameraman.



Tim Rhodes, Treasurer of the Cabbage Tree Island Football Club, and Robert Bolt, Secretary, display some of the Club's trophies.

Edna King rests after a long hike through the bush.



Some of the members of the Brown clan from Wreck Bay. The young gentleman on the left doesn't seem too happy, but I am sure he is not always like this.



Spick and span in their Red Cross uniforms, are sisters Bertha and Hazel Bolt, of Cabbage Tree Island.

A GREAT QUEEN PASSES

TRAGIC LOSS TO EMPIRE

THE death of Queen Mary a few weeks ago removes from the world stage a grand old lady and ends an epoch. During the 26 years that she shared the British Throne with her husband, King George V, and in her long widowhood, she bore herself with a gracious dignity which sprang straight from the spacious days of Queen Victoria.

The evening of her life was gladdened when she held in her arms her first great-grandchildren—Prince Charles, who one day will be King, and Princess Anne.

For nearly 43 years Queen Mary was by the side of the late King George V. For 26 of those years she was Queen, sharing with him the triumphs and tribulations of a memorable reign.

The story of her life is unique in the history of England's Queens, for she lived during six reigns and saw two of her sons and a granddaughter on the Throne of Britain.

Queen Mary supervised Elizabeth's education and training from her earliest years, instilling into the little Princess her own sense of duty, awareness of obligation, and pride in the House of Windsor.

So well did Queen Mary do her work that she left the imprint of all that was finest and imperishable in her character on the young Elizabeth II.

When in later years men and women come to seek an explanation for the unassailable position of love and admiration Queen Mary occupied in the hearts of the British people, they will find many unrelated and contradictory factors.

On many occasions her second son, when he became King, consulted her on knotty problems of Royal prerogative, as did her daughter-in-law, Queen Elizabeth, on more domestic questions. Because they deferred to her judgment and encyclopaedic knowledge, Queen Mary therefore had a strong influence on the upbringing of the present Queen, and, in turn, on Prince Charles.

She experienced the joy of the Empire's fervent celebration of her husband's jubilee of Kingship, she knew the sorrow and distress of two terrible wars, and she suffered deep personal grief at the death of King George V, followed soon after by the shattering blow of her eldest son's abdication of the Throne.

Her years of widowhood were brightened by the kingly bearing of her second son, King George VI. The death of her third son, the Duke of Kent, on active service, and then the premature death of King George VI cast other deep shadows on her life, but she had the comfort of seeing the Throne occupied by a beloved young Queen, Elizabeth II, in whose training she herself had taken a major part.



Queen Mary was born in Kensington Palace on May 26, 1867, in the room where Queen Victoria had been born on May 24, 1819.

Princess Mary, as she was at that time, was engaged to marry the Duke of Clarence, but he died of typhoid fever a few weeks before the date set down for the wedding.

Eighteen months later she became engaged to, and eventually married, his brother, the Duke of Cornwall, and later of York.

The marriage was celebrated in the Chapel Royal at St. James's in July, 1893. Queen Victoria embarrassed everybody but herself by arriving first in the church

In the following June, a son was born, who became King Edward VIII, and a year later there was the birth of a second son, who became King George VI.

The new Duchess, living at York Cottage, Sandringham, reared her growing number of children—"not a family, but a regiment," as the Duke gruffly but proudly put it—tolerantly disliking yachting and shooting parties, listening with tranquil gravity while her husband read aloud after dinner from the Greville Memoirs. The York menage was, in fact, a happy one.

For eight years, the Duchess and her husband and children lived at York Cottage as the family of an English country squire in which waste and extravagance had to be sternly curbed.

In all of her husband's varied interests, as Duke of York and later as King, she was his constant companion.

She accompanied him on all his overseas visits from the first great Imperial tour, which included visits to India, Athens, Madrid and Norway.

Her first voyage was to Australia in 1901, when the Duke of York came to inaugurate the Commonwealth.

Two more children were born after the Empire tour, and the Prince and Princess of Wales settled down at Marlborough House, which was their home for the nine years of King Edward's reign.

Queen of England

King George V was crowned at Westminster Abbey on June 22, 1911, and in his first public utterance after his accession he said: "I am encouraged by the knowledge that I have in my dear wife a constant helpmeet for our people's good."

Being sturdy, conscientious and endowed with an unusual interest in people, Queen Mary passed the test. Some of her successors in these duties may even have regretted the Queen's powers of mental and physical endurance, which set them so exacting a standard.

A few years later, in August, 1914, England declared war on Germany.

Very early in 1914, she brought her organising ability, her gift of leadership, to bear on the needs of the nation.

Queen Mary had a personality distinctly her own, and by its force worked great good for the nation. Her direct ways and undisguised sincerity were famous, and she was aptly described as being the only woman in society who was not a society woman.

Her familiar toque and pale-blue dress, unassertive and yet perfect in detail, became known in hospital wards, factories, and the tenement dwellings of busy working women.

Her peace-time efforts were almost as energetic as those during the war. She worked in the slum districts for infant welfare, and maternity centres and hospitals.

Early in King George's reign, Queen Mary appealed for funds to establish a hostel to check the loss of infant life. The £100,000 for Queen Mary's Hostel was fully subscribed.

In 1921, Queen Mary's only daughter, Princess Mary, was married to Viscount Lascelles, heir to the Earl of Harewood.

In 1923, Prince Albert, Duke of York, married Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon; Prince George, Duke of Kent, married in 1934; and Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester, married in 1935.

There were stirring demonstrations of affection throughout the Empire for King George and Queen Mary during the celebration of his jubilee of Kingship.

Then the whole nation shared Queen Mary's grief at the death of her husband, in January, 1936.

The years of Queen Mary's widowhood were spent at Marlborough House, her former residence as Duchess of York, and the home of two former widowed Queens.

Her services to the nation did not cease.

In 1950 the gros-point carpet which Queen Mary had taken eight years to make was presented to the Nation, and later displayed in American and Canadian museums. It was her contribution to the dollar drive and brought 100,000 Canadian dollars.

Serious public concern for the health of the courageous old Queen was first felt in the spring of 1952, when she had a persistent chill.

It was not very much later that it became known that Queen Mary would not be attending the Coronation.

In the following months Queen Mary's activities began to lessen. She drove out less often in her monumental car, bulletins announcing that she was indisposed began more often to appear.

In May the little Prince Charles and Princess Anne drove in state, their arms laden with flowers, to pay their respects to their great-grandmother on her birthday.

At Christmas, it was evident that the aged Queen's health was failing.

But the real beginning of her increasing indisposition and illness was surely that dark February 6 of 1952 when the news was broken to her that the King, her dear "Bertie," had died.

A COUNTRY LAD'S AMBITION

HOPES TO BE GREAT PAINTER

The Story of Peter Boney

A 17-years-old aboriginal, Peter Boney, walked into the Aborigines Welfare Board, Bridge Street, City, one day recently, with a sheaf of water colours and a yearning to be a great artist.

Peter used to live with his grandmother at Nambucca and work at a local sawmill.

He had come to Sydney to join the Army, but he was rejected.



Peter Boney.

"The Army told me to put on more weight and come back again," Peter said.

"But I would rather be a great artist than a great soldier. The boys and girls at the Mission School told me that I was the best artist among them.

"Misty Hills"

"I bought a three-shilling box of water colours and painted local scenes.

"But the place I would like to go to is Armidale where there are misty blue hills and little streams. I've never been there, but my people told me it is a good place to paint.

"Yesterday I went out to La Perouse and I saw the sun going down. It was lovely, fire everywhere, but I didn't have my tin of water colours."

One morning Peter made a bee-line for the Art Gallery and saw the French Exhibition.

He has had practically no tuition in art and spends his spare money on water colours and ink.

Peter has gone back to Armidale now to work on a station property with his father, but he hasn't given up his ambitious plans by any means.

He is determined that one day he WILL be a good artist and with that end in view he is taking a course of Art by correspondence with the Sydney Technical College.

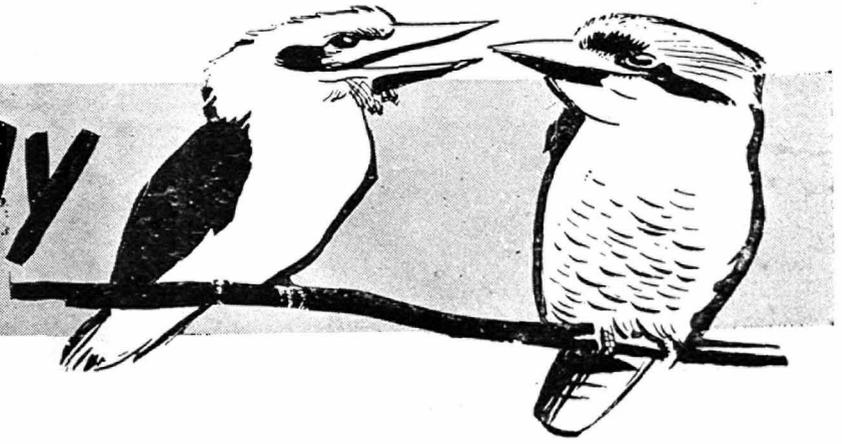
So perhaps one day in the future we will see an exhibition of painting by Peter Boney . . . a real Australian who knew what he wanted and worked to achieve it.

THE NUN.



A striking example of Peter's work.

THEY SAY



The young fellows at Burnt Bridge are taking their boxing seriously. Our correspondent up that way tells us that they have used some of the funds from the Burnt Bridge Social Club to purchase boxing equipment so they can train solidly for some real tournaments with the Kinchela boys.

When it's hot up Brewarrina way, it's REALLY hot. Matron recently had several cases of heat prostration and two of the sufferers, Doreen Wright and Carrie Warraweena, were taken to hospital but have now made complete recoveries.

A competition was to have been held on Cabbage Tree Island last month to decide the best Flower and Vegetable gardens but unfortunately the weather intervened.

All the residents were working industriously on their gardens with high hopes of winning when the floods arrived and completely ruined everything.

The competition has now been postponed until later in the year. Messrs. Robert Moran, David Currie, Harry Kelly and Maurice James, must be congratulated, however, on their efforts. Their gardens were certainly a credit to them and it is hoped they will do well when the competition does take place.

Following the recent heavy rains on the Upper Macleay, some heavy catches of perch and mullet have been made in the Bellbrook district.

The residents of Bellbrook Station are recording splendid hauls with George Cohen heading the list with a catch of sixty-three one week-end. Other good hauls were made by Joe Quinlin, Ellen Holten, Eileen Holten, and several others.

Incidentally, the largest perch caught was a three-pounder landed by Maisie Kelly. The largest mullet went to Mrs. John Quinlin.

Tom Callagan, of Burnt Bridge, had a nasty accident recently whilst cutting timber in the bush.

The injury to his foot was so serious he had to be taken to the Macleay District Hospital for an operation. Late reports, however, say he is well on the mend again.

Residents of Brewarrina mourn the loss of two-year-old Ross Wilson, who died recently.

Taken suddenly ill on the Station the little fellow was moved to hospital and after treatment showed signs of recovery. However, he had a sudden relapse and died a few days later.

Time and time again the aboriginal people of New South Wales have been shown that there is always someone ready to give them a helping hand when their own conducts and efforts justify such help.

Mr. M. O'Sullivan, of Pee Dee Station, Bellbrook, has promised to give a cheque for £50 to the first aborigine from Bellbrook school to qualify as a teacher.

This is a magnificent gesture from a generous man and it is hoped that many will strive to carry on with their education and win this rich prize.

It is good to learn that already three children from Nulla Creek are attending Kempsey High School.

Congratulations to a lot of young people from Bellbrook who have just celebrated their birthdays.

William Scott was 15 on February 28th; Lloyd Shepherd 12 on March 3; Betty Holten 16 on March 8; Shirley Quinlin 17 on March 9; Joseph Quinlin 13 on March 15; Grace Quinlin 8 on March 25; and Denzil Quinlin 22 the same day.

All the very best to them all!



A clever sketch by Lloyd Dennison, of Boggabilla.



Her Majesty the Queen arriving at the London Palladium for a Royal Command Variety performance, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh and Princess Margaret.



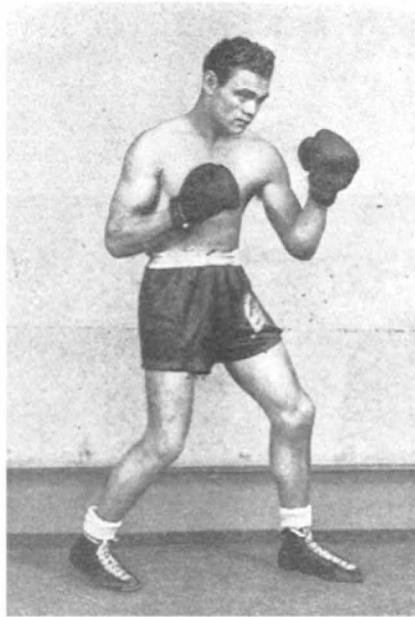
One of Hollywood's most distinguished film stars, Prince, the Great Dane, found his young friend's form of entertainment rather dampening. Still, he meekly took the soaking and lathering and even appears to be enjoying himself.



Lying flat on their stomachs, these two forward scouts in Korea are shown the lay of the land. Whenever possible this is also done with the rest of the patrol. This gives the men the opportunity of becoming acquainted with the topography of the country as in relation to their maps.



The tallest building in the world New York, which is 102 stories high, is the latest 75 passenger double-decker, flying at a speed of 340 miles an hour.



Alfie Sands, young brother of the late Champion, Dave Sands, is rapidly making a name for himself in the ring and is tipped to win the Empire Title once held by his famous brother.



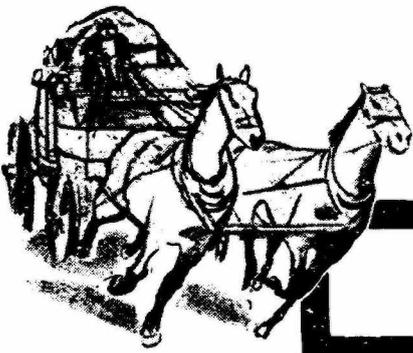
Judy Joy Davies, of Melbourne, is one of Australia's most outstanding swimmers. An Olympic Games representative, Judy has recently recorded world figures.



the Empire State Building in New York City. Flying over the building is one of the many jet planes, which normally cruises at a height of 25,000 feet.



Two Presidents of the United States, Truman and Eisenhower, on their way to the Capitol. President Truman was just vacating his position and President Eisenhower was about to be inaugurated. In the car with them are Senators Bridges (front) and Martin.



Along the Mail Route

Mr. and Mrs. Neil Lynwood and family, of Cabbage Tree Island, have left the Station to live at Glenreagh where Neil has secured a job.

Fred and Charlotte Rummage, of Brewarrina, are celebrating the arrival of a brand new son. The little fellow is to be called Michael John.

The Cabbage Tree Island football team has started its regular training and not an evening goes by without the lads doing some solid practice. They hope to win the Premiership again this year.

The stork has had a busy time in the Burnt Bridge district leaving daughters for Dawn Dungay and Edna Marr, and a son for Christine Dotti.

Last month the school children of Nulla Creek Aboriginal School, Bellbrook, had a visit from the local Inspector and all the teachers from schools on the Upper Macleay.

The purpose of the visit was to show the teachers just how the aboriginal children were progressing under the guidance of their teacher, Mr. L. Ellem.

After the Inspector had congratulated the youngsters on their showing, one of the visiting teachers, Mr. Bible, conducted the classes in physical culture.

Young Janice Cochrane, of Burnt Bridge, has hopes of one day being a concert pianist. With this end in view she is taking piano lessons in Kempsey and using Matron Halket's piano for her practices.

Mr. W. A. Gelfius and Mr. M. H. Bryant, of the Education Department, paid a visit to Cabbage Tree Island last month and were delighted to see the work being done with the school children by the headmaster Mr. L. Harris and his assistant teacher, Miss Evelyn Robinson.

The residents of Cabbage Tree Island have been deprived of one of their favourite sports . . . fishing.

The river water has been poisoned and thousands of dead fish are floating about.

According to the local fishing authorities, fishing in the Richmond River is finished for at least another three months.

One of the old-timers of Brewarrina Station, Mrs. Nora Green, recently died in Brewarrina District Hospital.

Mrs. Green was 75 years of age.

CURIOSITY!



These two young gentlemen appear to be very cautiously taking stock of each other before they get down to really serious discussion. This is one of the Superintendent's favourite pictures.

COLOUR DOESN'T COUNT

It's the Man that Matters

As time passes, the evidence of colour prejudice and antipathy of the white people to the aboriginal race becomes progressively less and it would be safe to say that further advance has been made in the breaking down of this prejudice in the past year or so.

Due to the availability of Station employment, more and more aborigines are engaged in working side by side with white workers and are being accepted, both by the latter and by the Unions, on a basis of equality. The readiness to admit aborigines as equals is seen very clearly in sporting organisations in a great number of our country centres. Many aborigines are members of local football teams and a number of boys attending country high schools have been admitted to cadet corps and have attended camps with the school units.

It must be realised, however, that prejudices will only disappear when the aborigine proves his independence, moral responsibility and reliability and this, of course, calls for toleration and understanding on the part of the white community.

Periodical contacts by Welfare Officers, the issue of judicious propaganda, and the admission of aboriginal children to the ordinary public schools, together with an improvement in the standards of the people's personal hygiene have helped considerably in breaking down the antipathy which has been evidenced over the years.

The Board aims to cultivate in the aborigine a realisation that there is no barrier to his assimilation into the civic, cultural and social life of the community and to his attainment of a scholarship, provided he is prepared to strive to that end.



**"Why be cold when I have a pullover and a coat?"
says Bertie the Bulldog.**

THE HEALTH OF OUR PEOPLE

More Vegetables Needed

During the past year or so the health of aborigines throughout the State on the whole has been good. An outbreak of diphtheria at one settlement received prompt attention and was brought under control. Otherwise, ailments were confined principally to the usual incidence of colds, influenza and measles.



On a few Stations it was found that a number of children were suffering from vitamin deficiency, due possibly to insufficiency of fresh vegetables. Appropriate treatment by courses of vitamin tablets helped to counteract this condition. Every encouragement and assistance was rendered to families on Stations to persevere in the cultivation of home gardens. Unfortunately, because of the general employment position and the good wages, many residents were satisfied to purchase vegetables through the usual channels, rather than to undertake the work entailed in the cultivation of home gardens. Consequently many failed to purchase adequate supplies of green vegetables.

The standard of hygiene among aborigines on Reserves is not as high as that on Stations. The lack of constant supervision militates against persons residing on Reserves adhering to a proper diet, more so as it affects the children. Particular attention is being paid to these cases by the visiting Welfare Officers and an improvement is expected as the aboriginal families heed the advice given.

Apart from the new homes erected during recent years, the older type of dwellings in the main do not possess satisfactory or adequate bathing facilities. The building programme has made provision for remedying this defect.

Aborigines requiring hospitalisation, out-door hospital treatment and maternity facilities are treated in the same manner as members of the general community. The former discrimination against aborigines is fast disappearing, and will soon be a thing of the past.

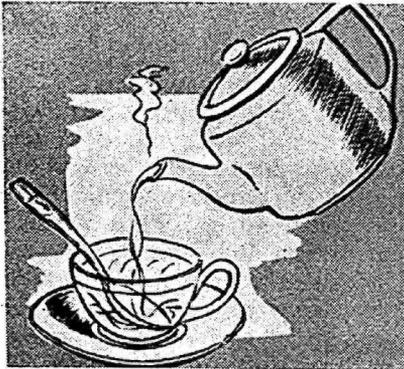
So far as dental attention is concerned aborigines in comfortable circumstances are expected to meet the cost themselves. Free dental attention and dentures are arranged by the Aborigines Welfare Board for the aged, infirm and indigent.

Aboriginal patients in hospitals and institutions are visited regularly as far as possible by the Board's Officers.

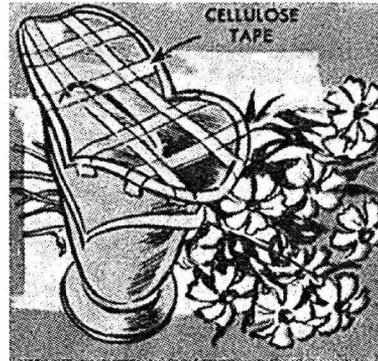
HOME



HINTS



Cracking of crystal cups when filled with hot coffee or tea can be prevented by placing a silver teaspoon in the cup and pouring beverage into the spoon.

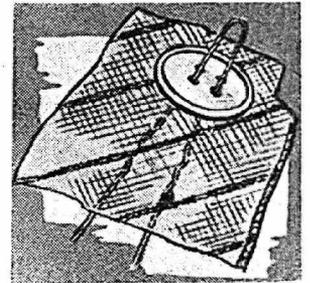


Tape "Frog" supports stems of cut flowers in vase having flared top. Cellulose tape, stretched crisscross over top of vase, is hidden by leaves of the flowers.

Toddlers' shoes are easy to lace when the tips have broken off the laces if the latter are threaded through the holes with a bobby pin. Spread the pin to place it over the lace and pass the pin through the holes as you would a needle and thread.



Use a hairpin to locate a button before sewing it to the garment. Press the pin through the fabric to hold the button in place while testing for proper fit.



HANDY HINTS . . .

Fresh Milk

When you are going out for the day and have to take milk and keep it fresh, just add a pinch of carbonate of soda. If the bottle is corked it will keep fresh all day.

Lemon Sago

When you have no lemons and you wish to make a lemon sago, boil sago in water, add a packet of lemon jelly crystals and a little lemon essence and sugar to taste. Serve with cream or custard.

Junkets

When making junket dissolve the tablet in vanilla essence instead of water. It is much nicer.

Potatoes

Grated potatoes are an excellent substitute for suet in boiled puddings. Use 4 oz. to half a pound of flour.

Mashed Potatoes

When mashing potatoes use hot milk instead of cold and add a little baking powder . . . about a teaspoonful to a large pot . . . and beat well. It will make them fluffy and they go further.



A zipper will work easily if lubricated occasionally with graphite. Rubbing an ordinary lead pencil along the teeth of the zipper, coats them with graphite.

STATIONS ARE VILLAGES

Training for the Future

For the past year or so the Board has had nineteen Aboriginal Stations under its control. These Stations are virtually villages set aside for the exclusive use of aborigines. Each Station is under the control of a Manager, who is assisted by his wife as Matron. On a few of the larger Stations there is also an Assistant Manager and Assistant Matron. Each aboriginal family on a Station is provided with a home and the community services include—school, church, recreation hall, ration store, medical dispensary and water supply system.



happier while living in association with their own people.

While these people reside on a Station, the aim of the management is to guide them in the principles of good citizenship and to prepare them for their ultimate assimilation into the general community.

Training for assimilation begins in the home and with the introduction of better housing and guidance in the proper use of their improved homes has been one of the principal objectives. Education in personal hygiene and the general principles of cleanliness also play an important part.



Encouragement is always given to aborigines who are sufficiently advanced to move away from Stations and to take their place in the community life. This presents difficulties, however, while the housing situation is still acute. Aborigines, therefore, are not urged to move away from good homes to sub-standard conditions.

Recently two good homes were built in the township of Cobargo and two superior class aboriginal families have now moved into these homes and are settling very satisfactorily into the community life of that township. These two families pay the Board a rental for the homes occupied by them.

All able-bodied men are expected to support their families from their earnings. There are, of course, aged, infirm and indigent people who must be provided with sustenance and support at the hand of the Government and these people are issued with weekly food rations, medical necessities, blankets, clothing, tobacco and other comforts.

Special attention has always been given to expectant and nursing mothers. These people are watched over to ensure that they receive proper food and that proper facilities are provided for the care and general welfare of their babies when born.



Quirindi, Jervis Bay, and Taree.

Special attention has been given for the past few years to the provision of electric light and power to the Stations where this is possible. Electricity has already been provided at Brewarrina, Burnt Bridge, Cabbage Tree Island and Cowra Stations; also Kinchela Boys' Home and Cootamundra Girls' Home. During the past year electric light units were installed at Boggabilla, Walgett and Murrin Bridge,

THE ABORIGINES WELFARE BOARD

Some Recent Changes

Over the past twelve months there have been several changes in the personnel of the Aborigines Welfare Board.

The Board now consists of the following:—

Mr. C. J. Buttsworth (Chairman).
Mr. M. H. Saxby (Superintendent).
Police Superintendent J. D. McAuley.
Dr. C. J. Cummins.
Mr. J. P. Glasheen.
Mr. H. S. Groves.
Mr. Michael Sawtell.
Mr. E. Wetherell, M.L.A.
The Hon. E. G. Wright, M.L.C.

Of the eleven members of the Aborigines Welfare Board provided for in the Act, one must be a fullblooded aborigine and one either a fullblood or a person apparently having an admixture of aboriginal blood. These representatives who are elected by the aboriginal people, serve on the Board for three years and are eligible for re-election. Mr. H. Groves now represents the aborigines on the Board. It was not possible to appoint a fullblood member as no nominations were received for that position.

PEN FRIENDS WANTED

Elias Majelwyane, of P.O. Box 220, Klerksdorp, South Africa, wants pen pals of both sexes between 16 and 21 years of age who are interested in photography, photo collecting, reading, letter writing, swimming, and drawing. He is 20 years of age.

M. Juggie, 27 Wicklow Avenue, Mayville, Durban, South Africa, is 18 years old and would like pen-pals from all over the world. His hobbies are sport, reading, correspondence, cinema and music.

Joe Njone, Adams College, Adams Mission Station, Natal, South Africa, would like girl pen-friends between 17 and 22 years of age to correspond with him. Also boys between the ages of 18-21 will be welcome.



BE FAIR DINKUM!

by

MICHAEL SAWTELL,

*well-known author, lecturer and traveller
and Member of the Aborigines' Welfare Board*

The other day it was reported in the Press that Australia's representative in America went and saw a play which was called "The Fair Dinkum Aussie," and it was reported that our representative said that "Dinkum" was not a characteristic word of Australian speech. This astounded me and, I think, all other Australians who really know our Australian idioms.

I do not know the origin of the word, but I have heard it used for well over sixty years.



In 1900, I went to Hergott Springs, now called Maree, and as I stepped out of the train and threw my swag on the ground, a tall bushman, with a black beard and dirty white moleskin trousers, stepped up to me and said, "God blast me, if I will ever go a-droving, Mother."

I was shocked at the time, for I did not know that expression was a quotation from Henry Lawson's wonderful story, "The Drover's Wife." Those were the days when bushmen used to quote our poets.

This tall bushman was known to all the drovers as "Dinkum," the drover's cook. I was the horse-boy with "Dinkum," and as he would be preparing the evening meal around the camp fire at night, he would say to me, "Be dinkum, be fair dinkum," and although we were then on the Hergott and Birdesville track, which is near the centre of Australia, "Dinkum" would say, "Get out back. Get out up into the Northern Territory, where they go with a thousand head of cattle and half a hundred horses. That's where the dinkum men are."

Whilst he was cooking and bustling around the pots and pans, "Dinkum" would recite passages from Lawson, Ogilvy, Paterson and our other bush poets,

and if he ever missed a line he would put in one of his own which, he assured me, "was as good, as any of those blokes could write."

Good old "Dinkum" was an old cattleman, who had become too old to follow the cattle, as it is called, so he took to cooking, which is generally an old man's job. He was the final court of appeal in all campfire debates . . . old "Dinkum's" decisions were expressed in such words as these, "Now don't tell me, wasn't I out there in '90 with a mob of cows." "Dinkum" knew all the stations from Camooweal to Birdesville, their brands and the names of the bosses. He would say, "I take off my hat to Mr. Edge, of Carrondotta, now he is a dinkum gentleman." But old somebody else was a proper —— !

I don't think old "Dinkum" could read or write, although he pretended he could.

He used to ask me to read the old newspapers to him, advertisements and all, for he said he was "a funny bloke who liked to know everything." Once when the late Sir Sydney Kidman came around visiting his cattle stations, travelling in a four-in-hand buck-board with Mrs. Kidman, old "Dinkum" asked "who is this Cattle King bloke?"

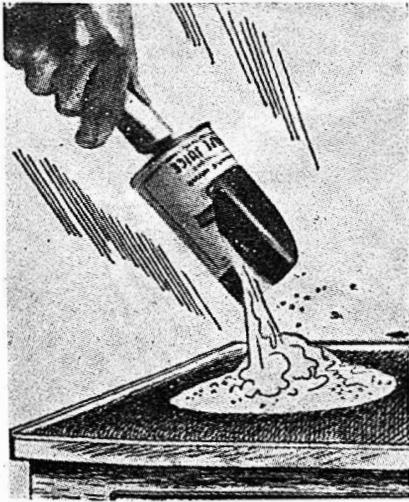
But Kidman made a great fuss of old "Dinkum" and they talked about far away stations and cattle, and later on "Dinkum" admitted around the campfire at night that Kidman was a dinkum cattleman.

I never knew old "Dinkum's" proper name because those were the days when you did not pry too much into names or previous history of your mates. But old "Dinkum" taught me much. He taught me the law and the creed of the bush, which is also good enough for the cities, and that is at all times to "be fair dinkum."

HELP YOURSELF

Have You Tried Using a Fruit or Jam Tin?

Don't throw out your used fruit tins. They're a handy size for craftwork projects and have many shop uses. They're just right for mixing or heating small batches of glue. Use them for moulds to form fat, short candles from re-melted candle ends. Cut them in half, lengthwise, add rubber-headed tacks for feet, and they make cigarette servers. Open a can at both ends, rest it on its side in a wire cradle, and it's a safe soldering-iron stand. Several other uses are illustrated. You can work out many more.



Scoop is made by snipping out tin and adding handle.



Biscuits or cookies are cut out in a hurry with a juice can.



A heart-shaped cutter is easily bent to shape with pliers.

Board Wipes Clean for a New Picture



An easel like this—three strips of wood secured by a machine screw at the top—will keep a youngster quietly occupied for hours. And paper is no problem—wipe the board with a cloth, and crayon drawings disappear.

The easel legs are $\frac{3}{4}$ in. by $1\frac{1}{8}$ in. stock, 48 inches long. Trim flats on the front legs at the top so they fit flush against sides of the rear leg. Drill $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch blind holes in a 13-inch length of two-by-three, which is screwed to the front legs to form the spacer and crayon-holder. Window-sash chain ties the rear leg to the spacer.

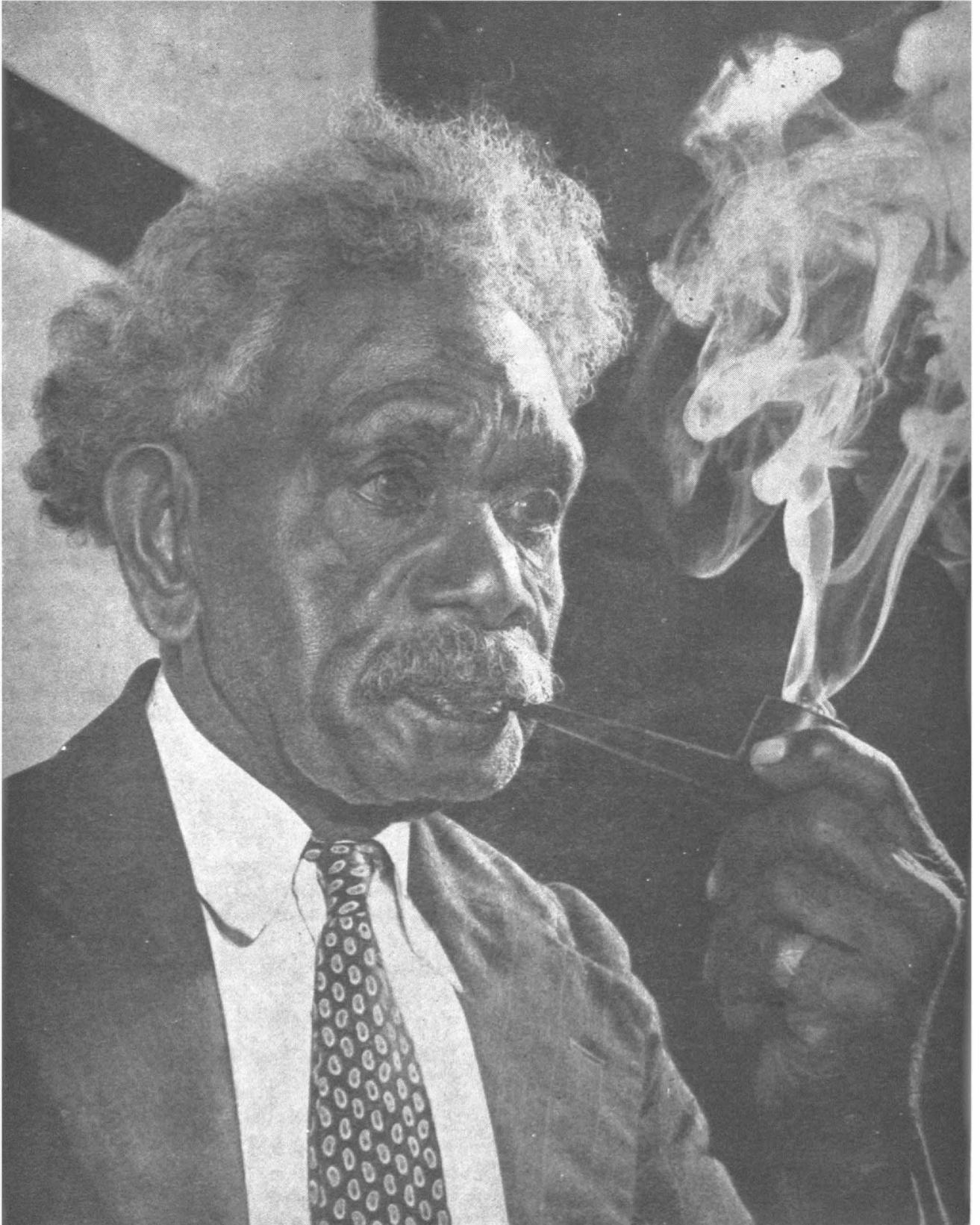
The 12 in. by 17 in. drawing board is hard-surfaced composition board, enamelled white. Spread paraffin over it with a cloth-covered iron. Don't let the iron get too hot or the enamel may blister. When the wax cools, rub with a cloth until smooth and shiny. If you wish, add clips at the top to hold paper.

Candle Wax Mends Broken Pottery

Candle wax clamps broken pieces of pottery together while mending cement dries. After cementing the pieces, drop wax from a lighted candle at intervals over crack. When cement dries, remove wax.



AGE AND CONTENTMENT



The caption, "Age and Contentment," applies to Peter Loder, of Cherbourg Settlement, Murgon, Queensland. Peter is over 70 of age, and, during the course of his life, he has occupied many positions throughout the State of Queensland. His latter years were spent in Brisbane where he was employed by reputable citizens as a gardener. Peter, due to his age, is now beyond work, and is spending his retirement at the Settlement, where he really wants for nothing, hence the title of his photograph.



HEALTH

HINTS

EARACHE . . .

Cause and Cure

Earache is such a frequent complaint in children that parents are apt to look upon it as one of the unpleasant but trivial incidents of childhood. It may be trivial; or it may be the first sign of a very serious disease, perhaps endangering the life of the child, and causing deafness, permanent and progressive, should he survive.

A transitory earache may accompany teething or it may be due to a decayed tooth, or more frequently to a temporary blocking, during the course of a "cold," of the passage leading from the throat to the ear.

Earache is, however, the danger sign of Middle Ear Disease (Otitis Media). This is caused by an infection (i.e., invasion of germs) which usually reaches the middle ear. It arises as a complication of a common cold, influenza, diphtheria, scarlet fever, etc., or the infection may come from septic tonsils or adenoids. The middle ear becomes acutely inflamed and painful, hearing is interfered with and the child becomes feverish. The onset of the pain is frequently sudden, and an infant may indicate the seat of the trouble by pulling at his ear and giving a sharp cry. The pain may persist for some days with or without remission, and the disease may take one of three courses—

1. the inflammation may subside;
2. pus ("matter") may form in the middle ear and eventually burst through the drum, with immediate relief of the symptoms;
3. pus may form and invade the spongy bone behind the ear (the "mastoid process") giving rise to a most serious condition, requiring urgent surgical treatment in order to save life.

Recurrent attacks of otitis media are certain to lead to life-long and ever increasing deafness. Recurrence is likely if infected tonsils or adenoids are present. The discharge of pus may clear up in a few days, but tends to become chronic if the condition is neglected.

At first the application of heat to the ear may be tried. Pieces of flannel warmed in an oven or by a fire, hot fomentations, a partly filled hot-water bag are means of applying heat.

A drop or two of glycerine warmed in a teaspoon over a flame may be placed in the ear. (Care must be taken not to have it too hot.) Carbolyzed glycerine (half normal strength) is more effective in relieving pain.

If the pain does not subside within two or three hours, a doctor's advice should be sought. It is sometimes advisable to make a small incision into the eardrum to let the pus escape. There is no risk in this operation and it may prevent the development of a much more dangerous condition.

To Prevent Ear Disease

1. Attend to any unhealthy condition in the nose or throat; chronic nasal discharge, enlarged tonsils or adenoids, susceptibility to colds and influenza are indications to have a child medically examined.
2. Avoid, as far as possible, exposure to colds, influenza and the infectious diseases. Keep a child in bed during the acute stage of these complaints. Improve his resistance to infection by good food, fresh air, etc.
3. Do not use a nasal douche except under a doctor's directions.
4. Do not attempt to remove wax from the external ear passage by means of a match, hairpin or other implement. Wax is a frequent cause of deafness and should be removed only by syringing the ear. This should be done by a doctor or a trained nurse.
5. Never "box" a child's ears—it is easy to permanently damage the ear in this way.
6. If earache occurs, do not regard it as trivial, but consult a doctor who will look for and treat the cause.
7. Never neglect a discharging ear.

To Stop Bleeding

Stop bleeding by pressing a pad of sterile gauze over wound and elevating the part. The patient should lie down. If bleeding cannot be stopped in this way, apply a tourniquet. Haemorrhage from a main artery can be stopped by pressing with the fingers and forcing it against bone until a pad can replace the fingers and a tourniquet is applied. The tourniquet should be loosened every 30 minutes. Don't give stimulants; they tend to make the heart beat faster and increase haemorrhage.

Bleeding from Nose

Patient should be placed in a semi-recumbent position, head slightly elevated. He should remain quiet. Apply ice-packs or cold compresses to nose and back of neck.



URUNGA STATION

A STORY FROM THE PAST

This is the third in a series of reminiscences from Ex-Inspector E. C. Smithers, who retired recently from the Aborigines Welfare Board, after more than forty years in the service.

It was during the time that I was an Inspector of Fisheries at Urunga that I was asked to take over the management of the Urunga Aboriginal Station in addition to my normal Fisheries duties.

The Station had been built some years before, on a low-lying island, and through bad management the aboriginal population had dwindled until only 14 elderly people and 3 children remained.

When Mrs. Smithers, an ex-high school teacher, opened the Station school, she had only 3 children to teach. Not a very inspiring start for any teacher.

Within six months, however, our adult population had once again grown to 160 aborigines, and now we had more than 30 children attending school.

We purchased a launch and named it "Aleathea," and the boys and I would cross the Bellingen River Bar regularly to go fishing on the grounds outside for good hauls of snapper and other deep-sea fish. Eventually, some leading Bellingen people, including Dr. Myles, the Government Medical Officer, Mr. Mulhearn and Dr. Bull, began to take an interest in the aborigines and their deep-sea fishing, and on occasions would accompany us outside.



Their interest and enthusiasm was so great that they got together with our local men and collected enough money to purchase a fishing boat and net for the people on the Station.

We were thus assured of good hauls of fish at all time because if the weather was too bad to go outside, we could use the nets off the beach.

We had no need for a butcher's shop and for practically the whole of the fourteen years we lived on the Station we had plentiful supplies of fish and vegetables grown in our own gardens.

After we had been on the Station for several years we had a succession of floods and as we had to move the aborigines to the mainland in a hurry on several

occasions, I then reported to the then Acting Secretary (Mr. Foote) that the situation was becoming dangerous and he made a special visit to Urunga to have a look at things for himself.

It so happened that the very night he arrived, and was staying at our house, the floodwaters came swirling down and washed the house right off its foundation.

Fortunately, we had anticipated trouble and had moved all the aborigines to the mainland earlier in the evening (unknown to Mr. Foote), and we also had Jack Binalong and Stewart Bullock, two very fine aborigines, sleeping in the launch tied up to our back verandah so that when the house started to collapse, Mr. Foote and my family were able to step into the launch and be taken to safety.



This was perhaps the best illustration we could give anyone of the potential danger of the place.

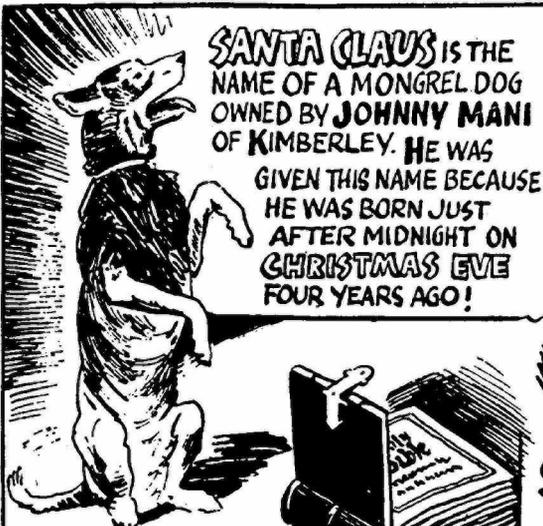
After this incident, the Board decided to move the people to Yellow Rock on the mainland.

As we were only allocated about £100 for the purpose, we had to collect all the damaged material from the island houses, plus a lot of sawn timber that had drifted down the Bellingen River in the floods, and the boys and I built 23 two-roomed cottages on a ration basis payment. No money for wages . . . just rations. Those were the days when everyone was happy and willing to work and help each other.

At Urunga, we had our own oyster leases and also grew over 70 acres of corn using borrowed gear to till the land.

On one occasion, when we were at Urunga Station, the Pilot (Captain Dedman) phoned me early one morning to say the Governor, Sir Walter Davidson and Lady Davidson, had arrived in Urunga the night before and were worn out after their many engagements along the road. Captain Dedman said he could arrange to take Sir Walter out and asked if we could entertain Lady Davidson

NOW YOU KNOW!



SANTA CLAUS IS THE NAME OF A MONGREL DOG OWNED BY **JOHNNY MANI** OF **KIMBERLEY**. HE WAS GIVEN THIS NAME BECAUSE HE WAS BORN JUST AFTER MIDNIGHT ON **CHRISTMAS EVE** FOUR YEARS AGO!



SAILING THROUGH THE PACIFIC OCEAN IN 1777, **JAMES COOK** FOUND AN ISLAND WHICH HE CALLED **CHRISTMAS ISLAND** BECAUSE HE DISCOVERED IT ON **CHRISTMAS DAY!**



ON **JANUARY, 1951**, **CHARLES BLAIR** OF **NEW YORK**, FLEW A 1943 **MUSTANG** FROM **NEW YORK** TO **LONDON** IN SEVEN HOURS FORTY EIGHT MINUTES! AVERAGING SEVEN AND ONE-HALF MILES PER MINUTE!

AN IVY-LEAF CROWN FORMED ON THE FOREHEAD OF THE DEAD **CATHERINE PARR** TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY EIGHT YEARS AFTER HER DEATH! SHE WAS THE SIXTH WIFE OF KING **HENRY THE EIGHTH** OF ENGLAND.

THE CROWN DEVELOPED AFTER A SINGLE IVY BERRY HAD BEEN DROPPED INTO THE GRAVE



THE HOLY BIBLE IS AN OLD COLLECTION OF STORIES AND POEMS. THEY TELL ABOUT THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD AND THE LIVES OF A GROUP OF WANDERING PEOPLE, THE **HEBREWS**. THE BIBLE ALSO CONTAINS THE SACRED WRITINGS OF THE **CHRISTIANS**



SALMON

ARE BORN ORPHANS AND DIE CHILDLESS THE ADULTS DIE AFTER THE EGGS ARE LAID AND BEFORE THE YOUNG ARE HATCHED



A TOMATO IS A FRUIT, BUT IT BECOMES A VEGETABLE WHEN IT IS COOKED!

I went down and brought her Ladyship up to the Station in the launch. She was a charming personality and soon had all the aborigines at their ease. She spent a most enjoyable day with them, watching their farming operations, out in the boat fishing, and generally mixing with them.



When I took her back to Urunga about 11 p.m. that night, she had had such an enjoyable time that she returned again the next day with Sir Walter.

We had fourteen happy years at Urunga and I would say it would have been impossible to have found a better type of aborigine in any part of the State.

They were a happy people, always willing, and indeed eager, to help themselves and to help others.

FREE SEEDS

Offer to Readers

A generous gesture on the part of Arthur Yates and Co., one of Australia's leading seed merchants, has made it possible for *Dawn* to offer 100 packets of flower and vegetable seeds to readers.

The first fifty readers writing in to *Dawn*, c/- Aborigines' Welfare Board, Box 30, G.P.O., Sydney, and enclosing 3½d. for return postage, will each receive two packets of Yates' famous seeds.

Many station residents, particularly those in new homes, are taking an increasing interest in their gardens and it is believed that this offer will be rushed.

Pete's Page



Hello Kids,

I suppose by this time the Easter holidays are over and you're all back at school again. I was very happy to see some of my young friends out at the Royal Easter Show. The only thing I regret is that you couldn't all come down from every part of New South Wales to see this great exhibition. I am sure there must be some very surprised boys and girls about lately because we have been sending out some VERY unusual prizes for Pete's Page.

I had a very nice letter from young Richard Ballangarry of Eungai Creek and also a nice painting. A prize to you, Dick and congratulations.

Ruby Zooch wrote me a nice letter too, telling me what a wonderful time all the Cootamundra girls had had in Sydney. But Ruby says she doesn't like Sydney, she'd rather be back in the country. Incidentally, Ruby tells me she has some pen-friends in Korea. I also had an interesting letter from my friend Nada Ward of Cootamundra. In his letter, Allen Ferguson of Wingewarra Road, East Dubbo, tells me he has left school now and is working in the bush with his father. Congratulations, Allen, I hope you save your money now you're on the payroll. There's nothing like having a good bank account. Allen also sent me along some of his usual fine paintings. Twelve-year-old Carol Donovan from Bowraville Race Course also sent me a nice drawing and a letter. Carol tells me they have been having a lot of trouble with the floods up that way.

A prize this month to Martha Mundy of Murrin Bridge for her splendid drawing. Congratulations, Martha, keep it up!

And, of course, I must mention all my mates up at Boggabilla. You know, they never miss a month without sending me a big swag of drawings. This month I had some from Lloyd Dennison, Stan McIntosh, Neville Binge, Ian McIntosh, Valerie Binge, Albert Dennison, and Eric Craigie. Thanks, gang, always glad to hear from you. Missed out on the prizes this time but better luck next time.

Some of Pete's ardent admirers put on a show for the cameraman.

In my late mail to-day I had a very interesting letter from young George Ellis of Kinchela.

George, who goes to Kempsey High School, is vice-captain of his class and a member of the South West Rocks Lifesaving Club. He is also a member of the Junior Farmers Club, and has a garden 7 ft. by 15 ft in which is growing beans, peas, peanuts, carrots, cabbages, beetroot and radish. (Save some of those peanuts for me, George, will you?)

A very interesting letter, George, and it wins you a special prize.

Also had paintings from Jim Armstrong, Cecil Dickson, Joe Munday, Bruce Mitchell, and Stanley Bowden, all of Kinchela. Thanks, Fellers.

I also had very nice letters from Valerie Robison of Peak Hill (and a painting) and Colleen Snow of Burnt Bridge.

Now, kids, when you send me along photographs, and I still want a lot of them, please make sure they're good and clear ones. And you must write your letters in ink.

And so now until next month I'll say Cheerio to all my friends all over the State.

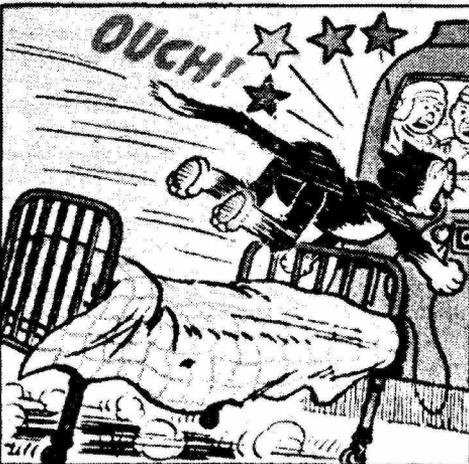
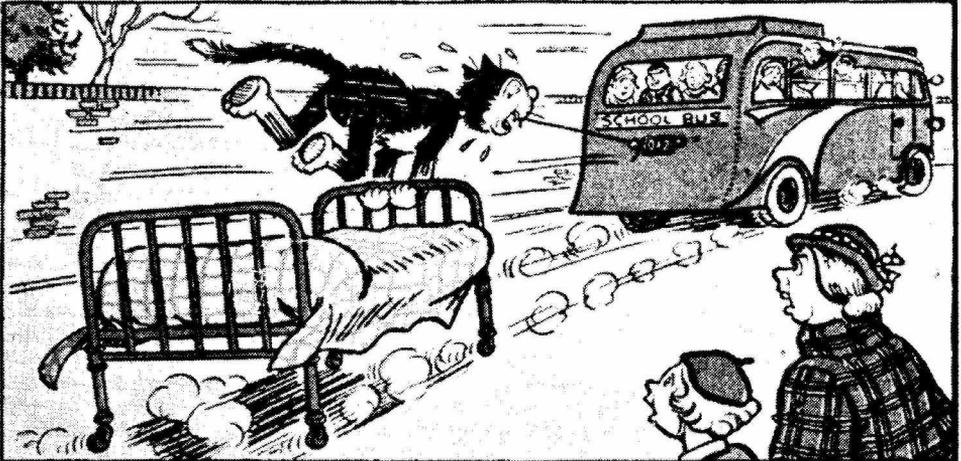
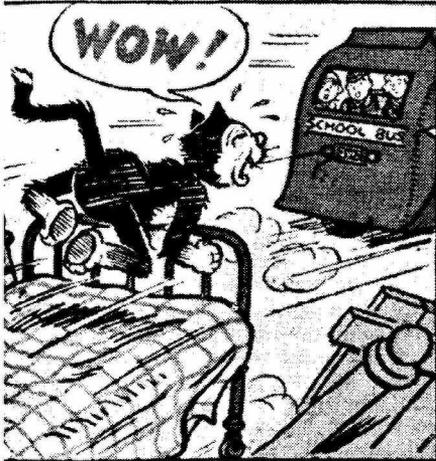
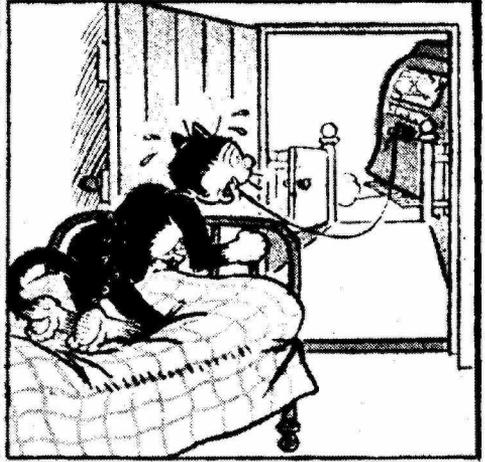
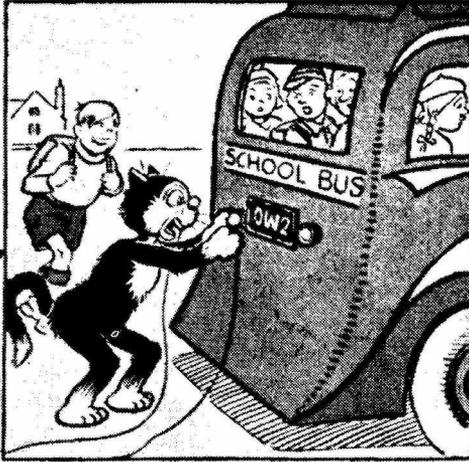
All the Best until next month.

Your sincere friend,



KORKY THE CAT

KORKY'S TOOTH IS ACHING;
HE MAKES A DREADFUL FUSS.
NO WONDER HE IS YOWLING,
FOR THE "DENTIST" IS A BUS!



PASS IT ON!

When you have finished reading *Dawn*, pass it on to your friends!



IN THE GARDEN

CAREFUL soil cultivation during the growth of a crop loosens the soil surface and thereby permits easy absorption of water, and destroys weeds which are robbers of water, plant nutrients, light and space.

As most vegetables have roots near the surface, cultivation needs to be shallow and carefully carried out. Cultivation is most easily done as soon as the soil has dried out sufficiently after rain or watering.

Water Regularly

The importance of regular and thorough watering cannot be over estimated. The amount of water and frequency of application depend upon the climate, soil, and crop. More frequent waterings are necessary in summer than in winter and on sandy soils with low retentive power than on heavy soils.

Lettuce, beans, silver beet, cucumbers, rhubarb, sweetcorn, and strawberries, require a very plentiful supply of water, particularly during the summer months. Potatoes need most water from flowering onwards and tomatoes during the fruiting period.

Ground which has set hard should be dug prior to watering and the soil should then be thoroughly soaked, using a fine spray to avoid exposing roots and forming channels.

“Soak, don’t sprinkle,” is the secret of watering. A good soaking once a week is better than a daily sprinkle.

Preserving Tomatoes

When tomatoes are plentiful, as they have been lately, many housewives desire a satisfactory method of preserving them. It must be remembered that it is necessary to use good quality fruit as well as jars and rubber rings which are of good quality and in good condition.

Bottling Whole Tomatoes

With care it is possible to preserve tomatoes so that they maintain sufficient firmness to enable them to be sliced. (The flavour is that of cooked tomatoes, not fresh.) Firm, sound, slightly green tomatoes should be

chosen and washed thoroughly. Ripe tomatoes can be preserved but they will not remain firm. If it is desired to peel the fruits they should be dipped in boiling water for about one minute, or until the skin cracks; then dip the fruit in cold water and peel. The fruit is then packed lightly into hot jars which are filled to within $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of the top with boiling water or juice, to every $2\frac{1}{2}$ pints of which has been added 2 ounces of common salt and $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce of calcium chloride (the latter keeps the fruit firm). The air bubble can be removed by working with a knife or spoon. Screw tops on jars and partly seal. Completely immerse the jars in hot water and boil quickly. Continue steady boiling for 50 minutes (pint or quart bottles), 65 to 75 minutes (2-quart jars). Remove jars and tightly seal immediately. Do not open a jar to restore lost liquid. Store jars in a cool dark place.

May is the month to grow the following:—

FLOWERS

Ageratum, Alyssum, Antirrhinum, Calendula, California Poppy, Candytuft, Canterbury Bells, Carnation, Chrysanthemum, Clarkia, Cornflower, Delphinium, Dianthus, Double Daisy, English Marigold, Gaillardia, Geum, Godetia, Heliotrope, Iceland Poppy, Larkspur, Linaria, Lobelia, Lupin, Mathiola, Mexican Poppy, Mignonette, Nemesia, Pansy, Phacelia, Pin Cushion, Poor Man’s Orchid, Primula, Ranunculus, Saponaria, Scabiosa, Snapdragon, Statice, Stock, Sweet Pea, Sweet William, Verbena, Viola.

VEGETABLES

Broad Beans, Cabbage, Carrot, Cauliflower, Kohl Rabi, Leek, Lettuce, Onion, Parsley, Peas, Parsnip, Savoy Cabbage, Spinach, Turnip.