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Dawn

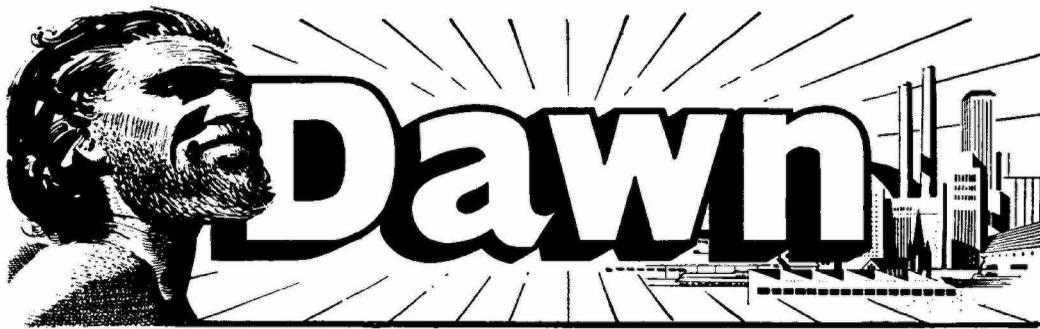


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A MAGAZINE FOR THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE OF N.S.W.

January, 1953.





OUR COVER

This lovely little aboriginal "Cover Girl" is Julie Binge, the seven months old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Binge of Moree Aborigine Station. Julie is the youngest of 8 girls.



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"DAWN" HAS A BIRTHDAY

A VERY SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Greetings from Near and Far

TO-DAY *Dawn* celebrates its first Birthday and letters and telegrams have poured in from all parts of the State—and, indeed, even from outside the State—congratulating the Magazine on its very successful first year.

Unique in its position in the Australian literary world, *Dawn* is a very proud little Magazine. Proud because of its aims and objectives and proud because it represents the First citizens of this great land.

The Aborigines Welfare Board exists to guide and assist the aborigines of New South Wales, to prepare them for assimilation into the white community and to encourage, protect and advise them, whenever and wherever possible.

Twelve months ago when the first *Dawn* was published, the Board intended that it should serve as a means of enabling the Board and the aboriginal people to learn to know one another better, with a greater measure of understanding.



As the year progressed and each successive copy of *Dawn* went out to the aboriginal people of New South Wales, it was evident that the Board's wishes would be fulfilled, and that the aboriginal people would take an increasingly greater interest in their own Magazine.

Every week hundreds of letters and photographs arrive at *Dawn's* office from aboriginal men, women and children, in every part of New South Wales, telling their stories, presenting their ideas, seeking information, and, above all, illustrating beyond any possible doubt their sincere interest in their own publication.

To-day we find many of our aboriginal boys and girls attending high schools and colleges, gladly accepting Life's challenge to take their place in the world alongside their white brothers and sisters, and perhaps the day is not far distant when *Dawn* will be edited by an aboriginal and truly become a Magazine of the aborigines, for the aborigines, by the aborigines.

Dawn has proved itself a worthy vehicle for disseminating knowledge and understanding. Even the title "*Dawn*" was carefully chosen twelve months ago, because the Board, in its wisdom, felt the first publication of this Magazine would herald the dawn of new interests for the aboriginal people, new and wider understanding and a new and broader knowledge of the world about us, and its people.

In this State there are almost 12,000 full-blood and mixed caste aboriginal people, living in the towns and cities, on reserves and stations, and in isolated areas in the far distant parts.

Many thousands of these people receive their Magazine every month, but the publishers of *Dawn* will not feel they have completely achieved their purpose until EVERY aboriginal family in New South Wales is numbered among its readers.

The letters that came to *Dawn* this month bearing birthday greetings from Departmental and Civic leaders, newspapermen, and the ordinary man in the street, all prove how eager the white man is to offer the hand of friendship to the aborigine, to take an interest in his work and play, and to assist him take his place in the community.

While we welcome this feeling of help and interest from the white community, we must impress upon our aboriginal people the necessity for their active and willing co-operation.

They must make it their resolve to discard the old primitive ideas of yesterday and look eagerly forward to the new ideas and conditions of the future.

The Editor.

Letters poured into "Dawn's" office from all parts of the State, and indeed even from outside the State, offering congratulations on the first birthday of the aborigines' own Magazine. Space permits only the publication of a few, and these are representative of the many received.



The publication of this little journal was planned by the Aborigines Welfare Board some two years ago. One of the purposes aimed at was to provide a medium for news of special interest to aboriginal folk scattered throughout the State. Another was to provide a means of disseminating information regarding the aims and efforts of the administration in carrying out the Government's welfare policy.

The infant journal was born just a year ago, and to-day we are greatly pleased with the lusty youngster. This pleasure is based not only on the excellence of the Journal itself but on the knowledge we have that it is so warmly received by the aboriginal community everywhere. For this success we feel greatly indebted to our editor, Mr. Colin Davis. We were very fortunate in securing through him the services of an experienced journalist as well as a man who has a great interest in our aim to bring about better living conditions for the aboriginal people.

On this first birthday of *Dawn* I send to you on behalf of the Board our very best wishes for your future. We hope that from its small beginning *Dawn* will play an increasingly important part in the lives and welfare of your community.

C. J. BUTTSWORTH,
Chairman, Aborigines Welfare Board.

Many happy returns to the *Dawn* that always seems to come up brighter.

Raymond Bowers,
Editor, *Australasian Post*.

... Cordial greetings to *Dawn* on the occasion of its first birthday. We hope that it will have many more years of useful service—useful both to the descendants of the first inhabitants of Australia and to the white population as well.

We of *The Australian Encyclopedia* appreciate the importance of the Aboriginal Nation, past and present, and because of that we have assembled, with the assistance of the best authorities, an extensive history of the various tribes and their various customs.

We hope that this will help to impress upon white people generally, as *Dawn* is striving to do, the many admirable qualities of Australian aborigines.

Alec H. Chisholm,
Editor-in-Chief,
The Australian Encyclopedia.

The aspirations of a gentle and gracious people become articulate through the medium of *Dawn*.

W. A. O'Carroll,
Daily Mirror.



... Congratulations on a fruitful year in carrying to First Australians through *Dawn* a monthly message of encouragement and friendship.

Your little Journal is serving a noble purpose and repaying our aboriginal friends something of what we owe them for past neglect and, too often, cruelty.

Technically, it is an excellent production and I hope that the editorial comment will bring white and darker Australians closer in understanding and co-operation.

If the *Sun* can help *Dawn* in the development of its good work, we will consider it a privilege.

Frank H. Ashton,
Editor, *Sun Newspaper*.

I am very glad, indeed, to send greetings to *Dawn* on the occasion of its first birthday.

The technical side of the production of this paper is in a class on its own; far more than that, however, it has brought to me and, I know, others who have read it, news of our aboriginal brothers and sisters which we would never have read elsewhere.

I hope, with my colleagues, that this is the first of a very long series of occasions on which we will have the pleasure of sending you birthday greetings.

A. E. James,
Director, *The Anglican*.

. . . . May I offer my congratulations on the publication of the January issue of *Dawn*, and wish to the Magazine, and all who contribute to it, "Many happy returns of the day".

I did not see the first number, but, as you know, when I first saw a copy of the Magazine, asked for all the back numbers you could send me. I have enjoyed them very much.

Dawn has reminded me of aboriginal boys in classes which I once taught and at least one of the schools—Caroona—which I knew well as an inspector.

At all times, the teachers and inspectors of the Department of Education have been happy to help the boys and girls who are the special care of the Board.

I should like to wish them all, as well as *Dawn*, a happy and prosperous new year.

H. S. Wyndham,
Director-General of Education.

Congratulations on *Dawn's* first birthday anniversary. Your first year's work has already done much, not only to make our original inhabitants more truly feel that they belong, but to break down the cruel and erroneous assumption that in some way, apart from mere pigmentation, there is a biological difference between our dark and light skinned people.

I consider that *Dawn* is helping to restore an inheritance too long withheld from native Australians, and helping them towards a sense of equality and opportunity. Unless these things come about, and soon, there can be no true meaning to the Golden Rule, the Rights of Man, Charters of Liberty, or indeed, to all Christian Ethic itself. Carry on the grand work for our gentle understanding, and wonderfully tolerant, first Australian.

L. B. Foster,
Editor, *Pix*.

I want to congratulate you on the completion of the first year of *Dawn*. Every month I have enjoyed reading it and it has helped me a great deal in my work which takes me into every Methodist community in New South Wales.

With every good wish to you.

John W. Dixon,
State Secretary for Methodist Overseas Missions.

I have followed, with interest, the progress of your delightful Magazine, *Dawn*, since it was launched a year ago and congratulate you sincerely on producing such an interesting paper. Your Journal is doing a very important job—and is doing it very successfully.

May you continue to progress.

J. W. Robinson,
Acting Editor, *Newspaper News*.



. . . . I congratulate the Aborigines Welfare Board and the Editor and staff of *Dawn* on the production of such an interesting and instructive magazine, which provides our aboriginal people with their own Journal dealing specially with matters of particular concern to them.

At the conclusion of this first year of publication I join with many other good friends of the Board in wishing *Dawn* continued success in its excellent work for our aboriginal people.

J. J. McGirr,
President, Maritime Services Board of N.S.W.



Almost a year has passed since the first issue of *Dawn* appeared and I take this opportunity of congratulating all those responsible for its publication. I recall that, in the first issue, the Chairman of the Aborigines Welfare Board clearly stated the reason for its introduction when he wrote that it "would serve as a means of enabling the Board and the aboriginal people to learn to know one another better and with a greater measure of understanding," and it is very evident that this aim is being achieved. I do hope that you will, in the future, have the same degree of success as has been yours in this first year.

F. H. Rowe,
Director-General,
Department of Social Services, Victoria.

It is with pleasure I learn that your excellent little Magazine *Dawn* is to celebrate its first birthday. I would like to offer birthday greetings. Keep up the good work: you are really doing a magnificent job for the Original Australians.

J. S. Allen,
Director, *Australian Diary*,
Department of Information.



Our Birthday Cartoon.

Our Birthday Cake Cartoon was drawn by Australia's best known cartoonist, Emile Mercier.



. . . . For some time I have been intending to drop you a line to congratulate you on the work you are doing.

I have carefully perused every issue of *Dawn* that has reached me and I believe that this publication, if its circulation is effective, must play a major part in the belated efforts of the community to protect and uplift the aborigines.

The pictorial work is excellent and no one can imagine the thrill the subjects must get from the publication of their photographs.

With best wishes,
R. L. Blake,
Editor, *The Armidale Express*.



. . . . In extending birthday greetings to *Dawn* we are happy to offer congratulations to such an attractive publication; in our opinion, a gem in a world of publications.

A well edited journal with such a refreshing style and variety of interest, *Dawn* cannot fail to capture the interest of readers far and wide.

We extend to the principals good wishes for the future, and, in doing so, express the hope the publication will continue to convey its messages of goodwill as effectively in the future.

B. W. L. Dunnet,
North Western Courier, Narrabri.



. . . . I would like to add special greetings, on this the first birthday of *Dawn*.

May this publication have many more years of existence, as it is a worthy journal for the uplift of our coloured people, and also of general interest to all readers.

May I also congratulate you on your articles and general lay-out of *Dawn*; it is very creditable, and the printing is in keeping with this fine publication.

Good wishes, and may your journal continue to do the good work it is doing, thus helping the assimilation of the aboriginal people.

H. N. Wilson,
Nowra News, Nowra.

. . . . I want to take this opportunity of congratulating *Dawn* on the celebration of its first birthday.

During my stay and study in Australia that was arranged under the scheme of the Colombo Plan some months ago, I had the opportunity of visiting the Aborigines Welfare Board and meeting some of the prominent officials.

This enabled me to get information about the aboriginal people and visit the camp at La Perouse.

At La Perouse I met the Manager, Mr. Jenks, and the United Aborigines Missionary, Mr. Siggs. I was very pleased to meet them and to visit the aboriginal people in their own homes.

After reading the 1950 Aborigines Welfare Board Report, and visiting the Reserves, I am convinced that Point 5 is not only a principle in theory but also in practice. Point 5 says "The Board has continually stressed that its aim is the ultimate assimilation of aborigines into the general community. The Board hopes to achieve this object by the provision of improved housing, and living conditions, by attention to health and hygiene, the provision of equal education facilities for aboriginal children as for white children, the development of social, sporting and cultural pursuits, and by individual welfare activity.

In conclusion, I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity of joining in *Dawn's* birthday celebration.

May this unique magazine be a stepping-stone in bringing the aboriginal people into the general community, and thus ensuring their prosperity.

M. Soemantri,
c.o. Ministry of the Interior,
Republic of Indonesia,
Djakarta.



Walter, John and Kevin Binge, of Boggabilla, and two of their horses.

FOOLING THE FOXES

The Art of Whistling

by REGINALD T. COLE



On the evidence of vaudeville and the lighter movies, the human male attracts the female of the species by a certain type of whistle.

The effort earns for the whistler the title of "wolf". Maybe it was this stricture which caused man to try another kind of whistle to entice another type of quarry—foxes.

In the Bathurst district I have had proof of the success of this form of enticement. The hunters call it "whistling up".

The whistle is the kind kids make from tobacco-tin lids—two inches in diameter; doubled over and with two holes pierced through the folds. The noise emitted by blowing it is intended to simulate the squeals of a trapped rabbit. The cunning(?) fox, with visions of a prepared repast, hurries to the origin of the squeal, only to meet the hunter's gun.

As in all branches of hunting, the experienced obtain the best results. But "old-timers" in the sheep country assured me that a novice can "whistle up" a fox. With this knowledge, and a borrowed whistle, I went forth for practical experience

A farmer, experienced in the sport, accompanied me. He anticipated, I felt sure, an afternoon's fun at the expense of a "cityite." And naturally I was sceptical of the claims made for the whistle.

But sure enough, after 15 minutes intermittent blowing, my country friend froze my movements, and a fine fox emerged from the scrub 15 yards away. The farmer's hands moved, the fox turned, and died with the shotgun pellets in his head.

It was all that easy. Though explained to me later, were many difficulties which I had not encountered.

I was told that foxes are somewhat like humans mentally—some are slow thinkers and others cunning and not easily hoaxed. The latter type would not fall victim to a whistle emitted by a tyro. Also, the expert told me, a fox answers only when he is hungry.

So far as I can learn, the earliest history of the fox whistle is unknown: in all my foraging for its background I found only two or three vague references. Sheepmen I interviewed are of the opinion that the gadget is Australian. They base their arguments on the frequent habit of the bushman of whistling.

Superintendent Resigns

Sudden Decision



Hundreds of aborigines throughout the State will learn, with surprise and regret, of the unexpected resignation of the Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare, Mr. A. W. G. Lipscomb.

Mr. Lipscomb, who has been with the Department for just on 14 years has been in ill health for some time. During the years he was with the Department, Mr. Lipscomb travelled very widely in all parts of the State, visiting every Station and meeting thousands of aboriginal people personally. These aborigines will miss him, and wish him a speedy return to normal health.

And so, I'm told, it is possible to "whistle up" a fox with only the aid of mouth and lungs.

Farmers in Western districts have other methods of coping with the foxes which become regular killers in the lambing season. The foxes kill a lamb (or disabled sheep) and eat their fill, returning later to devour the remains. If, in the meantime, the farmer finds the carcass, he adds a condiment of strychnine. Incidentally, it is interesting to note that a fox will not eat the skin of its victims.

The reddish-brown coat of the fox is his natural camouflage. At birth, however, the fox pup is blue-grey, and docile. Both colour and docility disappear during the pup stage. Then his instinctive wariness soon asserts itself.

But, for many a year past, man has been matching his hunting and trapping skill against the traditional cunning of Reynard. And, judging by the number of fox capes and stoles in sartorial evidence, with considerable success.

It's fair to infer, also, that if M'Lady wants to, she can "whistle up" a fox.

CHRISTMAS CAMP AT COLLAROY

NINETY CHILDREN BENEFIT

LAST month, 90 aboriginal children from the remote parts of N.S.W. had the time of their lives at the Annual Camp at Collaroy.

The camp commenced on 2nd December and concluded on 16th December, 1952. The children came from Coonabarabran, Coonamble, Gulargambone, Wilcannia, Moonahcullah, Balranald, Woodenbong, Dubbo, Brewarrina, Bourke, Collarenebri, Walgett, Moree, Boggabilla, Quirindi and Murrin Bridge. There were 55 girls and 35 boys.

An exceptionally good set of children were chosen, and they were clean, well behaved and were equipped with an adequate kit of clothing and pocket money.

They were all a credit to themselves and to their race.

Prior to the occupation of the camp, much ground had been covered by Head Office in the way of preliminary arrangements, itineraries, etc., for the camp. This greatly helped in its smooth running and eventual success.

The preliminary arrangements for the Camp involved weeks of hard work and detailed planning.

Adequate stores had to be ordered daily from the local butcher, baker, milkman, grocer and green-grocer.

A suitable menu was prepared and a programme full of interest arranged.

The children from their respective Centres were met by the staff at Central Railway Station on days according to schedule, and were duly escorted to the camp at Collaroy.

An advance party of five children arrived on Sunday, 30th November, and were met and taken to the camp in the Board's utility truck. Then on Tuesday, 2nd December, 30 more children arrived and were met by the staff at the Station. After being given tea and pies at the Railway Refreshment Room, small groups were escorted by a couple of the staff and brought to the camp on the normal bus service to Collaroy.

On Wednesday, 3rd December, the remaining 55 children were met by two of the staff and taken on a special bus to the camp, where a wholesome breakfast was awaiting them.

Particular mention must be made of the Woodenbong Aboriginal children, who were escorted by their Manager. Each child was wearing a blue card tag with his or her name, and carried a sealed envelope containing pocket money as well as a separate envelope with the children's board money addressed to the Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare.



Dawn's Cameraman received a very hearty welcome when he visited the camp.

The children were accommodated in the Salvation Army Camp on the heights of Collaroy. The camp was comprised of two large dormitories adjacent to one another, with the girls in one and the boys in the other.

Separate shower recesses were attached to each dormitory and supervised showers were organised for the children.

A very spacious dining room was situated near the kitchen which comfortably accommodated the children, and a good kitchen, storeroom and a place for washing up was also provided.

There were ample facilities for recreational purposes. A large open space in front of the dormitories was used almost continuously for football, rounders, baseball, cricket and other games. There were also swings and see-saws.



The batsman needed plenty of nerve with all these grinning faces packed round his wicket.

The beach was close to the camp and the children made good use of the surf.

The rock swimming pool was particularly popular.

All recreational activities were supervised by the staff, and, indeed, they had as much fun as the youngsters themselves.

The staff for the camp consisted of eight members in charge of the children, with a cooking staff of two. Of eight members, three were permanent employees of the Aborigines Welfare Board, and five were temporary helpers, culled from Theological and Bible Colleges for the occasion. A splendid spirit of harmony and goodwill prevailed throughout, and this was the fundamental reason for the camp being a well disciplined and happy one.

A daily time-table was worked out for the systematic running of the camp and in order to avoid any undue waste of time.



The Chairman of the Board, Mr. C. J. Buttsworth, addressing the boys and girls.

The children rose at 6.30 a.m., washed, dressed and made their beds. At 7.15 a.m., the first gong went, which was the signal to wash their hands, comb their hair and tidy up generally and to be formed up ready for the second gong which went 15 minutes later. Breakfast was at 7.30 a.m., lunch at 12.30 p.m. and tea at 5.30 p.m.

The children were divided into three houses, red, blue and green and formed up accordingly when directed. Each house had a boy and girl captain.

After meals, groups of girls and boys were allotted duties of cleaning and tidying up, after which they were either taken swimming or for walks, or engaged in organised sports.

Retiring time was at 8.30 p.m., when all lights were out and silence had to be observed.

A full and interesting programme was arranged for the youngsters for the fortnight.

They visited Taronga Park Zoo and were quite intrigued with the variety of animals and birds, and thoroughly enjoyed a cut lunch in the park.



Aboriginal member of the Board, Bert Groves, talking cricket with some of the boys.

A showboat cruise was also arranged and gave the boys and girls the opportunity of seeing the beautiful harbour foreshores.

On another occasion, The Police Boys' Club took the kiddies for a bus trip around the city and they paid a visit to Aladdin's Land at a leading city store.

A medical inspection was arranged by the Health Department, and general opinion was that the health of the children was quite good.

The greatest event of the holiday was their day at Luna Park. The management was particularly generous in throwing the various fun shows open to them and providing a Chinese Magician. The management also gave a lavish party and the children were absolutely delighted when Santa Claus gave each child a gift worth at least 10s. This was done so impressively that it will probably linger like a fairy tale in their minds for many years to come.

A dozen children were taken to 2SM by the Editor of *Dawn*, and took part in the "OUR GANG" programme; singing, and being interviewed.

At the commencement of the Camp some of the children were inclined to be rather shy, others were completely overawed by the wonderful trams, electric trains, double-decker buses, the gigantic Sydney Harbour Bridge and the colourful neon lights.

A few were homesick, but as time went by they seemed to all fit in quite naturally with the normal fun,



Members of the Board on a visit to the camp had time to listen to an impromptu concert.



Assistant Cook Norman Perry prepares some soup for Board members, Messrs. F. Wright (left) and Mr. Sawtell.

and gained infinite confidence in the staff. It was very pleasing to note that every member of the staff showed sympathy and infinite patience, reciprocated the kiddies' affection and mingled freely and unhesitatingly with them.

Another striking feature of the camp was its educational advantage to these children from the outback.

They came in contact with people from a type of environment entirely different to their own and must benefit accordingly.

NOW YOU KNOW!

NICCOLO III
RULER OF FERRARA, ITALY
MORE THAN 500 YEARS AGO,
WAS THE FATHER OF 300 CHILDREN!

MEN OF THE BANGADJI TRIBE, FRENCH WEST AFRICA, ONCE STOLE A FRENCH ARTILLERY (GUN-FIRE) SHELL. THEY ADMIRIED IT SO MUCH THAT THEIR HOMES HAVE BEEN BUILT IN THAT SHAPE EVER SINCE!

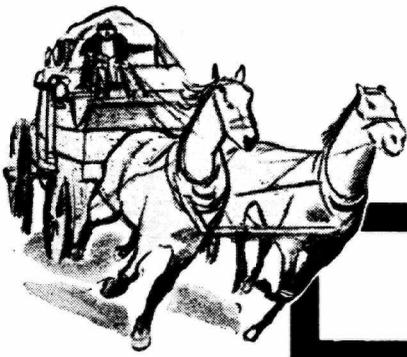
"I GOTTA HORSE" IS THE FAMOUS CRY OF RAS PRINCE MONOLULU, AN AFRICAN IN ENGLAND WHO SELLS TIPS ON THE RACE COURSES. FOR OVER 30 YEARS HIS PREDICTIONS HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL. IN 1930 HE WON FOR HIMSELF NEARLY ONE THOUSAND POUNDS IN ONE RACE WHEN THE HORSE HE TIPPED, **BLenheim**, WON THE ENGLISH DERBY!

IT JUST CAN'T BE DONE!

LAY A SIXPENCE ON THE PALM OF YOUR HAND AND ASK SOMEONE TO BRUSH IT OFF WITH A CLOTHES BRUSH, BRUSHING ONLY TOWARDS THE TIPS OF YOUR FINGERS

HARRY MASEKO AND TITUS SELEPE OF NATAL HAVE BEEN CUTTING EACH OTHERS HAIR FOR OVER 20 YEARS! NEITHER IS A BARBER BY PROFESSION!

METAL RINGS WERE PUT ON THE LEGS OF TWO WILD DUCKS AT THE SAME TIME IN 1942. SIX YEARS LATER THEY WERE CAUGHT TOGETHER! ONE HAD TAG NO 719175, THE OTHER HAD NO 719176! THIS HAPPENED AT ILLINOIS, U.S.A.



Along the Mail Route

The juvenile Fancy Dress Ball held at the Moree Aboriginal Station, recently, was an outstanding success both financially and socially.

The judges, Miss D. Coulter and Mrs. C. Horsbrough, had a very difficult task in deciding the winners of the various sections. At the conclusion of the judging each judge was presented with a box of sweets by little Jeanette Binge, in appreciation of the service rendered by them.

The success of the Ball was due entirely to the aboriginal people themselves. The mothers are to be congratulated on the frocking and appearance of the children, and congratulations to those people who worked so willingly and well to make it a success. Thanks are especially due to Mr. T. Binge, Mesdames Duke, T. Binge, Raveneau, Binge (senior), and Misses M. Raveneau and D. Binge.

Cabbage Tree Island Girl Guides, under the able leadership of their Captain, Miss Jean Marlowe, and Lieutenant Phyllis Anderson are doing very well. Before long it is expected that all members, will have passed the tenderfoot tests.

The company had its first outing to Ballina just before Christmas.



These pretty lasses are E. Duncan and N. Duncan, of Boggabilla.



Lone guide Edna Madden of Moree (left) on a hike with members of the IA Moree Guide Company, living the guide law which states :— A guide is a friend to all and a sister to every other guide no matter to what class, colour or creed the other may belong.

Alfred Penrith, of Nowra, passed away on Christmas morning. A well known identity in the district, he was about 80 years of age. He was buried in Roseby Park cemetery.

A Cricket Club has been formed at the Cabbage Tree Island Station with Bob Anderson, a first class cricketer, as Captain. It is worthy to note that Bob's father, Sam, has a big name in cricket. Many fans will be glad to know the old man is still as active as ever. He says he owes his long life to being a sportsman.

The newly formed cricket team played its first match on 27th December against the Wardell team and held their opponents to a draw.

The new Manager, Mr. Harrison, himself a good cricketer, is taking an active interest in the coaching of the younger players.

A lovely baby daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. "Laddie" Bell of Aborigines Reserve, Yass, on November 20th. The proud parents have chosen Dulcie Ann as her name.

A baby daughter born to Mrs. Hilda Benelong of Nowra, on Christmas Eve, was a real Christmas Box. The lovely little lady will be called Bertha.

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.



Three pretty maids. Frances Chapman, Joan and Lillian Ballangarry, all of Bowraville.



Poor old "Bubboo" has to be very patient with these Boggabilla children aboard.



Little Isabel Hamilton, of Perrams Lane, Coonamble, was rather shy when photographed.



Mr. C. Frost, a well known Condobolin identity.



This well dressed young man is Joseph Kelly, of Balranald.



Bride, Norma Binge, Bridesmaid, Eileen Duncan, of Boggabilla.



Young Danny Hamilton, of Perrams Lane, Coonamble, and "Tibby" the cat.



These healthy looking young ladies are Robyn and Carol Campbell, of Bowraville.



Some of the Cootamundra girls can be seen in the first year group at Cootamundra High School.



This is how popular Burra Bee Dee resident Fred Griffiths, lived when he was in the A.I.F. in Darwin.



Dawn and Garry Goulding, of Burra Bee Dee.



David Binge of Boggabilla with a man-sized guitar.



From Wee Waa comes this picture of Mrs. D. Hamilton.



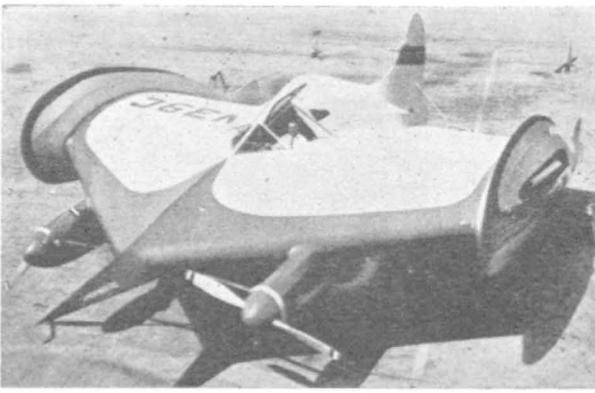
Les McGrady is another Boggabilla musician.



This lovely bathing beauty posing for the camera is Kathleen Frost, of Condobolin.



Walter Binge, of Boggabilla, and one of his horses.



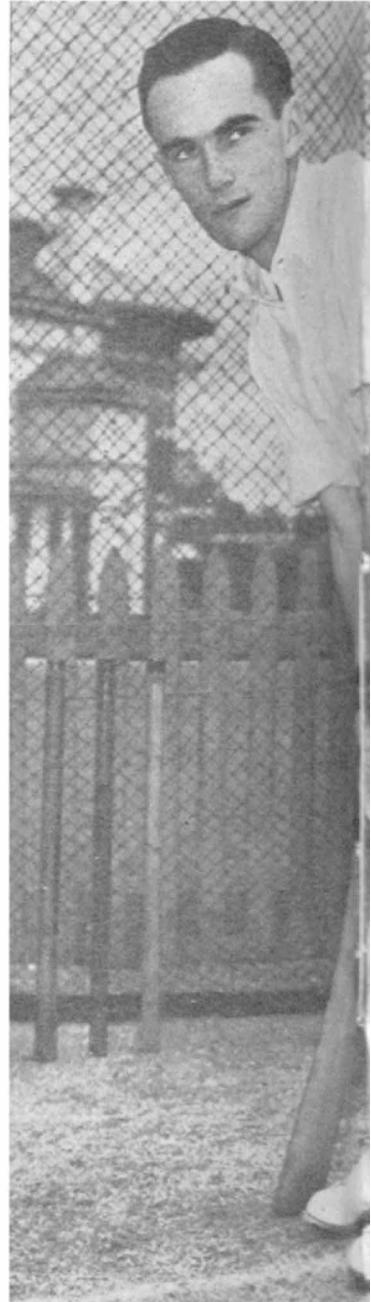
This strange wingless plane which is undergoing its first tests in America, is expected to revolutionise flying.



The Australian Prime Minister, Mr. R. G. Menzies, and his daughter Heather, leaving their plane on their recent return from overseas.



Two fine Papuan Scouts arriving at Mascot Airport recently to take part in the Pan-Pacific Jamboree, at Greystanes, near Sydney.



Ian Craig, of Sydney, young apprentice cricketer ever to be selected.



England prepares to Crown her Queen! Picture shows a rehearsal of the Coronation Procession planned for split-second timing of the real thing.



This old seal displays her affection for her month-old baby son, as she gives him a motherly kiss. This photograph was taken in the London Zoo.



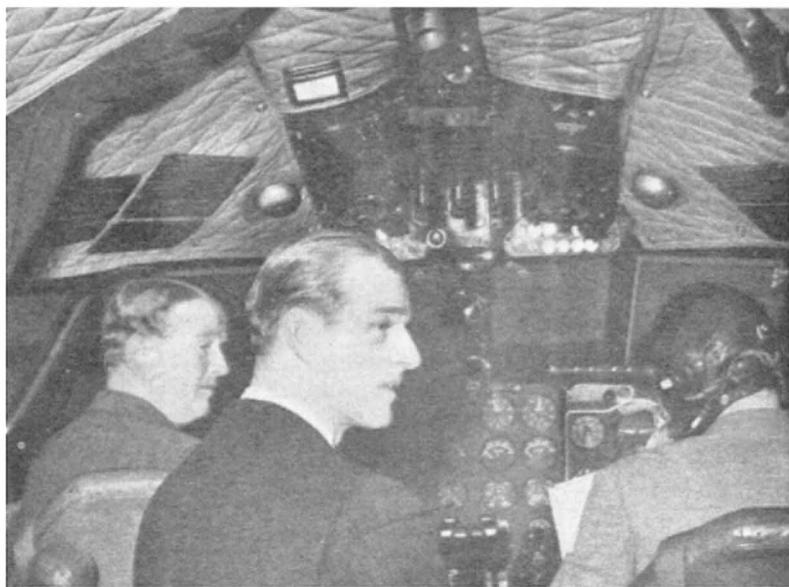
A pharmacist, who is the youngest for an Australian Eleven.



John Landy, sensational Australian miler who is tipped as the first man to better 4 minutes for a mile run.



Australian Tennis Champions, Ken McGregor (left) & Mr. & Mrs. Frank Sedgman wave farewell from the steps of a BCPA liner before they left for America.



H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh who is learning to fly, is seen here inside the cockpit of a De Havilland Comet.

HOME



HINTS

Chairs form Improvised Pen for Small Baby

Here's a stunt that is worth remembering when visiting friends, if you have a small baby and no playpen or high chair is available. Just take two dining-room or other type chairs having stretchers, and place one upside down on the other as shown. Tie the legs together, place a pillow on the seat and you'll have a safe and comfortable enclosure in which to place the baby. The ends of the legs can be padded, if you wish, to avoid possible injury.



Removing Shoe-polish Stains

Clothing stained with black shoe polish can be cleaned by washing the stained portion in soap and water or by applying turpentine directly to the stain. Alcohol or vinegar can be used to remove stains caused by tan or brown shoe polish.

Furniture hardware can be cleaned by scouring it thoroughly with borax and water, and then polishing with a soft cloth.

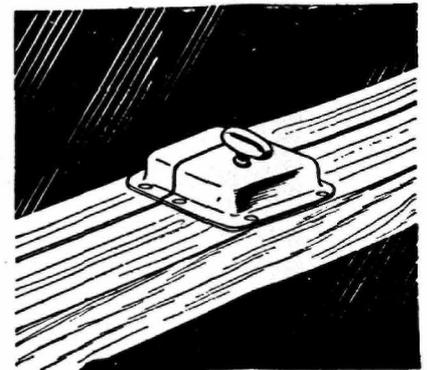


Glass top for window-sill protects the finish from dampness caused by potted plants. Use a piece of ordinary window glass, cutting it to size and smoothing the edges with an oilstone.

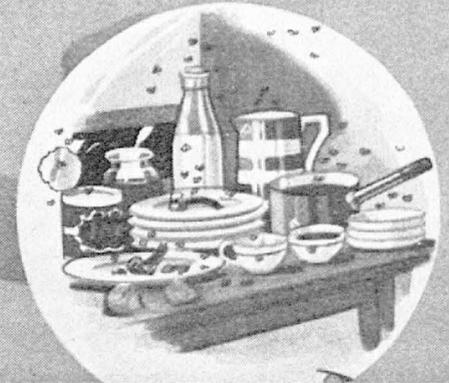
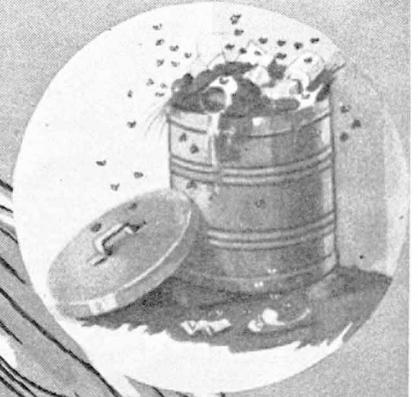
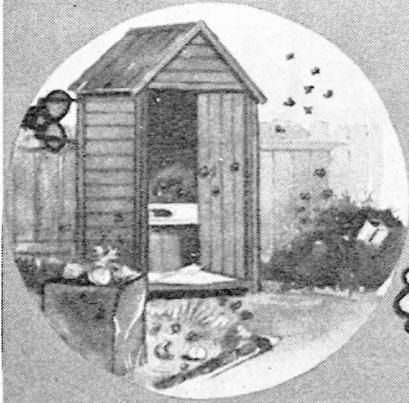
Removing Muddy Taste from Fish

Fish caught in certain localities sometimes have an objectionable muddy flavour when cooked. To remove this taste, scale the fish as soon as it is caught, cleaning and scraping all clotted blood from along the backbone. Before frying the fish, soak it in salt water and a little vinegar for a few minutes. If the fish is scaled some time after being caught, scrub it with a fairly strong solution of baking soda after the scales have been removed and then soak it in salt-and-vinegar water before frying.

Windows lock automatically when they are closed if the usual sash locks are replaced with cupboard-door catches.



Flies have DIRTY feet



**THAT CARRY GERMS
AND SPREAD DISEASE**

KILL THAT FLY!

Flies breed in refuse of various kinds, such as decaying vegetable matter, old rags and paper, human excrement and particularly horse manure. The female fly lays a batch of eggs numbering 100 to 150 usually in clumps and within a few hours a corresponding number of maggots are hatched from the eggs.

Having fed on filth for about five days, the maggot (larva) turns into a chrysalis (pupa), and in about three days more the fully developed fly emerges from the chrysalis. Complete development thus takes from eight to ten days, but in hot weather it may be only five days.

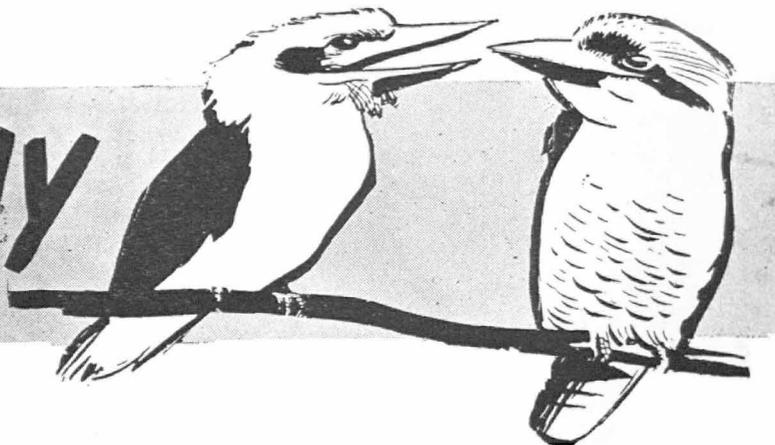
Fly breeding should be prevented by getting rid of their breeding places. All refuse should be promptly placed in the garbage receptacle and not left lying about

uncovered. Garbage receptacles should be watertight, cylindrical, metal containers provided with properly fitting lids, and should be uncovered only for filling or emptying.

All stable manure should be kept in properly constructed covered bins and all manure bins should be emptied and cleaned out at least once every week, and carted away to places where it can be thinly spread out for use as a fertiliser. In this condition flies will not breed in it. The use of D.D.T. is advantageous in preventing fly breeding.

Pan closets should be disinfected with a half cupful of "blue oil" or kerosene with D.D.T. The opening should be provided with a hinged lid and the lid always kept closed when not in use.

THEY SAY



Thanks and congratulations to Miss A. Wyndham for her interest in the aboriginal folk.

Her generosity recently made it possible for some of the poorer Burra Bee Dee children to attend the Christmas camp.

Burra Bee Dee people are proud of Maurice Cain for having won the yearly prize for the best cricketer at Coonabarabran High School.

Myra Cain, who recently attended the Collaroy Christmas camp, won a special award for the fifth class pupil making the most progress.

The sympathy of all Roseby Park residents is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter on the death of their 21 months old daughter, Beryl.

Local storekeepers did much to make the annual Roseby Park school "break-up" party a great success, and even the Christmas appetites of the youngsters were completely subdued by the end of the day.

Young George Ashby, of Burra Bee Dee, has been sent to the Far West Children's Home at Manly for special medical treatment, and all his mates wish him a rapid recovery.

After hearing of the experiences of the children who attended the Collaroy Christmas Camp, the Burra Bee Dee people think there will be no difficulty in getting their quota next year. Indeed, some residents have already approached the Manager on the subject.

In a special note to *Dawn*, the people of Coonabarabran expressed a desire to thank the Board very sincerely for providing the Camp and thereby educating and entertaining their children.

By special request, the Burra Bee Dee children attended the free Christmas picture show and party provided for the children of the district by the local Returned Soldiers League.

The only complaint to date is that the party happens only once a year.

December was really the big month for parties, and the residents of Woodenbong welcomed old Santa Claus in a fitting manner.

At the "breaking-up" party at Woodenbong, residents of the Station presented their teacher, Mr. Piggott, with an afternoon tea-set and expressed their best wishes and congratulations on his approaching marriage.

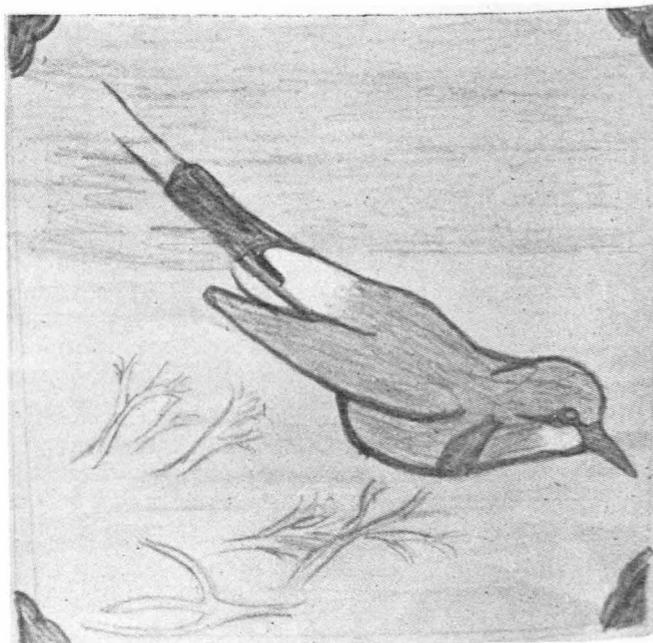
Another presentation was made to Miss J. Peters, a local missionary, in recognition of her work on the Station during the past ten years. The presentation took the form of a leather-bound writing compendium.

RETURN THANKS

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Pittman

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Pittman, of 9 Adina Avenue, Yarra Bay, would like to thank all relatives and friends for their kindness and help and expressions of sympathy in their recent loss of their son, Roy.

"Helping hands and kindness helped us to carry on in our sorrow," said Mr. Pittman, "and our grateful thanks go out to all our relatives and friends who rallied to comfort us."



A fine drawing by John Duncan (14) of Boggabilla.

DO YOU SNORE ?

TRY SOME OF THESE GADGETS

Some 350 gadgets to cure snoring have been patented in the U.S. But none of them is foolproof.

Snore ? You ? Of course not. Snoring is an affliction that attacks spouses, mothers-in-law, guests and dogs—in fact, everyone in the household except you.

But—let's face it—sometimes you're really not so sure about yourself, says the U.S. magazine *Changing Times*.

Most interesting thing about snoring is that it's the only ailment known to man which bothers the sufferer not at all, but which maddens everyone else within earshot.

Unfortunately, any discussion of snoring must begin by stating flatly that there is no sure cure for it. Although some 350 geniuses have applied for patents for gadgets designed to halt the between-the-sheets music, so far none is guaranteed.

Most common inspiration is a ball attached in one way or another to the small of the back to keep you from resting supine. Then there are plastic gums placed under the lips and over your teeth to prevent mouth breathing. And chin collars to clamp your jaw shut. And straps to fasten your wrists to the bedposts and keep you from turning on your back.

There's an elaborate recording device that drops a beanbag on your head or dumps you unceremoniously out of bed when your snore volume hits a certain peak. And so on.

One of two things is wrong with most of these schemes:

- If they are designed on the principle that you won't snore unless you sleep on your back or unless you sleep with your mouth open, they won't work on seven out of 10 snorers. These sturdy characters can perform just as well in almost any position.

- If they act merely as a means of waking you up, there is nothing to prevent you from sleeping again—and snoring again.

Now a word about the sponsor of the nightly musicale.

Take a mirror and look down your throat. You'll see there the villain behind this common complaint—the soft palate, which tapers toward the throat into the tail-like uvula.

The theory about snoring is that when you breathe deeply in profound and relaxed slumber, your breath rustles against these soft membranes, makes them flap like laundry in the breeze and produces that raucous sound.

One of every 10 adults snores to some extent. The affliction is more pronounced after the age of 35, because as a person grows older the palate and uvula become more flabby. But even children with enlarged adenoids or stopped-up noses snore on occasion.

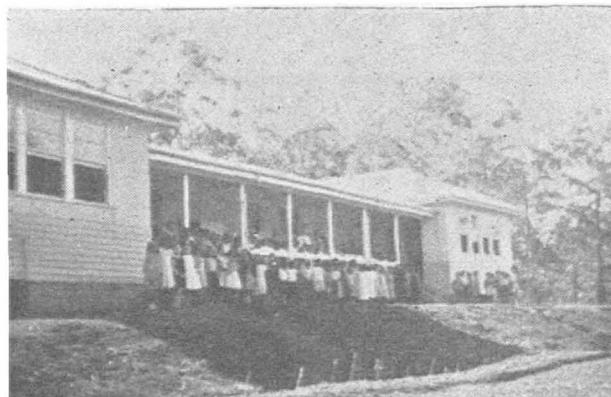
Some experts say that office workers, whose muscles tend to grow flaccid, snore better than anyone else. But others argue that athletes and manual labourers, whose physical exertions make them relax better in sleep, are champions at the noisy art.

There are all sorts of snorers. The steady type, who goes *hrrumph-whab, hrrumph-whab* all night long is probably easier to live with. You can get used to him, as you can get used to the little lady who makes noises like a sewing machine.

But the fellow who sleeps quietly except for an occasional, soul-shaking *kraangh* in the dead stillness is hard, mighty hard, to take. So in the one who varies his steady two-beat cadence with a great sudden *skruz pth*.

Probably the most touching of all is the husband and wife duet—he with his bass tuba and she with her keening flute.

The volume emitted by a grade A snorer can go as high as 69 decibels—roughly equivalent to the roar of a hungry lion.

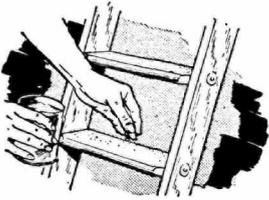


Burnt Bridge Public School.

HELP YOURSELF

Candleholder for Campers

Made in a few minutes from a jar or can cover and a length of stiff wire, this candleholder can be suspended from the top of a tent, a tree branch or a cabin ceiling. One end of the wire is bent and twisted around the rim of the cover and the wire is bent vertical to the cover, forming the hanging bracket. The wire is curved inward toward the centre of the cover and the end is bent to form an eye. Suspend the holder with a length of cord, being sure that the distance between the flame of the candle and the eye in the bracket is sufficient to prevent the cord from being burned where it is tied to the bracket.



The sand or sawdust must be applied while the paint is still tacky.

Non-slip ladder steps reduce the possibility of injury when using a step-ladder to work around the home. The steps are made slip-proof simply by sprinkling coarse sand or sawdust over them after applying a fresh coat of paint or varnish.

Storing Sweet Potatoes

Sweet potatoes will remain firm if they are first cleaned and then stored by packing them in a basket between layers of oats. The basket of potatoes should be kept in a warm, dry place.

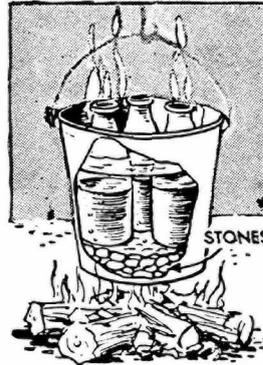
Protecting Your Grapes

To keep birds from eating grapes, place a length of black garden hose in the vines. The length of hose, which looks like a snake, will frighten away the birds.

Wall Plaque Enlivens Child's Room

Made from wood scraps and finished in gay colours, a duck wall plaque will add a novel touch to a child's room. Suitable animal cutout designs can be obtained from children's colouring books, or decals may be used. These are applied to the wood, then outline-sawed and finished with clear lacquer or shellac. Finish the parts separately and assemble with glue and brads, the brads being driven from the rear side. A round-headed brass screw and a washer make an excellent eye for the duck, or regular glass-bead eyes can be used.

Milk Bottles set in Pail of Water Provide Handy Camp Cooker



By means of three milk bottles set in a pail of water an entire meal can be heated simultaneously over a campfire. One of the bottles can be used to heat water for coffee, if the powdered type is used, while the other two contain soup, beans, etc. First, place a 3-inch layer of small stones in the bottom of the pail so the bottles will not rest directly on the bottom and possibly break. After standing the bottles in the pail, fill it about three-quarters full of water and the camp cooker is ready for service.

Animated Monkey Slides Down Pole to Amuse Small Children

Watching the monkey literally "jump" down the pole will amuse youngsters by the hour. The toy is made from a $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. dowel, a length of stiff wire and a wooden cutout of a monkey. A portion of wire is formed into a coil spring by winding it around a $\frac{5}{16}$ -in. metal rod. Wound over a form of this size, the spring will be a loose fit on the dowel. The cutout is attached to the projecting end of the wire, and a wooden block serves as a base to support the pole vertically. To operate the toy, place the coiled end of the spring supporting the monkey over the top of the pole, give the monkey's head a flip to set up a vibration and he will slide down the pole in a very realistic manner.



PRESENTATION TO MANAGER

Woodenbong Farewell

During their annual Christmas party celebrations, the residents of Woodenbong took the opportunity of making a presentation to the Manager, Mr. J. L. Foster, and Mrs. Foster on the eve of their retirement after 40 years' service with the Aborigines Welfare Board.

Presenting Mr. and Mrs. Foster with a beautiful pyrex dish mounted on a silver stand and a pair of silver salt and pepper shakers, Messrs. W. Page and F. Bundock spoke highly of the Manager and Matron.

Mr. Page said, "Mr. and Mrs. Foster have always discharged their duties in an efficient, unselfish and courteous manner.

"Mr. Foster will be remembered for his untiring efforts to make living conditions more pleasant for the people on this Station, and his eagerness to help whenever asked . . . and indeed often without being asked."

Mr. Page said, "The needs and requirements of the residents were always Mr. Foster's first thoughts."

"His experience as a farmer in his early days stood him in good stead," said Mr. Page. "During his ten years on this station he built up a first-class dairy herd, which often supplied more milk than we could use."

The speakers went on to describe how Mr. Foster had been responsible for the growing of an abundance of vegetables for the people, especially for the aged and infirm.

They said that wherever Mr. and Mrs. Foster may go, they would take with them not only the good wishes of the people of Woodenbong, but the good wishes of all the aboriginal people of New South Wales.

ATHLETIC CARNIVAL

The annual school athletic carnival which was concluded just before the Christmas holidays, saw Condobolin Aborigine School with 272 points winning the Challenge Cup from Oxley House, 191 points and Evans House, 140 points.

Outstanding athletes for the Aborigine School were D. Newman, J. Goolagong and B. Barlow.

At a ceremony at the High School, at which Miss Fletcher and Mr. Mason and the pupils of the Aborigine School were present, the Headmaster, Mr. Baldwin, congratulated the winners and presented the Cup to Kathleen Newman, who received it on behalf of the Aborigine School. Mr. E. Mason, principal of the winning school, expressed his pleasure at the victory and congratulated all children on the fine spirit of sportsmanship displayed.

The winning of this championship trophy by the aboriginal children was really an outstanding effort, as the High School has some 500 pupils from which to draw, the Convent School 100, and the Aboriginal School only 40.



A credit to their home and to themselves, these Kinchela lads were spick and span in their athletic costumes.

MOREE PARTY

Guides and Brownies

The Moree Station Hall was appropriately decorated by the Brownies and Lone Guides (assisted by the members of the Young People's Club) for their second Annual Christmas Party recently, when they entertained the Moree Girl Guides Company, two Scouts from each patrol, and their Scoutmaster and friends.

Tinsel and Brownie symbols in the form of Brown Owls decorated the walls, while the Brownie pennant, a painting of the fairy circle and a Lone Guide badge made by Edna Madden, formed the background on stage.

At either end of the stage there stood two gaily decorated Christmas trees loaded with Christmas cards, made by the Brownies themselves for members of the Guide Company and Scout Troop.

Three new recruits, Margaret Groves, Daphne Pitt and Jean Levy, were enrolled by the Commissioner.

During the enrolment ceremony, the Guides and Scouts stood in horseshoe formation, as the new Brownies made their promise through the microphone so everyone could hear them.

Once again the Brownies were undefeated in the Ball games, even when challenged by members of the Young People's Club.

The "Brownie of the Year" competition which had been conducted over the past twelve months and for which marks were allotted each meeting, was won by Margaret Raveneau, and the Commissioner presented her with a pretty cup, saucer and plate set.

SCIENCE OR MAGIC ?

RAIN-MAKING IN THE DESERT

An Interesting Article by

MICHAEL SAWTELL

*Well-known Australian Author and Lecturer and Member of the
Aborigines Welfare Board*



FIFTY years ago, when I was a stock boy working with aborigines on the edge of the Simpson Desert, across the Northern Territory and droving in the Kimberleys, I picked up from my mates among the aboriginal stock boys, quite a lot of knowledge about their customs and tribal laws.

Not that I deliberately set out to gain this knowledge, but boys are boys, whether they are black or white, and the aboriginal boys would tell me things at night whilst we were watching the sleeping cattle, or when we were hunting the hobbled horses in the early morning, that they would not care to talk about to a man.

Early one morning, whilst we were out in the sand hills tracking the hobbled horses, the aboriginal boys were suddenly very quiet, so I said to them, "What name?" and they whispered to me, "Hush, old man black fellow makem rain."

So we crept up along a sand hill, and hiding behind a large tuft of saltbush, it was then I saw the real old desert aborigines in the rain-making ceremony.

They were perfectly naked, and daubed all over with red clay. They had in their hands coolamons (shallow wooden dishes) partly filled with water, and with a swishing noise they were waving these coolamons towards some rain clouds in the distance, at the same time shouting out incantations.

Naturally I was rather sceptical about all this rain making, but in a few days time, when heavy rain fell and we had to swim the billabong, the aboriginal boys said to me in great glee, "Old man blackfellow makem rain all right."

Now, years later, that I know more about the hidden forces of nature, and also know that our native aborigines have some mysterious knowledge of many forms of magic and telepathy, the question of whether the old men could make rain or not, is to me a very open and debatable question. However, what is of immediate interest to us is that the white man now says he can also make rain.

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation has recently carried out some successful experiments, and the American scientists have been able to produce rain for some time.

If the white man can make rain, even five times out of ten, in the vast and dry Inland, that will mean as much to us as the discovery of fire meant to prehistoric man.

Making rain in the Inland would do away with the great need for the schemes proposed by Bradfield and Idriess, and involving the piping of water down from the north into the dry Central Australia.

If our scientists can make rain in the Inland, then we could, with modern mechanisation, scoop out great tanks to store the water, and have what I am always advocating, local schemes of irrigation and small self-supporting community towns.

City bred people may not know that one of the ironic characteristics of a drought is that it always looks like rain, but it never actually does. Every afternoon in a drought time, great rain clouds bank up, and when a great deluge seems imminent, a few drops of rain fall and the clouds blow away.



If science can just do something to make those clouds burst, the problem is solved. The possibilities arising from rain-making in Central Australia are enormous.

Could it not be that the magic of the old men of the tribe was the origin of all our sciences ?



—Photo by Courtesy Marie Hunt Studio, Coffs Harbour.

With the active co-operation of the local welfare committee and the wholehearted support of the trades people and public of Coffs Harbour, the recent Xmas party held at the Showground proved an outstanding success.

The local band heralded Santa's approach and the 50 children had an almost unending supply of toys, lollies, ice-creams, fruit, drinks, etc., while all the fathers received tobacco.

LATE NEWS FROM THE STATIONS

Kinchela Boys Choir now has its own regular weekly radio session from 2KM Kempsey (9.30 a.m. Fridays), sponsored by a local business firm.

Sincere congratulations to Mr. C. Forster, headmaster of the Kinchela school, for the splendid job he has done training the lads despite many difficulties, including the lack of a piano.

The choir recently took part in the Australian Amateur Hour broadcasts from Kempsey and won first place.

This now entitles them to consideration for entry into the Lever Bros. £1,000 contest.

Recordings of the Kempsey programme have been sent to Sydney by the manager of 2KM and, if these recordings are favourably considered by the judges concerned, the choir will be asked to come to Sydney to take part in a nation-wide broadcast, with all fares and expenses paid by the sponsors.

Mr. Steven Williams, of Roseby Park, who was in his sixty-seventh year, died in Liverpool State Hospital early this year.

Attention is drawn to the fact that aboriginal children are eligible to become wards of Legacy.

Any aboriginal child whose father served in any theatre of war, and is now dead, not necessarily through war service, can be considered for aid by Legacy.

Legacy, which has an express purpose—the aim to care for the need of deceased servicemen's children—plays a most important part in our community as a social aid organisation.

Any person seeking aid from Legacy should apply to the Aborigines Welfare Board as soon as possible.

One of the outstanding scholars of 1952 was Margaret Williams, a Casino High School pupil.

Margaret, who finished her yearly examination with an average of 66 per cent, has been doing particularly well in French and Latin. She is also studying Mathematics, Science, English, Needlework and History.

AUSTRALIA'S FIRST ZOO

IN A HOTEL YARD

More than 100 years ago, Australia's first zoological gardens were established on the shores of Botany Bay. This zoo was merely an additional attraction to the famous Sir Joseph Banks Hotel.

The first hotel on the site was the Banks Inn, erected about 1840 or 1841, but about 1847 the Sir Joseph Banks Hotel was firmly established and became the most popular rendezvous of the people of Sydney.

Attached to the hotel were extensive gardens, a riding school and pleasure grounds, but William Beaumont, licensee, decided that a real zoological garden would bring extra business so he got together a collection of wild animals, and extensively advertised his zoo.

This first collection of wild animals consisted of an elephant—the first ever to set foot in Australia—a Bengal tiger, a black Himalayan bear, red deer from Manila, an Indian lop-eared goat, some black Bengal sheep, and a grizzly bear from California. There were also some native cats, tiger cats, a number of emus, kangaroos, wallabies, possums, koalas and even a dingo. In addition, there was a good collection of native birds in cages.

Soon the zoological gardens proved the greatest attraction at the Sir Joseph Banks. This part of Botany Bay was connected with Sydney by a very rough road, little better than a bush track. Despite this, many people managed to make the trip by various sorts of vehicles. They paid a shilling entrance fee to the zoo, but William Beaumont made extra money from the sale of drinks, meals and even hot water for picnic parties.



At week-ends and on special occasions the *Sir John Harvey*, one of the most modern steamers in Port Jackson, was engaged to take Sydney people around to Botany Bay. The steamer had to anchor out in the bay, but there was a fleet of small vessels ready to convey the people from the steamer to the Sir Joseph Banks jetty. Ten shillings was the charge for the round trip, which included an inspection of the zoo. The steamer left Sydney at 9 a.m., leaving Botany Bay at 6.30 p.m. for the return journey.

Some idea of the popularity of this hotel, zoo and pleasure ground may be gauged from the fact that on Boxing Day of 1852 more than 5,000 people attended the grounds, which seems extraordinarily large when one considers the population of Sydney 100 years ago.

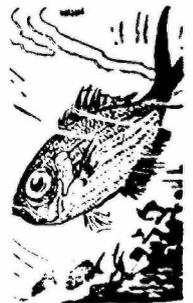
By 1863, a cricket ground, bowling green and an archery ground had been added to the hotel attractions. However, William Beaumont severed his connections with the hotel and devoted the whole of his attention to his zoological gardens.

In the late sixties the Sir Joseph Banks became the meeting-place of foot-runners from all over the world.

About this time, William Beaumont sold his zoo to a man named Billings, who, soon after, removed the animals to a hotel at Watsons Bay. There the zoo became just as popular as it was at Botany Bay. It was much easier and cheaper to get to Watsons Bay to see the zoo and thousands of Sydney people visited it. At week-ends the place was crowded.

Billings died while the animals were at Watsons Bay and his widow was unable to care for them. Rather than destroy the animals, she offered them to the N.S.W. Government, thinking it would be glad to have a ready-made zoo handed to it. The Government told Mrs. Billings that it could not accept her offer. The whole of the animals were then poisoned, and thus ended Australia's first zoo.

During the next few years a number of societies interested in birds and animals were formed. This resulted in the establishment of a zoo at Moore Park in 1884. Only a small area was taken over at the beginning, but soon it was extended to cover 11 acres. Here the animals were mostly in cages.



This Moore Park zoo proved very popular with Sydney people, also with visitors, because it was so close to the city and easy to reach.

In 1916, despite the fact that the world was at war, a large area of virgin country was obtained on the northern side of Port Jackson, and the Moore Park collection was transferred to the new Taronga Park, consisting of 58 acres of land.

Today Taronga Park is regarded as one of the world's finest zoological gardens, animals being housed in surroundings as near as possible to their natural habitat.

There is little or no trace of the original zoo at Botany Bay, nor is there anything at Watsons Bay to indicate that there was once a zoo there, but despite the fact that the old Moore Park Zoo site is now occupied by the Sydney Boys' High School and the Sydney Girls' High School, the old bear pit can still be seen in the grounds.

“ CUMMERAGUNGA ”

Australia has gained considerable renown in the past few years from its great aboriginal singers, its artists and its sportsmen.

Now the aborigine, inspired by the success of his fellow men and determined to take his place in the world alongside the white man, has turned to literature.

In his little book “Cummeragunga,” Ronald Morgan, an aborigine of Barmah, N.S.W., has put together his reminiscences of the aboriginal station at Cummeragunga and its aboriginal people. The story is Morgan’s own unaided effort and one of which he can be justly proud.

The foreword for the book was written by Miss Irene Mitchell, the producer of “Moonba,” the aborigine production which was such a success in Melbourne a year or so ago.

“The preservation and encouragement of all aboriginal art is necessary if we are to speak with pride of Australian culture,” says Miss Mitchell. “Indeed we cannot use the words Australian Arts without their inclusion.

“I would warmly recommend this story to all those who wish to learn more of the Australian aborigine, and I hope the numerous legends he relates will also find their way into print, for as he says of his own people, “The Aborigine has much to be proud and thankful for.”

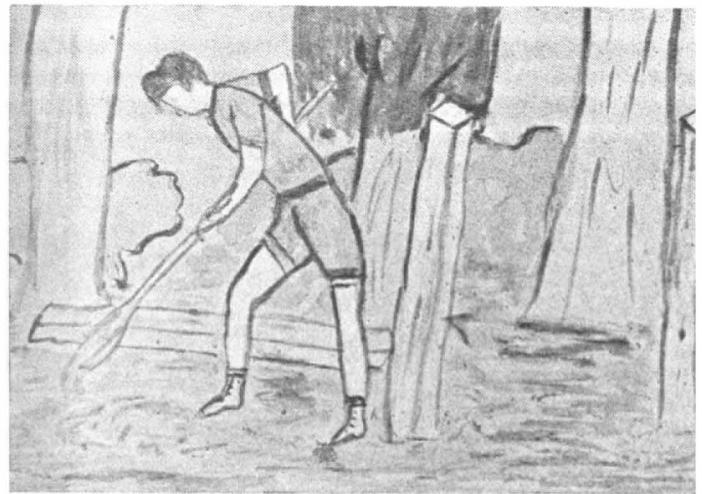
The idea of putting the story of Cummeragunga into booklet form belongs to Mr. A. E. O’Connor, a sincere friend of the author Ronald Morgan.

Writing to *Dawn*, Mr. O’Connor said, “A number of well wishers have subscribed the cost of printing the book and we hope its sale will return Mr. Morgan some financial reward and perhaps encouragement for further literary efforts in respect of which he obviously has ability.

“Although this may not be the first writing of an aborigine published, I have never heard of any other myself, and think it must be rare and worthy of note.

“In view of the ultimate welfare of aborigines in the settled parts of Australia depending on their being able to hold their own intellectually with the white population, I think this evidence of attainment on Mr. Morgan’s part has more than a purely individual interest.”

This interesting little booklet is now on sale and can be obtained by forwarding 2s. 3d. to Mr. A. E. O’Connor, 35 Gubrano Street, East Brighton, Victoria. This price includes postage.



“Fencing,” a sketch by 12 year-old Dawn Little, of Nulla Creek, Bellbrook.

A LETTER FROM SOUTH AFRICA

Pen Friends Wanted

A few days before Christmas, the Editor of *Dawn* received the following letter from South Africa :

Dear Editor,

I am sure you are surprised to receive a letter from South Africa, from a person you had not heard of and from a person you did not expect to know your address.

Well, my name is Etienne Phoofolo. I am very interested in the Australian aborigines as I thought they no longer existed, or if they did, that they lived on the forsaken parts like the deserts.

I was surprised to read of the Australian aborigines in *Zonk* (South African paper), as I never thought aborigines were educated.

I would like an Australian aboriginal pen-friend who could tell me much about the aborigines or about Australia itself. I would be delighted if you can find me such a pen-friend, boy or girl.

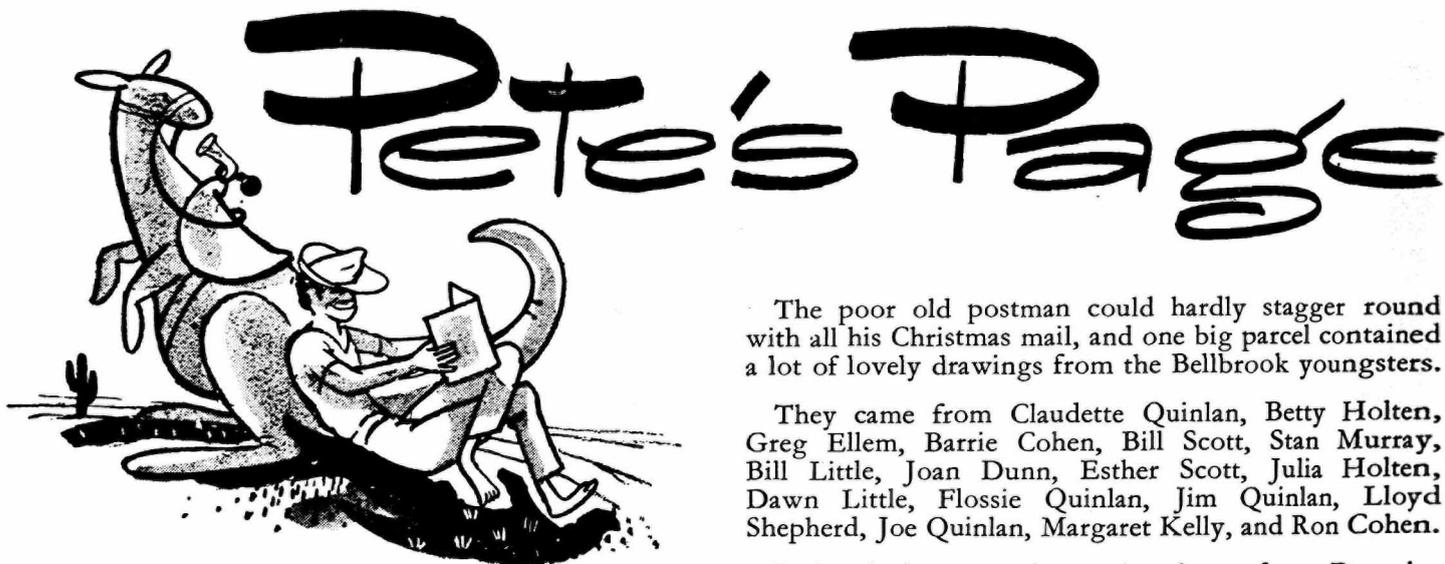
I am most interested in all sports (tennis, table-tennis, football, baseball, boxing, billiards, music, the cinema and photography).

In sport I am more interested in tennis than the rest. I know tennis is one of the most taken up sports in Australia, with cricket and Rugby.

I have been reading much about tennis in Australia, about players like Frank Sedgman (the present Wimbledon champion), Ken McGregor (my idol), Ken Rosewell, Lewis Hoad and Mervyn Rose, but these are white men. I would like to hear about aboriginal sportsmen.

I am 20 years of age and am still a scholar (Form IV).

Etienne Phoofolo,
49, 13th Street,
Germiston Location,
Transvaal,
South Africa.



The poor old postman could hardly stagger round with all his Christmas mail, and one big parcel contained a lot of lovely drawings from the Bellbrook youngsters.

They came from Claudette Quinlan, Betty Holten, Greg Ellem, Barrie Cohen, Bill Scott, Stan Murray, Bill Little, Joan Dunn, Esther Scott, Julia Holten, Dawn Little, Flossie Quinlan, Jim Quinlan, Lloyd Shepherd, Joe Quinlan, Margaret Kelly, and Ron Cohen.

I also had a very interesting letter from Dorothy Mitchell of "Kurrajong," Muttama. Apparently poor old Dorothy is having a lot of trouble up there with her broody hens.

Vivien Laurie of Yamba, on the Clarence River, is only twelve but she can also write a very interesting letter. Vivien is very proud of her footballer father. Good for you, Viv!

Emily Walker of Bellwood Creek, Nambucca Heads, also wrote a nice letter and sent me some photos which we'll publish soon.

This month's painting prizes went to Collen Snow (14) of Burnt Bridge, Allen Ferguson of 1 Wingewarra Street, East Dubbo, Hilton Wightman of Boggabilla, Florence Bowden of Cootamundra, and Margaret Carney of Armatree. Congratulations, Kids.

I also had some fine paintings from Clarence Haines, Lloyd Dennison, Ron McGrady, Henry Binge, Cyril Knox, Dale Forster, Fred Binge, Teddy Cubby, Ian McIntosh, Don McIntosh of Boggabilla; Judith Darcy, Betty Mundy and Alice Adams of Cootamundra; Margaret Kelly of Burnt Bridge, Lorna Welsh of Wingate Street, Coonamble, Ambrose Brown of Wreck Bay, Mac Cutmore of Moree and Larry Kelly and Carol Donovan of Bowraville, also Barbara Masters of Armatree, and Bruce Ellis, Cecil Dickson and John Armstrong of Kinchela.

In my very big mail we also had some excellent drawings on all manner of things, from my old friends, John Duncan (one in this issue), Hilton Wightman, Don McIntosh, Bertram Prince and Lewis Orcher of Boggabilla.

Well now, Kids, I want a lot more drawings and photographs, and how about a short story or two? See what you can do.

All the Best until next month.

Your sincere friend,

Hello, Kids,

And how are we all enjoying the holidays? I'll bet all my young friends are having the time of their lives.

I had some lively Christmas cards and letters from boys and girls during the holidays, and after reading them all very carefully I hung all the cards around my office. They looked grand.

One of the loveliest cards I received was from Pam Tighe of Wallendbeen. It had a Namatjira painting on the cover and Pam said, "I selected this card especially for you as it is by an aboriginal artist whom I am very proud of, being an aborigine myself."

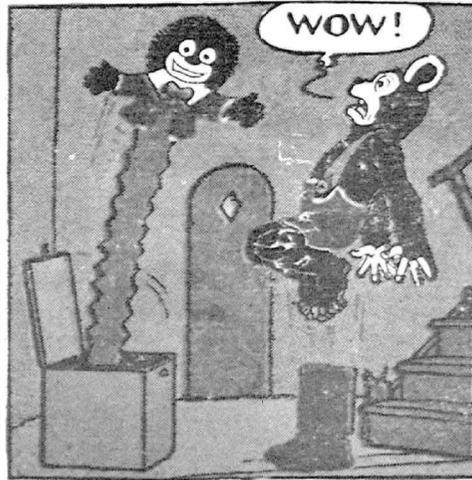
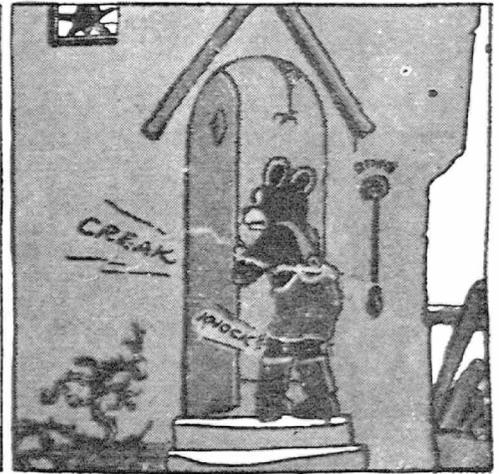
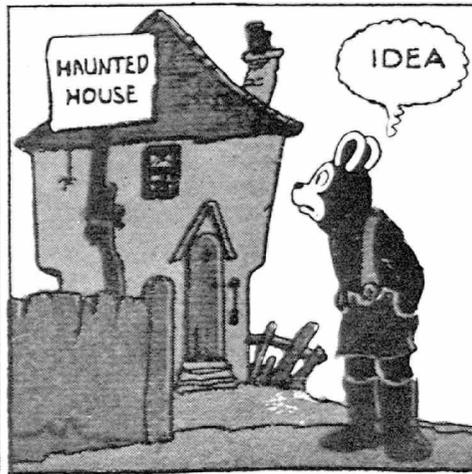
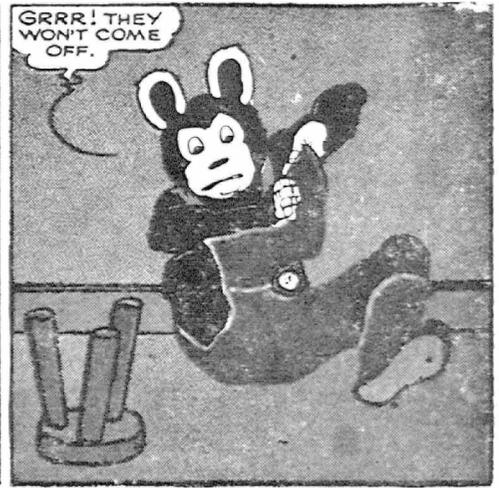
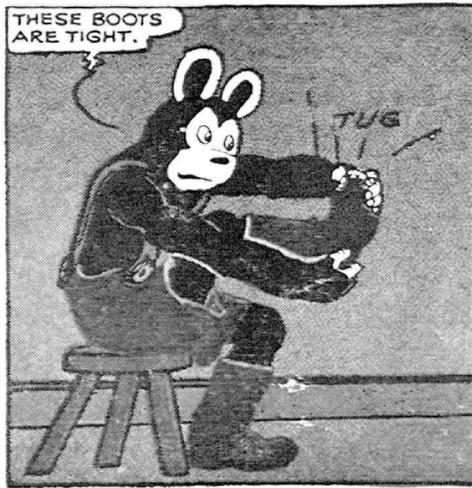
Thanks indeed, Pam, it was a lovely thought and a lovely card.

A lot of the Boggabilla youngsters made up their own cards and they were lovely. I was really amazed by the beauty of the flowers on Coral Binge's card.

I had other cards from Isabel McGrady, Neville Binge, Pearl Mackie, Pauline, Hayden Paines, Teddy Cubby, and Lewis Orcher.



"The River," a clever drawing by Claudette Quinlan (14) of Nulla Creek, Bellbrook.



DID YOU KNOW ? ? ?

The life of a house fly during summer is only a few weeks, but a few specimens have been known to survive up to 90 days.

Every 24 hours, Australians consume 30-million cups of tea, being the fourth greatest tea drinkers in the world.

India has one-third of the world's cattle production, or an estimated 170-million.

When lightning strikes a tree, it actually creates heat, which turns the wood moisture to steam, and this causes the explosion.

No one knows who invented the wheel or when, but it is older than history. Primitive man learned the use of rollers, using tree trunks to move heavy weights, and the first wheels are believed to have been stone discs. The Babylonians improved on this type, while the ancient Egyptians are believed to have invented spokes. The Chinese, too, claim to have used various types of wheels since earliest times.



IN THE GARDEN

In most districts January is a hot dry month when the soil will need plenty of water and liquid manure.

Where there is any proximity to adjoining properties and any danger from bushfires, it is advisable to clear off any dry grass or scrub and make a definite firebreak between the properties.

Vegetables are very necessary, and very welcome, particularly in the hot months when there is such a demand for cold meals and salads, but the gardener who prefers flowers will still have plenty to occupy his or her attention.

Colourful blooms can cover up a multitude of deficiencies in a gay garden, and many Summer flowers grow quickly and easily.

Conditions for the growing of flowers and vegetables must vary according to different soils, different climates and different altitudes, but there are three very important rules which apply anywhere at any time.



1. Use plenty of water.
2. Keep the soil well treated with fertilizer, lime or mulch.
3. Keep the ground free from all weeds.

Lawns

Where the heat has been severe, this particularly applies to the Western and North-Western parts of the State—and the grass has been badly affected—it is a good idea to top-dress your lawns now.

All the hollows should be filled with a good loose soil and any little hummocks that may have appeared should be levelled off.

If you are living on an Aboriginal Reserve, see the Manager NOW about drawing some seeds for your garden. He will be happy to help you if he can.

January is the month to grow the following :—

FLOWERS.

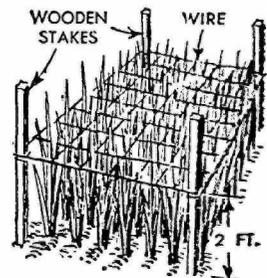
Snapdragons, Zinnias, Sweet Peas, Asters, Calliopsis, Carnations, Sunflowers, Stocks, Petunias, Cosmos, Poppies, Freesias, Gerberas, Lupins, Pansies and Phlox.

VEGETABLES.

Cabbages, Beans, Carrots, Lettuce, Marrows, Parsnips, Cauliflowers, Radishes, Rhubarb, Squash and Turnips

Wire Mesh Prevents Damage to Growing Gladioli

Tender stalks of "glads" growing in small beds out in the open frequently are broken by the wind. To prevent this, drive wooden stakes at the four corners of the bed and stretch welded wire fencing (4-in. mesh) over the bed when the plants are 6 to 8 in. high. Train the stalks through the wire mesh as the plants grow and raise the wire at intervals as growth progresses. With average-sized plants, height of the wire should not exceed 2 ft. at the end of the growing period.



Storing hose by coiling it around four old horseshoes nailed to the studs of a garage wall will keep the hose in excellent condition. Space the shoes so that the hose will wrap around them in a natural coil rather than in a rectangular shape, which would kink and damage the hose.

