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Dawn



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

JANUARY, 1961





Our Cover . . .

The lovely girl on our cover this month is vivacious Stella, aged 21, who was born on Mornington Island Mission in the Gulf of Carpentaria, and for the past two years assistant to Matron Gosilin.

Here she is seen preparing a hypodermic needle.



DAWN

is a monthly magazine produced by the N.S.W. Aborigines' Welfare Board for the Aboriginal people of New South Wales.

Editor E. COLIN DAVIS, J.P., F.C.E.S.

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You can be a Radio Star

BIG TALENT QUEST BEGINS

This year the theme for National Aborigines Observance Day is "the Achievements of our Aborigines" and to fit in with the spirit of our theme N.S.W. N.A.D.O.C. is organising a Quest which will seek for Talent among our Aborigine or Part Aborigine People.

The scheme has the approval of the N.S.W. Aborigines Welfare Board and the Church Missionary Groups and the committee is now asking for the co-operation and suggestion of those in charge of Missions, Government Reserves, Settlements, and anyone working among these people for their advancement.

It is hoped to have finalists of this Quest broadcast over a network of stations on National Aborigines Observance Day, July 14th, 1961.

Talent discovered will be taped at the nearest radio station, or should this not be possible other avenues for recording will be sought. The tapes will be sent to Sydney and the finalists brought to Sydney for National Aborigines Day. These will, among other features, be broadcast from a Sydney Auditorium before an audience. There will be no prizes given by N.A.D.O.C. The committee is asking those entering our Quest to do so for the honour of representing the best in accomplishment from among their own people, and also of course for the wonderful opportunities it will offer for future careers on radio or television.

It is possible that this will develop into something even bigger than that which has been outlined, but first the talent must be found.

The "Talent Quest" will leave selection of material to those who enter. It can be sacred or secular. We are seeking talent and on talent will selection of the best be made.

Sections of the Quest will be for the best—

- (a) Soprano voice.
- (b) Contralto voice.
- (c) Bass voice.
- (d) Tenor voice.
- (e) Duet, Trio, Quartette.
- (f) Miscellaneous will include items by Banjo, Guitar, Piano-Accordian, Didjeridoo, Gum Leaf.
- (g) Verse speaking:—
 - (i) Individual;
 - (ii) Groups up to 4 in number.

The age of those entering must be 16 and over.

All tapes will be recorded by February 28th.

Further details of this Talent Quest may be obtained from Mrs. J. Rogalsky, 19 Raeburn Avenue, Castlecrag, N.S.W.

SALT

By John Sidney

IT IS AT ONCE THE CHEAPEST and most priceless thing on earth. Without it many of our industries would stop. It is salt which costs a few pence a pound. Deprive a man of it for about a month and he will die horribly—a punishment sometimes meted out in ancient times.

So basic is life-sustaining salt to our life on this earth that its echoes are in our prosaic pay packet and in our language. Salt gave us our word "salary" which has its origin in the Latin *salarium* or "salt money"—the allowance to Roman soldiers to buy salt.

Among ancient people to "eat salt" was to cement a sacred bond of friendship. It is still so among some peoples of Asia. "Salt of the earth" is a phrase we use to praise someone. Christ's words about the salt losing its savour echo the sacred qualities which attached to it. When Gonzalo Pizarro was executed in Peru in 1548 for treason against the Spanish Crown his house was razed to the ground and sacred (and purifying) salt was sprinkled on the foundations.

So precious was salt that it determined social status in the Middle Ages; on your rank depended whether you sat above or below the salt at the long table in the lord's great hall.

Salt's value created great roads and cities. One of the world's most ancient roads was the Via Salaria in Italy, the route along which salt was carried. Salt built the wealth and culture of ancient Timbuktu, a city of great libraries. Salt, too, was the foundation of the wealth of the prince archbishops of Salzburg (literally "salt-mountain").



Salt, too, helped to build London. More than 1,000 years ago, much more, Britain's salt mines were a main source of supply for Western European countries. The pony pack trains crossed the Thames at a ford near the present day Westminster Bridge and a settlement grew up there.

Men made long journeys in the past for salt and still do. Tibetans come down from the cloud-carrying Himalayas to procure it. Camel caravans still traverse the Sahara wastes to Timbuktu.

Some peoples rate salt as more valuable than gold. Three Naga hillmen recently built a church in upland Burma and asked for payment—six pounds of salt.

Each of us needs about $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. of salt a day to keep ourselves healthy. Our bodies want a continuous supply; we lose it steadily through our sweat glands and the functioning of our kidneys. People in hot climates have long recognised that extra salt is needed to help ward off heat exhaustion and sun-stroke. During the last war U.S. steelworkers were supplied with specially

flavoured salt tablets to help prevent cramp. The practice was so beneficial that U.S. steelworkers continue to chew their daily dose of salt tablets.

Deprivation of salt has unpleasant effects on all animal life. Salt is indeed the flavour of life. Saltless water causes the blood corpuscles to rupture and stops the kidneys from working. Experiments with dogs show they cannot last as long as we can without salt—only about three weeks.

So strong is the need for salt that all of us and animals, too, have a built-in instinctive drive for the stuff—as a U.S. soft drinks manufacturer discovered to his profit. He originally produced a saltless drink and discovered sales went up when he added salt. "Tastes sweeter" and "got more flavour" were typical comments.

More simply, we all know how insipid many foods and liquids are until we add salt to bring out the other flavours. Here we are in deep (salt?) water. Flavour is a complicated thing involving the senses of taste, smell and touch. But it's clear that nature is making sure we swallow enough of this essential commodity.



Most of us tend to think that the salt we eat accounts for the major part of the salt we use. The truth is that the great chemical plants of the world consume far, far more. Salt is the prime raw material in soap-making, in refining fats and oils, and in the manufacture of bleaching powders, insecticides, fungicides and fertilizers. Salt is used in glass-making, in smelting, in the production of aluminium and paper, in meat packing, food curing and water purification.

The list is infinite.

There are two main methods of using salt chemically.

The first was discovered nearly 100 years ago by two Belgian brothers, Ernest and Arthur Solvay. They mixed a tank of salt and ammonia and passed a stream of carbon dioxide through it; they had found a way to unite the sodium, carbon and oxygen and gave as a cheap source of supply of bicarbonate of soda and sodium carbonate (or soda ash).

These chemicals are essential for the making of a host of products. The 1861 successful experiment, for instance, has given us glass and a crowd of other things at a price we can all afford. A tumbler consists of about 75 per cent. silica or sand and 15 per cent. of soda ash and small quantities of other elements including magnesium and calcium. Washing soda, an inexpensive cleaning agent, consists of large soda ash crystals and water.

The other method of processing salt is more complicated but produces a wider range of chemicals for industry. Humphrey Davey showed the way about 150 years ago. He passed an electric current through a liquid of sodium compounds and broke them down into their component parts. Electrolyzed brine yields three main chemicals—sodium, chlorine and caustic soda.



The last is used widely as a cleanser in the fur felt hat, clothing and leather industries. Cotton thread is mercerized for greater strength by dipping in caustic soda. The rayon and plastic industries depend on caustic soda. So do numerous others such as rubber, soap, pharmaceuticals, explosives and paper.

The list could be extended to the limit of your boredom.

Chlorine has probably saved more lives than all the antibiotics together—as a purifier of water and the victor over once prevalent typhoid. Chlorine is used widely in industries—in making synthetic rubber, nylon stockings, photographic printing paper and a host of other everyday products.

The third product of electrolyzed salt, pure metallic sodium, isn't as yet quite so ubiquitous as its brothers. But chemists are finding uses for it in producing tetraethyl, detergents, the case-hardening of steel and the refining of lead bullion.

But though salt is priceless for life and industry we are never likely to run out of it. Seawater has an average of about three per cent. salt and there are about 500,000,000 cubic miles of brine in the oceans—sufficient to cover all Australia with salt (if you were so inclined) to a depth of five miles.

In addition, there are vast supplies on land in rock form or pockets of brine or in salt lakes. Salt deposits at Wieliczka, Poland, have been worked for centuries without exhaustion. The deposits are over 1,200 ft. thick and the galleries run for a total length of 500 miles. There are also vast deposits in Michigan. In Utah there's the world's largest salt lake, 75 miles long and 25 to 50 miles wide. The water is one-sixth salt. Large rock salt and brine deposits in Britain, notably in Cheshire, alone supply about one-tenth of the world's needs.

Salt, as we know, dissolves easily in water. Water for aeons has been dissolving the earth's salt and carrying it into the oceans which very slowly get more and more salty. From time to time, the pattern has been reversed and shallow seas have spread out over continents and after ages have slowly evaporated, leaving behind vast deposits of salt. Silt and gravel have covered them and preserved them underground.

Primitive man had to work hard for his salt. Many a prehistoric battle must have been fought for a salt pan of a dried-up lake or for the deposits from a natural spring of brine. In time man must have learnt to distil it by boiling seawater or brine from wells. But it was costly of effort and until more recent times the commodity remained expensive.



Today, modern machines and techniques make it one of the cheapest products on earth. Salt, to-day, is mined by giant machines which gobble up the rock salt. Or it is obtained by evaporating brine from salt lakes or the sea. Or, more dramatically, in the case of deep deposits, by an adaptation of the American oil well technique. High speed rotary bits bite through the rock salt and a high pressure stream of water and, sometimes, liquid mud flushes the rock salt to the surface.

About three-quarters of the United States' supply of salt comes from Michigan where a resolute local businessman called Crockett McElroy pioneered the drilling technique in 1882.

For years the citizens of St. Clair, 40 miles north of Detroit, had been gathering profitable salt from the brine of natural wells. But round about 1882 the wells started to dry up. Crockett McElroy reasoned that there must be a lot more brine somewhere down below and began to drill. After four months the drill had passed 1,500 ft. and no brine in sight. A month later at 1,633 ft. he struck rock salt—very dry and very hard.

McElroy was in despair. He had sunk a lot of money in the drilling. You couldn't pump up solid salt. Or could you? If it was brine you could! McElroy had got his bright idea. Inside the large pipe he sank a smaller one. Down the outer pipe and around the smaller one, he pumped water which dissolved the rock salt at the bottom and turned it into brine! By forcing water down under pressure, McElroy was able to push a continuous flow of brine up the inner pipe.



Crockett McElroy had found a way which today in Michigan produces 16,000,000 tons of salt-in-brine a year.

Common stuff, salt, but romantic, too.



Meet Warren Mumbler and Amos Donovan



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.



This hefty little fellow reclining in his pram is Baby Kennedy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy, of Chippendale



Rita Williams, of Guyra, and Alma Landsborough, of Tingha



The Blair family, of Ben Lomond, all busy pea picking



A pretty lass from Tingha, Valda Connors



Mary Button, Kate Button and Della Ridgeway



Mrs. Janice Kennedy, of Chippendale



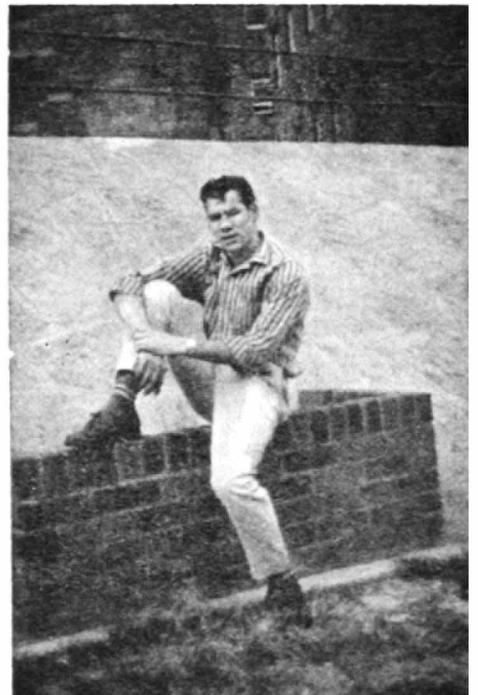
Margaret Calloghan and Helen Faulkner have fun on the beach at Byron Bay



Dick and John Blair and Graham Loy, of Ben Lomond



The young fellow taking it so easy in the park is Ken Walker, of Redfern



We would like you to meet Warren Mumber



Cutting sheet metal.—When galvanised iron or other sheet metal is to be cut along a pattern line and you have difficulty in forcing the shears through it, mark it first with a candle, then trace the cutting lines.

The tallow of the candle will lubricate the metal so the shears cut more easily, especially on the turns.

* * * *

Deburring.—When sawing a long bolt to length, do so with a nut screwed completely on. When unscrewed, it removes the burrs left by sawing. These burrs would jam a newly turned-on nut.

* * * *

When sharpening tools on an oil stone, clamp it at an angle in the vice. This will leave both hands free for manipulating the tool and enable you to do a better job than if you have to use one hand to hold the stone in place. Care must be taken not to clamp the vice too tightly as there is danger of breaking the stone.

• • • •

Much of the strain on wrist and finger muscles when using a wire brush to remove old paint can be avoided if the back of the brush is equipped with a hand rest. One method is to cement half of a sponge rubber ball to the back of the brush. The ball will fit up into the palm of the hand, providing a resilient rest.

• • • •

To clean limed oak furniture, soak a cloth in a little metal polish and leave till just damp. Then rub the furniture hard with this and polish with a dry, soft cloth.

* * * *

Soften shoes that have been hardened by water, by rubbing over with a soft cloth dipped in paraffin oil.

• • • •

Put a large clean marble in with milk, soup, custards or sauces, to automatically do the stirring and prevent burning as it cooks.

When a cake burns, do not try to scrape off the burnt part, but use a nutmeg grater. This will remove all trace of the black crust.

* * * *

To prevent rough, chapped hands while doing the washing on winter days, try this hint.

Rub lanoline or mutton fat on your hands before putting on rubber gloves.

Heat from the washing water melts the lanoline which is absorbed into your hands.

* * * •

When making simple curtains, have the hems at top and bottom exactly the same. This way, you can reverse them occasionally to equalise the wear.

* * * •

Cherry Ring

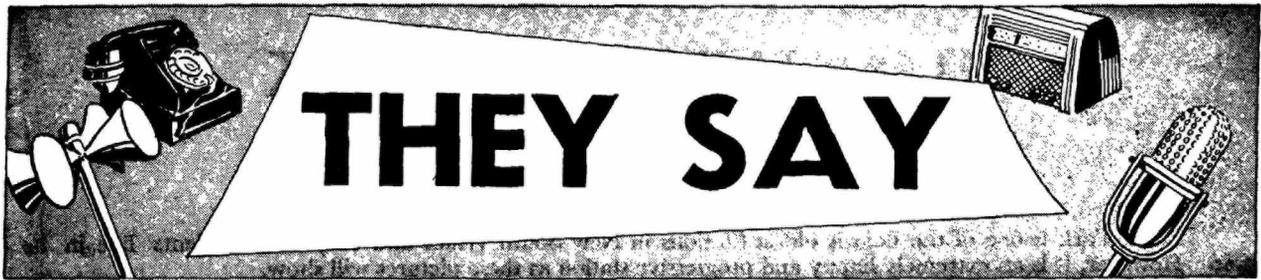
Four oz. castor sugar, 4 oz. margarine, 2 eggs, 7 oz. plain flour, 1½ teaspoons baking powder, 3 tablespoons milk, 4 oz. glace cherries, 8 oz. icing sugar (for glace icing).

Beat sugar and margarine until a soft cream. Add one egg and one dessertspoon of flour, then beat well. Add second egg with another spoonful of flour and beat again. Mix another spoonful of flour with 3 oz. of the cherries chopped.

Sift remainder of flour with baking powder. Mix flour and milk alternately into the mixture, then add cherries.

Brush a ring-shaped mould with a little melted fat, then dust with flour. Put in the mixture and smooth the surface.

Bake in a moderately hot oven (400) for 30 to 40 minutes. When ready, invert carefully on to a wire tray and leave until cold. Then ice the ring with glace icing and decorate with remainder of the cherries.



BURRA BEE DEE IS BUSY

The small Station of Burra Bee Dee is undergoing a new look.

If you were to enter any of the residences you would find the women and children scrubbing walls and ceilings in preparation for painting. The Aborigines Welfare Board has supplied enough paint to do the houses inside and out and they should soon be finished.

Recently the Station saw the official opening of a new Church at the New Reserve. This Church was built by Mr. Wakerley, of the United Aborigines Mission, and certainly is a credit to his untiring effort.

The Mission must also be thanked for seeing fit to have the Church at the Reserve and it will now cater for the town folk as well as the Reserve.

The official opening was performed by Mr. Albert Stacey, President of United Aborigines Mission of N.S.W., who before dedicating the Church read a long list of apologies, among which was one from the Superintendent of the Aborigines Welfare Board, whose commitments to other duties would not allow him to attend.

Among the many visitors to attend were Mr. Rowe, Mr. and Mrs. Howes, of the U.A.M., Mr. and Mrs. F. Hawkins, of Coonabarabran, who are always available to assist the Aborigines of this District, and the Manager and Matron and family of Burra Bee Dee. Thanks must also go to that grand lady, Miss Knight, who, although she has been very ill these last few months, attended to see her ambition realised after so many years of Mission work in this area.

Mr. and Mrs. Wakerley were all smiles in appreciation of the number of people who attended, the Church being filled to capacity.

Willie Ward and Victor Shaw, of Gulargambone, assisted in the musical field and sang duets and solos. Mr. Jim Gray made a special trip from Sydney to be present. The floral decorations were to be wondered at and a special tribute must be paid to Mrs. M. Griffith and her helpers in arranging the flowers. On behalf of the Aborigines of this district *Dawn* says, "Thank you, Mr. Wakerley, for a job well done."

WHERE IS DAPHNE HARRISON?

Can You Help?

Would any *Dawn* reader knowing the whereabouts of Daphne Barbara Harrison, formerly of Nowra and Griffith, please advise the Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare (Box 30, G.P.O., Sydney), who wishes to contact her regarding her young son.



The Bellwood Allstars, of Nambucca Heads. They won the 1960 schoolboys football cup. Captain is Lester Robinson

ROSEBY PARK

A HAPPY STATION

Roseby Park is one of the Boards oldest Stations in New South Wales and only 106 residents live in its 66 acres. However, it is an extremely happy and progressive station as these pictures will show.



In the distance we see the houses of Roseby Park. The Board hopes that as funds are available for the erection of houses in Nowra a number of these families will become absorbed into the general community there



In the modern schoolroom at Roseby Park the happy youngsters often have lessons by television



Here we see a group of Roseby Park children outside their schoolroom



The emphasis is on good health at Roseby Park and here we see schoolchildren having a break for milk



Marilyn Cooper and Geraldine Longbottom playing with the dolls house in the Roseby Park School



Flowers play an important part at Roseby Park too. Here we see Annette Cooper and Cheryl Carpenter watering the garden, a very important job in the hot, dry summer months

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Just look at that packed slip field. It doesn't seem to worry Sandra Ardler as she drives one to the boundary. This just goes to prove that cricket is not essentially a man's game—at least not at Roseby Park



It's not all work and study at Roseby Park though, as these two pretty lasses show. Here we see Cherlyn Carpenter and Dellia Willington on the swing



ALONG THE MAIL ROUTE

The Dawn
Box 30 & P.O.,
Sydney.

WALGETT SAYS FAREWELL

MR. AND MRS. NICHOLLS LEAVE

Mr. and Mrs. Nicholls said good-bye to Walgett recently, after a stay of fifteen months as Board Officers at Walgett Native Reserve.

In a letter to *Dawn*, Mr. and Mrs. Dupen, missionaries, said they wished to place on record the fact that it was a time spent by them in keen interest for the real welfare of the natives.

"We shall always look back on that time with much pleasure. They did all that they could to encourage us in our work. We wish them God's richest Blessing."

• • • •

ROBERT BELLEAR DOES WELL

Advice has been received that Robert Belleair, who is attending Mullumbimby High School and is the recipient of a Bursary awarded by the Board, was elected a Prefect for 1961. He was captain of the school football team during 1960 and will be an Under Officer in the School Cadets during 1961.

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WALGETT TOWN NEWS

Walgett Hospital Maternity Ward has been very busy of late.

Gloria Walford had twin girls, with Violet Morgan and Flo. Kennedy both having a girl each. Lindy Loo Kennedy kept the male side up by having a fine son. All mothers and babies are doing very well.

Eileen Range sprang a surprise when she arrived back from the Royal North Shore Hospital, and of course her family and friends from the Reserve were very pleased to have her back to Walgett town.

DAVIS GIRL'S SUCCESS

Congratulations to Sue Davis of Casino on her appointment as Junior Stenographer in the office of L. C. T. Sedgwick, a Solicitor of Casino. All the best for your career Sue.

Congratulations also to Sue's sister, Patricia Davis, a Bursary student at Casino High School, on being elected as one of the Prefects for 1961.



Ray Mumbler and Amos Donovan

BABY SHOW

was

BIG SUCCESS

Forty-six entries were received at the Aborigines' baby show held in the McIntosh Hall at Moree recently, under the auspices of the Moree Inter-Church Group for Aborigine Women.

The Club has been an excellent medium with which to break down apathetic attitudes which exist between the Aborigines and the white people, and also, in some cases which exist between the various groups of Aborigines themselves.

The monthly meetings of the Club take the form of a social afternoon with singing items, competitions, fun and frolicking, and concluding with that necessary cup of tea. Much singing talent has been discovered, the ladies report. The women thoroughly enjoy themselves as can be well imagined, knowing these women as we do!

The President of the Club is Mrs. C. G. Mathieson, wife of the Rev. C. G. Mathieson, of the Presbyterian Church, and thanks are due to them for the use of the McIntosh Hall from time to time for the various functions to do with the Club. Mrs. R. A. Bell is the Secretary, and other Ministers' wives are vice-presidents.

As did last year's baby show, the function proved a great success.

The difficult task of judging was in the capable hands of Mesdames Dowdell and M. Young who finally awarded prizes to the following:

One to six months, Kevin Duncan; 6-12 months, Edward Tighe; 12-18 months, Frances Munro; 18 months to 3 years, Philip Duke.

Mrs. Mathieson and Mrs. Bell organised the various sections and after presenting prizes to the respective winners, Mrs. Mathieson thanked those in attendance for coming along and making the afternoon such a social success.

Earlier in the afternoon the B.B.C. TV unit filmed the children playing on the lawns in front of the Hall.

The aboriginal mothers are to be commended, especially for their excellent display of real mothercraft in Moree.

D A W N

Goes to England

A STEP TOWARDS UNDERSTANDING

by Mildred Norledge, Kyogle

Dear Editor,

I would like to say how much I appreciate receiving a copy of *Dawn* each month. I read it from cover to cover, and thoroughly enjoy reading it, and then believing that such interesting reading material should not be wasted, I send it overseas to Great Britain, to a penfriend of mine, and what does she think of *Dawn*? She thinks it is a "great" little book, and enjoys reading it. Says it gives her a good idea of Australian things, and she loves the photography (the Roving Cameraman included). How's this for circulation of *Dawn*, Mr. Editor? The penfriend in turn, passes it on to other friends, so *Dawn* is certainly getting around the Northern Hemisphere. Have any other readers thought of sending their copies overseas to penfriends?

Personally, I think it's a good idea, because it helps other people elsewhere in the world, to understand our Australian Aboriginal citizens, and their need for full rights of citizenship, same as the "white" man has, and by understanding this, it will help them to understand similar problems elsewhere, and do much, I hope, in breaking down colour prejudices, since God made us all, aren't we all (our dusky brethren and the white man) children of God? Children who must live together in peace, harmony, and brotherhood, all enjoying full citizen rights.

What better job could any one ever have, than to make the world a better place for men, women, and children to be in, irrespective of colour, race, or class.

I, for one, would like to see the end of colour prejudice, and so would a good many sensible people.

With best wishes for *Dawn*, and may its good work continue. I hope, Mr. Editor, you'll feel pleased to think of *Dawn* going around overseas.

Yours Sincerely,

(Miss) Mildred Norledge.

HOUSING LOANS

The Aborigines Welfare Board has approved of housing loans in the following cases:—

John Alexander Ferguson of Bourke.

Kevin Duncan of Moree.

Clifford Cooke of Aborigines Reserve, La Perouse.



This aboriginal woman is carrying water in a tin balanced on her head to the camp where she lives near Kalgoorlie in Western Australia. In some parts of the west aboriginal women carry water two miles like this every day. They get it from a tap at the old mine workings on the outskirts of the town

MOTHERS CAN HELP

SPEEDING UP ASSIMILATION

By NORAH J. C. FOSTER, Church Street, Kincumber (ex-matron and teacher, Walgett Aboriginal Station)

MOST white and dark mothers take a pride in keeping their homes and children clean, but among both colours are to be found women who just don't care about cleanliness. As the white community is so much larger, the negligent mothers and their uncared for children, do not attract the attention that the same kind do who belong to the dark race.

Our race is judged by what we as individuals are like. For instance, I happen to be a New Zealander, and I know that my countrymen are judged by my actions. If they were bad actions there are certain people who would say—"Oh, New Zealanders are no good, just look at so-and-so". To whatever race or colour we belong, each one of us carries the honour of that race or country in our hands, and to show that that race or colour is a good one, we must each strive to show people that it is a good one.

How can we do this? Firstly by scrupulous cleanliness of our persons and our homes and surroundings. This is very important, by honesty, and good behaviour.

Mothers are responsible for the cleanliness of their homes, and their families, and if they do their part, the business of assimilation can be speeded up until in a few years time the colour bar will have ceased to exist except among a few narrow minded people who don't count, anyway.

Firstly comes hair cleanliness. Decent white mothers will not allow their children to mix with dark children if there is any chance that the dark children have those unpleasant little hair insects, because such insects are easily transmitted to their children. For the same reason, clean white mothers will not let their little ones associate with white children whose mothers are careless about hair cleanliness.

For a start then, clean hair is a "must". A daily bath takes care of bodily cleanliness, then there are clean clothes. No matter how old or patched the clothes may be, it is the fact that they are clean that matters. If you have a mother who lives near you and is careless about such things, do everything you can to make her mend her ways, and tell her that she is letting you all down.

This is not for dark mothers only. White mothers take heed, too. Our homes should be scrubbed and kept so clean that no germs can possibly survive, and our yards must be free of old tins and rubbish where disease carrying flies can breed and harm our health.

It isn't much work to set a table attractively with cups saucers and plates, and teach the children to use knives forks and spoons. A few pretty cups appeal to children.

I love my dark friends and I want them to become known as the cleanest dark race there is. I know how very clean many of them are and how they have had to suffer for the few careless ones.

As I said, the careless ones among us are not so noticeable as they are among the dark people, because our population is larger.

Everyone feels better for a good scrub up of one's person and home, and as it becomes known how clean the dark people are, the assimilation problem will solve itself.

Soap and water and plenty of elbow grease is the answer.

Basically there is no difference between white and dark. We are all born, we live and we die. Some of us are clean, and some not. God made some white and others dark, because I think, just as he likes variety in the colours of flowers and birds, he likes it in the colours of the people He has made.

WRECK BAY CHILDREN

VISIT SYDNEY



Proceeding with the Educational visits programme commenced earlier in the year, arrangements were made to have a group of children from Wreck Bay Station visit Sydney as guests of the Mosman Lions Club, which organisation had kindly offered to entertain the group during the day, Sunday, 27th November.

As usual an early start was necessary but not as early as some of the kids made it, instead of 7 a.m. they were heard around the Station Kombi at 5.45 a.m. When asked why, they replied "they didn't want to miss the Bus". One thing, they made sure the manager was there on time.

Blessed with a good run through Wollongong and the Mt. Ousley bypass the group watched as the suburbs of Sydney slowly unfolded. Sutherland, Tom Ugly's, Newtown, Broadway then right up the centre of the City passing over the Cahill Expressway onto the Harbour Bridge. Such is the tremendous size of the Bridge that many of the children would not believe we were actually passing over the Harbour. Many "we are" and many "we are nots" punctured the air in the Kombi, however all arguments were settled when it became possible to see some water far below.



Arriving at Mosman Town Hall promptly at 11 a.m. the party was met by officials of the Mosman Lions Club.

President Mr. Bill Biber introduced the children to other members who were to act as hosts for the day, Mr. and Mrs. Dent, Mr. J. Levy and Mr. F. Walker.

Splitting into threes the group proceeded to Taronga Park Zoo in Members' cars with faithful old Kombi bringing up the rear. Once through the turnstiles, (also arranged by the Club) the remarkable establishment

opened up for the digests of the youngsters. Beautiful sunshine, the Harbour crowded with all sorts of craft, Sydney as a backdrop, what more could have been ordered. On such a day refreshment Kiosks are hard to pass and the Members of the Lions did not hesitate when it came to ice creams and drinks all round. All told, the amount of same consumed must have been fantastic, but appeared not to dent the appetites when the picnic lunch was served. Special thanks to Mrs. Dent for what obviously had taken much time to prepare.

Back then to the tigers, giraffes and particularly, the monkeys.

Having a tight schedule the party had expected to leave the Zoo at 3 p.m. but then, have you ever tried to gather children to leave the Zoo. Finally at 4 p.m. it was possible to make a departure and with obvious sincerity the children made thanks to their hosts.

All into the Kombi and back over the Bridge, this time on an outside lane so the scene below could not be missed. Then under the Bridge, around the pylons, up and down the gaily decorated City ready for Christmas ploughed the Kombi, finally leaving via the industrial area and Mascot Aerodrome where the children watched several "prop jets" arrive and depart from the Observation verandah per courtesy of T.A.A. A quick inspection of the new overseas terminal and the head was turned for home, some 126 miles away.

Return was made via Stanwell Heights and Bulli where a roadside snack stemmed what appeared to be unquenchable hunger. Home at 10.30 after a very full day and also a very interesting, profitable one.

During the year the children have travelled some 750 miles on such tours. They have seen the seat of Commonwealth Government, the greatest city in the Commonwealth and the largest industrial undertaking. They have met many people with mutual benefit. The result? Lets ask the kids!





These happy young fellows are enjoying their Summer Camp

WALGETT NEWS

December 20th was the day of the Walgett Senior Citizens party run by the Walgett Branch of the A.L.P., who catered for seventy Old Age Pensioners, including fifteen of aboriginal blood. A huge supper was served at the Royal Hotel, and all present were able to take home many food gifts for Xmas as well as a present from all the community of Walgett.

Numerous old songs were sung and presented and all these old people had a very successful and enjoyable evening.

Those at the dinner included Dorothy Sands, Mrs. McBride, Tom Sullivan and wife Essina, Alice Brown,

Hubert and Possum Morgan, Mrs. J. Kennedy, Charlie Kennedy, Billie Bloomfield, Mrs. Sue Morgan, Madge Mackenzie, Arthur Dodd and of course Charlie Dodd. Mrs. Walford was unable to attend owing to illness but the organizers made sure she did not miss out on her share.

* * * *

Mervyn Suey must be the only Bowling Club greenkeeper of aboriginal extraction in this state. Mervyn was recently appointed to this position by the Walgett Bowling Club after a considerable period of experience as an assistant.

A New Board Member

CHARLES LEON ELECTED

The ballot for the election of aboriginal members of the Board closed at noon on the 21st November, 1960, and resulted as follows:—

Member being a full-blood Aborigine—

No nominations received.

Member having an admixture of aboriginal blood—

Four nominations received.

Five hundred and twenty-four (524) persons were enrolled, one hundred and sixty-three (163) applications were received for ballot papers, which were forwarded. Seventy-three (73) ballot papers were received, of which nine (9) were rejected, as the particulars of the voter were not given, or the person, whose name appeared on the identification slip, was not on the roll.

The counting of the voting papers admitted to the ballot resulted as follows:—

On the first count—

M. P. Stewart and C. Leon—17.

L. A. Ridgeway—16.

S. McGrady—14.

Mrs. McGrady was excluded, her preferences were distributed—

6 to Leon.

6 to Stewart.

2 to Ridgeway.

Ridgeway was then eliminated and his preferences were distributed—

Leon—13.

Stewart—5.

Totals were then Leon 36, and Stewart 28.

Charles Lester Leon was therefore declared elected as the nominee of the Aborigines for appointment as an aboriginal member of the Aborigines Welfare Board.

NO COLOUR BAR HERE

A LASTING FRIENDSHIP

Writing to the Editor of *Dawn*, Gary Hardy, of 2 Warren Street, Cootamundra, said:—

“Please find enclosed a photo of myself and Adelaide Wenberg which you might like to print in a future copy of *Dawn*. Adelaide’s and my friendship is perhaps a little different to that of an ordinary young couple, as Adelaide is of Aboriginal blood, while I am white. We are very proud of our friendship, as we believe it just goes to show that a ‘mixed’ friendship can be a very happy one.

“I have known Adelaide for well over ten years, having met her at a school dance. Adelaide was at the Home here at Cootamundra up until about six years ago when she went to Sydney to work. We correspond with each other regularly, and always have a wonderful time together whenever I visit Sydney.

“We hope our friendship lasts for years, and eventually becomes something much stronger than a friendship.

“I do hope I have not bored you with this letter, but I thought perhaps you would like to know that there are a lot of white people in this town who think and like the girls at the Home very much. I have met some very nice girls at the Home, and enjoy their company very much, especially Adelaide’s.

“I will close now, hoping you will reprint our photo. I must also congratulate you and your staff on a very fine and interesting magazine, which we all love to read.”

[Editors note—Photo next month.]

PASS IT ON

When **You** have read *DAWN* Pass It On—

If you have friends or relatives who are not on the Mailing List
send their names in now.

The Editor, *DAWN*, Box 30, G.P.O., Sydney

From Here and There

WALGETT CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 12th was the night of Walgett's monster Christmas Break-up Party, when all children and adults had an exceptionally enjoyable evening.

The Station School had been beautifully decorated by the children and the large Christmas tree was absolutely loaded with gifts.

Under the direction of Mr. S. Rixon, Headmaster, the children sang ten Christmas carols much to the appreciation of all present. The smaller ones from Mr. Challenor's class then presented a Xmas play which, for children so young, was very well performed.

Who should arrive at 8.45 p.m.? None other than Santa Claus, much to the delight and excitement of all, children and adults alike—but of course more so for the children. Santa gave all children, from tiny tots to fourteen-year-olds, the presents already arrayed on the tree, and he was delighted when little Margaret Ward gave him a Xmas kiss. Santa wished all a Merry Christmas and said he always enjoyed calling at Walgett Station, and also wishes Mr. and Mrs. Rixon and daughter Annette all the very best of luck and health at their new appointment to Rocky River School.

After Santa departed, all children and adults partook of refreshments—including soft drinks, ices, sweets, biscuits and other delightful delicacies. Several residents then gave musical items with the party finishing at 11 p.m.—but not before the girls and boys balloon blowing competitions, won by Barbara Fernando and Clem Dodd.

All then moved to the Station Hall and danced until 2 a.m.

What an evening!

* * * *

MANY LONG YEARS AGO

The Municipality of Hunter's Hill, Sydney, which celebrates its centenary in the first four months of this year will import some aborigines from La Perouse for the revels.

They will march in the procession scheduled for Saturday afternoon, February 11, and demonstrate boomerang throwing on the Oval.

Also in the procession will be a Cobb and Co. coach, marching girls, a brass band, floats and a military unit.

Among other activities for the festival will be an exhibition of period furniture clothes and photographs, and the performance of two plays—Fisher's Ghost, by Douglas Stewart; and One Hundred Years Ago.

The latter has been specially written for the occasion by Millicent Armstrong, from the Rachel Henning letters.

ABORIGINES AND ORATORY

By MICHAEL SAWTELL (Member, Aborigines Welfare Board)

It has been a hobby of mine for a number of years to conduct a class for public speaking or, as I prefer to call it, Oratory. Now that all persons of aborigine blood have full citizenship rights, I would like to train aborigines in the art of public speaking, that they may go about and address all class of meetings, on how to encourage aborigines to take up the responsibilities of citizenship.

There is a wonderful future for any aborigine, male or female, who might feel the call to engage in such a social service.

No aborigine need feel shy or nervous about attending the class, for the white members would receive them with enthusiasm. There is only mild criticism at the class. My method is to explain the three laws of Oratory, which are Deportment, Language and Personality.

Then I encourage the students to express those laws in their own way. An aborigine speaker, the darker the better, would be a great success in New South Wales, and I would help them to get on Radio, TV, all the leading Clubs and at many of the Churches.

We have aborigine artists, singers, and now why not an aborigine orator. Most aborigines have good voices, and the chief fault with most white speakers is a weak voice and faulty articulation. No charge is made, just a collection. Give what you like to help pay the rent of the hall. The class is held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday in the month, in the English Speaking Room, 267 Elizabeth-street, Sydney, 6.00 till 7.30.



This young Roseby Park lad is busy making a basket

Station News

All residents were very pleased to have Charlie Dodd home for Christmas after his nine months stay at Lidcombe Hospital. Charlie's sight has greatly improved after treatment and he is singing the praises of the staff at Lidcombe who looked after him so well and made his stay such a pleasant one. Charlie is now taking on all comers at draughts and yarning about the old droving days throughout the Northern Territory and Queensland. Good luck, old timer.

It was sad to have Janet Morgan (nee Bullaman) pass away recently at the young age of seventeen years. Everyone offers condolences to husband Geoffrey and mother Daisy.

Percy Boney has been doing well in the local amateur boxing circuit. The tournaments raise money for the Far West Scheme and similar organizations and it is pleasing to see boys doing so well to assist these worthwhile organizations as well as having the fun of clean sport. Percy is now in training for the welterweight championship of the North-west after winning his last three fights.

The recent dance was a great success and only goes to prove that, if well conducted, all people, both young and old, can have an enjoyable evening. Peter Doolan and Ted Murphy gave many renditions on the accordeon, keeping the show going with a swing until 1.30 a.m. Money was raised for the children's Christmas party.

Recent rain has greatly assisted in the work position, and many male residents have been obtaining good work after the long dry spell.

Mrs. Ruby Kennedy, wife of Don, gave birth to a fine son named Scott on 15th November. Both are doing very well.

New stoves have been installed in the cottages where they were required, and all people were happy that the Board was able to have them delivered before Christmas and the expected hot summer. There are now only a few houses on the Station that have not been painted, and these are to be completed very soon.

First Aboriginal Pupils

A flashback on the history of the Tucki Tucki school and the claim of a teacher to have had the first aboriginal pupils in her class has been given in a donation to the Richmond River Historical Society Museum in Lismore.

A framed testimonial, given by the parents and children of Tucki Tucki School to Miss Jessie Munro, of Steve King's Plain in 1883 has been presented to the museum by a nephew, Mr. Charles A. Munro.

The bulletin quotes from the history of the school written by the late Miss Grace Munro. It reads:—

“ In the year 1875, my aunt, Miss Jessie Munro, became tutor to Mrs. Kenneth Cameron. Lessons began in the house but the neighbouring children came and, with 15 pupils, classes were transferred to the barn.

“ Then a slab building was erected with wooden shutters, 12 ft. x 24 ft. The enrolment of pupils now numbered 40, and the school became a public school.

“ Many of the pupils were almost young men and women pleased to have tuition. Miss Munro travelled to the school on horseback with as many of the pupils as could be accommodated with her on her faithful horse ‘ Dick ’.

“ She claimed to be the first teacher to have aboriginal children as pupils. Lilly and Victor, the children of Jinny and Bob, were brought to her for tuition. As it was necessary for them to have a surname—she called them ‘ Roberts ’. The family is well known on the river today.”

WALLAGA LAKE

In the July issue of *Dawn* we were told of a unique ceremony at Wallaga Lake. We now have a picture of the children and parents who took part in that ceremony.



In the back row from left to right is Mrs. C. Kelly with Jennifer Margaret, Mrs. E. Campbell nursing Thomas George, Mrs. H. Darcy with Michael Richard, Natalie Logan with Liza Fay whilst in the front row, again from left to right is Barry Vincent, Steven Richard and Francis Keith Kelly, William Reginald, "Buster" Campbell, Zita and Natalie Logan and on the extreme right is the Rev. L. Brassington



"The Terrible Trio"
Gymnast Team

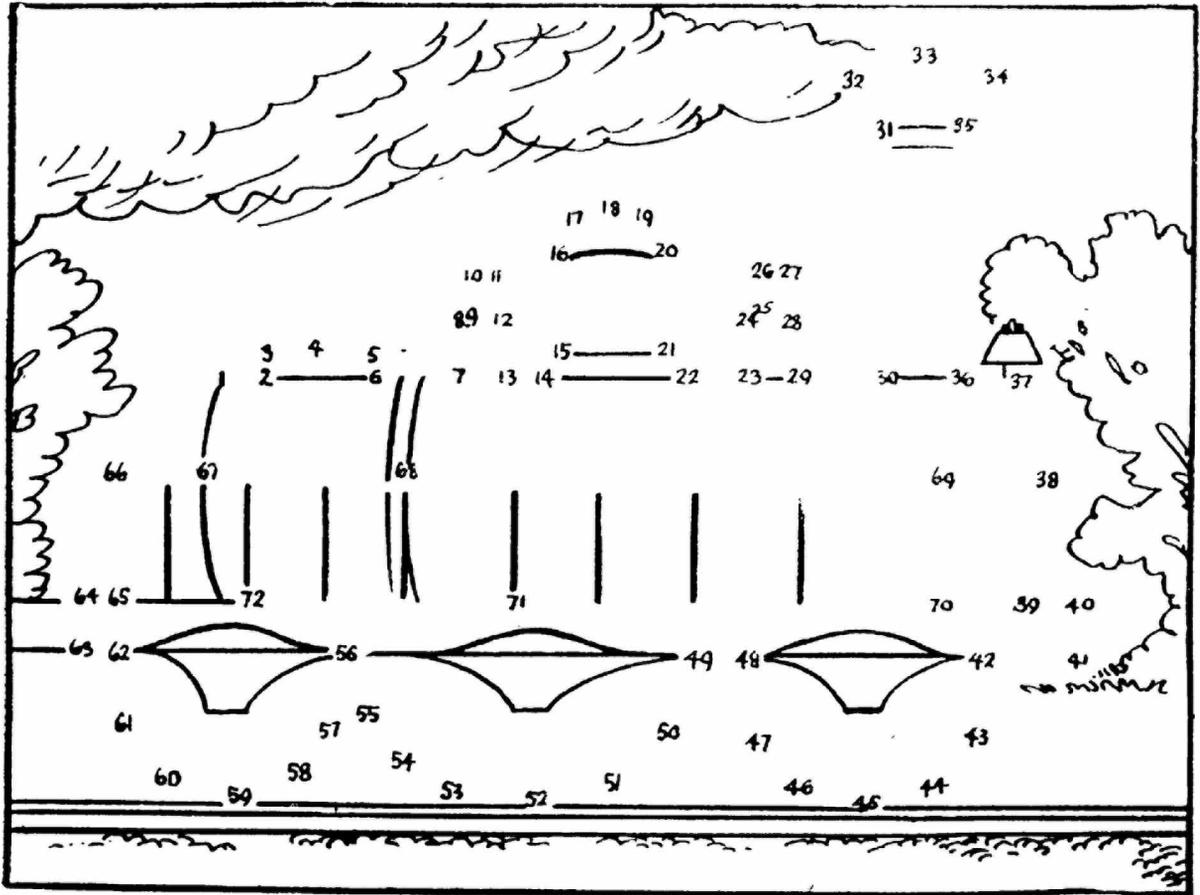
The three boys on the horizontal bar are, from left to right, Frank Kelly, brother Barry Kelly and young Jeff Tungai



"The Gang"

From left to right, Clive Thomas, "Teckie" Thomas, Franky Kelly, Barry Kelly and Jeff Tungai who is nursing his new pup. The little fellow who can just be seen behind Teckie and Franky is the Manager's son, Ian

New Competition



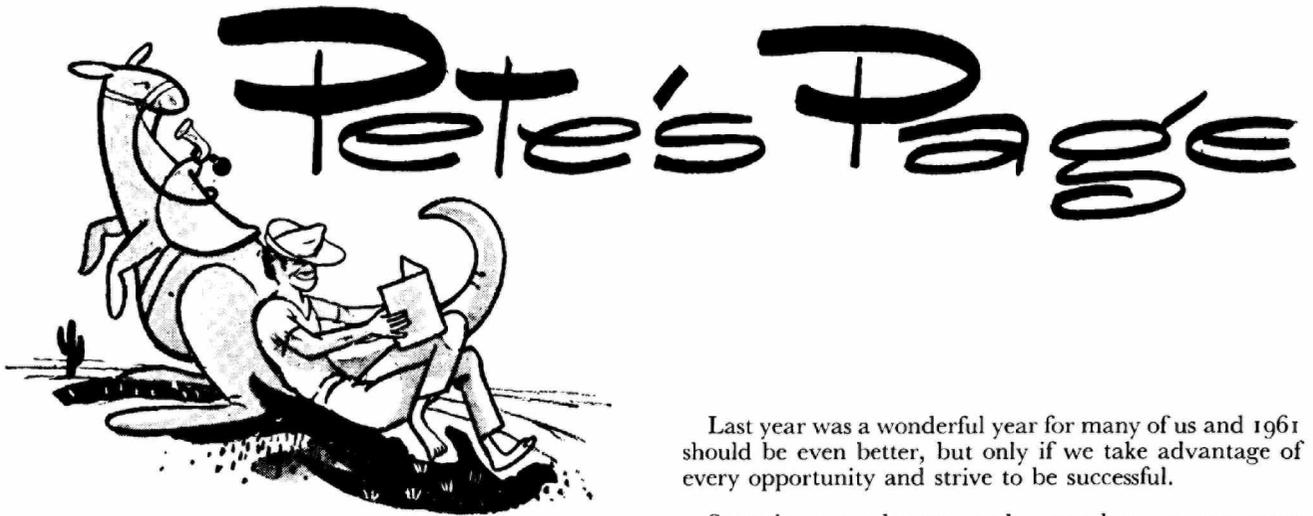
NAME:

ADDRESS:

Your Competition

Start off with your pen or pencil on the figure 1 and draw a line through all the numbers until you finish up at 72.

Then colour in the drawing, fill in your name and address and post it to the Editor, Dawn, Box 30, G.P.O., Sydney.



Hello Kids!

Well, here we are once again in a brand new year—1961. Be sure and make the best of it, won't you, for I'm sure it will have all kinds of wonderful opportunities.

I had a nice letter from Ray Nolan, of Dubbo. Ray said:—

“I am sending you another drawing. I hope you like it. I've won a few prizes here in Dubbo for drawing, and I hope to get better. I am going to send you one of my water colours later on, but as I am very busy on the plaster works, I don't get much time

“It's raining very heavy here to-night, but the farmers need the rain.

“We are at present plastering the lecture room of a part of the new Hospital that is going to be built here in the near future. I like my job very much, and hope to learn the trade.

“Well, I guess I'll have to close now, so with best regards to you and *Dawn*, I'll say cheerio.”

Also had a very short little note from a Kinchela boy, Cecil Clayton. Cecil said:—

“Just these few lines to let you know how I am getting on.

“Well, Pete, the weather has been very fine up here. We only had a little shower yesterday.

“This is the first time I've written a letter to Pete's Page. I saw my sister's composition in *Dawn*, so I thought why don't I write to *Dawn*, and so I did.

“To-day the boys picked two football teams. My team won fifty-one to five.”

Last year was a wonderful year for many of us and 1961 should be even better, but only if we take advantage of every opportunity and strive to be successful.

Sometimes our hearts are heavy when we encounter the narrow minded unfair prejudices of a small section of the community who are still not prepared to “accept” the aboriginal people. But when we reflect for just a moment how grateful we should be that we live in this wonderful country of Australia and not in some of those other unfortunate countries where racial hatred is carried to such awful extremes.

As we look forward to the future in this bright new year let us then be very thankful and let us pledge ourselves to do some little thing each month, each week, each day, to bring about the complete and happy assimilation of our people.

Of course you have all read this month about the wonderful competition being conducted by N.A.D.O.C. to find singers and potential radio and television stars. This might be YOUR big opportunity in 1961.

Before you hear from me again, school will be reopening and many of you will be making up your minds whether you are to leave or whether to continue on for a higher education.

I hope that as many as possible will continue with their High School educations for education is truly the key to all manner of wonderful opportunities.

Well Kids, I guess that's all once again, so I'll sign off now. I do hope 1961 will be a very happy and successful year for all of you.

Your sincere Pal,



This month should see your seedlings well advanced

If the garden programme is running to schedule rows and rows of healthy young seedlings should now be much in evidence in both the flower section of the garden and the vegetable patch. In all probability many of these seedlings will have been transplanted into the various beds, but others may have to wait until they are large enough to handle safely. When transplanting, moisten both the seed bed and the position the plants are to occupy. This will save root damage and prevent the seedlings from drying out in the interim.

Should space be still available small additional sowings of some of the more popular lines will ensure a longer cropping season. It is always advisable to have a few additional plants to replace failures. A glance through the list of seeds that can be planted this month may encourage home gardeners to try out varieties that they have not grown previously, for many of the lesser known flowers in particular are well worthy of inclusion in any garden.

Choose a warm sunny position for petunias, portulaca, salvia, zinnias, etc. Water them sufficiently but do not wash out the seeds or seedlings by plying the hose with too much force.

Weeds are usually prevalent at this time of the year and they should be destroyed at once for they become host plants for insects and fungus diseases. In addition they take available plant food from the soil to the detriment of other plants.

In the vegetable garden a careful watch should be kept for pests such as aphid, thrip, red spider, etc. There are excellent preparations on the market, and these should be procurable at your local store. The side laterals of early tomatoes should be pinched out of the main stem, but do not remove any leaves from the main stem itself. Liquid manure will help to encourage sturdy young tomato plants.

Flower S. or Sowing this Month

<p>Ageratum, alyss begonia (fibrous eschscholtzia, calliop.</p>	<p>maranthus, aster, balsam, d), Californian poppy nual, carnation, celosia,</p>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

chrysanthemum (perennial), cockscomb, coleus, convolvulus (dwarf morning glory), cosmos, dahlia, delphinium, dianthus, gaillardia (annual), gerbera, gypsophila, marigold (African), mesembryanthemum, mignonette, nasturtium, petunia, phlox, poinciana (bird of paradise flower), portulaca, salpiglossis, salvia, snapdragon (antirrhinum), Sturt's desert pea, sunflower, torenia, verbena, zinnia.

Vegetable Seeds for Sowing this Month

Asparagus, bean (French and climbing), beet, silver beet, cape gooseberry, carrot, celery, cress, cucumber, egg plant, herbs, leek, lettuce, marrow, melon, mustard, parsnip, pumpkin, radish, rhubarb, squash, sweet corn, tomato.

Dahlias and Chrysanthemums

Dahlias can now be planted and Chrysanthemums bedded out. The latter will do better if the soil receives a dressing of compost and bone dust. Firm the soil well before and after planting for this induces healthy growth. Dahlias can be raised easily from seed or purchased as bulbs and green plants.

If you have not tried growing these lovely bulbs from seed you will find it most interesting and economical, for there is every likelihood of raising unnamed plants of exceptional merit at a very small cost. If named dahlias are required it will be necessary to grow them from the bulbs or the nursery raised plants.

Dahlias prefer a sunny position which is sheltered from strong winds. A well-drained soil is essential. They are heavy feeders and revel in a soil that has been enriched with ample organic material, such as well rotted animal manures, kitchen refuse, leaf mould, lawn cuttings, etc. A dressing of lime, say 8 oz. to the square yard will be of additional benefit if applied two or three weeks before the tubers are planted.