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A MONTHLY MAGAZINE PRODUCED BY THE N.S.W. ABORIGINES WELFARE BOARD

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OUR COVER

Shepherd Boy—This solemn little boy from Moree poses for DAWN'S camera with his pet lamb in the garden of his home. This picture is one of an outstanding series taken by photographer John Squires during an editorial tour of the North West.



Housing Deal—£750,000

12 New Homes and Water Supply Opened at Nanima

Twelve new cottages, built by the Aborigines Welfare Board at a cost of £25,000, were officially opened on Nanima Reserve near Wellington, by the Chief Secretary, Mr. C. A. Kelly, last month.

On the same day—June 12—Mr. Kelly turned on a tap at Nanima to mark the linking of the settlement with Wellington's town water supply—a service which cost £4,000 to instal.

In his address to the people of Nanima the Minister expressed faith that the tenants of the cottages would be proud of their fine new homes and care for them accordingly.

“Since the end of the war Aborigines in New South Wales have had a new deal,” Mr. Kelly said.

“In the last financial year the Government, through the Welfare Board, has spent £125,000 building 70 new homes for Aborigines in towns, on stations and reserves and all over New South Wales. In addition about £40,000 has been spent on maintenance of homes.

“Over the past 13 years the Board has built about 450 new homes for Aborigines at a cost of more than £750,000. During the next two years the Board expects to spend another £250,000 on new home construction.

“All these homes are being made available to aboriginal families at nominal rentals of 17s. 6d. per week.

“At the same time the widest opportunities have been opened for the education of children at all levels. Instruction in personal and community hygiene has been greatly intensified also.

“Recent amendments to the law have removed the last vestige of discrimination. The responsibility is now

on your shoulders to take your place in the community where you justly belong.

“Modern living conditions have been provided for you and we are all proud this has been done. We hope, too, that you will appreciate the value of these homes and look after them properly. We believe you will do just that.”

Mr. Kelly congratulated Archdeacon H. Graham and members of the Wellington Aborigines Welfare Committee for their wonderful assistance in providing extra amenities for the Nanima Reserve and for their representations to the Government over many years to obtain better conditions for the Reserve people.

He also paid tribute to Mr. J. Cahill, Headmaster at the Nanima School, and his staff for the wonderful work they were doing at the school.

Mr. Kelly commented: “I have travelled a great deal, overseas and throughout Australia, but I have never

OUR PICTURE

The Wellington Bowling Club provided ideal accommodation for the Civic Luncheon which Wellington Shire Council tendered to the Chief Secretary, Mr. C. A. Kelly, and other visiting dignitaries on June 12. Seated at the official table, which was decorated with very beautiful bowls of Australian native blossoms provided by Mr. Peter Althofer, are (from left): Mr. D. Saap (Minister's Private Secretary), Mr. H. S. Kiching (Aboriginal Welfare Officer of the Dubbo District), Mr. Leo Nott, M.L.A., (Member for Mudgee), The Hon. C. A. Kelly, Chief Secretary and Minister for Tourist Activities, Cr. G. L. Eade, Wellington Shire President, Mr. A. G. Kingsmill, Under Secretary of the Chief Secretary's Department, Mr. H. J. Green, Superintendent of Aborigine Welfare in New South Wales, Archdeacon H. Graham, President of the Wellington Aboriginal Welfare Committee, and Mr. C. L. Leon, representative of the aborigines on the Welfare Board (Wellington Times pictures).



Mr. Leo Nott, State Member for Mudgee, shown addressing the gathering at Nanima Mission on June 12. Mr. Nott praised the work of the Wellington Aboriginal Welfare Committee and introduced the Chief Secretary, Mr. C. A. Kelly, who performed the official opening ceremony

The children of Nanima turned out in strength to welcome the official party to the opening of the new homes. The Chief Secretary made a gift of £10 towards amenities for the kiddies



seen the equal to what I have witnessed her today at the Nanima School.

“ You should be proud of Mr. Cahill and Mr. Graham and the Aborigines Welfare Committee for the work that they are doing here.

“ The children of this school have every opportunity to advance themselves and reach great heights.

“ Nothing in today’s education system is beyond these children.

“ I am particularly pleased with their behaviour,” said Mr. Kelly.

Mr. Kelly said the New South Wales Government had recently lifted the last vestige of control and restriction on all Aborigines throughout the State.

“ Aborigines now have equal positions, privileges and rights to any other citizen.

“ The last trace of discrimination has gone, and high time that it did!

“ There is so much bitterness and hatred overseas, in America and South Africa, and many people are turning to violence in demonstrations against people of different creed and colour.

“ It is now up to the residents of Nanima Reserve to assimilate with the rest of the community and accept the added responsibilities and obligations that have been placed on them,” said Mr. Kelly.

“ You have to show Wellington, and New South Wales, that you are capable of doing all that is asked of you.

“Many aborigines have reached great heights. Some have been commissioned in the Army, others are teachers and some hold important positions.

“And, of course, there is the great Namatjira.

“You, too, can do well and I know that you will try.

“We have taken aborigines into our own Department in an effort to help make a future for them.

“Some of these children would, and could, go a long way if they made their minds up to do it,” said Mr. Kelly.

Mr. Kelly said the 12 new cottages were built at a cost of £25,000.

“This is not enough and we would willingly build 100 if we had sufficient finance.

“We are willing to back any family prepared to work hard and show sufficient responsibility to own their own home.

“Two families have been placed in homes in Wellington and we hope that in the very near future more families will move to town.

“However, if this does not eventuate we will certainly strive harder for more improvements and better conditions here at the Reserve,” said Mr. Kelly.

Mr. Kelly then turned on the water supply, which enabled a sprinkler to water the Nanima school playground.

He then moved to the housing development and officially opened the recently completed cottages.

Before the official opening Mr. Kelly and the official party were shown over the school by the Headmaster, Mr. J. Cahill.

Mr. Kelly moved through each room and was obviously pleased with what he had seen. He gave practical expression to his pleasure by presenting a cheque for £10 to be equally divided between the senior and junior schools for the children's amenities.

A Civic Reception was accorded the Minister and his official party by Shire President, Cr. G. Eade, Councillors and people of Wellington and district prior to the Nanima opening.

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Mr. Kelly turns the key in the door of one of the attractive new cottages

The Minister shown turning a tap after officially declaring open 12 new cottages and an extension of the town water supply for Nanima Aboriginal Mission. This characteristic photograph of Mr. Kelly conveys an excellent impression of the health and vigour which belie his 73 years, the past 22 of which he has spent in continuous office as a Cabinet Minister. Mr. Kelly spent his boyhood in Wellington.





Jimmy Little, shown here signing autographs for two of his fans, will comper a unique show which will star leading Aborigine performers on the eve of National Aborigines' Day—July 12. The revue will be staged in the Anzac Auditorium, College Street, Sydney (opposite Hyde Park) on the night of July 10 and will be repeated the following night. The artists who will head the bill are Lorna Beulah, who recently made her classical debut, concert singer Harold Blair, and pop singers Betty Fisher, Noel Stanley, Jimmy and Fred Little, Col Hardy and Candy Williams.

STAR-STUDED SHOW FOR NATIONAL ABORIGINES' DAY

National Aborigines' Day highlights will be the usual rally in Martin Place on Friday, July 12 between 12.30 and 1.30 p.m. The Governor, Sir Eric Woodward, the Minister for Education, Mr. E. Wetherell, and Sydney's Lord Mayor, Ald. H. F. Jensen, will be the principal speakers. Others who will address the rally will include Harold Blair, Mr. James Warburton of the University of Armidale, Mrs. McAllam, of the Sydney Nurses Association, and Mr. J. Brown, of Worragee.

The weekend celebrations will end with a rally at the Central Methodist Mission on Sunday, July 14.

Trapped Sunshine

IN OUR MOST FAMOUS GEMSTONES

So far as precious gems are concerned, Australia is famous only for its opal, and in this respect, nature has endowed us with the most beautiful examples in the world.

Diamonds are mined here but they are of industrial quality only—used on cutting tools and as an extremely hard abrasive. Sapphire, amethyst, emerald, ruby, turquoise and several other gems have also been found but they are not worked in significant quantities in Australia.

But the opal is in quite a different category. John Sidney, writing in *Currency*, the monthly staff magazine of the Reserve Bank of Australia, says: "Not only do most of the world's opals now come from Australia but 12 of the 15 large and famous opals of the world were discovered here."

Among them is the lovely 203-carat Andamooka Opal, found at that place in 1946 and presented to Her Majesty the Queen when she visited Australia first nine years ago. Other famous opals are The Pride of Australia, found at Lightning Ridge in 1915 and today worth more than £2,000; The Empress, considered the finest ever found at Lightning Ridge, but unfortunately dropped and broken; and the Black Prince, now in New York.

Greatest of all is possibly Pandora, or Light of Australia, which when cut and faced, weighed 750 carats.

Last year Australia exported nearly £1,000,000 worth of these dancing, flashing stones; most went to Japan and West Germany for cutting and consequent resale in the United States where opals are enjoying a vogue.

Throughout history men have treasured these fiery semi-precious stones.

Beauty-loving Greeks and Romans bought them from India, Mark Anthony gave a costly one to Cleopatra. Writers sang their praises. Pliny, the Roman, who perished in the eruption of Vesuvius in 79 A.D., strove to pin down their prismatic beauty by likening them to other stones:

"In them you shall behold the glowing fire of the crimson garnet, the effulgent purple of the amethyst, the sea-green of the emerald, all scintillating together in an unbelievable arrangement of light."

Shakespeare, more simply, called the opal . . . "this miracle and queen of gems".

Opals come in a variety of ways. It may be white, yellow or milky blue with meteoric shafts and pulsing star glints. Or it may be the fire opal, translucent and of a single hue with brilliant red or orange flashes, or the prized black opal—a jet black source of dancing, fiery flashes.

The opal is somewhat off-beat in the world of precious and semi-precious stones. It is, for instance, the only non-crystalline gem. It is part water, part silica, riddled with innumerable tiny cracks which reflect the light much as a prism does and gives the opal its rainbow-rivalling iridescence. The opal occurs in cracks in igneous-rocks, probably having been deposited from solution in hot waters.

Back in 1908, opal miner Arthur McLaren, began mining at Lightning Ridge. He is still there





Opal miner George Lowe chips away at the face of his mine using candlelight to detect the flash of the precious stones

The forming of opals has been going on for millions of years and the slow process is still continuing. In the dry western plains of Australia, waters, ascending to the surface, dissolve silica which is deposited as quartzite. Over millions of years this banks up to form "grey billy" or gibbers. During the upward passage of the silica-bearing water, thin layers and fillings of siliceous material are formed. Opal miners call this "hard" or "steel band".

The opals form in association with these "bands" and in the adjacent banks of "opal dirt". Opal miners have found thousands of pounds worth of the gems in this thin, flinty "hard band". They have found far more under the "band"—when they sink a shaft and tunnel underneath it.

Prospecting for opals is a haphazard business. There is little to guide the prospector in making a strike as in searching for gold. The deposits, too, are spread over a wide area.

There are four recognised varieties of Australian opal—boulder opal, sandstone, seam and black opal. Prospectors found boulder opal in Queensland about 1870. Introduced to the London market a few years later, it met with little success. Boulder opal, found in veins in ironstone boulders, is a very brilliant stone, usually in layers so cigarette-paper thin that it must be left with a flat face and a backing of matrix.

Boulder opal was also found in 1877 at Stocky Ridge Creek in New South Wales. West of Cunnamulla in Queensland, boulder opal is found in tiny boulders which the miners call "Yowah nuts". About one "nut" in every 10 contains opal, often as a central kernel—hence the name.

Sandstone opal was discovered in western Queensland about 1886. It is usually found in the form of "pipes" running through free sandstone. Some "pipes" are one inch or more in thickness. This opal was thick enough to cut into domed stones of pure opal, and the London market was interested for the first time.

Then in 1889 came the discovery of a third kind of Australian opal—one so brilliant that it outclassed the milky Hungarian opals that hitherto had been the finest procurable.

A kangaroo-hunter picked up a piece of seam opal lying on the surface at White Cliffs in New South Wales. Large deposits were found in the area, as well as opalised shells, fossil bone and bunches of crystals.

By 1903 the field was nearly worked out; probably £2,000,000 worth had been mined.

Then in that year, two prospectors uncovered yet a fourth type of opal at Walgett on the Barwon River. This opal was the now famous black variety, as unique in its way as the black swan of Australia.

In 1915, a type of opal identical with the White Cliffs stone was discovered in desert country in South Australia. This was the now famous Coober Pedy field, the biggest source of opals in Australia.

Coober Pedy are aboriginal words meaning "men in the holes"—that is, opal miners.

The story of the finding of opals at Coober Pedy is one of fantastic luck. A gold prospector named Hutchinson and his young son were camped with their camels near the site of the present-day diggings. The boy disliked the beasts and a state of war was soon declared between them.

One morning, picking up a stone to throw at his camel, he was surprised to see it flash in the sunlight. He showed it to his father and was overjoyed to learn that he had discovered a pocket of opals. Although the opals in the pocket were of poor quality, they indicated that a rich pocket was to be found and six years later, two brothers, Jim and Dick O'Neill, "struck it rich".

News spread and the rush was on. Three early prospectors on the field won £25,000 worth of opals. Others did nearly as well.

Water-carriers also prospered in a region where only six inches of rain falls in a year. One hundred gallons fetched £5.

Coober Pedy has gone on yielding opals in good quality and has become one of the strangest townships in the world.

When a stranger visits a home in Coober Pedy he knocks on the chimney pot. That's the quickest way of attracting attention because everybody lives in caves and holes in the ground and only iron chimneys protude from the earth.

On the fringe of Australia's "dead heart", there is no standing timber to build homes and it's too costly to bring it over miles of bare desert. Therefore the miners have gone into the earth to make their homes and they have found the perfect residence for the climate.

Their cave homes are cool in summer, when the temperatures go up to 130 degrees, and warm in winter when night temperatures drop to well below freezing point.

With pick and shovel, they have hewed much of their furniture, beds, seats, tables and chairs out of the sandstone. The post office, which serves the 30 underground households, the savings bank and the store are all subterranean.

The streets too, are underground, having been developed from disused galleries and tunnels made by the opal miners over the 40 years since men first started mining at Coober Pedy.

Some Australian opal finds have been of great interest to scientists. At White Cliffs gougers uncovered the almost perfect opalised skeleton of a plesiosaurus, an extinct sea-reptile. The plesiosaurus roamed the seas of Central Australia in prehistoric times. The bones

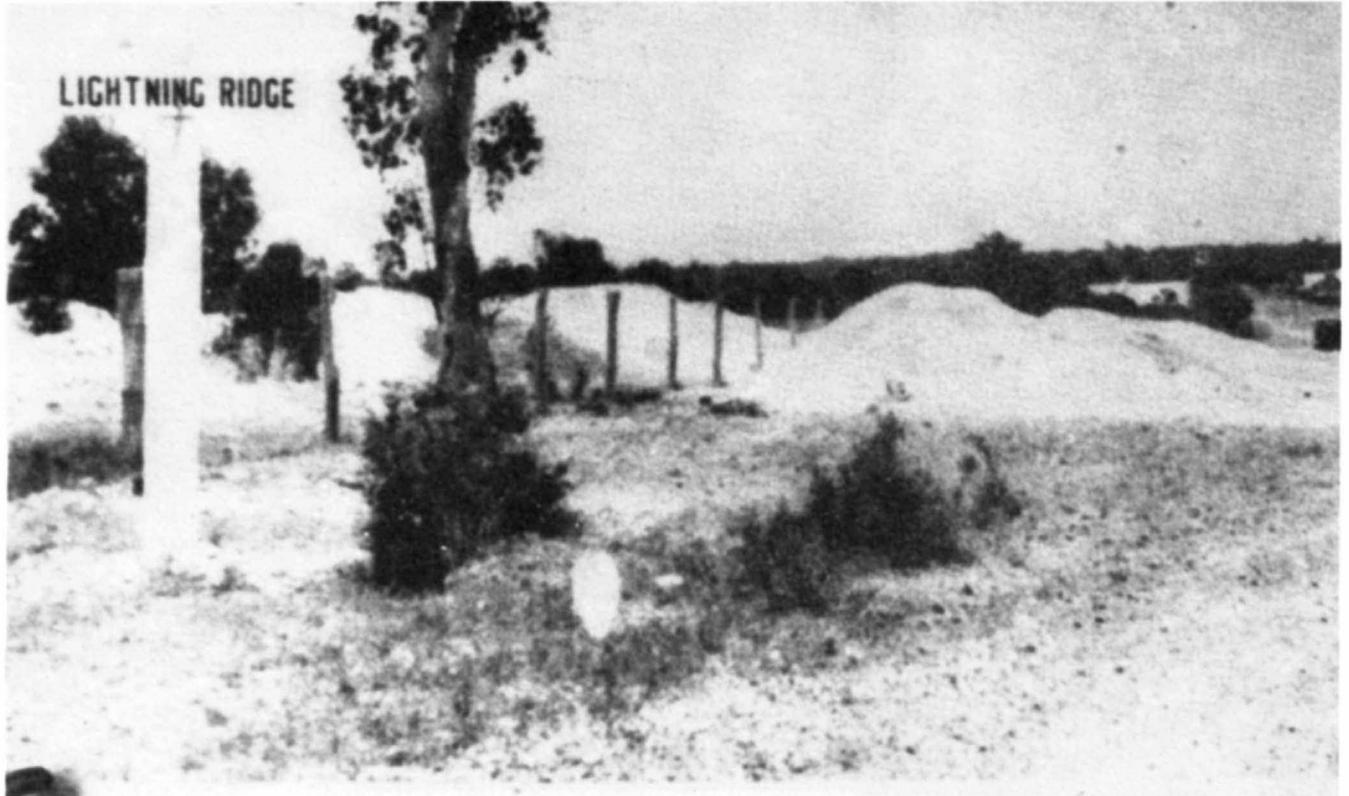
(with the exception of the head) turned to flashing opal and are now in the British Museum. At White Cliffs, too, miners unearthed the 3 ft. long skeleton of a dog shark and the opalised shapes of shellfish and sea lilies.

Opal fields are colourful places. They resemble the Foreign Legion in one respect—no one ever asks any questions about a man's past. Stories have come drifting out about a violinist with a world-name, of brilliant lawyers—even of judges, British peers and others who became opal miners.

A famous opal field "character" was the West Queenslander, "Carney Jimmy". Carney was the name given to the lizards around the opal miner's camp. They were his staple diet and he was said to tether carneys to saplings and fatten them to bring out the best flavour. It was said of this eccentric, that he was "industrious, quiet and frugal and let his neighbours alone".

But he never let on where he was getting his rich finds of opal, and no one was brave enough to ask him. His secret died with him. "Carney Jimmy" was found dead and there followed, with indecent haste, the scramble to find his opal mines. They were never found although the whole area around was scoured by men from adjoining camps. Waterholes, dead trees and "Carney Jimmy" shafts were gone over thoroughly but unsuccessfully.

The opal diggings at Lightning Ridge where many aborigine miners gouge a living



Opal fields abound in stories of fabulous finds. A Chinaman once dug out one fortune in a few days with a shear blade; a collie pup scratched out a £700 parcel while his master was pegging out a claim; and a king-fisher, fumbling in the side of an old shaft, teased out a lovely gem which sold for £70.

Symbol of Purity and Hope

A superstition that opals are unlucky is dying fast. Such a belief was unknown to the ancients who made the opal a symbol of purity and hope.



The town of Lightning Ridge from the air. In the foreground the gouges of the mine workings can be seen

Just how the superstition arose no one knows. The opal is the birthstone of those born in October—and perhaps the superstition had its beginnings in the sad fate predicted for October's child in the first couplet of the little verse:

“October's child is born of woe
And life's vicissitudes must know;
But lay an Opal on her breasts,
And hope will lull those woes to rest.”

Opals today are usually cut in a circular or oval shape and are ideal for pendants, earrings and similar jewellery. In much of the more modest jewellery in which the opal is used, the solid gemstone has been replaced by a two-piece stone known as the doublet, which is essentially a fragment of common opal material or glass upon which the veneer is mounted.

HOUSING DEAL—£ 750,000

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Approximately 30 people, including Shire Councillors, Service Club leaders, businessmen and town and district residents, attended the civic reception.

Mr. Leo Nott, M.L.A., Member for Mudgee; Mr. A. G. Kingsmill, Chairman of the Aborigines Welfare Board; Mr. H. J. Green, the Superintendent of the Welfare Board, and Mr. D. Saap, Mr. Kelly's Private Secretary, were also in attendance.

In introducing Mr. Kelly, Mr. Nott said that several grants had come forward for the construction of the houses at Nanima Mission.

“The Wellington Aboriginal Welfare Committee has been most helpful and the development at the Reserve in the past 10 years has been very pleasing.

“Mr. Kingsmill has given wonderful assistance,” said Mr. Nott.

Mr. Nott said that it was shocking to think that at the present time in America and South Africa so much racial violence was rife.

“It is the intolerance in that man has conquered space and has no barriers on land, sea or in the air and, yet, still turns to violence against his fellow man.

“It is the intolerance in the minds of men that remains the last real frontier to be conquered.

“Knowledge of the work of the Wellington Aboriginal Committee has helped promote more interest in Aborigines of the district.

“The committee is trying to mould public opinion to the needs of the Aborigines.

“However, the Aborigines will have to realise their responsibilities and obligation and strive to take their proper place in the community.

“I'm sure that if this is done further good must come to Wellington and district,” said Mr. Nott.

Mr. Kingsmill said that the Chief Secretary's Department was the oldest Department in Australia and undertook a wide and diverse range of activities.

“Aboriginal welfare work has been aided by the generous attitude of the State Government.

“It is hoped that more homes will be built at the Reserve in the very near future.

“The work that we have done has been greatly aided by the wonderful interest and assistance of the Wellington Council.

“I'm sure that future requests from the Aboriginal Welfare Committee will receive sympathetic hearing from our Department.

“The officers of the Department assure you that they have sympathetic interests in the work being carried out in your Shire,” said Mr. Kingsmill.

WORLD BOXING SCENE

The "Louisville Lip" is very Uncommon Clay

In recent weeks there was some talk of Tony Madigan, the Australian heavyweight amateur boxer, turning professional in order to fight Cassius Marcellus Clay, the American negro who defeated him in the American Golden Gloves tournament and at the Rome Olympics.

Madigan gave Clay two close battles over four rounds and on paper a third meeting in the professional ring would have been perhaps the biggest drawcard and the most important bout since Jack Johnson took the world heavyweight crown away from Canadian Tommy Burns at Rushcutters Bay almost a half century ago.

The Sydney fight plan for Clay—if there ever was one—came to nothing. Tony Madigan is a sensible chap and although he expressed interest in the proposal it is doubtful whether he would have seriously entertained it if the match had hardened into something definite.

Since the Rome Games, Clay has had a string of victories as a professional, mostly by knockouts, although

he had one close call against Doug Jones, another negro, in New York.

Clay is still only 21 and is number one or number two contender (after Floyd Patterson) for the world heavyweight title held by Sonny Liston.

Cassius, indeed, has been hailed by some American sports writers as "the saviour of boxing", not so much for his fighting talents as for his flamboyant personality and "zing" which have earned him hoots, abuse, laughter, cheers and headlines from coast to coast in U.S.A. and in England before he met Henry Cooper, the British champion on June 18.

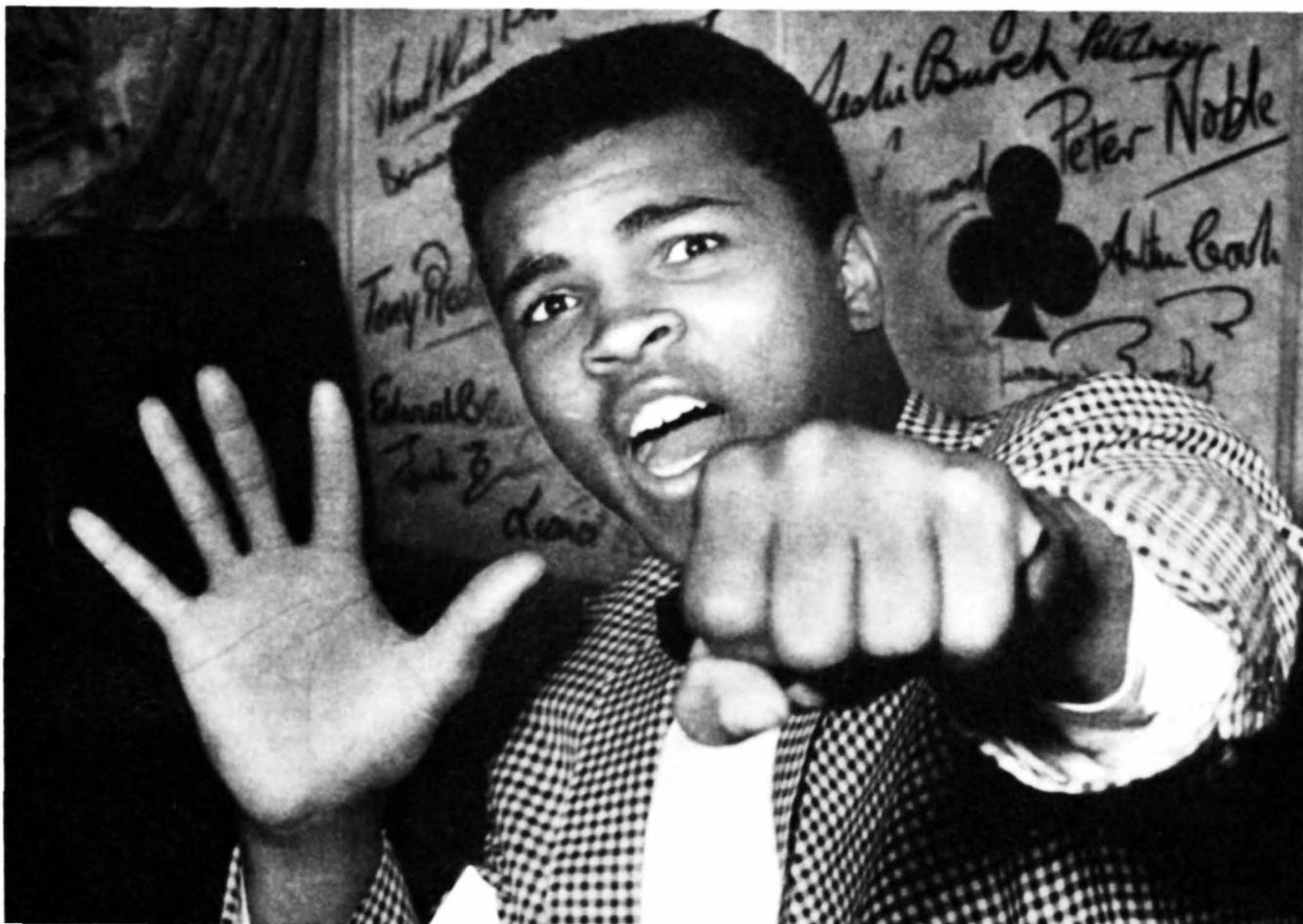
In accordance with his custom before fights, Clay named the round he would knock Cooper out—"Round five"—in doggerel with which he often interlards his conversation.

He also ran true to form in another respect by boasting loud and long in Cooper's presence of what he would do to Cooper in the ring.

Cooper, however, had other ideas and proved a surprise packet for Cassius when they met. He sat the garrulous Clay down hard with a solid punch early in the fight.

Henry did "fall in five" as it turned out but not the way Cassius predicted. The British champion was scored ahead on points when the fight was stopped in

The "Louisville Lip" in London. Loud-mouthed Cassius Clay holds up five fingers to denote in which round he will knock out Henry Cooper; and he also holds up the fist which will do the damage





the fifth because of Cooper's cut and bleeding eye. The result will doubtless appear in the record books as a T.K.O. for Clay.

A few days before the fight Clay walked out of a television interview because the B.B.C. interviewer, David Coleman, told him that Britons disliked "people who talk too much".

This kind of behaviour did not endear him to the British public, who were naturally prejudiced in favour of the local boy, but that is how Clay likes it.

He is thoroughly disliked by millions of Americans. These include many of his own colour who would dearly love to see another fighter shut Cassius' big mouth—provided he was another negro fighter of course.

The prospect of any white fighter doing so seems pretty remote anyway.

When Clay fought Doug Jones at Madison Square Garden earlier this year, Harlem was there in full strength—barracking for Jones. The uncoloured patrons were also solidly pro-Jones—or rather anti-Clay—so it added up to a pretty hostile evening for Cassius.

The Punching Poet (right) sparring with his brother, Rudolph Valentino Clay, while training at White City for his London clash with Cooper who was ahead on points when the fight ended in the fifth round

"Get him Doug!", "Get Cassius!", the crowd screamed. "Get that loudmouth!" Jones almost did get him but not quite.

Instead of knocking Jones out in the fourth round as he had prophesied, Clay had a narrow points win which distressed the crowd beyond endurance.

"Fake, fake, fake! Fix, fix, fix!" they howled and showered the ring with peanuts. Cassius picked some up, shelled them and ate them with obvious relish.

But Sonny Liston, the world heavyweight champion didn't think the fight was fixed. After watching it on T.V. in faraway Miami he said that Clay had genuinely won. This was pretty generous of Liston considering some of the things Clay has been saying about him, such as: "You ain't so hot, I can lick you!"

Clay has also called Liston "a big ugly bear" (though not in his presence), and has declared: "I hate him because he is so ugly. I'll murder the bum."

On the other hand Liston remarked after watching the Clay-Jones fight, "I'll get locked up for murder if I fight him."

With a double murder in prospect no wonder the promoters are rubbing their hands. Any admirer of good honest ballyhoo must find Clay enormously attractive and amusing.

Prizefighters are not often personalities in their own right, and even less often are they primitive poets as well as primitive men. The Brown Bomber, Joe Louis, was popular mainly because of his great fighting prowess and the fact that he wore a soldier's uniform in wartime.

Floyd Patterson has never clicked with the public mainly because of his overwhelming shyness. He went into retreat for three months after losing his crown to Sonny Liston.

But Cassius is moulded in very different clay. Consider his verse before his fight with Jones:

*"My secret is self-confidence, a champion at birth.
I'm lyrical, I'm fresh, I'm smart,
My fists have proved my worth,
Marcellus vanquished Carthage,
Cassius laid Julius Caesar low,
And Clay will flatten Douglas Jones
With a mighty, measured blow."*

It happened to be the only occasion on which one of his rhyming predictions was off the mark. But he still boasts:

*"They all must fall,
In the round I call"*

There are many however who will agree with Jack Dempsey who remarked in Clay's early days as a pro. "I don't care if this kid can't fight a lick. I'm for him. Things are alive again."

It was appropriate that a man named Cassius Marcellus should win a heavyweight crown at Rome, even if he had to defeat a Madigan in the process. This success gave Clay his greatest thrill up to that point in his career and he wore his gold medal all the time—even in bed. He complained that he couldn't sleep well because he had to lie on his back to prevent the medal sticking in to him!

Later, home in New York he wore it in the street (round his neck) and to a dinner at the Waldorf Astoria.

Well, after all, what's a gold medal for?

Incidentally Clay was just about the most popular man at the Olympic Village in Rome, despite his stupendous self-satisfaction. His favourite verse then was:—

*"This is the story about a man
With iron fists and a beautiful tan,
He talks a lot and boasts indeed
Of a powerful punch and blinding speed."*

It would be a grave error to put Clay down as a picturesque fool. Several of the smartest managers in American boxing—and they don't come any smarter—saw his possibilities after the Olympics and flooded him with offers.

But Cassius bided his time and finally signed up with a syndicate of 11 white businessmen—seven of them millionaires and all with reputations for integrity above reproach.

Boggabilla News

The children's Christmas Party was held on the Aboriginal Station, Boggabilla, on December 17, 1962. Aboriginal families living in the district were invited to this treat.

Christmas carols were sung by children and adults, and after a goodly spell everybody made for the hall for the Christmas treat. This was prefaced with grace by the Reverend Mr. Waterhouse, minister, from Boggabilla. Children sat down to a spread which included meat sandwiches and other fillings with cakes and cool drinks. Ice cream was not on hand till next day, in effect, prolonging the feast. Each child received a present from Father Christmas.

Visitors were Mrs. R. F. Brown, who takes a considerable amount of interest in the Station and its activities. Mrs. Waterhouse and family also attended.

Nativity Play

Children and adults were invited to attend the presentation of the Nativity Play arranged by members

of the Church Guild in Boggabilla. All the players were members of the Sunday School, being children from five to twelve years old. All were invited to supper after the play which was an excellent effort by all.

About 40 children from the Station went into Goondiwindi for free pictures at the invitation of the proprietors of the Civic Theatre, who extend this treat to all children in the district.

Carols on Tape

An invitation was extended to have a choir of aboriginal children take part in the Christmas Eve festivities in Goondiwindi. Unfortunately the night as planned by the civic authorities was spoilt by rain, and had to be cancelled. However, a tape recording was made of the children and this was relayed over the town loud speaker system. Among the treats which were offered was that of ice cream and an invitation was made to pick up a chipper of ice cream for the children of the Station. This was done next day.

Watch out for that aching back

Common aches and sprains are often caused by using the wrong muscles, doctors say.

You wouldn't imagine—when most homes today are so well equipped with labour-saving devices (like husbands)—that physical strain would be a common source of disability among housewives. Yet, seriously, it is. Backache, muscular pains, fatigue and even more serious disorders, including slipped disc, hernia, and prolapse can be caused by physical strain. Often we bring these troubles on ourselves by using the wrong muscles when we try to move heavy things about the house.

The knack of using the right muscles is worth mastering because it means you run less risk of injury and you don't get so tired.

Suppose there's a large, heavy box on the floor which must be moved. Unless you know the secret you'll probably bend forward from the waist, with your legs more or less straight, stretch your arms around the box, wriggle your fingers underneath it and heave. If you are lucky, you'll get away with only an attack of exhaustion and a nasty back-ache. If you're not so lucky there will be a click, agonising pain and a long spell in bed.

You should squat on the floor in front of the box and tilt it slightly towards you. Slide your hands underneath and ease it up on to your lap. Then, as you straighten up, the box comes up too.

Take pity on your back, too, when you push up a window that's stuck. Stand close to it, and a little below. Use wrist and forearm muscles to push upwards. Standing a little away from the window and bending forward is about the quickest way to torn muscles.

This is just one common incorrect method of lifting heavy articles



A heavy shopping basket is a common cause of tired back and stiff, aching shoulders. In time, these muscles may become permanently affected. Take a tip from old-fashioned milkmaids. Distribute the load evenly, by using two shopping bags—yes, even if there's not a great deal to carry home.

Most homes have one or two heavy pieces of furniture which must be moved when we dust. Again, leave those back muscles alone. But why not invest in those special castors that mean you can move even a wardrobe or a chest of drawers at the touch of a finger? Expensive? Not really, when you consider the time and energy they save, to say nothing of potential aches, pains and other injuries.

Winter Ills . . .

Mary Queen of Scots,

was a 'flu sufferer

The great epidemics which, in the past, were a major hazard to anyone's chance of reaching sixty have long since been brought under control.

But there is one disease which does occur in epidemics and has remained unchanged since the earliest recorded epidemic in England in 1170.

This is influenza and Asian 'flu of recent years is exactly the same as the "great cough that remaineth with some longer and with others shorter time . . ." that occurred in 1562 and claimed Mary Queen of Scots, as a sufferer. It is recorded she stayed in bed for six days.

As a matter of fact this is still also the best treatment although the generalised aches and pains that usually occur can be eased with aspirin and the cough with a linctus.

Influenza is caused by a virus, a germ so small it remains invisible under the microscope, and viruses are not killed by antibiotics the way bacteria are.

The main danger is to infants and in old people where pneumonia might occur.

The worst epidemic in history occurred in 1918-1919 immediately after World War I. Homegoing soldiers from the battlefields of Europe are credited with spreading the epidemic around the world. In England alone, in February-March of 1919 more than 150,000 people died. In this same epidemic a quarter of the population of Samoa died.

However most of these deaths occurred from supervening pneumonia which in those days could not be cured.

Croajingalong — Facing East

THE MEANING OF ABORIGINAL WORDS MAY HELP NAME HOUSES

As the result of frequent requests for a list of aboriginal words and their meanings, mostly from people wishing to name a house, *Dawn* is happy to be able to publish the list below which has been gleaned from many sources.

Because there were many tribal languages and dialects in Australia, words differed from tribe to tribe.

Explorers and early settlers naturally recorded words as they heard them and spelled them in English according to their idea of the sound. Consequently spellings vary. White man's usage also has altered spellings and changed pronunciations so that it is not possible to give an authoritative guide to either spelling or pronunciation.

However this list of some of the better known words and place names may be of help:—

Laanecoorie	..	Home of kangaroos
Laanepyramul	..	Home of emus
Lowanyeri	..	Place of grey geese
Merrigang	..	Playground of dingoes
Nangkita	..	Place of little frogs
Noamunga	..	Fishing place
Orara	..	Home of the perch
Parraweena	..	Parrots' nesting place
Tallagandra	..	Many cows
Tandanya	..	Home of the red kangaroo
Tanunda	..	Creek with wildfowl
Tarrawonga	..	Mating place of pigeons
Terrigal	..	Place of little birds
Ulamambri	..	Possum country
Wambangalang	..	Many grey kangaroos
Warialda	..	Place of wild honey
Yarramalong	..	Place of wild horses

ANIMALS



Aldinga	..	Place for hunting
Arramagong	..	Wombats run into holes
Balagorang	..	Kangaroo feeding ground
Billinudgel	..	Home of the king parrot
Bimbimbie	..	Place of many birds
Birdup	..	Place of many birds
Boggabri	..	Emu with young
Boorongong	..	Hunting grounds
Buloke	..	Place of frogs
Bungawitta	..	Home of the possum
Bungobittah	..	Many flying squirrels
Buni	..	A bird's nest
Burbugate	..	Many owls
Burlamatta	..	Plenty of possums
Burrendah	..	Place of the swan
Caltowie	..	Sleepy lizard waterhole
Canungra	..	Place of owls
Carribie	..	Where emus drink
Connewarre	..	Home of the swan
Coobowie	..	Wildfowl waters
Coomalong	..	Plenty of possums
Coombell	..	Bunyip in water
Cumbalum	..	Flathead caught here
Curramulka	..	Emu drinking-place
Currawidgen	..	Plenty of possums
Carrabulbone	..	Many white cockatoos
Eurie Eurie	..	Many kangaroos
Gulgargambone	..	Place of galah parrots
Guyra	..	Fishing place, or cockatoo
Illabunda	..	Place of swallows
Joalah	..	Haunt of the lyre bird
Kangaloon	..	Kangaroo feeding place
Katandra	..	Song of birds
Keurong	..	Home of the flying fox.

PLANTS, TREES



Araluen	..	Place of waterlilies
Bambara	..	Forest country
Bampi	..	The bush, forest
Bennabra	..	Place of the water beech
Bilarong	..	Place of the swamp oak
Boonal	..	Plentiful blade grass
Brinawa	..	Where rock lilies grow
Bungendore	..	Home of the gum blossom; big hill on the plain
Carramar	..	The shade of trees
Collarendabri	..	Many flowers
Derribong	..	Green trees
Dhalgai, Dulgai	..	A dead tree
Duneba	..	Wattles
Girra(h)ween	..	Place of flowers
Jabbarup	..	Plenty of grass
Jerematta	..	Scrub
Jerilderie	..	Place of reeds
Kadlunga	..	Honeysuckle hills
Kerta	..	Forest, scrub
Kooringa	..	Creek with sheoaks
Kyabram	..	Thick forest
Loombrak	..	Grass in water
Merriwa	..	Plenty of grass seeds (and the flour made from them)
Miketymulga	..	Trees struck by lightning
Minmi	..	Home of giant lily
Mimosa	..	Place of wattles
Mulawa	..	Shadow of trees
Mutyi	..	Bushy forest, ghost or spirit
Narrang	..	Forest
Narrung	..	Big place of sheoaks
Nerrigundah	..	Where edible berries grow.
Nundalla	..	Thistle island
Oodlawirra	..	Hill and tree country
Parawirra	..	River scrub, river forest
Patawalonga	..	Eucalyptus -tree scrub
Pimpala	..	Native pine-tree place

Punari	Shade of trees
Quandeine	Plenty of big trees
Quirindi	Dead tree on mountain top
Tantanoola	Boxwood-tree hill; a camp
Toooloomba	A hollow tree
Uambi	Pine scrub
Utingu	Place of big trees
Wallamurra	Camp by rushes
Willowie	Green tree water
Winani	Hollow tree
Wirrabara	Tree place.
Wirraminna	Wattle trees
Wirreanda	Place of big trees
Wittonga	A reedy place
Yackerboon	Green grass
Yallaroo	Beautiful flowers
Yanagin	Green trees growing
Yarrabee	Gum forest
Yarrabin	White gumtree
Yarrimbah	Clumps of trees
Yarrowee	Gums growing in water

Gabeegong	Fresh water close to sea
Gilai	Waterhole
Gilandra	Long waterhole
Gilghi	Small, natural waterhole
Gulgong	Deep waterhole
Gundamain	Home on a stream
Ilaroo, Illaroo	Track near the sea
Iluka	Near the sea
Jiliby	Where two creeks meet
Jilloong	Small waterhole
Kadumba	Falling water
Kapunda	Rocky waterhole
Karalee	Waterhole near grass
Karu	Creek
Keera, Keira	Big lagoon (also mountain)
Kondoparinga	Twisting river place
Koornong	Creek dry in summer
Kurrabi	Creek in gully
Kurriri	A creek
Kuruwa	The sea
Larapinta	Creek with flowing water
Lawali	Waterhole
Liamena	Lagoon
Lirambenda	Creek
Malloga	Deep waterhole
Mandurama	Waterholes
Mangowa	Lagoon
Miandetta	Bend of the river
Morala	The sea
Nanda	A lake
Nangara	A spring; also to sleep
Narang, Narangi	Little creek
Nariel	Small spring
Nimitybelle	Source of many streams
Nirripa	The sea
Nita	Spring
Nyanda	Lagoon
Olunda	Sea
Palall	A creek
Panamuna	The ocean
Pantowora	Opposite the lake
Para	River or creek
Parachilna	River with steep banks
Paringa	Place at the river
Parri	River
Pirranyallock	Small river
Pokataroo	Wide river
Pooraka	Dry waterhole
Tarana	Large waterhole
Tarcoola	Bend in the river
Tarun	Lagoon
Tatura	Small lagoon
Terang	Fresh lake; a tree bough
Terenga	Lagoon
Terowie	Hidden waterhole
Terragalonga	Where two creeks meet
Timbrebringle	Big river bend
Tingara	Sea
Tuckarimba	Junction of two creeks
Ulmarra	Bend in the river
Unanderra	Junction of two creeks
Uringa	A long beach
Wagana	Waterfall
Warrain	Belonging to the sea
Wareen	Sea
Warreparinga	Windy river place
Warriparri	Windy river
Willawong	Junction of two creeks
Winderlup	Permanent stream
Wingara	Spring of water
Woorabinda	Camp by a deep waterhole
Yaringa	Near the sea
Yarramie	Little creek
Yertala	Waterfall

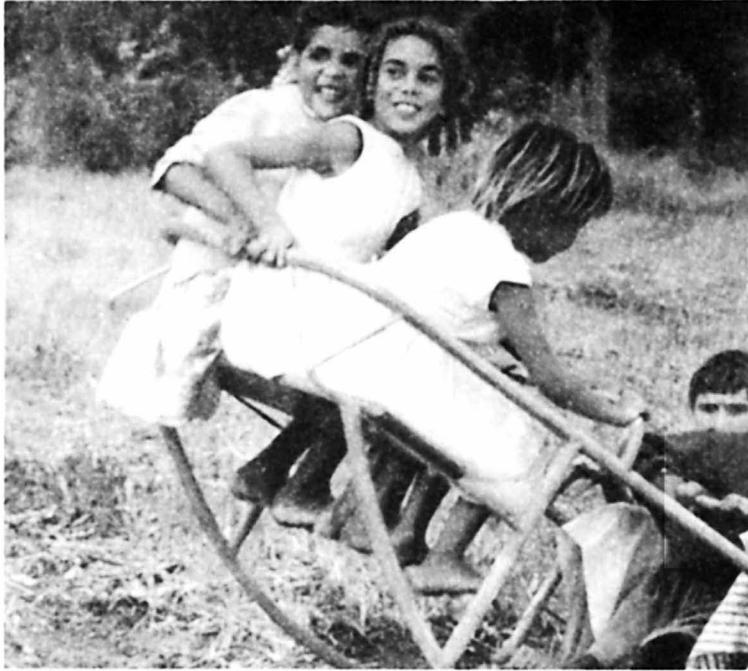
WATER PLACES



Adaluma	River
Adjungbilly	Permanent stream
Atunga, Arltunga	Waterhole
Arriemutha	The sea
Ballin	River
Bareemal	Large waterfall
Barrabadeen	Large deep waterhole
Barralong	Meeting of waters
Baronga	Large waterhole
Barwon	Great, awful river
Batmaroo	Deep creek
Beela	River
Belbourie	Scrubby creek
Belubula	Stony river
Bemurrah	Waterhole
Billabung	Stream
Billeroy	Running creek
Billop	Large lake
Boggabilla	Rivers and swamps
Boloke	Lake
Boobera	Large waterhole
Bucaan	Running stream
Buckalow	Little lake
Bunna-bunna	Big creek
Burrabogie	Big bathing hole
Canowie	Stony waterhole
Caragarang	The sea.
Carawa	Creek
Corowa	Rocky river
Coolalinga	A spring
Coonah	River
Coonong	Creek; dirty water
Coorabin	Creek; barking lizard
Coorumbong	Creek with rocky bottom
Culbara	Sandy creek
Cullaculla	Lagoon
Curragundi	Waterhole
Dirkala	Bank of a creek
Dundundra	Waterfall
Dungalup	Gully with running water
Eungai	Singing creek
Eurobin	Lake at foot of mountain

CONTINUED NEXT MONTH

The Happy Kids of Burnt Bridge



First pictures of Burnt Bridge children using new playground equipment donated to the Reserve by the Sun Toy Fund.

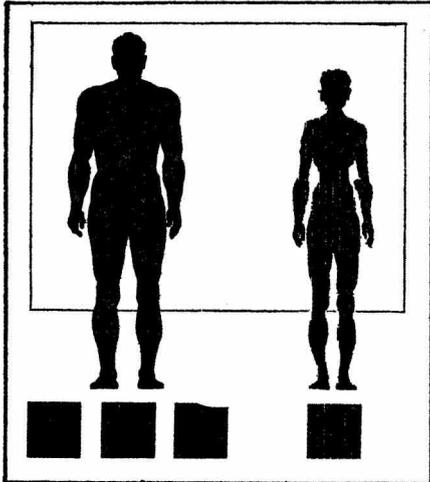
Incidentally the Slippery Slide which was mobbed by the kiddies on opening day is still the most popular feature of the playground layout.

The little fair-haired boy waiting his turn (bottom right) is Ian Henrickson, son of the manager, Mr. A. O. Henrickson. (See also Back Cover.)



DID YOU KNOW

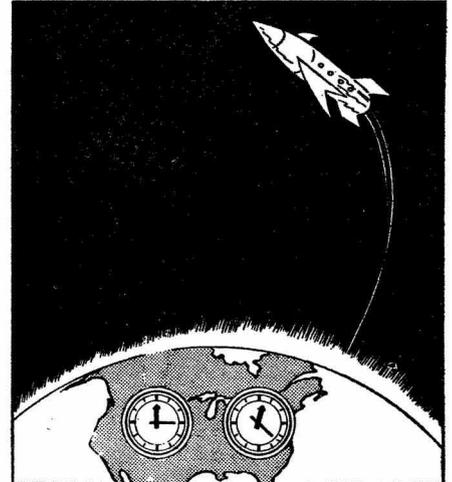
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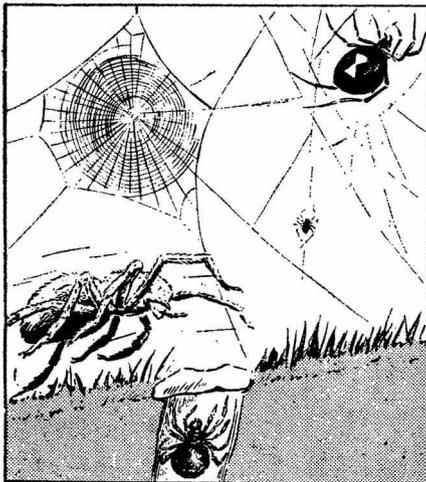
With his population expected to double by the year 2000 A.D., Man's food problem is acute. Some three acres of cultivated land are required to support one healthy adult human being. The present world average is but one acre per person. Yet only 1/10th of the world's land area is under cultivation.



Experts say bacteria are probably the most common form of life on earth. The number in an acre of average ground, considering just the top foot of soil, runs to about 90,000,000,000,000,000.



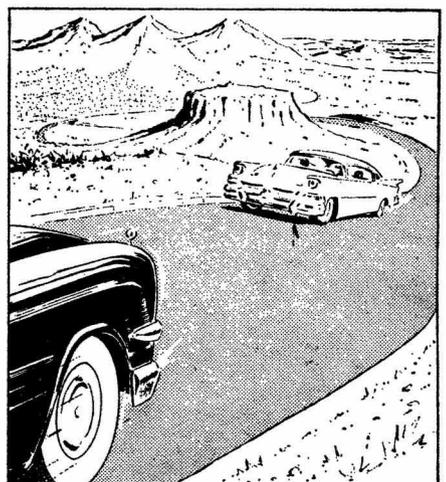
Space travellers will keep time with special watches. The Hamilton Watch Co., a U.S. firm, has built a comparative watch which simultaneously shows the hours, the date, the month, and the year on both the earth and Mars. Mars takes 24 hours, 37 minutes, and 22 seconds to turn on its axis, measured in "Earth" time.



There are some 75,000 known species of spiders, but only about a dozen are harmful to man.



While scientific doubts were expressed as early as the 17th century, water divining still strongly persists today. In some form, the divining rod may go back 7,000 years, but the authenticated history began in 1556.



Greaseless fabric bearings for automobiles have been developed by a U.S. firm. Called "Teflon", the new material is one of the slipperiest materials known and has a life 10 times that of metal-to-metal bearings.

PETE'S PAGE

ROCK GEMS - A FASCINATING GAME

Dear Kids,

As well as a monopoly in koalas, kangaroos and kookaburras Australia has a unique place in the field of gem stones. Besides having a virtual monopoly on the loveliest semi-precious stone of them all, the opal, (see story page 5) we have a large variety of natural gemstones.

The Baby and the Bunny

Wide-eyed little Tanya Oliphant photographed during a Baby Show at Grace Brothers, Parramatta, at the end of February. Tanya is the daughter of well-known singer, Lorna Beulah (Mrs. Tom Oliphant) of Toongabbie



You don't have to be a kid from Lightning Ridge or Walgett—where the first black opal was found—to know that. Anyone who has gone bushwalking across country or even along a country road may have kicked aside with his toe many of these delightful examples of nature's artistry. But it takes a pretty keen and well-informed eye to spot them.

Indeed, even a close look may not indicate that what is apparently "just a bit of old rock" is really a thing of beauty and worth a place in a gem collection.

One of the simple tests that will often reveal the hidden character of a rock gem is to clean it in water. Whilst wet the inherent colours and pattern of the stone will be visible. To disclose the stone's full beauty however, is a task that takes considerable time but which is well within any handyman's capacity with the aid of comparatively simple polishing equipment.

The names of some of these stones are long familiar from Bible reading—Jasper, Prase (Chalcedony), Bloodstone, Beryl, Petalite, Rhodonite, Lace Agate, Moss Agate, Petrified Wood, Ribbon Stone, Gold Stone, Topaz, Obsidian (volcanic glass), Cairngorm and others.

I cannot think of any more pleasurable outdoor pastime than that enjoyed by a "rock hound" scouring the countryside at every available opportunity, can you?

There are many "rock hounds" who are now serious mineralogists. They have made a hobby of rock polishing. Polishing is the secret of bringing the rock gem to glowing life.

But one of the most fascinating parts of the hobby is the realisation that rock gems are many millions of years old.

I daresay many of you have picked up some fine specimens of rock gems in your time—and I don't mean stone bruises. But seriously, kids, I would like to hear from any among you who happen to be collectors.

Cheerio until next time,

Pete

