

Vol. No. 1  
Ser. No. 6



# Dawn



Registered at the G.P.O. Sydney, for  
transmission by post as a periodical.

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

June, 1952.





## OUR COVER

Carefree and happy, these real Australian youngsters of the Far North, find every day worth living.

### In this Issue . . .

	Page.
Towards a Better Understanding . . . . .	1
From "Munjongs" to Citizens . . . . .	2
Farewell to Mr. Jenks . . . . .	4
Don't Gamble Your Life . . . . .	5
A Blowfly could Sink a Ship . . . . .	6
Make Your Own Sparring Partner . . . . .	8
The Editor's Mail . . . . .	9
Around the World . . . . .	10
Home Hints . . . . .	12
Along the Mail Route . . . . .	13
Help Yourself . . . . .	14
Are You a Fifth Columnist? . . . . .	15
Governor's Lady at Wallaga Lake . . . . .	15
Big Essay Competition . . . . .	17
Pete's Page . . . . .	18
Korky the Cat (cartoon) . . . . .	19
The World Supplies Our Food . . . . .	20
In the Garden . . . . .	21

# Towards A Better Understanding

## A Letter from the Superintendent

My dear Aboriginal Friends,

A great deal of interest will, no doubt, be aroused by the recent decision that the provision of Section 9 of the Aborigines Protection Act, which relates to the supply of liquor to aborigines, is to be enforced. In recommending this course, the Board had before it reports from practically every centre of the State. These reports, almost invariably, showed that liquor was having an adverse effect on the aboriginal people, and that it was not in the best interests of the people, particularly their women and children, that there should be any departure from the existing provisions of the law.

The Board is well aware that there are aboriginal people who can be relied upon to drink in moderation, but means already exist under the law for the exemption of such persons from the provisions of Section 9. Any aborigine who demonstrates that he is leading a sober life and provides reasonable and proper living conditions for his family is eligible for a certificate of exemption.

It is realised that some aborigines may feel that this provision of the law deprives a person of aboriginal extraction of some liberty that is available to other members of the community. It is desired to point out, however, that drink is one of the principal reasons why the living conditions of a great many of our aboriginal people are of a standard much lower than that enjoyed by the general community. This position persists despite the fact that aborigines have been able to earn equal wages.

The policy being followed by the Board is that of assimilation. This means the merging of aborigines and whites into one community. Steps have already been taken to provide the same education and hospital services for all. The main task is to bring about equal social relationships with no distinction of race whatever. The Board believes that this policy is attainable. It believes that there is no real racial prejudice on the part of the white community against aborigines. There is prejudice, and always will be prejudice, against any members of the community whose living conditions and general outlook are lower than the standard accepted by the community generally.



It is the case, unfortunately, that throughout the country many aborigines earning good incomes are living in humpies made of scrap materials and possessing little in the way of furniture or the facilities



We are justly proud of our children like these Moree Brownies, and they must be proud of us.

necessary to provide for cleanliness and domestic hygiene. Children brought up under such conditions are not given a fair chance in life. It is inevitable that while such conditions continue, prejudices against the aborigines will also continue.

By far the most important thing necessary to improve the living conditions of the aborigine people is that they should acquire a better understanding of the uses of money. Wages should be applied firstly to necessary things, such as food, clothing and household furnishings. These are the vital necessities of the family and the Board appeals to you all to make these substantial things your aim in life. It will not only be of benefit to yourselves now but will be the means of providing a better and brighter future for your children.

With best wishes to you all,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "A.W.G. Lipscomb".

Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare.

# FROM "MUNJONGS" TO CITIZENS

## Across the Yampi Sound

By

MICHAEL SAWTELL

(Member of the Aborigines Welfare Board of New South Wales.)

I was very pleased, when the Government appointed me a member of the Aborigines Welfare Board of New South Wales, for it gave me an opportunity to pay a debt of gratitude that I owed to the aboriginal people of Australia.



Michael Sawtell.

my aboriginal colleagues on the Board.

I began my working life as a drover's boy, for cattle king Kidman in 1900, on the edge of the Simpson Desert. I spent my childhood with the aboriginal boys, and boys being boys all the world over, whether they are black or white, they would say and tell me things that they would not say to a man.

When I hunted the horses in the early mornings, I learned to track, and when I saw the aboriginal boys hunting game, I learned something of their language and their ways.

On watch at night with the cattle, the boys would tell me many of their myths; that the Magellan Cloud is "an Emu with its head hanging down," and the Milky Way is "a track over to a water hole."

Indeed, the aborigines have a wonderful legend connected with every constellation in the heavens.

Later I went droving across the Northern Territory, and then in 1908, I was "Poddy Dodging" in the wild Obagooma country, about 30 miles south of Yampi Sound (the rich iron ore area on the rugged Kimberley coast).

A "Poddy Dodger" is a cattle pirate. That is a man who musters wild cattle and who isn't too particular about the brands.

When I was twenty five years old, I was probably the youngest pioneer in Australia, living in the most inaccessible part of Australia, and surrounded by wild cattle and man-spearing "Munjongs" those wild uncivilised bush aborigines who cannot speak English.

There I lived right on the Kimberly coast, surrounded by "Munjongs," and twenty miles from my nearest white neighbour.

I was not afraid, for I understood how to make friends with the aborigines.

I had a small family of aborigines working for me, or as they called it, "They sat down along me." I called Tim, the father of the family, "Gijia," which meant in their dialect "Father." And the mother Nellie, I called "Currie," which means "Mother," and the other members of the family, three young boys, I called them "Ohar," which means "Brothers."



Two Real Australians of the North.



I really put myself in the tribe, for I knew this was the correct thing to do.

Our aborigines in their primitive state do not understand and will not tolerate any displaced person. Everybody must have a place in the tribe, and with that place goes all kinds of strict tribal laws and duties. For instance, when visiting "Munjongs" used to come wandering around, I would say to Tim, "Gijja, show me which women I am 'Geegull' to," ("Taboo") and according to tribal law, I must not look at, or talk to those women. I was expected to feed them, to give them plenty of beef and damper, but when I handed them food, I had to turn my head away. Because I observed many of these tribal laws, I was always safe.

It is safe to say that practically every tragedy in the bush has occurred because the white man, unconsciously perhaps, has violated some tribal law.

Our aborigines in their tribal state are a wonderful people; and when one knows them as I do, it makes one wonder what we mean by calling them a primitive people; but detribalise them, and you create an almost impossible problem, for the vices of the white man, mean demoralisation to the aborigines.

Our aborigines in their tribal state are a very affectionate and friendly people, and are very easy to handle. They like the white man to laugh, to talk and to joke with them, yet at the same time to be the boss.

They have no respect for the white man who cannot be boss and at times stern with them, for they are accustomed to being ordered about by the old men of the tribe.

Old Tim, who I had working for me, had murdered three men. He had speared two aborigines, in a strictly legal tribal killing, and one white man, named "Mad Jack," who was a beachcomber on the Kimberly coast. But "Mad Jack," was very foolish, for he enticed women aboard his lugger, and then left food, tomahawks, and other temptations in their way, so the men of the tribe, speared him and threw his body overboard. Tim would not tell me this, but other aborigines told me, "Tim been killem Mad Jack alright." Although Tim had murdered three men, he was the most harmless, faithful and loyal old aborigine I ever had working for me, and if it were not for his loyalty, I perhaps would not be alive to-day. When the wandering "Munjongs" used to come about at night, they would throw little stones into Tim's camp, and then sneak up and ask Tim, "Which way white fellow"? Then Tim would come up and warn me. I would then let my fierce cattle dogs loose, and while they rushed about barking loudly I would also fire a shot or two just to let the "Munjongs" know that I knew they were about. Then in the morning Tim would call up the "Munjongs" and I would talk to them, kill a beast for them and tell them not to go among my cattle, but in the end the "Munjongs" won, for they hunted my cattle and caused huge bush fires, by setting fire to the long grass.

In those days, cattle prices were low but the country was too wild and I was too young. Still, I gained wonderful experience.

Aborigines in their tribal state are wonderful story tellers, and the old men of the tribe tell them long-drawn-out myths and legends by the hour. I also used to tell them stories.

## Farewell To Mr. Jenks



△

One evening last month, after a presentation ceremony for Mr. Jenks, retiring Manager of La Perouse, a number of visitors were entertained at supper by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stewart. In this picture, from left to right, are Mrs. V. Fortescue, Mr. Herbie Simms, Mrs. Harold Stewart, Mr. Colin Davis (Editor of Dawn), Mr. Jenks, Mr. V. Fortescue, Mr. Stewart, and Mrs. Inspector English.

▽

Old Tim was very proud of the confidence I had in him, and he would say to me, "I am not a 'Munjong,' for I have been along Roeburn gaol." Tim had done a term for cattle spearing, and had later been, for a time, a police boy, so he considered himself civilised.

Our aborigines are at their best in the bush, for their bushcraft and knowledge of the bush is almost beyond words. They know everything about the bush. The bush to them is an open book, for their knowledge of tracking and of the habits of animals, is so vast that they are able to know almost everything that has happened.

Indeed it is almost impossible to tell in cold words to city bred people, who have never had any bush experience, what wonderful bushmen our aborigines are for nothing is hidden from them. I know all this, for I have been out for days, with three or four aborigines, walking up and down the great Obagooma hills on the rugged Kimberley coast, looking for rock holes, springs and for the tracks of wild cattle.



Then in the nights as we camped around the little fire, the aboriginal boys would tell me in tones of reverence, many of their wonderful myths and age-old legends. They would also show the sacred rock holes, where the "dream children," the departed spirits of dead aborigines play and sing, and wait for opportunities to reincarnate.

But these days are gone, and there are no "Munjongs" in Kimberley now and the bush aborigines have been absorbed by the various government and church missions.

Times have changed for me too, for here I am now engaged in trying to help these people of aboriginal blood, in this State, to become good Australian citizens.

All we members of the Board realise that the white people have a stern social duty towards the aborigines, for it would not have been possible to pioneer much of Australia, without the wonderful aid they gave in years gone by. Aborigines are wonderful stockmen and drovers, as I have found during the many years I worked with them.

The aborigines of the lighter castes, make good truck drivers, mechanics and tradesmen and can take their places in the world of modern industry. It is not that the aborigines lack the intelligence, but many of them become victims of the vices of low class whites, and so lose the incentive and persistence to become good, sober and useful citizens.

It is my hope that all persons of aboriginal blood will co-operate with the Board and its policy of assimilation, and take their place in the world alongside their white brothers and sisters.

# Don't Gamble Your Life

## *Our Children are Precious*

OUR children are our most precious possessions, and most parents would be horrified if they were told they often gambled with their youngsters' lives. And yet this happens in many homes almost every day, for parents who allow their homes to become dirty, who use unclean cooking and eating utensils, who leave uncovered foods to the mercy of filthy germ carrying flies, are in fact, gambling their youngsters' lives.

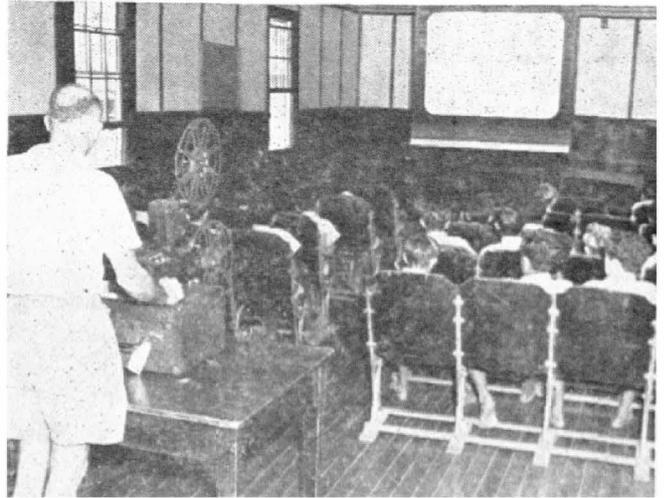
During recent years several outbreaks of food poisoning affecting large groups of people, have occurred in New South Wales. When fifty picnickers are suddenly taken ill after a meal the incident is dramatic, yet the same risk exists in every household and restaurant where the standard of food hygiene is not observed.

Poisoning by food may result in vomiting and collapse, sometimes in death, but it is experienced in less degree by many persons who simply "feel sick" after eating a particular food. It is mostly caused by germs, of the type called Salmonella. Much less frequently its origin is in chemical products of vegetables or other plants. Potato poisoning for instance is due to a substance, solanin, produced by the potato plant. It occurs only when green or sprouting potatoes are eaten. These may contain harmful amounts of solanin, while in the fully-grown vegetable the amount is negligible. Another but rarer example is the absorption by honey of a poisonous substance produced by flowers, including some varieties of azalea, on which the bees have fed.

The foods chiefly affected by Salmonella or other germ poisoning are meat and prepared meat food, sweet dishes and ice cream, and duck eggs. Such germs get into food in various ways. It may be contaminated by rats or mice, which harbour the germs; and meat may come from an animal infected with them. Contamination may be due to lack of cleanliness in those who prepare or process foods. It is possible that the heat of cooking destroys certain bacteria without destroying the toxins or poisons they secrete.

Food poisoning is a variety of gastro-enteritis. Mostly there is nothing in the taste of the food to indicate that it should not be eaten. True ptomaine poisoning is extremely rare, because the substances called ptomaines are produced only in food in such condition that it would be obviously unfit to eat.

Ordinary food poisoning is not due to anything harmful in the food itself, but to the way it is treated—or rather, ill-treated. The only safeguard against the germs which cause it is a high standard of hygiene and cleanliness in handling of foods.



**Kinchela boys are fortunate in having this fine projector at their disposal.**

---

## Deaf taught to hear Vibrations in Toes and Fingertips

By making the whole body an "ear," scientists are teaching the deaf to hear and interpret sound by its vibration patterns. It is predicted that within a few years doctors will know how to fasten a little vibration instrument to the toe of a child born deaf and enable the baby to overcome its handicap. Deaf children to-day are taught vibration patterns of speech and music by placing their fingers on a "phonotactor" into which the teacher speaks or music is played. The vibrations are carried through the skin and along the bones to the brain centres.



**Dave Sands, whose family was the subject of an article in our last issue, relaxes while making a rug.**

# A BLOWFLY COULD SINK A SHIP

## COASTAL GUARDIANS AT WORK

THROUGHOUT the ages of ocean voyaging, ships have been sunk by typhoons, floating ice, gales, enemy action, faulty structure, the deeds of evil men, and a hundred and one other causes, but few people have ever heard of one being destroyed by a BLOWFLY.

But it *could* happen!

Rare visitors to the 50-year-old lighthouse at Norah Head on the North Coast have realised why.

When admitted through the outer door at the base of the lighthouse, by Jack Fisher, the veteran keeper, they are amazed by his strict inspection of the white-painted walls and ceilings before he attempts to open the inner door leading to the long spiral staircase.



“Blowflies,” explains Fisher. “If one should happen to get up into the light tower, it would most certainly put out the light, with dangerous consequences to the ships skirting the bombora reefs three miles out.”

The 1,000,000 candlepower kerosene light in the tower has a large silk incandescent mantle, similar to the mantles once used in suburban homes, and the bright light invariably attracts the fly.

Once this mantle is broken by a fly, or moth, the light is extinguished and the ocean within a 20-mile radius is plunged into darkness.

So, every hour of the day and night throughout the years, an almost religious check is kept by the keepers to see that none of these flying pests gains admittance.

Visitors to Norah Head, though somewhat fatigued by their 150-step climb to the light tower, are interested to see there on display a mantle wrecked by the attack of a fascinated blowfly.

### *Floating on Mercury*

The keeper explains how the blowfly . . . one of the very few ever to find its way into the tower . . . had broken the mantle and put out the light.

Stocks of incandescent mantles are kept handy, but it may be half an hour before a new one can be refitted.

At Norah Head lighthouse, kerosene is pumped through the light jet by a pressure of 75 lb. to the square inch and the light from this jet is reflected into a 1,000,000 candlepower beam by hundreds of huge glass prisms.

Every night over 18 pints of kerosene are swallowed by the lamp.

The radio also keeps Jack Fisher in touch with Solitary Island, 8 miles off the coast at Coff's Harbour.

There is always plenty of work in the lighthouse for the attendants, however.

The light must be regularly inspected and serviced, all glass and brassware polished to perfection, the log kept up to date, and the barracks kept trim and neat.

On top of the radio is the logsheet on which is recorded the name of every passing vessel.

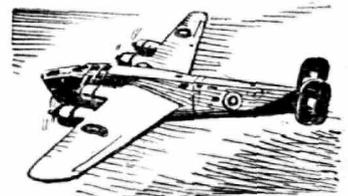
Although it is almost inaccessible, Norah Head attracts hundreds of the curious during the summer months.

Fish abound along the reefs near this part of the coast, but sharks too are so plentiful that the fisherman rarely has time to get his catch into the boat.

Some of these reefs are among the most dangerous on the coast.

The Norah Head lighthouse which is 140 miles from Sydney and 30 miles from Newcastle, has large stone living quarters in which several hundred garrison troops were stationed during the war to man coastal defences.

Nearly opposite the lighthouse is Bird Island, used by the R.A.A.F. during the war as a practice target. Although it is uninhabited, steep, and almost unclimbable, virtually every square foot of it has been turned over by avid diggers searching for metal from exploded bombs.



Because of the comparatively clear atmosphere existing on the Australian coast, high-powered lights such as those installed in Great Britain and on the West Coast of France, are unnecessary.

In Britain some of the giant lighthouses throw a beam of several million candlepower to combat the thick fogs and murky darkness.

The light and prisms, which weigh  $4\frac{1}{2}$  tons, float on half-a-ton of pure mercury and make a complete revolution every 10 seconds.

Every two years the base mercury is drained out and replaced.

The mercury float enables the apparatus to make its revolution in a much shorter period than was previously possible with the old-time rotary gear.

Before the introduction of incandescent mantles, wick burners were used.

The mantle, however, has increased the light, and decreased the cost of upkeep.

Jack Fisher and his wife have lived on lonely coastal lighthouses for over 40 years.

When boredom sometimes becomes too great, he yarns with one of his fellow coastal guardians on the Montague Island lighthouse 8 miles off the coast of Moruya, by means of pedal wireless.

Because of the difficulty of getting supplies to Montague Island in rough weather, it was once decided to provide the lighthouse with "living" supplies. Several hundred fowls were duly installed there. The first storm, however, blew every fowl into the ocean. Then rabbits were introduced, and naturally they have survived.

### The Flower Garden

Here is a programme for Winter : Roughly dig over any beds that are now empty to give the soil the full benefit of sun, wind and frost, all of which contribute to its future fertility. Loosen up the earth around growing plants, not forgetting the shrubs and roses. Finish off with a generous over-all dusting of lime—it will check many pests and improve the general tone of both plants and soil. Complete the cleaning up by snipping off spent blooms and pruning Autumn flowering shrubs.



Accidents will happen, even in the best of times, but first-aid holds no terrors for these Kinchela lads. An experienced matron is prepared for every contingency and the lads have every confidence in her ability.



### Brazil Grows Snakes Three Times the Size of this One

Semi-aquatic, hunting at night, the largest of the South American boas or anacondas probably attain a length of 30 feet. The biggest boa ever caught, and authentically measured, was 26 feet long. The Philadelphia Zoo has a specimen 24 feet long. This German wild animal dealer at Para, Brazil, is holding up a 9-foot reptile.

### An Easy Glasshouse



By supporting two panes of glass with slotted wooden blocks, a flower box or a small section of the garden can be converted into a miniature hothouse in a few minutes. This is handy to protect delicate plants from the wind and extreme temperature changes. A triangular piece of wood or sheet metal can be propped at each end of the hothouse

to fully enclose the plants, and afford maximum protection.

# MAKE YOUR OWN SPARRING PARTNER

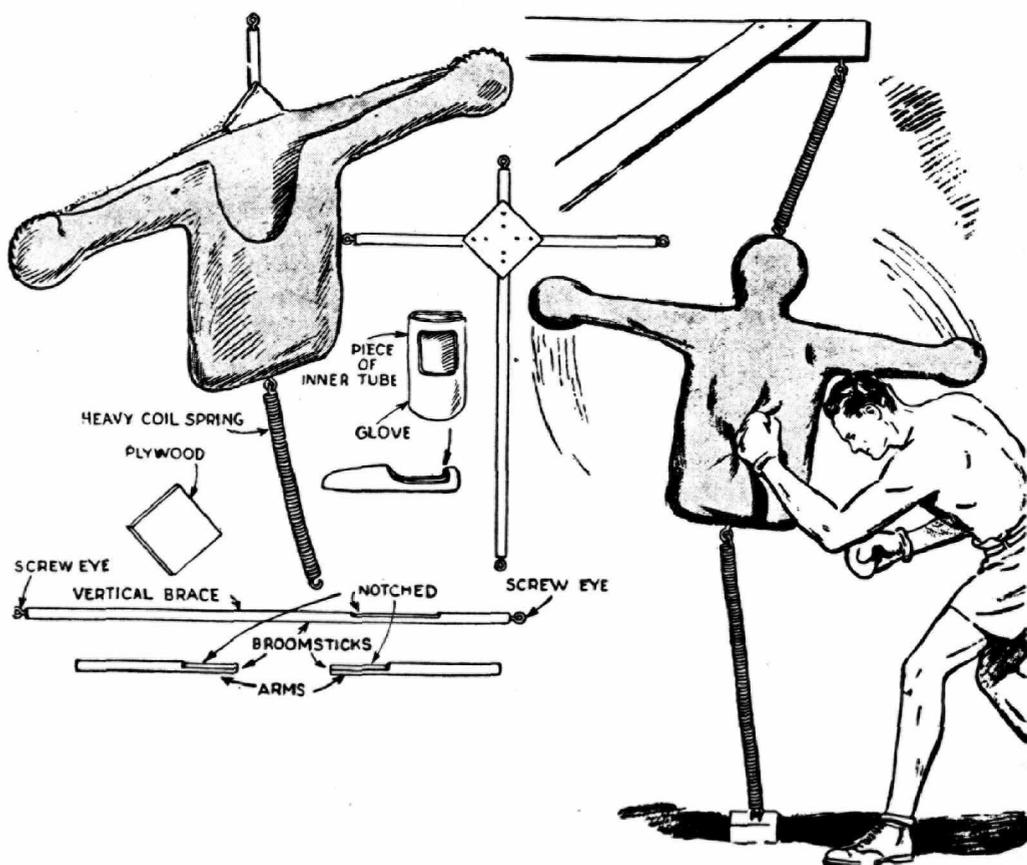
## An Easy Way to Keep Fit

A daily workout with "Jack Straw," a fighting sparring partner, will call into play every muscle in your body, with corresponding benefits. The dimensions of "Jack Straw" are determined by the size of the builder, with the exception of the arms. To determine their length, bend your arm as though you were delivering a hook; measure from the centre of your chest to the knuckles.

The body of "Jack Straw" is cut and sewed from canvas. Use a lap and sew with a lock or back stitch, using a good grade of twine. After the body has been partly sewed, the framework is installed. Broomsticks are ideal, but the ends should be drilled before twisting in the screw eyes. The best packing for the body is lawn clippings, well dried in the sun and rammed in tightly.

To get the greatest benefit from "Jack Straw," you should know something of boxing. All boxing is based on the "one-two" punch, which is leading with the left and following with the right, using any combination you wish. For instance, you may start off with a straight left to "Jack's" head, swing on the hips and deliver a hard right into the body. Or

Well-equipped gymnasiums are not always easily reached, but this home-made sparring partner can be assembled in the backyard in a short time.



"Jack" may be suspended anywhere, for there is no noise or vibration that accompanies the usual bag punching. His reaction to your blows can be regulated by changing the tension of the springs.

a hard left to the body and an overhand right to his head. Use your legs and keep moving, and always remember to lead with your left hand!

Dear Editor,

In the recent issues of *Dawn* one gathers quite a lot of information regarding our people. Some have a great interest in life and the way they live, others are rather disappointing when we take into consideration how the Board is trying to make us comfortable and contented.

The average home costs about £1,500 and if the person who occupies it pays his rent regularly it becomes an asset to our people, but otherwise it becomes a loss.

If this view could be taken by all, then we would be on the road to success.

I would like to make a suggestion to the men responsible for the welfare of our people.

I would say there are a lot of honest intelligent people among us and if given the opportunity could prove themselves worthy citizens. I would suggest that a survey be taken to find out how many would be interested in farming and if they would be prepared to work on a share basis or buy a farm outright.

There is always a demand for primary produce and a farm would not lose its value as a house might.

It would really be an asset to the people, not only commercially but it would also create an incentive for the younger generation to try and do something for themselves.

—Robert Brown (Wreck Bay)

. . . Thanks, Mr. Brown. It will be interesting now to see how many readers come forward with replies to your letter.

—Ed.

Send your letters to

*Pete*

C/o DAWN MAGAZINE,  
Box 30, G.P.O.,  
Sydney.

Dear Editor,

I think your gardening competition an excellent opportunity to arouse a little interest among aboriginal people in bettering their own lives. On many stations there is an absolute apathy towards gardening, etc. Congratulations on your magazine *Dawn*.

D. Gunter,  
Teacher in Charge,  
Aboriginal School, Nanima.

. . . Thank you, Mr. Gunter. Judging by the enquiries we have had, I think our garden competition for aboriginal children is going to be most successful. Any school will be very proud to win the lovely trophy.

—Ed.

# The Editors Mail

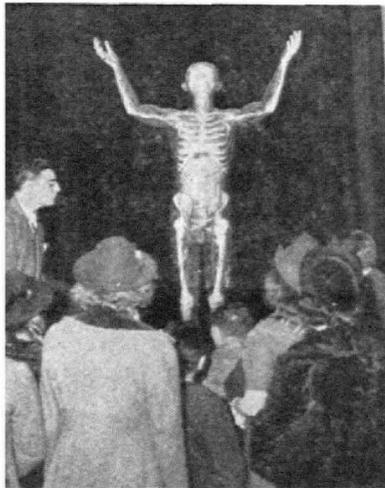


## A Level-headed Little Lady

Girls serve as hotel porters in towns of North Portugal. Balancing heavy bundles of baggage on their heads, they trot up hills and climb stairs without even touching their hands to their burdens. This young girl is from the Villa do Conde.



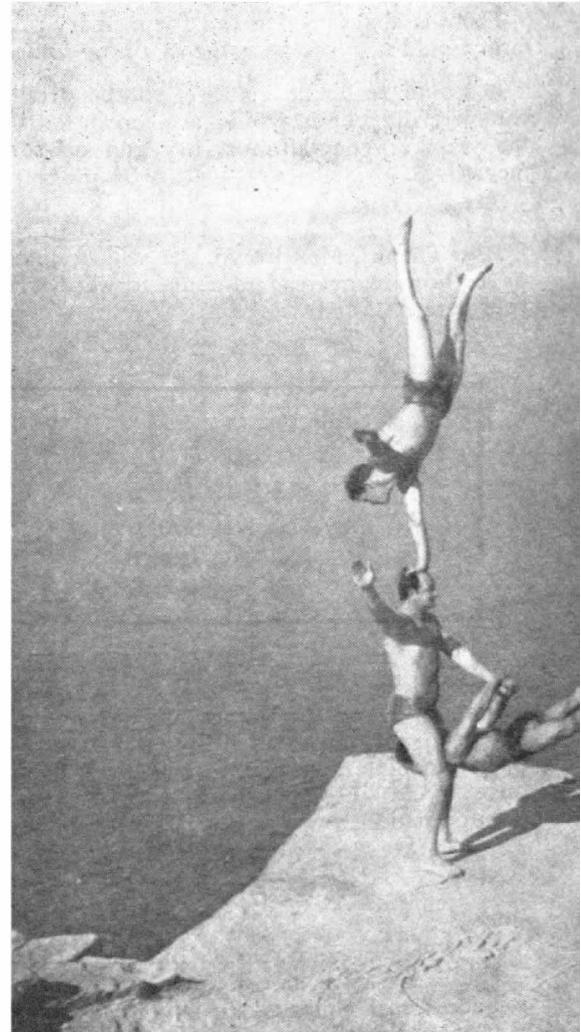
These Japanese gentlemen are obviously very proud of their outsize beards.



The famous American Glass Man, one of the finest anatomical reproductions of its kind in the world, is on view at the Rockefeller Museum of Science and Industry, in New York. This transparent man is made of glass, and every minute detail of his anatomy is visible even down to the tiniest vein. By pressing buttons, it is possible to light up any section of his body inside. If life were in this weird glass man, he would undoubtedly be humanity's most perfect specimen as his organs are perfectly proportioned and correctly placed.



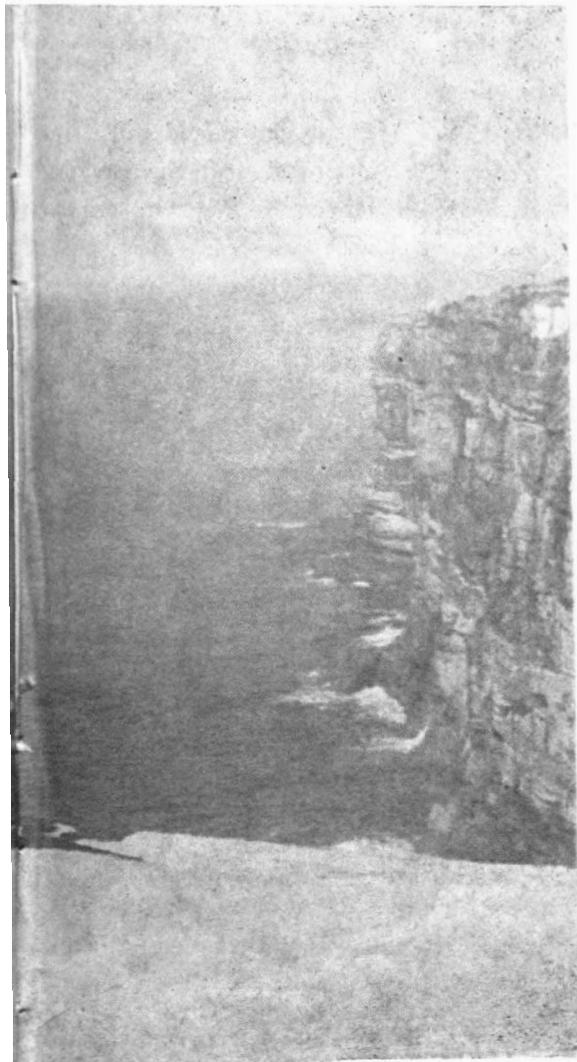
Policeman surveys what little can be seen of a police car after a hurricane had passed over Miami, Florida.



A rare test of courage and skill is this



Sharply etched against the clouds, Ringens is pictured just after he had left the the runway and hurtled into the air. He soars through the air 100 feet to the tank of water.



being performed on the cliffs at Bondi.



Among the exhibits of leisure time products by Chase Bank employees, in the city of New York, was this sampler containing the Lord's Prayer which took Dora A. Hedmeg, shown here with her work, a year to make. She is employed as a matron.



Sometimes the bull wins. Then the matador rarely escapes serious injury, and often is killed.

# HOME



# HINTS

## It's Well to Remember!

Next time you break the stem of one of your favourite plants, bind the sections together with cellulose tape. If done in time, the break will heal, restoring the plant to its original healthy condition.

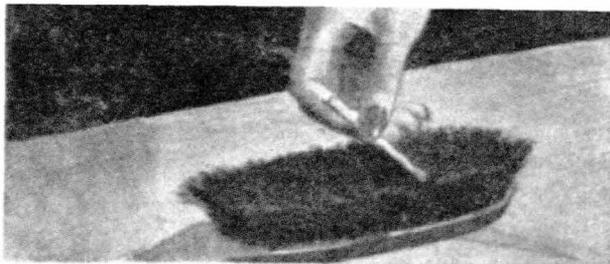
Stains on furniture, rugs and clothing are easier to clean if they have not dried. To speed removal, make a chart listing various types of stains and how to remove them, and tape it to a closet wall.

To remove a cork from the inside of a bottle that you wish to use again, pour a little ammonia in the bottle and allow it to remain for several days. The ammonia will crumble the cork for easy removal.

## Hot-Pad Mitten to Reach in Oven



When reaching into a hot oven to remove or adjust pans, there is little danger of burning your hand if you use this mitten. It is made by sewing a couple of ordinary hot pads together along three sides, as illustrated.



Damp kitchen matches that are difficult to light will ignite readily if they are rubbed through the bristles of a clothesbrush several times before striking. The friction produced by rubbing a match briskly, in most cases, dries it sufficiently.

## Ridding a House of Insects

Here is a quick way to rid a house of flies, mosquitoes, ants, spiders and other insects. First make a solution consisting of water, half pint; menthol crystals, three tablespoonfuls; and oil of cedar, thirty drops. After making sure that all doors and windows of the house are tightly closed, pour the solution into an old pan or skillet and allow it to simmer on the stove for at least ten minutes.

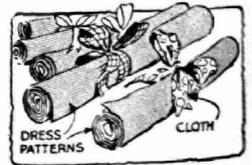
## Lamp Globes



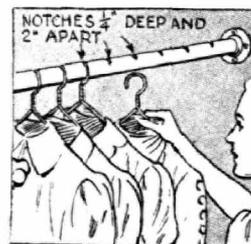
The glass shades of hurricane lamps will stay clean and retain their sparkle longer if they are wiped with alcohol. Wash the shades as usual and wipe with an alcohol-moistened cloth.

## Identifying Dress Patterns

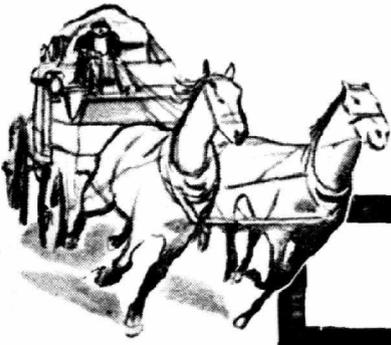
After you have finished making a dress, roll the pattern and tie it with a piece of the same material. When it is laid away with other patterns, the cloth will identify it by serving as a reminder of the last dress.



## Loughboy Clothes Rack is notched to keep Hangers apart



Creasing of garments by having them pressed together on a crowded clothes rack in a loughboy or wardrobe is avoided by cutting notches or grooves 2 inches apart, in the top surface of the rack, to take the hanger hooks. For accommodating overcoats and other extra bulky garments, the spacing of the notches should be increased.



## Along the Mail Route

Police Sergeant Tracker Bill Robinson of Grafton is said to have been the only bantamweight boxer in the world to have fought lightweights, welterweights, middleweights and heavyweights and beaten them by knockouts.

Very well known in the country districts, Bill has put on quite a bit of weight since his "bantam" days, but he is still a very useful fellow with the gloves.

Bill is particularly proud of his brilliant daughter Evelyn, who went on to the Teachers' College after proving herself an outstanding scholar at the Grafton High School.



Young Lionel Daley of Grafton makes a fine Cowboy in this outfit.



Delphine Binge and Madge Raveneau photographed whilst in Sydney.

The girls at Cootamundra celebrated Empire night in grand style. After entertaining the Cootamundra Brownies at tea, they had a roaring bonfire with lots of fireworks.

Later in the evening they had a "singsong" and everyone voted they had had a "wow" of a time.

Mr. J. R. Moom, Headmaster at the Murrin Bridge aboriginal school, is building up an excellent school library for his sixty-eight pupils who range from kindergarten to sixth class.

The Public Library sends along a box of books each term and another big boxful is on its way to Murrin Bridge from the staff of *Dawn*.



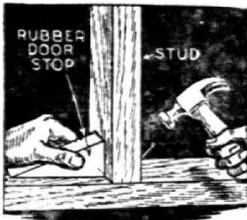
Some members of Moree Brownie Pack.

# HELP YOURSELF

## Fish kept fresh without Ice by wrapping in Dry Grass

When fishing in localities where no ice is available, the best substitute for keeping the fish fresh and sweet is to protect them from moisture and air. Clean the fish as soon as possible after they are caught, but leave the scales on until just before you cook them. Cut off the head and gills, and clean out the cavity, scraping every trace of congealed blood from the backbone. Do not wash the fish but, instead, use a clean cloth to wipe out the cavity and dry the scales. After filling the cavity with dry, green grass, wrap each fish separately in grass and then in paper. Wrapping the packages in a blanket or tarpaulin affords additional protection.

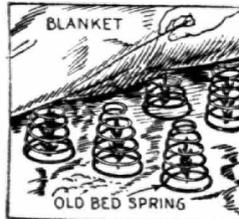
## Studs held against Doorstop when Toenailing



One carpenter carries a rubber doorstop in his tool chest for use in holding a stud while toenailing it to the floor or joist. The blunt end of the stop is held against the lower end of the stud and with the hand while the nails are driven into the other side. Friction of the rubber against the joist or subfloor is sufficient to hold the stud, and the rubber also absorbs much of the shock of nailing.

## Young Plants protected by Coils from old Bed Spring

A gardener who wanted to transplant some flower and vegetable plants before danger of frost was past, solved the problem of covering the plants on cold nights by setting a coil from an old bed spring over each one. The coils supported a blanket placed over the seedlings.



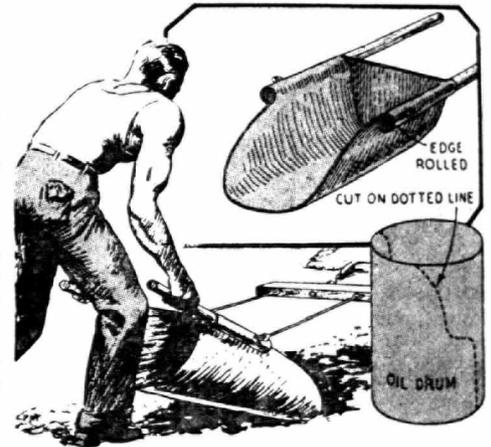
## Worker Wears Towel on Arm



In shops and factories where workers must handle materials which keep their hands soiled, the problem of wiping perspiration from their faces on hot days is solved by wearing towels on their arms. The towels are sewn up in the form of sleeves, which are large enough to slip over the hands.

## Handy Scraper from Oil Drum

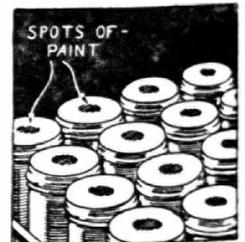
Work on drainage ditches and other occasional excavating jobs on the farm may be handled readily with a dump scraper improvised from an oil drum as shown. The drum is cut in half as indicated by the diagram.



This handy dump scraper will handle most light excavating jobs on your farm

## Sample of Paint Put on Can

In art studios and other places where supplies of paints are kept on hand, the colour in each can may be seen at a glance if a small daub of the paint is put on the lid. This takes only a few minutes when the paints are purchased and will save time later.



## Raise your own Bait Worms

A plentiful supply of bait worms will be available even in dry weather when they are hard to find, if you start a worm farm in a wooden box or half of a barrel. If the container has large cracks or knot holes, line it with window-screen wire and then fill it with a mixture consisting of equal parts of leaf mould and rich, loamy soil. A farm the size of a half barrel will accommodate about 300 worms. Dig them from rich garden soil, if possible, and place them on top of the earth in the barrel. The healthy worms will soon dig themselves into the soil, those that have been injured remaining on top. The latter should be removed and discarded. Keep the soil damp, but not too wet and store the barrel in a cool place. Baby-chick meal boiled for about ten minutes is an excellent food for the worm farm. When cool, this should be placed just below the surface of the soil. The worms are fed only once a week, and the uneaten food removed after twenty-four hours, as it otherwise will rot and cause the soil to become sour.

## Are You A Fifth Columnist?

### GUARD YOUR COUNTRY'S HEALTH!

**D**ISEASE is the true fifth column. Every sick person is a liability on the Nation. Ill-health will render us incapable of performing our duty in any worthwhile National service. It lowers efficiency; it reduces our capacity for work; it makes poor citizens of us.

This is a serious matter in Australia to-day, as the need is urgent for greater production in all forms of essential industry. Lowered resistance to disease and lack of virile health on the part of workers can undermine the prosperity and seriously jeopardise the well-being of the Nation.



On the other hand, health promotes greater efficiency in performing the duties of citizenship in all walks of life. It makes us better workers; better parents; better neighbours and better citizens.

Therefore, let us all resolve to be healthy. To practise the rules of health ourselves. To see that our children are healthy. "A healthy mind means a healthy body" still expresses a great ideal. Let us become health conscious.

Then let us seek to perform some kind of National service. To do something of value to the community and thus to contribute our quota to make Australia a healthier and happier place in which to live.

## GOVERNOR'S LADY AT WALLAGA LAKE

### Keen Interest in Station.

Residents of Wallaga Lake Aboriginal Station recently had the honour of entertaining Lady Cross, wife of the Governor of Tasmania.

Despite bleak and rainy weather which blanketed the station with mist, and hid the picturesque scenery Lady Cross spent a very enjoyable morning on the station and said she had enjoyed her visit very much.

On her arrival at the Station, Lady Cross was met by the Manager, Mr. Norton.

She was taken firstly to the Recreation Hall, where she met Lorna Thomas and Violet Parsons who are in charge of the Hall's cleaning. The party then visited the homes of Arthur Thomas and Joyce Solomons. Joyce's home looked particularly attractive with its nice furniture, bright furnishings and spotless linen.

Lady Cross was thrilled when she was presented with a boomerang by Arthur Thomas, and spent some time listening intently to his story of how the boomerangs were used.

Mary Thomas's home also impressed the visitors and it was fortunate that the garden was in full bloom.

Her Ladyship's charming and affable manner put the people completely at ease and they were able to speak to her with confidence.

It being a Sunday morning, the School was closed, but Lady Cross was introduced to the Teacher, Mr. Mosher, and shown round the building. She was particularly impressed by some of the children's work.

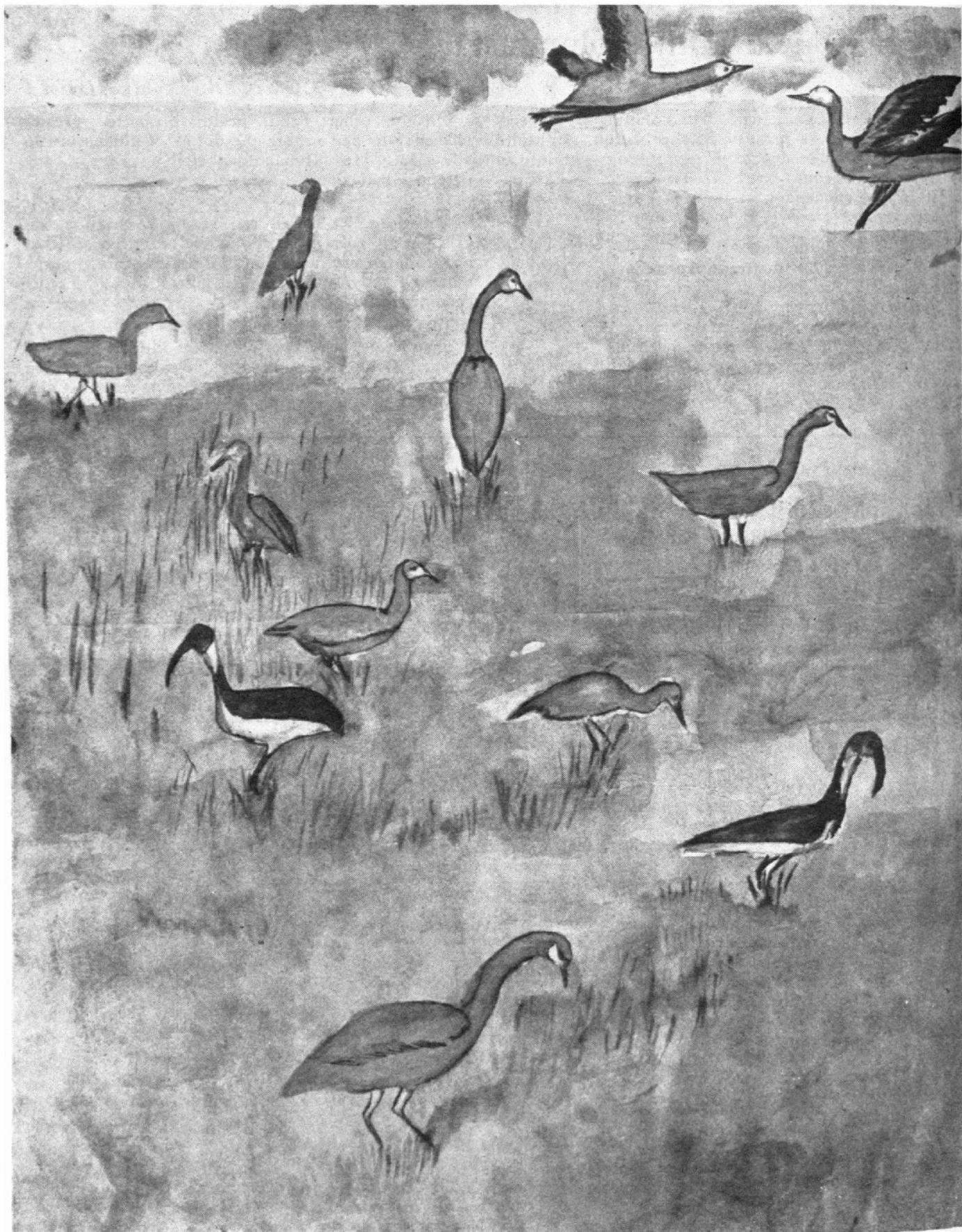
After she had inspected the Station, Lady Cross had morning tea in the Manager's temporary residence and signed the Station Visitors' Book.

As Lady Cross was about to enter her car to continue her journey to Melbourne, the Wallaga Lake Aborigines Gum Leaf Band began playing the Maori's Farewell. Lady Cross was so interested in this unique method of producing music from leaves that she stayed another ten minutes talking to the members of the band and watching how they played.



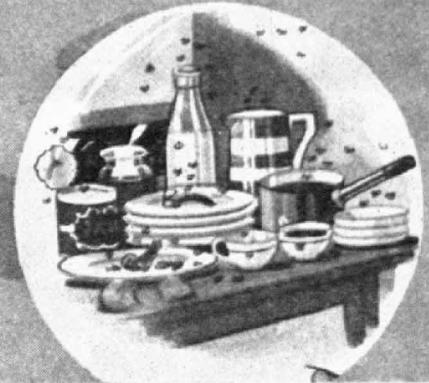
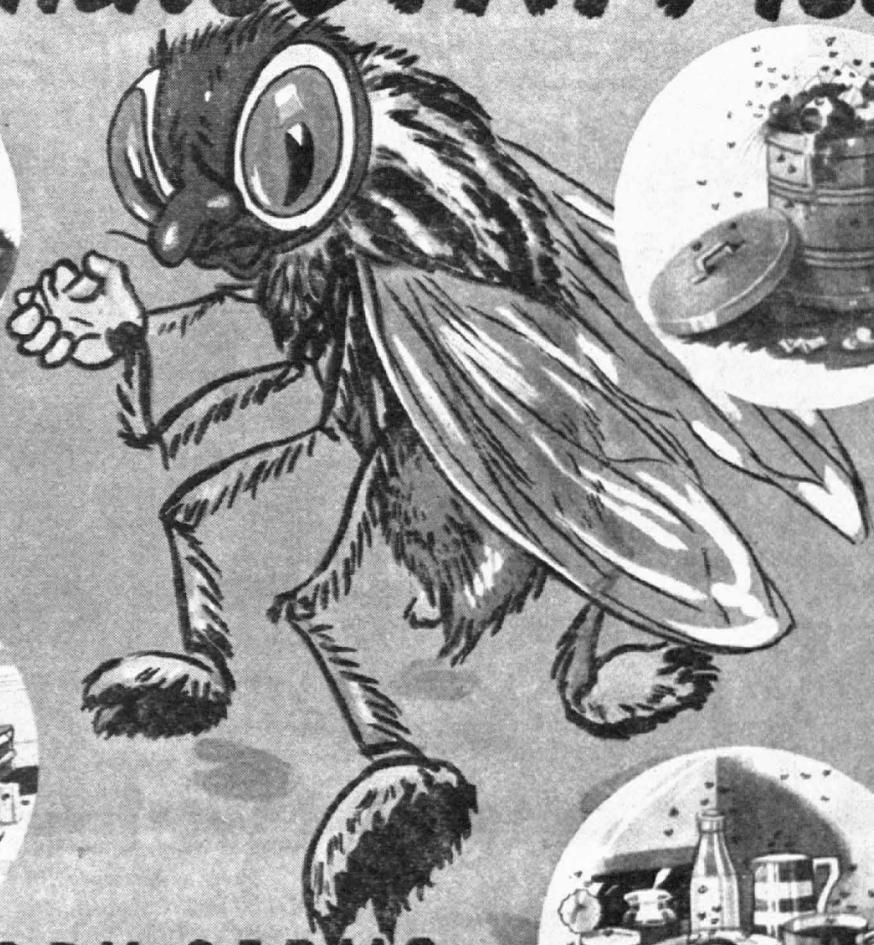
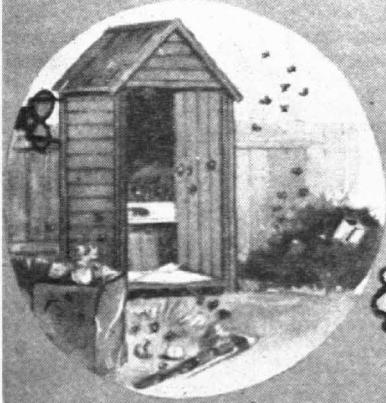
This photo sent by Wendy Bridge, Aboriginal Station, Moree, shows Wendy with some of her friends.

From left to right: Pat Clark, Thelma Johnson, Joan Whitton, Gwen Clark, Judy Duke and Wendy Bridge.



This excellent drawing was done by a young aborigine who, unfortunately, did not sign his name to it. Who is he?

# Flies have DIRTY feet



**THAT CARRY GERMS  
AND SPREAD DISEASE**

## **BIG ESSAY COMPETITION**

A feature [of the Annual Health Week Campaign has always been the Schoolchildren's Essay Competition . . . a competition which attracts thousands of entries from primary and secondary school children all over New South Wales.

This year, the Government Medical Officer, Dr. Grahame Drew (who is also a member of the Aborigines Welfare Board), decided there should be an additional competition exclusively for the aboriginal children of this State.

The attention of all school teachers who have aboriginal children attending their schools, is drawn to the conditions of the competition.

The first condition is that all essays must be written in school on Friday, 18th July, under the teacher's supervision and the best THREE

## **Easy Money For Children**

entries from primary pupils and the best THREE entries from secondary pupils must be forwarded immediately to—

The Hon. Secretary,  
New South Wales Health Week Council,  
Health Department,  
52 Bridge Street,  
Sydney.

The subject for primary pupils will be "Conquering Disease" and the prizes will be £1 1s. and 10s. 6d. while the subject for the secondary pupils will be "Health is a Winner," and in their case the prizes will be £2 2s. and £1 1s.

Children are also requested to remind their teachers of the competition.

# Pete's Page



Hullo, Kids.

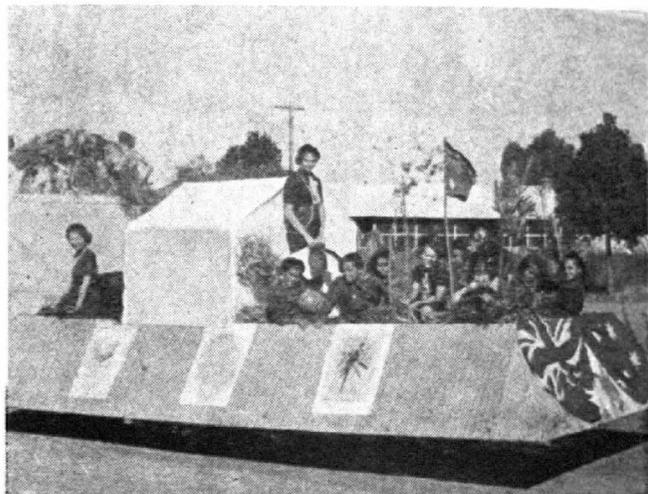
Well, I certainly HAVE had a busy month getting all the prizes ready to send out to the boys and girls who have won them lately.

By this time, many of you will have received your books, so how about writing and telling me how you liked them.



A very fine black and white pencil sketch submitted by Kevin Binge of Moree.

Last week I had a bagful of mail from Moree. I had letters from Dorothy Taylor, Margaret Raveneau, Mervyn Sampson, Dawn Tighe, Max Roberts, Lionel Taylor, Ada Weatherall, Richard Swan, Mervyn Pitt, Ray Johnson, Ken Sampson, Alice French, Pat Clarke, Jim French, Coral Binge, Lionel Raveneau, Shirley Murray, Daphne Pitt, Frances Binge, Alma Newman, Gwen Clarke, Edna Madden, Clare Binge, Ivan Raveneau, Aileen Priestly, Margaret French, and some young fellow who just signed himself Victor. I wonder who he was?



Moree Brownies played a big part in Jubilee Celebrations last year.

They were a lovely lot of letters and very interesting. We couldn't give everyone a prize unfortunately, but after a lot of thought we decided to award a prize to Coral Binge. Congratulations, Coral.

I have had a very interesting letter from Abbie May of Nanima. Introducing himself, Abbie said: "I weigh almost 13 stone and am almost 6 feet in height. I am 14 years and 7 months old." (He's certainly a big fellow, isn't he?).

Abbie went on to say: "I live on Nanima Mission Station, 4 miles from Wellington. Our mission is right on the Macquarie River, and my father, brother, and most of the other men here work on the gold dredge on the other side of the river.

"There are 30 of us here at our school and we are certainly going to try hard to win that cup for the gardening competition.

"When I leave school I hope to get a job on the railway as a porter. One of my cousins has been on the railway now for some time and is going to a school at Orange to try and be a station master.

"We have dances every Saturday night in a house off the Mission, or go to the pictures on the dredge bus.

"In my holidays I work in the Chinaman's gardens picking beans, tomatoes, peas, etc., and earn about £2 a day." (Good for you, Abbie!).

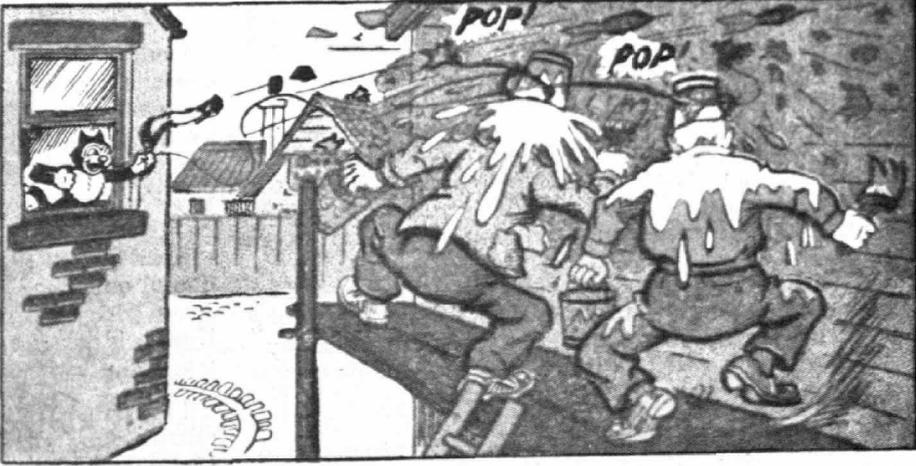
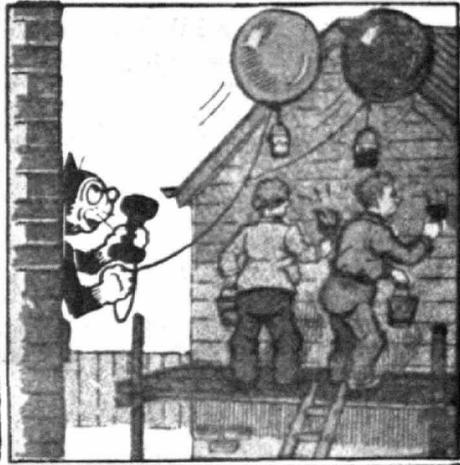
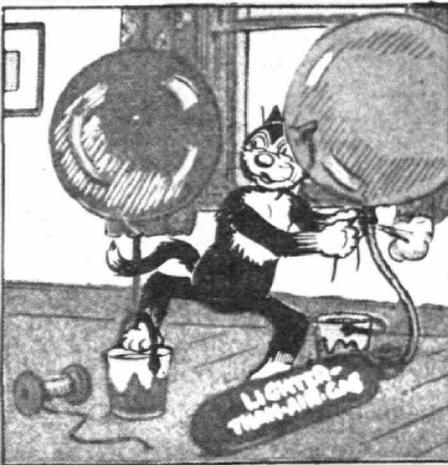
"We have a team of under 18 footballers called the Rovers. Last year we had a team of over 18 called the 'All Blacks' but the team fell to pieces. I have four brothers and four sisters.

"We soon hope to have a film projector at our School."

Well, that was certainly a very interesting letter from Abbie and he wins a prize. Congratulations, Abbie.

# KORKY THE CAT

AS KORKY WALKS ALONG THE ROAD WITH PAINT HE'S NEARLY DROWNED. THESE PAINTERS THINK THEY'RE KINGS OF BIRTH—SO KORKY HAS THEM CROWNED!



In her letter, Coral Binge said " We get *Dawn* every month and think it is a wonderful magazine. The Show was on the 8th, 9th and 10th of May, and on the 9th we had a grand Ball. Rita Wright was chosen by Doctor Williams as the Belle of the Ball.

" We have our own Teenage Club which we attend every Tuesday night. Margaret Barlow is our best singer and I would back her against anyone . . . "

Coral also told me about the School Sports but unfortunately we haven't room this month.

Another one of our prize winners was Ambrose Brown of Wreck Bay. Congratulations, Ambrose.

Well, Kids, I still want a lot of photographs of you all, so how about sending some along to me.

All the best now, for the time being,  
Your friend,

*Pete*

# THE WORLD SUPPLIES OUR FOOD

## Goods From Near and Far



THE big three-master leans awkwardly against the dock while groaning derricks swing down bundles of merchandise to the eagerly waiting crowd.

Crinolined matrons mingle with dowdy slatterns, uniformed soldiers rub shoulders with "ticket of leave" men, half-naked sailors make noisy, boisterous welcome to their friends—a mixed crowd, all anxious to view the latest importations from the four corners of the earth.

Bundles are torn open as they hit the wharf, busy agents begin their bargaining at once. Silks and satins, spices and oils—veritable treasures from practically every country in the world.

A century and a half has passed, and the scene has changed—now a modern grocer's shop instead of the dock side scene—now a modern stream-lined background instead of the dirty, smelling wharves—but still the same eager crowd and the same exciting variety of goods.

Few of us realise just what treasures are carried on the shelves of our suburban grocer's shop, or from how many countries they have come.

While there are many things that we Australians can provide ourselves, such as cheese, butter, bacon and sugar, there are many more things which come from far abroad.

From our near neighbour, New Zealand, we get another 100,000 lb. of cheese and some 40,000 lb. of herrings, each year. Cook Islands, a New Zealand dependency, supplies us with 100,000 lb. of arrowroot.

Looking towards the Pacific, we see that much of our desiccated coconut and cocoa, comes from New Guinea, Papua, and the New Hebrides; whilst the Society Islands are the origin of the 52,000 lb. of vanilla beans sold in Australia during the year.

A little farther afield, we see the Netherland East Indies, or Indonesia as it is now known, providing us with 7,000 lb. of preserved ginger, and from Malaya, British Borneo and Singapore comes that now almost unheard of commodity—pepper.

Incidentally, last year Australia imported 784,000 lb. of pepper from Malaya, 100,000 lb. of sago, and 4,500,000 lb. of tapioca.

### Spices from India

India, that romantic overcrowded country, still has a monopoly in curry powder, and last year we purchased to the extent of 108,000 lb. India also provided 7,400,000 lb. of tea and no less than 717,000 gallons of castor oil. Last year from China we obtained 419,000 lb. of tea, but it is from the tiny island of Ceylon that the bulk of our tea stocks emanate. Away ahead of all

other producing countries last year, she was able to send the tea-swilling Australians over 34,500,000 lb. of tea. From Ceylon comes coconut, cloves, spice, cocoa beans and pen-nibs.

Last year, from Turkey we purchased 292,000 lb. of figs and over 500,000 lb. of liquorice. Her two near neighbours, Iraq and Persia, not to be outdone, gave us 10,000,000 lb. of dates. From Syria we drew 1,000 gallons of her best olive oil.

Surprisingly enough, it is the U.K. and *not* Scandinavia that supplies us with most of our herrings and kipper snacks. During the year we received 5,800,000 lb. of this marine food from British waters and 4,500,000 lb. from Norway. Also perhaps not so well known is the fact that 122 tons of saltpetre originated from the United Kingdom.

Here are the chief items in a quick run through the countries of Europe: almonds from Spain and Italy, olive oil and dried herbs from France, more olive oil from Greece, and junket tablets, herrings, sardines and kipper snacks from Norway and Denmark.

### Africa Too

Even darkest Africa is not forgotten. A large proportion of our cocoa and coffee comes from Kenya, West Africa, Belgian Congo and Uganda. As a matter of fact, Uganda is our greatest supplier of coffee, our imports from that country totalling almost 3,500,000 lb. per year.

Last year Australia received 285,000 lb. of tinned salmon from the rivers of Canada and 143,000 tons of sulphur. Finally down to Central America, stopping at the Bahamas and Trinidad for more cocoa, and still further down in Brazil to procure our third largest quantity of coffee and more shipments of cocoa.

So we might well come to the conclusion that even the little grocer's shop on the corner is not quite the parochial shop we once assumed it to be.

Indeed, it has almost an international air about it. We might even be pardoned for going so far as to say the modern Australian grocer has the world at his finger-tips.



# IN THE GARDEN

**F**AVOURED with a kindly climate or perhaps a sheltered garden, quite a number of gardeners are able to continue sowings of both vegetable and flower seeds. All gardeners, however, will find plenty to do in cleaning up and preparing for the planting of shrubs, fruit trees, roses and numerous other permanent plants.

**This Month's Sowings** are likely to be much more successful if a warm, sheltered position open to the morning sun is selected. Under these conditions try Tall Large Seeded Mixed Lupins. The tall, pink and blue spikes are excellent for cutting and these plants are wonderful soil improvers. Any good garden loam, not too rich but well limed, will suit them.

A row or two of easily grown Gypsophila will be very welcome later on when dainty decorations are being sought for the vases. Just make a shallow furrow in some well-manured ground, distribute the seed thinly and cover with half an inch of soil. Apart from usual cultivation, leave the plants undisturbed until they flower.

**Perennial Plants**, trees and shrubs for planting this month make quite a long list. Plan now for your Roses, Summer Fruits, Hedge Plants, Ornamental Shrubs including Conifers, Carnations, Violets, Cannas and Strawberries.

**Bulb Enthusiasts** will be planting Tuberose, Tigridia, Montbretia, Lilliums, Paeonies and especially Gladioli.

## The Vegetable Garden.

Where applicable the suggested programme for the flower garden should be adopted here. All soft green-stuff will of course be stored for making a compost heap, but, where ground is not to be used for, say, three months, weeds can be dug in instead.

In many (temperate) areas Peas will be an important sowing for June. Greenfeast is recommended as a "sure" variety to sow now. This strain is specially selected for heavy crops of long, tightly packed pods.

White Turnips sown now will mean an extra vegetable on the menu for September meals. Young Turnip tops can be used for "greens" when Spinach is not available.

Rhubarb roots are procurable this month and may be planted from now on. Sydney Crimson is a popular choice because it continues to grow most of the year and particularly in the early Winter.

June is the month to grow the following :—

### FLOWERS

Ageratum, Calendula, Calliopsis, Candytuft, Canterbury Bells, Carnations, Centaurea, Chrysanthemum, Clarkia, Cyclamen, Delphinium, Dianthus, Gaillardia, Geum, Gloxinia, Godetia, Larkspur, Snapdragons, Linaria, Lobelia, Lupin, Nemesia, Poppy, Scabiosa, Sweet Pea, Verbena, Wallflowers.

In cold climates these flowers should be sown under shelter. In very cold climates the sowing should be deferred until the spring.

### VEGETABLES

Broad Beans, Early Cabbage, Kohl Rabi, Leek, Lettuce, Brown Spanish Onions, Peas (mild districts), Radish, Artichoke, Asparagus, Garlic.



When a young tree is planted, its roots can be assured of a plentiful supply of water if a length of 6-inch pipe is placed in the hole near the roots. The pipe is filled with water, which will be fed directly to the roots instead of seeping through the ground to be absorbed by the soil.