



Dawn

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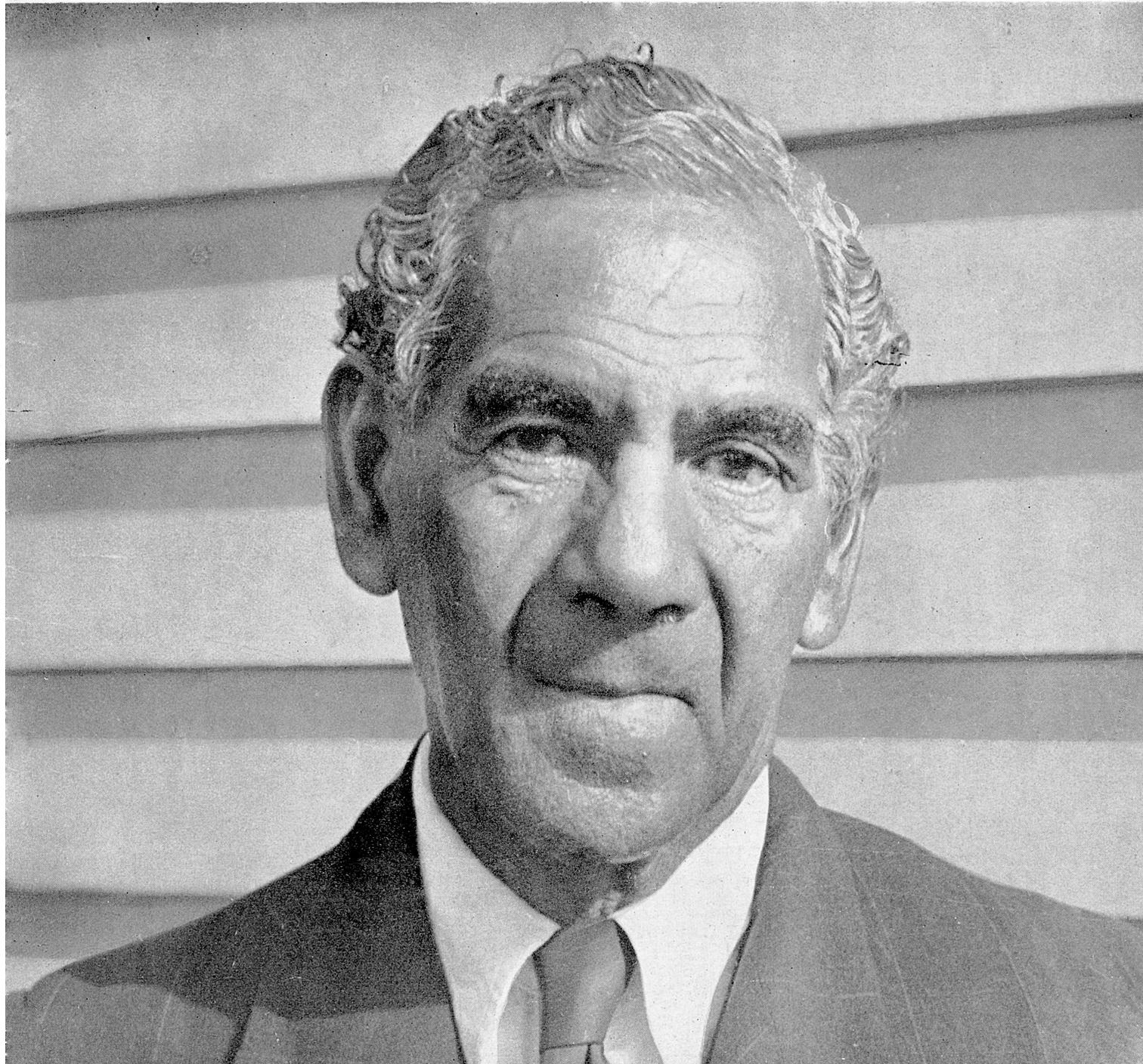


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A MAGAZINE FOR THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE OF N.S.W.

MARCH, 1950





Our Cover . . .

On our cover this month we are proud to present Bert Marr of Purfleet.

Mr. Marr who is a pastor with the U.A.M., recently celebrated 50 years of Mission work. By his deeds and his words he has set a fine example for his people to follow.



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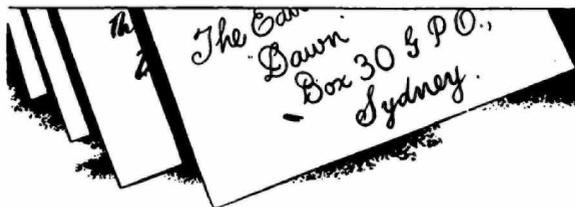
"DAWN"

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

Editor : E. COLIN DAVIS, F.R.E.S.



ALONG THE MAIL ROUTE



Caroona Notes

Xmas was a season of enjoyment and fun at Caroona.

It commenced with the Party and Xmas tree, which, according to the old residents, was one of the best ever seen on the station. A picnic tea, with lots of ice cream, soft drinks, fruit and lollies was served to 260 people, before the great event of the day, the Xmas tree. The ladies of the Progress Association committee had been working hard on the Hall and tree, and the result did them very great credit. The decorations were most striking and artistic, and the Xmas tree, with its sparkling stars and tinsel, was admired by everyone. Presents were given to 140 children, and the older people and invalids were not forgotten. Santa Claus was a very busy man.

Among our guests were some visitors from a Sydney magazine, and the A.B.C., and the party was livened by the popping of flashlight bulbs, as the photographer took his pictures. The youngsters were very thrilled at seeing themselves in a magazine and hearing themselves on the air a few days later.

After the party had finished, the Hall was cleared and a most enjoyable dance was held.

Many thanks are given to the Ladies Committee for their hard work, and it was hard work. A party of them were polishing the Hall floor on a humid day with the temperature at 96, and it takes enthusiastic workers to do that.

Thanks are also given to the Apex Club, of Quirindi, who volunteered to send out a "working party" to help make things go smoothly.

More thanks are due to the following people, who made voluntary donations: The Hon. Roger Nott, M.L.A., £1 1s. od.; Lyttle and Wright, ice cream; J. R. Tinson, cordials; Mrs. Horne, a pair of fowls.

The traditional Xmas hamper, donated by all our people, was won by little Jill Brennan, and should keep the Brennan family supplied with good things for a long time.

Another very enjoyable evening was the Boxing Day Dance, which was attended by a very large crowd, including visitors from Sydney, Narrabri, Moree, Breeza, Coonabarabran, Quirindi and Werris Creek.

Another dance was held on New Year's Eve, and went on until dawn.

Bill Allan was unfortunate enough to sustain severe burns on Xmas Eve, which spoiled the season for him. He was unable to resume work for three weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Porter are being congratulated on the birth of a son.

YOUNG MAN MAKES GOOD

Now Has Own Dairy

This modern age offers many opportunities for those people who are prepared to work.

Nevertheless those people who grasp those opportunities deserve the praise that comes their way.

One of those people is 18 years old Alfred Cook. Alfred's courage and incentive helped him graduate from a farm-hand working on Mr. Joseph Wilson's dairy farm at Barrington, to a share farmer.

Alfred is very lucky too, in being ably assisted by his attractive sixteen year old sister Patricia. Pat, who is an excellent cook, keeps house and helps in the dairy with the milking.

The Area Welfare Officer at Coff's Harbour visited the young couple whilst they were at work. He said it would have been an object lesson indeed for others of aboriginal blood to have seen the spotless dairy with its bails, milking machines and utensils exuding an aura of hygienic cleanliness.

* * * *

A farewell party held on the station was given in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Gordon, who are leaving for Bourke, where Bert is to take up a new post.

The Gordons were very popular on the station and at the reserve in town, and were responsible for good work in preaching the Gospel. As station handyman Bert was an excellent worker.

It is very pleasing to note that their good work will be carried on by Arnold Governor, with the assistance of Hazel Sullivan and Patricia Wilson.

* * * *

Andrew Sloane, of Condobolin Aborigines School, was honoured recently when he won the citizenship prize offered annually by the Condobolin Rotary Club. Congratulations, Andrew.

Mr. Paul Dargin, of Condobolin, is still a patient at the Prince Henry Hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery from his back injuries.



OUR ROVING CAMERAMAN

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

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



A couple of belles from Peak Hill. Very nice too.



Wesley Day and Geoffrey Cooper of Swan Hill.



Buckets and mops. Looks like some hard work for these two ladies.



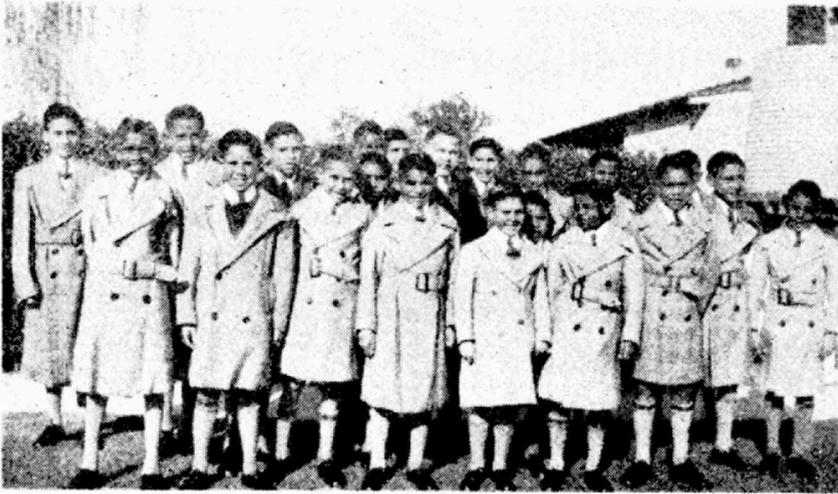
Little Judy Ridgeway of Rozelle, was rather doubtful about the cameraman, but she did pose for her photograph.



This young lady must have found some of that sunlight that is so rare these days.



Just look at that big smile from lovely Lorraine Darcy. Anyone would think she had just won the lottery.



These handsome young men from Kinchela are part of the choir that recently took part in the Kempsey Eisteddfod.



We don't know who this pretty lass is, but we do think she and her collie take a lovely picture. Does anyone know her?



This well-built young fellow posing so carefully near the tree is our old friend Douglas Hall.



Mrs. Scarborough, attendant at Kinchela inspects Percy Thompson's work. Judging by the smiles all round it must have been quite satisfactory.



Here we have three more Peak Hill residents.



Smiles by the yards from these charming Cootamundra lasses.

The puzzle of—

RAMU, THE WOLF-BOY

ANIMAL — HUMAN

—or just a hoax?

The discovery in India recently of a cast-off "wolf-boy" has touched off a long-standing controversy between doctors and psychologists.

For many years, these two groups have engaged in long and bitter arguments as to whether it is possible for animals to rear human beings.

In the past, most psychologists have dismissed the possibility with a peremptory wave of their hand.

In the case of Ramu—that is what doctors in North India have called the latest find—most have pronounced him to be a lost cripple. The more sceptical think him to be a hoax.

On the other hand, every doctor, including noted British scientist in tropical diseases, Sir Phillip Manson-Behr, who has seen the boy, thinks otherwise. All say he is a genuine case of a "wolf-boy".



Railway porters first found Ramu, huddled up in a jute quilt at Lucknow siding. He growled at them and closed his eyes with both hands, as if shunning the light of day.

When taken to Balrampur Hospital, he scorned cooked food at first but tore savagely at raw flesh. This latter is presumed to have been his normal diet for years, resulting in the growth of a second pair of prominent, canine teeth.

He snarled like a wolf at hospital attendants and tried to savage them with his sharp teeth.

Moves on All-fours.

He lay curled up in bed unable to straighten hands or knees. They were malformed into an all-fours position, natural to an animal habit and company. The knee-joints, in particular, were firmly flattened. He could not stand like any other biped.

Doctors thought a surgical "reconstruction" would get him into normal shape. An X-ray of the joints, bones, chest and skull showed they were more or less normal. So was his eye-sight.

Radiologists placed his age at between 10 and 11 years. Neurologists put his mental age at 11 months.

His age lent further weight to the theory of "animal environment", for the boy utterly lacked the inhibitions normally associated with excretory functions, which any child in any human surroundings above the age of four is bound to possess.

At the hospital, they got his head shaved, and clothed him despite his initial resistance. Efforts were made to feed him milk and boiled meat with a little salt added to it.

On the first day he was fed thrice with cooked food, which he vomited. He is reported as becoming "accustomed" to cooked food and hospital diet, but retains a weakness for raw meat.

Doctors say they have almost conclusive proof that the boy had not lived in human environments until his "rescue". He is not an imbecile or paralytic and all his apparent deformities are postural.

After the boy becomes sufficiently strong, doctors hope to embark on an experiment of keeping him among wolves and other animals in an attempt to find out whether he was reared in the animal kingdom, and if so, by which animal.

Meanwhile, Ramu has started reacting favorably to his unfamiliar surroundings in the hospital. He has begun to spread his hands for food and take it up to his mouth like human beings. He is still unable to bear light however and often tries to bite attendants.

But these complexes are relaxing, and each day he seems a little more lively.

His general condition is better than when he came to hospital. He whimpers and sobs. He laughs and cries—a baby cry, penetrating and poignant.

He seems to have lost the power of articulation, but encouraging results have been obtained from efforts to restore the natural human form of his twisted limbs by regular massage.

The child's reaction to animals has been interesting. Recently, he made friends with an Alsatian brought into the ward by one of the doctors. He reached for it and there was a perceptible look of happiness on his face.

A newspaperman who went to see Ramu with his Lhasa terrier says that although the dog did not like Ramu, the boy clasped it with his deformed hands and held it tight against his body. After a struggle, Ramu broke into laughter and the pleasure he displayed in the animal was infectious.

Only time and painstaking investigation on a factual and scientific basis will tell whether Ramu is to rank among the comparatively few authentic cases of feral man, or whether psychologists will reject him as such, as they have hundreds of other reputed cases.

List of Cases.

Psychologist Robert M. Zingg, of Denver University (U.S.A.), accepts 30 out of a multitude of cases as genuine animal-humans. His list was published prior to the discovery of the gazelle-boy during World War II.

Zingg's list, dealing with cases arising during the last four centuries, shows that wolf-children predominate, being 13 of the total.

They include Italy's wolf-boy of Aveyron (1799), and the two wolf-girls of India, Amala and Kamala, who were captured in 1921. Three bear-boys have received endorsement, as have one sheep-boy, a cattle-boy, the Swiss swine-girl, and a leopard-boy.

That the wolf should be foster parent to human children appears anomalous in view of the ferocious nature of that animal and its age-old status as the deadly enemy of man, yet both legend and history contain many instances of a close and intimate relationship between the two.

Romulus and Remus provide one of the earliest legendary examples, while Amala and Kamala are the latest authentic cases, apart from Ramu.



A few centuries ago any sub-normal child, obviously neglected, found wandering in or near the forest areas of Europe was almost invariably regarded as an animal-child for want of better explanation. A wolf was regarded as the logical foster-parent, since, otherwise, that raider of the forest would have devoured the infant.

Such a child, however, does not appear to have been branded with the stigma of a wolfish nature, as does the werewolf.

The werewolf was a normal human being who reverted at times to lupine habits in attacking and devouring other humans. While such a condition suggests a mental disease, belief in werewolves, as an actual physical change from man to beast and back again, was very widespread and deep-rooted throughout Europe even to the close of the 19th century.

Many children claimed as examples of feral man were, in fact, subnormals scavenging for food. This applied particularly to many of the swine-boys and girls, as with one Swiss swine-girl whose employers gave her only starvation rations.

She shared the food that she fed to the pigs, and she ate like the pigs and with them, for fear of punishment if detected.

The anomaly of the high percentage of wolf-children is emphasised by the total absence of monkey-children among the cases of feral man accepted as authentic.



Among wild animals, the ape ranks high in tractability, friendship to man, and similarity of physical characteristics.

Further, the human child has a powerful attraction to members of the ape family, both female and male.

Recognised authorities quote numerous instances of the attempted kidnapping of human babies by apes.

They also describe apparently organised play in the bush, with early 'teen age Kaffir children and baboons participating without discrimination between human and animal.

Genuine Ape-child.

Only one ape-child reached the status of being acclaimed as genuine by a recognised authority, and his unique reign of glory was short-lived. He was Lucas, the baboon-boy of South Africa.

Lucas was one of a record "litter" of baboon-boys whom enterprising showmen endeavoured to foist on the public in the 1920's. The underlying reason for such a phenomenal run of "discoveries" was a projected film with an ape-man hero which promised to be an outstanding box-office draw.

Lucas was the first, and at least a dozen others followed him in quick succession in South Africa alone.

The Lucas story received wide publicity and credence throughout the world. His "owner" claimed that Lucas had been captured from a tribe of baboons by two members of the old Cape Mounted Police, in 1903.

He was taken to a mental hospital, where he displayed baboon habits in movement, lack of personal cleanliness, and eating. He was gluttonous for live crickets, prickly pear, and ostrich eggs. Like Ramu is now being weaned so Lucas was brought to normal food.

Transferred to the care of a farmer, George Smith, Lucas worked on the farm as a sub-normal native for more than 20 years before the attempt was made to thrust the fame of feral-manhood upon him.

Failing to secure a film contract for his charge, Smith "showed" Lucas in South Africa, doing fair business with picture post-cards, although the police closed his show in East London.

Lucas' deformity and peculiar stance were due to unset fractures of the leg, caused by an ostrich's kick. So, too, in all probability, was his low mentality, which was due to an injury to the brain.

Long-established, public acceptance of Lucas as an ape-man drew scientific interest and investigation. In 1939, psychologist Dr. John P. Foley, Jr., of the George Washington University sifted a mass of case history, reports, and statements on Lucas and was satisfied that he was a genuine case of feral-man.

He pronounced him such, but, a little later Zingg obtained further evidence that had not been available to Foley. It discredited Smith's story beyond hope of rehabilitation, so Lucas retired to his menial farm-tasks, a forgotten man until death, in 1948, brought a faint after-glow of his one-time glory.

As with Lucas, Amala and Kamala, and other feral-man moderns, Ramu will have to run the gauntlet of treatment, observation, investigation, and ultimate pronouncement as to his authenticity.

Until then, he will undoubtedly be a frightened child, reacting according to his nature, both inherent and acquired. And genuine or not, he is surely an object for pity.



BREWARRINA

STILL BACKWARD

Much to be Learned

Brewarrina is one of the older Stations controlled by the Board, and homes are not of the modern type. During the year it was affected by floods and it became necessary to evacuate all residents for a period. A good deal of repair work was necessitated and this, as well as current maintenance, was put in hand.

The erection of a Recreation Hall, will fill a much felt need and be of great assistance in the social life of the community.

The people, generally speaking, might be regarded as backward in their social development, though not primitive. They need a good deal of guidance and are fairly dependent upon the Manager and Matron for direction and assistance.

The children reflect the social backwardness of their parents, being shy in class. Special effort is made to inculcate habits of cleanliness, and the development of music, art, and handcrafts, is emphasised. The aim is to secure a standard of literacy, which will equip the pupils to adequately meet the situations likely to be faced by them as they grow up.

TABULAM SEES IMPROVEMENTS

Many Vegetable Gardens

The population of the Station is 142. In the early part of the year, little employment was to be found except of a casual nature, and wages paid were low. The employment position improved only at the latter part of the year. After a visit to the area by an Inspector of the Department of Labour and Industry, and a meeting with employers from the surrounding district, wages paid are now in accordance with awards. Already some improvements in the people's mode of living is noticed.

About six acres of corn was cultivated on the share farm basis of which the Progress Association will receive one-third of all corn harvested.

It is expected, within this new year, to make an early start with cultivation for the Junior Farmers on the Station. The local Government Agriculturist will assist the project.

The majority of cottages have their own vegetable gardens. A small community garden is also conducted by the school.

A school on the Station is conducted and is staffed by the Education Department. Attendance of the 34 school children has been regular. With each year, the education standard is improving.

A weekly sewing class is attended by the women residents, and afternoon tea partaken of. The class is working towards holding a fancywork stall at the end of the year. Many of the mothers are now making their children's school clothing.

The commencement and laying of a tennis court has been undertaken by the Progress Association. Interest is high in this project, as several of the people already play tennis.

A football ground is also under way and it is hoped that this will be completed for the season next year.

A cricket pitch is under construction and arrangements are already made for the coming season.

The Brownie Pack is larger than ever and is still as popular, with always a full attendance of the Station Brownies. This pack is conducted with the white children of the township.

Staff Changes

Four More Moves

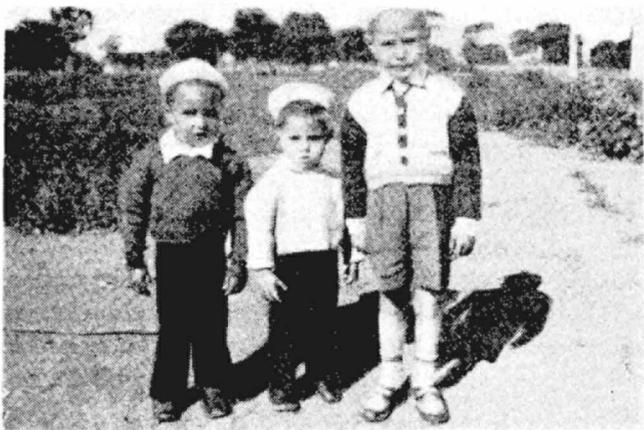
The following appointments have been effected since the 6th January, 1956:—

Moree.—Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Butcher, appointed Assistant Manager and Assistant Matron.

Murrin Bridge.—Mr. and Mrs. V. H. Sully, appointed Assistant Manager and Assistant Matron.

Jervis Bay.—Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Heaney, appointed Manager and Matron.

Relieving Officers.—Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Walker.



These handsome young fellows are brothers, members of the Towns family of Cannonbar Station, Miowera Siding.



This pretty lass is Marjorie Smith from Green Hill, near Kempsey.

Walter Page Passes On

[A Former Board Member]

With the death of Mr. Walter Page, at Woodenbong, on 9th March, passed one of the real champions of the cause of the aboriginal people. Walter was one of the early aboriginal members of the Aborigines Welfare Board where he was associated with the late William Ferguson. Once a month, Walter used to travel the 560 miles to Sydney to attend the Board Meeting where he was never hesitant in presenting the case for his people as he saw it. When his term as a member of the Board expired, Mr. Page would not nominate for re-election against his friend Mr. "Bill" Ferguson for whom he had a very keen regard.

At the last meeting which he attended, when saying good-bye to the other members, Mr. Page said that he had always imagined that the "Board" was some terrible monster, but since he had been a member he had learned that he was only one of the representatives of the aborigines and that every member was "on their side". He recognised now that occasionally treatment might not meet with the approval of some, but whatever was done was done with one object, the good of the aborigines in general.

When he left the Board, Walter continued to assist the administration as far as he could. There were times when he and Mrs. Page threw their home open to sad cases of neglected children such as occur from time to time. The Board's Managers at Woodenbong always spoke in the highest terms of Walter Page, his conduct and general outlook on life was an example many could follow.

Vale, Walter Page.



If you look very carefully you'll find a little fellow hiding under that big hat. It is Michael Harradine of Beulah.



A message

from the Board



EXPULSION ORDER.

Dawn readers have been told on previous occasions that the Board is averse to issuing Expulsion Orders, that is, an Order which compels an aboriginal to leave the Station on which he is living. An Expulsion Order is issued only under very special circumstances when the conduct of the person has been such that no other course would be acceptable if the interests of the Station or Reserve residents are to be considered.

In 1950, the Board issued an Expulsion Order against a certain man on one of the Stations; his conduct improved and four years later, the Order was cancelled. Now it is reported that he has reverted to his former ways, drunkenness, assaults and complete disregard for discipline.

This sort of conduct cannot be tolerated on an Aboriginal Station. It causes unpleasantness, unhappiness, and upsets the whole routine. At a recent meeting, a fresh Expulsion Order was approved and issued.

LEETON ROTARY CLUB—HOLIDAY CAMP

Due to the kindness and generosity of the Leeton Rotary Club, two boys spent a very enjoyable holiday at the camp at Wagga conducted by the Rotary Club from the 4th to 17th December. The holiday was free of cost to the parents, and the Leeton Branch of Rotary provided transport to and from Wagga, also free of cost to the parents. All the boys had to provide was a minimum of clothing together with two blankets.

The Board appreciates the generosity of Leeton Rotary Club. The scheme is an indication of the readiness and co-operation of the Leeton community to assist the aborigine youth, and the Board's thanks which have already been conveyed to the Committee by Mr. Lambeth, the Board's Welfare Officer, are repeated here.

NEW TENANCIES.

Congratulations to Mr. Abraham Russell of Cowra, Mr. Alfred Stewart of Wallaga Lake, and Mr. Arthur J. Ridgeway of Taree, who have signed tenancy agreements with the Board for the homes which they occupy.

Also to Mr. Edward Walker of Grafton, Mr. Trevor J. Longbottom of Bomaderry, Mr. Cuthbert W. Aldridge of Bomaderry, and Mr. Andrew Ferguson of Coff's Harbour, who now occupy homes which were specially erected by the Board in municipal areas.

ABORIGINES' NATIONAL DAY.

The National Missionary Council of Australia has approached the Board in connection with the establishment of "Aborigines' National Day" and the Board has promised to give whatever assistance and advice it can in support of the move. The Board feels that a special day for aborigines such as is proposed, can be the means of promoting a better understanding of the problems of aborigines welfare generally. At the present time, the Sunday nearest to "Anniversary Day" in January is regarded as "Aborigines' Sunday" and special reference is usually made to the assimilation, welfare and problems generally, of aborigines in the pulpits of the churches throughout the State. Unfortunately, the Aboriginal Sunday falls within the long school vacation, and many clergy are away from their own churches on annual leave. Consequently the observance has not, in the past, met with a great deal of success.

The proposal now is that the "Aborigines' National Day" shall be held on the first Friday in July, and the attention of church people is to be drawn to the aborigines on the following Sunday.

Education of the Gulargambone Children.

Negotiations are in hand between the Board and the Department of Education to amalgamate the two schools there as early as possible. In Gulargambone there is an Aboriginal School as well as the Public School, and quite a number of aboriginal children attend the latter.

The proposal is that the two schools should be made into one, and classes combined to include both aboriginal and white children.

The United Aborigines Mission have applied to the Board and have been granted permission to remove their church building in the town of Gulargambone to the Aboriginal Reserve. The Mission proposes to re-erect the church on the Reserve, and the Board offers its best wishes for the success of the venture.

ANNUAL SUMMER CAMP A GREAT SUCCESS

The Annual Summer Camp was again held this year at La Perouse, and 76 children attended.

During their stay, the children visited Taronga Park Zoo, had a picnic at Avalon Beach, attended the Pantomime, and had an afternoon on all the shows at Luna Park.

There were other amusements, too. During the day they swam, played games at the camp at La Perouse, and at night were entertained by concert parties and films.

Mr. Green was in charge of the Camp again this year, and after they had departed for their homes, he reported to the Board that the 1956 children were the best behaved of any of the Camps with which he had been associated.

There is much more to this Annual Summer Camp than just bringing a lot of children to Sydney for a holiday. The Camp is a grand means of educating the youngsters and showing them just how they can play to take their part and their place in the community.

This is where this year's youngsters came from—

Wellington—

Bill King
Coleen Stewart
Robyn May
Jessie King

Dubbo—

Barry Dennawal
Malcolm Burns
John Nolan
June Riley

Walgett—

Lily Kennedy
Patricia Thorne

Collarenebri—

Robert Weatherall
Noelene Mundy
Beverly Thorne
Edna Madden

Caroona—

Douglas Slater
John Taylor
Mary Ann Brennan
Patricia Smith
Mavis Saunders
Lola Allen
Frances Taylor
Ismay Slater

Boggabilla—

Douglas McGrady
Geoffrey Taylor
Madeline McGrady
Rhonda McGrady

Moree—

Trevor Tighe
Roly Cutmore
Amelia Murray
Ivy Whitton
Charlie French
Jack French
Maurice French
Max Saunders
Clyde Cutmore
Clarrie Johnson
Janice Roberts
Shirley Saunders
Lorraine Sampson
Vivian Smith
Margaret Smith

Murrin Bridge—

Albert Biggs
Ronald Johnson
Joyce Johnson
Fay King
Doreen Johnson

Warren—

Maurice Smith
Kevin McEwan
Roger McEwan
Madeline Greenaway

Gulargambone—

Victor Darcy
Eileen Reid

Coonamble—

Kenneth Leonard
Brian Welsh
Isobel Hamilton
Helen Welsh

Balranald—

Mary Edwards
Margaret Rogers
Mareline Coombes
Nola Charles

Coonabarabran—

Leo Cain
Neville Cain
Elizabeth Ashby
Cynthia Chatfield

Bourke—

Thomas Jones
Brian Taylor
Edna Dixon
Noelene Dixon
Margaret Wilson

Goodooga—

Percy Shillingsworth
Joan West
Patsy Boney
Ray Cubby

Brewarrina—

Dawn Morris
Sandra Gordon



This smiling lassie is Mavis Saunders of Caroona. Mavis was photographed at the Summer Camp at La Perouse. 'Fraid we don't know the young lady without a smile.



This was one of the very first of the boys were found sitting on the ground. On this occasion they were with Board members.



On the first day in camp there are always hundreds of things that everyone must be told in order that the holiday will run smoothly and everyone will have a wonderful time. Here we have the Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare, Mr. Saxby, outlining the week's programme for a very attentive audience.

Better than all others, these pictures tell the real story of the Summer Camp . . . Lots and lots of fun and lots and lots of ice cream and other nice things to eat.



These are the members of the staff, who went to make the last Summer Camp. Their smiles however, are quite apparent.



occasions when any of
still for more than a
were having a chat
Mr. Wyatt.



Superintendent McAuley, Police representative on the Board has a talk with the youngsters
and makes a few points about a cricket bat.

Of course everyone had to make
his or her own bed, but it was such
fun that no one minded a bit. 🛏️



...e responsible for all the hard work
...o the best ever. Judging by the
...ey didn't mind a bit of it.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SUMMER CAMP

One of the main features of the Camp was the daily visit round about tea-time of the ice-cream vendor. You know, in Sydney ice-cream vendors parade the streets ringing a bell to attract customers. There was no need for our Joe to ring the bell. No sooner did his wagon appear at the Camp than he was surrounded by customers. It was "one-way traffic"—the two bobs going one way and the ice-creams going the other. Boy, could they eat ice-cream!

* * * *

Have You Been to China?

The girl (we won't give her name) who was up on the platform with Mr. Harry Job, the magician, when he asked her the question, did not know the answer, but that did not halt the screams of delight and laughter which greeted Mr. Job with every trick he did. What a great time they had that evening when the "Singing Sweethearts" were at their yodelling best, and did they lift the roof with "Davy Crockett"? I'll say they did.

* * * *

"Gee, ain't the houses close together?" Goodooga (or was it Collarenebri) was heard to say as the train steamed into Sydney on that Sunday morning, 8th January, when the Camp commenced.

* * * *

"Do you call that a train!" said ? when he saw the very first railway engine and carriage exhibited at Central Station. "It looks more like a bullock dray."

* * * *

Round Botany Bay on a Speed Boat.

A novelty which was enjoyed this year by courtesy of Mr. Bailey, were rides in his speed boat "Toots" on the "River," as Botany Bay is familiarly known to the campers. Everyone had a ride, including the visitors that day.

* * * *

Speaking of Botany Bay, this year the children were given a trip across in the launch to Kurnell. That is where Captain Cook landed, and judging by some of the looks on the passengers' faces, especially some of them from Moree, they were glad to be able to land, too. Nor did they look forward to the return trip because they had left their seasick pellets at home.

* * * *

What a wonderful day they had at Avalon Beach! After a bus trip from La Perouse which lasted over an hour, the children were entertained by the Christian Endeavour Group who laid on eats and games and prizes. A good time was had by all—including the Camp staff.

* * * *

The beautiful weather prevailed for the best part of the Camp. It was not till the last few days that it was at all bad. The willy-willy that lifted the boys' tents and the gale that flattened the girls' tents, will be remembered by all those who went through the experience.

* * * *

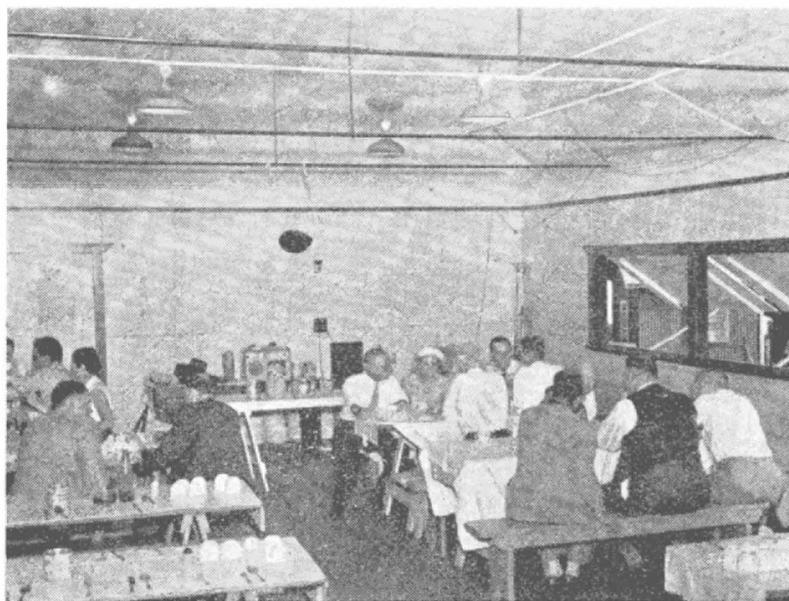
The pictures which appear in this issue show how well organised the Camp was, what a happy band of children participated, and what a wonderful time they must have had. No wonder they did not want to go home.



DAWN.

Are YOU on the mailing list for DAWN?

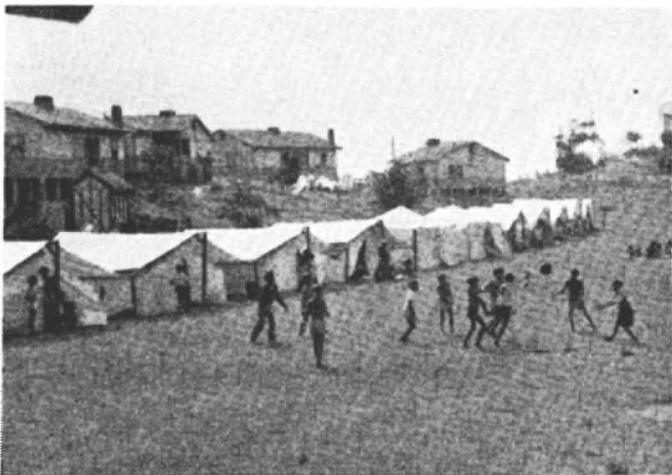
If not, write to the Editor, Box 30, G.P.O., Sydney.



Some of the Board members enjoy afternoon tea at the camp.



A group picture showing all the Summer Camp youngsters, the members of the Board and the staff (in the background). These children who come to Sydney once a year and are entertained have the opportunity of learning all manner of things and invariably they return to their country homes much wiser.



La Perouse was at its best for the Summer Camp and no one had to go more than a few yards to join in a game of some kind. When it got too hot to play games there was always the very welcome beach and surf just nearby.



Mavis Livermore of Tingha and her friend, the kelpie, can always have some fun together.

HOME HINTS



Stir the water while cooking if you wish to keep the yolk in the centre of a hard-boiled egg.

When poaching eggs, add a tablespoonful of vinegar to the water, and the whites will set without spreading.

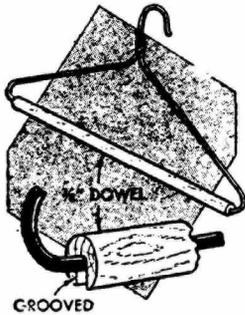
A hole made in the large end of an egg before boiling allows gas to escape and helps prevent cracking of the shell.

When scrambled eggs have been served, fill the frying pan with salt water and it will be easy to clean.

As soon as eggs are hard-boiled, put them in cold water for easy shelling.

Dowel Slipped Over Hangar Bar Prevents Trousers Creases.

Creases in trousers caused by hanging them over the bar of a wire coat hanger can be avoided by cutting a lengthwise slot half-way through a piece of $\frac{3}{8}$ -in. dowel. The rod should be a little shorter than the crossbar. After the dowel is slipped in place, put a drop of cellulose cement at each end to hold it. Dowels may be used to cover the arms of the hanger as protection for coats.

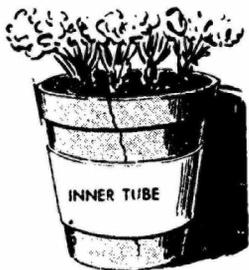


Insecticides.

An effective and non-inflammable insect destroyer can be made by dissolving rosin, 1 oz., and oil of amber, 1 oz., in a mixture consisting of gasoline, $\frac{1}{2}$ gal., and carbon tetrachloride, $\frac{1}{2}$ gal. It may be used in a spray gun to kill flies, bedbugs, fleas, ants, roaches, and other pests. The rosin forms a cake around the insect eggs and thus prevents hatching. It is not necessary that the destroyer be aimed at the pest. Finely divided particles of it in the air kill insects.

Flowerpots Mended With Inner Tube.

Instead of throwing away your broken flowerpots, you can make them usable again by holding them together with a wide band of rubber cut from an old inner tube. Simply stretch the section of tube over the base of each broken pot. If you like, the rubber can be painted to match the colour of the flowerpot.



Modelling-Clay Substitute Cooked in Kitchen.

An inexpensive modelling material, allowing both children and adults a chance for artistic expression, is made easily from water, cornstarch and ice-cream salt. Two cups of salt are boiled in one cup of water, into which is stirred one cup of cornstarch that has been thinned to the consistency of thin gravy. When the mixture cooks to a semi-solid condition, roll it out on waxed paper to cool. For variety, work in a small amount of vegetable colouring to a portion of it. In its moist condition the "clay" can be kept for weeks by wrapping in waxed paper and storing in a crisper bag in the refrigerator. This material will get quite hard after air-drying for several days. During the drying pinch shut and smooth over any cracks which appear



Before wearing a new pair of shoes, coat the edges of the soles and heels with clear fingernail polish. This helps retain the original finish, prolonging the "new look" of the shoes.



All set for a spin in the country. Here we have Cecil Dundas and Sanda Martin of Wellington.

Strange but True!

According to an official of the British Museum, milk is not necessary in the diet of a grown cat. He says that although it shows a preference for milk, they have no more need for it than most other animals.

* * * *

Wire making is one of the most ancient of the metal working crafts.

* * * *

The term, "raining cats and dogs", had its origin in northern mythology, when witches rode upon the storm in the shape of cats, while the dog was an attendant of the storm god, Odin. In German art the wind is represented as a dog's head.

* * * *

Mosquitoes have well-developed eyes, and can usually see their victims in a dim light, but in absolute darkness they smell us, being attracted by the odour of the carbon dioxide in our breath, and the odour of weak ammonia emanating from our skin. When they get within striking distance, the mosquitoes feel the heat of our bodies, and that helps to guide them.

* * * *

When diving on his prey, a certain species of duck hawk often reaches a speed of 180 miles an hour.

* * * *

It takes approximately 1.3 seconds for a moonbeam to reach the earth.

* * * *

The term "hotch-potch", used these days to describe a conglomeration, has a legal use, which descends from Norman times in England. It meant the amalgamating of landed property that had belonged to a person dying intestate for the purpose of dividing the whole between the heirs in equal, or legal, shares.

* * * *

The Germans were the last white people to give up the custom of human sacrifice.

* * * *

A male otter shows his affection for the female by combing her hair!

Baking powder, used in cooking, comes from the same source as salt. It is obtained in the production of sodium carbonate. Flake salt, a variation of table salt, is used for salting fish, curing ham and bacon, and purifying sausage casings.

* * * *

Over 16,000 silk worms are required to produce 1lb of pure silk.

* * * *

In the time of King James I, the masses of the people of England were so ignorant that, to promote education, benefit of clergy was introduced. This meant that if a person was accused of polygamy, petty larceny, or manslaughter, his only punishment would be a slight burn on the hand—if he was able to read. Otherwise, the penalty was much more severe. Ben Jonson, the famous poet, saved himself from death in this manner.

* * * *

A specialist once told the late Bernard Shaw, that normal eyesight was among the rarest of human possessions. The famous playwright had gone along for an eye test, and was surprised to learn that in old age he had normal eyesight. Most oculists say that people with normal eyesight are in the minority.

* * * *

Australia is England's biggest customer for motor vehicles.

* * * *

One of the world's strangest schools is at Zile Krobo, in the Gold Coast of Africa, where youths are taught drumming! Chieftains in the area, state that an understanding of ancient traditions and customs, including drumming, is an important part of African life, and that such an understanding means study under expert tuition. The young students are taught how to send and receive messages with drums, and the meaning of the various figures made by a dancer.

* * * *

Birds never build their nests on a lilac tree. Several naturalists have stated that in a lifetime of bird study they have never known an instance. Birds also avoid the lilac tree when in bloom. This may be because the bark of some of the branches exudes a sticky substance with an acrid smell.

KID MACLEAY

We have read of great two-fisted fighters
In tales that were written before,
Champs who were cheered by the fight fans
And whose names will be known evermore.

But now let me tell you this story
And I want you to heed what I say,
For we now have a champ of the future,
He's a lad I will call Kid Macleay.

Now the Kid has had many ring battles,
Although still a babe at the game,
So when he grows up into manhood,
He could make his fortune and fame.

For the lad's age is only eleven,
He is four and a half stone in weight,
He is game and a pretty good puncher,
And his name could go down with the great.

He was christened and named Martin Cochrane,
He was taught all the tricks by his Dad,
His footwork is good for a youngster,
He's won most of the fights that he's had.

The kid plays pretty good football,
His team have some cups they have won,
He is Burnt Bridge's fast running winger,
They are proud of the things he has done.

They are coached by their teacher Jim Sterling,
Who treats all the boys as his own,
On the field Jim's a hard man to stay with,
Other teams like to leave him alone.

Now to get back to fighters and fighting,
And to write a bit more on this page,
The Kid is quite willing to travel,
To meet fighters his own weight and age.

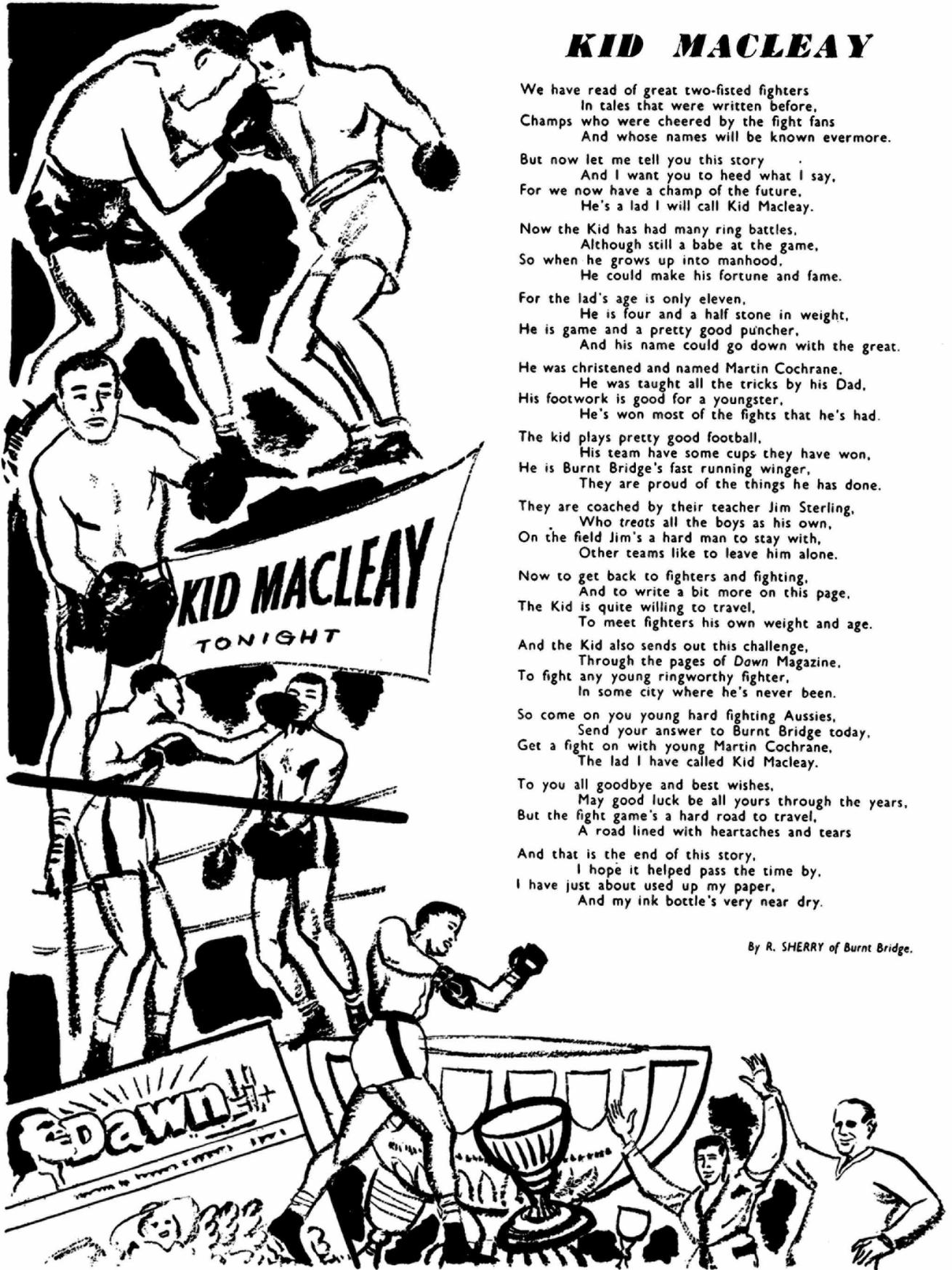
And the Kid also sends out this challenge,
Through the pages of Dawn Magazine,
To fight any young ringworthy fighter,
In some city where he's never been.

So come on you young hard fighting Aussies,
Send your answer to Burnt Bridge today,
Get a fight on with young Martin Cochrane,
The lad I have called Kid Macleay.

To you all goodbye and best wishes,
May good luck be all yours through the years,
But the fight game's a hard road to travel,
A road lined with heartaches and tears

And that is the end of this story,
I hope it helped pass the time by,
I have just about used up my paper,
And my ink bottle's very near dry.

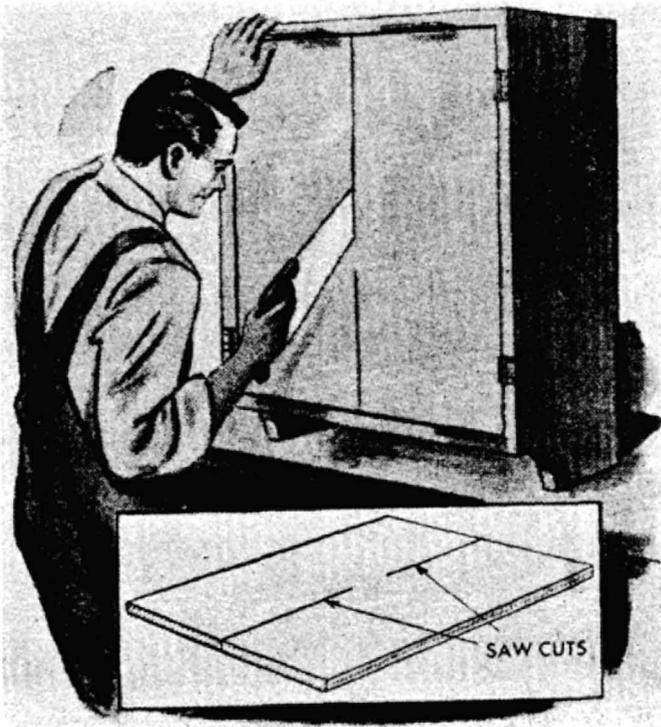
By R. SHERRY of Burnt Bridge.



HELP YOURSELF

Matched Cabinet Doors Hung as One Simplifies Fitting and Hinging.

When fitting overlapping or flush-type matched cabinet doors, save a lot of time by hanging them as a single door. To do this, first cut the plywood to fit the entire opening, allowing for clearance at top and bottom. If the doors are to overlap the opening, rabbet the inside edges and round the outside edges. Next, partially form individual doors by sawing part way in from the top and bottom edges, as shown in the detail, stopping the cuts about 3 in. apart. If fixed shelves are already in the cabinet, the uncut portion of the panel should come at a point between the shelves so that they do not interfere with completing the cut later. Unless a narrow-gauge blade is used, a fine-tooth handsaw is preferred to a power saw to obtain a close-fitting joint between the doors. Next fasten the offset part of all four hinges to the rear side of the panel and complete hinging it to the cabinet after shimming it snugly in the opening with cardboard. Finally, saw through the uncut part to make two separate doors and sand the edges.



Altered Hammer Head Speeds Nail Pulling.



By grinding off the neck and poll of an old claw hammer you can improvise a handy nail puller. The increased leverage afforded by the rounded head makes pulling nails easy.

Shellac Used to Fill Cracks.

Small cracks in wooden bowls, lamps, book ends or some pieces of furniture, can be filled neatly by pouring shellac into the opening after the surface has been cleaned thoroughly and dried. Shellac sticks, which are heated at the end and applied to cracks by using the stick like a pencil, are available in various shades. For large cracks, use a mixture of fine sawdust and shellac.

If a little common salt is added to gasoline used for removing spots on thin and delicate materials, the disfiguring ring that is often left can be avoided.

Pulling "Frozen" Nails.

Nails that are difficult to pull often can be removed easily if they are first loosened by striking them a couple of times with a hammer. This will break the "seal" around them formed by acids in the wood.



These Desperate looking characters (not really!) are the Hinton boys from Burra Bee Dee.



BOGGABILLA STATION.

A Cheerful Atmosphere.

The trend, apparent last year, for residents of Boggabilla to move off the Station and secure employment and residence on properties in the district, still exists. In fact, several other families have moved out on to properties to work as station hands.

Building improvements were effected and all cottages were painted, each house being done in a different colour. The Station now presents a very cheerful atmosphere.

The year has proved successful in many directions, and it can be safely said that the Station has progressed. A special effort has been made by the management to foster good relations between aboriginals and the white community. In this connection, pleasing results have been noted. The aboriginals from this Station have been invited to social gatherings organised in Goondiwindi.

BURNT BRIDGE.

The population has remained static over the past year due to an influx, which replaces those that leave.

Burnt Bridge does not possess any new modern homes of the type on some other Stations. An extensive repair programme has been carried out during the year, with adequate timber provided for this purpose. The majority of homes have been repaired, the work consisting mainly in replacing piers, runners, flooring, iron and chimneys.

Fortnightly visits by the Sister of the Baby Health Centre, provide expert guidance and supervision for post-natal care of the babies.

Funds have been raised by the Progress Association and sporting equipment has been purchased for the children.

Many residents have joined the Hospital Contribution Fund.

CORKWOOD EARNS LIVING FOR TAREE STATION MEN.

There has been no appreciable change in the population of Taree since 1954, the population being 249.

The scope for permanent employment in a variety of industries in the district is limited and many of the people prefer casual work, which does not tie them down to a fixed routine.

The demand for leaves of the corkwood tree, which is used in the manufacture of drugs, provides a living for most of the menfolk who have not been listed as permanently employed. Three of the leaders of gangs collecting these leaves from far and near have acquired motor trucks with the assistance of the factory, which buys and cures the leaves.

The railway still provides most of the permanent employment available. There are two employed by the Manning Shire Council. A few others are employed in the building industry.

A painting project has been commenced and it is hoped that by the end of next year, every building on the Station will have been repainted.

The Recreation Hall on the Station has been the scene of numerous gatherings when Station residents have joined with small groups from the surrounding district in various and enjoyable forms of entertainment.

All children of school age now attend the Public Schools at Taree.

The resident missionary has been absent from the Station for about half of the year. However, Station residents have maintained the full programme of services on the Station and have attended and participated in weekly services held by other churches in Taree where they are received as individuals rather than as representative delegates of a separate community.



Three lovely little sisters . . .
Gloria, Lily and Rose
Johnston of Capien.

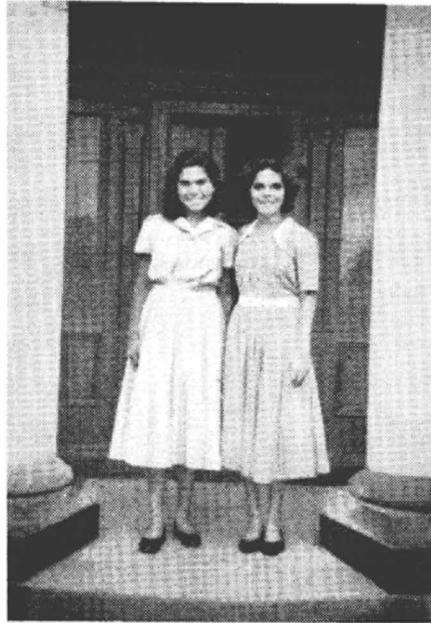
Bible Training School at Singleton

Every year many young Aboriginal people receive a sound training at the Singleton Bible Training School. The happy part about it all is they have such a wonderful time there, that no one thinks of it as work or study . . . its just fun.

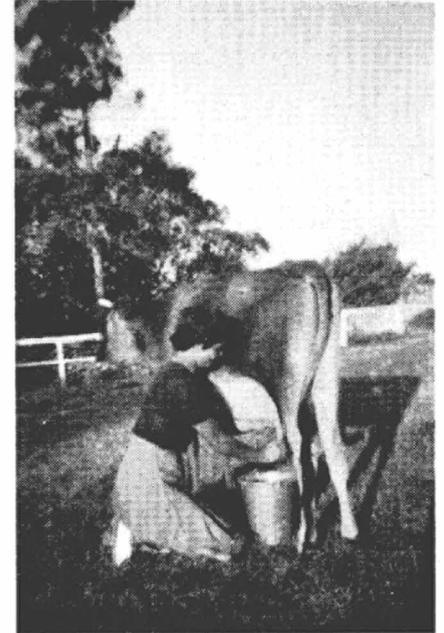
The first picture shows two lovely lasses, Muriel Mercy of Maclean and Lorna Lymburner of Palm Island. Next we see Annabelle Morris of Purfleet and Ruth Naylor of Walcha. The third picture shows Ruth Naylor again. This time doing one of her little jobs . . . milking the cow.



Muriel Mercy of Maclean, and Lorna Lymburner of Palm Island, at Singleton.



Annabelle Morris (Purfleet) and Ruth Naylor (Walcha) at Singleton Bible Training School.



Ruth Naylor, of Walcha, Milking at Singleton Bible Training School.

Service brings Award of Merit to Police Sergeant

Service to others and devotion to duty, are not always recognised in a person's life-time, and it is gratifying to know that one of Swan Hill's citizens—Sgt. A. H. Feldtmann, of the Swan Hill police has received well-deserved recognition by his department.

His work for the native population here is known practically throughout the world, and it does not come as a surprise to many of his friends to hear that the Sergeant was instructed to attend the police depot, St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, to be presented, at a passing-out parade by the Chief Commissioner, with "The Chief Commissioner's Certificate"—a new "award of merit", to recognise outstanding devotion to duty.

The citation reads :—

"Awarded the Chief Commissioner's Certificate for excellent service rendered the aboriginal community at Murray Downs, in organising the establishment of a welfare centre for their benefit."

This certificate is second only to the Valor badge—the police V.C.

Sincere congratulations to Sergeant Feldtmann.

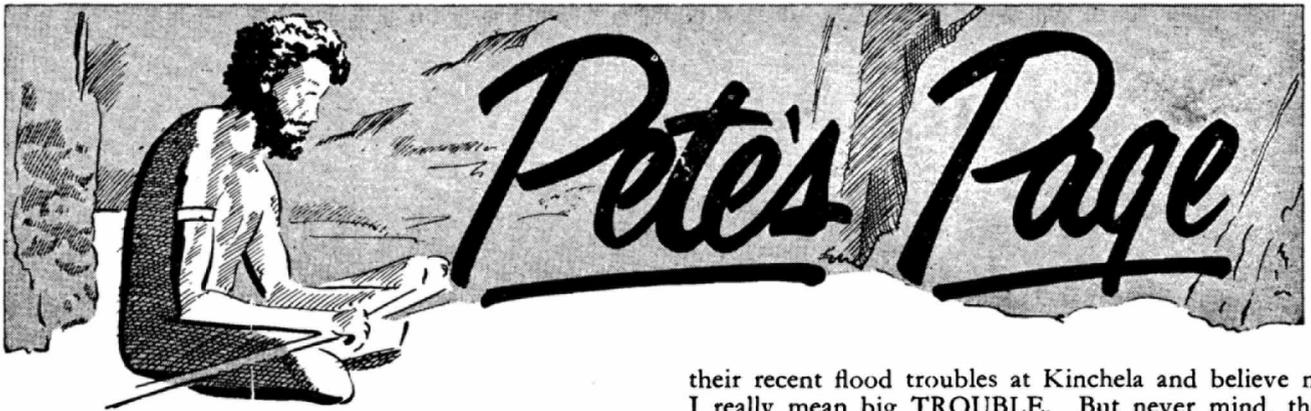
Walgett

The population of this Station increased slightly last year, and at its close stood at 163.

Two severe floods were experienced; one in November, 1954, and one in March, 1955. The Station was isolated on both occasions, and even after the floodwaters subsided, communication with the town was affected.

Maintenance and repair work was carried out on the houses, and the water main was strengthened following the floods.

This is the only remaining Station where the duties of Manager and Teacher are combined. A contract has been let for the erection of a teacher's residence. When this is completed, a teacher of the Education Department will be appointed and the Manager will be enabled to devote his whole time to the supervision and development of Station activities.



Hello Kids !

Well how are we now ? Isn't it nice to see the sun again (at least in some parts) after all that terrible rain. Its tragic to think of all those unfortunate people who lost their homes and belongings in the floods. Those of us who escaped should feel very thankful.

I had an interesting letter from Carol Donovan, of Bowraville, a few days ago. Carol said . . . "I have started school again and pleased to say I skipped second year, going right into third year. Our school has been painted a lovely green and will look nice when it's finished. It really needed something to brighten it up. I would like some pen friends, from anywhere and all the letters will be answered. It gets so dull sometimes and one of my favourite hobbies is letter writing. One of my younger sisters, Beverley, is in hospital and will be there for six weeks. Now don't forget my pen friends will you." O.K. kids how about it now ? Some letters for Carol. She is 15 and her address is, c/o Racecourse, Bowraville.

I also had two very excellent paintings from Brian Budge (14) and Pam Morris (12), both of Burnt Bridge. and both of these youngsters win special prizes.

Congratulations to Mervyn Sampson, of Moree, who came top of his class (first year) at the Moree Intermediate High School, last year. Mervyn was first in English, Maths and Science. There was recently an exhibition of woodwork in one of the Moree stores and Mervyn was privileged to have one of his articles included in the display.

Another young lad, Arthur Duncan, also did very well in his studies this year and was presented with the Moree Rotary Club's Prize for Proficiency. Good work Arthur, keep it up.

I have had a nice long letter from Richard Ballangarry, of Auburn, and also a sketch. I was particularly pleased to hear from young Richard as he has not written for a long while.

Well, my friend, the mailman just dropped in with some very interesting mail for me.

First of all there was a very nice drawing from Janice Wilson of Bowraville. Thanks a lot Janice, send some more along. Then there was a most interesting letter from Bruce Ellis of Kinchela (your letter wins a prize Bruce. Congratulations.). Bruce told me all about

their recent flood troubles at Kinchela and believe me I really mean big TROUBLE. But never mind, they still seem to come back again time after time, bigger and better. Bruce said the Kinchela boys have started a Camera Club. George Ellis is Chairman and Mrs. Scarborough, Secretary. Every six weeks the Club holds a Photo Competition and awards a prize for the best photo. George Ellis was the winner of the first competition. Some of these photos must be most interesting and I will certainly look forward to publishing some of them.

Another pleasant surprise in the mail was a really wonderful cartoon drawing, all about Korky the Cat, by Leslie Franks, of Cobargo. You certainly must have put a lot of work in that one Leslie, and it wins you a prize. Congratulations.

A very nice coloured drawing from Stuart Ridgeway, of Rozelle, too. Thanks Stuart. Well kids, guess that's all the news for this time so until next month. Cheerio.

Your Sincere Pal.

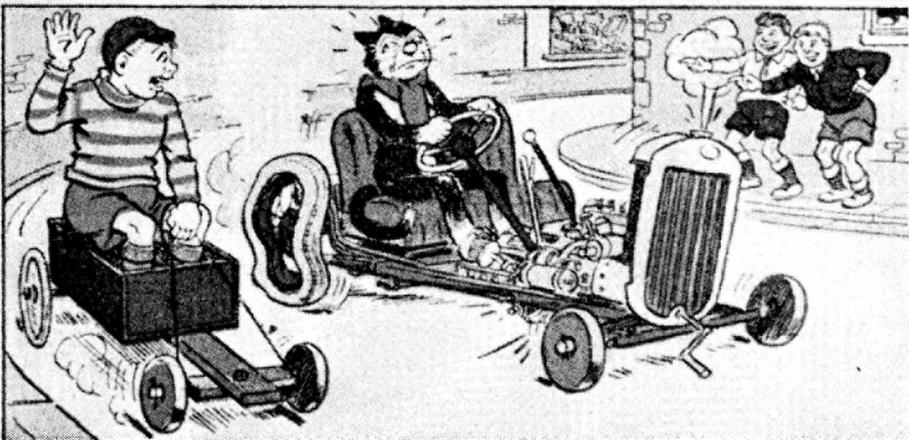
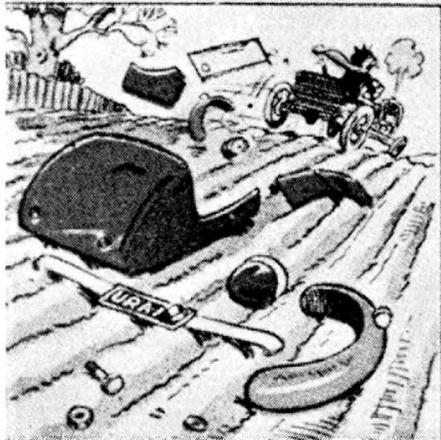
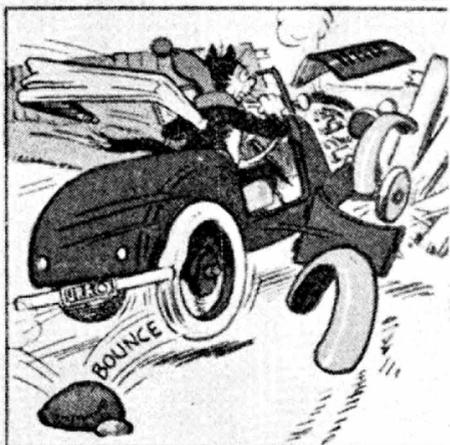
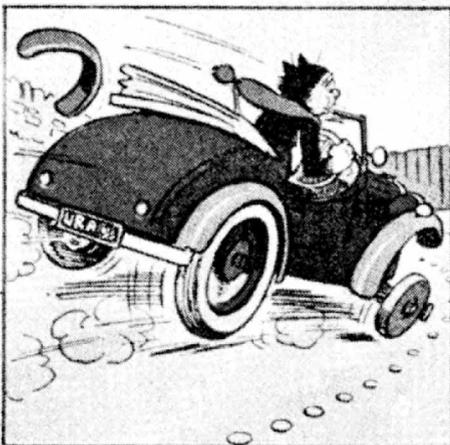
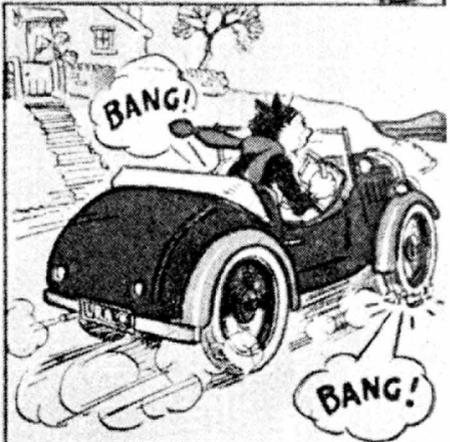
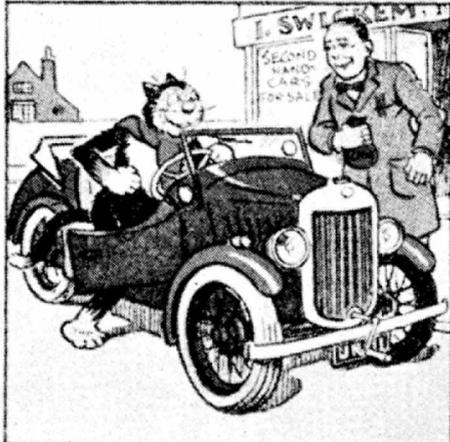
Pete



One of the very happy moments at the Xmas Camp at La Perouse.

KORKY THE CAT

THERE'S A COMIC SIGHT IN KORKY'S TOWN. FOLK COME FROM NEAR AND FAR. FOR IT'S QUITE A SIGHT TO SEE AND HEAR KORKY'S SKELETON CAR!



PASS IT ON

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

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



In the Garden

PLANTING SEEDLINGS.

When you plant seedlings, give them a good start in life. Plant them properly—they'll appreciate it. Two things are important—to firm thoroughly the soil around the roots; and to soak each one into the ground. If the soil is not packed around the roots, and they are left suspended in an air pocket in the ground, they will wither, and the plant will die. Firming the soil with your fingers and watering, makes them safe.

Remember, too, that hot, dry soil can burn tender young roots; and keep the hose handy when planting on a hot day. If the surface soil is hot and dry, water it well before you start; and then let the hose trickle around the roots of each plant as you put it in; don't wait until they all are planted before turning on the hose.

That first watering, after transplanting, is vitally important. Do it well; not by sprinkling, but individually, with a saucer-shape depression around each plant, to hold the water for the roots.

Before you start planting, however, map out your bed. Use the butt end of the rake to punch holes where the plants are to go; spacing them evenly, and "rubbing out" the unwanted holes to give a proper spread, without crowding at the corners, and with enough room between them for each plant to grow and thrive.

When it's all evenly-spaced, drop the seedlings into the holes, firm the soil, and put the hose on them.

Plant "Spare."

When your bed is full, too, set a few "spares" in a corner, an inch or so apart. If, later, you lose a plant or two, you can fill the gaps from the "spares" with plants of the same size.

If you are using shop seedlings, instead of your own sun-raised plants, and the weather is hot, don't put them straight out in the open sun—put them in a cool corner, an inch or so apart, where they will get some shade.

Leave them there for a week, keeping them well watered; and you can then lift them safely, each with a ball of earth around its roots, into the open beds.

Finally, if you must buy seedlings, instead of raising your own, don't buy plants already packed in bundles. Buy only from shops where the plants are growing in boxes and where you can be sure of getting seedlings with earth around their roots.

GROWING LOVELIER FLOWERS.

Every growing thing needs food. If you breed cats, or cattle or canaries, you must feed them, to bring them to their best—and flowers are no exception to the rule.

They must have the things they need, if they are to make loveliness in your garden.

Growing fine flowers is easy—if you do it properly. If you don't do it properly, you'll be wasting your time; because gardening pays only when the result is so worth while as to give you complete satisfaction—and you won't get a full return from a flower garden which is suffering from malnutrition.

The following general points, meanwhile, might be of interest.

Soil Preparation.

Soil must be dug thoroughly to spade depth, breaking all lumps. It should then receive about two inches of compost or old manure, with a handful of complete fertiliser to the square yard.

Never use new manure in preparing a flower bed. Use only cool, old stuff—new manure can scorch and damage young roots.

Surface Feeding.

Surface feeding is frequently the secret of good flower gardening. It is used, generally, when the first flower buds form; and repeated a month later. It can be applied either in liquid form (dissolve one ounce complete fertiliser in one gallon water); or spread dry on the surface of the bed, and watered in. (Use one ounce per square yard.)

Be careful not to over-do it. Too little chemical fertiliser is better than too much—and always re-lime a bed, when preparing for the next crop, where surface feeding has been done; so that the lime will counteract any acidity which over-fertilisation of the soil can produce.