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# Dawn



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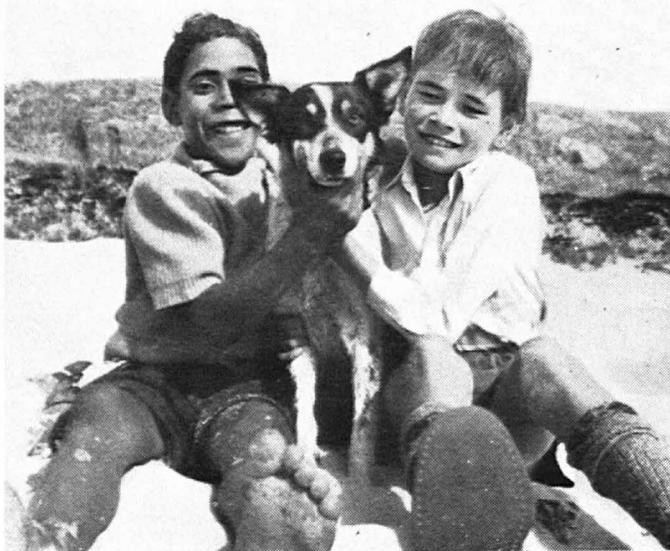
A MAGAZINE FOR THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE OF N.S.W.

MAY, 19





## Our Cover . . .



These two happy young Australian lads are Carl Thomas and Alf Stewart, of Wallaga Lake.

The handsome fellow with the long ears sitting up in the middle (rather reluctantly, judging by the grip the boys have on him) is Spot, everyone's favourite on the Station.



## "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.

## In this issue . . .

	Page.
Aboriginal Art Popular . . . . .	1
Australian Oddities . . . . .	2
Our Roving Cameraman . . . . .	4
Spotlight on Boggabilla . . . . .	6
Greenland will be Green again . . . . .	7
"Thar She Blows," A Whaling Story . . . . .	8
Highlights of the Summer Camp . . . . .	9
Along the Mail Route . . . . .	10
New Homes Welcome . . . . .	11
Home Hints . . . . .	12
Mr. Bufo is Not Liked . . . . .	13
Ray Sampson Takes Title . . . . .	14
Pot-Pourri Again (An L. N. Briggs feature) . . . . .	15
Divers Don't Fear Deep-sea Monsters . . . . .	16
Now You Know (Feature) . . . . .	17
Housing is Important . . . . .	17
Help Yourself . . . . .	18
Pete's Page . . . . .	20
Biffo the Bear (Cartoon) . . . . .	Inside back cover.
In the Garden . . . . .	Back cover.

# Aboriginal Art Popular

## TEXTILE DESIGNS ACCEPTED

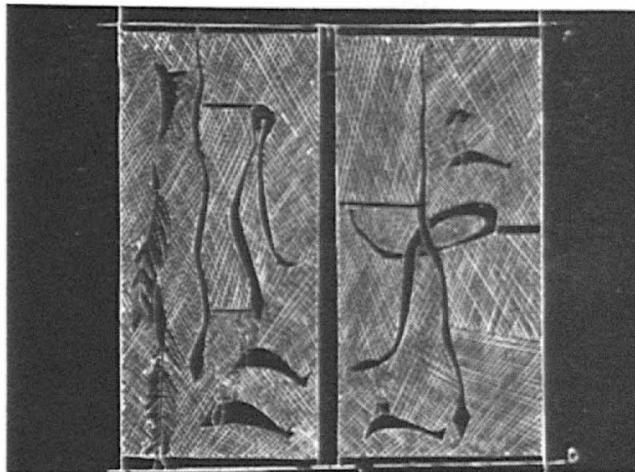
Australian art experts have highly commended examples of aboriginal art as motifs for textile designs.

The examples—12 in all—were submitted as entries in the Leroy-Alcorso Textile Design Competition, which has just been judged in Hobart. They were painted and carved on wood and bark and were the work of aborigines at the Millingimbi and Yirrkalla mission stations in eastern Arnhem Land.

The judges, who included Mr. Daryl Lindsay, director of the National Gallery in Melbourne, and Mr. Hal Missingham, director of the Sydney gallery, said the designs showed "an excellent sense of craftsmanship combined with traditional aboriginal drawing and design".

One of them was among the final ten choices of the judges—a significant achievement, considering that there were more than 2,800 entries in the competition.

The joint sponsors of the competition, the Leroy Manufacturing Company of Melbourne and Silk & Textile Printers Ltd., of Hobart, are considering purchasing this design and using it as a print.



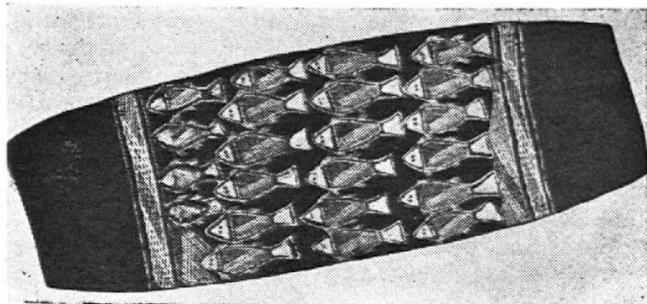
**A Totem-style pattern design featuring snakes, ferns, emus, carved in wood by Djawa, an aboriginal artist, from the Methodist Overseas Mission at Yirrkalla, N.T. This design was one of the final ten selected.**

A world authority on primitive art, Dr. Leonhard Adam, who lectures at the Melbourne University, examined the twelve designs in Melbourne this week, and was greatly impressed by them.

He said it was extremely difficult to get hold of authentic aboriginal works of art, and it was a remarkable achievement for the organisers to do so.

He felt that aboriginal art was "very definitely adaptable to use on fabrics", and he hoped that encouragement could be given to aborigines to develop their undoubted talents in this direction.

The administrative director of Leroy said that no efforts would be spared over the next twelve months to further encourage aboriginal interest in the field of textile design, as he shared Dr. Adam's belief in its possibilities.



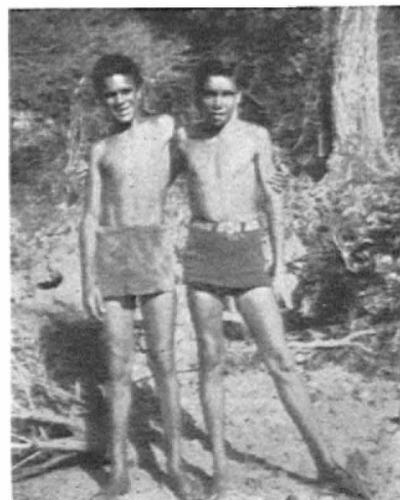
**A design of fishes painted by Bininyuwui, 32 year-old resident of the Methodist Overseas Mission at Milingimbi, N.T.**

The colours were brown, white and yellow ochre.



← Just about to leave on their honeymoon. Arthur Edwards, of Balranald, and his bride, formerly Mary Murray.

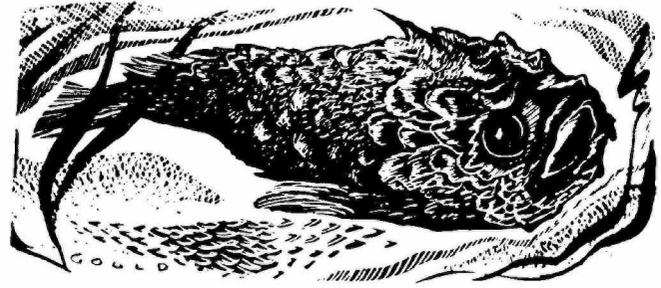
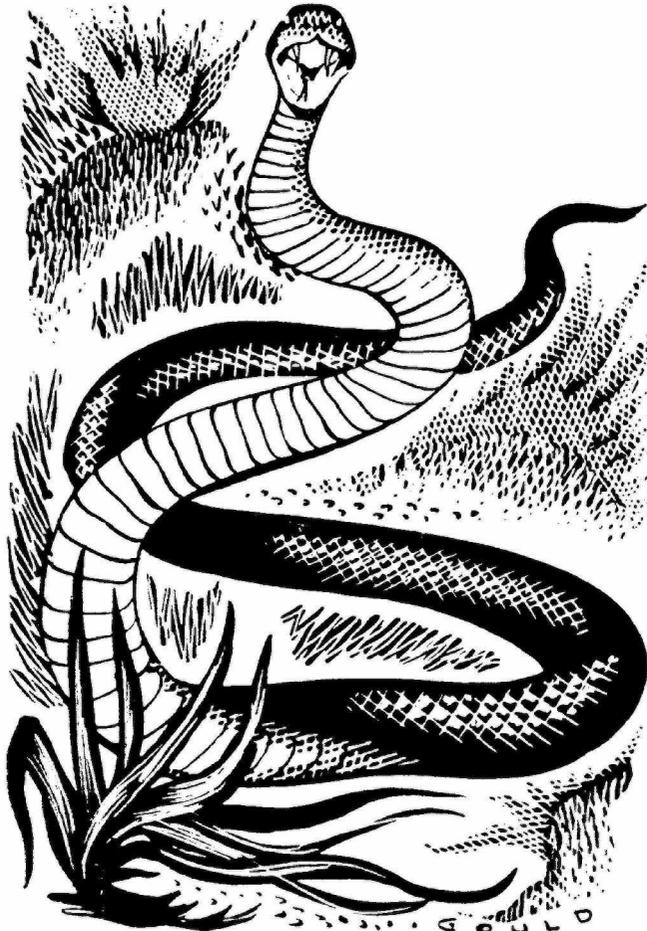
→ Almost like enough to be twins. Barry Moran, of Greenhills, and Ron Carriage, of Hat Hill.



# AUSTRALIAN ODDITIES

## THE DREADED TAIPAN.

Queensland is the home of Australia's deadliest snake, the taipan. A fairly large, coppery-brown snake, it is very hard to detect, fading into the landscape at the approach of man. When attacked or cornered, it becomes the most pugnacious, dangerous and lightning-fast attacker in the snake world. Once it fastens on to its victim, it doesn't know when to stop biting. Its jaws open nearly a full 180°, and it has enormous fang development: fangs half an inch long are not unusual in the taipan. Another reason for the deadly effect of the taipan bite is its large venom supply. About two years ago a 6 ft. 5 in. taipan inflicted a fatal bite on a snake collector in the Cairns area, and two days later was "milked" of 78 milligrams of venom—about the amount normally obtained from a large and healthy tiger snake. The taipan can kill a horse in five minutes, a dog in ten; one recently captured alive died from a bite which it inflicted upon itself during the struggle to escape.



## THE STONEFISH.

One of the least attractive denizens of the Sunshine State is the Stonefish, found throughout the Great Barrier Reef. This fish is as poisonous as it is repulsive; its soft, slimy body is covered with a series of wart-like growths; its large, slack mouth gapes open to reveal a sickly green interior, and its movements are sluggish and graceless. Along its back are thirteen bony spikes, concealed by warty sheaths; each spike is fed through two venom glands with one of the most virulent poisons found in nature, the cause of prolonged agony and often of death when injected into the human body. All this is bad enough, but the real danger of the stonefish lies in its ability to camouflage. Because of its thick slimy coating, it looks almost incredibly like a stone, or a piece of eroded coral; even other fish are frequently deceived into approaching too closely—to their doom. Nobody who is aware of the risk involved would dream of walking over coral without wearing a stout pair of shoes as a protection against this hazard.

## BOILING SOIL.

The black soil of the Darling Downs has a reputation of "boiling", due to the almost perpetual expansion and contraction of the soil, as its water content varies with the seasons. During the dry spell the soil contracts and cracks up to 6 ft. wide appear. After rain, expansion of the clay soil occurs and a definite movement is set up giving the impression of boiling or churning. The important advantage of this phenomenon is that the open cracks in dry seasons catch all debris—dry leaves, twigs and the like—blown along by the wind. When the rain comes, this debris is absorbed and eventually becomes humus, which enriches the soil. The sun and air also penetrate the upper soil crust, and the churning process continually replaces the upper soil with sub-soil.



### UNUSUAL MINES.

Situated twelve miles by road from Collinsville, in northern Queensland, is Australia's only graphite mine. Similar in appearance to coal, it is obtained by similar mining methods; its chief use is as a lubricant (it is well known to motorists as a petrol additive) and as a component in dry cell batteries. It is also reported to be one of the very few materials resistant to atomic radiation, due to its high melting point.

Collinsville is also the place where three distinct coal-mining systems are practised on the same field. The State mine has recently become mechanised, almost half a million pounds being spent on the installation of mechanical cutters, loaders and conveyor belts. Not far away coal is won by the open-cut method, which gives a big yield with little equipment and man-power. To complete the picture, there is also the orthodox shaft type of mine, worked by hand-hewing methods and power borers.

### UNUSUAL CHURCHES.

Though none of Queensland's churches is the biggest of its class, they can claim one of the smallest churches in Australia. It is on Boyne Island, a remote spot off the Queensland coast; the congregation has to fit into a space measuring 14 ft. by 9 ft. 9 in. The altar recess is 6 ft. wide by 9 in. deep. Of interest also is Australia's oldest existing wooden church, on St. Helena Island in Moreton Bay. No longer used, it was built for the convicts when St. Helena was a penal settlement. Thargomindah, a tiny town in south-western Queensland, is distinguished in the church sphere

as the site of the only Australian church to have disappeared. A few years ago, this church, built of straw and hessian, stood on an allotment in the centre of the township. Thargomindah's goat population, which wanders through the town at will, entered the church one night and devoured it down to the foundations!

### NEW CATTLE BREED.

One of the most important events for the Queensland cattle industry was the introduction recently of the Santa Gertrudis breed; this has been acclaimed as the answer to the problem of the State's beef output. These now famous cattle are a most suitable acquisition, being endowed with great resistance to ticks and other insect pests; they are hardy, fatten easily, mature at an early age and are not adversely affected by heat. Their average live weight of 1,400 lb. compares very well with 1,000 lb. to 1,250 lb. of our better known Shorthorns and Herefords. Five of the Santa Gertrudis breed exhibited at the Texas State Fair in 1950 each weighed more than 2,300 lb.



*(Continued on page 6.)*



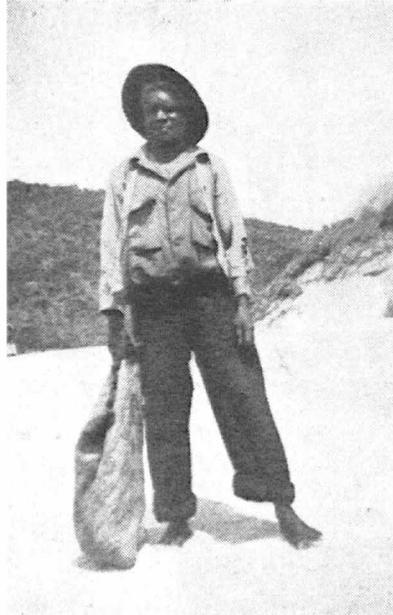
# OUR ROVING CAMERAMAN

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

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



Three little lasses from Burnt Bridge . . . Liz and Margaret Campbell and Francis Morris.



Edgar Bullock, of Burnt Bridge, with a bagful of fish.



Three-year-old Elizabeth Young is the idol of Cootamundra Home.



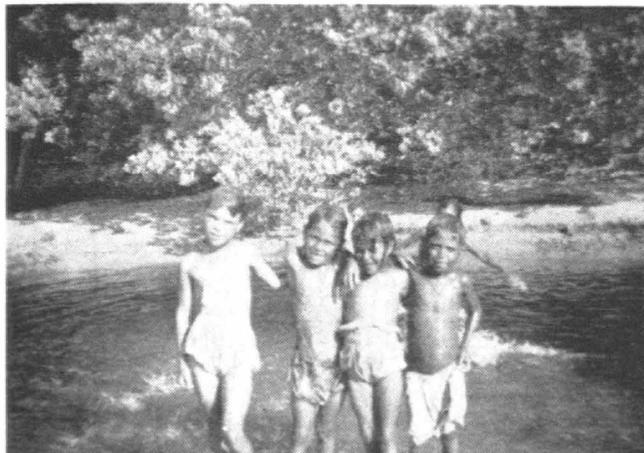
Two recent Caroonia brides, Lorna Smith and Coral Tighe.



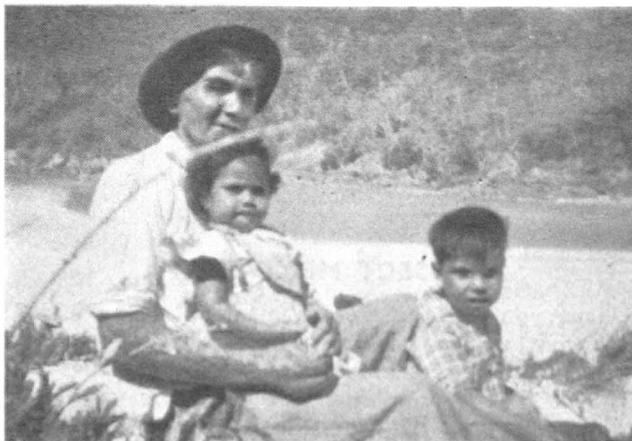
This very attractive young lass, Thelma Beale, was a bridesmaid at Lorna Smith's recent wedding at Caroonia.



Barbara Duncan and Valerie Binge, of Boggabilla, discussing a few stock problems.



**Norma Cochrane, Charles Moran, Wilma Davis and Harry Watts, of Green Hills, after a swim.**



**Dick Archibald, of Burnt Bridge, with his son, Robert, and daughter, Helen have a day on the beach.**



**A group of happy Burnt Bridge youngsters enjoying their holiday at Hat Head.**



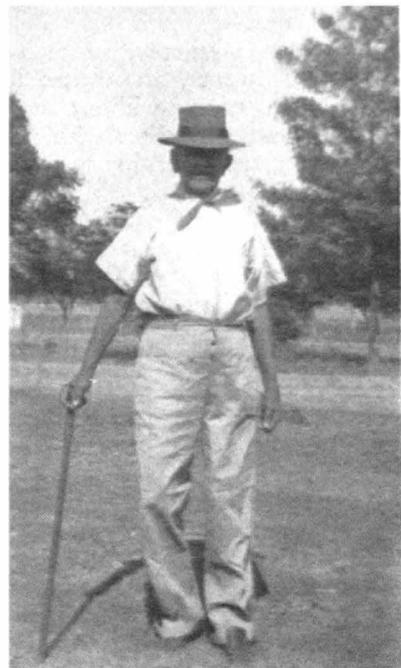
**Out for a picnic with the Boggabilla youngsters.**



**Mavis Land, of Burnt Bridge, and her little sister, Helen.**



**The oldest man in Australia, Charlie Dennison, of Boggabilla, with a daughter, Alice Haines.**



**Harry Lang, a respected veteran, of Boggabilla, once a great athlete.**

# AUSTRALIAN ODDITIES

(Continued from page 3.)

## INSECT MEMORIAL.

Have you ever heard of a memorial to an insect? This may seem an odd question, to say the least, until it is realised that the subject of the memorial is the Cactoblastic Cactorum, the tiny caterpillar which was imported to Australia from the Argentine. This little fellow can well be proud of his deeds, for he is responsible for practically ridding this country of the Prickly Pear, which deed gave us back 65 million acres of land which had previously been abandoned due to the pest. Grateful settlers at Boonarga, in the Chinchilla district, erected a Cactoblastic Hall to perpetuate the memory of their insect benefactor.

## IRRIGATION IN THE BURDEKIN DELTA.

The towns of Ayr and Home Hill, astride the mouth of the Burdekin, Australia's second largest river system obtain fresh water for domestic purposes and farm irrigation through the use of spear and pump. The area has practised this method of irrigation for at least fifty years. A large mass of waterbearing sand has been deposited near the river mouth after years of flow and erosion from its 50,000 square mile basin. This formation is like a huge sandwich—a bottom layer of rock or clay, a 70 ft. thick sand filling and a top crust of silt, 10 ft. to 50 ft. thick. Water is pumped from the sand through the top crust to provide a continuous supply; despite increasing use, there has been no lessening of the supply, nor is it much affected by the seasons. However, the water does run in streams, resulting in spots without sand drifts and water. Plentiful water, together with rich soils and sunshine, makes the district a major sugar producer.

## THE AVOCADO PEAR.

Of all the fruit grown in Queensland, few have greater nutritive value than the Avocado, sometimes called the Avocado Pear. This fruit originated in Latin America and the West Indies, and has become very popular in the United States within the last fifty years. It came to Australia about twenty-five years ago from California, where it is grown commercially. The coastal strip from Nambour to the New South Wales border is the main area of production in Queensland. Scientific analysis has disclosed concentrated food values inside the thin, shell-like skin of the fruit. Good specimens have an energy value of 400 calories per pound, compared with 175 for most other fruit. The taste of the fruit is a combination of several flavours, including egg, nut, cheese, lettuce and asparagus. It can be used as a savoury in omelettes and cocktails, as a basis for a good salad, and as a sweet.

# SPOTLIGHT ON BOGGABILLA!



Neville Binge, Priscilla Hippi and Albert Dennison with Mrs. Harrison.



Boggabilla's favourite spot in summer-time is the nearby McIntyre River.



Boggabilla children waiting outside the station recreation hall for their party to commence.

# GREENLAND WILL BE GREEN AGAIN

## A Grand Country For Brave Men

THE great island is no longer a bare country of ice and rocks. It's becoming a rich pasture land.

Nearly 1,000 years ago southern Greenland lived up to its name. It was a country of lush green orchards and pastures.

The Norsemen Eric the Red brought from Iceland came as pioneer farmers. For three or four centuries they maintained an agricultural colony in the shadow of the great glaciers. They pre-dated Columbus by almost 500 years.

Then something happened to them—perhaps suddenly or perhaps over a few generations. It is possible that there was a change in the weather. Crops became poorer and poorer. Bones in the ancient graveyards show signs of severe malnutrition.

In the end, some believe, the last survivors were wiped out by hostile Eskimos. The once-thriving land reverted to the onward pressing ice. The white man's day was over and his place taken by a few villages of seal-hunting aborigines.

Now it is becoming farm land once again. New sheep ranches are being established, sometimes on the very sites of the ancient Norse farms.

The new farmers are Greenlanders—a distinct people not entirely Eskimo, and with a long record of progressiveness under the enlightened colonial policy of the Danish Government.

Perhaps a reversion of the climate back to that of the days of Eric the Red's settlements has made this development possible.

It is bringing about notable changes in the aboriginal ways of life; as reported in the journal of the Arctic Institute of North America.

"There are now," reports Miss M. C. Findlay, who spent the year there on a research grant from the Institute, "30 full-time and 250 part-

time sheep farmers. All the farms are built on the sites of medieval Viking homesteads. It is as though the very same Norsemen had come back with their flocks and herds and taken up domestic life again.



"The best Greenlandic farms today remind one constantly of their Icelandic counterparts, and the latter have continued in an unbroken line since the same Vikings founded them in the 10th century.

"The Greenlandic farm now stands on its fenced homestead with stalls and sheep folds near by. The farmhouse is of wood and may have from four to eight rooms in two storeys. Inside the kitchen, bread is baked and even butter and cheese made on occasion.

"The farm dogs lie around the porch and the hens are scratching on the grass in front of the house. On the water of the fiord, a couple of hundred yards away, is the motor-boat that connects with the trading store at the nearby settlement.

"This is a dramatic change from the old seal hunting routine, and it is rare to find a Greenlander who has gone straight from the kayak to the scythe. Sheep farming has taken the best of the young men and there still is room for more of them.

"Away from the coastline untenanted Viking sites are still waiting for the Greenlander who is brave enough to leave the outer coast with its seals and take to sheep."



The Vikings, it is known, kept cattle and had apple orchards. It is doubtful whether today the herbage is lush enough in many places to provide cattle pasture or whether any ordinary varieties of apples could stand the still bitter Greenland winters or even the relatively chilly summers.

The land, however, provides excellent sheep ranges and the demand for such agricultural products as can be grown is great.

With its farms—and with the vast airfields and weather stations established as a result of the last war and since—it appears as if one of the earth's most neglected lands is coming back.

Only the southern coast is suitable for farming, though. The greater part of the vast Arctic island is buried in eternal ice.

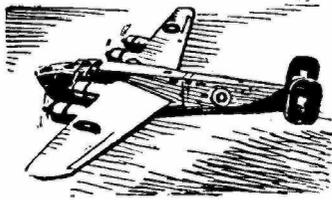
# “Thar She Blows”

## CHASING THE BIG ONES

For years the opening of the whaling season has been coloured by romance. Most of us have read at some time or other about the tough whalers of the Moby Dick era who went out after their prey in open, cockleshell boats, using hand harpoons.

Many of these husky, bearded giants returned to civilisation to tell epic stories, packed with hair-raising thrills, while others lost their lives in the icy Polar seas. But it is all very different for the big-game hunters of the sea who have just begun this year's ocean safari.

Whaling has become a highly-organised, coldly scientific business, with helicopters to spot the whales and factory ships—some as big as liners—wasting nothing, handling every square inch of the catch on the spot and turning it all to commercial use.



To make the odds against the whale even heavier, the helicopters can fly within 50 feet of it without being seen or heard. Some helicopter crews carry electric harpoons with an insulated line capable of electrocuting a whale in a few seconds.

After killing it, the helicopter inflates the whale, which floats till the factory ship arrives. This cuts out the costly chase that boats often have to make.

Killer boats cost £300,000 stg.—enough to buy five helicopters.

Whaling fleets of most nations move into the Antarctic hunting grounds every year. This season there will be nineteen expeditions, two more than last year. Norway leads with nine floating factories. There will be three from Britain, and other countries taking part are Japan, Holland, Russia and South Africa.

One successful expedition can bring home a harvest of oil and by-products worth £1,000,000 stg. One harpooner (he is also captain of his catcher) can make up to £5,000 stg. a season, mostly on commission on the number of whales caught. Even labourers on board the factory ships get about £400 stg. for the season, which extends over about three months.

For this season, the total world's catches must not exceed 15,500 blue whale units. One unit is one 70-foot blue whale, two 60-foot fin whales, six 40-foot sei whales, or two-and-half 35-foot humpbacks.

Every week the catches must be reported by radio to an international committee in Norway which, in turn, radios a “cease hunting” signal when the maximum quota has been reached.

All the whaling expeditions work under conditions of rigid secrecy, with radios silenced so that rivals can get no clues about the quarry. When radio messages must be sent, they are transmitted in a home-made code.

One of the biggest rivals of all this season probably will be the Onassis whaling fleet. Fleet owner Aristotle Onassis, Greek-born Argentine multi-millionaire ship-owner, just recently had a lot of trouble over whales.

At the age of 48, he owns so many ships he cannot remember in how many countries they are registered.

Recently he was fined more than £1,000,000 stg. by Peru, because his whaling fleet “poached in Peruvian waters”.

Peru . . . whaling . . . the two just don't seem to belong together, do they?

Peru, to most of us, is a hot climate country—nearly on the equator in fact. Whence the whales, then?

The answer lies in one of nature's most prodigal gifts to mankind: a rolling, surging, three-knot cornucopia called the Humboldt Current.

Unlike the Gulf Stream in the Atlantic, the Humboldt is strangely cold—icy cold. Born of the great gales which sweep the Antarctic circle, weaned on the ice of the Polar seas, it rolls a chilly course up the Pacific side of South America. Constant renewal of its surface water by even colder water from below keeps its temperature down till it reaches almost to the equator.

But the Peruvian “incident” again clearly shows that whaling to-day is big business.

Just take a look at the amount of work done on board one of the big whale factory ships after a catch is made and hauled aboard.

On board this ship are specialists, such as chemists, meat inspectors and veterinary surgeons and assistants. The vet passes the whale as fit, then the meat inspector gives his report. Meanwhile, the chemists are testing oil, meat and liver extracts.

The labourers get to work cutting up the mammal or extracting the oil with special machinery, helping to process the inedible parts for animal food. No part of the whale is wasted.

And hardly a person in most countries can escape some connection with the whale killed in the Antarctic. One of the by-products is even used to make lipstick!

# HIGHLIGHTS of the Summer Camp

## A Day at the Tivoli

THE MANY children who came to Sydney for the last Summer Camp, had a marvellous time, and every day was packed with some new and exciting item of interest.

One day, for instance, they went to the Tivoli to see the Pantomime "Dick Whittington" and even went backstage to meet the stars.



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### Left hand top

*Back Row: Mavis Mundy, Gloria Mundy, Athleen Knight and Dorothy Mundy.*

*Front Row: Caroline Collis, Margaret Eulo, Miss Jenny Howard, Jimmy Clark, Harold Brown and Jimmy Flick.*



### Right hand top

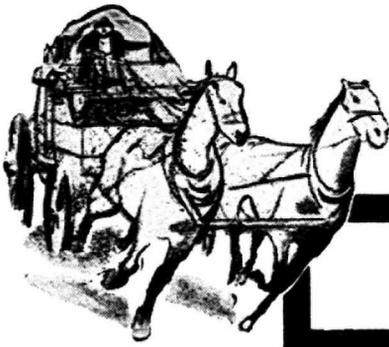
*Caroline Collis, Mavis Mundy, Athleen Knight, Dorothy Mundy, Miss Jenny Howard, Margaret Eulo and The Cat.*



### Left hand bottom

*Gloria Mundy, Howard Brown, Miss Jenny Howard and Jimmy Clark.*

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## Along the Mail Route

Mr. and Mrs. Noel Saunders of Caroonna are the proud parents of their first baby, a daughter.

Mrs. W. Peckham of Dubbo and her sister paid a visit to Caroonna recently when their home was flooded out. As the line between Caroonna and Dubbo was washed out they were unable to return home to give a hand for nearly five weeks.

The Matron of Caroonna Station, working with the Werris Creek Red Cross, held a jumble sale, at the Station in aid of flood victims and raised £31. An excellent effort.

Little Lindsay Matthews of Caroonna is back again from the Far West Home at Manly after receiving treatment for injuries to his arm.

Thirty-nine Caroonna children (every one needing the treatment) were recently immunised against diphtheria. All the youngsters took them well, and none went "bush". These youngsters will be getting really used to needles as all the children had a T.B. test a few days later.

Calling Douglas Combo.

The Aborigines Welfare Board is still anxious to locate ex Kinchela boy, Douglas Combo (22), in connection with the payment of the balance of his trust money.

Would anyone knowing the whereabouts of this boy please ask him to contact the Secretary, Aborigines Welfare Board, Box 30, G.P.O., Sydney.

Cabbage Tree Island residents recently held a very successful social evening to raise funds for the Flood Relief Appeal. Congratulations to Cabbage Tree Island.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ferguson, of Cabbage Tree Island, on the birth of a son, Neville.

Mr. Leo Bolt of Cabbage Tree Island is being congratulated on his recent appointment as a Pastor of the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

### CHILDREN'S LIBRARY AND CRAFTS MOVEMENT GIVEN USE OF HALL

At a recent meeting, the Board gave its permission to the Children's Library and Crafts Movement to use the Recreation Hall at La Perouse on Saturday afternoons for their activities.

On a visit to the Reserve some months ago, the occupation, especially of young children after school hours, was discussed between Officers of the Movement and the Supervisor of the Reserve and, as a result, one of the voluntary helpers has already commenced to carry on creative activities with a small number of children on Sunday afternoons.

Books and craft materials have been collected and a groups of voluntary helpers organised, and it is now proposed to use the Hall on Saturday afternoons for children's activities such as painting and clay-modelling, puppetry and creative plays as a commencement to a fuller programme of activity.



When the cameraman went to the Zoo, who should he meet but Delma Lilley, of far away Karuah.

# NEW HOMES WELCOMED

## Excitement at Yass

There was much excitement at Yass Reserve recently, when six families were transferred to new homes in the town of Yass itself. Much burning of the midnight oil preceded the move as busy husbands and wives packed belongings ready for the move, and when the long-awaited day at last arrived, activities began at the crack of dawn.

Yass Reserve—not very aptly named “Hollywood”—is one of the older reserves in the State and most of the out-of-date iron structures erected there are in the process of being demolished. Quite a contrast is presented by the new homes in town, which are modern three-bedroom cottages with amenities such as electricity, modern stoves and bath heaters, stainless-steel sinks, rotary clothes lines, and water and sewerage.

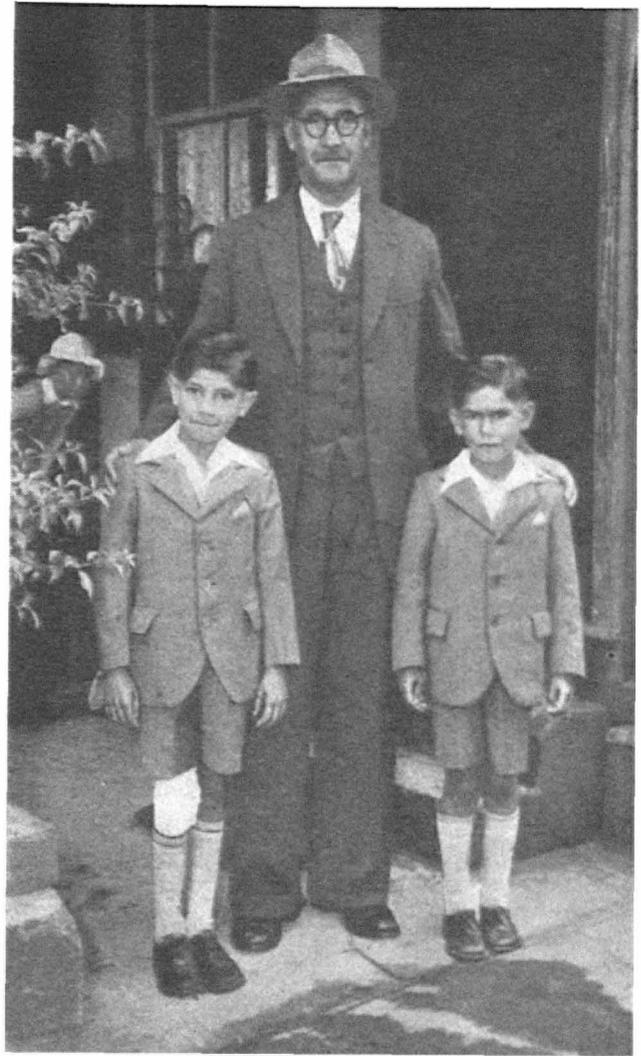
All the tenants have responded well to their new opportunities and already modern furniture and floor coverings have, in many cases been purchased. The Board has every confidence that the trust imposed upon the tenants in each case has not been in vain.

The expenditure in this one project alone, has cost the Board in the vicinity of £11,000, and similar projects of this nature are about to be completed in other towns. As a further incentive, aboriginal tenants, after a trial period, are to be given the opportunity of purchasing these homes on a deposit free, “pay as you go” plan.

It goes without saying, that the provision of good housing is a forward move in the policy of assimilation. Projects such as those completed at Yass and elsewhere, are the first of many planned for the future throughout the State and will enable many aboriginal families to take their rightful place in the community with pride and confidence.



These two smiling lasses are Nada Ward and Lexie Ellis, both ex-Cootamundra girls.



The two boys in this photo, Robert McLeod and Kenneth Brown recently spent two weeks holiday in Tasmania as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Roberts of Wynyard, a farming district about six miles from Launceston.

They had the pleasure of travelling by plane and enjoyed the trip very much. These boys are only about eight years old, but they knew how to conduct themselves and readily made friends with the white people with whom they went to stay.

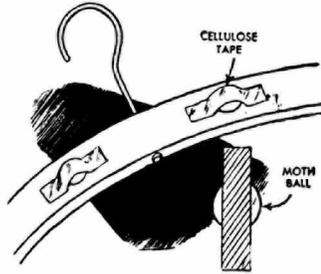
They still talk of the times they had with the Roberts family, riding about on the pony and going on fishing trips. However their favourite past-time was the plum tree, this they could visit any time they wished (which was very often).

They often went for rides on the farm tractor, which sometimes Mr. Roberts let them drive. Before the boys left for home, Mr. and Mrs. Roberts took them to town on a shopping spree, and they bought lots of things to bring home for their little brothers and sisters.

# HOME HINTS

## Moth Ball Holder

Moth balls will stay right with a wooden coat hanger if they are pressed in two or three holes drilled near the top of the hanger. Hold moth balls in place with strips of tape so they will not fall from holes when their size decreases.



\* \* \* \*

## FIREPROOFING FABRICS.

Draperies, curtains, ironing-board covers, etc., can be fireproofed by dipping them in a solution consisting of borax, 7 oz., boric acid, 3 oz., and water, 2 qts. Soak the fabric thoroughly, wring out and hang it up to dry. It can be ironed when almost dry.

\* \* \* \*

If you are inexperienced at staining, always test the stain at hand on a piece of scrap wood of the same kind that you plan to finish. Also, remember that the same stains made by different manufacturers are not always the same colour.

\* \* \* \*

When you take a bathing cap out of storage, rub it with a mixture consisting of a small amount of household ammonia and soapy water. This will make the rubber pliable so that there is less danger of it splitting when placed on your head.

\* \* \* \*

## PROTECTING ELECTRIC-IRON CORD.

Insulation on an electric-iron cord will not become worn at the point where the cord emerges from the coil spring of the appliance plug if the cord is wrapped with a plastic spiral of the type used to prevent kinking of telephone cords. The spiral should extend from the end of the plug for several inches beyond the coil.

\* \* \* \*

A new powder puff provides an excellent "brush" for applying plastic-base linoleum varnish. The puff will spread the varnish smoothly, or can be used to pat the surface for attaining a matte finish.

\* \* \* \*

## REPAINT WINDOW SILLS FREQUENTLY.

Outside window sills absorb more punishment from the weather than any other part of the house. To preserve them, paint them at least every other year even though the rest of the house is not to be painted.

To keep suede shoes and accessories looking like new, it is best to clean them frequently. Before putting the items away after wearing them, go over the suede with a cloth moistened in vinegar. Then rub with a stiff brush or sponge.

\* \* \* \*

Dropping a piece of lemon peel into the dishwasher will soften the water, remove traces of fish or onion odour, and result in a high lustre on china and glassware.

\* \* \* \*

If ink is spilled on a carpet, cover immediately with salt. Scoop it up as it absorbs the ink and repeat until the salt comes off clean. Put on more and leave overnight.

\* \* \* \*

To prevent nuts from becoming locked on bolts by rust, dip the threads of the bolt in shellac and turn the nut onto the bolt before the shellac has had time to dry.

\* \* \* \*

Nicks and scratches in furniture and woodwork can be repaired by staining them to the proper tone and then covering them with two coats of clear shellac.

\* \* \* \*

To assure long life for pillow cases always select cases that are slightly oversize for the pillow being used. When the pillow is forced into the pillow case, it will wear out sooner.

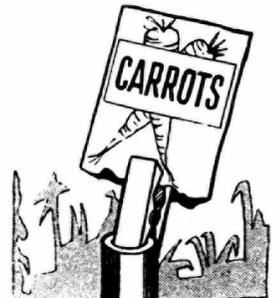
\* \* \* \*

Wash the inside of your refrigerator with lukewarm water and borax to keep it sweet and clean. To absorb the odours, put a piece of charcoal on one of the shelves.

\* \* \* \*

## Garden Row Marker

Durable row markers for the garden can be made from short lengths of water pipe and spring-type clothes pegs. Drive the pipe into the ground and insert one leg of the clothes peg in the end of the pipe. Then catch an empty seed package in the jaws of the clothes-peg to mark the crop. An alternative is to fasten the clothes peg to the top of a wooden stake with a screw or nail.



# MR. BUFO IS NOT LIKED

## But He's Coming Just the Same

QUEENSLAND'S adopted, gruesome-looking toad, Mr. Bufo, is moving south—  
despite many people's protests.

He has invaded parts of Brisbane from the northern canefields and has set up colonies in the Northern Rivers district of N.S.W.

It seems inevitable that one day southern cities will find him in countless numbers in their parks and backyards.

Mr. Bufo is a giant toad, formally known as a member of the Bufo Marinus species, which was introduced into Queensland from Hawaii to kill the Greyback beetle and other insects on northern canefields in 1935.

The toads have bred rapidly since then, and pet owners, apiarists, and many city dwellers here look on them as a fearsome nuisance.

They recently warned that Mr. Bufo could :

- Cause temporary blindness and permanently impair the eyesight of anyone handling him.
- Poison dogs, cats, goldfish, other pets and fowls.
- Be a serious menace to the bee industry in Queensland and that he was responsible for a plague of cockroaches in some districts.

The villain of the canefields is appropriately repulsive in appearance, grows to about six inches in length and has light to dark mustard-brown scale skin with a yellowish hue.



Agricultural experts, defending Mr. Bufo say:

- Tests carried out before the toads entered Australia proved that they did not contaminate water fed to fowls.
- Statistics show the Queensland bee industry is still expanding.
- The toad's good points outweigh all others.
- Toads emit poison from their glands only under extreme provocation.

At Bundaberg, a neighbour's wife was startled to find her in-law's pet Mr. Bufo eyeing her in the bath.

At Cairns and other far north Queensland holiday resorts, winter tourists are often forced to dodge toads on the footpaths at night.

In Brisbane, Botanic Gardens Kiosk manager Dudley Smith can testify to the strength of Mr. Bufo.

He once put an outsized specimen in a canary cage and it bent the bars.

Apiarists declare Mr. Bufo is a threat to their industry.

The wife of one leading Brisbane apiarist, Mrs. E. C. Girdler, of Camp Hill, said toads attack hives at night and catch bees while on the wing.

Toads obviously have a protective skin and are immune to stings.

One keeper, who heeded advice by the State Agriculture Department and elevated his hives 18 inches from the ground on posts, claims toads now pick-a-back on each other to reach his bees.

How do you kill Mr. Bufo ?

He is tough, and a housewife—one of his enemies—said she normally chopped him up with a spade.

You have to because they can take heavy blows like a rubber tyre and then get away.

Mr. Bufo has a distinguished champion in Professor W. V. MacFarlane, Professor of Physiology at the Queensland University, who considers he is very harmless and a good beast if handled in the right way.



Only under torment, the professor states, does the toad send out a white ooze from minute, porous rubber-like pads about half an inch in diameter behind his ears.

The chief poison in this discharge is Glycoside, which would be lethal in an injection.

It is not so toxic when taken into the stomach, but will still make a dog salivate and sick.

Fatal results could follow without prompt attention by a veterinary surgeon.

The poison, the professor explained, stimulates by irritation and can either slacken or stop a dog's heart.

Professor MacFarlane informs us that the toad's poison could prove irritating, especially if accidentally rubbed in the eye.

*(Continued on page 14.)*

## Mr. Bufo is Not Liked

*(Continued from previous page.)*

He discounts the belief that it impairs sight.

About 1,000 toads annually go to his university.

The toads are used in tests on the reaction of muscles, nerves and the heart.

It has been found that Mr. Bufo's poison kills mice off quickly.

Research on the toxic effects of the poison, however, are incomplete.



**A couple of real stockmen from Swan Hill. They are Alan Williams and Micky Britten.**



**"So I leads with my right, just like that," says young southpaw David Lake, of Dubbo. Another champion in the making.**

## RAY SAMPSON TAKES TITLE

### Win To Carroona Lad

The New South Wales Police Boys, Club inter city championships held at Sydney Stadium on Thursday, 7th April, saw a new title-holder for the principal title—the welterweight championship.

It was the title least expected to change as it had been held for a considerable time by Tierney, a boy from South Sydney Police Boys' Club. He has been successful against all-comers, having fought 36 contests for 34 wins—twenty of the last twenty-seven being by knock-out. He is trained by a former Australian middleweight champion, Tommy Coulteaux, yet despite the finest tuition and gymnasium he not only lost his title but was very soundly beaten by a boy from the Quirindi Club, Ray Sampson, of Carroona.

The fight opened at a terrific pace, Tierney dashing from his corner to lead to Sampson to what appeared to call the tune of the fight. However, his first punch was repaid by a terrific right which sent him to the



**Ray Sampson, of Carroona, with Championship Sash.**

canvas for the count of eight. Tierney showed great courage in rising and was again knocked down to the canvas and saved by the bell from the full count.

The next two rounds saw Sampson in complete control. He had his opponent on the canvas twice and through the ropes once. Ray fought like a man inspired. The warm-up fight against George Maisey, the previous Saturday night certainly assisted him.

*(Continued on page 18.)*

# POT-POURRI AGAIN

*The Third of a Series of Articles by L. N. BRIGGS, Manager of Taree Station.*

*(Copyright)*

HIYA! my young friends. I'm back again to get better acquainted with you. Or should I say to get you better acquainted with me. It's taking us quite a long time to get acquainted, isn't it?

Now, where was I when I left you last month? Oh yes, I remember. I was going to school in a big town in America, and I had become friends with the negro people.

You will remember that, when I first started to talk to you about me, I told you that I lived right out in the country where there were lovely big forests when I was a little boy.

Now all the people who lived around and about us in the country were very good, honest people, and I had only seen a policeman a few times when we would go into town, because there was no need for one where I lived. So all I knew about crime and criminals was what I read and what my sister read or told me.



•  
The Author . . .  
as a young man.  
•

But, when I went to town to school, I soon found that there was a big county court-house there and quite a big jail; because this town was the County Seat of Bradford County, in Pennsylvania. I don't know why they called it the County Seat, unless it was because people from all over the county used to come there to sit down and thrash out their problems.

I also found out that the Sheriff, who looked after the people who were in jail, was an old friend of my father. So one day I put on my best clothes and went along to see him, because I wanted to see what it was like inside a jail.

This jail was a big cold stone building built round a sort of garden. Prisoners were not kept there for long periods. Some of them were only waiting for their trials and others were serving sentences of up to six

months. Apart from keeping the jail clean and looking after the little garden in the centre, the prisoners did no work at all. There were white men and black men and young men and old men there. I was terribly sorry for them, because they had nothing to do, but to think of the mess they were in and of the hopeless position they would face when they came out; because in those days, especially in that part of the country, it was regarded as a great shame to have to go to jail, and other people didn't like to have anything to do with people who had been in jail.

After I went back home I thought a lot about these poor people in jail. Not many of them looked very bad to me. I wanted to do something for them.

The following week I went back to the Sheriff again and asked him to do me a strange favour. I asked him to lock me in jail for a whole afternoon. He didn't like the idea much, and he was afraid of what my father would say if he found out. However, after a lot of coaxing, he finally locked me in, after warning me that sometimes terrible fights broke out among the prisoners; but I didn't believe anyone would want to fight a school-boy armed only with a guitar.

First I talked to a few of the very young men and then to some rather old ones. I didn't ask them why they were there. I just asked them about their people at home and about how they put in their time while they were waiting to go out. Then I tuned up my guitar and asked if any of them could sing. In no time I had a crowd round me singing old plantation songs and hymns. I made them happy for a little while and nobody wanted to fight. They wanted me to come back another day. I came back every week. I brought them books and sometimes I brought them sweets. But most of all, I brought them hope. I interested good friends of mine who could and would help willing men to find jobs and friends when they came out of jail.



Even the old Sheriff noticed a difference in jail. Eventually, he showed me where the keys were and I could let myself into the cell block of the jail almost any time I wished so long as he or his wife knew I was there.

Soon, other good people became interested in improving the lives of the people in jail, and together,

*(Continued on next page.)*

# POT-POURRI AGAIN

(Continued from previous page.)

we had some very good times ; and a few hopeless men regained their hope and became good decent citizens.

I found in my talks with them, that not many of these men ever really wanted to do anything which was very wrong. Three main reasons accounted for their being in jail. (1) Strong Drink. (2) Gambling. (3) Uncontrolled Tempers. Remember this and fight against these three evils. If you don't, they may crush you.

One young man I knew when he was in jail, had been a very successful newspaper reporter for one of the biggest newspapers in New York City. He drank too much and lost his job. One day, while he was drunk, he stole a typewriter to write a short story to get some money to buy more drink. He was caught and spent two long years in gaol. When he came out he came back to my people who helped him get a job. He was a man again. When I last heard of him he was the Secretary of the Y.M.C.A., in one of the biggest cities in America.

Now I'll have to finish off this part of my story. Maybe you didn't like it much. Well, if you didn't, I'm sorry. I'll try to do better next month. There is something you can learn from it, you know. For one thing, you can get a terrible lot of real fun trying to make somebody else's life happier. Just try helping someone who is having trouble of some kind. Don't expect to get paid for it. When you get paid for a job, it becomes a lot harder to do, and it is not nearly so much fun.

Be waiting for me next month. I'll take you to India and Ceylon. On the way, we'll stop over and see New York City.

# Divers Don't Fear

## Deep-sea Monsters

Diving has its perils, but modern divers have concluded that the monsters of the deep so feared in an earlier age are the least of the dangers.

Sharks and barracudas, it has now been reliably established, seldom if ever attack swimmers except when they are near the surface and so appear to be some sort of disabled fish.

Even large octopi retreat from a man moving purposefully over the sea bottom, says the National Geographic Society.

Perhaps the largest octopus yet met beneath the water was one with eyes "the size of saucers" seen by a reputable diver off Piraeus, Greece. The man, courageous as are all inveterate deep divers, admitted he was frightened, but said the animal beat him to the retreat.

A British diver working in Japanese waters said he was annoyed with octopi. Small individuals clustered so thickly on his suit that he could not see through the helmet eyepieces.

There may be huge creatures at the depths to which men have not yet gone that will prove to be dangerous. No diver, for example, has yet met a giant squid (*Architeuthis princeps*) face to face. Weighing up to 30 tons, this carnivorous beast lives normally at depths greater than the 540 feet thus far attained by any suited diver. Like other squid, the giant has ten arms to the eight of its relative, the octopus.

Even without ferocious fauna, divers sometimes have weird and terrifying experiences. Working on the bottom of Sebastopol harbour after the Crimean War, a diver was horrified to encounter a drowned battery of field artillery with skeleton horses still in the traces and skeleton Russian soldiers still in the vicinity. One gunner remained in his saddle, caught by a stirrup. The explanation was simple : British guns had sunk a small boat ferrying the battery across the harbour.

Grisly practical joking lay behind the shattering experience of a diver in the German battleship *Hindenburg*, scuttled at Scapa Flow after World War I. Entering a stateroom, he found a bristle-bearded uniformed figure in a flooded bunk. It was the body of a seal, tucked into the bunk by other divers.

Not the denizens, but the attributes of the sea are the diver's worst enemies. Pressure or its after-effects can kill or cripple him. Air must be efficiently furnished him below lest he suffocate. And even air's ingredients—oxygen and nitrogen—will poison him unless mixed in proportions that differ both from the earth's atmosphere, and for each depth attained.



With all this cold weather about, one would say this picture was obviously taken some time ago.

The hardy swimmers are Dick Archibald of Burnt Bridge with his youngsters, Richard and Helen.

# NOW YOU KNOW!



## HOUSING IS IMPORTANT

### *The End of Slums and Shacks*

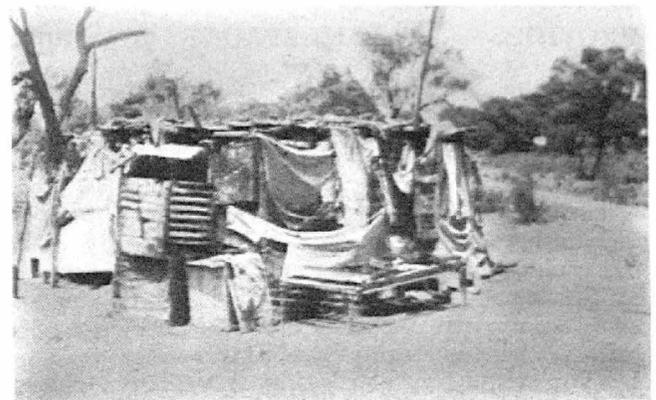
The Aborigines Welfare Board considers the provision of comfortable modern homes for the aboriginal people one of its most important obligations.

They realise that with nice homes comes better health, better hygiene, and a greater social standing

for the people. These two pictures on this page show the old and the new. On the left you see a typical modern home built by the Board, and on the right a filthy shack in that anyone should be ashamed to live in.



Murrin Bridge.



On the bank of the Darling at Menindee.

# HELP YOURSELF

## SUPPORT FOR LONG GUTTER LENGTHS PERMITS INSTALLATION BY ONE MAN.

An adjustable support holds one end of a new length of gutter while you fasten the hanger at the opposite end. It's just the thing for bungalow and ranch-type homes where the gutters are at a uniform height. Use 4 x 1 for the upright and the angle bracket at the top end. Nail a crosspiece to the lower end of the upright and brace it as shown. If you require height adjustment, drill a row of equally spaced holes near the top end of the upright as well as in the angle-brace member, joining these parts with bolts and wing nuts. In use, the horizontal brace rests against the house.

\*        •        \*        •

Dry lime sprinkled on tender plants will protect them from damage by rabbits. Use a discarded flour sifter for uniform distribution with a minimum of waste. It should be remembered that continued use of lime, for more than one season, will tend to "sweeten" acid soils.

\*        \*        \*        \*

Printing can be removed from flour bags by soaking them in kerosene for 24 hours and then boiling them for 30 minutes in a strong solution of laundry soap and water. Repeat the process if necessary.

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## BRICK IMPREGNATED WITH KEROSENE PROVIDES WEATHERPROOF CAMPFIRE FUEL.

Soaking an unglazed brick in kerosene for a day or two before going on a hunting or fishing trip will enable you to have a roaring campfire almost instantaneously. To carry the brick, wrap it in heavy paper and, when a fire is desired, simply ignite the brick with a match. Because of the kerosene absorbed by the clay, the brick will burn intensely for an hour or so even in a strong wind or rain. If one end of the brick is buried in a pail of sand or dirt so that the upper half projects, a fire for cooking or warmth can be had with comparative safety in either a boat or tent.

## IMPROVISED BOTTLE OPENER.

When you are unable to find a bottle opener, you can improvise one quickly by using a common nail and a piece of wood. Drive the nail into the wood so that the head projects about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch and hammer over the end so it won't pull out. Remove the cap by hooking the nailhead under the edge of the cap and pressing downward on the end of the wooden handle.



## AIRTIGHT SEAL OF PARAFFIN PRESERVES OIL PAINT IN PARTIALLY FILLED CANS.

Ordinary methods of resealing partially used cans of oil paint usually fail to preserve the paint for long periods of time. However, one man found that covering the paint with an airtight seal of paraffin keeps it in perfect condition. To do this, melt the paraffin in a can which is placed in a saucepan filled with water. This is done because paraffin melted directly over the fire may burst into flame. After the paraffin has melted, pour a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch layer over the paint. When this cools, pour a second layer, tilting the can slightly so the wax forms a seal with the sides of the can.

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## RAY SAMPSON TAKES TITLE

*(Continued from page 14.)*

His southpaw style completely baffled his opponent who had no counter whatever for Sampson's hard, well-timed punches.

Tommy Coulteaux and Tierney's followers were amazed to think their boy could be so easily beaten and by a country boy.

The new champion thoroughly deserved his win; he is a fine sportsman and has the good wishes of all followers of the sport.

Vic Porter, a lightweight boy from the Quirindi Club, was opposed to Jim Rogers, of Balmain Club. This was a very good match with well-timed, clean punches a specialty of the match. Porter appeared to be the master at all times, having Rogers down for eight in the first and third rounds. He appeared to have won comfortably but the verdict went to Rogers. The spectators yelled their disapproval.

# Along The Mail Route—Continued from page 10

A Vigoro team was recently formed at Boggabilla and a very keen interest is being taken in the game by both players and spectators.

On three occasions now the Boggabilla girls have visited Goondiwindi when challenged by the Goondiwindi girls' team known as the Goondiwindi Chicks. Keen rivalry on both sides resulted in some excellent bowling and batting but Boggabilla was victorious on each occasion. Good bowling by Pattie Prince and Gloria Haines contributed a great deal towards the victories.

Girls from Boggabilla Station have now joined the Girl Guides' troop at Goondiwindi. They are Pattie Prince, Isobelle McGrady, Gloria Haines, Margaret McGrady, Pam McGrady, Valmai Wightman, and Retta Binge. It is hoped that many more girls will be able to join when the movement gets properly under way,



**No transport troubles here; Andy and Robert Boney, of Urunga.**

as the girls have a wonderful time and are all very happy. The Guides at Goondiwindi are under the capable leadership of their Captain, Miss Robinson, and a wonderful programme of Camp Fires, Concerts and Picnics give the girls certain encouragement for better citizenship.

The stork has been busy at Boggabilla again, delivering more girls. This time he left daughters for Mrs. Violet McIntosh and Mrs. Norma Binge.

Playing in their annual fixture, the Boggabilla Aboriginal School Football team again defeated the Boggabilla Public School team by 26 to 13.

Not to be outdone the Station girls really turned it on to defeat the Public School basketball team in no uncertain manner.

## PEN-FRIENDS WANTED

David Bott, c/o. Wardell Post Office, Richmond River, wants a pen-friend, preferably a young lady about 22 or 23 years of age.

David, who works on a pineapple plantation with his mother and father, says he gets very lonely sometimes and would love to have a lot of pen-friends to whom he could write.

Barbara Bryant (15), Bellwood, Nambucca, would like a boy or girl pen-friend who is interested in swimming, dancing and collecting film star photos.

Patsy Mumbler (13), Bellwood, Nambucca, would like a boy or girl pen-friend who is interested in swimming, horse-riding and stamp-collecting.

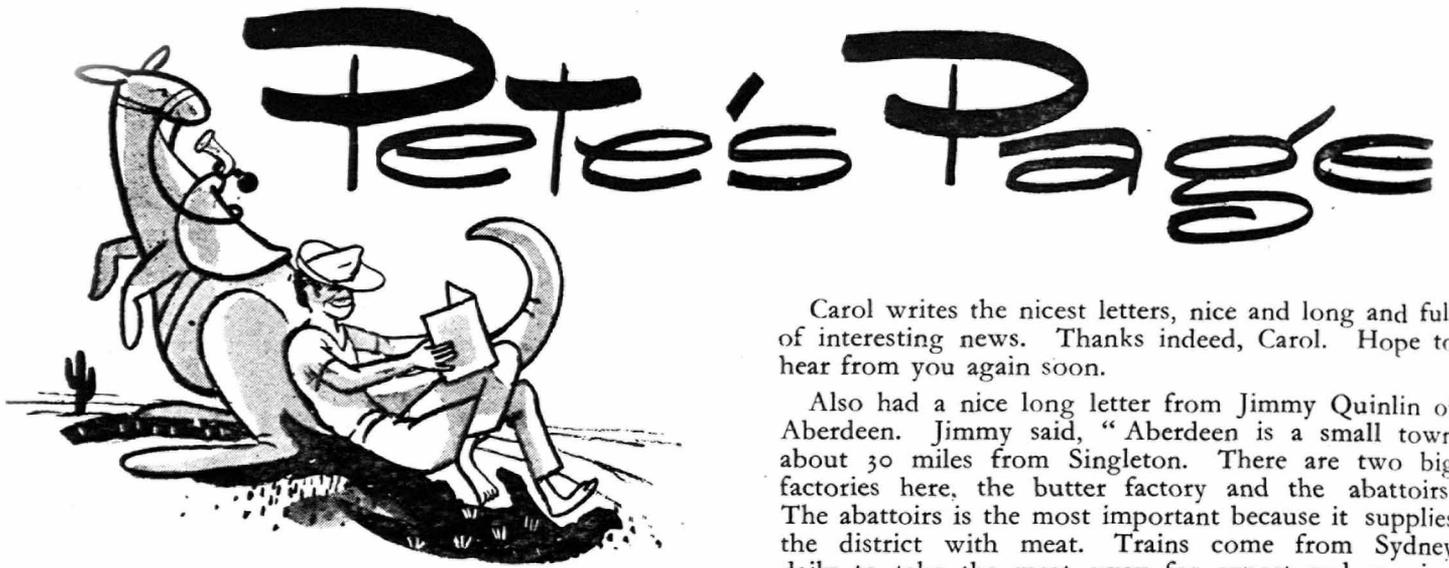
Michael Bryant (10), Bellwood, Nambucca, would like a boy pen-friend who is interested in swimming, horse-riding and out-door sports.

Ruth Bryant (13), Bellwood, Nambucca, would like a boy or girl pen-friend who is interested in swimming, horse-riding and basket-ball.

Colleen Mumbler (15), Bellwood, Nambucca, would like a boy or girl pen-friend who is interested in swimming, dancing, reading and collecting film star photos.



Here you have a few of the Wallaga Lake youngsters having a day on the beach. Do you notice "Spot" the cover dog in the background.



Hello Kids,

Well it's really getting into winter now, isn't it? It's an awful pity because we can't play cricket or go swimming and indeed there always seems to be so many more pleasant things we can do in the summer.

How do you like the nice drawing on this page. It wins a special prize for, Kevin Boney, of Urunga. Congratulations to you, Kevin. Someone said the drawing looked like me, but I think they were just being unkind. I've just had a very nice letter from Carol Donovan, of Bowraville, and when the poor old thing wrote to me she was in bed with the Mumps. (Better now, I hope?).



This fine drawing by Kevin Boney, of Urunga, won him, a special prize.

Carol writes the nicest letters, nice and long and full of interesting news. Thanks indeed, Carol. Hope to hear from you again soon.

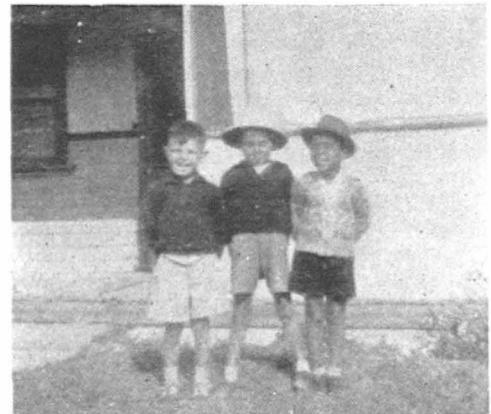
Also had a nice long letter from Jimmy Quinlin of Aberdeen. Jimmy said, "Aberdeen is a small town about 30 miles from Singleton. There are two big factories here, the butter factory and the abattoirs. The abattoirs is the most important because it supplies the district with meat. Trains come from Sydney daily to take the meat away for export and canning purposes. The meat is frozen before it leaves. The tops of the carriages are opened and men pack ice in so the meat will still be frozen when it arrives in Sydney. Most of the people here are now painting their homes and getting them in order again after the floods. I came here from Bellbrook to seek employment and work as a grocer in a self service store. It is a nice clean job and I like it very much. I hope that one day I may be able to work my self up to the position of Manager.

I would like to congratulate my fellow student, Harry Penrith on the good name he made for Kinchela and for himself and hope he keeps up the good work."

Thanks a lot, Jimmy, a very nice letter which wins you a prize. Well Kids, that's all for this month, so once again, lots of fun,

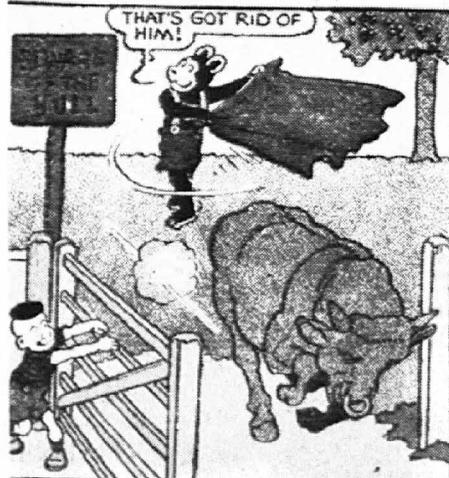
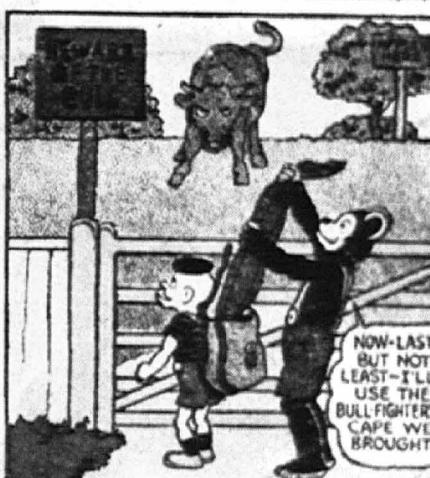
Your sincere pal,

**Pete.**



Richard and Smokey Murray and Tony Kirby, of Balranald.

# Biffo the BEAR



## DAWN IS YOUR MAGAZINE!

If you know any aboriginal people who are not already receiving "Dawn", ask them to send their names and addresses to the Editor, "Dawn" Magazine, Box 30, G.P.O., Sydney, and they will then have the magazine posted directly to them every month.



## Don't Lose Those Vitamins

The value of freshly gathered vegetables has been often stressed in *Dawn*, but unfortunately much of the vegetable's goodness, particularly the Vitamin C content is often destroyed by wrong cooking.

It has been found that soaking for long periods is not good, and that even for cabbage not more than half an hour in salt water is necessary.

Where possible, root vegetables should be no more than scrubbed with a stiff brush. Heavy skinned roots should be thinly peeled.

Often the green outer leaves of lettuce and cabbage

are discarded, but these, as they contain more vitamins than the white hearts, should be used if at all possible. Tough leaves can be shredded for soups and stews.

For cooking, use just sufficient water to prevent the pan from burning and keep the lid on the saucepan so the steam does not escape. Gradually add the vegetables to boiling water (already salted, 1 teaspoon to a quart of water) and cook quickly, but only long enough to make them tender.

Here are some facts worth knowing.

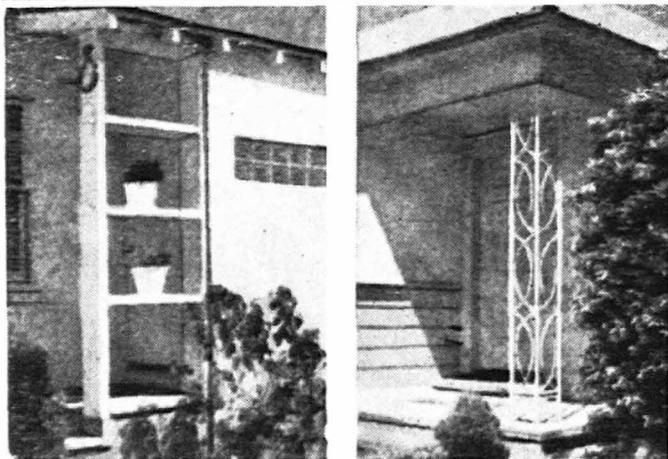
Use of bicarbonate of soda in cooking destroys vitamins B and C.

Keeping vegetables hot in the oven means loss of vitamins.

More of the nutritive value is obtained by using the one liquid in which vegetables have been cooked for soups, stews and gravy.

Baking vegetables in the skin preserves the vitamins and mineral salts.

Parsley because of its high food value should be freely used in white sauce for cauliflowers, leek and similar "white" vegetables.



### MODERN ENTRYWAYS ENLIVEN HOMES.

To relieve severely plain architecture and add interesting detail to his front entry, one man built the wooden frame shown in the left-hand photo. He painted the wood a light tone and set brightly coloured flower pots on the horizontal members. The right-hand photo pictures an entry column, made from lengths of pipe and galvanised wire, that simulates ornamental iron.

June will be 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.

#### VEGETABLES—

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