

Dawn

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

October, 1953.





OUR COVER

A penny for her thoughts! As she sits in a pensive mood, pretty little Adelaide Taylor, of Moonacullah, is possibly wondering what the future holds in store for her.

We wonder too!

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VALE! ERNIE SMITHERS

POPULAR OFFICER DIES



Readers of *Dawn* will learn with great regret of the passing of Mr. Ernest Charles Smithers on the 26th September, at the Caroonna Aboriginal Station. Mr. Smithers, who was visiting the Station at the time in his official capacity, was taken suddenly ill and collapsed. He was buried on the 29th September in the Church of England portion of the Rookwood

Cemetery, after a service at St. Paul's Church, Burwood. His funeral was attended by many of his colleagues and friends, the Chairman of the Board, Mr. Buttsworth, and the Superintendent, Mr. Saxby, who were absent in the country, being represented by the Secretary, Mr. Mullins.

The late Mr. Smithers was known and well regarded by aborigines throughout the length and breadth of New South Wales. Many of them helped him in the installation and maintenance of the water supply systems on the various Aboriginal Stations. He always spoke very kindly of them and was unstinted in his praise of the manner in which they worked. He was a genial soul, and he made lasting friendships at every centre which he visited and throughout those Services which had contact with the Aborigines Welfare Board.

Mr. Smithers, who was 68 at the time of his death, joined the Public Service on the 2nd May, 1912, and retired on the 31st December last. During the early period of his service he was Fisheries Inspector at Urunga and, in conjunction with these duties, was Manager of the Aboriginal Station. He transferred to Sydney in March, 1930, as Inspector of Aborigines, and held that designation at the time of his death, although in latter years his work was mainly concerned with the installation and maintenance of the various water supply systems. Mr. Smithers had high qualifications as an engineer, and the water supply systems on the various Stations were all designed and installed by him. When he joined the Board, in 1930, very few of the Stations had what could be regarded as a permanent water

supply. Most of them depended on very problematical tank supplies, and Mr. Smithers then combined his duties as an Inspector with the practical service of ensuring that the aborigines would never be short of that very necessary commodity—water. It was not all plain sailing, however. Funds were limited, but by acquiring second-hand plant, Mr. Smithers, with his own hands, brought these old engines and pumps to a state of efficiency that in the aggregate saved the Government hundreds of pounds.

Mr. Smithers was actually due for retirement in 1949, but his services were retained until the end of 1952. He then decided that he would finally retire, but the Department was not to lose the services of such a useful officer. When the occasion arose or there was a special emergency, his services were called upon in his engineering capacity, and it was whilst he was engaged on one of these jobs that the end came.

The readers of *Dawn* will join with us in extending to his widow and family our sincere condolences.

J.R.M.



A happy young couple face the world. After their recent wedding, Bob Andy and his lovely wife, formerly Valerie Thomas (centre) pose with bridesmaid Harriet Thomas and best man Basil Andy.



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 young couple from La Perouse set out to do a day's shopping in the city.



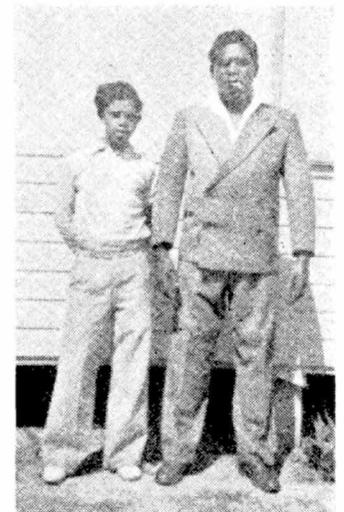
All dressed up and somewhere to go! Little Esme Thomas and Ruth Hoskins, of Wallaga Lake.



Three pretty girls and three big smiles! Helen, Marie and Beryl Andy, of Wallaga Lake.



"What goes on?" says young Trevor Passon, of Wallaga Lake, as he poses for the camera with his sister Janet, and Ruth Hoskings.



Two men from the West! Alf Shillingsworth and Brian Barlow, of Condobolin.



Valerie Masters, of Armatree, and her sisters, Shirley and Leslie.



Tresia Hamilton, of Moonacullah, poses by the river.



Mrs. N. Barlow and Alf Shillingsworth, of Condobolin.



A well-known Moonacullah resident, Lawrence Ross.



Tim Holton, of Bellbrook, keeps fit mowing the lawns of Bellbrook Station.



Charlie Parsons, of Wallaga Lake, poses near his home for Dawn's Cameraman.



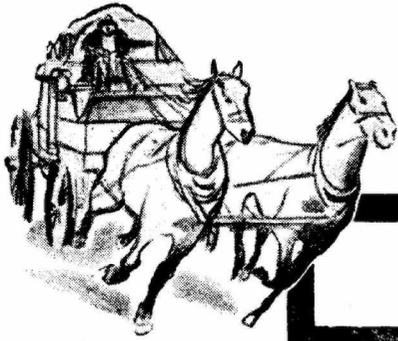
Some of the "young fry" from La Perouse! Mick and Wally Holten, Vickie Solomon and Peter McKenzie.



Pretty Valda Nolan, of Dubbo, chose the railway bridge as a background for her picture!



Three real glamour girls! Lois Goolagong, Jean Newman and Kathleen Bright, all from distant Condobolin.



Along the Mail Route

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. George Longbottom, of La Perouse, on the arrival of a brand-new daughter.

Congratulations also to Mr. and Mrs. Joe ("Bud") Timbery, of La Perouse, on the addition of a son to their family.

The La Perouse Girl's Cricko Team won this season's competition in their particular division, and say they will do even better next year.



Wesley Day, of Moonacullah, giving his little brother Edgar a ride on the new motor bike.

Residents of La Perouse mourn the passing of Mrs. Robert Simms, after a long illness.

The Editor of *Dawn* recently paid a hurried visit to Wreck Bay and was delighted to see so many of the residents taking a keen interest in their gardens.

The Stork recently paid a visit to Coonabarabran and left a son for Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Watton.

The management and the residents of Tabulam Station are congratulating the school teacher and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Soorley, on the return of their son John from hospital in Brisbane. John is almost one year old and promises already to become another (Soorley) footballer.

Having completed a tennis court, which is proving a wonderful boon to the station, the residents of Bellbrook are now thinking of a cricket pitch.

A team of aborigines recently played the local team from the Bellbrook township, and surprised everyone by beating them. Bellbrook scored 175, of which the Station supervisor, L. Ellem, contributed 52 retired, but Bill McDonald came to the rescue of the aborigines with a well compiled 95. Denzil Quinlin scored 39, and then George Cohen assisted with some hurricane hitting towards the close of the day. Jimmy Kelly showed good form with the ball, and should do well this year.

A cricket pitch has been put down at the school and the boys are very enthusiastic about it. The school now has a tennis court, cricket pitch, a volley ball set, a circlos set, soccer ball and medicine balls. Football is of course a favourite, and with the creek handy for swimming, the school children are well equipped for sport.

The Manager and Matron of Tabulam Station were very pleased to welcome the Chairman of the Board, Mr. Buttsworth, also Mr. Saxby, during their visit to the North Coast.



The Nolan family from Dubbo: Valda, Bill, Peggy and Joan.



ANNUAL SUMMER CAMP FOR FAR WEST CHILDREN

The Board, encouraged by the success of the previous Annual Camps, has given its approval for the holding of another Camp during this summer's school vacation.

The Camp site used for the three previous years at Collaroy will, however, not be available this year, but it is not expected that those who are fortunate enough to be chosen for the Camp will be disappointed when they find that this year it is to be at La Perouse.

The Camp this year will be under canvas and a large marquee is being made available by the Army for meals and recreation. It is proposed to have the usual entertainment, the high-light, of course, being a visit to Taronga Park.

The Camp is to be held from the 11th to 23rd January, but as the number is limited, there are bound to be quite a lot of disappointments, especially amongst those who have been to Camps in the past.

The children to attend the Camp are to be drawn from various centres of the far west and will be allocated on a quota basis. There will be certain qualifications necessary, but parents who wish their children to attend should make application to the Sergeant, or Manager, or Aborigines Welfare Officer, as the case may be. It must be remembered, however, that it might not be possible to satisfy every application.

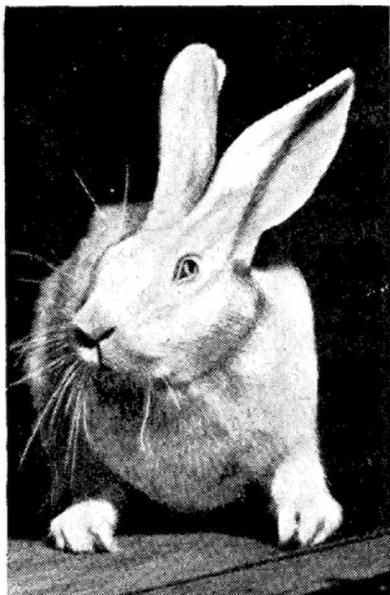
Children will be transported free of charge and Camp equipment will be provided. Each child will be provided with a list of clothing and extras, which they

must bring with them. Parents will be asked to contribute £3 for each child attending. Inability on the part of the parents to do this will not disentitle the child to consideration for participation in the Camp, but preference will be given to those children whose parents have agreed to pay.

It is expected that in some centres Committees will be formed to raise funds where necessary so that children, whose parents would not otherwise have been able to contribute, may attend the Camp.



Russell Robinson, the handyman of Tabulam Station with ZU-San, the Manager's Bulldog. Russell was very chary of her when he first met ZU-San, but now he knows her better. He takes great delight in telling every one not to be frightened of her, and to quote his own words: "Hers and me's mates now."



BUNNY

versus

BEEF



It's doubtful whether Brer Rabbit will appreciate the signal honour being accorded him, but there's a move under way to raise his standing in the top favourite of dishes on America's dinner tables.

Not that the rabbit isn't already on many menus, what with rabbit stew, fried and roast rabbit, rabbit hash. But he's got a long way to go to reach the good-old-standby rating enjoyed by such things as roast beef and hamburger.

Out to shove the rabbit into this golden circle of American favourites are the commercial bunny breeders of the south-west States, led by the Texoma Rabbit Breeders' Association. Already on the market is a new packaged product called "Hop Chop," consisting of fryer-size rabbits.

And soon to make its debut is the Bunnyburger ground rabbit served with barbecue sauce and pickle relish, a tidbit concocted by members of the association

Big factor behind the move to promote more uses for the long-eared hoppers is the magnitude of the current boom in commercial breeding. From the American Rabbit and Cavy Breeders' Association, Inc., in Pittsburgh, comes the report that rabbit production in the south-west area alone has almost tripled in the past year.

Rabbits are being raised for commercial purposes in every State in the U.S., with California topping the production list and handling about one-third of the national output.

Cattlemen are adding rabbit breeding to their operations under the theory that cattle pay the expenses, rabbits produce the profit.

For hobbyists, it's a boon. Roy Harp, of Bonham, Texas, for example, two years ago bought a pair of

rabbits for his kids for two dollars. To-day, he owns more than fifty does, last year sold 1,200 dollars' worth of stockers and fryers.

L. T. Rickerson, of Durant, Oklahoma, began raising rabbits a year ago with an initial "herd" of ten. A few weeks ago his "crop" had grown to 1,100, of which he sold 600 for 922 dollars. In addition, he operates a mail-order house for buying, trading and selling rabbits.

Any similarity between the rabbits raised by these breeders and the common variety seen bounding through the fields is purely coincidental. Of the fifty-five popular breeds of rabbits in the U.S., only six are in great demand commercially. The most popular of these is the New Zealand White, primarily for its fur. The others are the Californian, New Zealand Red, Chinchilla, Champagne d'Argent and Checkered Giant. These produce a meat that is pearly white, while the common cottontail's is dark.

In the meat department, breeders point with pride to a statement in a recent Department of Agriculture bulletin on rabbit production: "Rabbit meat is equal to beef in nutrition and has practically the same food value, pound for pound." To this, rabbiteers add that their average product is only 6 per cent. bone, compared with 50 per cent. for the average chicken.

In the by-product department, furs and skins lead the field. Feet and intestines are used for fertiliser. Some rabbits are raised for experimentation.

Like the pig, for which a use has been found for everything but the grunt, only the twitch in the rabbit's nose is being wasted.

SIZZLING BOUTS AT TILBA

Successful Boxing Tournament.

A boxing tournament was recently organised by the Wallaga Lake Recreation Club, and held in the Central Tilba Hall. This tournament was a great success and the bouts were well contested. A sum of £19 was collected and donated to the Bega District Ambulance.

A great deal of the success of the function was made possible by Mr. Morton, manager of the Wallaga Lake Aboriginal Station, and his band of willing workers from far and near.

In charge of the ring, and the mustering of the various opponents, was Mr. Clem Welsh, of Cobargo. The referee was Mr. Bill Crome, of Bermagui.

During the evening, all the participants received gifts of cigarettes, tobacco, and chocolates, donated by Collins' Store, at Central Tilba.

In between boxing bouts, the men of the Station rendered several items, among the artists being Ted Mullet, late of the Tivoli Theatre, Sydney, who sang "Danny Boy," and "The Maori's Farewell."

Roy Thomas sang the "Memorial Song of the Late Dave Sands," and "Too Young."

Other musical items were rendered by Tim Chapman, Cecil Thomas, Ian Hoskins, Brian Silif and Brian Benny.

Results of the boxing bouts are: Desmond Priestley d. Guy Lucas; Gordon Booth d. Kevin Parsons; Vincent Thomas d. Edward Parsons; Max Harrison d. John Armstrong; Les Darcy d. Rawden Parsons; Lindsay Picalla d. Ron Shaw (Bega); Bob Case (Bermagui) d. Desmond Thomas.



Pam Tighe, an ex-Coota. girl, now living at Young, on her way to tennis.

GARDENING SHIELD TO NANIMA

Superintendent Makes Presentation

The Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare, Mr. Saxby, recently formally presented the Arthur Yates Shield for Gardening to the Nanima School. Nanima School won the shield when it was donated for competition amongst the New South Wales Aboriginal Schools for the first time last year. (This must not be confused with the current competition which will be judged within the next few weeks.)

The Nanima children won the competition under the direction of the schoolmaster at that time, Mr. D. Gunter.

The Superintendent made the presentation before the assembled school and parents and citizens in the bright red and cream schoolhouse. He was accompanied by Area Welfare Officer P. E. Felton, and a representative of the *Wellington Times*. Both Mr. Saxby and Mr. Felton received an enthusiastic welcome from the parents and citizens and the children, and later the children sang and recited for them.

Making the presentation, Mr. Saxby said the children should be extremely proud to be the first to win the beautiful shield. "The name of your school will be the first on the shield, and it remains for you to see whether you can keep it there," he said.

"Many other schools will be trying to win it, and you will have to try very hard to keep it.

Mr. Saxby said life was very varied, and many things went to make it so enjoyable.

"These things include friendship, love, music and many others," he said, "but one of the most important is colour."

"Colour is at its best when produced by nature, and nature has nothing more beautiful than its flowers," he said.

"That is why we want flowers around our homes . . . so we can enjoy them to the fullest extent. You children have the right idea by planting flowers which will shortly burst into a blaze of colour. The rain which fell yesterday and to-day will hasten their growth and make them all the more beautiful," he concluded.

Ron May then accepted the shield on behalf of the School. He said, "Thank you very much, Mr. Saxby. It is a very beautiful shield and we will work very hard to keep it."

Mr. J. Ah See, on behalf of the School Parents and Citizen's Committee, also spoke expressing their appreciation of the Board and its activities.



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

16th June, 1953.

Dear Mr Davis,

Thank you for your letter of the 12th June, and for having sent for The Queen a copy of "Dawn". I will certainly take an early opportunity of laying your letter and this interesting publication before Her Majesty.

Yours sincerely,

Assistant Private Secretary.

"DAWN" GOES TO THE QUEEN

SPECIAL ISSUE PREPARED

On the occasion of the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, a special issue of *Dawn* was prepared and airmailed to Buckingham Palace, and it was planned that the arrival of *Dawn* should coincide with the Coronation.

and at the same time demonstrate the interest that was being taken in the welfare of those same people.

It was intended that the publication endeavour to convey to Her Majesty the love and affection of her native peoples from the Commonwealth of Australia,

Not long after, the Editor of *Dawn* received the letter which is featured above. It is felt certain that the aboriginal people of New South Wales will feel proud that their own magazine, one of Australia's most unique publications, reached their Queen and that it was so well received.

TREES FOR THE INLAND

By

MICHAEL SAWTELL.



It is an unfortunate fact that Inland Australia is seriously deficient in trees. I am inclined to think that even millions of years ago in post-glacial times, Inland Australia has never been well covered with large trees.

There are good timber trees in North Queensland, also on the eastern coast of the continent, and in Gippsland, and over in the south-west of Western Australia there are the famous jarrah and karri forests, but none in the Inland.

We now know that Inland Australia was once covered by the ocean, and that what we now call the continent of Australia was divided into two large islands.

Later when the sea receded, Lake Eyre became a huge fresh-water lake, with great rivers pouring into it from the north. In those days many strange animals roamed about the Inland, such as great kangaroos 12 feet high, and many other now extinct animals, whose fossil remains we may see to-day, reconstructed in the Museums of the capital cities of Australia.

But there do not seem to be many fossil remains of ancient trees in the Inland.

At Lake Callabonna in the north-east of South Australia, the scientists have dug up many fossil remains of animals; but very few, if any, trees. Over from Lake Callabonna in New South Wales, just a few miles south of Tibooburra, out on the downs, are a few fossil remains of small trees, lying there neglected.

We Australians are a careless people. In any other country in the world, those trees would have an iron protecting railing around them, and on the roadside a sign post, pointing "This way to the fossilised trees." But the only signpost I have seen in the Inland was one pointing "Two miles to water," and some wag came along and wrote on the other side, "40 to beer"!

We must start a great tree-planting campaign in the Inland. Water for the Inland is not all the story, for trees are just as essential. In the tiny bush towns around Lake Eyre there are no trees, and the pioneers have not planted any, for I am sorry to say that the ordinary Australian is not tree conscious, and would sooner cut a tree down than plant one. There are not enough trees even in the beautiful town of Alice Springs;

and as for Tennant Creek, I think the town is a disgrace, for, although millions of pounds worth of gold have been taken out of it, the people have not made any attempt to beautify the town in any way, and, of course, they have not planted a single tree in that bare treeless country.

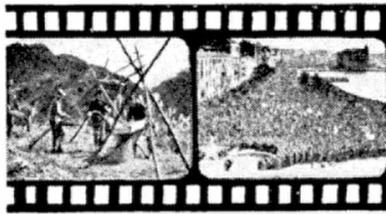
I would suggest that one way to plant trees in the Inland would be to have a government nursery in such towns as Alice Springs, and when a truck driver or motorist was going up the road, give him a cutting to plant. Hundreds of motorists go up the North-South road, and it would take them only a few minutes to plant a cutting. In the wet seasons, the trees would easily take root. Leave a spade at the last tree, so that each man could take up the spade on to the place where the next tree was to be planted. By this means in a few years, we could have an avenue of trees on the Darwin-Alice Springs road.

If I were asked what trees we should plant, I must answer that we call in the aid of the botanists, for there are no doubt many hardy drought-resisting trees that I do not know.

Our indigenous trees, the gidgee and mulga, are good, but they are slow growers, and their roots do not go down deep enough. I do suggest, however, that the Athol tree, which was imported into the Inland from California by Mr. Essington Lewis, is just the tree for our hot and dry Inland. It is growing most successfully at Newcastle Waters and in other towns. It is not a large tree for timber, but it is good for shade, windbreaks, and for fencing posts.

We need trees in the Inland—great belts of them—for shade, for posts, and for beauty—to hold the soil together, to prevent erosion and to influence the rainfall. Morris Park in Broken Hill, where the Athol tree is used, is a wonderful example of how trees can reclaim the desert and stop soil erosion.

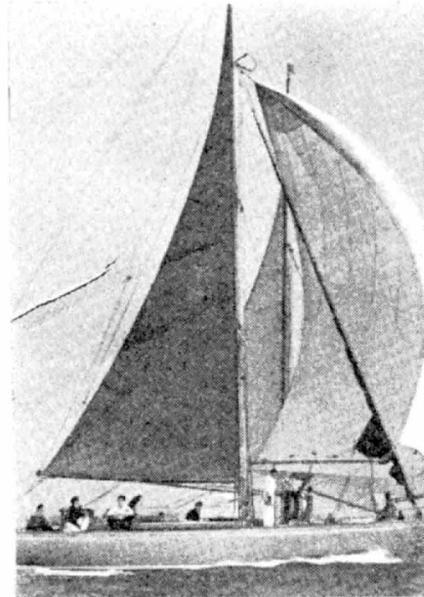
A house without trees can hardly be called a home. Therefore I am always delighted when I see trees planted around the homes of aborigines living on the Board Stations. I know that our managers will encourage our aborigines to plant more trees. It is most interesting to know that UNESCO is fighting the Sahara Desert on a thousand-mile front, and that they are using eucalyptus trees from Australia. So, now, what about doing a bit of home tree-growing?



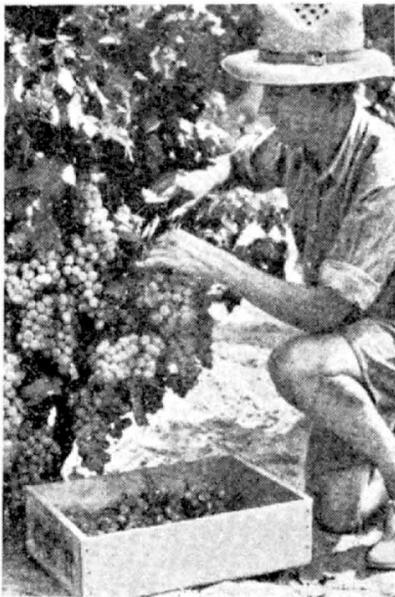
AROUND THE WORLD



Grape workers with a heavy crop of beautiful white grapes, and vineyard at Orchard Hills, near Penrith.



These yachts present a beautiful sight in Sydney Harbor.



This vine has such a heavy crop of grapes it can hardly carry them all. Australian vineyards produce some of the best grapes in the world.

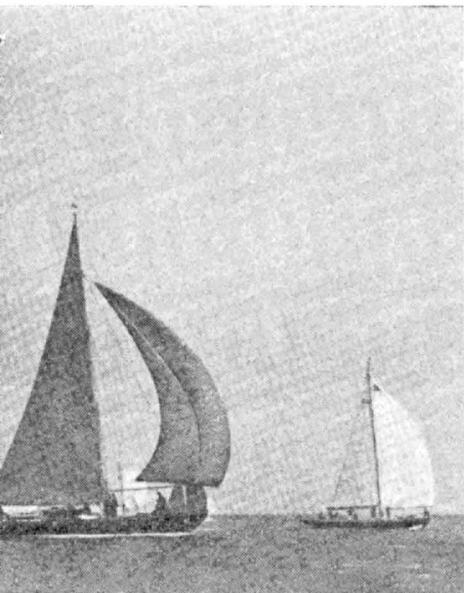


This young man from Hermansbury Mission, South Australia, enjoys his bath so much he even eats the soap.

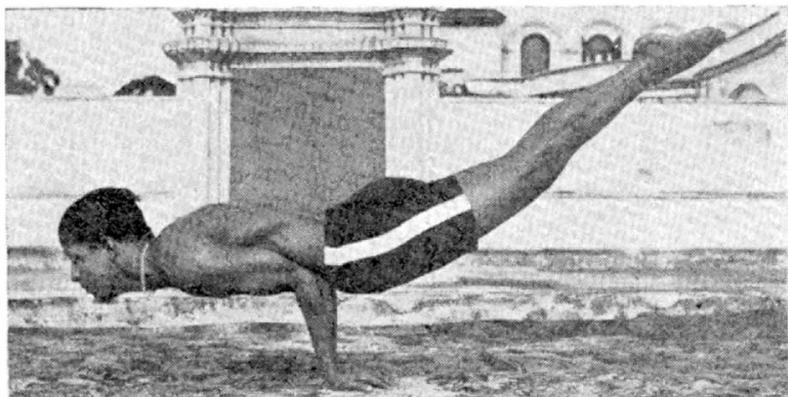


"Chic, isn't it!" I always can make a hat out of soap, for example," says 18-year-old...

WORLD



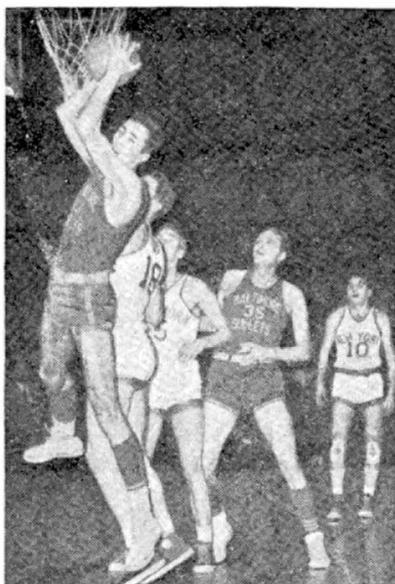
as they speed across the waters of the in full sail.



An Indian athlete performs a difficult balancing feat. If you think it's easy, try it!



s say if a girl has ideas, she anything. "Take this sponge, months-old Susan Withers, of London.



American basketballers in a fast game. This popular indoor game attracts over 100 million fans a year in the United States . . . not so popular here in Australia.



A useful cat to have about the place. When the darts players throw their darts into the board this clever kitten, Snowball, pulls them out.

MORE EXEMPTED PEOPLE

RESPONSIBILITIES ACCEPTED

To-day we find more and more aboriginal people striving to fend for themselves, accepting the responsibilities of citizenship and making a sincere effort to take their place in the world alongside their fellow men and women.

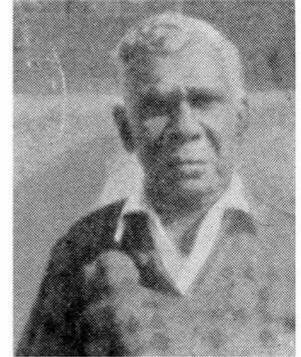
The people featured here are justly proud of the fact that the Board has seen fit to honour them with Exemption Certificates.

The exemptions are not handed out merely for the asking but only after the people have shown by their conduct, their way of living, and their general approach to the problems of to-day, that they have earned the right to be regarded as full citizens of our State.

These are the people who are setting a shining example for the other aboriginals of our State, the people who are proving their ability and indeed their willingness to accept the full responsibilities of citizenship.



Archie A. Green (33), of Euabalong West.



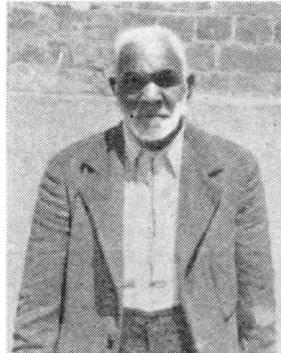
Reginald Quimby (60), from Bourke.



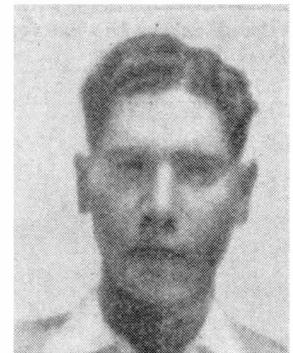
Charlotte Williams (62), of Bonalbo.



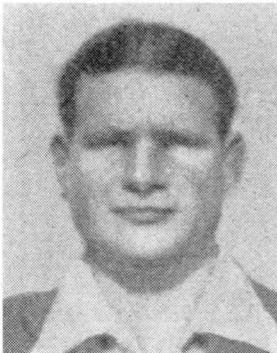
Ernest Webber (66), of Coonamble.



Patrick Shepherd (66), from Far-West Bourke.



Leonard A. Dates (28), from Raymond Terrace.



Ernest Wighton (29), of Condobolin.



John Robin Binge (22), of Narrabri.

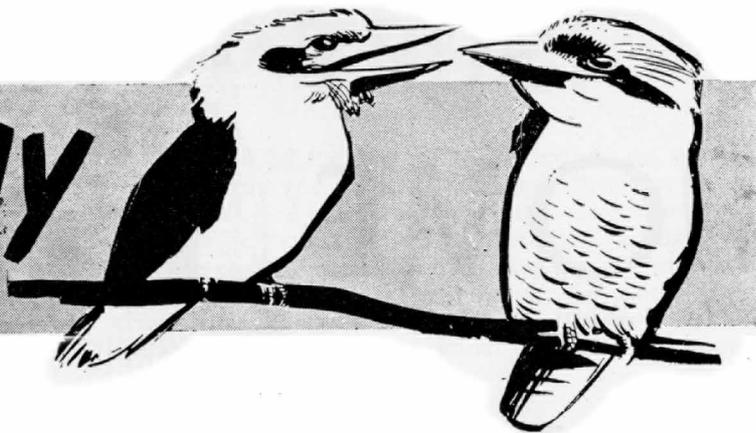


Stanley Thomas Richards (18), from Condobolin.



Rita Gallagher (28), of Newtown.

THEY SAY



Boxers from Bellbrook are doing well in the Kempsey Stadium. It was here that Dave Sands began his career and, perhaps, some of our boys shall one day become a champion. Ray ("Tiger") Kelly and Cliff Dunn have had good wins, and Eardley Vale and Barrie Cohen hope to get matches in the very near future.

Congratulations to the following Bellbrook residents who had birthdays in September: William Little, 15 years on 22nd September; Dina Quinlin, 6 years on 20th September; Vincent Holten, 21 years on 22nd September; Bertie Holten, 38 years on 8th September; George Quinlin, 14 years on 20th September.



Bill Masters of Armatree, with a fine catch of fish.

Everyone at Tabulam eagerly awaited the results of the visit to Sydney on October 1st of the four children who entered for the N.S.W. sports held in Sydney on that date: Norrie Williams, Bruce Walker, Eddie Phillips, Don Wilson, for the 440 yards relay, Bruce Walker 100 yards age race, and Eddie Phillips for the 100 yards age race. Eddie has already proved himself by being the Champion Athlete at the sports held at Mummulgum. He won the 75 yards race, high jump, broad jump, and the hop, skip and jump without losing a single point. He was also the leader of the victorious relay team.

Unfortunately, the youngsters were not successful in Sydney, but this is attributed not to their lack of ability but to the fact that they were not accustomed to starting with the gun.

Here, their more experienced opponents gained many yards.



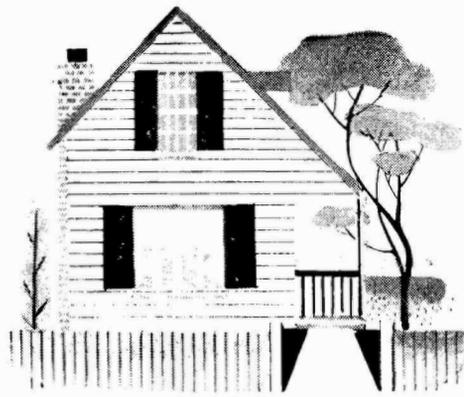
Barbara and Marjorie Masters of Armatree, set out for school on their bikes.

The Manager and Matron of Tabulam Station, and all the residents, have expressed their very sincere thanks to Mr. J. Macintyre, Mr. R. Braid, Mr. V. Cosgrove, and indeed all the other residents of Tabulam, for their splendid effort in supplying the children's football team with new football boots, also for the wonderful co-operation of everyone in Tabulam towards eventual assimilation of the children.



A lovely smile from Kathleen Bright, of Condobolin!

HOME



HINTS

Window Boxes Detached Quickly If Hung With Shelf Brackets

Small flower boxes on garage windows are easy to remove for painting or refilling if they are hung with metal shelf brackets. Two brackets are used for each box. These are inverted and screwed to the top edges of the box ends, and the holes in the upright arms are slipped over heavy screw hooks turned into the siding. To be sure the brackets will clear the window sill allowing the box to hang straight, the box should be longer than the window frame.

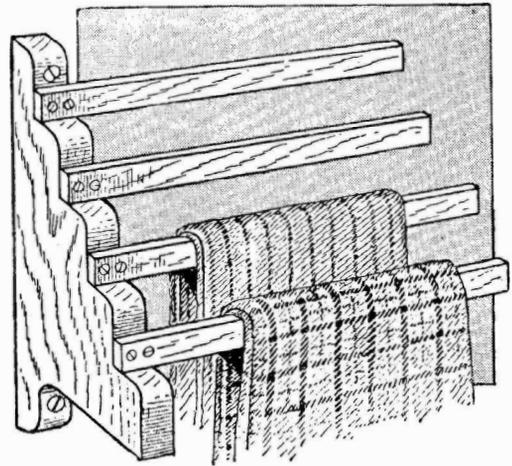


Inhaler

Use your hot water bottle as an inhaler. Half fill with boiling water and add a few drops of eucalyptus oil. Screw stopper in immediately to retain steam. To use, place a towel over the head, remove stopper and inhale.

Shoes

When cleaning two-toned shoes, to keep white polish from getting on dark leather, put duxex tape around the border line. Remove tape after cleaning.



Trouser Hanger Mounted on Cupboard Wall Saves Much Time and Trouble

Instead of taking time to thread trousers through a conventional clothes hanger and then having to search for them when they are needed, you can keep four or more pairs of them ready for immediate selection on this convenient wall hanger. It consists of a wall bracket sawed from solid stock in a series of steps with a strip arm screwed to each step. Flat-headed screws, countersunk, are used throughout and the rack can be painted or stained to match the woodwork or other fixtures in the cupboard.

Lipstick

An empty lipstick case can be useful. Clean thoroughly and fill with washing soap. Replace cap and keep in handbag. The soap will be very handy to stop a ladder in your stocking.

Plastic Bag

A plastic bag makes a good cover for fish, tripe, etc., before putting them into a shopping bag. It protects the other goods carried and also prevents attack by blowflies.

STRANGE BUT TRUE!

The word "khaki" comes from the Persian "khak," meaning earth or dust, and was applied to a colour rather than a fabric. In the early days of the British occupation of India, the soldiers wore regulation red uniforms or white duck, which made them a fine target for Indian snipers. They learned to make themselves less conspicuous by dipping their uniforms in mud. This crude camouflage is said to have been first used by the British in the Sikh wars from 1845 to 1849.

The ancient church at Greenstead, Essex, England, still has its original timber walls, which were erected before A.D. 841.

At the height of the fashion craze for bird of paradise feathers during the 'eighties and 'nineties of the last century, about 50,000 plumes were each year exported from New Guinea. The hunters were so active that it was feared the beautiful birds would become extinct. By the 1920's, the traffic in the feathers was banned, and the species are again becoming plentiful.

Jersey, one of the islands in the English Channel, has been under the British Crown since 1066. The purity of its famous breed of Jersey cattle is carefully preserved.

In the White River region of South Dakota, U.S.A., geologists discovered the home of prehistoric monsters believed to have lived there millions of years ago. Largest creature was the brontotherium, which was similar in appearance to a rhinoceros, and reached the size of a full-grown elephant.

There are probably more species of insects on earth than of all other animals combined. About 800,000 species have been catalogued in museums, including some 250,000 beetles.

The coat worn by the cadets of the U.S. West Point Military Academy bears forty-four buttons, which is claimed to be a button record!

Some superstitious Chinese believe that eating of dogs' flesh gives them courage. They use asbestos, moths, snake-skins, seal kidneys, powdered crabs, four-legged ducks and two-headed turtles in their medicines. To cure malignant fevers, they sometimes swallow powdered rhinoceros horns or pills made with tiger whiskers.

The pitch of the human voice depends on the size of the larynx and the tenseness and vibrations of the vocal cords, and usually a low or deep voice is produced by a large larynx with long cords. Ventriloquists produce their effects from in-drawing the air instead of in the usual manner, by expiration. In animals, the chief organ of voice is the larynx, but birds have a special organ, called the syrinx, which is the source of their song.

There are only nine towns in the whole of Albania with a population of more than 5,000. There are no railways in the country, but 13,000 miles of roads. Only about 9 per cent. of the land there can be cultivated; the rest consists of high mountains and valleys with untillable soil.

For centuries porcelain china was manufactured only in China, because it was believed that that country possessed the only type of clay from which transparent porcelain could be made. Later, it was found that the clay was not unique and was found in various parts of England and in Europe, so porcelain began to be made there, too. However, the word "china" is still generally used, though it has lost its original meaning.

The owl moth of Brazil is the world's largest moth. It measures fully 10 inches from wing to wing.



Two men of to-morrow!
Fitzi Hamilton and Watson
Taylor, of Moonacullah.

HELP YOURSELF



Mortar Box Made From Oil Drum Ideal for Small Jobs

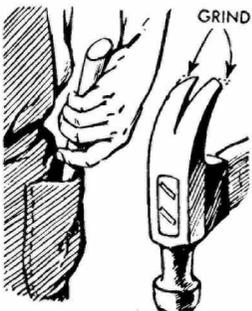
Made from half an oil drum, this steel mortar box is more durable than the wooden type, cannot leak or splinter and is just the thing for small jobs. In addition, its rounded bottom facilitates mixing the mortar and shovelling it from the box. The drum is cut in half, lengthwise, with a torch, and should be steam-cleaned before cutting to remove any fumes which might cause an explosion. Flat-iron legs are welded to the drum to keep it from tipping.

Weighted Tin Cans Support Line When Marking Garden Rows

To mark pairs of garden rows at different depths, such as shallow rows for radishes and deeper rows for beets, one gardener uses weighted tin cans to hold a length of guide line straight. Holes are punched in the sides of the cans and one end of the line tied to each can. Then the cans are filled with soil, which adds sufficient weight to hold the line taut when the cans are spaced apart. Using a wooden marker notched at the centre to fit over the line, the gardener marks two rows at a time, the slack in the line allowing him to apply pressure on the marker to vary the depth of each pair of rows.



Corners of Hammer Claws Rounded To Aid Removal From Pocket



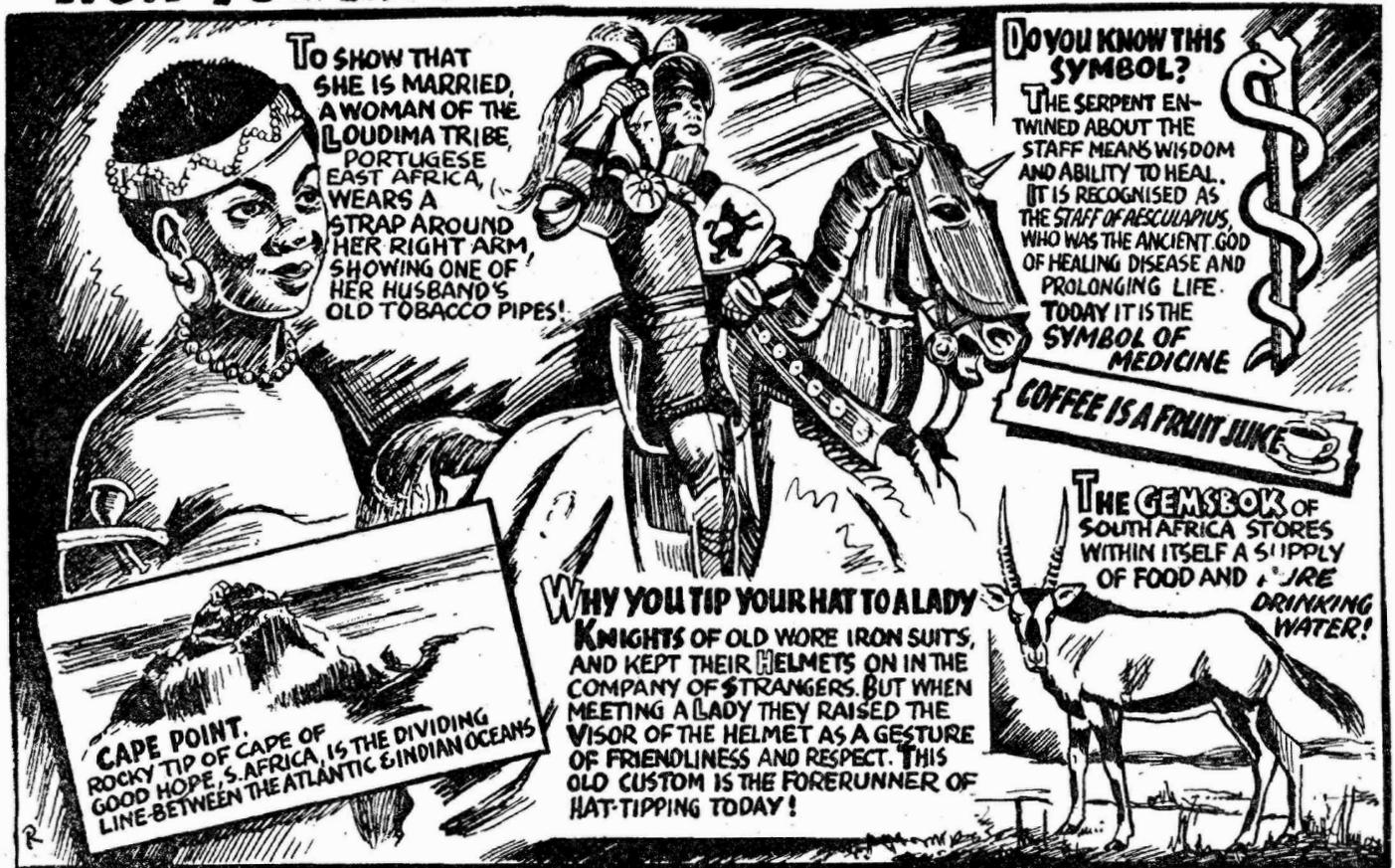
Carpenters who carry claw hammers in their hip pockets find that they are often difficult to remove. However, rounding the outside corners of the claws will not only make the hammer much easier to remove, but will minimize wear and tear on the pockets. Rounding the claws does not weaken them.

Neckties Carried in Suit-case Protected by Magazine

When taking a couple of spare neckties on a trip, use a magazine to protect them from becoming wrinkled in the suitcase. Lay the ties flat between the pages of the magazine as shown.



NOW YOU KNOW!



GARDEN CONTEST NOW

KEEN COMPETITION EXPECTED

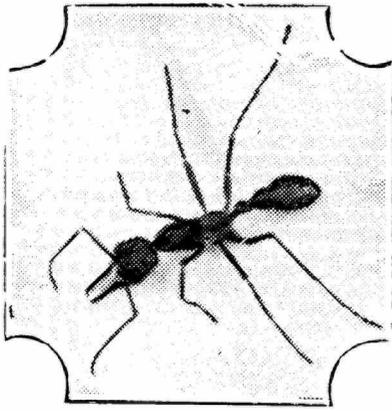
THE Aboriginal schools garden competition has now closed and the judging will take place within the next week or so. As it is impossible for the Editor of *Dawn* to travel to all the stations to inspect the gardens, it has been decided that the judging will be done from photographs.

All schools which had entered their gardens in this competition, which carried the valuable Arthur Yates Shield as first prize, must submit at least three photographs on or before 14th November. Ordinary snapshots will do, but they must be clear, and it is in the interest of the schools concerned that every effort be made to photograph the most attractive features of the garden.

The shield is at present held by Nanima, but this year's competition is very keen and any one of six aboriginal schools may win.

Photographs should be addressed to—

Editor of *Dawn*,
Aborigines Welfare Board,
Box 30A, G.P.O.,
Sydney.



HOW ANTS CHANGE THEIR QUEENS

NATURE'S STRANGE WAYS

A queen ant, marked by a notch in her armour in 1947, was still ruling her army in 1952.

In the army ant world, it's much like Kipling said about another kind of army:

“Boots—boots—boots—boots—movin' up and down again!”

In the mind of the distinguished U.S. animal behaviourist, Dr. Theodore C. Schneirla, when he began to study the mystery of the marching army ants in Central America a generation ago, the thought was not so much “boots—boots—boots—boots” as “why—why—why—why?”

Why did the army ants follow such a strict routine—marching for 16 days, with bivouacs at night, and then going into camp for 20 days? Why, among many other questions, were their armies run by queens, and why was one queen-type female selected to fill a commanding-general assignment in preference to some other queen type?

Instinct has much to do with it, of course, but Dr. Schneirla scoffs at the idea that merely saying “instinct” explains such a complex social organisation as a marauding ant army.

“It's instinct plus reactions to local environment,” said Dr. Schneirla, back now from a four-year visit to Barro Colorado Island, Panama Canal Zone, his eighth and last expedition for army ant research. “If you put them in a different environment they act differently. They aren't born knowing a whole, immutable plan of operations.”

Well, what sets off the reactions to local environment? What is the main influence that drives the army? It's various odours, and the most important odour of all is the queen odour, which the ants find exciting.

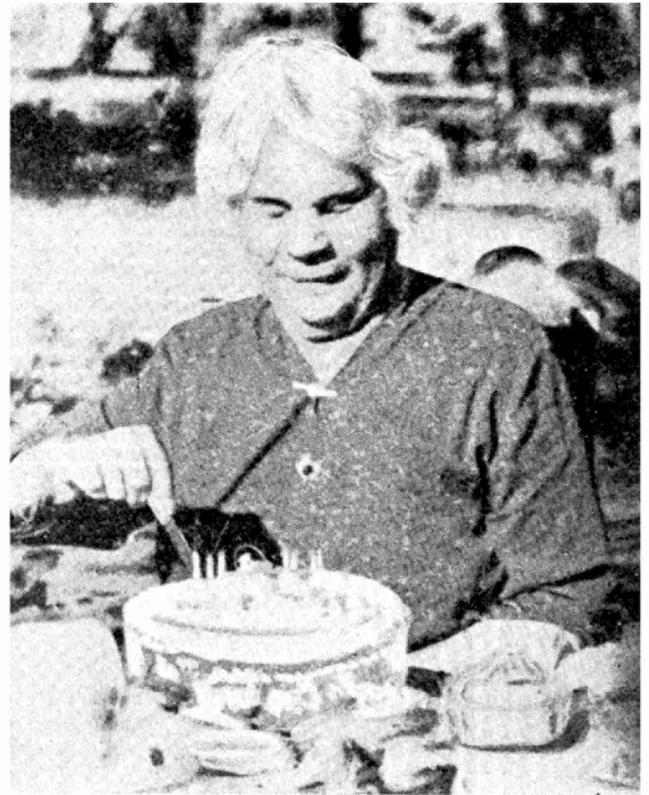
The queen rules an army, or community, of about 40,000 ants and provides recruits and replacements for casualties by laying batches of 25,000 eggs every 45 days. These eggs all will produce females which will spend their lives as virgin work-soldiers.

The eggs are laid at the end of a 20-day encampment period. They immediately hatch into wriggling, worm-like larvae which exude an odour—later lost—that excites the adult worker ants to go foraging and battling for enemy-ant and wasp eggs and the like in their characteristic, tree-like pattern of columns.

Every night the army moves to a new bivouac, carrying the larvae with it, for it soon exhausts all the food in one neighbourhood.

At a certain time each year, the queen lays male eggs, 1,500 of them, and queen-type eggs (only six).

The males fly away, as they have to do to become potent, and a few of them find other ant armies and mate with queens there. At this time also each army divides in two. One group goes with one of the new queen-types whose scent is especially exciting. The other usually continues to follow the old queen. Sometimes, though, the old queen is deposed.



Mrs. Ellie Mary Goolagong, who was born at Condobolin, celebrating her 90th birthday. Once an active horse-woman, swimmer and diver, she has reared a big family of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

THE BOYS FROM TABULAM

A DAY OUT IN THE CITY



There are many readers of *Dawn* who have never been to Sydney and never seen the sea. I wonder how many? How many have never left the small town in which they live? Recently, a party of boys and their parents came to Sydney from Tabulam so that the boys could participate in the All Schools Sports, and it was quite an adventure as most of the party had never been away before.

As it was their first visit to Sydney, the Board arranged for them to see something of the city before returning. First of all, they were taken for a ride in an electric train which goes under the ground to the other end of the city. Here, both children and parents were thrilled to have a ride on the long escalators. An escalator is a moving stairway. You just stand still on a step and you are taken to the top without having to move!

Then it was decided to visit the Zoo, and everyone went down to Circular Quay and caught a ferry boat. It was quite exciting to be able to see the Harbour, the Harbour Bridge high overhead, and a large ship which had come all the way from France.

At the Zoo there were so many things to see—animals and birds from all over the world are there—lions, tigers, zebras and, of course, the monkeys. One of the monkeys had a mirror and couldn't understand why he couldn't find another monkey behind the mirror.

All the boys were asked whether they wanted to ride on the merry-go-round, miniature train or the elephant, and they all chose the train. Then everybody rushed off to see the seals fed. Almost as soon as the fish thrown in by the keeper had touched the water, one of the seals gobbled it up.

There were more animals to see then, the crocodile who looked just as if he was smiling in his sleep but who would eat you up if he had the chance, the giraffes with their long necks, the tortoises who live for hundreds of years and big grizzly and polar bears.

Even though there was a storm during the afternoon, nobody minded, and I think the parents were glad to sit down and rest. The Welfare Officer from the Board who was in charge of the party certainly was.

The afternoon came to an end too soon and back across the Harbour in the ferry. On the way, dozens of little sailing boats were passed as they took part in races. Sunday afternoon on Sydney Harbour is always a pretty sight.

After a good rest and a good dinner, the party boarded the train and set off for home. They were all very tired but assured everyone that they would never forget their visit to Sydney.

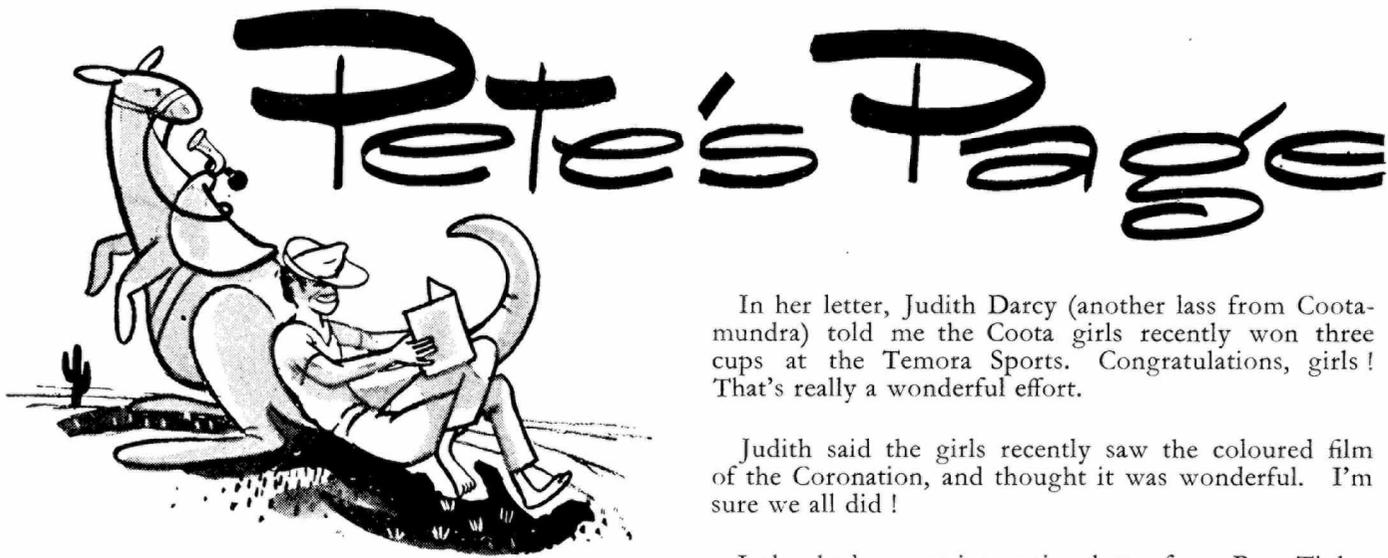
The Welfare Officer in charge of the outing, Mr. H. J. Green, commented afterwards:—

“The behaviour of both children and adults was excellent. It is a long time since I have found a group of aboriginals so well mannered and they were sincerely appreciative of everything that had been arranged for them.

“The Manager of Tabulam Aboriginal Station and the Teacher-in-Charge of the School can feel justly proud of the members of the visiting party.”



When little Audrey Jane Durnam (5), came across a motherless six weeks old Soay sheep at the London Zoo recently, she was delighted when told she could give the baby its morning bottle.



Hello, Kids,

This is the time of the year we all look forward to, isn't it? Nice long warm days with plenty of fat fish in the creeks!

Many of my young friends will be busy preparing for the Annual Summer Camp, of course, and I look forward to seeing many of you once again.

In Sydney, of course, everyone is busy planning the decorations for the visit of our Queen early next year, and the city will really look marvellous. How many of you will have the opportunity of coming to Sydney then?

I have a letter from Lorraine Turnbull of the Cootamundra Home (Lorraine also sent me a painting). In her letter she said, "I do like getting *Dawn*. I came here from Armidale and we didn't get *Dawn* there. I'm a new girl here at the home, 13 years of age and I go to the High School. I'm very fond of missionary work, and hope that one day I can be a missionary."

Thank you for your letter, Lorraine, and I hope that one day you may get your wish.

I also had a nice letter from Ida Dennison, another girl from the Cootamundra Girl's Home. Ida, who was 14 recently, is very anxious to get some pen friends—boys or girls around about 13 or 14. So how about it, kids? It can get rather lonely when you're away from home, you know, and Ida would answer all her letters.

In her letter, Judith Darcy (another lass from Cootamundra) told me the Coota girls recently won three cups at the Temora Sports. Congratulations, girls! That's really a wonderful effort.

Judith said the girls recently saw the coloured film of the Coronation, and thought it was wonderful. I'm sure we all did!

I also had a very interesting letter from Pam Tighe, an ex-Coota girl. Pam, whose address is now R.M.B. 823 Temora Road, Young, said:

"I do hope you will continue sending me your monthly edition of *Dawn*, as I do like to see just what all my friends are doing and also see the photos that are sent in. I am enclosing a photo. of myself which was taken before I left for tennis on Sunday. I belong to a tennis club and we play nearly every Sunday. Next week they are having a night competition in town, in which I've entered. I'm just a beginner at tennis and might not do so well, but I'm sure it will be quite an experience and good practice; they say you must be in it to win it, so you never know—our club may have a 50-50 chance. The team consists of two ladies and two men.

Best wishes to all who make *Dawn* the interesting magazine it is."

Well, youngsters, I think that's about all our news for the present, but how about sending me some more letters and paintings, drawings, poems, etc.?

I think you're all getting lazy. Well, all the best for the time being.

Your sincere pal,

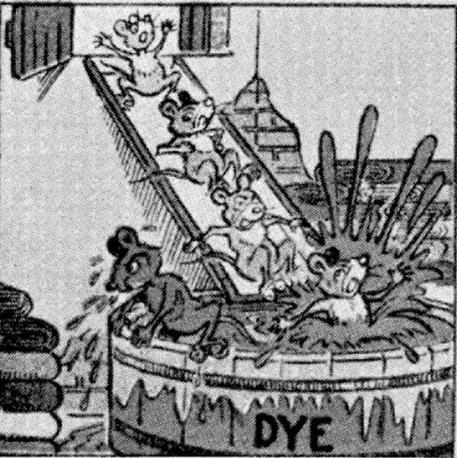
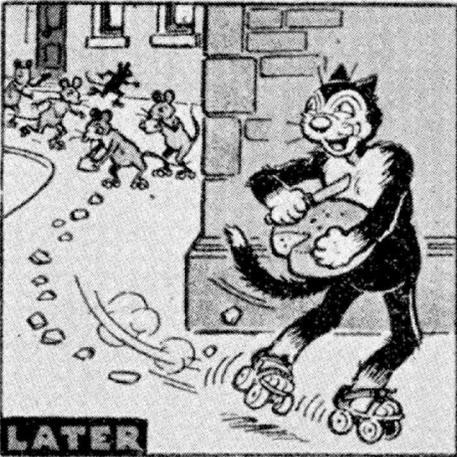
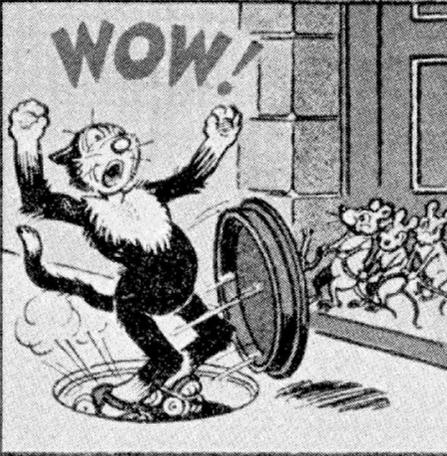
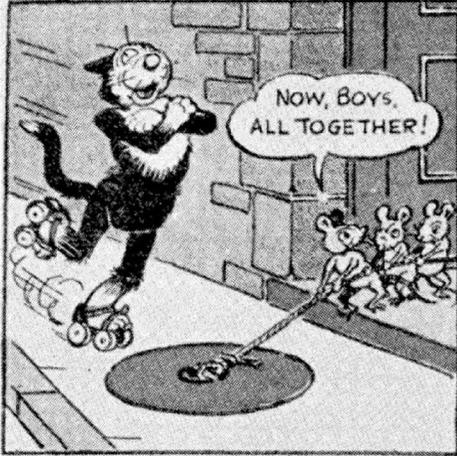
Pete





KORKY THE CAT

EVERYONE AGREES
THAT MICE LIKE CHEESE;
BUT THEY DON'T LIKE CHEDDAR
IF IT MAKES THEM REDDER!



LATER

DYE



IN THE GARDEN

November is the month to grow—

FLOWERS.

Ageratum, Alyssum, Amaranthus, Antirrhinum, Aster, Balsam, Brachycome, California Poppy, Candytuft, Capsicum, Celosia, Carnation, Clanthus, Cockscomb, Coleus, Cosmos, Dahlia, Dianthus, Gaillardia, Gerbera, Helianthus, Kochia, African Marigold, Mexican Sunflower, Nasturtium, Passiflora, Petunia, Phlox, Portulaca, Rhodanthe, Rudbeckia, Salvia, Saponaria, Sesbania, Snapdragon, Sunflower, Tithonia, Ursinia, Viscaria, Verbena, Zinnia.

VEGETABLES.

Butter Beans, French Beans, Capsicum, Cucumber, Egg Plant, Sweet Corn, Tomato.

With the main Spring planting over, the home gardener is able to look around his garden and check up on any jobs that may have been neglected. November affords an opportunity to clean up, spray, prune where necessary, and generally have things ship-shape before early Autumn plantings begin.

Where Spring-flowering annuals have completely finished blooming, pull them out and dig over the beds. Regularly cut off all spent blooms from plants that are still flowering and so give them "a new lease of life." Carnations and Antirrhinums should be cut back hard to induce new growth for early winter flowers. In warm humid weather, dust Carnations with lime and sulphur as an insurance against rust.

Rose trees will benefit if all faded blooms and seed pods are removed and stems pruned back to within two or three eyes of the base. Regular watering from now on will produce fresh, new growth for blooms later on.

Delphiniums and Gerberas can also be coaxed along with, say, fortnightly applications of liquid manure.

FLOWERS FOR SUNNY DAYS

A mass display of vivid red Bonfire Salvia during the summer months is something to remember long after the flowers have gone. These fiery scarlet spikes of bloom, often growing three feet in height, are seen at their best in hot sunny places.

Portulaca also revels in the sun, and these brilliantly coloured flowers will make a brave show in hot, dry places where other plants often fail to grow. Included in the brilliant colours of these single and double flowers are gold, scarlet, crimson, and rose shades.

Keep in mind Sunflower Bronze Hybrids for an easily grown plant to screen low fences or temporarily divide portions of the garden. The bronze and coppery green shadings of these flowers are most unique, and besides being ornamental in the garden will help to decorate the home.

There is still time for a sowing of Lilliput Zinnias. These brightly coloured, pom-pom-shaped flowers have a charm all their own and so easily grown too! Sturdy plants not more than about 18 inches high carry dozens of yellow, gold, scarlet, salmon and rose-pink blooms. Use them for garden border display and dainty indoor decoration.

Early sowings of Cabbage and Cauliflower will soon be starting, and it is not too soon to prepare seed-beds or boxes so that everything will be in readiness. Thoroughly wash out all seed-boxes, preferably with boiling water.

Turn over seed-beds, not too deeply, and renovate the surface with a good loam and well-rotted manure mixed together. If this is done now many weed seeds will germinate before sowing times come round.

Patches of weeds, heaps of grass or rubbish all provide safe harbours for insects, snails and slugs. A thorough clean-up all round will save a lot of seedlings from the attacks of these pests later on.