

TASMANIAN THE VALLEY AND WOODCHIP EAST COAST VOICE INDUSTRY

Registered at the G.P.O. Hobart for transmission through the post as a periodical. Friday 12th December, No 16 Vol 2.

The Chairman of Directors of Tasmanian Woodchip Pty. Ltd. Mr. A. J. (Bill) Newman, told us by phone last Thursday that a chipping plant, and possibly two, would be established in the Fingal Valley area if a rail link connection between Launceston and Bell Bay was built.

He said men would be needed to work these chippers and this, coupled with extra men needed in the bush, would boost employment in this district. The envisaged timber would be taken right through to the East Coast.

'My company had previously prepared to cart by road,' Mr. Newman said, 'But recent suggestions of a rail link had fitted in perfectly with his company's plans. With this new line, we could then cart the 400,000 tons of chips direct to Bell Bay for overseas shipment. It would be a great boost to the railways and provide employment where it was needed,' Mr. Newman added.

To the other important question of price Mr. Newman told us NO price had yet been released, but he assured us his company was very happy with the contract they had with the Japanese and could maintain the same offers they had previously given. I don't think land holders will have any grumbles, Mr. Newman said.

He told us that experts had worked out that the average football type country in the Fingal Valley area could return better than \$1.00 per acre per year after the present stands of timber were removed. This was better than running bush sheep on the same ground.

In the case of land clearable and fit for improved pastures, M. Newman was confident the cost of clearing would be fully borne by the sale of timber from it. And as an added bonus, he said, any millable timber would be paid milling rates.

The export license is the only remaining factor to be settled before the industry gets under way and Mr. Newman does not envisage any hold up in obtaining this license after his company approaches Federal Government early in the New Year.

TOUCH'E

Sequel to the story last issue about ringbarking this years' crop of thistles came from a reader who had just fallen s me of his biggest. He sent us the details on one variegated thistle, eleven feet seven inches long from root to top flower and three inches through at the butt. If anyone doubts it he says, they can inspect it at any time. At the moment it is supporting one end of his dairy.

After seeing one of the stalwarts of the St. Marys District Progress Association spending so much time lately clearing up the future park site, it isnt difficult to know why his nickname is 'Digger'.

EDITORIAL

FUN WEEK

During the Christmas-New year week a series of events are planned in our districts which will add immeasurably to the desirability of being in these areas at that particular time.

The initial organizers of 'Fun Week' are members of the St. Helens Chamber of Commerce and they are to be congratulated on such a forward step to enhance this district in the eyes of tourists and locals alike.

Perhaps the most significant aspect of 'Fun Week' is the way five towns have co-operated to make it a success. Too often in the past, individuals have displayed an insular outlook about their particular town and even though a certain amount of pride is a good thing, a one eyed attitude is not.

It is time this area looked upon itself as a whole, rather than a separate entirety. For only in this way can it progress (or be heard) fully. Because parts of the East Coast and Fingal Valley are governed by three separate local councils and divided by two state electorates, this does nothing to help. But, this should not alter the fact that progress and prosperity in any one town MUST eventually effect neighbouring towns.

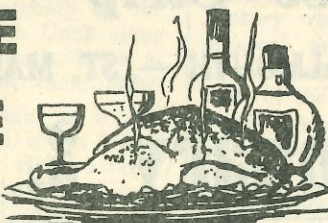
It would seem that the St. Helens Chamber of Commerce with its large membership, covering a large part of this area, could be the answer to future prosperity. In the past, Governments have done painfully little for the part of Tasmania east of Avoca, so it may well be we will have to do more for ourselves.

The St. Helens Chamber of Commerce has shown us something of what could be done. Isn't it time we stopped turning our noses up at each other and put them closer to the grindstone instead?

WINE
and
DINE

at fabulous!

SURFSIDE MOTEL



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SPILSBURY

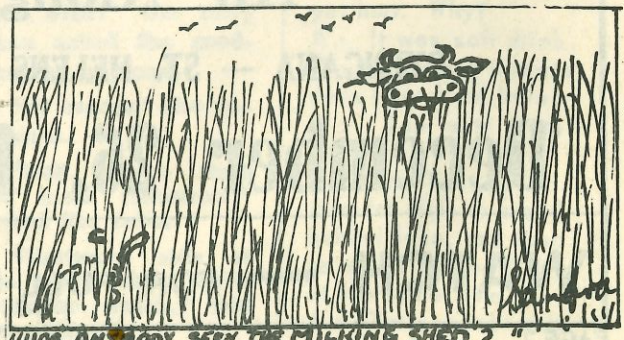
St. Marys Butchery

For Fresh

"Country

Killed

MEAT"



SOCIAL NOTES

An Art Exhibition at Bicheno.

On December 5th and 6th an Art Exhibition was held at the Studio of Mrs. Widdicombe. There was a variety of paintings on display including both oil, water colour and bark pictures. Collections of sea shells also added interest to the exhibition as did the locally polished gem stones. Dried floral arrangements were another feature of the showing, and for those who love flowers there was a beautiful variety of plant cuttings from Mr. and Mrs. Widdicombe's garden. This was the second exhibition to be held in our area recently and considering that all work displayed is executed by local artists we are pleasantly surprised to find so much talent in our midst.

Mr. and Mrs. Ian Mawson of St Marys are looking forward to a visit from Mrs. Mawson parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Hoare of Cornwall are expecting Mr. and Mrs. Hoare Snr. from Adelaide for the Christmas Holidays.

Val Schier is home from University in Hobart, and spending the holidays with her parents at Falmouth.

Mrs. Dorothy Ramshaw of the Home Arts Division at St Marys District High School will be greatly missed as she has been transferred to George Town as Senior Mistress.

Jennifer Burns of St Helens 1st Girl Guide Company was presented with her 1st Class Badge and ALL Round Cord at a Ceremony at St Helens last Friday. Jennifer is the first Guide to gain this honour in the records of the St Helens Company and she was warmly congratulated by the Division Commissioner, Mrs. F. K. Lohrey and Guides and Scouts from St Marys and St Helens.

All their own work

Mr. Gorton is an arrogant and irresponsible man who is a disgrace to the party he now leads and a man who has debauched his inheritance.

— The Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Whitlam

Mr. Whitlam is a petty, angry, disappointed and rather spiteful man.

— The Prime Minister, Mr. Gorton

Australia just can't afford to say no to overseas capital.

— Mr. B. Dillingham, vice-president of the American Dillingham Corporation

To think what a nice boy I had and then them taking him over there and doing what they did to him. It's a dirty shame.

— Mrs. Tony Meadlo, whose son has been implicated in the My Lai massacre

I've been with the action for seven years in England and America—but the action is only a dozen people.

— Artist Ron Robertson-Swann, winner of the Transfield art prize

Politics are interesting—you are talking about world events and the destinies of people.

— Model Ingrid Gee, who has just married Labor Senate leader, Senator Murphy

VALLEY VOICE

for all
Duplicating

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE.... Girls Bicycle 24", \$12. Also pneumatic tyre scooter (needs new tyre) \$4. Phone St. Helens 64.

FOR SALE.... Singer sewing machine treadle, has elect. motor. \$50. Also one air gun model 22, as new. \$10. Phone 11 St. Marys, evenings.

FOR SALE.... Girls bicycle, 26", good order \$25. Dolls pusher as new, \$4. Dolls dropside cot \$5. Ph. St. Marys 168 or apply Mrs. G. Singline, Gray Road.

SALE.... One solid polished dining room table. \$10 or near offer. Ph. St. Marys 141.

WANTED TO BUY.... Fresh killed poultry pref. fowls, Mrs. G. Dean Ph. St. Marys 17.

WANTED TO BUY.... Car trailer, suit medium sized sedan. Reasonably priced. Ph. Gordon Salter, St. Marys 15.

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FUN WEEK

- All Along The Sunrise Strip -

PYENGANA — ST. HELENS — SCAMANDER — FALMOUTH — ST. MARYS

December 26, 1969 to January 3, 1970

WATCH — FOR FULL PROGRAMME IN NEXT ISSUE of "THE VOICE"

HERITAGE CORNER

These excerpts from a letter written by Mr Jas. LeFevre Jun. to the Examiner at the turn of the century were sent in by his great-niece, Mrs C. Royle, and give an idea about the conflicting thought about fauna protection of that time.

He is replying to a letter by a Mr Kirk who had written in favour of total protection. "Now, sir, it is close on 40 years since my good old dad took us as kiddies into the wild woods at Pyengana. Boys and girls we all helped to carry the furniture and bedding, camp oven, etc., the last $\frac{3}{4}$ mile on our backs. Father out the track beforehand to where our future home was to be. Although the writer was only a small boy at the time I can well remember helping father. Brothers, sisters, and sometimes mother would come over and help us clear, dig and fence, and put in vegetables only to feed the pets of this Zooloo Chief. If we built a fence that wallabies could not get through, the opossum, we found, could climb over.

One tragical event whilst passing on. Father said, "Now, boys, drive a peg in right in the centre of today's planting and tie the dog there for the night. The dog is sure to howl all night and should make a good job of it." However, poor old "Ragen" didn't howl for long. He got tangled up tight, and choked and before morning our plants were in the bowels of Mr Kirks marsupials. In time we discovered that the only sure cure was to declare war on our enemies and although we were determined to slaughter them out it took us from 10 to 15 years before we could notice an appreciable change, and in those bygone years the restrictions if any were light. We slaughtered, not thousands, but hundreds of thousands, and unlike David in the days of old, we didn't give all the flesh of our enemies to the fowls of the air. Many of their carcasses went into the pot. The nearest butcher was at St Helens, 24 miles distant, and it was a long walk. We didn't have a horse at that time. There was no post office, no school, no church, no store, and no road further than where Mr E.T. Oldham lives today. Anyhow, we struggled on, but only by the wholesale slaughter of our deadliest enemies did we come out on top.

Only last Saturday, I, with my wife and family, attended a race meeting at Pyengana. My attention was drawn to Mr Kirk's letter. Rather a coincidence. I and some of my old mates were counting the motor cars on that beautifully cleared recreation ground, where hundreds of well dressed and well behaved visitors had assembled and watched one the most successful trotting meets ever held in the district of Portland. This is where our enemies, "Mr Kirk's native jauna," used to frolick in the moonlight, when they disputed the possession of the soil with us. This is where today over a thousand dairy cows and thousands of sheep have taken the place of our enemies.

..... If necessary I shall give Mr Kirk a little more at a later date. In conclusion, I say to our legislators, "Put your house in order, lest it may tumble down."

Remember that book you borrowed?

★ WHY do people who would not dream of stealing, borrow books and never return them?

"Apart from sheer forgetfulness, the main reason is that there is no one special moment when such people know themselves to be performing a dishonest action," says a psychologist.

"They believe that they mean to return the book and, though they may feel a little uncomfortable when they realise how long they have kept it, they are unlikely to decide to keep it permanently. They just postpone sending it back, and so quieten their consciences."

IF ITS HOLIDAY CLOTHES TO YOU WANT

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ST MARYS
AGENTS

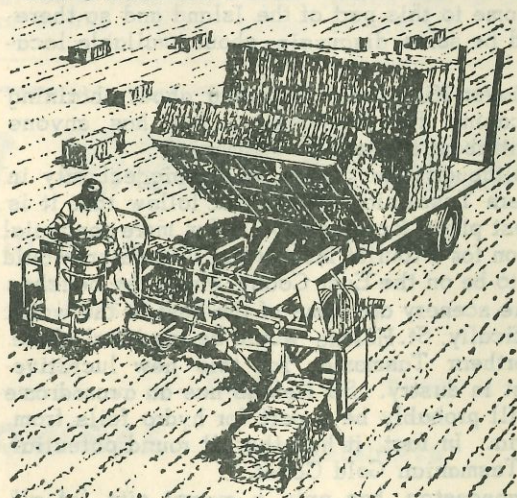


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BRANCHES THROUGHOUT TASMANIA

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Dear Sir,

On Saturday, 15th November, people from the Valley and East Coast had the opportunity to hear first class singing by well known show case star Geoffrey Rankin. Unfortunately this chance and what I consider a privilege, was sadly abused.

I am doubtful that minors would be so lacking in respect and common courtesy. During Mr. Rankine's performance there were interruptions which caused him to change his act to avoid the possibility of being drowned out by the ignorant people present.

Mr. Rankine was happy to provide good entertainment for those who enjoy good music but I am doubtful if other celebrities will be enthusiastic enough to entertain in this area unless the audience is more thoughtful.

'GIVING VOICE'

SCAMANDER

Dear Sir,

Since the Casino legislation was passed, there has been speculation about a Northern Casino. During the past few weeks, discussion has increased concerning a Launceston Casino. It seems inevitable that such an establishment will come to this part of the Island and so there should be some discussing about available locations.

Mayor King was concerned about obtaining the casino for Launceston, but has anyone thought about the rest of Tasmania?

Although Launceston is the biggest city in Northern Tasmania, it does not follow that it is the best place for a casino. A far more congenial location for a tourist industry of this nature would seem to be on the East Coast, where the beaches and the scenery are some of the best in the world. Specifically, St. Helens would be the ideal place in Northern Tasmania, for this new lucrative Tourist industry. St. Helens has an aerodrome and will probably be a port for hydro foils from Victoria. In fact, it has the all round potential for a Tasmanian Gold Coast.

Launceston has only a quarry site (of all things) for a casino and this is pretty bad for a world class hotel. Mayor King was also keen for a Mainland firm to operate the Casino in Launceston. This means the cream of the industry, will be drained out of the State for the next fifteen years. If we Tasmanians have to have a Casino, then we are the ones who should financially benefit from it, NOT some Mainland based organisation.

Some Tasmanian investors got together to build the Scamander Hotel. This could be done again for the purpose of extending an established hotel or for building a new one to house a Casino.

In the past, the Government has neglected the East Coast. Now, here is an industry which can be placed anywhere in Northern Tasmania. The East Coast and specifically St. Helens is the ideal spot and there is no real operational objection to it. All that is needed is a proposal from an organisation to establish a casino on the

East Coast and to be handed to the Government. The chances are better than even that this plan would work with the Government.

ANDREW B. LOHREY.

HOBART.

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Something for EVERYONE

AT

ST HELENS HOTEL MOTEL

Cabarets EVERYNIGHT

FROM 26th DEC to 3rd JANUARY

HANDY HINTS

Here is this week's hint from the St Helen's Nursery on the care of Indoor plants. If you are going away for a holiday and have no one to look after your indoor plants you can keep them fresh for at least a week by standing them in a pebble bath. Take a bowl and put in 2 inches of coarse pebbles. Add enough water just to cover the pebbles. Stand your pot plant on this and they will draw all the water they need while you are away.

Fine, cool tomorrow

The Hobart Weather Bureau predicts mostly fine and cool tomorrow with chiefly light winds.

PARTY DECORATIONS

Make balloons into bunnies. To make a balloon bunny blow up balloon, draw on face with texture colour. Gather strip of crepe paper four inches wide with needle and thread to form ruffle. Cut ears from white cardboard (nine inches long). Join to top of balloon with sticky tape. Use tape to stitch balloon to a heavy weight. Place ruffle round this weight.

MRS MICHAEL J. LOWE, Talbot Street, Fingal, wishes to advise that she is now your new Rawleigh dealer for surrounding districts and will be visiting you all quite soon.

FOR YOUR DIARY

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT.....St. Marys District Hospital at 8.30 pm., Sunday 14th December Visiting Artists. Everyone welcome at this delightful programme.

SUNRISE STRIP FUN WEEK from December 26th until Jan. 3rd 1970. Pyengana, St. Helens, St. Marys, Scamander and Falmouth. N.B. the Crayfish and Chicken Supper will be held at the St. Helens Golf Club - Not the Fish Factory as previously advertised.

St. Marys, District School Speech Night, 12th December at the Memorial Hall, St. Marys at 8pm.

R.A.N.F. Next Meeting will be held at the St. Marys District Hospital - on Wednesday 17th Dec. at 2 pm.

CHRISTMAS DAY..... Service in Methodist Church at St. Marys at 10 am.

RED CROSS LIBRARY

The Red Cross Library service has provided a change of books for the St Marys District Hospital and started a branch at the St Helens Annexe, where the Auxillary have donated a cupboard to house the books. This service is appreciated by patients throughout Tasmania and donations of books of current interest in good condition are very acceptable. Included in the library are a growing collection of large print books which are invaluable to people with failing eyesight. If anyone is interested in helping this collection grow a donation of \$3.00 can be forwarded to Mrs Joan Gaudwell at Red Cross Headquarters.

FROM THE PULPIT



Christmas is with us once again, and I suppose Christmas means many things to many people.

For some, Christmas means having a good time. For others, Christmas means a sense of awe and wonder. To children, it means toys and holidays and a good time. This brings us to the question, 'What is Christmas and what does it really mean?' I believe it is summed up in one verse in St. John's Gospel; 'For God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.'

That is the message of Christmas; that God has given us His son to forgive us, to redeem and restore us and to live in the hearts of men and women.

In spite of all that is happening in the world today the angelic message still rings out; 'For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.'



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DEAR VALERIE VOYCE

Dear Valerie Voice,

I am a grass widow. My husband is a golf fanatic and I never see him from one week to the next. That's when he's working. With the holidays coming on I'm really going to be left high and dry. What can I do?

'Grass Widow.'

Dear 'Grass Widow',

Get a man in to mow the lawn, Dals.

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Indoor Plants, over 300 varieties to choose from.

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E A (Bill)

BAILEY

Phone

Bicheno 23

MR AND MRS MAX TARGETT who were recently in the St. Marys District and Launceston General Hospitals, would like to thank all their friends, who sent so many cards wishing them a speedy recovery. They would also like to take this opportunity of extending Christmas greetings and wishing their many friends a prosperous New Year.

CABEAN SAYS

Alienation is one of those words which first began to be used by people writing treatises on human behaviour, but is now commonly employed by mothers to stop their children fighting; e.g. 'stop alienating little Johny and be nice to him for a change.'

I am quite prepared to admit alienation exists from one generation to another, as does money, position and job alienation and probably always has, but I find the alienation of supermarkets peculiarly a product of modern society.

It has become quite possible to spend a great deal of time and money, selecting food for one's family, without uttering a word. Even the cashier at the check-out, who you would expect at least to comment on the weather (after all she is taking your money) will only mutter sullenly, 'Next please.'

On every shelf of the supermarket, one is bombarded with words; buy now and save, save 5 cents or 10 or 50, on this or that product, spend \$50 and get an automatic washing machine FREE. But all these words are screamed in red, foot high letters, silently. The only sound which breaks the awful quiet in the clang of cash registers, mingled with piped music. Even naughty children are reprimanded in hushed whispers.

A shoppers's embarrassment at dropping a tin of some special is always painful and extreme. Instead of rushing to their assistance, most people move hastily away, for fear of adding further embarrassment to themselves and the tin droppers.

The sort of gossip, social shopping, where there is a chair to sit on, or maybe a cheese to taste, or a free biscuit for the children, is now only possible in small country towns. Country shopping is often accused of being more expensive, but what tremendous value the shopper

joys!

No longer is the shopper an anonymous nobody, but a person whose actions and remarks are worth retelling. His sorrows and joys belong to the town he lives in and that town has no intention of not enjoying every last, minute detail.

It seems rather remarkable that the advertising men, who are supposed to be trained to recognise the psychological needs of mankind, have only concentrated on the materialistic side of our society.

While the sociologist continue to talk largely of our alienated society and the social workers urge people to join clubs and become interested in other people's problems, why have none of the socially aware thought of financing the old type grocery shop for the poor, alienated city dwellers?

CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS, dolls large range of toys. Towels, handkerchiefs, fishing gear. LAY BY now for Xmas. Semmens Store, St. Marys.

A big THANKYOU is extended by the St. Marys local Association of the Girl Guides and Brownies to all the donors who helped to make the street stall on 28th November a success.

SCAMANDER RIVER MOTEL HOTEL

FOR YOUR HOLIDAY FUN
CABARETS EVERYNIGHT FROM

26th Dec. To 3rd Jan
with the PHANTOMS

Phone SCAMANDER 55 and 70

GARDEN NOTES

With Christmas approaching, many people will be concerned about keeping their gardens moist during the holidays.

To this purpose, mulching is an important aspect of gardening which could be more extensively adapted to home garden conditions. During the summer months, there is a rapid evaporation of moisture from the soil and mulching provides a ready answer to this problem.

The term mulching means nothing more than the covering of the surface soil with suitable materials, such as rotted manure, grass cuttings, leaf mould, sawdust, straw or any suitable vegetation. This will put a protective layer between the heat of the sun and the roots of the plants, which are not always adequately insulated by many of the poorer surface soils. Black polythene is often used quite effectively for surface mulching.

The best time of all for mulching is during the late spring and summer months, but it is an advantage at all times. Usually a layer of an inch or more of whatever material is available is laid over the beds, without actually spilling over the crowns of the younger plants, some of which, particularly iceland Poppies, resent such treatment. Their leaves may be gently lifted and a handful or so of mulch carefully spread underneath.

STAN GRAHAM

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FINGAL COUNCIL NOTES.

At the meeting of the Fingal Council on Dec. 8th last, the Council Clerk, Mr. R. Yates reported grants from the Government, amounting to \$17,019 for flood damage caused last winter, were now allocated and work could be finished on the areas affected. Most of this work had only been of a temporary nature to date.

The Superintendent in his report, said that the Cornwall water scheme would cost more than had at first been estimated as services to the houses also needed repairing. Each dwelling would also require a separate stop tap. It was agreed to apply for a loan as this work was imperative and the Council would be in the 'red' to the tune of \$19,000 at the end of the financial year without a loan.

The Superintendent said he had arranged for a roster system of men during the Christmas holidays, in cases of emergency. Cr. Foot moved, seconded Cr. Legge, that the men involved, should receive standby money and the Fingal Post Office should be notified who would be on roster, should an emergency arise.

The P.W.D. had inspected the St. Marys Riverlet and found it choked with silt, willows and other vegetation and recommended Council should approach the Rivers and Waters Board with a view to having it cleared out. Some lively discussion ensued as to the advisability of having this done, as several councillors thought flooding would still occur over the main street. It was agreed to write to the Rivers and Waters Board and find out their policy on this matter.

Mr. G. Dean, president of the St. Marys Progress Association, was given leave to speak to Council on the Hunter River Valley Research Foundation. He said unfortunately, the Hobart Chamber of Commerce, had not replied to his Association's letter, requesting further details, but he was able to give a broad outline of the Foundation's Research methods. The Council Clerk, Mr. Yates, added further to this report as he had more comprehensive details from the Chamber. Mr. Dean said the Progress Association was a small body and they felt a request from the Council for the whole municipality would give a more accurate picture of the potential for the district. The Warden said Council would send circulars to the various industries, such as mining and timber in the district, so that they would have a chance to participate in a state wide survey and would be able to fit in with the overall plan of research into the potential growth rate of this municipality.

Does Australia need Captain Cook?

WHEN GALLANT Cook from Albion sailed to trace wide oceans o'er, true British courage bore him on, till he landed on our shore. And there he raised old England's flag, the standard of the brave. (With all her faults we love her still.) Britannia, rule the wave!

One of the most forgettable stanzas of "Advance Australia Fair" shows some of what is going to be wrong with next year's bi-centenary of the voyage of Captain James Cook along the eastern coast of Australia, but it at least has one significant thing right:

Cook was an Englishman. If it was courage that bore him on, it was British courage, not Australian. He had nothing whatsoever to do with Australia (a word not then invented) and Australians can take absolutely no pride in his great achievements, many of which occurred at places in the Pacific that have nothing to do with them.

If ever there was an occasion when it was appropriate for the Queen of England to come to an Australian celebration it will be this one. Australia could be a republic outside the Commonwealth, and the Queen's presence would still be relevant and welcome, since it was her country that did it, not ours. If anything is being celebrated next year, it is the maritime cockiness of 18th-century England (it was the century when "Rule, Britannia!" was written) and the impelling curiosity that sent off scientific expeditions to the ends of the world.

The "Advance Australia Fair" stanza is a toadying one, but at least its toadying quality — by acknowledging the Britishness of its subject — is more accurate than historically nonsensical boasting. Instead of talking about ourselves we should congratulate the Queen on being heir to English 18th-century cocksureness and curiosity. "True,

Fingal Tennis Notes

Since writing the last tennis notes, the Opening Day Tournament has been held. This was on 23rd November, when seventeen players turned out to compete for trophies, provided by the Club. Mrs. Sweeney from Managana and Chris Blake from Fingal were the winners of this 'Round Robin' event.

A committee meeting was held last week at the home of the secretary, where it was decided to hold another tournament. This too, will be a mixed tournament, but you will choose your own partner. Entries will be received from any couple, regardless of where they live, but Fingal residents are reminded they must be financial members to enter. You will find entry list available in Fingal, St. Marys and Mathinna wherever a poster is displayed. Entry fee is 50 cents per couple, and again trophies will be provided. The date is SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER and entries will close at 10 am, the day before.

Play will start at 10 am. and a barbecue lunch will be served at the court for a modest fee.

L.J. Snodgrass

(Hon. Sec)

★ "AM I the only sailor you have been out with?" the navy man asked the good-looking redhead.

"Of course," she answered.

"Well, where shall we meet tomorrow?" asked the sailor.

"Starboard side of the wharf, eight bells, tomorrow watch," said the redhead.

CHILDREN

Lets Laugh!

DAFFYNISHIONS

Bread: Raw toast.
Hay: Grass a la mowed.

Wrinkles: Fretwork.

A TRICKY QUESTION

Teacher: "Can I please have that gum in your mouth, Willie?"
Willie: "Why, teacher! You can have a new piece instead!"

RIDDLES

Q.: Why do cows wear bells?

A.: Because their horns don't work.

MISUNDERSTANDING

John: "Most Eskimos live on whale meat and blubber."
Pete: "You'd cry, too, if all you had to eat was whale meat."

A man stood on a street corner waiting in vain for the traffic to thin out so he could cross the road. Finally, as he was about to take his chances, he saw a man on the other side and called to him: "Say how did you get over?" The other cupped his hands around his mouth "Easy" he shouted. "I was born here."

Proud father: "My son has many original ideas hasn't he?"

Teacher: "Yes, but unfortunately they're all in spelling."

Q.: A man fell 50 feet into a tank full of lemonade. He didn't get hurt. Why?

A.: It was soft drink.

Q.: How many insects does a landlord have?

A.: Ten ants (ten-ants).

Q.: How is it possible for Bill to stand behind John, and John to stand behind Bill, at the same time.

A.: They stand back to back.

STAR PROBE by Pegasus

ARIES: Avoid conflicts at work especially on the 22nd, and 23rd. On the 23rd, there will be a Christmas bonus of one kind or another. Be careful towards the end of the month you may have a monetary loss.

TAURUS Look for partnership improvements after the 16th. Side-step conflicts with work-mates on the 15th. Time to make new partnership plans on the 22nd. A tighter budget will be needed by the end of the month.

GEMINI: Plans with your partner will be a great success after the 22nd. Look for improvements in employment affairs after 16th. Don't let developments put you on the sick list on the 29th. Avoid excesses.

CANCER: An opportunity to improve your work matters comes your way 22nd. One of your partnership enterprises may present you with a bonus on the 23rd. Be careful - you are accident prone on the 29th. Do not speculate on that day.

LEO: Money and business opportunity is still booming on the 18th, and 23rd. but keep a tight rein on your expenses. Make a bid for promotion at work on the 15th. Home celebrations are best. You are accident prone on the 30th.

VIRGO: Romance is favoured on the 18th, and 23rd. Disappointment in love on the 29th so cement partnerships against disruptions. Avoid gossip at work. You will have and embarrassing experience at the end of the month.

LIBRA: Make an effort to improve your working conditions on the 21st. Avoid financial entanglements and secure yourself against loss on the 29th. Romance goes quite well until 30th when disappointment clouds the day.

SCORPIO: Matters will seem to get out of hand but don't let them throw you off balance, especially at work. You could receive a welcome year end bonus on 15th. 29th could bring a rift with your partner so try to prove your understanding.

SAGITTARIUS: Personal and money matters are favoured on 15th and 18th. Limit your Christmas spending. Love receives, unfavourable influences mid December. Keep in good terms with relations, 15th and 30th. Protect financial interests on 29th.

CAPRICORN: Romance is most favourable on 23rd. Avoid excess in food and drink. Money matters are fairly secure if well organised. Safety first on 30th. You are accident prone.

AQUARIUS: Accept an invitation for 22nd. Do not resent restrictions which are for your own good. Good cash reserves is your best defence against influence. 14th and 15th. Home entertaining, offers personal advantages and enjoyment.

PISCES: Count yourself out of financial propositions on 14th. Social activities planned for 18th, 22nd and 23rd will bring greater satisfaction than those planned earlier. Mars influence will give you energy and initiative, but be on guard don't be reckless...

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