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## Welcome to Australia

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# **WELCOME TO AUSTRALIA**



SPPAM 919.404  
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Hospitality and Information Bureau  
for Australian and Allied Forces  
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33217013475067

# Welcome to Australia

*On behalf of the Australian Government and people I offer you the warmest of welcomes to our country.*

*We speak the same language and, largely, we spring from the same stock. You will find that we live much as you do. You will find that we think and speak much as you do. And, above all, you will find that we have the same unquenchable thirst for liberty.*

*Australians are fighting against the grim hand of aggression that would throw the switch and plunge us into the blackness where there is no liberty and little life. We fight side by side with you to restrain that hand, certain that victory will come.*

*We have long admired the splendid contribution that your country has made to the Allied cause, and the name of your great President stands high in this country. Together we will strike down the ravaging aggressor in the Pacific. Your force of arms, your spirit, and your clean and decent outlook on life are factors which will be overwhelming.*

*When the time comes for you to say "aloha" I am confident that you will take with you happy memories of your stay with us.*

**John Curtin**

PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA.



# Getting together

**T**HIS book aims to help introduce you to Australia. It is an expression of good will by Australians who are very glad to know that Americans and Australians will go forward together from Australian bases to beat the Japanese — so that the Pacific will be safe for people who want to lead American and Australian lives which are, at bottom, pretty much alike.

Australians and Americans share many things. We're both young nations (we're about 180 years younger than you). We're both not far out of the pioneering stage, we speak the same language, we both believe

vigorously in democracy, we're both likely to be impatient with the conventions and formalities of older countries.

We're accustomed to many American products; we drive your autos, we see your movies, we read your books. We know the basic similarities between the two countries.

We can see those similarities far more clearly if we get the surface differences out of the way. That's what this book hopes to do.

In peacetime, thousands of U.S. tourists and businessmen came here every year and made many good friends. It's harder for an army to get acquainted, but the sponsors of this book, the Australian-American Co-operation Movement (a group of people who have long been urging that these two Pacific countries should know one another better) are sure you are going to succeed.

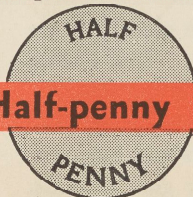
Most Australians agree with this. Almost all of them want to help you any way they can. You can rely on any reasonable-looking citizen giving you street directions, telling you anything you want to know, if you care to ask. They like to think you will ask.

**MONEY.** These diagrams are to help you visualise the value of our coins in your money. They are based on the exchange values that a Bank or Store must give you in our money for your own currency — 3½ pence for 5 cents, 7 pence for 10 cents, 1 shilling and 6 pence for 25 cents, 3 shillings for 50 cents, 6 shillings and 1 penny for 1 dollar.

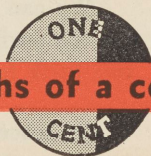
Most Australians will treat you 100 per cent. fairly but it helps to understand our money. Here's your lesson.

Twelve pennies = one shilling, 20 shillings = 1 pound.

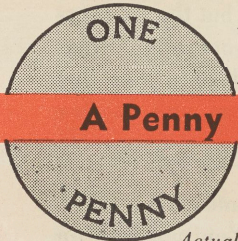
£ is the abbreviation for Pound, s for shilling, d for pence. So if you see a garment marked £1 4s. 4d. or £1/4/4 or 24/4 its price is one pound four shillings and fourpence (four dollars).



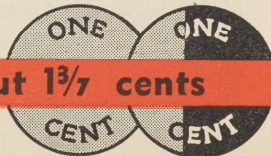
*Actual Size.*  
*Copper Coin.*



**A Half-penny (1/2d.) is about 5/7 ths of a cent**



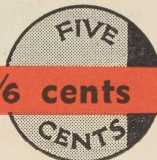
*Actual Size.*  
*Copper Coin.*  
*Slang: "Copper."*



**A Penny (1d.) is about 13/7 cents**

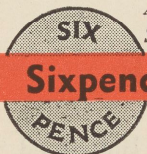


*Actual Size.* *Silver Coin.*  
*Slang: "Trey."*



**Threepence (3d.) is about 4 1/6 cents**





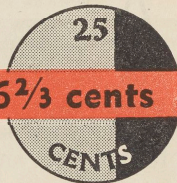
*Actual Size. Silver Coin.  
Slang: "Zac."*

**Sixpence (6d.) is about 8 $\frac{1}{3}$  cents**



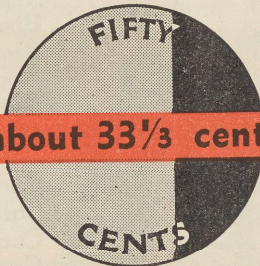
*Actual Size. Silver Coin.  
Slang: "Bob."*

**One Shilling (1/-) is about 16 $\frac{2}{3}$  cents**



*Actual Size.  
Silver Coin.  
Slang: "Two Bob."*

**Two Shillings (2/-) is about 33 $\frac{1}{3}$  cents**



*Slang: "Half a Quid."*

**Ten Shillings (10/-) is about \$1.64**



*Slang: "Quid."*

**One pound (£1) is about \$3.29**





# The way we talk

**A**USTRALIANS have been listening to Hollywood movies so long they will understand almost all your slang; at first you may have a little trouble with some Australian slang and some ordinary Australian expressions.

Here are some common Australianisms (not all of them slang) and their meanings:—



**Argue the Toss:** argue, dispute.

**Biscuit:** cookie, cracker.

**Bloke, Cove, Coot:** man.

**Bonzer, Bosker:** good.

**Bot:** beg or borrow.

**Chemist's Shop:** drug store (but it doesn't sell candy or drinks).

**Chow:** Chinese.

**Cobber:** friend.

**Cocky:** a farmer or settler.

**Crook (to feel):** ill.

**Deener:** shilling.

**Dig, Digger:** Australian soldier.

**Dinkum:** true, 100% genuine.

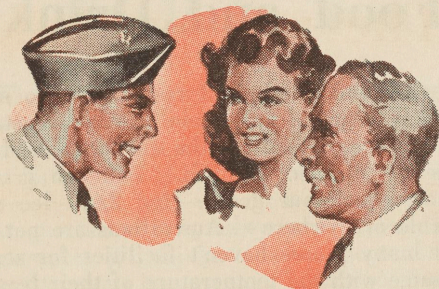
**Dinkum Oil:** truth.

**"Dollar":** usually five shillings.

**Enzedder:** New Zealander.

**Furphy:** false report.

**Jake:** good, O.K.



**Lollies, Sweets:** candy.

**Oscar:** money.

**Pozzie:** position.

**Sarvo:** this afternoon.

**Scone:** biscuit.

**Sheep Station:** ranch.

**Sheila:** girl.

**Shout, Turn It On:** buy a  
drink for someone.

**Skite:** boast, brag.

**Station:** railway depot.

**Stone:** 14 lbs.

**Tazzie:** Tasmania.

**Torch:** flashlight.

**Tucker:** food.

**Twister:** a crook.

**Wowser:** a spoil-sport.

Don't think Australians always mean what you mean when they use slang terms.

An Australian may tell you a tough sergeant is a fair cow; it's also a fair cow when the babbling brook (cook) makes a crook (bad) stew.

By graft he doesn't always mean bribery; he often means hard work. "Homely" people here means "homey"; it doesn't refer to their appearance. Slick means simply quick.

# Food and Drink

YOU will find hotels and restaurants do not serve as many vegetables, especially salad vegetables, as you are accustomed to; the men who used to raise vegetables are now in uniform. You can get a good meal — not super, but good — for 2/-. Ice water is not available everywhere — Australians are not so fond of it, and many places haven't facilities for serving it. (It's the same with the temperature of their beer.) But you will find that any decent Australian will be only too glad to meet your wants if he possibly can. In winter they don't use so much heating in homes, hospitals, theatres, etc.

Australians in normal times drink great quantities of tea. One result is that they don't know much about making coffee. Cheap restaurants can't usually serve good coffee.

Australians drink considerable beer — watch your step with it — it's a whole lot heavier and more alcoholic than most U.S. beers. Hotels don't have bourbon or rye whisky; the whisky is Scotch. Australian-distilled whisky (Scotch type) is cheaper than imported, and the best brands are good. Australian gin is also cheaper than imported, and some is first grade.

Australian wines also have to be watched. The cheapest grades have a kick like TNT. Medium price and better grades are very good wines, but all have a high alcoholic content.





# To Help You

**T**HIS book can't give you all the detailed information you want about where to go and what to do. But in almost all cities the citizens have established information bureaus to fill in the detail for you.

There you can find out about shows, dances, entertainment, games and hospitality in the homes of citizens; about places to go, things to see; about churches and other organisations that want to meet you if you belong to their sister-organisations in America; about transportation and places you can get a bed.

Here is where you find them:—

**MELBOURNE:** Allied Troops Enquiry Bureau, Town Hall, Corner Swanston and Collins Streets, CITY. Telephone Central 3413.

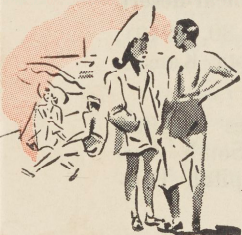
**SYDNEY:** Australian-American Co-operation Movement, Prudential Building, Martin Place, CITY.

**BRISBANE:** Australian American Association, A.M.P. Building, Edward Street, CITY.

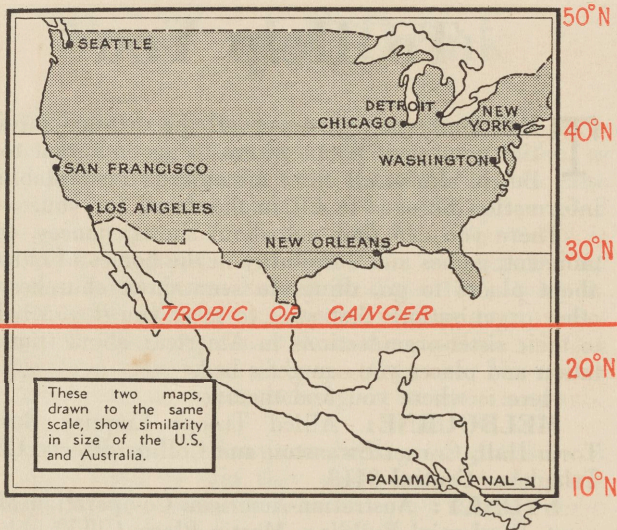
**ADELAIDE:** Australian American Movement, 44 Grenfell Street, CITY.

Of course the service is free. No one is trying to sell you anything.

Government Tourist Bureaus will help you find any place out of town.





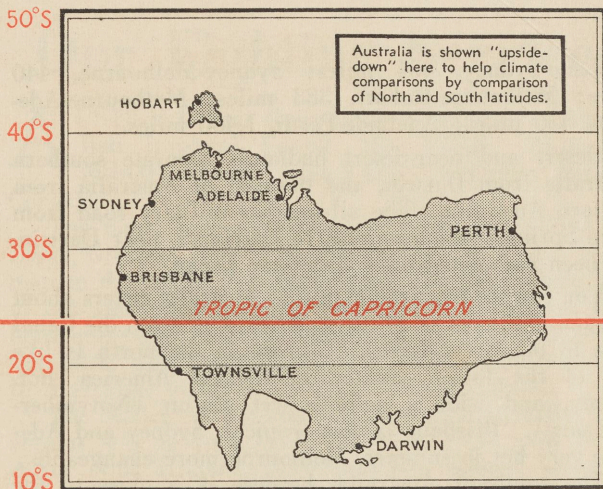


**A**USTRALIA is the smallest Continent — and the oldest. It has few mountains, none very high (Kosciusko, 7,328 feet, is the highest).

It is almost exactly the same in area as the United States, but much of the interior is desert and near-desert.

Its population is 7,031,159 (as of June 30, 1940), about equal to Greater New York, or Minnesota, Kansas, Maryland, Arizona and Idaho together.

There are six States — New South Wales (capital, Sydney); Victoria (capital, Melbourne); South Australia (capital, Adelaide); Queensland (capital, Bris-



bane); Western Australia (capital, Perth); and Tasmania (capital, Hobart).

On the mainland there are also two "Territories," the Northern Territory (almost as big as Texas, California and Montana combined) with its capital and only real town at Darwin (civil population around 5,000); and the Federal Capital Territory, around the national capital Canberra (pronounce it Can'bra).

Sydney (1,303,000) and Melbourne (1,046,750) are the biggest cities. Then Brisbane (326,000), Adelaide (322,990), Perth (224,800), and Hobart (65,459).

Airline distances between the eastern capitals are

Brisbane-Sydney, 454 miles; Sydney-Melbourne, 440 miles; Melbourne-Hobart, 383 miles; Melbourne-Adelaide, 450 miles; Adelaide-Perth, 1,400 miles.

Desert and near-desert badlands separate southern Australia from Darwin, and the east of Australia from Western Australia. The all-weather military road from Alice Springs, rail terminus, to Larrimah, near Darwin, has been completed only since war began.

You can see from the map that Australia covers about the same latitudes as North America does from the Canal Zone to the Great Lakes. Climate in the north is like that of the lower country in Central America, hot, steamy, and with a definite wet season (November-February). Brisbane is near-tropical, Sydney and Adelaide very hot in summer, Melbourne more changeable.

The south of Australia, because it is close to the sea, never gets the extreme winter cold of eastern and central United States in the same latitudes. Snow-falls are unknown except in the hills.

The corner you cut off with a straight line from Brisbane to Adelaide contains the most developed section of Australia — iron and coal mines, steel mills, airplane and armaments plants. It also covers big stretches of country where a farmer may have to ride all day to see his neighbor.

Outside that area there is little industry except widely spread mining, for many metals, and some manufacturing in Perth.



# Our Fighting Services

**A**USTRALIA has three armies; the A.I.F. (Australian Imperial Force), the A.M.F. (Australian Military Forces), and V.D.C. (Volunteer Defence Corps).

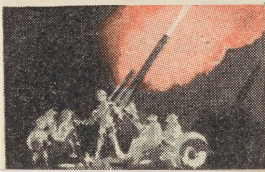
The many scores of thousands who have served in Libya, Greece, Crete, Syria and Malaya are A.I.F. Every man in the A.I.F. is a volunteer. The total strength as of last June, was 152,000. Since then enlistments have been heavy but no totals have been published. Many of the A.I.F. who served in the Middle East are now back in Australia; others are still in other war zones.

The A.M.F. is a force recruited compulsorily, in a similar way to your draft. Last June the total in the A.M.F. was 218,000; since then new classes, including married men with children, have been called.

This A.M.F. is for fighting within Australia or in Australian Territories in the Pacific.

A.I.F. and A.M.F. uniforms are the same, but A.I.F. men have the word "Australia" in metal or cloth letters on their shoulders, and a grey background to their color patches.

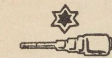
Third Army, the Volunteer Defence Corps, is a Home Guard. Its members are last-war soldiers or men in essential industries, or men over or under military age or not quite fit for A.I.F. or A.M.F. They wear a uniform like the others in everything except color; it is khaki with a strong green





# NAVY

*Some Australian sleeve, cuff and shoulder indications of rank.*



Leading Seaman  
(sleeve)



Midshipman  
(cuff)



Sub-Lieutenant  
(cuff)



Lieutenant  
(cuff)

Lieut. Commander  
(cuff)



Captain  
(cuff)



Rear Admiral  
(cuff)



Warrant Officer  
(sleeve)



Warrant Officer  
(cuff)



Lieutenant  
(cuff)



Commander  
(cuff)



Commodore  
(cuff)



Vice Admiral  
(cuff)

# ARMY



Lance Corporal  
(sleeve)



Corporal  
(sleeve)

Sergeant  
(sleeve)



Warrant Officer  
Class 2  
(cuff)

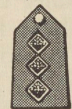


Warrant Officer  
Class 1  
(cuff)



2nd Lieutenant  
(shoulder)

1st Lieutenant  
(shoulder)



Captain  
(shoulder)



Major  
(shoulder)



Lieut. Colonel  
(shoulder)

Colonel  
(shoulder)



Brigadier  
(shoulder)

# AIR FORCE



Aircraftman  
(sleeve)



Corporal or Leading  
Aircraftman  
(sleeve)

Sergeant  
(sleeve)



Flight Sergeant  
(sleeve)



Pilot Officer  
(cuff)



Flying Officer  
(cuff)

Flight Lieutenant  
(cuff)



Squadron Leader  
(cuff)

Wing Commander  
(cuff)



Group Captain  
(cuff)

Air Commodore  
(cuff)



Air Vice Marshall  
(cuff)

AIR FORCE: In addition to the markings shown here, men who fly wear "wings"—double wings for pilots, single wings for others.

tint. Its members drill and train Sundays and week nights and are an anti-invasion force.

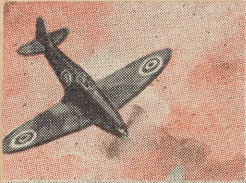


Navy uniforms are readily identified. The Royal Australian Navy keeps the number of its men and of its ships secret, but there are many thousands of sailors who have fought in every ocean in the world since this war began. Some have been lost, but the Navy has cost the enemy far more losses.

R.A.A.F. (Royal Australian Air Force) uniforms are a medium blue, or khaki drab for summer. You can tell the khaki uniforms from Army by the collar and tie and coat cut at the neck similarly to a civilian suit, and by the black ties and boots (army wear both brown). R.A.A.F. is an independent force, not a branch of army or navy. Over 200,000 Australians have volunteered for Air Force service since war began.

R.A.A.F. squadrons have served in every war zone. First R.A.A.F. Spitfire squadron in England shot down more Germans than any other squadron in two successive months last year, was narrowly beaten by first Eagle Squadron next month. Another R.A.A.F. Squadron flying Kittyhawks (Curtiss P. 40's) tops all fighter squadrons in Africa for Germans and Italians shot down.

Many other Australian squadrons have long been flying (and liking) U.S. airplanes — for instance,



Lockheed Hudsons and Consolidated PBY's (Catalinas).

The figures given for the size of the forces are necessarily out of date; enlistments since war spread to the Pacific have speeded up as fast as equipment will allow. It won't tell the Japs anything if you estimate that 500,000 Australians are in uniform, equivalent to 9,500,000 on a population comparison with the U.S. — and that at least 200,000 more are working in munitions production.

## Munitions Production

Most shortages of Australian products are due to lack of manpower. John Brown can't make boots if he is driving a tank in Libya or waiting in Syria in case Hitler drives through Turkey, or in a battery at Darwin.

Bill Smith's customers for men's suits are buying fewer, now that he is making uniforms in a Government factory.

Sam Jones can't build tricycles for kiddies when he is on the assembly line in an airplane plant.

And so on . . .





It hits a country in its comfort to switch its industry to war. It has hit, and hurt, Australia. But while we are not satisfied with the job yet, we think we have made some progress, particularly as we were not, before war, highly industrialised.

For instance: Since war began Australia, which previously hadn't even a complete automobile industry, has built probably 1,500 airplanes. Most of them are training planes.

Universal carriers (lightly-armored jeeps, with a track like a tank) come off the line in hundreds.

Rifles, machine-guns, our own brand of Tommy gun, anti-tank guns, field guns, naval guns, and ammunition for all of them, are being built here.

Optical munitions (range-finders, dial-sights, etc., the most difficult war products to make) present a problem that has been licked even to making better optical glass than the Germans do.

Australian-built corvettes are chasing enemy submarines right now; Australian-made minesweepers are keeping sealanes safe; destroyers have been launched; freighters are on the way — and we had no shipbuilding industry before the war.







Virtually all the steel from the biggest steel plant in the British Empire (in New South Wales), all the aluminium, all the magnesium, all the special alloys from our heavy industry, goes into the war.

The men who make these things are vital to the war effort; so don't think, because you see people not in uniform, that they're not pulling their weight.

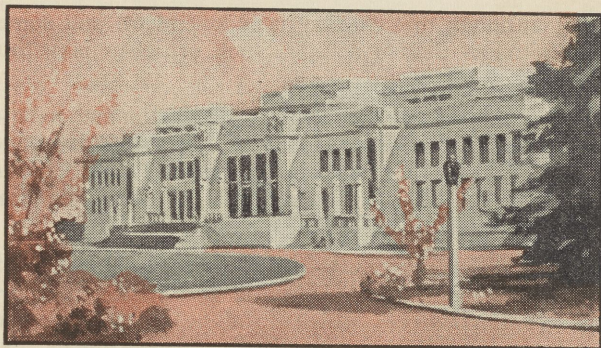
\* \* \*

**EUCALYPTS** (gum trees), the most common trees in Australia are Australian natives and were taken from here to California during the 1849 gold rush. (We had big gold rushes, too, and exchanged a lot of population with you.) They have also been introduced to Florida, Algeria, Italy, Spain, Abyssinia, Brazil and Argentina. Some are as high as 300 feet.

\* \* \*

**ABORIGINES** or blacks (not bushmen; bushmen are white men who are at home in the outback) number from 50,000 to 60,000. Up to 25,000 still live nomadic tribal lives in the remote, unsettled interior and north, some in areas forbidden to whites. Some work on farms, a few are educated. Some are army volunteers. The tribal blacks still use their boomerang (queerly-shaped wooden throwing weapon with a range of up to 350 feet, which may be thrown so that it returns to the thrower), woomera (throwing spear), fire-stick and stone axe.





## What's a Dominion?

**A**USTRALIA is a Dominion within the British Empire, which is a short name for the British Commonwealth of Nations.

The British Government in London has no control over Australia; the only constitutional link with Britain is that King George VI of England is also King of Australia. His powers, as a democratic, constitutional ruler, are strictly limited.

In fact, Australia is an independent nation; she has her own diplomats in Washington and Chungking; her own Parliament declared war on Japan as soon as Pearl Harbor was attacked and will — when the big job has been done — sign its own peace.

But although this country is independent, and sometimes criticises British actions, such criticism is within the family.

The names of our two Houses of Parliament have a familiar sound to you — House of Representatives and Senate. Which isn't surprising, because the Federal Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia was largely copied from the United States.

Our States (New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania) have their own Parliaments, which do about the same job as your State legislatures. The Federal Government, like yours, looks after such national interests as defence, communications, tariffs and immigration.

We're a democracy — or maybe you'd guessed that. That explains why sometimes you'll hear or read of different groups of our politicians expressing their anger at some other group. The freedom to do just that is one thing we understand by democracy.

But don't get us wrong; because Australians may sometimes take time off to argue on politics doesn't mean that they're disunited. In winning this war they're 100 per cent. together. Many Australians think it needs argument to find the best way to win.

(Here's a footnote to the Constitution which we borrowed from you. Canberra, Federal Capital, the new

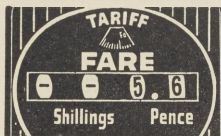


city built to be the centre of Federal Government, was designed by Walter Burley Griffin, an American who won a world competition for plans. And Royal Military College at Duntroon, nearby, was largely modelled on West Point. In exchange for the Constitution, we gave you the ballot system you use in Presidential elections.)

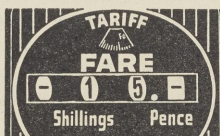
## Taxis

**T**AXI meters read in shillings and pence. The last aperture shows the "pence," the remaining apertures show the "shillings." Because of shortage of gasoline, meter readings are usually subject to a wartime surcharge, which is fixed by the local authorities from time to time. An official notice placed in the cab indicates what this surcharge is.

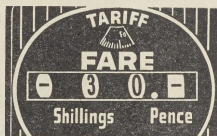
These are examples of what the correct fare would be if the loading were 50%:—



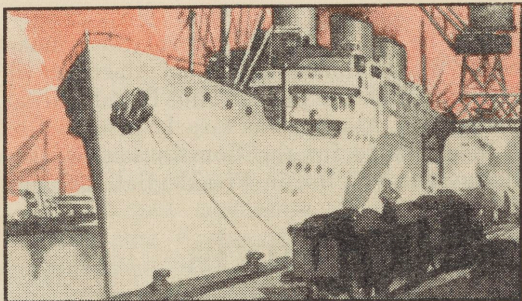
Meter  
reading,      5s. 6d.  
Correct  
fare,          8s. 3d.



Meter  
reading,      15s. 0d.  
Correct  
fare,          22s. 6d.



Meter  
reading,      30s. 0d.  
Correct  
fare,          45s. 0d.



## Trade with the U.S.

**I**N peacetime, Australia was a good customer of the United States — which is part of being a Good Neighbor. In 1938 (last peacetime year) Australia bought \$68,823,000 worth of goods from the U.S. (U.S. Dept. of Commerce figures).

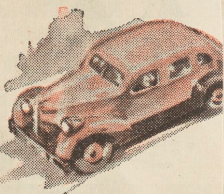
That was more than any South or Central American country bought, excepting only Argentina, which had nosed ahead of us in 1937. It was twice as much as, for instance, you sold to China; it was equal to what you sold to Spain, Portugal, Norway, Greece, Finland and Bolivia put together.

We would have liked to buy more, but you don't need many of our products — in 1938 you bought from us only about 13 per cent. of the commodities we bought from you. We mined enough gold to make up the difference and show a slight favorable balance.

Our biggest purchases from you were automobiles, tobacco, machinery, gasoline and oil, chemicals and paper.

Yours from us were gold, wool, metals, hides and skins.

You will find some U.S. goods are banned from Australia now — cigarettes, razor blades, magazines, etc.; this is a war-time measure and there is only one reason for it — every dollar we can raise goes to buying war materials. We haven't either money or shipping space to import luxuries.



\* \* \*

## The Meaning of Anzac

**A** NZAC is a term you've heard of, covering both Australia and New Zealand — which are entirely different countries. The letters "Anzac" are an abbreviation for "Australian and New Zealand Army Corps," and the name dates from the early stages of the last war, when an army corps formed of troops from both countries was training in Egypt. It came to mean, particularly, Australians and New Zealanders who fought on Gallipoli, but is also used generally for Australian and New Zealand troops in general. Anzac Day (April 25, the anniversary of the Gallipoli landing) is in peacetime one of the most closely-kept holidays of the year. The word Anzac may not be used commercially in either Australia or New Zealand.





# Animals and Birds

**M**EET some of the “real” Australians — the queer creatures that were in this oldest Continent long before the white man arrived, and even before the black men strayed here. Many — particularly among the marsupials, who carry their young in breast

pocket pouches — don’t live anywhere else.

**KANGAROOS.** Lots of different kinds of these and kindred animals (Wallabies, Wallaroos, Pademelons, Kangaroo-Rats, etc.), ranging from big fellows 6 ft. high to midgets only 12 inches in length. All travel by hopping on hind legs, some at a speed of 30 m.p.h. In fighting, the big ones strike hard with hind feet while balancing on tails.

**KOALA.** The original “Teddy Bear” — lives in tops of gum trees and feeds on leaves. Has a wistful face and is very popular. Once killed in thousands for its fur; now strictly protected.

**WOMBAT.** Kind of ground edition of the “teddy bear.” Several species, some fairly common. Look rather like pigs, but slightly smaller, as they waddle along ground. Strong burrowers.

**PLATYPUS.** The world’s most ancient animal, which has fur, a leathery



beak shaped like a duck's, swims like a fish, and lays eggs in a burrow in a river bank. Strictly protected.

**POSSUMS.** Small animals about size of house cats, different from American possum. All attractive. Some have flying membranes and can "parachute" from tree to tree. One of these fliers is only the size of a mouse.

**BATS.** Many kinds, from small insect eaters to the large flying foxes or fruit-bats, most of which are found in tropics. They have a wing span averaging 24 inches.

**DINGO.** Australia's wild dog, supposed to have been originally brought by blacks. Only found now in outback. Kills sheep and calves.

**DUGONG.** Most distinctive of the various sea animals in Australian waters. Supposed to be the original "mermaid" — but its face doesn't look like that. Has been killed off a good deal by Japanese fishermen in Northern Australia.

**A**USTRALIA has about 400 kinds of animals and 700 kinds of birds. Some of the chief birds are these:—

**EMU.** Largest flightless bird, up to 6 ft. high; can run rapidly and can kick dangerously. Still common in parts. Lays 10 or 12 large green eggs to a clutch



in a rough nest on ground. Eats almost anything.

**WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE.** Rivals the golden eagle of America as the largest eagle in the world. Sometimes has wing spread of 10 ft.

**LYREBIRD.** A brownish bird about the size of a fowl in body and having an expansive decorative tail, which it displays when dancing on a mound. An amazing mimic of all manner of sound.

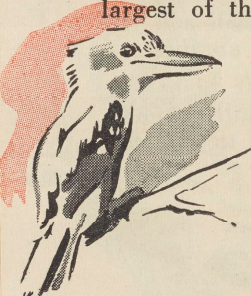
**MOUND-BUILDERS.** Three kinds of turkey-like birds (mallee-fowl, scrub-fowl and brush turkey) which build large mounds of leaves, etc., and leave eggs to be hatched by heat. Chicks emerge unaided from this labor-saving device.

**PARROTS.** Some 60 kinds of parrots and cockatoos, all very attractive, are found in Australia. They range from a large black cockatoo to the tiny parrot known as the Budgerigar.

**KOOKABURRA (or Laughing Jackass).** The largest of the Kingfishers; distinguished by a hearty cackle strongly suggesting loud human laughter. Plentiful.

\* \* \*

**POPULATIONS** run higher in animals than in humans here. Australia has 119,000,000 sheep, 13,100,000 cattle, 1,700,000 horses.





# Danger—Snakes and Others

**A**BOUT 120 kinds of snakes are found in Australia. Two-thirds of them are venomous, but only about a dozen are really dangerous and some of these are very rare. In Queensland there are pythons which reach up to 20 feet, and carpet snakes as long as 12 feet; these are not poisonous; they kill their prey by constriction.

Venomous snakes include some that live in the sea. Most of the land snakes also swim well.

The most dangerous of the land snakes are these:—

**TIGER SNAKE.** Most deadly and aggressive of all Australian snakes: usually about 4 ft. long; color brownish, marked with dark crossbands; found in Tasmania and Eastern Australia; has caused many deaths.

**BROWN SNAKE.** Averages 6 ft. long; includes several kinds, one in North Queensland being very large and very deadly.

**DEATH ADDER.** Averages 2 ft.; dark, sluggish, but strikes quickly when disturbed and is very deadly; found in inland sandy areas, has a harmless spine on tip of tail.

**COPPERHEAD.** Like the Brown Snake but not as common.

**BLACK SNAKE.** Common in coastal areas; bite has nasty effect but is not deadly.

Treatment of snakebite is to tie ligature above wound (relieving it every few minutes), scarify and suck wound

if lips are not broken, and hasten to a doctor for antivenene. Don't give patient alcohol; keep him calm. No lives are lost from snakebite when proper treatment is available.

**CROCODILES.** Northern Australian rivers and sea are dangerous. The main reason is sharks and crocodiles—the latter closely related to your American alligators.

The Pacific war has produced one crocodile death—an aborigine in the Northern Territory, who had experienced one air raid, saw a plane coming and jumped into a river. He died too soon to learn that it was one of our own planes.

The crocodile may be as long as 18 ft. He lives in salt water, but some of the northern rivers are tidal (and salt) for many miles from sea.

**SHARKS.** Man-eating sharks live in all the waters close to Australia and are a grave hazard to bathers on most of the coast.

**INSECTS.** While we're on the subject of nature's dangers, you may hear of dangerous spiders in Australia. There is little need to worry about these, and you will see no spiders at all in the winter.

The worst is the red-backed katipo (you know it as the Black Widow) which has a bite that is sometimes fatal.

Beware of big ants. The bulldog ant, or bull-ant, about three-quarters of an inch long, has a bite that feels fatal, but isn't in fact dangerous.

# A Book List.

Here are some Australian books that may interest some of you. Most of them are popular reading; the student who wants something more than impressions can get advice by visiting or writing to the Public Library in any city.

## FICTION

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| "A House Is Built"<br>(M. B. Eldershaw)      | "On Our Selection" (Steele Rudd)        |
| "The Timeless Land"<br>(Eleanor Dark)        | "While the Billy Boils"<br>(H. Lawson)  |
| "My Love Must Wait"<br>(Ernestine Hill)      | "Sheepmates" (W. Hatfield)              |
| "The Man from Oodnadatta"<br>(R. B. Plowman) | "Sydney Cove" (J. H. M. Abbott)         |
| "The Boundary Rider"<br>(R. B. Plowman)      | "Such Is Life" (Tom Collins)            |
| "The Road to Eldorado"<br>(J. Armour)        | "Working Bullocks"<br>(K. S. Pritchard) |
|  | "Coonardoo" (K. S. Pritchard)           |
|  | "Foveaux" (Kylie Tennant)               |
|  | "Capricornia" (Xavier Herbert)          |

## GENERAL LITERATURE

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| "Cobbers" (T. Wood)                              | "Try Anything Once" (F. Clune)                              |
| "Lasseter's Last Ride"<br>(Ion L. Idriess)       | "Dig" (F. Clune)  |
| "Flynn of the Inland" (Idriess)                  | "Confessions of a Beachcomber"<br>(E. J. Banfield)          |
| "Men of the Jungle" (Idriess)                    | "Last Leaves from Dunk Island"<br>(E. J. Banfield)          |
| "The Cattle King" (Idriess)                      | "The Brooks of Morning"<br>(D. Macdonald)                   |
| "We of the Never Never"<br>(Mrs. Gunn)           | "Flying Fox and Drifting Sand"<br>(Ratcliffe)               |
| "The Red Centre" (Finlayson)                     | "The Great Australian Loneliness"<br>(Ernestine Hill)       |
| "Green Mountains"<br>(Bernard O'Reilly)          | "Australia: A General Account"<br>(G. S. Browne)            |
| "Waltzing Matilda"<br>(Arnold Haskell)           | "Australian Journey"<br>(Paul Maguire)                      |
| "National Portraits"<br>(Vance Palmer)           | "The Australian Community"<br>(Mollie Bayne & Mary Lazarus) |
| "A Short History of Australia"<br>(Ernest Scott) |   |
| "Wide Horizons" (R. H. Croll)                    |   |

## NATURE BOOKS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| "The Lyrebird" (R. T. Littlejohns)              | "Koala" (C. Barrett)                                   |
| "Bird Wonders of Australia"<br>(A. H. Chisholm) | "Wonders of the Great Barrier<br>Reef (T. C. Roughley) |
| "Splash, the Platypus"<br>(Robert Eadie)        |  |



# An American to Americans

*The sponsors of this booklet asked one of your fellow-countrymen living in Australia if he would like to give you a few tips. He is Mr. C. K. Gamble, American Red Cross Delegate for Australia, and head of the largest American company here, who has lived in this country for fifteen years. In World War 1 he served with the American Expeditionary Forces at Cantigny, Soissons and elsewhere in France. Here is what he says:*

When a newcomer enters the United States, he is sometimes called a "foreigner" or "immigrant." Here they call him a "new chum"; the choice of this friendly nickname is typical of the friendliness of Australians. Knowing Australians want to be friendly to you, I offer these comments to avoid small misunderstandings which might arise from the unintentional thoughtlessness of a "new chum."

If you give them half a chance you are going to like the people here. By giving them half a chance I mean remembering that the people of one nation are always sensitive to the criticism of other peoples. Perhaps Australians, remote from other countries, and with a small population, are more sensitive than most.

When your hostess back home says she hopes you have had a good time at her party, she really doesn't want to hear you haven't. She wants to know you have appreciated her hospitality enough to overlook anything you may not quite have liked. It is the same with countries.

Many people will ask you for a straightout opinion of this or that; before you make comparisons remember that most cities here are hardly 100 years old, and have come a long way in that time. We don't like it in America when a newcomer sounds off about the "Old Country" and runs down ours. They don't like it here, either.

Naturally, you'll find many differences; in fact, if you are here to look for things to kick about, you will find plenty. But if you are fair-minded you will find plenty to admire.

Some of the pronunciations and accents will sound queer. But how do we sound to them?

And make no mistake about one thing — these Australians are in the war. Tens of thousands of their finest young men are fighting overseas. The man in the street who you may think should be in uniform is probably doing vital war work.

And they are paying for it. An Australian earning up to \$1,500 a year probably pays at least \$300 income

tax: if he earns \$6,000 he pays more than \$3,000 — plus heavy indirect taxes.

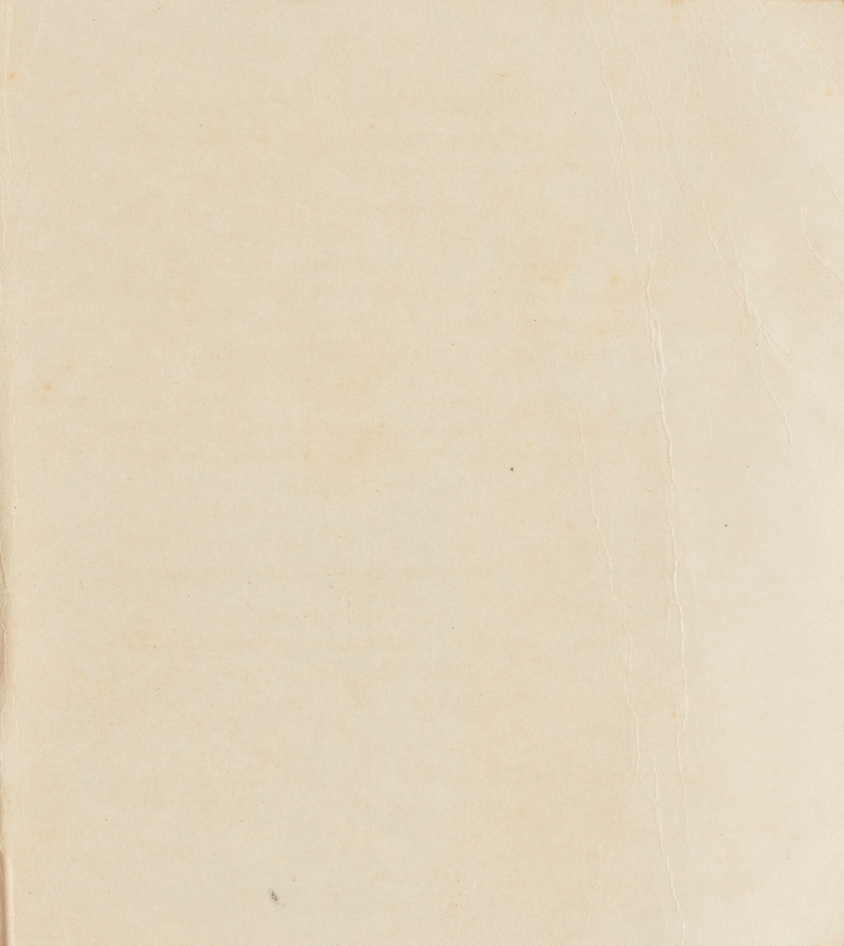
If you are asked to a party or a home, and find you cannot make it, do not forget to let your host or hostess know in time, or if you cannot, call up afterwards and send a note of apology. I know sometimes invitations may be too pressing, but I hope you remember to maintain America's world-wide reputation for courtesy.

Be particularly careful of those "arguments" that sometimes start at parties, bars, etc. There are small subversive elements here as elsewhere, and they are the only people anxious to cause friction between Allied soldiers. Do not be sucked into a row with your new friends. You are here to fight alongside Australians, not against them — that's Tojo's job.

It is well to remember Australia did not start this war. It was not even attacked. Australians just saw there were two sides and knew which one they, as free people, should be on.

Once you know them, and they are easy to know, you will find Australians good co-operators and loyal friends. Let us be the same.





**I** *F you think your  
family back home  
would be interested  
in this booklet,  
send your address  
to the sponsors. . .*

*Australian - American  
Co-operation Movement,  
405 Collins Street,  
Melbourne, Australia.*