

KENNEL KAPERS — IN — KANGAROO LAND

"Ow yer goin' mate, orright?" We just thought we'd stick this in as a typical Australian greeting, although the more civilized folk of Melbourne say you would only hear this in Sidney.

Last week we said we'd tell you a little more about Melbourne, and why we didn't think it was a lifeless or indifferent city. Certainly you might gather from some of our previous articles that Melbourne is not indifferent; at least the way people have gone out of their way to be nice to us, we shall never feel that way about Melbourne.

As for being lifeless, you can judge for yourself. We shall let you in on a few things that have been going on.

Billy Graham left here not too long ago, to start his crusade in Sidney. The impact he made on Melbourne, both as a man and as a speaker of God's Word has not died out. The pro's and con's on Billy Graham are still going on here—but this is one of the few places I could even imagine the pro's far outweigh the con's among newspapers, radios, television, the churches of Melbourne, and the average inhabitant of Melbourne.

It can be remembered, too, that some of Graham's most severe critics usually come from the leaders of the churches. I can see every reason why Billy Graham made the statement that Melbourne was one of the most moral big cities in the

world.

Jean and I attended the last meeting over a month ago, when more than 146,000 people overflowed Melbourne Cricket Ground for the final message. I made movies of that crowd. It was almost unbelievable.

Graham does leave himself open to his critics in several directions. I honestly do not agree with every one of his "advertising" methods, but the fact strongly remains that this man has given his life to the spreading of Christ's teachings, and deserves the support of every professing Christian, whether you agree 100 percent or not!

The world is a better place for him being in it, and to me that is a sound test of any man's worthwhileness. (Once again I've started off on half a sermon with no place to finish up.)

Several weeks ago I went on a Sunday afternoon to Olympic Park for a track meet. The main feature of the event was an attempt by Herb Elliott and three other mile runners to break the world's record for the 4 X 1 mile relay.

They did it easily, with an average mile time of four minutes, five seconds. Not too long ago anyone running this time would be exceptional—now it is just standard over here. The sprinting events were dominated by little Mike Agostini of Trinidad, who gave Dave Syme a tough time at the Sugar Bowl track meet several years ago.

Agostini, a great favorite with the crowd, is here to study Herb Elliott's methods of conditioning, which I understand consists mainly of running up and down 50-foot sand dunes about one hundred times consecutively.

Herb Elliott and fellow Australian Merv Lincoln train out at the University quite a lot, and I've had a chance to look at them pretty closely. In my own modest opinion I'd say they are "right fair."

Several weeks ago the movie producers packed up their gear and left Melbourne, where they have been producing "On The Beach." This movie is from Nevil Shute's book of the same name, which is the story of Melbourne as the last outpost in an atomic war, as radioactive clouds slowly sweep southward, wiping out humanity.

Some of the stars are Gregory Peck, Ava Gardner (who, by the way, did not make too good an impression here), Fred Astaire and Tony Perkins. Melbournites have had a full share of seeing movie stars around town.

Gregory Peck, as a matter of in-

terest, is a good friend of Herb Elliott's, and presented some of the awards as the track meet. Peck's son is a promising track man himself, and has been doing some studying under Elliott.

Frank Sinatra and Stan Freberg were here just after Easter for several shows; and Sinatra didn't make such a good impression either as he snubbed the newspaper completely. Oh well, I guess you can't have everything.

Jean's boss, one of the board of directors of Edward Lumley & Sons (brokers for Lloyd's of London) gave us tickets to the theater production of "The Bride and the Bachelor." Our Rotary sponsors here have given us tickets for "My Fair Lady." Jean was so tickled she almost cried.

Maybe you can see that as far as we're concerned, Melbourne in particular and Australia in general are not proving indifferent or lifeless at all. Next week we'll tell you of a few more reasons why we are so happy here. It has taken the edge off any homesickness.

Until then, Cheerio.
Robbie
(Mr. McDaniel, would you please add a "P.S." to one of our articles, wishing the newly-married couple, Evelyn and Paul Spangler, happiness for us. Evelyn is related to us. Thanks!)

(Editor's Note: We're happy to include your own P.S., Robbie, and extend our congratulations to the Spanglers, too. And, while we're passing out congratulations, our heartiest praise to you for the excellent writing you've done in your

Western 'Chase' Spoofed in Film

In Hollywood the chase is mightier than the clench, in the opinion of veteran Director Norman McLeod, whose latest effort, Bob Hope's "Alias Jesse James," co-starring Rhonda Fleming, opens on Sunday at the Kehoe Theater.

McLeod, who has spurred to passion almost as many lovers as varmints on the heels of fugitive heroes, contends he'd rather have a movie with a corking good chase in it than a heavy love scene.

"The Chase," he says, "has been a Hollywood trademark from the beginning, and here's hoping we keep it up because movies are the only medium of entertainment that has been able to develop and dramatize the long chase. We're sophis-

ticated enough now, to spoof it, too!"

McLeod himself directed a rip-snorter on horseback and buckboard in "Alias Jesse James" that supposedly will consign all chases of the past to Limbo. However, McLeod doesn't claim his chase will wipe out future attempts, though it may well discourage the practice.

If a man intends to stand on his dignity he should have spikes in his heels.

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Kennel Kapers column. Is there anything under the sun that you can't do extremely well?)

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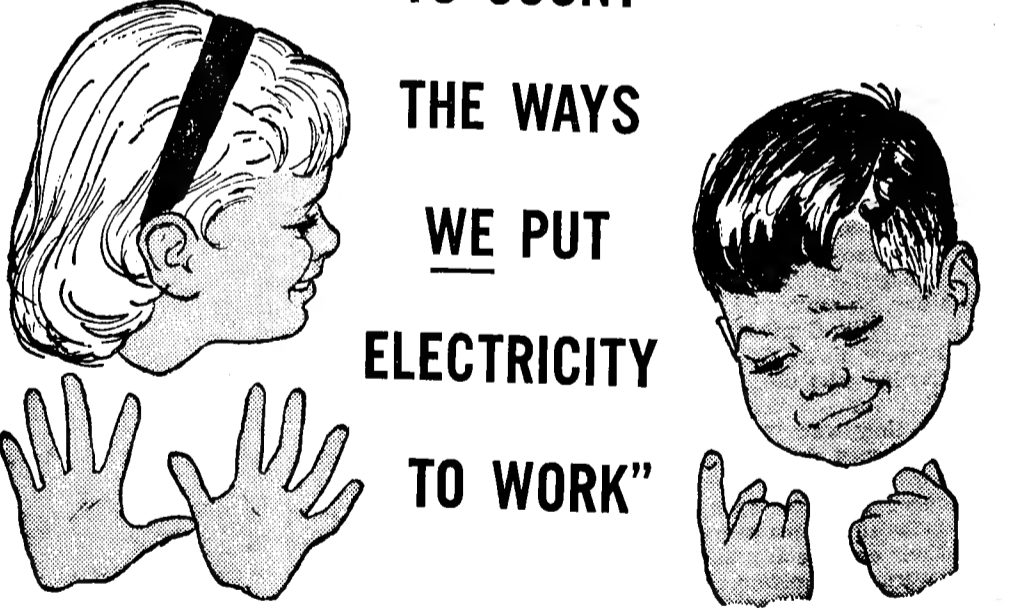
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