

KENNEL KAPERS — IN — KANGAROO LAND

Hello again.

Time really flies when something is always happening, and in that respect our first six months in Australia have really flown. It hardly seems possible that we have less than three months left before we start back home.

I guess everyone at home is accustomed to school again. Football should just be getting under way. The funny thing is that here the football season is just ending; and Australia's unique pride and joy, Australian Rules Football, will pack its bags away for another year as soon as the finals are over.

Earlier in the year I said there would be something else said about Australian Rules Football and fluoridation of water. After this article I hope you don't have to read anything else about either subject.

Australian Rules Football is recognized as Australia's national sport, despite the emphasis we usually hear on her tennis and swim-

ming. As I have stated before, this game is unique to Australia; and here is another instance in which the Aussies are extremely proud of something which they possess by themselves.

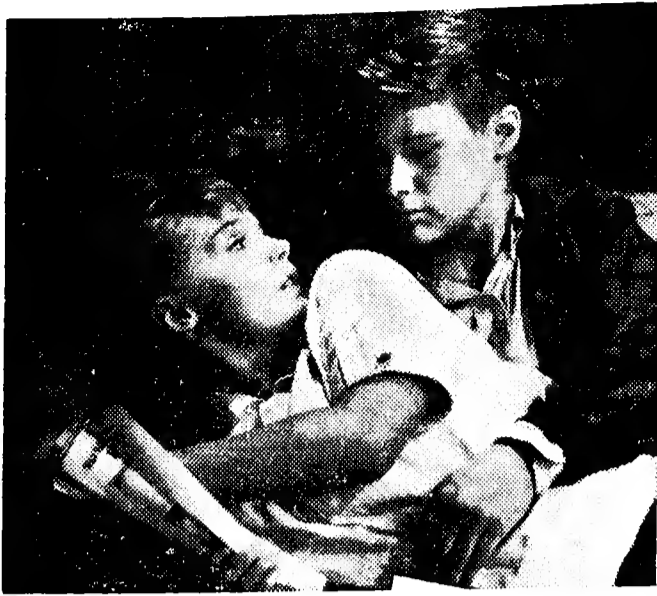
They don't even recognize our football, which they simply call "gridiron" and they are continually asking me why Americans put on so much "armor" in our football. In Australian Rules, they don't wear padding, and the uniforms resemble basketball uniforms except that they have knee-length socks and half sleeves.

The sole object of Rules Football as they call it, is to kick the ball between the goal posts, and this is the only way the scoring is done. Thus the whole emphasis of the game is on kicking, and they are really good at it! Just the average players can kick with either foot on the dead run and, from 50 yards away, place the ball within five yards of where they are trying to kick it. To me this is amazing!

The only two ways of advancing the ball toward the opponent's goal are by running with the ball or kicking it accurately forward to a teammate. Since a player must bounce the ball on the ground at least once every ten yards he runs, he usually advances the ball by an accurate kick to a teammate; and some of these fellows are much more accurate in this manner than many quarterbacks I've seen trying to pass a football.

One of the highlights of this type of football is the high leaping which is done to catch the kicks in midair. If you catch one in the air, you may have a free kick toward the other goal. Sometimes players go up on each other's backs and may catch a ball as high as 15 or 16 feet off the ground. I was a bit skeptical when first told about this, but now I have seen them do

KEHOE — Starting Wednesday



Carol Lynley and Brandon deWilde co-star in "Blue Denim"—a searching film that deals with teen-agers. Not only juveniles but parents in New Bern are urged to see this highly significant movie. Its four-day run at the Kehoe Theatre opens Wednesday.

Australian Rules Football is quite popular with the fans, and the stadiums are filled to overflowing each week. For the grand finals of the football playoffs they have crowds of over 110,000 spectators. It is also interesting to note that while we at home pay anywhere from 50 cents to \$5 to see high school and college games, the average admission price over here for even the grand final is less than a dollar.

May we close out this little tirade about football by wishing good old NBHS a lot of luck in their football season.

Last week I received a very kind letter from Mr. N. G. Gooding of New Bern commenting favorably on some of our articles. (It is really a good feeling to know that someone besides our long-lost parents read them.) In one respect Mr. Gooding politely took me to task with references to a statement I made concerning the fluoridation

and chlorination of water. He sent me several little newsheets with the "facts of life" of poison—fluorine in our drinking water. Some of you good people might be familiar with the articles I am speaking of.

However, I feel I must defend myself on the statement I made in principle if they object to fluorine but not chlorine in water on the grounds that the rights of the individual are violated by dumping chemical agents in drinking water.

The "facts of life" I received state, "The proponents of fluoridation try to confuse people by comparing it with chlorination. There is no comparison between the purposes, the chemistry, and the medical aspects of these two processes." Again, my statement was with respect to principle—not to purpose, chemistry or medical aspects.

By the way, I do think that preying upon citizens' minds that fluoridation of water is some nasty Communist subversion tactic is taking the argument a bit too far. They haven't thought of that one here in Australia yet. Considering all aspects, Jean and I would definitely cast our votes for fluoridation. If the vote has already been taken in New Bern, I hope the "No's" did not win by just one vote.

Until next time,
Cheerio,
Robbie.

No matter how good we build our highways there will still be many people traveling in the wrong direction.

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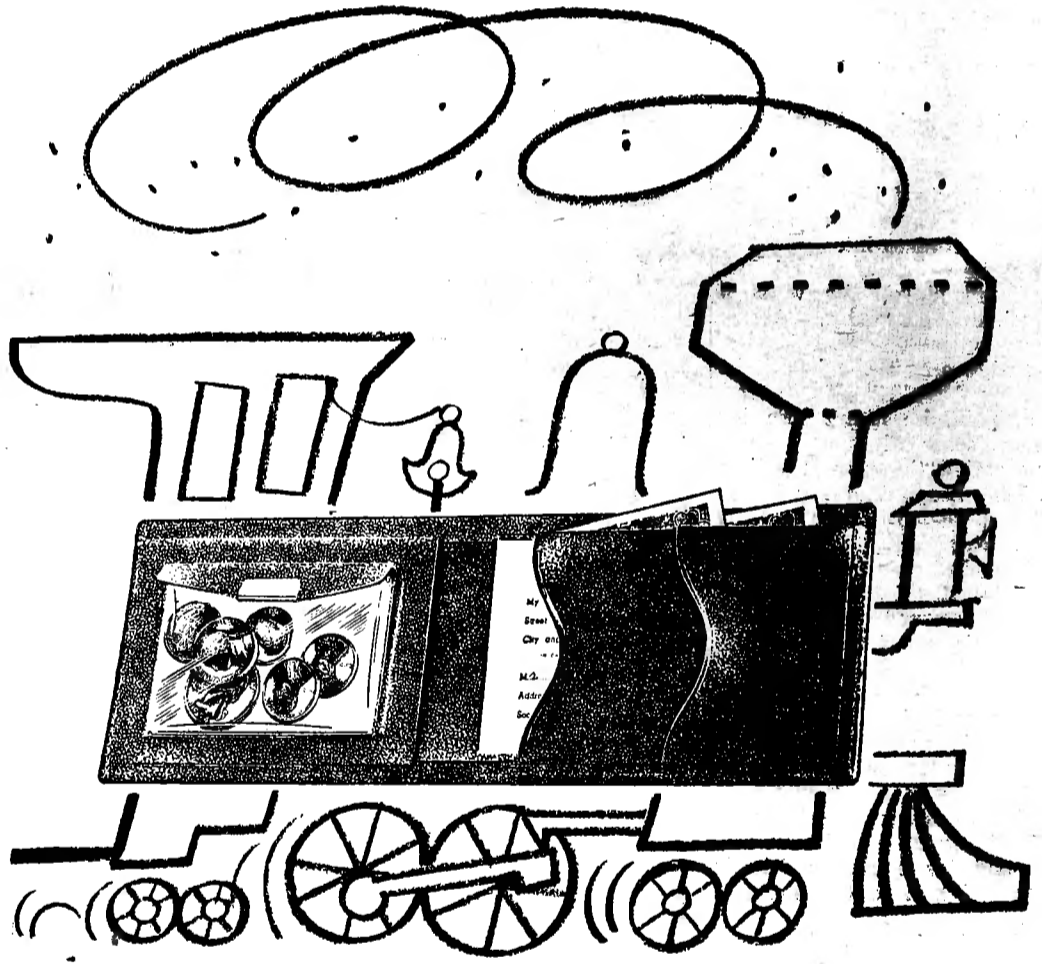
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The needless spending for so-called "public power" has already cost taxpayers \$5,500,000,000. It will cost them \$10,000,000,000 more in additional taxes if the lobbyists for federal "public power" have their way.

This tax spending goes on because most people don't know about it. So tell your friends how "public power" costs them money needlessly. As soon as enough people realize what's happening, they will put a stop to it.

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