

## KENNEL KAPERS — IN — KANGAROO LAND

Hello again,  
There were a few more comments I wanted to make from last week in regard to the Royal Show, the equivalent of our State Fair. I had said there were over 170,000 attending the day we were there and they all must have been present at the same time.

Once a very dangerous situation almost developed when a tight alley about 30 feet wide and 100 yards long in front of the side shows became too tightly packed. Most people in the alley had stopped to watch the old "come-on" stunts by strip teasers, sword swallowers, snake men, etc.; and people had continued to stream in either end of the long alleyway in-

creasingly compressing the crowd in the middle.

Jean and I were caught in the middle. For about 30 seconds the pressure from both sides had me caught so tightly that I could hardly breathe; and besides worrying about Jean and Robbie, there were a lot of little kids who must have been almost suffocating. It was the first near dangerous mob I had ever been in, and my main dread was that someone might scream and start a stampede. Luckily the police had seen what was going on and had relieved congestion at either end in a wise move.

Jean was lost in the crowd, so I fought my way to one end of the alley and waited for her. After about 15 minutes, she came down with the crowd like a twig in a stream of water. Never have I seen anyone who looked more bewildered and thrown away than she. I really felt sorry for her and all the little kids when I saw her, but the independent rascal thinks that I didn't look as if I fared so well either. Only after thinking about it a while does one realize how all those mass stampedes in theaters and crowded streets occur in which we read about people getting trampled to death.

One of the more pleasant aspects of the show was the price of most things. Food was easily less than half what we'd have to pay in Raleigh, and the same held true for most amusements. Why, entrance to the main arena was free!

An idea which I have never seen before is the selling of "sample bags." Over here this is an institution, and show time means "bag" time. A sample bag consists of a gaily decorated bag filled with various odds and ends which delight children. These bags are put out by different advertisers, and the decorations on the bag natural-

ly work in the name of the advertisers. Inside the bag is usually the product or a sample of the product of the advertiser.

A bag sells for about 35 cents and, as far as I can tell, has truly about 30 cents worth of material in it. You must admit that for a State Fair this is almost a sound investment!

Anybody who goes to the show must collect as many different bags as he can, and we saw some little kids beaming along with perhaps 10 to 15 bags. The odds and ends of toys, games, candy, puzzles, comic books, etc., which each bag contains don't interest me so much now, but 10 years ago I would have been in seventh heaven with as many bags as I could carry.

Jean commented that some of the children spent quite a bit of money on bags, but I can remember when I'd probably spend that much and come home with nothing at all to show for it.

I've commented before on the Australian women and their great love and skill for knitting. Well, the handicrafts exhibit confirmed my suspicions that they are generally good all around with their hands. Likewise you've heard about the delicious food we've been eating.

In the cooking and handicrafts exhibit were projects of patience and care which staggered us. Many times at home I've seen beautiful hand works, but never have I seen such consistently fine work by so many. Over here it is not just the old lady who paints "masterpieces", bakes, or knits; they all do. This "knowledge of the hands" seems to be a definite part of every girl's dowry. (Not that I'm disappointed with Jean, either—she's picked up a few neat tricks over here.)

Well, I have about run out of things to say about Melbourne's Royal Show. As I've said before, it is quite similar to our State Fair, mainly due to the simple, basic people who are the backbone of a fair. Although we were so tired when we arrived home that we took a two-hour nap, we enjoyed it immensely.

I still want to see a game of

### "Tambourine Lizzie"



A London theater cashier by the name of Lizzie, who learned from Gypsy performers how to play the tambourine, introduced the familiar instrument to The Salvation Army. One night she followed a Salvation Army group as it marched out of Hyde Park, joining the drummer with her tambourine. After conversion she led Salvation Army marches through the streets of London, where she became known as "Tambourine Lizzie."

When you approach a problem, strip yourself of preconceived opinions and prejudice, assemble and learn the facts of the situation, make the decision, which seems to you to be the most honest, and then stick to it.—Chester Bowles.

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