

Historical Officer Report
From the pages of the Camden Advertiser

6th July 1939

99th FESTIVAL -- Archbishop of Melbourne at Camden on Sunday

The Most Rev. the Archbishop of Melbourne, Dr. F. W. Head, M.C., will take the evening service at St. John's Church of England, Camden, on Sunday next, when the 99th anniversary festival will be celebrated.

The distinguished Churchman, who will be paying his first visit to Camden, was senior chaplain of the Guards' Division during the Great War of 1914-18.

1536 yards have been covered in the "Mile-of-Pennies", quest for the children's ward at Camden District Hospital. Mrs. J. B. Huthnance, the organiser reports that the sum of 192 pounds is in hand.

NEW METHOD OF BRAKE TESTING.

Here is a new way of testing brakes: Take a quart milk-bottle, pour in a pint of water, cap the bottle; and set it upright on the floor of the car. Drive at 20 M.P.H. then apply the brakes fully.

If the bottle remains upright, you had better have your brakes fixed. If the bottle upsets and the car stops within 30 feet, the brakes are good. The police in Kansas City (U.S.A.) think this test is great; they urge citizens to try the milk bottle test before they come up for the official brake test.

WALLACIA'S RELIC OF 1867 FLOODS

The work of tunnelling under the Nepean River at Wallacia in the, construction of the Warragamba Scheme' has been the means of bringing to light some old timber and shingles believed to have been swept from an old brewery in the famous flood of 1867.

It is claimed out there that this was the state's first brewery. It was situated. Just below Mr. W. E. Barnes's house, Grove Farm; and was of iron bark and shingle construction.

The brewery, we learn, was built by one of the Blaxland's of exploring fame, and a flour mill at one time stood nearby. Those places and others suffered in the great flood of '67.

The timber was in wonderful condition considering that it had been under the water all these years. It was found right in the bed of the river, well covered over with silt and rubbish.

13th July 1939

ARREST AT CAMDEN. Shot Fired By Police.

ALERT NIGHT-WATCHMAN.

A suspected shop breaker was arrested at revolver point at Camden In the early hours of Monday morning. Constable Haylock had previously fired a warning shot when the suspect had failed to obey an order to stop. Involved in the exciting incident were Sergeant E. H. Porteus, Constable H. C. Haylock. Night-Watchman Maurice Peck, and his Alsatian dog Peter. Mr. Arthur Pinkerton, and a fleet-footed stranger.

The alertness of Watchman Peck led to the discovery of a man in the Paramount Theatre, Camden. He telephoned his suspicion to the Camden Police Station at about 3 a.m., and Sergeant Porteus quickly arrived on the scene. Realising that the unsuspecting intruder had several avenues of escape from the building if prematurely disturbed, Sergeant Porteus telephoned for Constable Haylock, and also aroused Mr. Arthur Pinkerton, who had the front-door keys to the theatre.

The intruder was apparently in the vestibule of the theatre, and working on the doors leading into the confectionery and refreshments buffet, when the front doors were unlocked. He bolted through the theatre and dashed out of an unlocked rear door. Messrs. Peck and Pinkerton, who were nearby, gave chase, but the man displayed remarkable speed, and disappeared into the shadows cast by the Camden Railway goods shed.

The Alsatian, Peter, was noticed scenting near a small shed, in which a man was discovered. He was ordered to surrender by the police, and, after appearing to submit, made a dash for liberty.

Constable Haylock called to the suspect to halt, and, as the order was disobeyed, he fired a warning shot. Almost immediately the man tripped and was overpowered.

The suspect, who gave his age as 28 years and a city address, was later charged with having broken and entered the Paramount Theatre.

Constable Haylock, who had hurriedly dressed when he received the first call, lost a slipper during the chase and injured a foot. He, later, had a toe nail removed by a doctor.

TAXATION OFFICERS TO VISIT DISTRICTS.

To advise taxpayers what is required of them and to what they are entitled under the provisions of the various Income Tax Acts administered by the Department of Taxation

Messrs. Elsworth and Argent, two senior departmental officials, will be stationed at Camden on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday next.

The officers will deal with any requests of taxpayers and discuss with them any problems or difficulties they may have regarding their taxation matters

Mr. F. G. Butler, who has taken over the Camden business of Beacon Motors from Messrs. Mortimer and Keys, will receive the "good luck" wishes of the many friends he has made in the district during his nine months' residence here. Mr. Butler was formerly attached to the sales and service staff of a lending city motoring firm. It is not generally known that Mr. Butler holds an international soccer cup; at the age of 17 he represented England against Scotland. He was a member of the famous Aston Villa Soccer Club. His sport-hobby these days is tennis. With a modern motor engineering workshop and his policy of "personal service to clients," Mr. Butler hopes to win the goodwill of district residents.

BOY SCOUTS READY IN EMERGENCY.

Thousands of Boy Scouts in New South Wales, over 14 years old, are undergoing training for special duty. In the event of national emergency, the secretary of the Boy Scouts' Association of N.S.W. (Mr. Stoddart) told Press representative at Sydney last week. Special National Service badges are being issued to them.

In a time of emergency they could act as messengers, and their services would be of tremendous value if school children were being evacuated from the city to country centres.

In the city and suburbs excellent progress is being made in fire-fighting tuition. Scouts are receiving instructions at the different fire-stations.

Mr. Stoddart was emphatic that all such training was part of normal Scouts work.

20th July 1939

Electricity will be unavailable at Camden between the hours of 9.45 and 10.45 on Sunday morning next. The hour's interruption will be necessary while repair to the line is effected by the Department of Public Works.

CYCLISTS AS DESPATCH RIDERS.

In order to conserve petrol supplies in line of a national emergency, the use of cyclists as despatch riders is planned under the Emergency Services Scheme.

When a Chief Warden is appointed at Camden he will probably ask for the co-operation of Camden Cycling Club in this direction. A club officer may be appointed to the position of Under Warden, in charge of the riders.

In the event of an air-raid, when, possibly, telephonic communication to some centres would be interrupted, the services of cyclist despatch riders would prove of real value.

The local Cycling Club may take the initial step by calling together all former officials and riders in order to awaken enthusiasm and a keener interest in the sport. The continuation of road and track racing would give Camden a greater number of physically fit riders.

27th July 1939

Fine Crops of Cauliflowers and Cabbages.

On Mr. A. B. Abel's irrigation farm at the junction of the Wollondilly and Nattai Rivers, can be seen crops of cauliflowers and cabbages which would compare with any in the State.

Under irrigation, 40,000 cauliflowers and 60,000 cabbages have matured very quickly, only four months having elapsed since sowing. From fifty to eighty dozen are being sent to market daily, and top prices are realised.

11,000 CASES OF TOMATOES.

On the same farm this year, 11,000 cases of tomatoes were sent to market, and they realised very satisfactory prices. The tomatoes, known by the name of "Salads," were considered the best variety marketed. The seed was recently advertised on the front page of the "Camden Advertiser" by Clifton Bros' (Camden) Pty. Ltd.

HISTORIC FARM.

It will be interesting to note that the land which produced these prolific crops was the first cultivated Burragorang Valley 108 years ago.

Although the mile port has been reached in the mile of pennies campaign for the children's ward at Camden District Hospital, additional amounts have been received by the honorary organiser, Mrs. J. B. Huthnance, and the fund now stands at £222/2/-. Residents who have not yet subscribed and desire to do so may leave their donations at the Camden Advertiser Office.

Ray Herbert
Historical Officer