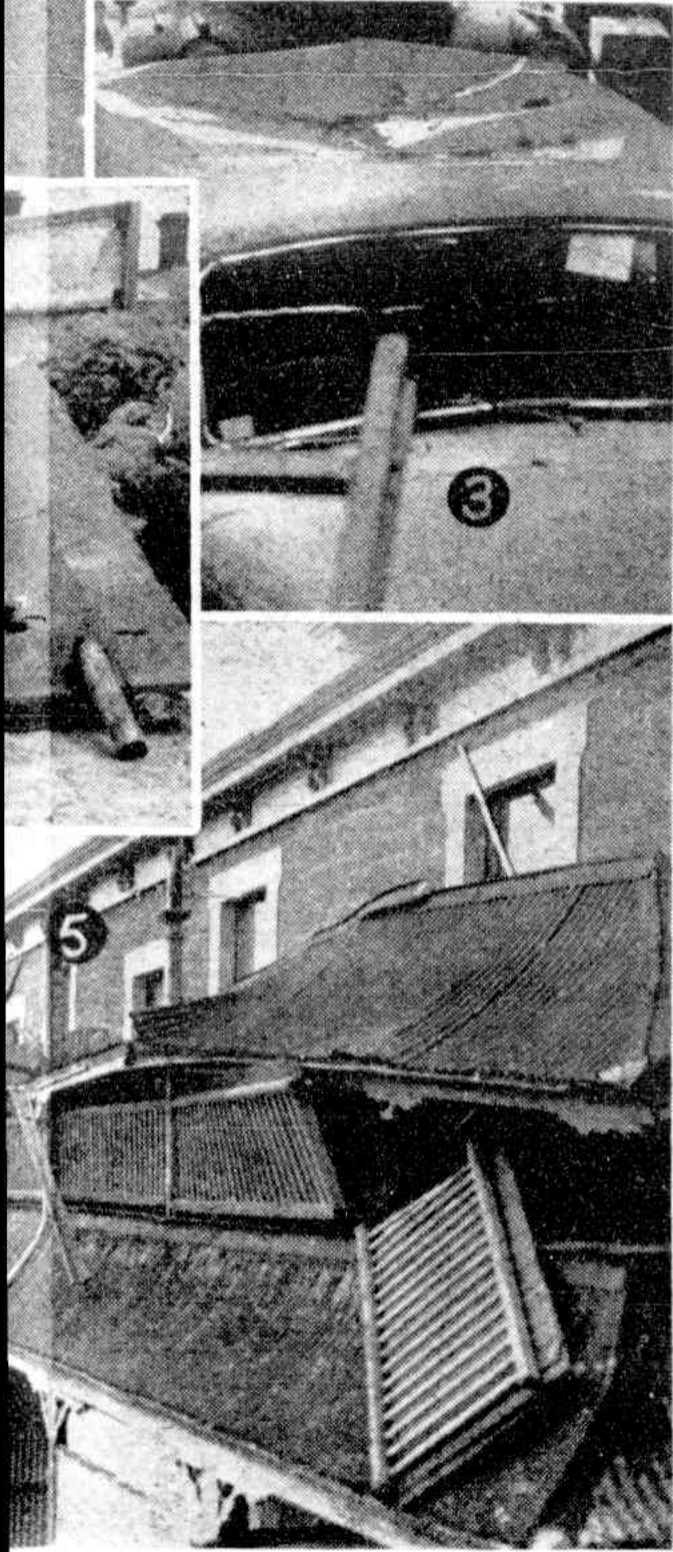


FINCHES GO IN GALE

- WIDESPREAD EFFECTS** in Adelaide of today's 73-m.p.h. gale included—
1. Hoardings and fences litter the footpath and roadway of Payneham road near the Maid and Maggie Hotel.
 2. Rescuing belongings from her ruined laundry shed is Mrs. C. M. Loechel, of Drayton street, Brompton. She walked out of the shed just before it was blown over.
 3. Bricks dislodged from the tower of Maughan Church, Franklin street, City, damaged the roof of this small car parked below.
 4. Part of the roof of a shed at Brompton gas works came to rest against the fence of a house on the corner of Drayton and Fourth streets.
 5. First floor verandah roof of a King William street apartment house collapsed.



LETTERS TO EDITOR

Britain

THE rather foolhardy assertion of G. Hamilton Knight ("News," 29/10/51) that Britain would have been bankrupt without Marshall Aid is sheer conjecture, and I am only interested in material fact.

The stoicism, courage, and enduring patience of the British working class have always amazed me. The manner in which these people were able to rouse themselves to beat off the Nazis, after what they had suffered under successive incompetent Tory Governments between the wars, was a modern miracle.

Nationalisation cannot fail to be an economic moral success. There has been far too much irresponsible chatter about the initial profit and loss, but the untold benefits received by those most entitled to receive—the men who hew the coal, and those operating the railways—have been ignored. At least, they now receive sufficient remuneration to purchase the essentials of decent human living—a welcome change from their almost impossible lives before the war.

As to the cost of running State industry, mechanisation, and provision of more efficient safety equipment for the coalmines does cost a great deal of money. The British postal services surely are a model of efficiency as a State enterprise.

H. KENYON COX
Belair

'Worker hit'

THE Federal Government's tax on "luxuries" will hit the working man. But then he is hit every time.

Although the worker's wages may sound large, actually there is very little left for his family to indulge in "luxury" spending with goods at their present prices. He cannot even afford to give his family week-end pleasures with tram, bus, and rail fares so high.

And what pleasures can the aged afford from the small pensions they receive? These are the people who, through years of hard toil, built Australia.

When elections are on, politicians promise no end of good things, but once they have been elected, promises are piecemeal. Politicians who fail to keep their promises after they have been put into Parliament should be compelled to resign.

A. MATHEWS
Welland

Missions

I NOTICE ("News," 27/10/51) that the Right Rev. F. L. Ash, a former Bishop of Rockhampton, has organised the recruiting of 100 new missionaries and the raising of £93,000, as a memorial to missionaries killed in New Guinea in World War II.

I consider South Australia is badly in need of substantial funds to house and care for aged and neglected people. And I should like to know why, after all the claims by our own missions for teachers and protectors for the aborigines, 100 volunteers are offering for service in New Guinea?

Time and again I have been requested to bring under the notice of the Board of Missions examples of flagrant exploitation of aborigines in the Northern Territory.

W. AUSTIN
Magill

Korean War

IN spite of Gen. MacArthur's virtual admission that the US started the Korean War, T. Morris ("News," 26/10/51) says the average Australian knows that North Korea started the conflict.

The Australian people know only what they have been told. But Gen. MacArthur was one of the main actors in the drama, so I still maintain that he should know.

Gen. MacArthur is an unashamed imperialist, and sees no reason to hide the facts. His admission about the starting of the Korean War was by no means his first indiscreet statement. Why else does Mr. Morris think Gen. MacArthur was so summarily dismissed from all his Far East commands?

TOM COUTTS
Largs North

Method

THE efforts of the Australian Migration Department to teach English, and the efforts of migrants to learn it, should be equally appreciated. If there is a fault, where does it lie?

Many new Australians are well able to read and understand newspapers and books. Their difficulty lies in pronunciation. They become discouraged when not able to make themselves understood. They have not the same opportunity for speaking in their environment as in Europe for Australian people are less talkative with them.

The actual method used by the Migration Department is unsatisfactory for the modern adult migrant. A child hears, and having heard, speaks, after which he is obliged to read books.

But the more self-conscious adult will be content to hear without speaking, although he will try to read and learn more than the school gives him, and his is the chief fault. In reading he learns English with a bad pronunciation, and in spite of his rich vocabulary will not speak the language fluently for a long time, and will continually be making the same faults.

What is the best method of learning a language? The most modern method is that of the gramophone disc, permitting one to learn the language basically in less than three months, and with a perfect accent.

Why does not the Australian Government use discs? They might also be utilised during the outward voyage, lasting about a month, and also in the camps, where one remains for an equal period. After these two months, new arrivals should be able to speak English with little trace of an accent.

JOHN BALABAN
Adelaide

Fatuos

THE incident at Bondi (NSV), when a film star was ordered off the beach merely because she was wearing a rather charming and attractive swim suit, is likely to make Australia the laughing stock of the world.

It is almost as fatuous as the expulsion of a certain gentleman from Brisbane Cricket Ground because he wore shorts on a hot day.

Well-cut clothes and pretty frocks are most desirable as a means of hiding, to some extent, the ugliness of most men and women. Surely a sartorial point may be stretched when the sun is unduly warm, but Mr. Busybody and Mrs. Grundy are always unwilling to stretch a point.

D. N. HARRISON
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