

DAD AND DAVE, were two fictional rural characters who first appeared in Steele Rudd's (Arthur Hoey Davis's) stories in the *Bulletin* from 1895 and in his books, particularly *On our selection*. Rudd's characters, though treated humorously, represented the struggles, hopes and achievements of many small selectors. However, the characters developed in the hands of filmmakers and others to become a byword for rural oafishness and naiveté.

DALLEY, William Bede (1831–88), barrister and politician, was admitted to the Sydney Bar in 1856 and later that year succeeded Henry Parkes as member for the city of Sydney in the first parliament under responsible government. He resigned his seat in 1860 to become an immigration commissioner with Parkes in London. Dalley was appointed to the legislative council in 1870 and was attorney-general from 1875–80 under Robertson and 1883–88 under Stuart. Dalley had defended the bushranger Frank Gardiner, whose release in 1874 led to the fall of the Parkes government. In 1885 as acting colonial secretary, Dalley offered troops to Britain for the Sudan campaign. In 1887 he was appointed as the first Australian member of the Privy Council.

DAMPIER, William (1652–1715), adventurer and writer, went to sea as a boy and in 1672 joined the Royal Navy. In 1683 he joined a group of buccaneers and sailed to the Philippines and Timor. The crew of the *Cygnet* sighted the northwest coast of Australia in 1688 and spent some three months ashore in the vicinity of King Sound, WA. Dampier published an account of his observations in *A new voyage round the world* (1697), which established him as an authority on the South Seas and led to his commission as captain of HMS *Roebuck* with orders to explore the unknown coasts of New Holland and New Guinea. The expedition was not a success and discovered only New Britain in 1701. Dampier faced a court-martial upon his return and was declared unfit to command any further Royal Navy vessels. His contribution to Australian history was to arouse interest in the southern conti-

nent through his books which prompted further expeditions from Britain and eventually led to the European settlement of eastern Australia.

D'ARCY, Dame Constance Elizabeth (1879–1950), obstetrician and gynaecologist, campaigned throughout her distinguished career to reduce the incidence of maternal death and improve standards in perinatal nursing. She was prominent in the foundation of the Royal Australian Nursing Federation and was the first woman to be elected to the Senate of the University of Sydney. In 1935 she was made DBE for her services to medicine.



Captain William Dampier, oil by Edmund Dyer; 1835, after a painting by Thomas Murray in the National Portrait Gallery, London.

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DARCY, James Leslie (1895–1917), pugilist, was born near Maitland, NSW. Apprenticed to a blacksmith, he developed an ideal physique for boxing, and rose rapidly in professional boxing ranks. At nineteen he was proclaimed by some as world middleweight champion when he defeated American Jeff Smith in 1915. Darcy's career was at its zenith as Australia's involvement in World War I deepened. Unable to enlist as a minor, when his mother objected, he was hounded as a shirker, and was refused permission to leave the country to further his career. He fled the country illegally just before the conscription referendum. Caught between the schemes of rival promoters and banned from fighting by some politicians, Darcy was unable to secure any worthwhile contest. He died from blood poisoning and pneumonia at Memphis on 24 May 1917. His death brought a great outpouring of grief in Australia. Darcy has been rated as one of Australia's greatest boxers: he won 46 out of 50 fights and was never knocked out.

RICHARD CASHMAN

Further reading R. Swanwick, *Les Darcy: Australia's golden boy of boxing*, Sydney 1965.

DARK, Eleanor (1901–85), writer, daughter of poet Dowell O'Reilly, trained as a stenographer and in 1922 married Dr Eric Dark. Her first novel, *Slow dawning*, was published in 1932. Her second novel, *Prelude to Christopher*, won the Australian Literary Society's Gold Medal in 1934, as did *Return to Coolami* in 1938. Her earlier novels deal with psychological conflicts of modern urban characters; her later and better-known works, such as *The timeless land* (1941), with Australia's past. In 1978 she was awarded the first biennial Alice Award of the Australian Society of Women Writers.

DARLING, Sir James Ralph (1899–), educationalist, was born and educated in England. After serving in World War I, he studied modern history at Oxford and then taught at Charterhouse and other major public schools before his appointment in 1929 as headmaster of Geelong Grammar School. Throughout a distinguished career, he served on many national and government committees. After his retirement in 1961 he published *An innovation in Australian education* (with E.H. Montgomery, 1967), about Timbertop, Geelong Grammar School's outdoor education centre near Mansfield, Vic, and his autobiography, *Richly rewarding* (1978). He was knighted in 1968.

DARLING, Sir Ralph (1775–1858), colonial governor, was born in Ireland in January 1772, the eldest of the five children of Sergeant Christopher and Ann Darling. After a penurious youth he was commissioned as ensign in 1793 and served throughout the Napoleonic wars, first in the West Indies, then at Corunna and Walcheren and finally at the Horse Guards in charge of recruitment. An able administrator, he went to Mauritius as major-general in command of the garrison and remained until 1823, serving twice (1818–19 and July 1823) as acting governor. Following a period in England he became governor of



Eleanor Dark is best known for her historical trilogy, which comprises The timeless land (1941), Storm of time (1948) and No barrier (1953). Oil by Clif Peir, 1953.

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NSW from 1825 until 1831. Responsible for numerous important reforms, particularly in the public service, he displayed great integrity and was noted for his devotion to duty. His aloof manner, military bearing and conservative views, however, aroused opposition and he is unjustly remembered more for the Sudds-Thompson affair and his repressive press laws than for his many achievements. His enemies, personal and political, enlisted support from radicals in England, and following his return he was subjected to a campaign of vilification which culminated in a parliamentary committee of inquiry in 1835. Exonerated of all charges, he was knighted, and retired first to Cheltenham, then Brighton, where he lived with his wife Elizabeth and two of his seven children.

BRIAN H. FLETCHER

Further reading B.H. Fletcher, *Ralph Darling: a governor maligned*, Melbourne 1984.

DARLING GRANT is a term signifying an episode in Victoria's protracted constitutional crisis of 1865–68 which involved the governor, Sir Charles Darling.

James McCulloch had been Victorian premier for barely three months when Darling arrived in September 1863. McCulloch controlled the legislative assembly but not the legislative council, where wealthy landed and free-trade interests dominated. Pledged to a protective tariff, but knowing the council would reject bills imposing it, McCulloch 'tacked' a scale of duties on to the appropriation bill, which the

assembly passed in January 1865. Acting on precedent, he now imposed the tariff before the council had approved it. The council was unwilling to do so, and, being constitutionally unable to amend money bills by deleting individual clauses, rejected the entire bill. Some importers then won a supreme court judgment declaring the tariff illegal, but McCulloch continued to levy duties.

The premier sent his appropriations bill back to the council without the 'tack' but with a new retrospective clause nullifying the court decision the importers had obtained. The council rejected the bill again, and a deadlock ensued. Public works ceased; public servants were not paid; government debts mounted. With Darling's acquiescence, McCulloch devised a contentious strategy for meeting government commitments: he borrowed £40 000 from the London Bank of Australia, of which he was a director, and induced the bank to sue for the recovery of the money without the government defending the case. The bank duly obtained a court order for the return of the loan, and Darling authorised its repayment. Several repetitions of this procedure tided the government over during its financial crisis.

The council sent protests to London, but McCulloch called a general election, again with the acquiescence of Darling, who granted a dissolution of the assembly. Solidly supported by protectionists and radicals, McCulloch won an increased majority at the elections in January 1866. When parliament met, McCulloch's bill went back to the council, which rejected it again. He accordingly resigned, on 2 March, but the assembly resolved not to support a government which would not continue pressing for the bill's adoption. No one else could form a ministry, and so Darling called on McCulloch to form a new government. McCulloch took office again, had his bill passed by the assembly, and resubmitted it to the council.

This time compromise was possible. The council, now more circumspect, proposed a conference between selected members of the two houses, as a result of which McCulloch agreed to drop the 'tack', introduce the tariff as a separate bill, and resubmit the appropriation bill without its retrospective clause. The council now passed the bills, and Vic became protectionist.

By now, however, the British government had intervened. Reacting to petitions McCulloch's opponents had sent earlier, it severely reprimanded Darling over the collection of duties after the court's adverse ruling, and over his part in McCulloch's scheme for meeting government debts. In justifying himself to the secretary of state in London he attacked individual councillors, accusing them of 'ministering to their own personal and pecuniary profit' and asserting that he would 'doubt and distrust' their advice if they ever became ministers. Thinking he had abandoned impartiality, the British government recalled him.

Before Darling departed in May 1866 he received numerous expressions of sympathy. These indicated he was a hero for many Victorians, who saw him as a

victim of British government meddling and of the machinations of a clique of large landowners. At McCulloch's urging the legislative assembly thanked him for halting the colony's slide into 'anarchy', and voted Lady Darling a grant of £20 000 to compensate her husband for the financial penalty he would suffer through the ending of his career. The British Colonial Office would not sanction the gift while Darling formally remained in its service, so he resigned. McCulloch 'tacked' the grant on to an appropriations bill which the council rejected, as it had the tariff 'tack'. McCulloch called yet another election on this point, and was again returned to office; but once more the British government intervened, instructing the new governor, Sir John H. T. Manners-Sutton to disallow 'tacking'. McCulloch, protesting at imperial interference, resigned in May 1868. The assembly refused supply to his successor, Charles Sladen; and so Manners-Sutton had to restore him, in July 1868. The Colonial Office averted another wearisome deadlock by reinstating Darling and granting him a government pension of £1000 a year. He duly advised the Victorians that neither he nor his wife could accept their grant. After his death in January 1870 the Victorian parliament voted unanimously to pay his wife a pension equal to that of her late husband.

IAN HOWIE-WILLIS

DAUPHIN MAP, attributed to French cartographers working on Portuguese charts in 1536, was the first of the series now known as the Dieppe Maps (1536–66), which delineated the known and presumed parts of the continents and oceans of the world. In its original form, the west, north and east coasts were largely distorted (the south not being indicated). When studied with interpretative data and on being redrawn with allowances for erration, magnetic variation, navigational and cartographic errors, the map bears a similarity to the area from near Geraldton, WA, to Warrnambool, Vic.

Subsequent research has suggested that Portuguese sailors, probably those under Cristovao de Mendonça in 1522, were the earliest Europeans to discover the Australian continent. The Geelong keys and the 'mahogany ship' at Warrnambool are cited as evidence to support this view. The sandstone carvings and cave paintings seen by George Grey during his 1837–39 expedition in the northwest of WA are also clues to possible pre-Dutch voyages.

Further reading L. Fitzgerald, *Java La Grande: the Portuguese discovery of Australia*, Hobart 1984; K.G. McIntyre, *The secret discovery of Australia*, Sydney 1982.

DAVEY, Jack (1910–59), radio entertainer, came from New Zealand to Sydney in the early 1930s and made a generation of commercial radio listeners familiar with his greeting 'Hi Ho, everybody, this is Ja-a-ck Davy!', proclaimed in an accent described by an admirer as 'bastard, half-American'. Whatever the program—quiz, variety, breakfast—its central attraction was his personality. He also recorded commentaries for Fox Movietone newsreels.



Jack Davey: a voice rather than a face, as he never managed the transition from radio to television.

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DAVEY, Thomas (1758–1823), lieutenant-governor and soldier, secured a commission with the marines in 1778. He was a volunteer guard with the first fleet and served on all the European seas and on the coasts of America. In 1811 he was appointed lieutenant-governor of Van Diemen's Land. In 1812 en route to Hobart, he arrived in Sydney where Gov Macquarie's unfavourable opinion of his character was reinforced by an official warning about his past history of debt. In dispatches to the British government and to Davey himself, Macquarie objected to Davey's administration, especially the imposition of martial law in 1814 and to Davey's drunkenness and corruption. Nevertheless, during his administration, a gaol was built and a church commenced; Hobart and Port Dalrymple were opened to trade, and the *Hobart Town Gazette* began publication. In 1816 Macquarie's criticism was accepted by the secretary of state and Davey was asked to resign.

DAVID, Sir Tannant William Edgeworth (1858–1934), geologist and explorer, graduated from Oxford in 1881 and the following year took up an appointment as assistant geological surveyor in the department of mines, NSW. He began important mineral investigations for tin and later coal in the Hunter valley. In 1891 David was appointed to the chair of geology and physical geography at the University of Sydney. He joined Shackleton's expedition to Antarctica in 1907 and two years later reached the south magnetic pole. He was appointed KBE in 1920

in recognition of his contributions to the advancement of science and retired in 1924 to write a book on the geology of Australia.

DAVIS, Arthur Hoey (1868–1935), writer, worked in Brisbane in the public service between 1885 and 1904. He had begun to submit skits to a local paper under a pseudonym which later became 'Steele Rudd'. His first sketch appeared in the *Bulletin* in 1895. It and a subsequent sketch in 1903 told about the comic experiences of the Rudd family. Davis wrote 24 books, six plays and saw seven film adaptations of his work. He also produced his own magazines which bore various titles and appeared at different times between 1903 and 1927.

DAVIS, Jack (1917–), poet, was born in Perth and worked in various labouring jobs before becoming director of the Aboriginal Advancement Council in 1967. In 1971 he became the chairman of the Aboriginal Lands Trust WA and in 1983 was appointed to the Aboriginal Arts Board of the Australia Council. His two books of poetry are *The first born and other poems* (1970) and *Jagardoo: poems from Australian Aborigines* (1978). Kath Walker has described him as a poet 'who can fluctuate between his own indigenous and the European world and is able to make good use of both media'. He is editor of *Forum* and *Aboriginal and Islander Identity*.

DAVIS, Judy (1955–), actress, left Perth to study at NIDA, Sydney and in 1979 achieved international recognition for her film portrayal of Sybilla Melvyn in *My brilliant career*. Her later films include *Heatwave* (1982) and *A passage to India* (1985) and she has also appeared in leading stage roles, including *Hedda Gabler* (Sydney Theatre Company 1986).

DAVIS CUP Dwight F. Davis, an American player and tennis administrator, in 1900 donated a cup, known officially as the International Lawn Tennis Association Challenge Trophy, for men's international team competition. For 70 years participation was open only to amateurs, and challenging nations contested an elimination series for the right to challenge the cup holder, which selected the venue and the court surface for the challenge round. Australia (including a New Zealand player) first won the cup in 1907 and retained it until 1912. The golden age of Australian tennis, however, commenced in 1950 when Australia won the Cup in New York, winning a further eight times in the decade. Australia produced a seemingly endless stream of champions until the early 1970s. This dominance declined, but Australia won the Cup again in 1973, 1977, 1983 and 1986.

DAVISON, Frank Dalby (1893–1970), writer, wrote stories and novels about Australian bush life. The novels *Man-shy* (1931) and *Dusty* (1946) used the imagined viewpoints of a red heifer and a half-breed dog to examine the conflicting claims of civilisation and freedom. Davison's last novel, *The white thorn tree* (1968), explored the difficult territory of human sexual relations.

DAWSON, Peter (1882–1961), baritone vocalist, travelled from Adelaide to Glasgow and London to study singing and made his first operatic appearance at Covent Garden in 1909. He became best known for his singing of ballads and made many early gramophone recordings under various pseudonyms including that of Hector Grant.

DAYLIGHT SAVING involves putting clocks forward during the summer months to maximise useable daylight hours to increase outdoor leisure time, reduce electricity consumption and reduce the likelihood of road accidents. One-hour daylight saving was first introduced in 1917 but abandoned later that year following public dissatisfaction. The federal government reintroduced it to all states in 1942 under national security regulations to conserve coal and electricity. It remained in effect until 1944, although WA was granted an earlier exemption following strong representations to Canberra. Tas adopted one-hour daylight saving again in 1967, being joined by NSW, Vic and the ACT in 1971. Qld and SA also reluctantly joined the scheme, the former soon abandoning it owing to local unpopularity. WA adopted it in 1974 but abandoned it the following year.

DEAKIN, Alfred (1856–1919), politician, was born in Collingwood, Melbourne and in 1871 matriculated from the Melbourne Grammar School. After a period as assistant schoolmaster, he enrolled in the law course at Melbourne University in 1873. He joined the University Debating Club, and the Eclectic Soci-

ety, a popular forum for debate on social and religious questions, where his legendary powers of oratory were developed. A voracious reader all his life, he became immersed in the works of Herbert Spencer, as well as the classics of English and French literature, poetry and philosophy. In this period he also began a lifelong interest in spiritualism.

In 1878 Deakin was admitted to the Bar. As a young brief less barrister, he spent his time writing a treatise on aesthetics which he never completed. He met David Syme, who provided work for his prolific pen and a welcome income writing articles for the *Age*, which he continued until 1883.

Deakin entered politics in 1879, when the Liberals in West Bourke electorate were desperately seeking a candidate to stand against the Conservatives. His political star rose rapidly. He was minister of water supply at the age of 26. Implementation of his Irrigation Act of 1885 transformed the Mildura region, and Deakin became known as the 'father of irrigation', later expanding his interest to India. He also introduced the pioneer Factories and Shops Act in 1886, which regulated conditions and wages and, less successfully, sought to eradicate 'sweating' practices. He was active in the Anti-Sweating League, and in other areas such as the temperance and animal welfare movements. Deakin married Pattie Browne, daughter of prominent spiritualist Hugh Junor Browne, in 1883. It was a happy marriage which produced three daughters, Ivy, Stella and Vera.

In 1886 Deakin became leader of the Liberals and continued the coalition with the Conservatives, becoming, at age 30, chief secretary of Vic. In April–May 1887 he attended the first colonial conference in London. There he eloquently pressed the claims of the Australian colonies for a greater voice in imperial policy, particularly on defence. This energetic and unprecedented show of colonial independence earned Deakin many friends, particularly among the members of the Australian Natives' Association in Victoria.

The coalition government fell in October 1890 over its handling of the Maritime Strike, and during the 1890s Deakin, now a private member, devoted his efforts to federation. The 1891 convention, where he was the youngest delegate, produced a draft constitution, but economic malaise and intercolonial suspicions precluded union, and the movement languished. Deakin worked tirelessly to rekindle enthusiasm, crisscrossing the continent to preach the 'one true faith' of federation. Enabling acts made possible the second phase, and at the conventions held in Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne in 1897–98 Deakin emerged as a prominent federal leader. When the second referendum succeeded, Deakin was among those sent to London to see the Commonwealth Bill passed through the British parliament in 1900. Conflict arose over Clause 74, relating to appeals to the Privy Council. The Australians were adamant that the High Court should be the supreme authority on constitutional matters. Eventually the British parliament conceded this, and also the power of the Australian



Alfred Deakin. Caricature by Spy. *Vanity fair supplement*, 2 Sept 1908.

parliament to legislate on the conditions of appeal, and the commonwealth came into existence on 1 January 1901.

As attorney-general in the Barton ministry, Deakin was responsible for a great volume of foundation legislation, including the Immigration Act, which embodied the 'White Australia' policy, and the Judiciary Act setting up the High Court. He was prime minister three times in the first decade of the commonwealth. The bulk of foundation legislation was secured in the second Deakin ministry (1905–08), with the support of Labor. This included fixing the site for the capital, and the patents, conciliation and arbitration, and old age pensions acts, which earned Australia for a time the reputation of being a 'social laboratory'. In 1907 Deakin attended the Imperial Conference, where he sought unsuccessfully to gain a better deal for Australian defence, and a preferential trade agreement with Great Britain. When Labor support was withdrawn the government fell.

Deakin's last term as prime minister, from 1909 to 1910, was made possible by a 'fusion' of the Liberal-Protectionists, the anti-socialists under Joseph Cook, and Sir John Forrest's 'corner' party. Its main policy was 'new protection'. Deakin's famed mental powers and oratory were beginning to wane from intense strain. His last election in April 1910, which he expected to win, resulted in a rout for the 'fusion', and a victory for Labor. He remained leader of the opposition until his retirement in 1913, and took part in the successful campaign against Labor's 1911 referendum proposals, which he believed would have abolished the federal character of the commonwealth.

Believing that the English public needed to know more of antipodean affairs, from 1901 to 1914 Deakin was an anonymous correspondent writing a weekly 'Australian letter' for the London *Morning Post*, but taking great pains to keep his identity secret. After retirement, Deakin was enlisted for war work, as chairman in 1914 of the Food Supplies Commission, and in 1915 as president of the Australian delegation to the Panama Exhibition. His health degenerated further, and after unsuccessful visits to overseas specialists, he lapsed from 1916 until his death into a hermit-like existence.

Alfred Deakin was a deeply religious man and something of a mystic. In addition to his onerous public duties, he studied deeply in Swedenborgianism, Hinduism, Islam and Christianity. He was also involved with Theosophy, and during the 1890s with Dr Strong's Australian Church. He was a voracious reader and a diligent writer. Of his numerous works on religion, only a series of *Age* articles, reprinted as *Temple and tomb in India*, was published. His prayers and meditations reveal his deep belief in a personal God guiding human affairs. Hence his efforts for federation, and much of his other political work, can best be understood as arising from an abiding faith in providence and in the destiny of the Anglo-Saxon race.

AL GABAY

Further reading J.A. La Nauze, *Alfred Deakin: a biography*, 2 vols, Melbourne 1965.

DECENTRALISATION leagues were founded in NSW and Vic in the 1880s as a result of concern over the centralisation of political and economic power in a few large cities, most colonies already having one city far outstripping any of their other towns in size and importance. Regional development committees in Vic and NSW in the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s encouraged public interest in the non-metropolitan areas of those states, but had no statutory powers. During the 1950s, urban containment, redirection of economic growth to other centres, and the correction of perceived regional imbalances all became important issues among planners; but although selective decentralisation became a political and planning catchphrase, it remained a secondary policy objective. Relatively minor forms of encouragement were used to attract firms away from the capital cities to virtually any other location, but with limited success.

A joint 1972 commonwealth-state report on decentralisation favoured selective decentralisation to carefully chosen growth centres. The Whitlam government strongly favoured such a policy, and established a cities commission and department of urban and regional development (DURD). Commonwealth funding, at least for further investigation, was forthcoming for Campbelltown, Gosford–Wyong and Bathurst–Orange in NSW, Albury–Wodonga on the NSW–Vic border, and Monarto in SA. Only Albury–Wodonga went ahead to any extent with commonwealth involvement. When the Fraser coalition government was elected in 1975, DURD was disbanded and the decentralisation budget was greatly reduced. A more general form of assistance was later provided to employers setting up or expanding in selected non-metropolitan areas, but the recession of the late 1970s and early 1980s kept both state and federal governments preoccupied with macro-economic issues, as a result of which decentralisation remained in the background.

DEFENCE From the earliest days of settlement Australians felt vulnerable and thus dependent on powerful friends for the defence of their rich continent and its relatively affluent, democratic way of life. Major discoveries of minerals, especially of gold in the 1850s, reinforced the realisation that Australians had much to lose and thus much to fear.

Until World War II, the principal source both of political identity and of common protection was the British Empire and Commonwealth. The Australian colonies were garrisoned by British troops up to 1870, although local volunteers were enrolled, fortifications erected, and small naval forces raised from the time of the Crimean War (1854–56). In 1860 Australian volunteers were sent to New Zealand to help quell the Maori uprisings. In 1885 NSW provided a contingent to support imperial forces in the Sudan, and at the turn of the century small colonial forces went to China to protect British interests against the 'Boxers'. For the Boer War in South Africa (1899–1902) all six Australian colonies sent units, which were subsequently joined into a single force on the establishment of the federated Commonwealth of Australia in 1901. The

central government was given sole responsibility for defence matters, but still retained a colonial dependence on Britain. It established a single army, with the option for conscription, and from 1911 a useful navy.

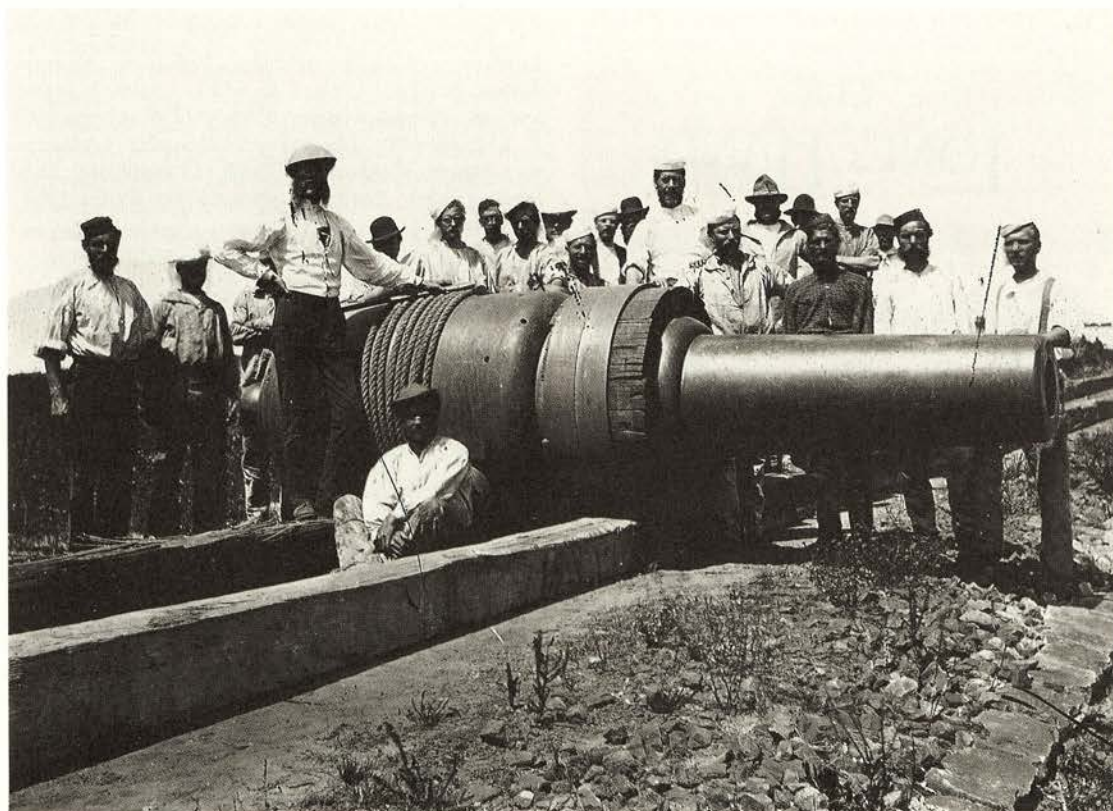
Australia's feeling of vulnerability was reinforced by Japan's defeat of Russia in the war of 1904–05. This sent the Deakin government on a search for assurance of American support against Japan. That support was not needed for over 30 years. In the meantime, more from imperial sentiment and identification than from fear of attack, Australia sent nearly 330 000 troops overseas in World War I.

The war was a major but temporary involvement in world affairs: afterwards Australia shared a widespread revulsion against armaments and turned back to its own development. In partial fulfilment of the Washington naval treaties, which sought to control the size of navies, including that of the British Empire, the battle cruiser *Australia* was scuttled off Sydney heads, although in general the navy was slowly modernised. The army was greatly reduced in size, the nascent air force kept small, and the government refused to contribute to the cost of the new Singapore naval base. The depression caused further reductions in defence spending, at a time when Japan was seizing increasing control of the adjacent Asian

mainland and closing off foreign access to the ex-German Pacific territories mandated to it by the League of Nations.

Fear of Japan now dominated Australian defence thinking, prompting Prime Minister Joseph Lyons to propose to the 1937 Imperial Conference in London a non-aggression pact for the Pacific. But the conference was preoccupied with the gathering clouds in Europe. During the previous two decades Australia had slowly acquired its own diplomatic capacity and sense of political independence. It declared war on Germany in September 1939 *because* Britain had just done so, put the navy into the common cause, sent airmen to Britain, three divisions to the Middle East and part of another to Malaya. When Japan entered the war, Prime Minister Curtin defied Churchill by refusing to permit the diversion to Burma of two AIF divisions returning from North Africa to defend Australia. Australians were first (in Papua) to stop the southward thrust of Japanese arms, but the war was won by Americans in the Pacific and British and Indians in the sub-continent, with the atomic *coup de grâce* at Hiroshima and then Nagasaki.

Since 1945 all Australian governments, whether Liberal or Labor, have held fast to the protection of the US, negotiated in the ANZUS (Australia–New



Eighteen-ton gun at Middle Head, Port Jackson. This gun and others at North and South Head were supposed to sink any enemy ship not intercepted by the Royal Navy.

NSW GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

Zealand–United States) Treaty by the Liberal minister for external affairs P.C. Spender in 1951. Fear of Japan—beaten, exhausted and occupied though it was—dominated Australian defence thinking in the early postwar years, supplemented and eventually replaced from the late 1940s by concern over militant communist nationalist forces in Asia. Australia could not possibly contain these, but saw its salvation in encouraging and assisting Britain and the US to do so.

Thus Australian forces joined (in a British commonwealth division) the US in the United Nations sponsored defence of South Korea (1950–53); assisted in maintaining internal security in Malaya during the ‘Emergency’ (1948–60) and in the external defence of Malaysia against Indonesia during ‘Confrontation’ (1963–65); pressed both Britain and the US, through the South-East Asia Collective Defence Treaty and its Organisation (SEATO—1954–72), to protect as much as possible of Indo-China and the peninsula; and took part in the Vietnam War, first sending advisers and then combat forces (1965–72).

This policy of forward defence depended on the presence of one or more powerful friends, and with the withdrawal from mainland southeast Asia first of the British and then of the Americans, the policy became impractical. All that now remains of it is a contribution to the air defence of Malaysia and Singapore and an assurance of contingent help to Thailand.



Australia's military unpreparedness was the subject of criticism throughout the second half of the nineteenth century and in the early twentieth century. Australia's feeling of insecurity and desire for independence in defence matters were increased by the Boxer Rebellion in China (1900–01) and Japan's defeat of Russia (1904–05). Soon after this article in the Lone hand called for 'real military training' and 'the provision of super-dreadnoughts', the Royal Australian Navy's only battlecruiser, HMAS Australia, was launched (25 October 1911) and the Royal Military College, Duntroon, opened (June 1911). Lone hand, 1 May 1911.

BOOROWA PRODUCTIONS

The Sino-American rapprochement after 1972, the development of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and a rough stabilisation of Indo-China under Vietnamese hegemony in the late 1970s all combined to reduce Australian concern at 'threats' from the region. Strategic thinking now focused on the security of the Australian continent and its near environment, including Papua New Guinea with its fragile polity and Indonesia which in late 1975, following the collapse of the Portuguese empire, offended United Nations norms and Australian sensitivities by a bloody takeover of East Timor.

In 1984 the NZ Labor Party government refused to allow nuclear-armed or nuclear-powered vessels to enter its port. The US believed this to be contrary to the ANZUS Treaty and suspended most of its military connections with NZ, leaving Australian–US and Australian–NZ relations bilateral.

Australia now has small but highly professional defence forces, a loose but reassuring alliance with a superpower, and a strategy geared primarily to protection of the homeland. Its defence production capacity is slight, and for sophisticated equipment it depends on imported items or technology, for which it is well able to pay. The general apprehension of vulnerability remains, especially as Asian populations rise; but Australians have come to feel much more at home in, at peace and able to cope with, their culturally heterogeneous neighbourhood. T.B. MILLAR

Further reading R. Babbage, *Rethinking Australia's defence*, Brisbane 1980; T.B. Millar, *Australia in peace and war: external relations 1788–1977*, Canberra 1978; R. O'Neill (ed), *The defence of Australia: fundamental new aspects*, Canberra 1977; R. O'Neill and D.M. Horner (eds), *Australian defence policy for the 1980's*, Brisbane 1981.

DELPRAT, Guillaume Daniel (1856–1937), engineer, arrived in Australia in 1898 from his native Holland, having worked as an engineer in Spain, Britain, Norway and Canada, to take up the position of general manager of the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Ltd. His expertise in the field of mineral extraction resulted in BHP diversifying from its original products of silver and lead to zinc and sulphur. Delprat's major achievement was in the foundation of large-scale iron and steel works at Newcastle, NSW, in 1915, which achieved prosperity and importance during World War I.

DE MAISTRE, LeRoy Leveson Laurent Joseph (1894–1968), artist, with Grace Cossington Smith and Roland Wakelin introduced post impressionism and cubism to Australia. In 1923 he was awarded a scholarship by the Society of Artists and travelled to Europe. When he returned to Sydney three years later he exhibited his work and took classes in modern art. In 1929 he organised an interior design exhibition at Burdekin House. He left Australia permanently in 1930 and successfully pursued his career in London.

DEMOCRATIC LABOR PARTY In 1955 the left-wing of the Labor party in Vic won control of the

Australian Labor Party's state executive. They expelled over one hundred right-wing opponents, among them supporters of anti-communist Industrial Groups in trade unions and members of B. A. Santamaria's unofficial Catholic organisation, the Movement. The expelled and their supporters rallied and formed a party at first called 'ALP (Anti-Communist)'. By 1957, after less substantial splits in other states, a national 'Democratic Labor Party' was founded, vigorously anti-communist in foreign and domestic policy and espousing, though vaguely, social principles derived from Catholic social teaching. For R. G. Menzies and his successors the DLP performed the great service of helping to keep Labor out of office. Where preferential voting applied, DLP votes tended to become votes for Liberal-Country Party candidates. In the Senate, proportional representation enabled the DLP to have five members by 1970. In Vic, always the party's stronghold, nearly 20 per cent of Senate electors voted DLP that year. The DLP vote declined steadily after 1970 and steeply after 1972 when Gough Whitlam led a revived ALP back into government. No DLP candidate was returned to the Senate in 1974, and a decade later the party was all but forgotten.

D'ENTRECASTEAUX, Joseph-Antoine Raymond de Bruni (1739–93), explorer, entered the French navy in 1754 and gained a reputation as a hydrographer and administrator. In 1786 he was given command of a squadron in the East Indies and was required to open up a new route to China. He was later appointed governor of Mauritius, but was recalled to lead an expedition to search for the missing Comte de la Pérouse, whose expedition had vanished after leaving Botany Bay in 1788. The search was unsuccessful, but many new waters were charted and islands discovered by D'Entrecasteaux before he died in 1793.

DENHAM, Digby Francis (1859–1944), politician, arrived in SA from England in 1881 and in 1886 moved to Qld. He entered the Qld parliament in 1902 and became home secretary and secretary for agriculture the following year. His major contributions were the establishment of a co-operative dairy system in Qld and the introduction of the 1910 Land Act. He was premier from 1911 to 1915 and retired from politics after defeat by Labor in the 1915 elections.

DENIEHY, Daniel Henry (1828–65), orator and writer, was born in Sydney but travelled extensively in Europe with his parents before returning to Australia in 1844. He practised as an attorney but his real interest was in literature and from 1851 to 1853 he gave a series of lectures on poetry and modern literature at the Sydney School of Arts. He was a skilled orator and in 1853 spoke publicly against W.C. Wentworth's proposed colonial nobility, calling it a 'bunyip aristocracy'. Deniehy entered the NSW parliament in 1857 as member for Argyle and from 1859 to 1860 for East Macquarie. He made several influential speeches and also wrote polemical pieces in the journal *The southern cross*.



The 1917 edition of *The sentimental bloke* by C. J. Dennis features the whimsical illustrations of Hal Gye, 1888–1967. Gye was a well-known cartoonist for the *Melbourne Punch*, *Melbourne Herald* and the *News*, *Adelaide*. He was also the theatre caricaturist for the *Bulletin*, *Sydney*.

DUNBAR COLLECTION

DENISON, Sir William Thomas (1804–71), colonial governor, was commissioned in 1826 and served as engineer officer in Canada and England before his appointment in 1847 as lieutenant-governor of Van Diemen's Land. He became unpopular in the colony through his support for transportation and his handling of legal and financial disputes. In 1855 he was appointed governor of NSW and nominally governor-general of the Australian colonies. He established a public works system, installed harbour batteries and hastened the building of an island fortress in Port Jackson which bears his name, before leaving Australia in 1861.

DENNIS, Clarence Michael James (1876–1938), poet, worked in a variety of jobs until he joined the *Melbourne Herald* in 1922, writing a daily column for the next sixteen years. Prior to this, Dennis had worked intermittently as a journalist and from 1903 had also contributed poems to the *Bulletin*. In 1913 his first book of verse had been poorly received, but *The songs of a sentimental bloke* (1915) was an immediate success. A simple love story of great humour, told in dialect verse, it reached a public depressed by massive war casualties. A sequel, *The moods of Ginger Mick* (1916), had an unprecedented first print run for verse of over 39 000 copies.

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS, a term denoting the primary and secondary schools run by various religious bodies, is most often used in relation to the sectarian disputes over the responsibility for school provision that marked the development of education in the Australian colonies from the mid-1820s.

Individual clergymen, charitable bodies, and concerned citizens sponsored the earliest schools in NSW, usually with government aid. In 1825 the Anglican church, supported by the secretary of state in London, attempted to monopolise education. Other churches, notably the Catholic and Presbyterian, resisted vociferously, demanding government support for their schools too. Seeking a middle course between the churches, Gov Bourke in 1836 proposed a system of 'national' (government) schools with a Christian though non-sectarian emphasis, but his scheme foundered on clerical opposition. Aid to all schools, regardless of denomination, was granted from 1841, the result being that responsibility for education remained with the churches rather than being taken up by the government. However, after a select committee of the legislative council in 1844 found that half the school-age children were not attending school, the government began to exert direct control. In 1848 it set up two authorities. One, the denominational schools board, composed of representatives of the four denominations most interested in education (Anglican, Catholic, Presbyterian, Wesleyan), disbursed the funds available for church schools; the other, the national schools board, was charged with creating a system of government schools. The two boards came into conflict, however, and this eventually helped persuade the government to establish, via the Public Schools Act of 1866, a council of education to replace the two boards, run the government schools, and grant aid to the denominational schools.

In the other colonies government grants to denominational schools and the establishment of government schools aroused sectarian quarrels similar to those in NSW. In Vic the evolution of education paralleled that of the mother colony. When Vic separated from NSW in 1851 it created two education boards, and dual control continued until 1862, when a single board was set up to run national schools and grant aid to denominational schools. In Qld, after that colony's separation, a board of general education was established in 1860 to disburse funds between the 'grammar' (locally run, non-sectarian) and denominational schools. In Tas the government gave aid to schools of all denominations, despite Anglican opposition. In 1839, also against Anglican opposition, the government set up a board of education and began establishing its own schools, and henceforth a dual system of education operated there as well. In 1848 the government began supporting all schools at the same rate and from 1853 promoted the establishment of board-controlled 'inter-denominational' schools. In WA education developed slowly. The government set up several 'colonial' schools of its own, and there were a number of privately run schools but no denominational schools until the Catholic Church founded its

first schools in 1846. Gov Clarke refused to aid the Catholic schools, and proceeded to establish further colonial schools. After considerable sectarian dispute, church schools finally secured government aid in 1871, when, via the Elementary Education Act, a board of education was set up to run government schools and make grants to other schools. In SA education was left to the churches, and the denominational schools received government aid, granted by a board of education from 1847. Conflict over the principle of state support for religion in 1851 prompted legislation withdrawing government support from church schools, SA being the first colony to take such a step.

By the 1870s increasing recognition of the responsibility of governments to provide schools, impatience with sectarian strife, and a wish for a wider view than the strictly denominational, were prompting governments to reappraise the state aid issue. Legislation for 'free, compulsory and secular' education was the result. The first act to institute this ideal was Vic (in 1872), followed by those of Qld (1875), SA (1878), NSW (1880), and Tas and WA (1893). These acts ended state aid to denominational schools until 1963, when the federal government began introducing a range of subsidies for schools in the non-government sector. This new source of funds prompted a new wave of denominational schools. IAN HOWIE-WILLIS

Further reading A.G. Austin, *Australian education 1788–1900: church, state and public education in colonial Australia*, Melbourne 1972.

DEPRESSIONS As European settlement in Australia expanded, an Australian economy developed with sufficient international links to become subject to the periodic upturns and downturns of the world economy. Since the 1820s Australia has experienced both booms and slumps. The most serious slumps were the depressions of the 1840s, 1890s and 1930s.

The roots of the depression of the 1840s lay in the pastoral boom of the early 1830s. To satisfy the British textile industry's demand for wool, squatters took up lands beyond the nineteen counties around Sydney, displacing the Aboriginal occupants. There were labour shortages despite the availability of assigned convicts, and for the first time free immigrants arrived in large numbers. British capital was available for investment in ambitious speculative ventures such as the establishment of the three new colonial settlements, WA, SA and the Port Phillip district, founded as a result of optimism in the rural potential of the lands still uninhabited by whites.

In the late 1830s, increasing wool production lowered the export price. Ready finance for purchasing livestock had encouraged squatters to overextend themselves by obtaining flocks on credit. Drought cut rural production. Poor transport added to production costs. In Melbourne land speculation had raised costs. The passage costs of 'bounty' immigrants had to be met. British investment dwindled as investors found Australian debtors were unable to pay interest. Businesses closed as the depression spread from rural

to urban industry, visiting severe hardship on town dwellers. The worst years were 1841–43. Then slow recovery occurred. Assisted immigration had been stopped in 1841 and was not resumed until 1847. In 1843 a squatter near Yass showed how profit could still be made from sheep, which, if boiled down for tallow for soap and candles, returned 6s each instead of only 6d. The wool slump led to greater emphasis on other rural industries, particularly wheat growing in SA, where the opening of the Kapunda copper mine also helped revival. Capital inflow picked up and, finally, gold discoveries brought new prosperity.

The gold rushes set off the 'long boom' of 1851–90, which transformed the Australian economy. Gold production in the period 1851–71 topped 1400 tonnes, and further discoveries of gold and other metallic ores kept mining buoyant. The population increased ninefold between 1851 and 1890, creating a high demand for goods and service industries. The number of factories grew by 149 per cent from 1871 to 1891, and factory employment by almost 175 per cent, enabling Australian industry to meet half the local demand for manufactured goods. Agriculture, aided by technological innovations (wire fencing, machinery for cultivation, refrigeration, irrigation), diversified and became more productive. The area under cultivation expanded as further crown lands were opened to

agriculture, and legislation to 'unlock the lands' permitted closer rural settlement by breaking up some of the large estates. Better transport, as railways fanned out from the capital cities, fostered growth in all sectors of the economy. Urbanisation proceeded rapidly, with over two-thirds of the population living in towns by 1891, and heavy investments were consequently made in the construction of housing, public, commercial and industrial buildings, roads, water supply and sewerage, docks, rail- and tramways. Standards of living, as indicated by per capita gross domestic product, were among the world's highest.

The long boom ended in the late 1880s, setting off the depression of the 1890s. The pastoral industry had again become depressed. A severe drought in 1888 had reduced rural production in all colonies. Grazing and cropping had reached their geographic and economic limits, and marginal lands had come into production, good seasons having encouraged over-optimistic estimates of their potential; and overstocking, tree-felling and the rapid spread of introduced plant and animal pests had caused swift decline in the land's productive capacity. In the meantime increases in world wool supply had lowered prices. Sheep numbers dropped from 106 000 in 1891 to 72 000 a decade later, and did not reach their previous levels for almost another three decades.

British investors once more became reluctant to fund Australian ventures, which ultimately depended on British capital. The colonial governments accordingly cut back on public spending, with dramatic effect on the construction industry, the surge in which had lifted urban land prices during the 1880s. Proliferating finance companies ready to extend credit had encouraged overborrowing and frenzied speculation in real estate, particularly in Melbourne, which had outstripped Sydney. As the investment bubble burst and clients rushed to withdraw funds, banks closed, some forever, being unable to draw on foreign funds to carry them over the crisis. Individual speculators lost fortunes, many small investors their life's savings, and some creditors had to settle for only a halfpenny in the pound.

As depression spread, factories and business houses emptied and unemployment rose to 25 per cent among skilled workers and higher still among the unskilled. The unemployed suffered greatly. Without comprehensive social welfare services, they had to rely on soup kitchens the charitable institutions set up. The depression also permanently uprooted many citizens, who reluctantly left homes in the eastern colonies to seek work on the new goldfields of WA and even South Africa, never to return. Several long-running strikes ended in defeat for the unions, exacerbating unemployment, deepening class divisions, and adding to the general bitterness. These included the Maritime Strike of 1890, which drew in coal miners, transport workers and shearers as well as stevedores; the Qld shearers' strikes of 1891 and 1894; and the Broken Hill miners' strike of 1892. The climate of disillusionment induced the socialist William Lane and his followers to leave the country in 1893 to found



"On the breadline" a literal demonstration of what the term means. Hobart recipients of the bread hunk and cup of soup'. Illustrated Tasmanian Mail, 6 July 1933.

ARCHIVES OFFICE OF TASMANIA



Poverty in Australia has not been confined to periods of depression. During the economic dislocation that followed World War I, women and children gather at Melbourne Trades Hall to receive handouts of blankets and clothing. Melbourne Punch, 10 July 1919.

NATIONAL LIBRARY

their utopian New Australia settlement in Paraguay. Some benefits did, however, follow: wage-setting and arbitration mechanisms were set up in most colonies and later (1904) by the commonwealth government.

Recovery came gradually. A revival in gold mining in Vic and NSW, the development of Broken Hill's non-ferrous metal deposits and the Coolgardie-Kalgoorlie goldfield led to renewed interest in Australian minerals among British investors. Rural industry became less reliant on wool, aided by the introduction of refrigerated shipping, which encouraged the dairying and meat industries. The wheat industry enjoyed improved fortunes: it expanded in NSW and WA; higher yields were achieved using improved strains; new overseas markets were secured; and better transport also helped. Manufacturing industry, aided by the commonwealth government's protective tariffs and the removal of internal tariff barriers following Federation, eventually recovered too, and grew strongly in the years before World War I. With recovery came a revival of immigration, and about 600 000 immigrants arrived between 1911 and 1914, about one-quarter of them assisted.

The depression of the 1930s, often called the Great Depression, is popularly understood to have begun with the New York stock market crisis ('Wall Street crash') in October 1929. Before its onset, Australia

had been enjoying prosperity: after World War I capital inflow had increased; immigration had been revived; domestic demand increased; new manufacturing industries had started. The local economy, however, remained vulnerable to shifts in the world economy. Most of the export income still came from a few rural commodities, chiefly wool and wheat; and one-fifth of that income went to service debts. Falling export prices or depleted capital inflow were therefore especially hazardous. After the Wall Street crash the flow of British capital diminished rapidly. The effects were soon felt in the public sector, which had borrowed heavily to fund ambitious settlement and public works programs, and to cover the imbalance of imports over exports. Public sector spending fell, setting off a sudden increase in unemployment. Rural industry was already in severe difficulties: since 1928 world prices for rural commodities had fallen by 50 per cent as the United States cut its imports, making much of Australian primary production uneconomic. Farmers endeavoured to sustain income by increasing production, only to accumulate unsaleable surpluses. Foreclosures accelerated as the more marginal producers became bankrupt.

Like the previous depression, this one left deep wounds. As before, the downturn spread into manufacturing and service industries. Male unemployment, rising to 19 per cent by 1930, peaked at about 32

per cent in 1932. The queues of unemployed waiting for 'susso' (sustenance—the dole) and a handout of bread and soup lengthened; shanty towns sprang up as the homeless took whatever refuge they could find; thousands shouldered their swags and took to the roads in a fruitless search for work. Many remained jobless for years, their suffering inspiring a literature of social protest.

Measures for coping with the crisis produced political turmoil, destroying the Scullin Labor government federally, the Lang Labor government in NSW, the Hogan government in Vic, and causing the second split in the Labor party in sixteen years. The Scullin government had taken office, inopportunely, in 1929. The Bank of England, concerned lest British loans to Australia were repaid in devalued Australian money, sent a delegation under Sir Otto Niemeyer to advise on Australia's finances. His proposals, in July 1930, were unpalatable—deflationary medicine, wage cuts, wage earners having a responsibility to share the burden of recovery. The Arbitration Court later adopted this line when it reduced award wages by 10 per cent in 1931. Scullin's treasurer, E.G. Theodore, by contrast, favoured expansionist measures, such as deficit budgeting and increased money issue, to create schemes to absorb the unemployed.

A compromise between the Niemeyer and Theodore extremes—an agreement between the commonwealth and states known as the Premiers' Plan, adopted in May 1931—became the strategy through which it was hoped recovery would occur. This involved keeping up interest payments to bond holders overseas (a controversial tactic opposed by economic nationalists), cutting government expenditure, lowering interest rates, increasing taxation, devaluing the Australian pound by 20 per cent in relation to the pound sterling, and aiding rural debtors. Scullin's government had little time left to implement the plan, however. Disagreement within the Labor government over Theodore, both as a person and a treasurer, had already led a faction headed by J.A. Lyons to quit the party and to join the Nationalists in forming the United Australia Party. In November that year a second faction, under the influence of the NSW premier, Lang, who disagreed with the plan and wished to suspend the overseas interest payments, voted with the opposition to bring down the government.

Economists subsequently doubted the value of the Premiers' Plan. It was, they argued, deflationary, serving to prolong high unemployment, and doing little to hasten recovery. The recovery, from about 1934–35, was indeed slow. Manufacturing revived to pre-1929 levels by the late 1930s, helped by the increasing productivity and efficiency of the steel industry. Mining also returned to prosperity. Some improvements were felt in rural industries, but incomes there remained lower than elsewhere. There had still been no general return to prosperity as World War II loomed, and it was only with the stimulus the war provided during the early 1940s that the economy really recovered.

IAN HOWIE-WILLIS

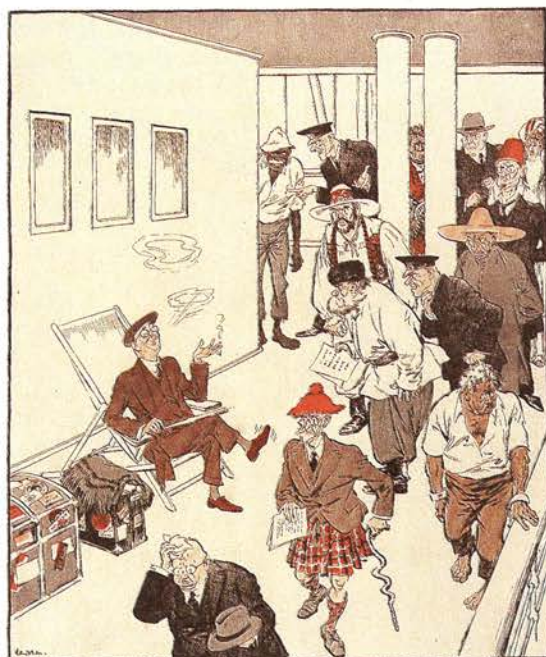
Further reading E.A. Boehm, *Twentieth century economic development in Australia*, Melbourne 1971; J. Griffin (ed), *Essays in the economic history of Australia*, Melbourne 1970; A.G.L. Shaw, *The economic development of Australia*, Melbourne 1973; W.A. Sinclair, *The process of economic development in Australia*, Melbourne 1976.

DESERT CONDENSER Water supply on the goldfields in arid parts of Australia was always a major problem. When major discoveries were made on the Eastern Goldfields of WA in the early 1890s, many individual diggers took small condensers or distillation units with them to treat brackish water. Large-scale distillation units comprising intricate networks of pipes and boilers were established by the WA government at the larger settlements such as Kalgoorlie and Coolgardie. These became known as desert condensers. The one erected at Coolgardie in 1895 could produce 454 600 litres of fresh water per day from 545 500 litres of brackish water, burning 100 tonnes of wood fuel. The resultant liquid was, however, said to be 'nasty to taste', costly and scarce. Desert condensers ceased to be used on the Eastern Goldfields with completion of the Goldfields Water Supply scheme in 1903.

DETHRIDGE WHEEL, a device to measure the amount of irrigation water used on each farm, was invented in 1910 by John Dethridge. He was chief engineer of the Victorian Water Supply Department and, later, a commissioner of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission. The device is an under-shot waterwheel in a specially shaped flume and has a revolution counter on the axle. Dethridge refused to patent his invention and it is now used throughout the world: over 18 000 are in use in Vic alone.

DEVANNY, Jane (Jean) (1894–1962), writer, was born in New Zealand and married Hal Devanny in 1911. Little educated, but a voracious reader, Devanny began to write in the 1920s and her first published novel, *The butcher shop*, won her notoriety by being banned in New Zealand and Australia because of its criticism of women's oppression in marriage and her advocacy of socialism as a solution. Devanny published six more novels before moving to Australia in 1929. The 1930s saw her continuing literary output plus an active role in literary organisations such as the Writers' League and increased involvement with the Australian Communist Party, which expelled her in 1940. She rejoined in 1944 and left again in 1950. She published a further four novels between 1938 and 1947.

DIBBS, Sir George Richard (1834–1904), politician, began his business career in shipping and after travelling to South America as a merchant, returned to Sydney and became chairman of the Australian Steam Navigation Company. He entered the legislative assembly in 1874 as member for West Sydney but lost his seat in 1877. Re-elected in 1882, he became colonial treasurer and then premier on three occasions between 1885 and 1894.



THE UNDESIRABLE IMMIGRANT WHO KNEW ALL THE LANGUAGES
 BY PERCY LEASON
 Cartoonist Percy Leason's comment on the dictation test. *Table talk*, 10 Dec 1936.
 BOOROWA PRODUCTIONS

DICTATION TEST This device was used by Australian governments from 1902 to 1958 as a supposedly diplomatic means of excluding non-European immigrants. Intending immigrants who were thought 'undesirable' were subjected to a dictation test in a European language, usually one with which they were unfamiliar. The test gave government immigration officers wide discretionary powers. Though modelled on the Natal education test of 1897, it was administered with extreme severity. Normally the test was used only against 'coloured' people, but in 1934 Egon Kisch, the famous anti-fascist, was tested in Scottish Gaelic. The Migration Act of 1958 introduced in its place a system of granting or withholding landing permits.

A.T. YARWOOD

DINGOES are believed to have originated from a domesticated version of the Asiatic wolf or dhole (Indian wolf dog) brought to Australia by the ancestral Aborigines. Until recent times, the oldest proven dingo remains were dated as 3000 years old, but a carcase found in the early 1970s may have been 6500 to 7500 years old. Jan Carstensz, explored the northern coast in 1623, and is the first European known to have sighted a dingo. Although occasionally kept as pets in Sydney in the 1830s, they soon came to be regarded as pests and dingoes had virtually disappeared from settled districts by about 1850. They did, however, replace foxes in organised hunts in Vic until at least as late as 1871. The Australian cattle dog was established as a distinct breed in 1840 when Blue Merle collies imported from England were crossed with dingoes.

The kelpie most likely originated from a similar but later cross between Scottish collies and dingoes.

Dingoes have long been considered a pest and were trapped, shot and poisoned in large numbers in the last century. Governments paid out large sums in the form of bounties. The first attempt at aerial baiting was made in WA in 1946. Aerial and ground baiting using either strychnine or 1080 poison have been common this century. Serious research into the dingo began in the early twentieth century. A major investigation by CSIRO scientists began in 1966. In recent years, prejudice against dingoes has lessened, although the death of Azaria Chamberlain at Ayers Rock in 1981 led to the animals' public image, rightly or wrongly, suffering once more.

When dingoes became particularly numerous in the northwest of NSW in 1914, the 1880s rabbit fence along the South Australian border was converted to a dingo-proof fence for 250 km south from Cameron's (or Heartbreak) Corner. Soon afterwards, local stock owners dog-proofed the J rabbit fence along the Qld border for a similar distance east from the Corner. Other sections were built in the 1920s until a dingo fence two metres high extended for nearly 10 000 km from the Great Australian Bight across SA to the NSW border north of Broken Hill, along the border sections mentioned above, then in a massive loop north almost to the Gulf of Carpentaria and south again to the Macintyre River 250 km inland from Brisbane. Dingoes have thus been largely excluded from the sheep country of southeastern Australia, although local populations still exist in the mountains of NSW and Vic.

Further reading L. Hudson, *Dingoes don't bark*, Adelaide 1974.

DIPLOMATIC SERVICE Australia's first federal government established a department of external Affairs in 1901 to deal with relations with the United Kingdom, Papua and the Pacific Islands. In 1916, during World War I, the department was abolished and its limited functions transferred to the prime minister's department. The department of external affairs was re-established in 1921, mainly to handle matters concerning the League of Nations. Despite re-organisation in 1924, it remained effectively a branch of the prime minister's department. A truly separate department with wide responsibilities was established in 1935. Its workload related to the League of Nations, the nation's growing treaty commitments, British empire affairs and those of the Pacific region. Despite this, most information about foreign and even British empire countries continued to come from the Dominions Office in London, while bilateral relations between Australia and other nations were handled by the UK diplomatic and consular service. Stresses arising during World War II led to an era of expansion and a more independent role for Australia in the diplomatic field. Dr H.V. Evatt, minister for external affairs from 1941 to 1949, was responsible for much of the growth in the diplomatic service. In 1970 the department's title was changed to foreign affairs.

A high commissioner was appointed to London in 1909 as Australia's first overseas representative. The foundation stone of Australia House, the nation's first permanent diplomatic office overseas, was laid in 1913. It was not until 1937 that the first appointment to a foreign (that is, non-British empire) country was made, and even then it was in the form of an Australian counsellor in the British embassy in Washington. Australia's first independent legation in Washington opened in 1940, as did a high commission in Canada and a short-lived legation in Japan. By the end of 1945, accredited diplomats had also been appointed to the Netherlands, China, the Soviet Union, France, New Zealand and India. Diplomatic staff cadet training began in 1943. The Japanese embassy was reopened in 1952 and many others have followed.

The first accredited representative of another country in Australia was the UK high commissioner appointed in 1936. Canadian (1939), United States (1940), Chinese (1941) and Japanese (1941, for a brief period) representatives followed. There are now over 70 embassies and high commissions in Canberra and numerous consular offices in the state capitals.

DIXON, Sir Owen (1886–1972), chief justice, was born in 1886. Schooling at Hawthorn College led to entry to the University of Melbourne, though 'he did not attain the high academic distinction that his talent merited'. Admitted to the Victorian Bar on 1 March 1910, he acquired a large practice, took silk in 1922, and became an acting judge of the Supreme Court in 1926. Although delivering many able judgments, he preferred Bar practice, where he was said to have 'absolute dominance', and declined a permanent judgeship in Vic. Pressed to become a justice of the High Court of Australia in 1929, he reluctantly agreed, showing himself to be a commanding judicial lawyer. His successor, Sir Garfield Barwick, observed that 'if the work was as he said "hard, unrewarding work" he invariably performed it with extreme care resulting in judgments of great quality'.

During World War II he undertook administrative and diplomatic duties that he later conceded to have been at odds with judicial independence. They included chairmanship of the Central Wool Committee and of various shipping and marine boards, and appointment as Australian minister in Washington (1942–44). Later he accepted an extrajudicial role as United Nations mediator in Kashmir (1950). In 1952 he became the sixth chief justice of the high court being 'at the height of his powers, and his judgements . . . had a profundity without example since the death of Willes', a celebrated English chief justice of the eighteenth century. He inspired great harmony on a bench previously noted for discord. Knighted in 1941, he was also a privy councillor, and was awarded the Order of Merit. He received honorary doctorates and prizes from universities in England, America and Australia. Retiring in 1964, he was in poor health until his death in 1972.

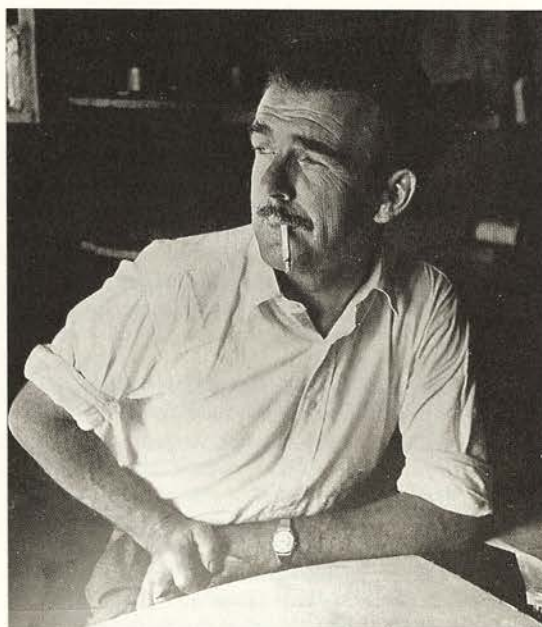
J.M. BENNETT

Further reading J.D. Merralls, 'The Rt. Hon. Sir Owen Dixon, O.M., G.C.M.G., 1886–1972', *Australian law journal* 46, 1972, 429–35.

DOBELL, Sir William (1899–1970), artist, moved to Sydney from Newcastle in 1923 to study at the Julian Ashton Art School. In 1929 he won the Society of Artists' Travelling Scholarship which took him to London to study at the Slade. He remained in London for ten years, exhibiting at the Royal Academy (1933) and the New English Art Club (1938). On his return to Sydney, he taught art at the East Sydney Technical College and during World War II was commissioned to paint pictures of the Allied Works Council's activities. Dobell won the Archibald Prize on three occasions (1943, 1948 and 1959) and remains the outstanding Australian portrait painter of his generation.

DOBSON, Rosemary (1920–), writer, has been publishing poetry since 1944 and is best known for her volume *Child with a cockatoo* (1955). Her verse is restrained, clear and always understated and this may account for the fact that, though her poetry is widely admired, it has received little sustained critical attention.

DODS, Sir Lorimer Fenton (1900–81), physician, studied medicine in Sydney and London, working in general practice until 1936 and paediatrics until 1939. He served in New Guinea and the Middle East with the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps and returned in 1944 to become principal medical adviser to the NSW Society for Crippled Children. Dods was a pioneer in the field of specialised health care for children and through his work paediatrics flourished in Australia. He was knighted in 1962.



William Dobell, photographed by Max Dupain in 1949. The previous year Dobell had won the Archibald Prize for the second time, as well as the Wynne Prize for a landscape painting.

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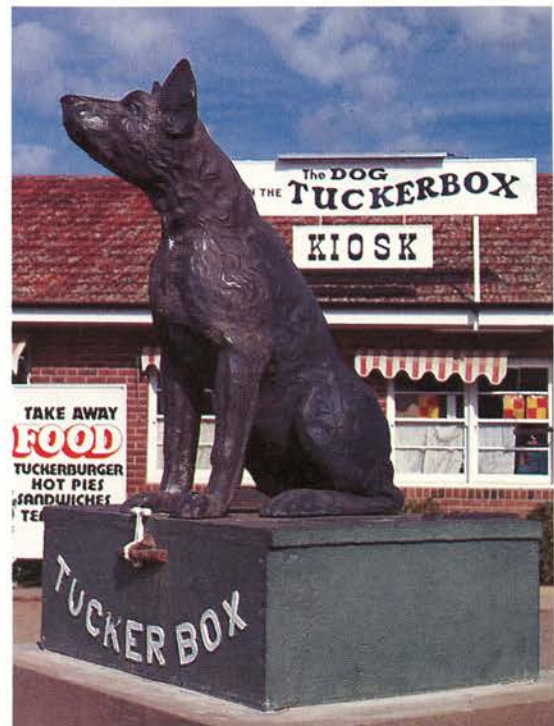
DOG ON THE TUCKER BOX A memorial to the pioneers of the Gundagai district, NSW, inspired by Jack Moses' ballad 'Nine miles from Gundagai'. It was unveiled by the prime minister, J.A. Lyons, in 1932.

DOLE BLUDGER, a derogatory name given to those on unemployment benefits (the dole) who supposedly preferred this to working for a living, came into use in the mid-1970s. It gained wide currency during the federal election campaign in 1975, when Liberal party campaign advertising alluded to 'bludgers' (cadgers) relying on the dole to maintain a care-free existence at the beach. Such propaganda depicted the unemployed as parasites whose idle lives were being subsidised by the taxes of more hard-working citizens.

DOMESTIC SERVICE Private domestic servants, persons performing personal service within households other than their own in return for wages, were most numerous in Australia during the Great Depression. In 1933 some 130 000 people were employed in this occupation. As a proportion of the total Australian population or of the labour force, however, there was a steady and continuous decline in the number of domestic servants throughout the period of European settlement. From a high point during convict assignment, when domestics were twice as common in Australia as in Britain, there followed a steep plunge, and the position was reversed by 1880. Decline was particularly rapid in the gold-rush era and during the world wars, and slowed significantly only in response to the depressions of the 1890s and 1930s. This long-term decline was chiefly caused by the growing unwillingness of people to work as domestic servants. Wherever they could find alternative employment they would take it, regardless of wages, although there was no weakening of demand for domestic servants. There were no significant differences between regions or between town and country in these general trends.

A variety of sources was tapped in the search for domestic servants, and immigrants were generally more willing than the Australian born. Convicts, together with bounty or assisted immigrants, were most important during the nineteenth century. Domestics were to the fore in all schemes for assisted immigration until 1939. From 1927 to 1930 a training centre was operated at Market Harborough, England, to equip domestics with the special skills they would require in serving under Australian conditions. Within Australia, state wards, orphans and girls from industrial schools were apprenticed as private domestics from the 1870s to the 1930s. Aborigines, especially in the Northern Territory, were coerced to perform domestic service from the 1880s to recent times. Apart from these involuntary sources, servants were commonly engaged through personal contact, employment agencies or newspaper advertisements.

Most domestics were women, but men were fairly common until 1920. During the convict era men performed a much wider range of tasks than their British



Take-away tucker eight kilometres from Gundagai: modern roads have reduced nine miles to five.
Photograph by Ray Joyce.

WELDON TRANNIES

counterparts, because of the shortage of women. Few Australian households employed a large staff, however, and most female domestics were called generals from the 1850s to the 1930s. Generals were then replaced by cook-generals and, later, housekeepers. Specialised cooks, parlourmaids, housemaids, nursemaids, companions, laundresses, butlers, valets, coachmen and chauffeurs were always rare. The wages and working conditions of domestics were relatively favourable in most cases, but they worked long hours and had limited opportunities to develop an independent personal life. Australian domestics were quick to refuse to live-in and to gain a reputation for defiance rather than deference towards their masters and mistresses.

B.W. HIGMAN

Further reading M. Barbalet, *Far from a low gutter girl: the forgotten world of state wards: South Australia 1887-1940*, Melbourne 1983; B. Kingston, *My wife, my daughter, and poor Mary Ann*, Melbourne 1977; H. Vellacott (ed), *A girl at Government House: an English girl's reminiscences: "below stairs" in colonial Australia*, Melbourne 1982.

DOMINO THEORY, a phrase attributed to President Dwight Eisenhower of the United States, referring in 1954 to the French military collapse in Vietnam. The theory draws on the experience of World War II and assumes that the collapse of one state from external forces will inevitably lead to the fall of adjoining states. In Australia the phrase was

applied mainly to the perceived threat of Chinese communist expansion in southeast Asia. The theory was absorbed by right-wing groups, such as the DLP, the RSL and the National Civic Council, particularly during the Cold War and the Vietnam War.

DONALDSON, Sir Stuart Alexander (1812–67), politician, migrated from London to Sydney in 1835 and became a successful merchant and landowner. He became a magistrate in 1838 and entered the Legislative Council of NSW in 1848 as member for Durham. Donaldson was a leading supporter of the campaign for responsible government and in 1856 became the first premier under responsible government. His ministry lasted less than three months and was followed by the five-week ministry of Cowper. As treasurer in the Parkes ministry of 1856–57, Donaldson helped formulate a system of government administration.

DONKEY VOTE, is a vote cast by an elector who marks straight down the ballot paper in numerical sequence without expressing a considered preference for the candidates. Estimated at 2–3 per cent of the total vote, the donkey vote is cited as an argument against compulsory voting. It has occasionally contributed to the election of Liberal or DLP candidates on the preferences of Communist Party voters (1955 and 1958), and has encouraged the selection of House of Representatives candidates by the alphabetical ranking of their surnames (1964).

DOUBLE DISSOLUTIONS Section 57 of the Australian constitution grants the governor-general power to call a general election by simultaneously dissolving the House of Representatives and the Senate if the Senate refuses twice within three months to pass a bill presented to it by the House of Representatives. The first double dissolution occurred in 1914 when the Labor-dominated Senate obstructed the House of Representatives' bill to abolish preference to unionists in government employment. Menzies secured the second double dissolution in 1951 over the Senate's refusal to pass the government's banking legislation. In 1974 Liberal members of the Senate threatened to block financial supply to the Whitlam Labor government by opposing four bills proposing to alter the constitution and six others including the health insurance bill and the petroleum and minerals authority bill. Whitlam was returned to office after the 1974 election but was again obstructed by the Senate in 1975 when the opposition refused to grant supply. The governor-general, Sir John Kerr, dismissed the Whitlam government and dissolved both houses on 11 November 1975, and Fraser's Liberal party was installed as a caretaker government until the ensuing election. The double dissolution of 1975 led to considerable controversy over the role of the governor-general in Australian politics and demands for constitutional change.

DOUGHERTY, Tom Nicholson Pearce (1902–1972), trade unionist, was born in Bollon, Qld, and attended the Goondiwindi state school. He then

worked as a cane cutter, and on joining the Australian Workers' Union he rose through its executive ranks to become secretary of the Qld branch in 1942 and general secretary of the union in 1944, a position located in Sydney. He was appointed a member for the NSW Legislative Council in 1957.

Dougherty's 28-year term of office was marked by internal wrangling and litigation. He asserted control over the union by forming shifting alliances, initially using the Industrial Groups (ostensibly formed to fight communism) to counter his Communist party opponents in the NSW branch, and then turning on the 'Groupers' in 1954 when they began to threaten his own position. He repulsed frequent challenges by the force of his dominating personality and the use of cold war anti-communist rhetoric. FRANK CAIN

DOUGLAS SOCIAL CREDIT (DSC) was one of many reformist movements in Australia during the Great Depression. Like others of its kind, it offered a simple remedy for national ills. DSC, which had spread from Britain to Canada, Australia and New Zealand, derived its ideas from Maj C.H. Douglas, an English engineer who had developed unorthodox economic theories. Douglas, who visited Australia in 1934, thought the economy should be run on a system of 'National Bookkeeping': the Commonwealth Bank should conduct a 'National Credit Account', the credit side of which would be the total value of a nation's assets. Against this would be debited all consumption, depreciation and exports. The resulting credit balance would provide funds for public services. DSC branches formed in all states by 1931, and by late 1933 there were 199 throughout Australia. Although DSC drew most support from the urban middle classes, its populist orientation and view of the banking system (which it saw as the source of many national ills) gained it sympathy within the Labor party. At first the movement was content simply to spread its message; but in 1934 it formed parties in all states except WA to contest that year's federal elections, causing the Labor party to dissociate itself from the movement. DSC polled well then and in the 1935 Qld elections, but its influence waned thereafter as the depression began to lift.

Further reading B. Berzins, 'Douglas Credit and the A.L.P.', *Labour history*, 17 1970.

DOWNER, Sir John William (1843–1915), politician, was admitted to the Bar in 1867. He became a QC in 1878 and that same year entered the South Australian House of Assembly as member for Barossa. As attorney-general in the Bray ministry of 1881–84, Downer introduced a number of legal reforms including the Married Women's Property Act of 1883. He served two terms as premier (1885–87 and 1892–93) and was appointed KCMG in 1887.

DRAKE-BROCKMAN, Henrietta (1901–68), author, was educated in WA and NSW, and in the 1920s worked as a journalist for the *West Australian*. In the following decade she emerged as a writer of great promise. Her early works included *Younger sons* and

Fatal days. In 1938 Drake-Brockman won the sesqui-centenary celebration prize for the best full-length Australian play, *Men without wives*; and in 1939 the *Bulletin* short story prize. In later years she continued to write novels as well as history and biography, and to edit short fiction.

DREAMING The Dreaming in Australian Aboriginal mythology is the notion that in a dreaming state one is receptive to the sacred knowledge of the Dreamtime—the time in which the earth received its present form and in which the patterns and cycles of life and nature were initiated.

The Dreaming concept is both timeless and eternal. It relates places to individuals, ensuring that all members of a society forge spiritual bonds with nature. The Dreaming expresses a co-ordinated system of religious belief and action, underlining the assumption of fundamental harmony between Aborigines and their natural environment, thereby providing Aborigines with final answers to questions concerning the meaning of life and death.

DROUGHTS Australia is a continent with large areas that experience low and extremely variable rainfall. Drought denotes unusually low rainfall for a

given district over an extended period. It can seriously affect agricultural and pastoral activities, urban water supplies and, despite natural adaptations, native flora and fauna.

Severe droughts have occurred frequently in various parts of the continent since adequate records began in the 1860s. Long before that, however, the first colonists became aware of the variability of rainfall and the need to store water for drought periods.

Among the most severe droughts in Australia was that of 1864–66. It was most severe in Qld and WA, where crops failed and large sheep losses occurred, but also affected NSW, SA and Vic. NSW recorded one of its lowest rainfalls and wheat yields on record in 1888. From 1895 to 1903 a severe drought affected virtually the whole continent, with up to 36 consecutive drought months in places; this drought fuelled the economic depression of the 1890s.

In 1914 SA, Vic and parts of WA experienced their driest year on record, with severe drought also affecting parts of NSW and Qld. In the years from 1926 to 1930 the interior of the continent experienced severe drought, especially in parts of Qld and also in parts of SA, where it was the most severe on record. The Kimberley region suffered 50 per cent cattle losses



'The parched land bred mirages of phantom trees in blue water . . . The earth was yellow and gaunt . . . Thirst-stricken kangaroos weakly jumped by. Only the mirage was gay.' Margaret Preston, *Drought, mirage country*.

QUEENSLAND ART GALLERY

from drought in 1952–53; the NT suffered in 1951–52 and 1954. Rain failed again in northern Australia in 1958–61, with drought conditions over most of the continent in 1961. Areas of central Australia, NSW and Qld were hard hit by drought in 1964–66 as many areas had not fully recovered from the previous episode. Drought relief funds were provided by the commonwealth government to NSW, Vic, SA and southeastern Qld in 1976–77. Most recently, drought conditions existed in much of Australia at various stages during 1980–83, with inland and southeastern NSW and virtually all of Vic hit hardest in 1982–83. Large amounts of soil were lost from inland areas of those states through wind erosion, and stock losses were high.

DRYSDALE, Sir (George) Russell (1912–81), artist, was born in England into a family with Australian pastoralist connections. He settled in the Riverina with his parents in 1923 and some nine years later was introduced to Sir Daryl Lindsay who encouraged him to study painting under George Bell in Melbourne. In 1944 Drysdale was commissioned by the *Sydney Morning Herald* to record the effects of the drought in western NSW. The paintings he produced broke with the traditions of the Heidelberg School by showing a bleak and desolate landscape peopled with gaunt and isolated figures. He was knighted in 1969.

DUFFY, Sir Charles Gavan (1816–1903), barrister and politician, worked as a journalist in Dublin before founding his own weekly, the *Nation* in 1842. Concerned with land reform, he represented New Ross in the House of Commons in 1852–55, but disillusionment with the Irish members led to his emigration to Melbourne. In 1856, he was elected to the Victorian Legislative Assembly, where he introduced legislation which abolished the assembly's property qualification. He was commissioner for public works in 1857; president of the board of land and works in 1858–59 and 1861–63; commissioner of crown lands and survey in 1858–59 and 1861–63; and premier and chief secretary in 1871–72. He retired in 1880, returned to Europe and lived in Nice where he wrote articles and historical works.

DUHIG, Sir James (1871–1965), bishop, was born on 2 September in County Limerick, Ireland, of farming stock. Arriving in Brisbane with his widowed mother in 1885, he was encouraged by church authorities to enter the priesthood. He was ordained in Rome at the Irish College in 1896. In 1905 he became Bishop of Rockhampton and returned to Brisbane as coadjutor to Archbishop Dunne in 1912. Succeeding to the see in 1912, he died in office on 10 April 1965, after nearly 60 years as a bishop.

DUSTY, Slim (1927–), country music singer, was born David Gordon Kirkpatrick at Kempsey, NSW, and changed his name to Slim Dusty at the age of eleven. His first hit, 'The pub with no beer' (1957), was in the Australian hit parade for six months, and became the first Australian gold record as well as the first Australian song to enter the charts in England.



Russell Drysdale is photographed with paintings for an exhibition of his works in London in 1965. Behind him is The gatekeeper's wife, oil, 1965.

NATIONAL LIBRARY

DUTTON, Geoffrey Piers Henry (1922–), writer, interrupted his studies at Adelaide University to become a RAAF pilot in World War II. He graduated from Oxford University in 1949 and returned to Australia to lecture in English at Adelaide University. In 1962 he resigned in order to pursue a career as a writer and has since published more than forty books of history, poetry, fiction, biography and travel.

DYER, Robert Neal (Bob) (1909–84), entertainer, travelled from the United States to Australia to perform as a hillbilly on the Tivoli circuit. He stayed and married Dolly Mack in 1940, and entertained troops in forward battle areas during World War II. After the war he produced and starred in the quiz show 'Pick-a-box', which began on radio (1948), and was successfully translated to television (1957). It continued until 1971, when he and Dolly, who had partnered him on this show, retired. Prominent in game-fishing, he and Dolly broke 50 world and 150 Australian game-fishing records with catches chiefly made off the Qld coast.

DYSON, William Henry (1880–1938), artist, began his career as a cartoonist with the *Adelaide Critic* in 1903, also contributing to the *Sydney Bulletin* and *Punch*. In 1910 he moved to London and became chief cartoonist for the *Daily Herald*. He was commissioned as the first Australian war artist in 1916 and a collection of his drawings was published in 1918 entitled, *Australia at war*. Dyson's satirical wit established him as the major Australian political cartoonist of his time. He is represented in the Australian National Gallery, the Australian War Memorial, the state galleries of NSW and Vic and in the Victoria and Albert Museum, London.