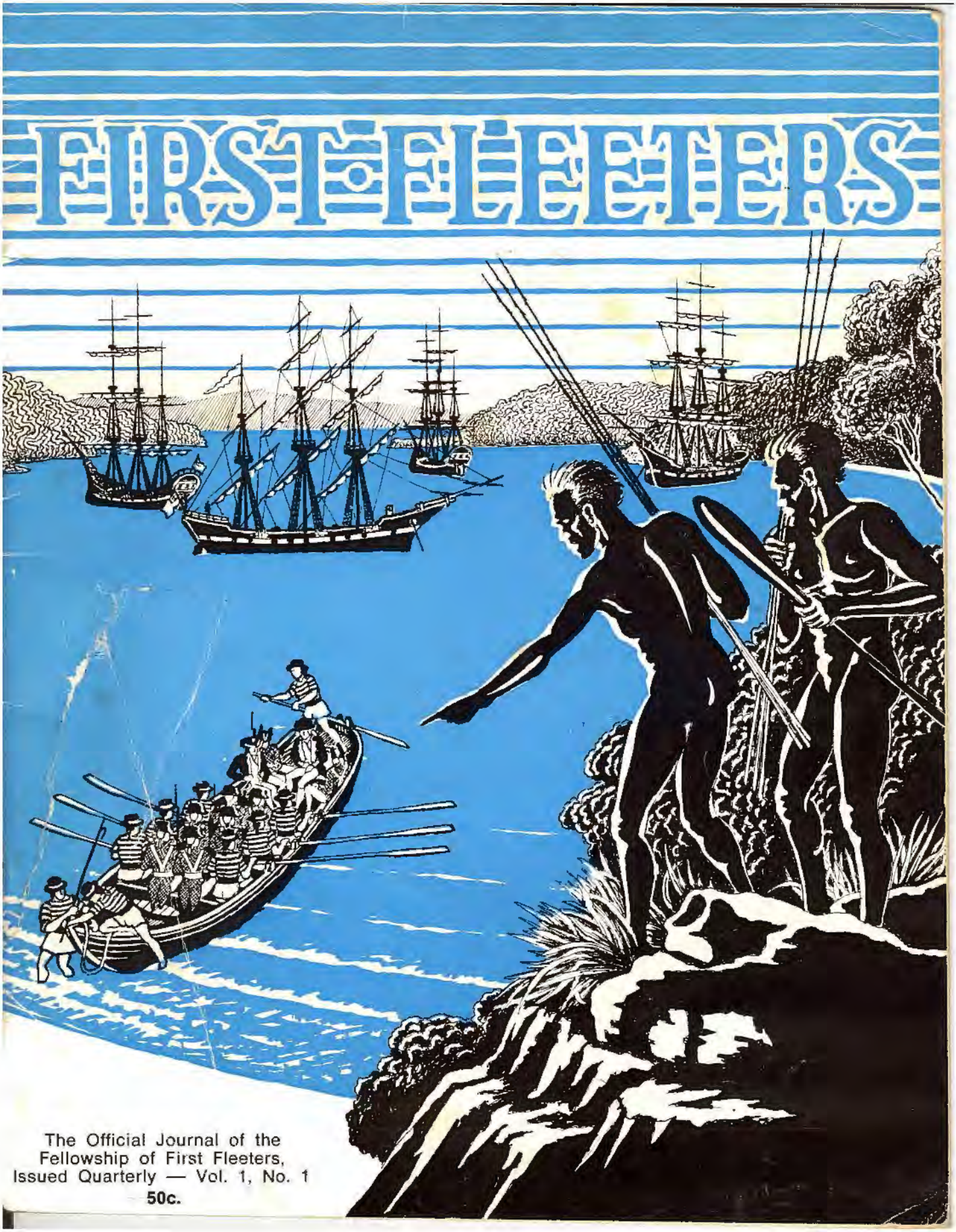
FIRST FLEETERS



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FIRST-FLEETERS

Official Journal of the
FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS
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The front-cover design was specially drawn for the Fellowship of First Fleeters by Mr. ARTHUR S. MENDEL of 53 Henry Street, Five Dock.

(Photocopy by courtesy of the Mitchell Library.)

CAPTAIN ARTHUR PHILLIP, first Governor of New South Wales, was born in the parish of Allhallows, London, on the 11th October, 1738.

Under his charge, the First Fleet left England on the 13th May, 1787, and arrived at Botany Bay on the 18th, 19th and 20th of January the following year.

Phillip's enthusiasm, devotion to duty, administrative ability and leadership, contributed materially to the establishment of his community. His discipline was firm, but by the standards of the time was not unduly harsh or severe. He refused to tolerate the ill-treatment of the aborigines and took his humanitarian injunctions seriously.

Due to a continuing illness, Phillip sailed for England on the 11th December, 1792. His work in the Colony carried wide commendation.

He died on the 31st August, 1814, three months after being promoted to the rank of Admiral of the Blue. His remains were laid to rest in the Church of St. Nicholas, Bathampton.

FIRST-FLEETERS

VOL. I, No. I, JANUARY, 1969

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF
THE FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS

21 PHILLIP STREET, SYDNEY 2000. TELEPHONES: 27-6759, 27-3424

EDITORIAL

THE DATE: 26th January, 1788.

THE SCENE: A beach of a small stream running into what is known as Sydney Cove.

The Union flag has just been broken from a pole set among tall gum trees. In cocked hat, blue tunic and satin vest and breeches of a captain of the Royal Navy stands Captain Arthur Phillip, a guard of Marine and some convicts. Nearby is a group of aborigines, bewildered, wondering, solemn.

That was how Australia began.

We are now a proud and important Nation, because from that lowly and inauspicious beginning the pioneers of our country did not remain content. They felled trees, tilled the fields, found ways over the mountains and explored the coastline. They made roads, erected buildings, towns and cities, knowing that the ultimate benefit of their efforts was not for them, but for those who would come after.

Life was hard for our forebears. They suffered and made great sacrifices and food was only to be had for the hunting and growing. They were compelled to get on with the job, or they did not survive.

Remembrance, however, like this is not enough. We, of this generation, must equally work for our country. No phase of life, public or private, can be free of this duty. For the privileges we now enjoy, Australians (old and new) owe the community a duty and a debt of gratitude. We have an obligation to behave in a special way and to render a special service to our country and to our fellow citizens. It cannot be a question of take all and give nothing in return. What citizens give to the community is a potent factor in keeping the self-same community healthy, prosperous, sound and fit to build for the future. Many millions of acts of selflessness have gone into building our Nation. Men, and women, have made the supreme sacrifice for it; moral strength, faith and courage have been expended in the National effort. So, as we approch the 181st anniversary of the landing of the original First Fleeters, let us thankfully remember those whose labours opened this land to the uses of mankind, those who bore and reared the children of a new Nation, those who later died in battle for us, bringing splendour and glory to Australian arms, those who worked with mind and muscle for the heritage which, may it please God, we shall hold and enlarge for our children and their children.

"ADVANCE AUSTRALIA, FAIR!"

PRIME MINISTER,

CANBERRA

"FIRST FLEETERS" MAGAZINE

AUSTRALIA DAY FOREWORD

The first edition of any publication is historic. "First-Fleeters" makes its appearance one year before Australia celebrates the bi-centenary of Captain Cook's discovery of the eastern coast of Australia and in the month when we celebrate our national day.

It is fitting that it should do so, because the Fellowship of First Fleeters is directly concerned with the promotion of Australia Day which commemorates the arrival of our first settlers some eighteen years after Captain Cook's epic voyage.

We owe our existence today to Captain Cook and to the "First Fleeters" who began to build a nation.

I am glad Australians who have been able to trace their descent from those who landed from the First Fleet in 1788 have come together as a Fellowship and are among those sponsoring the Australia Day Movement.

There is plenty to be proud of in Australia today. We are forging ahead into a new, exciting era of national development and we are united as a people. We live in peace with our neighbours, we respect the rule of law and we guard our democratic institutions closely.

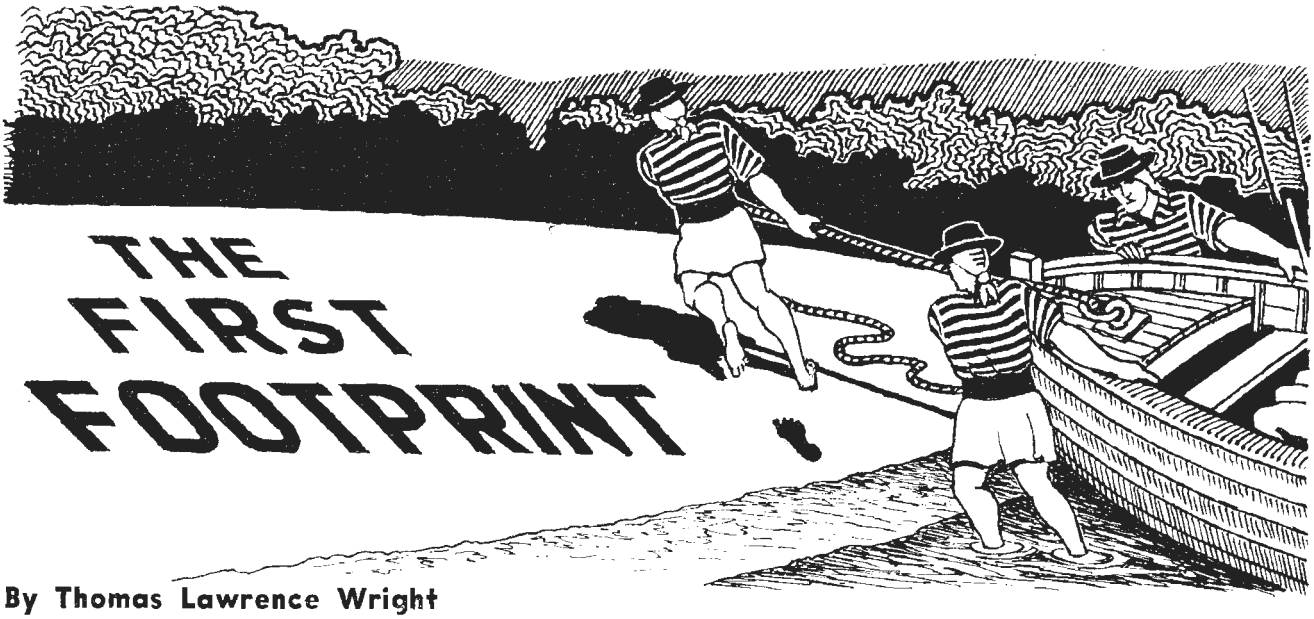
We have a challenge before us to widen our influence, strengthen our friendships and develop our resources. I am confident we can achieve these goals.

Australia Day is a reminder for us of things done - and things yet to be done.

I commend "First-Fleeters" to its readers.

JOHN GORTON

November, 1968



By Thomas Lawrence Wright

When the forces of invasion, be it a battalion or a Division, lands on a shore line and the motive is hostile-occupation to establish a beach-head for the following mass invasion, the tensions produced in the minds of the invaders, the defenders or those helplessly awaiting the possibility of oppression is a feeling no human mind should be called upon to endure. It becomes a record in history described in the colour of glory or defeat, yet has no proper place in civilized thought. The fears and the hatreds joined under such circumstances is a human pain at times too deep for the mercy of time to heal. It is a tragedy.

When the forces of liberation surge forward upon a land to take the hands of those suppressed under the iron heel of violence and injustice, the trembling tensions move the mind under the mantle of hope. In that hope is found a partly-answered prayer. It is a time when the shadows of distress lift slightly and to weep may signify a joy. However shattered the yesterdays and however steeped in pain, this day of even part-liberation is brightened by a new beginning to lead one home again. It is history, it is unforgettable. It was an emptiness to which a friendship entered to deepen the spirit, in environs where the morning dew sparkled once more, none the less pure because tears of joy mingled with the diamond-like liquid product of a home-land burnished by the courage of a friendship born in a glory that is a belief in freedom.

Free men have also made a landing upon a terrain that peacefully opened before the eyes, displaying what must have appeared — to sea-weary senses — a paradise. No hostile act accompanied the occasion and those engaged were free to return to their homes within a limited time, to speak or write of a new emerald set within a sapphire sea. That was discovery with a place in history, too.

On the 26th January, 1788, the landing at Sydney Cove was unlike those referred to. It was not a hostile invasion, it was not a task force for liberation and it could only be partly referred to as one of discovery.

There was an armed force, high authority, discipline and the venturesome spirit, under a commission to form a British Colony — to be added to the British Empire upon which, at that time, the Sun never set.

Of the Governor in command much has been written and it is not difficult to picture his character and his attitude under the prevailing conditions, and his feelings can be imagined fairly accurately. The descriptions from history have provided us with the means to so reason and analyse.

Of the soldier guards, little has come to us to project a correct knowledge of their personal lives, their thoughts or their feelings.

Clothed in the livery that even under ordinary circumstances set them apart from so many and proclaimed them as servants of a nation, unconditionally bound to strict discipline and obedience to command. Unlikely to reveal any serious discontent with their new home, they served in a machine-like manner, perhaps at times reluctantly, yet silently under the pressure of authority in which the ordinary soldier had no council and no power to alter.

Alone on a night-guard post, perhaps, eyes became more moist than usual as the Western

breeze touched the mind with an imaginary message from that Island home so far away. Surely at times, that constriction of the throat, common to us all, occurred in association with the thoughts of a scene, an incident or a human affection, made even more beautiful by absence and a seemingly unbridgeable distance. The longing for one remembered so beautifully at parting and so wonderfully looked to at a possible future meeting, stirs for a moment the emotions and yet this joy lapses to pain for in some ways, joy and pain are one.

The soaring Soul, reaching out over desolation and space, carries the mind toward the realm of beauty as visioned by that mind on the wings of joy, and although a whispered message may be the echo on similar wings, the lack of physical contact bears the ingredient of pain. Such joy of the moment born of wishful thinking and bound to human desire is more often an imprisonment of the mind than an expanding factor, for here the emotions are in conflict with realism of the moment and such joy is a flame that burns to its own death. The darkness that is left is pain.

Often perhaps, in the stillness of a night-watch in an environment unlike any other on earth, the tense mind was alerted and felt a measure of fear at an unusual sound caused by a roving creature as peaceful as any the world has known, whilst unheard and unseen a classic stone-age man looked on with wondering eyes, inquisitiveness alone his motive, yet holding within his hands the crude implements of death, not intended for use on the occasion.

The convicts were as human, and as honest I am sure, in many cases as those who observed them as a race apart. The records of the courts reveal that some of them were exiled to a condition those of us with sensitive minds and love of justice could not be proud of. Some of the offences committed for which they paid this terrible price, were such that, today, would be resolved by a Magistrate with a fine, a bond, or with a leniency inflicting little hardship, and certainly not incurring loss of liberty. Often the convicts were the victims of a code formed in England and meant to apply to certain persons, at the opportune time, that they might be the immigrants to settle an outpost of the Empire, at that time a vacuum for which no voluntary immigrant existed.

So, they endured a hardship within a prison ship for month after month, each hour widening the distance between them and the Island Kingdom that was home. Most would feel a misery to deplete the physical being, depression that injured the mind and a despair that left no point of hope upon the horizon anywhere. The Southern sunlight that often warms the heart of the Northern man had no glory, the cool breeze that may have tempered the sweltering prison-holds had little meaning and the canopy of stars under which they sailed no longer possessed the beauty that could have touched the mind with the lustre of wondrous thought under different circumstances. Their appointment with destiny in a land unknown held no pleasure to expand the mind. Somewhere out there ahead a shore line would gradually lift above the sea to reach out with hostile hands to claim them as its own. A segment of earth, they felt they could never own. As yet an almost unmarked space upon the global map to take them into its keeping in life and when that ended and death began to hold them for ever, apart from all their loved ones, not even in most cases to register by name or number the place where for all time a part of England would lie, notwithstanding their sins against society, or their tears of regret for some fault that clothed them in garments of the forgotten.

It takes a tremendous capacity to rise above the feeling — "one is not wanted", or that time (often the most merciful healer) is moving forward to a point where one shall be remembered no more.

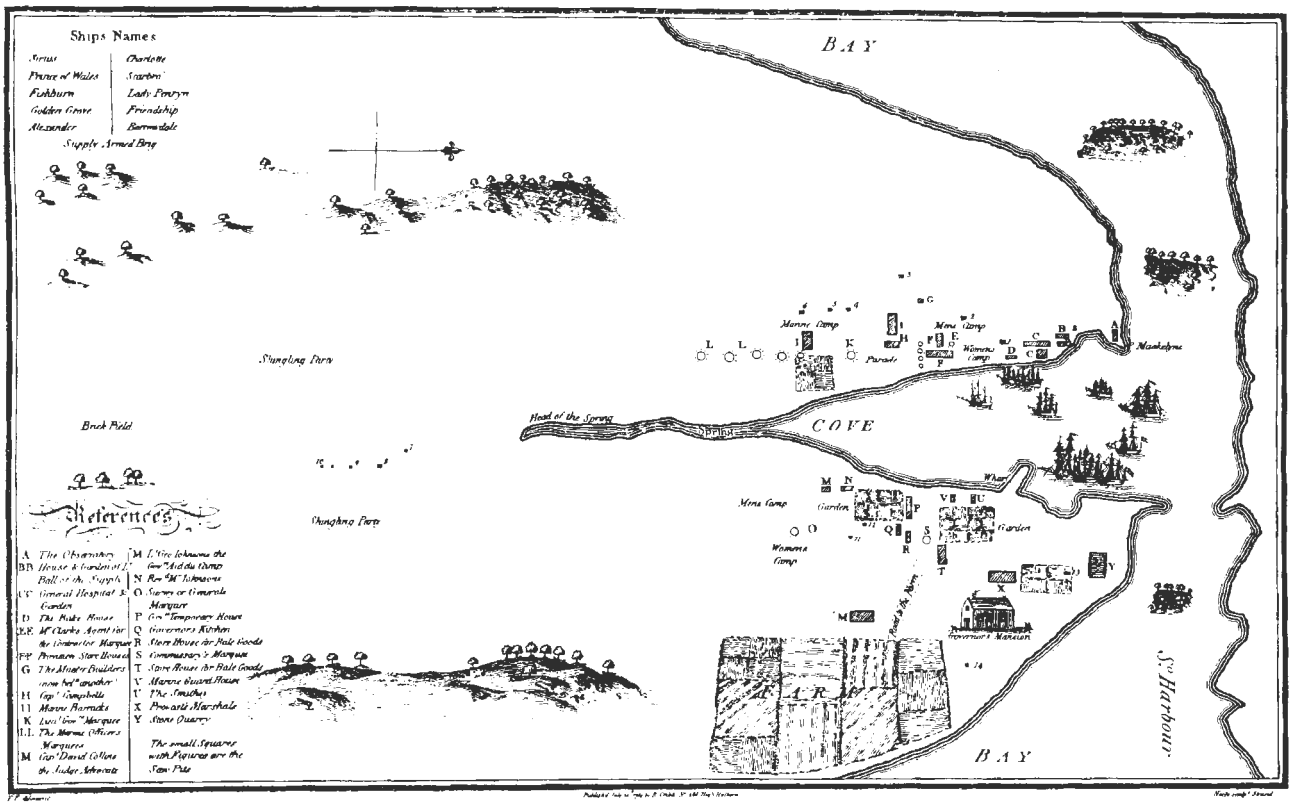
When hope dies, so does the human heart. It may beat on for years, but when it responds no longer to the hope that keeps millions alive from day to day, its miracle-like rhythm spells existence alone. This was how time was measured for so many convicts.

There would be those, of course, who lived in the hope that someday, somehow, an unfinished or interrupted programme might be taken up again, such belief resting firmly yet often in vain upon a reward for exemplary conduct.

In the year 1935, when a great Englishman died, I was asked to write eight or ten lines as a sort of addition to his immortal poem. I'll not mention who he was, but what I said in "two words" in that contribution will tell the searching reader, "who he was". No copyright prevents me from rewriting those lines and I contravene no Statutes or writer's rule.

I believe this has a place here, for some convict surely must have felt in his last con-

Continued on page 18



Sketch & Description of the Settlement at SYDNEY COVE PORT JACKSON in the COUNTY of CUMBERLAND taken by a transported Convict on the 10th of April 1788 which was not quite 3 Months after Commodore Phillips's Landing there.

Sydney Cove lies 3 Leagues to the Northward of BOTANY BAY which is situated in Lat 34 S. Long 151 E.

Drawn in 1964 by Graeme C. Leggo from an engraving in the National Library of Australia, Canberra

THE FIRST FLEET

By Manning Clark

When Lord Sydney announced in August, 1786, the decision to establish a colony of thieves at Botany Bay on the east coast of New Holland, some mocked at the idea, and some rejoiced. One man said it was the most absurd, prodigal and impracticable vision that ever intoxicated the mind of man. Another hailed Botany Bay as a settlement which would enhance the comforts, add to the rights of polished society and add to the general happiness of mankind. Some of the convicts were light hearted:

"Taint leavin' old England we cares about".

Others petitioned the men in high places to hear their sighs and groans. They saw themselves as men and women caught in a trap: they could look forward they felt, sooner or later, to death by hanging in England, or perpetual exile in a barbarous country where the remainder of their lives would be made bitter with forced labour.

As the day for their departure approached and they were assembled on the ships riding in the Downs off Portsmouth Harbour, they

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went on behaving very much as they and their fathers before them had behaved. They drank, thieved, whored, and preyed on each other because that was the only life they knew. Yet on the day of departure, that golden day of 13th May, 1787, just as the whole of nature was celebrating its annual rebirth, that miracle of loveliness of England in May, something began to happen to them too. The faces of some of the convicts, we are told, indicated a high degree of satisfaction as the ships moved down the English Channel. One woman dropped some tears, but soon wiped them. More genial skies and a change of scenery soon banished repining for England. Cheerfulness began to sweep over them — possibly not because they were fickle, or shallow, but because of a glimmer of hope that in their adopted country there might be a happy issue out of the afflictions they had suffered and endured in the land of their birth.

The mind of the Governor of the thief colony, Captain Arthur Phillip, had also risen to the dignity of the occasion. On the eve of departure he had told his dear friend Evan Nepean of his faith in that day when England felt the advantages from what the members of the First Fleet created. The minds of the other officers were on different things. Ralph Clark wanted his ship to put in to Plymouth or Torbay so that he may see his fond and affectionate wife again and his son. The reverend Richard Johnson, weighed down as he was by the awful depravity of mankind, wondered how best to convince the convicts of the heinous evil of profane swearing, as well as a very warm desire to pour out his sins before the Lord.

This promise of better things for creatures whom God seemed to have forgotten and the vision of Phillip of a future of some distinction never fades from view despite the tedium of a journey of just over seven months, and the disenchantment on first seeing the weird and harsh country of Australia. They kept brushing up against events which turned the minds of some of them to serious subjects. When the ships of the First Fleet had sailed from Cape Town again the hopes of some of the convicts had begun to soar: they were entertaining the idea that the disgrace they had suffered in England, due to their crimes, would be buried in oblivion by good behaviour at Botany Bay. Two of the officers, with an eye for the significance of an occasion, sensed the grandeur of destiny: they were leaving behind civilisation to explore a remote and barbarous land. To them had been entrusted the historic role of transplanting European civilisation to the shores of New Holland. The labour of the convicts was metamorphosed from dreary and painful punishment into participation into a grand adventure.

From that time everything that happened to them seemed to contribute to this meaning of what they were doing. As the ships of the First Fleet first rode on the majestic waters of Sydney Harbour, and moved towards the landing place at Sydney Cove, the natives on the shore hollered "Walla Walla Wha", and brandished spears as if annoyed at the coming of the white men. But the white men took no notice. It was as though the whole tragedy of the future relations between the white and the black were foreshadowed in that scene — of the white men never questioning the right to occupy the country, and the black man's impotence before any invader. While the black men were shouting their ineffectual protest, Mrs. Whittle, the wife of Thomas Whittle, gave birth to a son. The white man seemed to have the gifts for the tasks God had imposed on the sons of Adam: to go forth and increase and multiply and replenish the earth and subdue it.

In the first 12 or 14 days the shape of many things to come was plain to those who came after them. In the beginning the articulate ones were disappointed, or disenchanted with what they saw. They had come expecting to find an Englishman's parkland, looking in vain first amongst the sand hills of Botany Bay for that meadow as fine as ever man saw — according to Joseph Banks who, perhaps, was the first sufferer from the later Botany Bay disease of mirepresentation. They had found by the shores of Sydney Cove, a harsh weird land where the trees shed bark rather than leaves, where the soil blunted the blades of their hoes, and huge ants bit the unwary. But just 37 years later some of the sons of the men on the First Fleet sat down to dinner in Sydney town to hear Australia's greatest native son, the son of surgeon and a

convict woman on the second fleet, propose with pride a toast to "The land, boys, we live in."

In the beginning, too, there was a sharp distinction between officers and men, as well as an even sharper distinction between the free and the bond. At the first ceremony to mark the foundation of the colony on 26th January, the officers were on shore to drink a toast to christen the settlement. The bond remained on the ships, as though the ceremony had nothing to do with them. That was on 26th January.

Yet at the second ceremony, on 7th February, officers, freemen, marines and convicts all gathered together in a special clearing to hear the long dreary commissions being read. That was a people's day — a day for which the people, the progenitors of those who came after them got ready in what was to be a "dinkum Aussie" way by becoming very elevated the night before on rum, and then standing in the hot sunshine while their elders, the self-appointed guardians of their morals, told them what was what. According to one who was standing there that day, Phillip harangued the convicts as innate villains and people of the most abandoned principles. He went on to warn all and sundry that if any man should wander by night into the tents of the women the sentry had orders to fire at them.

Just over 30 years later when some of the descendants of those who had stood there in silence while Phillip reminded them of their moral inferiority were again insulted by a young woman from England who sneered at gum trees as not to her taste and belittled the conversation of the native born as being altogether "too sheepish" a local girl replied with ardour calling herself appropriately "Betsey Bandicoot" — she retorted that her Bill could play the flute, herd the wild cattle and shoot and swim as well as any man, and went on to say that she would always "stick up for us currency girls".

By then the great miracle had happened. The original boat-loads of English, Scottish and Irish thieves, pick-pockets, casual criminals, forgers and embezzlers, had not only begun to be proud of the land they lived in, but to feel that it belonged to them as the men and women who by the labour of their hands had brought the foundations of civilisation to the Australian bush. They had built the roads, the bridges, the public buildings, the schools, the churches, and the mansions in which others were to reproduce some of that way of life which they took to be the essential of civilisation. But the great miracle was that they had survived the rigours and hardships of the early days. Despite the failure of their crops, the disasters to a ship sent to get food in Norfolk Island, and the long interval before another fleet of convict ships could bring relief from England, they managed somehow to survive. Their adopted country has strengthened the will to endure to the end. When relief arrived in June, 1790, they express their pleasure simply: "Hurrah", they shout, "for a belly-full, and news from our friends."

In time the country of their early disenchantment is going to perform another miracle for them. It is going to produce food in such abundance that they will not look to England, or Ireland, for a "belly-full". In time what happens in Sydney is the only news in which they are really interested. "Home" is here — and not 13,000 miles away.

The arrival of the second fleet was also to affect them in ways they probably did not foresee. At the time they noted little more than the increase in mouths to feed. Two men walked ashore from the ships who were to become mighty men of renown in that little world. One was D'Arcy Wentworth, a surgeon from London, born in Ireland, with the roots of his family, the Fitzwilliams, deep in English aristocratic society. With him was a woman who bears a child whom history knows as William Charles Wentworth. John Macarthur also steps ashore. The young Wentworth will go on to leave his mark on the public life of the colony: Macarthur will conceive his dream of a plantation society in New South Wales. Both will aspire to a grandeur clean different from the values and way of life of those on board the First Fleet. The Macarthurs and the Wentworths aspired to be the progenitors of "the ancient nobility of New South Wales", to reproduce Britannia by the placid waters of Sydney Harbour. Perhaps the members of the First Fleet and their descendants sensed that for them that way madness lay.

A Diary

Few Australians are aware of the sequence of events which took place from the time of Captain Phillip's arrival in Botany Bay until the setting up of a regular form of Government in this country.

To cover this shortcoming, the following abridged "diary" has been compiled — from various literary and documentary sources of the time.

25th November, 1787.

On the 25th November, being then only 80 leagues to the eastward of the Cape of Good Hope, Governor Phillip left the Sirius and went on board the supply tender; in hopes, by leaving the convoy, to gain sufficient time for examining the country around Botany Bay, so as to fix on the situation most eligible for the colony, before the transports should arrive.

Major Ross, the Commandant of Marines, now left the Sirius and went on board the Scarborough, that he might accompany that part of the detachment which probably would be landed first. Captain Hunter, in the Sirius, was to follow with the store ships and the remainder of the transports, in case the Supply had met with any accident. Lieutenant Gidley King accompanied Governor Phillip in the Supply.

3rd January, 1788.

Phillip, in the Supply, came within sight of the coast of New South Wales.

18th January.

The Supply arrived at Botany Bay. About 3 o'clock that afternoon, a landing from two or three boats was made on the north-eastern part of the Bay, Phillip being accompanied by Lieut. King, Lieut. Dawes and other Officers and seamen.

In beaching their boats, the seamen would, undoubtedly, have carried out the customary practice of the bowmen and crew jumping out to haul the boats up and prevent them from broaching to the waves. It is fairly certain, therefore, that seamen from the Supply were the first men ashore on this memorable day.

The normal naval procedure for officers landing being that the most senior officer leaves the boat first, it can be taken that, if Phillip's boat came to the shore first, he would have been the first officer to land, followed by others, according to seniority.

If, however, King's boat arrived first, he would have been the first officer ashore.

19th January.

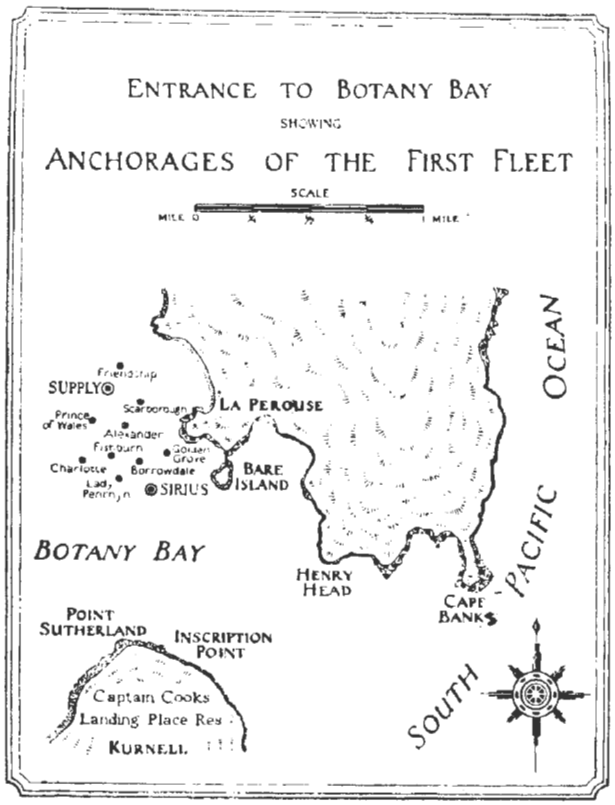
The Alexander, Scarborough and Friendship arrived in Botany Bay and cast anchor. Additional landings were then made.

20th January.

The Sirius, with the remainder of the convoy arrived in Botany Bay.

21st January.

Not being satisfied with Botany Bay as a fit place for the establishment of his new government, Phillip proceeded to Port Jackson to seek a better site, taking two boats from the Sirius and one from the Supply. Captain Hunter and the Master of the Sirius, James Keltie, each commanded a boat from the Sirius, whilst Phillip and the Master of the Supply,



David Blackburn, were in the Supply's cutter.

Captain Collins, of the Marines, accompanied the expedition with a small detachment of Marines. There were also some petty officers, as well as the seamen forming the boat's crew, but no convicts! The boats arrived in Port Jackson early in the afternoon.

"Here all regrets arising from the former disappointments were at once obliterated: and Governor Phillip had the satisfaction to find one of the finest harbours in the world, in which a thousand sail of the line might ride in perfect security.

"The different coves of this harbour were examined with all possible expedition and the preference was given to one which had the finest spring of water, and in which ships can anchor so close to the shore, that at a very small expence (sic) quays may be constructed at which the largest vessels may unload.

"This cove is about half a mile in length, and a quarter of a mile across at the entrance. In honour of Lord Sydney, the Governor distinguished it by the name of Sydney Cove."

It is highly probable that the party camped on the shore of Sydney Cove on the night of the 22nd January.

23rd January.

Phillip and his party returned to Botany Bay in the morning of the 23rd January, and Phillip immediately gave orders to the whole fleet to sail next day.

24th January.

"Preparations for a general removal were now made with all convenient expedition; but on the morning of the 24th the greatest astonishment was spread throughout the fleet by the appearance of two ships under French colours.

". . . But as the opposition of the wind, and a strong current prevented them at present from working into the harbour, and even drove them out of sight again to the south, he (Phillip) did not think it proper to delay his departure for the sake of making further enquiry."

25th January.

The Supply left Botany Bay at dawn with a company of Marines and about 40 convicts. The ship experienced considerable difficulty in getting out of the Bay and it was not until late that evening that she was finally brought to anchor in Sydney Cove. No landings were made that night.

Prior to the departure of Phillip from Botany Bay, he ordered the rest of the fleet under convoy of the Sirius, to follow, "as soon as the abatement of the wind, which then blew a strong gale, should facilitate its working out of the Bay."

"The Supply was scarcely out of sight when the French ships again appeared off the mouth of the harbour, and a boat was immediately sent to them, with offers of every kind of information and assistance their situation could require. It was now learnt that these were, as the Governor had supposed, the Boussle and the Astrolabe, on a voyage of discovery, under the conduct of Monsieur La Perouse."

26th January.

Early on the 26th, the Marines and the convicts were taken ashore in the Supply's boats, manned by the seamen. In the confusion of landing, it would

have been impossible to determine who was the first ashore, but this is not important as there had been others there several days before.

During the day, sufficient ground was cleared for encamping the officers' guard and the convicts who had landed that morning.

". . . In the evening of this day, the whole of the party then present were assembled at a point where they had first landed in the morning and on which a flag-staff had been purposely erected, and a union-jack displayed; when the marines fired several volleys; between which the health of His Majesty and the Royal Family, with success to the new colony, were most cordially drunk.

"The day, which had been extremely fine, concluded with the safe arrival of the Sirius and the convoy from Botany Bay, thus terminating the voyage with the same good fortune which had from its commencement been so conspicuously their friend and companion."

27th January

"The disembarkation of the troops and convicts took place from the following day" (that is from the 27th January), "until the whole were landed."

Subsequently.

". . . At the head of Sydney Cove . . . Governor Phillip had fixed the seat of his government; but intent upon providing the best and earliest accommodation for those who were to be encamped with him; and wholly occupied by the continual necessity of giving directions, he had not yet found, leisure for assuming regularly his powers and title of Governor. At length, the hurry of the first preparations gave way to this more tranquil business."

7th February.

"The 7th of February, 1788, was the memorable day which established a regular form of Government on the coast of New South Wales. For obvious reasons, all possible solemnity was given to the proceedings necessary on this occasion. On a space previously cleared, the whole colony was assembled; the military drawn up and under arms; the convicts stationed apart; and near the person of the Governor, those who were to hold the principal offices under him. The Royal Commission was then read by Mr. D. Collins, the Judge Advocate. By this instrument Arthur Phillip was constituted and appointed Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the territory, called New South Wales.

". . . The Act of Parliament establishing the courts of judicature was next read; and lastly, the patents under the great seal, empowering the proper persons to convene and hold those courts whenever the exigency should require. The Office of Lieutenant Governor was conferred on Major Ross, of the Marines. A triple discharge of musquetry concluded this part of the ceremony; after which Governor Phillip advanced, and addressing first the private soldiers, thanked them for their steady good conduct on every occasion: an honour which was repeated to them in the next general orders. He then turned to the convicts, and distinctly explained to them the nature of their present situation. The greater part, he bade them recollect, had already forfeited their lives to the justice of their country: yet, by the lenity of its laws, they were now so placed, that by industry and good behaviour, they might in time regain the advantages and estimation in society of which they had deprived themselves. They not only had every encouragement to make that effort, but were removed almost entirely from every temptation to guilt.

". . . Governor Phillip concluded his address, by declaring his earnest desire to promote the happiness of all who were under his government, and to render the settlement in New South Wales advantageous and honourable to his country.

"This speech, which was received with universal acclamations, terminated the ceremonial peculiar to the day.

"The assembly was now dispersed, and the Governor proceeded to review the troops on the ground cleared for a parade; after which, he gave a dinner to the officers, and the first evening of his government was concluded propitiously, in good order and innocent festivity, amidst the repetition of wishes for its prosperity."

HEALTH AND THE FIRST FLEET

By Isadore Brodsky, M.B.

On the eve of the 181st year of the founding of the colony at Sydney Cove, it is of interest to consider perhaps the most important and vital factor determining the success of the venture in the great south land — the health of the First Fleeters.

There are only relatively fragmentary details recorded of this aspect of the general planning and preparation for the transplanting into new soil of European peoples and customs. And yet, on mature thought, health and its maintenance under primitive conditions, emerges as the paramount consideration. For any serious departure from reasonable health of the embryo community, could easily have turned the hoped for success into a dismal failure.

David Collins, in his "Account of the English Colony in New South Wales", tells that the transports and store-ships were stocked with provisions sufficient for two years, while stores consisting of tools, implements of agriculture, "and such other articles as were considered necessary" were also put aboard to assist the colonising.

A complete medical staff was attached to the fleet, one surgeon to each transport, John White being the principal Surgeon, and Thomas Arndell, Dennis Considen, and William Balmain being his Assistant Surgeons. These were the men on whom the health of the First Fleet devolved.

Tench remarks that "contrary, however, to expectation, the number of sick in the ship I was embarked on was surprisingly small, and the rest of the fleet were nearly as healthy". Among the methods employed in maintaining some standard of hygiene, it makes interesting reading to learn that "frequent explosions of gunpowder, lighting fires between decks, and a liberal use of that admirable antiseptic, oil of tar; were the preventives we made use of against impure air; and above all, we were careful to keep the

A sketch of the first General Hospital area on the western side of Sydney Cove. A surgeon's cottage stands behind the tree in the centre.
The bullocks are passing along what will later become George Street.

men's bedding and wearing apparel dry".

Opportunities arose, both at Rio de Janeiro and the Cape of Good Hope, to replenish the ships and also to acquire seeds and plants for future needs at Botany Bay. Incidentally, Tench observes, "that some of the necessary articles allowed to ships on a common passage to the West Indies were withheld . . . that an inadequate quantity of essence of malt was the only anti-scorbutic supplied", thus we are prepared at least for scurvy to have become manifest. Dysentery was not unexpected — "in no instance mortal" as Tench puts it. Thirty six weeks out from Plymouth, one marine of 212 had died, while of 725 convicts only 24 had not survived. The total death roll of all persons on the ships was 32, a figure much lower than many had expected. Providence appeared to have smiled on the project to this stage.

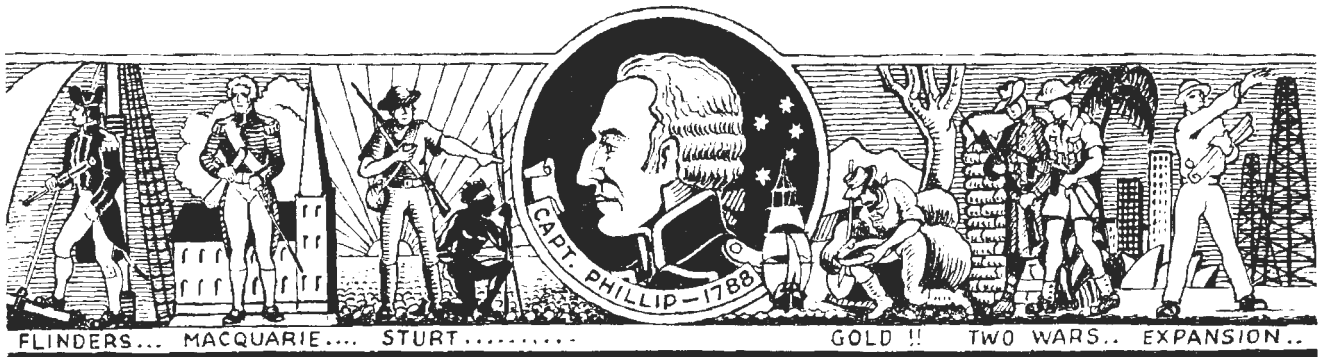
Once ashore at Sydney Cove the health position deteriorated. Collins records that "the scurvy, that had not appeared during the passage, now broke out; which aided by a dysentery, began to fill the hospital". This euphemistic description of what was a mere cluster of tents on an inhospitable shore is both pathetic and amusing. The settlement of 1,030 souls doubtlessly thought otherwise. The number of sick increased rapidly. It became evident that officialdom at Home had not provided for such a situation. The medical equipment as a whole was poor in quality and quantity. Some had perished in transit. Grass had to suffice for a bed. No sheets or blankets had been assigned for the sick. Specific drugs were conspicuously absent.

Luckily, one of the Assistant Surgeons, Dennis Consiten, is said to have been inspired to improvise an astringent for dysentery. This was compounded from "wild

Continued on page 21

Where the flag-pole, illustrated, stands at the bottom of Young Street, Sydney — Captain Arthur Phillip, R.N., and his party gathered on the evening of the 26th January, 1788, and "drank the King's health, and success to the settlement, with all that display of form which on such occasions is esteemed propitious, because it enlivens the spirits and fills the imagination with pleasing presages."

Here was depicted the opening chapter of a nation and the successful culmination of the first episode in one of the most dramatically-daring human migrations in the history of the world!



AUSTRALIA DAY!

By John K. Lavett

President, Fellowship of First Fleeters, and Chairman, Australia Day Movement.

On the 26th January, 1788, the first permanent British settlement on Australian soil was established — by 529 male and 188 female convicts, their guards and the nucleus of officials required to establish a convict colony; 1,030 souls in all. Quite unaware of the part they were to play in the subsequent scheme of things, these were the people who laid the foundations for a nation.

Prior to the mass transportation that took place for fifty or so years from 1788, the British Government, finding itself faced with the need for an outlet for their congested prisons, decided upon sending some of their convict population to that far-off and practically unknown land in the south — discovered by Spaniards and Dutch and, possibly, the Portuguese in the 16th century, and later more extensively explored by the Englishman, Lieutenant James Cook. It was Cook who proclaimed British sovereignty over what are now the eastern parts of New South Wales and Queensland, formal possession, on behalf of the British Crown, of the whole of the eastern part of the Australian continent and Tasmania not being taken until the 26th January, 1788.

It was thought that Botany Bay would be the ideal place for this new settlement, but it did not take Phillip long, after arriving there, to discover that for the purpose of the settlement he had in mind, Botany Bay left much to be desired. So, with some of his officers, he set out, in three open boats, to explore the nearby "Port Jackson". Entering this now-famous waterway, Phillip was delighted with the prospects and expanse unfolding before his eyes as he left behind him the mile-apart North and South Heads and proceeded up the magnificent Harbour. Finding, in one of the coves on the southern shore, a sufficiency of drinking water and soil suitable for agricultural purposes, he determined to fix the future seat of his government at that site. The inlet selected was called Sydney Cove, after Thomas Townsend, 1st Viscount Sydney, who suggested the colonisation of New South Wales and was Colonial Secretary when the territory became a British possession; the site became the cardinal point from which arose a mighty metropolis — Sydney, the Capital City of the mother state of our island continent.

On the 26th of January, 1788, then, the ships of the "First Fleet" assembled in Sydney Cove, the task of clearing the ground for the encampment having, through the efforts of an advance party, been under way for some hours previously.

"The spot chosen for this purpose" (wrote Lieutenant-Colonel Collins in 1804) "was at the head of the Cove near a run of fresh water which stole silently through a very thick wood, the stillness of which had then for the first time since the creation, been interrupted by the rude sound of the labourer's axe . . . a stillness and tranquillity which, from that day, were to give place to the noise of labour, the confusion of camps and towns and the busy hum of its new possessors."

The establishment of the settlement on the 26th January, 1788, was followed by the setting up of a regular form of government on the coast of New South Wales on the 7th of the ensuing month, but the country's "birthday" remained — by popular acceptance —

the 26th January. Indeed, in 1791 its observance and that of the King's birthday were the only holidays the colony knew. The first banquet in honour of the day was held in January, 1817; in 1838 the 26th January was officially proclaimed a public holiday.

Transportation of convicts to New South Wales virtually ceased in 1839, and by 1850 the arrival of free immigrants had reduced the convict element in the population to less than 15 per cent.

Over the succeeding years, Australia rapidly grew to nationhood, to currently become an important member of the Commonwealth of Nations, with no mean status, voice and influence in world affairs.

The custom of commemorating important persons and events is older than history. It gives us an opportunity to express, publicly, our debt to those who brought about the event; it provides a suitable occasion on which to take stock of the results of that event, to see what progress we have made in the interval, and whither we are heading. It inspires us to resolve anew to do our part in preserving and passing on to our children the rights and privileges won for us by our forebears, and in adding to them if opportunity offers.

It is in this light that Australia Day — the 26th January, and its annual commemoration, become of major importance in our life. The history of Australia challenges the present generation to display the same qualities which made Australia great — the vision and faith, the fortitude and perseverance and the pioneering spirit of the early settlers who overcame difficulties, complex problems and dangers so that they and succeeding generations could progressively enjoy freedom and prosperity.

AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS

To provide an organised Nation-wide lead, a new body has been set up, the prime objects of which are to ensure that future Australia Day celebrations are conducted in a manner and on a scale befitting the important occasion.

The new organisation, known as the AUSTRALIA DAY MOVEMENT, is composed of many of the country's representative organisations — including the Fellowship of First Fleeters, which sponsored the Movement. The New South Wales Government has also offered to co-operate with the A.D.M.

At the Inaugural Meeting of the Australia Day Movement, held in Sydney on 15th August, 1968, the Founder of the Movement — Mr. John K. Lavett — said that because of the deplorable, leaderless and spiritless so-called "celebrations" carried out in Australia for many years past, it behoved those interested in the Nation's beginnings, heritage and future development to do something about the matter.

Mr. Lavett added: "Possessing the most wonderful country in the World, what are we Australians doing (on our National Day) to show our pride in the country's achievements and potential? Very little, I think most people will agree."

Mr. JOHN K. LAVETT, Founder and President of the FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS.

With the co-operation of many important organisations in the life of the community, it is confidently anticipated that the Australia Day Movement will be able to put into operation sufficient of the ideas covered by a 12-page brochure specially published by the Fellowship of First Fleeters to make future Australia Day celebrations meaningful, memorable and satisfying.

Copies of the brochure mentioned may be obtained by interested organisations from the Secretary of the Fellowship of First Fleeters.

AUSTRALIA DAY MESSAGE
from His Grace
The Archbishop of Sydney
The Most Rev. M. L. Loane

Every citizen in the Commonwealth of Australia should have a strong personal interest in the commemoration of Australia Day. The arrival of the First Fleet, with its Government officials, free settlers and convicts, on January 26th, 1788, was a far more historic occasion than the Governor of the new Colony could have imagined. The Rev. Richard Johnson, who preached the first sermon on Australian soil on February 3rd, chose as his text the words from Psalm 116, verse 12: "What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits towards me?" He knew that his congregation had travelled across 12,000 miles of ocean, had been more than six months at sea, and had arrived safely in what was to become their home country. Did they not have cause to be thankful? Nearly 200 years later, we may well feel amazed at the astonishing progress which has occurred. The infant colony has grown into an adult nation and has won recognition and responsibility throughout the world. We have entered into other men's labours and we now live in a land that is free. This we owe to the goodness of God, and shall we not be thankful? What shall we render unto the Lord for all His benefits towards us?

AUSTRALIA DAY MESSAGE
By His Eminence
Cardinal N. Gilroy
Archbishop of Sydney

Pride of achievement is a legitimate and praiseworthy possession of the Australian people after one hundred and eighty years of its history. In the present we acclaim the work of the past, stretching back to the first Foundation Day.

The First Fleeters, once they had severed the ties with their past life, now cast aside for ever, had only a future to carve out in the wilderness of the Southern Continent. Courage, self-reliance and perseverance sustained them in a grim struggle against the prevailing social system, allied with a harsh natural environment.

They succeeded and that is their triumph, and our glory. We are deeply thankful that under God they built the nation we love.

Continued from page 6

scious moments as did the great man to whom I refer.

Many convicts were not real criminals and many were separated too harshly from another being, the memory of whom remained until the bitter end.

And so:

With the soft awareness of a warming hand on mine,
Brief caress to echo time,
And when the starry smile outshines the moonlit crystal,
And the tome of dappled life reopens,
Then to heal the weary lover, and misery of unfinished ends,
You lead me home.

So those people were landed, to stand unsteadily upon legs that had been "sea legs" for so long, to look upon the first serious encampment that met the eyes like a scar inflicted by man upon a space that only a few hours before had been an unmarked part of the Australian bushland.

The deepening shadows of that Summer afternoon were soon to merge with the shadows of doubt, of sorrow, of loneliness and hopelessness within themselves.

At this place, unconscious of the tide of future progress, surely unable to predict 181 years ahead, the first white person to step ashore on that memorable day did something many perhaps have not given thought to. He left something upon this land, that remained for a brief time; no record exists to tell us of shape, size or pattern. It was, in effect, the first, soft, yet unmistakable "foundation stone" or emblem on which this great city of Sydney stands. IT WAS THE COMMON MARK UPON OUR SOIL OF A BOOT, OR SHOE SOLE, OR, MORE LIKELY, THE IMPRINT OF A BARE EUROPEAN FOOT.

Had someone there thought as perhaps the scientists of today think, we would have had a plaster cast of that first imprint, as we shall surely have of the first human foot-mark upon the surface of the Moon.

I shall not try to describe the advance that time, faith and perseverance gave our Island continent. The facts are written in manufacturing, agriculture, general industry, mining, science and education, and human heroism.

This land, so great, is ours and was given into our keeping by those few who landed in 1788 and through those who followed them, as we shall hand it on to those who follow us!

Photocopy of vignette by courtesy of Mitchell Library.

This reproduction of the vignette appearing in the title page of "The Voyage of Governor Phillip to Botany Bay", published 1789, was engraved from a medallion which (the author of the book tells us) "the ingenious Mrs. Wedgewood caused to be modelled from a small piece of clay brought from Sydney Cove."

Continuing his account of the vignette, the writer says, "the clay proves to be of a fine texture, and will be found very useful for the manufactory of earthern ware. The design is allegorical; it represents Hope encouraging Art and Labour, under the influence of Peace, to pursue the employments necessary to give security and happiness to an infant settlement."

Because of its close affinity with the aims and objects of the Fellowship of First Fleeters, the vignette will appear in every future issue of "FIRST-FLEETERS". (See also next page.)

A FORECAST

"VISIT OF HOPE TO SYDNEY-COVE NEAR BOTANY BAY"

Where Sydney Cove her lucid bosom swells,
Courts her young navies, and the storm repels;
High on a rock amid the troubled air
HOPE stood sublime and wav'd her golden hair;
Calm'd with her rosy smile the tossing deep,
And with sweet accents charm'd the winds to sleep;
To each wild plain she stretch'd her snowy hand,
High-waving wood, and sea-encircled strand.

"Hear me," she cried, "ye rising Realms! record
"Time's opening scenes, and Truth's unerring word—
"**There** shall broad streets their stately walls extend.
"The circus widen, and the crescent bend;
"**There,** ray'd from cities o'er the cultur'd land,
"Shall bright canals, and solid roads expand—
"**There** the proud arch, Colossus-like, bestride
"Yon glittering streams, and bound the chasing tide;
"Embellish'd villas crown the landscape-scene,
"Farms wave with gold, and orchards blush between—
"**There** shall tall spires, and dome-capt towers ascend,
"And piers and quays their massy structures blend;
"While with each breeze approaching vessels glide,
"And northern treasures dance on every tide!"—

Then ceas'd the nymph — tumultuous echoes roar,
And Joy's loud voice was heard from shore to shore —
Her graceful steps descending press'd the plain,
And PEACE and ART and LABOUR, form'd her train.

The above prophecy was written in 1789 by Dr. Erasmus Darwin (1731-1802), grandfather of Charles Robert Darwin — the celebrated British naturalist.
Dr. Darwin was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge and Edinburgh University, where he graduated in medicine. In addition to practising as a medical man, he devoted much of his time to the pursuit of science. He foreshadowed in certain respects, the theories of Lamarck, which, in turn, foreshadowed those of Charles Darwin.
Erasmus Darwin also wrote a number of poems, mostly didactic, including the one reproduced above.

(Photocopy by courtesy of Mitchell Library)

This drawing, by R. Cleveley (published on the 17th June, 1789), represents the "Supply" and two other First-Fleet ships at anchor, with the "Sirius" and her convoy coming into Botany Bay on the 20th January, 1788. It was from this drawing that the ship motif of the Fellowship of First Fleeters was taken.

Continuud from page 15

myrtle", while for those suffering from scurvy, wild celery, spinach and parsley were among the native esculent plants available to stem the fast-running tide.

In March, 1788, mixed labour was impressed to erect a hospital. This was not shingle-roofed until July. By this time scurvy and dysentery were being held in check, and the Principal Surgeon's official report disclosed that 36 marines and 56 convicts were under treatment. In addition, 52 convicts were unfit either from age or infirmity. The figures for the rest of the community are not disclosed, but the negative evidence is suggestive. A portable hospital arrived from England by Justinian in 1790, by which time, in spite of famine, water shortage and other vicissitudes inseparable from colonising in a strange land, the First Fleeters had better command of their situation. Adversity had brought out some of their qualities, sharpening their determination to succeed against nature's obstacles.

The metropolis of Sydney today is the evidence that the First Fleeters did not fail and those of us who walk along George Street at the northern end past the police station with its plaque announcing the site of the first hospital, remember with pride, the heritage and something of the struggle, of those first difficult steps in 1788 to safeguard the health of the pioneering First Fleeters.

THE FIRST FLEETERS AT NORFOLK ISLAND

By Frank Clune

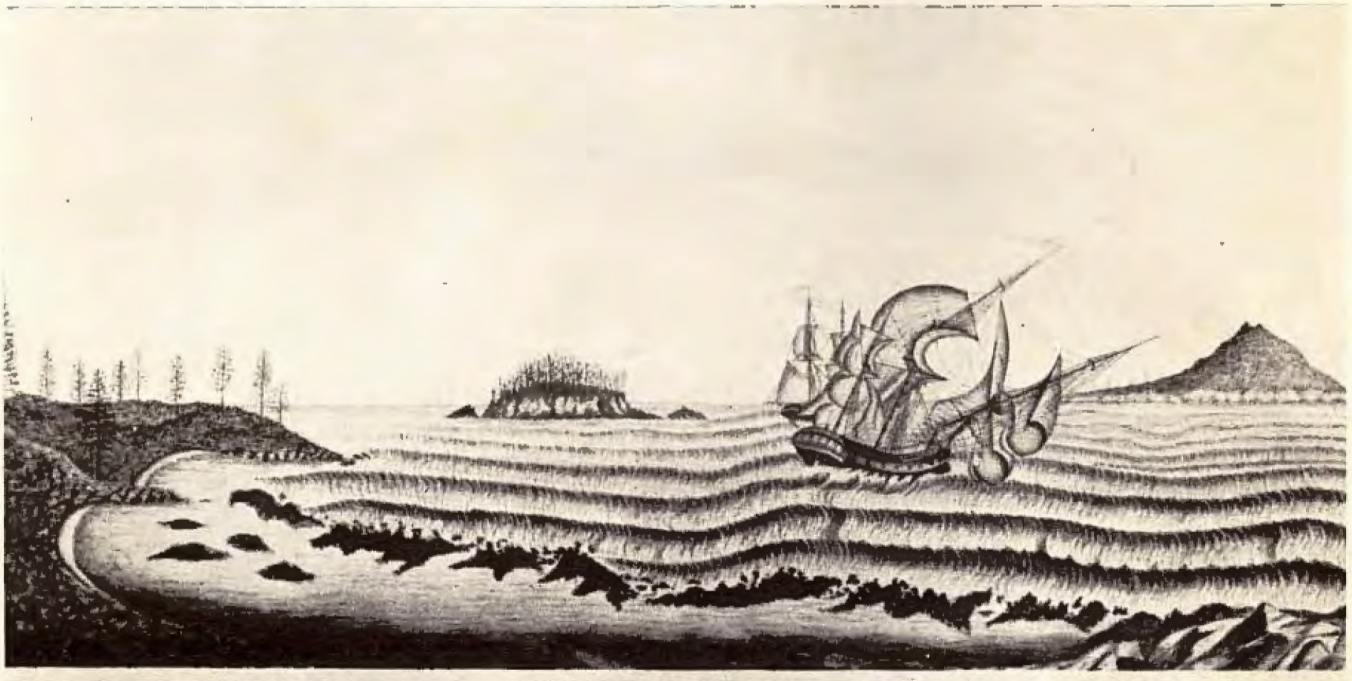
Many discussions took place among men of influence in Britain's Council of State before it was decided to establish a colony at Botany Bay for prisoners sentenced to "Transportation beyond the seas", who could no longer be sent to the American colonies as a result of the War of Independence.

The decision was influenced by Captain Cook's report of 1769 that at Norfolk Island, within a week's sailing distance of Botany Bay, a garrison could be posted to protect from foreign interlopers the forests of sturdy pines and the fields of wild flax which would prove of great importance to England's naval and mercantile marine.

The "First Fleet" of settlers to colonise Botany Bay and Norfolk Island sailed from Spithead, near Portsmouth, on 13th May, 1787. It consisted of two warships — H.M.S. **Sirius,** 520 tons, and H.M.S. **Supply,** an armed tender, 170 tons — as escorts, and nine chartered merchant vessels.

Of these nine vessels, six were convict transports and three storeships. According to various estimates, those who were on board when they put to sea included 569 male convicts, 190 female convicts and 13 children of convicts. They were guarded by four companies of the Royal Marines, comprising 206 of all ranks, also 27 wives and 19 children.

The **Supply** anchored in Botany Bay on 18th January, 1788, and within two days the rest of the Fleet was at anchor. How Phillip explored Sydney Harbour and decided to establish the settlement at Sydney Cove instead of around the sandy shores of Botany Bay is an oft-told tale. It is sufficient to mention that the Fleet moved to Sydney Cove on 26th January, 1788, and that the Colony of New South Wales was proclaimed on 7th February, when Captain Phillip's commission appointing him as Governor-in-chief was read in the presence of the assembled people by the Judge-Advocate, Captain David Collins of the Marines.



THE MELANCHOLY LOSS of His Majesty's Ship SIRIUS, WRECKD on NORFOLK ISLAND, on Friday Noon March 19th 1790 taken from the Flag Staff on the Beach

The main settement, Norfolk Island, as it is today.

Before leaving England, Phillip had been instructed to form a settlement at Norfolk Island, "to prevent its being occupied by any other European power." After his commission had been read, Phillip decided to send a party of occupation to Norfolk Island. Apart from the defence of an outpost, and the protection of supplies of spars and flax, Phillip acted urgently in hope that the "rich and deep soil" mentioned by Captain Cook would quickly yield crops of vegetables and grain to supplement Sydney's food supply.

Phillip decided to send a party of convicts to Norfolk Island to create a settlement under the command of Lieutenant P. G. King, "a very steady officer, who has fully merited everything I can say in his favour." The pioneers were to be transported to Norfolk Island in the sloop **Supply.**

Twenty-five people were sent to create this garden of Eden, including Lieutenant King. The others were: James Cunningham, master's mate of the **Sirius;** Thomas Jamison, surgeon's mate of the **Sirius;** T. T. Altree, surgeon's assistant; Roger Morley, a weaver; William Westbrook, a sawyer; two marines, Charles Kerridge and John Batchelor; two seamen, unnamed in the records, nine male convicts and six female convicts.

These women all volunteered for Norfolk Island. Amongst them was Ann Inett. Ann had arrived on the **Lady Penrhyn** from Worcestershire, and whilst at Norfolk Island had borne two sons to Lieutenant King. She had been left with her babies at Sydney when King went to England in 1790. Eventually Ann married a farmer named Robinson at Windsor on the Hawkesbury River, New South Wales; but King took care of the education of his sons, who bore his name, Norfolk and Sydney King. They later became officers in the Royal Navy.

Elizabeth Lee and Elizabeth Hipsley arrived on the **Lady Penrhyn,** London, together with Elizabeth Colley. Also on the **Lady Penrhyn** was Olivia Gascoigne who married Nathaniel Lucas at Norfolk Island. Lucas arrived on the **Scarborough** from Middlesex, as a carpenter. He occupied various positions of responsibility on Norfolk Island and received a grant of 15 acres after his marriage to Olivia Gascoigne. They had nine children when they left the Island. In 1806 he had the lease for fourteen years of lot 93 near St. Phillip's Church, Sydney. Nathaniel Lucas was superintendent of carpenters at Sydney in 1814, and had a grant of five hundred acres at Minto. According to **The Pioneers of Syd-**

ney Cove, compiled by Herbert J. Rumsey, "Lucas contracted for the building of St. Luke's Church, Liverpool, but the difficulties he had with Greenway, the architect, preyed on his mind, and caused him to take his life in 1818. He had also been in business as a miller at Liverpool, and the business was still being carried on by this family in 1828."

Richard Widdicombe, convicted at Exeter, came on the **Charlotte.** He was Lieutenant King's right-hand man at Norfolk Island, and upon hearing of a proposed insurrection, helped to put it down.

Another married couple to settle on the Island at this time was Susan Gough (or Garth) who came on the **Friendship** to Sydney, and Edward Garth, a farmer, on the **Scarborough.** He was the overseer of sawyers at Norfolk Island where he had a grant of twelve acres.

Edward Westlake, who arrived on the **Charlotte** from Devonshire, also a farmer, received a grant of twenty-four acres. He was later joined by his wife and children.

Were Noah and John Mortimer related? They had been sent to Norfolk Island where Noah received a grant of ten acres. He asked that his wife, Anne, aged 28, and his children, Thomas 6, and Robert 4, should be sent out, although there seems to be no record of their arrival. John Mortimer was a farmer and received a grant of sixteen acres at Norfolk Island. Convicted at Exeter, he came on the **Charlotte,** and, although Noah came from Chagford, Devon, he is not on any ship's lists.

The last named convict to be sent with this group to the Island was Charles McCellan, of whom I can find no trace. The selection of the convicts to this Pacific Paradise was entrusted to Surgeon Bowes who had been superintendent of the **Lady Penrhyn** transport. Bowes stated that Governor Phillip instructed King that he could allow "suitable couples" to marry at Norfolk Island, and that the marriage ceremony could be performed by Thomas Jamison, surgeon's mate.

Lieutenant Bradley, R.N., said that the party took "stores for six months; sheep, hogs, poultry, seeds and plants, with tools and implements for clearing and cultivating the ground." The **Supply** weighed anchor and sailed down Sydney harbour at 6 p.m. on Thursday, 14th February, 1788. Fourteen days later she dropped anchor off Norfolk on 29th February, and so the second British Colony in the South Pacific was founded.

The **Supply** stood on and off, for five days, while boat-parties searched for a landing-place which would be suitable as a site for settlement.

It was Captain Cook who said, "we found it to be an island of good height, and five leagues in circuit. I named it Norfolk Isle, in honour of the noble family of Howard." The "noble family of Howard", of which the Duke of Norfolk is the head, is one of the oldest of England's aristocratic families.

Lieutenant King then bestowed names on the capes and bays of the island; the northern point he called Point Howe, in honour of the First Lord of the Admiralty. He also named Duncombe Bay, Cascade Bay, Ball Bay, Nepean Island, Phillip Island, Sydney Bay and Anson Bay. Almost everywhere the surf broke at the foot of cliffs. There were only a few small beaches, and no sheltered bays in which a sailing-vessel could ride safely at anchor.

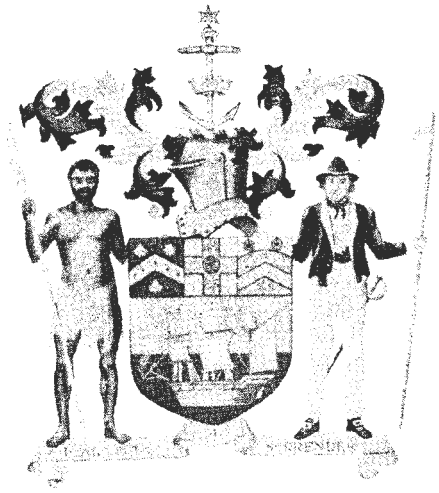
Later the **Supply** returned to Sydney with a dispatch from Lieutenant King to Governor Phillip, describing his attempts to find a suitable place for a settlement. A summary of this message was sent by Governor Phillip to Lord Sydney: "Lieutenant King describes this island as one entire wood, without a single acre of clear land that had been found when the **Supply** left them, and says that the pine trees rise sixty feet before they shoot out any branches. Several good springs of water were found, and I apprehend His Majesty's ships in the East Indies may be supplied from this island with masts and yards, which will render it a very valuable acquisition. The cultivation of the flax-plant will be attended when people can be sent to clear the ground."

On the 6th March, 1788, Lieutenant King noted in his Journal: "Before sunset every thing and every person belonging to the settlement were on shore, and their tents pitched before the colours were hauled down. . . . I assembled all the settlement, and, Lieutenant Ball present, I took possession of the isle, drinking to 'His Majesty', 'the Queen', 'Prince of Wales', 'Governor Phillip', and 'Success to the Colony'."

And the Colony did flourish, thanks to the hardiness of the First Fleeters. I wonder how many descendants of these intrepid men and women are alive to-day? For truly,

"To live on in the hearts and minds of Descendants is never to die."*

* *This is the motto of the Fellowship of First Fleeters.*



THE ARMS OF THE CITY OF SYDNEY WITH SUPPORTERS.

Granted under Letters Patent, Dated 30th July, 1908.

INTERPRETATION OF THE ARMS OF THE CITY OF SYDNEY

ARMS — A ship, with subdivision of the field into blue and gold, indicative of a shipping port in the Golden South.

The Chief or upper division of the shield reads:

(1) The Arms of Thomas Townshend, Viscount Sydney, Principal Under-Secretary of State in 1788, after whom the City was named, in honour of his position in the English administration at the time of the City's foundation.

(2) The Naval Flag of England, in allusion to the foundation of the City by Captain Phillip, a Naval Captain, Sydney being from the first the naval base of Australia. The cross on this is charged with the Globe and two Stars, the principal features of Captain Cook's Arms, which were granted as posthumous honour for his service in the discovery of Australia, whilst a naval officer in commission.

(3) The Arms of the first Lord Mayor of Sydney, the Hon. Thomas Hughes, M.L.C., a compliment accorded by the Council to the Lord Mayor, during whose first term of office the increased status was granted, and in whose fourth term the Arms were settled.

The Chief is therefore emblematic of Discovery under the British Flag, Colonisation, and Municipal Government.

SUPPORTERS — A savage, or aborigine, the original holders of the country; and a sailor in eighteenth century dress, possession of the site being taken by an armed naval landing party in 1788.

CREST — An anchor — indicative of a Port — ensigned with the golden mural crown, the emblem of a City of the highest rank.

MOTTO — "I take but I surrender." The English naval landing party took possession from the aborigine, and in turn surrendered it to that growing nationality of which the settlement of the City of Sydney was the foundation.

(Coat of Arms and Interpretation reproduced by kind permission of the Council of the City of Sydney.)

"SYDNEY TOWN!"

THE MOTHER CITY OF THE ISLAND CONTINENT

Sydney was named after Thomas Townshend, 1st Viscount Sydney, (1733-1800), who suggested the colonisation of New South Wales and was Colonial Secretary when the territory became a British possession.

The site of the old town was chosen because it was near a limpid water-course, which became known as the Tank Stream.

In July, 1790, Governor Phillip laid down the lines of a regular town, the principal street extending one mile in a westerly direction from the landing place — called Sydney Cove.

The town was divided into five districts, with police and watch-houses for each, the streets being named and organised by regulation. The names of the streets were proclaimed on the 6th October, 1810.

ORIGIN OF STREET NAMES

Argyle Street— named after Governor Macquarie's native county.

Bent Street—to honour Judge Advocate.

Bligh Street—in honour of Governor Bligh.

Bridge Street—to mark the site of a civic utility.

Castlereagh Street—honouring Lord Castlereagh (War Minister).

Clarence Street—Duke of Clarence.

Cumberland Street—Duke of Cumberland.

Elizabeth Street—Mrs. Macquarie, wife of Governor.

George Street—the King.

Gloucester Street—Duke of Gloucester.

Goulburn Street—first Colonial Secretary.

Harrington Street—Governor Macquarie's former Military commander in London.

Hunter Street—Governor Hunter.

Kent Street—Duke of Kent.

King Street—Governor King.

Macquarie Street—Governor Macquarie.

Market Street—site of a civic utility.

O'Connell Street—Lieut. Governor O'Connell.

Park Street — adjacent to public park.

Phillip Street — Governor Phillip.

Pitt Street—William Pitt, British Statesman.

Sussex Street—Duke of Sussex.

York Street — Duke of York.

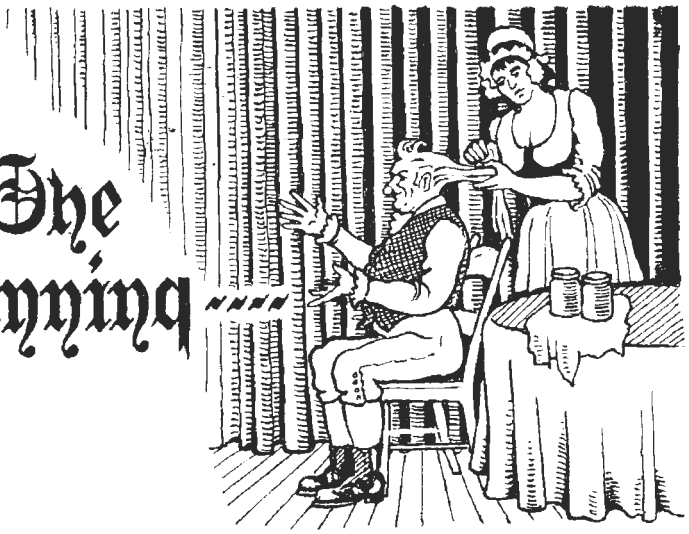
The first public wharf, known as Queen's Wharf, was completed early in 1813.

The foundation stone of the Supreme Court was laid in Sydney on the 4th June, 1819.

The Port of Sydney was declared a free port in 1833.

Sydney was declared a City in August, 1842.

In The Beginning



The first theatrical performance in Australia was a comedy play by Farquhar entitled, "The Recruiting Officer". It was performed in Sydney by convicts, to celebrate the King's birthday on the 4th June, 1789.

The first theatre erected in Sydney (at a cost of 100 pounds) was opened on the 16th January, 1796. The performance was Dr. Young's tragedy, "The Revenge", with "The Hotel" as an "after-piece". The manager's name was Sparrow, the actors being Green, Hawkes, Hughes, Chapman and Mrs. Davis. George Barrington, a notorious pickpocket, was the long reputed but now disputed author of what became a celebrated prologue, read on the rising of the curtain. It ran:

"From distant climes, o'er wide-spread seas we come,
Though not with much eclat, or beat of drum;
True patriots, all, for be it understood,
We left our country for our country's good:
No private views disgrac'd our generous zeal,
What urg'd our travels, was our country's weal;
And none will doubt, but that our emigration,
Has proved most useful to the British nation.
But you inquire, what could our breasts inflame,
With this new passion for theatric fame;
What, in the practice of our former days,
Could shape our talents to exhibit plays?
Your patience, sirs, some observations made,
You'll grant us equal to the scenic trade.
He who to midnight ladders is no stranger,
You'll own will make an admirable Ranger.
To seek, Macheath we have not far to roam,
And sure in Filch I shall be quite at home.
Unrivalled there, none will dispute my claim,
To high pre-eminence and exalted fame.
As oft on Gadshill we have ta'en our stand,
When 'twas so dark you could not see your hand,
Some true-bred Falstaff, we may hope to start,
Who, when well-bolstered, well will play his part.
The scene to vary, we shall try in time
To treat you with a little Pantomime.
Here aght and easy Columbines are found.
And well-tried Harlequins with us abound;
From durance vile our precious selves to keep,
We often had recourse to th' flying leap;
To a black face have sometimes ow'd escape,
And Hounslow Heath has proved the worth of crape.
But how, you ask, can we e'er hope to soar
Above these scenes, and rise to tragic lore?
Too oft, alas! we've forced th' unwilling tear,
And petrified the heart with real fear.
Macbeth a harvest of applause will reap;
For some of us, I fear, have murdered sleep;
His lady too, with grace will sleep and talk,
Our females have been used at night to walk.
Sometimes, indeed, so various is our art,
An actor may improve and mend his part;
'Give me a horse,' bawls Richard, like a drone,
We'll find a man would help himself to one.
Grant us your favour, put us to the test,
To gain your smiles we'll do our very best;
And without dread of future Turnkey Lockits,
Thus, in an honest way, still pick your pockets."

The price of a seat in the gallery — the "most commodious and fashionable part of the house" — was fixed at a shilling's worth of spirits, flour, meat or other articles of general use.

After the theatre had been opened a short time, it became so popular that various de-

Continued on page 32

GREAT EXPECTATIONS AMID OLD FAMILIAR PROBLEMS

By Dr. Harold Bell

THE AUSTRALIAN ECONOMY MOVES INTO 1969 AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF BUOYANT CONDITIONS, GREAT DEVELOPMENT EXPECTATIONS, YET STILL CONFRONTED BY SOME OF THE FUNDAMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES WHICH FACED THE FIRST FLEETERS.

Australia's gross national product in 1967-68 reached $A24,214m. reflecting something like a four per cent increase in real terms compared with the previous year, notwithstanding the serious impact of severe drought conditions.

This buoyancy in the face of adversity is a reflection of the greatly broadened base of activity in the Australian economy, with just over half the workforce engaged in the tertiary or service industries including building construction; 36 per cent involved in manufacturing or secondary industries, and a greatly diminished percentage, around 12 per cent, engaged in the primary industries, farming, mining, forestry and fishing.

This achievement has been aided also by the fact that the continuing prosperity of the Australian economy has enabled the nation as a whole to set aside annual savings facilitating capital investment for future progress to a degree proportionately matched by perhaps only two or three other countries in the world. Such, however, has been the ambitious pace of development we have been setting ourselves that even this impressive domestic savings performance has needed to be supplemented by a strong and continuing capital inflow from overseas. Somewhat surprisingly, this inflow has kept up in spite of restrictions which, for the sake of their own balance of payments situations, the countries constituting our main sources of capital inflow, namely U.K. and U.S.A., have had to impose.

Whilst broadening of our industrial structure has made a powerful contribution to the provision of work opportunities for our quite rapidly expanding population, it is all too easy to underestimate the importance which our traditional export industries, principally the pastoral and agricultural industries, still hold for Australia.

The fact is that roughly 70 per cent of our total export income continues to be earned from the sale of processed and unprocessed primary products. This contribution continues to come particularly from farm products, though it is true that the contribution by minerals and metals is now rising rapidly and there is great prospect of an enlarged contribution in the future.

But since this high living standard economy has embarked upon one of the most exciting development phases in its history we will need as much export income as we can earn from all sources available. We will need such income from the increased export of manufactured products; we will need export income no less from the continued wellbeing (in spite of very many marketing difficulties) of the main range of our rural products. For the expansion of our internal commerce and industry cannot satisfactorily proceed unless our external payments situation is healthy. Nor indeed can our impressive immigration programme, for the simultaneous maintenance of external solvency and internal buoyancy is dependent upon our patently paying our way internationally.

As we look out on the great opportunities opening up before us, it is interesting to reflect that though the atmosphere may be different, and though the trimmings are different, some of the basic problems which those who came out with the First Fleet encountered are still in a sense the frontier problems confronting us in 1969.

Below some of Sydney's newest and tallest buildings the Tank Stream still flows, but water remains for Australia one of the great limiting factors in development, limiting not only the development of the interior but as we have seen in recent years often causing dislocation in our great metropolitan concentrations.

The alternation of floods and droughts which, with other hazards, plagued the lives of the early settlers along the Hawkesbury is still a familiar pattern through much of our land, calling for greater efforts in harnessing new technical and management knowledge to the problems of flood mitigation, food and fodder conservation, bush fire control and the like.

Difficulties of transport also loomed high among the problems of the early settlers and though we are far removed from the bullock cart era and the coaching days of Cobb and Co. there remain for us at a national level immense transport problems including those of metropolitan congestion, the provision of ports and harbours for our new development projects, the opening up of beef roads, the organisation of our overseas shipping and related problems.

Then, too, although air transport and modern communication media have removed the geographical isolation that faced the early settlers, our geographical isolation now confronts us with new problems of determining our role in the Asian and Pacific Basin region, and realigning our strategy as Britain prepares to withdraw from "East of Suez".

One could readily extend the analogies which clearly show that though we in Australia have been blessed with an environment which has permitted us to attain one of the highest living standards in the world in a very short space of national existence, yet it is an environment which mixes its bounties with disappointments and challenges. Thus we need to keep alive the spirit of men like Evans and Oxley who pushed on beyond the mountain barriers to the plains and opportunities on the other side. For us, now, as it was then, the greater the challenge the greater the opportunity.

WORDS OUR EARLY AUSTRALIANS USED

CURRENCY LADS AND LASSES: Those born in the Colony, to distinguish them from the immigrant portion of the populace. In his book, "Two Years in New South Wales" (1827), P. Cunningham states:

"Our colonial-born brethren are best known here by the name of Currency in contradistinction to Sterling, or those born in the mother-country. The name was originally given by a facetious paymaster of the 73rd Regiment quartered here — the pound currency being at the time inferior to the pound sterling."

WARRIGAL: An aboriginal word, originally meaning a dog. It was afterwards extended as an adjective to mean **wild;** then used for a **wild horse, wild native** and in bush-slang for a **worthless man.**

In 1793, in his "Port Jackson", Governor Hunter wrote: "Warregal — a large dog."

G. C. Mundy, in his book, "Our Antipodes" (1855), had this to say:

"I have heard that the dingo, warregal or native dog, does not hunt in packs like the wolf and jackal."

BILLY: The most commonly accepted derivation is that billy is shortened from **billycan,** which, in turn, came from bully-can (or the French word bouilli). In the country's early days, "bœuf bouilli" was a common label on tins of preserved meat in ships' stores. These tins, called "bully-tins", were used by diggers just as is the modern billy.

Other suggested, but less convincing, derivations are:

(1) An abbreviation for William;

(2) The aboriginal word **billa,** meaning river or water.

HUMPY: Derived from a Queensland aboriginal name for hut. The original word was **Oompi;** the initial **h** is a Cockney addition.

The old convict settlement in Moreton Bay was called Humpy Bong — meaning a dead or deserted living place (the bong reference coming from the aboriginal word **bung,** meaning dead).

Incidentally, the words for a hut in States other than Queensland were:

N.S.W.: Gunyah or goondie.

Victoria and W.A.: Mia-mia.

South Australia: Wurley or oorla.

AUSTRALIAN FLAG: A hot climate and country work produced a fashion among bushmen of wearing a belt or leather strap around the top of their trousers, instead of braces. This often caused a fold in the shirt to protrude from under the waistcoat, which became known as "the Australian flag".

(Additional words our early Australians used will appear in future issues of the Journal.)

CONSERVATION AND CULTURE

By J. Gordon McKern

"ANY CULTURE WORTHY OF THE NAME MUST HAVE ITS ROOTS IN THE SOIL OF THE COUNTRY, THAT IS, THAT BEFORE A PEOPLE CAN ACHIEVE A CULTURE THEY MUST BE IN HARMONY WITH THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, MUST UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE IT, KNOW ALL ITS FAULTS AND STILL LIKE IT BETTER THAN ANY OTHER."
PROF. J. R. ELLIOT,
ABC Weekly — February 19th, 1955.

WHY CONSERVATION?

If we accept the phrase "soil of the country" to mean all of the natural resources of the country whether in the air above, the rocks beneath, or its inland and coastal waters, then the quotation can be aptly applied to the thinking of the complete conservationist.

The most concise definition of conservation of which I am aware is that of Professor R. S. Turner of Melbourne. He defines it as being "the wisest possible use, over a long term, of all our natural resources, applied for the benefit of man". To many, conservation means the storing of water, to others, the safeguarding and restoration of soil. But as a manifesto of the Australian Conservation Foundation affirms:

"Conservation means the planned use and best use of different environments, so that everyone can continue to receive their needs of food and fibre, yet retain places for scenic and aesthetic satisfaction."

We are all apt to forget that all we have today — our food, housing, clothing and medicines, all things that might be termed the fringe benefits of modern life, have been provided by the primeval world which we inherited. Yes, it is true that, by the simple researches of the early farmers and artisans together with the later more sophisticated ones of scientists and technologists, we have been lifted from food gathering and cave dwelling to the enjoyment of modern needs and luxuries. But because of ignorance and wanton misuse of "land" we have wasted and in some cases irreparably destroyed natural resources. Because of this lack of harmony with and misunderstanding of our environment, wastage and destruction is still going on. THE NEED FOR AN ALL EMBRACING CONSERVATION POLICY IS VITAL TO THE FUTURE OF MAN.

CONSERVATION A SPIRITUAL AND MATERIAL NEED

Of the irreplaceable resources the one that can be least spared is that which remains of our primeval earth itself. Inevitably to provide for the needs of a growing population, natural areas had to make way for agriculture, for industry, for housing and active recreation. But just as surely the unwise, and unplanned misuse of much land has led to great losses of irreplaceable soil and timber, of impairment of water catchments, of extinction of species of native flora and fauna. The deplorable granting of the right to exploit such places of beauty and wonder as the Colong Caves and so much of our beaches and dune hinterland for immediate material gain to a few people strike irreversible blows to the spiritual needs of man of this and succeeding generations. E. M. Nicholson, of the Nature Conservancy of Britain, has truly said: "It is indeed impious by any standard to desecrate and destroy these inherited possessions of us all, which have power to exalt the mind of the human beholder."

GOVERNMENT CONSERVATION MEASURES IN N.S.W.

The people of the first fleet and of succeeding generations had little thought for conservation. Yet good observers such as Tench and Surgeon-General White admired the natural history of our land. But simple survival had to come first and there was little understanding of and harmony with the environment. Indeed it was not until well into this century that serious conservation measures were taken in N.S.W. For example, the Forestry Commission was not established till 1916, the Water Conservation & Irrigation Commission in 1912 — during the construction of Burrenjuck Dam, and the Soil Conservation Service had its birth in 1938.

These three activities were brought under one Ministerial head as the Department of Conservation in 1944. There is no doubt that much excellent work is now being carried out

in conserving our precious soil, in waterworks that have enormously increased food production from former marginal lands and have mitigated floods, and in regulating the depletion of native timber and planting quick growing softwood forests.

Similarly, the first practical piece of legislation to conserve native fauna and establish nature reserves was the Fauna Protection Act in 1948. Indeed, the first "protective" Act in 1879 should have been termed "An Act to Provide Targets for Hunters" rather than The Animals Protection Act. The conservation of national parks and historic monuments, and of wildlife is now entrusted to a National Parks & Wildlife Service set up under the National Parks & Wildlife Act 1967. This Service is controlled by a Director appointed by the Governor and responsible directly to the Minister. It is generally agreed by conservationists that this association of wildlife and national park management is a forward step, but it cannot be too strongly stressed that any piece of legislation is only as good as the quality of its administration.

THE CONSERVATION MOVEMENT

Government attitudes in any democracy are in the end determined by the public voice and vote. It has been the voice of the people, growing slowly in volume from the urging of David Stead and a few associates at the turn of the century that has led to the enactment of the Fauna Protection Act 1948 and the National Parks & Wildlife Act of 1967. It is just as true that only eternal vigilance, strong representation and even public clamour at times can secure the quality of administration nature conservation demands.

Today there are 50 societies state-wide and local, specialised or of wide policies, affiliated with the Nature Conservation Council of N.S.W. Increasing space in newspapers has indicated a growing recognition of the need for a proper system of parks and reserves. The Government, too, recognises that conservationists having the requisite knowledge and experience can assist in the work of the National Parks & Wildlife Service by providing in the Act that at least four members of the Advisory Council set up to assist the Director "possess special fitness, by reason of their works or interests, to undertake wildlife conservation".

NATURE RESERVES ESSENTIAL

National Parks and Recreation Reserves are not of themselves sufficient. They are established for outdoor recreation, the enjoyment of areas of scenic beauty. Heavy usage by visitors, developments such as roads and amenities to attract them inevitably lead to loss of natural values. This is not to decry national parks as a resource of immense social value.

Nature Reserves are something apart. They are established for the purpose of conserving samples of all types of environment, not necessarily having tourist value, for the purpose of education, scientific usage by biologists, hydrologists and others, for the saving of all species of life. The retention of natural areas has direct value also. Our upland bogs and forested areas are regulators of run-off of rainfall, they thus mitigate flooding, losses of soil and therefore siltation of rivers and estuaries. Our forests are directly productive of honey as well as of timber and wood products. Our native flora contains valuable oils and drugs of commercial value. Scientists agree that the potential values in plant life are of immense importance. We tend to forget that possibly the bulk of our life saving and pain-alleviating drugs are derived from native species throughout the world — morphine, quinine, digitalis, anti-biotics to mention a few. One authority has said "to make a clinical breakthrough 20 years from now only to find that the world's sole supply of the necessary plant has since been destroyed would be a tragedy." Not one species of plant or animal down to the lowest insect and bacteria must be lost, for all life within any environment is interdependent; each species is linked to all others, in food chains, as shelters or supports, as regulating elements in climate.

CONSERVATION IS THE CONCERN OF ALL

Our lives and our culture, aided by the growing knowledge and skills of man, derive from the world of nature. Surely it is a duty none of us can shrug off — to live our lives in some degree for the betterment of posterity.

This is the message of conservation — to order our lives, to work, to raise our voices, so that this planet may not be plundered but enriched. Let us work for the conservation of wisely selected, well-managed natural environments so that future genera-

Continued from page 27

tions may have their spirits uplifted by the magic and beauty of nature, and their bodies comforted by more and better food, fibre and drugs. Let us work to stop the wasteful despoliation of resources for immediate gain — let us wage war on those who litter, who pollute or in any way damage our provider — the earth.

Only by so doing can **we** claim to be a cultured people — people who live "in harmony with their environment". Conservation cannot be left to Governments — it must be in the hearts of the people. In the words of the Fellowship of First Fleeters' motto:

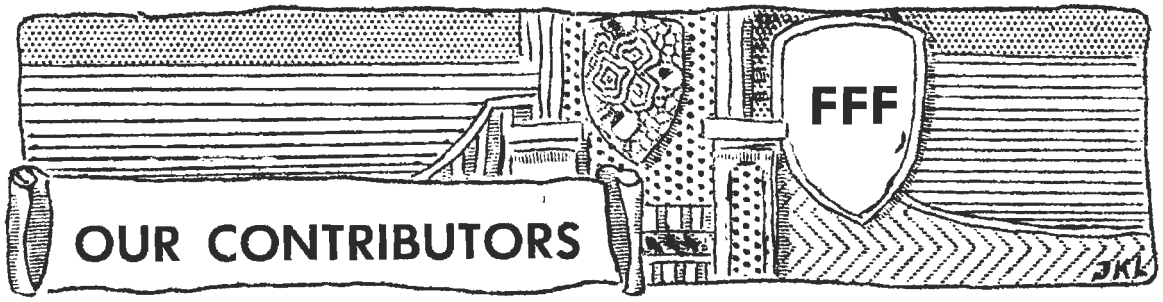
"TO LIVE ON IN THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF DESCENDANTS IS NEVER TO DIE."

vices were practised to obtain the means of admission. One bright fellow conceived the idea of killing a greyhound belonging to an officer, skinning it and "palming off" its joints as kangaroo flesh — at the rate of ninepence per pound! Crime increased to such an extent, the Governor issued an order (in 1798) to level the place to the ground!

The debtor's room in the Sydney Gaol was used as a theatre in 1826

In 1833, Mr. Barnett Levy — owner of the Royal Hotel — built the "Theatre Royal", following performances given in the saloon of his hotel which had been specially fitted up as a theatre.

In March, 1838, the Victoria Theatre was opened in Sydney, with Mr. Arabin acting the part of Othello and Mr. Spencer, Iago.



We are deeply indebted to the following Companies and fellow-Australians for making the publication of this Journal possible and for their encouraging interest in our National efforts:—

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CONTRIBUTIONS (Articles and drawings):
To these good people we extend a very sincere THANK YOU.

Isadore Brodsky: Sydney born medical practitioner and author-publisher. His books include "Sydney Looks Back" "The Streets of Sydney", "Heart of The Rocks of Old Sydney", "Sydney's Little World of Woolloomooloo", "Sydney's Nurse Crusaders"; while for many years he wrote feature articles on Old Sydney for The Sun newspaper.
Dr. Brodsky is a member of the staff of the University of New South Wales.

Arthur S. Mendel: whose excellent drawings are to be seen on the front cover, and other pages of this Journal, has contributed many works of art to organisations in New South Wales.
A retired Building constructions executive, Mr. Mendel taught "Building Construction" for a period at the Kogarah Technical College.

Albert N. Clarke: born in England, arrived in Australia in 1914. His drawings of "Old Sydney" were first published in "The Sydney Morning Herald" and, later, in book form, under the title of "Pen Points of Old Sydney" (published in 1951).
In 1968, Mr. Clarke compiled "Historic Sydney and N.S.W." (published by The Central Press Pty. Ltd.).
Drawn specially for "First Fleeters", Mr. Clarke's drawing on page 15 is of particular import to the Fellowship of First Fleeters.

T. Lawrence Wright: the author of "The First Foot-print!" (page 5) prefers to use the word: "Technologist" when referring to his avocation, considering that this term fits him better than other qualifications may suggest.
His final nine years of active work occurred within the Faculty of Architecture, University of New South Wales, where he was the Studio Officer.
Mr. Wright is an international figure in the fields of civil and military inventions.

Frank Clune: Author and Broadcaster. As a popular writer on "Early Australia" and Travel Topics, Mr. Clune has few peers. The dozens of books written by him cover a wide variety of interests, including: Autobiography History, Adventure Stories, Biography, Exploration, Historical Novels and Travel.
One book, pertinent to his article in this Journal (page 22) is "The Norfolk Island Story", which sets out how the "Paradise of the Pacific" was transformed into a hell and then again into a Paradise.

Harold Bell, B.A., M.Com.(Melb.), Ph.D.(Lond.), A.A.S.A., F.A.I.I., is Economic Advisor to the Australian Mutual Provident Society.
Dr. Bell also holds many other important business appointments which include being a member of the Development Corporation of N.S.W., a Member of the Universities Board in N.S.W., and Vice-Chairman of the Commission on International Monetary Relations of the International Chamber of Commerce.
He is past-President of the N.S.W. Branch of the Economic Society of Australia and New Zealand and is currently Hon. Secretary of the Central Council of the same body.

C. Manning H. Clark: Professor of History, Australian National University, Canberra (since 1949).
Professor Clark has taught at the Geelong Grammar School, been a lecturer in political science and history at the University of Melbourne and, in 1963-64 lectured at the Duke University, U.S.A.
Among his many publications are: "Select Documents in Australian History, 1788-1850"; "Settlers & Convicts"; "Select Documents in Australian History, 1851-1900"; "Sources of Australian History" and "A Short History of Australia".
He is a descendant of the Rev. Samuel Marsden, who arrived in Sydney in 1794.

J. Gordon McKern: educated at Newington College, and Sydney University. Mr. McKern graduated B.E.(Mining). He held appointments in N.S.W. and Western Australia and in Ore Extraction, Metallurgy and Geological Surveys, subsequently becoming Technical Officer with the Vacuum Oil Company.
For some years past, Mr. McKern has devoted himself to nature conservations. Positions held by him include: Chairman of Nature Conservation Council of N.S.W. (1961-1966), President of the Wild Life Preservation Society for three years and Vice-President for four years of the National Parks Association of N.S.W.
Contributions by him include one on Conservation for publication in the Royal Society of N.S.W.'s book, "A Century of Scientific Progress".

Fellowship of First Fleeters

Aims, Objects and Office Bearers:

OBJECTS:

(a) to honour and be loyal to our Country — Australia.
(b) To disseminate a deeper knowledge and create a greater awareness of the part played by those Pioneers who arrived in Sydney, N.S.W., with the First Fleet on the 26th January, 1788.
(c) To ensure that the Country's National Day (Australia Day — 26th of January each year) is celebrated in a manner and on a scale befitting the important event.
(d) To encourage an Australian patriotism and to strengthen the bonds of loyalty by all people living in Australia, irrespective of their birthplace or origin, creed or party.
(e) To maintain Australian traditions and ways of life and to defend our National interests.
(f) To welcome and extend hospitality to migrants and visitors from overseas.
(g) To foster a love of Australia and of Australian Literature, History, Drama, Art and Music.
(h) To do any or all of those things, conformable to law, which are in the opinion of the Fellowship considered beneficial to the Nation and its future development and well-being.
(i) To encourage and assist the younger generation in Australia to play a worthy part in maintaining and fostering the above-mentioned objects.

MEMBERSHIP:

The Fellowship consists of —

- Members — with proof of their ancestors having arrived in Sydney with the First Fleet on the 26th January, 1788, and who have attained the age of 18 years.
- Associate Members — possessing the proof mentioned above and who are under the age of 18 years. Associate Members automatically become ordinary Members when they attain the age of 18.
- Life Members — Life Membership may be conferred by the Fellowship (in General Meeting) on any Member who has, in the opinion of the Fellowship, rendered signal service to the Nation or the Fellowship.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS is non-political, non-sectarian and non-profit-making. The Badge of the Fellowship is a map of Australia (in blue) with F.F.F. imposed thereon in gold letters. Its motto is:

"To live on in the hearts and minds of descendants is never to die!"

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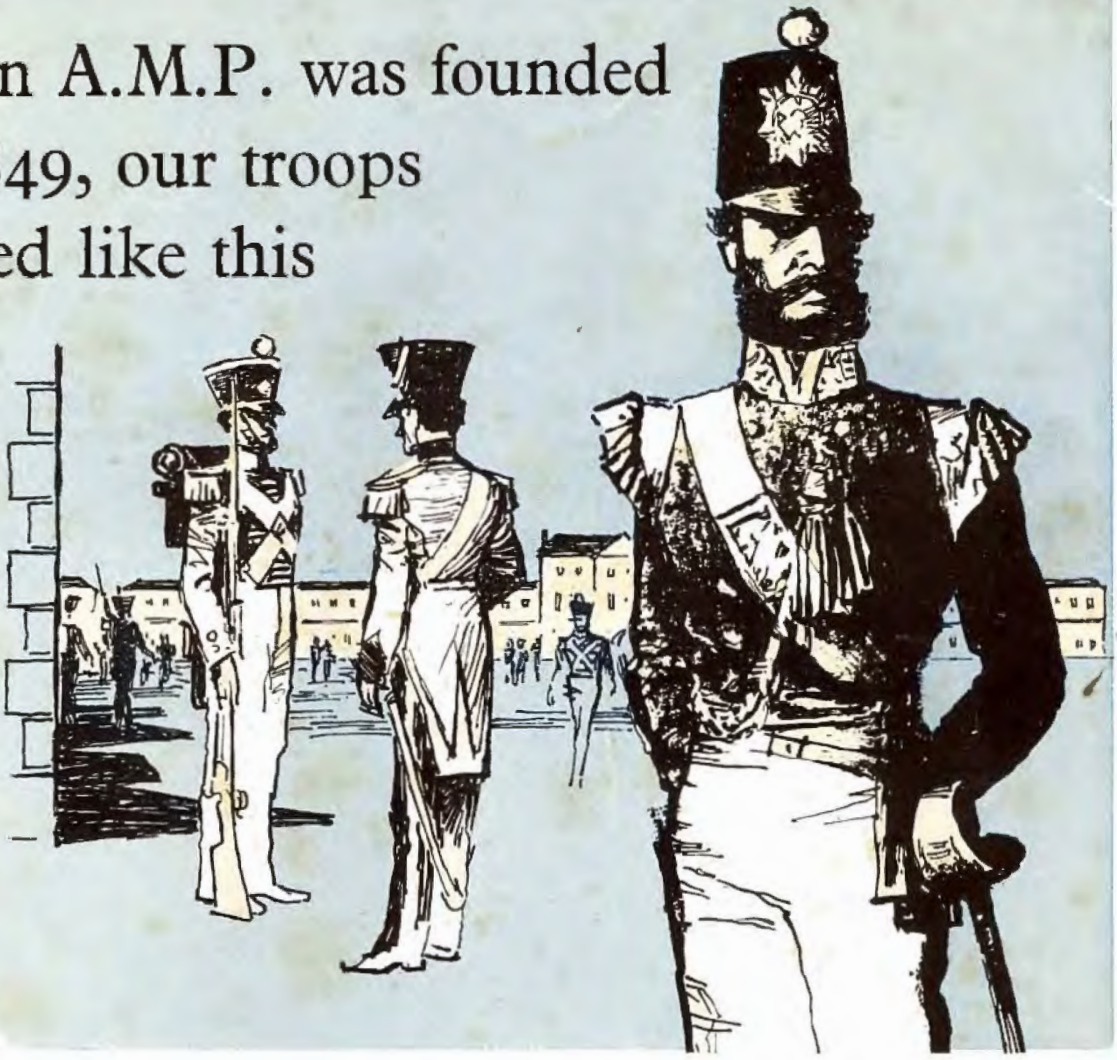

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