

AUSTRALIAN JOURNEY

# Weekly Editor Returns After "Waltzin' Matilda"

The final of four articles by John Freeman, weekly editor, who recently completed a 20,000 mile trip with Canadian Pacific Airlines as CWNA editorial representative.

"If you have some bird lime on your German Bands, take a General Eisenhower and meet me at snakes alive."

No — I'm not crazy. The foregoing is just a sample of Australian slang and translated means "if you have some time on your hands take a shower and meet me at five."

Taking liberties with the English language was only a sideline with Jim Betts, a lad I met in Melbourne who was to me the genuine, modern "dinkum" Aussie. Hard-working, successful in business, married with two children, Jim could tell a story, boast of Australia's great strides since the last war, and discuss the merits of otherwise of the two cars he owned — a 1948 Buick convertible (which he drives as though it were a jet bomber) and an English MG.

At about this time my action in bringing skis all the way from Canada caught up with me, and one Saturday morning I found myself skiing, about 6,000 feet up, on the heights of the Australian Alps, operating from a private lodge owned by Hietts and named "Gray Rocks."

For the enthusiast, good skiing is available in Australia; and being harder to get at than in Canada, the average of skiing is very high. Public lodges will accommodate visitors for around \$12 a weekend and a Canadian has no trouble in borrowing a pair of "boards."

What of Australian Art and Culture? Sydney has one of the six finest symphony orchestras in the world; the theatre is enjoying a renaissance; and the most talked of discovery of painting is the water-color work of aboriginal artist Albert Namatjira, whose interpretation of the Australian landscape is as typically Australian as the boomerang.

As gifts for friends at home I bought what are considered to be three Australian classics in literature — Marcus Clarke's "For the term of His Natural Life" a dramatic and harrowing account of the convict system; Hoffe-Boldrewood's "Robbery Under Arms" (an exciting account of bushranging in New South Wales); and the contemporary "Fortunes of Richard Mahony" by Henrietta Richardson.

### Holy Snakes!

For local colour, a visiting Canadian will learn more from Bill Beatty's collection of legends, "Come A Waltzin' Matilda," in one hour's reading than he will discover for himself during his whole visit. The edition contains a rib-tickling collection of folklore, historical notes and incidents of the early days of the country.

The story of Sir Henry Brown Hayes and Vaucluse House is a typical gem. "Originally sent to the convict colony from the Emerald Isle for abducting an heiress (without her permission), Sir Henry served his sentence and upon release built a beautiful home near Sydney which he named Vaucluse House."

"Only there was one trouble, the property was overrun with snakes."

"With St. Patrick's successful campaign in mind, Sir Henry imported five hundred barrels of Irish soil and with a gang of convict labourers, Irish every one, had dug a trench six feet down by two feet wide."

March 17th was chosen as an appropriate day to fill the trench with the good Irish earth and according to the story, curiously enough, Sir Henry was never troubled again.

The same house now belongs to the State of New South Wales and is a "must" for all visitors to Sydney.

### Sydney's Youthful Mayor

Included in my Sydney stay was an hour's visit with the Lord Mayor of that city — youthful Pat Hills, whose appearance is that of a young business executive rather than the popular conception of a Lord Mayor.

With my return to harness as a weekly editor in mind I asked his worship for something to take back in the nature of a greeting to our own Mayor Olive Urquhart of Pointe Claire, Quebec.

My reportorial feeling was rewarded by my being entrusted for delivery to Her Worship with a pictorial volume on Sydney entitled: "Sydney, The Soul of a City." I was able also to scrounge a two column glossy print of Mayor Hills in full ceremonial robes.

For all his youthful appearance, mayor Hills is a go-getter for his city. I saw a scale model of a new 500-car underground parking lot, on which work has started, and which included a 600 foot double lane MOVING walkway through the city gardens to the downtown shopping area!

The mayor is also an amateur photographer and I enjoyed his coloured movies on the inaugural flight of SPA's new over the pole service to Amsterdam, on which he represented his city, the southern terminal of the service.

However, fluoridation, to halt tooth decay, now being somewhat timidly accepted by Canadians, was a complete mystery to him.

### Aussie Weekly Editors

There are over 400 weekly newspapers in Australia and their editors do some grass roots jobs as their most important ones do here.

The Town's Council as line operators, had debts. One

of their first loves is the old reliable Wharfedale flatbed press, on which many of the country's weeklies are printed.

They receive recognition for the job they do for their communities, seldom get rich, yet always have the esteem and respect of their fellow townspeople as compensation.

### Goodbye Sydney!

I departed from Sydney on a Wednesday for the return flight via CPA's tures were not over.

We set down at dawn on Fiji and after a shower and breakfast of paw paw and fried eggs took off for Hawaii where we arrived according to schedule, only three hours after leaving Sydney! Of course, the joker in this deck is the International Date Line east of Fiji — for us that week contained eight days including two Wednesdays!

On arrival at Honolulu we were driven to the Royal Hawaiian for another night and day stopover, courtesy of the airlines. This must be, without doubt, the most popular stopover in the world.

### O'er The Fall

"King Kamahamoku, the conqueror of the Islands, became a famous hero one day."

I never did know what the song was all about until on my return my memory was jogged by a later line.

"And throw them o'er the Fall!" The Fall is a fearsome height on Oahu Island, which I visited, and over which the famous warrior threw back the remnants of an invading army. The height, combined with terrific winds roaring up from the Pacific, present an awe-inspiring picture and makes one feel very sorry indeed for the soldiers of that trapped army of long ago.

### Alcohol

As CPA superintendent for South Pacific, W. "Babe" Woollet, who was prominent in Canadian Pacific's training of navigators for the air force during the war, is on hand whenever possible to welcome arriving and bid "Aloha" to departing flights.

Nowhere else in the world does a departing tourist get the send-off he is given on leaving Honolulu airport.

Beautiful scented leis accompanied by "busses" are standard procedure and I made a mental note that the Islanders' habit of presenting flowers while you are in this world seems a far more practical one than waiting until you're in the next!

Even the bus driver gets into the act. A big Hawaiian with a fine voice, he sang the beautiful "Aloha" on the way to the airport.

You could have counted the dry eyes, as we embarked, on the thumbs of your two hands.

### Hello Vancouver

We arrived next morning at Sea Island airport, with all passengers giving way for our senior air traveller, Mrs. Ethel Wilson. Eighty-four years of age, she had accompanied us all the way from Sydney, and thought the trip was "just marvelous."

Before writing "thirty" to this story, I must mention one thing more. No Canadian making such a trip,

### Pat Carney Showed Norval, City Friends

Mrs. A. E. Carney entertained at a trousseau tea on October 1st for her daughter Patricia, before her marriage to Carl Schenk on Sunday, October 15th in St. Paul's Church, Norval. Mrs. M. F. Staines, Agincourt, a friend of the family and Mrs. John Heppburn, aunt of the groom, poured tea. There were also several showers and presentations.

Beverly Hyde and Sue Crabtree were hostesses at a miscellaneous shower at the home of Mrs. Wm. Hyde, Queen Street.

Mrs. M. Laird was hostess when the Norval United Church ladies entertained and presented her with many gifts and presentation.

Mrs. James Carney, aunt of the bride gave a buffet supper with a shower of cups and saucers.

The staff in the bride's department at the Toronto Simpson-Sears store had a presentation and shower for her.

—As of March, 1954 an estimated 67,500 full-time students were enrolled in universities and colleges in Canada.

weekly editor or not, will ever regret it.

He will make friends, good friends, in the fascinating land "Down Under" and will return with a clearer idea of Australia and a greater appreciation of its wonderful and hospitable people.

Australia — faithful ally in wartime, whose citizens have the enviable reputation of being the staunchest friends a man could have. What could be finer than that?

**CREDIT VALLEY**

SAND ASPHALT PAVING CO. FILL

**GEORGE TOWN**

DRIVEWAYS MOTELS  
TENNIS COURTS SERVICE STATIONS  
PARKING LOTS ROAD WORK

*Let us beautify your home with an ASPHALT DRIVE*

for free estimates . . . Triangle 7-3751

owned and operated by J. W. LAWR

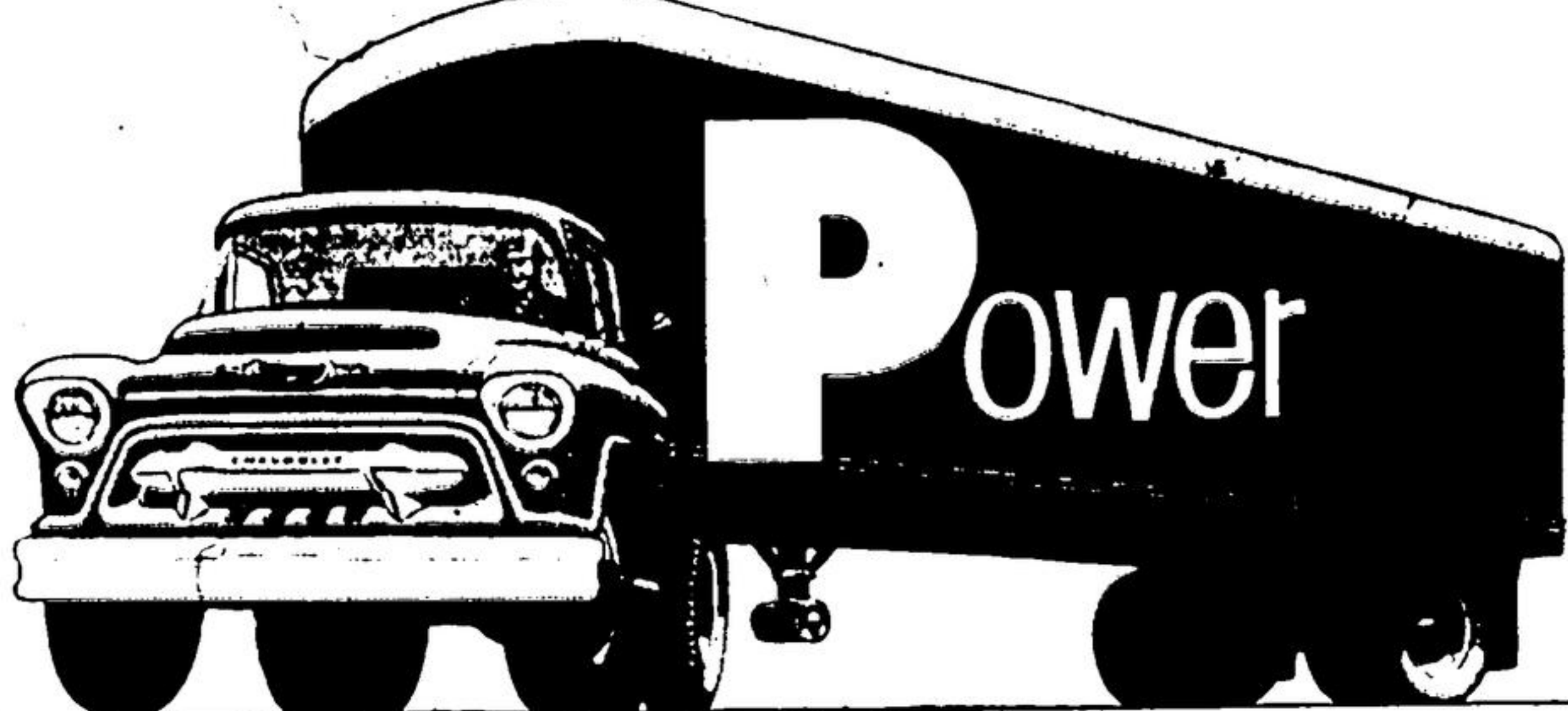
**Plumbing**

NEW BATHROOMS INSTALLED OR REMODELLED

Water Systems Repairs of All Kinds

KEN CHARLIE  
**NASH & McDOWELL**

5 KING STREET EAST Triangle 7-2842



**CHOICE OF V8 OR 6**  
With your new Chevrolet truck you can choose a short stroke V8 or the famous 6 cylinder engine to do your hauling job better with more power and economy.

**LONG WEARING PISTONS**  
New alloy pistons and ring design, plus Pressure Lubrication, add new life to pistons — in both the famous 6 and the new short stroke V8's.

**COMPRESSION RATIO**  
New highs in compression ratio give more instant response to power demands and squeeze far more power from every drop of fuel.

**AXLES AND TRANSMISSIONS**  
Chevrolet's power carrying units can be tailored to your individual needs. In the rough, or on the road, there's a choice of transmissions, drive lines and axles for you.



**12-VOLT SYSTEM**  
Chevrolet's new 12-volt ignition system ensures faster starts, even during the coldest weather. Its hotter spark means more thorough combustion for greater economy, too.

**STRONGER FRAMES**  
With Chevrolet, you get the added strength and full length support of new parallel-design frames, ensuring greater alignment strength.

**TUBELESS TIRES**  
Greater traction, quieter running and increased protection from blowouts — these are just three of many reasons for the superiority of tubeless tires on the light duty models.

**SMALL TURNING RADII**  
Now you can make tighter turning circles, get into smaller spaces with Chevrolet's smaller turning radius.



**POSITIVE STEERING**  
Recirculating Ball Steering has been improved to give even greater ease. Power steering is available at extra cost on the heavy duty models.

**IMPROVED VISIBILITY**  
Now you can see all round — with Chevrolet's wrap around windows front and rear (rear wrap around is optional at extra cost).

**AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSIONS**  
These great transmissions make driving easier, automatically. They cut delivery times — and reduce wear and tear on the truck by always being geared right for the load and the road.

**NEW DRIVE LINES**  
New Hotchkiss drive lines, now on all models, absorb drive and braking shock, and promote longer truck life.

A GENERAL MOTORS VALUE

**CHEVROLET**  
Task-Force  
**TRUCKS**



# ARTHUR SCOTT MOTORS LIMITED

Queen and Guelph Streets