

13th Sept.

One morning last week my early morning

Bell was announced by a beautiful young girl whose name I learned later. She was just finishing night duty. When I asked about her homeland, she asked me to guess and my first choice was correct — Tanga! How did I know?

I explained that my Father had been a Methodist clergyman & many Methodist missionaries had served in Tanga. In my student days a Tanganyan class had come to Sydney. At the time when that present day was about 60-7. Later he'd been a student at Wesley College when my brothers were in residence. I was a great admirer of Queen Salote, perhaps she described as their pride & joy I think. She then told me that her father was at present a clergyman with the Uniting Church in Thurru Thurru in the Quinter River Valley.

That brought a cascade of memories of the days when Aes was stationed at Weston, during the Depression. I was already to enrol at University and had invited to live with my (Auntie Jenny) Jane Betts & her husband Sam who lived at Eastward. I only visited

Weston on ~~vacation~~ ^{vacation}. That whole area was a revelation

as an ethnic study. Committees of miners had migrated from different areas in UK and had held together. Speeches was predominantly Scottish, Welsh

measures from appearing in
together. Deenock was predominantly Scottish, Heath
O'Allerman Australian, Weston English north of the River
Tyne - James from Seth - after George Stephenson
inventor of the locomotive? James Watt inventor
of the steam engine. Being depression time conditions
were grim. What the editors called strikes, the
miners referred to as lockouts.
In those days our lanes were outdoor

By the Methodist Conference which met in March. It
was changed to Leeds, we were always a few weeks
late for enrollment. My father had been brought up on
a property and could talk to politicians in their own
language but in an industrial context he was out of his
comfort and was impatient with their demands.

Neither Peter Circuit was not affluent enough
to afford a car. He was a competent horseman but had to
travel on a bicycle to undertake any practical work.
At that time he gave up a life's habit of wearing a
hat, because he couldn't raise his hat & manipulate
the tube.

Weston was a rather dreary town
built on a grid with streets called by number. The
large pine trees in the parsonage grounds

the lake.

Western was a rather dreary town

built on a grid with streets called by number. The large pine tree was in the passage of grounds, any others that I can remember were at the cemetery. The great redemptive circumstance was the excellence of choir singing and the many male-voice choirs in the district which competed in "Sustained" One choir master who daughter was well-known later, was almost elected in his enthusiasm.

Once over a Christmas visit, I was invited to join a group singing Xmas Carols. We set out on foot from the church at midnight & returned home facing the dawn.

I took time to adjust to specific returns of speech. Hearing the announcements read in church, I improved my of the meeting to be held on "Friday's" - the first Friday, in fact next Friday. A boys pullover was a 'joke'. The women-folk teamed together to make ribbed caps of old washed discs & designing a pattern & hand-knitting caps. Mother had one on the kitchen

floor for years. One young woman for her trousers
knights yards of yards of cotton cake in pink & grey to
make a pair of their best trousers with a touch of green

...one young woman per ...
length yards of yards of cotton coffee in pink & grey to
make a very full their bedroom with its chosen colors
scheme.

My two sisters attended primary school
and later proceeded to High School at Cessnock. My
two brothers were pupils at Maitland High, a
school with a proud tradition. It involved leaving
home by train shortly after 7 a.m. and not returning
till about 5. They both matriculated and were included
in Rugby Union & Swimming. Once when Lloyd's hus-
wife were becoming on the road line, the math's teacher
shared the odd make, as they both passed.

The transfer had a history of flooding
when certain areas could be cut off but that never
happened during our term.

While they were living here mother must
have had a head to end, though she emphasized with
the women folk and from the experience of her own
parents who had migrated from Cornwall as young
people.

She of course in those days cooked on
a coal-fueled stove which regularly had to be
de-sooted with scrapers, brushes & brushes. On Saturday she
rose early & had a scarf over her hair & up to her
elbows in soles & soot. A ring of the front door shell

we were in a room with a door to the
 see early & had a scarf over her hair & up to her
 shown in a blue coat. A ring of the front door fell
 opened her and on opening the door was confronted
 by a young couple in bridal array. The minister had
 a few days but could marry them at
 the parsonage at 7 o'clock. First the minister had
 who afterwards had the house was in confusion because
 a big rainstorm during the night had necessitated

bringing the sets of the four children made from
 the veranda where they slept. Eventually, after an
 awkward delay, the ceremony went ahead, though he
 probably never saw them again.

Another night after church, when bedtime
 came Floyd reported that he had not been in his
 corner. Always a joker, the fact of that night's report
 "The more they looked - the more it wasn't there. There
 was an area of scrub across Government Rd from
 the Parsonage. The police thought someone had come
 while the family was attending evening services

but and had a fairly firm idea who the culprit
 probably were. They visited the suspect's house but
 without taking a clear warrant. Sheets, bedding
 & blankets had gone!
 might assume & meetings were rather

... they visited the subjects' house but
without taking a search warrant. Sheets, bedding
& blankets had gone.

Night searches & meetings were rather
a trial, especially in the winter when the low-lying
nature of the terrain resulted in fog at night.
Since arriving the Government ^{the} epidemic in 1920
AED had been subject to sporadic & other chest ill-
i developed children on his ears. Ned ~~goes~~ ^{travels} by bus
to a meeting home again. One night he wanted to
the bus muffled up in carpet, all that I can say under
his had a ~~carpet~~ ^{carpet} the damp air. The bus pulled
up some distance along the road. He remembered
reading a news item about the recent hold-up of a
bus, somewhere in the area. He had the presence of mind
to remove his scarf to reveal his everted collar.
When he mounted the bus he found the occupants
all of a quake.

Our telephone number was rather
like that for the Barclay toy. One Sunday evening a caller
asked "Is Father Home?" Brother's reply "No, but Mum is."

