

COUNTRY NEWS

EMU PARK

Messrs T. and M. Garvey, and Drent observed what is believed to be a flying saucer in the sky at Emu Park at 6.55 p.m. on September 1. It came from the south to the north and appeared to be a little smaller than a full moon with a short tail. It was about the power of gaslight, with a bluish halo. Several other inhabitants also saw it. It lasted about 10 seconds, travelling about five times as fast as a plane.

On Wednesday night, September 3, the passenger train broke down on the bridge between Tanby and Kinka, and after trying to fix the engine for a couple of hours it was decided to call the regular Park running staff out with their engine to drag the train to the station. When it was ascertained that it would be approximately 10 p.m. when the train reached its destination, several agile passengers decided to walk home, arriving footsore, weary and hungry. Some were fortunate in getting lifts by car. Wednesday appears to be the day when the train is delayed on this line, to the discomfort of those passengers on the line who came down to shop and return on the goods train. Two passengers were on their final stage of the journey from Melbourne.

Mrs Beyers, Lucas Street, Rockhampton, who has been the guest of her friend, Mrs Franks, Phillip Street, for the past month, has returned home. Miss B. Walsh is the guest of Mr and Mrs T. Griffiths for a few days. Mr and Mrs G. Rutherford and infant daughter motored from Redbank to spend a fortnight

from Redbank to spend a fortnight at their seaside home. Mrs D. Henderson, Ian and Gregory, of Normanville, are their house guests. Mrs Stickley, North Rockhampton, is in residence at her Phillip Street house. Mrs Reuter is her guest for a fortnight. Mrs Tait has returned to Rockhampton after six weeks' holiday. Constable Reg Banks has received notification of his impending transfer to Emerald. Both Mr and Mrs Banks will be greatly missed, but as he is promoted to Sergeant we offer him our congratulations. He will be succeeded by Constable Alf Otto from Mackay. Miss Betty Begg is spending six weeks' vacation at Emu Park. Miss M. Brutain spent a week at the Pine Beach Hotel before proceeding to Gladstone. Mrs Notaras and daughter Helen left for Brisbane where Helen will make her debut. They will be absent for three weeks. Mr Evans, Rockhampton, is having a new home erected on a site of the old Riviera Hotel. It is nearly completed.

There were 13 players at the weekly euchre party in aid of the Emu Park Convent school. Mrs Lentell and Mrs Lester tied for the highest score, with eight games each, but in the cut off the former won the trophy presented by Mrs C. W. Mills. Mr Dan Daley, with four points, won the prize for lone hands and Mrs Wix was presented with a consolation prize.

Mrs Golightly who has been the guest of her sisters, Mrs Warwick and Misses D. and M. Luine, for the fortnight, has returned with her children to Rockhampton. Mr and Mrs N. Hicks left for Brisbane.

Mrs N. Hicks left for Brisbane, where he will receive medical attention. Mrs Tomkins and family returned by car to their home in Rockhampton after two weeks at their seaside home. Miss L. Young is the guest of her brother in Rockhampton. Miss D. Hickman is spending the week-end with her brother-in-law and sister, Mr and Mrs J. Hogbin. Master C. Rump who has been with his grandmother Mrs Nelson, for the past nine months, returned to his home in Rockhampton. Mrs Dumas, Rockhampton, is visiting her son-in-law and daughter, Mr and Mrs H. Slesman jun. Miss Heather Vale has left for the West, where she will reside for the next few months.

The bakehouse, which has been empty for the past 10 months, is being renovated and promises to look very nice when completed. The front has been pulled down and two nice display windows erected. The owners are waiting for the tradesmen to do the oven, so residents are hoping it will not be long before a baker is in operation again. There is a great opening for one.

Mr and Mrs Ward, who spent a fortnight's holiday at the Park, returned home. Mrs Draper has returned home from a visit to relatives in Rockhampton. Mr and Mrs C. Smith, who were called home owing to serious illness of his mother, returned to Gladstone. The many friends of Mrs Smith are pleased to learn that she is improving and is now the guest of Mrs Young-Yeppoon, while she is recuperating. Mr and Mrs F. Butcher, Gladstone visited her parents, Mr and Mrs H O'Donnell, for the week-end. Mr and Mrs Max Macquire and family returned to Rockhampton after a week with her parents, Mr and Mrs Albertson. Mr Tom Pill is back

Albertson. Mr Tom Pill is back home again after a visit to his sons in Emerald. Mr Dunlop spent a few days with his daughter in Rockhampton. Mrs Noon, who has been ill in Rockhampton for several months, has recovered. Her sister, Mrs Richards, who has been her guest, left for Brisbane. Mrs Little is in Brisbane where she is supervising her mother's new home. Mr and Mrs E Proctor motored from Duaringa to see his mother. Mr and Mrs Bob Neale have returned from a week's visit to Rockhampton. Mr and Mrs L. Miller and family, Yeppoon, are visiting Mr Miller's parents, Mr and Mrs W. Miller. Mr and Mrs Wiseman and children, of Rockhampton are spending a month's vacation at the Park.

LONGREACH

In the Longreach Court of Petty Sessions, William Lee Cavanagh, 63, was sentenced to 21 day's imprisonment in the Townsville gaol. He arrived in Barcaldine six weeks ago and, after being warned by the police, was found employment at Alice siding. He found the work too heavy and went to Ilfracombe but failed to take a job and later reached Longreach without paying his fare. Previous convictions include avoiding payment of rail fare, stealing and vagrancy, totalling 18 months' imprisonment.

Keen bidding characterised the first organised sheep sale to be held in Longreach. The sale was organised by New Zealand Loan and buyers from Rockhampton and the Central-west attended. It is hoped to continue the sales. In all, 6050 sheep, straight lines, young wethers woolly mixed sexes, half-wool aged wethers, shorn aged wethers, prime.

wethers, shorn aged wethers, prime and prime aged wethers carrying 12 months' wool, were yarded. Top price was 94/6 for 636 mixed sexes. October-November drop, shorn in September, 1951. The vendors were the Russleigh Pastoral Co. The sale grossed more than £10,000.

At a meeting of the Stonehenge branch of the Central and Northern Graziers' Association, the importance was stressed of completing the Meroodan dam, on the stock route between Stonehenge and Isisford which was completed more than five years ago. In normal seasons there is a 54-mile stage from Stonehenge to Mosquito dam and unless permission is given to use private watering facilities the route from Stonehenge to Isisford cannot be used and stock must be travelled down through Arrilalah.

Of seven shires in the Central-west, Barcaldine is the only one to maintain the same rates as operated during the last financial year. Shires reviewed are Winton, Longreach, Blackall, Barcaldine, Ilfracombe, Jericho and Isisford. In Barcaldine the general rate is 1/6 and the rural rate 8d. The only variation is in the sewerage loan rate, which has been reduced from 2d. to 1d., but this is offset by an increase from 1½d. to 2½d. in the kerbing, etc loan rate. Heaviest jump in rates was in the Winton shire, with an increase of 1/- to 2/4 urban, and 5¾d. to 1/2 rural. Winton's budget also carried an increase of 100 per cent in the water rate. Increased charges were made in nearly all departments by the Longreach Shire Council, one of the heaviest being increase in the electricity tariff by 20 per cent. The urban rate was increased by 1d. to 2/1 and the rural rate increased by 3/8 to 10½. A new tariff for water was adopted.

new tariff for water was adopted. with increased charges due to the effects of the dry weather and repairs. Water charges in Blackall shire were increased 100 per cent and general rates in each division went up 5 4-5d. 2 2-3d and 5½d. respectively. An increase of 20 per cent was made in electricity tariff at Ilfracombe. Isisford Shire Council approved of a 50 per cent increase in the general rates. from 9d. to 1/1½d. As well as the rate struck

by the councils, rural ratepayers also pay the stock route rate, which has been increased by the Co-ordinating Board from 1d to 1½d.

Although Longreach Rugby League began the season with a loan of £269/11/- to cover losses of the previous season, it aims to repay the sum, purchase badges for life members and hold a League social. The financial statement shows a credit of £139/6/7 in the general fund, and a credit of £173/8/6 in the injured players' fund. An art union is being held.

Longreach Amateur Swimming Club will hold its first swim on September 25, but club competitions will not be conducted until October 2. At the annual meeting the following were elected: Patron, Mr P. J. Ryan; president, Mr J. P. Butler; treasurer, Mr M. G. Clements;; secretary, Miss M. Sutton; judges, Messrs F. G. Tabart, P. Bergin, V. Lappin and W. Sutton; diving judge, Mr J. P. Butler; starter, Mr E. A. Cameron; handicapper and referee, Mr J. P. Butler.

The Regional Director of Education has approved of the erection of a playshed at the school at an estimated cost of £65. Fifty per cent subsidy will be granted when the work is undertaken by the Parents

work is undertaken by the Parents and Citizens' Association.

Gross takings for the gymkhana were £90/18/9 and the profit £49/3/4 and for the ball £111/13/6 gross and £58/3/8 net.

Record attendances on both days of the Blackall Diggers' races made the function the most successful ever held. Brisnut, at 4's beat the two favourites, Parlona and Ray's Choice, in the big race of the first day, the Gaza five furlongs. The £200 prize money was subscribed by Blackall town and country residents from which £20 and £10 went for the minor placings. The principal event on the Saturday and one of the most sought after in Central-western racing was the J. K. Murray Memorial over nine furlongs. Bristol Star had a two lengths' lead at the post to add this trophy, accompanied by £160 cash, to Mr Jack Banks' collection. Fields were fair to good and on the first day all nominated horses started in the First Division of the RAAF five furlongs. This had not been seen for some time on western courses. Gate receipts were £208 on the first day and £312 on Saturday. Twenty-one bookmakers operated. Race commentator, from 4BH, Mr Tom Foley, did the broadcast, the first from the Blackall course. Trophy for the most successful trainer was won by D. Enright. L. Ashney won the trophy for the most successful jockey.