

## *Ripples from the Round*

Ironically, just when the fur-ore regarding the payment of television licence fees looks like coming to a head, television reception on King Island has mostly been good, and at the time of last Wednesday night's public meeting, it was very good. If the meeting had been held in the middle of winter when there would probably have been a complete black-out of reception over the whole of the Island, it is probable that Currie Town Hall, let alone the supper room, would not have held the people who wished to attend.

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It appears that once again the Municipal Council will be faced with the task of finding a sanitary contractor to service the few houses outside the Currie town sewerage area not connected to septic tanks. Perhaps the job could be made more lucrative if it was coupled with a garbage service. There must be many Currie householders who would be willing to pay a weekly fee to avoid having to make the irksome

having to make the irksome and frequent visits to the tip. If Council did not want to enter into the matter, it could easily become a private enterprise sideline which need not take much time, especially if throw-away containers such as briquette bags were used.

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Mr. M. Salfas, of Clayton, Victoria, writes: "I am pleased to inform you that the proper-

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ty of 499 acres situated in the Parish of Wickham, King Island, has now been sold. There were 39 replies to the advertisement (in the King Island News), and nearly every person wished to purchase the property. Truly amazing to think that there was so much response when you consider the circulation of the King Island News is barely 1000. Pro-rata the response would be close to an Australian record." (The circulation of the News is approximately 1050.)

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How is this for cheek? Mr. Percy Cerutti, in an interview reported in the "Herald": "Of course, you belong to a race of

course, you belong to a race of barbarians — Australians," he shouted. "I was only born in Australia. I don't like it and I'm not fond of the people generally. Too simple and stupid, a bit like King Islanders." As Mr. Cerutti has probably never been to King Island or even met a King Islander, possibly his words could be applied more truthfully to himself than most other Australians, and possibly could be coupled with one or two other adjectives, such as "boorish" and "ignorant".



Perhaps members of the "simple and stupid" King Island Jaycees or some other of our "simple and stupid" organisations should invite Mr. Cerutti to a debate on his views of King Islanders. His comment must surely be the year's most sweeping statement. Let us hope that people in high places at the P.M.G. (television division) did not read that "Herald".



From official recordings taken by Mr. R. Strickland, the December rainfall at Marsh-

December rainfall at Marshall's Road was only 45 points. It was the driest December since Currie recorded 24 points in 1931 — the average for December is 222 points. Despite the dry start and dry finish, 1968 was a wet year at Marshall's Road, with 4836 points of rain being recorded. This is over six inches above the year average of 4220



Only one King Island resident has come forward with any information regarding the sighting of an unidentified flying object from the East Coast of King Island recently. To this witness, who saw the "u.f.o." at about 1 a.m. in Grassy on Sunday, 29th December, it appeared to only be an out-size "falling star" which fell from high in the south east sky towards the north west before it broke into about nine pieces. It had a brilliant reddish-orange colour, and our informant admits he has never seen anything like it before. His description tallies with that of another eye-witness who saw the phenomenon from a fishing boat in Westernport

Bay, Victoria.

