

**GHOST.**

Adrienne, the dead child, moves about  
the orchard,  
Plays among the branches of the fruit  
trees there.  
Many folk have seen her, swinging from  
the peach tree  
Bunches of red cherries, threaded  
through her hair.

I have sat and waited here among the  
blossoms,  
Waiting for the dead child, waiting all  
in vain:  
Why do others see her? Those who never  
loved her?  
Adrienne, my darling, will you come  
again?  
—Winifred McElwaine.

**MAN'S STRANGE DEATH.**

The strange case of a man who had died from no apparent cause was investigated at Nelson, by Mr. F. Rowland, the East Lancashire Coroner (says the London 'Daily Express').

Mr. Rowland, who said it was the most difficult case he had ever tried to solve, returned a verdict of death due to unascertainable causes.

The man was Richard Moore (29), a greengrocer, of Burns-street, Nelson. He had been healthy all his life.

His wife said that he retired to bed as usual on Tuesday night. About an hour later she was awakened by her husband's hand falling on her face, and found him frothing at the mouth and unable to speak.

Her father was called and raised Moore's head, but Moore collapsed and died immediately.

Dr. C. Ritchie, police surgeon, who made a post-mortem examination, was only able to suggest that death was due to a convulsive seizure perhaps as a result of a very severe nightmare.

The post-mortem had revealed nothing beyond the fact that Moore was perfectly normal and healthy. There was nothing wrong with the heart, head, or respiratory organs.

**POND FISH MEETS STRANGE DEATH**

A Japanese red carp, from which species the goldfish has been evolved, met his death by a strange misadventure yesterday. The fish was lazily swimming near the surface of the pool in the garden of Mr. S. Collens, of Moynihan Street, Ascot, in which he was domiciled, when a large mango fell from an overhanging branch into the pool and killed the fish.

Mr. Collens took the fish to the Museum, where Mr. T. C. Marshall, ichthyologist, is preserving it for exhibition. The specimen, which is the largest of the kind yet sent to the Museum, measures 18½ in. in length by 14½ in. girth and weighs 3 lb. Mr. Marshall, however, states that the species attains a length of from 3 ft. to 4 ft. when fully grown and lives 50 to 100 years—unless it is kept beneath a mango tree.

**STRANGE ANIMAL.**

A peculiar animal has been seen in the Burnett River, near Gayndah. Recently some children, playing near the river bank, observed an animal near the water. It was about the make and size of a calf, with long, reddish, soft, silky hair. When it saw the children it immediately took to the water again, diving out of sight. Search was made, and the tracks were found, but no one appears to have seen similar ones. A few days later a person saw the animal swimming under the water. Search parties have been out night and day trying to capture the stranger, but with no success. It was probably a seal and not a bunyip.

### STRANGE ANIMAL.

William Nutall, of Myrtleford (Vic.), accompanied by his sister and a companion, was returning from Bright, and near the Eurobin railway station he alighted from his horse and entered a paddock, holding the reins, the others riding on a short distance. A strange animal, which snarled, attacked Nutall and tore his shirt to ribbons. The horse broke away, and when Nutall ran the animal followed him to the railway line, where a wire fence apparently stopped it. Nutall described the animal as being about 7ft. in height, with round, hairy head, and four tusks. It stood on two legs. It is believed to be an animal which escaped from a travelling circus when it was at Yackandandah some time ago. The animal has been seen by residents in different parts of the district, its tracks being plainly discernible. It is said to resemble an ape. Parties are out searching for it.

### STRANGE CASE.

An elderly woman has twice fallen into the Macquarie River near Warren (N.S.W.), within a week, and one man has taken part in her rescue on both occasions. After her first rescue the woman was charged at the Police Court and was ordered to be detained for 48 hours for medical observation. She was discharged subsequently. She again fell into the river. A man, who, with others, had rescued her last week, saw her in the water, and, with difficulty, he brought her to the bank. The woman was admitted to hospital.

### STRANGE.

Pre-natal suggestions take queer forms, but one seldom hears of the birthmark changing in shape and colour, yet I'll vouch for this—he's a relative, just turned 22. A month before his birth his mother was attacked by a pet magpie. When born, the child had a perfectly formed black and white feather on his back. When five, the feather gradually disappeared, and in its place grew a picture of a magpie's egg, perfectly marked, with colourings true to nature. This birthmark has lasted.—Pat Bushie.

### HAUNTED HOUSE

#### MIDNIGHT VISITATIONS.

SYDNEY, February 20.

Strange rappings, knocks, shuffles, sounds as of chains clinking and other weird noises are heard about midnight in a house at Epping, which has recently found a tenant after having been unoccupied for a long time. This is the statement of the present occupiers.

At this time the house dog begins to bark furiously and then whimpers in a terrified way. Last night, these conditions were even worse. Strange wallings were heard, as were creaks and rattles on the roof and sounds as of people walking to and fro around the place. When investigations were made however, no one could be seen, nor could any explanation be found.

As soon as the searchers came inside a new variety of queer noises was heard, as of something clicking. The windows and doors then began to rattle.

The occupiers snatched very little sleep last night, for almost as soon as their eyes closed eerie noises stirred them into wakefulness once more. All the time the dog barked wildly, save at one stage, when he yelped as though being beaten with a whip.

The tenants are hoping that tonight they will be able to solve the problem of these uncanny phenomena. The house in question stands well away from other residences.

## A Strange Child.

On Wednesday afternoon last Mr. Luke Hyland, of Prospect, took to the Parramatta lockup a wild-looking little girl, about 8 years of age. He found the child at Smithfield that morning as he was riding through the bush. The child followed him, and when he cantered away she screamed like a wild animal and followed him, running faster than his horse could canter. He at last stopped and tried to elicit from the child where she came from, but was not successful. He then let her follow him home, when he secured her and brought her to the police station at Parramatta. The police have not been able to obtain any information about the child, but from her behaviour in the lockup they conclude that she is not in her right mind. She is clothed in a pink dress and straw hat, without shoes or stockings. She has a pinched appearance, but refuses to take any nourishment, continually screaming, "Let me out; let me out."

## WOMAN'S STRANGE ADVENTURE.

SYDNEY, Friday.—A Russian woman, whose name is unknown, fell from the bridge at Annandale last night and dropped into the stormwater channel.

She was carried 300 yards and was then stopped by the wooden piles. She managed to climb to the top of one pile and remained there all night. She lapsed into unconsciousness and was found this morning by two employees of the Board of Water Supply and Sewerage.

She was suffering severely from shock and the cold.

## STRANGE FRENCH SENSATION.

### PRIEST SHOT BY A LADY.

LONDON, 16th January.

An attempt, in remarkable circumstances, to kill a French ecclesiastic of standing is reported from Paris.

The Abbe Jacquetic, it is alleged, had promised to relinquish his ecclesiastical calling and marry Mademoiselle Bortoz, a young lady belonging to a leading family at Vichy, the bathing resort in the department of Allier, but had failed to fulfil his promise. Enraged at his conduct, Mademoiselle Bortoz fired at the abbe, the wound nearly proving fatal.

## • STRANGE WORLD •

### DOG SUICIDES

Brisbane, Sat: A dog committed suicide today by jumping from top of a city building.

A white fox terrier had been struck by a car in Queen-st. It ran into a city building, went up to the ninth floor and climbed out on a ledge.

Scores tried for some time to entice it off the ledge.

Finally the dog jumped, crashing 100 feet to the ground.

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