

PERFECT CONSTRUCTION.
SIMPLE ADJUSTMENT.
FINEST MATERIAL.

Please refer to

47 Wandsworth Rd
Surrey Mills E10

REVIEW OF REVIEWS FOR

STRALASIA

PRICE D 9
SEPTEMBER 1901

Review of Reviews
Federal Flag adopted
as the National Flag
by the Commonwealth
Government.

Market will be a Newspaper for instance via through the Post.

MRS. WILMER, LONDON FACE AND HAIR SPECIALIST.

Note Address: 212 Broadway, NEW YORK.

Next Miller's, corner Burke and Swan

10-11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, Saturdays included.

NEW FROM LIFE, featuring *Biology*

THE FEDERAL FLAG COMPETITION.

FOUR "REVIEW OF REVIEWS" COMPETITORS SUCCESSFUL.

What is the flag of Australia? The design on the cover of the present issue "gives answer"—for it has been chosen from over 30,000 others by the five expert judges, and recommended to the Government for adoption as the Commonwealth flag.

The staff of workers, under the superintendence of Mr. J. S. Blackham, of the Melbourne "Herald," were occupied for some weeks in cataloguing and arranging the exhibits in the Melbourne Exhibition Building.

"You have set us a pretty tolerable task!" said one of the judges as they walked into the Exhibition, and some hundreds of square yards of coloured designs blazed on their view. And even when the caricatures had been separated from the serious sketches; the day-dreams—and, in some cases, the nightmares—from the practical plans; the possibles, in short, from the impossibles, it was still difficult to choose the most suitable.

Several important matters had to be considered. Due regard had to be paid to history, heraldry, blazonry, distinctiveness, utility, and cost of making up in bunting. It was apparent, thought the

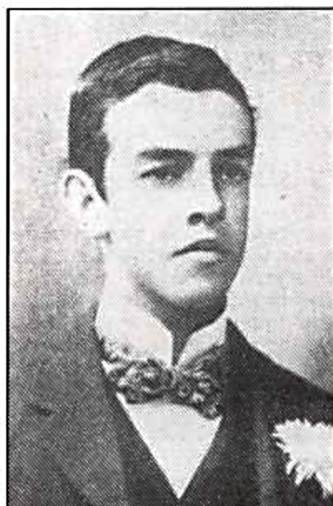
judges, that a Commonwealth flag, to be representative, should contain the Union Jack, to stand for Great Britain, the Southern Cross for the continent, and some symbol to signify the unity of the six States. When those designs which would have served for kindergarten object-lessons, decorations for a Chinese pagoda, or patterns for cheap linoleums had been turned aside, it was found that a large percentage of the remainder contained the Union Jack, the Southern Cross, and suggestions of the States in various forms.

But a very large section of the competitors had made originality their chief aim, and a cheerful disregard of the elementary rules of blazonry and heraldry in the arrangement of their symbols put them out of court. The Union Jack could have but one place on a flag, yet it appeared in the centre, and at all the corners in turn; occasionally it was mutilated, and sections placed in each of the four corners, whilst, in other instances, it was set in a plain or ornamental border.

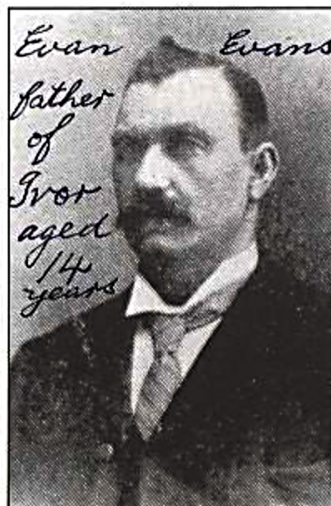
In spite of Mark Twain's ridicule, there is more in the Southern Cross than meets the eye, and, apparently, the competitors found this out, for



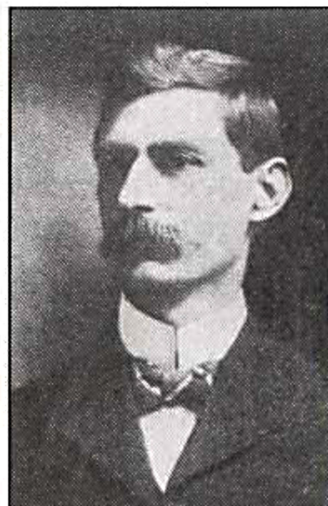
A FEW "REVIEW" DESIGNS AT THE EXHIBITION.



MR. L. J. HAWKINS,
Sydney.



MR. IVOR EVANS,
Melbourne.



MR. E. J. NUTTALL,
Pahran.

only a minority managed to place the stars in the proper position, or to draw them correctly. Some totally ignored the fact that the stars are but the points of the Cross, and boldly ruled in Roman or Greek crosses according to fancy.

The greatest scope for originality, of course, lay in the representation of the Commonwealth, and some excellent suggestions had to be turned aside, as impracticable in a flag. Triangles and circles, however cleverly interwoven, would puzzle

the shipmaster, who would require one of Sam Weller's magnifying glasses to decipher them; whilst rainbow combinations are strictly prohibited. One competitor conceived the idea of an Australian-wheel, on the lines of the Manx-wheel; but the six clenched fists for a hub, and the half-dozen muscular arms for spokes, rather robbed the wheel of its gracefulness. On the fly of another design appeared six hands, a circle of index fingers pointing towards the centre, where



MR. W. STEVENS,
Auckland, N.Z.

a figure of Britannia tried to appear unconscious of a lack of winter clothing. Six boomerangs scurried in wild flight across one field, a six-tailed kangaroo was browsing in a second, a six-rayed comet in colours adorned a third, whilst the fly of a fourth, which might have done duty for a menagerie advertisement, was intended to bear a typical native animal of each of the six federating States. The designer of this elaborate flag explained that should other States come in it would be a simple matter to add an animal or bird for each to his zoological collection—a moa for New Zealand, and so on.

Finally, the judges decided on the pair of flags which appear in one of the accompanying photographs. A large number of designs carrying more or less the same idea were received, and five of



MISS ANNIE DORRINGTON,
Perth, W.A.



THE WINNING PAIR OF DESIGNS.



THE JUDGES AND OFFICIALS.

First Row: Mr. J. S. Blackham, Capt. Clare, Mr. G. Stewart, Lieut. Thompson.
 Second Row: Capt. Edie, Capt. Mitchell, Capt. Evans, M.H.A.

these were sufficiently alike to warrant the judges in dividing the prize money between their originators.

It was mentioned in a previous number that designs had been received by us from all parts of the world, and a curious proof of this was the fact that four of the five successful designers had sent their flags to the "Review of Reviews," one coming from Sydney, one from Perth, one from Auckland, and one from Prahran. The fifth prize-sharer was a Melbourne man, who sent his design direct to the Government.

This was supplied by various forms, such as by coloured bars, shields, devices, stars, figures, letters, animals, etc., introduced in various colours, forms, and positions on the several designs.

It was apparent that a Commonwealth flag, to be representative, should contain:

The Union Jack on a blue or red ground; a six-pointed "star," representing the six federated States of Australia immediately under the Union Jack, and pointing direct to the centre of St. George's Cross, and of a size to occupy the major portion of one quarter of the flag; the Southern Cross in the fly, as being indicative of the sentiment of the Australian nation.



Harvey and Sutcliffe, photo.]

Some designs sent in through the "Review of Reviews" awaiting arrangement. The portrait given is of Mr. J. S. Blackham, who superintended the classification and arrangement of the flags.

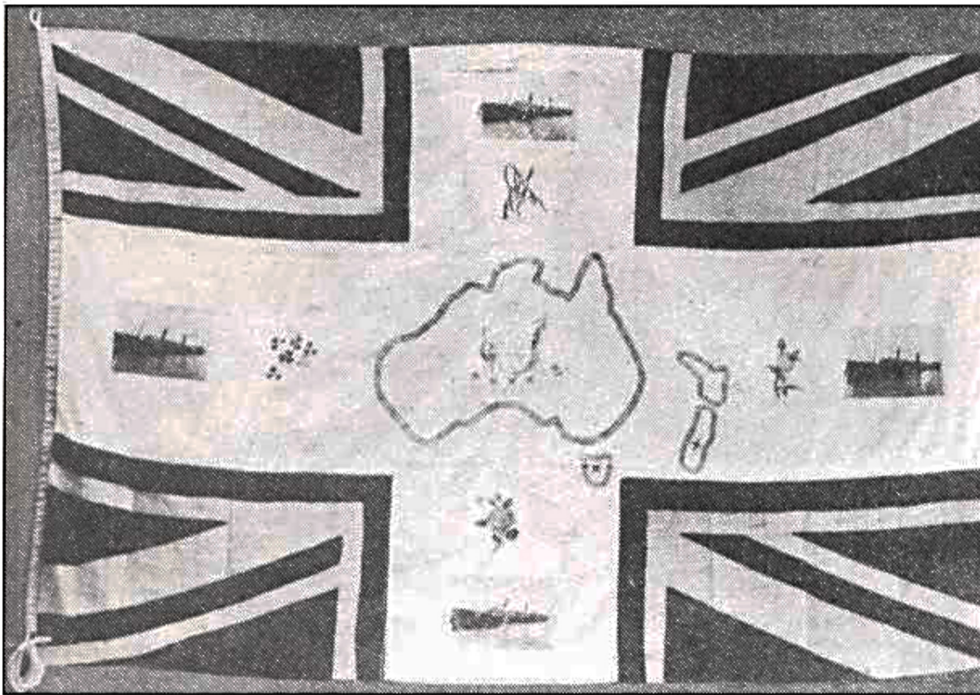
When the judges had completed their task, the Flag Exhibition was thrown open to the public on September 3, the Countess of Hopetoun and Mr. Barton, the Prime Minister, performing the opening ceremony.

Mr. Barton read the following report from the judges:—

Sir,—Attracted by the loyalty and sentiment of the Australian people, as represented by the 30,000 designs of a national flag (the great majority of which contained the Union Jack and Southern Cross), it was felt that the only additional emblem required was one representing the Federation of the six States.

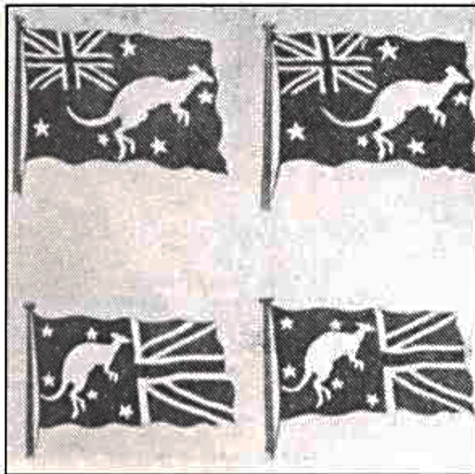
Such a combination should be easily distinguished as a signal of distress, as original in character, and should be agreeable to the home authorities, as they have already given their sanction to the Southern Cross being shown in some of the State flags, such as New Zealand, Victoria, etc., and exception could not be taken to the one star under the "Jack." Many designs somewhat similar were rejected as not being in accord with heraldry and blazonry of flags, crosses, coloured stars, stars too small to be seen at a distance, and otherwise faulty in design.

In conclusion, we may state that our task was no easy one, but our desire was to give to the people of our new-born nation a symbol that would be endearing

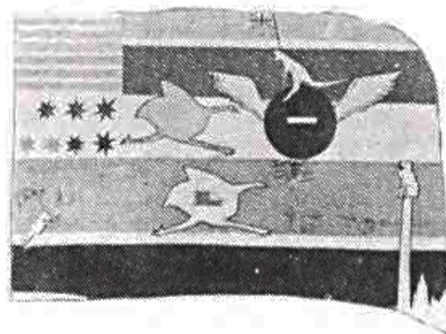


ORIGINAL, BUT IMPOSSIBLE!

The above design comprises a distorted Union Jack for background, a map of Australia, New Zealand, and Tasmania, edged with green silk, water colour drawings of the Australian coat of arms, the English, Scotch, Irish, and Welsh emblems, and gelatine photographs of four steamships. The designer evidently forgot that the Australian flag might also have to "brave a thousand years the battle and the breeze."



A COMPETITOR WHO FANCIED THE
KANGAROO.



TYPICALLY AUSTRALIAN.

1931



Commonwealth of Australia Gazette.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

[Registered at the General Post Office, Melbourne, for transmission by post as a newspaper.]

No. 8.] FRIDAY, 20TH FEBRUARY. [1908.

PROCLAMATION

Australia to wit:
TENNISON,
Governor-General.
(L.S.)

By His Excellency the Right Honorable Hallam Tennyson, Knight, Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Commonwealth of Australia.

WHEREAS by the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act it was amongst other things enacted that the Governor-General might, subject to the advice of the Ministers of the Crown, suspend the Parliament or any House thereof, and also from time to time by Proclamation or otherwise prorogue the Parliament: And whereas on the twenty-third day of January, One thousand nine hundred and three, the Parliament was further prorogued until the twenty-fourth day of February, One thousand nine hundred and three, and it is expedient to further prorogue the said Parliament: Now therefore I, the said Hallam Tennyson, in exercise of the power conferred by the said Act, do by this my Proclamation further prorogue the said Parliament until the thirty-first day of March, One thousand nine hundred and three.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth of Australia, at Melbourne, this twentieth day of February, in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and three, and in the third year of His Majesty's reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

ALFRED DEARIN.

God save the King.

Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of External Affairs,
Melbourne, 11th February, 1908.

HIS Excellency the Governor-General directs that it is notified for general information that His Majesty the King has approved of the suggested design (see next page) for the Flag of the Commonwealth of Australia.
The Governor-General further directs the publication of the following copy of a "Miscellaneous" Despatch which has been received from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject.

EDMUND BARTON,
Prime Minister.

[Cont.]

Commonwealth of Australia.
Miscellaneous.

Downing-street,
20th December 1907.

Mr. Laro,

With reference to my telegram of the 6th of October, I have the honor to transmit to Your Lordship fifteen copies of the drawings of the Flags of the Commonwealth and the Flag of the Governor-General as they will appear in the Admiralty Flag Book.

2. The State Flags should in general be flown only by State Governors or State Government Vessels. In the case of Merchant Vessels, the Commonwealth Flag alone should be used, but, perhaps, as a measure of convenience, merchant vessels might be allowed to continue to fly their State flags until the passing of a Commonwealth Navigation Act.

I have the honor to be,

My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient humble Servant,
(For the Secretary of State,

Sgd.) OSSELLOW.

Governor-General, His Excellency Lord Tennyson, K.C.M.G. &c., &c., &c.
C.11351.

DESCRIPTION OF THE AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH FLAGS.

The Ensign is the British Blue Ensign, and the Merchant Flag is the British Red Ensign, consisting of a blue and red flag respectively, with the Union Jack occupying the upper quarter next the staff, differentiated by—A six-pointed white star in the lower quarter next the staff, and five white stars in the form of the Southern Cross in the "Fly," or half of the flag further from the staff.

The undermentioned dimensions should be observed:—

Flags can be made up of the following number of "Breathes," viz., 22, 20, 18, 16, 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, 5, 4, and 3. A "Breath" signifies a breadth of banding, i.e., 9 inches. The length of a flag is always twice the width at the "Hoist," A.C.D. Thus, a flag of 14 Breaths measures 21 feet in length by 10 feet 6 inches in width.

The Union Jack occupies one-fourth of flag; the diagonals of Union Jack form the centre and dividing lines of the combined Crosses of St. Andrew and St. Patrick.

The broad white of St. Andrew's Cross is uppermost in the first and third quarters next A.C. of "Hoist," and the red of St. Patrick's Cross (together with the narrow white border to same) is uppermost in the second and fourth quarters next "Fly." The Crosses are arranged as in diagram.

DESCRIPTION AND PROPORTIONS OF CROSSES.

Name.	Widths of the Several Parts				
	In Fractions of Width of Union Jack (A.C.)	In Fractions of Width "B"			
		Red (Width "B")	White Borders.	Broad White.	Narrow White Border.
St. George's Cross and white borders	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$
St. Andrew's Cross	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$
St. Patrick's Cross and narrow white border	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$

The six States of the Commonwealth are represented by a large white star, as in diagram.

DESCRIPTION AND PROPORTIONS OF STAR.

Name.	Position of Centre.	Outer Diameter.	Inner Diameter.	Number of Points.
Commonwealth Star	On middle line of Union Jack (produced), $\frac{1}{4}$ Width of Union Jack from bottom edge of flag	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	6

The Southern Cross is represented by five white stars, arranged as in diagram.

DESCRIPTION AND PROPORTIONS OF STARS.

Name.	Position of Centre.	Outer Diameter.	Inner Diameter.	Number of Points.
"Alpha Crucis"	On middle line $\frac{1}{4}$ from bottom edge	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	5
"Beta Crucis"	$\frac{1}{4}$ from middle line at right angles to a point $\frac{1}{4}$ above centre of "Fly"	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	5
"Gamma Crucis"	On middle line $\frac{1}{4}$ from top edge	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	5
"Delta Crucis"	$\frac{1}{4}$ from middle line at right angles to a point $\frac{1}{4}$ above point G	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	5
"Epsilon Crucis"	$\frac{1}{4}$ from middle line at right angles to a point $\frac{1}{4}$ below centre of "Fly"	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	5

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
MELBOURNE.

D.7025.

Produced by ANFA (NSW). Printed by Standard Publishing House (Aust.) Pty Ltd
Grateful acknowledgment to the State Library of NSW for approval to reprint a facsimile portion of the Egbert Nuttall historical collection