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societies and various agencies to further this great aim.

Here to-day we have the interest of a great Australian, Mr. W. G. Walkley, who has already shown his support, and his company's interest, in our aims. AMPOL has backed two competitions, at such very short notice, and agreed to be present here to-day to hear our aims. Naturally AMPOL has first choice to consider or talk over 1960 aims with all assembled here to-day. We ask that the discussion be lively and further elucidate the possibilities that are certainly most worthy of exploration.

Your interest is welcomed.

Yours faithfully,

GRENFELL HENRY LAWSON
FESTIVAL COMMITTEE.

H. J. GOODWIN,
Honorary Secretary.

"GRENFELL RECORD" PRINT

For the Henry Lawson Collection of
Mitchell Library -



HENRY LAWSON WAS BORN AT GRENFELL ON JUNE 17, 1867

Henry Lawson Festival
Grenfell, N.S.W.

12th to 15th June, 1959

Secretary:
H. J. GOODWIN.
Telephone 319 or 520.

"I have seen so long in the land I love what the land
I love might be."

—Henry Lawson, in
"The Storm That is to Come."

Fellow Australians,

We, the members of this HENRY LAWSON
FESTIVAL COMMITTEE, herein state our aims
for the future of this celebration.

We believe that Lawson spoke for all Aus-
tralians at the turn of the century in his stories and
verse, and that he has become a SYMBOL of all
that is real and vital in the emerging pattern of our
way of life. In his humour, his realism, his vision,
Lawson was always looking ahead and his voice
has echoed in the Statutes of this State and Com-
monwealth in matters now regarded as tenets of

our Social and Developmental Legislation: his voice has not cried in vain. Yet are we, the Australians for whom he fought and wrote and suffered and planned, are we to allow this great name to be lost to our children and to our new citizens, yes, even to ourselves? Surely not! This, then, is our first aim.

Developing that line of thinking from Grenfell, we have hoped to extend the observance towards wider significance in 1960.

This year, the A.B.C., recognising the worth of the aims, have given over a whole hour to Lawson's stories adapted for radio drama, and tomorrow afternoon 2FC and regionals all over the Commonwealth will hear something of LAWSON'S genius. Would Henry Lawson have been really contented with this? He would have probably not thought of himself but of his country, and been active in promoting increased consciousness for things AUSTRALIAN.

Thus our aim for 1960 is to increase the scope of the competitions that may be held in conjunction with this Festival; competitions that will give stimulus to the best creative talent in our land. Competitions that will reach the people in the way of works of art, literature, music, film, all of which reflect our National and humanitarian aims as a vigorous people. We feel the man Henry Lawson may have been amused by much of our modern imported "juke box" culture, and as an artist been sick at heart to see our OWN being overwhelmed, ever so seductively, by all that is really alien to us

as a people. What would Mitchell have thought? Where is Mitchell to-day?

The great mass of Australian public opinion needs stimulus of local consciousness to find again their chord of all that is real in our own way of life and to hold high the torch given us by Henry Lawson and his mates.

What better way than to promote our best creative talent to get busy during the next twelve months and again build the visions splendid in our eyes as a people?

It would indeed be a great honour to be associated with this aim: Competitions in ART, Music, Sculpture, Literature, Drama, Poetry and Film, all having the widest possible publicity and all offering a prize of some considerable worth to the winner in each section or in each competition.

How can we achieve this aim? We cannot achieve this aim unless we have sponsorship or patronage of a great Australian. It could reflect great credit on such a sponsor. It could bring that sponsor much very solid and valuable real esteem from the Australian public in all walks of life and in every field of endeavour.

Here to-day we have representatives of the top level professional creative artists, musicians, sculptors, writers, producers, educators, all ready, willing and able to assist, through their professional