



ALONG THE MAIL ROUTE

FORMER NOWRA BOY STARS IN BIG U.S. SHOW

A former Nowra bean-picker who earned 30s. a week only four years ago is being hailed as a star by a visiting American promoter, the man who "discovered" Elvis Presley.

The former Nowra boy is part-aboriginal Jimmy Little, 21, now living in Lackey-street, Granville, Sydney.

He shared top billing with American stars in a Western show called "Grand Ole Opry", at the Sydney Stadium on March 5, 6 and 7.

The American promoter who thinks Jimmy Little has a great future in show business is Oscar Davis, a well-known theatrical entrepreneur in the U.S.

He found Elvis Presley singing in a small cabaret in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1956, made him a star and was his exploitation manager for three years until last October.

Mr. Davis arrived in Sydney recently on the lookout for talent to support the U.S. stars who appeared in "Grand Ole Opry"—including Roy Acuff, known as "King of Country Music" in the U.S., where he has sold more than 40 million records; the Wilburn Brothers, top Western recording artists; and lovely blonde June Webb, whose discs have figured on both the popular and Western hit parades in the U.S.

Mr. Davis said: "I spotted Jimmy on T.V. just after I arrived in Sydney. I found out that he was singing in a hall at Auburn the next night, so I went out to see him. I signed him up immediately for 'Grand Ole Opry'."

He explained, "Grand Ole Opry" is a Western show which has been staged in America for 33 years. It is also broadcast over 400 stations every Saturday night.

"The show has been the birthplace of such stars as Dinah Shore, Pat Boone, Jerry Lee Lewis, the Everly Brothers, as well as Elvis Presley.

"I have already booked Jimmy to tour New Zealand with the show when we finish our Australian season.

"I think he has a great voice, and real 'star quality'

"Jimmy has a lot in common with Elvis. His singing style is different, but he has the same dedicated attitude towards his career.

"Elvis never got too big for his boots, and I know Jimmy is the same."

DEATH OF JOHN SPENCER

The death occurred in Canberra on Monday, 9th March, 1959, of Mr. John Spencer.

Mr. Spencer joined the staff of the Aborigines' Welfare Board on 2nd January, 1952, and was appointed as Manager to Burra Bee Dee Aboriginal Station at Coonabarabran. He subsequently was Manager at Brewarrina, Moree and Caroon until his resignation in May, 1958.

Many of his aboriginal friends will join with the Board in expressing sympathy to Mrs. Spencer and Hugh.

MISSING PERSONS BUREAU

An enquiry has been received from a friend desiring to contact the following:—

Mrs. Ron. Grant (nee Patricia Barden);

Mr. Les. Williams, Forbes Street, East Sydney;

Yvonne Barden, and John David Barden.

Do you know where they are? If so, kindly send their addresses to the Board.