

There was a catch, the difficulty of securing a light enough motor. A prominent inventor said : " If I can rise from the coast of France, sail through the air across the English Channel and drop half a ton of nitro-glycerine upon an English city, I can revolutionise the world. I believe I can do it if I live long enough. If I die, someone will come after me who will be successful if I fail." How tragically right he was !

Let's turn to the lighter type of scientists—of whom the inventor of " The self-electrocutor for caterpillars " must take the award for the most brilliant invention of the 19th Century. He planned to stop caterpillars from climbing trees by placing live wires half an inch apart round the trunk. When caterpillars crossed the wires, there was a sizzling and death. To keep slugs away from flowers, the same inventor suggested placing rings of copper and zinc around the roots. The two metals when touched by the moist body of a marauding slug would generate a fatal charge of electricity. Interesting ; but caterpillars and slugs are still with us.

Those who criticize modern railways may reflect that away back in 1892 railway travellers journeyed in a smoky gloom. However, science came to the rescue. Penny-in-the-slot machines were planned for railway carriages. On inserting a penny, the traveller obtained half an hour's pleasing radiance from a 3-candle-power electric light ! This, as the sponsors enthusiastically forecast, was welcomed by the sophisticated travellers.

The railway authorities provided dim oil lamps, but these were so weak and oily that they made the gloom seem worse. The power for the small lamps cost the railways nothing as it was generated by the moving train.

Talking of lights, do you know that an attempt was once made to get rid of the wooden match? Away back in 1891, a Swedish engineer invented a new form of " lucifer match " almost as involved as some of the fancy cigarette lighters on the market today. The basis of it was a roll of paraffin paper carried in a metal case something like that of a tape measure. Along the roll of paper were small projections composed of the igniting material. One end of the paper protruded from the case and, on being given a hearty tug, came away alight. In practice, it seldom worked, so the wooden match is still in business.

The scientists of grandfather's day probed into the effects of music on animals. We all know that there is nothing so shattering as listening to little Jennifer pounding the piano. The scientists chose a chimpanzee named Jack as their assistant in this wonderful experiment. So that he could be easily distinguished from the men of science, he wore a straw hat. When Jack first heard a violin his hair stood erect and he tried to hide in his blanket. Jack stayed under the blanket until the violinist " reproduced the sound of the bagpipes." A change immediately came over him. His joy knew no bounds. He turned head over heels and tore up his straw hat in delight. The music that had led Scots to victory brought inspiration to the chimpanzee.

These are a few of the " scientific " achievements of the past. What have our modern scientists done for the peace and comfort of the world? There have been miracles in the advancement of medicine and surgery, but, beyond these, how deeply are we in debt to science ?



## ANZAC DAY AT TABULAM

On Saturday, 25th April, all residents and children of Tabulam Aboriginal Station were invited to take part in the Anzac Day Service and Sports.

The station children marched with the school children from Tabulam, Drake, and Baryulgil Public Schools, and helped form the Guard of Honour at the Cenotaph.

The dress of the Guard of Honour from the Tabulam Aboriginal Station consisted of:—White Tee shirts with a letter " T " in green on the front, white shorts, with green stripe down the sides, white sandshoes. The Public School children wore their different coloured athletic outfits, with white shoes, and all did themselves credit in their dress, marching and general behaviour.

Amongst the wreath bearers in the march were, Albert Torrens, with a wreath of roses from the Aboriginal School, and the Manager, with a wreath of pink cactus dahlias, from Manager, Matron and residents of Tabulam Aboriginal Station. This wreath

was made by a resident, Marjorie Marsh. It was a masterpiece, and was greatly admired.

There was a very big attendance at the Anzac Day Service, with station residents, and people from the whole surrounding district.

Extra seating accommodation was loaned from the station for the Service held in the Tabulam Hall.

After the Service, all the school children were given lunch by the R.S.L. and the balance of the day was taken up by a well organised Sports Afternoon, in which 40 odd children from the station took part. Prizes were given to all place-getters in each event, and fruit, drinks and sweets were given during the afternoon, and in the evening a Barbecue was held.

The residents of Tabulam Aboriginal Station wish to thank the Tabulam R.S.L. for the wonderful day given to their children.