

Pete's Page

Hello Kids,

Remember all the times I've told you how important school is? I'll bet you do if you read my page in *Dawn* each month.

This month I'm not going to write a word about it. I'll leave it to world bantamweight boxing champion Lionel Rose. And I'm sure you will take notice of what *he* says.

From the *Sydney Morning Herald*, 6-6-68

Lionel tells fans: school is first.

Lionel Rose, the world bantamweight boxing champion, "came out punching" today when he heard that Aboriginal boys at Mount Isa in Queensland were skipping special homework classes because they wanted to be boxers.

Rose, who frequently "wagged" school at the Gippsland towns of Drouin and Warragul, said he bitterly regretted his own lack of formal education.

"It's fine for any kid to have a good left hand," he said. "But being able to use the right nouns and verbs lasts longer, and it pays off better in most cases."

Example

Rose today wrote to Mr H. Kennett, chairman of the Opal group at Mount Isa which helps Aboriginal and other children with their homework, asking him to pass a message to the children.

He wrote: "I was upset to hear some of the boys at Mount Isa are missing their special classes because they say they want to be boxers like me.

"That's the worst kind of example I'd like to be.

"I'd like you to tell the boys from me that the more they can learn now the better it will be for them later on in life, no matter what they do.

"I'm doing correspondence courses to catch up on the things I should have learned as a kid.

"I wish I'd studied harder when I had the chance. I wish I was better educated."

Lionel Rose is only 20 years old, boys and girls, but he knows the score. Take his advice and you won't be sorry.

'Bye for now kids,

Pete

See you next month.



What is it?

See if you can recognize what this picture shows. This is not a competition. Look for the answer on page 6

