

# The Boxer and his Bible

## Coogan Brown has plans

Aboriginal welterweight Coogan Brown is training for his most important fight—against evil.

Coogan is saving his glove earnings to buy a truck and tour Australia as a missionary, spreading the Good Word among his people.

Coogan's wife will accompany him.

She sings hymns and he plays the guitar.

Coogan is a slim, 5 ft. 10 in. southpaw.

He is 24 and sports a thin, elegant moustache and sideburns.

### ***Reads Bible twice a day***

Coogan belongs to the Baptist faith, reads the Bible morning and night and has a preference for the New Testament, particularly the Book of John.

Brown, who was born at Taree, is a timber-worker in the Wellington district.

His right name is Jim Simon.

He took the name Brown for fights because he was an avid reader of Carter Brown detective stories.

For some obscure reason somebody tagged him with the nickname "Coogan".

He has a brother fighting also as Brown, nicknamed "Elvis", because he listens to records of the adenoid-contortionist Presley.

Coogan packs a hefty punch.

He has had 38 fights, losing only three.

Many of his wins have been by knockout.

His latest was in Melbourne recently when he stopped Victorian welter champion Tom Sloan in the seventh round.

Coogan finds that in the boxing ring as in spiritual belief, Right is Might.

### ***Backyard Gymnasium***

He is a softly-spoken unassuming character who doesn't smoke or drink.

He does six miles of roadwork a day, boxes in a gymnasium in his backyard and for speed hitting practises on a tennis ball fastened to floor and ceiling by a rubber strand stretched through the ball.

Coogan said "I have a brother a preacher at Taree.

"He boxed under the name of Tony Simon and trained with Dave Sands.

"He is a full-time worker among the aborigines, and I want to be the same—a member of the United Aboriginal Mission.

"I want to preach the gospel all over Australia.

"My wife and I have sung and played the guitar over the air at Dubbo.

### ***Takes Bible to fights***

"My daughter, Marjorie Dawn, as well as my wife, will go with me on my missionary work.

"Sometimes I take the Bible to my fights.

"I find it a great help in fighting life as well as my opponents.

"It keeps my mind at ease.

"Although my daughter is only two, she understands.

"She cries for me at night to read the Bible to her."

Coogan played Rugby League football at Wellington as outside centre.

He was a try-scorer and goal-kicker.

Coogan gave up football for fights.

They'll put more punch in his missionary campaigns.



Another fine black and white sketch from Betty Black of Murrin Bridge. This young lady promises to be an accomplished artist.