THE REGIONAL DAILY

the world's a fire
    on the banks of the Condamine
that everyone in town knows was lit
    by the Austin kids
but The Daily, with journalistic care,
    pretends the police are checking leads
(they told Old Man Austin, once more and
    it's time away for young John)
And the price of wool is dropping
    faster than the Specials at Dodd's this year
and every other year it seems
But the Cricket team won
    and the photo proves it
so it deserves the full page story.
there's little else to boast about
    now the Water Board have left town.
And I see young Alice Mason has
    saved enough to compete in Sydney.
    that Dance was worth the effort
of a clean shirt and tie.
But still the Brigade need money
    and the fruit shop that opened last January
closed yesterday
    and the school lost another teacher
but the kids and the Principal
    still wander the streets
planting trees, and selling biscuits.
And next time the Premier's in town
    The Daily is going to print a few truths
right up there on page one.
And the Births and Deaths column
    vies for space with Garage Sales
while the For Sale column
    has a new partner called Personal
where Chantel is taking callers
Steven Herrick, "The Regional Daily"; John Mateer, "9.14AM 15/4"

up on Dexter Street
proving The Daily is a liberal newspaper
and like this town, and Chantel,
needs the money
quick.

John Mateer

9.14AM 15/4

The '50s, first time
they saw a white man,

Maralinga was it? Those

blackfellas saw him
saying, “Go away, Go away”