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Bernie!

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Manning 6152  
21/8/88

I was very pleased to read the poem "The Not-so-good Sunburnt Country". I recently saw a TV programme on Banjo Patterson and Henry Lawson and their arguments over what the bush meant to Australians. I've also been thinking of the effects on my quality of life of continuing, let alone a vastly increased rate of, immigration.

I've wondered why Australians are so in favour of immigration and it seemed to me that although we have an out-door lifestyle, very little of that involves the bush. For many people Australia is just a nice climate and a place to work and watch TV.

It seemed to me that a poem was about the only way to express my sentiments. For the first time I realized the value of poetry. My wish then was that I had the talent. Hence my sincere appreciation of Bruce Dawes' poem.

Warwick Boardman

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