

BRADMAN GETS DOWN TO BUSINESS

Penetrating the gloom of an April day, white shirts and flannels make the season's first appearance on Lord's green grass. At the Mecca of cricket Don Bradman makes an early start to business. And with Bradman (as with Ron Hamence, here busy signing autographs, and Sammy Loxton, the Victorian pace bowler) cricket is a business, just as it is with Arthur Morris and every other member of the Aussie team.

Morris - of New South Wales - is the first one at the nets. On the other side is Sidney Barnes - the team's opening batsman. Bradman, now 39 years old and in his last season of test cricket, gives the crowd a display of versatile strokes that may make England's bowlers retire and take to playing skittles.

Slow motion brings you the classic style of Bill Brown bowling to his skipper. There is no sign of lumbago in Bradman's leg stroke.

Sammy Loxton (a useful bat apart from his pace bowling) seems fit enough for the first test. And so is Sidney Barnes - who last year played in Lancashire League cricket.

If the Aussies bring their business weather with them, cricket news may even make us forget the world's headlines.