

AUSSIES STRIKE IT RICH

Eureka! It's gold out there, down under! It all began when a 70 ounce nugget was dug up by road repairers in Wedderburn High Street. In a flash, gold fever gripped Australia. All roads lead to Wedderburn, as prospectors hurry to the Victorian town to be in at the start. It's first in, first served with two brothers from Sydney leading the rush. Wedderburn is turned into another Klondyke as a new generation of forty-miners stake their claims in Australia's new gold discovery.

Surveyors mingle with get-rich-quick merchants, and it's each man for himself. Digging and sluicing goes on for 24 hours a day, for though the first strikes were close to the surface, Wedderburn's new pioneers expect to spot the rich lead lower down. The little town is at a standstill - for even the stationmaster - lone guardian of the once-a-week railway - is out there digging a ditch.

In the Chapman backyard, Mr. Chapman is near a big find. And here it is - another 70 ounce lump of gold-studded rock. Take a good look at it - it's worth more than a thousand pounds.

The Chapman's lucky strike is only a beginning. Wedderburn locals say there's plenty more down there. If it pays dividends like this, it's worth while keeping at it.