

TO AUSTRALIA FOR THE ASHES

The STRATHEDON sails with what we all hope will prove to be a load of trouble for Australia ... the M.C.C. touring team. There's probably never before been such hard work to get a team together - even to getting a Captain, but in Freddie Brown we've got a fighter who's worth his place in any team. As Vice, he has test veteran Denis Compton.

Godfrey Evans (left) and Alec Bedser, as wicketkeeper and opening bowler, are the old firm by now ... Len Hutton will look after team-mate Brian Close, who has special leave from the Army for the tour. He and Bob Berry are the babies of the team. On the bowling of Doug Wright victory may depend. We look to Trevor Bailey for speed, and Simpson and Sheppard for a lot of runs. The team isn't given a chance by many pessimists, but in Denis and their Captain they'll find the inspiration and encouragement they need. Fighters all, given the ever necessary luck they may yet surprise Australia and ourselves.