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NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA.

Australia's test team leave for England. Ian Craig gets a farewell handshake from swimming star Dawn Fraser - so do Jim Burke and Ron Archer.

And here are Rutherford, Mackay, Burge - and Archer again. Skipper Ian Johnson, with Ray Lindwall.

Australia's banned a lot of imports recently, but the Ashes weren't on the list. These lads intend to bring them back - but there's an old saying about not counting chickens!

Sydney's biggest fire for many years destroys more than a million pounds' worth of food in a Sydney cold storage plant. Firemen from 21 brigades fight the blaze for 36 hours, and in spite of their oxygen apparatus, six of them are overcome by smoke and fumes. Others battle with the inferno from extension ladders a hundred feet above street level.

It's a tough fire to fight; there's nearly five thousand tons of butter down there, as well as huge stores of poultry, cheese and meat.

Automatic hoses pour millions of gallons of water into the blaze, but it seems to have little effect. Firemen watch anxiously for signs of the outbreak spreading to other waterfront storage plants.

The fire started at seven o'clock in the morning, and when night falls over Sydney Harbour, the flames are still raging. It takes all of 36 hours to get them under control.

New South Wales life guards hold their annual State Surf Championship at Freshwater Bay, Sydney. The sea's so rough that many major events have to be postponed, but the heat races go on, come hell or high water. And bréééé, this is both!

On the way out through the enormous Pacific breakers, it's a neck-and-neck struggle to reach the comparatively smooth water beyond. Some make it - but quite a few don't. This isn't sheer bravado - to save lives, they have to be ready to go out in seas like this.

Now for the long run back. It's not so much a question of getting in first, the winning crew is judged on style. They can worry about style!

Crews strain at their oars to weather the swirling cross-currents as each giant wave breaks.

One of the big open boats is damaged beyond repair, and four of the crew are injured. But to these volunteer life-savers, with their fine record of rescues, it's all in the day's work, as they pit their strength and endurance against the season's toughest surf.