‘SQUATTING’
on Crown Lands in New South Wales

By J.F. CAMPBELL
Edited by B.T. Dowd
This publication has been made possible by a grant from the Government of New South Wales to the Royal Australian Historical Society to help the Society’s work in regional history. The grant was made on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Cultural Grants.
## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXPLORATION AND EARLY 'SQUATTING'</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRST OFFICIAL PASTORAL LICENCES</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISTRICTS, LICENCES AND COMMISSIONERS</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROTESTS AGAINST THE REGULATIONS</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE 'SQUATTERS' ACT OF 1846-47</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Foreword

'Squatting' on Crown Lands in New South Wales is published by the Royal Australian Historical Society to help regional historical societies and individual research workers in their investigations of the early history of the inland areas. It is based on two important and valuable articles written by the late J. F. Campbell in 1929 and 1931 respectively for the Society's Journal (Vol. XV, Part 2, and Vol. XVII, Part 1) now in very short supply.

The articles have been edited and annotated by Mr. B. T. Dowd, F.R.A.H.S., whose knowledge of land holdings from the foundation of Australia is outstanding.

This is the third publication to be issued by the Royal Australian Historical Society in the interests of district historical workers. Its predecessors, Local History in Australia: A Guide for Beginners, by Philip Geeves, and Local Historical Museums in Australia, by E. W. Dunlop, have proved of great value and have been widely appreciated. The Council of the Society believes that this work will prove of equal worth.

ALLAN E. BAX.
President.
Introduction

The late J. F. Campbell was one of the soundest, most experienced and painstaking contributors to the Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society in its middle years. The republication by the Society of two of his most important Journal articles will be welcomed and appreciated by all who are interested in original official records on early pastoral expansion beyond the "limits of location" and in the account of how the squatters settled unchallenged, unchecked and unprotected until the introduction of Government licences caught up with them by the Act of Council of 1836.

Readers will notice that, as editor of this booklet, I have introduced some extra explanatory material. When Campbell wrote the original articles he was somewhat restricted by having to conform to the space limitations imposed by a Journal article and I have no doubt that he would have liked to expand his work. All the annotations I have made are printed inside square brackets and those of paragraph length are indented.

Because the two articles were written and published at different times and the second was complementary to the first, the subject matter did not follow a strict chronological line. I have therefore transferred some sections to more appropriate places in the text but without omitting any of the important original material. I believe that this will reveal a clearer picture of the course of early 'squatting' history.

B. T. DOWD.
They were trespassers in the eyes of the law . . . but it was useless to try to restrain settlement within prescribed limits while there was valuable grassed land stretching for hundreds of miles beyond the official boundaries.

Ernest Scott,

*A Short History of Australia.*