

New home down under

How Hills couple adapts to Australia

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

When Shirley Paulson looks out of her windows in the morning, she can watch the sun rise over a lake and office buildings of Perth, Australia. In the evening, she has learned to quit looking for the Big Dipper. Instead, she sees the Southern Cross in the sky.

After five years away from Farmington Hills, Mrs. Paulson has fallen in love with Perth and Australia.

"Australians have a phrase that sounds strange to Americans: 'It's bloody beautiful.' And that's the only way to describe it," she said of her new home.

The Paulson family's trek from their home near Eight Mile and Grand River to a split level ranch in a Perth subdivision began seven years ago.

After her son, visited Australia and fell in love with it, the idea of moving there became part of the household.

After the children grew up and moved out, Mrs. Paulson looked around her too-large kitchen and decided it was time to let another growing family use the house.

ALTHOUGH her children enjoyed bringing their friends back to see the old homestead, the idea of giving up the house began to grow in appeal. Finally, in 1971, Mrs. Paulson and her husband Gordon, applied for an indefinite visa.

They were turned down by the Australians because they hadn't found a job, but eventually were granted permission.

During the two years they waited for their visa, the Paulsons read and studied about Australia. They had their city picked out before they left Farmington Hills. Perth seemed to be a growing town, well endowed with minerals and a good climate.

Once they arrived, they assumed it would be easy for them to understand other residents since Australia is an English-speaking nation.

"I didn't understand a word they said," she remembered.

"Instead of saying 'Can I help you?' or 'How are you?' Australian salespersons will say 'Are you right?'

Other bits of Australian slang and information were at first confusing to the Paulsons.

"Your ear has to become attuned to the accent," Mrs. Paulson said, tilting her head.

rence that falls short of description, according to Mrs. Paulson.

"There are largely migrants in Australia. They're people who left their homeland with a dream. I love those kind of people," said Mrs. Paulson, shaking her closely bobbed silver hair.

"Unfortunately, there was homesickness," she said.

To chase away the blues, she began to search through a phone book looking for anything that sounded American. Finally, she found the number of the local Amway office.

"We became a distributor and it was the nicest thing that could happen to us," she said.

They became the fourth distributors of the company's household and cosmetic goods in Australia.

For the Paulsons, their new occupation involved more than selling the Amway line. They were helping build businesses in their new land.

"By your own efforts you can better yourself. We're helping others build their businesses and we're promoting the principle of free enterprise throughout the world. It's what made America so great," she said.

WHILE the Paulsons and the eldest of their three sons, enjoy their new country, they miss some of the products of the states.

On her return trip, she has been instructed by her husband to bring a case of Vernor's gingerale. Among the things that she's missed is smoked bacon and paved highways.

"I like the pace of life in Australia. It's easy. But there is only one road between Sidney and Perth. And 200 miles of that road is unpaved. It boggles the American mind," she said.

"It took us eight hours to travel those 200 miles. There's no petrol stations, billboards, nothing. Just bush. That's it. The rest is desert. You carry your petrol and your water with you."

"There's an awesome beauty about it. It's created an awesome people."

Australians take advantage of their country's beauty and warm climate. Usually, the first year of employment provides four weeks of vacation. Vacations then increase with years of service.

Mrs. Paulson's return to the United States will help her decide whether she wants to continue living in Australia or return home.

IT ALSO GIVES her a chance to be

introduced to her 2-year-old granddaughter and her daughter-in-law.

"I told my daughter-in-law when she

married, 'I'm giving you the best wedding present—a mother-in-law that's 14,000 miles away,'" she quipped.

Elsie Young, tailor, had a client who wanted a pick pocket proof pocket. Intrigued, she placed a Want Ad offering a fee for the best design. She received an answer from a retired pick-pocket, who relieved the fee and supplied her with a design that's in the hands of a patent attorney.

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SETTING UP your GARAGE SALE




Let's see... the first thing I have to get is... oh, yes! A garage!!!

All sale items should be priced. Obtain a supply of small change and small bills so you can make change. Set up a headquarters table, and be sure you have ample display tables.

Garage Sales are a fun, friendly and profitable experience. To insure the success of your garage sale, list it in the Classified section so thousands of folks all over the area will know about your sale.

Your ad should list location, directions, dates of sale and a list of a few key items. A Classified Ad-Visor will be happy to help you write your ad, just call


ADVERTISING your GARAGE SALE



Don't be grumpy, George. You said you'd help me with my sale.

Tell your friends and neighbors, put a sign in your supermarket, barber shop, and laundromat. Obviously, the best way to advertise your sale is in the Classified advertising section of this newspaper. Thousands of folks sales.

Having a DOUBLE GARAGE SALE

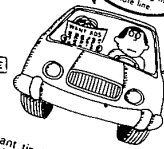


But Mabel, I'm color-blind!

We'll color code our prices, Ethel. You can be blue.

A garage sale tip many people have found worthwhile is combining their garage sale with that of a friend or neighbor. It saves on advertising costs, provides companionship and a helping hand. Be sure to keep separate inventory sheets. It's a good idea to use color-coded pricing for easy identification.


SHOW 'EM THE WAY to your GARAGE SALE



There's funny about crossing the state line.

An important tip for a successful Garage Sale is the placement of large, clearly printed road entrances, intersections and turns. Large Garage Sale arrows help direct traffic your way.


WHAT TO SELL in your GARAGE SALE



How much did you want for the garage, anyway?

Clothing, toys, tools, furniture, musical instruments, electrical appliances, typewriters... in fact, most any useful item. Your idle items will have value to someone.

PRICING your GARAGE SALE ITEMS



GARAGE SALE HAGGLERS WELCOME

Every item in your garage sale must be priced to save valuable time for both you and your customer. As a rule, or thumb, electrical appliances should bring one-fourth the original cost. Clothing about one-third the original cost. The value of antique items should be checked in an antique items pricing guide.

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