

# FOUR DIE IN HEAT

The heat wave in New South Wales yesterday caused four deaths, bringing the total of deaths in the heat wave to 15 in N.S.W., Victoria, South Australia, and West Australia.

## 116 AT SEASIDE

A registration of 122 degrees at Wilcannia, New South Wales, was the highest for the State this summer. A remarkable temperature for a town located right on the sea coast was 116 at Bega, which was surrounded by bush fires. A maximum temperature of 92 degrees in Sydney made conditions uncomfortable.

A maximum temperature of 108.5 degrees recorded at Canberra at 3 p.m. was the highest on record, and was the fifth successive century.

Although a mild southerly change brought temporary relief to Melbourne, the heat wave continued unabated in most inland districts.

After five consecutive centuries, the temperature did not reach the century at Adelaide.

The record high temperatures experienced in the south-eastern States resulted from a low pressure control over most parts of Australia, and northerly winds sweeping down from the Gulf of Carpentaria over the arid interior, the divisional meteorologist (Mr. A. S. Richards) said yesterday.

Although Brisbane had not been affected, inland parts of Queensland had shared in the heat wave, he added.

## 85.5 In Brisbane

The temperature at Thargomindah yesterday was 113 degrees. This was the 27th consecutive day on which the century mark was passed. At Charleville, 106 degrees was recorded.

The maximum temperature in Brisbane yesterday was 85.5 degrees, which is only 1 degree above normal. The minimum reading was 71 degrees—21 above normal.

The outstanding feature of the weather chart was the movement in a south-easterly direction of the storm centre on the north-west coast of Western Australia, which was now in the Port Headland district.

A prediction that the Australia-wide heat wave should break to-day was made by Mr. Inigo Jones, director of the Croyhamhurst Observatory, who is in Canberra as a delegate to the Science Congress.

He added that the heat wave was not a forerunner of drought but of rain.