

NEW SOUTH WALES
THE FLOODS RETREAT.

As the flood waters retreat, the people of New South Wales set about the heart-breaking task of clearing their devastated homes. 20 major towns were hit by the flood - the worst in Australia's history. Hundreds of families were made completely homeless. Thousands have but a shell of a home to come back to. Damage throughout New South Wales runs into millions of pounds. But the cost, in terms of human suffering, can not be calculated.

Under a pile of debris lies a wrecked lorry, flung by the full force of the raging water against a house.

Only days ago this was a thriving business. Now, groping in the thick, slimy mud, helpers search for valuables. This is a watch. The mud that covers the land brings with it disease. So, hurriedly, an evacuation plan is put into action. Old folk, the very young and invalids are first to leave with their families.

For a short time they leave their hometowns, but they will be back to help fashion new homes from the wreckage. Their task is hard and, although Britain is helping the Australian Government, money will be short. Insurance companies will not assist, for, ironically, floods are termed "An Act of God"
