
THE 50 YEARS

IT is half a century since there was a Queen on the Throne. Queen Victoria died in 1901. The new Queen, Elizabeth II, was crowned, amid scenes of unsurpassed splendour, on June 2nd.

It has been 50 years of change and turbulence and recurring crises, but also of astonishing scientific and economic progress.

The Australian nation was born with the Federation of the States in 1901. In the first half of the 20th Century it has grown mightily in stature—political, military, economic and social. From a country mainly of primary producers, it has become one of the highly industrialised nations, with industries rivalling in technical competence, if not in size, the best the world can show.

At present Australia is engaged in a great adventure; it is passing through a period of development, in magnitude and potentiality unequalled in its history. It faces the second half of the 20th Century on the threshold of national maturity and greatness. To show briefly some of the gains accomplished in the past fifty years, we have published this special four-page coloured supplement.