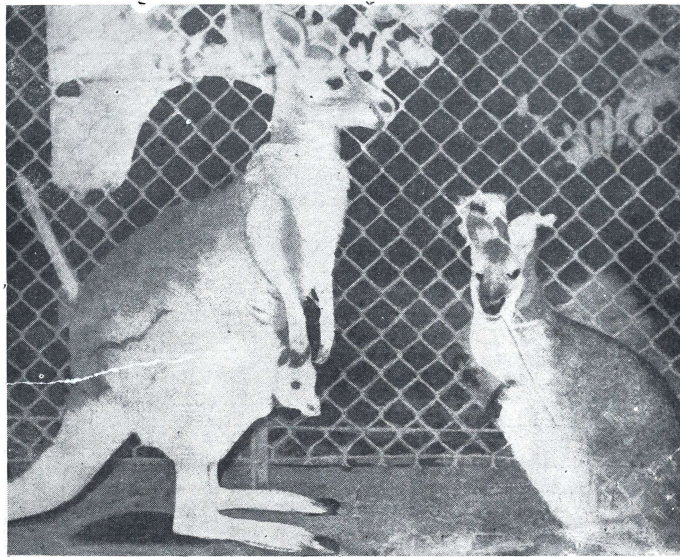


**MOTHER KANGAROO AND HER BABY**

WHEN a baby kangaroo is born it is no longer than your finger, but it has signs of a head and a tail. Mother Kangaroo puts her baby into a skin pocket on her body. Here it stays for some time. In this pocket it feeds on its mother's milk. In a few months it grows big enough to run beside her, but it goes back to this skin pocket to be fed and to rest.

It is strange that Mother Kangaroo has such a small baby. But kangaroos live in very warm places in Australia where it is hard to find water. It would be hard for Mother Kangaroo to carry a large baby very far in her hunt for water.

Mother Kangaroo can sit up neatly on her two hind legs and her long, fat tail as if on a three-legged stool. From a broad base, her body tapers upward in a very odd way to narrow sloping shoulders and a small, deer-like head. Her full bright eyes glance about and her rabbit-ears stand erect, listening.

Sometimes Mother Kangaroo drops on all fours and eats like a rabbit, hopping about on her hind legs. When she wants to go somewhere she doesn't waste time in walking. She just stretches up on her hind legs and leaps. No wonder Mother Kangaroo can jump so far and so high.

The kangaroo is a queer animal.