

THE MANAGER'S MESSAGE

This month it gives me great pleasure to congratulate our Acid Plant Operators on their record average output of 1050 tons mono acid per week over the four weeks ending 20th April, and I understand even better results may be expected. This is indeed a creditable performance and will enable us to increase superphosphate production, and thus help relieve the heavy demand for this important fertilizer.

W. J. O'Connell

THE LOG OF THE "LAPWING."

(Contd.)

we were O.K. Following the leads, we were soon picking our way from light to light inside, to finish at 9.15 p.m.

Trying to find our mooring in Rushcutters Bay, we cruised around Sydney Harbour until 11.30 before finding it, and then off to bed. Only to have our sleep disturbed by the songs of drunks in the nearby park and the snoring of a particular fitter up forward.

(Note: He does go to sleep with his pipe!).

After our experiences, we did not expect to be placed in the race, but to our surprise, found that we had finished fourth on handicap.

For the return trip on Thursday night before Good Friday, 23 boats participated, and in the dim light the start at 10 p.m. was quite a sight.

A south-east wind and swell left from a previous southerly blow, made sea-sickness appear earlier than before, and cramped our style somewhat. However, we completed the course at 9 a.m., tired and weary, about 200 yards behind the second last boat in almost a flat calm, to be placed 14th on handicap.

To summarise: Ocean racing in a small boat is a test on the endurance of the crew, and their stomachs. Our yacht was, as far as I know, the smallest to have raced from Swansea to Sydney. And, after racing in Sydney Harbour, with its shipping, tides and rollers coming through the Heads, Lake Macquarie is a yachtsman's paradise, to which we were darned glad to return.

"MAC" AND THE BEANSTALK

No, this is not the beginning of a fairy story — both "Mac" and the bean are real enough, as the accompanying picture will show.



It concerns our Ass^t. Chief Chemist, Mr. C. H. McDonnell, who is seen holding a New Guinea bean, one of a number of which he has cultivated in his home garden. These beans grow to a remarkable length, this particular specimen, which was 4ft. 8in. long is not the largest grown by Mr. McDonnell. Since the photograph was taken another one has measured 5 feet, whilst the smallest was about 3ft. 6in. long.

A good plug for Sulphide fertilizer, eh, "Mac"?

(By the way, these beans are not only big, they're tasty, too, and make a very edible addition to the vegetable list — I know, I've sampled them).