

But the real success came a year later, in September 1952, when I was able to organise a series of scientific film screenings during the biannual Meeting of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science, ANZAAS for short. In that year the Meeting, attended by about 1500 scientists from all over the Commonwealth, took place at Sydney University and the Wallace Theatre was filled each day with a sizeable audience. My efforts were much appreciated, as the letters of thanks from the Officers of the Association testified. I was very pleased.

At that time, on 30 September 1952, I wrote a three-column full-page article with a photograph which was published in the *Sydney Morning Herald*. It had the title "How Instruments will record Atom Explosion" and referred to the British tests at Monte Bello Island, north of Australia. Most of the article praised high-speed cinematography at the relatively low level of about 2500 frames per second, which I could achieve with my camera. I knew little until much later, about the ultra-high speed drum cameras which are used as standard for atomic explosions with frequencies of several million frames per second.

I was glad to have this free editorial publicity for my work, which was entirely due to Tony Whitlock, at that time the Chief of Staff at the *Sydney Morning Herald*. He was a great amateur film maker and a frequent attender at my monthly scientific film screenings at Sydney University. At the time of the ANZAAS meeting and the Monte Bello tests, his superb news-sense chose a good subject for his paper and I admired him greatly in his important job. We became good friends and even made some amateur movies together in which our wives and we alternatively took parts or worked the cameras. One I remember was called "Jonny and Frankie were Lovers" and our two families swapped lovers—with results now long forgotten, but great fun at the time.

But back to serious work. In that year I gave two talks about my subject, one in Canberra to the Film Centre and one in Sydney to the Royal Society of New South Wales on "Science and Cinematography". It might be appropriate to say a few brief words about Canberra, the Federal Capital of the Commonwealth, but still a very unfinished Capital at that time. [See Title 316] I often visited the Australian National University, driving the Lagonda over the then rough country roads.

The Commonwealth was inaugurated in 1901, and in 1913 the US architect Buley Griffin was selected to plan the new Capital. The central ornamental lake, called after the architect, was still a dusty field when I first saw it, and only few of the grandiose new buildings had appeared. The new Parliament is today the greatest of them and I have always admired the town for its trees.