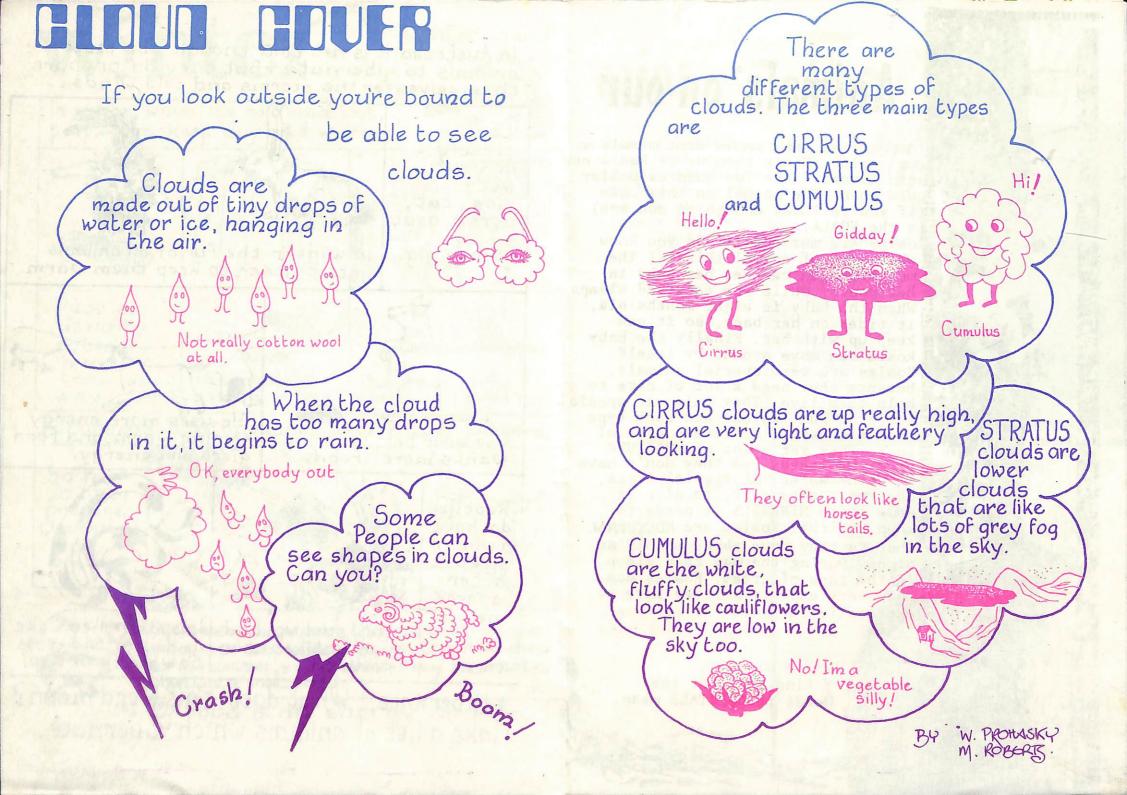


BY W. ROHASKY





Animals on our

Last year, we had a series about animals on our coins. Since then we've had a new coin issued - the Two Hundred Dollar gold coin. The animal on this coin (if you're lucky enough to own one) is the KOALA.

koalas are marsupials. Do you know what kind of animal this is? The nother koala carries her baby in her pouch, while she eats and sheeps. When the baby is eight months old, it rides on her back, so it can keep up with her. Finally the baby koala can move around by itself. Koalas are very special animals, because they need a lot of care to help them live. They only eat special sorts of gum leaves, and each type of koala eats a different type of leaf. They get a lot of MOISTURE from the leaves, so they don't have to drink water. At special times, the koala eats dirt, to give it some extra MINERALS it needs to keep healthy, Koalas are NOCTURNAL that is they move about mainly at night. During the day they sleep in the tops of trees, Koalas can move very quickly if they have to, especially in trees.

coins ~ Jhe Koal

Because koalas depend on trees so much, bushfires and tree cutting are its two biggest enemies. Once, koalas were shot for their fur. Now they are protected by law. How else can we help save the koala?

What else can you find out about our koalas? Do you know what color they are, or how many toes they have ? Perhaps its time you tried to find out!

- OUR NEW COIN-

* Find out what the Words in CAPITALS mean.

