

The Great Depression (1951)

JAMES SCULLIN: For my own people of my native country...

NARRATOR: James Scullin returned from Great Britain to face a crisis. In 1929, the end of the Boom had come. Export prices fell. The abundant loan money of the 20s dried up. We heard an ominous word, Depression.

Even the opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge reflected the unrest of the day as the unknown Francis de Groot raced the State Premier, John Lang, to the formal ribbon.

We had plenty to sell, but world markets were hard to reach. The Ottawa Agreement of 1932 helped for a time. [Sheep bleating]. Trade treaties made some sales possible.