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Dawn



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A MAGAZINE FOR THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE OF N.S.W.

AUGUST, 1960





Our Cover . . .

Australia has won herself a proud reputation throughout the world for her sportsmen and her soldiers. Each new generation brings a fresh crop of outstanding talent and perhaps young Tony Peachee may one day be numbered among the cricketing "greats" of this country. But to cricket students what is wrong with his stance?



DAWN

is a monthly magazine produced by the N.S.W. Aborigines' Welfare Board for the Aboriginal people of New South Wales.

Editor: E. COLIN DAVIS, J.P., F.C.E.S.

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Tremendous Enthusiasm Shown Purfleet Branch of C.W.A.

Probably the most representative district gathering ever seen was at Purfleet recently to witness the formation of the Purfleet Branch of the Country Women's Association by State President, Mrs. Jefferson Bate.

Responding to 14 addresses of welcome, Mrs. Bate said :

"I don't think any Branch in the Association has ever been formed with more expressions of goodwill and wishes for good luck than at Purfleet this afternoon.

"I think that's a wonderful send-off for you, and I'm quite sure that with such a send-off this Branch can't help but be a magnificent success.

Not Just for Aborigines

"I want to stress that we are not forming this afternoon an Aborigines Branch. We are forming the Purfleet Branch of the Country Women's Association.

"We don't recognise any distinctions in our Association. We are just country women.

"And so, in this Branch that is formed this afternoon, we can have any members at all. It doesn't matter where they come from or what their background, provided they are prepared to behave in a way that will make them worthy of the great privileges that they will receive as members of the C.W.A.

"A very famous author said 'that what women had to give is more needed in the world today than what men have always given.'

"And that is being proved correct every day that passes."

Mrs. Ella Evans, of Port Macquarie, President of the Mid North Coast Group of C.W.A., presided at the packed meeting.

Officials on the stage besides Mesdames Bate and Evans, were Mrs. T. McLennan, of Laurieton Group, Mrs. C. Hickson, Secretary of the M.N.C., Group Representative, Mrs. J. McKeon, President of the sponsor Taree Branch C.W.A., Member for Lyne, Mrs. P. E. Lucock and Mrs. Lucock, Mayor of Taree, Ald. E. Martin, President of the Manning Shire Cr. V. Ruprecht, Mr. A. L. Thomas, Manager Purfleet Aboriginal Station and Mrs. Thomas, Sister Dorothy O'Brien, Lady Welfare Officer of the Aborigines Board, Mrs. Morris, of Kempsey, President of the newly-formed Burnt Bridge-Green Hills Branch of C.W.A.

Ministers of Religion, the Reverends J. Eddy (Kendall Presbyterian), K. Coaldrake (Kendall Church of England), Brigadier Boaden (Taree Salvation Army Citadel), A. Meldrum (St. Paul's Presbyterian, Taree), J. Lockyer (Taree Baptist), Canon R. D. McCulloch (St. John's, Taree), C. R. Jessop (Cooperook C. of E.), Pastor Maher of the Station.

Mesdames L. Pampling (Manning River Branch of the Sub-Normal Welfare Association), J. Adamson (Senior Citizens Home Auxiliary, Dr. J. M. Redshaw, Nabitac (Quota Club of Taree), J. Whitelaw (R.S.L. Women's Auxiliary), W. E. Knowles (Division Commissioner Girl Guides), D. Worth (Association Civilian Widows), C. Meldrum (MRD Hospital Auxiliary), G. M. North (Taree Red Cross).

An outstanding feature of stage personalities was pianist, Mrs. Kate Davis, who accompanied the singing of our National Anthem.

All organisation representatives conveyed congratulations and good wishes to the Purfleet Branch and in the majority of cases made presentations of gifts to assist with the functioning of the branch.

Sharon Simon presented Mrs. Bate with an Early Victorian bouquet of sweet peas.

Officers elected at the formation were: Mrs. Ella Simon (President), Mrs. Maher (Secretary), Mrs. Pat Davis (Treasurer).

Vice-Presidents, Mesdames A. L. Thomas (Matron of the Station), Stella Russell, Thelma Slater and Elsie Allan.

Badges of Office kindly donated by Mrs. W. E. Griffith (Taree Branch) were presented by Mrs. Ella Evans to Mesdames Simon, Maher and Davis.

Orchid corsages were in turn presented to Mrs. Bate by Mrs. Simon and to Mrs. Simon by Mrs. Bate.

Congratulations from the floor of the hall were extended by Presidents of the following branches:—

Wingham (Mrs. C. Wedmore), Forster (Mrs. Gibbons), Kendall (Mrs. J. Eddy), Laurieton (Mrs. M. Sneddon), John River (Mrs. L. Sheriff), Tuncurry (Mrs. Ella Wright), Port Macquarie (Mrs. Burton on behalf of the C.W.A. President, Mrs. Baker).

Apologies were received from the Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare (Mr. Green), Mrs. B. L. Wright of Port Macquarie, M.N.C. Group Treasurer, Mrs. W. E. Griffith, Secretary Taree C.W.A. and C.W.A. Branches, at Kempsey, South West Rocks, Bowraville, Macksville, Nambucca Heads, Bellbrook, Wauchope and Gloucester.

Continuing with Mrs. Bate's address: "I think all of you know that we live in very strained times and that every day brings another development and more bewildering than what went the day before," the State President said.

"We hear all about atom bombs, jet planes, and all the extraordinary things that are happening, and sometimes we think, well I don't know, whatever we do we're just ordinary people, how do we carry on our lives in the face of these extraordinary things that are happening, and these great changes that are taking place every day in the world.



"And I think the thing that we have to remember is this. That the greater the amount of development that comes with all these scientific inventions the greater the need for the human touch of women.

"Because with all these amazing things that have happened, we've discovered that great social problems have developed with them. And because science has waved a magic wand, and brought wonderful changes about, it doesn't always follow that science can deal with the problems that come behind those wonderful things.

"And so we find that more than ever in this modern world the touch of humanity is necessary. And we find that it is women who have the greatest human touch.

"And we find that when things go wrong in the world, and when man's inventions brings trouble in their wake, that it's the human and healing hand of the women that has to come along and try and restore the world to order.

"I remember hearing a story that happened in Pakistan and India. They are two of the great countries in South East Asia. They had a division of religions in both countries.

"One country said, 'all the people who are not of this religion must leave our country.'

"And the other country said, 'all the people that are not of the other religion must leave ours'.

"And so the whole country was filled with people moving about from one country to another trying to find a place to live.

"You can imagine the great problems that arose because those people had no homes, no food and no shelter.

"So all the men met together in Parliament.

"They said: 'We must form Committees to solve these social problems. We must pass Acts to deal with this problem and that problem.'

"And do you know what the women did?

"They met together and set up soup kitchens all along the borders. The women had the faculties of getting right down to the base of all the human problems. They recognised straight away the simplest needs.

"Maybe the things they do aren't as spectacular as the things men do. Maybe they can't pass the Laws and can't make the Decrees, but they are the people that see the fundamental needs of other human beings.

"They are the people to whom we look when there is a human need in our midst.

"We have found that since all the changes that followed the invention of the atom bomb that we, the people of Australia, have had to try and start and think about security because we have found that we are the only people in this world who have a whole Continent to ourselves.

"Therefore, it is on our shoulders that falls the responsibility of seeing that this wonderful country that we have goes on to our children.

"When the Australian people realised that they invited lots of people to come from the other side of the world.

"They said, 'will you come in and help us hold this country? Will you come in and help us people this country?'

"When all these people came in we discovered that again there was a human problem.

"Men had done their job. They had passed the Bills, and arranged the mechanics of allowing all these people to come, but there was still the process of assimilating them.



Pretty little Lorella Edwards made a lovely Christmas Tree at the Cootamundra Girls' Home Juvenile Ball



ing these people into our communities because they were human beings and they had to come to a new country and they had to find their place.

“And do you know what has happened?”

“We’ve been so busy working out ways of assimilating these people who come from the other side of the ocean to settle in this country that we forgot

that we had an assimilation problem of our own right in this country.

“And so now we realise that we have two lots of people to assimilate into our community. The new Australians who have come from overseas, and the old Australians, who were here before we were here.

“Therefore, we women of the Country Women’s Association, feel that if we can do just a little towards bringing these people out into the community then we will more than justify whatever work we try to do.

“We feel that it isn’t a matter of us giving to you, this is a thing where all the women can come together. We hope that because you are going to join our Association that we’ll have the pleasure of getting to know you, of getting to understand you and of working with you.

“We hope that when you join our Association that you’ll find pleasure in working with us, learning to know us, and learning to understand us.

“There is a great deal more in it than that!”

“Not very long ago I had the very wonderful privilege of travelling in the countries of South East Asia. I had the pleasure of addressing a great hall full of women in every country in South East Asia.

“They were Japanese, Koreans, Vietmanese, Thailanders, Burmese, Indians, Indonesians, and Pacific Islanders. There were women of every colour, of human beings under the sun.

“And do you know what I discovered?”

“I discovered that when you talk to a great group of women like that there is always one point on which women meet together, it doesn’t matter what their colour, background, their religion, or what their way of life, the point was the welfare of the next generation.

“And so it doesn’t matter who we are, or what our background, we are all concerned to see that the children growing up get the best possible chance in the world of the future.

“And all these members in Purfleet are interested in that. They want to see that their children are clean; that their children are well clothed; that their children will have the right food so that they can be healthy children.

“And we all want that.

“We all want the children growing up to have the opportunity to be educated. We want to know that they’re going to have the opportunity to do whatever they want to do in life, and that they will have a background



that will enable them to become citizens of the community who can hold their heads up and walk along level with every other person in that community.

“Therefore, in our Association we hope that if we can help in our little way by extending friendship to the new members from Purfleet.

“If, perhaps, in our work we can teach them something of elementary hygiene, elementary child care, something perhaps of cooking, and of dressmaking, handicrafts that will give them a lot of pleasure, then we’ll be extremely happy.

“And, if in doing those little things, and if enjoying the companionship that you will have in our Branches, you’ll learn something that will help you give your children better home background, or help you to work out a better future for your children, then we’ll be more than satisfied with the little that we have been able to give you.

“And I want you to feel when you join this branch at Purfleet this afternoon, that you have all the good wishes of all the 28,000 members of the Country Women’s Association in N.S.W.

“I want you to know also that the formation of this Branch, your membership in this branch entitles you to every privilege in the Association.

“You can attend all the meetings, all the functions, and to you is open every privilege of membership.

“Therefore, on your behalf, I want to thank all these wonderful gentlemen who have paid us a very, very high compliment indeed by coming along today, because there isn’t one person on this stage who is not a very busy and very important person.”

Presentation

After performing the opening of the new Branch, Mrs. Bate received a gift from the Taree Branch peculiarly appropriate to the occasion.

It was a water-colour landscape of the Australian bush painted by aboriginal artist, Richard Simon, 34 year-old son of Mr. Joe Simon and Mrs. Ella Simon, first president of the Purfleet branch of the C.W.A.

Mr. Simon, who is a timber worker at Camden, was spending a few days at his parent’s home and when interviewed later he was happy to talk of his ambition to make painting his career, and to show some of his work.

Many of the paintings are in the Namitjira manner, as well as several seascapes done in soft muted tones.

His aboriginal design paintings were particularly interesting and combined traditional aboriginal design with modern treatment and attractive figure work.

Mr. Simon said he has never had any painting or drawing tuition, but started to paint when he was about twelve, whilst attending the Purfleet School.

Asked whether he painted from nature he smiled and said: “No, most of it is out of my head.”

Several paintings of tropical scenes, featuring breadfruit trees, were places he had seen and painted from memory.

But one painting which did not come “out of his head” was that of the Manning River Bridge which Taree C.W.A. Branch bought to hang in their club rooms.



OUR ROVING CAMERAMAN

THE aboriginal people in this State are scattered over a wide area, so far apart that many of them may never meet, but the magic camera can bring to us intimate glimpses of these people and enable us to become better acquainted with each other.

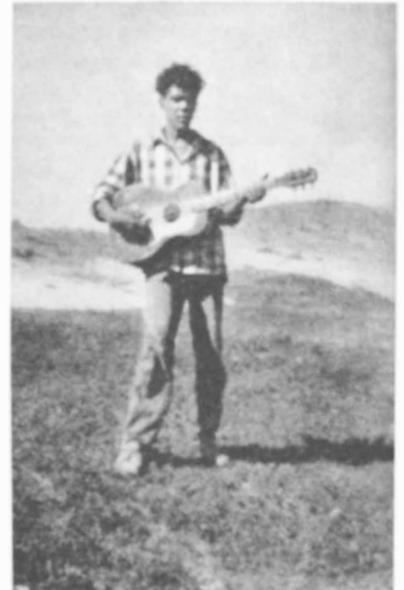
If you have photos at home, similar to those you see published in *Dawn*, send them along and thus add to, and maintain, the interest in your fellow men and women.



Two pretty girls, Alice Wilson and Anne Wright, of Brewarrina



Pretty Lena Green, of Brewarrina



Albert ("Doc") Colley, of Brewarrina



A group of Roman Catholic girls recently after a Confirmation ceremony at Cootamundra



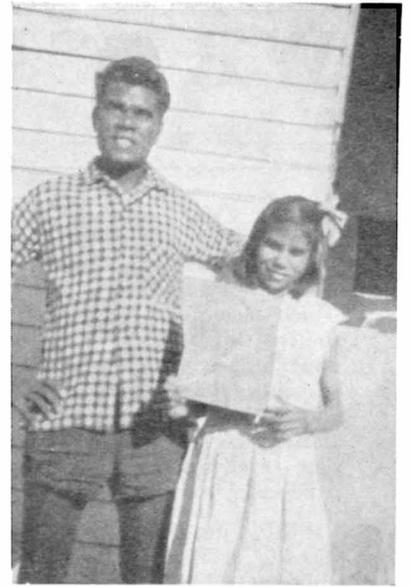
Brother and sister, Janey and Allan Murray



Lawrence McHughes, of Brewarrina and his son Brian



Lily (Get your Gun) Wilson, of Brewarrina



Harold and Elva Hall, of Brewarrina



Patricia Wenberg and Leila Penrith, of Cootamundra



The indomitable, incomparable Doreen Wright, of Brewarrina, is all set for a gallop round the country side



Mrs. Paul Blair, of Ben Lomond, with her children Marilyn and Janette



WRECK BAY ROUND UP

STATION CHILDREN VISIT CANBERRA

by D. G. YATES, Manager

Although realising how hard it is to write of such a visit and capture the anticipation, excitement and interest which accompanied us all the way—little parts, such as the lyre birds playing on the road in the cold light of dawn high on the Cambewarras or the German field gun which the boys found still operated—the day was packed with such things that on paper refuse to appear as exciting as they were, nevertheless we shall attempt to relive the day, briefly, for the boys and girls who have yet to experience such a trip.

Firstly, the aim—To broaden outlook, kindle ambition, provide anticipation, educate, and demonstrate to the children in a practical manner that the community sincerely wishes to accept them.

When discussions about such visits first took place, the Y.W.C.A. of Canberra City immediately offered all aid and it was this kindness, interest and hard work by the ladies of this Association that allowed the day to be so successful.

At 6 a.m. on a bleak cold morning the Station Kombi departed, bearing ten children of age group 11 to 14 years. Several differences had to be settled as to places in the Waggon—however, once it was ruled that all change places at Goulburn, everybody was happy.

Canberra arrival time 10 a.m., where the children were met at Y.W.C.A. Headquarters which had been made the base of operations. While the ladies served the children hot soup, Miss Campbell, Secretary of the Association detailed the programme which had been arranged for the day.

Promptly at 11 a.m. the party arrived at Parliament House where it was met by Mr. J. Fraser, M.H.R. for the A.C.T., who then conducted the children on a very personal and highly entertaining tour of Parliament House. No feature was overlooked and no trouble too great for Mr. Fraser and the Officials of the House. Each child was given the opportunity to sit in the Speaker's Chair in the House of Representatives and gaze out at the seats and benches where normally sit all the Ministers and Members of Parliament. No nook or cranny barred the way of the party—Members' Library, Senate Chamber, Prime Minister's Office, Cabinet Room, The Mace of Parliament—all inspected. One remark made by Mr. Fraser to the children is well worth repeating for the benefit of boys and girls not fortunate enough to be with us, it was "This Parliament is yours as well as everyone else's and I am your Representative here".

From Parliament House the party then proceeded to Yarralumla School in company with Mr. D. Sheahan who was former Headmaster at Wreck Bay and now

teaches at Yarralumla. They were able to compare this modern School with their own which incidentally isn't far behind.

Back to Headquarters for a delicious luncheon prepared and served by the ladies of the Y.W.C.A. then off again this time to the Australian War Memorial to meet Major McGrath, Administrator of the Memorial. The Major spared what must have been valuable time to personally conduct a tour of the Shrine of Remembrance, explaining the significance of the various structures. Another remark well worth remembering was when Major McGrath explained that the Memorial was in memory to those who had fallen in wars for Australia, and included in the fallen were many of the same blood as the children listening so intently.

Then came the guns, tanks, aeroplanes, etc., which form such a part of the Memorial and it was with great reluctance the group were finally prised away some two hours later. On the return trip to Headquarters deviations were made so that such sights as the American War Memorial, Foreign Embassies, Swimming Pool could be observed.

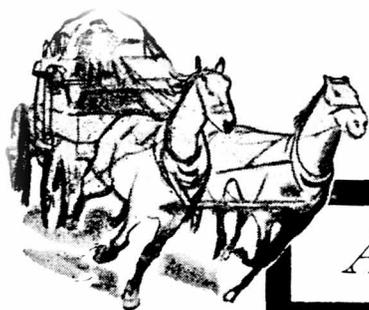
Having a little time to spare before dinner the children were allowed a short shopping spree in Civic Centre as it was apparent several had hot coins which had been burning holes all afternoon.

Another fine meal provided by the ladies, and at 6 p.m. places were taken for the return home. Fortified by a parcel of chocolates thoughtfully forwarded by Mr. Fraser and lusty in voice, (every song on the hit parade was sung) the portion between Canberra and Goulburn whipped by. After this point the voices flickered and died like candles and on arrival at Wreck Bay at 10.30 p.m. not a sound was to be heard, and then to bed.

Summing up. Worthwhile? Definitely. The children saw and learnt they are part of and not in a great young Nation and that there are people everywhere who sincerely desire to accept them as same, proving this desire by their interest, kindness and willingness to help.

It is now up to you Patsy Brown, Maureen McLeod, Dawn Chatfield, Elaine Ardler, Kenny Brown, David McLeod, Donald Chatfield, Larry Ardler, Eric Ardler, Ross Moore. Work hard, at your lessons, at your sport, at your life, so that you can accept the challenge and take this part offered.

A Future Target. The Australian Iron and Steel Company's Works at Port Kembla.



ALONG THE MAIL ROUTE

ARMIDALE CONFERENCE ON ABORIGINES

A Conference on Aborigines was recently held at the New England University, Armidale. It was historic in as much as all States of Australia, apart from the Northern Territory and Queensland, were represented by the heads of departments concerned with the welfare of aborigines. A number of aborigines, mostly residents of Armidale, also attended many of the lectures.

Professor A. P. Elkin, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at the University of Sydney, presented a most interesting paper on the historical background of the growth of care and treatment of aborigines since 1788, and traced the causes and changes in policy from one of protection to one of welfare.

The policies and practices adopted in other States were outlined by Mr. S. G. Middleton, Commissioner for Native Welfare in Western Australia, Mr. C. Bartlett, Secretary of the Aborigines Protection Board in South Australia, and Mr. P. E. Felton, Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare in Victoria. The policies in N.S.W. and Queensland were dealt with at the 1959 Conference.

Mr. A. F. Norton, a Welfare Officer with the Aborigines Welfare Board in N.S.W., gave an interesting paper on the work carried out by a Welfare Officer, which showed how versatile these officers are required to be.

Other speakers were Dr. J. Bell from the University of Sydney, and Mr. J. Warburton, President of the Association for the Assimilation of Aborigines at Armidale, who spoke on the work of the voluntary organisation and gave splendid helpful advice for those belonging to other similar groups.

The Conference gave an excellent opportunity for those present to learn the facts of aborigines welfare work. Too often criticism is made by those who have little or no idea of the work or the difficulties experienced. It also gave a far wider view of the work over all Australia and it was interesting to note how in each State the work was running on parallel lines, though the actual methods were in some way different. It was later agreed by the other States that the work in N.S.W. presented more problems than the other States, mainly because they had been able to avoid many of the N.S.W. difficulties through their work commencing later in the history of the Commonwealth and had the experiences in N.S.W. to act as a guide.

The Adult Education Department of the University of New England is to be congratulated on its excellent arrangement of the Conference.

SPORTING NEWS FROM WALGETT

Four boys from Walgett Station were selected to play in the combined Walgett 6 stone 7 lbs. football team at Peel Schools' Rugby League carnival on Saturday, the 23rd July. Out of a team of thirteen chosen to play, nine boys were aborigines, one of whom was Captain, namely, Ken Dennis of Walgett Station. This was a great honour for the boys.

They acquitted themselves well, winning the three matches played, and scoring in all, fifty-nine points to nil. For this effort they were presented with a cup, this trophy being personally presented by Clive Churchill, ex-Australian Captain.

Saturday the 23rd July, was also a "red-letter" day for the school children of the Station. The Station vehicle conveyed them some 86 miles to Goodooga where they had been invited by the Goodooga Parents and Citizens' Association to attend a sports day.

The football team were successful in their match winning by 8 points to 6. Many events on the long programme were won by Walgett school children.

The barbecue at night was also well patronised and later on a boxing tournament where many of the lads revealed that they could "box it out" with anybody their size.

Thank you, Goodooga P. & C. Association, for a wonderful day.



Brian Randall and Thomas Clayton are all dressed up and ready to depart from Cootamundra for the Kinchela Boys' Home

A.I.M. Members Start Printery

Mission Booklets



Two former members of the staff of Aborigines' Inland Mission Bible Training Institute will shortly be printing religious works for distribution throughout Australia in a new setup at La Perouse, near Sydney.

The members, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Miles, are not new to this kind of work.

They had been doing it for a number of years at Minimbah, but with not such up-to-date equipment as they will have at La Perouse.

Funds to buy some of the equipment were given to them during a just-completed 10-month tour of the United States.

Other equipment will be added at a later date.

Mr. and Mrs. Miles will be working and living in a mission house they will renovate and extend.

The house was the station house of the United Aborigines' Mission, and the printing and publishing will be done for both missions by Mr. and Mrs. Miles and other helpers under the title of "Mission Publications of Australia".

Mr. Miles, who was on the staff at Minimbah for three years before the American tour, is a Victorian; his wife Evelyn, who is from the United States, was also on the staff at Minimbah and there she and Mr. Miles met and married.

Mrs. Miles parents, Mr. and Mrs Roy Lundell, of Paullina (Iowa) came to Minimbah for the wedding in December, 1956.

Mr. Miles had also been on the staff at other A.I.M. stations and had also had an earlier tour of duty at Singleton.

When they returned to Australia recently, Mr. and Mrs. Miles brought with them an addition to their family, eight months old David.

Their other son, Philip, now 2½ years, was born at Singleton.

For the first few months of their stay in the States, the Miles family stayed at Paullina.

Following that there was a six-months tour of twenty of the States; the time was spent in lecturing mostly on the work of the A.I.M. in Australia, but also in giving talks about this country generally.

Speaking on the printing undertaking, Mr. Miles said that he might have to call for help from others in certain aspects; but most of the work would be done by Mrs. Miles and himself.

They would write the works, and carry out the printing and publishing.

They would continue to bring out the Sunday School books and lessons as they had been doing at Minimbah; but also at La Perouse magazines, tracts and booklets would also be produced in native languages for use in remote outside stations.

They expected to expand in due course, and as the venture got under way in producing literature to get the message of the Gospel across.

Mr. Miles said that they were not pleased to be leaving Minimbah, as they had made many friends in Singleton and district, but they realized their work lay at La Perouse, for some time at any rate.



Who said there are no fish at Wreck Bay? Donald Chatfield is shown here with a flathead he caught off the rocks. They tell us he used this small one for bait later on.



GOVERNOR'S ◊

◊ **V I S I T**

Brewarrina Honoured

Brewarrina station was recently honoured by a visit from the Governor of New South Wales, His Excellency, Sir Eric Woodward, Lady Woodward and the following Ministers and Members of Parliament:—

- N. J. Mannix, Minister of Justice.
- A. McCartney, M.L.A. for Hamilton.
- N. J. Cahill, M.L.A. for Cooks River.

When His Excellency and party arrived at Brewarrina station at 2:45 p.m., the official party was met by the Manager, and the following people were presented to His Excellency and Lady Woodward:—

- Mr. R. T. Busch, Headmaster Aboriginal School.
- Mr. N. McClellan, Assistant Teacher.
- Mrs. D. C. James, Matron of this station.
- Mrs. R. Busch, Wife of Headmaster.
- Mrs. Maria Boney, old Aboriginal Resident.
- Mrs. M. Lord, Resident.
- Mr. J. Coffey, Resident.
- Mr. C. Samuels, Resident.
- Mrs. D. Wright, Resident.

His Excellency spoke to the school children, who were assembled outside the station hall, and dwelt on the fact that they had a great opportunity to become anything that they wished to be. Most of the children spoken to personally, expressed the desire to become station hands. His Excellency then pointed out that station hands were of immense value to the community in general.

Lady Woodward was gracious in accepting a present from the station, in the shape of a small, stone-studded boomerang brooch. This example of first class craftsmanship was made by Mr. Jack Coombes.

The Viceregal party made their departure at approximately 3:20 p.m., en route for Goodooga.



Two Walgett residents pause for a few minutes in the main street



Cotton plants grow best in high temperatures and considerable sunshine. They need a large amount of water. These canals in the Sudan have been made specially to supply water to the cotton fields. This also means that cotton plants can be grown even in the hottest, driest months of the year.



Here a tractor is spraying the young plants. Cotton is particularly attractive to insects because of the many leaves, large flowers, and much fruit that grows on the plants. At 500 different kinds of insects are known to attack cotton plants all over the world. Research into the best methods of destroying these pests is of great importance to the cotton farmer.



GROWING

Growing singlets—or rather, singlets-to-be! That is what is happening at the Gezira Scheme, Sudan, one of Africa's outstanding agricultural developments. In the once-desert plains of the northern Sudan, men and women grow and pick enough cotton to make millions of singlets—help-



These boys are putting the picked cotton into 200 lb. bags. Cotton's quality is judged by length, fineness, and strength of fibres. Well picked cotton, which is smoother and contains less waste, produces better yarn than roughly prepared cotton.



The bags are taken for ginning, which is the removal of cotton from its seeds. Cotton-seed is used to make oil, flour, and meal for cattle. When harvested, cotton contains dirt and bits of leaves, which are removed before the actual ginning process.



As cotton is passed over the rollers of Sudan ginning machines, the seed is removed from the cotton. A man handles about 100 to 115 lbs.



Spraying the cotton plants by aeroplane is very popular these days. Here a helicopter is helping in the attack against the insects which destroy the cotton plants, as it sprays them from the air. If a farmer wishes to make a good profit from his cotton, he must plan well to destroy as many of these insects as possible; otherwise he will lose much money.



The men in this picture are typical of many thousands of men and women who pick the cotton. The more care which is taken in cotton-picking, the better the final quality of the cotton. Many people travel long distances to pick cotton at harvesting time.

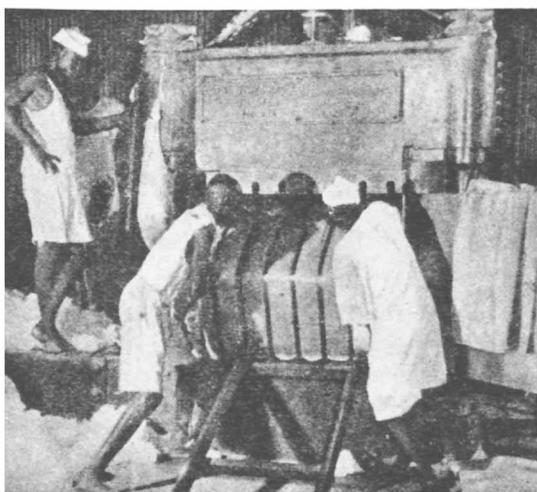
SINGLETs!

ing to bring prosperity to their country. These special photographs show how they do it.

Cotton is the white fluff which grows attached to the seed of the cotton plant. Cotton has been a valuable article for trade in the world for many centuries.



Overed rollers Made detaches like this one tion an hour.



Good ginning work results in good quality cotton. Here the cotton is being made into a bale. This machine presses the cotton into the shape of a bale. Bales are covered with strong material and tied with metal bands. A bale measures about 56 x 28 x 45 inches.



The Sudan produces more than 225,000 bales of cotton a year on nearly 600,000 acres of land. Here the bales are being checked before being transported to Port Sudan, ready for shipment overseas to cotton manufacturers. Export of cotton helps the Sudan's financial prosperity.

Warrabri Aboriginal Reserve

THE FIRST WHITE MEN IN CENTRAL AUSTRALIA

ONE hundred years ago, in June, 1860, a small band of white men turned back from hostile natives at a dry creek crossing. They were then nearly 1,300 miles from their starting point, Adelaide, in the colony of South Australia. The party of white men was led by the famous explorer John McDouall Stuart who was making his fourth attempt to cross the continent from South to North.

The people who opposed his march were in all probability Warramunga warriors, whose tribal lands, until recent times, extended over that section of central Australia, bounded to the north by Renner Springs, to the south by the headwaters of the Gosse River, to the east by the country now occupied by Alroy and Rockhampton Downs, and to the west by the semi-desert lands occupied by the eastern Wailbris.

The reason for the hostile reception accorded the explorers probably lay in the fact that the two parties were competing for the limited supply of water available in the locality. Whatever the reason, this demonstration by painted men, armed with spears and boomerangs, on top of the difficulties already overcome, or developing, caused Stuart to abandon any idea of continuing to push forward in the direction of the northern seacoast. It was not until two years later that white men were to reach beyond this area—on this occasion when Stuart successfully led an expedition to the shores of the Arafura Sea.

Stuart called the watercourse where the attack occurred, Attack Creek, and it is still known to this day by that name; it is located 40 miles to the north of present-day Tennant Creek.

Climate

The climate of this part of Central Australia is that common to most inland areas, viz., a hot to very hot summer and a cool winter, during which quite cold weather may be experienced as the prevailing south-easterly winds blow in from surrounding semi-desert areas.

Today, i.e., 100 years later, the outstanding problems affecting settlement of this district still turn upon the availability of water. There are, of course, permanent waters offering a limited supply which have been known for centuries to the indigenous natives, but settlement along European lines became possible only after the underlying artesian basin was tapped and the water brought to the surface with the aid of power-driven pumps.



The countryside is flat sandplain, relatively featureless, and covered with low scrub and/or spinifex. Within the limits dictated by climate it is good cattle-raising country, more particularly so on the north-eastern fringes which abut the extensive Barkly Tablelands.

The annual rainfall rarely exceeds 10 inches; it generally falls between November and May.

* * * *

Early Settlement by Europeans

When settlers pushing northward from Alice Springs gave serious thought to establishing some sort of permanent settlement in the district, they decided to concentrate initially on the foundation of a township around the old Tennant Creek Telegraph Station.

It is a matter of some historical interest to learn that the first drays bringing stores from Alice Springs were halted (of all things) by heavy rain! The vehicles became bogged down in what is now the main street of Tennant Creek where, after strenuous but fruitless efforts to free them, it was decided that they might as well be unloaded forthwith.

In this somewhat impromptu fashion the present township of Tennant Creek was founded.

As will be seen later, the problem of locating an adequate water supply, rather than overcoming difficulties created by an excess of water, was to frustrate repeated attempts to establish a native settlement in the immediate neighbourhood in later years.

Aboriginal Population of the Region

When the Stuart Highway was built, it cut through the tribal lands of three separate people, viz., the Warramungas, the Kaiditj, and the eastern Wailbris. The influence of the Warramungas and Kaiditj tribes was, at this time, already on the wane (for reasons quite unconnected with the road) and was being replaced by an upsurge in the fortunes of the third tribe, the eastern Wailbris, who had moved into the area from the desert areas lying further west.

Settlements Prior to 1954

The commencement of large-scale mining operations in the vicinity of Tennant Creek brought with it an influx of population and the need for a centre where natives could be housed and protected from the less savoury aspects of European civilization.

Prior to 1939 little more was done in this matter than to provide issuing points for food, tobacco and clothing, but with the advent of war and the attendant movement of military vehicles and personnel, regular holding camps became necessary to control natives living in the more-settled areas.

The Warramunga Aboriginal Reserve had been set aside some years earlier, 30 miles north of Tennant Creek, but had never been used as no surface waters existed within its boundaries.

A new site was investigated about six miles east of the old telegraph station and was later occupied. During the war it operated as a temporary rationing depot; however, shortage of water and the nature of the soil made the area unsuited to large-scale agricultural development and its proximity to the temptations of the gold-fields camps was another serious disadvantage.

In 1944-45 mining operations at Tennant Creek were intensified and arrangements were made to move all natives from the immediate vicinity of the town. As a temporary measure, a settlement site was chosen at Phillip Creek about 27 miles to the north, whilst negotiations with the Postmaster-General's Department were begun with the object of taking over the old Powell Creek Telegraph Station. Unfortunately, test boring in this latter vicinity again failed to reveal adequate water supplies and the scheme was abandoned.

Meanwhile, at Phillip Creek, increasing difficulty was being experienced owing to shortage of water at the camp site and the search for a suitable permanent site elsewhere was intensified. Attempts to locate water at Morphett



Creek and Attack Creek were unsuccessful and after a long period of fruitless search it was decided to transfer attention to areas south of Tennant Creek.

Living conditions at Phillip Creek had, by 1953-54, deteriorated to such a degree that the buildings, already second-hand ten years earlier, were now almost beyond repair. Water had to be carted to the area and the settlement had become little more than a point where natives could draw rations. There were at this time, however, more than 300 natives regularly visiting the post and it had become a matter of extreme urgency that a permanent settlement be established where training and educational facilities could be provided.

Attention was turned to the Wauchope District, 70 miles south of Tennant Creek, and at long last a promising tract of country was located about 30 miles from Wauchope township and adjacent to the pastoral properties Neutral Junction, Murray Downs and Singleton. A full scale survey of the proposed site was undertaken and upon receipt of a satisfactory report action was taken to have an area 5 miles by 14 miles declared an aboriginal reserve.

The country was acceptable to the tribes who would take up residence there; good water supplies were available from underground sources and preliminary reports indicated that the land was suitable for large-scale cultivation.

The First Stage: 1954-1956

As soon as a firm decision had been taken in selecting the site, two bores were drilled and tested. This work was completed by October, 1954, and the two bores (now known as No. 1 or North Bore, and No. 2 or South Bore) were put into use, the former supplying water for domestic purposes and the latter serving the agricultural project.

In April, 1955, a contour survey was undertaken at the site chosen for the administration block. Immediately thereafter definite plans were drawn up locating the sites for the individual buildings and, during the following month, constructional work was put in hand.



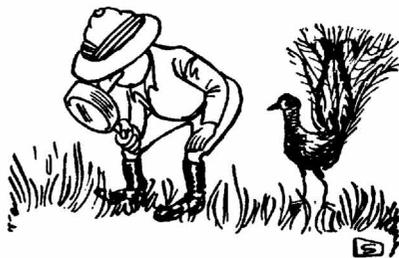
The labour force for this project was drawn from local natives who worked under the supervision of skilled European tradesmen from whom they received some initial training. Their employment in this way was to have far-reaching effects for, from amongst them, emerged young men with undoubted aptitude for work in the building trade. The older men took over the job of clearing land for use as an airstrip.

From inception, work at the new settlement site progressed well. Important tasks which were completed by the trainee works force included the laying of the water-reticulation service and the erection of storage tanks, all labouring work on the buildings under construction, and the preparation of an area which was later developed into a market garden.

By June, 1956, sufficient facilities were on hand to permit the transfer of the population at Phillip Creek to the new site, and upon completion of this move the latter settlement was closed down.

Warrabri is well served in respect of water, and such difficulties as do arise stem, as a general rule, from technical problems associated with raising water to the surface rather than from insufficiency of supply. Four bores have been tested in the immediate vicinity of the settlement and three of these are in regular service.

The largest supplies all buildings in the settlement area, including those at the native village, via a reticulation system connected to a 10,000-gallon storage tank mounted on an angle-iron stand 40 feet high. The pump at this bore has a maximum capacity of 1,350 gallons per hour.



A second bore provides a continuous supply of water to the garden area; it has a maximum capacity of 1,250 gallons per hour.

The third bore in use is linked to the settlement reticulation system and has a capacity of 1,000 gallons per hour.

A fourth bore located near the native village has not been equipped but would be capable of supplying more than 1,000 gallons per hour if the need arose to bring it into use.

The administration block consists of three Nissen huts, 36 ft. x 16 ft. apart, and connected by a covered walk-way 4 feet wide.

The dining-room-kitchen unit is a galvanised-iron hut, 60 ft. x 24 ft., to which is subjoined at right angles a second hut, 96 ft. x 35 ft. It contains two dining rooms, kitchen, cool room, dry store and vegetable room.

Regular sit-down meals are provided for all natives residing on the settlement; however, the long-term intention is to encourage the establishment of individual domestic arrangements.

The infirmary is housed in a Nissen hut, 60 ft. x 24 ft.; it is completely surrounded by a verandah 10 feet wide. There are three wards (including a labour ward), kitchen, laundry, bathroom, toilet, dispensary, infant-welfare clinic, and an ante- and post-natal clinic.

The recreation hut measures 96 ft. x 35 ft. overall. One section of the building is fitted out as a canteen where tinned foods, tobacco, clothes, etc., are on sale.

The garage/workshop unit enables the driver-mechanic to service on the spot all the vehicles and engines used at the settlement. It occupies a galvanized iron hut measuring 96 ft. x 35 ft.

Regular school lessons began at Warrabri on 9th May, 1956, with an enrolment of 58 pupils transferred from Phillip Creek. The staff, consisting of a Head Teacher with two assisting teachers, had to contend with poor conditions, a garage and workshop building serving as school premises until early in 1957, when the present school building was completed.

At the beginning of 1960, enrolments exceeded 100 and the teaching staff had increased to a Head Teacher plus three other teachers.

The school building is a prefab. with a floor space of 3,836 square feet. There are four class-rooms, a storage room, the Head Teacher's office and verandah along one side. The building is set on piers 7 ft. 6 in. high and provision has been made for washing facilities and storage space at the ground-floor level.

Pre-School

A trained teacher opened a pre-school in temporary premises (the recreation hall) in March, 1959. The children attending this school range from 3 to 5 years of age and during 1959, more than 40 were enrolled.

The improvement in their self-confidence and general demeanour was most marked after only a short period of attendance and upon their transfer to primary grades they were found to fit quite rapidly into the more organized school routine.

Airstrip

The airstrip measures 4,000 ft. x 100 ft., but work is currently in hand to widen the runway to 300 feet.

The strip can be used by charter planes and has been used on many occasions already by Flying Doctor Service planes on regular medical visits.

THE NATIVE VILLAGE

The first dwellings to be occupied at Warrabri Village were mere makeshift shelters constructed from materials previously in use at Phillip Creek Settlement. They were of bush timber and corrugated iron and provided only primitive shelter for the advance working parties. Indeed, some of the same materials are still probably in use on "humpies" scattered here and there outside the limits of the village area proper, for there are some natives who, although in regular contact with the settlement, nevertheless prefer their traditional way of primitive living to that of being a "house-holder".



By April, 1960, the population had more or less stabilized itself and it was estimated that an additional forty houses would be needed to meet the demand from all residents within the reserve who might wish to live after the European fashion. This work will be pushed ahead within the forthcoming financial year; meanwhile, work is currently in hand to bring light and power to individual houses.

Native Housing: Some Basic Requirements

The "Kingstrand" type of house commonly used at Warrabri (and on settlements elsewhere in the Northern Territory) contains only one centrally placed room surrounding which, on three sides, are fairly extensive verandahs. Provision is made for a fireplace inside the house and the verandahs may be converted to separate rooms simply by erecting brick balustrades. A particularly pleasing feature at the village has been the spontaneous effort of natives already in residence there to undertake such improvements to their homes. Other encouraging signs of the growth of civic consciousness is evidenced by the laying of lawns, the cultivation of private vegetable gardens by individual house-holders, the painting of house interiors and the use of basic furniture such as tables, chairs and beds.



Baked Ant-hill

An experiment involving the use of baked ant-hill in the building of adobe dwellings has been put in hand, and some of these structures are already approaching completion. It is as yet too early to draw any worthwhile conclusions in respect of their durability; however, if this experiment proves successful, it will make possible an immense saving in material costs as ant bed is available locally in unlimited supplies.

Ancillary Facilities

Other facilities on the settlement which are of major significance in developing basic lessons taught by village life are the canteen, with its attached recreation centre where films are shown and team games organized, the savings bank and the school.

The canteen is operated along the lines of a store and it provides the people with every opportunity to familiarize themselves with the working of a money economy. The savings bank has been exceptionally popular with the natives and has filled a long-felt want since payment of wages in cash was instituted several years ago. The school opened in 1956 when 57 pupils were enrolled; subsequent attendance figures have been 1957, 52; 1958, 79; 1959, 118; and in April, 1960, 105.

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

The Role of Settlements as Instructional Centres

A major objective of the thirteen Government Settlements and fourteen Christian Mission Stations working in the Northern Territory is to provide a centre where education and training may be given to all natives, and particularly to the children and adolescent age groups.

The settlement staff also attempt to introduce into native thought the general concept of "work" as a worthwhile aim in living and, by so doing, to develop an attitude amongst all age groups that the facilities offered by the settlement have been provided in order that the younger people may prepare themselves for an adult life which will be lived in a wider community than that offered by the tribe.

A short review of the progress made towards these ends, with special reference to the field of employment, follows.

Training in Skilled Occupations

Since 1955, when the first buildings were erected at Warrabri, a determined effort to teach the local people European skills has been made. At first, only on-the-job training was possible, but as the settlement became more firmly established the opportunities for giving specialized individual instruction has become possible, so much so that the settlement now finds itself quite independent of outside labour in most of the constructional fields, viz., bricklaying, carpentry, concreting, painting and plumbing. There are seven men in training as mechanics and seven more work regularly in the market garden. Other skills being taught are sewing, nursing, typing and cooking.

An indication of the ability of these trainees is provided by the following short list of jobs completed over the last two years:—

The bricklayers (two men) have erected six concrete houses, three ablution blocks, two adobe houses, five mud-brick latrine/urinals, a tree nursery area measuring 20 ft. x 8 ft. x 7 ft., and five pens for the poultry, pigs and goats.

One of the bricklayers was trained by a European tradesman in the early days of construction at Warrabri; the second man now at work has been taught the trade by his colleague.



The carpenters number five men who work under the direction of two skilled European tradesmen. Their work has included the erection of twenty-eight prefabricated houses in the native village, the fly-wiring of the hospital and sister's quarters and maintenance work on staff houses.

The eight concreters work under the supervision of a native foreman. They have poured all the concrete floors and foundations laid at the settlement over the last 2½ years.

The painter, who has one assistant, looks after all interior and exterior painting jobs on the settlement.

The plumber received training over three years from a skilled tradesman; he now has four trainees working under him.

The plumber's gang have laid all the water mains within the reserve and connected the feed-in pipes, upstands and taps; they also attend to any maintenance work, including attention to the hot-water units installed in the hospital, the kitchen/dining-room and staff homes. The installation of internal sanitary fittings in the three ablution blocks was done by the head plumber working with a European tradesman, but all other plumbing work on that job was completed by the settlement gang.

Other important work wholly performed by these men has been the erection of a windmill and tanks to serve the piggery and the manufacture from flat and corrugated iron, of chimneys and fireplaces for use in the aluminium houses in the native village.

Opportunities for women are as yet limited to domestic work, to sewing, and to working as nursing aides in the hospital. Three seamstresses are employed at the settlement on a permanent basis and the ability of these women may be judged by the variety of the work which they produce for use in the settlement hospital and native village. Thus quantities of the following items sufficient for local needs are regularly made: Calico sheets, hemmed towels, pyjamas, underclothes and overalls for school-children, nightgowns, infant's jackets, toddler's dresses, pixie hoods, patchwork quilts, shawls and aprons.

In agricultural work, a permanent gang of seven men work regularly under direction in the settlement gardens. An area covering 5 acres has been used over some years now and from it large quantities of vegetables are taken for use in the settlement kitchen. The value of the vegetables produced exceeds £2,000 per annum, but of greater importance than this monetary evaluation is the value of the garden as a practical means of training selected men in the elements of farming in such unpromising terrain. The men engaged on this work have now acquired useful experience in the use of trench and overhead irrigation systems and the methods by which each may be installed, the rotating of crops, the use and significance of specific fertilizers and the care of citrus groves. Some of the men trained could take up individual holdings if the opportunity should present itself.

Pigs, poultry and goats thrive in the area and small projects with each are being developed.

The pig stys are located about 1½ miles from the settlement, beyond the airstrip; the herd in April, 1960, consisted of 1 boar, 33 sows and 25 farrows, all of which are accommodated in stys built of cement-brick made and laid by the native bricklaying gang. New buildings made from mud-brick have also been built in the vicinity to house the settlement's herd of goats which, in April, 1960, comprised 2 bucks, 30 wethers and 38 does.

The poultry yards have been erected adjacent to the gardening area and the flock in April, 1960, comprised 37 hens, 150 pullets and 4 roosters. One cement-brick poultry house is already in use and two others were approaching completion.

Employment Off the Settlement

Droving still attracts many men and during the 1959 season more than 50 stockmen passed out of Warrabri into outside employment. Wages for these men ranged from £10 per week for skilled stockmen (the majority), to £5 15s. per week for youths making their first trip.

Droving is traditional work for the Australian aborigine; however, the development of alternative employment fields as a result of the establishment of Warrabri Settlement has revealed that not every able-bodied man necessarily wishes to turn to it. The importance of droving as an avenue of employment must be kept in a perspective which includes the natural ability of the native to tackle with success other types of employment and also his preference, other things being equal, for work paying higher wages than average.



During 1959-60, men from Warrabri worked at Beswick Settlement on the repainting of staff houses, at Darwin and Katherine Welfare Offices on interior decorating and at Wauchope Hotel and Murray Downs Homestead on both external and internal painting work.

Adult Education

Adult education classes held in the evenings are well-attended by both women and men. The course offers instruction in reading, writing, arithmetic, social studies, art and English.

SOCIAL CHANGES AT WARRABRI OVER FOUR YEARS

Why is a Settlement Necessary ?

The need for all aboriginal settlements in the Northern Territory arises from the disruption to tribal life brought on by the spread of a European-style social economy. From the dawn of time the Australian aborigine has lived as a nomad, moving when game became scarce in a particular area. At no stage did he become a cultivator either of grains or domesticated animals.

The taking-up of former hunting lands by pastoral, mining, or other European undertakings has made a continuation of the traditional mode of aboriginal life quite impossible. Accompanying the breakdown in tribal life arose the danger of the natives being exploited as they came to depend, firstly, upon the charity of the settlers, and in due course, upon the white man as an employer of at least some of the tribe's able-bodied men

The majority of the tribe, however, remained on the "outer fringe"—they were the "camp blacks" whose standards of living in most instances were extremely poor by any measure. Furthermore, this poor standard of living was more or less fixed, as the individual European employer had neither time, means, nor, in many cases, interest to devote to a large-scale programme of social rehabilitation.

From Dispossessed Group to Social Community

Until post-war years little was done to relieve the lot of these dispossessed people who by this time had scattered into small bands living as best they could in what remained to them of the Northern Territory. Some were in regular contact with white people; others had little or none. All were socially backward.

One of the first steps seen to be necessary, before any programme of rehabilitation could be put into effect, was to collect the scattered groups into larger communities where facilities for education in the European way of life could be provided. Fortunately, traditional aboriginal life is flexible enough to permit this congregation of people from different tribes to be effected without causing any major social disturbance.



At Warrabri the three peoples brought together in this way were the Warramungas, the Kaiditj, and the eastern branch of the Wailbris.

Despite the difficult times through which these tribes had passed they still retained internal cohesion, i.e., they were independent social units and the traditional way of life was still practised despite the difficulties posed by the occupation of their tribal lands by white settlers. It is not surprising, therefore, that many of the problems faced by settlement staff stem from the conservative outlook of the tribal elders, still nominally controlling the group, whose attitude to "white" authority continues to be one of tacit opposition to a new, and to them incomprehensible, way of life.

It is not official policy to ride roughshod over these people; for the present a balance must be maintained between implementation of policy and the maintenance of the prestige rightly to be accorded tribal leaders as their just due. Consequently, a policy of persuasion is pursued in all dealings with them in preference to one of coercion. Amongst the young and middle-aged, however, a more positive policy is pursued whereby the realities of present-day living in a European society are suggested by means of education and training.

A glance at significant developments at Warrabri since 1956 will give the reader an indication of the extent of the progress towards assimilation made over only four years by a typical group of Australian aborigines. It should be remembered incidentally, that many of these same people had known no other life than that of a nomad until the end of World War II.

Examples of Change in Social Habits

(a) Tribal Custom and European Custom

Every society under the sun practises, in some form or another, tribal initiation; the Australian aborigine provides no exception to this rule. Judged by European standards many of the tribal practices are barbarous, and high amongst such is that of circumcising initiates using flint surgical implements.

During 1959, a middle-aged man presented himself to the settlement superintendent with the request that his son, who was approaching the age for initiation, should be sent to Tennant Creek hospital where circumcision would be performed by the local surgeon.

Permission was granted.

This incident subsequently gave rise to considerable discussion, some of it heated, amongst the resident population at the village. A suggestion made during the course of debate was that in future the ceremonies and teaching of initiates should continue as before but that all surgical operations should be performed under medical supervision.

This move, as may be expected, met violent opposition from the elders and to date the subject has not been raised again. However, a point of major significance is that the suggestion was made, and made by a man in the middle-aged group. It is felt that, provided patience is exercised, his "radical" suggestion will in due course of time be accepted and the present practice quietly dropped.

Before leaving this example it is perhaps important to record that the passing of this unacceptable single facet of a traditional tribal custom will not entail the passing of others, quite acceptable, which regularly are associated with it. On the contrary—official policy aims specifically at perpetuating religious and social customs which the native people themselves treasure and which they desire to pass on to the younger generations to foster and cherish.



Following the establishment of the infirmary at Warrabri, a deliberate effort was made by the settlement staff to induce expectant mothers to enter hospital for confinement.

At first the response was poor, but by the end of 1958 it had become the exception rather than the rule for a woman, normally resident at the settlement, to "go bush" for the birth of her child.

As part of the training in home management each mother is now required to make a layette during her lying-in period.

The practice of "giving" young female children to specified men even before the former reach marriageable age has for long been a custom of aboriginal tribes throughout Australia. The practice has been frowned upon officially for many years but, except on some mission stations, few positive steps had been taken to upset the custom until recently.

During 1959, this subject and the allied one of polygamy became the subject of considerable discussion amongst the residents at Warrabri. Many of the young women had publicly expressed strong disapproval of the traditional system and despite the open hostility of the elders (both men and women) most of them flatly refused to marry according to tribal dictate.



Official policy is to give moral support to these young women and, by encouraging them to make their stand, ensure that their enlightened attitude towards marriage becomes an accepted one amongst the children growing up.

In passing, it should be noted that the official policy opposes the practice of polygamy as such, and the "giving" of young women who, under tribal custom, would have no say in the matter. It does not at any stage seek to interfere in cases where the vital question is that of "skin", i.e., official policy views as acceptable the traditional tribal laws governing who may marry whom.

(b) *Sociological Change*

The taking-up of permanent residence at Warrabri native village marks a transitional period in the change from nomadic to sedentary living by some 400 individuals. "Walkabout" still occurs, but the urge to move appears to be weakening as the people acquire personal possessions and as a sense of pride in maintaining their home develops.

Many years must pass before the population as a whole will accept the new style of living but meanwhile this change of general habit remains (to those who knew Warrabri and its present residents four short years ago) one of the most striking features of the settlement.

The erection of the native village has always had high priority in the plan for development of Warrabri Reserve and, since a point has been reached in the housing programme where a significant proportion of residents are now occupying (aluminium) houses, it has become apparent that the people are making conscious efforts to copy the style of living adopted by the European staff. Thus, furnishings in the form of tables, chairs and beds are in common use and the surrounding garden areas are tended as such (no small task in the prevailing climatic conditions).

Requests have been received for the supply of electric power from several residents who are prepared to pay the costs of connecting their home to the regular supply, and who are saving money to pay for the service.

The establishment of a savings bank at Warrabri was welcomed by everyone and the normal banking facilities now available are widely used. At present the officer in charge of the branch holds most of the pass books in order to minimize the risk of loss, but as a man or woman becomes recognized as able to attend to his/her own affairs this responsibility is given over to him/her.

The canteen at Warrabri does very steady business and during 1959-60 had an average monthly turnover approaching £450. In conjunction with the canteen, a sporting and recreation club, run by the native's themselves, is in operation. Picture nights are arranged and sporting fixtures take place regularly. The local football team visits other settlements or towns for organised matches against nearby teams and acts as hosts at Warrabri when these visits are returned.

Prompted by these visits to centres outside the settlement, an interest in visiting other areas as an end in itself is becoming widespread. This development is receiving encouragement officially as it enables the individual to learn more of what is happening in the outside world and his outlook is less likely to remain limited to one bounded by purely tribal concerns.

During the Christmas vacation just past, 20 children from the village visited Adelaide. The party comprised 10 boys and 10 girls and their accommodation was provided by Europeans living in the suburbs of the city. All reports on behaviour were satisfactory and other educational trips of this nature will be arranged in the future.

In matters affecting health and hygiene a marked improvement has been achieved. The children are regularly trained in correct table manners and the demeanour of the people generally at meal times is in complete contrast to their habits of a decade ago. The visiting medical and dental teams have no difficulty in performing their work and immunisations and vaccinations are accepted as services to be sought for rather than avoided.

A question of significance in the field of adult education arose during 1959. For some time classes had been in operation but attendance had, by custom, been limited to men. However, during the course of the year some young women requested permission to come to these classes despite the expressed opposition of the tribal elders who objected ostensibly to the idea of men and women receiving the same instruction at the same time.

The superintendent granted permission for mixed classes to be conducted and agreed to support the women in any difficulties which might arise within the tribe as a result of their disobeying the elders' instructions.

Open opposition by the elders on this score has now ceased and by April, 1960, the point had been reached where men and women regularly attended the classes together as a matter of course.

In this particular clash of wills the success of the women owed much to the opportunity taken by the tribal elders, of saving face by declaring that their rulings were overborne by the authority now vested in the superintendent. The position is, nowadays, that they continue to make their pronouncements but take no positive action against those who act in defiance of them, provided they are aware the latter are acting in accordance with the settlement superintendent's wishes.

The resultant situation is as satisfactory as can be hoped for by all parties concerned with the elders going through the motions of exercising authority. As time passes, and a new generation moves into these positions of authority within the tribe, awkward situations such as that given above (or in respect of the practice of "giving" in marriage already discussed), may be expected to become less common.

In June, 1959, it was decided to issue as an experiment a news-sheet containing items of local interest. The success of this experiment astonished everyone at the settlement and the paper has now become one of the most popular local amenities. Persons who could not read have their children read the news to them and publication day of each edition is now eagerly awaited.

An important consequence of the appearance of this paper has been a marked increase in the social awareness of the residents generally.

An essay competition was run in 1959 and a prize valued at £5 offered for the winning entry. The interest aroused by this competition was enormous and the editor of the paper is now arranging for other similar competitions.

Entries were received from school-children, young people and a few adults, all of whom wrote (in English) an account of events affecting their life. A point which should not be lost sight of in this particular respect is that English is a foreign language to the Australian aborigine.

The efforts submitted reflected great credit on the individual author and, indirectly, on the teaching staff also.



PENSIONS FOR ABORIGINES

Beware the Hangers on!

Several aborigines are now in receipt of pensions at Boggabilla. The important thing is that these pensioners can live with the relatives on the Station and no longer have to leave the Station to live a sometimes unhappy and doubtful existence as in the past.

The pensions, as issued are—two old-age; one widow's and two for invalids. All these people have received a lump sum of arrears of about £60 and it is gratifying to note that without exception they have used their money wisely. Money spent went on such comforts as blankets and rugs for the winter. Also sheets and pillow slips were bought. Items of furniture including kitchen cabinets, tables and chairs, and a couple of inner spring mattresses were purchased. One pensioner secured a small battery radio for £9, and in these days such things are no longer a luxury, but a necessity.

As all of the people were at one time assisted and dependant on the Board for their welfare it has been necessary to point out to them that their future depends entirely on themselves. From years of having food and clothing doled out to them at regular intervals by the manager, they now have to think for themselves. Besides keeping themselves in food each week they should put a little money away for clothing, especially with regard to winter clothing, as they have to wear more of it and it is more expensive.

Unfortunately one pensioner, appears to be falling down on the job, or to be more truthful he is being dragged down by his poor type of no-hoper fellow men. The fact that he gets a regular cheque does not go unnoticed by these types, who batten on him on these occasions. Their behaviour has been noticed by the police so we hope that this will make the old fellow "wake up" to himself, as the saying goes.

However, if the old folk carry on as well as they have done so far, this kind of "independence" to do what they please with their allotment should be for the benefit of them all in matters of managing for themselves and self reliance.



These boys from Kinchela Boys' Home recently acted as Colour Boys at the Kempsey Professional running races. They are Harold Harnson, Gordon Edwards, John Carroll, Dallas Thompson, Eddie Pender and Alex Thompson

KEEP your TEETH

by

① WISE EATING

Choose foods that **NOURISH** and foods that **EXERCISE** the teeth

AVOID—Sugar, Honey, Jams, Sweets, Chocolates, Ice Mochs, Cakes, Biscuits, White Bread, Soft Drinks.
These foods are particularly harmful to the teeth when eaten between meals.

② PROPER CLEANING

Brush immediately after eating.
Brush from gums to tips, first the outsides, then the insides and **DON'T FORGET** the **CROWNS**

*** Dental Floss, Silk or Nylon helps to clean between the teeth but should not be used in such a manner as to cut or damage the gums.

③ REGULAR EXAMINATION

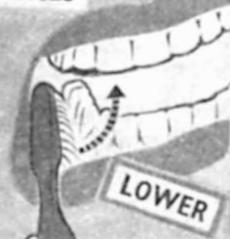
See your dentist every six months. Ask him about the benefits of Sodium Fluoride treatment.



... Foods that EXERCISE TEETH

... Foods that NOURISH TEETH

OUTER SURFACES



INNER SURFACES



ISSUED BY THE U.S. DEPT. OF PUBLIC HEALTH

P E T E ' S P A G E

Hello, Kids,

Say, how are we all this month? Sorry to see that some of my young friends in the West are being chased about by the floods again. One thing, when it's all over you should have plenty to write to me about. I just had a letter from Helen Clarke, of Cootamundra. She said:—

“It has been a long time since I've written a letter to you, as I don't seem to have time for writing lately. We have been having some very cold frosty mornings, and I will be glad when summer comes. It has been raining heavy the last two days and nights, but the farmers will be pleased, as the dams have been very dry.

“A fortnight ago, when I was playing basketball I had my nose broken in three places. The Doctor said I will have to be very careful, and cannot play for at least a month.

“My brother has been selected in the Postal State Championship's Basketball, to be held in Tasmania next year. It will be a lovely trip, and only wish that I could go.

“Also two cyclists, Dudley Crowe and Garry Holder, have been selected to go to Tasmania in August of this year, to ride in the championships. Cootamundra is very proud to have young fellows, who are good enough to be picked in the State sides, and in the years to come, still hope to have some.”

I also had a letter from Annette Horne of Station House, Sloan Street, Goulburn. Before her marriage she was Annette Mundy. In her letter she said:—

“Since I wrote to you last time I have been married and I now have a five months old daughter.

“Last week I received a letter from a friend of mine Betty Lee, who says she is now in Sydney and working for a lady doctor. She said she likes it down there and is going to Technical College learning art. I was very pleased to hear from her as it is about two years since I saw her.

“The weather here is very cold and it snowed a bit last night but it was raining too, so the snow didn't settle on the ground. If you mention this letter in *Dawn* please tell all my friends in Cootamundra (and also those who have probably left there by now) that I send my love to them.”

Thank you for a very nice letter, Annette.

This month we have included a Painting or Colouring Competition and we'll give some nice prizes for the best entries.

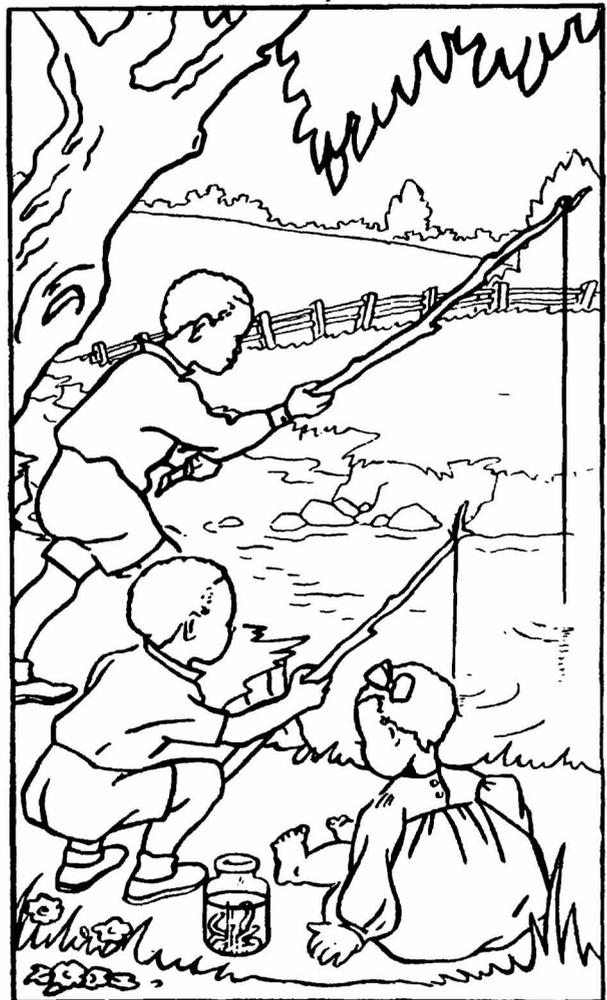
Well, kids, I guess that's all once again, so until next month.

Your sincere Pal,

Pete

PAINTING

COMPETITION



NAME

ADDRESS

..... AGE



MAKING THINGS GROW

Most people very quickly grasp the essentials of making things grow, and few folk, once they take up gardening, fail to gain some understanding of the needs of plants. Nearly all of us have a desire to create out of the soil that which is useful or beautiful, and worthy of our effort.

No other hobby provides such satisfying recreation, such amazing results for the amount of work done as gardening. One well-grown Sweet Pea plant may provide two or three dozen blooms, or a bean plant will yield up to 1½ lb. of fresh, green pods. This abundance springs from one tiny seed, occupying a very small space of ground. Multiply this by even ten times, and it is easy to see that for very little space and labour, the results are tremendous.

Much of what is written about gardening concerns, primarily, the commercial grower, or keen exhibitor. With them their very livelihood depends on ultimate success, and they must be very exact in their requirements. Home gardeners, however, who want "a good show of flowers", or a regular supply of vegetables, can have them without having to delve too deeply into the more scientific side of Horticulture and Agriculture. This does not mean, of course, that we can ignore the commonsense principles of gardening, neither should we think that it is only a matter of sowing the seeds, or planting seedlings. That is only the start, but as long as proven methods are adhered to fairly closely, excellent results should be obtained.

Some newcomers to gardening are soon discouraged because they attempt too much. Our example of the sweet pea and bean plants will serve here. These same plants, if poorly grown, may yield only a fraction of what they are capable. It is obvious then that with poor cultivation a much greater number of plants would have to be looked after and a larger area prepared to obtain a required quantity of flowers or vegetables; it is far better to grow a few plants well, rather than a large number poorly cared for. For example, if there is only a limited amount of manure at your disposal, it would be better to use this generously in a small area rather than spread it thinly over a wide space which, in the long run, might yield a smaller harvest. Start with a small area and, with it, master the first principles of gardening. Bear in mind that this Guide has been mainly compiled for the temperate coastal and average climates, such as where oranges thrive; sowing times and particular recommendations should be varied to suit very hot or very cold districts.

WHEN TO GROW

AUGUST

FLOWER SEED SOWINGS

Ageratum, Alyssum, Antirrhinum (Snapdragon), Arctotis, Aster, Begonia, Blue Lace Flower (Didiscus), Boronia (Sweet-scented Brown), Brachycome (Swan River Daisy), Calliopsis (Annual), Candytuft, Canna, Capsicum (Ornamental), Carnation, Chrysanthemum (Perennial), Clianthus (Sturt's Desert Pea), Cuphea, Cyclamen, Delphinium, Dianthus, Didiscus (Blue Lace Flower), Dimorphotheca (African Golden Daisy), Gaillardia, Geum, Gladioli, Globe Amaranth (Gomphrena), Gloxinia, Godetia, Gypsophila, Helichrysum (Straw Flower), Impatiens, Kochia (Summer Cypress), Lavender Shower (Thalictrum), Marigold (African), Matricaria (Camomile), Mignonette, Nasturtium, Pea (Perennial), Petunia, Phlox, Poinciana (Bird of Paradise Flower), Pomegranate, Poppy (Shirley and Queen), Rhodanthe, Salpiglossis, Saponaria (Big Gyp.), Scabiosa (Pin Cushion), Shasta Daisy, Snapdragon (Antirrhinum), Statice (Sea Lavender), Stock (Cold climates only), Straw Flower (Helichrysum), Thalictrum (Lavender Shower), Torenia, Verbena.

VEGETABLE SEED SOWINGS

Artichoke (Globe), Bean, Beet, Silver Beet, Cabbage, Cape Gooseberry, Carrot, Celery, Cress, Endive, Herbs, Kohl Rabi, Leek, Lettuce, Melon (mild climates), Mustard, Parsley, Parsnip, Pea, Radish, Rhubarb, Salsify (Vegetable Oyster), Spinach, Tomato (sow under cover in frames), Turnip.

FLOWERING BULBS

Achimene, Agapanthus, Alstroemeria, Begonia (Tuberous), Billbergia, Caladium, Calla, Clivia, Crinum, Gladioli, Gloxinia, Hemerocallis (Day Lily), Iris (Flag and Japanese), Kniphofia (Red Hot Poker), Lilium, Lily of the Valley, Montbretia, Paeony, Polygonatum, Sprekelia (Jacobean Lily), Tigridia, Tuberose, Tulbaghia, Vallota.

PLANTING GUIDE

Artichoke, Asparagus, Choko, Potato, Rhubarb, Herbs, Horse Radish, Citrus Fruits, Ornamental Trees, Ornamental Shrubs, Climbing Plants, Canna.