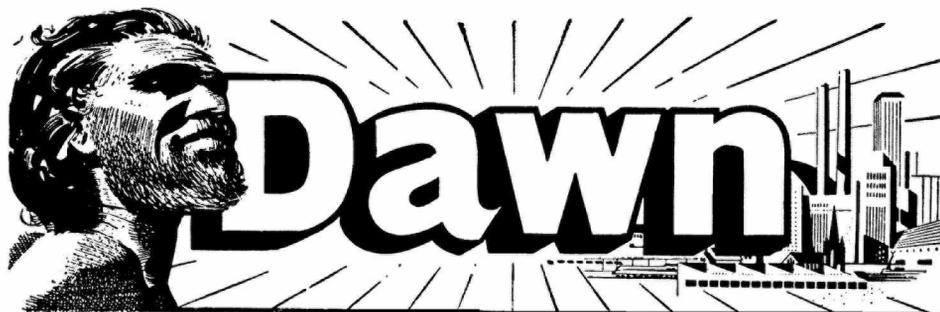


Dawn





A MAGAZINE FOR THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE OF N.S.W. DECEMBER, 1961

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In This Issue...

	Page
The Story of Christmas	1
Christmas Messages	2
Our Roving Cameraman	6
Moree Mumbles	8
Christmas Magic	9
N.A.D.O.C. Writing Quest	10
A Collection of Christmas Carols	12, 13
They Say	14
Aborigines Festival Float and Concert ..	15
Help Yourself	17
Health Hints	20
Home Hints	21
In the News	22
New Homes at Deniliquin	23
Forster News	23
Purfleet News	23
Moree Pupils Outstanding	24
Wedding Bells at Boggabilla	24
Pete's Page	Inside Back Cover
In the Garden	Back Cover



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.R.C.S.



The Story of Christmas

Ever since that first wonderful morn in Bethlehem, Christmas has been a time for giving, and a time for receiving, a time of joy and happiness, a time for Peace and Goodwill unto all men.

Our beautiful cover this month, drawn by one of Sydney's foremost young commercial artists, Kevan Hardacre, is a symbolic one.

It symbolises the nail scarred loving hands of Jesus Christ blessing, protecting, and yet endowing us with all those beautiful and wonderful things of nature, those marvellous things that are so abundant.

In the eyes of our Creator, all men are equal, and the colours of their skins matter not at all.

Even the most humble aborigine is as much beloved as the most exalted white man, and this little aboriginal girl, offering up her humble thanks on Christmas morn is thrice blessed.

Let us then, this Christmas, look about us at all the wonderful things with which we are surrounded, and let us fervently, sincerely, and solemnly, thank our Lord God for having given us his Son Jesus Christ in order that man, following in His Holy ways, might be redeemed.

Let us say then, to our friends, our neighbours, and our kin, "A Merry Christmas, a Holy Christmas, and Peace on Earth to all."

THE PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE

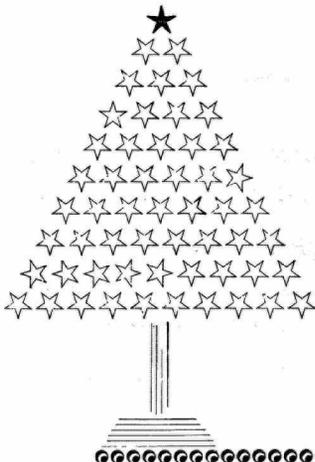
Peace and Justice for all!

I extend my sincere good wishes for the Christmas season and the New Year to the readers of *Dawn*.

The goodwill among men that these holidays should recall is a goal towards which we can all bend our efforts in the year ahead, in the hope that peace and justice shall be the lot of everyone.



ROBERT G. MENZIES,
Prime Minister of Australia



We Must Not Lose Faith!

LET US REAFFIRM OUR BELIEFS

AS the season of peace on earth and goodwill to all men approaches, much that has happened over the past year gives little ground for joy or satisfaction.

Abroad we have seen the resumption of nuclear tests, with bombs of unprecedented power contaminating parts of the earth; the crisis over Berlin has flared up dangerously. At home, the spectre of unemployment casts its shadow over thousands of Australian homes, and causes undeserved suffering and want to so many of our fellow citizens.

We have seen the barriers that divide men needlessly widened by those who wish to impose their will upon the world, by force if necessary.

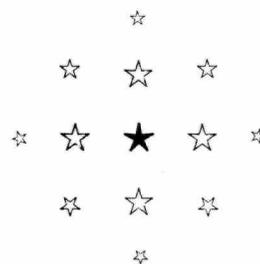
Under such circumstances, it is sometimes difficult to retain our faith in the brotherhood of man and our optimism about the future of the world.

But in fact, men of goodwill must take such times as a continuing challenge. For if we lose our faith that the good will ultimately prevail, then who shall be left to fight for it?

For evil to prevail, it is only necessary that men of goodwill do nothing.

This then is a time to reaffirm our belief in the higher values and our determination to see that justice is done to all men and women everywhere.

I wish all readers of *Dawn*, all who support it, and all the people in whose interests it is published a happy Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year.



A. A. CALWELL, M.H.R.,
Leader of Federal Opposition

THE PREMIER'S MESSAGE

Christmas Greetings



In the sense that you belong to the ancient race—its origins lost in the mists of antiquity—I offer seasonal greetings to all old Australians.

My greetings are also extended on behalf of the Government which is ever mindful of its responsibilities to the original Australians.

You are indeed close to the thoughts and hearts of the large majority of the population whose conscience about the tragedy which befell the noble aborigine race of this country is very troubled.

The Government, however, feels that our growing aboriginal population will progressively reassert itself as an important, and dynamic factor in the community life.

The Government is most keenly interested in the welfare of the native people, and is devoting considerable attention to their housing.

We are proceeding with all possible speed, also, in improving amenities, and conditions in the various settlements where aborigines are located.

The Budget appropriation for the Aborigines Welfare Board is £234,938 this financial year, and includes sums totalling £51,000 for repairs, and improvements at stations and reserves.

The Government earnestly desires to foster a condition of equality among all citizens from the oldest Australian to the newest arrival on our shores.

We believe that this goal is in sight.

R. J. HEFFRON,
Premier of N.S.W.



Christmas Messages

From the Chief Secretary . . .

Christmas Greetings!

“ I send warmest wishes on behalf of the Government and myself to the aboriginal people of New South Wales for Christmas and for the New Year. I am confident that the next twelve months will see aboriginal people move farther along the path to their proper place in the community. This time of the year is one of significance and joy for all, but particularly is it so for children, to whom I send special greetings ”.

C. A. KELLY, M.L.A.,
Chief Secretary.



Out of the Snowlands of the North Pole comes Santa Claus, bringing presents for all

The Superintendent says . . .

A Happy Christmas!

Time passes quickly and the Christmas Season is upon us again. Some of you may be able to look back on changes or advancement in your lives over the past twelve months, some of you may not. However, you must never give up but keep on trying to reach whatever you desire.

To all of you I wish a Happy Christmas and a New Year of opportunity.

H. J. GREEN,
Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare.



The Chairman says . . .

A Merry Christmas!

Once again we approach the Christmas Season and it is my pleasure on behalf of the Board and myself to extend to the aboriginal people of New South Wales all good wishes for a very happy Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year.

The Board has watched with interest the progress made by many of you during the past twelve months and trusts that the New Year will be full of opportunity for you all.

A. G. KINGSMILL,
Chairman, Aborigines Welfare Board.



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.



Ted Brady, Percy Hunter, John Bates, and Billie Bates, of Wilcannia



A happy group of Cabbage Tree Island youngsters



This young fellow is known to everyone around Wilcannia as "Joker"



A smile from Elaine Randell, of Cootamundra



A scene from the Nativity Play at Wreck Bay. Betty Ardler peeps at the Baby, while Dawn Chatfield, Isaac McLeod, and others, watch on



Mrs. Boyce Vale, of Green Hills



Two smiling lasses. Mavis Lang and Ailsa Randell of Cootamundra



Muscular Bruce Bolt and David Kapeen threshing cut millet at Cabbage Tree Island



Drying the millet to be baled up at Cabbage Tree Island

Moree Mumbles



by MRS. MARGARET GILLON

I would like to refer to a passage in the Bible which I've proved by my own experiences.

I've proved, and I suppose other Christians have too, the words of St. Luke, chapter 1, verse 37: "For with God nothing shall be impossible".

All of we coloured Christians have found assimilation no problem because God has made it possible for all who have accepted Christ; white, coloured or of any nationality, brothers and sisters in Christ.

Firstly, I would like to tell of my experiences as I circulated among the churches and their people.

I was given an invitation by Captain and Mrs. McIntosh to attend their church. My husband and I went to their church one Sunday evening and were given a very warm welcome. We were invited by Mr. and Mrs. Willis, members of the Salvation Army, to share their seats, and it was my privilege and pleasure to speak with the people.

Their attitude was of friendliness, kindness and joy to have us with them.

We accepted another invitation extended by all ministers to attend a united church service which was held in the Methodist hall. There it was my joy to speak to the minister of the Methodist church, Mr. Bowles. I had the pleasure of sharing seats with two Christian ladies who were teachers, Miss Owen, who taught at the infants' school in town, and Miss Sexton, who taught at our aboriginal school. There was another young married lady whose name I just can't remember.

Everyone made my visit a profitable and pleasant one. I also spoke to Archdeacon Stockdale of the Church of England, and Mr. Matheison, the Presbyterian minister, both very kind and considerate men of God.

On Friday, 6th October, and Saturday, 7th October, Mr. Green, Superintendent of the Aborigines Welfare, all ministers, pastors, and all concerned in our welfare held a conference in the Methodist hall with a view to getting our people familiar with attending church.

I believe the Lord has placed upon their hearts the burden of our people, and the condition of their lives that the evil one has destroyed through the things of the world and ungodly men.

If all our people could be brought to Christ, there would be no more problems, for the Lord has given men and women in marriage and given them children, so it is our responsibility to provide for our families and rear them correctly. To bring our children up without Christ or to build our lives on anything else will fail. In the Bible we read, Corinthians 3 and 4, chapter 3, verse 11: "For other foundation no man can lay than

that is laid, which is Jesus Christ". "All our knowledge of the worldly things and its good pleasures will do us no good, for without Christ we will accomplish nothing."

In Corinthians 3 and 4, chapter 3, verses 18, 19 and 20, we read: "Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God, for it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness", and again "the Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain". In God's word we read, Isaiah, chapter 64, verse 6: "We are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags".

Let's all search our own hearts first. We read in St. Matthew 13, chapter 12, verse 34: "O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh".

Yes, let us all put our hearts right with God, then we will be right with all men.

I would like to personally thank, for myself and on behalf of all the parents of the children who attend high schools, the staff of *Dawn*, and the Aborigines Welfare Board, for *Dawn*; because we can see that the Editor and staff are deeply concerned for us. They keep us in better contact with our people who are scattered over wide areas, and show us how some of our people are progressing.

Dawn also gives us a wonderful uplift in spirit. The Aborigines Welfare Board deserves our thanks because it knows our education is just average and not enough to get us good positions and better paying jobs to buy our homes, and to keep up with the high cost of living. We thank them for the opportunity our children obtain, for better educations, by going to high school and winning bursaries.

We thank the board for the homes they have built us, because the sum we pay for rent is suitable to our income. It is really wonderful to have such beautiful homes, and to have a manager and matron to help us in our difficulties.

Sunday, 8th October, was a very wonderful and enjoyable day. Thirty-six girls from Gunnedah Girls' Life Brigade visited our Girls' Life Brigade, on the invitation of Captain Miss Burketts. They held a display on the Saturday night in the Methodist hall, and on Sunday morning met in the reserve church. It was wonderful to see all the girls mingling together.

The mothers subscribed towards giving all the girls a cup of tea before they left. Mr. Reynolds, the manager, gave us the use of the hall for the afternoon tea. It was wonderful to see the girls trained so well by the captains in marching, singing, and other activities.



Christmas Magic. "I wonder what makes that work?"

N.A.D.O.C. Writing Quest, 1961

MORE SUPPORT NEEDED

N.A.D.O.C. Writing Quest, 1961, provides much food for serious thought for all of us who, voluntarily or otherwise, accept the privileges and responsibilities of working towards assimilation of our aborigines.

It is obvious that where the greatest encouragement is given, the most enthusiastic co-operation results.

In New South Wales, where the aboriginal people are encouraged to read and send contributions to *Dawn*, their own literary magazine, we had entries from individual readers acting entirely upon their own initiative. With the approval of the Aborigines' Welfare Board, we requested the editor to publish the conditions relating to the quest. It is hoped that at least one of these contestants, who displayed such independence and ambition may feel confident to continue making full use of her bursary and eventually succeed in attending a university. This would now be possible by means of the "Abschool" scholarships made available to aborigines by students of to-day.

There can be no doubt that most of the teachers who received particulars of the Writing Quest this year *did not encourage the pupils in their charge to participate*. There may have been very good reasons for this but a quotation from a letter, written by a teacher at an aboriginal school, is eloquent testimony to the contrary: ". . . I apologise for not being more co-operative in the past . . . not for the sake of the prize—but to help the 'cause' along. That my pupils won so many places is a reflection on us teachers. We all tend to leave it to the 'other fellow' . . ."

Mr. Colin Davis, Editor of *Dawn*, who judged the essays again this year, expressed disappointment that there were not more entries, especially from New South Wales. That he found a certain "sameness" in some age groups may indicate that a wider choice of subjects may be desirable. The entries from adults in all sections of the quest was extremely gratifying. Their work was excellent.

Mr. Donald McLean, of the Department of Education, who judged the stories again this year remarked: ". . . It is noticeable that the standard of composition is much higher when the writers have topics near to their hearts and their origins." At Mr. McLean's suggestion, a section for true or fictitious stories based on aboriginal life or lore was included this year. Some valuable contributions resulted concerning tribal customs and beliefs.

Although the poetry section received less entries than last year, two of the successful poets have given us a remarkable demonstration of the versatility and adaptability of our aboriginal writers.

The first prize was awarded for a poem which, in the opinion of the judge, Mr. D. McGrath, Headmaster of La Perouse Public School: ". . . is frankly influenced by Paterson and Lawson but is direct and unaffected. There is a ring of genuine feeling for the outback way of life."

Another prize-winning poem was written by a full-blood aboriginal girl from Arnhem Land. It shows a remarkable resemblance in style and expression to the work of the great ancient poets of her race. For centuries their verse has been kept alive by song men. Recently some of it has been translated by R. M. Berndt. Here is a quotation from a classic:—

"That sun rises above us, burning our backs, going to the Place of the Sun.

It burns our backs, and it shines upon the water at Lilildjang.

Its warm rays touch us, stretching to Arnhem Bay."

For comparison, here is a poem written this year at Roper River Mission, by Valmai Rogers (15):—

AT SUNRISE

"When the sun rises up from the back of Walmudga,
Beautiful rays shine upon our windows,
And out among the silver water edges,
And shine upon the River beds of the Roper."

Surely it is not too optimistic to believe that the time is not far distant when the aboriginal people will achieve happy and masterful familiarity with the English language, which at present is still foreign to so many of them. Then perhaps, a true Australian culture will emerge and poets and authors will seek inspiration from the classics of Australian folk lore, just as naturally as they write today of the comparatively recent adventures of the real or mythical heroes and heroines of Ancient Greece. These future writers could shed light on lost worlds of culture and open up new vistas for the delight of unborn generations who will travel, like Keats: ". . . In realms of gold".

ESME SPEIGHT

(Convenor of N.A.D.O.C.
Writing Quest, 1961.)

Memories of the Outback

by Richard D. Martin.

First Prize Poem

My thoughts return to the Gibber Plains,
Way out in the far out-back,
Astride a horse, behind a mob,
Along the cattle track.
Where the "Tailer" must rise with the Morning Star,
On the camp out on the plains,
He hears the ring of a tell-tale bell,
Or the jingle of hobble chains.

As the "tailer" brings the horses back,
Each horse is on the run,
While the stars still peep, their flying feet
Hurry back to the beat of the sun.
Then the men arise, with drowsy eyes
And eat their hurried snacks.
Then they grab their mounts and saddle up
And swing astride their backs.

Then the men are ready upon their mounts,
To begin the new-born day,
To startle the mob with yells and cries,
Till the mob is under way.
Watching, tense, for the mob to move,
As he waits beside a log,
To stop a stray as it breaks away,
Is old "Blue", the cattle dog.

Then the whips ring out and the men, they shout,
As the sun lights up the sky
And the mob then moves as they lift tired hooves
'Til they reach the next "Gilgai".
For the days grow long and the job's no fun
Out on the open plain,
And the flies and the sun, they come as one,
As they add to the drover's pain.

Now the heatwaves dance as the men advance,
With the mob across the plain,
And the cattle thirst and the men, they curse,
As they scan the sky for rain.
But they push along as the day draws on,
Not far from the big "Gilgai".
Then the mob goes mad as a scent they've had
Of the water that's nearby.

The cattle break as three men it takes
To try and hold the lead,
At the whip-lash crack, they hold them back
And stop a big stampede.
Then the cook makes camp on the "Gilgai's" bank
As the sun sinks in the west.
While the men prepare themselves to watch,
Old "Blue" the dog's at rest.

This entry, a Prose Poem, won a Special Consolation Prize.

Spring

by Andrea Holten (12) c/o. P.O., Bowraville.

Spring is the most enjoyed season of the year. It is like a trumpet, calling all sleeping nature to awaken and rejoice.

Trees which lost their leaves when winter's icy fingers clutched at them have now a green robe of grandeur. Blossoms, pink, red and yellow adorn the trees, which are proud to hold such a burden.

When the world awakens the first thing that is heard is the song of the birds, who, having burst into song, send forth glorious golden notes which fill the cool, crisp air with melody.

Many migratory birds, who, when the first blasts of winter come, fly away, now re-appear and join in the spring festival.

Fleecy clouds float overhead in a mirror-clear sky of azure blue. The foam crested waves of the ocean ripple and sparkle and the rivers in their courses lose their muddy appearance and become sheets of silver.

The bees look so attractive as they venture into the centres of beautiful fragrant flowers, with the sun shining on their gauzy wings. The flowers like the visits of the bees, and I feel sure, must sway in the gentle breeze, to the tune of the birds which twitter as they have their daily baths.

We all see these things, and many more, from the rising to the setting of the sun and we feel sorry but not discouraged when darkness descends upon the earth, for we have the satisfaction of knowing these things will begin again when Mother Earth raises the curtains of darkness which screen her glories during the hours of rest.

(Judge's remarks: A prose poem—very pleasant to read.)



Dorothy Stewart of Silverton, near Broken Hill



Christmas Carols

HERE

The singing of carols on Christmas Eve is one of our most beautiful traditions.



Say, Santa. I think I'd better whisper what I want for Christmas

Once In Royal David's City

Once in royal David's city
 Stood a lowly cattle shed,
 Where a Mother laid her baby
 In a manger for His bed.
 Mary was that mother mild,
 Jesus Christ her little child.
 He came down to earth from Heaven,
 Who is God and Lord of all,
 and His shelter was a stable,
 and His cradle was a stall,
 With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
 Lived on earth our Saviour holy.
 And through all His wondrous childhood
 He would honor and obey.
 Love, and watch the lowly maiden,
 In whose gentle arms he lay;
 Christian children all must be
 Mild, obedient, good as He.

While Shepherds Watched

While shepherds watched their flocks by night
 All seated on the ground
 The Angel of the Lord came down
 And glory shone around.

Fear not, said he, for mighty dread
 Had seized their troubled mind,
 Glad tidings of great joy I bring
 To you and all mankind.

To you in David's town this day
 Is born of David's line,
 A Saviour who is Christ the Lord
 And this shall be the sign.

The heavenly Babe you there shall find
 To human view displayed,
 All meanly wrapped in swathing bands
 And in a manger laid.

Thus spake the Seraph and forthwith
 Appeared a shining throng
 Of Angels praising God who thus
 Addressed their joyful song.

All glory be to God on high,
 And on the earth be peace;
 Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men
 Begin and never cease.

Away In A Manger

Away in a manger,
 No crib for a bed,
 The little Lord Jesus,
 Lay down His sweet head,
 The stars in the bright sky
 Looked down where He lay,
 The little Lord Jesus
 Asleep in the hay.

The cattle are lowing,
 The Baby awakes,
 But little Lord Jesus,
 No crying He makes,
 I love Thee, Lord Jesus!
 Look down from the sky,
 And stay by my cradle
 Till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus,
 I ask Thee to stay
 Close by me forever,
 And love me I pray!
 Bless all the dear children
 In Thy tender care,
 And fit us for heaven
 To live with Thee there.

ARE THE WORDS!

There are few better ways of expressing the spirit of peace and goodwill.

Silent Night

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon Virgin Mother and child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia,
Christ the Saviour is born!
Christ the Saviour is born!

Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light!
Radiant beams from Thy Holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus Lord at Thy birth,
Jesus Lord at Thy birth.



"Well, well, well. Look at all those things that came out of my Christmas stocking"

Good King Wenceslas

Good King Wenceslas looked out on the feast of Stephen,
When the snow lay round about, deep and crisp and even.
Brightly shone the moon that night, though the frost was cruel

When a poor man came in sight, gathering winter fuel.
Hither, page, and stand by me, if thou know'st it, telling,
Yonder peasant, who is he? Where and what his dwelling?

Sire, he lives a good league hence, underneath the mountain,
Right against the forest fence, by St. Agnes' fountain.
Bring me flesh and bring me wine, bring me pine logs hither,

Thou and I will see him dine, when we bear them thither.
Page and monarch forth they went, forth they went together.
Through the rude wind's wild lament and the bitter weather.

Sire, the night is darker now and the wind blows stronger,
Fails my heart, I know not how, I can go no longer,
Mark my footsteps, my good page, tread thou in them boldly.

Thou shalt find the winter's rage freeze thy blood less coldly.

In his master's steps he trod where the snow lay dinted,
Heat was in the very sod where the Saint had printed.
Therefore, Christian men, be sure, wealth or rank possessing,

Ye who now will bless the poor, shall yourself find blessing.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
Come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him born the King of angels;

Come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

True God of True God, Light of Light external,
Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb.
Son of the Father begotten not created;
O come, let us adore Him.

Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above,
Sing ye all glory to God in the highest!
O come, let us adore Him.

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus to Thee be glory giv'n.
Word of the Father now in flesh appearing,
O come, let us adore Him.



WALLAGA LAKE NEWS

A happy and successful day was enjoyed by the pupils of the Wallaga Lake Station school at the district school sports held at Quaama recently. Our future Olympians had seven wins and other placings.

As five other schools competed the residents are justly proud of this effort from a school of 24. The manager made the offer of 5s. to any of our children who won an event.

This offer brought on an epidemic of intensive training and for a week prior to the meeting, the Station children could be seen jumping and sprinting during their spare time.

The Station truck was scheduled to leave at 9.30 a.m. for Quaama and further trials were commenced again outside the office at 7 a.m. As the results show instead of exhausting the athletes it was a mere "warming up" process.

Les Darcy, aged 5, won his age race.

Dinnie Parsons, the smallest competitor, won the under nine high jump.

Ruth Hoskins won a gold medal for the high jump and also won two other events.

Frank Kelly, 13 years of age, won three events including the high jump. He also retained a gold cup for this event.



A Christmas parade of Snowmen in London

Mavis Thomas put up an excellent performance by coming second in the high jump for her age group.

A happy and tired band of athletes and supporters arrived back at the Station at about 5 p.m. After unloading from the truck they decided to have more training, evidently a "cooling off" process!

Well done children, perhaps you will do even better next year.



**Russell Williams and Roger McEwan,
of Warren**

Mrs. Roy Thomas, of Wallaga Lake, is at present an inmate of Prince Henry Hospital and all wish her a speedy recovery.

Mrs. J. Bundle had an addition to her family on October 1st, when Robert Charles Bundle arrived.

Mr. and Mrs. Mongta also have a new son, Lionel.

Kelvin Andy, the son of Arthur and Joan Andy of Wallaga Lake, passed away early last month at Newcastle.

Delegates of the Purfleet C.W.A. branch attended the Mid North Coast Regional Conference of the Country Women's Association at Laurieton during October, Mesdames E. Simon, M. Marr, S. Russell, Z. Slater, N. Saunders and Sadie Russell being the delegates.

Aborigines' Festival

float and open-air concert

Mr. Eric Mason, writing to the Editor of the *Macleay Argus*, on behalf of the chairman and members of the Aborigines' Welfare Board, said:—

“On behalf of the Chairman, the Superintendent and members of the Aborigines Welfare Board, may I express their sincere thanks to the people of Kempsey for the magnificent reception given for our open-air concert on Saturday, the gala night of the Festival of Spring, and to our artists who appeared in the show.

It was most inspiring to hear the 1,000 or more people who attended the celebration express their appreciation of our artists by calling out, ‘more, more’ after each presentation.

Although I have only been in my office a little over two hours (today, October 3rd), I have had 27 calls from townspeople congratulating our float and concert. (Saturday night proved to me my statement of some months ago: ‘There is no colour bar in Kempsey’).

It must be remembered that there were many hours of work preparing the concert by both the manager of Burnt Bridge Station, Mr. Henricksen, and the supervisor of Bellbrook Reserve, Mr. Harrhy.

The co-operation given by Mr. Harrhy in bringing his artists to Burnt Bridge for the final rehearsal, and last, but by no means least, the artists themselves, who also put in many hours rehearsing.

I think you will agree with me, sir, that our aborigines proved by their dignity, dress and demeanour, they are true Australians and able to take their place in any community.

The manner with which the aborigines portraying the various events, of the three arms of the Services (in which they fought) and others depicting other activities, wore their uniforms with great dignity, and the girls with grace and charm.

Those representing the year 1788 were Mr. Sid Quinlan and Mr. Darby Ward; sailor, Mr. Kevin Marr; army officer, Mr. Richard Archibald; air force, Mr. Andrew Pacey; nurse, Miss Leah Pacey; scouts Master Robert Lang; school teacher, Mr. Ken Carter; students, Master Charles Bradshall and Miss Lynette Drew; high school student, Miss Valda Moylan; sportsman, Mr. Athol Davis; and stockman, Mr. Peter Byers.

Designer of the Australian Coat of Arms on float, Mr. Clarrie Newman; signwriter, Mr. Andrew Pacey; decorators, Mesdames Allen Davis, Vi Lang, A. Campbell and J. Knox; with a special mention to Mr. Alf. Drew for the amount of time and labour that he expended.

The fact that this was the first year we entered a float, plus the fact that we won third place, speaks for itself, and all the credit for this must go to our manager, Mr. Henricksen, the matron and the people of the Station; also Sister O'Brien, for her assistance in obtaining and collecting uniforms, etc.

Artists were: Bellbrook, Dianne and Grace Quinlan, Carl and Master Tony Quinlan, rock and roll; Burnt Bridge, Clarrie Newman, George Davis, Edna Dotti, Patricia Dixon, Ken Carter, Rhonda Kelly and Lynette Drew, The first four of these were also representatives on the float.

Great credit must go to our local Welfare Committee, our president, Mr. Chisholm, and fellow school teachers, who obtained the various articles and decorated our window display, Mr. Condie and all their helpers.

Especial thanks must go to Mrs. Emery, the untiring secretary, who organised the stall and her helpers. I, personally, know of the hours of labour Mrs. Emery put into this task for three weeks prior to the opening. To Mr. Dodds, who supplied the buffet stall with goods at cost, plus a great deal free of charge.

To Messrs. Schrodgers Ltd., for the use of their window and truck for the float and the great help given by their staff. To Messrs. Clinch and Payne (to use Mr. Payne's words: ‘Anything you need from our shop is yours’), who supplied a guitar and amplifier. The committee of the Festival of Spring for the platform, piano, lights, etc. To the compere, Mr. Watters, senr., and to 2KM for their offer and help when assistance was needed.

It would take too much space to mention everyone to whom we owe our success, but to all many thanks.

I am deeply conscious of my position and more than proud to be actively associated with the descendants of our original Australians; and to them, with all humility, I say thank you for your grand display.

To our townspeople, thank you for your great reception of our artists, and the work done by the committee, our manager and supervisor and their folk.

May I, sir, on behalf of the aborigines, congratulate the organisers of the Festival of Spring, the designers of the great array of floats, and express to them our thanks for inviting us to participate.”

* * * *

(Photographs of the Float will be published in the January issue of *Dawn*.—Editor).



HELP YOURSELF

Did you know that a lemon will give more juice if warmed before squeezing? Pop one into a warm oven or into boiling water for a few minutes, then see.

* * * *

When you are preparing sticks of celery, cut off the leaves and dry them in a paper bag. Then crumble finely and you will have a cheap and effective celery seasoning.

* * * *

If you add a pinch of salt to the water when scraping new potatoes, the hands will not become stained and the potatoes will be easier to scrape.

* * * *

A small teaspoonful of bicarbonate of soda added to tongues for the last 15 minutes of cooking will make it easier for you to remove the skins.

* * * *

You can make attractive buttons for a handknitted sports jacket with pumpkin seeds. Boil the seeds in water for a couple of minutes, punch holes in them and after they have dried thoroughly lacquer them with whatever colour appeals to you.

* * * *

A soft or hard-boiled egg will not break during cooking if you first puncture the large end of the egg with a needle, thus allowing the air to escape.

* * * *

Before washing an egg beater and dishes in which eggs or egg yolks have been beaten or cooked, rinse with cold water. If you use hot water to start, you will cook the egg yolk on, making it more difficult to remove.

* * * *

When cooking eggs in water, you will avoid that annoying discolouration inside the saucepan if you choose a stainless steel or enamel saucepan.

A small magnet tied to your sewing basket picks up needles and pins that drop to the floor while you are sewing. A magnet makes an effective pin-holder when you are pinning and fitting.

* * * *

Empty adhesive-tape spools are handy for storing away odd lengths of left-over ribbon. Simply wrap ribbon around the spool, one piece on top of another. This keeps the ribbons from getting wrinkled or soiled.

* * * *

When following a recipe put the card or clipping between the prongs of a fork and stand the fork in a tumbler. This way you will keep the recipe clean.

* * * *

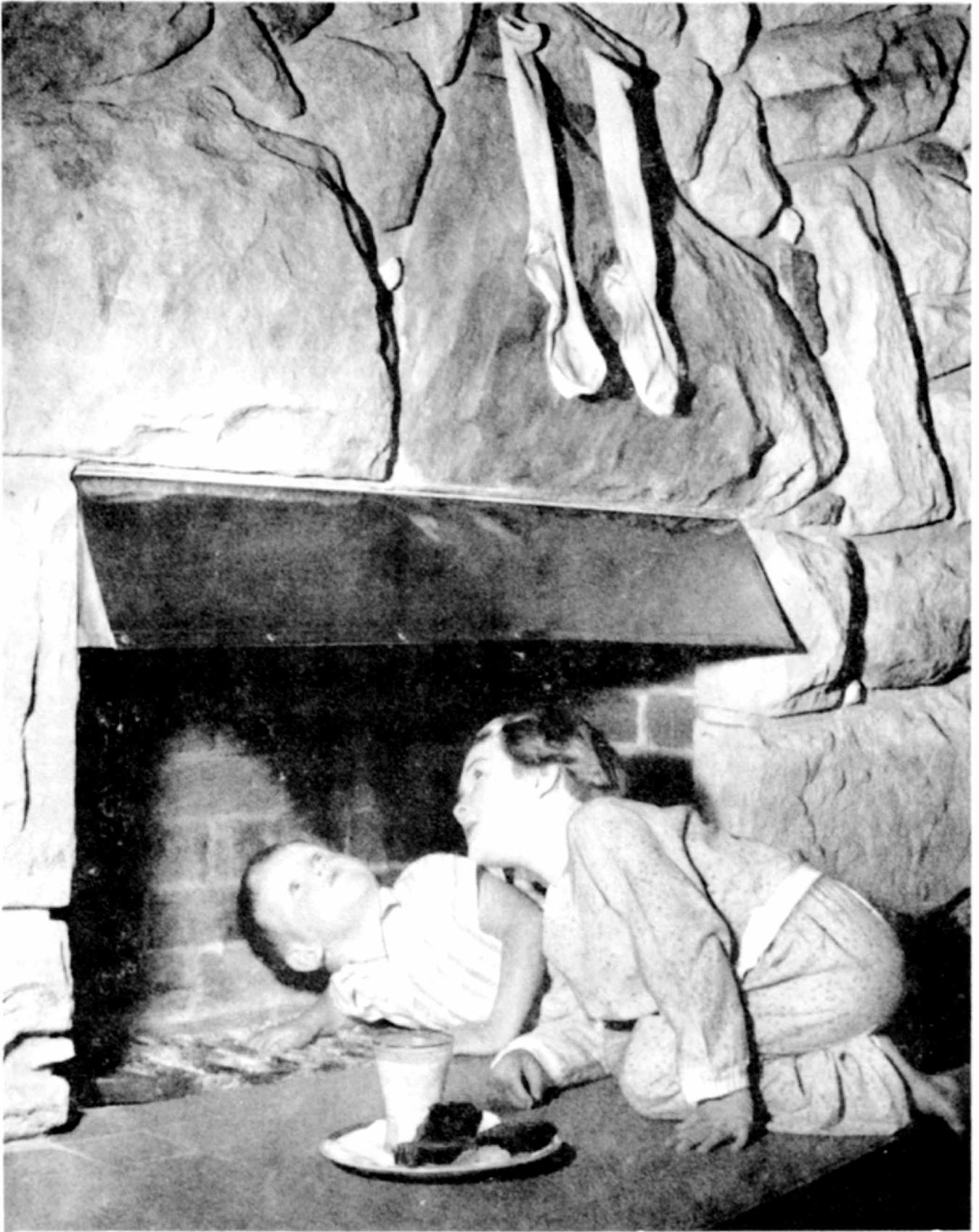
To prevent bad staining of the inside bottom of an aluminium double-boiler, add a teaspoonful of cream of tartar to the water.



"Steven" a one-time evangelist for his people, on the C.S.I.R.O. farm at Katherine, N.T.

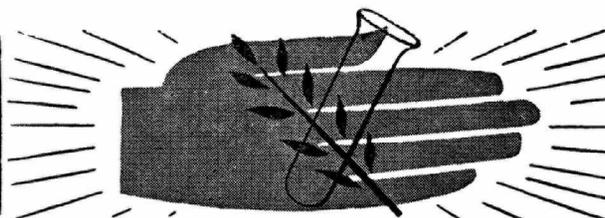


"They say Santa Claus *always* comes down the chimney"



I don't see him, sis, but if we leave this cake and drink, he's sure to come

Health



Hints

PUBLIC ENEMY No. 1—THE FLY

There is no lack of evidence to prove that the common house-fly is one of man's deadliest enemies. Laboratory tests have shown that there are over thirty different diseases which may be spread by the insect. Some of the more familiar are typhoid fever, dysentery, sore eyes and anthrax.

The fly is uniquely equipped as a filth-spreading machine. Its entire body is covered with a tangle of fine close-growing hairs which act as a catch-all for any particles with which it may come into contact. Well fitted for carrying filth, too, are the fly's suction-padded feet.

Flies are by no means fastidious regarding their choice of food. They relish with equal satisfaction a meal such as decaying garbage, manure, or a tasty morsel from your dinner table; further, they fly directly from one meal to another.

As the fly has no teeth, it must take its food in liquid form, sucking it up through a trunklike mouth piece. Before eating its meal the fly softens it by vomiting a fluid on it.

The breeding habits of the fly are equally disgusting. Flies breed in filth and refuse of various kinds, showing preference for decaying vegetable matter, old rags and paper and animal and human excreta, particularly horse manure.

Fly Control

Improved sanitation is the first step in fly control. Insecticides should be used as a supplement, but never as a substitute for sanitation.

Important steps in fly control are:

- Place all garbage promptly in a proper receptacle. Wrapping in newspaper assists in preventing fly-strike and allows the receptacle to be emptied cleanly.
- Use proper receptacles. These should be made of metal and be water-tight, with tightly fitting lids.
- Keep all stable manure in properly constructed bins. Empty and clean these at least once a week. When using as a fertiliser, spread manure thinly.
- If there is a pan closet on the premises, place in each pan immediately it is received a half cupful of "blue oil" with D.D.T. or kerosene with D.D.T. Make sure that the opening is provided with a hinged lid and that this is kept closed when the pan is not in use.
- Keep yards, especially horse and fowlyards, clean.
- Keep grease traps clean.

Other Control Measures

Proper screening of all doors, windows and other openings is important also in fly control.

If, in spite of all your efforts, flies enter the house they should immediately be destroyed by spraying, poisoning, trapping with fly-papers, swatting, or by the use of wall sprays leaving a residue of the D.D.T. or other insecticides. Most sprays to-day are prepared from deodorised kerosene and contain pyrethrin with piperonyl butoxide, thanite or D.D.T. These give a reasonably rapid "knock-down" of flies.

Residual Sprays

The treatment of resting places with concentrated solution of D.D.T. leaves a residual film which lasts for months. The solution recommended is 4 per cent. D.D.T. in deodorised kerosene. This is applied by means of a brush or spray to walls, window frames, light fittings and places where flies normally rest. Surfaces must be moistened almost to the point of run-off. Run-off should be avoided however as this may cause staining. The solution should be in the proportion of one quart to 250 square feet of surface to be treated.

D.D.T. is poisonous and should be kept away from foodstuffs. D.D.T. also may be absorbed through the skin when it is dissolved in kerosene and the hands should be washed after using it.

Other effective sprays are those containing lindane, methoxychlor, chlordane, dieldrin or diazinon. These should be of an appropriate concentration. Some are for "spot" rather than general application and directions of the manufacturers in this regard should be closely observed.

In country districts the use of a fly trap made from two kerosene or petrol tins has been found very effective. Details of the construction of this simple trap are contained in the book *Simple Aids to Sanitation* obtainable from the Government Printer, Sydney, at a cost of 2s. 6d. (3s. posted).

Keep Flies from Food

It is obvious from a brief study of the fly and its habits that it should never be allowed to come into contact with food. Every article of food, during preparation and at the table should be covered as a further link in the defence chain against this deadly invader.

Your Health Inspector will help

If, in spite of your best efforts, flies are prevalent in your district, do not hesitate to seek the advice of your local health inspector.

HOME



HINTS

Rustproofing Nuts

To prevent nuts from becoming locked on bolts by rust, dip the threads of the bolt in shellac and turn the nut onto the bolt before the shellac has had time to dry.

* * * *

Effective Bottle Opener

A piece of wood and a flathead nail is all that is required to make a very effective bottle opener. The nail should always be bent over so it won't pull through.

* * * *

A mixture of equal parts of thick, boiled starch and thick, warm soap-suds is a good polish for linoleum; the mixture preserves the finish of the linoleum and makes it resistant to soiling.

* * * *

When ironing keep a bottle of peroxide handy. If you scorch an article rub it once with a clean rag dipped in peroxide, then dry in the sun.



Try as hard as he might, the cameraman just couldn't get these two young people to smile. They are Priscilla Wightman and Geoffrey Sullivan, of Tingha

Nicks and scratches in furniture and woodwork can be repaired by staining them to the proper tone and then covering them with two coats of clear shellac.

* * * *

To assure long life for pillow cases always select cases that are slightly oversize for the pillow being used. When the pillow is forced into the pillow case it will wear out sooner.

* * * *

When making baby singlets and other underwear, sew up one shoulder only. On the other sew two tiny press studs, one at neck and the other at the arm end. This way clothes are easier changed as the opening is so much larger.

* * * *

If paste is not available, the white of an egg can be used as an adhesive.

* * * *

When a felt hat becomes spotted by rain, rub the surface with steel wool until the nap is raised, and you will find that the spots have disappeared.



Young Gerald Quayle, of Wilcannia, reckons he can break the drought with that hose



COLLARENE CHATTER

by DAWN PETERS

We have had terrible weather here. First it was very cold and then we had some very hot days and than cold again, but we had a good drop of rain yesterday.

The Apex Club is putting up showers and a laundry for us, one for the women and one for the men. A big tank is going up, too. The frame is all up ready and now we are waiting for the piping to be put in it.

We think it was Sergeant Aldridge who suggested it. He has been a very nice Sergeant. We have Sergeant Broomfield now, and he is also very nice.

We have a bough shed in which to hold our Sunday School. It has hessian around it. We have Sunday night meetings which we all love.

We had Mr. Walker the Welfare Officer around about recently to pay us a visit.

Mrs. Bert Adams has been in hospital here for 10 weeks since she burnt herself. Mrs. Emma Fernando who had a poisoned foot has also been in hospital for 11 weeks.

Ray Hall is building a new house which should be very nice when it is finished.

We had the Missionary from Moree here recently and had a lovely meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Dupen came up from Walgett for services, too. We always look forward to having them teach us more about Our Lord the Saviour.



When this young fellow met Santa Claus in the toy shop he found he just *couldn't* make a choice. There were so many wonderful things

NEW HOMES AT MUNGINDI

The Chairman of the Aborigines Welfare Board, Mr. A. G. Kingsmill, announced recently that five aboriginal families would shortly move into five new homes at Mungindi.

Mr. Kingsmill said the homes, which have just been completed, were built on a five acre reserve on the edge of the border town.

The cottages, which cost £9,342, each contain three bedrooms, combined kitchen-dining room, and laundry-bathroom.

Twelve similar homes built by the Board at a cost of £20,000 were completed at Deniliquin and have been occupied by 12 families.

Mr. Kingsmill said the land on which the Mungindi cottages were built was made available through the efforts of the Boomi Shire Council.

The council had fenced the reserve, put in a gravelled road and brought water from the town supply. It had also constructed a levee bank to prevent flood waters from the Barwon River reaching the homes.

The five tenants chosen by the Board included a widow, a shearer and three station hands.



This hardworking young fellow is Tom Ballangarry, of Bowraville

NEW HOMES AT DENILIQUIN

The Chief Secretary, Mr. C. A. Kelly, announced recently that 12 aborigine families were to move into new homes at Deniliquin.

The families have been drawn from the old Moonahcullah Reserve, 26 miles from Deniliquin. The 12 new houses, located in streets on the edge of town near the sportsground, were built at a cost of £26,000.

Mr. Kelly said they were attractive three-bedroom cottages, with combined kitchen-dining rooms, combined laundry-bathrooms and all were sewerred.

As the result of the move from Moonahcullah the aborigines school at the reserve will be closed, Mr. Kelly said.

The 61 children going into the new homes with their parents would now attend public schools in Deniliquin

Moonahcullah is one of the State's oldest reserves.

It came under Government control in 1898. Before that it was administered by the Aborigines Protection Association, a church mission organisation which operated with the help of a State subsidy.

Out of respect for the wishes of aged aborigines born at Moonahcullah the Welfare Board had agreed to retain the best homes on the reserve, Mr. Kelly said.

The old people wanted to return to Moonahcullah to spend their twilight years and eventually join their ancestors in the reserve's burial ground.

Since the end of World War II more than 350 modern cottages have been built by the Welfare Board for aborigines.

This number includes 50 town houses, 207 on stations and 100 on reserves.

Other aborigines have been settled in Housing Commission homes.

FORSTER NEWS

Four new cottages recently constructed by contractors Gregory & Hoy at Forster Aborigines Reserve were occupied on Saturday, 14th October.

The Aborigines Welfare Board representative signed over the keys to the lucky new tenants, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Simon, Mr. and Mrs. T. Ridgeway, Mr. and Mrs. N. Paulson and Mr. and Mrs. C. Leon.

These cottages are very well built, and of attractive design—blending in with the surrounding expanding holiday resort of Forster very well. The colour scheme, both inside and out, has been done in the modern manner of colour attraction.

All the tenants concerned are particularly pleased with their cottages, and no doubt in the not too distant future will have flower gardens to show the houses off to full effect, and the dwellings spotless, to the housewives, credit.

PURFLEET NEWS

The annual meeting of the Purfleet branch of the Country Women's Association was held recently at the Station hall.

After presenting the minutes and financial statement for the year, Mrs. Ella Simon, president, handed over for the election of office bearers for the forthcoming year. All members present thought the past office bearers had done such an excellent and worthwhile job that they were unanimously elected again for the forthcoming period, the principals being Mrs. E. Simon, president, Mrs. M. Maher, secretary and Mrs. Stella Russell, treasurer.

Mrs. Simon thanked the members on behalf of the committee, and thought it pleasing that all members had such confidence in the officers.

Discussions were carried on for the main activities for the year, and all members were informed that the prospects for the Library-Rest Room-Baby Health Clinic were very bright, and that when this building came into being it was hoped that all Station residents would make full use of the rooms—particularly the mothers of young children, to take advantage of the Baby Clinic for the betterment of the babies' health.

A delightful afternoon tea was had after the close of the meeting.

Those present were Mesdames E. Simon, M. Maher, Stella Russell, Z. Slater, N. Clark, P. Davis, B. Clark, L. Turnbull, Sadie Russell and V. Simon.

Also present were Mrs. V. Hickson, North Coast Field President, Mrs. D. McKeon, President of Taree C.W.A. Branch and Mrs. G. Redmond, Relieving Matron.



There's always plenty of helpers when the Christmas cake is being made!

MOREE PUPILS OUTSTANDING

Sportsmaster's Praise

Writing to *Dawn*, Mr. W. J. Bailey, sportsmaster at Moree High School, was full of praise for his aboriginal students. He said:—

“Moree High School has indeed been fortunate to have gained, amongst the newer aboriginal pupils, a number who have become not only excellent citizens and conscientious scholars but outstanding sporting personalities as well. As sportsmaster I have been interested to watch their progress through the rank and file of the school's sports teams to the top grades. Many have travelled away with school teams and have been a credit to the school, the town, their own people and themselves.

Percy Suey is the most outstanding example. A leading sporting personality, Percy this year has been a member of the school's first grade cricket, basketball and Rugby League football teams—the only boy in the school to achieve this honour. At the North-Western Zone Athletic Carnival for schools, Percy won both the discus and javelin events, setting a new record in the javelin, and gained places in the 440 and 880. He won a school blue for these achievements. The school has a gymnastic display group of which Percy is a leading member. Recently Percy was selected by the Outward Bound Movement to represent Moree at this year's camp, at Fisherman's Point on the Hawkesbury River, his expenses, totalling £45, being subscribed by the Moree Rotary Club. He is the first aboriginal to have been selected in this scheme.

Barry Johnson and Bob Stanley are both members of the school swimming team and acquitted themselves well at various carnivals. Bob also represented at the N.W. zone Athletic Carnival gaining 2nd place in the 15 years' high jump and setting a new school record of 5 feet 1 inch.

The girls have done their bit as well. Jeanette Binge plays with the school 1st grade vigoro team; Brenda Haines won her race at the N.W. Athletics Carnival setting a new N.W. and school record of 9.4, while Shirley Briggs won a place amongst the school's sporting personalities for 1961, for being the only first year girl to gain representation in two first grade teams—basketball and vigoro.

Terry Stacey, Ron Haines, Colin Swan and Patsy Sampson, also have represented the school with credit in various teams.

The school congratulates these new students on their success and looks forward eagerly to gaining many more people of the same calibre as these young Australians.

WEDDING BELLS AT BOGGABILLA

The vicar of Boggabilla, Mr. Harker, has been kept somewhat busy lately, judging by the number of people on the Station who have been getting married.

First of these happy occasions was the marriage of Leila Dennison to Edward Orcher. Leila is the treasurer

of the Toomelah branch of the C.W.A. on the Station. Edward, or Ted as they call him, has been the Station handyman for some time now.

A second marriage was that of Juliette Dennison and Bill Whitton. Juliette is a junior member of the C.W.A. branch on the Station. Bill plays for the Boggabilla football team and is a member of the Station social tennis club.

A quiet wedding was arranged for Mrs. Mavis McGrady and Jack Dennison. Mavis was widowed some time ago, and has a small family. She was the president for the C.W.A. branch for 1960-61. Jack is regularly employed as a station hand on a nearby property.

Two sisters then decided to take the plunge, namely Ursula and Gloria Haines. Ursula tied the knot with Leslie McGrady, a son of the late Mrs. Susan McGrady, who died recently.

Gloria has married into another McGrady family, her spouse being Hughie. Gloria is also a member of the Station social tennis club.

Mr. Charlie Edwards, of Purfleet (centre), was farewelled by his wife and Mr. A. Thomas, manager of Purfleet Aboriginal Mission Station, when he left by East-West 'plane from Taree aerodrome to take part in the National Aborigines' Day observance in Sydney.

Mr. Edwards was selected from tape recordings of his voice sent to Sydney, to be one of the singers at the civic reception staged in Martin Place, Sydney, as part of Aborigines' National Day.

During his visit he also sang at the “Pleasant Sunday Afternoon” function at the Lyceum Theatre, which was televised and broadcast.

Mr. Edwards returned home by 'plane several days later.





HELLO, KIDS

Well, here it is at last, the month we have been waiting for, the month of Christmas.

I do hope that all of you will have a very, very, Merry Christmas, and I also hope that each of you will try and help someone else to have a Merry Christmas.

December brings the time when many of you will be leaving school and looking for jobs. Please be very careful in your selection of a job, and try to get one in a trade where you can be trained so that in later years you will always be sure of employment.

If you would like some advice about any kind of job you might be thinking about, please write to me and I'll be pleased to help you if I can.

We have a little girl from the South Coast, who is very anxious to find some aboriginal penfriends.

This lass, Rhonda Boyde of "Brightside", Princes Highway, Unanderra, who is not an aboriginal herself, would like penfriends between the ages of 14 and 16.

How about some letters for her?

Four young fellows who come from 736 Richmond Road, Blacktown, New South Wales, are looking for penfriends.

They are Buddy Marshall (20), Barry Phylball (20), Paul Campbell (16), and Louis Ballangarry (16).

They are all interested in swimming, football and rock 'n roll.

How about some letters for these young fellows?

This month I've inclosed a little puzzle very kindly drawn for you by Janna Davison, of Woy Woy, and will include more of her puzzles later on.

I guess that's all for this month, Kids, but do have a wonderful time.

A Merry Christmas, and May God Bless You All.

So until then,

Your Sincere Pal,

Pete



Nanima schoolchildren at the recent sports

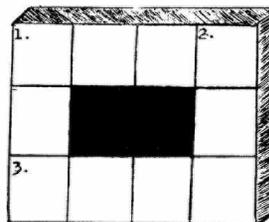
A Simple Crossword



1. Across.



3. Across.



1. Down.



2. Down.



Only Cold-Country Gardens can grow Berry Fruits

Currants, loganberries, raspberries, and gooseberries are for cold-climate gardens only. They will not thrive in warm climates such as Sydney's.

The berries will thrive in suitable conditions, on the highlands of New South Wales; but the currants, particularly the black, are for the coolest gardens of Victoria and Tasmania.

Currants

Black, red, and white—need a deep, rich soil, preferably volcanic loam, completely sheltered from hot wind. They are heavy feeders, and need mulching with manure at the beginning of spring, and again during the fruiting.

Planting either with cuttings or rooted plants, is done during winter, spaced eight feet apart, with six feet between rows.

Gooseberries

Need very much the same treatment as currants—and the same pruning treatment, i.e., shortening the leaders and pinching back the side shoots, to encourage fruiting spurs.

HELPFUL HINTS—

The Car Engine

To avoid cracking the cylinder block, allow your car engine to cool off for a half hour or so after overheating before you add water to the cooling system.

Loganberries: (They are a cross between blackberries and raspberries.)

Will grow in a degree of warmth greater than raspberries, and much warmer than the currants and gooseberries demand; but they will not thrive in Sydney's heat.

Cultivated on fences or wire supports six feet high, they need to be set ten feet apart, to give room for the long canes which bear fruit in the second year. They need heavy feeding each year, with an annual thinning-out of old canes.

Raspberries

Need rich well-drained soil—water-logged ground will kill them. They throw up new canes each year: these bear fruit in the following season, and then wither, making room for new growth. These old canes should be removed after each fruiting. Planting is in winter, spaced two or three feet apart in rows, four feet apart; and supporting wire, seven feet high, is essential. A heavy dressing of manure is recommended each winter, and again during the fruiting.

Boiling Water Loosens Fish Scales

When fish are kept out of water for any length of time, the scales set and are hard to remove. This may occur also when fish are shipped or kept on ice. Should this happen, dip the fish quickly in boiling water and the scales can be removed more easily.