

Registered at the G.P.O., Sydney, for transmission by post as a periodical



DAWN

A Magazine for the
Aboriginal People
of N.S.W.
December 1964

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE PRODUCED BY THE N.S.W. ABORIGINES WELFARE BOARD

THE BOARD

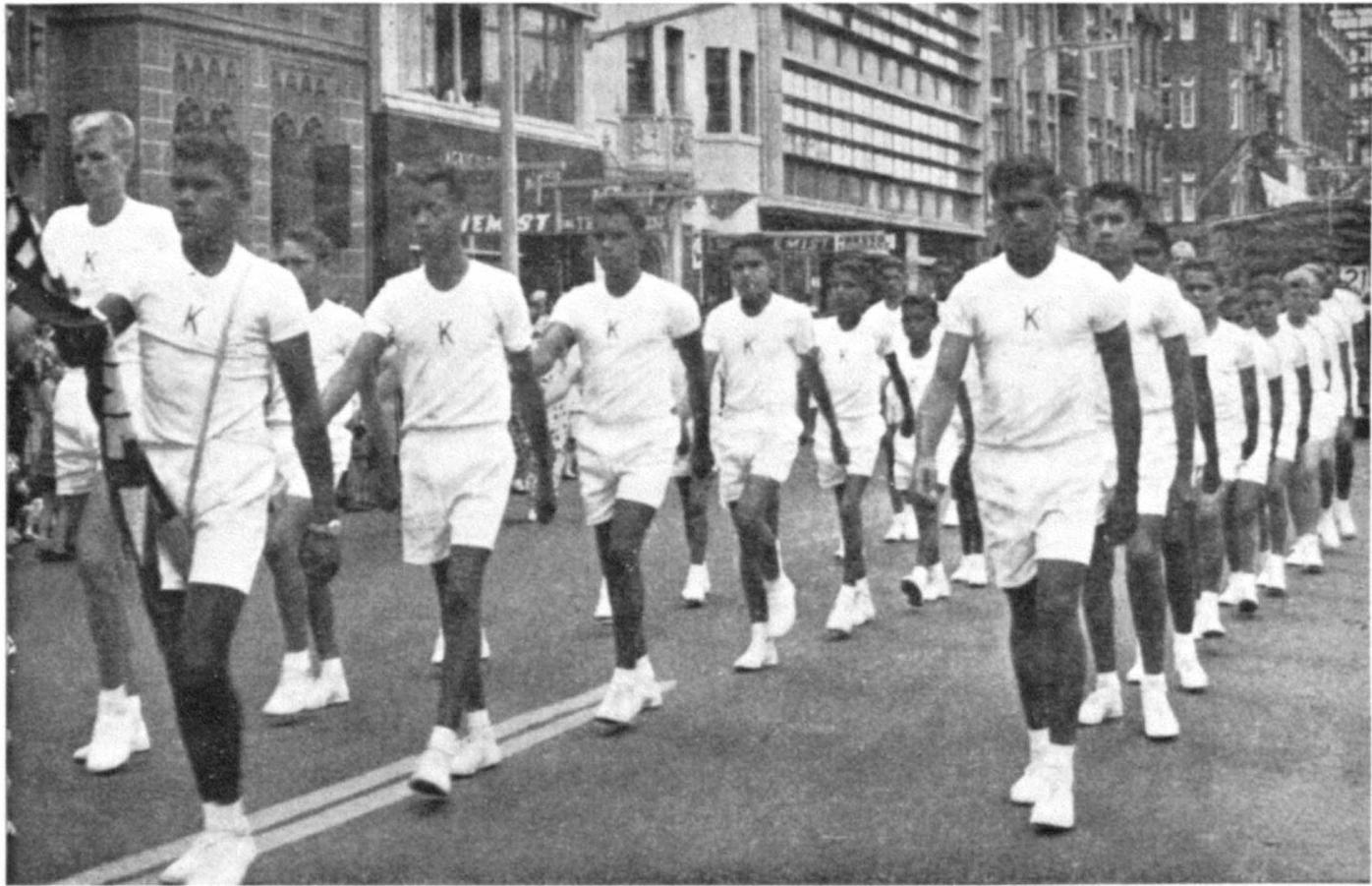
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OUR COVER

The young artist pauses for the camera at the Three-Ways kindergarten at Griffith. (*Riverina Advocate*)



KINCHELA BOYS STEP IT OUT IN WARATAH PROCESSION

Boys from Kinchela Boys' Home made a fine showing when they marched in the Waratah Festival procession in Sydney in October.

The boys all wore their sports uniform with the letter "K" in the centre of their shirts. In this picture, the boys are shown marching along Elizabeth Street. Two sons of the manager of the Home, Mr. H. A. Henricksen, marched with the Aboriginal boys.

BOARD STARTS CAMPAIGN ON RENT ARREARS

The Aborigines Welfare Board has launched an intensive campaign to reduce the heavy rent indebtedness on homes occupied by Aborigines in country areas.

The Board's action has been taken following a survey which showed that arrears of rent had accumulated in about 90 per cent of the Board's 519 homes.

At the end of June, 1964, the total amount of rents due by Aborigines was £78,600. This figure was about £6,000 more than at the end of June, 1963. It does not take into account a total of £1,400 which was written off by the Board during 1963-64.

Over the past eight years 100 cases warranting the institution of recovery proceedings and eviction action were considered by the Board. Since introduction of a tighter policy the position has improved and most tenants are meeting their current rent commitments with a significant number making an attempt to liquidate arrears.

With the exception of five in Sydney and some houses built in country towns, the weekly rent payable in homes owned by the Board is 17s. 6d., or 15s., dependent on the size of the house.

There are special concession rates of 10s. a week for pensioners irrespective of the home involved.

The survey of the rental position showed that many tenants owed several hundred pounds, although in many cases more than one member of each family involved has been in constant employment.

The big amounts due showed that the families concerned had paid little or no rents since they had taken up occupation of their homes.

The Board's policy in building homes for renting is that the rents charged should not be higher than the tenants could afford to pay, but that they must be expected and required to pay them.

The Board decided that there must be an intensified drive to see that Aborigines met their obligations and that it must be impressed upon them that it is their social responsibility to pay regularly the rent due on their houses.

The Board is writing to the families in arrears that they should pay 5s. a week in homes on stations and reserves, or 10s. a week in town houses off the accumulated arrears, in addition to the regular rent payments.

Those who did not meet these requirements were warned that legal action would be taken to recover amounts outstanding.

However, the Board's letter also says that if tenants could not afford to meet their commitments they should inform the Board immediately of the facts.

If no representations were made, within a fortnight of receipt of the letter, or if regular payments were not resumed, proceedings would be taken without further notice.

The Board has instructed its welfare officers to take follow up action.

The Aborigines Welfare Board has spent nearly £1,500,000 on new housing for Aborigines since the war, and nearly £500,000 of it in the past four years.

Houses being built at present cost about £3,000, and are usually let at a rental of 17s. 6d. a week. It has been the practice for some time to build homes which are equipped with all modern amenities.

Houses are built on stations and reserves, and in country towns.

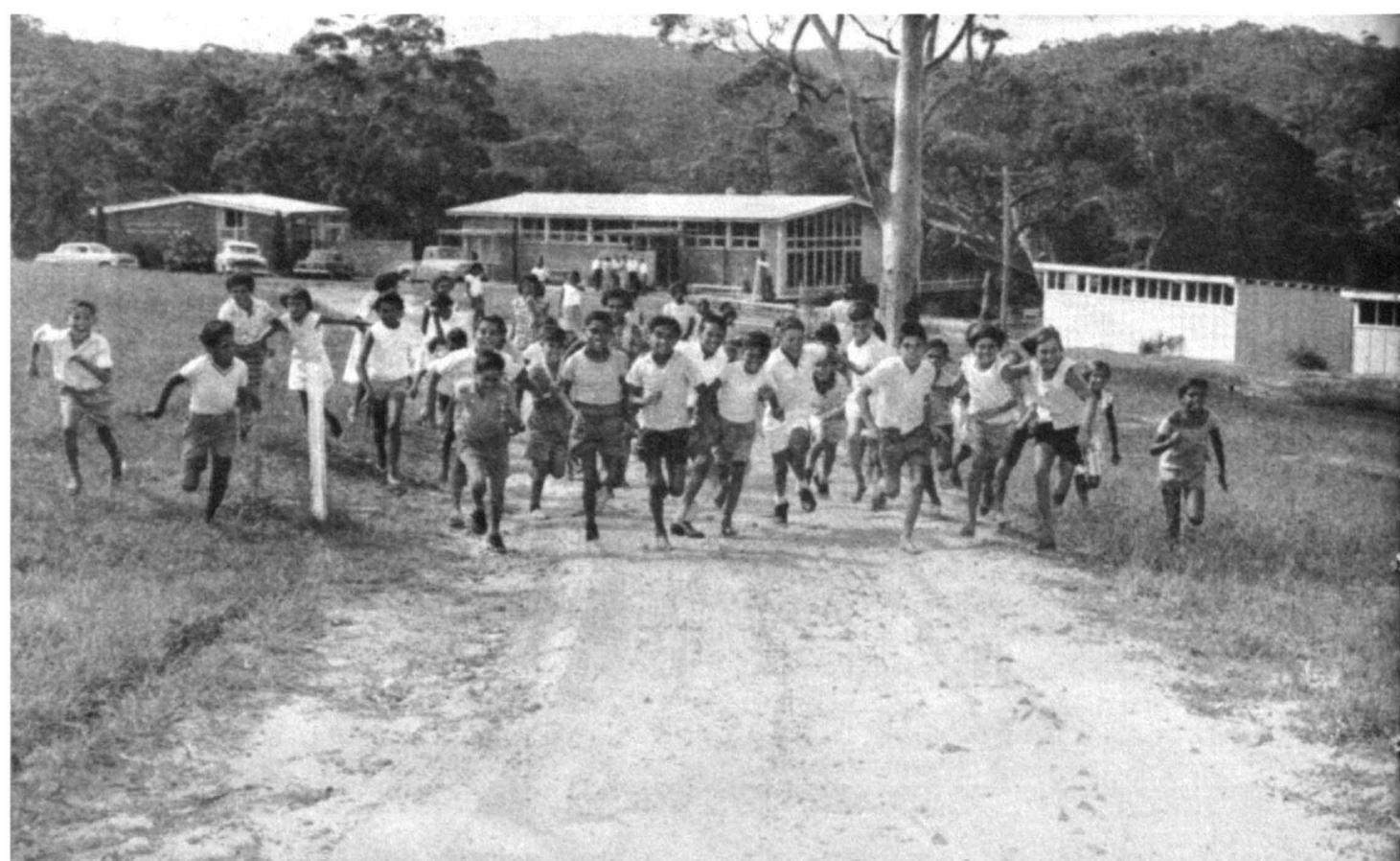
By contrast the Board is pleased with the general picture of its scheme to help Aborigines buy their own homes through a system of low-interest loans.

Up to the end of June, 1964, a total of £144,000 had been advanced to 63 Aboriginal families to buy or build their own homes. Of these, 43 families had actually moved into the homes concerned.

Arrears of repayments totalled only £1,200 involving 12 families. However, the bulk of the £1,200 was owed by only three or four persons, and the Board is giving close attention to this situation.

An example of houses built by the Aborigines Welfare Board on stations and reserves throughout New South Wales. Within the past four years, nearly £500,000 has been spent on building new homes for Aborigines, apart from other money spent on maintenance, provision of services and on other facilities





SYDNEY HOLIDAY FOR LUCKY 80

About 80 boys and girls will be coming to Sydney for the annual fortnight-long holiday organised for them by the Aborigines Welfare Board.

As in the last two years, the children will be billeted at the Methodist War Memorial Youth Centre, at Elanora, about 18 miles north of Sydney, and close to Sydney's famed northern beaches.

The children will be coming from widespread areas of the hot, inland of the State.

Their holiday is due to run from January 10 to January 21, next year.

As usual, they will have picnics, visits to the beaches, and will be guests of Sydney theatres.

However, important additions are being made to this year's programme.

The children will take one afternoon to visit the Australian Museum, one of the best equipped in Australia.

The Police Safety Squad will visit the camp one evening to lecture the children on all aspects of safety.

The British and Foreign Bible Society has also undertaken to visit the camp to show films.

The health checks which are now normal routine at the camp, will also be undertaken this year.

Mr. W. Humphreys, the Senior Welfare Officer of the Board, will be the resident supervisor of the camp. He will be assisted by female welfare officers.

Australian political history will be made before the end of next year if fullblood Aboriginal Phillip Roberts wins a seat in the Legislative Council of the Northern Territory.

A 43-year-old medical assistant, Roberts recently returned from a tour of Kenya.

Mr. Roberts has stated that many Aborigines in Arnhem electorate had asked him to stand during the last election.

"If they feel the same way this year then I will contest the seat," Roberts said.

The Secretary of the Aboriginal Rights Council (Mr. Davis Daniels) who accompanied Roberts to Kenya, said there was no doubt about Aborigines in Arnhem wanting Mr. Roberts to stand.

Other Aborigines confirm that Roberts would get heavy support. If all eligible Aborigines—over 21—enrol they would have an overwhelming majority in this electorate, which is at present held by Darwin real estate man, Mr. K. Waters.

5s. to £25 a week

Mr. Roberts, who never earned more than 5s. a week as a stockman and mechanic on cattle stations and missions till he joined the Health Department in 1953, now earns about £25 a week.

The second baby show at the Purfleet Aboriginal Station, near Taree, was a big success.

Mothers from the Station, as well as from outlying districts and from Forster entered the competition making it a community-wide event.

President of the Purfleet C.W.A., Mrs. M. Maher, officially welcomed the guests and visitors to the Station.

The official guests included Mr. L. C. Jordan, M.L.A. and Mrs. Jordan, Mr. W. Martin, the Mayor of Taree, and Mrs. Hickson, President of the Taree Branch of the C.W.A.

Judges of the competition were the Matron of the Manning River District Hospital and Mrs. N. Jurd and Sister Langley.

The Aboriginal children who won prizes were:

Babies under three months: Wendy Simon 1; Jennifer Mitchell 2.

Babies under 12 months: Tracy Ann Davis 2.

Under 2 years: Colleen Ping 1.

Under 3 years: Janelle Clarke 1; Tanya Saunders 2.

Loveliest brown eyes: Michelle Simon 1.

Best dressed baby: Tracy Ann Davis.

Curliest hair and champion baby: Colleen Ping.

In the boys' section, prizewinners were:

Under 12 months: Dwain Clarke 1, and Bruce Clarke 2.

FULL-BLOOD MAY RUN FOR ELECTION

If Mr. Roberts is successful he will be the first fullblood Aboriginal ever to sit in any Australian legislative body. Mr. Roberts has a sound grasp of politics and strong convictions about the needs for improving the lot of his people.

PURFLEET BABY SHOW DRAWS WIDE SUPPORT

Prizes won by white babies were:

2 years and under: Liza Tupling and Ginny Waters.

Boys, 2 years and under: Stephen Perera 1; Rodney Powe 2.

Boys 3 years and under: Peter Bates.

The Purfleet Branch of the CWA arranged refreshments for all the guests.

COWRA GIRL WINS COVETED AWARD



Mrs. Ian Davidson presenting Erambie scholarship winner Paul Coe, with the award at the High School annual speech night
Cowra Guardian picture

The Coe family of Erambie Station, Cowra, figures high in the esteem of the people of the town.

The three children of the family, Paul, Isobel and Anne, have had a remarkable family record in school work, in athletics and in activities outside the pattern of the average school child.

All are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Les Coe.

A list of their achievements is long, but it is well worth recording.

Isobel capped it all by winning this year the Yarrabundah Cup, a 2 ft. high cup contested in the Western Area of Education (which includes cities like Bathurst and Orange).

Isobel was awarded the cup at the annual speech day of the Cowra Primary School for being the outstanding athlete of the year.

The coveted, glistening cup stands in an honoured place in the school of the pupil who won it. This year it will be in Cowra Primary.

Isobel was also awarded a special Quota Club prize as an outstanding primary pupil.

She represented her school in swimming, athletics, the shot put and in basketball.

She was captain of her school basketball team, and then captain of the Western Area team. She captained the undefeated Primary A team.

At school, Isobel is a member of the school choir and is very active in the Junior Red Cross. She also leads among the organisers for sports equipment.

At the same time as keeping in trim for all these activities, Isobel Coe came second in her class in the yearly examinations.

Her younger sister, Anne, is following in Isobel's footsteps.

Anne represented Cowra Primary School in athletics, basketball and softball at zone level, and in softball and basketball at Area level in competitions at Parramatta.

She also is a member of the school choir and an active member of the Junior Red Cross.

At Cowra High School, the girls' brother Paul also has done well.

Paul is a sergeant in the School Cadets. He has represented Cowra at inter-city school football and he is a good scholar.

At the annual break-up in December, Paul won a scholarship.

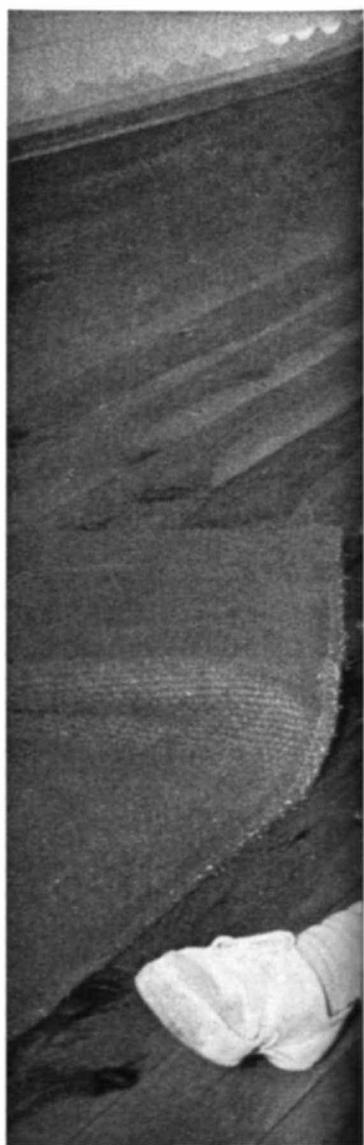
Other children from Erambie also did well in Cowra Primary School.

Richard Ingram, Dulcie Ingram and Helen Chapman all gained first places in their classes. Lynette Whitton came second in her class.

In Cowra High School, Louise Williams won the personal hygiene and beauty classes that were held.



Five residents of Wallaga Lake Aboriginal station recently attended a series of first-aid lectures at the Narooma ambulance station. One of the five, "Boy" Andy, is pictured receiving his St. John's First Aid Certificate from Mr. Keith Wright, officer in charge of the Narooma branch of the Bega District Ambulance.





The opening of the Three-Ways kindergarten recently at Griffith has been warmly welcomed, not least of all by the children who attend it. They started off with one of their most memorable parties. Then, day by day, is the fun to be found at the kindergarten. These pictures by the *Riverina Advocate* show the enjoyment—and the concentration—of life for the boys and girls who attend the kindergarten.



KEEP FOOD SAFE THIS SUMMER

(Contributed by the N.S.W. Department of Public Health)

During the warm months to come guard your family against food poisoning by taking the following precautions against food spoilage.

1. Avoid touching meat, milk, and egg dishes with bare hands.
2. Protect all foods from insects and vermin, either by placing in an insect-proof cabinet or covering with a clean dish or suitable plastic cover.
3. When meat is taken out of the refrigerator, make sure that when placed in your fly protected cabinet, plenty of air can circulate around it.
4. Store all perishable foods in the refrigerator at 50°F or less but remember refrigeration merely retards the multiplication of bacteria, it cannot kill germs already in contaminated meat.
5. Defrost your refrigerator at least fortnightly and clean it with a weak solution of vinegar and warm water. Inspect it closely each day to see that each and every food within is in good condition. If ever in doubt throw it out.
6. Take particular care in the preparation of dishes containing milk, eggs, fish and meats, especially chopped or minced meats such as brawn, meat pies, sausage meats, rissoles, and lightly cooked foods containing milk and eggs, such as custard and salad dressings. These should be cooked and eaten as soon as practicable. Even if refrigerated it is risky to use left-overs of this type two or more days after preparation.
7. When reheating soups or stews bring to the boil and simmer at least fifteen minutes. **DO NOT REHEAT ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION.**
8. Never use any canned food if it is mouldy, has a bad odour or comes from a bulging tin. Even tasting such food can be dangerous.

The foods on which germs grow best are cooked meats, gravies, and dishes containing milk and eggs. They grow best when food is moist and warm. Just one germ can produce one million between breakfast and dinner.

The object of good storage practice is therefore to keep all food, and particularly cooked meat and dairy produce—

- AS COLD AS POSSIBLE.
- FOR AS SHORT A TIME AS POSSIBLE.
- PROTECTED FROM CONTAMINATION BY HANDS AND VERMIN.

THE FLY IS A SERIOUS HEALTH MENACE

(Contributed by the N.S.W. Department of Public Health)

Uniquely equipped as a filth spreading machine the common house-fly is one of man's deadliest enemies.

Laboratory tests show that there are over thirty different diseases which may be spread by the pest, especially dysentery and infant gastroenteritis.

Flies breed in filth and relish with equal satisfaction a meal from decaying garbage, or a morsel from your dinner plate.

Futhermore they fly from one meal to another carrying infection with them.

Fly Control

Improved sanitation is the important step in fly control.

Insecticides are a supplement but never a substitute for good sanitation.

YOU can help combat the fly menace by:

- Wrapping garbage in newspaper before placing in the garbage bin.
 - Making sure the lid of the tin fits snugly so as to keep out any moisture.
 - Washing tins and bottles to get rid of sugary residues which are a magnet for flies.
 - Keeping yards free from decaying rubbish that will attract flies.
 - Screening doors and windows, especially those leading into the kitchen.
 - Ensuring that heaps containing grass cuttings are well composted and turned weekly.
 - Keeping a watchful eye on backyard latrines. If you have one on the premises place in the pan a half cupful of kerosene or a solution containing B.H.C. or other suitable insecticides.
 - Treating out-of-reach resting places for flies with a residual insecticide spray which can be obtained from hardware stores.
 - Making sure that every article of food during preparation and at the table is covered.
- 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.

WELFARE OUTING AT MUNGINDI



The children's Christmas break-up outing at Mungindi was held adjacent to the Reserve on December 16. A large number of children and some parents came along.

We tried to encourage some carol singing, but the excitement and expectation ran too high for this to be very successful. Much greater success attended the consuming of the quantity of cakes, oranges, ice cream and soft drinks.

Each child was given a toy and a balloon, and it was voted a happy occasion, enjoyed by all.

A. and J. BARRETT





1



2

HALF MILE OF FENCING AT ARMIDALE HOMES

A big job of erecting paling fences around the gardens of the fourteen homes on the Armidale reserve was finished last month.

All the work was done on a normal wage-hour basis by men living on the reserve.

The total cost, covering labour and materials, was nearly £1,000, and was borne by the Aborigines Welfare Board.

The new paling fences replaced open wire dividing fences around each garden.

The Board approved the project believing that it would afford each tenant the privacy of his own garden, where established in keeping with normal community practice.



3

The total length of fence erected was 2,400 feet, or more than half a mile.

For the job, the Area Welfare Officer, Mr. D. G. Yates assembled a total of 269 hardwood rails, 270 posts, 7,200 5-ft. palings, and cement, tools and nails.

The job was undertaken by a group of men under Mr. W. Davis, who led the gang that carried out the cement path project at the reserve ("Dawn", April, 1964).

With Mr. Davis on the fencing project were Mr. J. Widders, and Mr. John Naylor. Reserve handyman, Mr. Clive Kelly helped when necessary.

The fences had to be laid in varying types of ground and in all types of weather, but by early November, the work was finished.

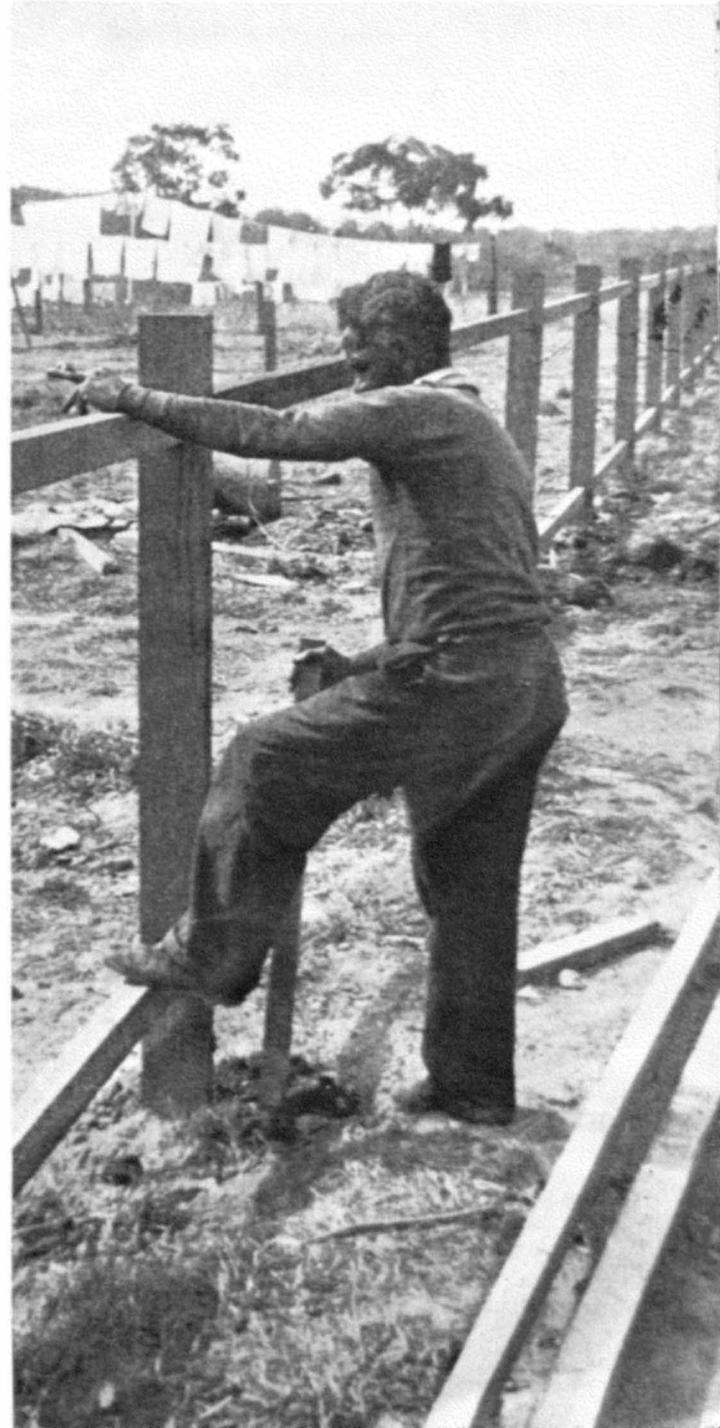
Each tenant on the reserve now enjoys full privacy in his garden. Home life has improved to the extent that the new fences act as superb windbreaks.

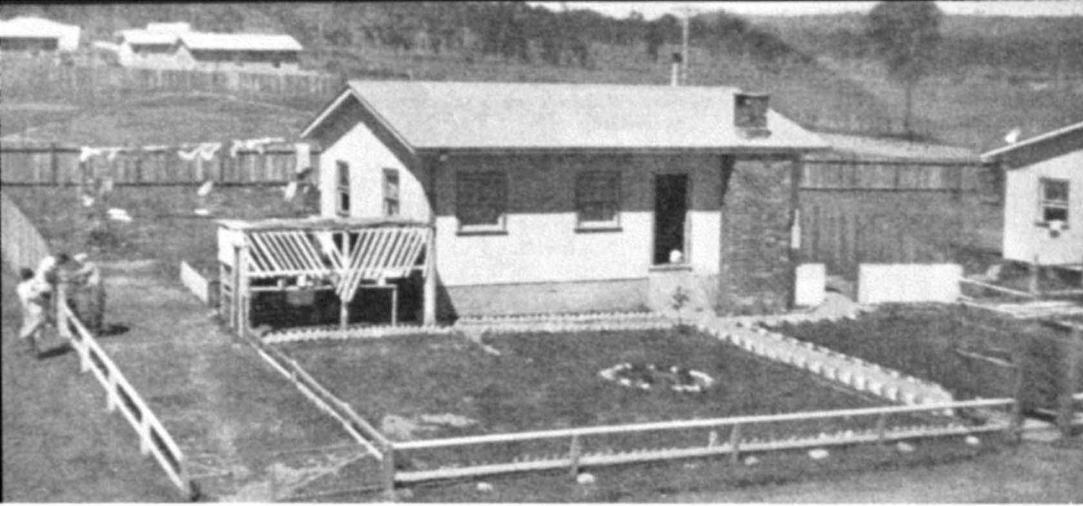
The men did a good job on the fencing. The estimates were kept to, and standards of workmanship were most satisfactory.

Total cost of labour was about £400. Materials cost about £500.

- 1 Jim Widders checks stacks of timber before the job was begun
- 2 The reserve handyman, Clive Kelly, lends a hand trimming palings
- 3 John Naylor hard at it easing mortise holes
- 4 Jim Widders trues up the fence line on the top boundary of the reserve

4





5 Will Davis and John Naylor mortising new fence into existing park fencing on Clive Kelly's house. The new fences and the reserve are in the background

6 Mrs. Noma Cook's home is an example of a neatly fenced block



Board's Offices now open all day

The office of the Aborigines Welfare Board will now be open to the public throughout the day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The practice of closing the office for lunch between 1 p.m. and 1.45 p.m. has been stopped.

The change has been introduced by the Board to ensure that a full service will be available to the public.

Throughout the day the Board may be telephoned at 2-056, Extensions 753, 2348 and 2349. These extensions will all operate through a new switchboard in the Board's offices and through which, any section of the Board's staff may be reached.

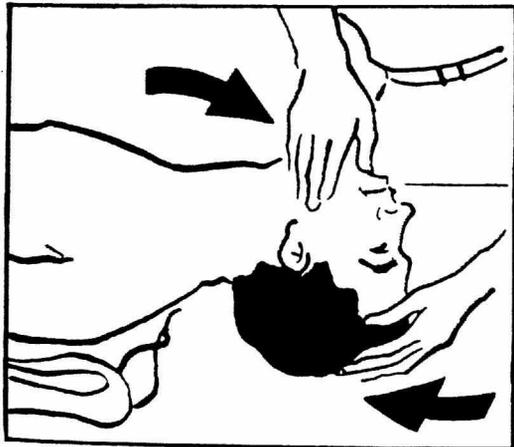
A welfare officer will also be on duty throughout the lunch period.

Numbers of Aborigines are able to visit the Board's office only during lunchtime and this new facility will be of great service to them.

It will also assist those Aborigines from country districts who did not know the times at which the Board's office was open.

YOU COULD SAVE A LIFE

Each year many lives are saved by mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. A few minutes given to studying this method may help you to save a life:



Clear the mouth of any matter which hinders breathing. Quickly place the patient on his back. If possible, lay him on a table or higher ground than the operator. Place a folded coat or other material under his shoulders so that the head falls well back. Kneel by the side of the patient's head or stand by the side of the table opposite the patient's head.

Keeping the patient's head in the full face up position, press down on the patient's forehead with the upper hand so as to tilt the head backward as far as possible. Maintaining the pressure on the forehead with the front of the wrist, seal the patient's nose by squeezing the nostrils between the fore and middle fingers on the same hand. The other hand may be used to cradle the point of the patient's chin and draw it forward. This is not always necessary but the combination of these two movements ensure that the airway to the lungs is fully open.

Take a deep breath, open your mouth wide, and place the lips tightly over the patient's mouth. For young children cover the nose and mouth. Breathe strongly into the patient's lungs. Sufficient force should be used to see that the chest expands as you blow. In cases of drowning the lungs will usually be stiff and require considerable breath pressure for the first one or two breaths.

Lift and turn your head away from the patient's mouth and listen for the sound of exhalation. Repeat this process as rapidly as you can to a total of ten breaths. Thereafter repeat inflation over three or four seconds, using fairly deep breaths. The breaths should be less strong for a child, and still less for a baby. Continue until medical assistance arrives.

PIETE'S

PIAGE

Hello Kids,

Holiday time is with us again, and with it comes all the danger of accidents on the road, in the swimming pool and the creek or at the beach—in fact danger can lurk anywhere during this time that above all should be free of care.

Elsewhere in this issue we publish a guide to life-saving by mouth-to-mouth resuscitation which already has saved numbers of people from death by drowning. Perhaps you might tell your mother or father about it and suggest that some member of your family learn how to carry out this treatment.

Christmas time for many thousands of boys and girls is a time for a holiday and fun, just like everyone else, but for these children it is a specially important time because they are waiting for the results of their school examinations.

Soon you will read in your local newspapers of the children in your area who have passed these important examinations. Many of these children will go on to study at higher schools and universities so that they will be trained to fill positions requiring particular skills.

There is no easy way to gain the learning necessary to gain these skills, but once you have passed through these stages and look back, you really marvel at how short the time has been compared to all the years that lie ahead of you.

So you see, Christmas is a time for fun and enjoyment, but for many it is also a time when another important stage is about to pass, and yet a further stage is to begin.

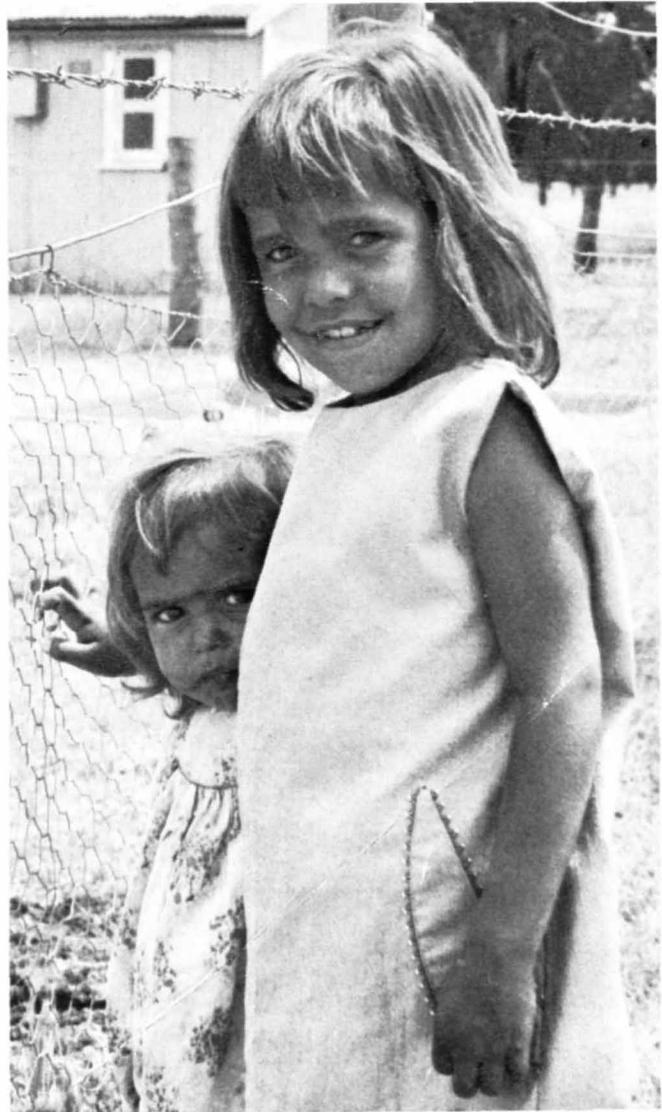
For the time being, however, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a very happy Christmas, with lots of fun with the family, and a bright and happy New Year.

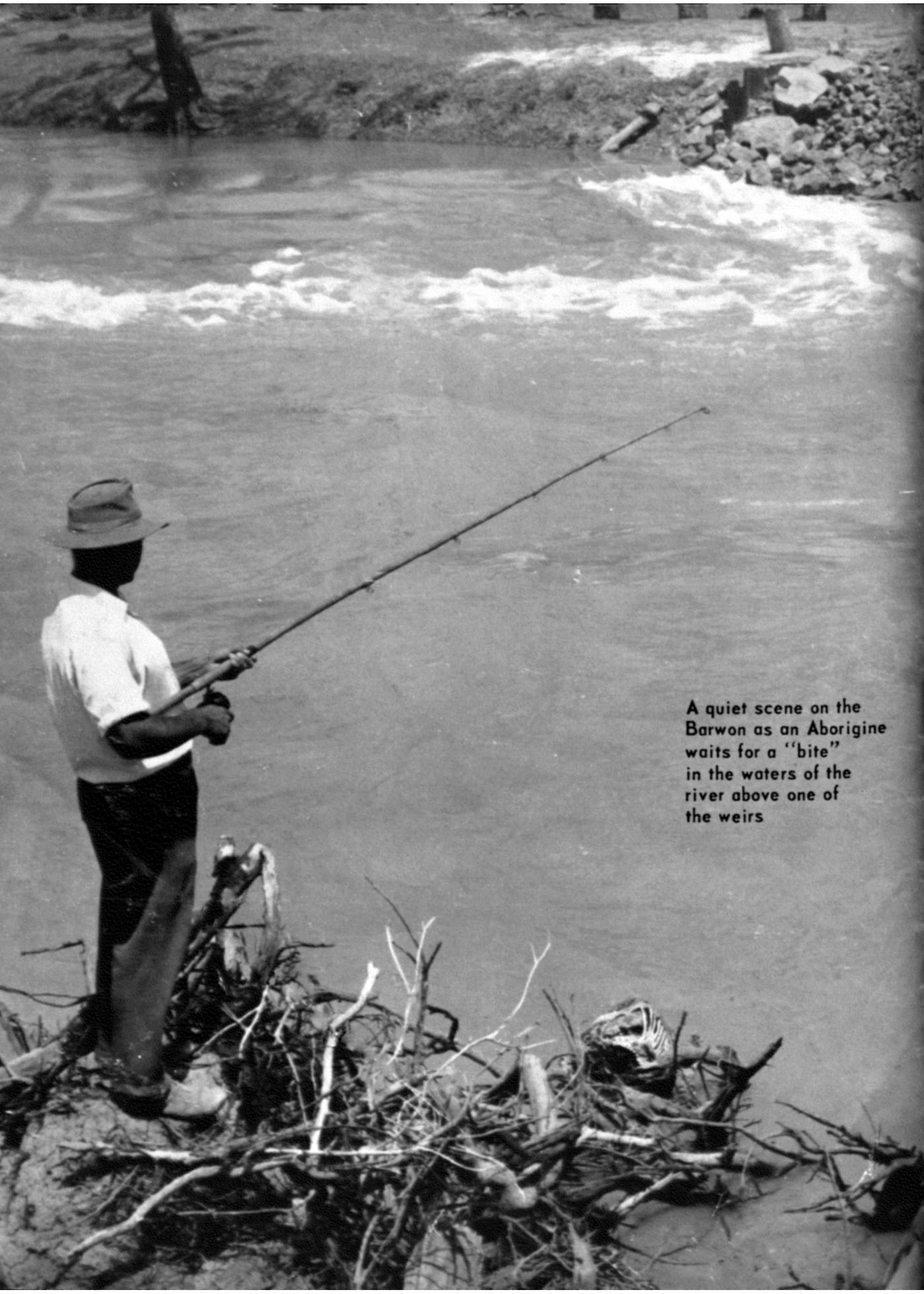
Your sincere friend,

Pete

Her big sister is the surest protection when confronted by a strange camera

Riverina Advocate picture





A quiet scene on the Barwon as an Aborigine waits for a "bite" in the waters of the river above one of the weirs