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Dawn



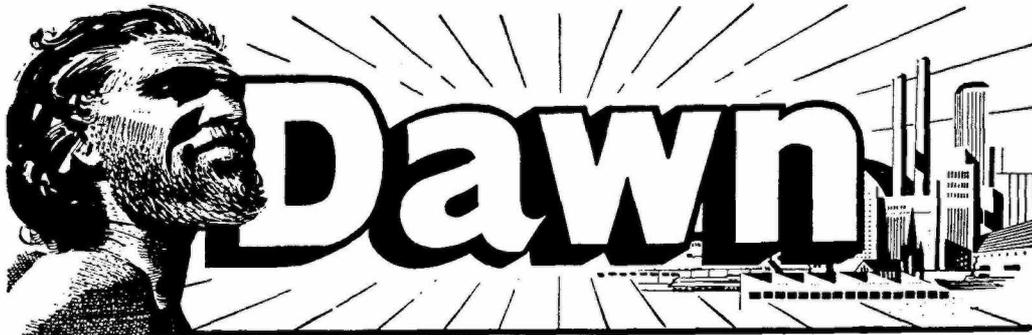
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A MAGAZINE FOR THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE OF N.S.W.

February, 1955



Summer Camp
Issue



OUR COVER

● These three healthy youngsters were having a grand time at the Annual Summer Camp and were reluctant to waste even a moment of it to have their photograph taken.

They are Hilda Ferguson, of Murrin Bridge, Athleen Knight, of Enngonia, and Neville Binge, of Boggabilla.

In this Issue - - -

	Page.
Xmas at Walgett	1
Our Roving Cameraman	2
A Visit to Waterfall	4
Cubawee Xmas Party	4
In the News	5
The Rat is a Deadly Enemy	6
Home Hints	8
The Editor's Mail	9
Movement at Burnt Bridge	10
The Annual Summer Camp	11
The Camp in Pictures	12 and 13
How the Camp Children Were Selected	15
Brewarrina Shows Improvement	16
Now You Know	17
A Letter from Cootamundra	17
Wallaga Lake Station Grows	18
The Cockroach is No Friend	20
The Legend of The Falling Star	21
The Essay Competition	22
They Say	23
Burra Bee Dee Station	24
Korky the Cat (cartoon)	Inside back cover
In the Garden	Back cover

"DAWN"

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Board for the Aboriginal
People of New South Wales



Editor: E. Colin Davis, J.P.

XMAS AT WALGETT . . .

Contributed by P. Foster

For days before Christmas, Walgett sizzled, and though pretty well everyone felt on the verge of collapse, such is the Christmas spirit that they kept going, getting in a stock of good things, and presents galore for the children, and everyone was wishing everyone a Happy Xmas. Some of the residents bought blocks of ice in the town—a pound a hundredweight block—so it is just as well that Christmas comes but once a year. On the Station some of the people built branch shelters under which they had Christmas dinner, and such shelters certainly are cool. Friends and relations of most of the residents gathered round the festive board. At break of day on Christmas morning the children were up to see what Santa had brought and he certainly brought some exciting presents—tricycles, trains, etc.

By noon the temperature had reached 100 degrees and there was a breathless stillness over the parched plains, which only a few short weeks ago were covered with water during the flood.

By nightfall there was a distant peal of thunder and lightning zigzagging across the sky. Nearer and nearer it came and then a few drops of rain fell, while, despite myriads of mosquitoes and sandflies, people sat outside to get a breath of air. However, the rain was not enough to give any relief from the heat. All things, however unpleasant, pass, and there was still the exciting event of the Queen's speech, eagerly awaited, and what an encouraging, inspiring message it was—a message to all her white and dark subjects, telling them she understands, when the work is hard and perhaps dreary, and appreciates their efforts, and that no matter what kind of work it is, it is important and of value to the whole community. A word of understanding and praise such as that helps when we are tired and perhaps discouraged, doesn't it? It is like the sun breaking through the clouds, and I think many of us felt that we want to be worthy of her faith in us.

Well, so ended Christmas Day, and we all felt that we had indeed enjoyed a Happy Christmas.

Boxing Day dawned hotter than ever, and the temperature reached 102 degrees, and towards evening there was another thunderstorm—close and quite a violent one this time. The lightning struck a tree on the Station and there was a pop in the manager's house, which meant that the telephone had been put out of action, and there was no hope of having it repaired until the Xmas holiday period was over. With all the noise, only a few drops of rain managed to fall. Most of the residents kept cool in the river during Boxing Day.

An amusing incident occurred a few days before Christmas when the mothers were busy. A band of tinies, the eldest a little lad of six, attired in nature's

garb, set off for a dip in the river, which is still high, but the mothers were too vigilant to let them get away with that, and snapped branches off nearby trees, with which they chased their offspring. Most of the little folk could run faster than their parents, who were tired to start with, because of the heat, so they got away; but the unfortunates who were caught, rent the air with their wails. It wasn't that they were hurt—far from it. The indignity hurt, as little brown legs were switched with leaves.

Our thanks to Mrs. Keith McKellar, "Minoru," Carinda, who donated five pounds for Christmas cheer. As the Christmas party was over the money was spent on much appreciated cool drinks and peanuts.

The Station residents extend their good wishes to the Rev. Burton, newly appointed Presbyterian Minister, who called shortly after his arrival. He has promised to come out to the school regularly for religious instruction, and it is pleasing to know that he is interested in the spiritual welfare of the children. Apart from three visits from Missionaries this year, there have been no visits by religious bodies.

Mrs. Annie Lance is in hospital and we wish her a speedy recovery.

Our faithful Far West Sister visited the Station a few days before Christmas.

There was only one casualty at Christmas and that was George Fernandos, who after all the Xmas goodies, developed a raging toothache. What a habit toothache has of coming on when the dentist is away, hasn't it? However, George was given relief at the dispensary, but he is determined that, after the Xmas period is over, he and that offending tooth are parting company.

The grasshoppers are with us again—not in great numbers, but they are big ones, 2 inches or more long, and having their Christmas dinner from our garden, which is looking wilted after all the heat.

Some of the children have gone out to where their fathers work, for a holiday.

Olive Nean is visiting relations on the Station.

Amidst all the joy of the Christmas season, we must not forget our sick. Our thoughts go out to Alan McKenzie, who has been away sick for some time, and we hope that the New Year will find him restored to health.

To those who are in prison, a word of hope and cheer, and a Happy New Year to each and everyone, is the sincere wish of the Manager, Matron, and all the residents of the Walgett Aboriginal Station.



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



Ivy Wise (10), of Swan Hill.



Alice Bundock, of Gentil Waters, and Pauline King, of Woodenbong.



Lillian Naltia and Mrs. Ted Roberts of Woodenbong.



Andrew Donnelly, of Baryulgal.



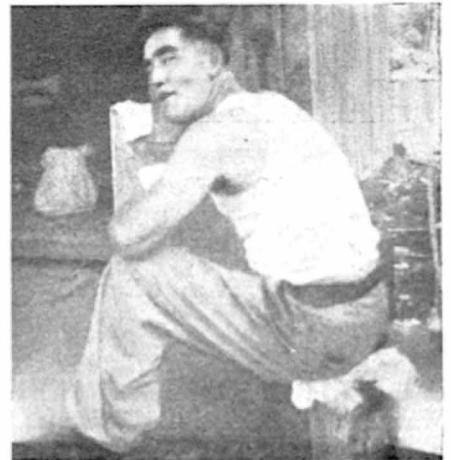
Eunice (Fay) Alberts, who attends Lake Tyers South State School (Vic.).



Julie Yates, of Coonamble.



Annie Alberts and Eunice Alberts at Lakes Entrance, Victoria.



Jim McGregor, of Moree.



Mrs. Ted Roberts, of Woodenbong.



Flossie Quinlin, late of Bellbook, and baby Joe Harris, of Wallun.



Cecil Snow, Uralla.



Joe Nean, of Moree.



Miss Eva Bell, of Sydney, and Josephine Moynihowy, of Cowra.



Kenneth Leonard and his pony, "Sovereign", of Coonamble.

A Visit to WATERFALL

(Contributed by

*Miss Ruth H. Swan, Hon. Secretary,
Association for the Protection of
Native Races.)*

Country readers of *Dawn* will, I think, be interested to hear of their relatives and friends, whom I visited at Waterfall Sanatorium on Christmas Eve.

Patricia Taylor, whom I have known for some years was away on six days leave and Mrs. Mackay is back in her own home at Bourke; I had a cheerful letter from her about a fortnight ago. I had never been to Waterfall before without seeing Pat and Mrs. Mackay. However, I did see Miss Theresa Layton (Grafton), Mrs. Dargan and her daughter, Caroline (Peak Hill), Mrs. Beatrice Mercy (Woodenbong), Joan Cooney (Peak Hill), Miss Betty Edwards (Darlington Point), Tom Carr (Brewarrina), Alan Mackenzie (Walgett), — Reynolds (Goodooga).

I am glad to say they were all well enough to enjoy Christmas. The men patients have all come in since my last visit to the men's wards, but I saw the women and children at the end of September; it was good to see them all looking much better than they did then.

The wards were all beautifully decorated with flowers, Christmas trees, balloons and streamers. The garden was gay with masses of blue hydrangeas and pink petunias.

The grown-up patients were glad to receive their little Christmas gifts from the A.P.N.R. and "a little bird told me" that Santa Claus was on his way with a lovely doll for each of the little girls—Caroline and Joan. Santa had the dolls daintily dressed by Miss Kathleen Vine of Rosehill.

A Nursing Sister spoke of Miss Layton as an exceptionally good patient. Betty Edwards has clever hands and uses them for craft work, which is done under the supervision of an occupational therapist. The last time I was at the Sanatorium Betty showed me a pair of red kid gloves which she had made for a friend. She is now busy with basketry and leather work. Mrs. Mercy, who had six days leave before Christmas, arrived back while I was there and was given a hearty welcome by the patients. She was rather tired after the long journey from Woodenbong, but looked very happy. Mrs. Dargan's general health has improved and so has Caroline's. Joan Cooney is as bright as ever.

Earlier in the day (Christmas Eve) I had visited dear old Mrs. Williams, a great-grandmother from Woodenbong, who is a patient at Newington State Hospital, Auburn. She, too, was in a beautifully decorated ward

Cubawee Xmas Party

Christmas carols and school songs were sung by the children of the Cubawee Aboriginal Settlement when the Christmas party was given by the Lismore Branch of the Country Women's Association.

In the absence of the District Inspector (Mr. M. H. Bryant), Canon J. W. J. Robinson presided.

The C.W.A. vice-president, Mrs. H. A. Saunders, accompanied by Mesdames H. Attwell, D. Mewing, D. Adams, J. Jarman, and Miss R. Tulk, took party fare for the children and gifts to tie on the Christmas Tree.

On behalf of the Lismore Benevolent Society, Mesdames Shipway and Goldsmith, and Miss M. Hewitt, were also present and helped distribute ice cream, sandwiches, cakes, fruit and soft drinks.

The teacher, Mr. Munday, was congratulated on the training the children were receiving.

Mrs. Saunders spoke on behalf of the C.W.A., Mrs. Shipway on behalf of the Benevolent Society, and Pastor Caldicott for the Ministers' Fraternal. Miss M. Hewitt also spoke.

Members of the C.W.A. expressed pleasure at the care taken of the Christmas tree planted during Education Week in memory of Mrs. T. W. Blackwell, who was a great friend to the children of Cubawee.

They said the tree was growing beautifully and was a credit to those who cared for it.

The Police Department was also represented and brought along parcels for distribution to the children.

Parents of the settlement were also present and were entertained by the visitors.

and told me that she had enjoyed Christmas pudding which was served on Thursday, 23rd December. I hope they had some left for Christmas Day!

Among the most valued items in my Christmas mail this year were cards from Ian McIntosh (Boggabilla), Mrs. Mackay (Bourke), Millie Glen, who is now living and working at the St. Francis Hostel, Semaphore, S.A., and Rose Foster, who completed her general nursing course last year and is now doing midwifery training at the Queen Victoria Hospital, Adelaide. I also had a bright, pretty, hand-woven scarf from the children of Wallaga Lake School; the work is a credit to the children and their teacher.

I hope that Mrs. Williams and all my friends at Waterfall had a happy Christmas and that 1955 will bring them improved health and much happiness.

in

the

news



The residents of Tabulam Station and practically every member of the Aboriginal communities surrounding the District recently assembled in the social Hall to farewell Mr. and Mrs. Carlin on their departure to Murrin Bridge.

Members of the Station Concert party gave an impromptu concert in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Carlin. Many old numbers were sung which evidently brought back memories of some of the happier moments spent in Tabulam.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlin received a great number of gifts from their friends on the station which testified to the esteem in which they were held. Mr. Soorley (School teacher) on behalf of the station wished Mr. and Mrs Carlin success at Murrin Bridge and expressed the hope that their stay there would be as happy as their stay in Tabulam.

Mr. Geoff Phillips on behalf of the residents on the station presented Mr. and Mrs. Carlin with a magnificent 8-day clock and expressed the hope that every time they looked at the clock they would remember all their friends on Tabulam Station.

Mr. Carlin in replying said :—" I am indeed touched by this show of loyalty and friendship tendered to my wife and myself tonight. Now that the moment has come we do not want to leave. I could not have had a finer lot of people on any station and I am at this moment extremely proud of you. Although the gifts are indeed beautiful they are little compared with the feeling of pride in you that they have given me. That you should regard us as worthy of gifts has made me feel proud of myself and also intensely proud of you people."

The night concluded with " For HE's a Jolly Good Fellow " and as the guests left the hall they were farewelled with three hearty cheers from the school children.

Mrs. S. D. Leonard of Coonamble wants some lady pen friends about 50 years of age, interested in cooking, fancy work, knitting and bush life.

Vincent Hoeler of Bellbrook and Jack Roberts of Green Hill via Kempsey would like some girl pen friends between the age of 16 and 20.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Symonds, whom the Walgett Manager and Matron knew when at Taree Station, called recently when they were in the locality and it was pleasant to see old friends again. Dick is at present working in the Walgett district but he and Ella went home to Taree for Christmas.

Competing at the Upper Clarence P.S.A.A.A. Combined Schools' Annual Athletic Meeting, Woodenbong School had a most successful day.

With a comparatively small team of only thirty competitors, the school gained seven firsts, five seconds, and eleven third placings in the various events contested.

Most successful competitors in the individual events were Frank Bundeck (Junior Champion); Mabel Bundoock; Vivienne, Effie, Warren and Lindsay Donnelly; Valma and Maria Close; and Ida Sandy.

Highlight of the day was the school's success in the marching competition. A very fine exhibition of marching resulted in a well-deserved win from twelve competing schools; a most meritorious achievement, indeed. Dressed in yellow and blue athletic uniforms, with sandshoes and yellow socks, the pupils presented a colourful and striking appearance and were awarded the prize for the best-dressed team competing at the Sports. This reflects great credit on the parents, and the P. & C. Association, who were responsible for the provision of the uniforms.



**Woodenbong's
School
Football Team
Successful.**

If you have a friend or relative who is not already receiving DAWN, letter the Editor now right away and that friend will be added to the mailing list.

Pass your copy on when you have finished with it.

The Rat is a deadly enemy !

He MUST be exterminated.

For centuries the rat has been one of the most dangerous enemies of mankind on account of the fact that he is the reservoir of so many diseases which can be conveyed to human beings.

The Black Death (bubonic plague) which swept through Europe in the Middle Ages was caused by the rat, and in recent times this disease has accounted for millions of deaths in India and China and other countries to the north of Australia. In fact, outbreaks of plague have even occurred in New South Wales and other parts of Australia.

In addition to plague, the rat carries—

Endemic Typhus Fever, which is conveyed from the rat to man in the bite of the infected rat-flea.

Weil's Disease or Epidemic Jaundice, which is caused by an infection conveyed in the rats' urine. Many cases of this disease have been reported from North Queensland and it has been introduced into New South Wales.

Food Poisoning due to contamination of foodstuffs with the droppings of rats.

Ratbite Fever, an exhausting chronic fever, caused by a germ which is conveyed by the bite of an infected rat.

Intestinal worms and other parasites which may be conveyed to man.

Diseases of animals—for example, the rat is the main cause of Swine Fever in pigs, the total destruction of large numbers of pigs often being required in an effort to stamp out the disease.

The rat also suffers from Cancer and from a form of Leprosy, which, although it has not been proved to be communicable to man, nevertheless, is a loathsome condition to have around our homes. In fact, the rat is a very dangerous neighbour to have in any community.

There are several different kinds of rats, the three main varieties being the large brown rat (*Rattus norvegicus*), which lives in sewers, garbage tips and around the docks ; the smaller black rat (*Rattus Rattus*), which lives mainly in the roofs of houses, and the scrub rat (*Rattus calmatius*), which is indigenous to Australia and is generally found in the canefields.

Rats are prolific breeders. It has been calculated that one pair of brown rats, breeding three times a year, with a litter of ten, would give rise in three years, if all survived, to over twenty million.

The damage which rats do to foodstuffs and fabrics has been calculated in millions of pounds annually. Every kind of food may be attacked, and in addition

to what is eaten, a far greater quantity is spoiled. The food tainted by rats may be the source of dangerous illness in human beings.

The number of rats in any community is prodigious. As their habit is to prowl by night, their numbers are often under-estimated, but reliable authorities have often stated that the rats in cities may be equal in number to the human population.

Warfare against the rat should be continuous. Do not wait until rats cause an outbreak of disease. Prevent the disease by exterminating rats.

Among the most effective methods of extermination are the following. In any vigorous campaign against the rat they should all be used.

1. TRAPPING.

The best form of trap is called the "break-back" trap.

In setting the trap it is useful to place it near a run made by the rat, and it is a good plan at first to leave it unset so that the rat may become accustomed to its presence.

Various baits may be used on the trap, including foods consumed by humans, such as cheese, fish, meat, etc. The bait should be fixed firmly to the trap. The choice should be made of something different from that to which the rat ordinarily has access, e.g., cheese is often found to be a satisfactory bait in a butcher's shop.

2. POISON BAITS.

These can be a valuable aid in rat destruction, but considerable ingenuity must be exercised in their use. There are a variety of poisons, for example :—

- (a) Extract of Red Squill. This substance is generally put up in small paper twists. When in liquid form it may be soaked into pieces of stale bread or used in other ways. It is not so dangerous to human beings as to rats.

- (b) Phosphorus. This, in the form of phosphorus paste, may be spread on bread to make a sandwich. It is dangerous to domestic animals and human beings, so that great care should be exercised in its use.
- (c) Thallium. The method adopted here is to soak grain in a solution of poison. First place unpoisoned grain near rat runs and leave until it is noticed that the rats have been eating it, then change over to the poisoned grain. It is wise to use, as a safety measure, a faint dye to indicate the grain which has been poisoned. Thallium can also be used as a paste and spread on foodstuffs.
- (d) Barium Carbonate. This substance may be mixed with four times its weight of oatmeal, chopped vegetables, meat or other bait. The following is an effective mixture for poisoning :—

Barium Carbonate	...	...	8	ozs.
Oatmeal	...	...	16	”
Beef Dripping or Tallow	...	...	8	”
Salt	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$	oz.

Knead into a paste, roll out and cut into $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch cubes. The quantities given are sufficient for several hundred baits.

- (e) Plaster of Paris. Mix this substance in equal proportion with flour and place in a saucer with another small receptacle nearly filled with water. The rats eat the plaster of Paris, become thirsty, and drink the water, with resulting solidification of the contents of their stomachs.
- (f) “109.” This new rat poison can be used spread on bread, fresh fruit, etc.

Keep in mind that water is detrimental to the effectiveness of poisons, with the exception of (e), therefore, all sources of water supply should be effectively protected, as, for example, by means of metal coverings for cisterns. Fire pails should be so placed that rats cannot gain access to the water contained therein. Dripping taps should be repaired.

The baits used for trapping or poisoning should be varied from time to time, as the rat is a cunning animal and soon becomes shy of traps and poison baits.

Lures such as aniseed are considered by some to be useful in making the baits more attractive to rats.

3. PROTECT FOOD.

All foodstuffs in larders, stores, markets and shops should be protected from rats by placing the food, wherever possible, in rat-proof receptacles. Markets should be cleaned up at the end of every day.

4. DESTROY REFUSE.

All refuse, pending its removal, should be stored in metal bins with close-fitting rat-proof lids. Scraps of food should not be thrown around in yards or work-

places, but should be carefully gathered up and placed in rat-proof bins. Garbage dumps should not be tolerated if it is possible to provide an incinerator. Stables and fowl runs should be kept clean, and accumulations of feed or refuse should not be permitted.

5. BUILDING THE RAT OUT.

Methods of preventing the entrance of rats should be practised in the construction of homes, offices, factories, stores and fowl houses. They must ensure that the rat can find no place in which to hide and breed in safety. For example, there should be no possibility of the rat gaining access to spaces between floors. Foundations should be so constructed that it is impossible for the rat to burrow underneath them. This specially applies to food or produce stores with wooden floors, and in this case the floors should be protected by aprons constructed in concrete or heavy-gauge galvanised iron which are let into the ground for two feet below the level of the surface of the ground with a base of six inches at right angles to the apron. This specially applies to the concrete floors in poultry houses.

Another means of access to the building is to be found in broken ventilators or holes in walls for the passage of pipes. Access can be prevented in the former case by new ventilators, and in the latter by guards of heavy-gauge metal, affixed to wooden structures, or by the use of concrete where the building is of brick or stone.

Where pipes passing up on the outside wall may lead to an opening at an upper level, circular guards should be placed around the pipes at a height not easily accessible to rats.

Where cavity walls are constructed, care should be taken to ensure that any inside openings are adequately protected.

Where rat runs and burrows exist, they should be closed with a mixture of cement, mortar and broken glass.

6. DOGS, CATS AND FERRETS.

These animals may be used to kill rats. In large warehouses it is sometimes preferable to keep cats out of the building during the day, allowing them to roam through the buildings at night. Dogs are of great value in assisting in the work of rat destruction gangs.

7. FUMIGATION.

The use of poisonous gases, e.g., hydrocyanic acid gas, is of great value in fumigating buildings, garbage depots or fowl runs where there is a large concentration of rats. Owing to the dangerous nature of the gases utilised the operation is better left in the hands of experts. Nevertheless, it is possible to use hydrocyanic acid gas in the open air with safety by the use of the cyanogas gun, or calcid gun. Other gases used are sulphur dioxide, carbon bisulphide and chlorine.

HOME HINTS

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 on the inside of 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 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.



**Stan Carter and Alice Knight,
of East Waratah.**

Letters
From
Our Readers



Dear Editor,

Now that we see another year ending and will be soon in a New Year, I wish to thank the officers of the Welfare Board and Staff for your kind thought each month in sending me *Dawn* Magazine. It is a very interesting little book and I do enjoy reading it as I live out, . . . a private person, but I still have my people at heart and, believe me, I am very pleased to see our young people getting the same chance in life as their white brothers and sisters. We are all brothers and sisters in God's sight and it is the skin only that is different. I read with very great interest of Wallaga Lake, as I grew up there, to the age of 13 years and I left and have lived here in Sydney ever since. I would very much like to take a trip down there again some day and I hope to see all the old places. I read in *Dawn* that it was one of the prettiest places, I think it is too! Thanking you once again and wishing all your officers and staff a very Happy Christmas and a Bright New Year,

Yours sincerely,
Lavinia Cuningham.



Dear Editor,

Having had occasional copies of *Dawn* passed on to me from time to time, I would really appreciate being put on the regular mailing list. *Dawn* is really a great source of information regarding the happenings and development of the various settlements and I enjoy seeing the photographs, many of them being friends and relatives.

Many others are people I have heard about but never had the pleasure of meeting.

I must comment on an article concerning Ernabella Station, . . . a suggestion that the Bible be translated into the dialect of that particular tribe.

I would be very interested in learning how this is being accomplished as I am well aware of the obstacles to be overcome. If the attempt is successful it could mean the preservation of many of the native dialects.

Knowledge of my own dialect is rather limited and causes me to question the advisability of using the full English alphabet as I feel sure that (apart from the vowels which I consider necessary) the sounding of consonants as taught to us, when combined or singular, is not capable of producing sounds necessary to arrive at the correct pronunciation of most native words. I am presuming that the alphabet as we know it is being used in the translation. I draw my conclusions because I saw four books of the Bible which had been translated into a native dialect, and although they had used the English alphabet I was unable to arrive at the correct pronunciation of most of the words.

I have given this subject of translating the Bible a great deal of thought and in my estimation, the advent of new words would equal again those found in the simple dialects of my people.

However, not being well versed in these matters, I would be most grateful to receive any enlightenment on the subject.

Looking forward to your regular visit through *Dawn*.

Yours faithfully,
W. J. Reid,
Enanaral Station,
Wanaaring Road, Bourke.



"Dawn" is YOUR paper, a paper created specially for the aboriginal people of this State. You can play your part in making it a success by sending in your photos, your news items, your stories or your poems. HOW ABOUT IT?

MOVEMENT AT

BURNT BRIDGE . . . Many Good Athletes Found

During the course of the year, a movement of population, both from and to the Station, has been apparent.

Administrative buildings comprising the Manager's and Assistant Manager's residences, treatment room, office, ration store, and hall were connected to the Macleay County Council's electricity supply during the year. Some repairs were effected to aborigines dwellings. Two community laundries, one with a shower room attached, provide facilities for washing of clothes and for bathing, and a weekly sanitary service, carried out under contract, is provided. The Station is connected to the Kempsey water supply and water is pumped to the Station overhead water storage 10,000 gallon tank and distributed to administrative and aborigines dwellings on the Station.

The general health of residents throughout the year has been reasonably good, but at one period there was an epidemic of measles amongst the children, with treatment being carried out by Matron on the Station. The only other case of major importance was a poliomyelitis, which was treated in the District Hospital and later transferred to the Far West Home at Manly for special attention.

During the course of the year, employment was not of a stable nature, especially in the timber trade which provides an avenue of employment for a great number of male aborigines. Unemployment during the early part of the year was fairly rife, but this position seemed to ease towards the close. Nevertheless, the instability of many male aborigines when assisted to find employment, is most discouraging, and militates against the assimilation policy of the Department expressed and carried out by Field Staff. The lack of realisation of the value of money, or the proper use of at least a portion of earnings, is another disturbing factor in the lives of many aborigines, the incidence of liquor and gambling testifying to the improper use of this commodity.

Kerbing and guttering of the main roadway into the Station has been carried out during the latter part of the year, and at present is nearing completion with incidental jobs such as ramps into the garage, ration store, etc. forming part of this work, which is a decided improvement from the point of view of drainage and appearance.

Towards the latter part of June, a survey in relation to worm infestation was carried out by the Department of Public Health on the Station to pre-school children and to children attending Burnt Bridge Public School.

Primary education for all children from the kindergarten stage to sixth class, is given at the Burnt Bridge Public School, situated adjacent to the northern boundary of the Station, and staffed by three teachers. At present the average number of children attending this school is in the vicinity of 116, and on the resumption of School after the summer vacation, three children from Burnt Bridge proceeded with their secondary education at Kempsey High School.

From the point of view of amenities, and beautification, the Burnt Bridge School is a decided asset to both staff and pupils.

Clergy from the Catholic and Church of England denominations regularly conduct religious instruction at the Burnt Bridge Public School and frequently a Priest from the Catholic Church visits the Station, usually on Saturday mornings, for the purpose of conducting Mass.

Children from this Station attending Burnt Bridge Public School, participate in District School competitions and trophies on display in the School show evidence of many successes.

The girls basketball team formed last year, and wearing uniforms provided by the Station Social and Recreational Club, still participates in local matches and is now an accepted unit of this phase of girls sports.



At present there is being held a district Queen Competition to raise funds for the local Ambulance, Hospital, and support of a Cot Fund in a Sydney Hospital. This Station is pledged to support the Ambulance, and Hospital Queen, and to this end there has been already two dances held, one in the Station hall, the proceeds of such netting in the vicinity of £40. An Aborigines Ball, in aid of the Ambulance and Hospital Queen, was held in the Agricultural Hall at the Show-ground, Kempsey, the proceeds of this function being approximately £70. In connection with these functions, the local radio station 2KM, has now made a recording at the Manager's residence on the Station, for the purpose of broadcasting the interest displayed, and assistance given by aborigines towards the abovementioned Queen Competition.

Many young males who do their training in the Station Recreation hall, take part in the frequent boxing tournaments held in Kempsey, and some even travel as far as Port Macquarie to take part in boxing matches held in aid of various local charities.

The Annual Summer Camp

Again at La Perouse

From the early morning of the 9th January, when children from the Far West arrived in Sydney for the Summer Camp, to the evening of the 23rd when they departed for their various homes, there was not a dull moment. The first day spent in Camp last year was very wet, but this year we were favoured by a fine day, and during the Camp, although the weather was not altogether kind, there were several really hot days when the children could take advantage of swimming in Botany Bay. Even on the dull days, they swam, but, of course, they could not stay in the water for any length of time.



On arrival at Central Station, the various parties were brought together and all boarded a special double decker bus which left Central Station for La Perouse at half past seven. The bringing of the children to Sydney from so many different parts of the State was, in itself, quite a project, but everything went without a hitch; only four children found at the last minute that they could not or did not want to come, and the final party which numbered 69, arrived for a slap-up breakfast at La Perouse prepared for them by Mrs. Mary Griffiths. Mrs. Griffiths has been the cook for the Annual Camp for every year since its inception, and she always does a very good job.

This year the new Recreation Hall, which was finished only three days before the Camp moved in, was brought into use, and what an improvement it was on previous years! Here the children had their meals and entertainments, and there was plenty of room for all; on those nights when cinema shows were on, there was even plenty of room for the "locals" or those who always live at La Perouse. The colour scheme inside the Hall of primrose, skyline blue and poinsettia red, was very pleasing and the building has been admired and commented upon by all who have seen it.



They Had Good Appetites!

The Hall afforded plenty of room for the serving of meals and for the children to move in comfort to their tables. And the food! The quantities consumed were gigantic and whatever the children might have left behind in the way of necessaries for the Camp, they

certainly brought their appetites with them. Mrs. Griffiths and her able assistant, Mrs. Lily Foster, proved excellent cooks and the children did ample justice to the excellent meals prepared for them.

The Camp consisted of two rows of tents on either side of the recreation area, the girls being housed on one side and the boys on the other. Everybody was comfortable, each child having his own camp stretcher and as many blankets as he or she wanted.



Entertainments were numerous. Not a day passed but there was not something special, and even when the children had to make their own amusement on the Camp, they always had the assistance of the five Social Studies Students from Sydney University, Messrs. Mah and Aung, and Misses Hangar and Dargan and Mrs. Owrid. With Mr. Green, the Walgett Welfare Officer, who was in charge of the Camp, they did a good job carrying out their arduous and tiring duties cheerfully and with a smile for everybody.

The health enjoyed by the children during the Camp, was exceptionally good, there not being one single case of illness, minor or otherwise. There was only one injury; one boy fell just after his arrival at the Camp and sustained a "bend" to a bone in his forearm which required it to be placed in a plaster cast. Of course there were numerous minor abrasions and cuts and an occasional tummyache. Miss M. Fleming, Welfare Officer, who was Matron in charge of the Camp and is herself a trained nurse, is to be congratulated on her efforts to maintain such a good health record at the Camp. Whilst they were in Camp, the children also had medical and dental examinations and were tested and X-rayed, where necessary, for T.B.



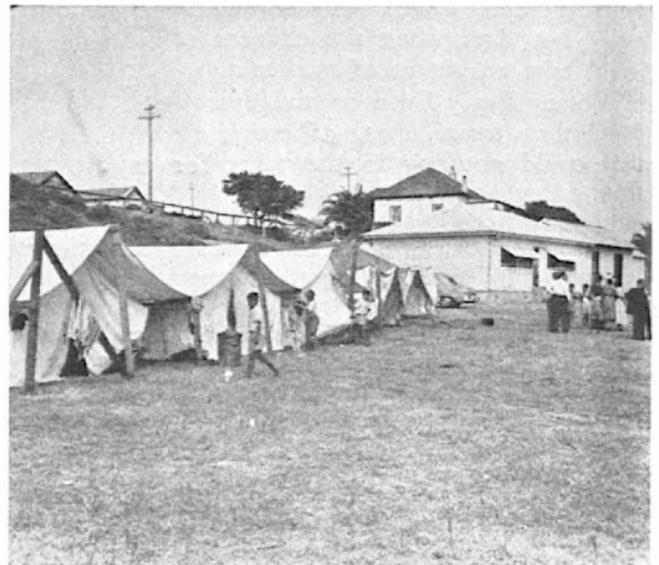
Visits were made to Taronga Park, the Pantomime, H.M.A.S. "Sydney", and two picnic days were spent at Manly and Cronulla. The highlight of the Camp was reserved for the Friday afternoon before the children returned home. This was the visit to Luna Park. The management of the Park made all the attractions available and, in addition, regaled the children with ice cream, cakes and sandwiches and gave each one of them a toy as they left the ground. The children were also suitably entertained at Taronga Park and the Tivoli and thanks are due to the management of each of these places. On board the H.M.A.S. "Sydney", the Com-



One view of the Summer Camp at La Perouse showing the orderly row of tents which accommodated the children, and some of the youngsters at play.



In Pictures at



Another view of the Summer Camp, this time showing the recreation hall in the background, and a group of visitors who inspected the camp.

STAFF OF THE CAMP.

Back Row :

From left—Mr. H. W. Jeffrey, Mrs. Jeffrey, Mr. D. Potts, Mr. H. J. Green (Officer-in-Charge), Mr. George Hoffman, Mrs. M. Owrid, Mr. H. Aung, Mr. J. R. Mullins (Secretary, Aborigines' Welfare Board).

Front Row :

Mr. M. H. Saxby (Superintendent), Miss P. Hangar, Mrs. M. Griffiths, Mrs. L. Foster, Miss M. Fleming (Matron), Miss A. Dargan, Mr. L. Mah.



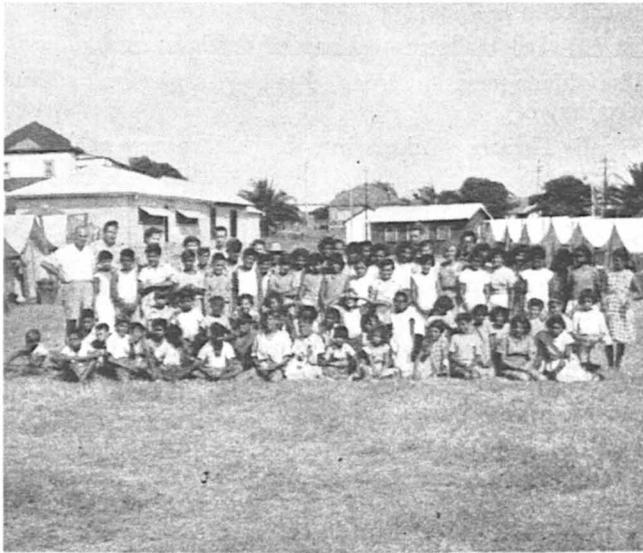
INTERIOR RECREATION HALL.

Board members and Staff at informal afternoon tea on the occasion of the Board members' visit.

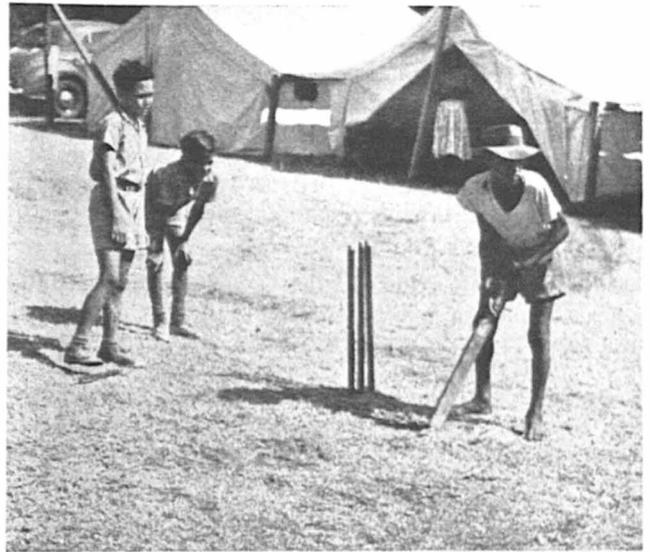


Jump Again

Work and at Play



It wasn't only the boys who played cricket as the picture shows. Here we have Ken Sampson, of Moree, Yvonne Morgan, of Walgett, Beryl Carney, of Gulargambone, and Daphne Brennan, of Moree.



Among the boys cricket was probably the most popular sport. Here we see Neville Binge, of Boggabilla, about to hit a "sixer".

The smiles on these youngsters show just how much they were enjoying the summer holiday—a holiday packed to the brim with thrills and excitement.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD WHO VISITED THE CAMP ON 18th JANUARY.

Left to right :

Mr. J. R. Mullins (Secretary), Professor A. P. Elkin, Superintendent J. D. McAuley, Mrs. Pearl Gibbs, Mr. M. H. Saxby (Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare), Dr. G. J. Cummins.
 (Sitting)—Mr. Stan Wyatt, M.L.A., Hon. E. G. Wright, M.L.C.



mander made available special guides who conducted parties of the children all over the aircraft carrier which, at the time, was in graving dock. For each of these entertainments and to return home, special double decker buses were provided, and this in itself was quite a novelty for many of the children. These bus rides brought out quite a lot of hidden talent, not only amongst the children but also the Attendants. "For Ever and Ever" and "Wedding Bells" were the favourite community songs while the buses passed through the streets of Sydney and the suburbs.

Entertainments during the evening consisted of films, a projector being kindly loaned by the National Film Council, and a visit from the Christian Endeavour Union and the Bahais. The Bahais were introduced by Mr. Michael Sawtell, and entertained the children with a puppet show and very interesting slide pictures of Central Australia. At the conclusion of the evening they provided supper for the children.

The Superintendent, Mr. Saxby, the Secretary, Mr. Mullins, and Mrs. Inspector English were frequent visitors at the Camp and did not hesitate to take their part in the work which the Camp entailed. Members of Head Office staff all paid a visit at some time or other during the Camp and when they did, they were to be found ironing the children's dresses, peeling the potatoes and carrying out other necessary chores.

Board Visit to Camp.

On the afternoon of January 18, an official visit was paid to the Camp by the members of the Board. The Minister, Mr. Kelly, and the Chairman, Mr. Buttsworth, had visited the Camp the day before. The photographs which appear in this issue were taken by the Government Printer on the occasion of the visit of the members of the Board. We hope that these photographs will give some idea of what the Camp looked like.

Unfortunately, when it came to the time when the Camp should be broken up, Sydney was visited by one of its wettest weekends for many years. Despite this great disadvantage and the inconvenience caused by the rain, the departure from La Perouse was organised satisfactorily and the children all went away with smiles on their faces. As the time for the children's departure to their various homes extended over a period of nearly seven or eight hours, arrangements were made for them to be brought to a central point in Sydney and here some valuable assistance was given by Rev. Father John Hope, of Christ Church, St. Laurence, who made available the Parish Hall where the children could assemble and wait for their various trains. The Knights of St. George, an organisation connected with Christ Church, provided the children with ample refreshment, and when the time came to go to the train, despite the inclement weather, each face carried a broad smile. All of the children arrived safely at their homes, thanks to the co-operation and assistance given by the Railway Department and the Police to the escorts who were in charge of the several parties.



It can be said that the organisation of the Camp proceeded practically without a hitch, but nevertheless lessons were learned and these will be applied next year or at future Camps.

The Board is thankful to the Managements, Organisations and other persons who contributed to the success of the Camp and, above all, a special tribute is paid to the staff who cheerfully worked long hours and did not spare themselves to make the function a success. The Board is deeply appreciative of their assistance and loyal co-operation.

A list of the names of the children who attended the Camp appears on another page.

The Aborigines Welfare Board wishes to sincerely thank the undermentioned who contributed to the success of the 1955 Annual Camp and the entertainment of the children :—

Sir Edward Hallstrom (Loan of refrigerators).

The Management, Luna Park (Admission and entertainment).

Tivoli Theatre (Admission for afternoon at the Pantomime).

Taronga Park (Admission).

The Commander, H.M.A.S. "Sydney" (Inspection).

Manly Municipal Council (Admission to surf sheds and loan of costumes).

National Film Council (Loan of projector and screen).

Mr. Harold Stewart, La Perouse (Loan of Public Address System).

The Bahais of Australia and New Zealand (Evening entertainment which included a puppet show by Mrs. Grant and Mr. Austin, and scenic slides of Central Australia displayed by Mr. Reg. Dallimore).

Mr. G. Krause, Headmaster at Palm Island, Queensland (Slides of Palm Island).

The Rev. Father Hope, Christ Church, St. Laurence, and the Knights of St. George (Entertainments of children on the night of departure).

Mrs. Viveash, Bondi Junction (Donation of lollies, fruit and swimming costumes).

The Board also wishes to thank the following who assisted in the transport of the children to and from their homes :—

Rev. Lehman (Broken Hill).

Constable Jorgenson (Broken Hill).

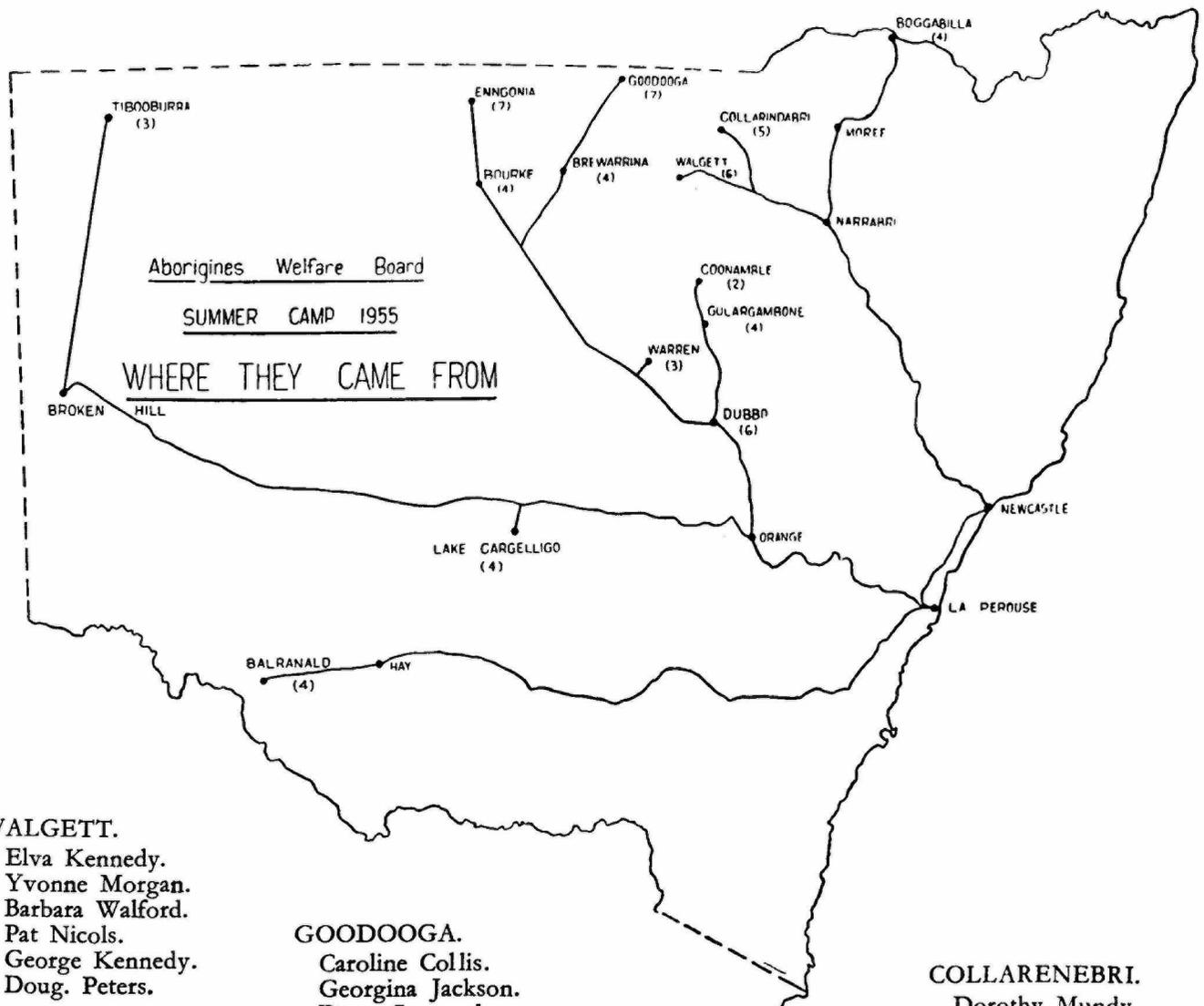
Police Officers at Walgett, Dubbo, Nyngan, Warren and Nevertire.

Thanks are extended also to Miss Toni Jeffrey, daughter of the Supervisor of La Perouse, who assisted from time to time, and the following aboriginal residents of the Reserve who rendered very valuable help :—

Messrs. George Hoffman, Jack Amatto and Bob Simms, Mrs. Henry and Miss Joyce Perry.

Mr. Dudley (Spud) Timbery—who also donated a boomerang brooch to every one of the girls.

This map will show how the children were drawn for the 1955 Summer Camp :-



WALGETT.

Elva Kennedy.
Yvonne Morgan.
Barbara Walford.
Pat Nicols.
George Kennedy.
Doug. Peters.

BOGGABILLA.

Stella Bartman.
Carol Craigie.
Neville Binge.
Albert Dennison.

ENNGONIA.

Dawn Elwood
Fay Elwood.
Eileen Turner.
Margaret Eulo.
Athleen Knight.
Maureen Knight.
Neil Smith.

MOREE.

Shirley Draper.
Alma Newman.
Ada Weatherall.
Daphne Brennan.
Clancy Daniels.
Ken Sampson.

GOODDOGA.

Caroline Collis.
Georgina Jackson.
Dawn Leonard.
John Bishop.
Clarence Collis.
Eric Cubby.
Percy Cubby.

GULARGAMBONE.

Beryl Carney.
Kathleen Fuller.
Richard Milgate.
Wallace Nixon.

DUBBO.

Betty Carr.
Joan Carr.
Dorothy Reynolds.
Beverly Taylor.
Fay Taylor.
Tom Taylor.

COONAMBLE.

Tilly Esme Dargin.
Lola Irene Dodd.

BOURKE.

Evelyn Bridge.
Dorothy Wilson.
Kevin Edwards.
Robert Edwards.

BREWARRINA.

Isobel Coffey.
Joyce McHughes.
Brian Clarke.
Harry Sullivan.

BALRANALD.

Florence Clarke.
James Clarke.
Keith Coombes.
Raymond Murray.

COLLARENEBRI.

Dorothy Mundy.
Gloria Mundy.
Mavis Mundy.
James Flick.
Kevin Mundy.

WARREN.

Rita Fuller.
Tom Fuller.
William Thomas
Peachey.

TIBOOBURRA.

Frederick Brown.
Harold Brown.
Schneider Brown.

MURRIN BRIDGE.

Hilda Ferguson.
Dorothy King.
Doreen Johnson.
Irene Williams.

BREWARRINA SHOWS IMPROVEMENT

Residents Take Keen Interest

The condition of the Station is improving, both from morale and physical viewpoint. The present Manager has been here only six months so that much of the current programme has yet to be effected; however, progress may be regarded as satisfactory.

The population of the Station remains fairly static; two families have left the Station in the last six months and five family groups came to live on the area. Employment of residents is good. However, during slack periods, many aborigines come to live on the Station and the Manager acts as an employment agency as almost all the employers in the district telephone or contact the Manager when vacancies occur.

Maintenance to buildings during the last half year has been considerable. Roofing and wall paint has been supplied and most of the houses have had a coat of paint; lining material is on hand and some six of the houses are 90 per cent. complete. The remainder of the buildings are being renovated at the moment and completion at the present rate of work, may be expected in about two months.

The health of the residents, both adult and infant, is excellent. Due to a programme of sanitations, and rigid policing, the usual gastro cases have been completely eliminated, the number of eye complaints is almost nil and the school children and infants are gaining weight over and above normal increase.

The class of work performed by residents ranges through many groups including fencing, post cutting, shearing, wool shed work, crutching, droving, both cattle and sheep, and general handyman round station home-steads. Three of the residents have their own plant and contract for work in the district.

Interest in local organisations is at the moment confined to football, but Matron is endeavouring to interest the local townspeople in the welfare of the residents. This year the residents

formed an Amenities Club with the purpose in mind of building a children's playground. Various functions were held, and, with the Board's assistance, a number of pieces of playground equipment were purchased, leaving a very fair balance of money which will be used to purchase a piano. A football club was formed and is now in possession of full equipment purchased by the club. Many of the club members play with the local white team, and the question of colour does not arise in this regard.

The education of the children is much the same as on any other Station. The school has a fine vegetable garden and the pupils are very well turned out.

The Methodist Sisters visit the school once a week to instruct in the Scriptures, and as soon as a hall is erected, will attend each week to teach handicrafts. The local Catholic Priest and some of the Sisters have visited the Station and indicate that if facilities are made available, the Station will be visited regularly. This is being held over until the hall is built. A minister of the Australian Inland Mission holds fairly regular prayer meetings in one of the residences and in the open during summer.

It is pleasing to report that most of the repair work done on the houses has been performed by the occupants at the weekends and during slack times of their employment. The communal laundry-bathroom has been commenced; the foundations are laid out and pouring of concrete will shortly begin. Three acres of ground has been ploughed and planted to peas, beans, and various root crops, also cabbages and cauliflowers. The Park has been cleared, all the ornamental trees trimmed and flowers planted. Water has been laid on to both the Park and the vegetable garden and a booster pump installed in the vegetable garden so that the ground may be watered by spray instead of ditch irrigation. The steam cleaner in the sanitary depot has been repaired and now operates. The Station launch was slipped, all old paint and caulking removed and repainted and recaulked. Preparatory work is now in hand to erect two high level water storage tanks, and material is available to improve the water pumping system. The Station vehicle had an engine overhaul, work performed by Station staff.

Matron instituted a sewing circle, many of those attending showing very good aptitude. Attendance, however, has not been good in spite of encouragement

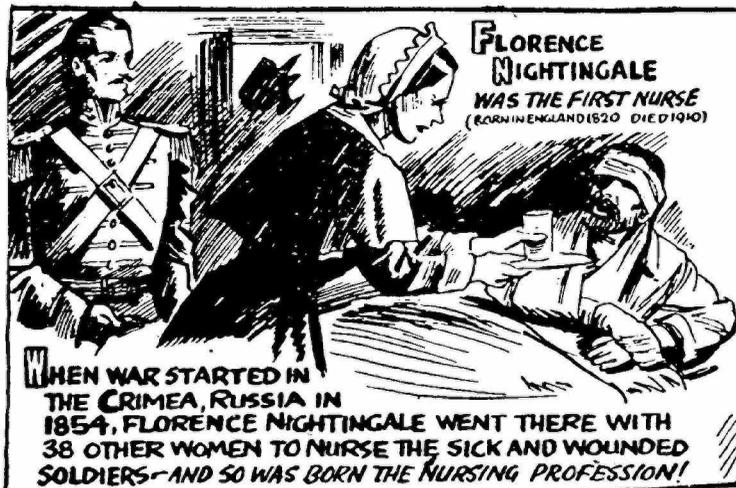
[Continued on page 17.]



Jack Quayle, of Wilcannia, on top of 60 ft. tower.



NOW YOU KNOW!



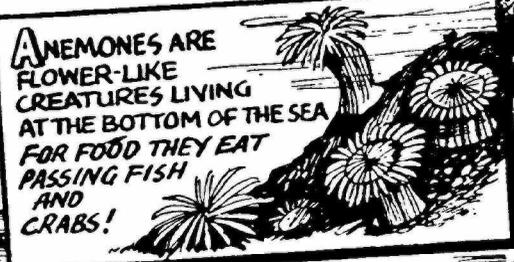
FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE WAS THE FIRST NURSE
(BORN IN ENGLAND 1820 DIED 1910)

WHEN WAR STARTED IN THE CRIMEA, RUSSIA IN 1854, FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE WENT THERE WITH 38 OTHER WOMEN TO NURSE THE SICK AND WOUNDED SOLDIERS—AND SO WAS BORN THE NURSING PROFESSION!

WOMEN OF THE BUBANGI TRIBE, AFRICA, WEAR THEIR WEDDING RINGS AROUND THEIR NECKS. THEY ARE MADE OF HEAVY COPPER METAL WEIGHING MORE THAN 50 POUNDS!



ALLIGATORS CAN SWIM BUT WILL DROWN IF HELD UNDER THE WATER!



ANEMONES ARE FLOWER-LIKE CREATURES LIVING AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA FOR FOOD THEY EAT PASSING FISH AND CRABS!

A BUILDING OF 16 ROOMS WAS BUILT IN LONDON, DISMANTLED, AND TRANSPORTED TO NEW ZEALAND, WHERE IT IS NOW KNOWN AS THE FIRST GOVERNMENT HOUSE



A Letter from COOTAMUNDRA

In a letter to *Dawn*, Reta Wemburg of the Cootamundra Girls Home told how she had attended the National Fitness Camp. She said:—

I thought you may like to hear about our trip to the National Fitness Camp at Wyong. Penny Packer, Judy Darcy and I left Cootamundra on the night train with a lot of other girls and an escort. When we arrived in Sydney we went sight-seeing and we enjoyed it very much. We returned to the station at 8 p.m. and boarded another train going to Wyong. A bus took us to Port Macquarie . . . there were 73 of us. We arrived at 10 o'clock feeling rather tired and we were housed in lodges consisting of eight girls to a cabin. On Friday we went for a walk to the point where we collected shells. After tea we learned several songs, e.g., "Youth is Calling", "Footsteps on Distant Trails" and "She'll be Coming Around the Mountain". On Saturday, after breakfast, we had physical culture and in the afternoon we went out for bush craft. Sunday we had folk dancing and at night we had a small church service by the lakeside. Monday we had continuous cricket and later a fancy dress dance. Tuesday we learned to pitch a tent and make fires to cook our meals. We went for a lot of walks and did a lot of swimming. One night we pitched our tent and camped out all night. A horse came into

Brewarrina News

(Continued from page 16.)

by way of afternoon tea, etc. A Baby and pre-school Medical Clinic has been operating for six months; the pre-natal Clinic is held in conjunction with this.

Due to the vigilance of the local Police, drunkenness is rare on the Station (three cases in six months). It is gratifying to note that since the residents have been painting their homes, the cleanliness has improved to a very great extent. The road to Brewarrina was reformed and graded and is now in excellent condition. The road is the Station's responsibility and is about eight miles long. Fire breaks have been made around the Station. The Station is headquarters for No. 7 Bush Fire Fighting Unit, one of the aboriginal residents being the Deputy Captain.



All material and food storage systems have been reorganised, nearly all administrative buildings repainted and a workshop fitted out.

ours and we quickly left him to it. It gave us all a fright. While we were there we saw many swans and flying fish. We stayed there two weeks, then we journeyed back to Cootamundra.

WALLAGA LAKE STATION GROWS

Social Uplift of Residents Evident

The population at the end of the year was 147.

Seasonal work during the year was particularly good and consequently brought an influx of population from Victoria and north of Wallaga Lake. Several families sought permanent residence on the Station but as all the cottages were occupied, it was not possible to give accommodation to all of them.

A new Manager's residence was built during the year and the Manager's temporary residence has been converted into a school teacher's residence and is now occupied by the resident teacher. The new administrative block was also completed and comprises a treatment room, office and spacious workshop. The ration store, recreation hall and double garage have been repainted in keeping with the new buildings. Repairs were carried out on several of the aborigines cottages. All cottages have shower recesses and now that there is an adequate supply of water, full advantage is being taken of this asset.

Sanitary service is rendered twice weekly and garbage once a week by an aborigine employed by the Department.

The Station is now connected to the Mt. Dromedary Gravitation Main, and there is ample water to meet the needs of the settlement. Added to this are two 1,000 gallon tanks attached to each cottage which are rain fed. A fine spirit of co-operation was shown by the residents in assisting with the laying of the pipe-line which consisted of nearly 4,500 feet of piping.



☆
Ted Munday,
of Wallaga Lake.

Employment has been good throughout the year. Due to the rise in the price of beans and peas, several of the farmers around this district have engaged in this type of farming and consequently have provided good seasonal work for aborigines. Other forms of employment include saw milling, fencing, cutting posts and cord wood, corn pulling, pipe-line work, labouring with the Department of Main Roads, sleeper cutting, fishing and general farm work.

The general health of the residents has been good. The dentist from Narooma visited the Station and attended to 32 aborigines.

A dairy herd ensures supplies of fresh milk. Sale of surplus stock realised £165.

A school is conducted on the Station and 38 children are in attendance. A light caste lad is particularly good in art and an endeavour is being made to send him to an Art School next year with a view to having him trained in Commercial Art. The children were commended this year for their good reading, by the Inspector of Schools.

The Roman Catholic Priest visits the Station twice a month and celebrates Holy Mass. On Sundays the white community of the district attends Mass on the Station and there has been a good attendance. Religious instruction is given to the children at the School once a month by the Priest.

The Church of England Minister holds service once a month on the second Sunday of each month, and gives religious instruction every fortnight to the school children. Sunday School for the children is held once a month by an Evangelistic lay-preacher.

A service bus conveys the Station residents to the pictures at Bermagui twice weekly in the summer and every Saturday in the winter. The residents eagerly look forward to these weekly picture shows. They all dress well for the occasion and are a credit to the Station. Posters of the latest films are placed outside the office, alongside of which is a noticeboard which has pasted on it notices and newspaper cuttings of general interest to the residents. This attracts a number of residents and creates an interest for them.

A dance was organised by the Wallaga Lake Recreation Club at Central Tilba in aid of the Bega District Ambulance, and a sum of £35 16s. 3d. was donated to the District Ambulance. Dances are held regularly on the Station and are well attended by aborigines from Wallaga Lake and other parts of the district.



A children's Christmas tree was arranged on the Station and a Santa Claus was brought for the occasion to distribute the presents. All the residents were given a very good afternoon tea and sang Christmas carols. Much assistance was given by the Bega Methodist Church helpers which considerably helped to make the function a great success.

A presentation to the children's Library of new books was made by the Society of Friends. This was an important occasion of the year. The afternoon



◆
**Ida, Ned and
 Iris Hoskins,
 of Wallaga Lake.**
 ◆

had a full and interesting programme for the residents which consisted of a number of speeches, a concert and afternoon tea for all. The residents thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Several of the lads from Wallaga Lake participated in boxing tournaments in the district and as usual, were a great attraction.

It has been proved that it is far more advantageous to include aborigines from this Station in white football teams rather than form a separate aborigines' team. This year again, several of the boys were included in both the A and B Teams of Bermagui and Cobargo and did exceptionally well.

The school children participated in the Cobargo sports and gained a number of prizes.

A marked social uplift of the aborigines has been noticed during the year under review. They have improved in their dress and general appearance and are beginning to be accepted in various organisations in the district, e.g. four ex-Kinchela lads are members of the Bermagui Surf Club and along with some of the boys from Wallaga Lake, are also members of the Football Club. Invitations have been extended to the aborigine Gum Leaf Band and some of the singers from the Station, to entertain at several functions held in the district during the year. A girl was included to take part in a debutante play at a Catholic Ball in Cobargo which is considered one of the events of the year. There is no segregation noticed at the local picture theatre where both whites and aborigines sit and mingle

READER DONATES PRIZES.

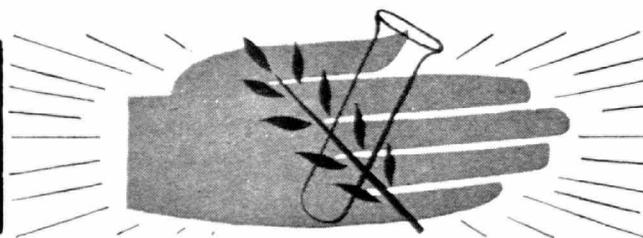
One of *Dawn's* readers, Mrs. V. Turner, of 58 Anzac Avenue, Collaroy, has generously offered to donate two prizes of 10s. 6d. each for an Essay Competition. This competition will be open to all aboriginal children and entries will be received up to 31st March, 1955. The subject will be "When I Grow Up". This generous gesture on the part of Mrs. Turner is still one more indication of the growing interest being taken in our aboriginal people.

together. The white community have willingly accepted the idea of attending Church Service at Wallaga Lake. All this is a very encouraging step towards the policy of assimilation.

Fishing has been revived on the Station and it is hoped that the project will be a success and provide a means of income for the winter months.

The residents of the Station have co-operated wholeheartedly with the management and have taken an interest in the functions that are held on the Station.





THE COCKROACH IS NO FRIEND

Get Rid of Him Now !

The Cockroach is a very common household pest which frequents kitchens, larders, and other places where foodstuffs are left exposed or accessible to them. The amount of direct loss due to the ravages of these insects is very considerable, and, owing to the repulsive odour left wherever they have passed, much food is rendered unfit for use. Further, it is possible for them to act as carriers of disease.

Three species of cockroaches are especially common on domestic premises, etc., in New South Wales. They are the American cockroach (*Periplaneta americana*), the Australian cockroach (*Periplaneta australasiae*) and the German cockroach (*Blatella germanica*). The American cockroach is the largest of the house-infesting roaches. It is about an inch and a half long and reddish-brown in colour. The Australian cockroach is similar in appearance but is slightly smaller, just over one inch in length. *Blatella* is about half an inch long and is dark yellow or light-brown in colour. Under the warm conditions of a kitchen, etc., *Blatella* can be most troublesome. It breeds considerably faster than *Periplaneta* and also it can climb up polished surfaces such as glasses and tiles.

LIFE-HISTORY.

The eggs are laid in small brownish capsules which are deposited in cracks or holes in walls and floors, or amongst folds of clothing and other materials. When first hatched from the egg the young cockroach is soft and whitish in colour, but it soon takes on the colour and firmness of the adult. Several moults take place during the progress of growth of the young insect to the adult size. A single cockroach may produce several batches of eggs in a season. The interval between the deposition of the eggs and the hatching of the young is about twenty days. The time taken between the hatching of the egg and the attainment of full-grown size depends a good deal on the available food supply and climatic conditions.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

Foodstuffs of all kinds should be stored in metal receptacles provided with properly-fitting lids.

Larders, kitchens, and sculleries should be kept scrupulously clean, and no scraps of food should be left lying about.

Kitchen and scullery sinks, yard gullies, and similar fittings should be kept free from scraps of food and accumulated grease deposits.

Walls, floors, and ceilings in larders, kitchens, and sculleries should be made sound, and all cracks and holes which might afford harbourage should be filled up with cement or other solid material. Crevices round pipes should be stopped, e.g., with steel wool.

Wooden enclosures under scullery sinks and other places likely to harbour cockroaches should be dispensed with. All dark, stuffy cupboards in places where foodstuffs are stored or handled need special attention.

DESTRUCTION OF COCKROACHES.

The most generally feasible method of eradication is by weekly treatment with a powder insecticide. Repeated treatments are necessary because, even if all adult and young roaches are killed, new broods may hatch out from hidden egg cases for many weeks.

To be effective the powder must contaminate the insect, either directly during application or indirectly by the insect running over a dusted area. The powder must be very finely ground and should be blown into and around the cracks and crevices where the insects hide.

The following powders are placed in their order of usefulness :—

“ GAMMEXANE ” .

This preparation has a high and lasting toxicity for insect pests. It is available as a dispersible powder and also in the convenient form of smoke generators. The smoke generators when ignited evolve the insecticide as a fine smoke which is effective partly as a fumigant but mainly because of the highly insecticidal residual deposit. The manufacturer's instructions as to its use and the precautions to be taken should be closely followed.

D.D.T.

A powder with the concentration of 10 to 20 per cent D.D.T. in talc or Kaolin or other suitable vehicle is required.

(Continued on page 22.)

The Legend of The Falling Star

by

MICHAEL SAWTELL,

Well-known Traveller and Author, and Member of the Aborigines' Welfare Board.

Our aborigines in their tribal state have a great wealth of wonderful legends, myths and stories.

These stories are, in a way, the ancient aborigines, science or explanation of all that they see around them, in the great and wonderful bush. When times are good and bush food is plentiful, the old men of the tribe spend a great deal of time telling these age, old legends to the young children. These stories are dragged out to a great length, much longer and with more detail and acting, than we put into literary English. The younger members of the tribe always pay great deference to the old men. If you ask any young boy how he knows anything about these tribal stories or culture, he will always answer, "Old man blackfellow been tellem alright".

I am now one of the few men left, who have been privileged to hear these stories told to them, in tones of reverence and awe, by the aborigines themselves. All that I know about tribal aborigines, I learned not from books, but from the actual experience of living among wild tribal aborigines.

Away back in 1904 when I was a real pioneer "poddy dodger" in the wild Obagooma country at the back of Yampi Sound, I used to climb up and down a spur of the rough Leopold ranges, looking into sacred caves at aborigines, paintings, springs and pockets of wild cattle. On all these walks and mustering tours, I had with me two or three young stock boys and some times, a few old men and at night around the camp fire in, probably, what was then the loneliest part of Australia, they would talk to me.

The name of that tribe was the "Ooungyee fellows".

One night we were camped near a hot soda spring and a star fell across the beautiful starry heavens and immediately the boys hid their faces in their hands.

For a moment I was afraid. I thought that there were "Munjongs" (that is really wild aborigines) about. So I said to my boys, "What name?" And this is the story they told me.

Ages ago this spring was just like other springs, but a great event happened that changed the water. The Ooungyee people were living quite happily, until they began to miss members of the tribe. One day the men of the tribe came back and reported that they had seen the tracks of an Irrawally, or a Devil-Devil. The Irrawally is a huge monster that has the power to change into the form of a big blackfellow.

The Ooungyee men had seen the tracks of a big strange blackfellow (all natives know the tracks of every member of their tribe) and they had tracked the Irrawally to where he had lured away a member of the tribe by promising to show him where sugar bags (native bees' honey) were plentiful and easy to procure. They also saw by the tracks where the Irrawally had changed into his true form before he had carried away his victim.

Sometimes the Irrawally takes his victims down into a deep waterhole, sometimes into the butt of a big tree, and sometimes into the sea.

If the Irrawally looks upon the face of a native the native will always be ugly, so the Ooungyee tribe were greatly troubled about the Irrawally. Now, in the tribe was a very old, wise man called Jubertum. Jubertum knew all about the bush and all there was to know about tribal culture. Jubertum had three young women, as all the old men did, to look after him.

When the tribe became anxious to rid their country of the Irrawally, Jubertum said to his women, "Cut your long hair and make me a strong cord from the hair." When the women had made the cord, as all native women can, Jubertum walked slowly out into the bush with the cord and his spear, saying to the tribe, "I will chase away the Irrawally."

Jubertum had not gone far into the bush when he heard a voice beside him say, "Good day, old man, have a sugar bag?" Immediately Jubertum knew that it was the Irrawally. Jubertum looked around and saw a big kind looking blackfellow offering him the largest sugar bag he had ever seen. Now, no native can resist the temptation of a sugar bag, but old Jubertum was very wise; he knew that if he ate the sugar bag he would fall sleep, and the Irrawally would carry him away down into a waterhole. So Jubertum refused the sugar bag.

Then the Irrawally offered Jubertum the fine leg of a kangaroo. Again Jubertum refused, for he was very wise, he knew the meat was also meant to send him to sleep. The Irrawally then said to Jubertum, "Come with me, and I will show you a spring of beautiful water." The Irrawally took the old man to the spring that is now the hot soda spring.

When they reached it Jubertum said, "I am tired, I will lie down in the shade." The Irrawally, suspecting nothing, lay down with him, but as soon as the Irrawally

(Continued on page 22.)



MICHAEL SAWTELL

ESSAY COMPETITION

Good Prizes to be Won.

If you were to ask us who takes the greatest interest in *Dawn*, who looks for it coming every month, who are most unhappy if there is a short delay and it doesn't turn up to time, we would say the children. And this is addressed to the children.

Here is an opportunity to win some nice prizes. (See list hereunder.) The Board offers these, prizes for the best essays to be sent in to the Editor, and they should reach him not later than the 31st March, 1955.

The subjects for the essays have been chosen as follows :—

1. "MY AMBITION"—for school children 13 to 15 years of age.
2. "WHY I LIKE READING MY *DAWN*"—for school children 10 to 12 years of age.
3. "HOW I SPENT CHRISTMAS"—for school children under 10 years.

Conditions.

Competitors must be of school age and all entries should be endorsed either by the Manager of the Station, Teacher of the School, or the Welfare Officer. Entries should be enclosed in an envelope marked "Essay Competition", and should show clearly, the competitor's full name, age and address.

Note : The closing date has been extended to 31st March, 1955.

Prizes.

	£	s.	d.
1st Prize
2nd Prize

in the following age groups :—

13 to 15
10 to 12
under 10

There will also be consolation prizes in all groups.

The competition is, of course, restricted to entries by children of aboriginal blood.

COCKROACHES

(Continued from page 21.)

SODIUM FLUORIDE.

This is a white compound and poisonous to man. It is best used as a powder containing three parts by weight of sodium fluoride with one part by weight of pyrethrum. The powder should be coloured to prevent mistakes.

LIQUID INSECTICIDES.

These should be sprayed into cupboards or crannies repeatedly. The cupboard should be kept closed as long as possible after spraying. Before spraying of any kerosene preparation is begun, all fires and naked flames must be extinguished and smoking prohibited. Care must be taken to prevent the liquid from falling on food.

FUMIGATION.

When cockroaches are present in great numbers especially on extensive premises such as large canteens stores, etc., fumigation may be the most satisfactory method of treatment. The process usually involves the use of dangerous substances such as hydrocyanic acid gas and must be carried out only by a fumigator licensed under the Public Health Act.

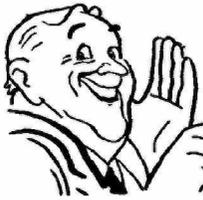
The Legend of the Falling Star

(Continued from page 21.)

was not looking Jubertum threw his hair cord around the Irrawally's neck, drew it tight, and then sprang on to his back and literally tied himself on.

The Irrawally yelled with rage and instantly changed into his real form, but Jubertum hung on and drove his spear into him. The monster was not mortal and could not be killed, however. So the fight raged, but the Irrawally could not shake the old man off his back, so he dived down into the spring to try and rid himself of Jubertum. But even under the water the Irrawally could not shake Jubertum off. The fight was so fierce that the natives say that the rage of the Irrawally turned the beautiful spring into hot soda water.

When the Irrawally could not rid himself of the old native, he flew up into the sky with Jubertum still tied on to his back. And so today, when the Ooungyee tribe see a falling star at night they are afraid to look up, but they know they will not be again troubled by the Irrawally for the falling star is the Irrawally, still flying across space trying to shake Jubertum off his back.



They say



Taree Station was well represented at the State School Athletic Championship Sports held in Sydney shortly before Xmas. Janice Ridgeway, Richard Combo and David Russell, were included in the team selected to represent the Taree Public School. Considering the enrolment at the School, a little over 500, their selection to represent their School was an honour to be proud of. However, the manner in which they performed in competition with children from 120 districts has brought more than just a little glory to their community.

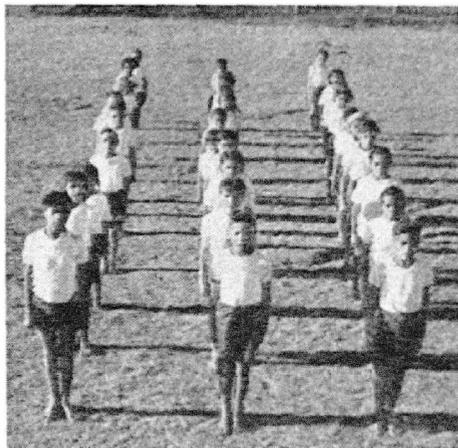
Janice Ridgeway won the 75 yds. Championship for 12 year old girls, and equalled the record of 9.2 seconds for this event.

Richard Combo was placed third in the Senior Relay Race.

David Russell, 8 years old, won the semi-final in his event and ran 4th in the final. David has a habit of looking behind to see how close behind his opponents are running. In the final of the event, they were a little closer than David anticipated. His only comment was: "I'll win next year." The School Sportsmaster agrees with him. We all hope he does; because, apart from being a good runner, he is a very nice little gentleman.

The Boggabilla Aboriginal station played their annual cricket match against the Boggabilla Public School last month. Some excellent bowling and batting was witnessed and the school was very narrowly beaten by five runs. Bert Prince and Douglas McGrady were the chief scorers while the others ably assisted.

In the Vigoro match, the girls from Boggabilla school were far superior to the Public School girls and had an overwhelming victory.



**Woodenbong
Youngsters
practising for
marching.**

Boggabilla Aboriginal Station had yet another successful boxing tournament recently and the proceeds helped give the children an excellent Christmas Tree.

A little girl from Cootamundra Girls Home was told to throw away her chewing gum. Later when out walking with an officer she cried out in great excitement, "Look! Look! Mrs. Finck, the cow has chewing gum!"

A very pleasant evening was spent at Cootamundra Girls Home just before Christmas in aid of the Christmas funds. The programme was arranged by Mr. Walkom and Mr. Newman. Local artists and items from the children were rendered. The evening was well patronised by the townpeople.

A number of the Cootamundra Home girls recently sang with their school choir at the Wagga Eisteddfod, winning in a number of items:

The girls of the Cootamundra Home had a very busy time attending fancy dressed juveniles, romps and parties prior to breaking up of school.

Sympathy to relatives of Mr. Gundy Davis of Moruya and formerly of Wallaga Lake Station. Mr. Davis died in November aged 63 years and was buried at Wallaga Lake.

Sympathy also to relatives of Tom Carter of Nowra. Tom also died in November and was buried at Roseby Park Station after a big funeral.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Connolly of Yass on the birth of a son recently, Joseph Cedric.

Much speculation in Yass these days as to who will be the lucky tenants of the six new homes now nearing completion in the town.

The people of Murrin Bridge have asked *Dawn* to express to Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Andy, their deepest sympathy in the death of little Clive Andy.

BURRA BEE DEE STATION

Employment Is Satisfactory

There has been some trend for residents to move away from the Station and not always into better conditions. An example of this is a couple and their five children who left the Station to live in a poorly constructed shanty closer to the town.

The employment position is most satisfactory, with nine men being permanently employed as mill hands, station hands and fettlers. Two others are shearers with a run of sheds giving them seven months full employment at the high award rates normally paid. Four others are usually employed on a casual basis and seldom need the Board's assistance with rations.

One old dwelling was demolished and the residence formerly occupied by the school teacher has become available for an aboriginal family. The school is now being used as a recreation hall. Repairs have been effected to most buildings but some minor repairs still remain to be done. General painting is needed on all buildings.

The health of the residents has been remarkably good with only one case of serious illness, rheumatic fever. The residents are clean and hygienic in their habits and show a very commendable interest in the care of their children.

Despite the distance from Coonabarabran, four of the younger men represent the town at football and are very keen with a strong following from other members of the Station. Coloured people are able to attend all public functions in Coonabarabran without any bar, and from time to time exercise this privilege.



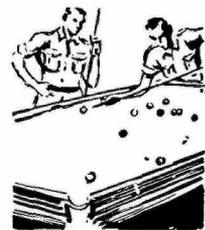
The Station school was closed at the end of the last school year, and all Station children now attend the Public School in Coonabarabran, travelling to and from town by the special school bus. The results of the half-yearly examinations have not yet been analysed, but a discussion with teachers indicates that some special effort will need to be made to bring the Station children to average standards. The closing of the Station school has brought financial strain on some families, but in all cases the parents of the children have made special efforts to see that their children are able to meet and mingle with the white children on equal terms. It is understood that three boys from this Station will shortly represent their school at football when the school team visits Narrabri.

The missionaries, Miss Barnett and Miss Knight, regularly visited the Station until Miss Barnett's death recently. Since then Miss Knight has carried on the bi-weekly visits as before the regrettable death of her co-worker. It speaks well for these two church workers that they are always referred to with respect and affection by the aborigines as "The Ladies". A large group of

coloured people joined with other members of the community to pay their last respects to Miss Barnett at her graveside.

A breaking-up party was held for the children of the Station by the combined efforts of the school teacher, the parents, and the Manager and Matron, at the end of the school year. A Christmas tree was also arranged for Christmas Day, and a sports meeting on the Station on New Year's Day, when prizes were given liberally for the winners in a wide range of races and sports.

The year has demonstrated that the majority of the residents of this Station need only the opportunity for proper housing off the Station to enable them to take their full place in the general community. They have shown by their independence, cleanliness, regularity of employment, and by their marked interest in the furnishing and care of their homes that they are ready and willing to accept full membership in the general community if the community is willing to accept them.



The old school building, now available as a recreation hall, should provide much wider scope for social activities on the Station, and it is anticipated that this will be exploited to the full during the coming year.

COFF'S HARBOUR PARTY

A Xmas social and concert was organised by the Coff's Harbour Aborigines Welfare Committee and held at Park Beach Hall.

The function was a great success and was attended by dark people from up and down the North Coast and as far inland as Armidale.

Many of these people were capable artists and contributed items to the programme, which were wildly applauded by the audience.

Highlights of the function were the "Belle of the Ball" competition and the entertainment provided by the comperes, Messrs. Lindsay Cox and Bill King, who led the fun in their inimitable style and were very popular with local and visiting patrons.

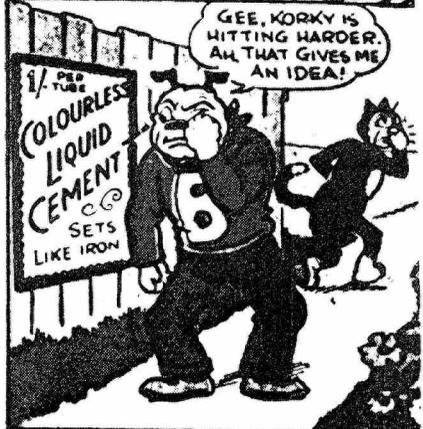
Mrs. Margaret Doods won the "Belle of the Ball" competition and looked very beautiful and doll-like in her ballerina length, net frock. Second and third prizes were won by the attractively gowned Inez Gundy and Mrs. E. Ferguson.

An unexpected, and very welcome, visitor was Mr. Saxby, the Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare, who took the opportunity, during a short address, to commend the Aborigines Welfare Committee at Coff's Harbour upon their work amongst, and their interest in, the dark people of the district.

A very tasty supper was served and a dance was held before the party broke up.

KORKY THE CAT

BULLY BONZO PICKS A FIGHT AND HE AND KORKY COME TO FLOWS. NOW BONZO IS A SORRY SIGHT, FOR KORKY'S GOT A CONCRETE NOSE!





IN THE GARDEN

RAISE YOUR OWN SEEDLINGS.

Don't believe any story which tells you it's difficult to raise your own seedlings. It's one of the simplest jobs in the garden—if you go about it properly.

Home-grown seedlings, too, are often preferable to shop-bought stuff. You can, frequently, use better seed than the nurseries use ; and if you raise them properly, in the sun, you can transplant them on even the hottest day.

Buy the best seed, always—and remember that special seed, at perhaps 2s. 6d. a packet, giving you perhaps twenty dozen plants, is a lot cheaper than seedlings at 1s. 6d. and 2s. a dozen. Most first-class seed shops have special seeds—look for them ; and you'll be more than pleased with the result.

Three essential points must be remembered, in seedling-raising ; use only light, friable soil—never heavy, clayey stuff ; never bury the seed deeply ; and never allow the seed box or bed to become dry.

It's easiest to use boxes, about 3 inches deep ; but you'll do just as well in a half-shaded patch of light soil in your garden—provided you can give it shelter from rain. Rain washes off the surface soil, and dislodges the seed.

See that the box has sufficient holes or cracks to enable all surplus water to drain away easily ; cover the bottom with half-an-inch of stone chips, charcoal, or sharp grit ; then fill the box with light, loamy soil, containing almost half sand.

Tamp it down lightly, to level and firm it ; and then spread your seed thinly on the surface. If the seed is very fine, mix some sand with it, to facilitate spreading or cover the soil in the box with a fine film of white sand to show you where the seed is falling.

Cover the seed with a very light coating of sieved earth—sieved manure is better—and dip the box gently into water just deep enough to reach the tops of the sides or put it in the laundry tub, and turn the tap slowly—the water will soak up through the bottom drainage

holes, and saturate the soil, and the seed. When it is properly soaked, pull out the plug, and let it all drain away.

Put the box where it will catch all the morning sun, with shade in the afternoon ; and keep it damp always, even if you have to water it twice a day.

PRICKING OUT.

Have ready a second box, earthed like the first one ; and as soon as the plants are big enough to handle, prick them out, separate them individually, and put them in the second box, an inch or so apart. Do this in the shade.

Leave the box in full shade for two days, and then gradually push it out into the sun, until it can stay there all day (don't forget the watering). When you want to transplant, you can lift them individually from the box, each with a ball of earth attached, and you won't lose any of them, even on the hottest day.

An effective rain shelter for a seed box can be fashioned from a piece of fine wire gauze. Fix it on a frame at a steep angle over the box, and facing the weather. The gauze will let the sun through, but most of the rain, except in heavy wind, will drain off.

WATERING.

In watering, as an alternative to dipping the box in water, use one of the rubber or metal nozzles which the chain stores stock for damping-down the laundry. Put this nozzle into a sauce or beer bottle ; and it will give you a perfect seed-box waterer, throwing a fine Mist-like spray which cannot wash out the seed.

UNDER GLASS.

In cold districts, and in cold weather anywhere, it will pay to cover a seed box with a sheet of glass, in the sun ; but the glass should be removed as early as possible after the young plants come through—if you leave it, the seedlings will become spindly, reaching up to the glass ; and they'll wilt quickly when you plant them out.