

DAWN

JULY, 1965

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DAWN

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JULY, 1965

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

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OUR COVER

Captain of the Moree team congratulates the captain of the winning Cromer team, after the hard-fought match ("Sydney Morning Herald" photo.) (see story, page 13).



Speakers' dais at
Martin Place ceremony

N.A.D.O.C. Ceremony Speaker Tells of Select Committee



The New South Wales Government will appoint a select committee to inquire into all aspects of Aborigines' conditions. Mr A. D. Bridges, M.L.C., Minister for Child Welfare, made this announcement at the annual National Aborigines' Day ceremony in Martin Place on 9th July.

Mr Bridges said that the select committee would be appointed when State Parliament resumed in August. He said it would consist of representatives of all political parties.

"This select committee will be charged with the responsibility of investigating the native Australian people—the Aborigines—and with ascertaining whether any injustice exists at present in our industrial or social laws, or in education, housing, or of anything affecting their welfare," Mr Bridges said.

"The committee will be required to report back to Parliament as soon as possible because if there is any injustice then it must be rectified. I agree with those who from time to time have made protests about some of the disgraceful conditions under which these native Australians have been existing. It is very essential that these should be very closely looked at.

"We want to help these people, and I am sure that it is the wish of everyone, so that they shall rise and become earnest, hard-working citizens with a high, proud standard and so that they shall have every opportunity to take their places in this community to which they so rightly belong."

Mr Bridges said that there should be no discrimination or any kind of injustice practised against Aborigines.

Mr A. D. Bridges, M.L.C.

Mrs Edna Roper, M.L.C., another speaker at the ceremony, said that she looked forward to the day when discrimination against Aborigines was abolished. She said Aborigines could have complete equality only when all reserves were abolished. Aborigines who lived there could only have feelings of inferiority.

"Twenty-five years ago it was considered that Aborigines were a dying race, but instead their numbers have increased," Mrs Roper said. "This tendency must be partly due to the enlightened attitude adopted by Governments towards them."

Mrs Roper said Aboriginal people had every ability, given the opportunity to express it. She said that many Aboriginal women had succeeded in the fields of education, science and in many other avenues. Much work still remained to be done for Aborigines. When it was done, National Aborigines' Day would not be a day of appeal but one to mark their complete equality.

Mr Charles Perkins welcomed the announcement by Mr Bridges of the proposal to set up a select committee. Mr Perkins said that Aborigines must be consulted about their present position and about the future. He said that there should be more Aborigines on the Aborigines Welfare Board.

A team of young footballers from Moree (see story page 13), brought to Sydney to attend National Aborigines' Day functions, formed a guard of honour for the Governor, Sir Eric Woodward, when he arrived at the Martin Place ceremony. Sir Eric spoke to several of the boys.

During the ceremony, well-known folk singer Gary Shearston sang two songs, one written by Doug Young of Wilcannia, and the other a setting of one of the poems of Queensland poetess Mrs Kath Walker. Mrs Walker recited one of her poems from the official stand in Martin Place.

Leanne Wortley, 2½, would not smile for the cameraman but otherwise seemed to enjoy the proceedings. With Leanne, a ward of the State, is Mrs P. Stanmore, of Dundas



Kath Walker, famous Australian poetess, with the Governor of New South Wales, Sir Eric Woodward



Heather Pitt, a Torres Straits Islander, entertained the crowd with her beautiful singing



A wide-eyed look at something very interesting by little Debbie Perry, 4, from the Marella Mission Farm Home at Kellyville. Holding Debbie is Nurse Anne Kinnear, also from Kellyville

Mr Carrol of the Rural Bank hands a cheque to Harry Penrith, winner of the senior section of the N.A.D.O.C. essay competition. Harry will use the money to help educate his four-year-old daughter Rebecca



N.A.D.O.C. Essay Results

A 13-year-old part-Aboriginal boy from Forster (N.S.W.) has won the junior section of the essay competition organised by the National Aborigines' Day Observance Committee (N.S.W.).

The successful young essayist is Robert Davis; theme of his essay was "My Ambition"—suggested theme for all entrants in the junior section.

The prize in the adult section of the competition has been awarded to Mr Harry Penrith of Wagga, for his essay on the theme "The Future of Aborigines in Australia". (See Mr Penrith's story on page 5.)

N.A.D.O.C. seeks by competitions and other means to highlight Aboriginal skills and abilities and for this reason entry in the contest was restricted to Aboriginal and part-Aboriginal competitors.

Prizes for the competition were donated by the Rural Bank.

Robert Davis, as first-prize winner, will be given a five-day conducted coach tour of the Snowy Mountains and Canberra. Mr Penrith will use his prizemoney to help educate his young daughter, Rebecca.

Judge of the essays, Mr Alan Duncan, said that the contest was difficult to judge because of the uniformly high standard of entries.

The essays demonstrated that many children and adults are aware of the problems facing Aboriginal people today! Mr Duncan said, "In the adult section many competitors put forward positive suggestions which could well receive consideration. They showed awareness of the very important part Aborigines should play in determining the future of their own people."



Robert Davis and his headmaster at Forster Central School, Mr G. Cooney. Robert is in second year at the school. He holds a bursary awarded by the Aborigines Welfare Board (Rural Bank Photos.)

My Ambition

By Robert Davis

JUNIOR SECTION

Perhaps the one ambition of every young Australian is to serve our country. Today there are many varied and interesting jobs available for us to choose from, and we as the future citizens of this country must accept a position suited to us, so that we can help our country to prosper and grow.

I, as a young Aboriginal, have pondered on the question "what am I to do when I grow up?", and by looking ahead and trying to visualise our country perhaps 10 or 20 years from now I have decided that I would like to become an engineer. There are many avenues to be explored in this interesting field and I feel it will be a most rewarding position.

The results of my ambitions and dreams lie in the future, for I am still attending school and to be able to succeed I must have a good education. In realizing this fact I hope many more of our children will avail themselves of the opportunities offered to them at school, for education will be the pathway to our future and therein lies our successes or failures.

There will be many obstacles to overcome before we achieve our goal, but these we must accept as a challenge and try not to be harassed or deterred by them. Instead we must forge ahead paving the way for the next generation as our pioneers did in the last century, so that we may live in a country that is prosperous and free.

Our wonderful Australia is most deservant of all we can give, and the proud awareness of being a true citizen of this beloved country will be capitol enough for us to foster our future hopes and dreams on.

My Ambition **By Connie Sherry**

This is an extract from an essay by Connie Sherry. It was received too late to be judged in the N.A.D.O.C. essay competition, but Mr Alan Duncan, who judged the competition, said that it was of high standard. Connie is twelve years old and lives at Burnt Bridge Aboriginal Station near Kempsey.

Junior Section

One of the main problems for Aborigines is lack of education. If Aborigines had better education it would lead to better jobs.

Today many Aborigines have the ability to do office work instead of labouring jobs but lack of education makes them unable to qualify for such things. If they had better jobs and more money then perhaps they would get nicer homes than the ones we live in now. Where I live only about nine men hold jobs. The rest have none but sometimes some jobs are offered to them; they stay on the job for a few days then just leave the work. Other men try to get jobs but they are jobs that only last for a few days and then they have no work again.

At primary school I did well in most subjects and I am now in 1D at Kempsey High. It is my ambition to get a good education and if it is possible I would like to become a social worker or an Aborigine's welfare officer. I want to do this so that I can help my people to live in better conditions, have better jobs and education so that they will lead happier lives and be accepted as equals by white people. If I become a welfare officer I would try to help Aborigines in their cleanliness, housing and other important things.

When I grow up and talk to my people then perhaps they would listen more to me and trust someone of their own race rather than listen to a white person. In this way I would be able to help my country and my people.

The Future of Aborigines in Australia

By Harry Penrith

Senior Section

At the time of the coming of the white man to our shores 177 years ago it was estimated that we numbered 300,000.

Today we are approximately 100,000 strong. Of this total, 42,000 are full-blood and 58,000 part-Aboriginal. Some 2,000 people still live the tribal life; 15,770 live on Government settlements and supervised reserves and the balance are found on cattle stations, "fringe" settlements of country towns and also in the cities.

In this present day and age there is an ever increasing awareness throughout the entire Australian community of real problems which are being encountered by Aborigines in all stages of development who are striving as a People to take their rightful place in the community. Gradually Australians are becoming educated Aboriginalwise and many who are without prejudices are beginning to see that we as a People have vital contributions to offer for the future betterment of the Australian community.

Bitterness and resentment for past and present treatment adequately describe our feelings towards our conquerors. It is becoming increasingly evident on the other hand that the great Australian ideal of a fair go for all is manifesting itself in many wonderful ways to the original inhabitants of this mighty country.

From an Aboriginal viewpoint the future looks very encouraging indeed. Over the past decade tremendous advances have been made in Aboriginal affairs generally, and this period has seen the formation of a great number of voluntary organisations whose basic aims are to work for the betterment of the underprivileged Aborigine. The next decade should see an even greater number of voluntary organisations and the action and works of these bodies will be representative of the feelings and sincere desires of the ordinary Australian citizen. Already these bodies have done much to break down barriers everywhere and by constant pressure have been directly responsible for changes in legislation and attitudes by the various Governments.

From the days when "extinction" was thought to be the Aborigines' fate, through a further stage of "protection" and on to the present day official policy of "assimilation", no real efforts were made to ascertain what the Aborigine himself wanted. By assimilation one may assume that officially we shall be completely absorbed into the Australian community in every respect. This would mean that we shall eventually lose our identity both in appearance and culture, and this would be disastrous.

It is not the wish of our people to become "assimilated" but we feel that in the not-too-distant future official policies and attitudes shall tend towards "integration" as distinct from "assimilation". We do not wish to accept entirely the way other peoples live because there are many aspects of other societies which clash with the way we speak, think, work and eat. Integration as far as we are concerned is accepting the white man's laws and yet at the same time retaining our own culture within the structure of modern society. Ideally both black and white will enjoy and appreciate to the fullest extent, the very best aspects of each society. What could be more beautiful than a Namatjira painting or more relaxing than the pastoral scene in Beethoven's 6th Symphony? Unfortunately to date many of our people have taken advantage of the worst aspects white society has had to offer, simply because these have been easiest to obtain. On the other hand the white Australian as a people are only just beginning to see the merits of our humility, genuineness, easy-going temperament, patience and tolerance which are part of our everyday living. Therefore if anything really constructive is ever to come of the Aboriginal question it is important and essential that all responsible bodies, the Governments and the Aborigines themselves should work for the common aim of integration.

Education is playing a vital role and in order to equip ourselves and our children for an exciting future we are becoming acutely aware of the importance of education in all its forms. Aboriginal pre-school kindergartens are springing up everywhere. The Aboriginal parent can see clearly that for his child to go out into society on an equal footing he needs to have a normal schooling at least. Adult education is important and future Schools for the adult will assist him to see the vision of the importance of education both to himself and his children. Future Schools on such topics as "The Pitfalls of Hire Purchase", "Economics", "Music Appreciation", "Map Reading", "Letter Writing", "Manners and Etiquette", "Clothing" and "Motor Mechanics" will be held and these will be designed to help the individual to adjust himself more readily and adequately into society.

The various Governments will eventually alter their policies on housing as this particular aspect of Aboriginal welfare is closely allied with education. Home ownership will eventually bring back to the Aborigine long lost pride and more important, the advantages of eventual home ownership easily outweigh the case for rental of homes. It will have the effect of making us live up to our responsibilities and commitments rather than use the "walkabout" excuse for running away from our debts. Certainly it will be very hard initially for us even once we obtain a house and we can look forward to much financial suffering but out of suffering only good will come.

We are learning how important it is to pay our bills promptly, for the whole of modern society revolves around money and the manner in which we do this will have a big bearing upon our complete acceptance.

Most Aborigines feel strongly that the land at present used as Aboriginal Missions, reserves, etc., should be made theirs. By exploiting the mineral and other resources of this land, we hope to improve our standard of living.

Many of us hope that eventually the Australian Government will extend to us as a People, suitable compensation for the land which was taken from us in the beginning. This has been done for the American Indian and the Maoris of New Zealand.

Given education and favourable conditions many of our people in future years will become leading figures in the community. We will produce doctors, lawyers, politicians, accountants, painters, etc.

With our Asian neighbours "Breathing down our necks" and with the White Australia Policy as it is at the moment Australia will no doubt try to show the world just how it is coping with its own coloured population.

Indeed the day shall come when the whole world will focus attention upon Australia and will be amazed at the results achieved and the manner in which Australia as a nation rose to the occasion by the complete integration of its indigenous people.

How happy will the day be when all State Governments one by one shall declare "You the Aborigine now have your feet firmly planted upon the ground—we have outlived our usefulness, all Acts and Regulations which have related to you in the past have now been abolished, you are not like little children but are completely self sustaining".

Mr Harry Penrith of Wagga talks with Mr Carroll of the Rural Bank, about one of the new decimal currency coins. Mr Penrith works at Wagga Agricultural College and is a first grade footballer (See story page 10.)



ICES LEAVE PORT KEMBLA

Dawn, July, 1964, reported on the successful progress of three Aboriginal boys apprenticed to Australian Iron and Steel Pty Ltd, at Port Kembla. The company was so pleased with the boys' success that early in 1965 it arranged with the Aborigines Welfare Board for another seven boys to become apprenticed. With regret, *Dawn* now reports that all but one of the boys have left the company.

They have passed up a good opportunity to become highly skilled, well-paid tradesmen. Their local Aboriginal friends told them that they were foolish to work for the low wages of an apprentice, when they could get higher pay in seasonal or labouring work. In most cases the boys' parents were not strong enough in their insistence that the boys stay at their chosen trade. The boys now are either out of work or working casually in occupations that can promise little future.

The boys were apprenticed to the trades of fitting and turning, moulding, boiler-making and bricklaying. Qualified tradesmen usually are paid well-above award rates; an officer of the Department of Labour and Industry told *Dawn* that the award rate for bricklayers is about £21 a week, but if a bricklayer does not earn at least £35 a week he is not trying.

Behaviour and work of the boys in most cases was good. When breaches occurred, the company treated the boys in an extremely lenient way.

While the boys were at Port Kembla they were visited frequently by Mr D. J. Reynolds, who helped them whenever they needed it. Mr Reynolds, a welfare officer of the Aborigines Welfare Board stationed at Nowra, tried to convince the boys that it was in their own interest to stay at Port Kembla. Other officers of the Board spoke to the boys when they returned to their homes and tried to get them to go back to their jobs. Some of the boys started their trade courses without tools or equipment because their parents had little or no money to provide these essentials. Where necessary the Board provided these tools.

Mr Todd, Master of Apprentices at A.I.S. also helped the boys in as many ways as he could. And it cannot be said that the boys could not cope with their trade courses, because the first three boys apprenticed passed their courses with good results; one boy obtained one of the highest-ever passes for his trade.

The boys have done great harm to other Aboriginal boys who may want to become apprenticed to a trade. Mr Todd feels that no special consideration will be given to Aboriginal youths in the future; they will be given only the same opportunity as any other lad in the community.



Harry Penrith

A Personality and a Purpose

Mr Harry Penrith, winner of the N.A.D.O.C. essay competition (senior section), is Assistant Registrar of Wagga Agricultural College. He is an Aborigine and rightly proud of his people and their traditions. Having benefited from the policy of the Aborigines Welfare Board in achieving integration himself, his life-purpose is to bring the Aborigine to enjoy his full citizen rights in our culture. As President of the newly-formed Aborigines Advancement League in the Riverina, he seeks not charity, but justice and discriminating advice for his race.

Harry was born at Wallaga Lakes on the south coast of New South Wales, and suffered the sad loss of his mother who died in giving him birth. Separated then from his family and deprived of family life and training, Harry has nevertheless developed into a strong and wholesome character. He is a popular and well-regarded citizen, gentle and courteous, friendly, with a splendid bearing and quiet dignity and blessed with many friends. He says, "I am amazed at the easiness with which I am accepted with my family into the community. We have tremendous neighbours and I feel strongly that their friendliness is in no way false."

What factors have produced this happy result? Harry himself sees four moulding forces.

- Bomaderry Children's Home, which nurtured him from earliest days. "I am sure that this home, run by devoted Christian women of the United Aborigines Mission has been a great influence on my later life. There I learned the reality of God's love for me. I would wish that all Government institutions for Aborigines were continually staffed by officers of active Christian principles".

- Kinchela Boys' Home and school, where Christian teachers ensured his excellent progress in academic work, and outside school hours, further developed his grasp of moral and spiritual principles, for which he is grateful.

- Kempsey High School, to which he travelled daily 26 miles by bus. Completing Fifth Year there, he was fully integrated into the life of the school, playing for the school First XI cricket and captaining the Rugby League First XIII. Thus he had benefited by the Aborigines Welfare Board policy of ensuring a full education to all who may benefit by it.

- Petersham Baptist Young Men's Hostel, where he boarded after taking a position as clerk in the Sydney offices of the Department of Agriculture. "I am sure that the Hostel was a steady influence in my life. I developed strong and continuing friendships with other young men, now chemists, engineers and teachers and found myself warmly welcome there".

Serving with the Department of Agriculture continuously for 10 years, Harry now receives £1,728 per annum. This stability gives ground for hope that he is but a forerunner of many Aborigines who without losing national identity, may develop into self-reliant citizens of our community. He comments, "I appreciate my good fortune in all this, but I cannot forget that in the Northern Territory pastoral industry many of my people are paid only £2 10s. od. weekly and their keep".

Today, Harry maintains a modern home in a good residential area of Wagga, where he lives happily raising a family of four vivacious and happy children. It was always his desire to marry within his own race, and certainly the health, good looks and beautiful dressing of his family justify his goal of showing how successful integration can be, in the friendly atmosphere of Wagga. His home was obtained through the assistance of the Welfare Board and the Rural Bank, which has also given him much guidance in financial affairs. This is a part of European culture that takes real adjustment, before Aborigines can benefit by the intricacies of consumer-credit, and he is grateful for such help.

It is a joy to Harry that his oldest girl, Rebecca, is in her second year of pre-school kindergarten and learning well. Harry expresses his view that "education is the most vital aspect of her integration into Australian society". His newborn son has been named Garfield after the dashing West Indian cricketer, Garfield Sobers, and it is Harry's hope that cricket will loom large in the boy's social future.

Harry has played for Riverina Rugby Union against the New Zealand All Blacks, and for New South Wales Rugby Union against Victoria and has found sport a great stepping stone to social acceptance.

To complete his own development as a person and in response to deep convictions, it is Harry's intention shortly to enter into full membership of the local Baptist Church, where he will be eagerly welcomed for his Christian character and sincerity.

As a friend of many years' standing has put it, "Harry has attained the major goals of his own life. Where others of his family and school-friends have suffered sad loss in their development, Harry has faced the same problems, with great earnestness and wonderful success. All the problems of living in institutions, severe moral testings from the example of others, family and financial problems all have been met with a perseverance and faith that is remarkable. Harry is a man greatly respected, and worthy of our admiration. His future is bright and he will not rest till all that can be done for his people is done".

N.A.D.O.C. Quiz Prizemoney Increased

Prizemoney for this year's N.A.D.O.C. Aboriginal Quiz was increased to £10 for first and £5 for second prize in both senior and junior sections. Prizemoney for the 1964 quiz was £4, £3 and £2, for first, second and third prizes respectively.

Robert Smith (14) of Kempsey, won the senior section prize, with Gerry Widders of Tranby Co-operative College, a close second.

In the junior section, Connie Sherry (12) of Burnt Bridge Aboriginal Station, Kempsey, won first prize and Elaine Floane (14) of Griffith, won second prize.

The quiz, run in conjunction with National Aborigines' Day, attracted many entries from young Aboriginal people in all parts of New South Wales.

Judge of the quiz was Mr Alan Duncan, Tutor of Aboriginal Adult Education at the University of Sydney. Mr Duncan said that it was obvious from the high standard of entries that competitors had undertaken a good deal of research.

Organisers of the quiz hope that the increased prize-money will attract even more entries for the 1966 quiz.

Answer to N.A.D.O.C. Quiz

Here are the answers to the first question in the N.A.D.O.C. quiz.

COUNTRY	CAPITAL CITY	LEADER
Indonesia	Djakarta	President Sukarno
Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur	Tunku Abdul Rahman
Thailand	Bankok	General Kittikachorn (<i>Prime Minister</i>) Prince Pumiphon (<i>Head of State</i>)
Australia	Canberra	Sir Robert Menzies
India	New Delhi	President Shastri
Pakistan	Rawalpindi	Mohammed Ayub Khan
Ceylon	Colombo	President Senanayake
Laos	Vientiane	Souvanna Phouma
Burma	Rangoon	Ne Win
Cambodia	Phom Penh	Prince Norodim Sihanouk

Caroona Cubs

want more Boys

Boys from Caroona Reserve, members of the Caroona Cubs. Left to right, Bob Brennan, Arthur Smith, Phillip Nean, Kevin Allen. Mr Rogers, assistant teacher at the Reserve, is cubmaster and would welcome any boys from the Reserve who would like to join the cub pack.



A.P.A. Debutantes' Ball Great Success



Julianne Webb curtsying gracefully as she is presented to Mr and Mrs Doyle, with beautiful Christine Mercy standing behind her

Photo. by courtesy "Daily Telegraph," Sydney.)

The annual Debutantes' Ball of the Aborigines' Progressive Association was the most exciting feature of the Association's activities this year. The ball, held in the State Ballroom 9th July as part of National Aborigines' Day celebrations, was attended by a cross-section of the community and created great interest among the general public.

Three hundred and fifty people watched as 12 beautiful girls were presented to Mr and Mrs Doyle, who represented the Premier of New South Wales. Matron of Honour was Lorna Beulah, well-known Aboriginal singing star.

Mr H. S. Groves, president of A.P.A., said that the ball was a complete success. Distinguished guests at the ball were Mr W. C. Wentworth, M.H.R., Mr and Mrs H. J. Green, Superintendent of the Aborigines Welfare Board, Mrs Kath Walker, Aboriginal poetess from Queensland, Mr J. Hamilton, representing O.P.A.L. Queensland and Mr Harry Hall, of Walgett.

The State Ballroom was decorated for the occasion by Mrs Butler, social organiser for the A.P.A., and was a credit to her ingenuity.

Isobel to Play for N.S.W.

Isobel Coe of Erambie Aborigine Station, Cowra, has been selected to represent New South Wales in an all-States schoolgirl basketball carnival to be held in Brisbane from 28 August to 8 September.

She is the only Aboriginal girl in the N.S.W. team and one of only three country girls selected.

Last year, while at Cowra Primary School, Isobel won the coveted Yarrabundah Cup for being outstanding athlete of the year in the Western Area of Education (which includes cities like Bathurst and Orange).

This year she is in class 1C at Cowra High School. Before her selection for the State team, Isobel represented the Western Area in the State basketball trials.



CARNIVAL AIR AT MOREE-CROMER FOOTBALL MATCH

Bands, marching girls and cheer squads gave a carnival air to the Rugby League football match between Aboriginal boys from Moree and boys from Cromer public school in Sydney.

The match, held early in July at Dee Why West oval and refereed by Mr Bill Hastings, President of Cromer Parents and Citizen's Association, was closely fought all the way.

The crowd of more than 300 was amazed by the nippiness of the Moree boys and thought that the Cromer boys were lucky to win 3-0.

On the sidelines throughout the match, two cheer squads—one for Cromer, one for Moree—of children from Cromer school helped keep the players hard at it.

Mr L. Skippen, headmaster of Cromer school, was enthusiastic about the match. Everyone at the match had a wonderful day.

After the game, Cromer parents took the boys on a sightseeing trip with their friends. They saw the sea, some for the first time, and went to the Pylon lookout, where they saw almost all of Sydney.

All the Moree boys were billeted with Cromer boys. Parents were so impressed by the boys that they have invited them back for holidays at Christmas.



Captain of the Moree team congratulates the captain of the winning Cromer team, after the hard-fought match

Referee Hastings knows that the ball is somewhere in that mass of bodies, but it took some sorting out (Photos by courtesy of "Sydney Morning Herald".)





Smoke Signals

COPING WITH CURRENCY

Wondering how you will cope with decimal currency when it comes in next February? The questions and answers below may help you with some of the problems.

On what date will the official changeover be made?

February 14, 1966, will be C-Day. On that day all Australian banks will open for business in decimal currency only. They will have been on £ s. d. till the close of business on Wednesday, February 9 and will need to complete their complex conversion arrangements over the next four days, during which time they will be closed for business.

From February 14, it will be necessary to write all cheques in dollars and cents, and large quantities of new decimal coins and notes will appear in circulation alongside the familiar £ s. d. currency.

Will we need to change our present notes and coins for decimal notes and coins on C-Day?

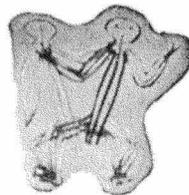
It will not be necessary to change £ s. d. for decimal notes and coins on the changeover day. For up to two years after the changeover, £ s. d. and dollars and cents will be legal tender and all denominations of £ s. d. coins and notes of 6d. or above will be interchangeable with corresponding decimal coins and notes. Thus, sixpence will be interchangeable with the five-cent coin; the shilling with the 10-cent coin; the florin with the 20-cent coin; ten shillings with the \$1 note; £1 with the \$2 note; £5 with the \$10 note; £10 with the \$20 note.

One and two-cent coins will be available from banks on C-Day as well as from shops which change to decimal currency on C-Day. (*from Good Neighbour.*)



Education of Aboriginal people in the Griffith area should be stepped-up, according to the annual report of the Griffith Aborigines Advancement Organisation.

The Report says, "The vicious circle of inadequate education, inadequate income, inadequate housing and health hazards is not easily broken at any one point. Effort is required all along the line, but if one point offers more scope than any other, it is in the field of education and we recommend that it receive more concentrated effort in the future. A variety of avenues still waits to be explored. In particular, parent awareness of the desirability of sound education for their children must be awakened. . . ."



DICK BUTTON DIES

Dick Button, well known Aborigine in the Coffs Harbour area, died recently at Glenreagh. Many Aboriginal and white people attended the funeral of their good friend.

Dick was without relatives of the same surname in N.S.W. He was born in 1910; his father was a Torres Straits Islander, and his mother a full-blood Aborigine from Queensland. His father was an original ANZAC, who died soon after his return from World War I.

Dick Button was taken and reared by a white family and grew up and was educated with the children of his adopted parents.

He became a first class tennis player, cricketer and boxer. He was well mannered, well spoken and a great lover of children. Dick was noted for keeping his word, and a solemn promise, once given, was rigidly kept.

It was in the closeness of camp life that his true, worth was proved and appreciated and it was under such circumstances that one came to know the real man.

He will be missed by many.

MURRIN BRIDGE NEWS

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Rupert Williams on the birth of a daughter, Cianthia. Also, to proud parents Mr and Mrs Richard King, congratulations on the birth of their daughter, Denice Ann.



Many happy people were guests here recently at the wedding of Mr Noel Parks and Miss Evelyn Black. The handsome couple were attended by Miss Olive Parks, bridesmaid and sister of the Groom, and Mr Len Briar, as best man. Two pretty flower girls, Coral Parks and Lola Black, completed the bridal group. The reception in the Murrin Bridge hall was a festive event and all the friends of the happy couple wish them the very best of everything.

Recent visitors from Wilcannia were Mr and Mrs Jack Quale and family, Mr Keith Brown, Miss Elaine Whyman, Miss Maureen Taylor, Mr Billy Bates and William, and great-grandmother Mrs Len Moisy.



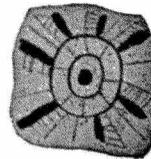
Mrs Ethel Johnson was overjoyed recently when she met her daughter, Mrs Matthew Lorenzo, for the first time in several years. Mr and Mrs Lorenzo are holidaying in Murrin Bridge before they return to their home in Darwin.

Does anyone know the whereabouts of Miss Margaret Whyman? Her mother, Mrs Ethel Whyman, would like to get in touch with her. Contact Mrs Whyman at Murrin Bridge Aboriginal Station, Lake Cargelligo, New South Wales.

Results of the recent boxing tournament were:—

Robert Bowden defeated Len Williams
Alf Johnson defeated Richard King
Neville Ward defeated Reg Naden
Lindsay Kirby defeated Eric Clarke
Rod Smith defeated Les Whyman
Ron Johnson defeated Wilfred Wilson
Lindsay Kirby defeated Gordon Reid
William Webster defeated Alf Harris
Peter Whyman drew with Ivan Whyman
Eric Clarke defeated Neville Ward

Paddy and Linda Black's son Leo is making a name for himself in the boxing ring. In the competition Leo defeated Ray Briar, Neville Ward, Alf Harris, Tod Johnson and William Webster. The Murrin Bridge people extend to Leo their best wishes for his future.

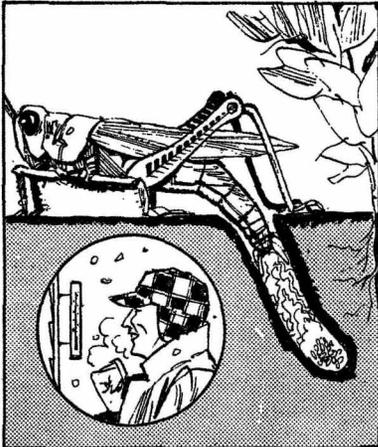


Some of the girls here would like pen-friends. Nancy Johnson, Olive Parks, Betty Black, Yvonne Sloan, Peggy Johnson, Rose King and Josephine Thomas would be pleased if you would write to them at Murrin Bridge Aboriginal Station, Lake Cargelligo, New South Wales.

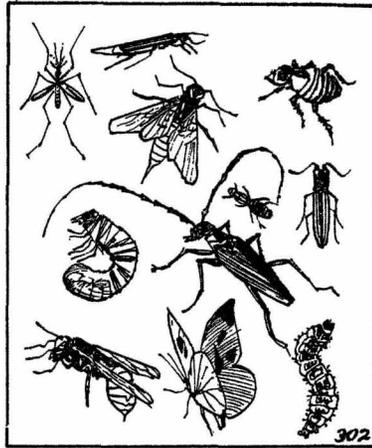


The people of Murrin Bridge will not forget the kindness and generosity of ex-Manager Mr Cockburn and Matron Cockburn. We hope they will remember their promise to return some day. We extend a cheery welcome to the new manager Mr Watton and Matron Watton and hope that they will be happy at Murrin Bridge.

IT'S A FACT



Since few insects can migrate to avoid winter weather many have found ways to live through it. The praying mantis doesn't survive the winter but her eggs do. Some insects produce an antifreeze chemical, some simply freeze, without injury, and await the spring thaw. The female grasshopper buries a mass of eggs wrapped in a protective glue-like coat. Warmth will not hatch the eggs unless they have first been frozen—nature's way of making sure a late warm spell won't bring out young grasshoppers to starve.



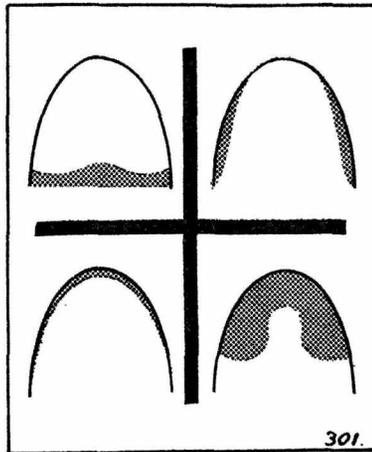
The 800,000 species of insects comprise four-fifths of all the animals on earth. They have never really been subdued by man and, according to Dr. Dwight Delong of Ohio State University, man's competition against the insect is "a case of man's intelligence against (the insect's) biological adaptation . . ." Insects eat, steal or destroy one-third of everything which man grows and stores for the future. Man is, however, dependent upon beneficial insects such as bees, silkworms and the scavenger types which clean up after many animals.



The praying mantis is the farmer's friend. They are raised commercially in the U.S. because of their fondness for crop-destroying insects. Actually the mantis, particularly the female, is fond of all insects—even other mantises. A hungry mantis will eat almost any live insect, even those twice its size. Because there are many more harmful than beneficial insects, the work of the mantis is encouraged by farmers. Unique among insects, the mantis is able to revolve its head directing its gaze on its next victim.



The peanut is not a nut. It is related to the pea and bean family. Peanut plants bear many small blossoms which open at sunrise and if fertilized wither and die by noon. A seed pod develops when the flower dies. The stalk continues to grow, curving downward, until it pushes the pod into the soft earth where the peanut develops. Native to America, the peanut has become an important source of food and vegetable oil throughout the world.



The sense of taste differs from the other human senses in that it is activated by chemical substances. Scientists conducting experiments on taste have discovered that not all parts of the human tongue are equally sensitive to the four taste sensations. Bitter tastes are more keenly felt at the back of the tongue (1), sour tastes along the sides (2), salty tastes at the sides near the tip (3) and sweet tastes in the center and the tip (4).



Sailors have for years reported ocean waves of fantastic heights. Their reports were seldom taken seriously. Their stories are now supported by an examination conducted by the Woods Hole (U.S.) Oceanography Institute. When the several elements that cause waves meet at the same time and place, exceptionally high waves will occur. The highest confirmed was a 112 foot (34 meter) wave reported by the USS *Ramapo* in February 1933.

PETE'S

PAGE

Dear Kids,

Who likes playing football? My, what a lot of cries of "yes" I can hear! I even think I can hear some girls crying out "yes". Of course, every boy likes a game of football; now let me tell you about a most enjoyable game of football that I went to watch during National Aborigines' Week.

The game was played between boys from Moree Aborigine Station School and boys from Cromer Public School, at Dee Why West oval (there is another story about this match in this issue of *Dawn*). The game was attended by more than 300 spectators who came from all parts of Sydney. Press and television cameras were present to give the game wide publicity.

During the first half of the game both teams displayed spectacular and open football which thrilled the large crowd. Each team showed that they had a rock-like defence and at half-time neither team had scored. Early in the second half Cromer scored a very lucky try to lead three points to nil. The Moree boys then started a long

**Cromer boy's
"Gotch'ya" is a
little previous as
Moree get their
pass away.
The Moree boys
played good
football and were
considered
unlucky not to
cross the well-
defended Cromer
line**



attack on the Cromer goal line and were very unlucky not to score. Again and again Moree attacked only to be pushed back by the Cromer boys. As the final whistle blew, the Moree boys were once again attacking strongly but unfortunately could not score. The final result was a win for Cromer, three points to nil.

However, all good things must come to an end, so very sadly the Moree boys had to say good-bye to their newly-made mates as they left Sydney on the Sunday evening train.

I am sure all the boys from Moree and Cromer really enjoyed the week-end which they will never forget.

Cheerio for now, girls and boys. Do write to me letting me know how you all are.

Your sincere friend,

Pete

Simone Hinton 2, Nurse Meryl McEachern, both from the Marella Mission Farm Home at Kellyville, applaud together a speech during the Martin Place programme.

