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# DAWNT

MAGAZINE FOR THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE OF N.S.W. JULY 1967



VOLUME 16 NUMBER 7

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

## In This Issue

1. When "Mummy" is the one who's there
4. Australia-wide are competition for Aboriginal children.
4. Moree kids given polio vaccine
5. More spent on Aborigines' homes course
5. How to use plaster board
6. Family education centres planned at Evans Head course
7. Widow's pension
10. Eric Porter's Australian cartoons enchant children (and parents) throughout the world
13. Your career—Fire Brigade
14. Measles can be deadly
14. Pen friend please
15. Smoke Signals
16. It's a fact  
Pete's Page (inside back cover)

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### FRONT COVER

Angela (left) and Debbie started life as wards of the State, but now they share the love of a tight-knit family group (see story page 1).

### BACK COVER

John Cumming operates the special camera that photographs cartoon characters and backgrounds at Eric Porter's Sydney film studios (see story page 10)

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# When “Mummy” is the one who’s there

The little Aboriginal girl was playing happily in Sydney’s Botanic Gardens until she fell and grazed her knee. “Mummy, Mummy”, she cried, and ran to the older of two women watching her.

The younger of the women, the child’s natural mother, saw then that it would be best for the child if she signed adoption papers so that the child could be raised by the European woman—who had been the child’s foster mother for several years.

Stories of adoption rarely have a happy ending for all concerned, but in this case the European parents who adopted the little girl have provided her with a loving and secure home life. The child has been given every opportunity, and, many years later, loves her adopted parents as they love her.

The natural Aboriginal mother has not seen the child since that long-ago day in the park, and time, even now, may not have healed the heartache. But in all cases of adoption the authorities ensure that the child’s welfare comes first.

## Wards

Children made wards usually come from families broken by death or desertion, or are neglected children. They are charged under the Child Welfare Act and if ordered by the court become wards of the State.

Aboriginal children in these circumstances come under the care of the Aborigines Welfare Board—usually until they are 18 years of age.

They cannot be adopted without the consent of their parents, who at any time (provided the children have not been adopted) can apply for the return of their children. If the adverse circumstances have become favourable and the parents have rehabilitated themselves since their children were declared State wards, then, on the recommendation of the welfare officer, the children are returned to their natural parents.

These facts are explained in detail to prospective foster parents, who are warned of the possibility of losing a child, for whom they develop great love, should the natural parents successfully apply for the child’s return.



*Eight-year-old Angela waves to her mother at the end of another day at school. Last year Angela came tenth in a class of 50, and loves her schoolwork*



*Above: Debbie (4) and David (3) ride the boat swing in the backyard playground Mr Bailey has made for his children*

*Below: Roly-poly Mark (9 months) is the youngest of the Baileys*



At present the Welfare Board has approved applications from twelve European families waiting to take care of Aboriginal wards. Fifty per cent of all foster parents apply to adopt the children in their care, but the Welfare Board does not act as an adoption agency.

The Board cares for about seventy children in New South Wales at its training homes at Kinchela (for boys) and Cootamundra (girls). Most of these children were over 10 years old when placed in the Board's care. But these are only part of the Board's family of 300 wards.

Many are working and able to care for themselves; others, especially those handicapped by physical or mental disabilities, and some teenagers, are cared for in church homes and by other organizations.

In the past 12 months about thirty children were committed to the Board's care. Most wards are over 18 months of age when the Board begins to care for their welfare.

Many of these babies are boarded in foster homes, and at present about 180 children are cared for in this way; 9 in every 10 of these foster-parent families are European.

### **Careful selection**

Welfare officers of the Board make very careful investigation and selection of prospective foster parents before placing children in their care, and do so only if they are sure that the child and foster parents will be happy together. Selection of foster parents with religion common to the ward is only one of the things considered by the welfare officer.

Placement of wards is confidential. Natural parents are not told the child's whereabouts, unless the ward is old enough to want to write to them.

A boarding out allowance paid by the Welfare Board to foster parents is the same rate as that given for wards by the Department of Child Welfare. It is about \$208 a year for each child. Clothing and medical and dental attention for the ward also are paid for by the Board (again, identical to Child Welfare ward benefits).

Some Aboriginal wards live with (and some have been adopted into) families of European children; in other cases, European foster parents care for their family of all-Aboriginal children. As many as five Aboriginal children have been taken into the one European family.

### **An example**

*Dawn* went to see an example of one of the Board's foster homes last month. We can't mention the family's name, but we'll call them the Baileys.



*Above: Angela distracts Mark as he waits anxiously for his evening meal*

*Below: Mrs Bailey and Angela tell Debbie (centre) what to expect when she begins school next year*



They have a neat, well-kept cottage in Sydney, and the family consists of Mr and Mrs B., and four Aboriginal children. Mr and Mrs Bailey have adopted two of the children, and are trying to adopt the others.

The Baileys' love for Aboriginal children began eight years ago at a foundling home in Sydney. After a year of marriage they were told that they would never have children. Mrs Bailey believed, and still does, that a woman's life was wasted if she did not have children to care for.

So the Baileys decided to have their family by adoption. They were unable to adopt the foundling-home baby, and asked the Welfare Board what they should do. Within two months their Aboriginal family began, in 1961, with Angela, then aged 13 months.

In the same year another 13-months-old baby was given into the care of the Baileys. They loved and cared for this little boy for four years, until he was returned to his natural parents. This personal tragedy for the Baileys will never be forgotten or the wound completely healed, but the other children in the family helped soften the blow.

Debbie, second eldest to Angela, was adopted by the Baileys two years ago. They have no fears of losing this beautiful, wide-eyed 4-year-old, who has been part of the family since she was four months old.

The two boys of the family are David and Mark. David, the wild one of the family, will be 3 in October. Mark, adopted by the Baileys in December last year, is a roly-poly 9 months.

As the family increased, so did the house. Mr Bailey, a bus driver, added an extra bedroom, and made a miniature children's playground in the grounds of his house. The kids, with Bozo the dog, enjoy their own slippery dip, boat swing, monkey bars and horse swing.

It will be a few years before the two boys are going to school, but Debbie starts next year. Angela came tenth in a class of 50 last year, and loves her schoolwork. She is now 8 years old, in second class, excels in spelling and writing, and Mrs Bailey said Angela had "quite a few boy-friends".

These four well-dressed, well-cared for Aboriginal children have been given every opportunity to take their rightful place in the community. And it's good to know that there are hundreds of other foster parents like the Baileys who have created loving homes for children given a bad start in life.

# AUSTRALIA-WIDE ART COMPETITION FOR ABORIGINAL CHILDREN

Aboriginal children throughout Australia are invited to enter an art competition especially for them. Prizemoney of \$100 will be won by children between 12 and 16 years of age.

The competition has been devised by the Sydney Savage Club to foster Australian Aboriginal art. The club was formed in 1934, and consists of many prominent men in all walks of life who feel that the development of art, music, literature, and the sciences is important to the community in Sydney and Australia.

Several Governors of New South Wales, including the present Governor, Sir Roden Cutler, have accepted honorary membership of the Club.

The Savage Club Scholarship is awarded to talented young Australians in the various arts of music, singing, painting, drawing, architecture, sculpture, and literature. Since its inception, many now-famous and successful artists have been assisted by the scholarship.

In the *colour section*, water-colours, crayons or pastels can be used; in the *black and white section*, pen and black Indian ink, pencil or charcoal can be used.

All work must be done on plain white drawing paper not larger than 12½ in x 10 in, which is ordinary school drawing book size.

Competition closes 30th November. Send entries to Savage Club Aboriginal Art Competition for Aboriginal Children, c/o Foundation for Aboriginal Affairs, 810 George Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

*Decorations at Savage Club meetings are based on Aboriginal motifs. The Club's motto is Koora-na-Boon—which means "sit-down-all-about-brother"*



## Moree Kids Given Polio Vaccine

All children at the Moree Mission School were given protection from the dreaded polio disease early in June. They swallowed the liquid Sabin vaccine, which is tasteless.

This spoonful of medicine went down in a most delightful way because children were not worried by the threat of an injection, by which the previous polio vaccine was given.

The Sabin treatment in three doses builds up the body's immunity to polio, and health authorities believe that eventually—when everybody in the community has been treated—the disease will be wiped out.

A photographer from the *North West Champion* newspaper of Moree recorded the Sabin treatment at the Mission School. Pictured are Russel Haines (taking his medicine), Gordon Smith (left, watching the vaccination with interest), and Nurse Muggleton (Commandant of Moree V.A.Ds).



## More Spent on Aborigines' Homes

The Chief Secretary, Mr E. A. Willis, said late in June that the Aborigines Welfare Board had spent \$500,000 in the provision of housing for Aborigines during the current financial year.

This amount was the same as that expended in the previous financial year when additional funds were made available to the Board for the housing of Aborigines by the present Government.

Included in the work undertaken during the year had been the erection of twenty-seven houses and a clinic at Moree; four cottages at Tingha; and three at Balranald. In addition, the Board had purchased thirty-six houses located in sixteen different country towns and four in the Sydney Metropolitan Area.

Tenders also had been let for the construction of nineteen cottages in Kempsey, twelve at Gulargambone, eight at Condobolin and one each at Forster and Kingswood. The Board was acquiring a further forty-four building blocks for future use.

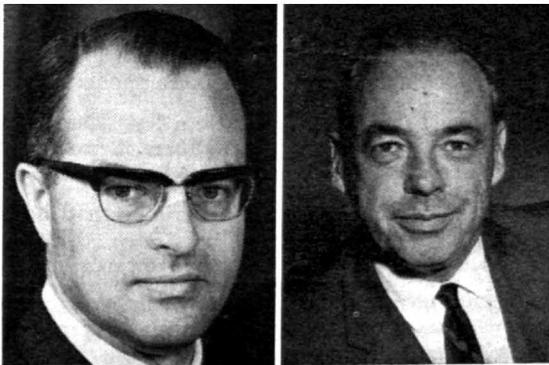
In addition to the provision of housing, the Government had made a capital grant, through the Board, of \$20,000, towards the capital cost of the "Kirinari" hostel at Sylvania.

Apart from the erection of new housing, an amount of \$225,000 had been spent in maintenance and improvements to existing Aborigines' housing.

To assist Aborigines to acquire further suitable housing the Board also had approved of loans totalling \$120,441 for the erection or acquisition of such homes by individual Aborigines. Interest on the loans was a nominal  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent reducible.

Left: *Mr E. A. Willis, the Chief Secretary*

Right: *Mr A. C. Kingsmill, chairman of the Aborigines Welfare Board*



## How to use Plaster Board

Plaster board or gypsum board is one of the most useful sheeting materials. It is used for building or re-modelling rooms, and similar lining jobs.

The plaster boards are made in sheets which have a plaster core covered both sides with a facing material similar to heavy paper. The boards have a smooth finish which provides an excellent base for any kind of decoration.

The sheets are  $\frac{3}{8}$ -in thick and available in many widths and lengths. Sizes range from 3-ft to 4-ft  $5\frac{1}{2}$ -in wide, and from 6-ft to 16-ft long. Two of the widest sheets placed on their sides will cover a 9-ft high wall from floor to ceiling—leaving only one horizontal joint to fill. The longest sheets (16-ft) span the length of most rooms.

This range of sizes reduces to a minimum cutting and waste in fitting the sheets. When you have to cut them, you merely score the surface with a sharp knife, snap the plaster core, then cut the back paper.

### Windows

To cut openings for doors and windows, use a sharp panel saw. If you have polished or carpeted floors, do your cutting away from them so that plaster dust will not be walked into the surface of the floor.

### Joints

To join the plaster boards, first fill the recess formed by adjoining boards; use a joining compound and apply it with a trowel or joint knife.

Next: imbed a special re-inforcing tape in the joining compound by brushing, and smooth-off excess compound.

The compound is best applied in several thin coats to complete filling the joint recess. After each application, allow the compound to dry before going on with the next.

After the final application has been trowelled smooth and flush, sand the area lightly with a fine abrasive paper for a perfect finish. The compound is also used to fill the holes created by punching the heads of the board-fixing clouts (nails).

# FAMILY EDUCATION CENTRES PLANNED AT EVANS HEAD COURSE

Results of Australia's first pre-school training course for Aborigines will depend on the amount of effort made by Aborigines to successfully establish family education centres. Two of the team of six Maori women who conducted the course said this before returning to New Zealand.

About fifty Aboriginal people from the Lismore area attended the course, which was held at Evans Head late in May. The course was arranged by the Aboriginal adult education section of Sydney University, and the N.S.W. Aborigines Welfare Board.

The *Lismore Star* newspaper reported that the Maori women said they were hopeful the Aborigines would continue to help train themselves to a better way of life.

The Maori women followed up with "on the job" training at three district Aboriginal reserves—Box Ridge, near Coraki, Tabulam, and Wood-enbong.

The women will continue to direct the Aborigines from New Zealand, with the assistance of Sydney University.

Committees have been formed for each of the three reserves to run Aboriginal family education centres. These centres are similar to Maori centres. One function is to help mothers to observe their children's needs.

There are about 80 children at Box Ridge reserve of 135 residents. About half of them are expected to attend the centre.

## Play centre

The Maoris and Aborigines, including Aborigines Welfare Board member, Mr J. Morgan, cleared a large area of "wilderness" and began the building of a play centre.

The Maori women at Box Ridge, Mesdames K. H. Campbell and Pearl Allen appealed to district residents to help by giving equipment such as toys, dolls, puzzles, and children's books.

Eventually they hope the centre will be similar to other Australian pre-school kindergartens, only with the whole family involved.

Mrs Allen said the children had been bright and eager to learn. They were particularly skilled with their hands.

Mrs Campbell said Aborigines needed constructive help, not dictation.

The women wanted to know more about cooking, sewing, knitting, and other crafts, but did not know who to approach. Women's organizations, such as the C.W.A., might be able to demonstrate to them.

## Workshops

Reserve workshops, where the men could learn skills such as carpentry, was another idea.

The Maori women presented the Aborigines with \$4—the first donation towards equipment for a play centre building. The Aborigines raised \$10 themselves.

Mrs Lena Kapeen said a reserve council also had been formed at Box Ridge on a co-operative basis. Usual meeting attendance was about seventeen persons. When an Aborigine had put in \$20 he would become a full member.

## Market garden

The money will be used to establish a market garden on the reserve.

Water is laid on and the men will begin clearing the ground during the winter. Proceeds will be used to buy equipment and the first distribution of profit was expected to be made in five years.

Wife of the part-time reserve supervisor, Mrs E. R. Leggo, said she was prepared to go to the reserve more often to help the women learn to renovate clothes which were given to them.

Mrs Leggo assists the United Aboriginal Missionary, Mrs Cyril Smith, on Sunday with Christian education work.

Mr Leggo said there was district discrimination against Aborigines when it came to getting jobs. Unless an Aborigine was well known, he was not likely to get a job if a white man also applied.

Two hotels at Coraki only let a few Aborigines drink there. "You can't blame them, because the others get into fights when drinking", he added.

Mr Leggo said the reserve Aborigines had been particularly well behaved. Even after drinking they had never shown any violence towards him.

There was a few of the "no-hoper brigade" as in every community, who gave the majority a bad name, he added.

# WIDOW'S PENSION

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*This guide to entitlement to widows' pensions was prepared by the Commonwealth Department of Social Services. The N.S.W. address of the Department is Australia House, 50 Carrington Street, Sydney. 2000. Branch offices are at Armidale, Lismore, Lithgow, Newcastle, Orange, Wagga and Wollongong*

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These pensions are paid to widows and other women who satisfy certain conditions. There is a means test on income and on property. A person cannot receive a widow's pension as well as an age or invalid pension or tuberculosis allowance.

## **Women Eligible**

- *Class A*—A widow with one or more children in her care.
- *Class B*—A widow of at least 50 years of age, or a widow of at least 45 years of age whose Class A pension ceases because she no longer has a child in her care.
- *Class C*—A widow under 50, without children, who is in necessitous circumstances within the 26 weeks following her husband's death.

For Classes A and B, the term "widow" includes a deserted wife, a divorcee, a woman whose husband has been imprisoned for at least six months, and a woman whose husband is in a mental hospital. Certain "dependent females" may qualify for A, B, or C Class pensions.

## **Children**

For pension purposes the term "child" means a child under the age of 16 years. It also includes a child over that age but under 21 years if dependent on the widow and receiving full-time education.

## **Residence Qualification**

Five years' continuous residence in Australia immediately prior to claiming pension is required. This period is reduced to one year if the woman and her husband were living permanently in Australia when he died. Certain absences count as residence. Residence in New Zealand or Britain may be treated as residence in Australia.

## **Women Ineligible**

These include:

- a woman who is not a British subject;
- a woman who is receiving a war widow's pension under the Repatriation Act because of her husband's death;
- a deserted wife or a divorcee who has not taken reasonable action to obtain maintenance from her husband or former husband.

### Class A

The rate of pension payable depends on the widow's *means as assessed*. These consist of:

- her annual rate of income, *plus*
- a property component equal to \$2 (£1) for each complete \$20 (£10) of her property above \$2,000 (£1,000), if the value of her property exceeds \$4,500 (£2,250). If the widow's property does not exceed \$4,500 (£2,250), no property component is counted.

A widow's *means as assessed* may consist entirely of income, entirely of property component, or of various combinations of income and property component.

The pension payable in any case is calculated by deducting from the maximum rate of pension—this varies with the number of children—the amount by which *means as assessed* exceed \$364 (£182). In all cases, however, no pension is payable where the value of property is \$13,960 (£6,980) or more. Thus—

- if a widow's *means as assessed* are not more than \$364 (£182), a full pension is payable.
- if her *means as assessed* equal or exceed \$364 (£182) plus the maximum rate of pension applicable in her case, no pension is payable.
- if her *means as assessed* exceed \$364 (£182) but do not exceed the sum of \$364 (£182) plus the maximum rate of pension applicable in her case, a reduced pension is payable, provided the value of her property is less than \$13,960 (£6,980).

A widow who owns property valued at \$4,500 (£2,250) or less may receive full pension if the annual rate of her income does not exceed \$364 (£182). If the annual rate of her income exceeds \$364 (£182), the pension is reduced by the excess.

Thus, a widow whose property is valued at \$4,500 (£2,250) or less and who has one child remains eligible for some pension unless the annual rate of her income is \$1,196 (£598) or more.

Similarly, a widow with no income may receive a full pension if the value of her property does not exceed \$5,640 (£2,820). The pension is reduced by \$2 (£1) a year for each complete \$20 (£10) by which the value of her property exceeds \$5,640 (£2,820), but she remains eligible for some pension unless her property is valued at \$13,960 (£6,980) or more.

Where a widow has income and her property is worth more than \$4,500 (£2,250), the rate of income which she may receive and still be entitled

to a full pension varies with the value of her property. The rate of income which makes her ineligible for a pension also varies with the value of her property. Conversely, the value of property which does not affect the pension, and the value of property which makes her ineligible for a pension, both vary with the annual rate of her income. In all such cases, property of \$2,000 (£1,000) is disregarded.

### Class B

The rate of pension payable depends on the widow's *means as assessed*. These consist of:

- her annual rate of income, *plus*
- a property component equal to \$2 (£1) for each complete \$20 (£10) of her property above \$400 (£200).

A widow's *means as assessed* may consist entirely of income, entirely of property component, or of various combinations of income and property component.

The pension payable is calculated by deducting from the maximum annual rate of pension the amount by which the widow's *means as assessed* exceed \$364 (£182). Thus—

- if her *means as assessed* are not more than \$364 (£182) she receives the full pension of \$559 (£279 10s.) a year (equivalent to \$10.75 (£5 7s. 6d.) a week).
- if her *means as assessed* exceeds \$364 (£182) and are less than \$923 (£461 10s.) a reduced pension is payable. The rate payable is the maximum rate of \$559 (£279 10s.) a year less the amount by which *means as assessed* exceeds \$364 (£182).
- if her *means as assessed* are \$923 (£461 10s.) or more, no pension is payable.

A widow who owns property valued at less than \$420 (£210) may receive a full pension if the annual rate of her income does not exceed \$364 (£182). If the annual rate of her income exceeds \$364 (£182) the pension is reduced by the excess. She remains eligible for some pension unless the annual rate of her income is \$923 (£461 10s.) or more.

Similarly, a widow with no income may receive a full pension if the value of her property does not exceed \$4,040 (£2,020). The pension is reduced by \$2 (£1) a year for each complete \$20 (£10) of property over \$4,040 (£2,020), but she remains eligible for some pension unless her property is valued at \$9,640 (£4,820) or more.

Where a widow has income and her property is worth \$420 (£210) or more, the annual rate of income which she may receive and still be entitled to a full pension varies with the value of her property. The rate of income which makes her ineligible for a pension also varies with the value of her property. Conversely, the value of property which does not affect the pension, and the value of property which makes her ineligible for pension, both vary with the annual rate of her income. In all cases, property of \$400 (£200) is disregarded.

### **Class C**

There is no specific means test for Class C pension which is payable only if the widow is in necessitous circumstances.

"Income" includes earnings and any other form of income, with certain exceptions.

*The main exceptions are:* income from property; gifts or allowances from children, parents, brothers, or sisters; payments, other than annuities, by way of benefit from friendly societies; child endowment or other payments for children; Commonwealth health benefits and amounts received from registered benefit organizations.

Amounts in excess of \$1.50 (15s.) a week paid to a deserted wife by her husband, or to a divorcee by her former husband, for the maintenance of a child are counted as her income.

In addition, in arriving at income for means test purposes, a widow's actual income as defined above may be reduced by up to \$52 (£26) a year, equivalent to \$1 (10s.) a week, for each dependent child.

"Property" includes all real and personal property, e.g., houses; land; money in hand, in a bank, invested or lent; shares; legacies; vehicles other than for personal use; livestock.

"Property" does not include the pensioner's home, furniture, or personal effects.

*Other types of property disregarded are:* The surrender value (up to \$1,500 (£750)) of life insurance policies; the value of any reversionary interest; and the capital value of any life interest, annuity or contingent interest.

### **Telephone Rental, Radio and Television Licence Concessions**

A concessional telephone rental equal to two-thirds of the amount otherwise payable is available for pensioners who live alone; and pensioners living in a household each member of which is also

entitled to the concession or has an income not exceeding \$988 (£494) a year. Reduced rate radio and television licences are also available to pensioners in these categories.

### **Rates of Payment**

Maximum rates are as follows:

Class A—\$832 (£416) a year, equivalent to \$16 (£8) a week, i.e., the Standard Rate pension of \$12 (£6) a week plus Mother's Allowance of \$4 (£2) a week.

*Payments for children:* An allowance of \$78 (£39) a year, equivalent to \$1.50 (15s.) a week, for one child and, subject to the means test, extra pension of \$78 (£39) a year, equivalent to \$1.50 (15s.) a week, for each other child are payable.

Class B—\$559 (£279 10s.) a year, equivalent to \$10.75 (£5 7s. 6d.) a week.

Class C—\$10.75 (£5 7s. 6d.) a week for not more than 26 weeks immediately following the husband's death. If the widow is pregnant, payment continues until the birth when she may qualify for a Class A pension.

Supplementary Assistance of \$104 (£52) a year, equivalent to \$2 (£1) a week, is available to widow pensioners who pay rent and whose *means as assessed* do not exceed \$52 (£26). The assistance is reduced by the amount of *means as assessed* in excess of \$52 (£26).

### **Payment of Pension**

Pensions are paid fortnightly, either by cheque posted to the pensioner's address, or in cash at a nominated post office.

### **Pensioner Medical Service**

Free medical treatment of a general practitioner nature and free pharmaceutical benefits are available to certain pensioners and their children. Those eligible are notified.

### **HOW TO APPLY**

Claim forms may be obtained from all post offices and from all offices of the Commonwealth Department of Social Services.

Applicants living in metropolitan areas should send their claims to the Director of Social Services in the capital city of the State in which they live. Others should send their claims to the nearest Registrar of Social Services.



## ERIC PORTER'S AUSTRALIAN CARTOONS ENCHANT CHILDREN (AND PARENTS) THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

*Eric Porter*

Eric Porter conceived and produced Australia's first colour entertainment cartoon in 1939, and today, 28 years later, his cartoons are still enchanting children (and parents, too) throughout the world.

His first cartoon starred a lovable character called Willie Wombat, who stressed the film's theme "Waste Not, Want Not", and its great success encouraged Eric in his animation career.

The cartoon also made history by using an entirely new technique in the form of model backgrounds. Previously, cartoons had been produced with painted backgrounds, but Willie Wombat was an animated character in a three-dimensional world.

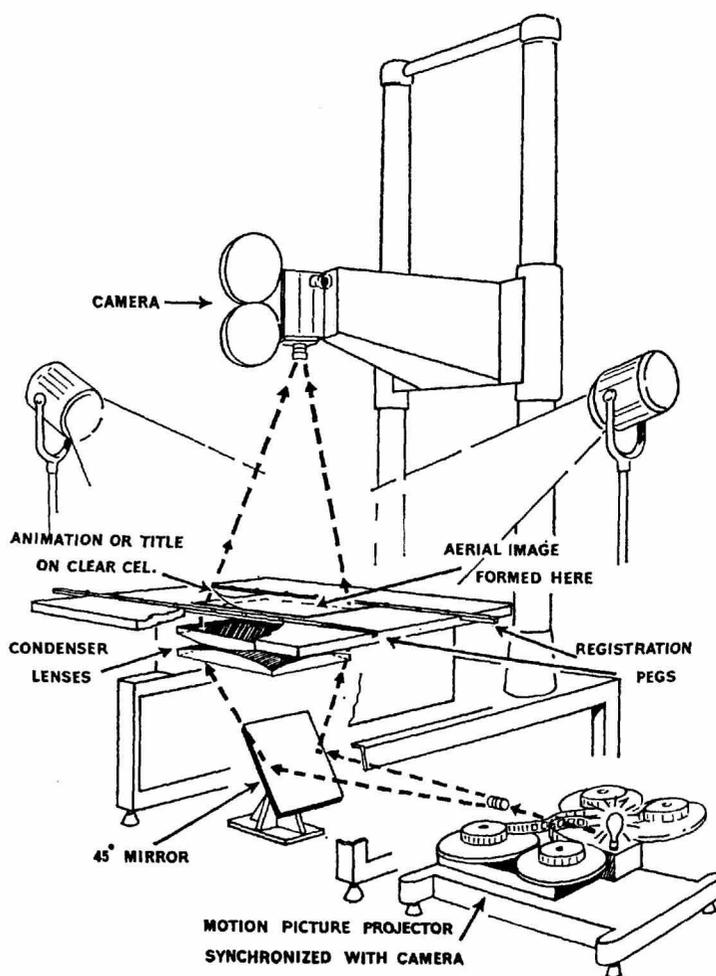
This method greatly enhanced the film's impact and caused widespread interest within the film industry.

Willie Wombat was so successful that it was about to become a series when World War II broke out, causing plans to be cancelled.

### **Feature Film**

Mr Porter's next major venture was in complete contrast—an entirely live-action feature film, "A Son is Born", starring Peter Finch, Ron Randall, John McCallum, and Muriel Steinbeck. Mr Porter directed the film.

The full-length production was filmed in what was then the world's smallest film studio. But advanced Australian camera and optical techniques enabled "A Son is Born" to compete on the world



Right: *Operating principle of the aerial image camera*

market, and to return a substantial profit. Even today the film is screened on Australian TV.

### **Large staff**

Staff at Eric Porter Productions has increased from the few of the early days to almost seventy today. The business of making films is a complex one: highly skilled directors, writers, editors, cameramen, sound recordists, setmakers, electronics engineers, puppetmakers, artists, animators, and other technicians are needed.

Eric Porter's Film Studios, at North Sydney, are the first new film studios to be completed in Australia in the past eleven years. But the company's expansion already has resulted in the building of an additional three-storey block.

The company uses the most modern photographic, lighting, sound recording, film processing, and animation equipment.

### **Documentaries**

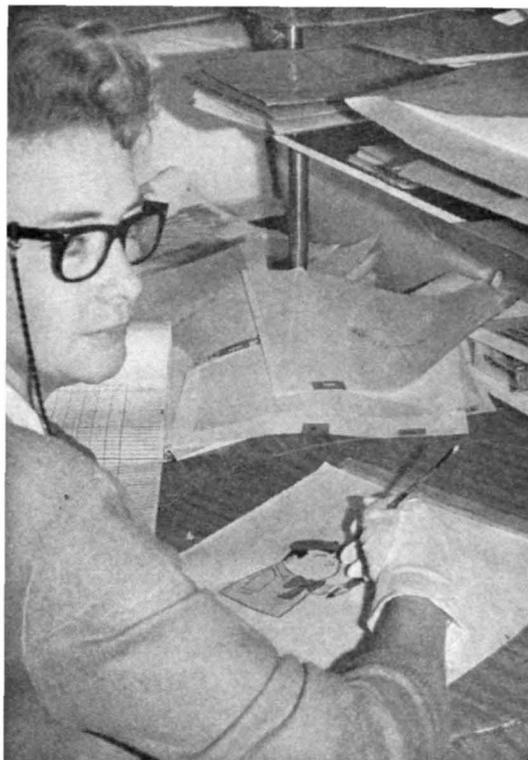
Documentaries, commercials and colour cartoon series are made by Mr Porter's company. ABC television has screened a Porter-produced series of twenty-six documentaries about towns and cities in N.S.W., Victoria, and Queensland. The series, "Know Your Australia", was sponsored by local councils and businesses.

Another notably successful documentary about Lord Howe Island has been seen in theatres by well over a million people.

Fred Powell, prominent Aboriginal citizen of Peak Hill (see *Dawn*, November/December, 1966), appeared in a Porter-film directed by Don Stanger about the Jolly Swagman tour organized by Airlines of N.S.W. Fred demonstrates boomerang throwing at Dubbo to tourists—many of whom are from the U.S.A. and other countries.

Making television commercials is a big part of the work done by the Porter studios, and it's a fair bet that the ones that hold your attention most come from Porters. These are the kind of commercials that incorporate animated cartoon characters.

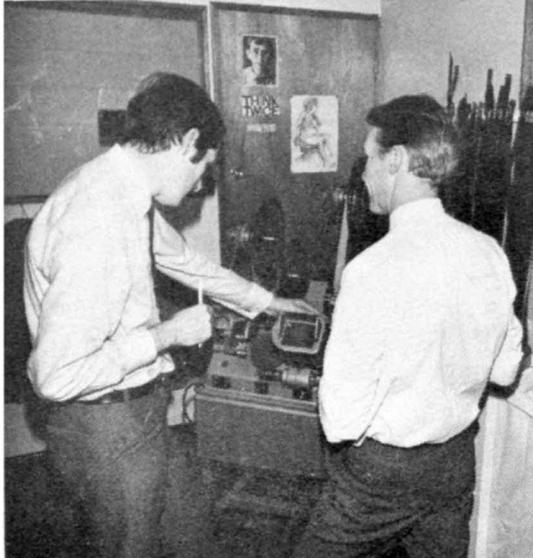
Television watchers will know all about the gangster-bug Louie Da Fly who is killed by a popular brand of insect spray; and about the big



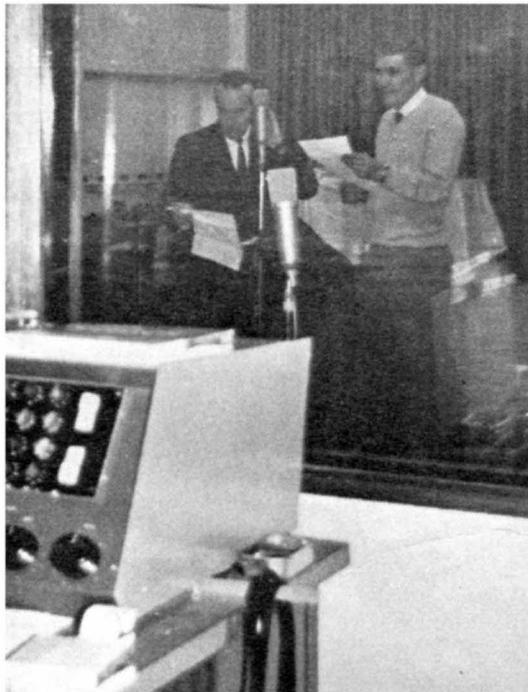
Top Right: *June Osborne, artists' supervisor, works on a cartoon character in the painting and tracing section*



Bottom Right: *Bill Ramsay, sound recording manager, in the control room of the recording studio*



*Nick Beauman, editor-director (left) and Bob Pearce, head of the animation section, inspect film of an animated television commercial through a Moviola editing machine. Film is stopped and pictures cut out or others added, before the film is considered finished*



tiger that one of the petrol companies puts into your tank with the petrol. These are examples of the art of animation, and Eric Porter has the biggest and best animation staff in Australia.

### **Cartoons**

Eric Porter's laughter-lined face reflects his personal interest in cartooning. He has a soft-spot for the entertainment of children, who, till recently, were somewhat neglected by world producers. His eyes twinkle when he says that most parents also enjoy the kind of children's cartoon programmes he makes.

"Sunstroke Territory", a 10-minute coloured film using puppets, has been screened on U.S. television. "Cool McCool", an animated cartoon series, was another success for Mr Porter, and recently was shown throughout America.

He devised a new children's space-age puppet adventure series, which is in production; this series also is aimed at the American market.

Apart from these successes, Porter Studios is doing the animation for the Abbott and Costello cartoon series produced by the American cartoon company, Hanna and Barbera—which makes the Huckleberry Hound and Yogi Bear cartoons.

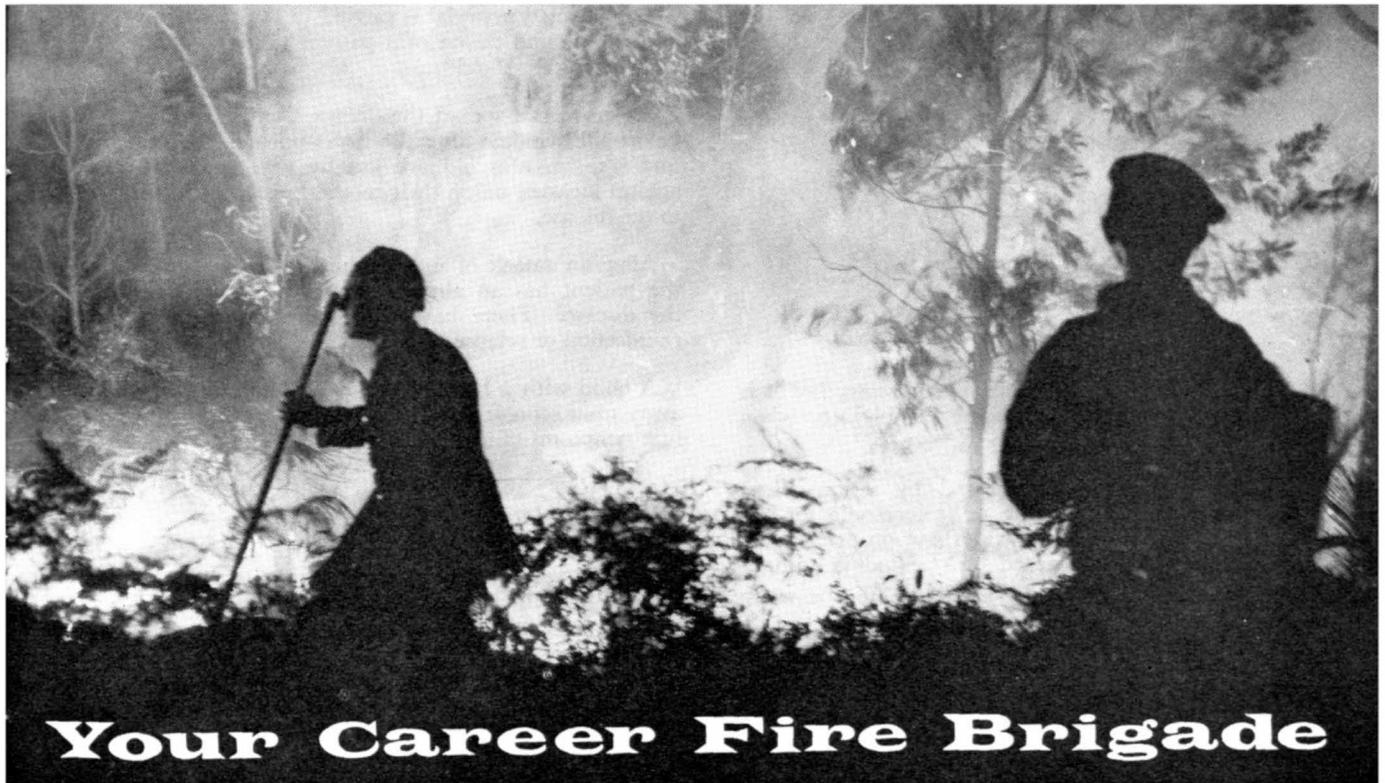
Mr Porter's Australian company competes successfully against overseas competition because it is well-equipped, efficient, and its staff of highly-skilled artists are dedicated to the job. And what a painstaking job it is, too.

The moving film image in theatres and on television is created by separate pictures speeding through the projector at 24 or 25 frames (pictures) a second. And each simple movement of a cartoon character is created by making about 12 separate drawings for each second of film. This means that artists and photographers work on about 10,800 different pictures so that you can enjoy a 15-minute cartoon.

Techniques have improved quite a bit since the days of Willie Wombat, but making cartoons still takes a long time and a lot of hard work.

Eric Porter is rewarded not only with money but with the laughter he reaps as an enchanter of children.

*Sound recordist John Garwood (right) and a client of the studio go through the script to check sound levels in the recording studio*



This information about the N.S.W. Fire Brigades has been extracted from "Background to Careers", published by the Vocational Guidance Bureau of the Department of Labour and Industry.

Members of the New South Wales Fire Brigades participate in a vital community service in the preservation and protection of life and property from the ravages of fire. The work includes the study and practice of rescue and life-saving procedures, fire prevention and extinction, safety precautions, breathing apparatus, all types of pumping units together with other duties connected with general administration and the operation of switchboards and radio-telephones.

**Entry Requirements:** A British subject aged 21 to 30 years, physically strong, free from disease or defect in limb, hearing or sight, at least 5 ft 6½ in tall with a natural chest measurement of 36 in.

He must possess a driver's licence and be able to pass an entrance examination in Mathematics, English, and Dictation.

**Training:** Training commences with an eight-weeks' course in the fundamentals of firemanship and is supplemented by further study and regular programmes of training in the following years.

**Prospects:** Beginning at the junior grade of fireman on probation, it is possible to progress through the various ranks of fireman to junior and senior officer status and even to the executive post of Chief Officer of Fire Brigades. The salary range of firemen is \$44 to \$48 a week and that of officers is \$60 to \$80 a week and beyond.

**Further Information:** Send applications to: The Secretary, Board of Fire Commissioners of New South Wales, Box 4249, G.P.O., Sydney. 2000.

# MEASLES CAN BE DEADLY

Measles is a familiar infectious disease, but it is not just a simple childhood complaint: when complications set in it can be deadly.

Measles can be complicated by serious chest infections like bronchitis or pneumonia or by infection of the ear or eye. About 90 per cent of measles deaths are caused by pneumonia complications, and occasionally it affects the brain.

Parents are warned by the N.S.W. Department of Public Health that measles can be a great danger to children under 5 years of age. Children with a bad feverish cold—which could be the first symptom of measles—should be kept away from school.

## Symptoms

Early symptoms of measles are like those of a common cold at its height, with sneezing, a harsh cough, and a high fever. Young children often complain that light hurts their eyes.

The fever lasts for about two to four days. The characteristic bright pink rash appears on the third or fourth day beginning on the face, and later spreading to other parts of the body; as it spreads the spots increase in size and number and become a deeper red. By the sixth day a brownish discoloration replaces the pink and red rash.

The brown discoloration begins to fade, but "staining" may remain on the skin for as long as two weeks after the initial rash appeared. The brown skin often peels and the rash fades.

## How it spreads

Measles is one of the most readily transmitted diseases. It is spread between people by droplet infection (coughing and sneezing) and by articles such as handkerchiefs freshly soiled by discharges from the nose and throat of an infected person.

The infected material is carried in the secretions of the nose and throat of a patient suffering from or sickening for the disease.

A person can spread the disease from four days before till five days after the rash appears. Babies under six months old are usually well protected against measles, unless their mothers are susceptible to the disease.

After an attack of measles has been overcome, the patient has an almost complete immunity to the disease. There have been very few cases of re-infection or relapse.

A child with a bad feverish cold should be kept away from school: he could be suffering from the first symptoms of measles.

## Isolation

When measles has been diagnosed, the patient should be separated immediately from the rest of the family in the house, and should be kept isolated until at least five days after the rash appears.

The patient should be given for his use only crockery, cutlery and bed linen—which should be sterilized and disinfected after each use.

All visitors should be kept away from him, particularly those not in the family. These people not only risk becoming infected themselves, but they could carry germs which could lead to severe complications (like pneumonia) in the patient.

If your child has measles don't let him play with other children suffering from the disease.

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## Pen Friend Please

Mary Kelly, 17, of P.O. Box 133, Balranald, N.S.W., 2715, would like to correspond with any boy or girl over 17 years of age. Mary likes pop. music and all kinds of sport. Her hobbies are dancing, playing the guitar, swimming, and writing.



# Smoke Signals

**TIP FOR THE MONTH** Remove builders' cement from your hands by soaking them in two pints of warm water containing half a cup of vinegar.

▶ The big koala hunt will be on this winter, but the bears need not fear the quarter of a million schoolchildren who will be looking for them. The children, from fourth, fifth, and sixth grades of every primary school in New South Wales, will be taking part in one of the most ambitious conservation projects ever undertaken in the State. The Wildlife Service of the Fauna Protection Panel has asked the children to note the number of bears they see and the kind of gum leaves on which the bears are feeding. This information will allow the Wildlife Service to gauge the extent of koala distribution and the parts of the State where the bears appear to be in danger. Many may be rounded up and taken to other parts of the State where suitable gum trees are available for them, to safeguard their lives and the future of this lovable animal.

▶ A premature baby in New York late in June was kept alive by blood transfusions from a woman with a blood so rare that only five people in the world are known to have it. One of the five with the RH null blood is an Australian Aborigine, Mrs Elsie Nelson, of Western Australia.

▶ A Talent Quest exclusively for Aboriginal amateur artists is one of several functions planned by Moree people to help celebrate this year's National Aborigines Day. Other events will be a special church service, football and basketball matches against visiting teams at Moree Showground, and a Grand Ball.

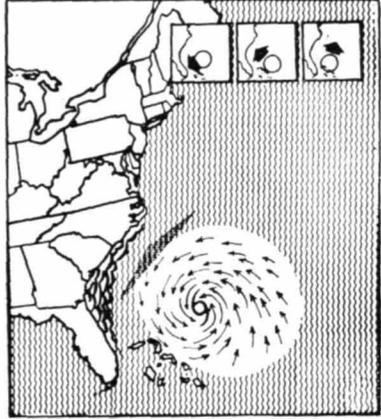
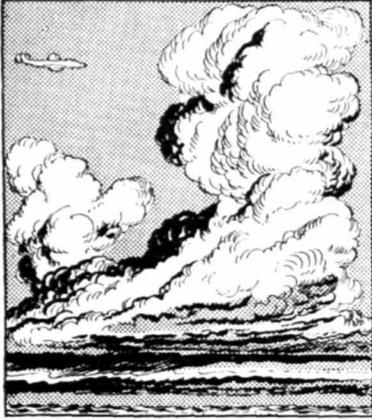
▶ Two strange cases came before courts in Britain last month. In one of them, a man was charged with stealing 20,749 beetles. The man, a director

of a museum and art gallery, had added the museum's beetles to his personal collection. The other court case involved a Leith garage proprietor, a spin-dryer, and whisky. The charged man got enough whisky to fill two dozen bottles by squeezing it from used filter pads thrown out as rubbish from a whisky-bottling plant. The Leith police did not dismisseth him.

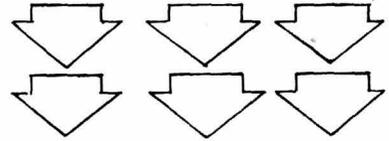
▶ Another London report said that Aboriginal jockey Darby McCarthy would return to Australia in July, and planned to settle in Sydney. If he does he might miss the kind of red-carpet treatment he likes, and has been getting during his European riding engagements. Darby learned to ride bush brumbies at Thargomindah, in Queensland, but those were his days of sweat shirt and jeans. At the Royal Ascot race meeting last month Darby was in grey morning suit, red carnation, and toppler, and has been riding the cream of English thoroughbreds. It's a long way from Thargomindah.

▶ Two Australian tourists in Rome last month were sitting near the Pantheon when something like a boomerang flew past them into the air, and wheeled back to the feet of a group of Roman boys. It WAS a boomerang—a plastic one made in Hong Kong.

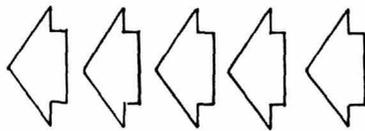
▶ Aborigines at the Benedictine monastery at New Norcia, in Western Australia, have a celebrity in their midst. He is Dom Chad, a Benedictine monk, who late in June was invested with the insignia of an officer brother of the Order of St John of Jerusalem. Dom Chad, until late last year, was Dr Howard Saxby, medical superintendent and chief executive officer of the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, North Sydney. When he retired last year he decided to become a monk and devote his life to the welfare of Aborigines at the monastery.



# IT'S A FACT



Beginning in June of each year, the start of the hurricane season for the United States, the Air Weather Service goes into action. Its weatherplane fleet is operated by the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Navy out of Puerto Rico. Plane crews range far out to sea looking for weather conditions that might develop into a hurricane. Radar and weather satellites (Tiros and ESSA) also collect storm information which is funneled into the U.S. Weather Bureau's National Hurricane Center at Miami, Florida. Since little or nothing can be done to lessen the force of the huge storms, military and civilian weathermen combine to provide a warning system for people in their path. Scientists have tried with little success to lessen the force or change the direction of the storms. Gordon Dunn, director of the Hurricane Center, believes that hurricanes play a vital role in maintaining the heat balance between the tropics and polar regions. They carry heat poleward and prevent increased cooling of the pole regions and the scorching of equatorial areas. Mr. Dunn says, "If hurricane control were successful, nature would undoubtedly find some other method, and who can say, it might be more disastrous than the hurricane?" The diagram above shows the general movement of a hurricane north of the Equator. They push the sea before them, causing flooding along the shoreline. They may move in any direction.



The noted American architect, R. Buckminster Fuller, designed this pavilion to house the U.S. exhibit at Canada's "Expo 67" which opens at Montreal on April 28, 1967. The exposition is to commemorate Canada's 100th anniversary as a confederated nation. The transparent bubble is 250 feet (75 meters) in spherical diameter and is designed to maintain a constant interior temperature.

# Pete's Page

Hello Kids,

In this month's *Dawn* there are two things of particular interest to children. One is the koala hunt in Smoke Signals, and the other gives you details of a new art competition especially for Aboriginal children throughout Australia.

If you are in fourth, fifth, or sixth classes of a primary school, like a quarter of a million other children in N.S.W., you will have been asked by the Wildlife Service of the Fauna Protection Panel to keep your eyes open for koalas this winter.

They want you to tell them how many bears you can find, where you saw them, and on what kind of gum leaves they were feeding. They want this information so that they can save many of the bears from dying. They will take the bears from places where they don't have enough of the right kind of food to places with plenty of good food.

Bush fires, and man's terrible killing of the bears earlier this century threatened them with extinction, and the ones still living must be looked after properly so that they can increase their numbers.

Join in the big bear hunt, girls and boys, and help to protect the cuddly koalas.

The Savage Club's art competition especially for Aboriginal children carries good prizes.

Aboriginal children have natural ability at drawing and painting and, on average, are better at art than are European children.

Make sure you enter the competition, which will include artwork from Aboriginal children throughout Australia. See details of the competition on page 4.

And don't forget to look for the koala bears.

'Bye for now kids,  
See you next month,

*Pete*

## JULY CROSSWORD

### Across

- 1 Unconscious
- 6 Illegal bookmaker
- 7 Power of sight
- 8 Animal
- 10 Noise
- 11 Used for fences
- 12 Pronoun
- 14 Rodent
- 16 To do as directed
- 18 Indefinite article
- 19 Singer
- 21 Not any
- 22 Powder
- 23 Tennis term
- 24 Grip
- 27 Same as 6 across
- 29 Used in rowing
- 30 Fool
- 32 Common border
- 34 Poisonous snake
- 35 Second note of tonic scale
- 36 Make new again
- 38 Melody
- 40 Go in (French)
- 41 Part of a plant

### Down

- 1 Divides
- 2 Time of darkness
- 3 People of the Arctic
- 4 Exchange for money
- 5 Times of the year
- 6 A piece
- 9 Mountain range
- 13 Ugly
- 15 Airline
- 17 Dutch Africans
- 19 Statement
- 20 Rip
- 25 After a time
- 26 Gone by
- 28 To trim
- 31 Whirled
- 33 Boy's name
- 35 Colour
- 37 Pronoun
- 39 Negative

