

DAWN

A monochromatic orange photograph capturing a group of men in a grand, classical interior. In the foreground, a young man in a white shirt and dark trousers shakes hands with an older man in a dark suit. Behind them, another young man in a patterned shirt smiles broadly. In the background, two more men in suits are visible, one looking towards the handshake. The setting is a large hall with a series of tall, fluted columns receding into the distance. The overall mood is one of formal yet warm interaction.

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MAY, 1963

DAWN

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

THE BOARD

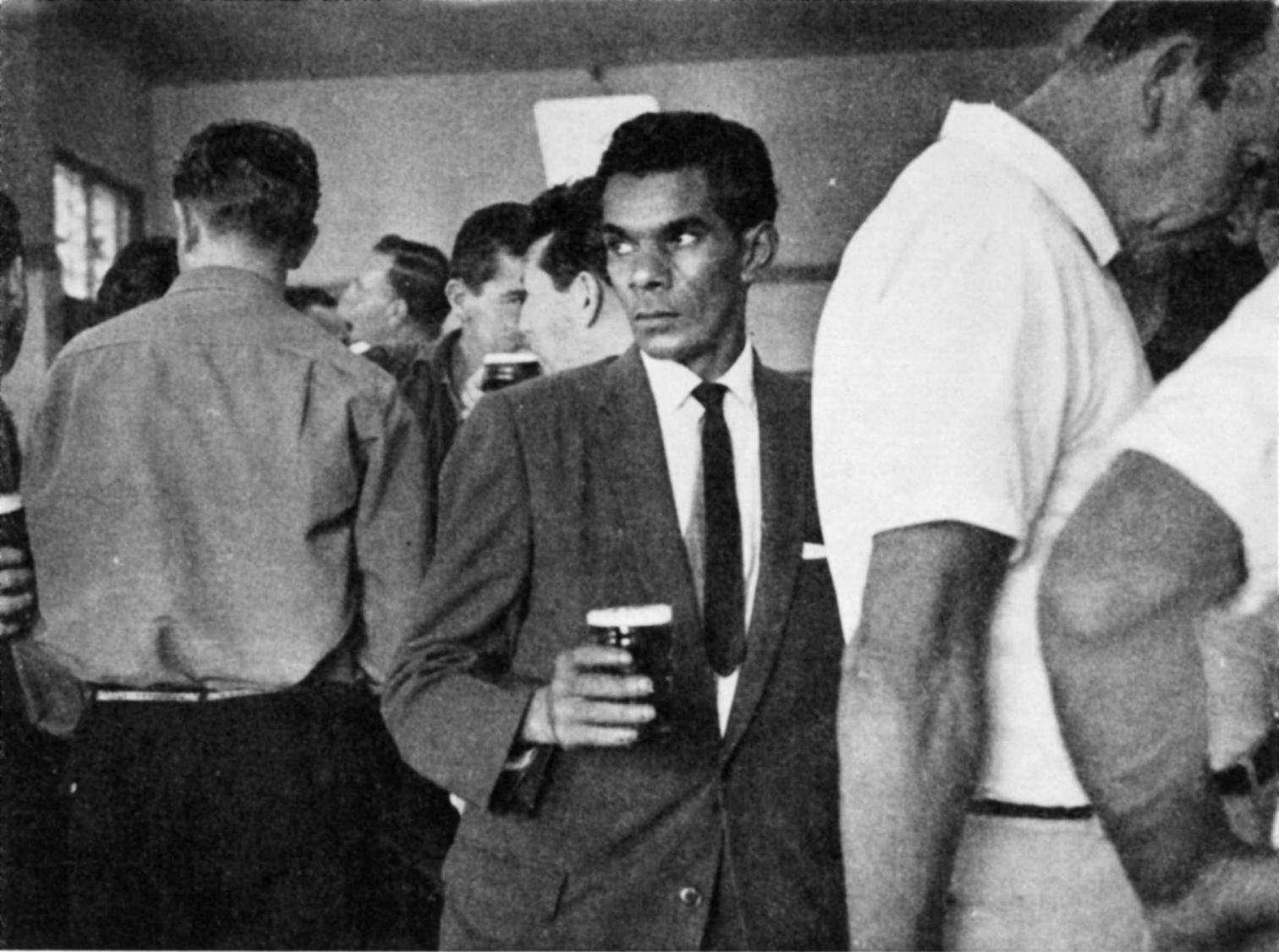
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OUR COVER

Freshman from Nambucca Heads, Gary Williams, is welcomed to St. John's College at Sydney University by Dr. John Burnheim and students from Papua, New Guinea and Uganda. See story page 11.



L-DAY Passed Without Incident

POLICE AND HOTEL-KEEPERS PRAISE ABORIGINES' CONDUCT IN BARS

L-DAY—Saturday, March 30, 1963—the day liquor became available legally to all aborigines in New South Wales, passed off with hardly a single incident throughout the State.

Aborigines and white people mixed freely in bars and the quiet introduction of the new scheme went as smoothly as predicted by the Aborigines Welfare Board.

NOVELTY NOW—BUT NOT FOR LONG

Here is a picture which the Sunday Mirror said . . . "captured a moment in history". The dark face in the bar-room crowd is that of Ted Bell (26), standing in a Surry Hills (Sydney) hotel, shoulder to shoulder with white drinkers

The fruits of a campaign to prepare Aborigines for equal drinking rights—launched by the Welfare Board as soon as the Aborigines Protection (Amendment) Bill was introduced into State Parliament in February—were evident on all sides.

The Board Chairman, Mr. A. G. Kingsmill, said welfare officers, station managers and reserve supervisors counselled individually most of the State's eligible Aborigines.

The field staff had informed Aborigines of their rights under the new law and warned them that if they were refused service in hotels they should not cause trouble but report the matter to officers of the Board or to Police.

It had been pointed out that the Liquor Act did not compel a publican to serve any person, even if the person was orderly.

"In advising the Aboriginal people to drink moderately," Mr. Kingsmill said, "the Board asked them to remember that in the weeks ahead their conduct and use of the new right would be subject to keen public appraisal."

Mr. Kingsmill said he was highly gratified with first reports received from welfare officers on the effects of the new law.

"At Kempsey, one hotel licensee is reported to have refused to serve liquor to Aborigines. Another publican in the same town allowed Aborigines in his hotel and there was no trouble," he said.

"In other parts of the North Coast—at Casino and Coff's Harbour—Aborigines were allowed in hotels and no objections were raised by any one."

Mr. Kingsmill said that while it was possible that some hotel-keepers would "pick and choose" whom they served he was sure the situation would quickly level out.

One policeman said: "The new law allowing Aborigines to enter hotels will probably work out much better in the long run than the previous restrictions which did nothing to inhibit the illicit liquor sellers."

"Only Fools Will Abuse"

What do the people say? One oldish chap in a Redfern hotel on "opening day" told *Dawn*: "I never thought I'd live to see this happen."

A younger man commented: "It's no novelty to drink, only now we'll pay reasonable prices."

"Only fools will abuse this privilege by over-drinking and causing trouble."

One hotel-keeper in South Sydney was mildly surprised. By lunch time he had served only one Aboriginal customer, an old client who had previously been allowed liquor under the exemption certificate system. The licensee said:—"It's the same old story—when you can't have something you want it; when you can get it, you just aren't interested."

"Gentlemen at the Bar"

Newspaper comment, without exception, was favourable. The *Daily Mirror* (Sydney) in a leading article headed "Gentlemen at the bar" said:—

"Almost with starry-eyed wonder it is reported that Aborigines and white people mixed freely in bars of N.S.W. hotels at the weekend.

"This marked the introduction of the long-overdue legislation allowing Aborigines to enter hotels.

"From northern N.S.W., where it was vociferously opposed, the mixing of white and coloured drinkers caused little stir at all, doubtless to the disappointment of the calamity howlers.

"For weeks they had been prophesying disaster and tumult once Aborigines were allowed to drink decently in bars instead of having to buy their liquor furtively from slygroggers and consume it guiltily in secret.

"Of course, as intelligent persons knew, nothing at all happened. The Aborigines did not abuse their new right.

"One die-hard Kempsey publican is reported to have refused to serve liquor to Aborigines. But another publican in the same town did allow them in his bars and reported that there had been no trouble at all.

"Of course there was no trouble. Why should there have been? The aboriginal in his native state is a man of simple dignity.

"However the fact that any publican should have refused to serve Aborigines is to be deplored.

"After allowing a reasonable settling in period for the new legislation the Government should get tough with publicans who refuse to grant Aborigines their legal rights."

The Board continued its watching brief for the next couple of weeks and shortly after Easter the Chief Secretary, Mr. C. A. Kelly, announced that there had been a continuance of the highly satisfactory beginning.

Mr. Kelly said reports received over the period showed no rise in incidents, or in the number of arrests made by police, and that only a few hotels had refused service.

"The success of the transition from prohibition to full legal access to liquor by Aborigines, is due in great measure to the attitude displayed by many Aborigines who have shown restraint and commonsense," Mr. Kelly said.

"Credit is due also to the intense work done by welfare officers and station managers in explaining to Aborigines their rights and new obligations.

"The officers are still offering all possible guidance and assistance to ensure the fullest degree of success. There has been a heartening attitude of consideration and co-operation in most parts of the State."

Mr. Kelly said only a few hotels had refused outright to serve Aborigines, and a number of others had elected to serve only bottled liquor to them, but in towns where this occurred other hotels gave full service.

Publicans generally have informed the Board's officers that they will refuse to serve only those persons who misconduct themselves.

The Board's welfare officer at Armidale reported that the week following repeal was perhaps "the quietest one on record for this district".

The officer said the general consensus of opinion was most favourable to the change, and he added "the initial result of the amendment in the New England area could only be stated to be most successful and the approach to it by the Aborigine most satisfying."

CONTINUED PAGE 15

DAWN, May, 1963

Tribute to Trackers . . .

POLICE SCHOLARSHIP

to Younger Brother

of University Student

A few days after Gary Williams (17), of Nambucca Heads, entered Sydney University to study for an Arts degree, it was announced that his younger brother, Desmond (15), had been awarded a police scholarship to Woodlawn College, near Lismore.

The Commissioner of Police, Mr. N. T. W. Allan, made the presentation of the scholarship to Desmond at a special ceremony at Police Headquarters on March 14 in the presence of representatives of the Press, Radio and Television.

Mr. Allan said that Desmond was the third Aboriginal student to receive the annual award set up for a boy and girl student by the Police Benevolent Fund in recognition of the work of Aboriginal police trackers.



Sgt. Ron Livermore, chief of the police mounted section, introduces Desmond to the magnificent thoroughbreds as they returned to the depot from traffic duty in the city (Also see Back Cover)

The Chairman of the Aborigines Welfare Board, Mr. A. G. Kingsmill, who introduced Desmond, expressed the Board's appreciation to the Commissioner and Sgt. Lance Hoban, M.B.E., of Darlinghurst who organised the scholarship in 1962.

A smiling Desmond Williams receives a scholarship cheque for £150 from the Commissioner of Police, Mr. Allan. The Chairman of the Welfare Board, Mr. Kingsmill, adds his congratulations





Desmond was interested to learn from Inspector A. R. Barber that trainee policemen are admitted to the police college from the ages of 15 to 17 years and are educated to Leaving Certificate standard. Inspector Barber is the chief instructor at the Redfern school

The award, known as the N.S.W. Police Aborigines Scholarship, would enable Desmond to study for the Intermediate examination at Woodlawn, he said.

Mr. Kingsmill said it was pleasing to note that Desmond would be following in the footsteps of his brother, Gary.

Both boys, who were the sons of a timber mill worker, received their primary education at Macksville Convent School.

Gary's entry to Woodlawn had been arranged by an officer of the Aborigines Welfare Board, which provided a bursary. The Waterview Group of Seaforth (Sydney) had also contributed a bursary to Gary's secondary education.

In his final year at Woodlawn (1962), Gary shared the first Police Scholarship of £300 with a girl, Patricia Ann Williams of Hillston.

On tour of police establishments Desmond is given an outline of the Rescue Squad's work by Senior Constable Bill Fahey



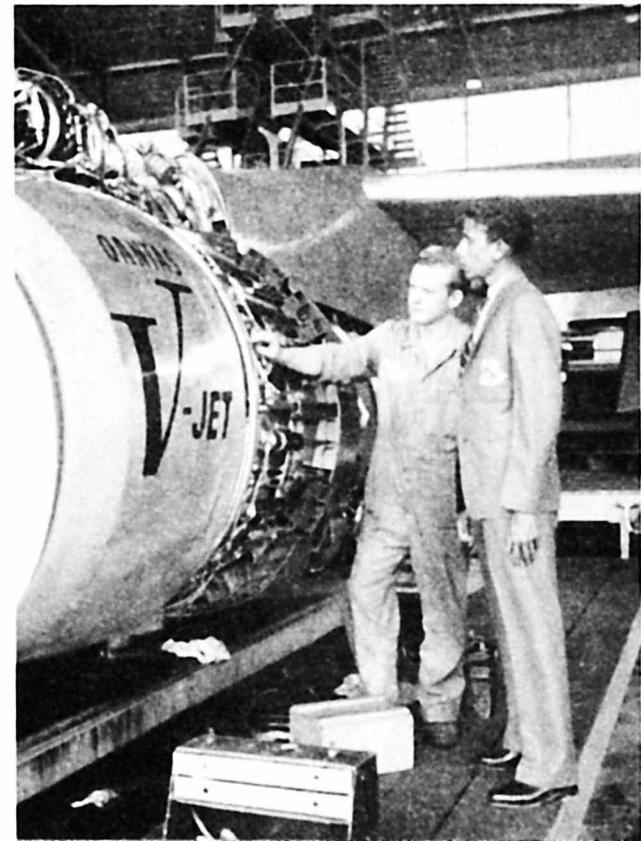
In the Fingerprint Bureau, Sgt. Archie Howie shows Desmond a bottle on which a man's prints were developed. The bottle, and fingerprints, were later used as exhibits in a court case

Now Desmond would share the 1963 award with a girl yet to be chosen by the Aborigines Welfare Board.

Mr. Kingsmill paid tribute to the principals of Woodlawn College who had reduced school fees of £210 to £105 for Gary Williams and had undertaken to make the same concession for Desmond.

"I hope to see Desmond do as well as his brother and continue his education through to the University," Mr. Kingsmill said.

Warren Williams, a 19-years-old third-year apprentice ground engineer, shows Desmond the fan reverse system of a Boeing jet power plant





At Qantas workshops at Mascot airport, Desmond is introduced to the Pacific Enterprise, an Electra Mark II used on the Trans Tasman service. Desmond is accompanied by Mr. Worthey Stanley (Qantas man—top) and the Editor of *Dawn*



Desmond in the pilot's seat of Pacific Enterprise

Hopes for Flying Career

Thanking the Commissioner for his award, Desmond said he was interested in flying and had hopes of becoming an aeronautical engineer.

At the Commissioner's invitation Desmond was then taken on a tour of police establishments in the metropolitan area by the Police Public Relations Officer, Sgt. Bill Tyrell, who also arranged a visit to Qantas workshops at Mascot.

Aboriginal on the Bench . . .

COURT HISTORY MADE AT TWEED HEADS

Court officials believe a part-aborigine created history in Australia when he presided on the bench at Tweed Heads Court of Petty Sessions in March.

The part-aborigine is Mr. William Yettica, a 52-years-old builder of South Tweed Heads.

Mr. Yettica, who was recently appointed a Justice of the Peace, was called on to perform court duty with Mr. Bede Foster, J.P., a Tweed Heads businessman.

The Clerk of Petty Sessions at Tweed Heads, Mr. Brian Bousfield, told the Murwillumbah Daily News that to his knowledge it was the first time a coloured man had been called on to serve on the bench in Australia.

Mr. Bousfield said the two Justices of the Peace dealt with a man who had pleaded guilty to a charge of drunkenness.

Mr. Yettica, who with his wife cares for two State wards, said it was a day he would always remember.

He said: "I am very proud that I was called on to serve on Her Majesty's bench."

District Welfare Officer, Mr. E. L. Morgan, told *Dawn* that Mr. Yettica over the years had been "a tower of strength in the most desirable way in the help he gave other people in the Tweed area".

He and his wife had also been of great assistance to the Aborigines Welfare Board and the Child Welfare Department in caring for a large number of wards.

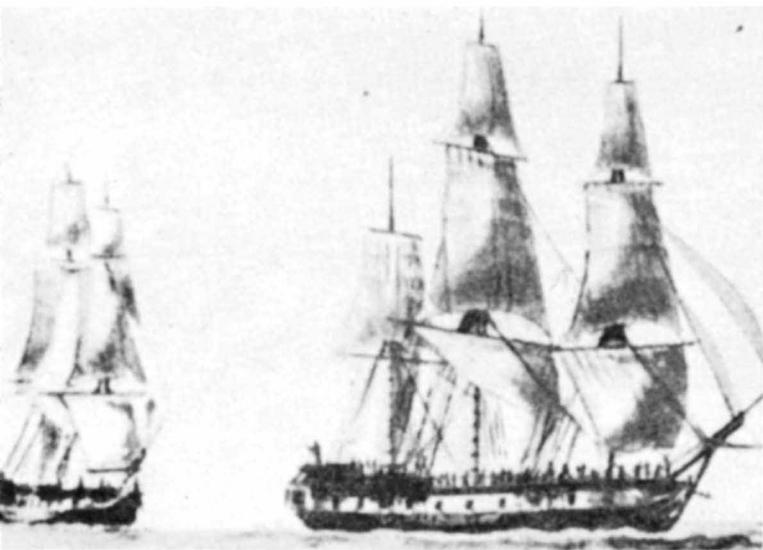
Mr. Morgan said: "Mr. Yettica, at the expense of a great deal of his own time and money has helped members of the white community as well as aborigines in need."

SOLOMON ISLANDS' WRECKAGE

CLUE TO FATE OF LA PEROUSE

The mystery of the fate of French explorer, Count Francois de La Perouse, whose ships disappeared after leaving Botany Bay 175 years ago has been solved by the discovery of wreckage in deep water on a reef at Vanikoro in the southern Solomon Islands.

The story of La Perouse's arrival in Botany Bay five days after Governor Phillip's First Fleet was told in the February issue of *Dawn*.



La Perouse's two ships, Astrolabe and Boussole, which were wrecked after leaving Botany Bay 175 years ago. The picture is from a painting in the Maritime Museum, Paris

La Perouse's two ships, the frigates Astrolabe and Boussole, were on a voyage of exploration in the Pacific and they sailed into Botany Bay just as the First Fleet was leaving to found the first colony on Sydney Cove.

The French ships stayed in Botany Bay for six weeks. After they sailed on March 10, 1788, no white man ever saw them again and their disappearance became the greatest maritime mystery of the time.

Nearly 40 years passed before an Irish sea captain, Peter Dillon, discovered relics of the Astrolabe at Vanikoro and partially lifted the veil on the mystery. But no one knew for certain what had happened to the Boussole until what is now left of it was found at Vanikoro last December.

According to Robert Langdon, in a special feature in *Pix Magazine*, the man who discovered the remains of the Boussole is a New Zealander, Reece Discombe. Mr. Discombe is a motor engineer and maritime salvage expert of Vila, New Hebrides, about 300 miles south of Vanikoro.

News of the find came shortly after a French expedition, headed by Paul Guimard, a young Frenchman, left France for Vanikoro to search for the Boussole. The French radio network and people in La Perouse's home town of Albi financed the expedition.

Because La Perouse is one of France's greatest naval heroes, many Frenchmen have yearned to find out what happened to his flagship, the Boussole.

The mystery of the Astrolabe was solved by Captain Dillon 135 years ago after four French expeditions headed by Aristide Du Petit-Thouars, Admiral Brunei D'Entrecasteaux, Captain Nicholas Baudin and Captain Louis de Freycinet had failed. D'Entrecasteaux and de Freycinet both passed close to Vanikoro.

In 1826 Captain Dillon was crossing the Pacific from Valparaiso to Calcutta when he decided to put into the island of Tikopia to see what had happened to two men he had landed there in 1813.

The two men came on board as soon as he dropped anchor and while he was talking to one of them, the other, a Lascar, sold a silver sword guard to one of his officers.

Dillon asked where the sword guard had come from and was told that the Tikopians had brought it from Vanikoro about two days' canoe voyage to the westward, with other articles of European origin.

On examining the sword guard minutely, Dillon saw, or thought he saw, the initials of La Perouse stamped in the silver. This made him question the Lascar and Tikopians more closely.

He then learnt that, according to the Vanikorans, two large ships had arrived at their island many years previously and that both had been wrecked in a storm soon afterwards.

Some of the survivors were killed by the Vanikorans when they landed; others, who escaped the massacre, eventually built another boat and left the island. Two of the Frenchmen, however, had remained on the island. They had still been alive when the Lascar visited Vanikoro two years before Dillon's visit.

Dillon sailed for Vanikoro at once in the hope of rescuing the two Frenchmen. But several days of calms, a shortage of provisions and a leaky ship compelled him to abandon this plan and make for Calcutta.

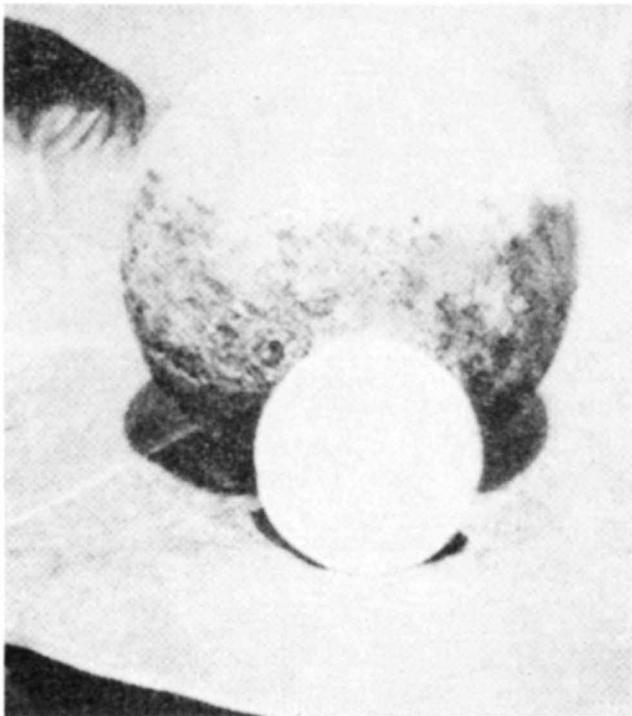
In Calcutta, Dillon persuaded the East India Company to send him to Vanikoro to rescue the two Frenchmen and ascertain beyond doubt that La Perouse had been wrecked there. He reached the island in September, 1827, but was too late to rescue the Frenchmen. One was dead and the other was said to have fled to another island.

However, Dillon did obtain numerous relics from the natives which he took to France. The natives also showed him the spot where one of the ships had sunk. But the stories the natives told him about the other ship were inconsistent. The only constant facts were that it had sunk in deep water outside the reef and that nothing had been saved from it.

Five months after Dillon's visit, the French navigator Dumont D'Urville visited the island and gathered further relics. D'Urville, who was in the Pacific on an exploring voyage, had called at Hobart seven months after Dillon and had there learned of Dillon's expedition.

As he had been specifically instructed to search for traces of La Perouse, and as it was the ambition of every French sailor to solve the mystery, D'Urville sailed northwards immediately. But he was too late. Dillon had been and gone. All D'Urville could do was gather some relics Dillon had missed and erect a monument to his tragic countryman.

A Russian coin bearing the head of Peter the Great in front of a cannon ball recovered from the wreck of the Astrolabe



Like Dillon, D'Urville was shown the spot where one ship had sunk and was told many other contradictory stories about the other. It was D'Urville who decided that the wreck that the natives pointed out was that of the Astrolabe.

Twelve years after D'Urville's visit the French warship Bruat went to Vanikoro and salvaged several cannon and anchors from the Astrolabe which were placed at the base of the monument to La Perouse at Albi.

During the next 100 years or so the exact spot where the Astrolabe sank was forgotten by Vanikoro's dwindling native population and several expeditions which tried to find it were unsuccessful.

The New Zealand diver, Mr. Discombe, was responsible for finding it again on March 28, 1958. He was a member of a French expedition from Vila headed by the Resident Commissioner in the New Hebrides, M. Pierre Anthonioz, who on a visit to Paris had looked up D'Urville's original charts which showed the spot on Vanikoro where the Astrolabe had been wrecked.

This led to the discovery of numerous other relics, including cannon, anchors and lead ingots which were brought to the surface and taken back to Vila.

The diving expedition of 1958 and another in 1959 however failed to locate the wreck of the Boussole.

Mr. Discombe first got on the trail of the Boussole last June when he went to Vanikoro to salvage a cargo of brass jettisoned from the motor vessel Milos in 1958.

Since the 1959 expedition he had studied the maps of Dillon and D'Urville and figured out that the Boussole may have gone down outside the reef, about two miles from where the Astrolabe was wrecked.

"This spot is near a gap in the reef called Bruat Passage, on the eastern end of the island, opposite the village of Peu where the Kauri Timber Company has its island headquarters," Mr. Discombe said.

He went out in a boat with two Santa Cruz natives who work for the timber company.

"Wearing a mask, snorkel and flippers, I dived over the side and began swimming towards Wreck Passage where the Astrolabe went down. Over the outer edge of the reef I came to a chasm where the water was 40 ft. deep. I was swimming over this spot when I suddenly noticed what seemed to be an anchor on the bottom.

"I swam back to the boat at once, put on my aqualung and dived down to take a closer look. When I reached the bottom, I found it was an anchor about 10 ft. long, similar to some we had recovered from the Astrolabe.

"With the thrill of an explorer sighting a new land, I swam in towards the blind end of the chasm to see if I could find anything else. Sure enough, among the rugged coral growth I made out the outlines of cannon, more anchors, wheels and ballast blocks. The more I looked about me the more objects I could see. Most of them were so heavily encrusted with coral that anyone

without long experience in salvage work in tropical waters would have missed them.”

Mr. Discombe did not resume his underwater explorations until five months later.

“Naturally the lead ingot was the first thing I got out—and as I hoped, it bore the same arsenal markings as similar ingots from the Astrolabe.

“Among the objects I uncovered in three weekends of blasting were five lead ingots, six anchors ranging from 8 to 15 ft., four brass wheels about 12 in. in diameter and weighing 60 to 70 lb. each, several cannon, a bundle of iron rods and some small pieces of glass.



La Perouse (left) receives final instructions for his voyage to the Pacific from King Louis XVI of France. From a painting in the Versailles Palace

“On another section of the reef I found several relics that had some real ‘human interest’ about them. They were the remains and some of the contents of, an officer’s sea chest. . . a silver shoe buckle, some small copper nails, an eyeglass, part of a bone knife handle, a pair of calipers, part of a sword hilt and a gold coin almost covered with coral.

“After finding these things I could not resist the temptation to pay another visit to the spot where the Astrolabe went down.

“When I had last been to this spot in 1959, there was a lot of rubble on the bottom left by previous blasting. This, I found, has now been washed away and many objects, not previously seen, have been uncovered.

“Among the things that I saw were hundreds of pieces of broken glass, iron ballast blocks, wooden planks, iron rods, and drums of some sort. The planks, which are well-preserved, are under the ballast blocks, so they obviously formed part of the bottom of the ship.

“The most important find I made was a millstone used for grinding corn and weighing about a hundred-weight. This could prove conclusively that the wreck at this spot is that of the Astrolabe, as it is known that the Astrolabe had a windmill on deck for making flour while the Boussole did not.”

Mr. Discombe said his millstone might be the “mate” of one found by the Irishman, Peter Dillon, in 1827. When Dillon took this and other relics to Paris, Barthelmy de Lesseps, the only survivor of the La Perouse expedition, told him that the millstone was “the best thing you’ve got”.

De Lesseps had been put ashore at Petropavlovsk, Siberia, before the ships sailed for the Philippines and Botany Bay, so that he could take La Perouse’s Journals to Paris.

De Lesseps said the millstone positively confirmed that Dillon had solved the mystery of La Perouse’s fate, because the Astrolabe, in which he had served, had possessed such a stone driven by a windmill.

The windmill, which was on the poop deck, was the only thing that differentiated sketches of the two ships, de Lesseps said.

Mr. Discombe said: “Now the mystery I would like to solve is: What happened to the ship that La Perouse’s men are said to have built on Vanikoro and sailed away in?”

“No trace of that vessel has ever been found. I have some ideas about where it is but I’m not telling anyone. If anyone is going to find it, it’s going to be me.”

CHARITY DANCE AT BARYULGIL FORERUNNER OF MANY MORE

People travelled from as far afield as Brisbane, Kempsey, Grafton, Lismore, Tenterfield and Armidale to attend a charity dance at the public hall, Baryulgil, at the end of February.

The attendance was more than 150 and door takings which were donated to Grafton Ambulance totalled £37.

Socially the function was an outstanding success and a credit to the organisers, Aborigines from the Square at Baryulgil. A decision was made to stage further dances this autumn, the first in aid of the Country Women’s Association.

The senior “rock and roll” competition was won by Mr. Charlie Avery and Miss Lana Mundine. The junior “rock and roll” prize went to Steve and Jenny Mundine.

The prize for the best-dressed couple was awarded to Miss Winnie Harrington and Mr. Aubrey Roberts.

Mr. Roberts is supervisor of the Aborigines Reserve at Cubawee.

LITTLE “MISS AUSTRALIA DAY”

The State Governor, Lieut.-General Sir Eric Woodward, has sent a letter of congratulations on behalf of the Australia Day Committee to Mr. and Mrs. Eric Craigie of Moree.

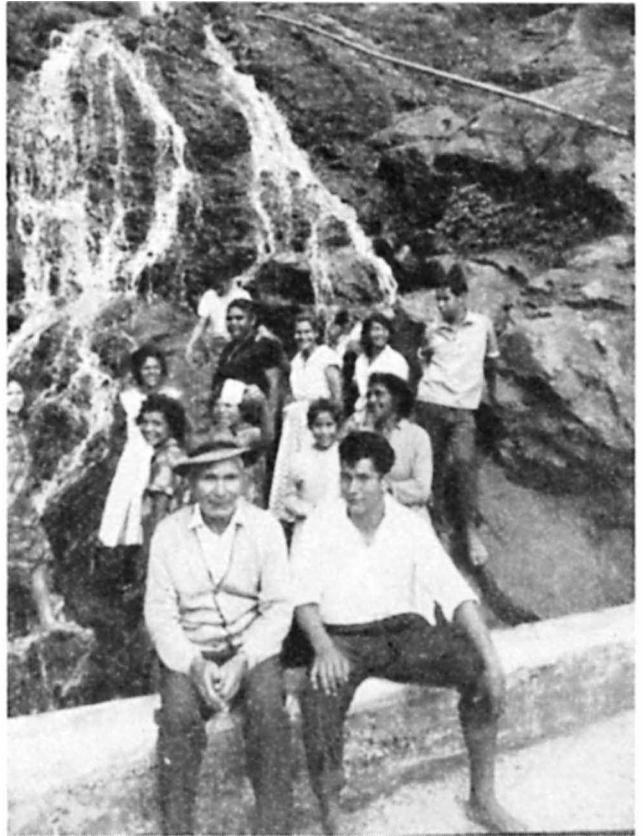
Mrs. Craigie, on Australia Day, January 28, presented her husband with a bonny daughter—Jennifer Grace.

To mark the occasion the Australia Day Committee gave baby Jennifer a special commemorative Silver Spoon.

Dawn joins in congratulations to the happy parents.

BURNT BRIDGE PARTY ON WAY TO BALL AT ARMIDALE

Against the crystal backdrop of Dorrigo Falls, this party from Burnt Bridge paused for a cool drink on the way to Armidale. In the group are Mr. R. Archibald, Mrs. E. Davis, Mrs. V. Lang, Heather Ritchie, Margaret Quinlan, Clare Ritchie, Helen Smith, Helen Lang, Maureen Moylan, Zella Vale, Ken Carter, Robert Lang and Richard Lang



Summer Shade . . . Girls from Burnt Bridge make an attractive picture as they shelter from the mid-day sun at Dorrigo during a journey to Armidale. The party, (from left) is: Heather Ritchie, Clare Ritchie, Helen Smith, Maureen Moylan, Mrs. E. Davis, Margaret Quinlan and Zella Vale. Mrs. Davis chaperoned Clare, Maureen, Heather and Margaret when they made their debut at a ball in Armidale that night. The debs. were presented to His Lordship, Most Rev. Edward J. Doody, D.D., Bishop of Armidale



Police Scholarship Organiser Honoured for Charity Work



Sergeant Lance Hoban, the Sydney policeman who inspired the Police Benevolent Fund scholarship for Aborigine children, has been honoured by the Pope.

He has been made a Papal Knight of the Order of St. Gregory the Great, in recognition of his services to charity.

In 1961, Sergeant Hoban was awarded the M.B.E. by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, for similar services.

Sergeant Hoban has organised many charity functions and has raised thousands of pounds for New South Wales charities.

He joined the Police Force in 1940 and is now stationed at Darlinghurst. A dinner in his honour was held

Sgt. Hoban (right) receives the thanks of the Chairman of the Aborigines Welfare Board, Mr. Kingsmill, for his leading part in sponsoring the Police Scholarship Fund. Others in the picture are the Commissioner of Police, Mr. Norman Allan and the 1963 Scholarship winner, Desmond Williams of Macksville. Desmond's brother Gary (see story opposite page) and Patricia Ann Williams of Hillston were awarded Police Scholarships in 1962. Patricia Ann Williams (15) is now a student at the Presbyterian Ladies' College, Croydon

at the new Police Club in Sussex Street, Sydney, on April 17.

Executive officers of the Police Department attended and the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Sydney, Cardinal Gilroy, conferred the honour during the dinner.

NEW FACES IN OLD SYDNEY UNIVERSITY'S GREAT HALL

Two part-aborigines were among 4,500 students formally admitted to Sydney University on March 7 during four special matriculation ceremonies held in the University's Great Hall.

They were Gary Williams (17), of Bellwood Aborigines Reserve, Nambucca Heads, and Charles Perkins (26), a native of Alice Springs, who now lives in Sydney.

Both matriculated at the recent Leaving Certificate examinations. Both won scholarships which ensures that their fees are paid and they also receive living, clothing and book allowances.

Faculty of Arts

Gary is the first New South Wales aborigine to enter Sydney University, while Charles is the first to gain a similar distinction for Northern Territory.

Both have been admitted to the Faculty of Arts where Gary will take English, Geography and History as his subjects. Charles will study Anthropology, Psychology and Economics.

The aboriginal pair were among students welcomed by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor S. H. Roberts, and were later addressed by Deans of the various faculties.

Professor Roberts told the students that by signing the register they had taken one of the most important steps in their lives.

Rich in Tradition

He said it was a legal document which entitled them to the benefits of university life.

It was fitting that the ceremony should be held in the Great Hall, which was rich in university tradition, Professor Roberts said:

The hall is almost a replica of Westminster Hall, London.



Our picture (see also Cover) by Bob Gould first appeared in the Catholic Weekly. It shows Dr. Burnheim welcoming Gary to St. John's while Henry Roberts (the holder of a Reserve Bank Scholarship), George Mukembo and John Matera look on

Gary Williams has entered St. John's College.

He came to university from St. John's College, Woodlawn, near Lismore where he studied on scholarships from the Waterview Group and Police Benevolent Fund.

He passed the Leaving Certificate with three A's and three B's.

Gary was welcomed to St. John's University College by the Very Rev. Dr. John Burnheim, D.Phil., M.A.

Also on hand to greet the young freshman from Nambucca Heads were the first Papuan to enter an Australian University, John Matera (who has completed two years of the Agriculture course), Henry Roberts, a native of Rabaul (who passed his first Economics examination last year) and George Mukembo, who hails from Uganda in Africa.

Dr. Burnheim told *Dawn* that although the great majority of Johnsmen were Australian born the College welcomed students from neighbouring countries.

NADOC QUEST

The National Aborigines' Day Observance Committee annual quests for music, art and writing talent will be held again this year.

The Music Quest closed on April 30.

Closing dates for the other 1963 quests are: writing, May 30; art, June 22.

The writing quest covers essays, short stories and poetry. This year there will be a choice of two subjects in the section for essays. There will be a first prize of £1 is. in each section and additional prizes of 10s. and 5s. according to the popularity of the section and the merit of the entries received.

Section 1. Write an essay about "How I would like to spend two weeks holiday" OR "What I would like to study at a university".

This section is divided into five age groups—up to 10 years; 10-12 years; 12-14 years; 14-18 years and over 18 years.

Section 2. Write a short story on any subject you choose, OR tell us a story that has been told to you about aboriginal people. The story can be true or fictitious.

This section is in two parts, one for under 14 years of age, and one for over 14. Age will be taken into consideration.

Section 3 is for poetry.

Listen to the sounds around you. What do they make you think?

Look at the sights around you. What do they make you feel?

Remember the things you like to do and the games you play and the people you pretend to be.

Age groups for poetry are under 14 years and over 14 years. Age will be taken into consideration.

All entries must reach Sydney not later than May 30, 1963.

Winning entries will be published in *Dawn* and all prizes posted for distribution on Aborigines' Day, July 12.

Send your entries to Mrs. E. Speight, 32 Albuera Road, Epping, N.S.W. Mark your envelope N.A.D.O.C.

The art competition will be for persons 17 years of age and under and for those over 17.

The competition is in three divisions:—

- drawings or paintings in "tribal" art forms;

- drawings or paintings in "western" art forms;
- a poster suitable for use on National Aborigines' Day.

The poster competition is open to all ages. In the other two divisions, entries will be received from persons 17 years and under, and from persons of 18 years and over.

Entries may be done in any medium.

They must be no smaller than 12 in. by 10 in. and no bigger than 24 in. by 20 in., and they must not be framed.

On the back of each entry, show clearly your name, address, age and subject.

Entries close on June 22, with the Rev. A. W. Grant, 66 Smithfield Street, Fairfield, N.S.W.

Quest Winners

Music quest winners, Lorna Beulah (1962), and Colin Hardy (1961), have known considerable success since gaining their awards. Our picture was taken during a singing engagement for Lorna and Colin at fashionable Prince's Restaurant in Sydney.



WELFARE OFFICER ACCEPTS NEW POST IN FAR NORTH

Mr. S. Preston Walker, former Welfare Officer at Moree, has resigned to accept a new post as North Queensland representative of the British and Foreign Bible Society at Townsville (Q.).

Before joining the staff of the Aborigines Welfare Board in March, 1956, Mr. Walker was a missionary in West Australia.

One of his first appointments with the Board was as relieving manager at Murrin Bridge. In 1958 he was promoted to Welfare Officer at Moree.

During his five years in the North-West Mr. Walker and his wife made many friends among our people.

Tributes to their work were paid by speakers at a widely representative gathering in the Moree A.I.M. Hall just before they left for Townsville.

Mr. and Mrs. Walker were presented with a dinner set by the gathering which expressed sorrow at seeing them go but wished them health and happiness in the tropical north.



Mr. Preston Walker (rear row) photographed with a group of children from Moree Station school

The Death of a Princess . . .

Sad Week for Burnt Bridge

Mrs. Agnes Dotti, the last surviving daughter of King Binnalong, who was chief of the Kombaingai tribe in the Kempsey district, died suddenly on December 21.

The death of the Princess, who was 68, came under particularly tragic circumstances.

A few days previously her adopted son, Thomas Layton (46), was found dead on one of the back tracks leading to Burnt Bridge Aboriginal Station.

On December 21 another resident of Burnt Bridge, Mrs. Lucy Dotti (75), passed away in Macleay District Hospital.

Mrs. Agnes Dotti, on learning of her death went to the home of Mrs. Alma Davis (Lucy's only daughter) to extend her sympathies.

The Princess had barely spoken when she had a heart seizure, collapsed and died.

Station Manager, Mr. A. Henriksen, told *Dawn* that the Princess had been receiving treatment for a chronic heart condition for some time and no doubt the sudden death of Tommy Layton, whom she looked on as a son,

and the death of her life-long friend Lucy, proved too much for her.

The Princess is survived by four daughters, a son, 17 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Lucy Dotti is survived by seven sons, one daughter, 17 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

It was fitting that these two old friends shared the same church and the same burial service. More than 400 relatives and friends attended the service and people came from near and far to pay their respects to these grand old ladies.

Tommy Layton's funeral took place a few days earlier. When he was a boy he was taken into the Dotti family which then lived at Yellow Rock. When he grew up he went "walkabout" on jobs and was away for 18 years. Three years ago he returned to the Dotti family at Burnt Bridge Station. The family had grown up so Tommy went to live on his own in a neat, clean little cottage. His death was due to natural causes.

Members of both Dotti families would like, through *Dawn*, to thank all concerned for the floral tributes and expressions of sympathy.

Death of Former Member of Board

Former member of the Aborigines Welfare Board, Dr. John J. Donnellan, who was 64, died at his Vaucluse (Sydney) home after a heart attack on April 21.

Dr. Donnellan was Metropolitan Medical Officer for Health in Sydney from March, 1953, until last July when he retired from the Public Service. He ended a long term as a member of the Aborigines Welfare Board at the same time.

Before joining the Health Department in 1940 he had five years' service with the Education Department and was assistant officer for health at Lismore.

Mrs. Donnellan, a son and a daughter survive Dr. Donnellan.

The sympathy of the Board to the family was expressed by the Chairman, Mr. A. G. Kingsmill, who said Dr. Donnellan had brought to the councils of the Board a very deep and abiding interest in the problems of aboriginal welfare.

Mr. Kingsmill said Dr. Donnellan's extensive knowledge of health matters had proved invaluable.

The Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare, Mr. H. J. Green, represented the Chairman at the funeral to Botany Cemetery which followed a Requiem Mass at the Star of the Sea Church at Watsons Bay.

SKY-PILOT'S MOTHER DIES AT MARELLA MISSION FARM

Mrs. Charlotte Emily Langford-Smith, a granddaughter of the pioneer Elizabeth Hawkins, who crossed the Blue Mountains in an ox cart in 1820, died on March 30 at the age of 88.

Mrs. Langford-Smith became seriously ill at her home at Wentworth Falls in mid-March and was taken to the home of her son, Mr. Keith Langford-Smith, at Marella Mission Farm for Aborigine children, at Kellyville.

Her death there occurred a fortnight later.

Mrs. Langford-Smith was a daughter of the late Mr. F. W. Webb, who figured prominently in the welding of Australia's states into the Commonwealth.

A Clerk of the N.S.W. Colonial Legislative Assembly, Mr. Webb was appointed Secretary to the Federation Conference in the late 1890s.

Mrs. Langford-Smith was the widow of Canon S. E. Langford-Smith, who was rector of St. Andrew's for 20 years before serving as the Anglican Archdeacon of Cumberland.

Her son, Mr. Keith Langford-Smith, a well-known author and missionary airman, founded the Sky Pilot Fellowship which runs the Marella Farm for Aborigine children.

Other sons are Mr. Fritz Langford-Smith, engineer, Bishop Neville Langford-Smith, Bishop of Nakura, Kenya, and Dr. Trevor Langford-Smith.

The Last of His Tribe

AIR PILGRIMAGE TO LONDON

A 79-years-old Aborigine flew to London on April 15 to join in the celebrations of the Centenary anniversary of his religion.

He is Fred Murray (pictured) from Renmark in South Australia. The religion is the Baha'i World Faith, a hundred-year-old religious movement which came from Persia last century and has since spread to most parts of the world. It stresses the universality of all religions and the unity of mankind.

Fred Murray is the last survivor of the Minen tribe. His people roamed the sandy wastes of the West Australian coastal area until, late last century, the tribe was almost wiped out at a poisoned waterhole.

Fred, then a child of nine years, was amongst the few who survived the tragedy. The decimated tribe moved eastward and the boy grew up in the Renmark area.



Fred was a member of a party of 41 Australian followers of the Baha'i faith who travelled to London for the celebrations. Some 7,000 Baha'is from all parts of the world attended the congress in London to celebrate the 100th anniversary of their Faith.

Vigoro Carnival . . .

TOONGABBIE GIRL PLAYS FOR STATE

Attractive Leone Beulah (14), pictured at right, represented New South Wales in the interstate carnival staged by the All Australian Women's Vigoro Association in Sydney from February 23 to March 1.

Leone, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Beulah, of Toongabbie, played with the State junior side in matches against Queensland and Tasmania at Redfern Oval.

The carnival was a great success according to Leone, who is a student at Macquarie Girls' High School at Parramatta. The vigoro girls from interstate were entertained at Ten Pin Bowling at Kensington, a banquet at the oval and the social programme ended with a picnic at Royal National Park on March 3.

Leone is a niece of prominent singer, Lorna Beulah, winner of last year's NADOC music quest.



L-DAY PASSED WITHOUT INCIDENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

The Station Manager at Moree reported everything had gone smoothly in the town and on the station. In neither place had there been any untoward incidents. The Manager said Moree hotel-keepers admitted to their bars any Aborigines who were clean and tidy and they showed no marked bias.

In Moree, said the officer, the Aborigines are using the hotels but not in large groups.

"Some drink with white people, usually men with whom they work during the week, while others in small groups of two or three drink together as friends, the same as white men in social groups. The weekends since the repeal have been quieter than on other occasions," the officer said.

The Bourke area welfare officer reported that Aborigines were pleased with the fact that it is no longer a crime to be in possession of a bottle of spirits or beer.

The Supervisor at Condobolin said there was a smooth change-over in the town. "There have been no incidents and the general acceptance by the public is pleasing to note," he said.

The only incident at Kempsey occurred when a man was refused a drink by a publican on the ground of insobriety. The man then made his way to the police station to lodge a complaint. "He was so much under

the influence," says the Station Manager's report, "the police detained him for his own protection."

In Bogabilla the Aborigines mixed freely with white drinkers. "They drink quietly and generally conduct themselves well," the Station Manager reported.

Aborigines from Roseby Park who visit the Crookhaven Hotel receive the same treatment as any others. "They are given tables in the beer garden during the evening sessions," the Station Manager reports.

"Where their dress does not comply with that required of other drinkers the matter is brought to their attention and on their next visit they have made the necessary adjustment."

Nowra police noticed no difference in various Nowra hotels.

It was the same at other south coast centres—Bega, Cobargo, Narooma and Bermagui. Police in all centres reported that Aborigines had behaved well.

Dubbo area welfare officer reported that the transition period in this district had been a success. The Aborigines behaved with restraint.

Police at Lismore said Aborigines seemed to have adjusted themselves quickly to the new drinking right. The few Aborigines who had gone into hotels were quiet, well-dressed and drank little.

So that, briefly, is what has happened since March 30. No explosion, no "binge", very little fuss. The first hurdle was cleared successfully, thanks to understanding on all sides.



PETE'S PAGE

THE PERILS OF CRACKER NIGHT

Dear Kids,

Firecrackers will be exploding all around us—on Commonwealth Night, May 24—but there is no need for cracker night to be marred by accident.

Fireworks celebrations in the past have brought deaths, blindness, injuries and fires in their wake.

Some children, and indeed youths old enough to know different, have made cracker nights an idiotic excuse to run wild and endanger life and limb. They have caused needless panic to old people and terrorised animals with their pranks.

Fortunately the wild ones are in a minority but they represent such a problem in the community that the State Government is concerned that there might be a recurrence of last year's cracker night tragedies in which two boys were killed and a number seriously burned.

249 Fires—Dusk to Midnight

The Government has been told that a total of 249 fires were reported and dealt with by Sydney Fire

Brigades between 5.30 p.m. and midnight last May 24. In addition there would be many other fires which were not reported. Firemen say these fires involved damage to 22 properties and although some of the damage was serious most of the fires were extinguished by buckets of water and garden hoses. Sparks from fireworks and bonfires are blamed for these fires. Now you can see what a danger exists in built-up areas where there is always the risk of a number of serious fires starting simultaneously. In that case a position could develop where Fire Brigades might not be able to cope with the situation and a major disaster could result.

Two Deaths, 184 Injured

The police said that in the entire Metropolitan area 37 cases of damage to property from fire were reported. These fires included total destruction of the Youth Centre at Ryde, valued at £3,000; damage to 10 buildings, the loss of two small boats valued at £200 each; two motor vehicles partially destroyed and numerous letter boxes blown up. In country districts 34 cases of fire damage were reported.

FIREWORKS SAFETY CAMPAIGN

There were two fatalities in the metropolitan area of Sydney—both boys—while 199 sought hospital or medical treatment for injuries. In country districts 65 were injured.

Explosives Experts' Warning

Experts from the Mines Department who are responsible for checking all fireworks for safety say that irrespective of their size all fireworks are a fire hazard and can cause injury.

The gunpowder content of crackers now on sale in Australia was last reviewed at the 1962 Interstate Explosives Conference and the majority opinion was that present standards were reasonable.

One mines expert said; "Gunpowder is the only explosive we permit. Nobody should come to much harm with that.

"We have to reject only a few fireworks each year because importers know how strict our regulations are.

"But we have to be on our guard. Some types of explosives used in fireworks from overseas make gelignite appear comparatively harmless. They could blow a man's arm off."

The Department has expressed the view that provided they are handled sensibly fireworks passed for release to the public are safe enough. Naturally the Department has no control over the actual use of fireworks sold but each year it issues warnings by press, radio and television as to precautions which should be taken and the need for parents or adults to supervise the use of fireworks by children.

Play it Safe

On the question of plastic nosed rockets (one of these caused the death of a boy last year) the Department, which was supported by the police, said they seemed no more dangerous than normal rockets and in fact have less penetrating power than many flat top rockets now on sale.

So if you plan a fireworks celebration this year play it safe. Here are some tips for letting off fireworks in safety:—

- Do not place rockets in bottles that might be knocked over. Use a piece of conduit piping hammered into the ground.

- Place fireworks of the Roman candle type in a bucket of sand.
- Stand well clear after lighting the fuse.
- Never let crackers off in your hand.

Watch Over Pets

These are just a few simple precautions but first and foremost make sure the domestic pets are safe. Dogs, cats and birds hate the noise of fireworks and should be kept at a safe distance from the firing line. It might be wise to chain your dog or he might bolt off into the night at the first explosion.

Cheerio, kids. I know you'll play your part in making Cracker Night, 1963, a safe night.

Your sincere pal,

Pete



Frank Kelly and Jeff Tungui of Wallaga Lake are inseparable pals

