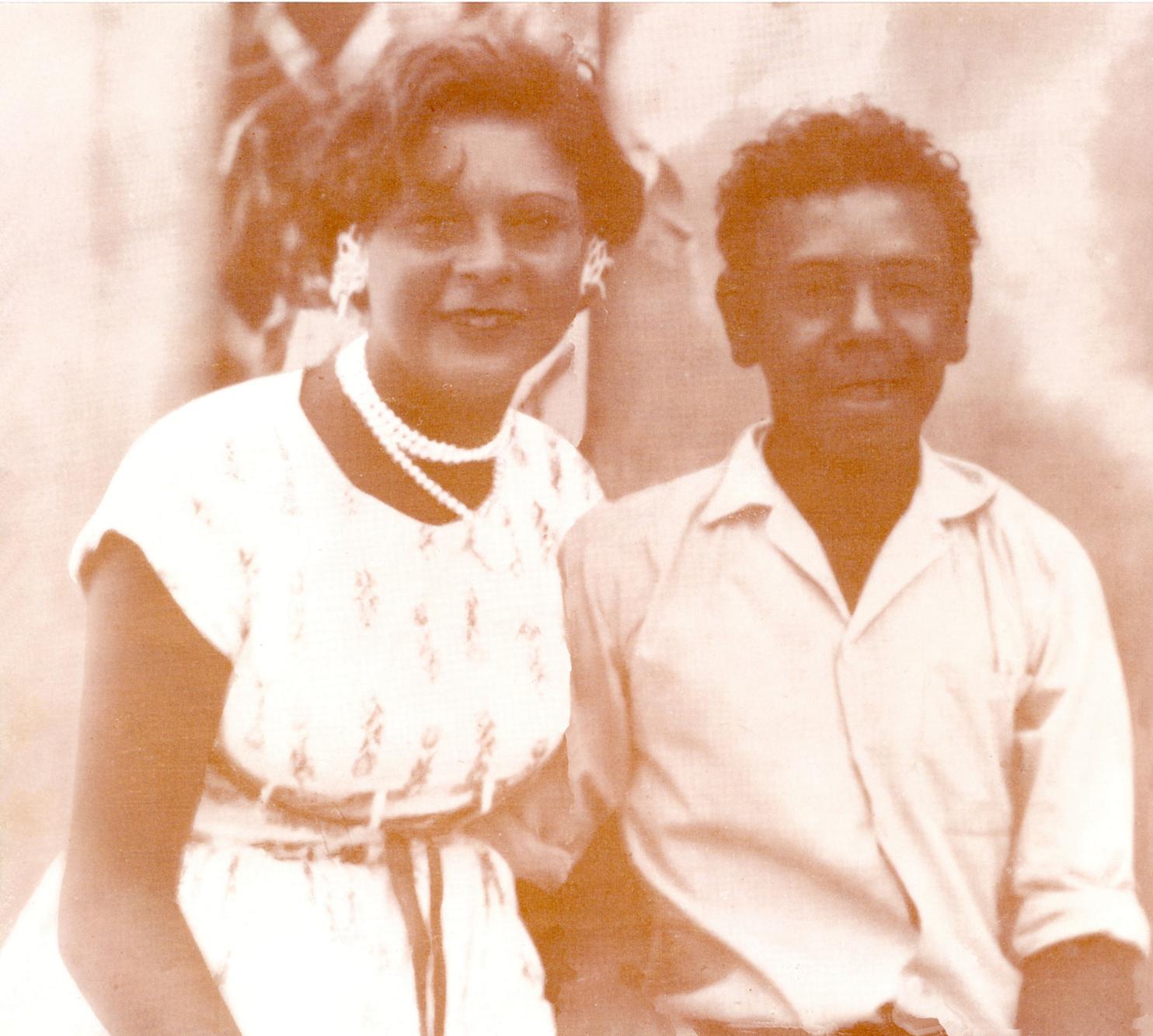


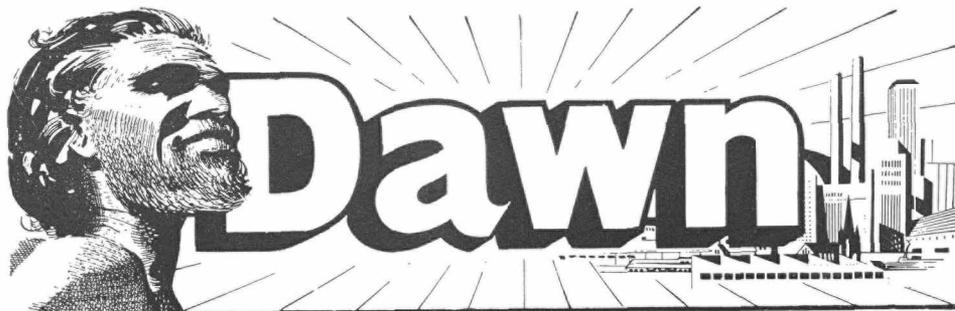
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**A MAGAZINE FOR THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE OF N.S.W. NOVEMBER, 1961**





## Our Cover . . .

When our Cameraman was wandering about the country, he came across this young couple at Tumut Show.

Full of life and enjoying themselves to the limit they were obviously so happy he thought they would make a good cover picture.

The couple is Thea Williams and Ramsay Freeman.



## DAWN

*is a monthly magazine produced by the N.S.W. Aborigines Welfare Board for the Aboriginal people of New South Wales.*

Editor : E. COLIN DAVIS, J.P., F.R.C.S.

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# **CAST YOUR VOTE . . . IT IS YOUR RIGHT!**

Dear Friends,

In *Dawn* this month you will see an announcement regarding the Elections in December. I am surprised sometimes to learn that some aborigines are not aware that they are entitled to vote—in fact aborigines are required by law to vote just the same as anyone else and are liable to a fine if they do not do so.

I hope more aborigines will take an interest in the coming Elections and find out just what the policy is of the party to which the candidates belong. It is a very important thing in a democratic country to be able to elect the people who are to make our laws in Parliament and everyone should take an interest in an election.

There will be many meetings on street corners, in halls, and much talked about over the radio and printed in newspapers in support of the various parties. There is no excuse for not knowing what is planned.

On some of the Aboriginal Stations there will probably be Polling Booths for your convenience. In other places it will be necessary to go to town. However, wherever the Polling Booth is, make sure you cast your vote on Election Day.

Yours sincerely,

H. J. GREEN,  
Superintendent of  
Aborigines Welfare.



# OUR ROVING CAMERAMAN

THE aboriginal people in this State are scattered over a wide area, so far apart that many of them may never meet, but the magic camera can bring to us intimate glimpses of these people and enable us to become better acquainted with each other.

If you have photos at home, similar to those you see published in *Dawn*, send them along and thus add to, and maintain, the interest in your fellow men and women.



Colin Davis, Amos Donovan, and Keith Roberts, of Green Hill



Don Kay, of Cabbage Tree Island



Beryl Ross and McKenzie, of Woolbrook



Dianne Anderson, Pancho Rhodes, Denise Kapeen and Leslie Roberts, of Cabbage Tree Island



Barry Moran, Amos Donovan, Theo McLeod, Jim Jacky, of Kempsey



**Mrs. F. Randall, of Ashley, and Hilda Connors, of Inverell, in the Park**



**Harold Roberts with Warren, Gail, and Connie Smith, of Green Hills**



**Meet pretty Marjorie Smith, of Green Hills**



**Jack Priest, of Gunnedah**



**A happy group of Guyra Christian people**



**This is Donald Cameron**



**Meet Ross Donovan, of Redfern**



**Pretty Nancy Bolt, of Cabbage Tree Island**

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# REFLECTIONS of a former Station manager

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by D. G. YATES

*Area Welfare Officer, Armidale*

The Editor,

Dear Sir,

Amid the hurly-burly of establishing a new Area Welfare Office at Armidale and taking up a new position in same, not without some difficulties, I finally caught up with my issue of *Dawn* and noticed a par re my family's departure from Jervis Bay, sometimes known as Wreck Bay, Aboriginal Station, of which I and my wife had had the good fortune to be manager and matron for over two years.

The reading of same caused me to sit, gaze out of the office window and entice a horde of memories contained in those two years. (Without covering approval from Head Office I might add.) They were good years for me and my family with many pleasant thoughts, attachments, friendships and comradeships.

I liked to think of the Station as a happy, healthy community of which I was a part, not so much as the Manager but as a resident. It is felt that this aspect is sometimes forgotten, that the manager of a Station is also a resident of same and endures the atmosphere, sometimes of his own making, along with the residents.

As a resident I like to remember the comradeship of the fishermen, the fishing parties with George, Stan, Charlie and Turk . . . . . the happy banter with the housewives . . . . . the common joy of a good catch of fish on the beach by the fishing crews . . . . . the trips away with the children . . . . . the glorious beaches . . . . the quiet consultations with the older and wiser inhabitants . . . . . the lies about fish caught and the stories told the wives as to why we got home at midnight. The friendship of the men who never took advantage of such trips to interfere with the duties they knew I must perform as manager. This I found the most refreshing of all memories. Such friendships come with respect and not with handouts.

I cannot say that all was love and joy. At times it was necessary to perform most unpleasant tasks and in these it was attempted to apply utmost fairness. I like to think, that in all such situations the best course was taken in the interests of the Station as a whole which, understandably, is sometimes hard for the individual to appreciate. I like to remember the long arguments with my wife, who acted as my conscience in these matters, as to whether or not the fairest course had been adopted or I had succumbed to hasty decision. I like to feel now that if the latter was the case then I was not ashamed or

too proud to reverse it next day. It is indeed a pleasing memory to think that while it was necessary to undertake some unpleasant duties the wrongdoer accepted his penalty without recrimination, paid same and we would journey home together.

Enough of reflections, but before the attack is resumed I would send my best wishes to the people of Wreck Bay Station, my thoughts are often with you all, it was a happy time for me and my family and the years were good to me, for this I thank you.

One last observation, trout will never replace snapper.

---



**Geoffrey Doolan, George Mungendi and Victor Shaw, of Bourke**

# HELP YOURSELF

Perspiration from the arm will cause an ordinary leather strap for a wrist watch to rot within a few months, but it can be protected very easily with a couple of applications of clear nail polish, allowing the polish to dry between applications. The polish will seal the pores of the leather and make it practically waterproof. Additional applications of polish will give the strap a plastic-like appearance, although this is unnecessary except from a decorative standpoint.

\* \* \* \*

Tar on shoes is removed readily by rubbing the stain with a cloth soaked in fly-spray.

\* \* \* \*

Blue hydrangeas are produced by inserting a lump of alum among the roots of the ordinary white type. The colour which the blossoms turn after this treatment is a novelty.

\* \* \* \*

Dust and dirt may be removed from the edges and bindings of books by rubbing with bread crumbs. The well-cooked but doughy bread inside the crust of fresh rolls is excellent for this purpose. In applying it, rub the soiled book with a ball of the dough. The dough may be used until it is saturated with dirt. Grease spots may be removed from the pages by applying benzine (inflammable) and removing it with a blotter. Water spilled on book pages may be removed by putting wet pages, one by one, between blotters and ironing on both sides.

\* \* \* \*

Splattering of some of the new type fast-covering wall paints on woodwork or other surfaces can be removed easily by rubbing with ordinary abrasive kitchen cleansing powder. The paint will come off even after it has been allowed to set for a long period. Such a method is more effective than razor blades or fine sandpaper.

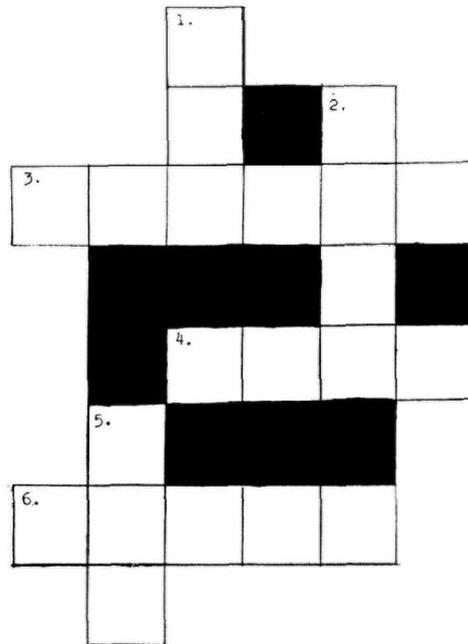
\* \* \* \*

To remove tar spots from clothing, merely place a lump of clean white lard over the spot and allow it to stand for several hours. After the garment has been washed in warm sudsy water, the tar spots will disappear. If traces of the lard remain remove them with carbon tetrachloride.

\* \* \* \*

Add water through the spout of a hot teakettle instead of removing the lid which may allow steam to burn your hand.

## A SIMPLE CROSSWORD



DOWN:

1. A baby bear.
2. The king of beasts.
5. 

ACROSS:

4. A small horse
6. 



Bernadette Ballangarry, with Andrew Holten and B. Buchanan, of Bowraville



### BURRA BEE DEE NEWS

Young Graham Griffiths is back with us again after spending six months at the Far West Home. Although Graham is only 3½ years old, most of his young life has been spent in the Far West Home where doctors have performed skilful operations on his right leg.

Mrs. R. Nixon from Gulargambone is at present spending a holiday with Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Fuller. Mrs. Nixon is a former resident of Burra Bee Dee being the daughter of former handyman, Mr. O. Williams.

The builders are "hard at it" on the New Reserve, Coonabarabran, in the erection of two new homes. These homes will benefit two needy families that are at present just "fringe dwellers" around the town of Coonabarabran. They are to consist of three bedrooms, and all modern amenities, so what a joy it will be to move into them upon completion!

### BURNT BRIDGE NEWS

The Aborigines Welfare Board recently replaced the old draining board and sink in the Burnt Bridge Treatment Room with a new stainless steel one.

Several members of the Progress Association were admiring it and one of them asked the 64-dollar question. "What are you going to use to hold it up, Boss?"

It was explained that the old one would be spruced up as much as possible and used.

A few days later a motor vehicle pulled up outside the Treatment Room and delivered a beautiful new sink stand. It was white enamelled with electro-plated fittings. It had two draws and underneath these were three cupboards. On the centre cupboard door was a brass plate bearing these words:—

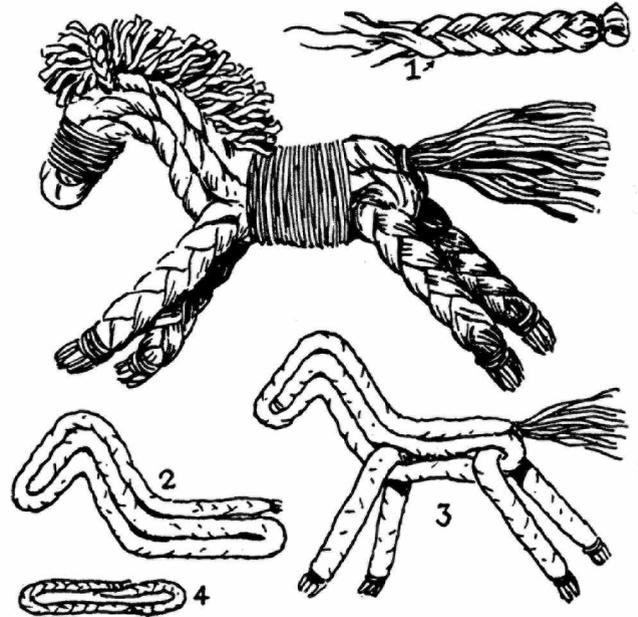
Donated By  
Burnt Bridge Aboriginal Station  
Progress Association  
7th August, 1961

The story does not finish there, for when the stand was being fitted a brand new electro-plated tap to replace the old one was discovered in the draw.

Needless to say there was no time lost in getting the whole thing set up and in use.

A big hand must be accorded to the Progress Association, firstly for the good thoughts behind their effort and secondly for the speed and dispatch their committee used to acquire this very beautiful donation.

### MAKE THIS HORSE FROM STRAW



A bundle of straw, a little thin steel wire and some woollen yarn can easily be made into the little horse you see here. First of all take six straw threads from the bundle. Make a plait of the rest of the bundle. Secure the ends with one of the threads. Cut the plait into three parts: two pieces each about 6 in. and one length of what is left. Fasten coloured wool around the ends of the two 6 in. pieces. These shall be the horse's legs. Make the horse's head and body from the long piece as shown in the diagram. Fasten the plait where the tail is to begin. Open that end of the plait which is the tail.

Push a piece of steel wire into the two lengths for the legs—inside the plait so that they can't be seen. Place the legs in position as shown in Illus. 3. Wind wool around the body and head, as shown in the finished diagram.

Make a narrow plait of the six threads. This should be about 4 in. long. Place it as shown in Illus. 4, then secure the ends with a couple of stitches. Put the loop in between the top and second layer of the horse's head. Now it has got ears. Sew them in position. For the mane, wind wool around two fingers. Sew the loops in place then cut them open.

# ELECTION DAY

# NEXT MONTH

In May a notice appeared in *Dawn* advising that all aborigines over the age of 21 years living in N.S.W. were entitled to vote at both State and Federal elections. Records show that too few aborigines in N.S.W. use that right to vote and it is hoped that in the coming election *every* aborigine over 21 years will vote. Voting is compulsory by law for everyone eligible and you can be fined for not voting.

Before you can vote you must be on the Electoral Roll for the district in which you live. The Rolls closed on 3rd November, 1961.

All aborigines over the age of 21 years should take the following steps as soon as possible:—

1. On the day of the Election—9th December, 1961—if you are enrolled, go to the nearest Polling Booth and vote. If you are not sure what to do, there will be plenty of people to help you and show you what to do. Your best plan is to ask the official at the booth.
2. If you are away from your home you must still vote. If there is a Polling Booth where you are staying, go to the Booth, tell them the town where you live, and they will arrange for you to vote. This is called an absentee vote.
3. If you are not well enough to go out or you are in hospital, you can arrange *beforehand* for a Postal Vote. That is, the Ballot Paper will be sent to you so you can fill it in and then return it by post to the Electoral Office. Have a friend collect an application form and instructions from the Post Office for you.

Remember, voting is compulsory and except in an emergency, everyone over the age of 21 years must vote either in person at the Polling Booth or by Postal Vote. *Nobody else can vote for you.*

If you have any questions on voting, ask your manager, Welfare Officer, Police Officer, school-teacher, or Justice of the Peace. Everyone will be happy to help you.

**Voting is your right be sure YOU use it!**

**YOU MUST VOTE**

# HOME



# HINTS

## KITCHEN HINTS

To remove excess salt from soups or stews add a few slices of raw potato and cook for five minutes longer, then remove potatoes, which will have absorbed much of the salt.

\*   \*   \*   \*

A tablespoon of powdered milk added to butter icing in place of some of the icing-sugar will greatly improve the result.

\*   \*   \*   \*

When forming rissoles, instead of dipping hands in flour dip them in a bowl of cold water. This prevents sticky hands and the crumbs will adhere to rissoles much better.

\*   \*   \*   \*

Add a dessertspoon of sago, a little lemon juice, and a little extra water if you are short of an apple when cooking apple pie, etc. The sago and water take the place of the apple.

\*   \*   \*   \*

If a cracked egg is rubbed with dripping before being put into water it will cook without bursting.

\*   \*   \*   \*

When a boiled custard curdles add 1 tablespoon of cold milk, beat quickly for a couple of minutes.

\*   \*   \*   \*

Instead of peeling apples with a knife when preparing them for cooking, pour boiling water over them. Allow to stand for a few minutes. Then you will find that the peel can be taken off quite easily.

\*   \*   \*   \*

Dip fish in ground rice before frying. It browns well, and does not stick to the frying-pan.

\*   \*   \*   \*

If you have trouble keeping brown sugar from going hard, place a slice of bread in with the sugar.

Save left-over slices and ends from bread and after baking a dinner put the slices into the hot oven to dry. Put bread through the mincer, using a small cutter. The result is lots of golden brown breadcrumbs for cutlets, etc.

\*   \*   \*   \*

Walnuts shell more easily if warmed first.

\*   \*   \*   \*

Easiest way to transfer pastry to the pie-dish is to wrap pastry round the rolling-pin then unfold gradually to avoid breakage.

\*   \*   \*   \*

To keep milk at its creamy best, keep it in a cool place and out of sunlight.

## MISCELLANEOUS SAUCES

### Mock Maple Sauce

Combine equal quantities of honey and golden syrup. Heat, add lemon juice to taste. Serve with ice-cream.

### Cider Sauce

Place 1 cup of sugar and  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup cider in a saucepan. Bring to the boil over low heat, cook 5 minutes. Serve warm or cold, poured over waffles or fritters.

### Marshmallow Peppermint Sauce

Place  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup sugar,  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup water, 1 dessertspoon gelatine, and pinch of cream of tartar in saucepan, boil steadily 10 minutes. When beginning to thicken, add 1 or 2 drops peppermint essence. Beat until white and fluffy. Serve immediately.

### Whipped Honey Sauce

Whip 3 egg-whites with a pinch of salt until stiff. Add very gradually  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup honey, beating constantly until mixture thickens. Fold in  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon grated orange rind. Serve with ice-cream.

### Peanut Butter Sauce

Heat  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup honey or golden syrup with  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup water and  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup peanut butter until nearly boiling. Stir in 1 teaspoon arrowroot or cornflour (blended with extra 1 tablespoon water),  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup orange juice, and 1 dessertspoon orange rind. Continue stirring until nearly boiling, then simmer 2 or 3 minutes.



## WALGETT NEWS

by C. MASON

The football season ended on a crowning note for the football team of the Station school. The boys played three matches in July. The first was a draw with Walgett Central School, then a defeat by Central the following week. But revenge came at Goodooga, for the team defeated Central Walgett after 10 minutes extra play was ordered, winning by 17 to 9. They then played Goodooga in the final winning 34 to 4.

In all there was nine teams competing and happy was the Station on the boys' win. But happier still were they when Ken Dennis was awarded a fine trophy for the fairest and best player on the ground. There was a disappointment when it was learned that the sports for the girls were abandoned for this year. But they were quite cheerful again when informed that they certainly would be on again next year.

After the game at Goodooga the children enjoyed a barbecue and arrived back at the Station at 10.30 p.m. The manager and matron have asked *Dawn* to thank Mr. Weate for making available a canopy for the trip to Goodooga, and Dudley (Sen.) and John Dennis for fitting the canopy. Also the boys and girls for the way they behaved for they were a credit to the Station and the Board.



Bill Towney with Roger and Ross McKenzie, of Woolbrook

## Burra Bee Dee Wedding

Ashby-Peache

Saturday, the 23rd September, was the day selected by Elizabeth Ashby for her wedding to William Peache, of Warren. Elizabeth is the third daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Ashby, of Burra Bee Dee, and William the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Peache, of Warren.

This very pretty wedding was solemnized at Christ church, Coonabarabran, by the Vicar, Rev. Sherlock. The church overflowed on this happy occasion as guests and friends had come from as far away as Wreck Bay to wish the happy couple "everything that they wished themselves".

Betty's white bridal frock was of white satin in ballerina length. The yoke and sleeves were made of chantilly lace. Her finger tip veil fell from a cluster of organdi petals. The two bridesmaids, Queenie Ashby and Annette Dowd, had chosen frocks of pink and blue satin, the pink frock having godets of blue and the blue one godets of pink. Their head-dress was matching coloured veils falling from clusters of flowers. The two small flower girls, Carol Ashby and Shane Ashby, were also dressed in pink and blue frocks and head-dresses similar to the bridesmaids' and looked delightful.

Best man was Peter Peache, brother of the bridegroom, and the groomsman was Charlie Ashby, uncle of the bride.

Mrs. Ashby, mother of the bride, was dressed in a russet green frock with black accessories, and Mrs. Peache in a floral frock with matching accessories.

The double-decker cake with a large heart on top was much admired at the reception which was held in the hall at Burra Bee Dee. Dancing was the main feature at the reception and the popular couple were recipients of many useful presents.

We wish Betty and William Peache a very happy and successful marriage with these words mentioned in the marriage service, "What God hath joined together let no man put asunder."

# Purfleet boy is HOCKEY CHAMP

## *strong community support*

Writing to Mr. Thomas, manager of Purfleet Station, Mrs. G. R. Jones, Secretary of the Manning River Junior Hockey Association, said:—

“The enclosed cutting from the international hockey magazine ‘Hockey Circle’ will be of great interest to you as it refers to David Russell, one of the boys from your Station and a member of the Purfleet hockey team which incidentally has won the Under 16 section of the competition and will be receiving a very lovely cup donated by Woolworths at the annual presentation of trophies. The Under 14 team has reached the finals and there is every possibility that it can win this as the bulk of the Under 16 team consisted of 11 and 12 year olds from the Under 14 team. Some of these boys play three matches in the one morning and are very keen. One pleasing aspect of the finals has been the great interest of the Purfleet people themselves and there has been the great roll up of parents at each match.”

The cutting from the international hockey magazine read:—

### **Aboriginal Lad Wins Junior Honours**

Members of the Manning River Junior Hockey Association were pleased to see David Russell, one of the lads from the Purfleet Aboriginal Station near Taree, selected in the N.S.W. Junior team to play in Melbourne later this year.

David has only been playing hockey for three seasons and such an achievement is a tribute not only to his ability but also to the coaching of Ernie Orth. Olympian Errol Bills, when in Taree at the beginning of the season, spent some time with the boys teaching them finer points of the game.

In recognition of his success at Lithgow as well as a tribute to his prowess in other sports, David was awarded the ‘Manning River Times—Heinz’ Sportsman of the Week Trophy during June.

Mrs. Jones went on to say:—

“Our efforts to raise funds in conjunction with the Purfleet people have been very successful and from three picture nights and a jumble sale have raised close to £39 to help David to get to Melbourne to represent N.S.W. in the Championships. The Junior Hockey Association in Canberra set a figure of £35 for each boy to cover his necessary clothing (blazer, track suit, shorts, tie), travelling and hotel expenses. Our own association has contributed £8 5s. to pay for the blazer and the Apex Club is contributing another £8 so that he will not be short of pocket money—in all there has been £55

raised for David, mainly from his own people and I have started a banking account for him so that after his trip is over he will have an incentive to add to it.

The Purfleet people have enjoyed our functions so much that some of the womenfolk have approached me to try and keep them going and I have suggested starting a Purfleet Hockey Club and raise money with picture nights and concerts to equip the three teams that play in our association. Unfortunately Mr. Wilson, who provided the projector and most of the films, has left the district but he has offered to show pictures whenever he returns to Taree and also the Rural Bank has offered its films if we can get a projector. I know that you will co-operate. as you have always done with the use of the hall.

The boys are very enthusiastic and the parents also keen and I hope that we will be able to keep functions going so that next year they will have all the equipment they need. With our help they raised the money for uniforms and look very smart on the field. They are a great bunch of boys and we are very proud of them.”

### **PRESENTATION NIGHT**

One Friday night recently a combined victory and Farewell party was held at Purfleet to celebrate the Under 16 hockey boys’ win in the Grand Final for which they will receive a very lovely trophy donated by Woolworths Ltd., and also to farewell David Russell, a member of the victorious team, who was leaving for Sydney the following night on the first leg of his journey to Melbourne to represent N.S.W. in the Australian Junior Hockey Championships.

The hall was very tastefully decorated in the teams colours (blue, white, and gold) and a short concert preceded the party compered by Charlie Edwards, the most popular item being a rock and roll exhibition by four very young members of the community.

During the course of the evening a presentation was made to Mrs. McCabe and Mrs. Jones in appreciation of their assistance in helping to raise the necessary funds for David’s trip and also to Norm Worth for his coaching of the teams. It was regretted that neither John Woodhouse nor Allan Taylor could be present as both the boys and the parents wanted to express their gratitude for what had been done. In his reply Norm Worth told the gathering that what had been done as regards

the standard of playing was not due to his coaching but to what the boys had put into the game and to what both he and John Woodhouse had asked them to do being carried out. On his behalf and that of John he then presented David with a hockey stick. Both Mrs. Jones and Mrs. McCabe expressed their appreciation and said how much they had enjoyed the various functions and the co-operation of the parents in raising this money.

Mr. Thomas (manager of the Station) expressed his delight in the interest taken by the parents and also pride in David Russell's achievement in being chosen from so many boys to represent his State. He wished the team every success in the championships.

A very tasty supper was served by the ladies.



**Val Denley and Les Townsend, of Uralla**



**Ross Olsen, of Uralla, Audrey McKenzie, of Woolbrook and Gloria Collins, of Taree**

## U.A.M. Secretary visits Coonabarabran

**From our Local Correspondent**

It was indeed a pleasure recently to have Mr. Nash, Secretary of the United Aborigines Mission in New South Wales, come amongst us and show slides of the wonderful work being accomplished by the Missionaries of this Mission, both in New South Wales, and Western Australia, and other spheres. Mr. Nash was accompanied by his wife and children, and was driven to Coonabarabran from Gulargambone by Mr. and Mrs. Wakerley our own U.A.M. missionaries in this district.

Firstly, by means of these slides, we were able to catch a glimpse of people on other Stations in New South Wales, namely young girls at Wreck Bay learning machine sewing, high school students from Kinchela Boys' Home attending Kempsey High School, Henry McGrady, a former Kinchela boy, driving a tractor at the Kinchela Boys' Training Home. Henry is at present a seaman on the vessel "Iron Duke". Also a slide showing some of the C.W.A. members at Purfleet Station near Taree.

Mr. Nash has spent some years in Western Australia amongst people at the Warburton Ranges, Fitzroy Crossing, also with the children, both boys and girls, at the Mt. Margaret Mission Home, enabling him to show recent slides of this inspiring work. The first series of slides depicted the wretched living conditions that had existed in this part of the State for many years, and then the transformation that had taken place since the advent of these specially trained missionaries. Many a child at the mission homes can fervently say thank you for having their life saved.

From these slides it was apparent that the main aim of the U.A.M. was to raise these people from a world of darkness into that of the light both telling of the saving Grace of the Gospel of Christ, and improving living standards.

From the smiling faces of many of these people, many of them following in the way of the Cross, it is quite plain for all to see what the message of God has done for them through the devoted life of these missionaries. To quote Mr. Nash—"We give the children a little true love—not the park bench type!"

Thank you, Mr. Nash, for giving us the opportunity through these slides of looking into the lives of some of these people—our people!

# The Honey Pot Ant!

THE amazing honey pot ant of inland Australia is one of Nature's most ingenious answers to the difficult problems of survival in arid areas.

Many Australians have never heard of the honey pot ant, yet it's among the most amazing of the many wonders in the deserts of Australia.

The deserts are harsh, and desert animals have devised many ingenious methods of overcoming the lack of food and water. Some can live without water at all, relying on food to supply their needs; some imitate plants, speeding up their life cycle during the flush season, then lying as hard-shelled eggs until the next rain.

Water-holding frogs take up a store of precious fluid and burrow into the mud of claypans; barking geckos store fat in their tails.

The methods used are varied, often bizarre—and the most bizarre of all is the method of the honey pot ant.

Workers of an ant colony gather food during the flush season, and select certain workers as living storage pots of honey. The "storage" ant is fed until the abdomen swells, and her store is tapped by other workers during the lean times.

The storage ant, herself, is rather like a bank clerk surrounded by money he can't use—she can't take more from her store than she needs to live.

The result is that she takes very little because a swollen honey pot is barely able to move, spends life hanging from the roof of an underground chamber and needs only a limited amount of food—much less than the amount needed by the normal worker ant who must hunt for honeydew.

## Food from trees

Honey pot ants are found in Africa and America as well as Australia, and they have been the subject of much interesting research.

American honey pots apparently get their food store from galls on trees. These galls are swellings made by wasps and during the summer the round growths "sweat" honeydew. This is gathered by ants and taken below for storage.

An American scientist found a honey pot could store eight times its own weight in honey.

It has been suggested that the mulga apple of the Australian desert is the source of honeydew collected by ants here. Since this so-called apple is really a gall, the theory could be right.

How the honey pot is chosen by the other ants is in some doubt, but many naturalists say it is a young worker fresh out of its pupal stage and not yet toughened by a hard world.

Naturally, the honey pot's rich store of sweetness is an attraction for the Australian aboriginal. Honey pots are called yarrumpa by aborigines in Central Australia, and yililtu in Western Australia.

The aborigines find and eat honey pots and consider them a great delicacy. White tourists who have eaten them also say they're delicious.

Some aboriginal tribes make a sweet drink by kneading the honey pot in water.

Reaching the nest of the honey pot ant calls for energetic digging. Usually, the entrance to the nest is about an inch in diameter and a central shaft goes down about five feet.

Small shafts containing a few honey pots run off the central shaft, but the main chamber is at the end of the shaft, deep in the earth. It's here that most of the honey pots are to be found.

## Digging is hard

The aborigines dig with hard sticks, working swiftly, efficiently and with apparent ease. But it's a hard job for white tourists and for naturalists whose aim is to collect honey pots for study.

But the effort is well worthwhile because the honey pot ant is a wonderful example of Nature's ability to master the desert and continue fostering life in spite of low rainfall and scarcity of food.

Wax cells may make the honey bee more efficient as a honey store, but credit for ingenuity must go to the ant.

(With grateful acknowledgements to *Women's Day*.)



Woodenbong Station residents mingle with Kyogle Apex Club members at a recent station function

# The Coppermanna Lutheran Mission

By Michael Sawtell

I must tell you how I enjoyed the August issue of *Dawn* and the picture of those charming young full blood aborigine boys.

Full blood aboriginal children, when they are clean and well brought up, are the dearest little children you ever saw. They delight to creep up and hold your hand.

I grew up with such young boys sixty years ago, and it makes me sad to think of what lies ahead of them, when our civilisation detribalises and demoralises them.

You may theorise as much as you like, but you cannot detribalise our bush aborigines without demoralising them. Therefore I am dead against tearing them out of their own natural environment. Let them stay in their own country as long as possible.

However the story of Hermannsburg Lutheran Mission is not complete without some reference to the Coppermanna Mission at the Cooper river on the Birdsville track.

I have visited Hermannsburg on that strange desert river the Finke, which is the longest river of the one name in Australia. It flows down for seven hundred miles into Lake Eyre. At Hermannsburg there is a deep gorge in the Finke, which I hope we will dam some day, for that is part of my dream for our mighty inland irrigation.

I have met Pastor Albrecht, who is now in charge of Hermannsburg. My friend Albert Namatjira was a native of the settlement and was brought up on the Mission.

The article in the August issue of *Dawn* on Hermannsburg also mentions the Rev. Strehlow, whose son is now a Professor of Linguistics at the Adelaide University, and is a great authority on aborigine dialects. He is like myself, in that he grew up with aborigine boys, the real way I believe to learn about all forms of aborigine life.

Hermannsburg Mission was founded in 1882, but Coppermanna was founded in 1866, by Pastor Hermann Vogelsang, who I saw in 1901, when I was a drover's boy on the Birdsville track.

He was a thick set stout German who used to ride about to see that "the drover-man" did not molest the aborigine women. The Coppermanna Lutheran Mission had a tough time. They struggled along till 1914, when they had to close down. Then some of the German missionaries went up to Hermannsburg.

In 1950 I camped in the ruins of Coppermanna when I travelled up to Birdsville with the well known mail man Tom Kruse, when that famous picture "Back of

Beyond" was being made. You may see the remains of Coppermanna, and also see and hear Uley, one of the few Coppermanna aborigines left now. It is good to hear the voice of Uley, full of natural pride, as all aborigines are when they say, "This is my country. This is a good country."

That Coppermanna country has only a five inch rain fall and is subjected to very severe droughts, but it was not that altogether that finished Coppermanna. It was racial prejudice.

It was during World War I that silly people claimed that the aborigines were being taught to be disloyal, because the Scriptures were being translated into German, and that the hymns were sung in German. It is an interesting fact that most tribal aborigines are good linguists for they all have to learn two or three dialects of the surrounding tribes. At the same time in 1914 the old town Hergott Spring, which is the rail head for Coppermanna, and was named after D. D. Hergott, a German botanist, who accompanied the famous explorer McDouall Stuart in 1961, was changed to Maree, which is an aborigine name for water. The government also withdrew their support. However anyone who really knows the pioneer days of Australia will agree with me that the Germans are among the best settlers we have ever had.

The Coppermanna Lutheran Mission had a great influence on all aborigines, right from Hergott Springs to Birdsville, all around the east side of Lake Eyre upto the Simpson desert, where in my day the aborigines came from hundreds of miles to gather the indigenous native narcotic Pituri.

However, they have nearly all died out now, for the desert aborigines are not a very virile type. The other day in Port Augusta I met a very fine full blood from that Coppermanna country, named Mungerannie Joe (which is the name of a bore on the Birdsville track). Joe was a truck driver in charge of a road train, which was carrying a load of cattle worth several thousand pounds. He was delighted, as all aborigines are, when I talked to him and he found that I knew his country. If any readers of *Dawn* wish to know more about that strange country and Coppermanna, I advise them to read a splendid book "Land of Mirage" by George Farwell, in which he quotes Professor A. P. Elkin, fellow member of the Welfare Board.

Now what have I learned from all my bush experiences, and mixing with all types of aborigines? It is this, that in spite of differences in race and creed, all men worship in their own way the same great laws of Nature and God, for as the American prophet-poet Emerson said, "Nature hums the few old familiar tunes".

# HOW TO FEED A GROWING CHILD

Quality as well as quantity is needed in a child's diet, says a dietitian with a big Sydney hospital.

One of the most perplexing problems in bringing up children is knowing what to give them to eat, so that they get enough of the best food for their growing bodies, and don't send you bankrupt at the same time.

Even in the homes of well-off people, you can find children who are under-nourished—merely because the parents don't fully understand food values and food requirements.

Not all parents realise that a boy of 14, for instance, needs as much food as a man.

Some might suppose that a child weighing two stone requires only a quarter of the food eaten by an adult of eight stone. They forget that proportionately more nourishment is needed for the growing body, and for the great amount of energy used by children who are never still if they can help it.

Some mothers have been known to give their young toddlers only half an egg or just a piece of apple or orange. But children from one year upwards can take a whole egg, a whole orange and a large glass of milk.

If a child continued to be underfed, he loses his desire for food (in the same way as an adult who has been on a diet is sure his stomach has shrunk). He will cease to complain of hunger—thereby starting a vicious circle of wanting less and less and becoming weaker.

Apart from too small a quantity of food, a child will be undernourished, though apparently getting plenty, if the plenty includes too much sweet, starchy food—such as cake, lollies and sweet biscuits—and not enough of the protein-rich foods (milk, eggs, cheese, meat and fish) and the vitamins and minerals found in fruit and vegetables.

While there may be no apparent difference in physique for some time, eventually the child may become puny. The teeth will be poor and the bones may develop the curve of rickets.

Ample protein is necessary as the body weight increases. It builds and maintains the tissue, while the minerals and vitamins go to bone and teeth formations and the regulation of body growth.

It is only after these needs are supplied that a child's hunger should be appeased. In other words, the energy he uses up can be replaced by fuel foods, starch, sugar and fat, such as bread and butter or margarine, and honey.

For the very young child it is not sufficient to provide, say, porridge and milk for breakfast, broth and bread for dinner, and cereal and milk again for tea, with biscuits to fill in the gaps.

The diet should first provide the protective foods, especially those from the dairy, market garden and orchard.

Milk, the best food for the young, should come first. The nutritional ideal is two pints a day for children up to the age of five years and one to one-and-a-half pints after this, when proportionately more solid proteins are added.

Milk can be used for custards, soups and sauces, as well as just for drinks.

After the milk, add eggs, a small portion of cheese, meat, fish and poultry.

A good day's menu for a child of five years would be as follows:—

## **Breakfast**

A small plate whole grain cereal such as rolled oats or wheatmeal cereal with about  $\frac{1}{4}$  pint milk and honey.  
1 slice toast with butter or table margarine.  
1 boiled egg.  
About  $\frac{1}{4}$  pint milk to drink.

## **Mid Morning**

$\frac{1}{2}$  pint milk (often at kindergarten).

## **School Lunch**

One sandwich with cheese, lettuce and tomato or other salad.  
1 piece of fresh fruit.

## **Mid Afternoon**

Piece of fruit, glass of milk.

## **Dinner** (Midday or night)

Small serve of meat, fish or poultry, brains or liver.  
1 potato (cooked in jacket, then creamed).  
1 medium serve yellow vegetable.  
1 medium serve green vegetable.  
5 oz. serve (nearly adult size) of dessert, such as baked or steamed custard, ice-cream with stewed fruit.

## **Supper**

Glass of flavoured milk.

For older children, increase the size of the servings and the number of sandwiches for school lunch.

The breakfast menu can be varied, also the desserts at night.

Experiments have proved that as a general rule the average healthy child will take just what he needs, but there are always the exceptions—the greedy ones and those disinterested in food (this is often hereditary).

*(Continued on page 15)*

## A Review

# NOMADS IN NO-MAN'S LAND

In August, 1959, Mr. Albert Namitjira died at Alice Springs.

Sadness reached all corners of the country. Not since Bennelong was caught and introduced to "civilisation" at Sydney's convict settlement has the European-Australian community been so interested in the domestication to Western ways of an aboriginal man.

T. G. H. Strehlow (who, like Namitjira, spent his childhood in the country west of Alice Springs) suggested in the booklet "Nomads in No-Man's Land" that the central tragedy of this remarkable life is found in the loss of self-respect. Namitjira's intuitive knowledge of how to live proudly and with satisfaction was shattered.

On the one hand Namitjira's place in the community which had nurtured him and to which he was tied by kinship and training was challenged by new experiences. On the other were the partly-comprehended attractions of a society which he could enter, providing he came alone.

Strehlow suggests that tragedies of this kind are inevitable unless the Australian community eradicates superiority and prejudice. Then, at greater length, he goes on to assert that we must understand that men can live effectively only when they are members of a functioning group. A man's estimate of himself depends upon his roles and status in groups which accept him, and whose terms are acceptable to him.

Namitjira secured an honourable place in the local Aranda society through his family relationships, ritual initiation, and personal qualities. A five figure income, lionisation by business tycoons, sleight-of-hand with legal aspects of citizenship, or the faithful aping of the alcoholic habits of Caucasian stockmen could not provide him with a satisfying place in any segment of "white" society. "Albert Namitjira's personal tragedy was an inevitable result of our failure to realise that no man can stand successfully on his very own, as an individual divorced from the group to which he belongs by race, culture, and inclination."

The implication of Strehlow's thesis is that there must be a re-orientation of the "assimilation" policies which are pursued through the activities of governmental and denominational agencies. "Many long established aboriginal settlements are furnishing much sad evidence about the aberrations of individuals who have become aimless pieces of driftwood". The decay of those elements of aboriginal society which are vital to the psychological and moral well-being of a people facing the added stresses of irreversible social change must be arrested.

The author does not attempt to suggest in detail how the vast gap separating two cultures can be bridged. However, particular mention is made of topics such as the need for "mixed" organisations in our own community with a membership of both dark and "white" Australians. He also discusses the retention of traditional methods of authority and social control, legal provisions relating to intoxicating liquor, and the place of co-operative economic ventures in community activity.

This booklet will commend itself (as a Christmas gift) for those interested in the life of Albert Namitjira. It is essential reading for those who think seriously about community and government.



(Continued from page 14)

## HOW TO FEED A GROWING CHILD

Despite varying explanations by psychologists, routine discipline will usually help the child to eat a reasonable amount.

Boys, whose activity is usually greater, generally need to eat more than girls. Again there are the exceptions—such as the athletic girl and the quiet, gentler boy.

But whatever the case, all children should eat three meals a day at regular times, for childhood is the time to form good food habits.

(With grateful acknowledgements to *Womens Day*.)



Tony Peachey and Reggie Stanley, of Nanima

# NATIONAL ABORIGINES DAY OBSERVANCE COMMITTEE

New South Wales Annual Report for 1961

*Talent Quest.*—The demonstration in Martin Place, Sydney, which has become an annual event was organised on the same lines as last year. To provide artists for the programme, it was decided to organise a talent quest amongst the aborigines. This would also show the rest of the community the talent of these people, who we hoped would be encouraged by the opportunity of being brought to Sydney. This quest was difficult to organise as nothing like it had ever been attempted before. For this year it was decided to confine it to N.S.W. Depending on its success and on experience gained, a decision will be made as to whether or not the talent quest becomes Australia-wide in 1962. Mrs. L. H. Cocks consented to take charge of the organisation and was given a free hand. She approached the Commercial Broadcasting Association, who agreed to help wherever possible, but explained that without a sponsor, nothing could be done on a very large scale. However, all country radio stations co-operated in the making of tape recordings of contestants and sending tapes to Sydney for judging. Aborigines Welfare Board stations were contacted and Church Missions and other associations interested in aborigines welfare were all asked to publicise the quest. The Australian Broadcasting Commission was asked to allow Mr. John Antill to judge entries. The Christian Broadcasting Association assisted with the difficult task of editing the tapes. The winner of the quest was Mr. Charles Edwards of Purfleet, the Aborigines Welfare Board station near Taree. It was decided to bring twelve others down to Sydney for the celebrations. Airlines of N.S.W. were requested to provide air transport for contestants coming from towns where there is an air service. The Aborigines Welfare Board provided rail tickets for others. It was hoped that a sponsor could have been found, but this could not be done. There was no guarantee that there would be any entrants. Mrs. Cocks had a formidable task and achieved remarkable success. It is hoped that next year there will be much more co-operation from the welfare and assimilation associations in country towns and that they will be prepared to seek out local talent, encouraging coloured people to enter the quest, and helping them to get to Sydney when the time comes. This should stimulate interest in the local aborigines and in this matter some good publicity could be given in the local papers.

The visit of the talent quest finalists to Sydney was very much "in the news". In fact, the best publicity received in connection with the celebrations was through the talent quest. Finalists were featured on radio

and T.V., and Mrs. Cocks was interviewed on commercial and national radio and T.V. Some members of the N.S.W. committee were able to offer accommodation to the visitors and we are indebted to members of the Central Methodist Mission who agreed to look after some of the young people.

It is felt that with the experience gained and if an absolute deadline date in February is set for entries to be in Sydney, it will be possible to develop this quest into something of real value to the coloured people. It will provide interesting stories for publicity and will ensure that National Aborigines Day makes a real impact on the people of this State.

*Quest for Writing Talent.*—This Australia-wide quest was conducted again this year. Mrs. E. Speight again organised this and received entries from many parts of Australia.

*Art Competition.*—Rev. A. Grant agreed to organise an art competition this year, as we hoped to encourage all talented aborigines, the emphasis for this year's observance being on success stories. About 60 entries were received. A great deal of help was given by Mr. R. Batterbee, who showed genuine interest in the idea. Paintings were all sent to Sydney, unframed, and Mr. Eric Langker undertook the judging. Mr. Grant arranged a most attractive exhibition in the House of Wales Gallery and it was opened on National Aborigines Day at 4.15 p.m. Mr. Langker in his most interesting opening address pointed out the definite pattern and colour values to be seen in the traditional paintings and how this is carried over into the Western style paintings. He urged aborigines to preserve these characteristics.

*Martin Place Ceremony.*—This demonstration was attended by His Excellency the Governor of N.S.W., and in the absence of the Lord Mayor of Sydney, the Deputy Lord Mayor presided. The Premier of N.S.W. was represented by Mr. C. A. Kelly, the Chief Secretary. The Ven. Archdeacon G. R. Delbridge, Chairman of the N.S.W. Committee, welcomed those assembled. Secondary school students from the Matraville Co-Educational High School provided a Guard of Honour for His Excellency, and aboriginal children from Kellyville were special guests. The choir from the A.I.M. Bible Training College at Singleton sang and items were given by talent quest finalists. The Sydney Police Band was also in attendance. Mrs. Margaret Morris of Kempsey and Mr. R. Saunders spoke on behalf of the aboriginal people. Mrs. Morris urged the aborigines

to come into the community despite the difficulties and take their place amongst the white people. She pointed out that once they got to know each other, most of their problems were solved. Mr. Saunders, who was the first aborigine to be commissioned in the Australian Army and who rose to the rank of captain, listed the many aborigines who have been successful citizens in many walks of life and who have made valuable contributions to Australia. He accepted the challenge on behalf of the aboriginal people to raise themselves up in every sphere and asked other Australians to realise that the colour of a person's skin is of no real importance.

After the demonstration the committee provided a light lunch for guests. It was arranged by Mrs. Allen, and provided an opportunity for all visitors to get to know one another.

*Civic Reception to Aborigines.*—The Lord Mayor arranged a Civic Reception in the Sydney Town Hall on National Aborigines Day at 3.00 p.m. The Deputy Lord Mayor, Alderman Dixon, met talent quest finalists and other special guests brought to Sydney for the day. The Aborigines Welfare Board was invited and all members of the N.S.W. State Committee. We appreciated this gesture on the part of the civic authorities and feel sure that it meant a great deal to the aborigines. Mr. Leon, the aborigines' representative on the Aborigines Welfare Board, expressed thanks to Alderman Dixon on behalf of his people.

*Other Functions.*—In the evening of National Aborigines Day there was a small concert in the auditorium of the Pitt Street Congregational Church, which gave the talent quest finalists a chance to perform again. It had been earlier decided, on Mr. Antill's advice, not to try to organise a large concert this year. It was realised that a great deal more experience would be necessary before this could be done successfully.

On the Saturday night, some of the younger finalists played and sang at the teen-age cabaret run by the Central Methodist Mission at Fellowship House, and on the Sunday afternoon took part in the programme at the Central Methodist Mission's Pleasant Sunday Afternoon in the Lyceum.

*In the Churches.*—Aborigines Sunday was observed in churches in N.S.W. Posters and booklets were sent to each minister in every denomination. The National Missionary Council issued the "Ministers' Bulletin" in conjunction with Federal N.A.D.O.C. to all ministers of Protestant churches. The A.B.C. arranged to record a service conducted entirely by aborigines and this was broadcast at 9.30 a.m. on 2FC through Radio Australia. This service must have impressed all listeners with its quiet sincerity. It is to be hoped that a service similar to this will have a permanent place in future programmes on Aborigines Sunday. At 11.00 a.m. from 2BL the broadcast church service was from Grafton, the preacher being the Rev. Wesley Pidgeon, Secretary of Federal N.A.D.O.C. Other services were broadcast over other stations and mention was made of the importance of National Aborigines Day.

*Publicity.*—Posters and booklets were distributed as widely as possible. It must have made a greater impression this year because of the early arrival of the

booklets. All T.V. and radio stations were contacted and city and country press notified. It is felt that more could have been done in the case of the press. It is only through personal contact that anything of any consequence is printed in the press. The television stations were most co-operative, as were radio stations. The A.B.C. could not have been more helpful and sympathetic to our cause. Large departmental stores were again asked to help by giving window displays. In some instances this was agreed to. Anthony Hordern & Sons Ltd. dressed a window publicising National Aborigines Day, and Farmer & Co. arranged a beautiful display emphasising the aims of N.A.D.O.C. Booksellers and libraries also had displays. This is another instance where personal contact is necessary for success.

*In the Schools.*—The N.S.W. Department of Education, Church schools and Roman Catholic school authorities were approached early in 1961. It is felt that the most important place for the celebration of the day is in the schools. This is the only way in which a special day such as this can come to have any real meaning. Last year we had been notified that it would be put on the Education Department's School Calendar. It was now requested that a notice be put in the "Education Gazette" urging teachers to make some special effort to observe the day so that a real impact could be made. No replies were received from the Protestant schools, but it is to be hoped that this does not indicate disinterest. A letter was received from the Roman Catholic authorities saying that they would see that the day was observed in all their schools, as requested. The Education Department put this notice in the June "Education Gazette" (a publication issued free to all teachers and student teachers in N.S.W.)—

#### **National Aborigines Day**

"National Aborigines Day will be celebrated this year on Friday, 14th July.

"This day has been set aside to remind the Australian community of its responsibility to assist the descendants of the original inhabitants of this land to become useful citizens. Both Federal and State Governments have adopted 'assimilation' as their policy towards the aborigines, and it is felt that, through educational bodies, these aims can be advanced.

"It is the Department's wish that teachers arrange an appropriate observance of National Aborigines Day. Literature prepared by the Department of Territories will be available for distribution to schools prior to 14th July."

A few reports have reached the committee of efforts made in different parts of the State, and it is felt that these give an indication of how National Aborigines Day was observed in the schools. If the overall picture could have been seen, it is felt that it would have been inspiring. Talks were given, collections arranged to swell funds of local welfare associations and in one South Coast school, aboriginal children from a nearby settlement were brought to the district for a holiday during Aborigines Week, living with the white school children and attending school with them. If these things continue

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# ABORIGINES DAY-OUT AT WOY WOY

Twelve young Australians who were guests of the Woy Woy Lions Club for a day's outing recently will remember that day for a long time to come.

The boys, all aborigines aged between nine and 12 years, were from the central western town of Dubbo.

They have just concluded a 10-day holiday at The Entrance as guests of The Entrance Lions Club.

This is an annual project undertaken by The Entrance Lions. Last year 24 boys (not aborigines) from the west were sponsored by the club for a seaside holiday.

The cost of the boy's holiday was paid for by The Entrance Lions.

On this occasion Woy Woy Lions took over for one day, and provided the lads with a real treat.

## Picnic

Included in their day's outing to Woy Woy was a picnic in Memorial Park and a tour of the Brisbane Water by motor launches.



Woy Woy Lions and their wives provided food for the young visitors for their picnic which included sandwiches, meat pies, cakes, cordials, sweets, ice creams and fruit.

They had the time of their young lives disposing of the provisions.

Later in the afternoon, club member Mr. Ross Smithies made his launch available for a trip from Woy Woy to Ettalong.

Mr. Smithies took five of the lads in his launch and the other seven went by car to the Ettalong wharf.

Here the whole party, plus a number of Lions from both Woy Woy and The Entrance clubs, boarded Mr. Phil Timmins' launch "Lenore".

Mr. Timmins took the party out as far as Lion Island and around the Pearl Beach area.

The boys were brought to Woy Woy by Mr. Frank Morley and Mr. Dick Dunne.

Mr. Morley said that during their stay at The Entrance, where they were guests of former club president Mr. Martin Goudkamp at his guest house, the boys crammed a hectic programme into their short visit.

One of the highlights was a visit to the B.H.P. at Newcastle.

They had also been to the pictures, been roller skating, and been speedboat riding.

The boys were not full-blooded aborigines.

They live in small houses on the outskirts of Dubbo.

It was obvious from the boys' appearance that their parents were doing their best to overcome sub-standard conditions.

All the boys were healthy, wiry, full of energy, well mannered, with pearly white teeth and flashing brown eyes.

For some it was the first time they had seen the ocean.

But most of the lads were good swimmers.

The eldest, 12-year-old John Chafield, said they often went fishing in a river at Dubbo where they also learned to swim.

But there were not as many fish there as at Woy Woy, he reckoned.

Were they having a good time on the coast? A unanimous, "I'll say".

Are they coming back next year? "Well, it's the girls' turn next year but we'd like to come too."

Since their return to Dubbo, the 12 dusky lads have had plenty of stories to relate to their families and schoolmates.

And if they have their say, they will be back with the girls again next year.

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## National Aborigines Day Observance Committee

(Continued from page 17)

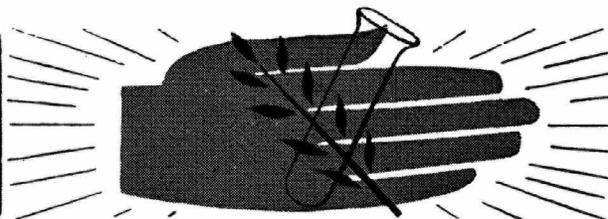
to be done each year in the schools, if children are taught to think about the aborigines and their problems and make some conscious effort to help them, assimilation will follow naturally.

Other organisations such as the Lions Club, Rotary and Apex, the Country Women's Association, as well as student bodies in the universities, have shown a real interest and desire to *do something*. It is becoming customary for these organisations to make their special efforts for aborigines somewhere near National Aborigines Day. In country towns, Assimilation Associations are being formed wherever there is an aboriginal "fringe population" and the second Friday in July is the time when they now make their annual appeals.

There is no doubt that through the observance of National Aborigines Day in this State, there have been tremendous advances made on behalf of the aborigines of New South Wales.

JOYCE ROGALSKY,  
Hon. Secretary.

**Health**



**Hints**

# Cockroaches

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

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

## Life History

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

## Preventive Measures

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

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

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

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

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

## Destruction of Cockroaches

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

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

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

### Gammexane

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

### DDT

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

## Sodium Fluoride

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

## Liquid Insecticides

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

## Fumigation

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



Meet pretty Mrs. Frank Saunders, of Quambone

# JUST A MINUTE !

Q. When is a door not a door?

A. When it is ajar (a jar).

Q. Which key is not used to open a door?

A. A monkey.

Q. Why did the chicken cross the road?

A. To get to the other side.

Q. What is the definition of appetite?

A. 'Appy while you're eating, tight when you've finished.

Q. What did the big chimney say to the little chimney?

A. You're too young to smoke.

Q. Which key can walk?

A. A donkey.

Q. A big Eskimo and a little Eskimo were walking in the snow. If the little Eskimo is the big Eskimo's son, but the big Eskimo isn't the little Eskimo's father, who would the big Eskimo be?

A. His mother.

Q. What has eyes but cannot see?

A. A potato.

Q. What goes up but never comes down?

A. Smoke.

Q. What has ears but cannot hear?

A. Wheat.

Q. What has a mouth but does not talk?

A. A river.

Q. What is the biggest ant in the world?

A. An elephant.

Q. Which key has four legs?

A. A donkey.



# Pete's Page

Hello, Kids,

And how are we all once again! It's certainly getting close to Christmas now, isn't it?

This month you will see we have included several new features, a simple crossword puzzle and some riddles, which I hope you will like.

If you can think of anything else you would like included in *Dawn*, please write and let me know.

I was very proud to-day to get a letter from the Headmaster of the Moree High School, praising the conduct and attitude of some of his aboriginal students.

He referred in particular to Brenda Haines, Jeanette Binge, Shirley Briggs, Percy Suey, Barry Johnson and Bob Stanley.



**Nanima school children won these awards at Wellington Show. They included seven firsts, eleven seconds, eleven thirds and three highly commended. They were for wood-work, writing, art, needlework, and basket weaving**

It is really wonderfull to hear such high praise of our youngsters who are determined to give themselves a higher education and so be prepared to take their proper places in the modern world of commerce. Next month we will publish a photograph of these six youngsters.

I have had a note from three girls, Bertha Brown, Muriel Landsborough, and Alma Landsborough, all of Sutherland Waters, Tingha, asking if I could find some penfriends between 17 and 19 years of age for them.



**Marian and Marlene Stewart, of Nanima**

These girls are interested in swimming, rock'n roll and horsriding. How about some letters for them, kids!

I have noticed some of my young aboriginal friends in Sydney lately looking for jobs, but they appeared to have overlooked a most important thing—*cleanliness*.

If you go looking for a job you must be sure that you are clean, that your shoes are polished, your hair neatly done, and boys should wear a collar and tie and a coat.

Employers are very fussy about these things, and you have no chance of getting a job if you are not clean and tidy. Please remember this, will you, kids?

Next month we will have a very special issue of *Dawn* for you, but I guess that's about all for now.

So until then,

Your Sincere Pal,





## HOW TO MAKE A LAWN—*continued*

### (9) After Weeding

In a newly sown lawn an examination for weeds should be made as soon as the young grass is well established. Upright growing types, if they can be recognised by the lawnkeeper, may be left for the mower to deal with. Any troublesome types should be dealt with as soon as it is possible to commence work on the soft soil. The work can be done more rapidly when the plants are small than when the plants are deeply rooted, and the longer they are left the more damage they will do in smothering the young grass. In addition, the older and more firmly established the weeds become, the more damage to the turf in removing them. Weeds which cannot be pulled readily by hand should be removed by cutting off the root an inch or two below the surface of the ground. A sharp chisel or an old table knife, filed square on the end, may be used. When a lawn is badly weed infested it should be marked off in sections with twine and gone over systematically. Following drastic hand weeding, a true surface should be restored by top dressing with a weed-free loam.

### (10) Cutting and Rolling

Mowing is required in order to keep the lawn attractive and to assist in the maintenance of a sward of dense turf. Lawns should not be cut extremely close, more especially the first few cuttings, as leaves are essential to the vital processes connected with the food supplies,

and constant close cuttings reduce the vitality of the plants. Frequent close cuttings are responsible also for a reduction in root development, thus rendering the lawn more sensitive to the effects of dry weather.

Very close cutting following a period during which the growth has been allowed to attain a height of 3 or 4 inches must be avoided. The sudden exposure to the sun will injure the grass under such circumstances.

The disposal of lawn cuttings is a vexed question to many householders. Where cutting is frequent and regular there is no need to use a grass box, but long growths should not be allowed to remain on the surface.

The use of a roller is not required in the maintenance of a home lawn, and the results of continued rolling may be harmful. However, in cricket wicket areas lawn tennis courts and bowling greens the roller is required in obtaining a true surface, but this treatment is quite unnecessary under home lawn conditions.

### (11) Neglected Lawns

Thin and unhealthy appearance in many lawns and greens is almost entirely due to the failure to use fertilisers, or to use them intelligently. In most cases they could be rejuvenated by the use of fertilisers together with adequate watering. So pay attention to feeding, watering and weeding, and have a lawn you're proud to call your own. It's the perfect setting for your home.