

## THREE-STAGE HOUSING PLAN IS ANNOUNCED

HOUSING Minister H. E. Graham has outlined a three-stage plan to progressively provide high standard housing for native families.

The announcement of the scheme said that the first stage would provide for a modest type of home; the second stage a better type of home, costing about £1600 and the third stage would be a conventional type home similar to those occupied by white families.

The State Housing Commission would start by building a prototype of the second-stage type at York and later 24 others would be built in country districts and the metropolitan area.

Help of local governing authorities would be sought in the selection of families to occupy the homes, sites and to give guidance later.

It was proposed that houses should be built under the terms of the leasehold section of the State Housing Act. If selected families had their own land, advice of local governing authorities on its suitability would be sought.

### No Segregation

Definite segregation of native families from normal town conditions did not come into the proposals.

Where recommended families had no suitable land themselves, the SHC would acquire some for building purposes. Applicants would be required to complete an agreement under the terms of the State Housing Act.

Successful families would have to pay a deposit of £25, £1/12/- fees and make weekly payments. Payments would depend on the cost of construction and include rates, taxes and insurance.

The leasehold section of the State Housing Act enabled occupiers to eventually own the houses.

Last year applications for special type rental homes were submitted to the SHC by the Native Affairs Department on behalf of 25 native families living in the South-West, but the scheme could not be carried out.

Families who applied for homes last year would now have the opportunity to transfer their applications for intermediate type homes under the new plan.

(See page 2, for intermediate-type home plans.)

All photographic blocks used in "Westralian Aborigine" are by courtesy of J. Gibbney and Son, Ltd., Process Engravers, St. George's Terrace, Perth.



**NINE-YEAR-OLD** Pilbarra fullblood Harold made his own toy motor car out of an old cog and a piece of fencing wire. When he runs, the teeth of the cog hit the ground and make a noise just like a real car.

## HELP FOR CHILDREN

THE State Government has announced plans to appoint a Child Welfare Director to work in the interests of both white and native children.

In making the announcement, Premier Hawke said the officer would be available to confer with officers of the Native Affairs Department and would be willing at all times to advise the department on problems associated with native children.

Whenever a native child came under the care of the Child Welfare Department he would receive the same care and treatment as all other white children.

## COOLBAROO WORK GOES FURTHER AFIELD

The W.A. Coolbaroo League will next month extend its social activities to York. The League already conducts various social functions in Narrogin and Perth.

The York Masonic Hall has been booked by the league for a special dance to be held there on May 15.

A bright programme including lucky spot prize dances and novelties has been arranged. A three-piece orchestra will provide music and supper will be available.

Admission charges will be 3/6 for adults and children 1/-. Proceeds will go towards an aboriginal welfare fund.

Coolbaroo League dances are held in the Braille Hall, Perth, every Friday and the next Narrogin dance will be held within the next few weeks. No alcoholic liquor or intoxicated people are allowed at any Coolbaroo League functions.

## Aborigines Become Self-Help Builders

THE townspeople of Guyra, near Armidale (N.S.W.), have formed a committee to help about 120 aborigines living on a council reserve to build their own houses, according to the church magazine The Anglican.

The Guyra Aboriginal Housing and Welfare Committee supported by the Aboriginal Welfare Board is supplying some of the materials.

Members of the local committee include prominent Anglican, Roman Catholic, Methodist and Presbyterian Church officials.

The plan consists of the erection of 12 cottages on a "model village" plan, including community hall and quarters for single people and houses for families.

### Aboriginal Labour

All labour required is being provided by the aboriginal men who have already felled and stripped a quantity of timber.

The first money to be received locally for the purchase of tools came from the coloured people, who organised a sports meeting on the reserve.

The ultimate aim of the citizens' committee is the complete assimilation of the coloured people into the community and the encouragement of the aborigines to improve their own living conditions. It is hoped this will help prepare them for the acquisition of homes in the residential area of the town.

For more than three years regular church services have been conducted at the reserve by Guyra Vicar Rev. R. F. Kirby. Two aborigines were confirmed by the Bishop of Armidale last year.

Local doctors have agreed to address meetings of men and women on Marriage and Hygiene and the Home Care of the Sick.

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# STORIES OF PROGRESS FROM THREE CENTRES

FROM three country towns — Collie, Katanning and Pingelly — have come the stories of progress and real efforts to assist West Australian natives to take up their positions as proper citizens.

The stories tell of efforts in the field of employment, education and housing.

In Collie, the Miners' Union has agreed to natives being employed as coal miners in the local mines. This means permanent employment and good wages—including overtime—for aborigines who decide to enter the mines.

### Committee Formed

A special committee under the leadership of Dr. A. Walsh has been set up to advance housing schemes for Collie natives.

The building of the first house initiated by the committee has now been completed and is being occupied by Jim Cockle and his family. It is a comfortable six-roomed cottage.

Dr. Walsh's committee shortly hopes to get at least two natives into employment in the Collie mines. The main object of his committee is to eventually secure housing for all natives in permanent employment.

In Pingelly, about 15 native children are now receiving a kindergarten education four days a week under the guidance of Miss Swanton, of Brookton, assisted by Miss Jones. Miss Swanton recently came from the Eastern States to carry out native welfare work.

### Kindergarten Set Up

A small kindergarten has been set up on a block owned by Mr. Charlie Hill and the children are rapidly gaining a pre-school education. Women from camps in the district are also attending the centre for sewing and needlework instruction.

Katanning Native Welfare committeeman H. G. Moorhouse recently spent some time in Pingelly building another two rooms on to the front of Mr. Charlie Hill's home. The additions have provided much-needed accommodation for the Hill family.

In Katanning, the Native Affairs Department has provided the reserve with a number of new facilities, including a complete laundry, shower rooms — one for each sex — and two new lavatories in addition to the two already on the reserve.

### Second Cottage

The Katanning Native Welfare Committee has now taken over the disused Minding school. Materials from it are being used to complete the second cottage for a native family on the local reserve.

The first cottage built on the reserve is occupied by Miss Phyllis Edgill.

## League Gets Royal Thanks

THE W.A. Coolbaroo League has received a letter of thanks from the Queen in reply to a message of welcome and loyalty on her arrival in the State for the Royal tour.

Addressed to president W. Bodney, the letter was signed by the Queen's private secretary.

It said: "I am commanded by the Queen to ask you to convey to the chairman and members of the Coolbaroo League, Her Majesty's sincere thanks for the kind and loyal message you have sent."

"The Queen greatly appreciates this expression of your good wishes on the occasion of Her Majesty's visit."

## Jottings From Round-About

NATIVE Affairs Commissioner S. G. Middleton has recently been on the sick list. However, after a short stay in hospital and a convalescent period at home, he is now back on the job.

A good friend to the native people of Collie and the protector of natives in the district — POLICE SGT. J. RYAN — has now retired. Sergeant Ryan took a fatherly interest in the natives under his jurisdiction. He found jobs for many, helped those genuinely in distress from his own pocket and assisted two local natives to gain their Citizenship rights. He has now made his home in Perth.

A tragic car accident near Fitzroy Crossing recently accounted for the death of 3-year-old KEITH BUCKLE, of Derby. The car in which he was travelling with his mother and several others overturned.

Five girls from Warburton Ranges Mission have just returned from their first holiday by the sea at Esperance. They all learned to swim, had a number of launch trips and saw over an ocean-going ship in the harbour.

A number of half-caste boys under the leadership of ARTHUR MACALE have been brightening Wyndham with guitar music lately. They have played at several official parties recently.

A new aboriginal member on the staff at the Perth office of the Native Affairs Department is MISS SHIRLEY BINDER.

LAURIE BIRCH, of Wyndham, recently resigned his position with the Native Affairs Department and is now working for a storekeeper. His sister Rosemary is a wardsmaid in Wyndham Hospital.

FLORENCE CHULUNG recently left the Wyndham Hospital and is now assisting the matron of the local native hospital.

REGINALD BIRCH — brother of Rosemary and Laurie — went to Perth to meet the Queen in his capacity of boy scout and is continuing his holiday for a few weeks. He is staying with white friends in South Perth.

## Dutch Woman Is Mission Worker

A DUTCH woman has been appointed as cottage mother at the Mogumber Mission Station.

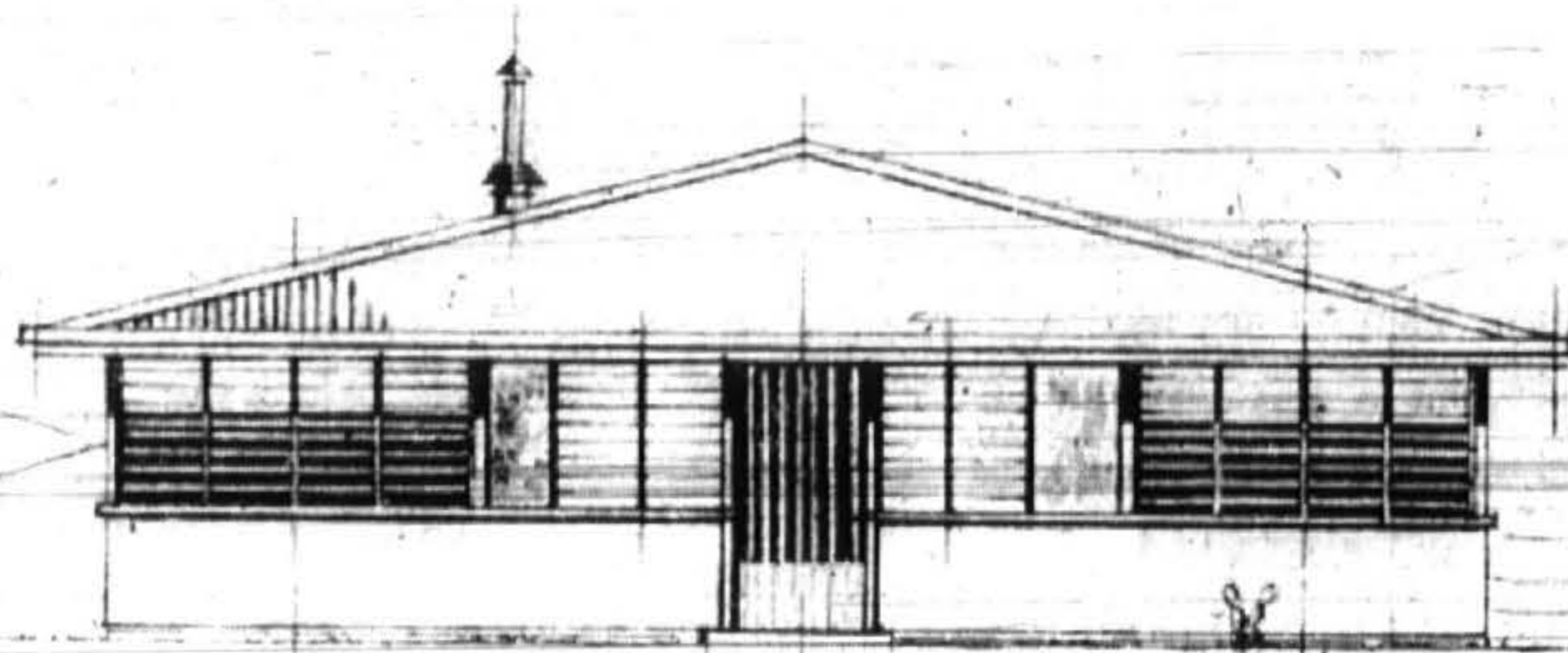
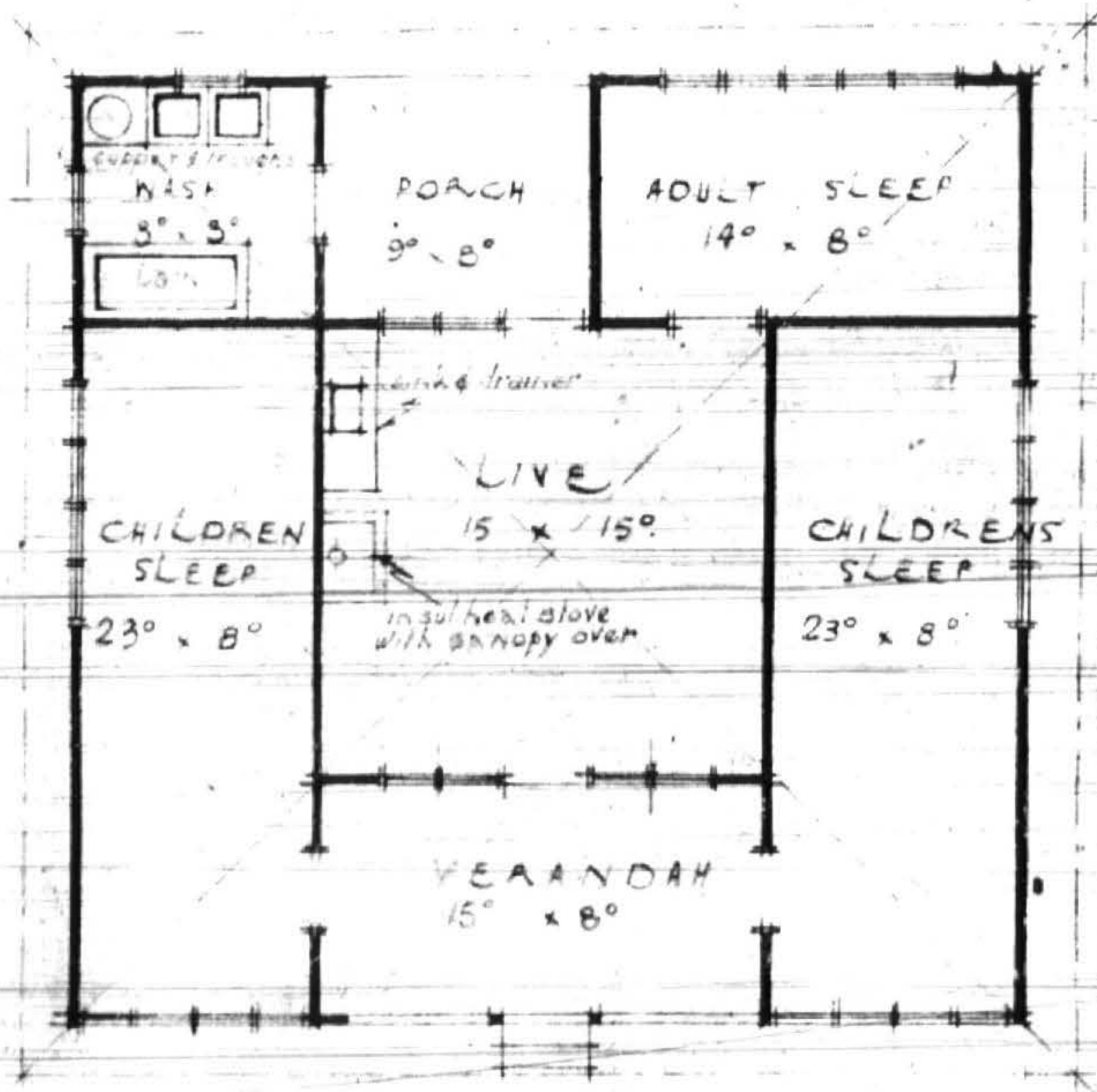
She is Miss Teena De Munck, who is a trained mothercraft nurse.

She says that her time should be spent in helping those who require the comfort, affection and security of home-life.

Miss De Munck spent several weeks last year as an honorary nurse at the mission to test her sense of "call" to mission work. During her brief stay she became loved and trusted by the children in her charge.

Mission superintendent Rev. E. A. Clarke said that he was particularly pleased with Miss De Munck's appointment.

THE UPPER BLOCK shows a plan of proposed new State Government intermediate type home for natives with an area of 1024 square feet. It is scaled one inch to eight feet. The lower block shows a front elevation of the home. In announcing a Government plan for native housing, Housing Minister Graham said the intermediate type of home would cost about £1600. The State Housing Commission would begin by building a prototype of the house shown, at York. Others would be built later.



# SISTER CORNER AIMS AT MISSION WORK

A **CONSTANT** ambition to help others has helped Sister Sadie Corner, of Bethesda Hospital, Claremont, to go far since she started her education at Mt. Margaret Mission in 1934.

After receiving a good educational grounding at the mission, Sadie vowed, when she was 16, that she would carry out work among her own people.

She decided that the best way to help was to study nursing first.

Sadie began her nursing training at Bethesda Hospital, Melbourne, in 1949 and after three years training there joined the staff of the Haven Maternity Hospital, Melbourne.

She returned to W.A. in June, 1953, and went to Bethesda Hospital, Claremont, to gain further general nurse training.

Sadie says she intends to study infant welfare next and go into the mission field. She feels that she should be able to help her people both physically and spiritually.

Three charming lasses from Derby recently spent a holiday in Perth and one liked it so much that she decided to stay. The girls are BETTY HUNTER, EVELYN SHADFORTH and ELLEN PUERTOLLANE.



**SISTER SADIE CORNER'S** ambition to help others has taken her a long way since she began her education at Mt. Margaret Mission in 1934. She has studied most branches of nursing and hopes to take up missionary work.

# Mission Has a Big Labour Problem

**THE** costs of running a mission are becoming higher and higher each year. Last year the Mogumber Mission spent a total of £15,559.

And this year's expenditure will be higher if the money is available. New buildings are needed and existing ones need attention.

A mission spokesman said that since Moora took action to hunt natives out of the town parents had urged the mission to take their children. Staff had been forced to take children into their own cottages because of lack of accommodation.

## Family Groups

The mission's directors did not believe in the use of dormitories and was working hard to have all children at Mogumber housed in family groups in separate cottages.

To speed up the construction of cottages the mission was anxious to gain the services of a reliable carpenter. It was hoped that other tradesmen would also assist for short periods.

Natives with citizenship rights, in particular, had been asked to help with construction work at the mission so that more children would have the same chance in life. Forty more children could be accommodated if another building was erected.

Materials were available, but the mission lacked labour. The present staff was at present working at top pressure.

## Farmer Needed

The mission was also looking for a competent farmer to take over the management of the agricultural side of the mission. The man would have to be able to plan and supervise the progressive development of 13,000 acres.

One of his tasks would be to train native boys to become farmers.

The mission would conduct a street appeal for funds on May 7.

The spokesman said that two Perth girls had stayed at the mission during the Easter break to allow staff to catch up on some much-needed rest.

## News from Kalgoorlie

Friends of Joan Dick, who are aware of her singing ability, will not be surprised to hear that a 15-minute programme has been arranged for her to sing over Station 6KG, Kalgoorlie.

Kurrawang Mission superintendent W. Sharpe—known to the mission children as "Daddy"—recently returned from a trip to Sydney where he discussed plans for new dormitories with church officials.

Miss Jean Tullock, of Perth, paid a two-weeks' visit to Kalgoorlie recently before travelling on to Leonora to see relatives.

Kalgoorlie Police tracker Angel and his wife have just moved into comfortable two-roomed home about two miles out of town. Despite the distance, water is piped right to the door. Angel's spare-time work around the house shows him to be really house-proud.

There were many reunions on the day of the Queen's visit. No organised groups of children came to Kalgoorlie, but many adults from the towns and stations between Esperance and Laverton came along to cheer. Their dress and behaviour was of a high standard and they received a special wave and smile from the Royal couple.

Talking of the Royal visit, Henry Dingi certainly has an eye to business. He was seen walking along Hannan-st., on Royal visit day with a white cockatoo perched on his hat, two kookaburras on one shoulder, two galahs on the other and two large finches and two budgerigars on a small twig in his hand. Seems he teamed up with a local photographer who keeps the birds for his clients to hold while being photographed.

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## VETERAN RETURNS

**TWENTY-FOUR**-year-old Frank Povah, of Waroona, has returned home after 13 months in Korea.

A trumpeter in the second R.A.R. Band, Frank has been in the Army for the past two and a half years.

Frank intends to spend his 64 days leave in Kalgoorlie.

Asked what he thought about Korea, he replied: "I am glad to be back home."

## BANDICOOT RETURNING

**THAT** little sharp-nosed fellow, the Australian bandicoot, who was dying out for many years, is coming back.

Museum curator L. Glaucert said recently it had been reported in many parts of the South-West for the first time in years.

The bandicoot was fond of trapdoor spiders, grubs and insects. He sometimes rooted into vegetable gardens in search of them and was, therefore, the gardener's friend.

## U.S. ANTHROPOLOGIST VISITS NORTH-WEST

**AN** American anthropologist recently visited Wyndham in the course of an Australian tour to study the aboriginal eight-class marriage system.

He is Professor Birdsell, of Los Angeles University, California, who is accompanied by his wife on the tour.

Professor Birdsell is also trying to gain as much information as possible about the country inhabited by the various aboriginal tribes.

While in Wyndham a Native Affairs Department patrol officer took him to the 15-mile ration camp where he interviewed aborigines.

**GEORGE BIRCH** and **FRANCIS CHULUNG**, of Wyndham, will come to Perth in May to attend a six weeks' carpentry course. Their training and travelling expenses are being met by the Public Works Department.

## Your Help Is Needed

**THIS** is your newspaper and, therefore, your responsibility.

In whatever district you may live there is news of aborigines which is of interest. You can play your part by writing to us about occurrences and opinions in your district.

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# Aboriginal Patriots

By Mary Durack Miller

**SYNOPSIS:** After the execution of Midgegeroo and the death of Yagan, the tribal leadership fell into the unscrupulous hands of Yagan's mother, old Moyran. She incited her people to deeds of revenge that neither her husband Midgegeroo nor her son, would have approved. Governor Stirling was forced to resort to a desperate measure. Early one morning in October 1854, a party of soldiers moved in on a large group of tribespeople, gathered on the banks of the Murray, at Pinjarra. The native men snatched up their spears and made a defiant front before their women and children. The soldiers, under the command of Captain Ellis, advanced while Governor Stirling's men closed in from the opposite bank. Dozens of gallant tribesmen were shot down and the River Murray flowed red with blood. So began the famous Battle of Pinjarra.

NO one could know how many there were dead, for a number of bodies were swept downstream on a swift current of the spring rains. Captain Ellis was fatally wounded, but there were few other casualties to the white party.

WHEN Governor Stirling sounded the "cease fire" the remnants of the vanquished band sat huddled together on the river bank, stunned and shivering. In time the survivors would understand that this was the end of the Bibbulmun as a race, for not only the alutes of Pinjarra and Bibra Lake, but of all the groups from the Swan River to the Sound must now wander homeless and faithless. No kindness nor care could replace these things of the spirit that they had lost.

HOW different might the story have been had Yagan's policy succeeded. He wished only to prove to the white settlers that the Bibbulmun was a race of proud, fine people, that they were willing to share their country and even to help in the process of settlement. But never to become subservient or the subjects of charity. His discussions with his sympathetic gaoler while on Carnac Island, still on record in the Public Library, are proof of his quick intellect, his humour and strong sense of honour. While there were, of course, no official kings or chieftains among the aboriginal people, he was regarded as a natural leader by both his own people and the white and was a great man by the standards of any race.

It would be a proud and happy day for us all if he should be recognised by a suitable monument on the banks of the Swan River, or in King's Park — old Yalgonga's "Mount of Wallabies" where he hunted as a youth and from which vantage point he one day sighted strange craft gliding up the river — the advance squad of the white settlement led by James Stirling whom Yagan greeted at the water's edge and welcomed as his brother.

CONCLUSION

## AU REVOIR BEN MASON

More than 40 people attended a special farewell party to Ben Mason, formerly of Mt. Margaret Mission, before he left for New South Wales to study mission work recently.

During the evening Ben was presented with a Bible by the Coolbaroo League.

League president W. Bodney said that Ben had been doing an excellent job among his people while in Perth.

The evening was brightened by community singing, games and guitar music by Noel Yarren. Women members of the league turned on a tasty supper.

## Women's Parliament

The first reading of the Aboriginal Welfare Bill took place at the opening of the 10th session of the W.A. Women's Parliament early this month.

The second reading will not be held this month because Premier Mrs. G. Wright wants further deliberations on certain clauses.

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# Kevin Finds Strange Things In Perth

WHEN young Kevin Menning joined Kurrawang Mission about 10 months ago, he knew little of the white man's way of life.

Since his early childhood he had been roaming the bushlands with his parents and had developed a bad ear complaint.

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**THE ZOO'S A FASCINATING** place for any city boy, but when you've come all the way from Kurrawang Mission like Kevin it's just too exciting for words. Kevin had a day off from Princess Margaret Hospital to have this photograph taken. He's suffering from an ear complaint.



On his arrival at Kurrawang Mission he was taken to the Government doctor in Kalgoorlie and placed in the district hospital for two months for penicillin treatment. This cleared up his ear infection, but he was still partially deaf.

## Treatment Needed

Early this year he started school for the first time, in Boulder. His teacher decided that he should be sent to Perth for specialist treatment to determine whether he should have a hearing aid.

Kevin accompanied Kurrawang Mission superintendent's daughter Estella Sharpe to Perth and was completely overawed by the size of the city.

## Perth Visit

His first day in Perth — Friday, April 2 — was spent at the doctor's surgery. It was found that with correct medical treatment his hearing would probably be restored.

On Saturday morning he was taken for a tour of the city's shops and found it difficult to get beyond the pet shop.

## Zoo Visits

He spent the afternoon at the South Perth Zoo where his emotions were a mixture of amusement and amazement. He managed to have another look at the Zoo on Sunday afternoon before being admitted to Princess Margaret Hospital for treatment.

## LEAGUE DANCE

THE Coolbaroo League's Royal visit dance at the gaily decorated Braille Hall on April 6, was packed to capacity.

Many country visitors attended and thoroughly enjoyed novelty games, lucky spot dances and musical items. Brooches with photographs of the Queen and Duke were given away as well as many Royal visit souvenir prizes.

The hall was decorated with masses of red, white and blue streamers.

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# They Carried A Proud Banner

ABORIGINAL youths from Perth and country districts took a prominent part in a parade of youth through Perth streets during the Royal visit.

Under the leadership of Keith Anderson, of Bassendean, the young people did an outstanding job of marching and carried the Coolbaroo League's banner proudly.

## Carved Spears

The banner was supported on six spears, two spears for each upright and two more lashed together as crossmembers. The spears were specially carved by aborigines from Kurrawang Mission (near Kalgoorlie).

Marchers wore black and white ribbons on their shoulders.

## Loudly, Clapped

For the length of the route the Coolbaroo League members were loudly clapped by the crowds.

Coolbaroo Queen, Gladys Bropho, had something to remember the march by in the form of three big blisters on her feet.

Other aboriginal marchers in the parade came from Mogumber Mission and Alvan and McDonald Houses. Several natives from religious and sporting groups also took part.

Printed for the Coolbaroo League by Paterson Brokensha Pty. 65 Murray Street, Perth.

