

Student Body Seeks Aid For Aborigines

THE National Union of Australian University Students is pressing for the allocation of six Commonwealth scholarships to aborigines each year.

The scholarships are to cover university degree courses in all faculties and courses at kindred institutions.

Under the scholarships a living allowance is granted in the normal way if the applicant's parents are unable to pay for his education away from home.

A motion submitted by the NUAUS makes seven points:

7-POINT PLAN

● That six scholarships be inaugurated by the Commonwealth in conjunction with the NUAUS each year for aborigines to gain a tertiary education.

● In the event of these six scholarships not being taken up, that they revert to the normal pool used for Commonwealth scholarships.

● That special consideration be given to recipients of aboriginal scholarships so that they may receive from the NUAUS a sum to be determined, which shall be used for extra living, clothing and textbook allowances, etc.

● That recipients, where possible, be granted a free place in a college or hostel.

● A selection committee shall be formed with representation from the Government, trustee university and NUAUS.

● That after consultation with the trustee university a sinking fund for scholarship moneys be established.

● That eligibility for the scholarships be based on matriculation.



THE YARREN FAMILY RECENTLY moved into one of the newly-erected homes in York. It is built on similar lines to those to be constructed by the State Housing Commission soon. Since the death of Mrs. Yarren in February the task of housekeeping has fallen to members of the family. Rachael (left), Owen and Mr. Len Yarren (right) are pictured carrying out the necessary odd jobs about the home.

Gaiety at York

The Coolbaroo League's first dance at York on May 15 was a drawcard for a big crowd.

A good orchestra provided a packed programme of modern and old time dancing.

From now on dances will be held at the Masonic Hall, York, once a month. The next dance will be held on June 26.

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Some Colour Bars Go On Sporting Field

SIGNS that some old colour bars are gradually being overcome on the sporting field have come from the south of the State.

In both Borden and Ongerup local white football teams have opened their ranks to native boys.

For many years now, natives have been trying to show their ability as footballers, but have been barred from joining most country clubs.

Citizenship Rights

White people have claimed in the past, that natives must have citizenship rights before they could join a football club.

At Borden, brothers Len, Stan and Aubrey Roberts, Rebel and Gerald Williams and Morris Brown have been admitted to the local club. In Ongerup, John Woods and his nephew Brian have been admitted to the club.

Len and Stan Roberts recently gained their citizenship rights.

Narrogin Dances Praised

COOLBAROO League dances were highly praised from the Bench of the Narrogin Police Court early last month.

Speaking in a case in which Ken Riley of Wagin was convicted on charges of disorderly conduct and with having escaped legal custody, J.Ps. Dickson and Rick said the Coolbaroo League was doing a fine job for coloured people by putting on monthly dances in the Narrogin Lesser Town Hall.

Escape From Custody

Evidence was given that Riley, while affected by liquor had struck another native at the Narrogin Coolbaroo League dance on May 1. Later he had escaped from legal custody.

Riley was gaoled for three months on each charge.

The Bench said conduct such as Riley's would not be tolerated.

Maitland Penny, of Williams, and Joe Nundle, of Mt. Barker, are now spending a quiet holiday in Perth.

Registered at the General Post Office, Perth, for transmission by post as a periodical.

Police Charge Native

A CHARGE against a native—brought during a firearms amnesty—of having held a firearm without a licence and not being a person exempt under the Firearms and Guns' Act, was dismissed by the Marble Bar Police Court Magistrate late last month.

It was said that from October 15 to December 14 last year police granted an amnesty—if a person had a weapon that was not licensed, or the person was not licensed to be in possession of a weapon, it could be surrendered and no charges would be laid.

On December 1, full-blood native Rory McPhee, of Yandeyarra station, via Port Hedland, surrendered an 0.22 rifle to the police at Marble Bar.

McPhee was immediately charged under the Firearms and Guns Act, Constable Williamson admitted in Court.

Police Constable's Evidence

Constable Williamson said that in June last year, Jack Briscoe, who was managing Riverdale station for Donald McLeod, went to Meentheena station, also owned by McLeod. He took the rifle with him.

When McPhee surrendered the rifle to the police he said the rifle had been given to him by Briscoe and that McLeod had told him to take it to the police.

Magistrate V. P. Leach dismissed the charge. Native Affairs Department officer A. O. Day represented McPhee at the hearing of the case.

State Laws Reflect Minority Opinion

THE discriminatory laws governing natives in W.A. could only be interpreted as a reflection of the prejudices of several minor groups who had succeeded in influencing the legislators, said Native Affairs Department officer George Howard recently.

Speaking at a Rotary Club luncheon—held at the Savoy Hotel—Mr. Howard said that he was quite certain these laws were not a reflection of public sentiment.

He was not concerned with the prejudices of a few die-hard nigger-haters, whose only argument was that natives were black.

"It is all very well for Jones to say that he hates niggers. He thinks they should all be placed in one large compound, away from everybody's sight," said Mr. Howard.

That was merely the prejudice of an individual, and providing his opinions remained his personal property, he was quite entitled to his views. But when the personal prejudices of a minor group were incorporated into State law, then the whole matter assumed proportions far beyond a joke.

Mistaken Beliefs

Many white people entertained the mistaken belief that a coloured person was ashamed of his colour. That was quite wrong—such a belief showed a pathetic lack of understanding of the problems affecting natives.

The position needed to be made quite clear. It was not because a native was ashamed of his colour that he disliked being classified as a native.

'Leper' Coat

"When an assimilated coloured person is classified as a native, it is as if he were given a coat to wear with the word 'leper' emblazoned on the front and back. The reaction among those with whom he comes into contact, but who are not so classified, is no different to the reactions of the public, in the middle ages, to the lepers of their day. They avoid them, will not give them a job and otherwise discourage fraternisation," he said.

It was for this reason that so-called natives hated to be classified in this category.



GEORGE HOWARD (33) has had a varied career. He was born in Broome, came south in 1942 and held various jobs. He returned to Broome in 1946 to work on a pearling lugger, then came back to Perth in 1950 as a Railways Department worker. Last year he joined the Native Affairs Department. He was educated at a Broome convent school, but left at 14. Since then he has educated himself by wide reading.

Excelsior Club Socials

EVERY second Saturday night the Excelsior Club, Carnarvon, meets to provide an evening of bright entertainment for native people of the district.

Attendances at the functions range from 18 to 80 and guest artists usually provide musical or vocal items.

The club has now been in existence for about three years.

Secretary-Pianist

Secretary-Treasurer of the club is 19-year-old Raymond Winder who also acts as pianist at all the club's social functions. He is a clerical worker at the Carnarvon Native Affairs Department office.

Born at Shark Bay, Raymond was educated at the Presentation Convent School, Carnarvon, where he passed his book-keeping and typing examinations, learnt to read music and play the piano.

Raymond said during a recent visit to Perth that he was keen on all types of music—from jazz to the classics.



OUTSTANDING CARNARVON PIANIST Raymond Winder is pictured working out a bright musical programme for a recent Coolbaroo League dance with drummer Ron Kickett of Perth. Both have built up a reputation for their fine musical efforts.

Aborigines Prove Singing Ability

ABORIGINES proved their singing ability at a Coolbaroo League dance at Narrogin on May 1.

Contestants in a singing competition held during the evening received loud, spontaneous applause from the audience.

Judging of each competitor was on the applause. The most popular male singer was Mr. M. Bolton and the most popular female vocalist Miss Verna Stack.

Each received a free ticket to the next Coolbaroo dance at Narrogin on June 12.

Other contestants who were loudly applauded were: Messrs. S. Ugle, W. Williams, M. Miller and Misses R. Humes, E. Kickett and E. Smith.

Contestants proved they could sing both popular and western songs well.

Original Australians Progress Association

News Letter

OUR raffle of a five-valve portable radio is going well. The prize is attractive and members report that ticket sales are easy. There are still some books available from committee members.

MORE members are needed to assist with preparations for future social functions. Whoever can spare a little time please let us know.

MEMBERSHIP fees are now due. Please let us have your subscription (5/- for senior members and 1/- for members under 21) as soon as possible.

OUR membership must be increased. It is of little value if you are only sympathising without supporting the organisation and its efforts. The bigger our membership the greater will be our success.

HOUSING Minister Graham has told the association it is his intention to arrange a housing programme for coloured people every year, in addition to those who have obtained houses in their own rights. Mr. Graham said that generally, there appeared to be a desire on the part of local authorities to co-operate. There was some hostility, and apathy in some cases. For natives desirous of bettering themselves and able to stand up to the responsibility of paying for a house it was intended to press on with the scheme.—R. GOLDMAN, president.
Box S 1562, G.P.O., Perth. Telephone: BJ 2084

More Praise For Paper

TO THE EDITOR: Your committee must be congratulated on their foresight in producing such a wonderful organ as Westralian Aborigine. I feel that every State should follow your example.

In the past we have had to rely on the daily press for any news of West Australian natives and, in many cases, I am sure it is not quite fact.

We were most interested in your article on Don McLeod. We natives in this State would like to hear more of his activities.

Wishing your organisation and your worthy paper all the best,

Yours, etc.,

W. J. Onus — President, Australian Aborigines League, Victoria.

Note From Ben Mason

TO THE EDITOR: May I express my thanks to all who were responsible for the lovely gift and the send-off evening before my departure for the Eastern States.

I have now reached my destination, but have not quite settled down yet. Things are a bit different from W.A. I think I still prefer the West.

We had a good trip across the Nullarbor Plain—it's really barren, dry country there. I did not see any natives during the trip across the plain.

There was a derailment between Albury and Sydney and we had to change trains at 1.30 a.m.

We have been conducting services at the camp here and we have an excellent fellowship.

Yours etc.,

BEN MASON

READ THIS

You can advertise in "Westralian Aborigine"

Rates are 6/6 a single column inch or 5/- an inch, for contracts of 100 inches or more. For information write to Coolbaroo League, 102 Beaufort Street, Perth.

Adventists Establish New Mission In N-W

THE W.A. Conference of the Seventh Day Adventist Church has established a new mission station costing £12,000 about 35 miles north of Meekatharra.

Named "Karalundi" — meaning clear water — the new mission station was started during the first week in April and accommodates 40 native children.

The initial buildings of Karalundi consist of a workers' cottage, a dormitory with bathrooms and laundry attached, a dining room and kitchen block. A one-room school will be built to Public Works Department specifications later.

Abundant Water

A spokesman of the Seventh Day Adventist Church said Karalundi had seven wells, giving water at depths between 7ft. and 10ft., orange, fig, and olive trees and grape vines. Another 60 orange and lemon trees had been ordered.

The school would educate native children along the lines of the Education Department's curriculum.

The mission would encourage the natives to become self-supporting by teaching them pastoral, agricultural and gardening work.

Pastor's Epic Drive

To assist in the building of Karalundi recently, Fremantle Seventh Day Adventist Church Pastor C. E. Lemke had to drive through wide expanses of three-foot deep water, following heavy rains in the district.

Pastor Lemke, who encountered far worse hazards as a New Guinea missionary was undaunted by the flooded roads.

Snorkel Device

He placed a bag over the engine of his car and improvised a snorkel device by fixing a hose over the exhaust to keep the outlet clear of the water.

The floor of the car was awash during the journey over the flooded section of road and water ran out when the doors were opened on arrival at Karalundi.

LEN and Stan Roberts, of Ongerup and Fred Eades, of Kojonup were recently granted their citizenship rights.

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MISS MONICA INGRAM, of East Perth, is pictured presenting Coolbaroo League president W. Bodney with ancient aboriginal weapons she and her cousin discovered on a recent trip to the Gascoyne River region. The weapons are believed to be more than 150 years old. They were found in a perfect state of preservation in a rockhole.

ANCIENT ABORIGINAL WEAPONS FOUND

ABORIGINAL weapons, believed to be more than 150 years old, were found by Miss Monica Ingram, of East Perth, during a recent visit to the Gascoyne River area.

With her 14-year-old cousin David Star, of Car-

narvon, Miss Ingram was rambling through the Gascoyne River region when she saw a dark, round hole in the side of a rock.

Rock Hole Find

The couple investigated and found a number of ancient spears and other weapons inside.

She thinks the weapons probably belonged to a warrior from a now extinct tribe. Despite their age the weapons were in a perfect state of preservation.

On her return to Perth Miss Ingram presented the weapons to the W.A. Coolbaroo League. They will be hung on the walls of the League's Perth office.

News From Mullewa

TWELVE-year-old Lesley Merritt won a silver cup for the champion steeplechase rider of 1954 in Stan Gill's rodeo when it visited Mullewa recently.

Mrs. Len Harris has been elected captain of the Women's Railway Hockey Club. Other office bearers are: Secretary, Maureen Harris; President - Vice-Captain, Mrs. Leo O'Donnell. The Railway Hockey Club now has nine coloured players out of the 11 team members. Railways recently beat Towns 2-1.

Bill Pearce, George Pearce and Tony Phillips are now working at Gutha in a railway repair gang. Leedham Cameron has settled down in his job of WAGR repairer at Nannine.

Money and ticket butts for the Original Australians' Progress Assn. raffle must be handed in by June 10. The draw will be made on June 16. Every ticket outstanding by June 7 will be charged to the person holding it.

City Life £50,000 Hostel Appeal Was Easy

THE West Australian Native Welfare Council is planning to open a £50,000 appeal for the establishment of three hostels for natives.

Council representative Stan Garner said that it was hoped to be able to establish a hostel for girls, one for boys and a third for visitors to the city and Royal Perth Hospital outpatients.

Approval for the council to raise money had recently been granted by the Chief Secretary.

Home Life

The main aim of the appeal was to establish hostels so that native boys and girls living in the city would be able to enjoy a measure of home life in pleasant surroundings.

It was planned to open a State-wide queen contest to assist in raising the money needed. The queen contest would be open to both native and white girls.

Organisations Circularised

All industrial and sporting organisations in the State would be circularised soon so that they could form committees to elect queens in each district.

The contest would go on until October. Prizes had not yet been decided upon.

Any organisation interested in forming a queen contest committee could get in touch with Mr. Garner by writing to Box J691, G.P.O., Perth.

OUTSTANDING native guide Mittawillina and his son Martleburrow had no difficulty in mastering new and modern gadgets when they stayed at the home of retiring M.H.R. Bill Grayden recently.

Mr. Grayden said that from the start of the four weeks they stayed at his home the two natives acted as though they had been used to electricity and turning on a tap for water all their lives.

Though Mittawillina had never before slept in a bed, eaten with a knife and fork or done any of the everyday things we take for granted he had no trouble at all.

On the first morning Mittawillina got up and seeing that other beds had been made, promptly made his own. He even straightened up some clothing he had acquired the night before and brought out an ash tray to be emptied.

Said Mr. Grayden: "Mittawillina and Martleburrow were the most considerate guests I've ever encountered."

"They were gentlemen in every respect. We're looking forward to having Mittawillina and Martleburrow as guests again. In the meantime I count them as close friends."

The next Coolbaroo League dance at York will be held on June 26. The Narrogin dance is on June 12.

Notes From The South

Mrs. Fred Roberts and her daughter Mrs. Hazel Brown, of Borden, are in Perth undergoing medical treatment at Royal Perth Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Riley and Rosie Riley, who had her leg injured in a recent motor accident, are at present having a look at the "bright lights" of Perth.

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SPORTING NEEDS

The Long Trip Home Believe It Or Not— It Happened

An Australian Short Story

By MAX BROWN

THE Inspector, an habitual expression of ill-temper on his heavy, handsome features, looked up as the tall native entered, and spoke in a gruff, intimidating tone: "What's your name?"

"Banjo," the native replied courteously. His dust-stained cattleman's garb, rough like paper-bark, served to enhance his poise and lithe strength.

"Who's your boss?"
"Tom Mott the drover."
"Where did he pick you up?"
"Marble Bar."
"Is that your country?"
"Yes, sir."

The Inspector's voice all but rattled the windows, but Banjo remained undaunted, shifting his weight now and then from one fine spurred and booted foot to the other. He had brought something of the stillness and depth of wide, clean horizons into those four walls.

"You say he promised you a week and your return fare to the Bar from Meekatharra — yet only gave you a fiver?"

"Yes, here is the dog-skin he threw me."

He smiled as he handed a cheque across the table to the Inspector.

"Where is he now?"

"Aboard the Camboola."

"What sort of a fellow is he?"

Banjo gave a chuckle: "He's a crude beggar who would sooner fight than eat his damper."

The Inspector threw up his hands and laughed for he knew Mott's reputation. He wrote rapidly on a sheet of paper before him, and when he resumed his voice was reduced to a grumble:

"I've no time to worry about you. Hand this to the mounted constable at the wharf."

FROM dawn until dark for eight weeks Banjo had ridden behind the cattle — through the spinifex-dotted hills, past the caves in the plain where the kangaroos heltered in the heat, over the gleaming gravel flats, past Mundiwindi and into the gold country — and all the time his thoroughbred had moved like a strong river between his legs and he had sung his people's songs and seen their swift faces in the dust that swirled from the mob. But all the time too he had had to contend with Mott whose sudden whims and moods were more dangerous than the cattle. He would have left the outfit at Nullagine had Mott not taken his waterbags.

When at last the outfit had cut into the railhead, entrained the cattle, and broken up—one man this way and another that — Mott, with all the arrogance of his 6 years, had handed him the

cheque, clapped him on the back, and retreated into a pub without even having the decency to say what in effect his action meant: "You can find your own way back!"

The law did not permit Banjo to enter a hotel, but he had caught the train and followed Mott to Geraldton and done something unheard of for a native — complained against a white man.

NOW he walked down the street, the Inspector's note in his hand. He thought of Loongudda, old Minjoon, Jinnawarra and all the true-eyed men the whiteboss had shouldered out of the sun; but at the same time, it was wonderful how well a fight could turn out sometimes when you picked your own ground. Well, he had risked bigger stakes! He smiled at the fine day and the children playing, and at the town busy with horses and people. A camel-waggon piled high with flour and galvanised-iron for the hinterland lurched past. He could travel up country with one of those in a pinch.

When he came in sight of the jetty, the steamer lying there took his breath away. It was big like the red gran-



ite tor in the hot Injawayarra country which his ancestor, the frill-necked lizard man, had made before the animals came down from the sky. Beyond the ship, the sea stretched away immense and dangerous. Out there, he had heard, fish jumped as big as a man.

Banjo was so busy looking at the ship he all but bumped into the constable who was leaning against his bicycle at the gangway.

The constable read the note and looked at him curiously.

"You should know better than take on whitefella like Mott," he observed.

They found Mott on the boat-deck bending a stanchion to impress some youths with his strength. He was wide and cruel of shoulder and sported a new yellow jacket and strapped trousers. He grinned when told the Inspector wished to see him.

"I'll teach you to make a nuisance of yourself," he told Banjo.

Banjo smiled: "The grass-fed horse might win the stakes."

"I'll shove some grass down your gullet if you don't keep your mouth shut."

For all the violence of his talk Mott had not the least doubt as to the outcome of



the impending interview. He had already shot his native and got away with it. And so, when they reached the police station he swaggered into the Inspector's office, placed his hands on the edge of the desk, and remarked in his nasal tone: "Good-day, Inspector. I'm glad you reminded me to come and see you. This boy tried to run away from me at Nullagine."

Banjo, a few steps behind, had long since ceased to be surprised at Mott's unfailing ability to antagonise even the mildest people. He was watching the Inspector and saw the short hairs rise on his neck.

The Inspector replied in a shout: "What's your name?"

Mott gave him a hurt look and replied, "Why, Tom Mott."

"Where do you live?"

"Why, what's this for? I don't live anywhere particular. I'm on the move all the time."

"Have you any money to show you are not a vagabond and need a spell in walls?"

Mott laughed uneasily: "It's the first time anyone's called me a vagabond, but I've plenty of brass if that's what you mean."

He reached in his pocket, pulled out a purse and clapped it on the table. "There's £50 there and more where it came from."

The Inspector picked up the purse, opened it and proceeded to count out some sovereigns. "Three pounds to make up his wages," he said, "one for his fare from Meekatharra, and £10 for his passage back to Cossack — £14 altogether."

He stood up, closed the purse deliberately and threw it on the desk in front of Mott. From beneath his brows a stroke of lightning glittered and he swung his big first across the table under Mott's nose. "Next time you come before an officer of the law of this State, wait until you're spoken to. I'll teach you beggars to return a man to the place you started him. Now get out!"

NATIVE Affairs Department officer Adrian Day, stationed at Port Hedland, has been telling—and vouching their truth—two stories of the outback lately.

A mechanically clueless station-owner was taking a woman friend from town back to his property and Bob, a full-blood employee, was sitting in the back of the jeep.

Terrible banging noises could be heard from underneath the little bus which was leaning and swaying badly.

After many miles when Bob got out to open a gate the driver called, "Hey, take a look and see if the back spring is O.K., Bob."

As the station-owner went on talking Bob had a look underneath the jeep and climbed aboard again. The journey went on for another 20 miles with the noise still as bad as ever.

The station-owner turned and said, "You sure a spring leaf wasn't broken, Bob?"

"Five leafs, boss," came the rejoinder from Bob.

The same trio were out another day and the station-owner occasionally remarked, "I can smell smoke . . . must be someone mustering . . . You smell it, Bob?"

"Yeah, boss."

Two more miles passed and the station-owner asked, "See any smoke, Bob?"

"Little bit behind, boss."

On And On . . .

Another two miles further along the track the station-owner asked, "Still smell that smoke, Bob?"

"Sure can," said Bob.

After another few miles had passed fumes and smoke were pouring from the back of the jeep and the worried station-owner said, "By gee, Bob, something must be on fire out there. Know what it is?"

Quite calmly Bob answered, "We on fire, boss."

The Original Australians' Progress Association will conduct an evening of old time and modern dancing in the Braille Hall, Perth, on June 16. Modern dancing instructors will be available at the function.

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

A TRUE STONE-AGE man, Mittawillina took everything calmly in his stride when he came to Perth to stay with Bill Grayden recently. He's pictured chatting with Mr. Grayden's young daughter. Story: Page 3, col. 2.

N.A. Dept. Robbed

THERE was an ironical note about a robbery at the Native Affairs Department office, Perth, on May 20.

"Do Not Touch" signs, kept in one of the office drawers, were found hanging in various spots throughout the office.

The thieves, who ransacked drawers and cupboards took £20 in petty cash, a microphone, radiator, polisher, typewriter, a pistol and two rounds of ammunition.

Thieves entered the building by breaking a downstairs back window and undoing a door latch. The CIB is investigating the robbery.

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