



N-W Station-Owners Must Look Ahead, Says NAD Head

EMPLOYERS in Broome and on station properties would have to let the scales drop from their eyes if they wanted to retain their native labour in future, Native Affairs Commissioner Middleton said on his return to Perth from a recent tour of the North-West.

Said Mr. Middleton: "There is no doubt in my mind, nor in theirs, I suspect, that they are entirely dependent on native labour for their economic future."

"The least they can do in the circumstances is to treat them as valuable economic units — if nothing else — and look after them. They take good care of their stock and valuable machinery and equipment because of its economic value. Surely commonsense demands a similar attitude towards their native labour."

Everywhere in the north there was evidence that natives were becoming daily more alive to their responsibilities towards themselves and their children.

"In Broome natives are most dissatisfied with the conditions under which they are forced to live with their families and are already drifting towards Derby where there is much industrial activity," Mr. Middleton said.

This was largely due to the oil industry being developed in the West Kimberley district.

Mr. Middleton was impressed by the way station natives spent their wages.

Bargain-Hunters

He said they were already keen bargain-hunters.

"Many of those who attended a recent country race meeting refused to buy goods at the local town store, but kept most of their money until their return to the station where they spent it in the station store. And no wonder — a dress priced at £3 in the town store could be bought at a nearby station store for £1."

"A white inquirer was asked only £1/10/- in the same town store for the same dress."

Over The Range

During his tour Mr. Middleton travelled up the coast road by car to Port Hedland, flew to Broome and then continued by road through the West Kimberleys and by plane to pastoral and mission stations "over the range" and in the East Kimberley districts.

He returned from Port Hedland via the inland road through Meekatharra and Payne's Find to Perth.

● Contd. on Page 3, Col 1.

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THIS COSY LITTLE TRIO was snapped in a corner of Perth Town Hall, on October 4, at the Coolbaroo League's highly successful 1954 Royal Show Ball. Pictured are Ines Smith (left), League president Bill Bodney and Joan Deeble. The ball was one of the most successful social events so far conducted by the League.

Mungulo Is The Exception Who Does Prove The Rule

WOORORA tribesman Mungulo (26), from the Wotjulum Presbyterian Mission near Derby, is the first aboriginal full-blood in W.A. to receive treatment for polio.

Now in the polio ward at the Infectious Diseases Branch, Shenton Park, he is one of the few aboriginals to contract the disease in this State.

Recently he told the story of his four-year fight back to health — a fight in which he has regained the use of his limbs and educated himself at the same time.

During his four years in bed he has qualified as a native teacher. He can speak four native tongues and English.

He said: "I was engine boss on the mission lugger when I got polio in November, 1949, and couldn't move."

"They put me to bed and for a long time I lay there. Then after a while I sat up."

"One day I stood by the bed. I started to stand by the bed every day and as soon as I got tired I would get back again."

"They put a rail around the bed for me to hang on to and after a year I could walk around the bed."

"Then the big thing came. I started swimming. That made me much stronger and brought me to the stage where I could walk without hanging on to anything."

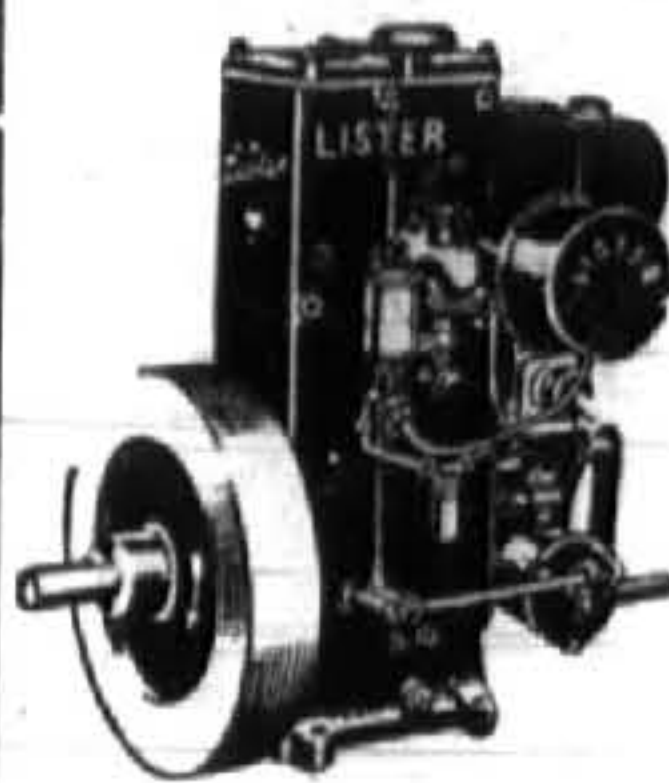
Mungulo, the father of two small girls, will return to his job as a teacher at the Wotjulum Mission soon.

Medical registrar H. J. H. Colebatch — himself a polio victim — commented: "Mungulo is the exception that proves the rule that polio is almost unknown in aboriginal communities."

"Almost all aborigines are immune by virtue of antibodies."

"The most likely explanation of this immunity is that

the children are infected in the first few months of life, while protected by antibodies transferred from the mother."



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Beware Of 'Dud' Cars

MANY natives buying old model cars and utilities have recently become the victims of unscrupulous second-hand vehicle dealers.

The Native Affairs Department has issued a warning to natives buying old model vehicles to be careful.

A department spokesman said that intending buyers of second-hand cars were advised to have the vehicle properly examined.

If an N.A.D. officer was available the deal should be put through only after consultation with him.

This procedure was likely to restrain dealers with "dud" cars from selling them to natives.

Many natives had recently bought cars that had broken down within a few weeks.

Realistic Education

THOUGH more native children were now attending school, facilities for vocational training were needed to enable them to earn their own livings, Native Education superintendent G. F. Thornbury said recently.

Mr. Thornbury said special vocational classes would soon be started at one north-eastern school.

School curriculums had been altered for the children of nomadic full-bloods. A set of primers illustrated with pictures of natives and on subjects which would interest them, such as kangaroo and emu, had now been printed.

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

Karalundi Has Opened School With 13 Pupils

A new Seventh Day Adventist mission, north of Meekatharra, known as Karalundi, opened its school on September 13, with 13 native pupils.

The opening ceremony was performed during the visit of Native Affairs Central district officer B. A. McLarty and Murchison assistant district officer J. A. Paquin.

Rapid progress had been made in the establishment of the mission which promised to be the future show-place of the Murchison district.

Building Programme

The school, girls' dormitory, superintendent's home and the kitchen-dining room had been completed. The framework of the boys' dormitory and another staff cottage had been erected.

An irrigation system had been laid out and about an acre of vegetables were thriving. A two-acre test plot of wheat and oats for stock feed had produced a crop standing five feet high.

The authorities intended to install a swimming pool when the building programme had been completed.



THIS IS KING WINJAN, chief of the South-West tribe of aborigines, who led the attack against Governor Stirling and his men at the Battle of Pinjarra in 1834. Winjan was believed to be 126 years old when he died. The entralling story of Winjan and his tribe will be told in a special new feature in Westralian Aborigine soon. Watch for the story of Winjan's People.

Don't forget that Coolbaroo League dances are held in the Braille Hall, Perth, every Friday night. The next Narrogin dance will be held on November 13, in the lesser hall. The next York dance will be held in the Masonic Hall on November 27.

Native Workers On State Project

THE Great Southern Comprehensive Water Scheme pipeline is slowly snaking out between Darkan and Quindanning towards Williams.

Residents of the southern districts of the State are anxiously watching the progress of the important project which will bring much-needed water from the Wellington Dam at Collie to Narrogin, Pingelly, Brookton, Wagin, Katanning, Mt. Barker and

other Great Southern towns.

Native residents of the areas between Collie and Narrogin are playing an important part in the construction of the vital project.

High Pay

Eighteen natives are on the project payroll doing a variety of jobs under good conditions and pay.

Payment varies from £27 to £32 a fortnight in hand after deductions, according to the nature of the work.

It is expected that after the completion of the shearing season even more natives will be employed on the project where tented accommodation, complete with beds, is provided.

NORAH'S A WINNER

Attractive Norah Shea, who is secretary of the Coolbaroo League, was chosen as the Belle of the Ball at League's 1954 Royal Show Ball, on October 4.

Born at Carnamah, Norah is employed as a telephonist at the Native Affairs Department, Perth.

She recently celebrated her 21st birthday at a party held in her honour at East Perth.

At a special Coolbaroo League second anniversary party last February she was selected as the Coolbaroo bathing beauty of 1954.

Cyclist Manfred Corrunna showed a return to form when he won a heat and ran second in the final of the Show Wheel Race conducted by the W.A. League of Wheelmen, at the Perth Royal Show.

Editorial

You Answer These Please, Mr. Kemp

DOES the United Licensed Victuallers' Association refuse accommodation to the hundreds of dark-skinned Malay and Asian students who have come to the State in the past few years to further their education? We very much doubt it.

HAVE there been widespread outcries against these dark-skinned people using the same toilet facilities, beds and bathrooms as white people? The answer is obviously in the negative.

WHY then should the U.L.V.A.'s spokesman Kemp say that "present standards could hardly be maintained if natives were permitted to use hotel facilities. Strong resentment would be aroused among the normal run of hotel guests, especially women who patronise hotels"?

THE U.L.V.A. must be a very ignorant body of people if they believe Australian coloured people are any different in character and decency from any other coloured people in the world.

WHAT are these so-called "standards" Mr. Kemp refers to? If he means high standards, then it would certainly be a fine thing if he were able to show where all these high standard country hotels are situated. Most are barely fit for human habitation. Just how they manage to retain their licenses would probably provide some interesting answers.

IF publicans were a little more choosy with their white clients we might almost believe Mr. Kemp's tongue-in-the-cheek statement that the proposal to give natives the unrestricted use of hotels was a question of education.

OUR publicans should take some education in human behaviour before they launch unfounded criticisms on the decent, clean-living natives who comprise the great majority of our aboriginal population.

THERE is no doubt whatsoever that natives seeking accommodation in hotels would behave far better than a lot of white people.

MR. Kemp's statements recently, proved two things that the public has thought for a long time: That publicans are colour blind and apathetic — apathetic about everything, except making easy money. They are so far behind the times that they still think in terms of segregation. It's high time they realised that they are living in a cloud of ignorance.

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Equality And Division Seen During N-W Tour

Shark Bay was the one place in W.A. where coloured and white people mixed on terms of absolute equality, said Native Affairs Commissioner Middleton on his return from a recent tour of the North-West.

Shark Bay was one of the many places of interest visited during his tour.

Commenting on various aspects of the tour, he said that at Roebourne the tumult and shouting over the establishment of a school for native children had now died down.

The school came into operation on September 27, and its teachers were pleased with the progress of native children.

Natives of the Port Hedland-Nullagine-Marble Bar districts had divided themselves — or had been divided by conflicting white economic interests — into four groups: The Yandyarra, Marble Bar-Moolyella, Nullagine and station-township groups.

The first three groups were mining communities. They appeared to be independent and were reasonably well-fed and clothed.

The Native Affairs Department had sent several loads of rations out to Yandyarra, mainly to ensure that children there were not short of food.

McLeod Group Disappointed

The Northern Mining and Development, of which Mr. D. W. McLeod was managing-director, was in voluntary liquidation.

Natives of the "McLeod group", who were most concerned with the company were very disappointed with the turn of events.

There were about 350 people still in this group. Formerly there were more than 600.

Marble Bar-Moolyella natives were engaged mainly in "yandying" tin ore on Moolyella Creek. They were independent and appeared quite prosperous.

Like Yandyarra people, they were anxious to have their children educated. The Native Affairs Department hoped to establish hostels for them as soon as agreement could be reached with them regarding proposed sites and management arrangements.

The Nullagine group was engaged mainly in surface mining for columbite, tantalite, beryl and other valuable minerals in partnership and co-operation with Mr. Dorrington and other whites.

In the Kimberley district Mr. Middleton discussed with pastoralists and others his plan for the education of native children living on stations.

He holds the view that it might not be in the best interests of the children to take them away from their natural environment and place them in mission stations where they would not have the same opportunity of learning stock work, which would be the only future livelihood of most of the children.

He said his plan met with the approval of most of the bigger station property managers and owners. Some immediately expressed their willingness to provide schools and teachers' accommodation on the stations.

It was anticipated that the Education Department would be able to provide teachers.

Native parents with whom Mr. Middleton discussed the project hailed it with delight and enthusiasm.

A PAT AND ALSO A KICK

TO THE EDITOR:

A reader of Westralian Aborigine for nine months, I think it is a very good little newspaper and know many mixed blood people besides myself who look forward to it each month and appreciate it.

However, one of my friends and I feel it should be kept to people of part-white and part-aboriginal blood.

There are too many items in your paper about full-blood aborigines. After all, we mixed bloods, who have advanced, have nothing in common with full-blood aborigines. They are backward and mostly ignorant of modern life today.

I am always afraid to leave a copy of Westralian Aborigine around the house in case some white friends visit us, read the paper and class us the same as the full-bloods featured in Westralian Aborigine.

The name of the paper, too, should be changed from Westralian Aborigine to Westralian Native. — PART-WHITE, PERTH.

It's possible to please some of the people some of the time, but impossible to please all of the people all the time. Westralian Aborigine is produced for all natives within the meaning of the Native Administration Act. Regarding the name, a rose would smell as sweet by any other name.—EDITOR.



PART OF THE BIG CROWD that turned out for the recent opening of additions to McDonald House for native boys in Carr-st., West Perth, is pictured. In an opening speech, Premier Hawke said that the record of the home was excellent. The only complaint was that it had not been big enough. The home had made a valuable contribution to native welfare work.

A SMART TURNOVER

"HOPPY" has his own ideas about banking procedure which are not shared by the management of the Commonwealth Savings Bank in a certain country town.

Hoppy is a business man with fixed principles about small capital outlay and quick profits. His demeanour on entering the bank indicated keen business acumen.

He came straight to the point:

"Want one of them little books," he said.

"Do you want to open an account?" asked the manager.

"Yes. Got ten bob to start it."

In a matter of minutes Hoppy had given his specimen cross and received his pass-book which he scrutinised with care.

At length he was satisfied and ready to pose his next question: "Where do I go to take it out?"

"What?" said the bank manager. "Do you want to withdraw some already? How much do you want?"

Hoppy had his answer ready: "Eight quid," he said.

TO THE EDITOR:

I wish to congratulate the W.A. Coolbaroo League on its 1954 Royal Show Ball held in the Perth Town Hall.

I don't think I have ever enjoyed myself so much and I know a lot of others that think the same.

What made it even better, was the fact that it was organised by our own people.—J. A. B., GREAT SOUTHERN.

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JOTTINGS FROM HERE AND THERE

MR. FRANK Mippy recently returned to Carnarvon with his family after spending a month's holiday in Northampton with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Councillor.

Off to the races in Carnarvon on September 28-30 were Mrs. Evelyn Corbett and daughter Shirley and Mr. Harold Mocher.

Marjorie Schwarz said "I will" to Les Clayton of Carnarvon last month. The wedding was solemnised in the Methodist Church, Northampton. A reception was held at the Mechanics' Hall. About 50 guests were present.

A feature of a highly successful debutante ball held in Boddington last month, in which debutantes were presented to Sir Ross and Lady McLarty, was the presentation of a coloured girl, Marjorie Ninyette, daughter of Ted and Ethel Ninyette, of Boddington.

Marjorie, who looked very smart in her white full length frock, was partnered by her brother Jesse. The couple were featured in the group photograph published in the local paper. This is believed to be the first case in the Great Southern of an aboriginal girl making her debut at a debutante ball.

Popular couple Frank and Rosie Mippy, of the Narrogin native reserve, have left for Carnarvon where they intend to live permanently with Rosie's son on a banana plantation. Frank intends to help on the plantation. What about some bananas, Frank?

Bill Ninyette, of Narrogin, passed away at the Narrogin District Hospital on September 23. Bill's passing was mourned by a wide circle of friends, both white and coloured.

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IN this article Native Affairs Department officer George Howard — himself an aborigine — discusses some of the injustices of Commonwealth and State legislation, and particularly . . .

That Burning Question Of Citizenship Rights

THE opinions of many assimilated coloured individuals seem to indicate that they consider a system of compulsory qualifications — such as that embodied in the Native Citizenship Rights Act (1944-51) — is repugnant to the Australian way of life and an insult to human dignity.

The Citizenship Rights Act requires a native who considers himself "worthy" of exercising the normal civil privileges and responsibilities, enjoyed by any other class of natural-born Australians, to submit himself to some sort of qualifying examination and above all to have separated himself from any association with people of his own race and kind.

It may not be known generally that natives are in fact citizens of this country, and therefore no body of people can confer the status of citizenship on any class of natural-born subjects, who by virtue of their birth, are already citizens.

However, the rights of citizenship can be suspended at present, in the case of natives, by State legislation.

It should be realised that there is a big difference between "citizenship status" and "citizenship rights". The former is considered inalienable, while the latter can be suspended.

In fact, legislation can affect only the "rights" of citizenship — never the "status".

NATIVES contend that the rights of citizenship should also be considered inalienable. Therefore, they submit, no State Government should have the power to deprive a natural-born Australian subject of his inalienable rights as a citizen of the country of his birth.

In other words, no State Government should be allowed to interfere with the rights of an individual, except by due process of law when an individual can be declared a ward of the State, if such individual is deemed to require guardianship.

It appears that this viewpoint is supported by the Commonwealth Government's legislation under which all natives are recognised as citizens of Australia.

The official attitude in Western Australia as manifested in State legislation, amounts to a non-recognition of natives as citizens, and is a flat contradiction of Commonwealth law.

FURTHER, the fact that natives are recognised as citizens under Commonwealth legislation would seem to indicate that they have constitutional rights.

The enactment of special restrictive State laws amounting to a non-recognition of those basic rights and made applicable only to a section of the community would appear to be constitutionally invalid and repugnant to the principles which it is implied, is embodied in the high ethical standards of British justice, attributed to the legislative and judicial system of Australia.

Apparently the only barriers preventing natives from exercising citizenship rights are special clauses contained in certain pieces of State and Commonwealth legislation. These clauses effectively deprive natives of citizenship rights and affect no other class of natural-born Australians.

OBVIOUSLY, therefore, the Government only needs to remove these barriers; not require individuals, merely because they happen to have been born with a dark skin, to subject themselves to some sort of test, which other natural-born Australians are not required to undergo — because they happen to have been born white.

Natives have no desire to be classified as non-natives in order to qualify for something which should be theirs as a birthright. They merely desire to be recognised as native citizens having the constitutional rights of ordinary white citizens.

It is not a question of special privileges, it is merely one of common justice.

Constable Injured

Constable E. G. Cunningham — the Quairading agent for Western Australian Aborigine — accidentally shot himself while chasing a native near Kwolyn recently.

Constable Cunningham was investigating a report of a disturbance by natives when he tripped in the darkness and was accidentally shot with his own pistol.

The bullet went through his upper right arm and entered his body.

The disturbance occurred near a Kwolyn hotel.

When Constable Cunningham arrived he arrested two natives. Another native ran into the bush when the constable called out to question him.

Constable Cunningham was taken to Royal Perth Hospital where the bullet was removed.

A wristlet watch raffled at the Coolbaroo League's 1954 Royal Show Ball is still unclaimed. The number of the winning ticket is 61, C. The holder of this ticket may claim the watch from Miss Norah Shea, at 102 Beaufort St., Perth, or by ringing BA 2814.

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

1954 ANNUAL BALL WAS A BIG SUCCESS

THE Coolbaroo League's 1954 Royal Show Ball — the League's second annual ball — held at Perth Town Hall on October 4, proved to be another enjoyable and memorable event.

Official guests at the ball included M.H.R. Paul Hasluck and wife, Mrs. Esther Culbong of Narrogin, Mrs. P. Hansen of Busselton, Sir Ross and Lady McLarty, M.L.A. H. Graham and wife, Mr. George Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson of the Native Affairs Department, M.L.A. L. Nimmo and wife, Mrs. Rischbeith of the Women's Service Guild, and Native Affairs Minister Hegney and wife.

The main attraction of the evening was the judging of the Belle of the Ball contest — won by Coolbaroo League secretary Norah Shea.

Judging was carried out by Mrs. Hegney, Mrs. Barker, Mrs. Nimmo and Mrs. Fairbrother.

Miss Shea was presented with a necklace donated by former M.H.R. Bill Grayden and a bouquet from the Coolbaroo League.

Another feature of the ball was a comedy act in which a cow was brought on to the stage and milked.

Music was provided by a five-piece orchestra, known as the Western Stars, managed by aboriginal drummer Ron Kickett.

Singing with the orchestra was popular Perth vocalist Lloyd Taylor.

An outstanding supper, novelties and masses of balloons all added to the gaiety of the ball.

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50 HOMES THIS YEAR

FIFTY homes for natives would be completed by the end of the current financial year on State Housing Commission plans, Native Welfare Minister Hegney said recently.

Outlining the second reading of the Native Welfare Bill, Mr. Hegney said he had inspected three homes erected in York and was pleased with the type of houses and the manner in which the natives cared for them.

SHEARERS NEEDED

Shearing is in full swing in the Great Southern district and the employment position among coloured people is healthy.

According to reports received from the Native Affairs Department, Southern District Office, many requests have been received for native shearers and shed hands.

At present the demand for the services of native workers far exceeded the supply.