

Swan Hill Centre Expands

MANY GENEROUS GIFTS

The Committee of the Swan Hill Native Children's Centre were the recipients of an unexpected gift of £150 recently, from the Berriwillock Presbyterian Wheat Scheme.

This scheme is a charitable organisation which each year puts in several hundred acres of crop on land given for the purpose by Mr. Alan McClelland, of Berriwillock, and cultivated, sown and harvested by a group of adherents of the local Presbyterian Church.

The proceeds of the sale of the wheat, which in the last two seasons amounted to £3,400, has been given to any charitable organisation which the committee deems deserving.

A gift of £1,500 was given to Dr. Dax last year for mental hygiene work and it is understood that a further gift is to be given to him again this year. Other local and overseas charitable organisations have benefited from the wheat scheme funds.

Recently a group of the Berriwillock Presbyterian Wheat Scheme, comprising Mr. and Mrs. Alan McClelland, Mrs. Goodwin and the Rev. Anderson visited the Swan Hill Native Centre, and after inspecting it thoroughly, were so impressed by the work of the centre committee and the way the native people were keeping it, that they presented Sergeant Feldtmann

with a cheque for £150 to complete the work. The committee of the centre wish to publicly thank the Berriwillock Presbyterian Wheat Scheme for their generous donation.

MORE BUILDINGS.

This gift will allow the committee to complete the pre-fabricated cottages given to the centre by the New South Wales Government. Two of these cottages have been erected, but need many renovations and additions to make them comfortable and attractive.

The Swan Hill Apex Club is to assist in finishing the work at the centre. Their State-wide slogan this year is "Aboriginal Welfare Work".

Pastor Wale, the Methodist Missionary from Crocker Island who has been working amongst the aborigines there and is on a visit to Swan Hill, visited the centre and expressed his admiration for the work done, and the Scheme in general. He said the appreciation of the native people here was obvious to everyone by the "spic and span" fashion in which the place was kept, and by the beautification of the surroundings.

He stated that it was the most admirable "set-up" he had seen in all his years amongst the natives and it should be the prelude to a better deal for them.



Aboriginal Nurse in Film

Popular Ruth McKenzie

At the Young District Hospital recently the men's public ward resembled a Hollywood set as Kleig lights and movie camera were set up to take some film shooting.

The reason for this was that Mr. Cecil E. Rubie, M.A., Public Relations Officer to the Department of Education, was producing a documentary film on the advancement of the aboriginal section of the population into the commercial, industrial, rural and social life of the nation.

The film, entitled "Proud Heritage" is being produced by Cinesound in Eastman Colour for the Department of Education.

The film, when completed, will be flown to England, for processing and printing, then for distribution overseas and will be premiered at the State Theatre, Sydney.

The subjects in the shots at the hospital were Nurse Ruth McKenzie, attending to Mr. Michael Maguire, of William Street.

Nurse McKenzie, who comes from Cootamundra, is doing her training at the Young District Hospital and is in her second year.

Cinesound Photographer Mr. Whiteman said that Nurse McKenzie made an ideal subject for the film. Her actions were very natural and she appeared not to be concerned with the camera. She is photogenic, too.

"Today's shooting will do much towards making the film's message one that will register.

"No one will see her beautiful smile and forget it came from a nurse, in a country hospital, doing a grand humane work", said Mr. Whiteman.