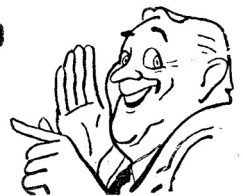




# They say



The Matron at Brewarrina, who has now resumed duty after a successful operation in Sydney, has recommenced Brownies, which she had formed some weeks ago.

The youngsters were very eager to get back to this happy form of games and instruction after a break of some seven weeks.

To those who think that the Brownies is just "playing-about" it should be explained that the basic idea is to encourage each child to help in the home. They are trained as fairies or elves. The idea being that "a good fairy" has done this or that little job for her mother. Some of the jobs which they are taught are making beds, washing-up, and cleaning and dusting about the home.

Instruction is balanced with organized games, and each child is expected to learn the Brownie law and promise.

The Matron was an experienced Guider in England, before coming to Australia and carried on this work during the war and the raids on London. In addition to re-forming the Guide Company at Casino in 1953, Mrs. Roberson as Assistant Matron at Murrin Bridge helped the Matron, Mrs. Carlin, form a Brownie Pack, which, as we know, is doing very well.

## FURTHER SUCCESSFUL SHOWS BY HILLBILLY TROUPE

The Wilcannia Aborigines Hillbilly Troupe went on to further success, when they recently visited Broken Hill. On the 18th October, 1957, the Troupe travelled to that city and put on a show in the Town Hall, half the proceeds going to the Flying Doctors Service and the other half towards building and equipping a children's playground at the Wilcannia Aborigines Settlement.

Arrangements for their appearance at Broken Hill were in the hands of the Flying Doctor, Dr. Huxtable, and the Apex Club of that City.

On the Troupe's arrival at the Flying Doctor Base, they were met by Mr. Frank Basden who welcomed them on behalf of the Flying Doctor and made them comfortable till the arrival of Dr. Huxtable and his wife and daughters. A barbeque lunch was then arranged for the party, and after everyone had their fill photos were taken, and they continued their journey to the city.

The Troupe was billeted in the North Broken Hill Boys Club, where they soon settled down to a refreshing shower and a spruce-up for the big event of the evening. After a light meal they were then taken to the Town Hall where preparations were made for the show to go on at the prescribed time, 8 o'clock.

At 7.50 p.m. the Troupe assembled on stage, and after the playing of the National Anthem, the Lord Mayor, Alderman Riddeford, opened the concert, and welcomed the party to his city.

The curtain then rose and a deafening applause greeted the Troupe as they waited for the signal to commence their opening number, "Caribbean". The boys and girls were all nerves when they started, but they warmed up as they went along and, needless to say, they performed like veterans. Some of them showed outstanding promise and ability. One outstanding feature of the show was Billy Webster with his gum leaf, he so impressed the crowd that he was asked to continue his performance out in the street, and finished up with another large audience.

After the show a buffet supper was provided for the Troupe by the Women's Auxiliary of the Flying Doctor Service, and was much appreciated by the party.

There was a capacity crowd to witness the performance of the Troupe, and there were many speakers to express their appreciation and views on the aborigines' performances and initiative in helping themselves as well as helping the Royal Flying Doctors Service.

Interest in the future of this Troupe is mounting high, and in all probability, this Troupe may be seen in the larger cities, taking their place as members of the general community, entertaining over the radio, or as an independent Troupe of entertainers travelling around Australia.



This is Neville Lilley of Karuah.