

# NANIMA NEWS

by J. B. CAHILL

**N**ANIMA is a Reserve for aborigines, situated in a very delightful and colourful setting on the banks of the Macquarie River about five miles from the township of Wellington in the Central West of New South Wales. Consisting of 100 acres this Reserve encompasses a very attractive and modern school and twelve cottages, four of which have only recently been completed and occupied. The population of the Reserve is approximately 110 people, while another hundred and forty-odd dwell in a second settlement on the Town Common nearby.

Of recent times electricity has reached out to Nanima and it is expected that very soon this supply of power will be connected to all the homes and that street lighting will be installed. Already the water pumping plant is operated by electricity and the supply has also been connected to the School. Since the advent of electricity the school has installed a very efficient radio and sound system, incorporating a radiogram, public address unit and radio, with extension speakers to all classrooms and various points of the playground, a film-strip and slide projector, electric iron for the needlework classes and other minor amenities. It is hoped very soon to add a 16 mm. motion film projector to these excellent teaching aids.

At the annual meeting of the Wellington District Aboriginal Children's Aid Committee held recently, the following were elected as executive officers for the ensuing year:—President—Rev. Archdeacon H. Graham, who has held the position for many years; Vice-Presidents—Rev. H. S. Rew and Mrs. S. Rayment; Secretary—Miss M. Bailey; and Treasurer—Mr. H. Crafter, the latter being a very welcome newcomer to the Committee. A Report presented to the meeting outlined the principal activities of the previous twelve months, included in which were—

- A Christmas Tree and Christmas Party at Nanima School at which over 200 children were entertained.
- A Vacation Play Centre at Nanima, for which the Committee undertakes the responsibilities of the usual "local authority".
- Provision of warm children's clothing and blankets to families in need of them.
- Provision of uniforms to children attending High School.
- Assistance in many forms for a family whose home was destroyed by fire.
- Attempted to obtain a phone service to Nanima but with no success.
- Assisted aboriginal children to attend Summer Camp and to take part in the State Athletic Championships in Sydney.
- Support and amenities for the school on the Reserve at Nanima.
- Provision of mid-day meals for children needing them at the Wellington Public School, and many other minor acts of general welfare and assistance.

At this meeting of the Committee the retiring Treasurer, Mr. H. G. Wilkin and his wife were farewelled, as Mr. Wilkin has been transferred to Sydney by his bank. Their departure will be felt acutely by all members of the Committee as both were very active members and

extremely interested in the general welfare movement in the District. The Welfare Officer stationed at Dubbo, Mr. H. S. Kitching, was also present at the meeting and was suitably welcomed by the President, Archdeacon Graham.

At the Wellington District Show for 1961, children from Nanima School enjoyed a considerable measure of success in the exhibition of school work, taking a total of 7 first prizes, 11 second prizes and 11 third prizes, in addition to 3 given a Highly Commended award. At this Show schools within a radius of 40 miles of Wellington compete—both public and private schools—hence the girls and boys of Nanima had every cause for delight at their grand successes and are alreadyeagerly looking ahead to next year's Annual Show.

Here are the results from Nanima School:—

## *Infants Division*

Handwork under 8 yrs.—Marilyn Peachey, 3rd.  
Design under 9 yrs.—Cheryl Smith, 2nd.

## *Primary Division*

Handwork under 10 yrs.—David Stanley, 3rd.  
Handwork under 11 yrs.—Ken Peachey, 2nd.  
Handwork 12 yrs. and over—Darcy West, 2nd and Jack Dargin, 3rd.

Basket Weaving—Darcy West, 2nd and Ken Peachey, 3rd.  
Woodwork—

Under 11 yrs.—Darcy West, 1st and 2nd; Tom Daley, 3rd.  
12 yrs. and over—Rodney Towney, 1st and Albert May, 2nd.  
Any age—Darcy West, 3rd.

Handwriting—

Under 9 yrs.—Elizabeth West, 3rd.  
Under 11 yrs.—Pauline Ah See, 2nd and Marlene Stewart, 3rd.

Art—

Picture making—Eunice Peachey, 1st.  
Design—Eunice Peachey, 1st.

Best Art—Open section—Jimmy West, 2nd.  
Mapping, 3rd Grade—Elizabeth West, 2nd.

Needlework—

Skirt—Molly Stanley, 3rd.  
Slip—Molly Stanley, 1st.  
Blouse—Eunice Peachey, 2nd.  
Slip, handmade—Eunice Peachey, 1st.  
Slip, machine made—Muriel West, 2nd and Valda Stanley, 3rd.  
Sunfrock—Eunice Peachey, 1st.