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MANINGRIDA MIRAGE

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Artists do well in Competitions

On Christmas Eve Pessra George Garawun and Charlie Gumbung received letters from Brisbane to say that they had won first and second prizes in this year's OPAL Christmas card competition. The judges felt that the standard was so high that they doubled the prize money and so George and Charlie were able to do some last minute Christmas shopping with \$40 and \$20 respectively.

Mr. Bob Bilinyarra also received \$10 for third prize in traditional bark painting section — for his enus. The judge told Bob that she had long been an admirer of his work.

New Craftsmen

Big Barney who is a leading maker of dug out canoes has recently turned his hand to smaller items such as fish, snakes, etc and is doing good work.

Harry Mulumbuk has come out of retirement to take up the craft of painting his dreaming "the cockles" on bark. He is improving too!

Didgeridoos

For years, didgeridoos at Maningrida have been as scarce as hen's teeth — or ready cash on the day before pay day.

Largely through the drive of Ray Lunyal the craft room now abounds with them — all sizes and almost all of them, very well painted.

Recently an order for a museum in Japan was assembled and sent away. A visitor to the cherry blossom land in future may see among other things a Lan-darry kangaroo, a lightning dreaming snake as painted on the caves by Jacky Bunganiel, a Robin Guningbal ceremonial bark and a splendid goanna by the old Milingimbi song man Jatjangu. Not to mention 2 mimis by the inimitable Caruso and a beautifully painted log coffin by the up and coming Burada artist George Anaragayura.

Unnecessary Disturbances at Night

Several times recently the sisters have been disturbed in the middle of the night by people who have come to be patched up after a fight of some kind.

On Christmas night some young man decided that he wanted his "promise" a school girl. She refused to go to him — and so on this night of peace on earth and good will to men, he beat her up and she was brought along at 1am.

At midnight on Monday a sister was awakened by some young men who wanted medical attention after fighting.

On Tuesday night a girl who rather likes boys was given an angry reception by her parents and relatives and was in need of an Aspro or two at about 10p.m.

These are only a few instances this week.

Cont

The sisters do not mind getting up in the night to help people who are really sick. But they need their sleep like everyone else and we should all think about these things, before making trouble during the night.

The Spear Throwing Competition

The contest attracted quite a large number of entrants, (43) and it was particularly pleasing to see a number of younger fellows home on holidays from various courses, taking part.

The winner Charlie Lulumbuk was one of the few to hit the flour bag from the furthest distances, but as the throwers moved nearer, the successes came more often.

Murray Maralal had a splendid honing device. The fish wire spear head had broken somehow and as the spear flew through the air this went around in propellor fashion - and Bang! Bang! right into the flour bag on two successive throws. That seasoned old bark painter Bob Biliyara hurled down a couple of spears without any preliminary balancing or aiming and then stood back with a big smile when he scored a couple of hits.

Six men had to throw off for third prize and a great tussle developed between Jockey Bundabunda and George Gawara; Jockey winning with an edge 3-4 in 4throws.

Winners:- 1. Charlie Lulumbuk 2 strikes 3points.

2. Equal.

Billy Yirinyin. 1 strike 2points.

Dick Smith. 1 strike 2points.

Murray Maralal. 2 strikes 2points.

3. Six people tied for third place, but the prize was taken off by Jockey Bundabunda, who scored 3 hits out of 4 throws in the throw-off. The other third prize

getters were:-

Paddie Milnirin.

Charlie Lowundanga.

Ray Mulyal.

George Garawan.

Bob Biliyara.



On pay days Mr. Les Holt and Sam used to bake 600 loaves of bread for the big Friday afternoon and Saturday morning sales and always used to sell out.

Last pay day when Jimmy Bunguru had joined the staff they had a really big bake putting out 960 loaves. "Well we've got their measure now," thought Les.

By 10.30a.m. on Saturday morning the shelves were empty!!

There's plenty of nourishment in the bread - a double measure of milk & gluten, fat, sugar, bread improver as well as the basic flour, salt and water.

When the children are at school many of them come to the baker's shop in the afternoon to buy buns, small cakes, etc. Now that the school holidays are here, the children are either playing or hunting somewhere, and the demand for the yeast goods isn't quite as strong.

During December on the other hand, the number of bread rolls used to make hamburgers at the Hasty Tasty greatly increased.

Concerning prices - a milk loaf in Darwin costs 37c. and a starch reduced loaf which contains gluten costs 38c. The Mangrida loaf contains both milk and gluten, pays extra freight charges on yeast and flour and the other ingredients and sells at 40c.

The bread improver, mentioned above is an extract from the soya bean and the oil of the Sesame seed.

ARTIST

The artist for this issue of the Mirage is Bobby Pascoe Anabogora who has just completed First Year High School in Darwin and came top of Class 1 C 2.

Camp at Rocky Point.

About a fortnight ago, Lucky and Barney took 10 boys to Rocky Point for a four day camp.

"When we arrived, we unloaded and cleaned the area to make a safe fire place. During the camp the boys had great fun, fishing and coming back with so many, that they could not eat them all.



One night one boy was frightened and said that he was nearly taken by a debil debil, a Big one. This was the best part, when he was madly running about trying to get cover and in the end huddling up between two boys (almost underneath them) under their blanket."

Barney says 'Yes it was too great, I hope we go lots of times camping while the School holidays are on.'

Lucky "This is the first time that Barney and I have taken the young boys and it was great. During the camp, Barney W. was our cook. Most of the time, he would wake up early and get breakfast ready. After breakfast, the boys did the washing up and helped Barney.

While everyone went fishing, I took Paddy Brown and David Laranbuwa sailing across to the Kupanga in the sea scout's sailing boat. It was good to see the place again. On the way, I speared a big sting-ray about a 150 pounder. At the camp, we thought we might have him for tea, but we had eaten so many crabs that we left the sting-ray to rot away.

We had to leave the good country and return to Maningrida, but to go camping again while the school holidays are on - keeping the kids busy and not doing a lot of bad things."

P.S. The fish we caught were schnapper, skinny, bream, trevally caught on fishing lines and with spears on the beach and off the rocks.

David's Story

I was born at Blyth River where my parents were living. Later on my father took me to Darwin but my mother stayed at the Blyth River. I was sorry to leave my mother. The trip to Darwin took three months.

When we reached Darwin, I worked with a stockman. I didn't speak in English then but I was learning from others. I was careful about doing things because I didn't go to school - but later on in Darwin, I did go to school. I still didn't know some of the European rules. My father kept on teaching me the old way of life and I believed my father.

When I was grown up, my father left me in Darwin and he came back to see my mother and brothers and sisters - David, Judy, Valerie and Larry Wipa. In Darwin I was drinking and fighting and stealing and later I was thinking to myself and I said to myself "I want to go home to see my parents." So I said to myself "Yes. I will go."

My father had died and I came through to Jimmy. He was very sorry because I had lost my father. I said "Tells me the rules about the European law." He said "Its a long story." "But you will start with the word of life. This will help you to understand. You come each night to my place." I said "Yes Jimmy I will." I was very pleased because Jimmy talked to me and helped me. I can see the picture better now.

David Anguraidja.

They'd broken the Law

Last week two men went into Darwin to face charges in the Court.

According to the N.T. News Peter Banjuljul had hit Charlie Jarabili with a crowbar (the small type used for digging yams) and cut him so badly that he needed 40 stitches. Peter informed people at Maningrida say that it was nearer 14. They have healed up very well and last night Charlie had a job to find where they had been.

The Magistrate fined Peter \$100.

It is reported that Jimmy Cooper was fined \$100 also for his violence at the Hasty Tasty.



Week-end Duties

Duty Officer ; Mr. Bill (Brolga) Beckett
Duty Sister : Sister Helen King

Star Theatre

Fri. Should arrive on
Sat. today's plane.

Church

Sunday - "The nations seek Christ "

9.30 a.m. Sunday Schools

7.00 p.m. Evening Service . Holy Communion.

When the Wise Men saw the bright shining star in the East and followed it , they were 'outsiders' who were coming to see the new born King.

The King was born to a people of a nation and a culture different from theirs.

Aboriginal people coming to believe in Christ the King are like the wise men - they are believing in One who was not born in their culture. But so are Europeans.

Jesus is the Saviour and King for all men , but He does not belong to any one culture. There are good gifts in every culture but there are some things in every culture which need changing. His Spirit working through men over the years has brought some of these changes .

Birth and Death.

Infant child born prematurely to Rachel Layguma and Jackie Jabilali on Wednesday Dec 29th.

An unusually large number of premature babies have been born this year . One might ask "Why is it so ?" Is there physical reason ? Or is it a psychological reaction to the rate at which babies come along these days.

People

Sister Cec. Carey is in the Darwin Hospital with a shattered knee cap and is due to have an operation on Monday. Cec. fell over an old engine block just as the light was beginning to fade on Monday evening and soon after her return from the hospital where she had attended a patient. We all wish Sister Cec. a speedy recovery.

Also in Darwin Hospital is Mrs. Margaret Inglis, undergoing a course of treatment which may take 2 or 3 weeks more.

Mr. Bob Cross spent the Christmas-New Year period with Heather who is in Darwin waiting for the baby.

Congratulations to Connair man Mr. David Perry who married a very attractive Miss Tania Petruff last Saturday in Darwin (Photo in N.T. News 29/12/71.) David is often at Laingrida.

The Cadell Dogs

Mr. Bob Collins was puzzled to see some healthy banana palms laid flat on the ground , evidently brought down by some animal.

Then one day as he was working away , he saw some dogs digging away at the base of a palm until it came down. Then they fell upon the fruit - tearing the green skins back with their teeth and then eating the fruit.

It is reliably reported that the number of dogs at the Cadell has declined considerably during the past few days. Earlier on , the same creatures were feasting on water melon.

Why do the rain clouds go past us?

On Several afternoons, heavy black clouds have come up from the East and then passed down over the stone county bringing rain there.

This must have been one of dry Decembers - only a little over 2" for the north.



RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONFERENCE.

Permit System:

Ads

1. It was recommended that wherever possible the Welfare Branch consult with Village Councils before issuing permits and that requests for advice from councils be in writing rather than by radio or telegram.
2. It was recommended that no permits be issued for road travel through Arnhem Land to Gove.
3. It was recommended that when mineral deposits on reserves are discovered then arrangements be made for an early meeting between the mining company, the village council or councils, the Welfare Branch and Mission so that the Aboriginal people will know right from the start what is going to happen.
4. It was also recommended that ways be investigated for local people whose country is effected by mining operations to receive some direct benefit from mining royalties.
5. It was recommended that in certain areas of the reserves no authorities to prospect be granted.

Tourism:

There were differences of opinion on this matter. One group felt that tourism should be discouraged for the time being. Another felt that it is a good thing for tourists to come to the reserves provided that the aboriginals can earn money from the tourism and provided that the tourists are strictly controlled through the permit system.

Other Items:

The delegates from Elcho Island and Milingimbi asked if it would be possible for a fisheries manager to come to help them with prawning and fishing industries.

After morning tea on the second day, the conference separated into area groups for discussion. Some of the delegates spoke about developments in their areas.

Crocker and Goulburn Island people have already applied for 6 leases of land. Oenpelli people have plans to establish 3 out stations on Cooper Creek, Gumadir River and Miggins Valley near the East Alligator River. Maningrida people plan to develop areas on the Cadell River, at Navy Landing and at the Bulman.

The Tivi people on Melville Island have plans for projects involving fishing, cattle and market gardens.

The Murwangi Pastoral Association are planning a big development on the mainland south of Milingimbi.

People from Elcho Island have already established gardens, cattle projects, horses and timber on nearby Howard Island.

Three clans at Yirrkala have plans to establish stations at Caledon Bay, Arnhem Bay and Blue Mud Bay.

Roper River people have applied for a pastoral lease and have established the Yukul Cattle Co.

Numbulwar people are investigating the possibility of pastoral development at Wurundi inland from the Rose River.

One Group made the following recommendations:

1. Practical assistance should be readily available to help Aborigines in developing these projects. Especially on mechanical matters and ordering equipment.
2. Provision should be made to help individuals as well as larger groups.
3. As well as seeking help from the government and missions, Aborigines should help one another.

Maningrida Mirage

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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