



## ABORIGINAL FOOTBALLER

**I**T was only a month ago, on this very page, that we deplored the fact that we were apparently unable to produce topline aboriginal footballers, cricketers, tennis players and swimmers.

Now we hear of a first grade aboriginal League winger who has been signed on to play for Balmain next season, and who, according to the critics, has every chance of playing for Australia.



He is Ray ("Rocky") Laurie who scored 246 points in a single season for Casino last year.

Balmain Secretary, Norman Robinson, said his club had signed Laurie on the recommendation of former State five-eight Jimmy Quealey.

Mr. Robinson said that Laurie's 246 points at Casino last season included 48 tries and 51 goals. This was certainly a great performance, in any company.

Mr. Robinson said he had heard a lot about Laurie even before Quealey recommended him, and the Club was so impressed with Quealey's report that they had sent an executive official to Casino to sign him on.

So it appears that Ray Laurie is about to achieve the very unique honour of being the first Australian aborigine to play first grade football in Sydney.

### NOTICE TO SPORTSMEN.

The Editor is anxious to hear from any aboriginal readers who take an active part in running, football, cricket, or any other sport.

### Rather Face Crocodiles.

A North Queensland aborigine travelled to Melbourne last week to attend a conference barbecue of crocodile hunters.

He is Toby Flinders, King of a small tribe on Cape York. He is a guide to crocodile hunters and shooters in Northern Queensland.

Toby said he would rather face crocodiles than the busy Melbourne traffic.

"Too many people here on wheels. Worse than crocodiles," he said.

### Surf Champions in the making.

**M**OST of the Kinchela boys have always been renowned as good swimmers and now they are about to extend their activities to the surf.

The boys are justly proud of being invited to join the Central Macleay-South West Rocks Surf Life Saving Club, and judging from their past activities in the water, they should do particularly well.

Five boys have been selected so far, all over fourteen years of age, and the Board will pay their club fees and provide the necessary transport.



A group of real aboriginal sportsmen. They are, left to right, Beven Nicholls (footballer), Elley Bennett (boxer), Harold Bux, Doug Nicholls ex-Fitzroy footballer and former champion sprinter and John Cameron ex-rough rider, now a tracker stationed at Bundoora.

And so the Australian aborigine enters into another sphere of Australian sport, a sport where he can prove himself, both by his individual effort and his expression of team spirit.