

“ CUMMERAGUNGA ”

Australia has gained considerable renown in the past few years from its great aboriginal singers, its artists and its sportsmen.

Now the aborigine, inspired by the success of his fellow men and determined to take his place in the world alongside the white man, has turned to literature.

In his little book “Cummeragunga,” Ronald Morgan, an aborigine of Barmah, N.S.W., has put together his reminiscences of the aboriginal station at Cummeragunga and its aboriginal people. The story is Morgan’s own unaided effort and one of which he can be justly proud.

The foreword for the book was written by Miss Irene Mitchell, the producer of “Moonba,” the aborigine production which was such a success in Melbourne a year or so ago.

“The preservation and encouragement of all aboriginal art is necessary if we are to speak with pride of Australian culture,” says Miss Mitchell. “Indeed we cannot use the words Australian Arts without their inclusion.

“I would warmly recommend this story to all those who wish to learn more of the Australian aborigine, and I hope the numerous legends he relates will also find their way into print, for as he says of his own people, “The Aborigine has much to be proud and thankful for.”

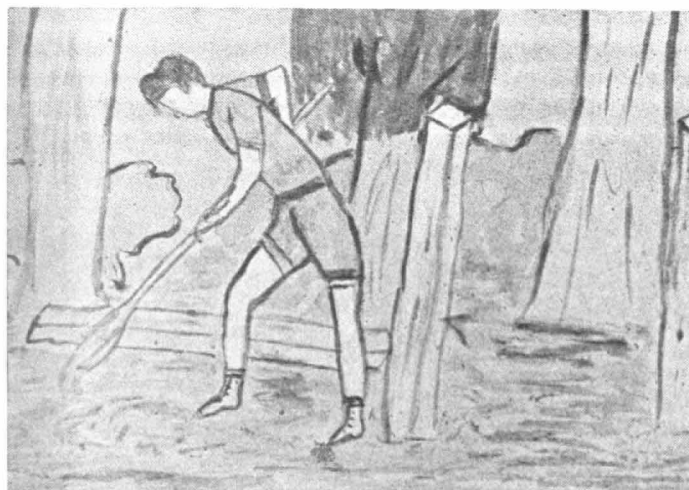
The idea of putting the story of Cummeragunga into booklet form belongs to Mr. A. E. O’Connor, a sincere friend of the author Ronald Morgan.

Writing to *Dawn*, Mr. O’Connor said, “A number of well wishers have subscribed the cost of printing the book and we hope its sale will return Mr. Morgan some financial reward and perhaps encouragement for further literary efforts in respect of which he obviously has ability.

“Although this may not be the first writing of an aborigine published, I have never heard of any other myself, and think it must be rare and worthy of note.

“In view of the ultimate welfare of aborigines in the settled parts of Australia depending on their being able to hold their own intellectually with the white population, I think this evidence of attainment on Mr. Morgan’s part has more than a purely individual interest.”

This interesting little booklet is now on sale and can be obtained by forwarding 2s. 3d. to Mr. A. E. O’Connor, 35 Gubrano Street, East Brighton, Victoria. This price includes postage.



“Fencing,” a sketch by 12 year-old Dawn Little, of Nulla Creek, Bellbrook.

A LETTER FROM SOUTH AFRICA

Pen Friends Wanted

A few days before Christmas, the Editor of *Dawn* received the following letter from South Africa :

Dear Editor,

I am sure you are surprised to receive a letter from South Africa, from a person you had not heard of and from a person you did not expect to know your address.

Well, my name is Etienne Phoofolo. I am very interested in the Australian aborigines as I thought they no longer existed, or if they did, that they lived on the forsaken parts like the deserts.

I was surprised to read of the Australian aborigines in *Zonk* (South African paper), as I never thought aborigines were educated.

I would like an Australian aboriginal pen-friend who could tell me much about the aborigines or about Australia itself. I would be delighted if you can find me such a pen-friend, boy or girl.

I am most interested in all sports (tennis, table-tennis, football, baseball, boxing, billiards, music, the cinema and photography).

In sport I am more interested in tennis than the rest. I know tennis is one of the most taken up sports in Australia, with cricket and Rugby.

I have been reading much about tennis in Australia, about players like Frank Sedgman (the present Wimbledon champion), Ken McGregor (my idol), Ken Rosewell, Lewis Hoad and Mervyn Rose, but these are white men. I would like to hear about aboriginal sportsmen.

I am 20 years of age and am still a scholar (Form IV).

Etienne Phoofolo,
49, 13th Street,
Germiston Location,
Transvaal,
South Africa.