

ALONG THE MAIL ROUTE

The East
Down
Box 30 & P.O.,
Sydney.

Walgett

Separation of the duties of Manager and Teacher at the Station has resulted in a general improvement. The Manager has had more time to devote to care and maintenance of the Station and the organization of social activities. A recreation hall has been erected and a vigorous programme of building repairs embarked upon. The people have co-operated well and a reawakening of interest on the Station is manifest.

Work has been plentiful, and the economic position of residents much more stable.

Woodenbong

The population of this Station has fluctuated during the past 12 months. The minimum was 125 and the maximum 208, the reason being the variation in seasonal occupations. The more stable type of workman found fairly regular employment in the timber industry.

There was very little serious illness and treatment for worm infestation was continued, and a reduction in its incidence was noted.

Resident Missionaries of the United Aborigines Mission were appointed and, in addition to ministering to the spiritual needs of the people, boys' and girls' clubs and a kindergarten were established.

The Station Football Club was disbanded and a number of the players have become members of the local town teams.

Wreck Bay (near Jervis Bay)

This Station is situated in Commonwealth Territory and is administered by the Aborigines Welfare Board on behalf of the Commonwealth Government.

Buildings were repaired and painted and residents are showing improvement in the care of their homes. A sewerage system was installed and this should assist materially in combating worm infestation.

Employment is found in the fishing and timber industries, and, in the off season, in bean and pea picking.

There is an active Social Club, and money was raised towards the purchase of a film projector, the balance being provided by the A.C.T. Services Department, Canberra.

A community vegetable garden is maintained and the playing field was levelled and planted with grass.

Children attend school on the Station and two travel to High School in Nowra.

Burra Bee Dee (via Coonabarabran)

This is a small Station and the Manager is responsible also for the supervision of a nearby Reserve and of a number of families living in the town of Coonabarabran.

There is little social activity on the Station, due to the fact the residents attend functions in the town. All children attend the local public school and the residents are generally fairly well integrated with the local white community.

Employment has been somewhat spasmodic during the past year, but nevertheless a number of men are permanently employed in the timber and pastoral industries and the Railway Department.

Cabbage Tree Island

This Station is located on a pleasantly situated island in the Richmond River near Ballina. The residents are well advanced socially and if homes were available many could merge with the local community. During the past year, five people left the Station to take up residence elsewhere.

The health of residents has been good, and efforts towards worm eradication have had satisfactory results.

Residents participate freely in district sport and are well accepted in the district.

School is conducted on the Island, where one of the teachers is a young aboriginal woman, who qualified at the Teacher's College. Five children attend Ballina High School.

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When the floods came to Condobolin (a long while ago) this is what happened to Mr. Frost's house.