

EVANGELICAL RALLY FOR ABORIGINES

*Copied from News Item
in "The Grafton Daily
Examiner"*

"Between 70 and 80 Aborigines from Tweed Heads to Purfleet on the Manning River, attended an evangelical rally, the first of its kind held at Grafton, recently.

The guest speaker at the rally was Pastor Frank Roberts, junior, an aboriginal Minister of the Church of Christ, Bankstown.

Visitors were accommodated at the Grafton Showground. Services were conducted by Pastor Roberts in the main Pavilion.

Proceedings opened on Saturday night, when the visitors took part in a Salvation Army and Open Air Religious Campaign street rally. Mr. E. Fisher of the Open Air Campaign led the proceedings.

An adjournment was made to the Salvation Army Citadel, where Captain Summers extended a welcome to the visitors on behalf of the Grafton Ministers' Fraternal.

Mr. W. Carten of Westlawn, Grafton, prominently associated with the rally, also extended a welcome, to which Pastor Roberts replied. He thanked the Salvation Army for the use of the Citadel that night for the service, also the Ministers' Fraternal for supporting the rally.

Pastor Roberts said yesterday, after the afternoon service, that the idea of the rally was to make a contribution towards deepening the spiritual outlook of the Australian native population.

Mr. Carten said he took some credit with his wife, for initiating the idea of the rally, which was formed in his mind by the Billy Graham crusade. He was greatly indebted to many helpers, including the Clarence P. and A. Society, Mr. M. Bultitude, who provided filling for the mattresses used at the showground, the C.W.A., Mrs. R. M. Ford of Queen Street, and many other voluntary workers, as well as those who had donated foodstuffs."

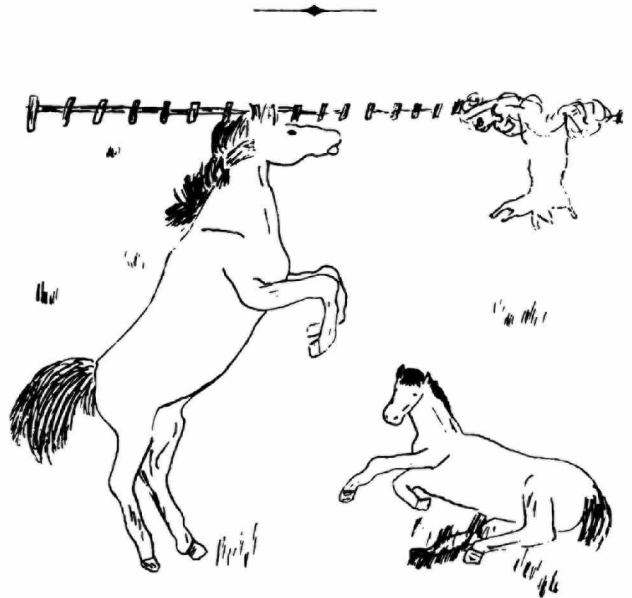
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Comments :

It is good to know that something for the Aboriginal people of the Grafton district has been accomplished by an Aboriginal citizen who, with his wife, is held in high esteem. This rally shows that an Aborigine can be assimilated into the community. Pastor Frank Roberts is the successful minister of a church in Bankstown, a flourishing Sydney suburb. He is the son of Pastor Roberts of Lismore, and the grandson of that grand old man, the late Mr. Lyle Roberts of Lismore.

Mr. Wally Carten, of Westlawn, Grafton, was formerly employed by the N.S.W. Government Railways, and is now retired. He was much thought of by his employers and by his fellow employees alike. Mr. and Mrs. Carten's daughter is as successful as her parents. She has had an interesting career—in nursing and in mission work, and is now happily married. Mr. Carten was trained in the rites and lore and customs of his people, but at the same time he has proved that he could adapt himself to the ways of the white community. So good luck to the Cartens, to Pastor Roberts, to Mr. James Morgan, and to Mr. Yettica also, who is said to be the only Australian Aboriginal Citizen of the Northern Rivers to become a Justice of the Peace.

Mildred Norledge.



This nice drawing, by 12-year-old Barbara Haynes, of 112 Palmer Street, East Sydney, wins her a special prize



SOCIAL NOTES

Local lass, little Miss Jenny Roberts, who is a student at Kyogle High School, is a good hockey player and is included in one of the school teams. Jenny plays in the matches between schools. Good Luck, Jenny, with studies and sport.

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Mr. James Morgan, of Coraki, has made several broadcasts on aboriginal folklore for the Richmond River Historical Society. These broadcasts have proved so popular that he will be asked to give further talks this year.

