

GEMLIKE SETTING OF WALLAGA LAKE ABORIGINAL STATION



One of the State's most attractive Aboriginal stations—Wallaga Lake—has been set up beside the lake of the same name 240 miles south of Sydney and six miles north of Bermagui, the big game fishing port made famous by author Zane Grey when he visited Australia in 1934.

The station itself commands one of the most beautiful sites on the New South Wales coast. It is partially surrounded by the Lake which abounds with fish and to the East overlooks the blue Pacific. The view to the West is one of mountain grandeur.

Proud residents claim the station has everything one could wish . . . 18 neat fibro and weatherboard homes for the people, a splendid social hall and one of the most attractive lakeside schools in the State. Twenty-two pupils attend the school which is under the control of the Education Department.

Today there are few remaining signs of a fierce bush-fire which swept the lakeside in 1951 and destroyed the office building and records it contained of the early history of the settlement.

The exact date of the founding of the station is not clear but prominent local resident, Mr. H. J. Bate, recalls that a school was started there about 70 years ago.

Mr. Bate remembers it well because he was the only white child attending the school.

It was perhaps fitting that Mr. Bate should in later life become a member of the old Aborigines Protection Board, on which he served for 15 years.

The "New Town" of Wallaga Lake

Wallaga Lake station has a splendid water supply, being connected with the Mt. Dromedary reservoir which also supplies Bermagui.

The children there are well looked after and receive a monthly visit from Sister Wall of the Baby Health Centre at Bega.

Free garbage and sanitation service is carried out weekly by Eurobodalla Shire Council.

Present manager of the station, Mr. George Ord, says in a report to *Dawn*: "The Board has done and

The Manager's Residence

