



SHE HOPES TO BE A NURSE

A young Aboriginal girl living in Cooma wants to be a nurse.

She is Rhonda Sampson, 16, (pictured), who has been living with a Cooma family since she left the Aboriginal settlement at Wallaga Lake recently.

Rhonda said she intends to sit for the Nurse's entrance examination next February.

At present she is educated up to first year high school standard, but will get educational coaching, probably at a local convent, before the examination. (*Cooma Express* photograph.)

Never Neglect Earache

(Contributed by the N.S.W. Department of Public Health)

Parents sometimes don't realise that any earache in childhood can be serious.

Too often a child's cry of "Mummy I have an earache" is answered with "it will soon get better dear". A child if continually fobbed off may eventually cease to complain, and by the time things come to a head, serious damage may be done.

A sense of hearing is just as important to a child as sight and speech. The deaf are in contact with life only through their eyes. They may be more lonely than the blind—and get less sympathy.

Middle Ear Disease

There is always a possibility that earache could be a sign of Middle Ear Disease. This condition is caused by an infection which usually reaches the Middle Ear by way of a passage linking the throat to the ear. It can be a complication arising from a head cold, influenza, diphtheria, scarlet fever, infected tonsils, or adenoids. Infected tonsils or adenoids can cause frequent attacks of Middle Ear Disease and if this happens too often, a degree of deafness is certain.

Avoiding Ear Trouble

To avoid ear trouble in your children get medical advice if they complain of earache or if they suffer from very frequent colds and sore throats.

- DON'T
- Use a nasal douche except under doctor's orders.
 - Remove wax from an external ear passage.
 - Box a Child's Ear.
 - Lead a child by the ear.

Finally don't neglect a discharging ear. Nature's outlet for middle ear infection is sometimes a perforation of the eardrum—this may relieve earache but medical attention is still necessary.