



Smoke Signals

TIP FOR THE MONTH. Estimate the number of bricks needed for a job by: multiplying the total area by $4\frac{1}{2}$, for a single brick wall 4 in thick; or by 9, for a double brick wall 9 in thick.

► David Nean, who began his national service training in December, 1966, was welcomed home from Vietnam late in April at a party in Quirindi's memorial hall. David left for Vietnam in June last year (see *Dawn*, June, 1967), and continued the Nean family's proud record of service to Australia in time of war. Mr Edgar Nean, David's father, served in World War II.



David Nean (second from right) at his welcome-home party, with his mother (far left), father (next to David), other relatives and friends, and members of a visiting Maori concert party.

(Photo courtesy North West Champion)

► A grateful woman at a Sydney Red Cross meeting said: "I can't say how much I benefited from your first-aid course. We came across this traffic accident and thanks to you—I knew to put my head between my knees to stop myself fainting".

► Students of the University of New South Wales hope to raise \$20,000 for the Co-operative for Aborigines Ltd. University Foundation Day organizers have selected the Co-operative to benefit from student fund-raising activities on July 2.

► When Blowering Dam at Tumut began to fill late in spring it was an ex-trapper, "Dooley" Manns, and his son, who drew attention to the plight of possums stranded by rising water. Mr Manns, 64, and his son Allan, 30, are carpenters at Tumut, but in the Depression Mr Manns Snr earned a living trapping possums for their pelts. Now he says he could not kill one "even if it bit me". The Manns used their home-made outboard motor boat—called "Noah's Ark" by locals—to rescue possums marooned on trees when the dam's water level rose. In three weekends the Manns rescued 40 possums and 120 rabbits, and soon a flotilla of small boats joined them in the rescue work.

► Miss Margaret Valadian, the first Aborigine to graduate from Queensland University, hitched a ride from Honolulu to San Francisco with Prime Minister Gorton. Miss Valadian was waiting at Honolulu airport for the American presidential jet which was taking Mr Gorton to America for talks with President Johnson. A reduced university budget prevented Miss Valadian from attending a seminar on social welfare in San Francisco, so she asked Mr Gorton if she could ride there with him. Mr Gorton asked Mr Johnson, who agreed, and up, and up, and away.