
EULOGY

Several months ago, in Cunnamulla, Queensland, a champion of the Aboriginal people died. He was Alf Becku. Born on the Tweed, he spent most of his adult life travelling to improve his understanding of Aboriginal culture and Aboriginal affairs. He was an evangelist for over thirty years. Possessed of strong moral principles, he had a great psychological impact on his people and linked himself with many Aboriginal advancement movements during his life-time. He was a gifted speaker and singer and wherever he went, children would rally around him in their hundreds. His lasting contribution to the Aboriginal people was a spiritual one. He built many churches and encouraged religious movements which now stand as monument to his efforts for his God and his people.

Pastor Roberts

In Memory of Alf Becku

The beautiful Gold Coast was his home,
And he did not need to roam
Yet he travelled far from place to place,
To try and help the Aboriginal race.

I know I am going to miss him so,
For boomerang timber we used to go.
Now the Aboriginal people have lost a friend,
He fought for them right to the end.

He helped many to get their rights,
Even some dark people that could not write.
Poor Alf, I knew him very well,
So many stories we used to tell.

He'd get a job now and then.
Just to go and help his people again.
Then to the city he would call,
To see if we wanted help at all.

Right out to Cunnamulla he did go,
He came to the city and told me so.
I'll get you boomerang wood and nulla nulla,
'way out there at Cunnamulla.

He died out there, so I'm told,
I know God has taken his soul.
He tried to help us to the end
The Aboriginal people have lost a friend.

*by Joe Timbery,
Boomerang thrower and maker
La Perouse, Sydney*