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MANINGRIDA MIRAGE

Vol. 98

Friday 20th August.

An Aboriginal President.

NEW PRESIDENT:

The new committee of the Maningrida Progress Association, Messrs. J. Hunter, T. Yibberal, J. Wilders, S. Roberts, Billy Yirinyin, G. Bagshaw, T. Dudanga, G. Armstrong and J. Riala met on Wednesday night. Mr. D. Gillespie was absent at the Eisteddfod.

Elected President: Mr. Silas Roberts
Secretary: Mr. Dan Gillespie
Treasurer: Mr. Glen Bagshaw

Messrs. Albert Wurdjal and James Cooper were nominated to fill a vacant position on the committee. Vote will be next meeting.

5 visitors were present.

1600 Loaves.

In the Bakery's second week 1600 loaves of bread were sold (1300 first week). Also 2000 buns.

When all the equipment is on hand, and the pies are being made, it is probable that the price of a loaf will be reduced.

Each loaf contains $2\frac{1}{2}$ times as much milk as bread baked in Darwin and elsewhere. Mr. Giese has accepted an invitation to open the bakery on 2nd September when the Lands Board meet at Maningrida.

Building

The new houses for Messrs Bob Cross and Les Holt are expected to be complete in about a month. The builders will then start work on the Hall. Mr. Rod Seymour and his men will build 2 houses on contract basis.

Fish Market

The application to Aboriginal Benefits Trust Fund for money to purchase the Fisheries plant was not successful. Expert opinions on the plant are being sought from Hickmans and Kelvinator.

The Progress Association has arranged to sell consignments of fish in Darwin at satisfactory prices. This is regarded as a big step forward for our local free enterprise fishermen.

The Cost of Living

Messrs. T. Ibberal (wife and 6 children) and J. Riala led a spirited discussion on the increasing demands made on them by the rising costs of living while the training allowances remained the same. "Where are we going to get the money to pay for everything?" and "We just spent our money and we haven't got enough."

Community Meeting

The Committee agreed with the Superintendent that it would be a good idea for him to call meetings of all organisations and citizens in which anyone could speak and all could vote.

Trepang

Mr. Bagshaw said that a company interested in fishing for trepang (like a sea slug or cucumber) would visit Maningrida soon.



The first edition of "IDENTITY", published by the Aboriginal Publication Foundation, under the sponsorship of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, arrived this week. This should appeal to the young literate Aboriginal and those interested in Aboriginals generally. The aim of the magazine is to publish work, in all literary forms, by Aboriginal People and should provide a stimulus to the development of truly Aboriginal literature.

This volume contains a good range of articles including two on aspects of the "Gove Land Rights Case", one on Yirrawala's return to his country, a short story by Kath Walker, and a short poem by Kevin Gilbert. There is also a good section called "From the Publishers" which gives reviews of books on Aboriginal subjects. This looks to be a good quality magazine and deserves our support. A one year subscription costs \$2 (4 volumes) and can be sent to Aboriginal Publications Foundation Inc., Box 18, P.O. Mosman, N.S.W., 2088.

J.P.

Black Cockatoo



In Australia there are three species of Black Cockatoos, but at Maningrida you will see only the one, a distinguished bird with conspicuous red markings on the tail. It is called the Red-tailed Cockatoo. It is found in all the northern half of the Territory, especially in the better timbered areas.

They will often congregate in flocks of up to 200 birds or more, but I have never seen more than fourteen at Maningrida. The bigger flocks are particularly noisy, with their loud raucous cries. They do not feed on the ground but on the seeds, nuts, fruits and berries high up in the branches of a Eucalyptus. An occasional wood-boring grub is thrown in for good measure. While feeding, these cockatoos are less wary than at other times, but even then they seldom allow a close approach. Like the Lorikeets I spoke of some weeks ago, they have the habit of drinking early in the morning and again towards dusk. Hand-reared nestlings, particularly males, make especially good pets and will become very affectionate towards their keepers. They may even learn to say a few words.

You may be interested to know that Sydney Parkinson who sailed on the "Endeavour" drew a pencil sketch of a female Red-tailed Cockatoo, and, as far as is known, this was the first illustration of an Australian parrot.

Most of these notes come from Joseph Forshaw's new book on Australian parrots. Joe is a leading biologist with the C.S.I.R.O.

J.G.

New Basketball Court.

The medal for hard working fellows must go to the Post-primary boys (or should we say High School students now?) working with Mr. Stevens in putting down the concrete for the surface of the new Court. One bay has been completed and there are 29 to go.

To the Editor -

While I agree entirely that the development of the Cadell Gardens is extremely important, it should be pointed out that most children on Maningrida do not get enough of anything to eat.

From the point of view of nutrition, the best service that the Progress Association can do in the near future is to

- (1) Sell fish and chips at the Hasty Tasty (as intended).
- (2) Press on with the Cadell Garden until it can produce enough bananas, pawpaws, sweet potatoes, mangoes and even nuts if possible for the Settlement. Sr. BRIL

The Luring Side.

A feat of fast-footedness got us off the ground for Elcho - that island in the sun. Visibility was slightly hampered by a continual smoke screen from within, but Larry Weipa, sitting at the back, said: "Thanks, fellas, I saved on cigarettes." On our arrival the house-proud went berserk. Jacky Pascoe and Michael Stewart made their beds with pink sheets and flower-dappled pillow slips. Other less fortunate members scored blue and white sheets. Charlie Godjuwa was a little disappointed. However, this experienced traveller made up for it by producing his own rubber pillow, transistor radio and other house pleasantries.



Larry Weipa, Michael, Jacky and Charlie dined with the Superintendent, Mr. David Morris, and his wife and their young son Timothy. Little Timothy, the zoo keeper, gave a guided tour of two large pythons, a joey, baby possum, black turtles, etc. The pythons did little for Michael and Jacky, already aware of two caged crocodiles residing in the backyard of the house where we were staying. Jacky volunteered to serve first guard on Friday night. Jim-Jam was not enlisted as he stayed with his sister.

Friday night's picture was a re-run of Sir Lancelot and Genevieve, viewed from a sloping lawn. Too good set-up, Elcho. This was followed by supper with the Superintendent and his wife who showed us a well-organized plan proposed for Elcho including children's playing area and alternating balanda - aboriginal housing.

Cuisine king, Larry, attacked the kitchen at first light on Saturday. An unexpected continental dish almost appeared when a scorched frog (lucky not to lose his legs) struggled from the stove. Wash-up team Michael and Terry did a splendid job. After witnessing the organization involved in three breakfasts - beware, loafers at the kitchen!!

A mid-day basketball clash saw Maningrida go down 40 - 30. Half-time was 18-16 in favour of Elcho, but 10 goals by Gutili in the second half was our downfall. Michael scored six baskets for Maningrida.

Big sleep Saturday afternoon in preparation for the "get even" 8 p.m. game. A terrific first half produced a level score at 14. A tense second half gave Elcho the final honours 30-26. Jacky scored 7 baskets for us.

Sunday was a day of rest. At any given moment there was at least one Maningrida man flaked. Maybe this was in preparation for the party that evening at Kevin's and the odd friendly nocturnal jaunt. Whatever the maybe, might be, if, - all arrived home and wanted to know when we can return to Elcho.

Thanks to all at Maningrida who made the trip possible. Congratulations, Elcho - till we meet again. Special thanks for your wonderful hospitality.

T. King.

FROM "ELCHO NEWS & VIEWS":

THE DENTAL TEAM (Expected on September 6th at Maningrida)

NORINA DRAGOVIC comes originally from Sydney, has worked 5 months at Alice Springs, followed by a year at Darwin Dental Clinic. Norina is the dentist.

CHERYL MANNERS comes from South Australia and originally worked at the Adelaide Dental Clinic. Cheryl has been a Territorian for 7 months and is a dental nurse.

STEFAN VARGA comes from Stuttgart, West Germany, and has spent most of his 7 months in Australia in Darwin. Stefan is the dental technician of the team.

A. Mothers Tea Party



Yesterday afternoon, eight mothers (Bridget, Agnes, Isabel, Wendy, Katie, Lena, Jeanie and Patsie) gathered at the Domestic Science Room at the School.

Sister Edith and Head Master Peter Williams spoke to them about how plenty of food can make babies grow heavier and stronger, and how not enough food leaves them weak and sick. They also spoke about the kinds of food which can be given to babies. Mrs. Amies spoke about some of the foods which do not cost a great deal - milk, eggs, weetbix, fruit and fish.

One of the young mothers has her second child.

The first was poor and often sick.

The second is healthy and strong.

Asked "Why is the 2nd. one doing so well?" she said "He gets more food."

Afternoon tea then came on for the mothers. Scones, cooked by the Dom. Science girls and cakes made by the Home Management girls

Latest Estidafodd News

- + Paddy Fordham had a win with his singing.
- + The Choir was highly commended.
- + The Folk Singers, singing the Berry Song, also did very well.

Tonight, Friday, will be the big night for the Aboriginal song and dance competitions.

Stok Press - Girl Guides.

On Saturday morning, the patrols will visit various homes to do jobs for 1/2 hour. Guider Mrs. Jan Croft, stresses that this is purely voluntary and that no money is to be given for jobs done.

How We Lost

Last Friday afternoon an Elcho Island Basketball team arrived to play against Maningrida.

Saturday morning. Elcho 28 defeated Kupanga 24.

Saturday afternoon at 4p.m. Elcho 66 defeated Kupanga 56.

In the evening. Elcho defeated Kupanga 86 to 67 points.

On Saturday we went for a tour around the Settlement and then out to Tomkinson Hole where we stayed for 15 minutes. Then we drove across to the Bulman Road and back to the Settlement.

We hope that they enjoyed being here. We congratulate the Elcho players and hope that they come again. Next time, how about a win for Maningrida? Maybe we can write a letter of appreciation to them.

Local Games

Tuesday.

Chalkies defeated Cape Stewart 54 -50. Every player went well, except for over charging sometimes. Cape Stewart played well but couldn't seem to make the basket. Those big tall fellows from Chalkies were always in front ready for the rebounds and they didnt miss a shot.

Cadell defeated Entrance 46 to 44. They too played well, but there was some over-charging from Barry of Cadell.

Round 1.	Kevin Miwula	16pts.	C.S.	Round 2.	Jimmy Madama	20 pts.	Cadell.
	Jimmy	16 "	Ch.		Richard J.	18 "	Entrance
	R. Pink	14 "	Ch.		Tom D.	13 "	"
	Dick	12 "	C.S.		Micky	9 "	"
	T.King	12 "	Ch.				

Jimmy Pascoe.



Where Eagles Build

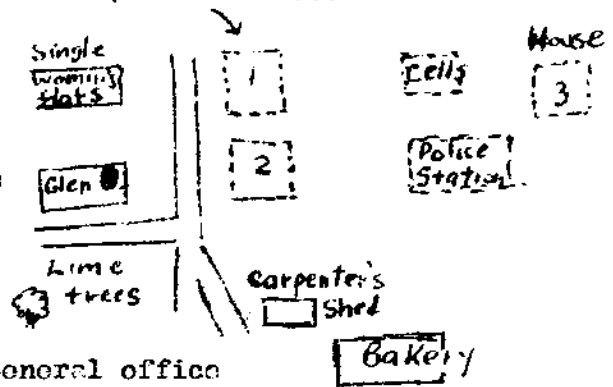


There are only 12 "eagles" at Maningrida at the moment but they are certainly making their mark in the settlement. Headed by their foreman Nino Reighi they are pouring the foundations for 2 police houses.

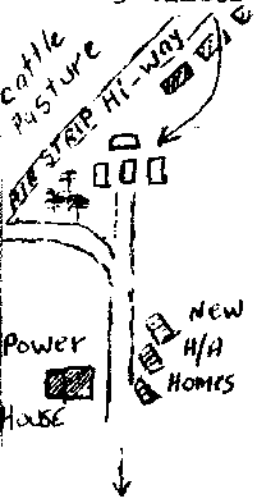
They have the policestation and cells pegged out and ready for the foundations and land cleared for another residence. Someone has said that the new police stations in the N.T. are among the smartest in town. It looks as though Maningrida will be no exception.

Just think of this. The Police Station-Cells buildings will have

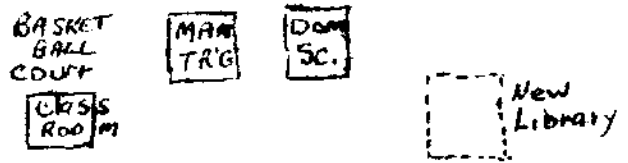
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|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1) Visiting Officers quarters | 7) General office |
| 2) Courtroom | 8) Court yard |
| 3) Lost property store | 9) Male prisoners Exercise yard |
| 4) Garden store | 10) Male cells |
| 5) Prisoner's store | 11) Female cells |
| 6) Stationary store | 12) Female exercise yard. |



At the weekend the top of the road going up past the powerhouse to join the airstrip highway was blocked off and holes being dug to build 3 timber framed single units with a laundry at the back.



At the same time the School Library - to - be - had loads of red clay put down for it stand on presently.



The pre-School will go on pine plantation side of the post primary class-rooms.

Eagle Constructions are a fairly new Darwin based firm, about 18 months old. They expect to be here for one year. A couple of the men are from Greece and the rest are Italian by birth. One young man has only been in Australia for a few months but most of the others are old hands of 20 years standing or so.

Girl Guides

Seventeen girls gathered for the first Girl Guide meeting for the year on Saturday morning under the leadership of Mrs Jan Croft. Other Guides are at the Bisteddfod.

The Film Unit filmed the scene of a girl being welcomed to the Guide company. Phyllis and Margaret taking the main parts.

Guider Mrs Croft expects that meetings will be held each Thursday afternoon after school.

Cubs making damper.

The chief item on the program this week was making a damper on fires down at Sawmill beach. How good it was to see. Boys kneading the dough and saying "I saw my mother doing it this way". After the making and the cooking, came the eating of course.

One boy had to stay up top. He had been made "a young man" a few weeks ago. If he came down onto the beach near the water, the boys said, "that dragon" (Dreaming one, "Muit") with the keen sense of smell, would be able to smell him and maybe harm him in some way.

A while back when the cubs were swimming at Tomkinson Hole, they put sand under their arm pits - and on their foreheads - a kind of de-odorant - so that "the dragon" would not be disturbed.

WEEKEND DUTIES: Duty Officer: Mr Edward Carey
Duty Sister: Sister Heather Cross
Fire Officers: Mr. Alan Brady.

STAR THEATRE: Friday: *Five Finger Exercise*

CHURCH: Sunday 9.30 a.m. Sunday Schools "The gifts of God"
7.00 p.m. Holy Communion and film
"A faithful witness".

Thursday 7.30 p.m. Fellowship

Leku, one of four Elcho local preachers who were among the visiting basketballers, conducted the service last Sunday night.

Another visitor, Miss Anne Bunday, showed slides of San Francisco, Disneyland, and desert country in U.S.A. afterwards. Anne was an exchange student in 1970.

In a recent copy of the Victorian "Spectator" (Church paper) there was a photo of Mr Bob Cross's mother. She has been an organist for 50 years in Ballarat.

The United Church of North Australia Conference begins in Darwin on Aug. 31st. Representatives will live at St John's College. Mr John Giyabakka who is working with Mrs Glasgow on the translation of St John's Gospel, will be our lay representative.

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People

"Goodbye Samson, Goodbye Samson" people called and waved as this young traveller took off for Oenpelli with grandmother Maudie on Wednesday. An Oenpelli lady and her children also travelled to join her husband at Mudginbury Station.

Messrs Mick Mageni and Bob Bilinyarra did a quick trip to Darwin at the week end. Mick made a point of saying that they only had 3 cans while they were away.

Mr Stephen Mararru travelled across the Ngangalala - Blyth River - Cadell - Maningrida road at the weekend with several visitors and Mr (Bulldozer) Fred Gamalala took a number of Maningrida passengers back on the same track, for a "young men" ceremony.

We send our best wishes with Glen and Jean Bagshaw as they leave on holidays today. They will be joined by Mark and Geoffrey in Darwin and then have a look at S.E. Asia. - Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Singapore, Makau (Timor) back to Singapore and then home.

Welcome to Kaylene Scymour and Lennoice who have joined Rod. Kaylene used to be a nursing aide before her marriage. On the wall of their flat is an interesting water colour landscape, which carries the signature of 'Jack Pascoe'.

Best wishes to Mr. Trevor King who leaves today to get married in Queensland. We'll look forward to meeting the new Mrs. Helen King in a few week's time.

*See Next Week's Mirage for the poems
in the Poetry Competition*

Congratulations to Mr. Dan Gillespie on his equal first for folk singing at the Misteddod. Dan will stay on with Libby in Darwin for the school holidays or until their babe is born.

Maningrida Mirage

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