



Monday Night at the Council.

- Uniforms: The President told the councillors to wear their uniforms to the council meetings.
- Bones: Cr. Riala has talked to some groups but they do not want to change. The old people still believe in the old customs very strongly. Cr. Yiriyin has spoken to the three Bungawas (leaders) and Gunwinggu people. They have agreed to leave the bones in the cemetery. President: "We will think it over."
- Museum: Cr. Riala "Bark paintings could be put in the museum for people to see, especially the children".
- Betty Meehan: Cr. Riala said that he had met Mrs. Les and talked to her about her work at Kupanga. She told him that she is doing language study and photographing some Kupanga sites.
- Juda Point: Cr. Yiriyin said that he and his relations want the notice board to be put at Juda Point where the sacred things are.
- Eisteddfod: Dan Gillespie said that the Eisteddfod bank had almost enough money. \$240. had been earned at the fishing competition and the dancing men had been putting in their own money. Lance Bennett had agreed to pay the other \$350. Dan Gillespie also asked the council if John Godowa Jnr. and Jocky Bunda Bunda could go in the place of Allan and Frank. Council agreed.
- Pictures: Superintendent said that mila week (off pay week) Saturday pictures could start again if the council agreed. Council said okay.
- Cards: Cr. Riala said that he felt the people should be able to play cards on weekends. Not everyone could go away hunting. Some had small children. There was nothing much to do at Maningrida and card playing was a way to pass the time. Council decided that it would be a good idea to invite the Police to attend the meetings and talk over such matters. The President said that he would see the Police and invite them to come to the meetings.
- Maragalidban: Bobby Joram (visitor) asked the council if they had told the wrong things to the people at Maragalidban. Cr. Yiriyin "No. They had been told the right story. They went to Maragalidban themselves." Bobby Joram said that he had been working with his private group and wanted people to move into Maragalidban quickly, before the Wet. His group was going to build a hospital and school just the same as at Maningrida. He would be the Superintendent and would have nothing to do with government or mission. He wanted to start now. His father wanted to protect his burial ground and didn't want it knocked about by a bulldozer.

Cr. John Balaiya was in the chair for this meeting, while Cr. Tommy Ibbel was in the bus somewhere between Melbourne and Port Augusta S.A.

Dancing

The Eisteddfod team - adults and children - have had two very good practices on the last two weekends. Last weekend it was very pleasing to see Jocky Bunda Bunda and young John Godowa teaching the children the spectacular turtle/fish dance. These men are going into town and the whole group including the boys will take part in the dance.

Another up and coming star is Kathleen Barippa - her solo devil dance is a knockout. Its very good to see the young girls dancing too - it takes a bit of courage for the girls to perform in front of a big crowd.

Next Monday afternoon, about 4.30 (give or take a bit) the dancers will hold their final rehearsal near the Craft Store. All comers are welcome - the bigger the audience the better the show. A good opportunity to see some fine dancers in action.



From the Newspapers.

LEARNING THE WAY: Soon it will be time for voting to pick the Government for Australia. To help Aboriginal people, men are coming around to missions, cattle stations and settlements. They will tell Aboriginal people the law for voting and show them how they can vote for the man they want in the Government.

CLOSING THE GATE: Some Aboriginal men in Darwin say the Government won't let them into Bagot. They say they want to speak to the people there and tell them about their land and other things. They say the Government is frightened and wants to keep them out. The Government says this is not a true story.

Progress Association Meeting

PLEASE NOTE time of Maningrida Progress Association meeting - 10.30am Saturday August 5th at the school.

Special Council Meeting - Tues afternoon.

Present: were 6 councillors and two visitors

Looking for Minerals: The Superintendent outlined the area for which C.R.A. were applying for exploration licences in the Cadell and Blyth River areas. He asked the council to have a look at this and talk to the people from that country. Council decided to call a meeting on Wednesday night at the club to talk about this.

Permits: The Superintendent told the council about a new Bill (law) which government men were thinking about. This Bill (law) could allow the Minister to declare that people did not need a permit to go to certain areas on reserves. He could not do this, until he had talked and got the consent of the aboriginal people from those areas. The Superintendent asked the councillors to think about this and decide whether it was a good idea or not.

Juda Point: The Superintendent asked the councillors to give an answer about the application for the Juda Point Lease. No answer yet.

Extracts from the "Baru Dhakal Dhawumirri"

Mr Dennis Strand from Welfare has been finding out how many schoolchildren are unable to hear well. He is a specialist in teaching deaf children. He says that the Milingimbi children can hear better than many children at Maningrida and Galiwinku.

ABORIGINAL INSTRUMENTS FOR THE AIR FORCE BAND: Recently a DC3 brought an Air Vice-Marshal, who was stationed here (Milingimbi) during the Second World War, and British airmen. They purchased a didgeridoo and clapsticks for use by the Air Force Band on special occasions.

Some stories of Earlier Days.

Rev. Lazarus Lami lami who has been at Maningrida during the last week is a walking collection of humourous stories and interesting memories.

When Lazarus was about 12 or 13 - there came a time when a lady teacher, Miss Matthews, was the only staff member on Goulburn Is. (Supt. away on furlough).

Two Aboriginal men came from the mainland and asked for bullets. They'd seen a buffalo and wanted to shoot it.

Unfortunately the Store had none but Miss Matthews suggested that they go back on to the mainland and across to Oenpelli with a letter to the manager of the station (a Govt. cattle station in those days) asking for bullets.

They did the trip in a couple of days. The manager took the letter and read it and thought "There must be trouble at Goulburn Is!" So he in turn wrote a letter to the Administrator in Darwin.

Presently Miss Matthews and the people of Goulburn were surprised to see two Naval gun boats coming into the bay!! Then soldiers, sailors and police fully armed came ashore in launches! By this time the people had gathered around Miss Matthews and an officer came up and said "Where's the trouble?" Miss Matthews asked "What TROUBLE?"

Everyone has seen Dick Nagabri walking with a limp. One leg is a little shorter than the other. Was it always so?

When Dick was a young man in the bush a buffalo tossed him into the air, and catching him again as he fell, savagely tossed him aside.

Dick's leg was broken and the people following an old custom, bound it up with stringy bark 'splints'. After a long time the leg healed but was shorter. The Maung nick name dad nganabaru ("buffalo leg") was given to Dick and he rather enjoys the title.

Running along the beach at Goulburn Is. is a splendid avenue of coconut palms. An excellent place for a midday nap.

Jimmy Narila was once fast asleep there when a ripe coconut came hurtling down and bonk! on Jim's head.

It was half an hour or so before Jim opened his eyes.

Lazarus accompanied the photographer Axel Poignant to the western bank of the Liverpool (opposite the present Maningrida) in 1950. Axel was taking photos for his book "Picanniny Walkabout". In those days mature citizens like Albert Wurdjal, Betty Midilwanga and Margaret Injarppa were tender children and young Jocky's mother Nancy was a girl of 13 or so.

In 1962 people from the Gumadir brought some dingo hides to Maningrida. They were strangers so George Yarlmur who was then in his prime took them up to the manager, Mick Bresnahan.

Mick had had a few experiences of reducing the dog population in the settlement and also enjoyed a joke. As George displayed the

School Notes

Next Wednesday and Thursday Bob Stutchbury, Liz Wicks, Laurie Magaldugi and Jimmy Pascoe Matjeri will head to Darwin for the Eisteddfod with 27 children in tow. They will camp at Winnellie Showground for about 10 days and compete in the Eisteddfod. Most of the children who are going have never been to Darwin before. They were chosen for the trip with an eye to the value they will obtain from the excursion. The children are in folksong sections and all the traditional music sections where we hope we'll pick up a few victories.

A reminder to all about the school library. This library (in the new Resource Centre building) is open on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 7 o'clock to 9 o'clock. There are books to read and books to borrow. Application forms for borrowing are obtainable at the Post Office notice board or at the library. Mrs. Margaret Ingliss is in charge.

Professor.

* * * * *

Stories from Rev. Lazarus Lami lami (cont'd, from page 1)

hides, Mick began to cry and say over and over again as his own ears had heard:

"You fella bin killim dog belonga me".
George was well equal to the occasion. He broke into tears too.
"We fella bin killim because we fella want im money".
The deal was concluded in laughter.

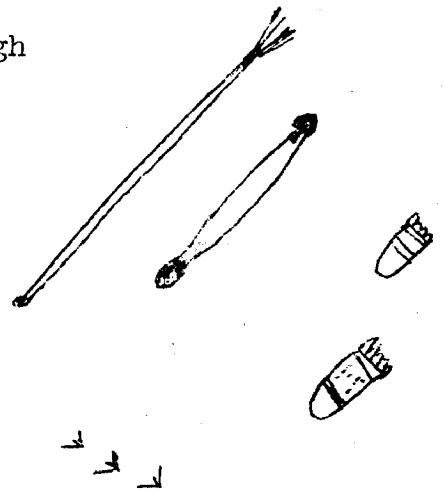
Making a Man out of Aboriginal Knowledge

From the time he is a baby, an aboriginal boy is prepared for his initiation into manhood in his own tribe. As he passess the wet seasons (i.e. years) from the crying stage onward, he learns and gains strength, to pull him upright, to walk through the bush, to hunt and collect the things he needs to eat.

As he grows up, he is taught more and more about how to live as an aborigine; about sending message sticks to people in other villages, about throwing spears with the aid of a hooked woomera, about the way to track down lizards, birds, kangaroos, fish, and other kinds of food.

When he reaches adolescence, these skills will qualify him for more of his initiation into manhood in the corroboree (bungul), where he will be taught to live as aboriginal men have lived for all time before.

At his initiation he is circumcised. His head is painted with white clay (kamanungu), the symbol of mourning, because a boy is about to die and a man to be born.



A letter from the Buzzas.

Jack Mirritji.

"Would you believe that the film of the Scouts, Cubs and Guides was on T.V. and everyone in W.A. saw it, I think, except the Buzzas. However a few weeks later we saw David Gulpulil leaping across the screen, and the Magani..... W.A. is well and truly in the throes of winter..... we are going a little further north for Ray's holidays in August, to Kalbarri, good fishing, sun and surf, etc. Mr. Buzza says Maningrida monster might be big school of manta ray thrashing around - might be something!" Melva B.

THE MONSTER

Over the weekend there was quite a stream of people going to the shop to study the first photo ever taken of the Monster.

The photo was taken on a polaroid camera - Kodak would not have printed it !

We'll be most interested to receive any further information about sightings.

M.P.A

The Maningrida Progress Association meeting will be on Saturday August 5th at 10.30 am at the school.

POSITION VACANT

Clerical Assistant (Full Time) Settlement Office.

Duties to include assistance with wages and Public Monies

Applicants to see the Superintendent.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

With the Eisteddfod almost upon us, \$264 was spent on the purchase of uniforms and clothes for the children, and it was decided to ask for, but not insist upon, a contribution of at least \$4.00 from the parents of each child going. The secretary was asked to write to the local missions to see if they were interested in the Nissan truck before it is taken to Darwin to be sold, and also to investigate the cost of printing letter-head paper and envelopes for the Association

A motion by Miss Newman led to a lengthy discussion about the contribution the Association should make to staff members for taking school personnel down South with them during the Christmas vacation, and the Association committed itself to a provision of \$300.00 for this purpose. Nevertheless the final contribution will probably be a lot greater than this figure, but it would be unwise to commit the Association to any further expense at this stage

Another discussion initiated by Mrs. Armstrong went into the pros and cons of buying a new duplicator machine. After the breakdown of the "Mirage" Gestetner the Settlement has found itself without any decent duplicator, spirit or ink. As this report goes to press, quotes have just been received from Gestetner in Adelaide, and a special meeting of the Association is to be held on Thursday 3rd of August to further consider the situation

Because of the healthy financial state of the Association it was decided to show pictures on the off-pay Saturdays once again, subject to the approval of the council.

J.G.

HOLIDAY

Monday being a holiday the store, post office and Bakery will be closed all day. The Hasty Tastey will be open as usual.

BUS GOES WELL

The new bus is expected to leave Alice Springs on Friday and arrive in Darwin sometime during the weekend (we hope).

Our thanks to Elcho

Once again we have to look for some help in the printing of the Mirage. This week's issue is being done by the Elcho News and Views. We are hoping that very shortly, we will be able to print on a Maningrida machine again.

Never have so many people battled so valiantly to bring out last week's issue on the Fordigraph.

WEEKEND DUTIES

Duty Officer: Mr. Bert Ryan
Duty Sister: Sister Ena. Monday Sister Val.
Firewatch, Saturday: Mr. Scott
Sunday: Mr. Luff
Monday: Mr. Fisher

STAR THEATRE

Friday: "Mutiny on the Bounty", with Marlan Brando, Trevor Howard and Richard Harris. In the year 1781, when Captain Bligh sailed from England for the South Seas on a mission for the British Admiralty, he carried with him aboard HMS "Bounty" a crew of 46 probably so varied backgrounds and temperament as any group of men could be. This is the start of one of the most exciting stories ever put on film. Truly a great motion picture.

As you may have heard, the Council said "Yes" to having an extra film on the off-pay Saturday, and they will now be ordered for the next month. With a bit of luck, we may even get the first one by Saturday 19th August.

J.G.

CHURCH

Sunday: 9.30 am Sunday Schools
7.15 pm Evening Service

Tuesday 7.30 pm Choir Practice

On Sunday evening, August 13th, the annual meeting of the congregation will be held.

Many people were interested to see the TA'OVALA - the ceremonial "apron" which a Tongan wears. Rev. Haloti Paupula explained that this is a way of showing respect. No Tongan would appear before the king without showing respect in this way, and he as a minister was leading the worship of the King of Kings

Respect (Reverence) for God is the beginning of wisdom.

BIRTH

Femina daughter born to Annubarda on Wednesday morning in the hospital.

PEOPLE

Tom Dudanga drives a big Forestry truck about during the day, and now, after work, he has begun to wheel a pram. Carol, his new daughter has returned home with Susan.

Baby Julius, who was very sick in hospital with a chest infection, had two doctors come in from a Milingimbi medical trip to take him into Darwin on the medical plane on Tuesday. On the way in he began to recover, and by the time the plane reached Darwin he was ready to jump down the steps. News has come that all the patients evacuated are well.

Bill Grey, well known Patrol Officer, made a quick pass through Maningrida on Tuesday on his wanderers through the bush in his new Toyota. He arrived from the Blyth River crossing on Tuesday morning and left Maningrida on Wednesday morning, expecting to be at Oenpelli that evening. His project is involved in the protection of sacred sites from mining and other activities.

David Stewart from the A.B.T.F. visited Maningrida on Monday and Tuesday. David is attached to the Department in Cambarra and has come up to the Territory to inspect projects in which A.B.T.F. funds are being used, as well as to gain first hand experience in how future funds are to be spent. In days gone by, David was Superintendent at Areyonga.

Sister Leslie Yeo arrived on Monday to stay with Ken and Betty Trewin. Leslie is a psychiatric sister at the Darwin Hospital - really quite a rare species of sister. There are only two at the Darwin Hospital.

Jimmy Burnyela's little son came to Maningrida from Darwin Hospital unexpectedly a few days ago and has now gone on to Galiwinku.

Maningrida Mirage

AIATSIS Library, RS 29.7/2

"Maningrida Mirage Volume 148" August 4th, 1972.

Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

(r000005900888_v148_a.pdf)

To cite this file use:

http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/lbry/dig_prgm/indigenousnewsletters/maningrida/pdf/1972/r000005900888_v148_a.pdf

© Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community