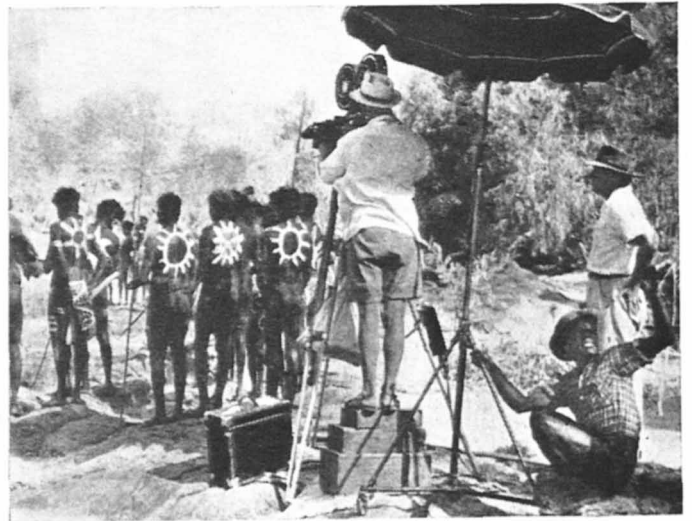




**Bob Tudawali shows Margaret Dingle the carpet snake he uses in one of the ritual dances he performs. It's a live one, too!**



**Gaily decorated with various totemic markings, these Arnhemlanders go through a scene. Beach umbrellas had to shade the camera.**

These canoes were fitted with boxes packed with ice, flown specially from Katherine.

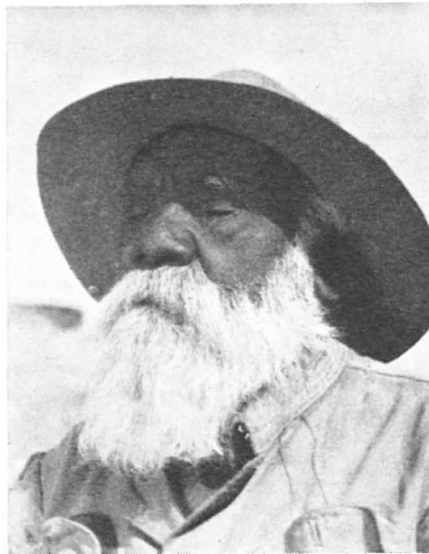
As a magazine came off the camera, it would be packed into the ice box in one of these canoes, paddled downstream to another canoe and so on through a relay of canoes to one of the sandstone caves which honeycomb the river. Here, cooling boxes with hessian covers were installed. An aborigine stood beside each cooling box keeping the hessian constantly wet, ensuring that the film would remain cool.

At the end of the day's work, the film would be taken from the caves, packed into a refrigeration car and transported to Mataranka home-stead, where it would go into a bough-shed until nine o'clock at night. Cats would then leave for the 80-mile trip to the aerodrome at Katherine, where it would be put on a refrigerator until it could go by plane at dawn on its way to London.

This was a fantastic way to have to handle film and would probably have daunted hearts less stout than Chauvel's, but even he could not have done the great job he did without the goodwill and co-operation of the aborigine workers who paddled his canoes and kept his colour stock cool.

But let us meet some of the aborigine players whose work in the film is of such a high standard.

The leading lady, Jemma, is played by Ngarla Kunoth. (Her real name is Rosie Kunoth, an Alice Springs girl. A beautiful, well-proportioned seventeen-year-old, Ngarla was shy



**This splendid old patriarch was discovered on Henbury Station, on the Finke River, where some scenes for "Jemma" were filmed.**

on the set and often found it difficult to act until Charles or Elsa Chauvel had cleared visitors away.

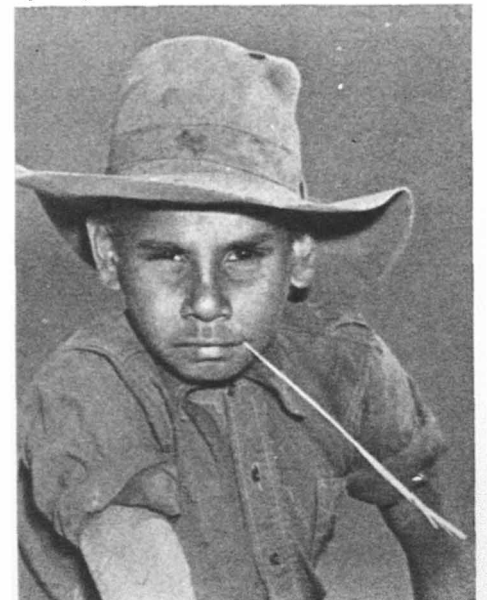
Ngarla's mother is a full-blooded Alluwarra woman, her father a half-caste Arunta, and Ngarla was taken at an early age to the Church of England St. Mary's Hostel at Alice Springs.

The Chauvels made two trips to the Territory to make their film, and by the time the second came around had not found their Jemma. However, they noticed this girl in the background and her personality immediately impressed them. They asked Deaconess Eileen Heath about her and she said Ngarla was too shy, but the Chauvels insisted. The result was that Ngarla became one of four finalists for the role. The four

aborigine girls were flown to Coolibah Station in the Territory, where a great deal of "Jemma" was filmed, and there put through a course lasting several weeks. At the end of it, the girls were all tested again and Ngarla came out the winner.

Like a lot of white girls her age, Ngarla considers Stewart Granger her favourite film star. She had never seen the sea until she went to Darwin to catch the plane for Sydney, and her first impression was that it was like the "sky lying down."

Ngarla was still doing her studies when the Chauvels brought her to Sydney and she had to continue



**The serious looking young fellow chewing things over is 12-year-old Billy Farrar, who has an important part in the Gevacolor film.**