

Moree a Progressive Station

KEEN CIVIC INTEREST

The population of Moree Station is in the vicinity of 320, but varies from time to time owing to workers departing to other parts to engage in seasonal occupations.

All of the twenty-four new cottages have been provided with shower recess and laundry facilities. The seven renovated cottages have also been provided with showers and laundries of a similar nature. The sanitary system is of the pan type and is cleared regularly by the contractor, twice a week when necessary. The contractor contracts for the Moree Municipal Council.

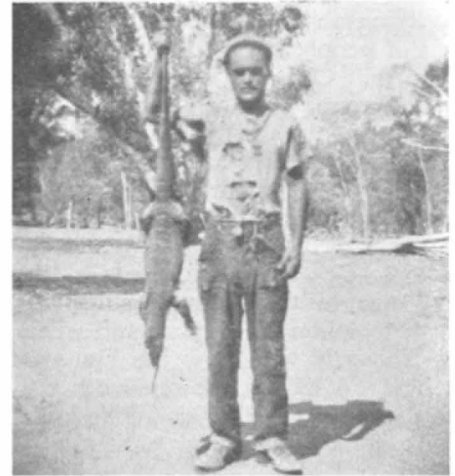
Water is pumped from a well by a Pumona three-stage electric pump into two 10,000 gallon tanks and thence reticulated to all houses. The twenty thousand gallon static capacity is insufficient for the Station but this is offset by the nature of the pump which is capable of filling the tanks within two hours. The waste water is pumped through a main to which each house is connected by two sullage pumps, and eventually is spread over a waste area of land away from the Station.



Shouldering his rifle in the approved Army style, Bob Nean, of Moree, looks every part a soldier

The School on the Station has an average enrolment of 130, including children who live off the Station. All the children of school age on the Station attend the Station school and seem both happy and contented there. There is very little absenteeism and three of the older children are attending the Moree High School. The girls particularly enjoy the cooking lesson and considerable benefit should be forthcoming from this activity as the girls grow older and marry.

Employment has been patchy throughout the year. The general occupations followed here are shearing which is a seasonal pursuit, and rural labouring of a semi-skilled nature such as fencing.



This old man goanna met his match when he had a run-in with Ivan Madden, of Moree

Towards the end of last year in about October, November, December, 1953, and early in this year, April, May, June, 1954, there were definite depressions which affected the Station severely. During these periods the issue of rations rose considerably.

During a good season, the population of the Station tends to rise as families following work throughout the district converge on Moree. This Station has a very large floating population consisting primarily of the type of family outlined above and also of families who have been employed on properties and living in houses provided by employers on such properties. When the job ceases, they return to the Station and spend weeks here before returning to other seasonal employment.

A considerable amount of work has been completed on the Station, the playing area has been completed, fenced and the playground for children commenced. This work has been performed by voluntary and unskilled labour. Broken windows have been mended and an attempt made to inspire residents of the Station to attend after their homes and gardens.

Another innovation has been the formation of a Station Council. This Council was elected by the people after the nomination of selected candidates. The duties of the Council will be to accept many of the responsibilities of the management and as far as possible to make the people handle their own affairs.