

## ALONG THE MAIL ROUTE

Dr. Wurm, of the Department of Anthropology, Sydney, was a very welcome visitor to Boggabilla Station. Dr. Wurm made a very good friend of old Harry Lang, 89, they conversed freely in the now almost forgotten Kamilaroi language. The younger generation also, were very interested and many now can speak the language of the forebears.

Boggabilla is now in the grip of summer. The residents of the station however, keep cool in the river. The management has however, put out of bounds their original swimming pool, near the pump house. It is hoped all will abide by the rule and not swim where the station water is pumped up for their own consumption!



Meet Jack Chapman and Ettie Carriage of Ulladulla.

The Baby Health Centre at Caroona was opened recently with Sister Doran of the Department of Health in charge.

Large numbers of mothers and babies attended (in fact, far more than could be attended to in the time allowed). Mrs. Trixie Cutmore had the distinction of being the first mother to take her baby to the Centre. This centre broke new ground, in as much as it is not only a fully equipped Baby Health Centre situated on a station, but, thanks to the co-operation of the Board and the Public Health Department, it is the first time that a community service situated on an aboriginal station has been made available to the entire population, regardless of colour.

At Caroona, the building and facilities were supplied by the Board, the equipment was provided jointly by the Board and the Baby Health Division, and the matron and the station Progress Association are donating work and money to help. The benefits of the station are available to anyone living in the district.

One white baby from the surrounding district attended the clinic on its opening day, and it is understood that there will be several more after the New Year.

The opening day showed very clearly that much more time will have to be allotted to enable the work here to be done. It is understood that an urgent recommendation to this effect has been sent in, and, further, that a recommendation has been made that a pre-natal clinic be added to the Baby Health Clinic.



School concert and prize giving was held at Caroona on the last day at school and was well attended by the parents. Songs by the school, short plays and miming were performed by the children. The miming and plays by the little children were particularly good, and were enthusiastically received.

The prizes were presented by the Manager, and included an imposing collection of cups, medals and pennants for football and athletics. The Manager called for a vote of appreciation for the work done by the children and their teachers, and this was heartily given.

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On Monday, Pastor Frank Roberts celebrated Holy Communion in the big marquee, decorated with flowers from Tabulam gardens. Some thirty people attended this impressive traditional ceremony. An evening meeting concluded the official convention program, but I feel sure that the effects of this gathering will be felt for a very long time. Besides their primary religious function, such gatherings provide a meeting place for people from many different districts, where mutual problems can be discussed and friendships made. They tend to break down the isolation of the little station communities, besides bringing together adherents of many different denominations. U.A.M., A.I.M., Pentecostal, Plymouth Bretheren, Church of England and Roman Catholic, were all represented at Tabulam, and all co-operated to make the function a success. Possibly white Australians could learn from such an embracive tolerance.