

# Children's Party at Native Centre

The Swan Hill Native Centre was again the scene of much activity recently, when the committee gave twenty-one children their annual Christmas treat.

Parcels of gifts were received from various persons, and associations over the whole of Victoria, and many toys and monetary gifts were given by local people, some of whom prefer to remain anonymous in their philanthropy.

Much thanks must be tendered to Mrs. Frank Brown, of Swan Hill, who through her Sunshine Club columns in the Victorian Weekly papers, obtained more than a full car load of toys and other gifts for the native children.

Mrs. Brown has worked indefatigably throughout the year for the native people and their families, and the committee are indebted to her for her untiring work and interest.

Mrs. Brown has been assisted in her work by Mrs. D. Carn, Mrs. Ed. Bryan and Mrs. Dillon, and their work is greatly appreciated too.

Mrs. Feldtmann was mainly responsible for the lavish spread of chicken and salad savouries in lettuce leaf cups, cakes, sandwiches, fruit, lollies, soft drinks, peanuts and ice cream, but she was ably assisted by Mrs. S. Storer who is always a willing worker.

Just as the Christmas treat was almost over Santa Claus arrived with more gifts than he could carry at the one time and distributed them to the children.

It would take up too much space to enumerate all those persons who contributed cash and kind to make this Christmas party such a happy one for these little native children, but a mention of the school children from far away Birchip, the CWA at Lascelles, Kooloong and Natya would not be amiss.

Also a special thanks should go to Mrs. William Kennedy, of Watchupha, who made a very large Christmas cake, all iced and decorated, which was the centre-piece of the table decorations.

After the children had their party, the tables were reset, and the "grown-ups" were given a party of their own.

It was agreed by everyone present that it was the happiest day of the year.

On the same day as the party, Mr. Kotalawela, the Member of Parliament from Ceylon, accompanied by Mr. Pat Landy, visited the centre and were shown over it by Sgt. Feldtmann. At the conclusion of the visit Mr. Kotalawela stated that he was so impressed with the project that he would incorporate an article on it in his report to the Commonwealth of Australia, a copy of which would go to his own Government.



This lonely looking young lady is Edith Duke, of Ben Lomond. She was not really lonely, just surprised.

## "Jedda"

The popularity of the Charles Chauvel production "Jedda," was further evidenced by the wonderful reception it received when it was shown at one of Sydney's leading suburban theatres, the "Magnet", at Lakemba. "Jedda" was shown there for six nights, and the theatre was crowded at every performance. The remarks overheard in the foyer as the people left for their homes, were that it was "a truly great picture".

Whilst the picture was screened at the "Magnet", a most interesting exhibition was featured in the foyer. (See picture below.)

Mr. Robert Simms, the boomerang expert, of La Perouse, loaned many of his excellent specimens of early aboriginal weapons, as also did Mr. Jeffery, the Supervisor of the Reserve, who possesses some excellent specimens from Northern Australia.

During one of the performances, Mr. Jeffery, with Robert Simms and Mrs. Mary Griffith, who is already well known to the readers of *Dawn* in connection with her activities at the Annual Summer Camp, made a personal appearance and were introduced by Mr. William Auld, the manager of the theatre.

