

# N.S.W. RESERVE STATISTICS FOR 1959

# VALE EDWARD MURPHY

## Walgett loses an identity

Mr. Edward Murphy, affectionately nicknamed "Pop" and one of the best-loved aborigines in the district, passed away in the Walgett District Hospital recently.

His correct age is not known. Some say he was 80, others 90 and could even have been 100 years of age. He had resided on the Walgett Station for many years and was one of the original residents of "Red Hill", the first aboriginal settlement in Walgett.

The Walgett Church of England was filled to capacity for the funeral service conducted by the Vicar.

Now "Pop" has gone and with him has passed a good slice of the history of the early aborigines of the Walgett district. It is known that he was initiated according to tribal lore. He would talk of such things as initiation ceremonies only among those closest to him. What stories he could tell and what an amazing sense of humour he had even to the last!

What manner of man you ask that he was? I will tell you. He was a "big" man—not in stature or build but "big" in everything that he did and thought. He loved the children and it was a delight to see him putting them through the sets at the dances. And what a wonderful tap dancer he was! Ah, yes, Walgett Station is the poorer in the passing of a man like Edward Murphy.

I quote his own words after a passing: "The wind and the rain come to sweep our footprints off the earth". Yes, the elements may do just that "Pop" but the memory of your presence amongst us will live on.

Deepest sympathy goes out to all his children, grand-children, great grand-children and relatives. May his spirit rest at peace with those of his forefathers.

Reserve	Area in Acres	Population	Ration Recipients
Balranald .. .. .	142	50	..
Bellbrook .. .. .	96	110	11
Bourke .. .. .	34	68	..
Bowraville .. .. .	36	61	5
Brungle .. .. .	12	76	..
Coff's Harbour .. .. .	6	72	8
Condobolin .. .. .	16	18	2
Coonabarabran .. .. .	20	28	6
Coraki .. .. .	10	86	2
Cubawee .. .. .	24	106	3
Cumerogunga .. .. .	200	80	..
Dubbo .. .. .	18	49	..
Forster .. .. .	19	85	19
Goodooga .. .. .	80	185	16
Gulgambone .. .. .	52	322	..
Karuah .. .. .	50	48	2
Kyogle .. .. .	28	5	..
La Perouse .. .. .	6	191	2
Moonahcullah .. .. .	232	85	..
Nambucca Heads .. .. .	70	92	4
Peak Hill .. .. .	7	26	..
Tibooburra .. .. .	100	2	..
Tingha .. .. .	15	18	..
Ulgundahi Island .. .. .	44	38	3
Uralla .. .. .	100	31	..
Walcha .. .. .	107	57	..
Wellington .. .. .	100	77	9
Wilcannia .. .. .	75	294	40
Yass .. .. .	9	27	..
Totals .. .. .		2,549	132

## WE NEED A PHILOSOPHY

### A letter to the Editor

The Editor,  
*Dawn.*

As a regular reader of *Dawn* may I say our early Aussies appear to have need of Trained Philosophy.

Anyone that thinks at all is some kind of a Philosopher, but a Trained Thinker will seek—

1. The *True*, including knowledge of all subjects.
2. The *Beautiful*, and its expression in Arts.
3. The *Good*—morals and such.
4. A *Sense of Worth and Values*.

Then we learn to interpret life and its experiences: this is the task of Philosophy, in brief outline.

May God bless all our early Aussies.

—R.B.