

Night Classes are a Big Success at Nowra

Aborigines from Roseby Park and Worrigea on the South Coast are eagerly supporting special night classes organised for them at Nowra Technical School.

Last year a motor vehicle maintenance course at the school attracted more than 50 men and boys

This year in addition, special courses have been started for women and girls.

The classes for women include sewing, cooking, infant and child welfare and basketry.

There are 15 students, most of them women, for the courses.

The Nowra school courses began last year on the initiative of the secretary of the South Coast Aboriginal Advancement League, Mr. H. W. Hesse, and with the support of the manager of the Roseby Park Aboriginal Station, Mr. N. R. Lawson.

Mr. Colin Messer, teacher of automotive mechanics at the school, took charge of the aboriginal students.

The first classes were attended by 16 students from Roseby Park, two from Worrigea and four from South Nowra.

The Aborigines Welfare Board paid the cost of a bus to transport the students to and from their school.

So successful were these classes, and the interest aroused by them so insistent, that it was decided to begin courses for women.

The classes were arranged at a meeting of the Nowra Technical Education Advisory Committee in February this year.

Mrs. Shirley Hesse took the dressmaking course, Mrs. Loneragan the cooking, Mrs. D. Wilmot the basketry and Sister Sybil Atkins-Carter the infant and child care.

The Board again is meeting the cost of bus transport for the women attending the courses.

The principal of Nowra Technical College, Mr. Samuel Potts said the classes had been most successful.

Some of the men students who were seasonal workers had to leave for their work, but they returned when the jobs permitted.

Could You Save a Poisoned Child?

(Contributed by the N.S.W. Department of Public Health)

What would you do if your child swallowed poison?

This is a question that every mother should ponder upon—an urgent problem she may one day face.

Don't panic but act quickly! See if the mouth and lips are burnt.

If the poison is a corrosive such as lysol, carbolic acid, ammonia or acid, tell-tale burns will be left in the child's mouth.

Under no circumstances induce the child to vomit as it only increases stomach tissue damage.

Your first concern in a case such as this should be to dilute the poison in the child's stomach by making him drink a pint of milk or water. Then call your doctor.

Again if the child has swallowed petroleum products such as kerosene, petrol, furniture polish, lighter fluid, cleaning fluids or benzene, do not induce him to vomit as in this case the vomitus may enter the lungs and cause broncho-pneumonia.

In all other types of poisoning the recommendation is to make the child vomit by placing two fingers to the back of his throat, or, by giving an emetic such as warm soapy water.

Do not induce vomiting in an unconscious patient.

In all cases of poisoning obtain medical aid as rapidly as possible. If possible let the doctor know the name of the poison taken.

Ways to prevent Poisoning

- Lock your medicine cabinet. Drugs account for a large percentage of fatal poisonings in children under five.
- Don't keep your household chemicals under the kitchen sink. The one-year-old crawling under the sink accounts for a good percentage of poisoning cases.
- Never put poisonous substances, such as turpentine into soft drink bottles or milk bottles. A child could easily mistake the poison for food or drink.
- Never put poisons in cupboards where food is stored.
- It's a good idea to have regular check-ups around the house to ensure poisonous items are out of a child's reach.
- Danger areas remember are the kitchen, bedroom and bathroom.