



*Mrs E. Draper*

## BARK-PAINTING IN MOREE

Pictured is Mrs Ellen Draper of Moree, who is making a name for herself with her artwork. Two years ago, a ladies' hobby club started and Ellen joined it. As often happens with such informal little clubs, attendance gradually dwindled until Mrs Draper found herself the only remaining member. However the club had been a valuable experience for her. Mrs John Curran had started her off on bark paintings, and after a couple of lessons, Ellen had taught herself the rest. Later, she taught herself oil painting too.

Now, Ellen is able to sell her bark paintings and she feels that sales will improve after she has managed to arrange proper framing. Her painted greeting cards, designed by herself, also sell well, too.

The bark paintings are done on thick strips of ti-tree bark and are painted with water-solvent powdered paints.

The fact that her work sells well is an added bonus for Mrs Draper. Speaking with her, I could feel her satisfaction and pleasure in the work and that feeling of achievement which is the real prize earned by those who create with their hands.



*Examples of Ellen Draper's work*

*Photos by courtesy of Dick Hazell, Moree*

