



## ALICE WOOD — RECORD BREAKER

“I hope Alice is the first of very many,” said Mrs Eileen Lester, and everyone clapped their agreement.

*Alison Wood, who accompanied her mother to New Zealand*



Eileen was speaking at a party at Sydney University given to farewell Mrs Alice Wood, who was about to leave for New Zealand on an Anzac Fellowship.

Daughter of that universally respected Aboriginal leader, the late Mr Bert Groves, Alice Wood had been awarded the fellowship to further her studies in preschool with the family education centres in New Zealand. Only two fellowships are awarded each year, and Alice had to compete against applicants from all over Australia. When the field had been narrowed down to the final interview, she had been the only woman left, the other remaining applicants all being males.

Alice, who has been a keen worker with the Aboriginal Family Education Centre movement, will be working in the Rotorua area with Mrs Hine Potaka, who became widely known to Aboriginal people when she was a field officer for A.F.E.C. Hine is Dominion President of the New Zealand Maori Women's Welfare League.

Alice will also be visiting other Maori associations—play centres, family education centres, preschool centres and parents' and citizens' associations—and will be addressing many of them. She will be in New Zealand for a period of 9 months, and hopes to obtain an Assistant Supervisor's Certificate.

Going with her to New Zealand are her four children, Marian, Adrian, David and Alison, who are all going to school at Tepuke—a largely Maori school in the Bay of Plenty area. A letter of