

WE NEED THE HAND OF FRIENDSHIP



*A Letter from the Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare,
Mr. M. H. SAXBY.*



My dear Aboriginal Friends,

It is now almost twelve months since I took up duty as your Superintendent. It has naturally been a busy time, but full of interest, nevertheless. I have visited many places and have travelled practically all over the State. It has been my privilege and pleasure to meet and have discussions with a large number of our people, and the free expression of opinions from those most directly concerned has been most helpful to me in getting to understand the problems of the work.

I am impressed by the number who are facing their responsibilities with grit and determination and who are carving a place for themselves in the community as worthy Australian citizens. Having already learned something of the handicaps confronting these people, I have nothing but admiration for their efforts.

I have also been encouraged by the helpful and sympathetic attitude of many white friends of the aboriginal people. However, we need many more such, who will extend the hand of fellowship and goodwill to the coloured people of our land. I am grieved by the intolerance and unkindness of a minority and am ashamed at the discrimination shown in some quarters, by business people and even civic authorities.

It should be the aim of all aboriginal people to demonstrate to these, that they are worthy to be accorded all the privileges of our society.

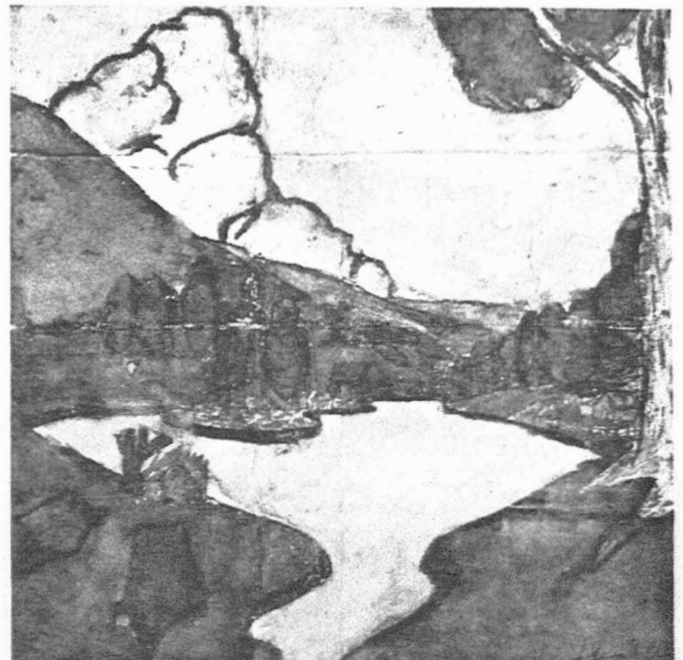
Of special interest to me has been my contacts with the children. I see in these, our brightest hopes for the future. All parents should recognise that it is the right of every child to have a good home and upbringing. The Board and its Officers are endeavouring to assist parents in this great task. Better homes have been provided where possible, and no child need be denied the privilege of a good education.

Officers of the Board, both in Sydney and country centres, will be happy to advise and assist in any problem to the best of their ability. You are invited, at any time, to consult these Officers.

Yours Sincerely,

M. H. SAXBY,

Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare.



**A fine drawing by thirteen-year-old Gerald Ellis,
of Kinchela.**