

NEW HOMES WELCOMED

Excitement at Yass

There was much excitement at Yass Reserve recently, when six families were transferred to new homes in the town of Yass itself. Much burning of the midnight oil preceded the move as busy husbands and wives packed belongings ready for the move, and when the long-awaited day at last arrived, activities began at the crack of dawn.

Yass Reserve—not very aptly named “Hollywood”—is one of the older reserves in the State and most of the out-of-date iron structures erected there are in the process of being demolished. Quite a contrast is presented by the new homes in town, which are modern three-bedroom cottages with amenities such as electricity, modern stoves and bath heaters, stainless-steel sinks, rotary clothes lines, and water and sewerage.

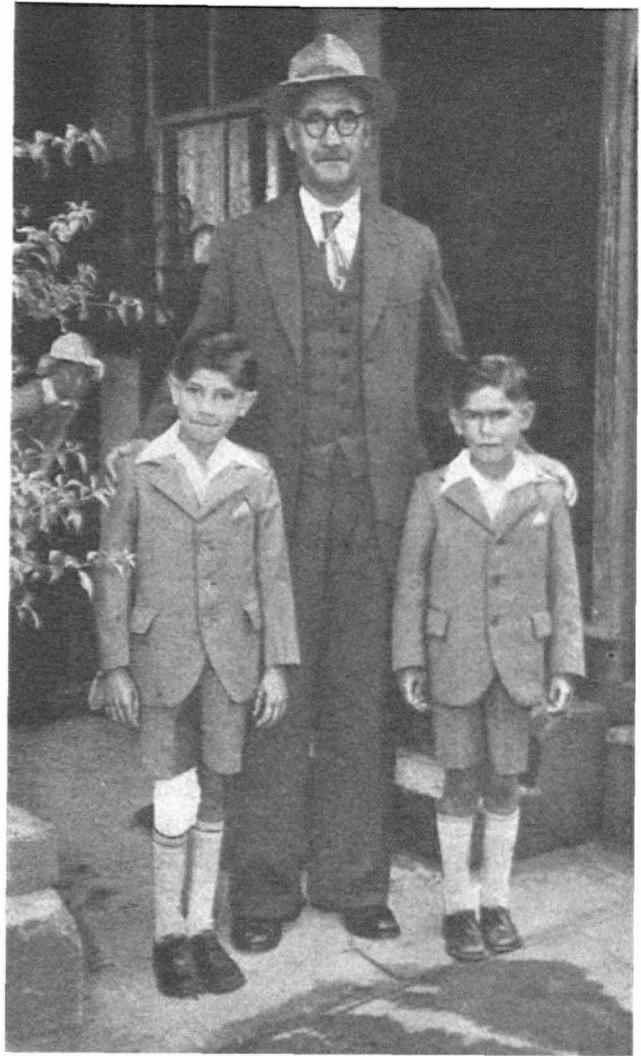
All the tenants have responded well to their new opportunities and already modern furniture and floor coverings have, in many cases been purchased. The Board has every confidence that the trust imposed upon the tenants in each case has not been in vain.

The expenditure in this one project alone, has cost the Board in the vicinity of £11,000, and similar projects of this nature are about to be completed in other towns. As a further incentive, aboriginal tenants, after a trial period, are to be given the opportunity of purchasing these homes on a deposit free, “pay as you go” plan.

It goes without saying, that the provision of good housing is a forward move in the policy of assimilation. Projects such as those completed at Yass and elsewhere, are the first of many planned for the future throughout the State and will enable many aboriginal families to take their rightful place in the community with pride and confidence.



These two smiling lasses are Nada Ward and Lexie Ellis, both ex-Cootamundra girls.



The two boys in this photo, Robert McLeod and Kenneth Brown recently spent two weeks holiday in Tasmania as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Roberts of Wynyard, a farming district about six miles from Launceston.

They had the pleasure of travelling by plane and enjoyed the trip very much. These boys are only about eight years old, but they knew how to conduct themselves and readily made friends with the white people with whom they went to stay.

They still talk of the times they had with the Roberts family, riding about on the pony and going on fishing trips. However their favourite past-time was the plum tree, this they could visit any time they wished (which was very often).

They often went for rides on the farm tractor, which sometimes Mr. Roberts let them drive. Before the boys left for home, Mr. and Mrs. Roberts took them to town on a shopping spree, and they bought lots of things to bring home for their little brothers and sisters.