

TIMBER MILL PLANNED

Wreck Bay Venture

Robert Brown, first aboriginal appointed to manage an aboriginal station, is planning to set up a co-operative saw-mill.

The mill will be near his station at Wreck Bay, near Jervis Bay. He will run it with the help of fellow aborigines.

"I have made inquiries, and understand I will have no trouble getting a licence from the Commonwealth Government", Mr. Brown said.

"Capital may come from the Commonwealth or from a firm with Australia-wide milling interests.

"The matter is under discussion".

Mr. Brown said that each man would get out of the mill what he put into it.

Wages would be paid monthly with bonuses for good conduct at the end of the first year.

"I believe the mill will help my people become independent", he said.

The Aborigines' Welfare Board appointed Mr. Brown, a half-caste aboriginal, now 52, to manage Jervis Bay Station in April, 1954.

The N.S.W. Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare, Mr. H. Saxby, said: "He's done a fine year's work".

Mr. Brown is a tall, well set up man, with a confident manner. He said: "Of the 160 people on this station, 19 men hold fishermen's licences, and get a bare livelihood from it".

Without Pay.

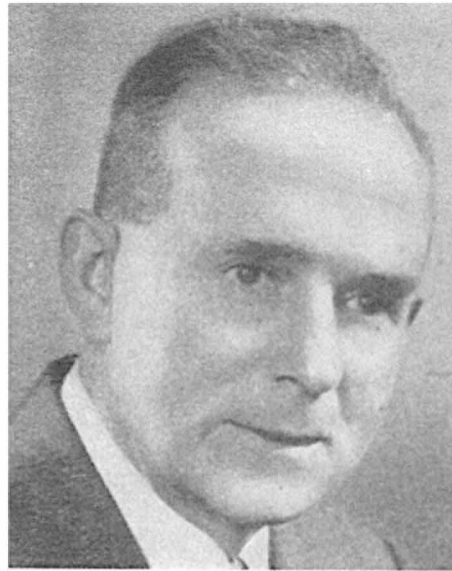
"Others are earning £7 to £8 a day on a Burragorang Valley project—but that is only temporary.

"The mill would provide steady employment for them".

Mr. Brown said that a private timber milling firm had offered him backing for the project on condition he managed the mill and there was "no other outside inte.est."

He would do the job without pay, he said.

"I love the work and wouldn't change it for anything".



Mr. Ainsworth.

Mr. T. H. Ainsworth, well known poet and essayist, is Curator of the City Museum in Vancouver.

Mr. Ainsworth, who takes a very keen interest in *Dawn*, and our aboriginal people, is well known to many readers for his stirring articles, which have appeared from time to time.

A LETTER FROM BEROWRA.

Dear Sir,

I would like to say how much I enjoy reading *Dawn*. I have been living in Berowra with my Mother and Father and five sisters and two brothers since 1943 and we are always interested in what is taking place on the Stations.

We have just moved into a very nice home of our own and I thought I would write and tell *Dawn*. We came from Groote Eylandt when Darwin was bombed during the war and have lived here ever since.

I was a leading Sydney Amateur Boxer and have since turned professional and I am now rated 13th in Australia. I am very interested in sport and play A Grade cricket with Berowra. I also play tennis and am a very keen fisherman and golfer. My sisters and myself go dancing and are always happy with the people of Berowra and Hornsby District. My Uncle and Auntie also from Groote, live at Warragamba Dam, where my uncle is working. I would like to know where to get in touch with Ruth Whaddy and James Stirling.

Yours sincerely,

Arnold Hamilton, (Sgd.),
Woodcourt Road,
Berowra.