

A Letter from Swan Hill

Congratulations to Dawn

"Please accept my sincere thanks and congratulations on your splendid editions of *Dawn*. Each one is most interesting and is certainly one of the best ways of publicising the work of the Board.

You will have read of our aboriginal singer Harold Blair and his recent appointment as teacher of singing at the Albert Street Conservatorium, Melbourne.

This is great news and indicates the desire of the white population to recognise talent in a dark brother.

You are doing a marvellous work in New South Wales and I hope that Victoria will follow suit and endeavour to bring about a better State for the native people here.

The Native Children's Recreation Centre in Swan Hill is still being carefully supervised by Sergeant Feldtmann and his committee.

Mrs. Feldtmann, the Sergeant's wife, accepted the position of secretary when I resigned owing to ill health.

She is a splendid helper and attends to the many duties entailed in her usual capable style.

The children's dresses are frequently altered by her, and the curtains and other necessary equipment at the Centre receive her attention. The children look upon her as a good friend, just as they do the Sergeant.

The Police Commissioner, Colonel Porter, saw fit to confer on the Sergeant the Police Order of Merit, which I believe is almost equivalent to our V.C. in the Forces and the second highest award in the Police Force. This was in recognition of his work for the aborigines at Swan Hill.

Some of the children spent an enjoyable holiday at Portsea this year. They also took part in school concerts and in concerts and parties in the Salvation Army Hall.

Mrs. E. Marshall."

. . . . Thank you very much for your kind letter. We are very pleased to know that *Dawn* is bringing a little ray of sunshine to so many people, in so many parts of the Commonwealth Ed.



These handsome young fellows are all prospective members of the Murrin Bridge Cub pack.

Lazarus Lami Lami

Among honoured guests at meetings held during the recent visit to Sydney of the Executive of the World Council of Churches, was Lazarus Lami Lami, a quiet, dignified Australian Aboriginal from Goulburn Island. Lazarus was educated by the Methodist missionaries on Goulburn Island where he is now a carpenter by trade and where he serves his church as a local preacher. He was allotted a seat on the platform at the great Festival of Faith in the Sydney Showground on 4th Feb. Distinguished people present on that occasion included Queen Salote of Tonga, Sir John Northcott, Rt. Hon. R. G. Menzies, Archbishop Mowll and church dignitaries from Europe, Asia and America. Those who have the welfare of the aboriginal people at heart were delighted to see a full-blood aboriginal representing his own folk on that great occasion. Before returning to his home and family on Goulburn Island, Lazarus visited Canberra, Melbourne and Adelaide.

A Letter to the Editor

Daisy is one of the Family

Dear Sir,

It was with great interest I was given one of the Aborigines books, *Dawn*, to read.

I have for a long time been interested in the Aborigines in general, and I have visited the Murrin Bridge Mission a few times. That is when my Mother and I take our little dark girl help back home to visit her people. Her name is Daisy Williams, and she has been in our employ for four years.

We cannot speak too highly of this lass, as she has been wonderful in every way. If you can possibly find a corner in the next issue of *Dawn* to print this letter about our girl, I would be most grateful, as we now look on her almost as one of the family.

Thanking you,

I am (Mrs.) Irene Peel,
4 Gladstone Street,
West Wyalong.

. . . . Thank you Mrs. Peel. It is heartening to know there are people like yourself willing to offer the hand of friendship to our Aboriginal people, and by so doing help them to help themselves Ed.