

The Shamrocks Concert-Dance

A Concert-Dance was recently organised by the Moree Station Vigoro Team, The Shamrocks.

Half of the proceeds went to the Vigoro Club and the other half to fund for the Children's Christmas Treat. Each of the above received £15 so it can be seen it was financial success. It could be safely said that everyone on the Station, with the exception of the people away shearing, attended. Quite a number of visitors from the town were present.

Every item was particularly well done and well applauded. Two or three items were outstanding such as Mr. Ritchie Smith's impersonation of Al Jolson. This artist was recalled three times. Another was the "Hula Girls", Freddie Moran supplied the music on his guitar for this item. All that was missing was the swaying palm trees and the white sands of the Hawaii beach, the swaying movement of the girls more than made up for the lack of the palm trees.

It will no doubt interest readers to know that the Station has three vigoro teams, two active and the third in the making. We play local teams and a number from nearby towns and have won most of our matches.

Next year it is hoped to have a competition going when matches will be arranged with teams from Narrabri, Boggabilla and various other places.

We have also started a cricket club. The actual spade work has been done in so far as the inaugural, first annual and first general meeting has been held. The club has been called "The Australs" and its president, Mr. E. Saunders, has high hopes of launching the club on its first match in the very near future.

Several practice matches have been played under the eagle eyes of Mr. P. Duncan and Mr. R. "Doc" Smith, both very good cricketers in their day and they say they can pick a side that will make the local cricketers sit up and take notice. Incidentally, when we do start, there are at least six teams locally and near vicinity lined up waiting to play us.

A first class wicket has been prepared on the Station oval and the thanks for this go to Jimmy Barlow, Maxie Cutmore and his father, Mr. Harry Cutmore. These chaps, with a few others, really worked, did a mighty job. Let us hope the "The Australs" will repay this effort with some mighty wins.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RUBENACH

Sir: The writer was unable to attend Casino High School speech night to hear the well merited remarks which were doubtlessly made about Mr. Rubenach's success and popularity as a headmaster for so many years.

A phase of his work, however, which is not generally known and of which some mention should be made as he reaches last milestone in his long and successful teaching career, is that which he has done amongst the children of aboriginal blood in the Casino district.

It was through Mr. Rubenach's representations to the Aborigines Welfare Board that the department gladly agreed to his request to award the first Aborigines Welfare Board Bursary to a child with an admixture of aboriginal blood, which was awarded in 1945.

Since then Aborigines Board Bursaries have been awarded in other parts of the State but Casino holds the proud record of having eight such bursary winners attend its schools over the past eleven years.

There was more to this work than writing a few letters.

Mr. Rubenach had to keep an oversight on the expenditure of Bursary moneys, submit progress reports to the Aborigines Welfare Board and to put up with frequent visits from the Aborigines Welfare Officer, not to mention his personal contact with these children.

It may well be said of him indeed, that he has, with patience and encouragement, guided the faltering footsteps of these children of the dark people up the craggy slopes of learning and enlightenment, and what a reward indeed, if it is his pleasure to see one of these children, who recently sat for the Leaving Certificate become the first of her kind to bridge the gap from secondary to tertiary education and to commence her University education next year.

If this should happen he will have helped make history.

E. J. Morgan
Welfare Officer,
Coff's Harbour.



This is what happened when Malcolm Timberrry of La Perouse met Santa Claus.