

Swimming races were conducted in the river and at Wellington Baths. Some of the children were taught to swim. All were instructed in life-saving and water safety.

Each child received a free issue of fresh milk at the Centre every day. One hundred and eighty seven pints of milk were distributed during three weeks.

At a pet show there were prizes for the largest and smallest pets and for the pet with the most tricks.



Mr. and Mrs. Page (standing) were popular with the Nanima children. Here they have been helping a group of young artists and handcraft workers.



Tunnel Ball was the most exciting game. Spectators and players cheered and screamed with excitement and laughter as teams fought out a close finish.

Children and parents at Nanima are now looking forward eagerly to next year's Play Centre.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

The Editor.

Dear Sir,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy FIFTH Birthday.

Having been a constant reader of *Dawn* for many months I must congratulate you on your very interesting magazine and the wonderful work you are doing among the Aborigines.

All my best wishes for a long, happy and prosperous future.

Yours Sincerely,
Mrs. M. Chambers,
246 Carrington Road,
Coogee.

" WILCANNIA GETTING BACK TO NORMAL AGAIN "

By Jack Quayle

The residents of the Wilcannia Settlement are gradually working their way back to a normal existence again after the trying times experienced throughout the latter part of 1956.

Christmas was not so cheerful for some of the residents, as fate took its toll on the 8th December, when a well known identity passed away in the Broken Hill and District Hospital. He was Joseph Francis Quayle, of Wongamana Station, in the Bourke District. Frank was well known and well liked in the Bourke and Wilcannia districts. He was single and 39 years of age and our deepest sympathy is hereby expressed. Another sad case was that of Mrs. Laurie Jones, who passed away in the same month. Our sympathy is also expressed to her relatives.

The Monster Christmas Tree that was being arranged for the children did not turn out as anticipated—however, the party and Christmas Tree went on and the majority of the children enjoyed themselves. There was plenty of ice cream and soft drinks, cakes and sandwiches to go round, but the natural spirit was lacking because of the loss of one of our friends.

Now that the holidays are nearing an end most of the school children will be looking forward to meeting some of their old friends who were fortunate enough to have been able to take a trip away for the school holidays. When school starts it means that certain sporting events will commence—and quite a number of the children are interested in sports.

The boys here are very keen on football, and the girls have taken to tennis and basketball. They hope to be able to form a tennis club and get a court put down this year if all goes well and there are no more floods to cope with, as in the past year.

However, there has been quite a few grass fires throughout the Western Districts since Christmas, and some of them are still burning. Thousands of acres of grasslands have been burned out, and several thousand head of stock have perished. Quite a number of our boys have had the experience of fire fighting and, believe me, they say that they would rather bump into "ole man Ribber" any day.

Suede shoes, belts, bags, etc., can be kept in much better condition if you rub them with pumice powder—then remove with a stiff brush.

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A small piece of charcoal slipped in a muslin bag and hung in the larder will keep food fresh.