

So I paint my picture—a psychological picture, a picture of the mind—a picture only the imaginative and compassionate can see. A picture I cannot escape. With my brush I appropriately write across the canvas, in clear red-coloured Block lettering, the word "WANT". Yes, as red as blood! I want the world to see that, to realise its significance, to grasp its simple message, its truth.



I must adopt every device at my disposal to "rail" all minds to this spot. I want the attention of all good people. I improvise a weather vane on top of the canvas. It is made of the bone from the aborigine's skeleton. It points with the wind.

The devil of this is that it turns out not to be just an ordinary nightmare.

Can't just one influential visionary see that canvas and the pointing bone? Doesn't it point at you, at everyone? Couldn't my stricken Conscience be infectious? However, you don't have to suffer agonies of Conscience to see the "want"—the need. Can't lots of good people see that immediate action is needed?

Oh, can't we please touch your hearts, kind back-benchers? You who would vote to protect Native Animals, why not to protect us? Is it beyond our power to make you feel that we are human and have feelings? Won't someone please help finish this dream?

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Bega Christmas Treat

The people of the Bega Methodist Church have for the past seven years provided the food for a really fine Christmas Party for the Wallaga Lake Station residents and their visitors.

As a mark of appreciation it was decided by the Station Progress Association to extend an open invitation to the folk from Bega to a day designed for their entertainment.

Thirty-five visitors from Bega arrived and their day started with an athletic carnival organised by the Station teacher, Mr. K. Davie. This started at 10 a.m. and ran until 2.45 p.m. There were many novelty events.

By 3 p.m. the Bega ladies had prepared their Christmas Party, and what a beautiful party it was! The way the food disappeared gave ample evidence as to how good it really was.

At 3.45 p.m. that benign old gentleman in red appeared. He had made a very fast trip from Bega. He proceeded to hand out the presents off the Christmas

tree—over one hundred of them. He then went on his way and was given a great send off by the kiddies. The Bega visitors then made their way to the Manager's residence where a buffet dinner awaited them.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Hoskins, Mr. and Mrs. E. Andy and Miss Helen Andy, members of the Station committee, also attended the dinner.

This dinner, which was paid for by the Progress Association (in other words, by the residents of the Station), was beautifully cooked and very attractively served. Special tribute must be paid to Mrs. K. Davie, the school teacher's wife, and the Matron.

At 6.30 p.m. out visitors went back to the hall where Cec Thomas had organised one full hours entertainment by the concert party. Before proceeding he made a short address in which he thanked the Bega people for their splendid and generous efforts in providing the parties for the Station residents. Several dark visitors gave good items and one old Station identity, Jimmy Little senior, really turned on the works.

At the conclusion of the concert, Mr. N. Guthrie, on behalf of the Bega folk, thanked the people for providing them with a wonderful day—it had been thoroughly enjoyed by all. He said the spirit behind the whole thing was what impressed him most. It was proof that assimilation was nearer than most people supposed and that the dark people, by dint of their own efforts such as the events of the day, were doing much toward their assimilation into the community.

The Manager of the Wallaga Lake Station, Mr. Henricksen, has asked *Dawn* to thank Mrs. E. Hoskins and her helpers for decorating the hall and Christmas tree, Mr. Cec Thomas for his organising and running the concert, and lastly, the residents and their visitors for their complete co-operation through the entire day.

It was estimated that 140 dark visitors were present and they, too, enjoyed the day and want to come again.

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SANTA CLAUS AT CONDOBOLIN

Santa arrived in Condobolin on Monday, 9th December. His first port of call was the Reserve, where the Christmas tree and party were in full swing.

All the folk from the Reserve and Murie attended, but unfortunately, Shirley Knight, Roy and Ivan Goolagong were sick and could not come. However, they are all well again now, and they all received their presents.

Santa was very busy distributing gifts to all the children, who then made short work of the heaps of food, fruit and soft drinks. A very enjoyable evening was spent by all.