

# HISTORY IS MADE . . . .



These ten beautiful aboriginal debutantes are (back row from left) Raileene Wanganeen, Peggy Cross, Charlotte Walker, Joy Cross, Maxine Martin, Rosslyn Cross. (Front row) Joy Power, Janet Weetra, Maureen Newchurch, and Rosemary Newchurch.

—Photo by courtesy of "Adelaide News."



*Australia's first all-aboriginal debutante ball took place in the recreation hall of Point Pearce Aboriginal Mission, Yorke Peninsula, one night recently.*

*Ten debutantes were presented to the Protector of Aborigines, Mr. C. E. Bartlett and his wife.*

This was the climax to three months' exacting training the girls had received from the ball organiser, Mrs. H. E. Davies, of Port Victoria, who also donated eight of the gowns.

All the girls were escorted by young aboriginal men. Practically all in attendance were aborigines.

Mr. Bartlett said: "I am honoured to be here

tonight at an exhibition which some people would not believe possible.

"The Aborigines Protection Board and I believe in true assimilation, and when I look around tonight I know we ARE getting somewhere."

During the ball the ten self-assured and graceful girls were good ambassadors for their race.

(See newspaper editorial page 18)