

OWING to a typewriter breakdown I have been unable to send in any news from this centre lately, however now that it has been repaired and returned, we're in the news again.

James Dutton, who passed away on the 13th November, 1958 in the Sydney Hospital, left a young wife and three children. He was a man who was well liked by everyone who knew him. He was employed by the Department of Main Roads at Wilcannia and will be sadly missed by his workmates.

The usual Christmas festival was carried out on the Settlement, and was well attended by both young and old. After sandwiches, soft drinks, and ice cream had been served, every child present received a prize from the Christmas Tree. When this was done the ground was cleared and the old folks and the young joined in a claypan Dance which was well enjoyed by everybody present.

January proved a very busy month for the Stork as there were seven children born in that month, six boys, including twins, and one girl. Congratulations go to Christena and Douglas Young, a boy; Clara Coon, a boy; Amy and Jack Quayle, twin boys; Maurine and Ray O'Donnell, a boy; Jessie and Leonard Kirwin, a boy; Phillis and Henry Crowe, a girl.

Boxing has commenced again at Wilcannia and many of the boys from the Settlement are showing up prominently in the ring. A cup presented, for the West Darling Championship went to Percy Hunter. In the first fight for the title Percy fought it out with Henry Crowe, and took the honours with flying colours. The next time the title was put on the line Percy was hard put to the test by a much heavier opponent in Arthur Clarke, better known locally as Arthur Gray. This proved to be a tough fight for both as they were both out of condition at the time, it proved also that Percy at his own weight will take a lot of stopping.

Cec. Payne added another victory to his list when he stopped Dave Kennedy from Ivanhoe in the second round of a scheduled four rounder. Dave fought very gamely and was much the heavier than Payne and appeared to have been hitting very hard but Payne appeared to have had the situation well in hand from the start, as he took some of Kennedy's best punches and came back fighting. At the end of the second round Kennedy was out on his feet and the fight was rightfully stopped in favour of Payne. This gives Payne six wins in six fights.

The football season is here again and the Hampton boys and Hunters and Cec Payne are looking forward to

[continued next column

EASTER Saturday was children's picnic day to Jackall Creek, some 8 miles from Coonabarabran. The children enjoyed every moment of the day. Foot races were the highlight of the day and they were keenly contested. All present voted the three-legged race the "star" race of the day. Robert Goulding was the largest prize winner collecting five events.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Griffin from Walcha spent an enjoyable Easter with Mr. and Mrs. O. Williams.

Young Rhonda Sampson, of Burra Bee Dee, had a short period of hospitalisation but has now returned home and is convalescing with her aunt at Caroona.

WILCANNIA

BURRA BEE DEE

Through the generosity of Mr. J. Ratcliffe of Alpine, via

Mittagong, the Burra Bee Dee children were recipients of a large case of delicious apples over the Easter period. A big thank you from all the children goes out to Mr. Ratcliffe.

Mrs. Nerida Chatfield and family, from Wreck Bay, have been on a three-weeks visit to Mr. and Mrs. D. Sampson, of Burra Bee Dee. They were former residents of the Station.

The Burra Bee Dee Sunday School scholars have missed their teacher from the United Aborigines Mission, Mr. Wakerley, who has been in Sydney on the sick list. They all hope he is much improved in health and able to continue coming to Burra Bee Dee. This is also the prayer of the children and residents of the Gunnedah Hill reserve.

playing with the local team again in the Broken Hill Competition this year.

Since my last report the work situation has not improved, or so it seems, as there are still a lot of men out of work at this centre. The dry spell has a lot to do with the situation, no doubt, but there have been fairly good rains around the district recently and things should come good again. The river at Wilcannia at present is fairly high and as it is believed there is more behind it. Quite a number of the Aborigines camped along the banks of the River have been forced to move to higher ground. However, there is no fear of the flood waters reaching the Settlement.

• • • • • Wallpaper Wrinkle

When patching wallpaper, always tear the patch to leave irregular edges and then "feather" edges slightly with fine glasspaper. This blends better than a patch cut with sharp, clean edges.