

Letters

TO THE EDITOR!

OUR PEOPLE MUST HAVE FRIENDSHIP: AN IMPORTANT AID TO ASSIMILATION

Writing to the Editor of *Dawn*, the Secretary of the Association for the Assimilation of Aborigines, Mrs. B. Hopkinson, says,

"October's *Dawn* was one of the best yet. It was a great pleasure to see Mrs. Morris's speech (typed, I understand, by her niece Muriel Briggs, who is a friend of ours) in print, for the first time. This is a speech of great importance and I was amazed at the time of National Aborigines Day, and still am, that it was not published in the press.

This same story, with the same generous tributes to their friends (such as Mrs. Morris's to Alex Norton), was told by several coloured people at the Grafton Conference on 'The Future of Aboriginal Groups'. 'We can do it', 'We must live in the 20th century', 'We want to live like the rest of the community' were typical comments. The history of how the various coloured people were assimilated was remarkable for one common factor—all wanted to come into the community, but it was only when a helping hand was offered that their ambitions were realised. 'Give us this help and we will help ourselves.'

We feel their friendship for each other should be realised and respected, and even if they are living in a big city, they need to see each other, but we also feel that if they do not want to stay in groups, every assistance should be given to join in the general life of the community."

WE HOPE SO TOO!

HELPING OUR PEOPLE

Writing to *Dawn*, Mrs. L. W. Rogers, of "Wallaroi", Stuart Town, N.S.W., said:

"Whilst working with the C.S.I.R.O. at Cunnamulla in Queensland, I visited the Sunday School being held for the dark children there. The air of hopelessness about one small child, who said, 'You won't come back; nobody comes back here. Nobody wants to see us or visit us. Nobody ever comes back', is something I shall never forget.

At the moment I am not in a position to do anything to help these people, but hope that someday there will be something I can either do on the mission field or wherever I may be living, to help lift that hopelessness out of a dark child's eyes."

Two tablespoonsful of kerosene will cover 15 square feet of water. As the oil evaporates in summer, the oiling must be done every week. Frequent spraying with a solution of D.D.T. and kerosene is also effective, but D.D.T. is toxic to human beings and, therefore, must not be used on drinking water.

Ornamental ponds and pools may be kept stocked with mosquito larvae-eating fish, such as goldfish, minnows or gambusia. Local Councils will assist in procuring these. By stocking ponds with these fish much has already been done in Sydney to prevent breeding. Gambusia must not be placed in streams and water west of the Dividing Range as they eat trout fry.

Repellents and Insecticides

Mosquito nets will provide protection in bed. The ends of the nets should carefully be tucked under the mattress to prevent mosquitoes entering.

Dimethyl phthalate rubbed over exposed parts of the body and renewed at 2 hourly intervals is effective as a repellent.

This chemical dissolves plastics, and should be kept away from spectacle frames, fountain pens, plastic watch covers, etc. It should not be rubbed into the eyes or sensitive areas, as it will cause intense irritation. Insect sprays used against house flies will kill mosquitoes also.

Precautions

- (1) Consult instructions on labels of insecticides.
- (2) Keep insecticides out of the reach of children.
- (3) Scratching of mosquito bites may lead to sores; therefore do not scratch, but apply a solution of ammonia or tincture of iodine.

Dogs and Cats

Dogs and cats should be kept free from vermin. Dogs should be washed with a disinfectant solution, or they may be dusted with an effective insect powder. Their kennels should also be frequently cleansed with a kerosene emulsion or dusted with insect powder.

Apply to your local Council or Shire for any assistance you need in fighting the rat.

JUMBLED WORDS

Birds

1. Miegap.
2. Voed.
3. Gepion.
4. Elage.
5. Boorakurka.

Animals

1. Giter.
2. Thanelep.
3. Braze.
4. Rhose.
5. Nilo.

Vegetables

1. Cuttlee.
2. Snippar.
3. Atopot.
4. Rorcat.
5. Noino.

Answers on page 9.