

Treasurer, Mrs. L. Dennison and Secretary, Mrs. P. Knox, and Mrs. H. Duncan, represented the Toomelah branch.

"Despite our late arrival we enjoyed ourselves immensely, and were very glad we came," said Mrs. Duncan.

The International Night is run by the Goondiwindi Branch of the Country Women's Association as an annual event.

The Office Bearers of the Toomelah (Boggabilla) Branch are always invited. However, the President, Mrs. Mavis Dennison, was unable to attend owing to sickness in her family.

"Truly C.W.A. is a wonderful medium towards assimilation! Our aboriginal women were very grateful to the Goondi ladies", stated Leila. She concluded her remarks by saying, "We had a lovely time, and did enjoy seeing the way people of Malaya live and work together."

ESTABLISHMENT OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY

During the previous year Board approval was given to the lease, at a nominal rental and for use by a Co-operative Society, of 45 acres of the Cabbage Tree Island Aboriginal Station land, together with a building for conversion to a store room. This was the culmination of nearly two years' preparatory work by the Australian Board of Missions Co-operative Ltd., and constituted the first Aborigines Co-operative to function in this State.

The Australian Board of Missions Co-operative Ltd. was responsible for interesting and training selected aborigines to manage the project and the Aborigines Welfare Board assisted by meeting the transport costs of the aborigines concerned.

At its inception the co-operative functioned as a retail store under the registered name of the "Numbahging Co-operative Society Ltd.", but during the year it was decided to extend its activities to the growing of sugar cane and other agricultural produce. For transport of heavy equipment and removal of produce, a suitable barge was purchased at a cost of £45, portion of which will be met by the Board. Due to lateness of the season, it was only possible to prepare seven acres of land for cane growing. Twenty-two acres of millet, however, were planted and a further four acres of land were prepared for tomato growing.

Although the co-operative has operated satisfactorily so far in its store trading activities, it would seem that this venture and any other of a similar nature must receive efficient and continuous assistance during its nascent years. This aid at Cabbage Tree Island has been supplied by a school-teacher, Mr. A. McCrohon, who has worked tirelessly to ensure its proper functioning.

One significant fact has emerged following the progress of the Cabbage Tree Island Aboriginal Station Co-operative. Interest appears to have grown in surrounding aboriginal centres and enquiries regarding the possibility of membership have been received from aboriginal residents of Ulgundahi Island, Cubawee Reserve and Coraki.

Outstanding Moree Students



These are the six outstanding aboriginal students of Moree High School, mentioned in the December *Dawn*.

Paying tribute to the aboriginal children at the Annual Speech Night ceremony, the Headmaster, Mr. W. Baldwin, said:

"The decision that all secondary pupils of the Moree Aboriginal School should attend Moree High School from the beginning of this year (1961) gave us the pleasure of welcoming these pupils to our ranks. They have made contributions of work in both the sporting and academic sides of school life."

Seen above are Percy Suey, Barry Johnson, Bob Stanley, Brenda Haines, Jeanette Binge, and Shirley Briggs.

In the Third Year Exams, Bob Stanley got first in general activity, English, Mathematics, Science, Woodwork, Art and Craft whilst Wayne Suey took first places in second year (2C) Social Studies, General Activity and English. Percy Suey won an Athletics Blue, and Jeanette Binge won a special Rotary prize for citizenship and service.

The Area Welfare Officer, Mr. S. Preston Walker, said: "It should be borne in mind that these children along with 50 others of aboriginal blood have just completed their first 12 months at the High School. I am particularly grateful for the efforts of the Headmaster, Mr. W. Baldwin and his staff who have done a wonderful job in the interests of assimilation here in Moree."