

**PROUD DAY
FOR WIFE**

COOTAMUNDRA NATURALISATION CEREMONY

It was a proud day for Mrs. Tess Donasczy, formerly Tess Kirby of the Cootamundra Girls' Home last August when her husband Desmond, a former Hungarian, renounced all former allegiances and accepted full Australian citizenship.

The simple but impressive ceremony was held in the Country Women's Association Room, Cootamundra.

Mr. Donasczy, aged 34, is a farm labourer at Frampton.

Mr. and Mrs. Donasczy have two small children.

Representatives of the Jindalee Shire and Cootamundra Municipal Councils, the Ministers' Fraternal, the Country Women's Association and more than 50 people attended the ceremony.

President of the Ministers' Fraternal, Reverend D. F. Murray, told the audience he had a very special interest in the ceremony.

He said he had baptised Mr. and Mrs. Donasczy's first child—a daughter Therese—in

Desmond and Tess Donasczy, with Des's Certificate of Naturalisation, after the ceremony

Cootamundra Daily Herald photo



1961 and this was only the second baptism he had performed in Cootamundra.

Mr. Donasczy was making a commendable and courageous step in taking on Australian citizenship and shedding all his former allegiance, he said.

"It makes us aware of what this country should mean to us, and makes us remember the kind of allegiance we should give to our country.

"I trust, Mr. Donasczy, that as a citizen of this country, you will be exceedingly happy", he said.

Jindalee Shire deputy president Councillor Bell said he considered Mr. Donasczy to be a good candidate for citizenship.

"To renounce former allegiances to the country of your birth takes plenty of courage, thought and consideration.

"I know you can together look forward to the full enjoyment of the Australian way of life."

Councillor Bell then read the Oath of Allegiance, which Mr. Donasczy repeated.

Final speaker for the evening was the Mayor, Alderman Conkey, who said that Mr. Donasczy had sought employment at Conkey and Sons Ltd. many years ago.

Alderman Conkey said he understood the difficulties the young migrant was facing then . . . difficulties of housing, adjustment, of understanding the work and the often distorted sense of Australian humour.

"He was a good loyal, conscientious worker.

"He is a respected member of the community, and this is a very important step in his life.

"I welcome you, Des as a true Australian citizen," Alderman Conkey said.

Mr. Donasczy was presented with the bible on which he took his Oath of Allegiance, a book about the Commonwealth and his electoral papers.

President of the Country Women's Association, Mrs. Sides, presented Mrs. Donasczy with a corsage of flowers.