

**Little Sonia Thaidy from Cootamundra Girls' Home, spent part of her Christmas holidays in Sydney. She found time to visit Santa Claus during her stay. Sonia was one of 17 children from the Home who had a holiday for a fortnight in Sydney. They were billeted in private homes in Sydney**



## 150 Children Had a City Holiday

About 150 Aboriginal children from the country had holidays in Sydney this summer.

Of the total, 86 were at the Aborigines Welfare Board summer camp at the Methodist War Memorial Youth Centre, Elanora Heights.

Another 45 came to the metropolitan area from Kempsey district and were billeted in private homes.

From the Cootamundra Girls' Home, 17 girls were brought to Sydney and were billeted privately.

The summer camp at Elanora was one of the most successful yet organised by the Board, and the camp has been booked again for the 1966 summer holiday.

The camp began on Sunday, January 10, and originally it was due to end on Thursday, January 21. However, it was prolonged until Sunday, January 24.

The children went to the theatre, on a wonderful picnic to Pittwater organised by the Pittwater Rotary, to Luna Park and to the Hurlstone Park ice skating rink.

The ice skating was one of the late items brought on to the programme when the camp was extended from January 21.

Pittwater Rotary hired a launch to take the children on a cruise of Pittwater, one of Sydney's loveliest stretches of water.

This branch of Rotary also organised a screening of the Ben Cropp film on underwater fishing and sharks, which has not yet had a general release.

The boys and girls went to the Tivoli and to St. James Playhouse for a performance of "Hullabaloo Belay!" which is to go on a country tour of New South Wales starting in March.

The Amalgamated Engineering Union organised a beach picnic for the children on the first Sunday in camp, and this was widely televised in Sydney.