



Smoke Signals

TIP FOR THE MONTH Get rid of ants around a house by sprinkling cayenne pepper where they have been and in places they frequent. Leave the pepper for a few days, then sweep it up and wash the treated area with strong carbolic soap and water.

▶The Apex Club at Parkes plans to hold a Boomerang Festival there in April next year. Goobang Shire Council will support the plan and has made a donation to defray cost of staging the festival. Apex Club members hope to make the event well-known throughout Australia, and even in other countries, to attract tourists and competitors to Parkes.

▶Aborigines of Nambucca Heads have elected Greg Davis their representative to a Sydney conference organised by the Aboriginal Australian Fellowship. He will put forward to the conference the opinions of the Nambucca people on such matters as Aboriginal housing, land rights, employment, education, and co-operatives.

▶An airline captain at Cairns, Queensland, who is a keen student of Aboriginal art and lore, has helped to have staged for the people of Cairns the longest-running show business act in history. The show is performed by 20 men of the Lardill tribe who live on Mornington Island, in the Gulf of Carpentaria. The 10,000-year-old act is drawing capacity crowds at Cairns, and organisers think that one day they might attract tribes from all over Australia to perform in a national corroboree.

▶The first Aboriginal minister of the Methodist church will be ordained next year. He is Mr Lazaurus Lami Lami, of Goulburn Island, 200 miles east of Darwin. Mr Lami Lami will work with his people on the island. The Reverend Gowan Armstrong, of the Manigrida mission station in Arnhem Land, said he knew of only two other ordained Aboriginal ministers in Australia.

▶A stone axe, unearthed in a peach orchard at West Pennant Hills in October, has led to investigations into the 175-year-old history of the area. Peter Mahoney, writing for the *Sydney Morning Herald*, found that the area of Sydney's present western suburbs used to be terrorised by Pemulwy, a murderous Aboriginal gang leader. For the 12 years between 1790 and 1802, Pemulwy and his tribe, the Bedriagals, controlled the area, and authorities lost count of the murders of white settlers blamed on him and his followers. But the price on his head finally was collected by two settlers. Governor King, when he heard, honoured his promise and instructed settlers not to harm or persecute Aborigines any further.

▶The newly-formed Association for the Advancement of Aborigines in Moree, has received the names of 10 boys and girls who have left school. The Association will investigate each case and attempt to find employment for them. Mr Skillman, president of the Association, asks for the co-operation of all families and business people in Moree, to help in the project.