



Steve Dodd (left) in a dramatic scene from "Desire of the Moth". With him are (right to left) Ed Devereaux, Gogie Withers and Patsy Kruger.

## STEVE DODD, ACTOR

The demanding role of Aboriginal stockman in J. C. Williamson's production of "Desire of the Moth" was a hard one to fill—until they thought of Steve Dodd. Steve played his prominent supporting role with great success, and proved that he is one of the very few talented Aboriginal actors in Australia.

"Desire of the Moth", a drama set in an outback sheep station of New South Wales, starred Ed Devereaux and Gogie Withers. Patsy Kruger played a strong supporting role. It played to audiences in Melbourne for six weeks, and in Sydney for five weeks.

Ed Devereaux, who has a wealth of local and overseas show-business experience, gave valued advice to Steve about such things as stagecraft and delivery.

Steve's performance in "The Moth" has added to his stature as an actor, and, with his current contract with the Australian Broadcasting Commission, for the first time in his life his future as a full-time actor seems as secure as an actor's can be.

Ever since he was a child Steve has loved acting. Now, after almost 20 years in and out of show-biz.,

he's still in love with the stage. When he talks about acting his eyes flash.

He is a full-blood Aborigine and was born in Alice Springs. As a youth he worked as a stockman on cattle stations, as a horse-breaker, and as a rodeo rider; for many years he was a member of the Rough Riders' Association.

Steve's first film role was in "The Overlanders". As a stand-in he was noticed by the star of the movie—Chips Rafferty—who gave him a small part.

After droving for a time, he worked on the set and had small parts in other Australian-made movies—"Bitter Springs" and "Kangaroo". The company filming "Robbery Under Arms" took Steve to Britain and America for six months, where he gained further valuable experience.

In Australia, as in most parts of the world, the life of an actor is a hard one, and Steve had to rely for his income on many different jobs between his acting engagements. He sang and played the guitar (as he still does)—mainly country and western, and folk music—and rode at rodeos in many States. All this experience has been of