

VOTE NOW FOR BOARD POLL

The ballot for Aboriginal members of the Aborigines Welfare Board closes at noon on Thursday, 19 January, 1967. Electors must post their ballot papers so that the Returning Officer in Sydney receives them by that time, or must place them by that time in ballot boxes provided on Aboriginal stations and reserves.

Applications for enrolment closed with the Board in Sydney at noon December 6, and nominations for candidature for vacancies closed at noon December 7.

Fifteen candidates and 1,474 electors—compared to 9 and 904 three years ago—have enrolled for the elections.

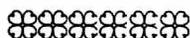
Ballot papers have been sent to all persons who enrolled. Full directions on how to vote are on the ballot paper, and after the voter has indicated his choice of candidates he or she must complete and sign the statement attached to the ballot paper.

This statement must be witnessed by an officer of the Aborigines Welfare Board, a police officer, a Justice of the Peace, or a school teacher. At a previous election three years ago, failure to have the signature witnessed caused several ballot papers to be rejected.

You are advised to cast your vote as early as possible after you receive your ballot paper.

Follow instructions on the ballot paper so that your vote will not be rejected because it is informal.

All candidates were invited to convey to readers of *Dawn* personal details and views of policies that they would propose if elected. Twelve of the fifteen candidates replied to the invitation. Their letters are reprinted here for the benefit of *Dawn* readers who will vote in the elections.



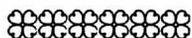
BOLT, David; pensioner; age 33; Cabbage Tree Island, via Ballina.

In regards to myself, I have been a sick young man during my teenage years by having an accident while working in the cane fields, which has put me on a pension for the rest of my life, but owing to my father, Mr Leo Bolt, I joined the Methodist Union Mission and became a Christian, and travelled around holding church services on other Aboriginal stations for the past 11 years.

I am very interested in the young people of today because I think that there are many opportunities open to them if they are willing to put a sound education behind them, but to do this they need assistance, financially, and with this help and an ambition in life to reach for I think that the young Australian Aborigine of today would have a far better future to look forward to, and provided I have this opportunity to help do and promote this, this is my ambition.

At present I'm director/vice-president of the Numbahging Co-op. and this is one thing I would like to see get started on other stations because we are benefiting from this, and with other stations

running their own co-ops. they would benefit from this, too. With this money they could help to get their young people established. This is what I want to see happen, and if I have the opportunity to help do this it will make me a very happy person. Provided I can get elected by the Aboriginal people of N.S.W. as a member of the Board I will help them do this.



BOLT, Kenneth; handyman; age 50; Cabbage Tree Island, via Ballina.

I received a letter from you as a candidate for the forthcoming election of the Aboriginal members to the Aboriginal Welfare Board.

I would like to see the houses at Cabbage Tree Island painted, as they have not been painted for 12 years, and the bathrooms have no bath tubs set-in as they have at other stations. It looks terrible. The windows have been painted and the steps. It makes the houses look out-of-place not being painted outside. As a handyman I have been working at Cabbage Tree Island for six years.