

Sir Roden Opens "Kirinari"

One thousand people watched the State Governor, Sir Roden Cutler, as he officially opened on 7 July, "Kirinari" Aboriginal students hostel—the dream of the Aboriginal Childrens Advancement Society made real by it after four years of dedicated hard work.

The hostel's aim is to provide the necessary home atmosphere to encourage high school Aboriginal students to go on to tertiary level. Twelve boy students and house-parents will be accommodated in the now complete first stage, which cost about \$52,000—\$20,000 of this amount being granted by the Government through the Aborigines Welfare Board.

A second-stage two-storey bedroom wing yet to be built would accommodate 12 Aboriginal girl students, and the Society judging from its past efforts will not rest till the project is complete.

Subsidy

To help the Society reach its goal, the Chief Secretary, Mr E. A. Willis, said at the ceremony

Kirinari Hostel, in Box Road, Sylvania Heights, is on a 2½-acre bushland site leased to the Aboriginal Childrens Advancement Society by the N.S.W. Government. The hostel's second stage will be another wing to the right of the main building

that the State Government would make available to the Society an additional \$20,000 by way of subsidy.

Society president Mr L. Johnson said he was delighted to hear of the Government's financial aid, and that the Society would match it dollar for dollar.

Mr Johnson said the money for Kirinari's first stage, apart from the Government grant, had been raised by public response to Advancement Society appeals.

"Service clubs, sporting groups, church organizations, schools, civic authorities, local business people and residents contributed willingly to the appeals", Mr Johnson said.

European "Tribes"

Sir Roden, speaking in the main hall after the brief opening ceremony, said that the Aboriginal tribe looked after all members of the tribe. In this way it was similar to European "tribes", in which everyone expected the Government to be like the Aborigines and look after everybody. Sir Roden said this system worked only if each member of the tribe did his bit to the best of his ability.

