



Smoke Signals

TIP FOR THE MONTH. Paint brushes are too expensive to discard when they become hardened, so make them usable by soaking in phenyle for a few hours. Then wash them in hot, soapy water, rinse, and dry.

▶ More than 200 full-blood Aborigines from Northern Territory are expected to appear in a feature film based on the book "The Windows of Heaven". The film will be made early next year in Outer Sydney and the Blue Mountains. It deals with the 1830 period of settlement. The film company will pay the 200 men and 25 women actors' equity award rates of pay, plus fares to Sydney, accommodation and outfitting.

▶ The archaeologists are at it again. In Victoria tests on bones, implements and charcoal discovered at Keilor have shown that Aborigines were living in Australia 31,600 years ago. This is 6,000 years more than previous indications.

▶ Kevin Gilbert, in Ward A of Morrisset Hospital, would like to get in touch with some of his friends. He would like anyone knowing the whereabouts of Nelly Williams (daughter of Amy Williams) and Lucy Williams (daughter of Gladys Williams) to ask them to write to him at the hospital.

▶ Deniliquin welfare officer, D. J. Hall, reports that Rhonda Day and Brian Atkinson were married in the town recently. Rhonda is youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Henry Day of McCauley Street, and Brian the second son of Mr and Mrs J. Atkinson of Ochertyre Street. The newlyweds moved into one of the new town cottages bought by the Aborigines Welfare Board. We don't know who was Brian's best man, but Rhonda's sister Valma was bridesmaid, and her niece, Cecily Atkinson, was flower-girl (see picture).

▶ Raymond "Doc" Smith died from burns after he ran into a burning shack to rescue his friend Henry Fox, who had already left the inferno,

Dubbo Coroner's Court was told in June. Raymond Smith came from the Moree district, and his self-sacrifice might have been expected by his friends, who held him in high esteem. Henry Fox, of Gulargambone Aboriginal Reserve, said he had been awakened by the fire which apparently had been started by the open fire. He ran from the house, and two minutes later "Doc" Smith in burning clothes was forced to kick his way out of the house through a wall. He died 11 days after the fire of April 6 from complications arising from serious burns.

▶ The Purfleet "Aussies" marching girls' team needs eight pairs of marching boots, and the team's instructor, Mr A. G. de Voogd, would be pleased to hear from anyone who can help. Mr de Voogd said that this season he hopes the team will be able to go to New Zealand to give marching demonstrations during the Christmas holidays. He also hopes to raise the team's standard of

