

to provide incentives for Aboriginals to take them up. In this, we shall hope to work with the fullest co-operation of the corresponding State machinery.

In short, we propose to apply ourselves constructively to the task of Aboriginal advancement, with special emphasis upon making our Aboriginal citizens independent. We shall rely very largely upon the State administrations and we are ready to receive and evaluate any suggestions which the States may make to us, either at this conference or subsequently.

Over the short term, the kind of proposals we envisage will undoubtedly increase our outlay upon Aboriginal welfare, but in proportion as our policy succeeds (and I believe, between us, it has every chance of success) our outlay will diminish. In spite of the extra outlay initially involved, I consider this policy to be not just an extension of the "hand-out" principle, but in fact the very anti-thesis.

Finally, may I add that we have noted the efforts being made by the States to involve Aboriginals themselves in the administration of their own affairs and in the exercise of proper authority among their own people. This is also an essential part of restoring Aboriginal motivation. We welcome these efforts, and will ourselves emulate them.

We feel too that this Conference should now be established on an annual basis, and the Commonwealth would be pleased next year to act as the host for it, should this Conference decide that that is what they wish.

### **Commonwealth Aid**

Late in August Mr W. C. Wentworth, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, announced a Commonwealth vote of \$5 million for Aboriginal health, housing and education. The money will be allocated according to the Aboriginal population of the States.

New South Wales will receive \$775,000; Victoria \$225,000; Queensland \$1,450,000; South Australia \$350,000; Western Australia \$825,000; and Tasmania \$25,000. This leaves \$1 million for the Northern Territory and \$350,000 for later allocation.

Of its total of \$775,000, New South Wales allocation is for expenditure of \$525,000 on housing, \$200,000 on education, and \$50,000 on health.

Another \$5 million in a Commonwealth trust fund will be used to underwrite individual projects by Aborigines.

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## Erambie "Image" is good

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A group of five talented 18-year-old musicians from Erambie Aboriginal Station have formed a band called the "Image", and have started things jumping up Cowra way.

The boys are Joe Bugg, lead guitar; Jimmy Williams, rhythm guitar; Lindsay Connolly, bass guitar; Sandy Glass, singer; and his brother Fred, drums.

John Bugg, Joe's 28-year-old brother, is managing the group, and his efficiency and public relations (and the band's ability) have brought the "Image" quite a lot of work.

The boys in the band started practising about five months ago. Mr G. Sullivan, Griffith area welfare officer, says that the group's instruments are valued at \$1,000. The boys use five guitars, two amplifiers, microphones, and a set of drums.

Mr Sullivan says that the boys can't read music, and pick it up by listening to other groups and from records. But their playing is confident, and a big hit with local audiences.

Two of the boys, Sandy and Fred Glass, came from Griffith to play with the band, and now work in the district during the day.

The band practises hard in the Erambie Hall, and has played at dances at Canowindra, Cowra, Forbes, and other towns in the region.

The *Cowra Guardian* said that the boys concentrated on rock-and-roll style music composed by the American singer-composer Chuck Berry, but many of their songs were from the "Top 40".

Two radio auditions have been planned for the "Image" because of its good sound. And the boys look good on stage too: they wear blue cardigans, check trousers, and white shoes.