

Smoke Signals

► The Governor of N.S.W., Sir Roden Cutler, officially opened the Walgett Foundation for Aboriginal Affairs on Sunday, 31st October. The building will be open both day and night for the benefit of the people of the Walgett area. The centre includes a main hall with seating for 150 people, a kitchen, offices for the foundation staff, a coffee lounge and a feeding room.

► Forster, on the mid-north coast, held its fifth annual Oyster Festival last October. Belle of the Oyster Festival Ball was Miss Dawn Slater, nominee of the staff of the Golden Sands Motel. Dawn, who wore an orchid coloured ball gown received the Belle of the Ball sash and a prize of \$100. Several days later it was announced that Dawn had also come third in the Oyster Festival Queen competition. The title was won by the girl who sold the most art union tickets. Dawn, as third prize winner, received another cheque for \$50 and congratulations all round. At the suggestion of Mr Guiseppe Riscato, one of the judges at the ball,

moves are now under way to enter Dawn in the Miss Australia Quest. As Ruth Vee of Forster, who sent in this par. commented "That would be a REAL Miss Australia!"

► The Minister for Child Welfare and Social Welfare, Mr J. L. Waddy, recently visited Gulargambone and was delighted with the progress that the people of the area had made in caring for their properties. This, he felt, was most encouraging and deserved being brought to public notice in *NEW DAWN*.

► Died . . . in Melbourne on 1st October at the age of 61—Mr Eric Onus, one of the great fighters for the Aboriginal cause.

► Pictured are John Ferguson of Bourke with his daughter Dianna and son Paul. John Ferguson is the senior groundsman at the Bourke aerodrome. He has been registered by the local Council as the town undertaker. Mr Ferguson plans to offer funerals on terms instead of insisting on cash. This will help Aboriginal families who are often caught with several deaths in the family—each occurring within a short time of each other. He plans too,

