

to arrange funerals for *after* working hours so that men will not lose time off or have their wages docked.

► The Foundation for Aboriginal Affairs recently handled several cases where people were refused flats or other accommodation because they were Aboriginal. The landlords didn't ask even for references. The people were judged purely on skin colour. Representatives of the Housing Commission have told the Foundation that this type of discrimination is illegal and the Foundation is making every attempt to have these owners prosecuted and have the facts of such cases brought to the notice of the public.



► Senator Neville Bonner, Australia's first Aboriginal senator, has said that he will see if some sort of tariff protection could be got for the Aboriginal boomerang industry. He admitted that it was possible for highly organized factories to make a better boomerang than an Aboriginal could make by hand. But he asked, "Would it be a genuine boomerang?" Perhaps a master craftsman could build an excellent magpie nest, but would it be a genuine magpie nest?" The Senator pointed out that it was tough on a Japanese tourist to come all the way from Japan only to find, when he bought a boomerang, that it was made of moulded plastic from a Tokyo factory. He believes that Aborigines should have exclusive rights to the manufacture of boomerangs in Australia and that a tariff barrier could be used to help restrict the import of cheap imitations from overseas.

► Mr Michael Sawtell, bushman, public speaker, one-time member of the Aboriginal Welfare Board and champion of the development of inland Australia, died at his Kings Cross flat on 1st October. He was 88. Mr Sawtell ran away from home at the age of 16 to become a driver for Sir Sidney Kidman, the Australian "Cattle King." He travelled extensively through Queensland and the Northern Territory. His experiences gave him a life-long love of the bush and also the Aboriginal people whom he got to know so well. All his life he spoke out against any attempts to detribalize Aborigines. He will be remembered by many of our readers for his work as a member of the Aborigines Welfare Board.

► Pictured is George "Rocky" Maranoa who is the brother of a well-known one-time identity in Bourke called Charlie "Doll Doll" Maranoa. Charlie was a fine athlete in his day and a grand old rogue too, according to Welfare Officer Cockburn who told me these stories about him. Charlie's system was to ask Welfare for something flash and expensive, then, after being refused, he'd settle for something a great deal more modest. He figured that he'd have more chance of scoring in this way. One day he asked for blankets, thinking to sell them and get the money. As it was summer time, he was promised that he could get them when winter came around. Meanwhile, he settled for \$2. Some time later, he was in the jailhouse courtyard. He saw his Welfare friend coming along the street and asked him for tobacco. He got it, then, with a grin, Charlie asked, "What about them blankets you said you'd give me?" "What's the good? You're in jail!" At this, Charlie flashed a huge, delighted grin, "Ah boss, it won't take *me* long to do fourteen days!"

► Another story about Charlie tells how he and his mate were told to get off a station—there was no more work. Charlie didn't want to go, so he went to the shed and came back later saying that his mate had bad appendicitis and was crook, possibly dying. The boss was awake to Charlie however, and said, "Don't play around with me. Just git!" So, the two friends got. They went up to the road and Charlie pulled up a bloke in a jeep, which was loaded to the top with equipment. The rest was pure comedy. Charlie said to the driver of the jeep, "Hey boss, can you give us a lift into town? Me mate is over behind that bush with a bad appendix. He's very sick, boss. I think he's going to die." The driver said "I can't, I've got too much load on. I'll go into town and send someone out." Charlie said, "You can't leave a man when he's dying, boss! Make a bit of room