

performed in future by the tribes. The legislation is designed to carry out a policy of promoting Indian self-determination and is aimed at achieving the greatest possible degree of Indian control. The policy would bring to an end the present situation whereby governmental and other programmes are controlled by Bureau of Indian Affairs employees who are responsible to government officials rather than to elected tribal governments. Another aspect of the new legislation proposes that the government make block grants to tribes in place of a number of existing economic development programs. The purpose of this would be to provide tribal governments with funds which they could use at their own discretion to promote development of their reservations. Perhaps similar policies might be applicable in Australia. Any suggestions?

► **ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICE EXPANDS**

Following the Australian Government's policy of providing free legal aid to Aborigines, the N.S.W. Aboriginal Legal Service has begun to expand its activities. Recently three additional field officers were appointed: Lyn Thompson, Sydney; Lyall Munroe, Moree; and Steve Gordon, Brewarrina (Steve Gordon had earlier resigned as a liaison officer with the Directorate of Aboriginal Welfare). The A.L.S. has established regional offices at Moree and Brewarrina where it has employed its own full-time solicitors. In August the Legal Service held its Annual General Meeting which resulted in the election of Paul Coe as President; Lyall Munroe, Vice-President; Naomi Mayers, treasurer; and Eddie Neumann, secretary. The new council of the Aboriginal Legal Service consists of Ambrose Morgan, Faith Bandler, Billy

Craigie, Pam Hunter, Jack Smith (Moree), Tom Winters (Brewarrina), John Delaney, Bob Bellear, Max Silver, Hal Wooten, David Barr, Paul Landa, John Lawrence, Selwyn Hausmann, and Martin Mowbray. The new management committee includes Brian Donovan, Jack Timms, Peter Stapleton, Kay Bellear, Vivian Abraham, Isobelle Coe, Shirley Smith, Tarboy Smith, Mary Jane Mosman, Susan Armstrong, and Peter Thompson.

► **MOREE APPRENTICES**

The accompanying photo is that of Mr John Stevens and some of his apprentices at Stevens Rural Engineering, Moree. In the photo (from left to right) are Peter McNamara, Trevor Swann (3rd year welding), Kerry McNamara, Mervyn Brennan (1st year welding), Lyall Dennison (1st year welding), Wayne Sully, and Mr Stevens. John Stevens employs 4 Aboriginal boys as apprentices in his engineering firm—not included in the photo is Fred McGrady, also in his 1st year of welding. All 4 boys are attending Moree Technical College where they have successfully passed recent exams.

► **GRANTS TO LOCAL HOUSING SOCIETIES**

The Australian Government has instituted a program of making direct grants to Aboriginal Housing Societies for the construction of their own homes. Recently grants have been made to the Port McLeay Aboriginal Housing Society in South Australia and to the Erub (Darnley Island) Co-operative Society Ltd in Torres Strait. The

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Mr Stevens and apprentices.