

GIRLS TRAINING COLLEGE AT NEWCASTLE

“DURUNGALING”, a word meaning “young woman”, is the name of the first training college to be established in Australia for Aboriginal girls and young women.

The college, which will be completed in May this year, will provide accommodation and training for twenty girls. Training at the college will be open to girls from all over Australia, although most will probably come from New South Wales, and particularly from the North Coast, north central and northwest areas.

As Durungaling will not be completed in time for enrolment in full-time technical college courses which commence at the end of January, the Newcastle Technical College is offering Durungaling students an 18 weeks' full-time course commencing in the second half of the year.

This is the Office Assistant/Typist course which is being introduced for those students both Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal who do not wish to learn shorthand, or who prefer a shorter course to train them in general office duties and typewriting.

The Office Assistant/Typist course will concentrate on typewriting, English (both spoken and written), office machines, bookkeeping and

clerical procedures. For those students who have not completed their schooling to the School Certificate level, a special entrance test in English and Maths will be held. In general, students who have not completed at least 3 years' secondary schooling will not be accepted into the course.

From the beginning of 1975, when Durungaling should be fully operational, students will be able to enrol in any full-time or part-time course for which they possess the necessary entrance qualifications.

Durungaling College aims to train any young Aboriginal woman for any skilled job or profession, and hopes in time to have students attending teachers college, university, and other specialized places of training, as well as the technical college.

In addition to their normal training course, students at Durungaling will receive special tutoring within the college, as well as a number of evening courses dealing with cooking, public speaking, deportment, Aboriginal history and culture, and co-operative techniques.

The Durungaling project will be of benefit to Aboriginal girls who are not accepted at a local

(Continued inside back cover)

The Hon. Gordon Bryant, former Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, and Mrs Bryant at the setting of the Foundation Stone of the Durungaling College. Also pictured (L to R) are Theresa Samuels, Rosemary Knight and Fay Samuels of Newcastle. The photograph gives some idea of the beautiful view from the College, overlooking the whole of Newcastle out to the ocean.

