

Friday, Miss Carol "female" pick-up



Aboriginal strike near crisis point

DARWIN. — A tinder-box situation of discontent existed among Aborigines employed on Northern Territory pastoral properties, the secretary of the Federal Council for Advancement of Aborigines (Mr. Stan Davey) said here yesterday.

"They feel they have leadership for the first time and are prepared to stand by it to free themselves from the white man's thumb.

"There is astonishing resentment," he said.

Mr. Davey has just returned from a visit to the outback cattle stations following strikes by Aborigines at Wave Hill, Newcastle Waters and Helen Springs.

"These people are beginning to learn that they can stand up and walk as men and they are determined to do so."

Mr. Davey said Wave Hill workers lived in "dog kennels" of rusty scrap iron, hessian and canvas.

A number of better buildings had been erected for pensioners—but from pension money retained by the British-based Vestey Company which owns the station. Portion of the pensions was retained by the station for accommodation and amenities. "I have yet to see the amenities unless they are lavatories."

Salt beef . . .

Mr. Davey said food for Aboriginal workers in most places consisted of salt beef and bread three times a day.

They generally had to sit on the ground in the open to eat it.

On one station workers claimed they had not been paid for seven months. One stockman had a sheet of paper on which seven moons were drawn for months.

That represented the period since their last pay. "I saw it and photographed it," Mr. Davey said.

Station managers spoke of Aborigines as "black-fellows" and as though they owned them body and soul.

They were kept in ignorance and fear. He said he had not found one literate adult on any station although the country had been settled for 80 years.

Mr. Davey said that on no station were living conditions required by the employment regulations being met.

Legal loophole

That was because the Government had failed to block a legal loophole. The regulations referred to licences—but they no longer existed because the need to get a licence to employ Aborigines was dropped several years ago.

This meant employers had not been compelled to meet even minimum conditions prescribed. Mr. Davey said that the recent agreement

on wages between the ACTU, the Government and employers "sold out" the Aborigines.

It was rejected by the North Australian Workers' Union and the strikers. They were determined not to return to work for less than the full award.

Mr. Davey said that Aboriginal stockmen began work in their teens.

They were efficient men who trained white jackaroos, found them when they were lost and worked seven days a week from dawn till dark.

"When the wet season comes they are put off and get no pay."

Dredge inquiry Monday

A Court of Marine Inquiry into the sinking of the dredge W. D. Atlas will begin on Monday in No. 3 Industrial Court in the Arbitration Commission building.

The W. D. Atlas sank off Jervis Bay, NSW, on May 20 with the loss of 13 lives.

The Chief Judge (Sir John Spicer) is expected to be assisted by three assessors.

Before ordering the Court of Inquiry which will be open to the public the Minister for Shipping and Transport (Mr. Freeth) said he had closely examined a lengthy preliminary report on the disaster from Captain H. M. Head, of the Department of Shipping and Transport.

Man falls to death

A carpenter was killed yesterday when he plunged 150 feet from the 15th floor of the A.M.P. building site in Market Street, City.

He was Theodoras Vouras, 27, of Arthur Street, St. Albans. He fell from light scaffolding on to heavier scaffolding slightly above street level.

He was killed instantly.

NEWS AT A GLANCE

WELLINGTON. — The Prime Minister (Mr. Holyoake) announced yesterday the general election will be held on Saturday, November 26.

The New Zealand Parliament is elected for a three-year term.

Mr. Holyoake announced that the House of Representatives would complete its current session by October 21 to allow a month for the election campaign.

Big clean-up

It took 200 workmen with 10 trucks all night to clean up rubbish left by the 122,000 crowd at the Show on Thursday.

Mechanical cleaners, rakes, brooms and even front-end loaders were used to deal with the rubbish. It cost the RAS about \$3000.

Yesterday 28,000 went to the show. About 100,000 are expected today.

From Germany

The German training ship SS Donau berthed at No. 7 North Wharf yesterday and was greeted by countrymen waving their national flag.

The 2500-ton warship, the first German Navy ship to visit here since 1933, is on a five-day good-will mission. It will be open to the public tomorrow and on Monday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Bad teeth

The dental health of patients attending the Dental Hospital of Melbourne was "appalling," the hospital's annual report said yesterday.

About 50 per cent. of the patients were under 16.

The report stressed the necessity for increasing the emphasis on children's dentistry and prevention of dental disease in the community as a whole.

Markets chief

The City Council's personnel officer (Mr. R. W. Frearson) will be Melbourne's new superintendent of abattoirs and cattle markets.

The council's general purposes committee will recommend Mr. Frearson for the \$7900 post at Monday's council meeting.

He will replace Mr. Fred Herd, who is to become Deputy Town Clerk when Mr. George Smith retires early next year.

Minister ill, must rest for month

The Minister for State Development (Mr. Manson) has been ordered to take a month's rest.

Mr. Manson, who is 58, has also been acting Chief Secretary this week.

His wife said last night he had been told by his doctor he was suffering from overwork, and ordered to rest.

An acting Minister for Development is expected to be appointed on Monday.

The Chief Secretary (Mr. Rylah) will also resume duty on Monday.

Decision

his decision on a director of H. G.

Directors to discuss routine matters over the telephone. There had been numerous occasions when he and the other directors were shown the minute book as being present at a meeting at Bankstown when in fact they were not there.

Dr. Pollard said he believed this was a practice of the company before he joined the board.

He had asked the chairman of the board (Sir Norman Nock) and the company secretary (Mr. William Howard Rose) about this practice, and they replied it was a method provided for in the articles of association of the company.

Commando inquiry started

An inquiry began yesterday into the death of a C.M.F. commando who was killed when he fell 30 feet to his death during a climbing display in the main arena of the Show grounds on Thursday night.

Thirty thousand people watched in horror as the commando, Sergeant Daniel Lorking, 26, of Lincoln Avenue, Glen Waverley, plunged from a climbing rope on a 60-foot flood lit demonstration tower.