

# STONE LAID FOR

## Charges Made By Doctors

### NEW BUILDING

News—28 SEP. 1936

### Free Kindergarten

The work of the Kindergarten Union of South Australia was praised by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide (Sir William Mitchell) when he laid the foundation stone of the new free Kindergarten in Sussex street, Lower North Adelaide, today.

Introducing the visitor, the acting president of the union, Mrs. V. Portus, described Sir William as the "doyen of Australian University administrators."

The Minister of Education (Mr. Jeffries), proposing a vote of thanks to Sir William, said that the Government appreciated the value of the work done in the interest of kindergarten education. He announced that the Government had decided to increase the subsidy to the union by at least £100 this year.

Lady Bonnyton, supporting the vote of thanks, said that the new premises had been handed over to Mrs. Lucy Morice, who, by a gift of £500, had helped to make the building possible. She referred to the services of the Adelaide Club, which had raised more than £100 in two years, and of the local directress (Miss P. Stewart).

It is expected that the new building will be opened to scholars towards the end of this year.

Replying to a question asked in the Assembly yesterday by Mr. Blackwell (A.L.P.), the Attorney-General (Mr. Jeffries) said that in June, 1923, the Attorney-General (Mr. Honour) had invited a leading member of the medical profession in Adelaide to make that patients or their representatives the charges made by medical men.

The medical man referred to had replied that in certain cases he considered such a provision would be reasonable and proper. However, the proposal was not proceeded with.

## 17 DOCTORS FOR ADELAIDE HOSPITAL

### Building Up The Staff

The Chief Secretary (Sir George Ritchie) said yesterday that there were now 11 house surgeons on duty at the Adelaide Hospital, besides three locum tenens. In addition there was another house surgeon who was on sick leave, but was expected to resume duty within a fortnight. The department hoped shortly to obtain the services of another house surgeon, which would give a total staff of 17, compared with the full complement of 18.

## STRANGE NATIVE ART AND LEGEND

### Aborigines Give Friendly Help

### EXPERIENCES OF UNIVERSITY PARTY

The fascinating ancestor-legends of the Central Australian aborigines, their camp life, and the ways of their children, are described vividly in this article by Mr. C. P. Mountford, who was one of the photographers in the Adelaide University anthropological expedition to the Warburton Ranges. Mr. Mountford, who remembers the natives as a cheerful and friendly people, says that their drawings are like the cave-designs made by primitive European men.

By C. P. MOUNTFORD

Two photographers accompanied the recent University expedition to the Warburton Ranges. Mr. O. E. Stocker and the writer, one working the 16 millimetre cine camera, and the other responsible for the still photography. Several phases of native life have been recorded for the first time. Much of the film exposed and many of the photographs taken are unique.

Both workers were favored by the fact that for the greater part of their trip the natives were totally unaware of the significance of the camera. They showed no sign of nervousness or distrust when the camera was within a few inches of their faces. No doubt they thought it was just another of those strange objects belonging to the white man, and suffered its presence without evasion. Towards the end, however, when the camera came to do became partly known, but even then no attempt was made to escape its all-seeing eye, and the natives were busy on some task or ceremonial.

Apart from the routine work of photography, my main interest was centred on aboriginal art. Many of the designs used by the aborigines of Australia are similar to those painted on the walls of cave shelters of the primitive men of Europe. As scientists, both in Australia and overseas are interested in the meaning given to such designs by the Australian natives, an attempt was made to obtain this information.

We gave the natives sheets of paper and crayons of the same color as the pigments which they use. They were then asked to make marks on the paper as the natives call them, on the paper, care being taken not to nominate any specific figures or to draw anything which is European in style. In our case, for instance, a kangaroo would be shown by a side view. Not so with the marks made by the natives, that animal by its footprint, a bird by a mark similar to that which it makes when it lands in the sand. The native is able to show the difference between a kangaroo and a wallaby track, or that of a euro or kangaroo rat.

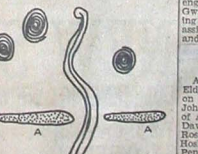
**Drawings of Ceremonial Localities**  
After the first few days, the natives accepted the members of the expedition as one of themselves. From that time onwards, provided there were no women, children, or uninitiated youths about, they made many drawings representing sacred ceremonial localities. If, however, women or children were themselves, a great hue and cry would be set up, and frantic efforts made to cover up the work. Nothing more would be done until the intruders were hunted away.

Some of the drawings referred to the doings of the "Tulkul", half animal ancestors or the "Malkul", beings, who in wandering were responsible for the natural features of the country. Wonderful, indeed, were the doings of these ancestors; exploits beside which the labors of Hercules or Jason's quest for the Golden Fleece seemed commonplace. One drawing told of how the Wati-Kutjara, or two man ancestor, threw a boomerang. The area within the circular path followed by the boomerang was transformed from mounds of flat into a large lake. Hills rose up where the ancestor's feet rested, and waterholes formed at his camping places. Another story tells how the same ancestor killed Didjidi, the moon man, in order to protect a group of women, the kunka-runkara, from his unwanted attentions. The women flew into the sky, where they may be children of the Seven Sisters or the Pleiades, but to the aborigines they are still the women who fled into the sky for safety.

The parallel lines of sandhills and spinifex flats, which are a well-known feature of the centre of Australia, were made by these women, as they danced from place to place, in the manner peculiar to their tribe. The shuffling feet made the lines of spinifex, the sandhills being the ridges thrown up between.

Another being whose exploits were depicted by the sketches, was the ancestor of the Wati-Kutjara, or two man ancestor. His name was Yula, and he spent much time chasing a group of women from place to place. Though the natives say that Yula did not succeed in catching them, they can be seen in the early morning sky, situated between two stars, which represent the knees of Yula.

A copy of one of the simpler of the drawings is shown below. It is, in reality, a native map of a place called Tuktaka.



The natives explained that all the natural features in this place had been made by one or the other of their ancestors. The meandering line represents the great mythical snake Wambura, who, as he moved along, pushed the mountain ranges, A.A. apart. His track became a large creek, and here the natives were always sprang up. This snake is always associated with waterholes, and it is believed that, at certain spots he lives in cave holes. The head of the snake, because dry, the natives will tell you that the snake has left the cave and is moving along the hills. The spirals on the sketch indicate named waterholes, which were made when the sacred eagle hawk raised at the spot. The black lines indicate the tracks of the kangaroo which was killed and eaten by the ancestral Wati-Kutjara. The spear and the kangaroo and a spear thrower were left behind at B, and may now be seen as hills, the head at B, and the spear thrower at C.

**Native Children**  
The children of which there were about 20 in a group of about 100 natives, were the most interesting of the camp life. Some of our party became quite attached to these little fellows, and it was delightful to see one of our members walking along the creek bed surrounded by chattering youngsters, one showing him a grub, another bringing him a fly, and so on. In fact, I myself learned the art of throwing the short play from the natives. It is a game of great patience, he showed me, again and again, the correct method, and with equal patience collected the pieces after my repeated endeavors to hit a large sun tree at 10 paces. The children, both boys and girls, were expert in their art. One of the short play spears at a bark disc about a foot in diameter. One of their number would roll it along the ground, while the others would endeavor to spear it as it passed. One member of our party scored a hit on his first throw, and immediately refused to attempt to repeat the performance.

**Honesty Of The Natives**  
As on previous expeditions, and in contradiction to an often-expressed belief, we found the natives absolutely honest. Tools, such as pocket knives, tomahawks, axes, and foodstuffs, were left lying about. These could easily have been stolen, but they were never missed. As a test for my own satisfaction, a pocket knife (a valued tool from home) was left unattended, and handed out every morning so that the drawing crayons might be sharpened. The knife was never taken, without fail, and it was with a genuine feeling of regret that we left them, knowing that with the ordinary run of events we would never see their friendly faces again.

Mr. David L. Dowie, a bachelor of engineering (mining), University of Adelaide, who was awarded the Angus Engineering Scholarship for 1934, will leave England by plane on Saturday for Johannesburg, where he has been appointed assistant manager of Bechtel's new mine at the Anglo-American, Wick Moreburg & Company's mine in Zululand. Mr. Dowie, who recently received the diploma of the Imperial College, London, has been in London for a tour in Europe. Before Mr. Dowie left for England last year he was engaged for 18 months in engineering work at the Sons of Gwalia mine, Western Australia. During that time he was chief chemist, assistant, assessor, and surveyor of above and underground sampler.

**ORGAN RECITAL**  
An organ recital will be given in the Elder Hall of the Elder Conservatorium on Monday night by pupils of Mr. John Ross, superintendent of the University of Adelaide. Performers will be Messrs David Cox, Clarence Black, Lloyd V. Ross, McLean Gordon Rowan, and J. Hoskins, and Misses Mona Verco and Penny.

### Public Lectures

Five free public evening lectures, arranged by the Workers' Educational Association, will be given from October 22 to November 3. Three will be given in the Prince of Wales lecture theatre at the University, and two in the council chamber at Port Adelaide.

The first will be given at Port Adelaide on Tuesday, October 22, when Miss E. Morriss, in English language and literature at the University, will speak on "Novel Reading." On October 29, three will be given in bio-chemistry and general physiology at the University, will talk on "Modern Problems in Human Nutrition."

Principal E. S. Kiek, of Parkin College, Kent Town, will be the speaker at the first of the three lectures at the University on Wednesday, October 30. His subject will be "The Province of the State." Dr. C. G. Garnett will speak on "Are We Machines?" at the second city lecture on November 6, and "Relativity, For the Man in the Street," will be the subject of the final lecture on November 13, when Professor W. E. Cooke, lecturer in chemistry at the University, will speak.

### Residential Colleges

The Adelaide University may be interested in an attack launched by Mr. W. Somerville, a member of the Council of the University of Western Australia, against residential colleges, which were formerly regarded as one of the props of the "rotten system" of class privilege. He has a bill at St. George's College, which would abolish the Hackley Foundation, and says that it would cost at least £2,750,000 to give the 800 students enrolled at our Western Australian University the same facilities as are enjoyed by the very select 40 whom St. George's College was built to accommodate. So the residential colleges must always remain a close preserve for the rich.

The champions of St. George's College have naturally jumped to the defence of their institution by pointing out that, while the full fees for those who attend them total £100 a year, it is possible, by room-sharing and by burarsities, to be a member of the college for a year, and even less, so at a fee equivalent to the cheapest boarding-house accommodation, while 21 of the 40 select students in residence last term were drawn from Government primary, secondary, or technical schools.

### NATIVE ENGAGED IN DRAWING

At every stage of our work, they submitted with good-natured tolerance to our questions about their secret life, and to the use of their precious photographs, often bursting into hearty laughter at some seemingly foolish request.