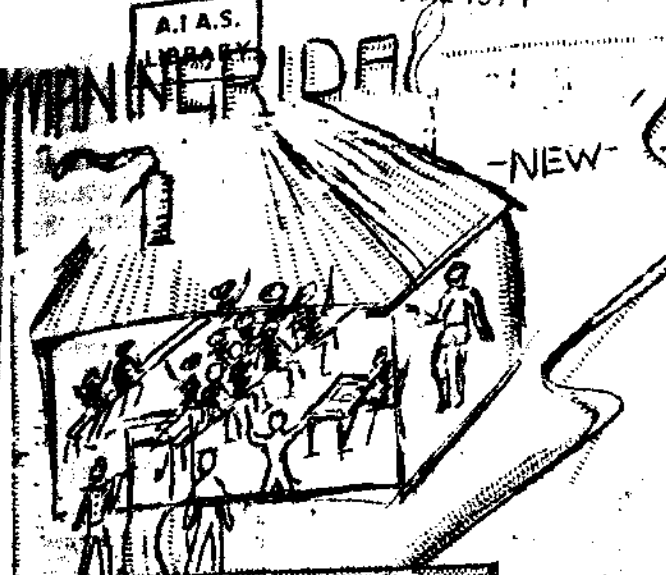


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VOL 3
ISSUE 20
FRI-22
VILLAGE COUNCILS

MEETING IN PROGRESS

Some time back, Pastor Albrecht, who is one of the head men of the Lutheran Missions in the desert country was talking to the Land Rights Commission in Darwin. All the things he had to say were in the newspaper.

He said that it was his idea that most Aboriginal councils he had seen were a failure - they did not work. He thought that this had happened because the idea of Councils had come from the outside - from balandas - and they had grown up from balanda thinking. Balandas had made the mistake of thinking that a council of men could be got together quickly and that they could then speak for everybody on a settlement or mission and what they said would be everybody's true thinking.

In the desert places he spoke about there was often one big tribe and one big language but still the Councils did not work. This was because the balandas, who were looking for fast ideas from the people, had forgotten about the old custom leaders and laws and ways of talking about things that the tribes already had.

It was his thinking now that the only way a Council could work was if it was run by old custom ways with old custom law men as leaders. Right now he felt that some Councils were being used by big talking men who are not very important in the old laws to make themselves bosses.

I don't know how much of what Pastor Albrecht says is true for Maningrida. I do know that at Maningrida there is not just one language but five or six and not just one tribe and there are many small countries and many different ways that are still here from the days before Maningrida started.

Does Maningrida have the troubles that Pastor Albrecht was talking about? For a long time many of us balandas have been trying to help get a Council started and to keep one going. But there have been many councils and many councillors and many changes and the Council never seems to go ahead to me - Is it because it doesn't want to speak for all the people or is it because it can't - because the law men and the old laws have been left out?



On Saturday I was in the camp talking to some friends and I noticed a meeting going on at one man's camp. There were more than 30 men at that meeting. They were talking about a big problem that had come up. There were old men and young men. Men were standing up and having their talk and others would listen. The men who were at that meeting were there to talk things out by Aboriginal thinking and ideas to keep the trouble down. Nobody had gone around to pick them up in a truck or remind them to be there.

COUNCILS STORY (CONT'D.)

On Friday I was talking to the President and some other men. He was saying he didn't know if there would be a Council meeting that day two Councillors were playing cards and he couldn't find any others. said he would have to look again later on.

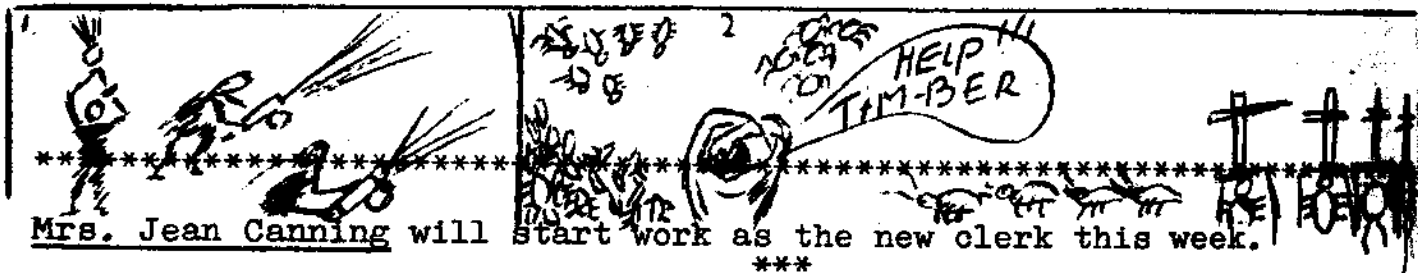
Dan Gillespie.

FORESTRY NOTES

It appears that a small green bug, found by Col Wilson will soon join the select group of those to have defeated Forestry. In the past month the bug has munched it's way over cypress trees and has caused more damage than Forestry did in ten years. Specimens of the bug, believed to be *Wilsonia Vertars*, and the forest, believed to be dead, have been sent to Darwin. Establishment records show that *Vertars* is due for air-fares and it is now holidaying indefinitely in Adelaide.



Cockroach killer Fred has been busy fumigating the office.



Terry Raywala and Richard Jungarlan are building an extension to the workshop while Arthur "Moses" Evans is stranded in Darwin. The extension is to accommodate the increasing number of Forestry vehicle fatalities.

This week the following roads will be open:

Forestry office - Post Office, going past the church.

STAR THEATRE
There may not be any pictures this week.
Owing to the bad weather, Connair have not been able to drop any to us.
Everyone look for the plane.



CAN YOU HELP?

Moves are afoot to get the school fete under way this year. It will be held on Friday June 14th. People are requested to start stirring the moths in their old gear. If you have old clothes (even good clothes will be accepted), books, magazines, toys, shoes etc. they will be gratefully accepted at the school by Pat Meisner and Mary Ivison.

SCOUT NEWS

Yesterday we had a Scout meeting. The scouts decided to buy a truck. To get the money the scouts will do any odd or major jobs in the community. Their work will be supervised by Gary Moriarty, Steven Joseph and myself.

The Minister came along last night and he told us stories about the Bible.

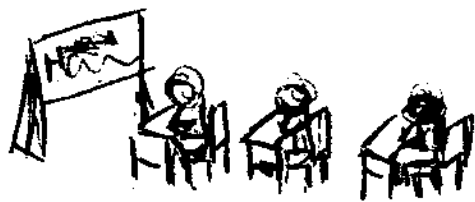
After he told the story he sang a song in his own language. The song he sang in his own language was "I will make you fishers of men". All the other kids were there and they were watching. On Sunday the scouts will work at the scout hall.

Charlie
Asst. Scout Master.

SCHOOL AT CADELL

Children starting school at Gardens. Their new teacher Norman Anyulagula. This is the first time Norman has had a school. There are 55 children at Cadell and he is going to teach them reading, maths, written and spoken Burada. The children are Gunardba, going to learn old culture, dancing, singing, hunting, bark painting, weaving and customs. Two or three days a week after lunch for an hour children will learn to play football, cricket, corner spry, volley ball, dodging ball, net ball, Aus. rules, softball, hockey and cricket.

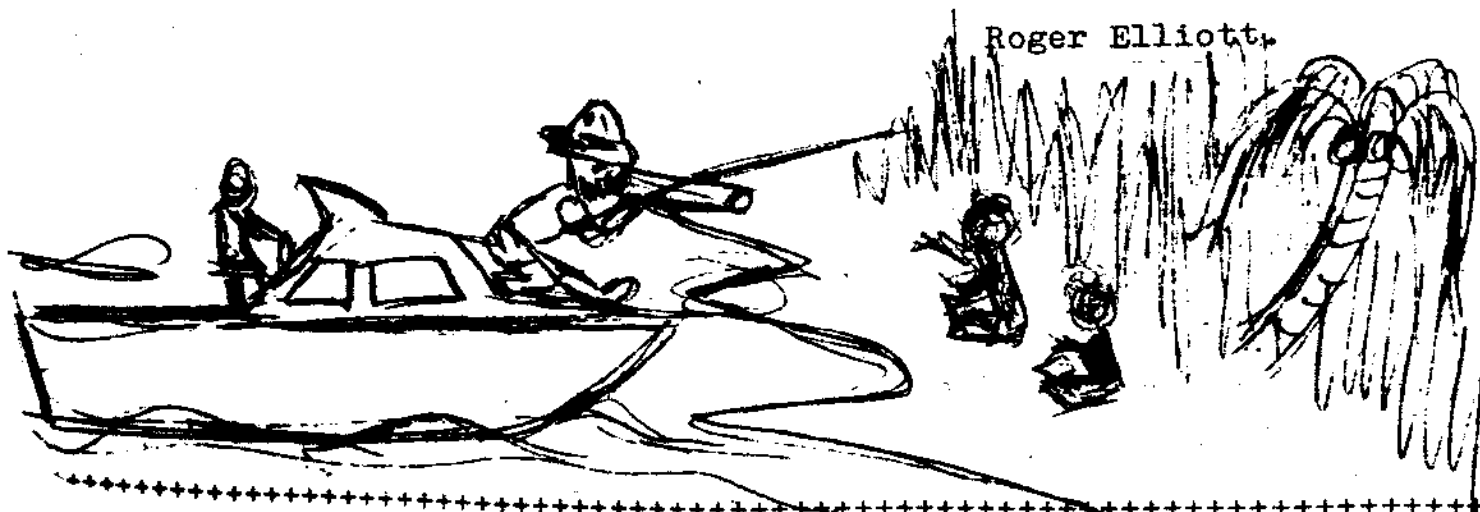
Last week Roger and I went to Gdns. and the Gunadba people had a meeting under a tree to talk about school. For school Gunardba want demountable school, same shape as a box. It's got lots of windows and much room. We will have ballinder teacher for first four weeks to help, after that he goes away and not come back again. Older people are going to have their English reading lessons from 4.30pm till 6.30pm. The visiting teacher, Roger has a place to stay for a week or two when he comes to talk with us and old people.



Sunday was spent listening and talking with the Gunardba people of Gochan Jinjida. Norman Angulagula tells the story in this copy of the Mirage. My planned visit to David Mirawana's school at Kupanga was abandoned with regard to cyclone "Jeanie". Tommy Yibberyl has his boat anchored in Gudgerama creek but hopes to set sail to Kupanga by Friday or Saturday. Gochan Jinjida had some visitors from Blyth River last week who report the Kupangu school is being visited each day by children from Marekadoda Adjiripa. The children come to school by boat each day.

After the rain clears and we arrive at Kupanga I will visit Manakadoka Adjiripa and talk with the people there. The shop will go to Kupanga this trip and the people there will buy the things they use with money. On Thursday 7th March at Midui, Peter Marawanga said there were too many children at his camp. I'll return up river to Midui and listen to school stories in the company boat in a short time. Never too busy to hear your story.

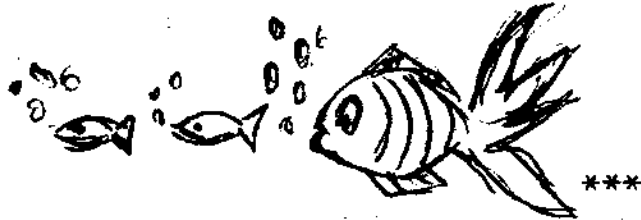
Roger Elliott,



FROM THE SCHOOL...

A FISH STORY

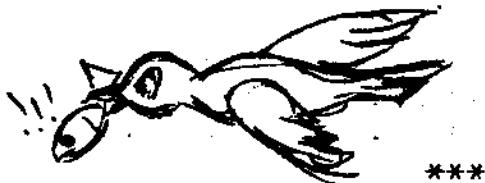
I am a fish. I live in the sea. Some men go fishing and some of the men catch some of my friends. The men go home and I go and look for food. I eat little fish then when it gets dark I go to sleep in rocks. When it is morning I go and look for food. A man saw me in the clear water then he got the spear to shoot me. He will cook me and eat me up.



From Trevor, Grade 5.

A FISH STORY

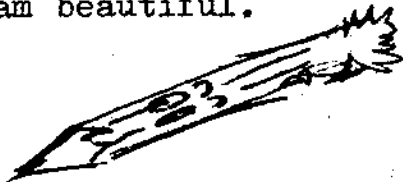
I am a fish. I live in the water. My mother gets me some food. My father goes to eat the fish-wire then he goes and teels my wife and my baby fish. I have a lots of fish. But I like to go with them and the big birds come and eat me and take me to the land and they eat me and they leave me with only bones.



From Valda, Grade 5.

I AM A PENCIL

I am a pencil. Some one writes with me. If they bite me I might write badly. Don't do that again please. I am beautiful.



From Wesley, Grade 5.

LOST

One black clutch purse about 8" x 4" containing one pair of blue framed reading glasses, one green and gold fountain pen and some small change.

REWARD offered. Please return to Bev Caddies or the Police Station.

PEOPLE

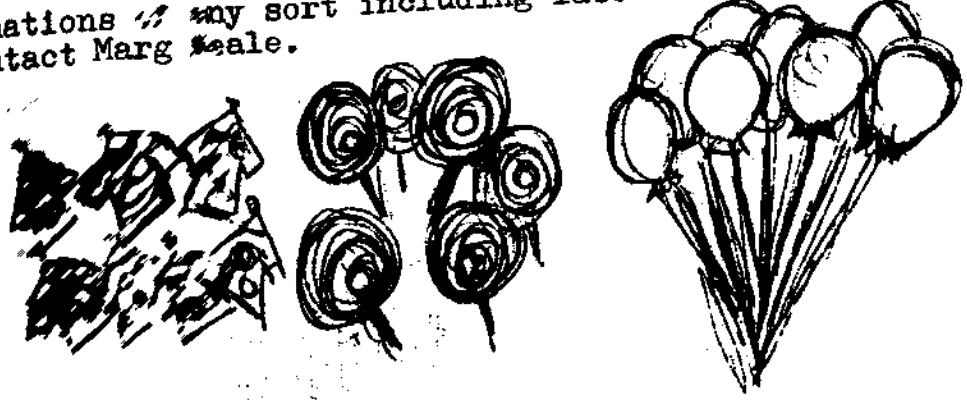
Tricia Jenner and Chris Phegan celebrated their 21st birthdays during the week. Congratulations ladies!

Andy and Ann Hazel are proud dad and mum to a baby girl (name yet to be chosen). David, Debbie, Kathy and Melinda are looking forward to having their new sister home soon.

Jet-setter-Jack Gardiner who can't seem to take a trick is now thinking about an overseas holiday with a difference. He may spend several weeks of contemplation on the golden sands of that idyllic isle Entrance Is. Visas can be obtained from the Entrance Island consulate, Jack.

* SCHOOL FETE * SCHOOL FETE * SCHOOL FETE * SCHOOL FETE * SCHOOL FETE *

Donations of any sort including labour on the day would be appreciated.
Contact Marg Neale.



~~FRIDAY~~ THE DATE! FRIDAY JUNE 14! IT'LL BE GREAT AT THE
SCHOOL FETE!

Marg Neale
(Organiser of Fete committee)

HOSPITAL TRUCK COMING----

The new hospital vehicle will, we hope, be on the next barge from Darwin.
This vehicle will be used by the Duty Sister on call, and otherwise its
main use will be in visiting outstations.

It will NOT be used as a taxi, and won't be running round collecting
anyone who can footwalk to the hospital and it won't be carrying
hitch-hikers!

The clinic hours are from 7 am to 10 am
and " 3 pm to 3.30pm

YOU COME LATE - YOU WAIT!

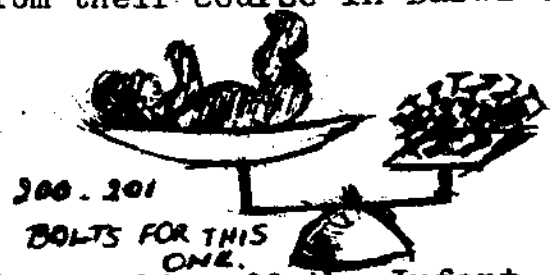
Only emergencies will be seen out of these hours. People on Medicine
should come to the morning clinic. No one will be chasing up anyone
on medicine no more!

DOCTOR'S VISITS

Doctor will see Aboriginal people in the morning from 8 am to 12 midday
and will see European people from 1 pm onwards. If you want to see the
doctor please let the hospital know by 3 pm the day before doctor's
visit. Naturally the doctor will see emergencies at any time during
his visit.

Sr. Reister and Sr. McMahon have returned from their course in Darwin.
Welcome home!

MISSING WEIGHTS

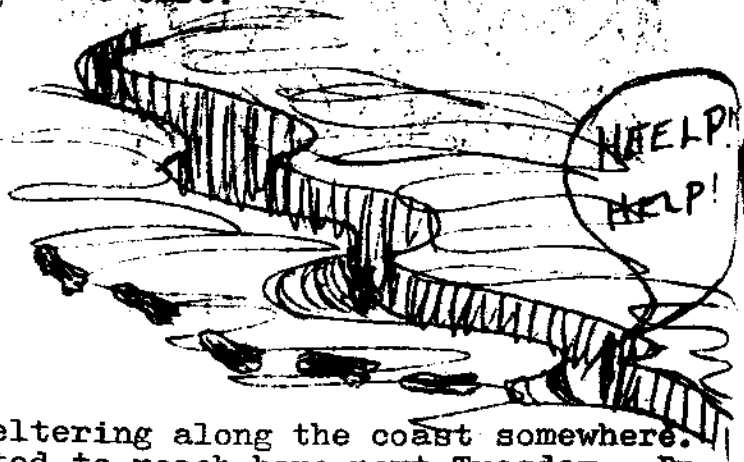


Would the person or children who "lifted" the weights off the Infant
Health weighing machine give them back to us PLEASE. Babies are being
weighed in nuts and bolts now instead of the regular lbs. and ounces.

WEATHER WOES

We hope in anticipation that the rain has now stopped and the airstrip is open again. Here are a few bits of bad weather news from around the place:

- * Tons of soil have been washed into the sea. The roads are in shocking condition but the Govt. shows no interest in doing any drainage work in a hurry. We ask all drivers to take care!
- * There is a huge erosion gully running down beside the craftshop. It runs right across the flat from the road and down to the sea. In parts it is over 10 ft. deep and 12 inches wide - which makes it very dangerous for kids. In places all the dirt has gone and there are just leaves and sticks covering big holes. WATCH IT!
- * The barge has been reported as sheltering along the coast somewhere. At our deadline time it was expected to reach here next Tuesday. By that time there will be virtually no tucker in the shop.
- * This has been a terrible Wet Season for disruption. We hope the Government will at last get the message about doing something for the Territory's supply lines in general and ours in particular. One thing they may consider is forgetting about building the Super Arnhem Highway which will really tear up this country and concentrate cash on building a decent all-weather road into the N.T. from somewhere that has tucker to sell.



Dan Gillespie.

SONG OF THE WEEK: "Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head".

SPORTS CLUB

The general meeting of the Maningrida Sports Club will be held next Tuesday at the Resources Centre. Meeting commences at 7.30pm. All people interested in sport are urged to attend.

GUYUN TRUCK FIXED...

The Rembarnga people at Guyun and Botgardi have transport again. Their Toyota has just been released from the intensive care ward at the M.P.A. workshop after surgery on the front end. Truck doctor Roger Brooks says the cost of repairs won't be nearly as high as first thought.

FOR SALE: ONE U.S. CAN. OR WILL EXCHANGE FOR 12 CANS PACKET OF KRAFT PROCESSED CHEESE CHEESE.

Apply Forestry Office

PLAYGROUND

About a dozen adults and twice as many children came to the playground working bee on Saturday.

Six different pieces of play equipment were set up by the end of the day. All except one, a tractor tyre swing, have stood up to a week of enthusiastic use by the children.

There is still a lot of material at the site to be used for other cons-

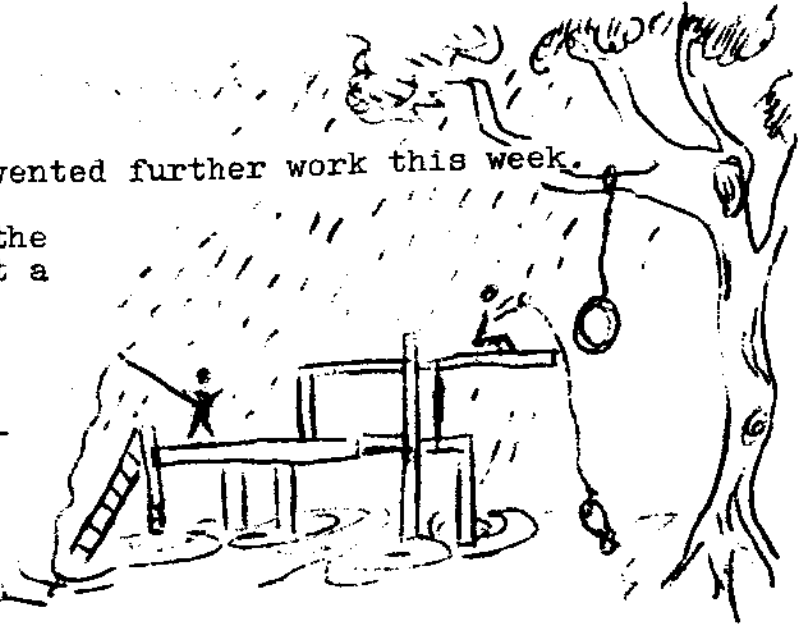
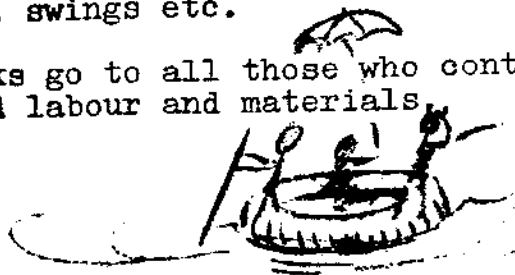


PLAYGROUND (CONT'D.)

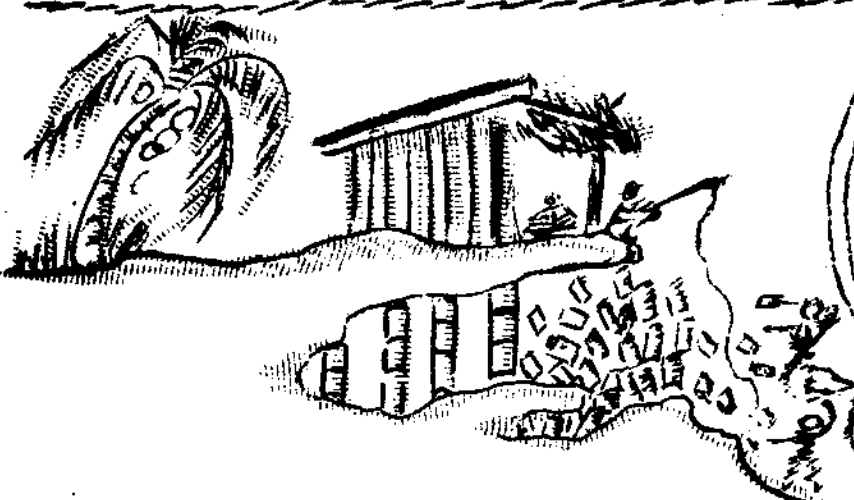
structions but the wet weather prevented further work this week.

The area is quite waterlogged at the moment but as soon as it dries out a little, an effort will be made to spread sand and gravel around the nets, swings etc.

Thanks go to all those who contributed labour and materials.



CHUCK-A-CAN WEEK!



Assistance is sought from all concerned for the future of this community. If you have any cans... CHUCK 'EM! Prefer- ably into the cavern developing next to the craft shop on the eastern side of the newly erected grid frame. Remember - it's chuck-a-can week. Start chucking folks.

Y.M.C.A. PROGRAMME

(Apologies for missing out the YMCA programme last week)

Monday	11am 3-5 pm	Leathercraft Crab Football Comics etc.
Tuesday	3-5 pm 7.30pm	Gymnastics Volley Ball (Girls)
Wednesday	3-5 pm 7.30pm	Swimming (or Town Hall) Drop-in club
Thursday	11am 3-5 pm	Leathercraft Fun games
Friday	3-5 pm	Basketball, Roller Skating
Saturday		Football, trips, soccer, gymnastics
Sunday		Trips

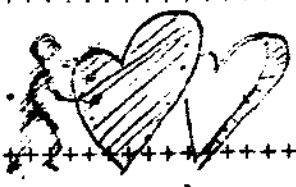


Anyone interested in a table tennis tournament drop a message to me at the post office stating when and where you'd like it and name.

Peter Pinder.

POINTS TO PONDER...

The best gifts are tied with heartstrings.....



WHO'S FOR TUPPERWARE?

Short of cannisters, tumblers, food containers? (Who isn't?) See Lyn Berryman for a glance at the Tupperware catalogues.

THE MANINGRIDA LAMENT

At Maningrida on the coast
There were tears in many an eye
For although the rain was pouring down
The bloomin' joint was dry

That placid storeman Brolga Bill
Seems to be going troppo
A massive stocktake's failed to find
That forty-four of Metho

A few depended on Connair
But the weather's too contrary
And because he went and closed the strip
They're gonna' shoot Ed Carey

Now Ackers dry and bleary eyed
Says 'begger power in town
My fridge is off but what the heck
I've nothing to chill down"

Even Bert is downing Tarax now
And pretends with all his might
But because of withdrawal symptoms
Wakes up crying every night

And Andy our new daddy
Lies sobbing on his bed
A great excuse for a booze up
But no way to wet it's head

Freddy Luff broke down and howled
As Harry sadly did his task
For the 'beak' had ordered it all poured out
Now the blokes are chewing grass

Those explosions from the Forestry
They're mixing up a brew
But Charlie stirred it up too much
And another batch just blew

Gil is blaming her front door
As to why she's got the shakes
For despite her claim, no-one else has seen
Her hordes of frogs and snakes

With staring eye and beard awry
Chris has taken up fishing
He must have bottles buried there
'Cause for fish he's still a wishing

Now Brian has had the right idea
He's really done the trick
That conference so the rumour says
Is occurring in the 'Vic'

And Jonathan when he arrived
Was almost ready to run
At the hysterical laughter he begot
When he said "Where can I buy some?"

Desperate Dan the Craft Shop man
Now there's a canny cove
His name is cursed at Nhulumbuy
For he's gone and dried out Gove

So all home brewers be like Trewin
And with sugar don't be lax
And by using honey 'stead of malt
You'll beat the Excise Tax

But take heart you thirsty people
There's good news now to hear
They say supplies will now arrive
By about this time next year.

"PERISHED".

Church Notes.

Theme of Study for this week "How to use the Bible". Read the Gospel according to St. Mark 12:18-27.

The Sunday School classes will be on when the church bell rings at 9.00a.m.

Our main evening church service at 7.30p.m. after the bell at 7.00pm

On Tuesday afternoon 5.30p.m. Prayer meeting in the church, and the Church Fellowship is followed at 7.30p.m. if the weather permits us to do so.

Prayer meeting and Bible study at the home of the Cross family.

Don't hesitate to come, for you are needed.

WAIT AND PONDER:

ISAIAH 55:6 & 7. Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him: and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

On Duty this Weekend.

DUTY OFFICER: Ron Berryman

DUTY SISTER: Sister Lee Mc Mahon

Weather Report.

Rainfall up to 9.00a.m.	21/3/74	12.8mm
	20/3/74	32.8mm
	19/3/74	12.8mm
	18/3/74	37.6mm
	17/3/74	NIL
	16/3/74	18.0mm
	15/3/74	17.2mm
	14/3/74	10.2mm

Regarding cyclones!!

IF A TYPED WARNING OF A CYCLONE IS CIRCULATED, PLEASE TAKE NOTICE OF IT. ALTHOUGH THE METEOROLOGICAL BUREAU ISSUES WARNINGS, IT CANNOT PREDICT THE PATH OF CYCLONES.

Cyclone Jeannie went inland between Elcho and Milingimbi and went overland to Daly River area. It is now off the coast of W.A.

Don't BE ALARMED.

THE FIRE ALARM WILL BE TESTED AT APPROXIMATELY 8.00a.m. MONDAY.

ARE YOU NEW??

If you are new, or if your neighbour is new to this town, please make yourself known to the Postmistress. There is always a lot of mail coming to unknown people, who may be here but do not come to the Post Office to claim, consequently the mail is returned, unclaimed. It is easier to deliver telegrams if the addressee is known.

Thank you.

THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL PARENTS AND FRIENDS MEETING IN THE SCHOOL STAFF ROOM ON MONDAY MORNING AT 10.00a.m. THE AIM OF THE MEETING IS TO DISCUSS THE PAYMENT OF URGENT ACCOUNTS. ALL WELCOME!!!!

Maningrida Mirage

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"Maningrida Mirage Volume 3 Issue 20" March 22nd, 1974.

Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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