

THIS SATURDAY!

VOTING!

IF YOUR NAME IS ON THE ROLLS YOU MUST VOTE. YOU CAN  
SEE THE ROLLS AT THE D.A.A. OFFICE.

VOTING!

AT HOME MANAGEMENT THIS SATURDAY

8 o'clock in the morning till 8  
o'clock at night.

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Criticism will no doubt be meted out at the editorial group of the *Mirage* for publishing the following political stories. STOP AND THINK FIRST! In towns and cities throughout Australia that have radio and television reception and many more diverse forms of advertising, the populace is bombarded with political speeches, rallies etc. ad infinitum. We only have the *Mirage*. For such an important political poll affecting the entire nation, Maningrida residents are entitled to air their views in the *Mirage*.

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POLITICAL OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE *MIRAGE* ARE THOSE OF INDIVIDUALS ONLY AND THE EDITORS EXCEPT NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEM.

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### Rod Seymour replies....

In reply to Mr. Gillespie's front page story in the *Mirage* last week, where he dictates to the people of Maningrida who to vote for, may I state that the old Government introduced this huge housing programme, and was accelerated by the present mob. The old government must take the credit for this.

Concerning award wages - is this good? Look how many positions there were available under the training allowance and compare them to the number of available award wage positions. A lot will agree with me that award wages mean - one only needs to work a part of the year instead

## ROD SEYMOUR REPLIES (Cont'd.)....

of all the year. It took myself and many others 5 years of solid training and examinations before we were eligible for award wages. A good incentive scheme would have been more appropriate.

Naturally the labour government has increased the pay packets, but have robbed it from the other hand. Look how many strikes are fronting us. Anybody can see the people are not happy. Material shortages, rising prices and many other factors. Credit is impossible, even with the interest rate at 12%. With the old government, there was peace, stability - it has disappeared now.

Born and bred with business interests in the pastoral industry, you and I must agree that the present government is giving us a raw deal - take the termination of the superphosphate bounty, thus removing the incentive for pastoral development, but squanders the money on social services. Thus the reaction - an unbalanced economy. They whittle down our defence, press the red light on incentive and dishonour their election bait.

Of course some city people and public servants have never had it better and I suppose the majority will not want the Labour Party defeated and therefore leaves a small proportion of voters, the responsibility of electing a fair team of politicians.

Election time is drawing near. Please think, before casting your vote, just who was giving us the best deal and helping to make Australia a worthwhile place to live in.

Rod Seymour.

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Footnote in reply: I hope all you Aboriginal people with business interests in the Pastoral Industry who have lost your superphosphate bounties, will see the light when you read Rod's story.

Dan Gillespie.

## SAM CALDER'S MESSAGE

The Liberal Country Party has always recognised the affinity of tribalised Aborigines with their land and their rights to own land on reserves. We added some 32,000 square miles to Aboriginal reserves, making a total reserve area larger than Victoria.

If elected to office we will bring down legislation to vest all reserves in Aboriginal Land Boards which will have authority to grant titles to Aborigines individually or collectively under terms set by them.

Because we believe that there should be a consistent approach to mining on and off reserves, mineral exploration and mining will be continued but only under important safeguards. These will include:

- \* Preference to suitable Aboriginal applicants where they have a special or traditional association in the land;
- \* mining exploration and mining to be undertaken only after full consultation and agreement with Aborigines;
- \* proper recognition of Aboriginal sacred sites;
- \* payment of double royalties for mining operations into the Aborigines Benefits Trust Fund;
- \* payments of special disturbance amounts to local communities affected by mining;
- \* special arrangements to provide Aborigines with training and job opportunities and for their participation in servicing projects associated with the mining projects and equity participation.

# SAM CALDER'S MESSAGE (CONT'D.)..

Having lived for 35 years in the Northern Territory, I firmly believe it is possible to find ways to continue to help Aborigines, as has been done with the great majority of part-Aborigines in the Northern Territory, to define and achieve their own aspirations and goals, both in the short and long term, for themselves and their communities.

Stated simply, the task of governments, aided by people of goodwill in the community, is to encourage Aboriginal people to achieve their own goals by their own efforts.

The Country Party will keep the permit system so that unwanted people will not be able to trespass on your country.

Our policy, which has been unwrapped for nearly a month, has foreshadowed the Woodward report with very few exceptions - so far as I have heard - as it has only just been released at the time of writing this article, i.e. Tuesday evening, May 7th.

- VOTE  SAM CALDER \* \* \* \*
- JOHN WATERS
- ALLAN STEWART

S.E. CALDER, DFC, MP

GO AHEAD WITH LABOR.  
 FULL EMPLOYMENT  
 AWARD WAGES.  
 EDUCATION FOR THE KIDS.  
 VOTE  John WATERS

Authorized by Bob Hale. A.P Qld. branch.

## MY POLITICAL OPINIONS

The A.L.P. have only been in power for 17 months. For all of this time they have had nothing but obstacles stuck in their way. For heavens sake give them a go and lets see what their made of. Surely you don't think they can do everything in 17 months that the liberal government took 23 years to gradually but surely put our country in the class of all these other nations that are falling behind with the everyday rat race. Lets think of our kids at least even our grandchildren and hope that there is a furture for them in this country.

Dianne Henderson.

- Vote  John Waters  
 Allan-Stewart  
 Sam Calder

## HOUSING NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Les Percey and son Jimmy have arrived at Maningrida - Les is a bricklayer with the Housing Association. Les and family motored from Brisbane to Darwin, Frances being the navigator through the side tracks, where the recent wet has washed many miles of the road away. They are living in Terry Cannings caravan and Frances is looking for a job - any department want a helper?

## FOR SALE

4 WHEEL DRIVE CADELL VEHICLE FOR SALE.  
 \$800 OR NEAREST OFFER. NEEDS A LITTLE  
 MEDICAL ATTENTION. ONE (MOB) OWNER.

See Roger Brooks.

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SAM'S YOUR MAN

# CROCODILE CAPERS

Eggs in three saltwater crocodile nests being studied on the Tomkinson River are expected to hatch in about a fortnight.

Head of the crocodile research program, Professor Harry Messel and photographer Bill Green visited the nests on Sunday.

They opened three eggs and found healthy embryos from 7½ to 10 inches long.

Professor Messel says there are over a hundred eggs in the nests, which were found by air only a few months or so ago.

The nests were constructed in the late wet season as river levels started to fall. Eggs in all known nests built at the beginning of the wet failed to survive the extensive and extended flooding of the nest sites this year.

A check was made on a nest on the Goomadeer River on Tuesday and all the eggs there had become rotten.

"This was a disastrous year for crocodiles" says the professor. "The floods have reduced this year's population of hatchlings enormously."

Professor Messel is delighted with the discovery of two distinct nesting periods and now wants to know what determines which crocs nest in each period.

The researchers' big boat and aeroplane are expected here soon.

A six-seater Cessna Stationair 206 will arrive by the first week in June, says the professor. Later in the year it will be fitted with floats for river work.

The 68½ft. long, 125 ton research boat, "The Harry Messel", has passed Brisbane on its voyage up the Queensland coast. It will visit Thursday Island and then go to the Fly River in New Guinea to do seismic work. The professor expects his namesake to dock in Darwin on June 7th and arrive in Maningrida 5 or 6 days later.

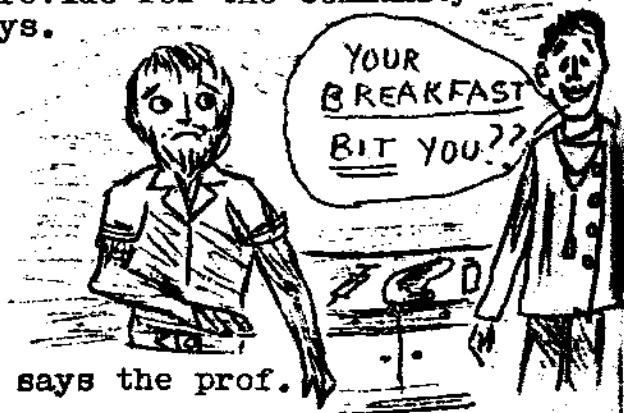
With the boat and 'plane here, there will be up to 20 researchers and technical staff on the job at times.

A doctor will be amongst the new personnel - "And his services will be provided free of charge to the Maningrida hospital", says the professor. "This is one of the services we will provide for the community in return for the help they give us," he says.

The first doctor, arriving in mid-June will be Dr. Ted Buckley, a G.P. and surgeon from Narrabri in N.S.W.

From June to August the research program will centre on capturing and releasing crocodiles in the Liverpool and Tomkinson River systems. From 4 to 6 new transmitters will be fitted to large crocs, says the prof.

In mid-September Professor Messel plans to start surveying croc populations in other rivers of Arnhem Land and the gulf using the big boat. Every single river north of the tropic of Capricorn will be surveyed and that will take 3 or 4 years. Also it is planned to establish another 3 field study areas, 1 in the south of the gulf, 1 around Melville Is. and the other past the W.A. border. Dr. Graeme Webb and Jacky Adjarral are due back from holidays in the south in the next few weeks.

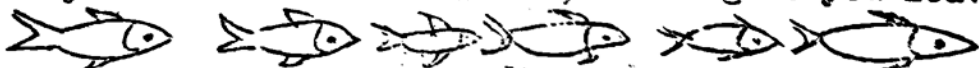


## THEY WERE PREPARED---

Silas Roberts and Billy Yirriyin made a fast voyage from Goulburn Island to Maningrida last Monday in what could be record time. In just over 7 hours they battled big seas from Croker Is. to Goulburn Is. and then again in Junction Bay, in a 14 foot open boat Silas had bought from the Reverend Lazarus Lami Lami. The aluminium boat left Goulburn at midday and arrived at Maningrida just after 7 p.m. laden with lots of personal gear and two spare motors - just in case of trouble, however the spares weren't needed.

## REEL OUT THE TACKLE FOR SUNDAY---

Only two more days to the big Fishing Competition. The store is fast selling out of lines reels and hooks. They have no sinkers so scrounge around for some old rusty nuts and bolts instead, so long as you leave the good ones alone.



**Remember!** Good Prizes! Starts at 6 a.m. and finishes at 6 p.m. Hang onto your ticket - no ticket - no prize. After you've weighed your fish in the weights will be recorded so you can clean them and throw 'em in the deepfreeze or if you're peckish, on the barbecue. Have a fun day for only \$1 and 40cents for kids. The more the merrier

## "BONE PHOTOS" AND GOOD DENTIST

The Xray team and the dentist have now set up their equipment. The Xray team is in the town hall and the dentist is at the hospital.

The radiologist reports good initial support for the chest Xray survey. It is sent out from Darwin yearly to all the settlements to check people for tuberculosis. No appointments are necessary, so just go along. Sisters Cec Carey and Ena Pickersgill are there helping the team. The council are also helping by letting folk know about the process and the need to have Xrays. The team finish here on Friday at lunchtime - so if you've just got the message - hurry!

**THE DENTIST** would like your help. The earlier you see him the better he will be able to gauge how long it will be necessary for him to stay here. His stay will be from 4 to 6 weeks but he needs to see you **NOW!** to see what treatment you require and how long it will take. If you leave it to the last minute to get up the courage and you miss out, blame yourself. (P.S. he's a terrific dentist!)

## Wanted (preferably alive)

The Maningrida Parents and Friends Association have positions vacant on the committee for a President (Aboriginal), two committee members (Aboriginal) and one Assistant President (European). There will be a General Meeting at the Resources Centre on Wednesday 22nd May at 7.30pm to elect these people and so we would like lots of people to come. If there are any nominations before the meeting they can be given to me, but must include the nomination, the nominated and seconder and the signature of the person being nominated.

The Parents and Friends are trying to make the school better for your children but this is made very difficult when out of a school of about 400 children there are only about fifteen people who come to meetings - Help us to help you - Come to the meeting and bring your ideas for making money and how to spend it.

I would like thank Clive McMahon for the work he has done as Assistant President in the short time he has been in this position.

P.S.

SCHOOL STARTS AT 8-30 A.M.  
20TH MAY.

Tricia Jenner  
Assistant Secretary.

*Fete Day 'll be a Great Day!*

# Y.M.C.A. CAMP

Last year camping at Crab Creek proved an almighty success, with 70 children and 3 teachers plus Leah and myself. So again this year we decided to do the same, but only 26 children turned up from Burada and Jinang tribes. We were expecting 6 European High school students to join us, but they never turned up. After waiting for them at the airport we left for Crab Creek. Jimmy Burinyila had previously taken most of the children to build up the road and did a good job. But only 300 yds. further down the track we fell into a very boggy bog. "Benefication" cried Steven Yatica, "Complication" cried Ningel as the truck lay out there submerged in mud up to the windows. After pacing back and forth muttering a few selected words for the occasion we decided that it would need no less than a grader to pull it out.



Meanwhile further down the track was Jack Miritji and his merry men who we asked to ferry the kids and gear to the camp so as to make a start. When eventually they came and saw the truck submerged, Jack said confidently "No Worries, we get it out" and with all the powers of black magic they got it out and they were well rewarded with some food from our supplies.

After a few more mishaps we arrived at Crab Creek and set up camp hoping to obtain our protein needs by fishing. But fish weren't biting at the time, and things looked pretty grim.

Next morning as the tide rolled in the fish, mainly skinnies, were swarming around the point at the entrance of the creek and we managed to catch enough for the day. But on Wednesday the fish were down again and moral was very low. And after an attack of rain a big vote was held on whether we should return or not. Everyone seemed enthused by the idea and we set off back homeward only to meet another bog. By this time Bruce Neale had come out on his motorbike and we struggled for more than 2 hours trying the Miritji method but we went from one bog to another and Bruce went back to get a winch.

Meanwhile we carried on levering the truck out, and thanks to Little Charlie, Steven, Jimmy and Ningle, we got it out and carried on homeward to meet Bruce and Stephen Joseph with the winch just leaving Maningrida. As we hit Maningrida a big storm blew up and we were all glad to be home and dry.

P. Pinder

Footnote: A few children had their parents very worried on this camp because they told me their parents knew they were going out, but in fact they didn't. Perhaps next time this will be doubly checked to see that the kids have their parents permission. All trips with the YMCA are well looked after. So the parents don't have to worry.

P. Pinder.

## CHURCH NOTICES

There will be an open air church service in the camp this Sunday evening at 7.30p.m. When the church bell rings at 7.00p.m. please come to church grounds then we are all going together to where the service will be held.

THEME OF STUDY FOR THIS WEEK in Sunday School and Fellowship "The Gospel and John". Read John 1:1-14; 3: 1-21. In this study we are trying to see that life and light are found through Christ, who is the source of them both. Other meetings and activities as usual.

DUTY SISTER: Sister Lee. DUTY OFFICER: Bert Ryan. PICTURES: See board.

**Maningrida Mirage**

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