

ABORIGINES TO HONOUR BENEFACTRESS

The aborigines at Tuncester settlement will honour a Lismore woman who helped them for many years.

They will plant a poinciana tree in Cubawee school-ground in memory of Mrs. T. W. Blackwell.

The late Mrs. Blackwell, was a well-known Lismore social worker, and at the annual Christmas party held by Lismore C.W.A. at Cubawee, the whole party stood in silence to honour her memory after speakers had paid tribute to her work.

The tree planting suggestion was made by Mrs. H. A. Saunders, who said that Mrs. Blackwell had always tried to better Cubawee. She had been one of the finest influences on both parents and children at the reserve.

Mrs. Blackwell had wanted harmony at the reserve, and even had the word harmony included in the school motto.

Mrs. Saunders said she had been coming to the annual party on and off for the last seventeen years and could see a vast improvement in the school children in that time. A great deal of this improvement could be attributed to Mrs. Blackwell's work.

Mrs. John Allen, patron and life member of the C.W.A., presented the school with an original Albert Namatjira painting in memory of its teacher, Mr. L. H. Smith, who was killed in 1948.

She said the presentation of the painting was one of the last wishes of the late Mrs. Blackwell, who chose the frame and inscription.

C.W.A. president, Mrs. F. L. Jefferys, congratulated the children on their singing and said her association was happy to be able to bring some of the Christmas spirit to Cubawee.

Mrs. Jefferys said that Mr. Smith taught the Arunta tribe in Central Australia before coming to Cubawee. (Namatjira is a member of the Arunta tribe.)

The present teacher, Mr. O. Munday, thanked the association for the painting. He said the children had a natural flair for colouring and probably would get more artistic ideas from the painting.

The district inspector of schools, Mr. M. H. Bryant, said the schoolmaster, Mr. Munday, was teaching the children to be good citizens and to respect their Queen, as well as giving the usual school lessons.

He thanked the C.W.A. for providing the party for the children and the churches for their work at the reserve and the school.

Rev. J. V. J. Robinson said that Mr. Munday had put a tremendous amount into training the children.

He said that although the children had limited opportunities they should make the most of them.

Mr. Aubrey Roberts moved a vote of thanks to the C.W.A. for arranging the party.

He thanked the members for the picture and expressed regret that neither Mrs. Blackwell nor Mr. Smith would be there again.



Mrs. John Allen, patron of Lismore C.W.A., presenting the Namatjira painting to Mr. Munday, Teacher-in-charge of Cubawee School.

SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS

Youngsters Do Well

Today more and more Aboriginal parents are realising the importance of better education and are helping their children to have better opportunities than they themselves had.

Dawn extends its sincere congratulations to the following students, holders of bursaries granted by the Aborigines Welfare Board on the progress disclosed by their last term reports:

John Ridgeway : Kempsey High School, successful in Intermediate Certificate Examination.

Elva Land: Also of Kempsey High School, promoted to Intermediate Class.

Graham Paulson : Murwillumbah High School, promoted to Second Year.

Federick Miller : Kurri Kurri Junior Technical School, Placed sixth in First Year, class of 47 and promoted to second.

Claude Morris : Broken Hill High School, Claude, who comes from Tibooburra, gained second place in a Second Year Class of 32 and will sit for his Intermediate this year. In the School organisation, he was appointed Captain of his particular class.

Dulcie Loughbottom : Maroubra Home Science. Dulcie was placed twelfth among 109 Second Year pupils and will sit for her Intermediate this year.