

A group photograph showing the Summer Camp youngsters at La Perouse

THE SUMMER CAMP

THE Annual Summer Camp for aboriginal children was held at La Perouse from 15th to 19th January, 1960, and a total of 82 children attended. They came from Dubbo, Boggabilla, Brewarrina, Burra Bee Dee, Murrin Bridge, Moree, Walgett, Enngonia, Balranald, Bourke, Collarenebri, Coonamble, Gulargambone, Menindie, Peak Hill, Warren and Wellington.

Though arrangements were made for Wilcannia, Cumeroogunga and Moonahcullah children to be brought down, they did not attend at the last moment. To make up the shortage in numbers, arrangements were made for an additional twelve children from Moree and six from Dubbo to attend. Four children who were scheduled to arrive on the 5th from Gulargambone arrived on the 6th and brought the numbers to eighty-two children, which was the largest number of children ever catered for at a Summer Camp. Other than these few minor changes, the arrivals, departures and escort arrangements were very satisfactory.

Type of Children, Health and Hygiene

The type of children attending the Summer Camp this year was excellent, they were well behaved, healthy and clean. They soon fell in with the routine of the Camp, and after a few days it was difficult to fault their dormitories, table manners, and their general duties around the Camp. Medical, dental and T.B. examinations were carried out. Four children were taken to the Sydney Eye Hospital for treatment and four to the E.N.T. specialist and forty-seven X-rayed at the Chest Clinic. Their general health was good.

Entertainment

The Randwick Lions Club entertained the children on a cruise from Church Point to Basin Beach, and gave them a lovely afternoon at Basin Beach, and presented each child with a gift.

Five children were affected by carbon dioxide fumes from one of the launches, but soon recovered and took part in the day's activities.

They also took them for a visit on another occasion to a glass factory in town and provided a wonderful lunch for the children, and each child was presented with a colourful glass to take home as a momento.