



Housing Deal—£750,000

12 New Homes and Water Supply Opened at Nanima

Twelve new cottages, built by the Aborigines Welfare Board at a cost of £25,000, were officially opened on Nanima Reserve near Wellington, by the Chief Secretary, Mr. C. A. Kelly, last month.

On the same day—June 12—Mr. Kelly turned on a tap at Nanima to mark the linking of the settlement with Wellington's town water supply—a service which cost £4,000 to instal.

In his address to the people of Nanima the Minister expressed faith that the tenants of the cottages would be proud of their fine new homes and care for them accordingly.

"Since the end of the war Aborigines in New South Wales have had a new deal," Mr. Kelly said.

"In the last financial year the Government, through the Welfare Board, has spent £125,000 building 70 new homes for Aborigines in towns, on stations and reserves and all over New South Wales. In addition about £40,000 has been spent on maintenance of homes.

"Over the past 13 years the Board has built about 450 new homes for Aborigines at a cost of more than £750,000. During the next two years the Board expects to spend another £250,000 on new home construction.

"All these homes are being made available to aboriginal families at nominal rentals of 17s. 6d. per week.

"At the same time the widest opportunities have been opened for the education of children at all levels. Instruction in personal and community hygiene has been greatly intensified also.

"Recent amendments to the law have removed the last vestige of discrimination. The responsibility is now

on your shoulders to take your place in the community where you justly belong.

"Modern living conditions have been provided for you and we are all proud this has been done. We hope, too, that you will appreciate the value of these homes and look after them properly. We believe you will do just that."

Mr. Kelly congratulated Archdeacon H. Graham and members of the Wellington Aborigines Welfare Committee for their wonderful assistance in providing extra amenities for the Nanima Reserve and for their representations to the Government over many years to obtain better conditions for the Reserve people.

He also paid tribute to Mr. J. Cahill, Headmaster at the Nanima School, and his staff for the wonderful work they were doing at the school.

Mr. Kelly commented: "I have travelled a great deal, overseas and throughout Australia, but I have never

OUR PICTURE

The Wellington Bowling Club provided ideal accommodation for the Civic Luncheon which Wellington Shire Council tendered to the Chief Secretary, Mr. C. A. Kelly, and other visiting dignitaries on June 12. Seated at the official table, which was decorated with very beautiful bowls of Australian native blossoms provided by Mr. Peter Althofer, are (from left): Mr. D. Saah (Minister's Private Secretary), Mr. H. S. Kiching (Aboriginal Welfare Officer of the Dubbo District), Mr. Leo Nott, M.L.A., (Member for Mudgee), The Hon. C. A. Kelly, Chief Secretary and Minister for Tourist Activities, Cr. G. L. Eade, Wellington Shire President, Mr. A. G. Kingsmill, Under Secretary of the Chief Secretary's Department, Mr. H. J. Green, Superintendent of Aborigine Welfare in New South Wales, Archdeacon H. Graham, President of the Wellington Aboriginal Welfare Committee, and Mr. C. L. Leon, representative of the aborigines on the Welfare Board (Wellington Times pictures).