Smoke Signals

▶ Here's two little stories from Shirley Smith, of the Aboriginal Medical Service:

While she was visiting a chap in hospital recently, he was served some chicken soup by a nurse. He tasted it and asked the nurse whether it was really chicken soup. "Of course it is," said the nurse. "Strewth," said the chap, "Chicken soup! He must have picked up his feathers and tip-toed through it!"

▶ The untrained talent that is wasted . . . Shirley Smith remembers a friend of hers, Agatha Goolagong, from "way back". Some years ago, on the occasion of a jubilee in the Cowra district, Agatha was asked to sing. When it was her turn, she refused to use the mike and her voice still reached the furthest rafters. Agatha was completely untrained and refused all offers to be taught singing or to travel. She stayed put where she was. Seems a pity though, doesn't it?

▶ This is one of the entries in a competition to design a new flag for Australia. The competition was sponsored by the Australian National Anthem and Flag Quests Committee. Entries closed on January 26th. This entry was designed by Mr George Young, of High Street, Coffs Harbour. The black border on the flag represents Aborigines and their unique culture. The kangaroo and the boomerang represent the insignia used in World War II by the 6th Australian Division.

▶ In mid-December, the Foundation for Aboriginal Affairs opened an Aboriginal coffee shop in its George Street premises. It is an attractive, bright little shop managed by well-known entertainer

