Weilmoringle: A Possible Model



Vera Byno at work as Teacher's Aide

The success of young women such as Vera Byno and the work in which they are involved could provide a model for helping overcome the difficulties encountered by Aboriginal children in their schooling.

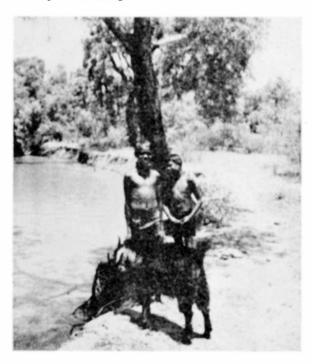
Vera is an 18-year-old teacher's aide at Weilmoringle School in the northwest of the State.

Weilmoringle itself is an isolated property roughly lying between Goodooga and Brewarrina. For many years Aborigines have camped there with the approval of the station management.

It has its own school attended by about fifty Aboriginal children and it is here that Vera has been working for the past 2 years. The primary school is divided into two groups under the principal, Mr Dargin, and his wife, who is also a teacher. Vera works with Mrs Dargin in the lower division.

Vera finished her own formal schooling at the end of first form when she was 15 years old. In order to take up nursing she was granted an Aboriginal Education Council Incentive Scholarship to continue part-time studies in English and Mathematics. It was while doing this that Mr and Mrs Dargin suggested she might work at the school.

A scene from Weilmoringle



NEW DAWN, July, 1973