

ALONG THE MAIL ROUTE

BELLBROOK JOTTINGS

The corn crop on Bellbrook Station has been excellent this season. It looks as if there will be about four hundred bushels from about three and three-quarters acres, and the proceeds will go to the Progress Association.

A great factor in producing the high yield was undoubtedly the excellent work done by Les Holten in weeding the crop. Joe Quinlin Sen., Joe Quinlin Jun., Bert Vale and Ralph Quinlin have been hard at work this last week harvesting the crop and bagging it for transporting away from the Station. John Quinlin, Station Handyman was an efficient overseer.

Mr. Norm Smith, a Kempsey contractor is busy on the Station, erecting a Recreation Hall, which is being converted from a two unit classroom removed from West Kempsey Public School. The Hall will be a boon to the young people of the Station, for it is hoped to form a recreation club and it will be used for meetings, services, parties and any other social activity. Contrary to some expressed opinions it will not be a "dance hall", though undoubtedly, dances will be held there. When the Hall is completed and the electricity installed it is planned to hold a full scale opening ceremony.

Young Dorothy Holten had the misfortune to be badly scalded on the face and neck recently. She was rushed to the Macleay District Hospital after treatment by Mrs. Harrhy, the Matron. Last reports suggested that Dorothy was doing as well as could be expected.

The arrival of the Volkswagen Microbus has been a great thrill for the boys and girls attending Kempsey High School. Hitherto they have had to travel the eleven miles to the nearest point on the School Bus Route in the back of the Station Utility. It is a tribute to their grit that they have put up with most unpleasant conditions for nearly six months. Now the girls, Grace Quinlin, Dianne Quinlin and Beryl Quinlin and the boys, Alfie Cohen, Vicky Wright, Lewis Kelly and Colin Holten are enjoying a comfortable ride. These boys and girls have created something of a record, for they are the first children from the Station to travel daily to High School.

Recently the members of the First Bellbrook Scout Troop spent the week end in camp at Gap Creek under the leadership of Scout-Master, Stewart Thompson. The 1st Bellbrook is the Troop belonging to the Station, though there are some white boys in it.

The Troop has attended Scout Camps at Aldavilla, Cathie Creek and of course the Jamboree in Sydney, where they were the only troop to be privileged to send all their members. Members of the Troop are Tony Quinlin, Victor Wright, Denis Kelly, Lewis Kelly, Alf Cohen, Colin Holten, Albert Holten, Victor Holten. In addition, there are four white members.

Mrs. Harrhy, the Matron, is almost at the end of her campaign for funds for the Children's Playground. She has been working to raise funds for nearly a year now and there will probably be some action on the site within the next few weeks.

Mrs. Harrhy was responsible for raising the funds to equip the Scout Troop before the lads went to their first camp. Now the Scouts have their own Auxiliary. Mothers who take an active interest are Mrs. Les Holten and Mrs. Ronnie Kelly. Mr. John Quinlin is a Vice-President.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cohen who will be leaving Bellbrook Station soon to live in Kempsey, where they have been granted the tenancy of a very fine home, and are impatiently awaiting its completion.

Mrs. Bertie Holten has been away for about three weeks enjoying a much needed break. She is spending her holiday with her daughter June in Sydney.

LISMORE NEWS

The aborigine residents of Lismore and district are sadly mourning the death of Albie Roberts, one of the old-timers, who died on 27th July, 1961, at the age of 75 years.

Tragedy struck at Mr. and Mrs. Sam Bellear and family when their daughter Jocelyn aged 22 years died in the Lismore Base Hospital on 21st July, 1961.

Jocelyn was a popular girl and had been working in Melbourne as a telephonist until about two months before her death.

DEATH AT BOGGABILLA

Another death occurred at Boggabilla recently, when Mr. Norman Weribone passed away in Goondiwindi Hospital.

Norman had been sick for some long time, but was reluctant to go and get help from a doctor in the early stages of his sickness.

His death was caused through bronchial trouble and blood pressure.

He was buried on the Station cemetery. Relatives and friends coming from Mungindi and Moree to pay respects.