

## Water at Goodooga A Welcome Project

## by K. A. JORGENSEN

The water laid onto the Goodooga Reserve comes from an artesian bore located on the edge of the township of Goodooga. The bore was sunk during the early days of the Goodooga township, and the water supplied is very suitable for drinking and domestic purposes. The bore water is laid on to the township, and has proved a valuable asset in so far as a permanent water supply is concerned. The township of Goodooga and the Reserve are on the banks of the Bokhara River, which is mostly dry. The installation of a new weir on the Bokhara River will improve the supply of water to the township, and also to the Reserve, in the near future

During the hot summer months of 1960-1961, difficulty was experienced by the inhabitants of the Reserve in obtaining a sufficient supply of water to meet the demands of all persons, and much hardship was experienced. The old piping to the Reserve was very old, and unserviceable.

The condition of the water supply to the Reserve was duly brought under the notice of the Department, which promptly supplied approximately  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles of piping, with all the appropriate fittings, for the laying of the new water system to the Reserve. Water piping in this district has to be laid on top of the ground, to avoid corrosion.

With the assistance of my colleague Constable Roy Clarke, we were able to organise a supply of labour from the residents of the Reserve. We were able to obtain a lorry for the carting and laying of the pipes and a tractor and ripper for their laying underground, where the pipes had to cross a roadway.

The laying of the pipes was carried out in a workmanlike and very satisfactory manner.

The flow of water is now very good, and all the residents of the Reserve are now very happy with the water supply. Miss Muriel Briggs, is a young girl now in Sydney working in an office in the N.S.W. State Public Service. She is going to evening classes at the Metropolitan Business College and hopes soon to be a typist in the department. She lives at the Methodist Girls Hostel at Waverley and is looking forward to her holidays when she will visit her family in Armidale. Muriel was busy on National Aborigines Day and helped to entertain special guests brought down to Sydney for the day. She is a credit to her family and a great encouragement to the Association in Armidale which feels sure that her example will urge others to continue on at high school to at least Intermediate Standard. There are good jobs available in the Public Service.

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Mary Brown, of Port Macquarie, is one of the many people looking forward to the nice summer days again