GOOD-BYE TO MR. AND MRS. ROSCOE

After 22 years of faithful service, Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Roscoe decided to retire from the Board’s service, and completed their careers as Relieving Manager and Matron early in April. At that time Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe were relieving at the Caroona Station following the transfer of Mr. and Mrs. Tower who, it will be remembered, were at Caroona Station when another of the Board’s old employees, Mr. E. C. Smithers, died.

Mr. Roscoe joined the Board in 1932 and was stationed at Jervis Bay, where he combined the duties of Manager and Teacher. He was later transferred to Brewarrina Station, and when the Board decided to appoint a senior Manager whose principal duty would be the relieving of other Managers whilst on leave, Mr. Roscoe was an immediate choice.

In his capacity as a Relieving Manager, he visited practically every Station in the State and is, therefore, known to the aborigines throughout the length and breadth of New South Wales. The aborigines will remember him for his kindly nature and his prompt attention to all of their wants, and we are sure that they join us in wishing both Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe every happiness and good health during their retirement.

Congratulations to Marie White (nee Ward), former Cootamundra girl, whose marriage took place recently. Marie is held in affectionate esteem by all who know her and carries with her their very best wishes for her future happiness.

Mrs. Hiscocks, Matron of Cootamundra Home, evidently enjoyed her recent well-earned vacation so much that she plans to have a further holiday at an early date.

We are happy to learn that Ruth McKenzie is making such good progress in her nursing career, and feel sure that she will reflect credit on her upbringing at the Cootamundra Home.

We hear that Florrie Gordon of Wreck Bay is in Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, where she is to undergo an operation. Knowing what a cheerful little person she is, we feel sure she will make good headway and soon be back home again.

Ruth Whaddy, ex-Cootamundra girl, is appealing for more Australian poems in “Dawn”.

AN APPRECIATION

Bob Brown’s Letter

I wish to express, through Dawn, my appreciation for all that has been done for me by those whose efforts have been instrumental in my being appointed Manager of Wreck Bay Station.

I am proud of being the first Aborigine to hold an Administrative Office. It has opened the way for the Aborigine to take his rightful place with his white colleagues in the great task of bringing about full and complete assimilation.

When we look back on the last three months and take note of the events that have taken place, we can see a new dawn breaking for the Aborigines of Australia. Proud moments are still fresh in the memory of those who had the privilege to speak to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and The Duke of Edinburgh. The reception given our people and the interest taken makes us realise that we have a rightful place in the general administration and governmental order of our land.

To be able to take that place the order calls upon us to become better citizens and to seek those positions which give us a chance to exercise our ability and prove that we are an intelligent people who can take our place in this common struggle for peaceful relations between the peoples of our land.

I am speaking as an Aborigine who knows the state of mind that exists between the two peoples.

This condition can be only overcome by the aborigine himself. He is the one who has to make the change, and I myself, as one of those aborigines who has made the grade can say without fear of contradiction, that if our people try to help themselves, the Board will do all within its power to help them.

And so I want to convey, through Dawn, my personal thanks to the Board and its members for their efforts in enabling me to gain my present position.

ROBERT J. G. BROWN,
Wreck Bay.