Notes from Ungundahi

At present there are not many natives on the Ungundahi Reserve, and the school has been closed. All children attend the Primary and Intermediate High School at Maclean. They are doing well, and are freely accepted by the other children.

During Education Week, we attended the school, and were very pleased at the progress of the pupils, and at the high standard of work being done by the Aboriginal children. We were also able to show all children boomerangs and other native weapons.

The sugar-cane cutting season is in progress in our area at present. Ten of the Ungundahi men are now engaged on the Lower Clarence, cutting sugar-cane and are well spoken of by the farmers. A number of the men play football very successfully with local teams.

Some of the other Ungundahi men, and women, are at present picking peas for local growers, for the Sydney market.

Church services are held regularly on the Reserve and residents attend the various Churches at Maclean.

The Ungundahi residents have the usual problems to solve and the difficult bridges to cross, but by taking the broader views, they hope to overcome them.

Two Actors Meet at La Perouse School

Shakesperian actor met Shakesperian actor at the La Perouse public school recently.

The two actors are Peter Finch and 11-year-old aboriginal Reg Weigand—Reg Wiggins on the stage.

Finch met Reg in the classroom while on a tour of the school.

Reg, one of the school’s star actors, played Olivia’s page in the Elizabethan Theatre production of Twelfth Night a few months ago.

He has also starred in school productions and had “hit” parts in movies.

He Prefers Football!

While he was shaking hands, Peter Finch asked Reg, “Which do you like best, acting or football?”

Reg, with a flashing, white-toothed grin, said, “I’d rather play football!”

Reg later presented Finch with a boomerang as he was leaving the school.

Peter Finch made the trip to La Perouse school after he had seen it featured in the film, “Proud Heritage,” at the Alice Springs premiere of “A Town Like Alice.”

Pupils from the school were featured in the film.

Johnny Monsell was a main-fight attraction at Urbenville when he met Stan Hayward at a Tournament in aid of the Woodenbong-Urbenville Ambulance. Nice work, John!

Who are the boys doing all the gardening at the Woodenbong School these days? Next time I might mention the best worker.

These two pretty lasses live a long, long way from Sydney. They are Ruby Lander and Barbara Khan of Tibooburra.