TRIUMPHAL ENTRY
INTO THE KING’S PRESENCE

By Mr. S. Fowler

Just a little off the well-worn highway at Nambucca Heads is a modest little home which has been a regular stopping place for our missionaries from Kempsey during their northern itineraries, ever since they have been working in this area. It has ever been a place of assured welcome, and warm Christian fellowship and often, when the going has been hard, the short stop here has provided the encouragement to press on. Of the one who was the father of this household, Mr. Hermann writes:

The death occurred recently of Mr. Walter Smith, of Nambucca Heads, at the age of 86. An aboriginal gentleman, and a fine Christian of many years’ standing. Walter Smith was highly respected by all who knew him, and always he bore a good testimony to the Lord he loved.

Born on the Macleay River and educated at the public school, he supported his family for many years as a professional fisherman. After his retirement, he continued actively supplying bait for amateur fishermen at Nambucca Heads and was known to fishermen from several States.

Well-versed in aboriginal law and custom, and one of the last who could fluently speak the local dialect, he loved to talk with those who could speak it. Ben Mason gave this old man a real thrill when he visited him, and together they talked and compared the languages they spoke. The family thank you for the happiness this brought to him, Ben. God bless you.

He is survived by his widow, two daughters, Valarie and Desline, and son, Eric, to whom we extend our sympathy and Christian comfort.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. A. A. Smith, of the Church of England, of which Mr. Smith was a member. Friends and relatives from many centres came to pay their last respects to one who loved his own people for Christ’s sake.

Thus, we mourn the passing of another fine man, but rejoice that he is “with the Lord, which is far better”. We, with many others, are going to miss this good friend.

His parting message to me was:

“WARN OUR PEOPLE TO TURN FROM THEIR EVIL WAYS, FOR ONLY IN LOVING JESUS IN THE HEART CAN WE HAVE PEACE AND HAPPINESS.”

PURRFLEET NEWS

By Ella Simon

News from Purfleet this month is a mixture of good and bad!

The Station recently had three weddings and buried two old residents, Mrs. Lily Saunders and Mr. Richard McClemont, and a wee girl, Cynthia Turnbull.

The Station has had quite a few books donated by the Taree Library and soon hopes to get its own Library functioning.

All the Purfleet girls are looking forward to the Holiday Camp soon to be held near Lismore.

ESSAY COMPETITION

“When I Leave School”

The Tamworth Association for the Assimilation of Aborigines recently conducted an essay competition on the subject “When I Leave School”.

Norma Tighe won a prize for her composition. It read: “When I leave school I will be a nurse. Something she does is to make up the beds. This is because the sick patients have to be comfortable. Nurses give the patients needles to make them feel better. Early in the morning she will take their temperature and give them medicine. I will be happy to see them get better.”

Trevor Hill had the neatest writing of all the entrants and won a prize for —

“I would like to be an engine driver. I like the big engines and the railways.”

Gloria Bugg entered this to tell of her ambitions:

“When I leave school I’m going to be a school teacher. I would like to give them some sums to do. I would like to give them writing and dictation. I would like to be a school teacher so that I could help them.”

Timbercutters, Ted Robinson and C. McBidge, of Woodenbong, with a giant log.