Vigoro Carnival . . .

TOONGABBIE GIRL
PLAYS FOR STATE

Attractive Leone Beulah (14), pictured at right, represented New South Wales in the interstate carnival staged by the All Australian Women’s Vigoro Association in Sydney from February 23 to March 1.

Leone, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Beulah, of Toongabbie, played with the State junior side in matches against Queensland and Tasmania at Redfern Oval.

The carnival was a great success according to Leone, who is a student at Macquarie Girls’ High School at Parramatta. The vigoro girls from interstate were entertained at Ten Pin Bowling at Kensington, a banquet at the oval and the social programme ended with a picnic at Royal National Park on March 3.

Leone is a niece of prominent singer, Lorna Beulah, winner of last year’s NADOC music quest.

L-DAY PASSED WITHOUT INCIDENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

The Station Manager at Moree reported everything had gone smoothly in the town and on the station. In neither place had there been any untoward incidents. The Manager said Moree hotel-keepers admitted to their bars any Aborigines who were clean and tidy and they showed no marked bias.

In Moree, said the officer, the Aborigines are using the hotels but not in large groups.

“Some drink with white people, usually men with whom they work during the week, while others in small groups of two or three drink together as friends, the same as white men in social groups. The weekends since the repeal have been quieter than on other occasions,” the officer said.

The Bourke area welfare officer reported that Aborigines were pleased with the fact that it is no longer a crime to be in possession of a bottle of spirits or beer.

The Supervisor at Condobolin said there was a smooth change-over in the town. “There have been no incidents and the general acceptance by the public is pleasing to note,” he said.

The only incident at Kempsey occurred when a man was refused a drink by a publican on the ground of insobriety. The man then made his way to the police station to lodge a complaint. “He was so much under the influence,” says the Station Manager’s report, “the police detained him for his own protection.”

In Bogabilla the Aborigines mixed freely with white drinkers. “They drink quietly and generally conduct themselves well,” the Station Manager reported.

Aborigines from Roseby Park who visit the Crookhaven Hotel receive the same treatment as any others. “They are given tables in the beer garden during the evening sessions,” the Station Manager reports.

“Where their dress does not comply with that required of other drinkers the matter is brought to their attention and on their next visit they have made the necessary adjustment.”

Nowra police noticed no difference in various Nowra hotels.

It was the same at other south coast centres—Bega, Cobargo, Narooma and Bermagui. Police in all centres reported that Aborigines had behaved well.

Dubbo area welfare officer reported that the transition period in this district had been a success. The Aborigines behaved with restraint.

Police at Lismore said Aborigines seemed to have adjusted themselves quickly to the new drinking right. The few Aborigines who had gone into hotels were quiet, well-dressed and drank little.

So that, briefly, is what has happened since March 30. No explosion, no “binge”, very little fuss. The first hurdle was cleared successfully, thanks to understanding on all sides.

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