Senior W.O. appointed by Board

A Senior Welfare Officer was recently added to the staff of the Aborigines Welfare Board.

He is Mr. T. W. Humphreys, a married man with five children, who is the holder of the Diploma in Social Studies from the University of Sydney.

Prior to taking up his position as Senior Welfare Officer, he was a Parole Officer in the Prison Field Service.

Mr. Humphreys has been interested in Aboriginal welfare for a number of years and has been actively associated with this work at Condobolin, Peak Hill and the Sydney area.

Mr. Humphreys will spend a considerable amount of his time visiting Aboriginal stations and reserves in country districts, and will also carry out work in the Sydney metropolitan area.

Mr. Humphreys’ appointment brings to fourteen the number of welfare officers on the staff of the Aborigines Welfare Board.

Singer enters politics

Well-known Aboriginal tenor, Mr. Harold Blair has been endorsed by the Australian Labor Party to contest the Melbourne seat of Mentone at this year’s State elections.

Mr. Blair believes it is the first time that an Aborigine has stood for Parliament in Australia, with the endorsement of one of the major political parties.

Mr. Blair, who is 39, lives with his wife and two children in the Melbourne suburb of Deepdene, where he runs a milk bar.

After his endorsement was announced, Mr. Blair said “it was an exciting moment. I am thrilled to have won pre-selection in what I believe was a close ballot.

“If elected, I will do everything in my power to advance not only the Aboriginal cause, but conditions and opportunity for everyone.”

Mr. Blair was born on Purga Mission station, near Ipswich in Queensland.

His two children are Nerida aged 6, who attends Tintern Girls’ Grammar School, and Warren, aged 4.