HANDICAPPED, BUT NOT OUT OF THE RACE

It’s hard for a boy whose legs won’t let him run like the other kids, or for a girl with hands that won’t do all she wants them to. And it’s not much help when your mother dies and your father can’t afford to look after you, or your mother dumps you on your grandmother who’s too old to care for you.

With a start in life like that, most kids would never get over it. But Winton Ballangarry and Regina Walker, since the Aborigines Welfare Board began to take care of them, are well on the way to taking up as best they are able their rightful place in the community.

The Boy

Winton Ballangarry is seven years old. He was born at Macksville and all his life has had to use leg irons and crutches. He became a ward of the Board when his grandmother was too old to look after him; the Board brought Winton to Sydney after he lost his leg irons and crutches and when further treatment was not available at Macksville.

Since coming to Sydney things have improved for Winton. The Board equipped him with new leg irons and crutches, gives him pocket money, and pays $17 a week to the Spastic Centre, which is caring for him. The Aboriginal Women’s Association and the Wahroonga-Turrumurra branch of the Save the Children Fund have supplied Winton with attractive clothing, and visit him regularly.

Nuggety little Winton Ballangarry has mastered his leg irons and crutches and now can move at the speed of an adult’s fast walk. Winton’s only handicap is his limbs—he is highly intelligent and shows remarkable interest in music.