To all Aborigines!

"The Abo Call" is our own paper. It has been established to present the case for aborigines, from the point of view of aborigines themselves. This paper has nothing to do with missionaries, or anthropologists, or with anybody who looks down on Aborigines as an "inferior" race.

We are NOT an inferior race, we have merely been refused the chance of education that whites receive. "The Abo Call" will show our friends and supporters.

Opportunity, and Full Citizen Rights.

The Deputation of the Aborigines on 31st January was attended by Dame Enid Lyons and by Mr McEwan, Minister of the interior. The Deputation consisted of twenty Aborigines men and women, and Mr Lyons gave a hearing of two hours to the statement of our case.

Please read these "ten points" carefully, as this is the only official statement of our aims and objects that has yet been made:

TO THE RIGHT HON. THE PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA.

MR. J.A. LYNDS, PC., C.H., M.R.

Sir,

In respectfully placing before you the following POLICY FOR ABORIGINES. We wish to state that this policy has been endorsed by a Conference of Aborigines, held in Sydney on 26th January of this year. This policy is the only policy which has the support of the Aborigines themselves.

URGENT INTERIM POLICY

Before placing before you a long-range policy for Aborigines, and while the long-range policy is under consideration, we ask as a matter of urgency: That the Commonwealth Government should make a special financial grant to each of the State Governments, in proportion to the number of Aborigines in each state, to supplement existing grants for Aborigines. We ask that such aid should be applied to increasing the rations and improving the housing conditions of Aborigines at present under State control. We beg that this matter be treated urgently, as our people are being starved to death.

The following ten points embraces a LONG RANGE POLICY FOR ABORIGINES, endorsed by our Association.

A LONG RANGE POLICY FOR ABORIGINES.

1. - We respectfully request that there should be a National Policy for Aborigines. We advocate Commonwealth Government control of all Aboriginal affairs.

2. - We suggest the appointment of a Commonwealth Ministry for Aboriginal Affairs, the Minister to have full Cabinet rank.

3. - We suggest the appointment of an Administrative Head of the proposed Department of Aboriginal Affairs, the Administrator to be advised by an Advisory Board, consisting of six persons, three of whom at least should be of Aboriginal blood, to be nominated by the Aborigines Progressive Association.

4. - The aim of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs should be to raise all Aborigines throughout the Commonwealth to full Citizen Status and civil equality with the whites in Australia. In particular, and without delay, all Aborigines should be entitled:
   (a) To receive the same educational opportunities as white people.
   (b) To receive the benefits of labour legislation, including Arbitration Court Awards, on an equality with white workers.
   (c) To receive the full benefits of workers’ compensation and insurance.
   (d) To receive the benefits of old-age and invalid pensions, whether living in Aboriginal settlements or not.
   (e) To own land and property, and to be allowed to save money in personal banking accounts, and to come under the same laws regarding intestacy and transmission of property as the white population.
   (f) To receive wages in cash, and not by orders, issue of rations, or apprenticeship systems.

5. - We recommend that Aborigines and Halfcastes should be entitled to the same privileges regarding housing as are white workers. We commend for consideration a policy of Land Settlement for Aborigines, subject to the condition that a special financial grant for Aboriginal settlement in this continent.

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7. - We recommend that a special policy for Land Settlement for Aborigines should be put into operation, whereby Aborigines who desire to settle on the land should be given the same encouragement as that given to Immigrants or Soldier Settlers, with expert tuition in agriculture, and financial assistance to enable such settlers to become ultimately self-supporting.

8. - In regard to uncivilised and semi-civilised Aborigines, we suggest that patrol officers, nurses and teachers, both men and women, of Aboriginal blood, should be specially trained by the Commonwealth Government as Aboriginal Officers, to bring the wild people into contact with civilization.

9. - We recommend that all Aboriginal and Halfcaste women should be entitled to maternity and free hospital treatment during confinement, and that there should be no discrimination against Aboriginal women, who should be entitled to clinical instruction on baby welfare, similar to that given to white women.

10. - While opposing a policy of segregation, we urge that, during a period of transition, the present Aboriginal Reserves should be retained as a sanctuary for aged or incompetent Aborigines, who may be unfit to take their place in the white community, owing to the past policy of neglect.

DAY OF MOURNING

White people immediately realised that we Aborigines have no reason to rejoice at the 150th Anniversary of white settlement in this continent.

THE ABO CALL

Send us your order for a dozen copies of "The Abo Call" and give or sell them to friends and supporters.

Price to agents 2/- per dozen post free

Send cash with order to:

"The Abo Call",
Box 1924 KK,
General Post Office, Sydney, N.S.W.
About 100 persons of Aboriginal blood attended the meeting.

Proceedings were delayed at the start owing to the Official Sesqui-Centenary Procession.

TELEGRAMS

Telegrams were received from West Australia, Queensland, North Australia, and New South Wales, all of which stated that they were sending delegations from Aborigines all over Australia, expressing support of the Conference.

PRESIDENTS ADDRESS

3.30 p.m.

Mr. J. T. Patten said: On this day the white people are rejoicing, but we, as Aborigines, have no reason to rejoice. The purpose of the conference today is to bring home to the white people of Australia the frightful condition of the Aborigines of this continent. This land belonged to our forefathers 150 years ago, but today we are pushed further and further into the background. The Aborigines Progressive Association has been formed to put before the white people the fact that the Aborigines throughout Australia are in a state of bondage. The purpose in meeting today is to bring home to the white people of Australia the frightful condition of the Aborigines of this continent. This land belonged to our forefathers 150 years ago, but today we are pushed further and further into the background.

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The conference was held at Australian Hall, Sydney, 26th January, 1938.

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REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

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Mr. Doug Nicholls (Victoria): On behalf of the Aborigines I want to say that we support this resolution in every way. The public is not realising the fact that the Aborigines have suffered for 150 years. Aboriginal girls have been sent to Government homes and have not been given any opportunity to improve themselves. Their treatment has been disgusting. The white people have nothing for us whatever. Put on reserves, with no proper education, how can Aborigines take their place as equals with whites? Now is our chance to have things altered. We must fight very hard in this cause. We are not people who are still influenced and bossed by the white man. We could very well hold our own with others if given the chance. Do not let us forget, also, those of us who are still in a primitive state. It is for them that we should try to do something. We should all work in the interests of Aborigines throughout the Commonwealth.

5.35 p.m.

Mr. W. Cooper (Victoria): Aborigines League: After struggling for so many years, we are going to continue to struggle. "Progress" means something for ourselves, and make ourselves something for ourselves, and make ourselves something for ourselves, and make ourselves something for ourselves.

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EXPLANATION: At the Conference of Aborigines held in Sydney on 26th January last, I was elected President of the Aborigines Progressive Association; but I find it impossible to carry on my duties in the absence of regular meetings until the Association adopts a constitution and set of Rules for the guidance of Officers and Members. I have therefore called a general meeting of Aborigines, to be held at La Perouse on Easter Sunday (17th April) next, as per the attached notice. All Australian Aborigines are cordially invited to attend this meeting and are asked to study the Proposed Constitution and Rules very carefully in advance, so that our association may be placed on a proper foundation and serve the interests of the Aborigines and do your best to secure a big attendance at this important Meeting.

Signed J. T. Patten, President.

NOTE

A GENERAL MEETING OF ABORIGINAL PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION

will be held at
LA PEROUSE, SYDNEY

at the Aboriginal Reservation
on
EASTER SUNDAY
(17th April, 1938)
at 10 a.m.

Business:

1. Adoption of a Constitution and Rules for the Aboriginal Progressive Association.

2. Election of Officers.

ALL AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINES AND PERSONS OF ABORIGINAL BLOOD ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION AND RULES

NAME:
The Association formed under this Constitution and Rules shall be known by the title The Aborigines Progressive Association.

OBJECTS:

1. The objects of the Association are:
   (a) To conduct propaganda for the emancipation and betterment of Aborigines.
   (b) To take all steps which may be necessary to secure full Civil Rights for Aborigines and repeal of restrictive legislation concerning Aborigines.
   (c) To examine all proposals concerning Aborigines with a view of the Aborigines themselves and to formulate policies to place before the Governments of Australia for Aboriginal Betterment.
   (d) To print, publish, and circulate books, papers, pamphlets and reports to promote the objects of the Association.
   (e) To establish branches of the Association.
   (f) To collect funds by subscriptions and donations, and to establish a banking account under the control of the Executive Committee of the Association, and to appoint Officers to hold and to deal with monies or property vested in the Association, and to apply both capital and income therefrom towards all or any of the objects of the Association as may be determined by the Executive Committee of the Association.

Executive Committee; and no person shall be entitled to act as an Organiser or Editor, use the title of Organiser or Editor on behalf of the Association without written authority signed by the President and Secretary stating the term and conditions of appointment.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

14. The Executive Committee of the Association shall consist of the President, the Treasurer, the Secretary, and four committee members, to be elected at Annual General Meetings. The quorum at any Executive Committee Meeting shall be the President, the Treasurer, or Chairperson of the committee, but in the event of his absence, then the Committee shall elect a Chairperson pro tem.

15. If any Officer of the Association shall die, or be prevented by illness or absence from doing his duties, then the Executive Committee may declare his office vacant, and may appoint an officer to fill the vacancy until the next General Meeting.

MINUTES.

16. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep proper minutes of all general meetings and of the Executive Committee, and of all General Meetings of the Association.

POWERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

17. The Executive Committee shall be the managing body of the Association and may act as it thinks fit in the best interests of the Association, subject to the provisions as may be given by a General Meeting.

RULES OF PROCEDURE AND DEBATE.

18. At all General Meetings and Executive Committee Meetings, the rules of order and debate shall be those generally defined by the Chairman in accordance with usual parliamentary and club procedure, provided that a Member present at any meeting may request a rule of order to be reconsidered or may move dissent from a Chairman's ruling.

ACCOUNTS.

19. (a) The Executive Committee shall cause proper accounts to be kept of all moneys received by and expended on behalf of the Association.
   (b) The books of account shall be kept at the Head Office, in charge of the Treasurer, and shall be open to the inspection of members on the written request of any three members made to the Treasurer or to the Executive Committee.
   (c) All money received by the Treasurer for purposes of the Association, and all moneys paid into a bank by any member pending a General Meeting shall be deposited in the bank for the use of the Association and shall be paid out only on receipt of the written authority of the Executive Committee.
   (d) The Treasurer shall keep accounts of all moneys received, and shall submit the same to the Executive Committee, together with the bank pass-book, at each Executive Committee Meeting.
   (e) All Accounts shall be passed by the executive committee before payment.

20. At the First General Meeting of the Association, the Executive Committee shall determine the accounts for the first year of the existence of the Association, and may appoint Auditor of the Association's publications, but such Organisers and Editors shall be responsible to, and subject to control or recall by the

AUDIT.

21. At the First General Meeting of the Association, at any time exceeding one hundred pounds (£100), the Executive Committee shall determine the accounts for the first year of the Association, and may appoint Auditor of the Association, and the proposed expenditures of the Association shall be vested in such Trustee, who shall deal with the property so vested in them as the Executive Committee may determine.

ALTERATION OF RULES.

22. The Constitution and Rules of the Association may be altered, added to, or suspended by an Annual General Meeting, or by a Special General Meeting convened for the purpose, on showing to the Secretary of the Association five weeks clear before the date of such General Meeting a written notice of the alteration, addition, or suspension.

GENERAL MEETINGS.

23. The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held in February or March at such time and place as the Executive Committee may arrange.

24. All financial Members of the Association shall be entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting, and to vote at such meeting, or by proxy, on any resolution put to a vote at such meeting. In case of a tie vote on a resolution, each financial Member shall have a second vote on such resolution.

25. There shall be a special meeting of the Association, at any time, at such time and place as the Executive Committee may appoint, on showing to the Secretary of the Association five weeks clear before the date of such meeting a written notice of the alteration, addition, or suspension.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS.

26. Notice of a Special General Meeting may be given, at any time of its own discretions, on any time on a written request signed by any fifty Members of the Association, and the Secretary shall be entitled, at any time or in any time or at such time as the Executive Committee may appoint, to convene a Special General Meeting to deal with extraordinary business. Any resolution passed at such a Special General Meeting shall be recorded in the minutes of the Association, and in case of a tie vote on a resolution, each financial Member shall have a second vote on such resolution, and the decision of the majority of such Special General Meeting to be convened.

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS.

27. Notices of Annual or Special General Meetings shall be sent to all Members by post, and the Secretary shall cause copies of the notice, containing the names and addresses of all Members for the purpose of sending such notices by post, of Notices of General Meetings must be posted at least three weeks prior to the date fixed for the meeting, and must specify the place, the date, the hour, and the nature of business at such meeting.

HEAD OFFICE.

28. The Head Office of the Association shall be at the Metropolitan area of Sydney, as may be decided by the Executive Committee and shall be open to the public to examine publications, notices, and documents issued by the Association.

BRANCHES.

29. Branches of the Association may be established in local centres throughout the Commonwealth, and may be established by resolution of the Executive Committee of the Association, but the activities of such Branches shall be subject to the general activities of the Association as defined hereunder.

CONSTITUTION AND RULES.

30. Every member of the Association shall be given, if he or she desires, a copy of the Constitution of the Association, or any part of the Constitution, and may inspect a copy of the report of the Constitutions Committee at any Annual Meeting.

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That night Differ came to Oscar to see the papers that had come by the monthly mail from South. Oscar was glad to see that Differ had not been drinking. Differ was a drunkard; train-days were his weak-days; but lately he had been trying to do better. Oscar was threatened with dismission if he continued in that way.

"Well," said Differ, after learning of the failure to dispose of Nawnim, "and what’s Oscar going to do about it?"

"I think I’ll send him up to the Com­ pound on Friday’s train," said Oscar. "I don’t think it would do him much good that way. He’d be better with the black Binghias.

"What else can I do with him? I won’t be able to send him out to the Government’s Farm any more."

"Don’t keep yourself ill,

"It’s no good to me. Binghias are as good as halfcastes any day, and give less trouble.

"Other men find good use for ‘em," said Differ drooping. Oscar remembered him in the eye and said "Yes!" It was meant as a thrust. Differ used Constable as a derogatory word.

"You can do as much good with a half­ caste as you can with a rich man’s son," said Connie to prove it. "Differ, who was an orphan, named NAWNIM.

"Other men find good use for ‘em," said Differ drooping. "Connie to prove it."

"You can do as much good with a half­ caste as you can with a rich man’s son," said Connie to prove it. "Differ, who was an orphan, named NAWNIM.

"Halfcastes should be left in their place," Oscar said, "and Connie to prove it. "Differ, who was an orphan, named NAWNIM.

"Other men find good use for ‘em," said Differ drooping. "Connie to prove it."

You could get out of it? I said elsewhere. Send ‘em to school as infants." But that’s cruel - making her live a lie.

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