



FISH!

The Pictorial Story of Wreck Bay!

Among the nineteen Aboriginal Stations which come under the care of the Aborigines Welfare Board is Wreck Bay, near Jervis Bay, on the South Coast.

Wreck Bay is unique because it is entirely a fishing station. Some men own their own rowing boats, for others the Board supplies two 16-foot boats and a 400-yard net.

The crews take turns in these boats and divide the catch—four-fifths for themselves and one-fifth to the Government for boat and net maintenance.

One of the residents has a truck in which the fish is carted to Nowra, where it is salted and shipped to the Sydney market.

Though there is good money in it when the fish are running, Wreck Bay fishing is like all fishing—its profits are seasonal, and so when the fish do arrive everyone joins in to give a hand, knowing only too well that "fish in the net is money in the pocket."

Even in season there are many days when back-breaking work brings in only empty nets.

In those hard-up times, Wreck Bay aborigines are entitled to draw rations for themselves from the Station manager.



Reg. Walker one of the Station's keenest fishermen.



After the catch—W. Bloxham and C. Ardler loading the fish for market in Nowra.



Everyone helps to clean the fish. Here we have Diane Walker, Bob and Alice Walker, Nev. Bloxham and Ambrose Brown.



Diane Walker rests on one of the fishing boats.



Cec. Carter, Reg. Walker and Harry Witts prepare one of the boats and net for a day's fishing.