

"MISS COOTA." COMES TO TOWN



Coota. girls in the surf at Collaroy recently (before the cold weather set in).



Watermelon was a firm favourite with the girls when they holidayed at Collaroy.



All dressed up for an outing in the city. Mrs. Healey can be seen in the centre of the group.

COOTAMUNDRA GIRLS' HOME

A Happy Place

It would be hard to find a happier group of aboriginal girls anywhere in this country than at Cootamundra.

The building at Cootamundra Girls' Home is a lovely old structure which was once the local hospital and is only two miles from the busy township of Cootamundra, railway junction and pastoral centre.

At present there are forty-six girls at the home, fifteen of whom are in the 5 to 10 year group, twenty-two in the 11 to 14 year group and two "old fogies," over sixteen.

Through the years, the girls who pass through Cootamundra have earned a splendid reputation for their diligence and their ability as scholars and many have attended the local High School. At present there are twelve girls in First Year at Cootamundra High School, travelling to and fro each day by special bus.

These youngsters at Cootamundra make a happy team. They are taught to mend and make clothing, fancy work, knitting, belt and bag making, cooking and housework.

They attend the local picture show and have picnics, hikes, tennis tournaments and concerts.

During the summer months the girls are regularly taken to Cootamundra Baths and it is gratifying to see how they are accepted by the townspeople, generally, in all their social activities.

This acceptance, of course, can only be attributed to their own efforts and the manner in which they have striven to win the respect of the general community.

At present, the weather at Cootamundra is very dry but the gardens look good with tomatoes, cucumbers, cabbages, beans, spinach and lettuce . . . all grown by the girls.



A group of happy Coota. youngsters. Ruth McKenzie, Judith Darcy, Alice Adams, Ida Dennison, Betty Munday, Margaret Eggins, Alice Edwards, Reta Wemberg, Betty Lee and Margaret Patten.