

Station News

All residents were very pleased to have Charlie Dodd home for Christmas after his nine months stay at Lidcombe Hospital. Charlie's sight has greatly improved after treatment and he is singing the praises of the staff at Lidcombe who looked after him so well and made his stay such a pleasant one. Charlie is now taking on all comers at draughts and yarning about the old droving days throughout the Northern Territory and Queensland. Good luck, old timer.

It was sad to have Janet Morgan (nee Bullaman) pass away recently at the young age of seventeen years. Everyone offers condolences to husband Geoffrey and mother Daisy.

Percy Boney has been doing well in the local amateur boxing circuit. The tournaments raise money for the Far West Scheme and similar organizations and it is pleasing to see boys doing so well to assist these worthwhile organizations as well as having the fun of clean sport. Percy is now in training for the welterweight championship of the North-west after winning his last three fights.

The recent dance was a great success and only goes to prove that, if well conducted, all people, both young and old, can have an enjoyable evening. Peter Doolan and Ted Murphy gave many renditions on the accordeon, keeping the show going with a swing until 1.30 a.m. Money was raised for the children's Christmas party.

Recent rain has greatly assisted in the work position, and many male residents have been obtaining good work after the long dry spell.

Mrs. Ruby Kennedy, wife of Don, gave birth to a fine son named Scott on 15th November. Both are doing very well.

New stoves have been installed in the cottages where they were required, and all people were happy that the Board was able to have them delivered before Christmas and the expected hot summer. There are now only a few houses on the Station that have not been painted, and these are to be completed very soon.

First Aboriginal Pupils

A flashback on the history of the Tucki Tucki school and the claim of a teacher to have had the first aboriginal pupils in her class has been given in a donation to the Richmond River Historical Society Museum in Lismore.

A framed testimonial, given by the parents and children of Tucki Tucki School to Miss Jessie Munro, of Steve King's Plain in 1883 has been presented to the museum by a nephew, Mr. Charles A. Munro.

The bulletin quotes from the history of the school written by the late Miss Grace Munro. It reads:—

“ In the year 1875, my aunt, Miss Jessie Munro, became tutor to Mrs. Kenneth Cameron. Lessons began in the house but the neighbouring children came and, with 15 pupils, classes were transferred to the barn.

“ Then a slab building was erected with wooden shutters, 12 ft. x 24 ft. The enrolment of pupils now numbered 40, and the school became a public school.

“ Many of the pupils were almost young men and women pleased to have tuition. Miss Munro travelled to the school on horseback with as many of the pupils as could be accommodated with her on her faithful horse ‘ Dick ’.

“ She claimed to be the first teacher to have aboriginal children as pupils. Lilly and Victor, the children of Jinny and Bob, were brought to her for tuition. As it was necessary for them to have a surname—she called them ‘ Roberts ’. The family is well known on the river today.”