

[Reader advances new party aims LETTERS TO THE EDITOR](#)

Article - Brisbane Telegraph (Qld. : 1948 - 1954) **Saturday 16 February 1952** - Page 16

Racial problem

Ralph Champion in his American Diary (1/10/54) reported that President Eisenhower is winning a bitter racial battle. We, too, have our racial minority problem, and-one that can be solved, difficult and hopeless though it may seem to many. The situation has become difficult because of prejudices and false ideas. Australia has in Its aborigines the remnant of a race which has all the possibilities of achieving full civil rights. Their dances, songs, talent for pictorial expression, and legends all reveal a tremendous depth of intellectual and spiritual development. Has the stoa-y of Albert Namatjira no lesson for us? His success could not have been achieved had it not been for that peculiarly rich cultural background that gave light to his vision and strength to his ideals. —

CYRIL RICHARDS.

Article Illustrated - Truth (Brisbane, Qld. : 1900 – 1954 ) **Sunday 8 November 1953** - Page 6

# Open Inquiry Is Now Duty Of Govt.

**“CHERBOURG Aboriginal Settlement must be cleaned up immediately, and officials not doing their job should be brought to book,” Murgon Salvation Army Chaplain, Major A. Unicomb, told “Truth” yesterday.**

Major Unicomb's charges added to many other complaints received by “Truth” during the past fortnight, stress how imperative it is for a full public inquiry into the Cherbourg scandal; only a most thorough probe will clear the air and allay public alarm. Now, Mr. Health Minister Moore, come down to earth—what about it?

“A showdown on Cherbourg is long overdue,” said Major Unicomb, in his frank discussion on the colored settlement. “If moral delinquency is to be wiped out, regular

checks must be made of the administration. “Certain Department of Native Affairs officials, it appears, are not interested, because they do not possess the Christian outlook. “They seem interested only in looking after their jobs and what the regulations say.” Major Unicomb was commenting on “Truth's” disclosures of venereal disease, drunkenness, T.B., moral turpitude and prostitution among Cherbourg's 1100 black people. The Major supported statements made by “Truth”; Murgon doctor, B. Moenz; former Cherbourg chaplain, Rev. Jull; police, and a senior Settlement official.

Yet, the Minister for Health and Home Affairs (Mr. Moore) continues to “sit pat and do nothing.”

On the contrary, he is apparently making every effort to “play down” the disgraceful state of affairs at Cherbourg and at the same time find out who gave inside information to “Truth.”



● Cyril Richards, Brisbane aborigine, who wants to form a society for the promotion of the interests of the aboriginal people. (See P. 46).

**RECORD  
BABY  
STAKES**

[Cherbourg Furore: Open Inquiry Is Now Duty Of Govt.](#)

### [Seeking New Deal For Qld. Aborigine](#)

**Article Illustrated** - Truth (Brisbane, Qld. : 1900 - 1954) **Sunday 15 November 1953** - Page 4

A MOVE to improve the lot of the Australian aborigine is gaining rapid support in Brisbane following 'Truth's' disclosures of the shocking Cherbourg scandal. Prime mover in the new deal for the colored people is well-educated aborigine, Cyril Richards, of Wacol. Mr Richards told 'Truth' yesterday a meeting of the 'New Deal Group' would be held at 8 pra. on Thursday, 1 November 26, in Room. 5. of the Y.M.C.A. in Edward-street, Brisbane. He said: 'Mr. Truman, the University lecturer in Political Science, will attend, as well as many other Brisbane notables. 'The aim of the new society will be to uplift the aborigine and fit him for a better role in the Australian community.' – Meanwhile, a Brisbane colored mother or two children 'wants some straight answers to several pertinent questions from Minister Moore on Cherbourg. She is Mrs. Kathleen Walker of Stone's Corner. Mrs. Walker, through 'Truth' asks Mr. Moore. Can Mr. Moore state why the majority of child quarter caste? Do the girls 'sneak out' or- do the white men sneak in? Also, what would hap pen to a. colored man at Cherbourg if he were to reverse the tables and be responsible for the same offence to a white woman?? If Mr. Moore considers Cherbourg such a Garden of Eden, then why is it that the residents are considered a liability and not an asset to the white and free colored community? Why are they 'not allowed to further their education? Or -does-Mr. Moore, consider they have neither the brain nor the ability to become doctors, chemists, lawyer , etc' Mrs. Walker said 'I know Cherbourg well, and its peoples, v' 'I agree- wholeheartedly with; 'Truth' in its. condemnatory- attacks on the Department administration-'

### [Diplomatic break would be our gain LETTERS TO THE EDITOR](#)

**Article** - Brisbane Telegraph (Qld. : 1948 - 1954) **Thursday 22 April 1954** - Page 17

In reference to T. C. Truman's plea "Don't call them 'Abos' or Blacks' (Brisbane Telegraph" 13/4/54) I. as part Australian aboriginal suggest that steps be taken to remove discriminatory remarks, and to provide sanctions against some of the public aspects of the colour line. Otherwise there can be no prospect of developing a harmonious society for the welfare of the Queensland aboriginal. If we try to understand other people and link up with them in a friendly way, it will lead to tolerance and help to dispel the dark clouds of ignorance and suspicion that still show in this troubled world. —  
CYRIL RICHARDS.

### [READER SAYS..](#)

**Article** - The Courier-Mail (Brisbane, Qld. : 1933 - 1954) **Monday 31 May 1954** - Page 2

IN reply to the Rev. A. A. W. Pederick, director of the Federal Inland Methodist Mission on 'Half- castes getting liquor' (C-M, 26/5/54), we have the same problems here in the City among half-castes. To many the prospect of full citizenship means only one thing, the right to breast a bar or sit in the wine saloon and consume liquor with whites. In this way they succumb easily to moral destroying influences. These conditions must be changed if we, as a coloured minority, are to achieve assimilation. When skilfully educated, the aboriginals have within themselves all the possibilities of rising to heights unknown. Most whites are under the impression that the aboriginals are devoid of understanding. This conception must be changed and will require a much more enlightened attitude on the part of the whites. Herein lies the challenge of the Christian Church. It has a duty to these people to maintain a strong spiritual work, to counteract these undesirable influences. Any sacrifices on the part of the church will be well worth the effort.— Cyril Richards, Wacol.