

Doug Nicholls, Acting Secretary, Australian Aborigines' League, to the Chairman, Victorian Board for the Protection of the Aborigines, 13 June 1939, Public Record Office of Victoria, VPRS 3992/P, Unit 2811, File R4729

At a meeting of the Australian Aborigines' League, held on Friday, 2nd inst., it was resolved:—

“That the Aborigines' Protection Board be asked to supply a doubled certificated trained nurse to Lake Tyers, Mission Station. If possible, the nurse should have pharmacy experience.”

It was pointed out that, while in many respects the Lake Tyers Station was a fine and well equipped station, the medical arrangements are not satisfactory and the natives have been, or who are now, residing on the station consider that lives have been lose [sic] which would not have been if the station had a proper medial or hospital service. It was further urged that what is now asked for already applies at Cumeroogunga and some other aboriginal stations in New South Wales and that some missions are likewise supplied. This sister at mount Margaret Mission has raised the hospital there to a high standard. The reason for suggesting a nurse with some experience of pharmacy or at least of dispensing is that, in the absence of a doctor, an experienced nurse able to consult the doctor by telephone could then dispense the remedies efficiently and promptly. She would be able to visit homes, where necessary, which the meeting considers to be of great importance.