

***Herald Melbourne*), 31 March 1941, p. 7, Aboriginal Welfare Leader's Death**

Mr W. Cooper, organiser and first secretary of the Australian Aborigines League, who died on Saturday, was self-educated. He was a spear-head for aboriginal aspirations which, until he took up his work, was unco-ordinated. Without assistance, he collected 1814 signatures to a petition to the King, asking for representation for his race in the Federal Parliament. His efforts contributed largely to the creation of a new outlook by white Australians in aboriginal rights. On his retirement recently, Mr Cooper was appointed honorary president of the League and elected an honorary life member.