

***Herald* (Melbourne), 15 September 1933, p. 2, M.H.R. for Natives. King to Be Petitioned. Unique Move**

Australia's native race—the aborigines—is taking steps for the first time in its history to secure from the King representation in the Federal Parliament. This is demanded as a right in a petition which is being circulated for signatures.

Some people of aboriginal blood are interesting themselves in the move, and much of the initial work is falling to the lot of Mr William Cooper, of Ballarat Road, Footscray, who said today that the object was to place the aborigines on the same footing as the Maoris. In New Zealand, he said, Parliamentary and Government offices were open to Maoris equally with Europeans.

Extracts from the petition as it will later be presented to the authorities are as follows  
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Mr Cooper will seek the signatures of aborigines and half-castes at mission stations. Even without these he hopes to secure about 600.