

**William Cooper, Honorary Secretary, Australian Aborigines' League, to the Premier of Western Australia, John Willcock, 11 July 1938, State Records Office of Western Australia, AU WA S2030—cons993 1936/0075**

At the Annual meeting of the Australian Aborigines' League the following resolutions were adopted:

1. "That this League expresses its protest against the recently enacted legislation of Western Australia in respect of Aborigines".

We feel that the position of our race has been worsened from the bad position it was in previously in Western Australia and this at a time when improvement is being effected in other parts of Australia.

2. "That the deplorable condition of aborigines in Western Australia calls for urgent relief, and, pending the adoption of a Federal policy for Aborigines, this meeting asks that a grant be immediately made to Western Australia by the Federal Government, the expenditure of such grant to be subject to supervision by the Federal Government".

We know that the fundamental cause of the bad position in W.A. is that the number of aborigines in relation to the white population is so much greater than in the Eastern States. We feel that aboriginal costs should be borne by the population of Australia on a per capita basis.

May we appeal to you, head of the Labor Government, for the amelioration of our lot instead of its being worsened and for a policy for aborigines consistent with the strong sympathy of the Labour movement in the Eastern States. Frankly we are not able to understand why the official attitude of a Government, representing the workers, should be so inconsiderate of those whose plight should call for the utmost sympathy and consideration.

Hoping to hear of some relief for our downtrodden brothers.