

William Cooper, Honorary Secretary, Australian Aborigines' League, to the Chairman, New South Wales Aborigines Protection Board, 4 December 1939 [sic, 1938], New South Wales Archives and Records, NRS 905, Item No. [12/7584.1]

I paid a visit last week to Cumeroogunga and found the state of affairs still very bad. I heard that there is to be an enquiry shortly and I do trust that it will be a genuine endeavour to ascertain why natives should be in such a state of unrest. I am sure that an enquiry made with the intention of seeing justice done will do great good.

There is just this, the Board, its officers and the Manager, will be present, and, I expect, the police. The people with their genuine grievances will not feel able to present their case for fear of reprisal in the way of expulsion. This has been their experience in the past.

I would request that I be allowed to attend the enquiry to represent, as the Secretary of the League, the people concerned. I feel that my assistance is needed and if you deem it necessary to refer this aspect to the Chief Secretary, I would request that it be done.

I would like to have a reply to this as soon as possible.