

A. P. A. Burdeu, President, Australian Aborigines' League, on behalf of William Cooper, to Isaac Selby, 26 March 1937, Isaac Selby Papers, Royal Historical Society of Victoria, MS 694, box 226

Mr Cooper is away in Stawell for a long week and I am writing to you so as to save delay.

Your letter was considered last Saturday, when it was understood that you were graciously offering the aborigines a place in your programme for Melbourne's birthday. We are very glad to accept this and supply you with items which will be very fine for we have splendid artists, whose repertoire includes both English and aboriginal language. We can undertake that any aboriginal contributions will be a decidedly suitable contribution both in interest and rendition.

Will you kindly say where the anniversary will be held. This would determine the size of our chorus. If in the Melbourne Town Hall a larger party would be preferable to a smaller one. If in a smaller hall a small party would be preferable. At the moment we contemplate some items giving good scope for harmony and with an accompaniment of good gum leaf players. This would give a definitely aboriginal background.

These suggestions are merely made to see if they meet with your approval and we would be glad if you would let us know your mind and we would be glad if you would let us know your mind so that we can start practice together soon.

Kindly let me know your wishes either by letter or by phone. I am only at home after 6.30 pm.