

ON WALKABOUT

FEARED BONE POINTING

Sydney, Sat: Most of the male aborigines at Wilcannia, in far western NSW, have gone walkabout because they consider the bone has been pointed at the town.

Of Wilcannia's 500 aborigines, including 200 living together in primitive wurries and bush huts on the banks of the Darling River just outside the town, only about 50 male natives remain.

Rest have fled, leaving their frightened wide-eyed gins to guard the camp until it is "safe" for the men to return.

Most of the men have taken jobs on outback stations until they feel that the "curse" on the town has worn off.

Exodus began after a white man was shot by a woman in the presence of his wife and young daughters.

This was followed by a tragedy and, when a motor cycle fatality occurred, natives feared the bone had been pointed at the town.

Mine Tink It They're Putting On Style

Darwin, Sat: Twenty natives at Marchindar Island off the Arnhem Land coast pride themselves on being the best dressed natives in Arnhem Land.

They have plenty of shirts, short and long trousers, panama hats and heavy mining boots.

Men and lubras dress alike. Piccaninnies wear heavy mining boots and men's clothing.

Reason is that when 30 white men were evacuated by air from the bauxite project for the wet season they gave their surplus clothing to the local natives.

Natives from Elcho Island Mission have heard of the good fortune of the bush natives and they are expected to sail to Marchindar to gamble with the locals for their clothing. The more business-like Elcho Islanders are expected to win