

Three-Point Plan to Aid Aborigines Adopted in Melbourne

A THREE-POINT plan for immediate action to aid aborigines in the remote north-west of West Australia was adopted by 300 people at a public meeting last night.

An appeal for money to buy food is being organised and an airline company is understood to have offered to fly in relief without charge.

The meeting, convened by the Save the Aborigines

Committee, was held in the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, and addressed by aboriginal pastor Doug Nicholls.

The Waterside Workers Union sent a message to the meeting promising at least £200 from a waterfront col-

lection to be made on Thursday. A collection was taken at the meeting.

Aboriginal tenor Harold Blair is organising a concert in Prahran town hall later this month, and many city firms are circulating contribution lists among their employees.

Copies of the resolution will be sent to the Federal Government, the British Government (which is interested in the rocket range) and the United Nations.

It states:—

"Whereas numerous reports over a long period of years have shown continuous deterioration of life and conditions of the native people of Australia, this meeting demands:—

- 1.—The immediate provision of water and food to the area under discussion in the W.A. Select Committee's report and the provision of permanent water by sinking bores.
- 2.—That full human rights be guaranteed the aboriginal tribes and that immediate plans be made by the Federal Government for a native settlement in the Great Central Reserve to which nomadic people can freely come and go while adjusting themselves to the demands of a new civilisation.
- 3.—The holding of a referendum by the Federal Government for the amendment of the Constitution to ensure that the native people of Australia become a Commonwealth responsibility.

Cease Tests

The resolution has a rider calling for the cessation of nuclear tests in Central Australia and the abandonment of the atomic and rocket-testing ground.

Pastor Nicholls last night gave a "three-gong award" to the Premier (Mr. Bolte) for his plan to give aborigines in Victoria full citizenship rights.

A member of the audience said: "He is only talking about it, pastor."

Pastor Nicholls: "Well, we will talk about it much more."

Dr. Charles Duguld, of Adelaide, also addressed the meeting. He described the encroachment of the rocket range on the privacy of the aborigine.

"I would like to see at least £2000 on the estimates for aborigine welfare. This amount is nothing to what is being spent on the range," he said.