

Aborigines "rebuffed" native affairs chief

DARWIN, Friday. — Three aboriginal leaders did not keep an appointment with the Director of Native Affairs (Mr. F. H. Moy) today to discuss their grievances with him.

A patrol officer of the Native Affairs Department (Mr. E. Evans) interrupted a meeting of seven aborigines at Darwin stadium today and after discussing their grievances invited the three leaders to see Mr. Moy.

The aborigines told Mr. Evans that they wanted a £7 a week wage and full civil rights—the demands which caused two brief aboriginal strikes in Darwin last month. After Mr. Evans left the aborigines went to the North Australian Workers' Union office.

The new "industrial leader" of the aborigines is now Fred Waters. He takes the place of aboriginal strike leader Lawrence, who is serving four months' gaol following the recent strikes.

Waters, who is about 50, is a literate, intelligent and well-spoken aboriginal.

He would not comment on the stadium meeting today, but said statements would have to come from Workers' Union officials.

Union officials said the aborigines did not hold a meeting. Waters worked at the stadium and in the union office, and the other natives had gone to have a talk with him.

Native Affairs officials believe that another aboriginal strike is possible.