

# The Aboriginal History Project

## Newspaper Archive

Sun-Pictorial 26th October 1937

### ABORIGINES SEEK REDRESS

### Petition <sup>26 OCT 1937</sup> To King Asks For Representation

ASKING that <sup>SUN PICTORIAL</sup> he will prevent their extinction and grant them power to select either one of their own race or a white man who has their welfare at heart to represent them in the Federal Parliament, 1814 Australian aborigines have sent a petition to the King.

Signatures to the petition have been obtained from all over Australia and it is claimed by the secretary of the Australian Aborigines' League (Mr. W. Cooper) that many more of his people would have signed it but feared that to do so would react on them personally.

Mr. Cooper claims that the petition is unique and shows that, not only is the aborigine advancing in culture, but also is conscious of his disabilities and anxious to be released from them. The petition is being sent to the King by the Prime Minister (Mr. Lyons).

#### Must Be Cared For

IT is pointed out by the petition that it was not only a moral duty but a strict injunction included in the commission issued to those who peopled Australia, that the original inhabitants, their heirs and successors should be adequately cared for.

"The terms of the commission have not been adhered to," alleges the petition. "Our lands have been expropriated by Your Majesty's Governments, legal status is denied as by Your Majesty's Governments, and all petitions made on our behalf to Your Majesty's Governments have failed."