

## **No Train Seats Or Lights For Aborigines Official Defends Treatment**

|

Aboriginal film extras travelled for two days on the floor of covered goods vans without lighting, or sanitary facilities during a 'train journey' from Ooldea, on the Trans-Continental line to Quorn, South Australia, it was stated officially yesterday.

In a report to the Minister for the Interior (Mr. Johnson), the Commonwealth Railways Commissioner Mr. B. Hannaberry said a railways officer travelled on the train to Port Augusta together with a missionary, Mr. Green.

|

Mr. Green had at first indicated that he did not feel completely satisfied with the accommodation, but during the journey said that everything was "quite satisfactory," the report stated. No objections had been lodged prior to the departure of the train, said Mr. Hannaberry.

He said that while the accommodation provided for the party was not ordinary passenger cars of the type used on the regular service, it was the best that could be arranged.

The covered vans were similar to the type "used for conveying military personnel during the war" although, in war time, they were equipped with lights and sanitary and washing facilities, he said. Sanitary facilities were available at all stations en route, Mr. Hannaberry added. The natives will take part in the British film, "Bitter Springs" which is to be filmed in the Quorn district.