

ACTU backs land rights

The ACTU congress yesterday declared its support for the recognition of "legitimate land rights" for Aborigines.

The ACTU, through its executive, would be prepared to provide "appropriate support" for Aborigines in their legitimate claims for tribal land, the congress said.

A resolution on Aborigines said that all discrimi-

nation against them must be ended. It called for greater trade-union action to achieve this.

"Congress considers that provision of the necessary finance by both State and Federal Governments is a first essential in removing the stigma of racial discrimination," the resolution said.

It called for the complete removal of all forms of wage discrimination.

Mr. Gordon Bryant (Labor MHR), who is senior vice-president of the Federal Council for the Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders, told the congress that the Australian Aborigines remained relatively the most depressed indigenous race in the world.

"It is to Australia's abiding disgrace that the Aboriginal child has less chance of living to maturity if born in the Northern Territory than almost any other baby born in the world," said Mr. Bryant.

"Having reached maturity the odds of attending a university, on 1971 figures, are 100 to one against the Aborigine when compared with the non-Aboriginal child," he said.

Age

4th Spetember 1971