

From Chief Protector of Aborigines

27-11-16

Information wanted for W. D. Campbell

F.G.Soc.

KANGAROO-RAT WEET-WEET

Information is sought regarding the aboriginal missile known in some districts as the "play-stick" from its use by aboriginals for amusement, when they strive to surpass one another in the distance it is thrown. It is also called the "kangaroo-rat" from the resemblance of its motion when thrown along the surface of the ground to the leaping of that animal. In some parts of Australia, more particularly the central parts, it is thrown with an underhand, and in others, with an overhand throw, the bulb-headed end foremost. The length appears to vary from 13 to 43 inches, and the weight from 1.1/4 to 1 1/2 ounces. It is usually made out of one piece of wood, and is seldom ornamented by markings. Socketted heads have been heard of in N.S.W., in which case they are said to be thrown down upon the bare ground. In all other cases they are thrown upon herbage.

The aboriginal name used in the various States are, as far as at present known, as follows :-

<u>Queensland</u>	<u>N.S.W.</u>	<u>Victoria</u>	<u>W.A.</u>
Mur-ro	Weet-weet	Wit-wit	Woggara
Beem-bo	Wheet-wheet		Wokkara
Kandi-kandi			
Coomba			
Mukkaberry			

