

NOT REGARDED AS OBJECTIONABLE

Official View On Aborigines

Waratah Electoral Council of the A.L.P. last night received as satisfactory a letter from the Minister for Lands (Mr. Tully), through Mr. R. Cameron, M.L.A., referring to permissive occupancies for aborigines on Platt's Estate, Waratah.

Some time ago a motion was adopted that there should not be interference with families settled, but that the Minister should be asked not to issue any more permissive occupancies for aborigines.

"It is regretted that no assurance can be given that no further permissive occupancies will be granted to persons of aboriginal blood," said the Minister. "The men, in most cases, are employed in essential industry. It is only natural that they should desire to reside in close proximity to their work."

"It would appear, furthermore, that Greater Newcastle Council made an exhaustive investigation into the conditions under which such persons were living on the estate, and the investigation disclosed that the men and their families were invariably of good character and that their homes were maintained well up to standard requirements.

"As far as this department is concerned, the presence of these people and their homes cannot in any way be regarded as objectionable."