Remembering Territory families

Café society...

After the war the Commonwealth had plans to rebuild the city of Darwin differently. In the end, these plans did not eventuate, but in the meantime, leases were only offered short-term and the economy was slow to pick up. Lou Stewart, who became President of the Darwin Housewives’ Association was particularly enterprising. She recalled in 1949:

My bakehouse and house had been bombed. There was a derelict house just alongside the railway line near Daly Street bridge. We had to put up blankets for the walls. I settled the children in and my eldest daughter and I went to town and leased a restaurant caravan that was on the ground between Smith and Mitchell Street. There I sold hot pies and pasties and sandwiches, tea and coffee. I would cook them at home and take them down to the store.  

[Northern Territory Archives Service NTRS 226, TS 123/1 and NTRS 219, TP 319, Lou Stewart]