

Row over move to bar whites

CANBERRA.—Heated argument flared yesterday over moves to hand over full control of Australia's major non-Government Aborigines Affairs organisation to Aborigines.

A preliminary meeting in private of some 200 Aboriginal delegates to the annual conference of the Federal Council for the Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders is believed to have voted in favor of an Aboriginal takeover.

However, many of the Aboriginal delegates are reported to have abstained from voting.

There was a similar division of opinion among non-Aboriginal delegates at a separate meeting.

They were debating a motion suggesting that the executive committee of FCAATSI consist only of "Australians of Aboriginal or island descent."

The motion also suggests that only people of Abori-

ginal or island descent should be able to vote at the annual general meeting.

Commenting after the Aboriginal delegates meeting, a vice-president of FCAATSI (Mrs. Faith Bandler) said she deplored moves to exclude non-Aborigines from the executive committee and strip white members of their voting rights.

At present there are 23 members on the executive—16 of them Aborigines.

Age 28th March 1970