

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF PROTECTOR OF ABORIGINES

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1924.

THE HON. MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST

I have the honour to submit herewith my report on the condition and welfare of the aborigines in that portion of the State lying North of the 26th parallel South latitude, for the year ended 30th June, 1924.

P O P U L A T I O N .

The estimated number of aborigines in touch with civilisation throughout the area covered by this report is given as 10,057, disclosing that there has been a decrease of 722 as compared with the figures for the previous year. Full-blooded aborigines show a decrease of 713, half-castes deemed to be aborigines an increase of 5, and half-castes not deemed to be aborigines a decrease of 14. To the estimated number, however, must be added approximately 10,000 full-blooded aborigines inhabiting the unsettled portions of the North, who, excepting some in touch with Missionary endeavour, have not come in close contact with civilisation.

Eleven out of seventeen stations report decreases in population, five show increases, and at one the population is reported to be stationary. Great difficulty is experienced in obtaining a correct estimate of the aboriginal population, due largely to the nomadic life led by these people and the great extent of sparsely settled country, much of which is almost inaccessible at present, over which they roam. There is no doubt that the variation in the annual population figures is partly due to these causes.

H E A L T H .

In my report of last year I intimated that arrangements were in progress with the Commonwealth Government for an inspection of all natives in the North-West. I am pleased to say that the Commonwealth Government agreed to lend us a medical man skilled in tropical diseases, to conduct a survey. Dr. Cecil Cook, the Officer so appointed, left for the North, accompanied by Mr. F. W. Teesdale, M.L.A. on 11th of May last. At 30th June Dr. Cook was

still/

still engaged on this work and it is pleasing to note that up to that date his examination disclosed that the condition of the aborigines did not warrant the somewhat alarmist unofficial reports received as to their alleged diseased state; indeed at many places visited the natives exhibited a clean bill of health and satisfactory physique.

Generally speaking the health of the natives throughout the year has been fairly satisfactory. No serious epidemics have occurred, and only six deaths from venereal disease were reported.

At the Depot for the Treatment of Diseased Natives at Port Hedland, 13 natives were under treatment at the commencement of the year and 17 were admitted, making a total of 30 natives under treatment during the twelve months. Of these 12 were discharged cured, 4 absconded, and 5 died, leaving 9 under treatment at 30th June, 1924.

In his report for the year the Medical Officer to the Depot (Dr. Thomas Wilson) refers to the difficulty experienced in treating patients as follows:-

"The general health was fair but Cardiac degeneration manifested itself in a considerable proportion of cases and this with the accompanying dropsy is probably due to an obscure form of Beri-Beri. This is a factor which considerably adds to the difficulty of active treatment (Oscal Stibium) by reason of the tendency in this disease to heart failure on slight provocation."

At the close of last year (30th June, 1923) there were eight leper patients under treatment, 6 at Derby and 2 at Cossack. During the year 4 fresh cases were admitted to Derby, one case was transferred from Derby to Cossack, while there were four deaths, three at Derby and one at Cossack. At 30/6/24 there were eight cases under treatment, 6 at Derby and 2 at Cossack. Three of the patients being treated at Derby were diagnosed by Dr. Cook, 3 being aborigines and the other a white man.

Steps are being taken to provide a suitable lazarette and it is expected that the temporary premises at Derby will shortly be abandoned.

Fiftyeight deaths were reported throughout the North, as against 71 for the previous year. Fourteen of these were due to senile decay, seven from other natural causes, six from Pneumonia, while Venereal Disease accounted for six, including five at the Depot for Diseased Natives at Port Hedland as already mentioned.

The following statement gives the number of deaths and causes thereof:-

Accidents	2
Blood Poisoning	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	1
Childbirth	1
Epilepsy	1
Fever	1
Heart Failure	1
Influenza	4
Internal Growth	1
Leprosy	3
Marasmus	1
Natural Causes	7
Paralysis	1
Poisoning	1
Pneumonia	6
Senile Decay	14
Thirst	1
Tuberculosis	4
Tribal Fighting	1
Venereal	6
	<hr/>
	58
	<hr/>

RELIEF.

Food, clothing, medicines, and medical attendance were regularly supplied at 18 rationing stations scattered throughout the North, including three Departmental Settlements and five Missions. The sum paid for food supplies including tobacco amounted to £2665/3/10 - being £404/5/6 less than for the previous year. The total number of natives rationed monthly was 412 as against 405 during the previous year. Blankets numbering 628 were distributed through these relief stations as well as at all police stations throughout, also clothing 1233 garments. Owing to drought conditions in several parts it is expected that it will be necessary to shortly ration many more natives than in normal years. Extra clothing also will

have/

have to be provided. The return at page 20 gives particulars of the cost of rations distributed at the various relief stations.

EMPLOYMENT.

The table at page 19 gives the number of natives employed under permit, also place of issue and nature of permit issued. A comparison with the figures for the previous year shows that there has been a decrease of 289 in the total number of natives employed. The total number of permits issued was 583 as against 618 for the preceding year.

The shortage in numbers employed is doubtless partly due to drought conditions affecting the working of stations, but it is also due to the fact that when properties change hands as many have done in the past year or two, there is a tendency on the part of purchasers to repudiate their obligation towards the aborigines and dispense with the services of old employees and their dependents thus throwing them upon their own resources, or as it really means, the mercy of the Department. It has unfortunately been necessary in some instances of late to draw the attention of station owners to the moral obligation which they are under in regard to the care and maintenance of those unfortunate dependents who have spent the best of their days in serving the owners of the property for the time being, the predecessors of whom in days gone by took possession of the hunting grounds of the people it is only reasonable they should now care for. The majority of station owners or managers cheerfully recognise this obligation, but the number of those who do not is, I regret to say, increasing.

CRIMES.

The number of convictions reported to the Department was 118 being a decrease of 32 as compared with the previous year. The decrease is mainly in the number of natives convicted for cattle killing and offences connected therewith which have

declined from 46 in 1922/23 to 18 for the year under review. Four convictions for tribal murder were recorded. Whilst this form of crime is regrettable it is a difficult matter to stop it or persuade natives to abandon a tribal custom that has been in operation amongst them for generations past. Convictions for minor offences generally show a decline excepting those imposed for being on a prohibited area without lawful cause. These have increased from 11 to 25 and are mainly caused through an endeavour to remove wandering natives not in lawful employment from the vicinity of the town of Wyndham.

I am glad to say that convictions arising out of the supply of liquors continue to show a decrease. Drunkenness and Receiving Liquor show a decline of 3 and 8 respectively.

The following comparative table indicates the number and nature of crimes reported:-

C R I M E S, 1923-24.

	<u>1922-23</u>	<u>1923-24</u>
Assault	9	3
Attempting to kill	1	-
Cattle killing and offences connected therewith	46	18
Deserting service	1	2
Disorderly conduct	5	7
Drunkenness	16	13
Enticing from service	1	-
Enticing an inmate from a Mission	1	-
Escaping Legal custody	7	1
False pretences	1	-
Hindering Police	-	2
Loitering	1	-
Obscene Language	-	2
On prohibited area	11	25
Receiving liquor	29	21
Resisting arrest	1	2
Stealing	9	7
Stealing and Receiving	-	1
Tribal Murder	-	4
Unlawful possession	8	8
Unlawfully on premises	1	-
Unlawful use of a gun	1	2
Unsound mind	1	-
	<u>150</u>	<u>118</u>

OFFENCES AGAINST ABORIGINES

Seventeen persons other than aborigines were convicted of breaches of the Aborigines Act, 1905, as against twelve last year. There were ten convictions for supplying liquor, two for harbouring female aborigines, and one each for frequenting a native camp, removing an aboriginal from lawful service, unlawfully supplying firearms to aborigines, employing natives without a permit, and co-habiting with an aborigine. In connection with the supply of liquor to natives fines ranging from £20 to £60 were imposed and in other instances imprisonment ranging from 60 days to 6 months was imposed.

CERTIFICATES OF EXEMPTION

Ten aborigines applied for exemption in accordance with the provisions of Section 63 of "The Aborigines Act, 1905". Six of these applications were refused and four are receiving further consideration.

RECOGNISANCES.

Permission was granted under Section 9 of "The Aborigines Act, 1905" to ten persons to remove thirteen natives from one part of the State to another. In nine instances the natives have been returned to their districts whilst in the remaining case the period covered by the recognisance was extended.

HALF-CASTES

Considerable thought and attention have been given to the half-caste question as it affects the North and North-West, but in such a sparsely populated and vast area the question presents many difficulties.

For years I have advocated the appointment of one or more Travelling Inspectors to be permanently located in the North and it is anticipated that if such an appointment is approved it will be possible to give this and kindred matters

closer/

closer attention than has been possible in the past.

In the past three years 24 half-caste children, 9 males and 15 females have been removed from unsatisfactory surroundings in the North and placed in various institutions.

MOOLA BULLA ABORIGINES CATTLE STATION (Manager Mr. A.T.Woodland)

I am glad to say that though the season was not a good one the station is able to show a small profit on the year's working. The branding was good and an unusual amount of stores were disposed of.

There was a loss on the tannery which was not operating all the year due to the absence of the tanner, who finally left and his place has not yet been filled.

A new tannery was built capable of treating all the hides from both Moola Bulla and Violet Valley Stations, but it is not yet in use as a new tanner has not yet been appointed.

The Hall's Creek - Fitzroy Mail Service was continued and shows a small profit on working. Shortage of funds prevented many improvements being effected, but an iron cattle dip intended for treating the stud cattle was supplied, also a 15,000 gallon galvanised iron tank for the head station water supply.

The herd cattle now number over eighteen thousand but owing to the continued dry weather heavy losses can be expected.

Improvements effected, condition of stock, etc. are referred to in the following report submitted by the Manager, Mr. A. T. Woodland.

"SEASON: The season has not at any time been good
"and we have had an absence of late rains, only
"109 points having fallen since the 26th of
"January. Most of the small waters which usually
"last until August are now dry and we are depending
"on Dawson Downs, Eagle Hawk, Warloo, and Carrington
"to carry the herd until rains fall.
"STUD CATTLE: On July 1st, 1923, the Stud Herd num-
"bered 26 bulls and 50 cows; 6 bulls and 2 heifers

118.

"were branded for the year.
"6 of the original cows died and 13 bulls and 16
"cows were transferred to the herd, these being half
"breeds. This leaves the total of pedigree stud
"cattle at 49, being 19 bulls and 30 cows.
"The condition of these at the end of the year is
"good but the bulls will have to be fed before the
"rains commence.
"HORSES: On July 1st, 1923, the total number of horses
"was 485. The brandings for the year were 32, deaths
"for the year 23, leaving a balance of 489 an increase
"for the year of 4.
"21 horses were broken for the year.
"The condition of the horses throughout the year has
"been good.
"MULES On July 1st, 1923, the mules numbered 42, 4
"were sold for the year.
"Brandings for the year were three, leaving a balance
"of 41. Fifteen mules were broken for the year.
"VIOLET VALLEY MULES: Of the mules transferred here
"from Violet Valley two were sold to the Police
"Department and we now have 38 on the station.
"24 of these were broken for the year and are being
"used on the mail service.
"DONKEYS: On July 1st, 1923, the donkeys numbered 127
"and 2 Jacks, 31 were branded for the year, making
"a balance of 158 and 2 Jacks.
"A number of these donkeys are young and we will have
"about 100 fit for work next season.
"GOATS: On July 1st, 1923, the goats numbered 240, with
"an increase for the year of 52, and 13 killed, this
"leaves a total of 279.
"HERD CATTLE: On July 1st, 1923, the herd numbered
"15762, the brandings for the year were 4037.
"The following sales were made - 510 sent to Wyndham
"Works this season and 35, the remains of the
"stragglers from the previous season. 166 killers
"were sent to Violet Valley and 9 sold to the local
"butcher. 1 bull was sold to Lamboo Station.
"KILLERS: 139 were killed for station use and 133 for
"the indigents, while the brandings numbered 4045.
"After allowing for mortality there remained a balance
"of 17581, an increase for the year of 1819.
"Owing to the bad season branding was stopped and
"cattle are being shifted from the small waters on to
"Warloo and Dawson Downs.
"I consider it best not to knock the cattle about
"branding but to get them into the good waters before
"they are too weak and by doing this I do not expect
"any great loss.
"TRANSPORT: The stores are being carted from Wyndham
"by F. Castles under contract with the station plant.
"Up to the present we are unable to cart the whole of
"the station supplies with the station donkeys and
"F. Castles is working his own donkeys in conjunction
"with the station free of charge.
"TANNERY: The following leather has been tanned
"for the year:

196 sides of leather
4 sides of horse hide
44 goat skins.

"The following have been supplied to the store for
"sale, 49 sides leather including 4 horse hide,
"leaving a balance in stock in the Tannery of -

- 19 dressed sides
- 20 sole butts
- 112 sides rough tanned
- 25 shoulders rough tanned
- 22 bellies rough tanned
- 20 goat skins.

"HIDES: 1st July, 1923, in stock 18 - supplied during the year 256, and 2 horse hides.

"40 hides were supplied to the store and 98 and 2 horse hides were tanned, leaving a balance now in the tannery of 136.

"EMPLOYEES: Eight permanent hands were employed during the year. An average of fifty natives were employed doing station work during the year.

"YARDS: The yards at Dawson Downs, Lily, and the Police Billabong are beyond repair and new yards are badly needed to carry on."

"CONDITION AND TREATMENT OF NATIVES IN THE MOOLA BULLA AND VIOLET VALLEY DISTRICTS.

"MOOLA BULLA On the 3rd of June Dr. Cook inspected approximately one hundred and sixty natives on Moola Bulla and only three cases of Granuloma were found which I think is a very good record. These natives are now being treated on the station as per Dr. Cook's prescription, An average of one hundred and fifty men, women, and children have been in the main camp at Moola Bulla during the year and one hundred and thirtythree bullocks have been killed for their use.

"Seven blind and six crippled natives have been fed at the station throughout the year."

"VIOLET VALLEY

"NATIVES. An average of 120 natives were camped at Violet Valley during the year and 160 head of cattle were killed for their use. The health of the natives has been good. Dr. Cook examined about 100 and only found two cases of Granuloma."

VIOLET VALLEY NATIVE STATION, EAST KIMBERLEY.

Mr. Hector Burness, Officer in Charge, reports that the season was only a light one and that the stock at the end of the year were in poor condition.

In October 1923 a severe bush fire traversed the country for miles around and not a vestige of feed was left excepting portion of the Homestead paddock which was fortunately saved. It was consequently necessary to find fresh pastures for all stock with the exception of just sufficient to keep the natives supplied with meat. All brood mares and mules as well as 67 head of killing bullocks were transferred to Moola Bulla until such time as rain fell and gave the grass a start.

294 calves were branded during the year and 160 head of cattle were killed for station use and rations for natives. 197 head were received from Moola Bulla, 67 of which were returned, leaving the net receipt of cattle from Moola Bulla at 130. Horses are in good condition while five mules were branded.

Six acres of ground were ploughed and planted with cotton in January but owing to the dry spells between storms the cotton although germinating freely suffered greatly from heat and much of it was burnt off. About three acres produced good bolls and looked well. Two bags of seed cotton have been picked but it is not expected that further picking will take place until after rain has fallen as the ground is very dry and great cracks some a foot deep are opening up, consequently the plants are not getting sufficient moisture and are only holding their own.

Kangaroos are attacking the cotton plants and have been troublesome during the year.

Improvements etc. A saddle and harness room have been built out of the old meat house and the old stock yard and fences damaged by fire have been repaired.

The usual two hands have been employed and 12 natives doing stock work and other duties.

LA GRANGE BAY FEEDING DEPOT, BROOME DISTRICT. Officer-in-Charge, Mr. A.W.Cruickshank. An average of 49 natives have been provided with rations, clothing and medicines during the year at a cost of £701. 4. 5.

The present Officer in Charge has effected considerable improvements. The buildings have been painted, fencing erected, and a baker's oven built, whilst the vegetable garden has received special attention. A galley is also being built over bakery oven tea and soup boilers.

Inmates are now supplied with well cooked bread in lieu of damper and also receive a ration of soup in addition to the usual ration of tea, sugar and tobacco. It is hoped shortly to provide mutton or beef to supplement the goat and kangaroo diet.

Most of the indigents are aged natives, consequently there is a fair amount of sickness, but due to the great care and attention which has been bestowed on patients by the Manager, only one death was recorded.

MISSIONS.

At page 22 will be found a statement setting out in detail the operations of the various Missions.

The Manager of BEAGLE BAY MISSION conducted by the Pious Society of Missions, reported that in addition to the 57 natives subsidised by the State, 154 had been provided for by the Mission whilst there were 211 outside natives within the influence of the Mission. The numbers of livestock at the Mission showed slight increases all round with the exception of pigs. Cattle have increased by 300. General improvements including the sinking of two new bores, erection of stock yards and repairs to fencing have been carried out.

The average attendance at school was 57, an increase of 12 compared with the previous year. Twelve births, 4 deaths, and 2 marriages were recorded.

The Mission has been free from any serious epidemic although the presence of venereal is reported.

The Manager of DRYSDALE RIVER MISSION, conducted by the Benedictine Community of New Norcia reported that in addition to the natives subsidised by the State there were some

700 to 800 natives, 30 of whom were supported by the Mission, within its influence. The livestock at the Mission numbers about the same as last year whilst an area of 12 acres is still under cultivation. Two deaths and 2 births were recorded.

The general health of the natives has been satisfactory, only colds and minor complaints being reported.

The Superintendent of the FORREST RIVER MISSION conducted by the Australian Board of Missions reported that there were approximately 600 natives within the influence of the Mission, 36 of whom were supported by the State and the balance, either wholly or partially by the Mission.

The average school attendance has been 43, comprising 29 full bloods and 14 half-castes.

The Mission has again been entirely free from any serious epidemic, only minor complaints being reported. There was one birth and no deaths.

Although the Mission is self supporting in its supply of meat, the cattle have further increased by 500, although goats have decreased by 200.

Further improvements have been carried out including the fencing in a horse paddock, fencing, ploughing, and planting of 21 acres of cotton. One ton of seed cotton has been produced as well as 800 lbs. of peanuts. 700 lbs. of soap have been manufactured while additional horses have been purchased from the proceeds of sale in Wyndham of vegetables grown at the Mission.

The general health of the natives has been satisfactory and with the exception of an isolated case of pneumonia only minor complaints and accidents are reported.

SUNDAY ISLANDS MISSION, KING SOUND DERBY. I regret to say that during the year this Mission was given up by Mr. Sydney Hadley, who, due to failing health, found it impossible to carry on his good work any longer. The Australian Aborigines Mission

Incorporated took over the Institution with Mr. James Jago as Manager. There are approximately 180 natives within the influence of the Mission, 36 of whom are supported by the State and the balance either wholly or partially by the Mission.

The average daily school attendance continues to be satisfactory although it shows a decline of four.

One birth and one death were recorded during the year.

Generally speaking the health of the inmates has been satisfactory, only minor complaints being reported.

To assist in the maintenance of the institution the Mission lugger continues to engage in the transport of freight for the adjacent stations, whilst the white staff with the assistance of the inmates gather trocas and turtle shell.

PORT GEORGE IV MISSION (HANOVER BAY) Conducted by the Board of Missions of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. After an extended absence of Mr Paull accompanied by his wife again assumed joint control with Mr. Beard and reported that there are approximately 150 natives within the influence of the Mission 35 of whom are supported by the State and the remainder either wholly or partially by the Mission.

During the year additions have been made to Mission buildings, huts erected for native couples, roads cleared, and two deviations cut to make grades easier. Twenty-two acres are under cultivation. Various tropical and sub-tropical fruits and cotton are grown as well as other produce which is disposed of in Broome.

The health of the inmates has been satisfactory, the natives suffering only from minor and seasonal complaints. There was one marriage and six deaths.

ABORIGINES ACT AND REGULATIONS.

The amendments to the Aborigines Act referred to in my previous reports, though so badly required, have, I regret to say, not yet been introduced to the Legislature for consideration.

FINANCIAL.

Statement of receipts and payments on all accounts, including Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account of Moola Bulla Native Station is appended at pages 15 to 18.

The total amount of receipts credited to the Trust Account was £835.12. 7, as compared with £742.11. 1 during the previous year, or an increase of £93. 1. 6.

The receipts from Moola Bulla Native Station which were paid over to Consolidated Revenue amounted to £3,865.17.11 as against £8,595. 8. 5 for the previous 12 months, showing a decrease of £4729.10. 6, receipts from sales of cattle being less by £4,611.18. 2.

Total payments amounted to £15384.15. 2 for the year against disbursements for the previous period totalling £17,872. 9. 9, or a decrease of £2,487.14. 7.

The principal savings in expenditure were effected at Moola Bulla Station.

The Aborigines Trust Fund expenditure for 1923-24, after allowing for receipts credited, was £2. 5. 5 below the estimates.

In conclusion I must again extend thanks to Protectors, Police Officers and others throughout who have assisted in the care of the natives during the year.

(Sgd) A. O. NEVILLE.

17th December, 1924.

CHIEF PROTECTOR OF ABORIGINES.

Statement of Receipts and Payments

RECEIPTS.

To Grant under Section 5 of Aborigines Act 5. King Edward VII, No. 14	4000. -.
Department of the North-West: Receipts paid to Treasury *	835. 12. 7
Amount provided on Estimates for 1923-24	10549. 2. 7

* Exclusive of £3,865.17.11 derived from Moola Bulla Station paid direct to Treasury and therefore not available.

ments for Financial Year 1923-24.

PAYMENTS.

By Salaries & Wages
Departmental.

Chief Protector of Aborigines
and Head Office Staff

1124. -- -

Relief to Natives (General)

Blankets & Clothing

657.12. 6

Provisions

730.11. 6

Medical Fees & Medicines

22. 2. - 1410. 6. -

Leprosy

118. 3. -

Beagle Bay Police Station:

Half cost

222.17. 3

General:

Travelling

57.10.10

Freight & Cartage

333.10. 7

Transport of Natives

202. 1.11

Postages, Telegrams &
Telephones

37. 7.11

Printing & Stationery

54. 8. 6

Burials

149. 5. -

Miscellaneous

52.18. 9

Dr. Cook's Inspection of
Natives

175.16. 7 1063. --. 1

Grants to Missions

Beagle Bay

272.10. -

Broome Convent School

125. --. -

Sunday Islands

190. --. -

Port George IV

195.12. -

Drysdale River

75. --. -

Forrest River

160. 5. 9 1019. 7. 9

Moola Bulla Native Station:

Salaries & Wages

2463.11.11

Improvements & Upkeep

5179.16. 1 7643. 8. -

Violet Valley Relief Station:

Salaries

481. 9. -

Rations

436.9. 1 917.18. 1

La Grange Bay Relief Station:

Salaries

170. 7. 2

Rations etc.

701. 4. 5 871. 11. 7

Depot for Diseased Natives

Salaries - Medical Officer

150. --. -

Orderly-in-Chge.)

& Matron

) 299.14.10

Provisions

276.16. -

Medicines

37. 8. 7

Freight, travelling and
Miscellaneous

130. 4. - 994. 3. 5

£15384.15. 2

Balance Sheet as at 30th June, 1924.

LIABILITIES

Colonial Treasurer.
General Loan Fund
 Consolidated Revenue Fund

Cash Order Account

Sundry Creditors

Profit and Loss

Balance at 30.6.23

Profit for year ended

30.6.24

222,756.10. 1
 26,003.16. 9

946. 8. 2

335. 9. 4

22,477.19. 2

961.19. 3

ASSETS

£29,405.10. 0
 6,059.17. 6

Cattle on Station as per Returns
 Horses, Mules and Donkeys as per
 Return

Station Account

Buildings

Fencing

Stock Yards

Water Supply Extn.

Tannery

Motor Car

Carts and Buggies

Saddlery and Harness

Tools and Brands, Camp

equipment & sundries

Household furniture

and effects

Office Furniture and

Fittings

Stores on Hand

Stores in Transit

Stock on Hand Head Office

Stock and Hides on Hand in Tannery

Sundry Debtors

243. 4. 9

2, 590.13. 0

1, 602.15. 0

4, 607. 7.10

2, 925. 5. 4

150. 0. 0

340.10. 0

597. 4. 0

498. 6. 8

212. 4. 9

35.18. 0

13,803. 9. 4

3,242.18. 5

7.10. 0

280. 1. 7

682.15.11

£53,482. 2. 9

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Aborigines Cattle Station Moola Bulla

<u>1924</u>		<u>1923</u>	
<u>30th June</u>	<u>Year ended 30th June, 1924.</u>	<u>1st July</u>	<u>30th June</u>
		<u>By Balance from Year 30.6.23</u>	
To Departmental Charges			£2,477.19. 2
" Interest	868. 9. 4	" Mail Service	48.14. 8
" General Expenses	195.10. 4	" Horses Account	580. 0. 7
" Printing and Stationery	10. 4. 8	" Cattle Account	5,893.11. 3
" Postages and Telegrams	20. 0.10	" Stores Account	906. 3. 9
" Repairs and Renewals	577.19. 2		
" Upkeep of Motor Car	87. 3. 2		
" Shoeing	37.10. 6		
" Travelling Expenses	81. 8. 1		
" Station Provisions	1,455. 4. 1		
" Clothing Station Natives	183.12.10		
" Droving	597. 3. 0		
" Wages	799. 5. 9		
" Salaries	683. 2. 6		
" Depreciation	281.10. 1		
" Loss on Tannery	121. 1. 8		
" Balance Year 30.6.23			2,477.19. 2
" Profit 30.6.24			961.19. 3
			<u>3,439.18. 5</u>
			<u>£9,906. 9. 5</u>

NATURE OF PERMIT ISSUED AND NUMBER OF NATIVES AUTHORISED TO BE EMPLOYED.

1922-23

1923-24

Place of issue.	1922-23		1923-24		General	No. of natives	No. of Single natives	No. of natives.	TOTAL	
	General	No. of natives	Permits.	Natives.					Permits	Natives.
Beagle Bay	6	100	7	107	8	118	6	118	14	124
Broome	19	261	116	403	21	361	107	361	128	492
Carnarvon	10	59	15	74	9	57	20	57	29	77
Derby	52	1243	46	1289	47	1170	39	1170	96	1209
Hall's Creek	12	210	16	226	16	261	8	261	24	269
Junction	15	303	6	309	11	268	7	268	18	275
La Grange Bay	5	110	2	112	4	63	2	63	6	65
Marble Bar	17	212	10	222	16	122	8	122	24	130
Moola Bulla	10	115	3	118	13	135	-	135	13	135
Nulleagine	18	235	10	244	21	180	8	180	29	188
Onslow	20	254	9	263	20	199	4	199	24	203
Pt. Hedland	13	203	9	212	13	219	11	219	24	230
Perth	-	-	3	3	1	6	1	6	2	7
Roebourne	21	301	5	306	15	143	7	143	22	150
Shark Bay	1	25	44	69	1	3	36	3	37	39
Tableland	7	162	3	165	8	185	-	185	80	185
Violet Valley	19	191	6	197	22	213	3	213	25	216
Wyndham	12	88	51	139	11	106	59	106	70	165
	257	4071	361	4448	257	3809	350	3809	583	4159

<u>Place</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>By whom supplied</u>	<u>Supervised by</u>
<u>DEPARTMENTAL SETTLEMENTS</u>			
Moola Bulla Native Station	Bulk supplies	Aborigines Dept.	Manager
Violet Valley Feeding Station	do.	do.	do.
La Grange Bay Feeding Depot	do.	do.	Offr.in-Chge.
<u>PER CAPITA</u>			
Winning Pool	6d. per day	J. Powell	
<u>BY CONTRACT UNDER POLICE</u>			
Carnarvon	As per contract	Contractor	Police
Derby	do.	do.	do.
Fitzroy Crossing Junction	Bulk supplies	Aborigines Dept.	do.
	do.	do.	do.
Jigalong	do.	do.	Rabbit Dept.
Marble Bar	As per contract	Contractor	Police
Nullagine	Bulk supplies	Aborigines Dept.	do.
Onslow	As per contract	Contractor	do.
Point Cloates	Bulk supplies	Aborigines Dept.	J. Taylor, Bullara Station
Roebourne (Leper's)	do.	do.	Police
Roebourne (Indigents)	do.	do.	do.
Shark Bay	As per contract	Contractor	do.
Tableland	Bulk supplies	Aborigines Dept.	do.
Wallal	do.	do.	Wallal Downs Pastoral Co.
Whim Creek	As per contract	Contractor	Police
Wodgina	Bulk supplies	Aborigines Dept.	do.
Wyndham	As per contract	Contractor	do.

(a) Includes value of cattle

ISSUES ISSUED.

<u>Average No. of Natives.</u>		<u>Total cost of supplies issued within the year</u>		<u>Remarks.</u>
1922-23	1923-24.	1922-23	1923-24.	
<u>POSTS AND FEEDING DEPOTS.</u>				
117	146	(a) 595. -- -	(a) 394.10.-	
115	115	(a) 946. 7. 7	(a) 917.18. 1	
49	49	773.19. 4	701. 4. 5	
<u>ALLOWANCE.</u>				
1	1	13. -- -	10. -- -	
<u>FOR DEPARTMENTAL SUPERVISION.</u>				
1	-	3. 3. 1		
4	5	33.16. -	52. 6. 7	
23	22	85.18. 9	120.15. 6	
8	5	1.18. 2	62.18. 6	Bulk supplies from 6.8.23
11	9	42. 7.10	21.11. 3	
2	2	1. 9.2	19.12. 4	
15	14	114. 8. 2	58.10. 1	
4	4	17.15. 7	33.14.11	
4	6	24. 4. 7	52. 6. 6	
4	2	143.11. 7	47. 4.11	
2	2	18. 7. 2	13. 8. 2	
1	4	5. 1. 3	24.19. 3	
17	15	86.17. 6	57.17. 7	
15	-	106.18. 5	-	
3	3	16. 4. 6	33. -- -	
6	8	35.10. 7	43. 5. 9	
3	-	3.10. 1	-	
405	412	£3,069. 9. 4	£2,665. 3.10	

killed for rations.

STATEMENT SHOWING POPULATION ACCORDING TO

District.	Estimated Population.									Total.	Increase or Decrease noted year
	Full-bloods.			Half-castes deemed to be aborigines			Half-castes not deemed to be aborigines				
	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.		
Beagle Bay	174	195	77	22	39	44	3	2	2	558	Slight decrease
Broome	229	223	28	-	-	-	28	24	37	569	Slight increase
Carnarvon	160	70	15	4	-	-	2	4	-	255	Decrease
Derby	450	350	100	20	22	20	-	-	-	962	Increase
Fitzroy Crossing	850	750	100	1	2	7	1	-	-	1711	Decrease
Hall's Creek	600	400	200	3	3	4	6	1	-	1217	"
Junction	80	75	12	15	3	12	5	3	-	205	"
Marble Bar	290	170	72	10	10	4	1	3	-	560	Increase
Nullagine	200	150	20	10	12	6	10	-	-	408	Slight increase
Onslow	155	110	40	4	4	5	2	-	-	320	Slight decrease
Pt. Hedland	146	156	22	18	18	11	-	-	-	371	Stationary
Roebourne	30	27	21	4	2	2	1	1	-	88	Decrease
Shark Bay	20	9	1	9	8	14	8	10	-	79	Slight decrease
Tableland	93	90	16	6	7	7	-	-	-	219	Slight decrease
Turkey Creek	400	400	75	4	1	12	-	-	-	892	Increase
Whim Creek	52	48	23	8	4	4	2	2	5	148	Slight increase
Wyndham	600	685	200	2	-	3	2	-	3	1495	Slight decrease
	4529	3908	1022	140	135	155	71	50	47	10057	

9459

430

168

SUMMARY.

	<u>1922-23.</u>	<u>1923-24.</u>
Full-bloods	10172	9459
Half-castes (Column 2)	425	430
Half-castes (Column 3)	182	168
Aborigines outside the influence of Civilization Estimate only	<u>10000</u>	<u>10000</u>
	<u>20779</u>	<u>20057</u>

REPORTING TO DISTRICTS AND OTHER PARTICULARS.

<u>Case</u> <u>for</u> <u>year.</u>	<u>Condition &</u> <u>Health.</u>	<u>Epidemics.</u>	<u>Venereal.</u>	<u>Conduct.</u>	<u>Employment.</u>
at case	Good	Nil	Few cases	Good	Plentiful
at case	Very fair	Nil	Isolated cases	Very fair	"
creasing	Fairly good	Influenza	Nil	Good	"
creasing	Good	Nil	Few cases	"	"
creasing	Good	Nil	Few cases	"	"
	"	"	Very little	"	"
	Fair	"	Few cases	Moderately good	"
creasing	Good	"	" "	Good	"
at case	"	"	Very little	"	Not plenti ful owing to drought
at case	"	"	Few cases	"	Plentiful
lonary	"	"	" "	"	"
creasing	"	"	Nil	"	"
at case	"	"	"	"	"
at case	"	"	"	"	"
creasing	"	"	Very little	"	"
at case	"	"	Practically none	"	"
at case	"	"	Few cases	"	"

	<u>BEAGLE BAY</u>	<u>DRYSDALE RIVER</u>	<u>FORREST</u>
Name of Governing Body	Pious Society of Missions (Roman Catholic)	Benedictine Community of New Norcia (Roman Catholic)	Australian Missions (A)
Brief description of land held and nature of tenure	10,000 acres freehold, 80,000 acres leasehold 40 ac. Town Lot, use of Aborigines Reserve 700,000 acres	50,000 acres freehold 50,000 acres leasehold	1,000 ac. fr 100,000 ac. for Mission within Abor Reserve of acres
Livestock owned by Mission at 30th June, 1924.			
Cattle	3,700	-	800
Horses	14	2	21
Sheep	-	-	176
Donkeys	36	10	40
Mules	35	-	-
Goats	400	120	700
Pigs	18	60	2
Area under crop or in process of cultivating, clearing, etc.	30 acres	12 acres	40 acres
General improvements effected during year ended 30.6.1924	Stockyard erected, two bores sunk, boundary fence repaired		Horse paddock Cotton area acres fenced and planted
Special efforts to make the Mission self-supporting during year under review.	Sandalwood cutting, growing of Broom Millet and vegetables	-	1 ton cotton lbs peanuts 770 lbs. so factured. H chased from of sale of g produce in W
Average number of natives within Mission influence	<u>M.</u> <u>F.</u> <u>C.</u> <u>TOTAL</u> 64 75 72 211	<u>M.</u> <u>F.</u> <u>C.</u> <u>TAL</u> 400 350 10 80	<u>M.</u> <u>F.</u> <u>C.</u> 250 200 20
Number of inmates supported at cost of the Mission	154	30	30
Number of inmates subsidised by the State (exclusive of above)	57		10
Average number of children under 16 years attending school daily.	Abor. 23 H.C. 22	-	Abor. 29 H.C.
No. of children received at Institution since 1st July, 1923, giving age, sex, if full-blood or half-caste and district from whence received.	-	-	2 H.C. females 11 years from Kimberley
No. of children discharged from Mission and placed in situations or otherwise disposed of, including age, sex, if full-blood or half-caste, wages to be paid or other consideration for services.	1 H.C. girl 19 yrs. to Broome Convent 3 H.C. girls to service in Broome, wages 10/- per wk.	-	-
Particulars of births, deaths,	<u>Births</u> 12 - 7 girls 5 boys <u>Deaths</u> 4 <u>Marriages</u> 2	<u>Births</u> 2, 1 H.C. 1 full blood <u>Deaths</u> 2	<u>Birth</u> 1
Health:			
(a) Number of inmates ill from any cause during the year.	Two		Two
(b) Enumerate diseases from which inmates have suffered	Venereal Disease	Colds & minor	Pneumonia & s
(c) Number of visits by a Medical Officer.	Nil		Nil

<u>RIVER</u>	<u>LOMBADINA.</u>	<u>SUNDAY ISLAND, KING SOUND.</u>	<u>PORT GEORGE IV. HANOVER BAY</u>
Board of Anglican)	Pious Society of Missions (Roman Catholic)	Australian Aborigines Missions Incorporated (Undenominational)	Board of Missions (Presbyterian Church of Australia.
Reservehold, reserved purposes Aborigines 4,000,000		About 8,000 acres held for Mission purposes	58,000 acres held for Mission purposes
	NO		
		12 - - - 46 -	50 - 2 1 163 -
	PARTICULARS	$\frac{3}{4}$ acres house garden	22 acres under cultivation, 3 acres cleared upon which buildings & yards have been erected. Additions to houses, tanks purchased, engine house & huts for native couples erected. Roads cleared & two deviations cut to make grades easier. 43 head of cattle purchased. Raising produce for use at Mission and sale in Broome. Carriage of freight.
Block fenced of 21 d, ploughed			
n & 800 grown, ap manu- orses pur- proceeds garden Wynham.	SUPPLIED.	Gathering of Turtle & Trocas shell. Carriage of freight.	
<u>TOTAL.</u> 470 127 36		<u>M.</u> <u>F.</u> <u>C.</u> <u>TOTAL</u> 27 39 37 103 37 36	<u>M.</u> <u>F.</u> <u>C.</u> <u>TOTAL.</u> 24 22 17 74 12 13 10 35 22 10 7 39
14		Abc. 20 H.C. 3	Abc. 12 H.C. 2, 1 female full-blood 8 years from bush in vicinity of Mission
s 10 & East			
		<u>Birth</u> 1 <u>Deaths</u> 1 <u>Marriages</u> -	<u>Deaths</u> 6 <u>Marriages</u> 1
		Five	No record.
accident		Sore eyes, stomach and bladder Nil	Chiefly influenza, Ophthalmia and minor injuries. Nil

THE

ANNUAL

REPORT

OF

THE DEPUTY CHIEF PROTECTOR OF ABORIGINES

FOR THE YEAR

ENDED 30th JUNE , 1924.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.

I have the honour to submit herewith my annual report for the year 1923-24 in regard to Natives south of Parallel 25° south.

The health of the natives is reported to be generally very good, although, as might be expected, there has been influenza outbreaks in several centres.

The conduct of natives has been satisfactory, and employment plentiful.

In regard to population, the Police officers in most districts report that the natives are decreasing in number, and the total population (including half-castes deemed to be aboriginals) is this year estimated at 4,162, compared with the estimate of 4,475 last year. There are 3,294 adults and 868 children. Half-castes not deemed to be aboriginals under the Act are estimated to number 232, comprising 149 adults and 83 children. Whilst dealing with the population question, I would point out that it is very difficult to estimate the number of natives in the far outlying districts. The falling-off this year compared with last year's figures is not necessarily wholly accounted for by an actual decrease by deaths, and may be partially due to the migratory habits of natives in some districts in quest of food, and for other reasons.

The demand for half-caste girls for domestic service is still far in excess of the number of girls available.

RELIEF.

Food, clothing and medicines (also medical attention where necessary) are distributed at various centres. The total cost of food supplied during the year was £4,843, compared with £4,178 last year. Medicines and medical fees cost £155. Blankets and clothing £1,400.

BLANKETS AND CLOTHING.

The blankets distributed this year were of Australian manufacture, in colours red, grey and blue, and it is proposed to adopt this class of blanket as a standard for future issues.

(2)

As in the past year, the whole of the clothing issued was made up by natives at the Moore River Settlement. The issues were as follows :-

Blankets	...	1,026
Dresses	...	857
Undershirts	...	878
Trousers	...	667
Shirts	...	780
Other garments	...	415

LABOUR CONDITIONS.

During the year 252 permits were issued covering the employment of 703 natives.

One recognisance was granted for the removal of a native to another district.

The following statement gives particulars of the permits issued in various centres :

Place of Issue	Nature of Permit issued & No. of Natives authorised to be employed thereunder				Totals.	
	General	No. of Natives	Single	No. of Natives	Permits	Natives
Albany	-	-	2	2	2	2
Beverley	-	-	4	4	4	4
Bunbury	-	-	1	1	1	1
Cue	3	28	9	9	12	37
Esperance	-	-	4	4	4	4
Eucia	-	-	1	1	1	1
Geraldton	2	18	7	7	9	25
Kojonup	-	-	1	1	1	1
Kalgoorlie	-	-	3	3	3	3
Katanning	-	-	3	3	3	3
Laverton	-	-	14	14	14	14
Leonora	2	24	2	2	4	26
Lawlers	1	5	1	1	2	6
Meekatharra	16	184	23	23	39	207
Merredin	-	-	4	4	4	4
Menzies	1	8	7	7	8	15
Morgans	1	5	8	8	9	13
Norseman	4	39	2	2	6	41
Narrogin	1	8	3	3	4	11
Northam	3	19	1	1	4	20
Perth	5	76	84	69	89	145
Ravensthorpe	-	-	5	5	5	5
Sandstone	1	6	3	3	4	9
Toodyay	1	15	2	2	3	17
Wiluna	2	13	2	2	4	15
Yalgoo	6	67	7	7	13	74
	49	515	203	188	252	703

(5)

Five native children were placed under the care of guardians.

23 natives were removed to the Moore River Settlement under Section 12 of the Aborigines Act.

DEATHS.

During the year 68 deaths were reported, being 29 less than the previous year. The various causes of deaths are shown hereunder :-

Accidental	.....	.....	3
Acute cough	.....	.....	1
Bright's disease	....	.....	2
Bronchitis	.....	.....	3
Chest trouble	.....	.....	3
Venereal disease	....	.....	2
Enteritis	.....	.....	1
Internal complaint	.	.....	3
Child birth	.....	.....	1
Influenza	.....	.....	9
Killed	.....	.....	1
Still-born	.....	.....	4
Natural causes	.....	.....	12
Not specified, or unknown	..		2
Pneumonia	.....	.....	9
Convulsions	.....	.....	1
Peritonitis	.....	.....	1
Senile decay	.....	.....	9
Tuberculosis	.....	.....	1
			68
	Total		68

CRIMES.

Sixty-eight convictions were reported for crimes committed by aboriginals; as usual drunkenness and stealing were the main misdemeanours.

The following statement gives particulars of convictions recorded :-

(4)

Murder	...	1
Attempt to kill	...	1
Assault	...	4
Carrying a gun without a license		5
Drunk	...	24
Disorderly conduct	...	6
Escaping from custody	...	2
Loitering	...	2
Receiving liquor	...	8
Cruelty to animals	...	1
Stealing	...	10
Unlawful possession	...	1
Unlawfully on premises	...	1
Section 15 - Assisting to remove from Settlement	...	2
		<hr/>
	Total	68
		<hr/> <hr/>

OFFENCES AGAINST ABORIGINALS.

Twelve convictions for offences against aboriginals have been reported. In 10 cases the convictions were for supplying liquor, and 2 for employing natives without a permit. Fines aggregating £165 were imposed.

CERTIFICATES OF EXEMPTION.

Nine applications for exemption under Section 63 of the Act were received. Eight certificates were issued, and one application refused. One certificate previously granted was cancelled.

MOORE RIVER NATIVE SETTLEMENT.

It is with regret I have to report the sad death (by motor accident in January) of the Superintendent, the late Major Campbell.

Mr. J.T. Brodie was selected from a large number of applicants to fill the vacancy, and took duties in February, assisted by his wife as Matron, Mrs. Campbell having resigned on the death of her husband.

Work at the settlement has progressed satisfactorily. The Farm Assistant's quarters were removed to a more suitable locality, and minor alterations and improvements effected.

During /

During a severe storm the School Hall, which owing to its position caught the full force of the wind, was blown considerably out of plumb. The building has been put in order, and extra bracings fixed to make it safe in future.

The number of births for the year were 8 (2 male and 6 female), marriages 9, and deaths 6.

Several of the young couples after marriage left the settlement to make a start in life outside.

Of the 6 deaths on the settlement, 5 were aged people and one was a child 8 days old.

The general health of the inmates has been exceptionally good.

Doctor Hennessy of New Norcia has visited the Settlement from time to time, and his care and attention to the sick is greatly appreciated by both officers and inmates alike. A dentist also visited during the year.

At the close of the year there were 284 natives and half-castes on the reserve, which includes many old, infirm and blind. The number of children on the school roll is 101.

As for several years past, the clothing required for distribution to natives throughout the State has been made up at the Settlement, and although there is no direct return to the Government for this work, it means the saving of a fairly large sum of money. The total number of garments manufactured during the year was 7,314.

Produce grown and consumed on the settlement for the year was as under. The total value was £554.

Hay	...	75 tons
Milk	...	1,545 galls.
Green vegetables, including onions,	...	5,075 lbs.
Potatoes	...	646 "
Eggs	...	195 doz.
Butter,	...	68 lbs.

In addition, 6,527 lbs. of kangaroo and brush flesh (caught by natives) was consumed, and means the saving of a similar quantity of mutton.

(6)

A start has been made to gravel a track between the settlement and Mogumber, about 3½ miles has been done, and it is hoped to complete the work during the current year.

FINANCIAL.

I attach statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the year under review.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, I desire to make record of the Department's appreciation for the valuable and considerable assistance rendered by the Commissioner of Police.

I further desire to convey thanks to the various hospitals throughout the area under my jurisdiction for their kindly and sympathetic treatment of our aborigines, especially the Perth Hospital and the Children's Hospital, which are ever ready to receive natives for treatment from any part of the State.

(Sgd.) FRED ALDRICH,

12/9/24.

DEPUTY CHIEF PROTECTOR OF ABORIGINES

STATEMENT SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF RATIONS

Place	Rate	By whom supplied	Supervised by	Average No. of natives fed per month.		Total Cost		Remarks
				1922-23	1923-24	1922-23	1923-24	
<u>DEPARTMENTAL SETTLEMENTS.</u>								
Moore River Native Settlement	Bulk Supplies	Aberigines Dept.	Superintendent	265	274	1954. 4. 5	2635. 9. 7	Including white employees
<u>BY CONTRACT UNDER POLICE OR DEPARTMENTAL SUPERVISION</u>								
Cue	As per contract	Contractor	Police	8	3	13. -. 9	2.13. 7	
Coolgardie	do.	do.	do.	2	2	6. 1. 3	6.16. 7	
Bucla	Bulk Supplies	Aberigines Department	Manager, Telegraph Station	11	12	113.17. 4	60. -. 5	
Eyre	do.			4	4	13.14. 7	11.13. -	
Claremont	As per contract	Contractor	Police	1	-	10.10	-	
Geraldton	do.	do.	do.	18	1	15. 6. -	2.17.11	
Guildford	do.	do.	do.	-	3	-	9.11	
Gum Creek	See Wiluna							
Israelite Bay	Bulk Supplies	Aberigines Department	Postmaster	4	10	39.17. 2	51.19. 3	
Linden				-	18	-	166.13. 7	
Kanowna	As per contract	Contractor	Police	-	6	-	43.13. 1	
Lake Barlot	do.	do.	do.	5	5	79.17. -	60. 7. 6	
Kookynie	do.	do.	do.	7	5	61. 5. 7	53.10. 9	
Katanning	do.	do.	do.	6	-	3.12. 7	-	
Lawlers	do.	do.	do.	18	19	218. 5. 2	150. 9. -	
Laverton	do.	do.	do.	16	20	134.13. 6	180.15. 9	
Leonora	do.	do.	do.	19	15	90. 4. 2	92.10.11	
Meekatharra	do.	do.	do.	17	10	178. 8. 3	104. 5. -	
Morgans	do.	do.	do.	14	48	25. 4.10	361.13. 6	
Mingenew	do.	do.	do.	3	4	21.19.10	26. 3.10	
Mt. Magnet	do.	do.	do.	4	4	41. 7. 3	29. 8. 1	
Mundrabilla	do.	do.	do.	-	5	-	32.12.10	
Norseman	do.	do.	do.	7	6	57. 7. 1	52. 9. 6	
Perth	do.	do.	do.	-	-	-	54. 4. 3	
Peak Hill	do.	do.	do.	10	13	96.16.10	149.10. 4	
Pinjarra	do.	do.	do.	1	1	8. 6. 6	12. 9. 1	
Ravensthorpe	do.	do.	do.	-	1	-	7.10	
Stone	do.	do.	do.	6	4	49. 1. -	40. 3. 3	
Tacknarra	do.	do.	do.	14	11	129. 9. 6	115.10. -	
Wiluna & Gum Creek	do.	do.	do.	20	24	256. 1.10	234. 9.10	
Yalgoo	do.	do.	do.	-	9	-	58. 9. 8	
Yarri	do.	do.	do.	4	7	44.13. 6	50.18. 9	
<u>TOTAL.</u>				490	544	3653. 6. 9	4842.16. 7	

