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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF PROTECTOR OF ABORIGINES

For the year ending

30TH JUNE, 1917.



HON. MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST.  
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I beg to submit herewith the Annual Report of the Aborigines Department for the year ended 30th June, 1917.

The reorganising work begun during the previous year was continued, so that towards the end of the period under review, matters were on a very much better footing. I am pleased to be able to report that the work at practically every out-station and feeding depot under the control of the Department has now been reviewed, and placed on a satisfactory basis, systematic visits having been continued, particularly in the North-West, where a feature of the inspection embraced the examination of the natives working or residing on 33 different stations. Returning from an extensive journey through Kimberley at the end of June 1916, I did not go North again until July 1917, but during the year I inspected all the Southern Missions, and visited our own Carrolup Settlement many times, as well as several other places.

The rationing system has continued to receive close attention, and in April last fresh instructions were issued to all Police Stations and Feeding Depots, indicating the method to be followed when indigent natives applied for relief. Owing to the practice of "double-banking" which had existed in some districts, (a ruse sometimes formerly resorted to by natives to secure rations from two adjacent centres on different days in the week), it was arranged that rations should be issued weekly on Mondays at all stations, instead of on different days of the week as before. A diet scale was also introduced for children of tender age, these having hitherto been supplied with rations as provided for adults, suitable feeds such as rice, sago, porridge meal and condensed milk, being substituted for flour, tea and meat as the case might be.

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A definite attempt has been made to ascertain the approximate number of natives within the borders of civilisation. In order to accomplish this, instead of the usual Police reports embracing varying information being called for, a form was sent out to all stations containing a series of definite questions, the replies to which Police Officers were required to furnish. These replies included particulars as to the numbers of natives and half-castes in each district, whether the native population was decreasing or increasing, and the general condition, health and conduct of the natives throughout. A summary of these replies is included on pages 41 to 44 of this report, from which it will be seen that the estimated native and half-caste population of the State within touch of civilisation is approximately 14,491. It was intended to differentiate between full-bloods including those deemed to be aboriginals within the meaning of Section 3 of the Aborigines Act, 1905, and half-castes, but the resultant figures are probably not as correct in this respect as they might be, though giving a fair indication of the position. It is estimated that of the total number above referred to, 12,888 are full-bloods and half-castes deemed to be aboriginals. Of these there are over a thousand more males than females, and only 1,258 children under twelve years of age, as against 11,630 adults. This bears out the contention that the full-bloods are rapidly decreasing, and when the present generation dies out there will be very few left. As regards the half-castes, the position is somewhat different. To 956 adults there are 647 children, making 1,603 in all. In considering these figures, it must be remembered that the majority of half-castes are, according to the Aborigines Act, deemed to be aboriginals, and therefore included in the former figures, while the 1,603 half-castes referred to above are mostly semi-educated married people, living, with their families, in houses in the same manner as the white population. At 47 stations the native population is reported/



ported to be decreasing, at 13 increasing, while at 15 the numbers are stationary. In certain parts of the North where the natives are not much as yet in contact with the white man, the young children appear, from evidence to hand, to be more numerous. No one can estimate correctly the number of natives outside the influence of civilisation, but it is generally considered to be about ten thousand.

The condition and health throughout has, with the exception of one or two outbreaks of measles and pneumonia, been good, though venereal disease still exists in a few districts. The conduct of the natives has been uniformly good, and employment has been plentiful.

It will be remembered that during the previous year the system of engaging natives under permit was revised, as it was contended by the Department that a large number of natives were being employed contrary to the Act. This contention has been fully borne out, as the resultant figures show, there being more than double the number of natives in lawful employment during the year under review than during the previous period. Doubtless many persons were ignorant of the provisions of the Act, and were unknowingly offending. Indeed, this appears to be the case generally as far as the Aborigines Act is concerned, and it has been necessary in the interests of the natives to call the attention of the public generally to the fact that the aborigines are protected by law, and that the provisions of the Act, which had in some respects become a dead letter, would in future have to be observed.

After most careful consideration, and obtaining the opinion of every Protector in the State, it was decided, towards the close of the year that from the commencement of the current financial year the fee charged for permits to employ should be increased, the receipts from this source going back to the credit of the Aborigines Trust Fund, as a means of reducing the cost of



the upkeep of the Department generally. The opinions expressed by Protectors varied considerably, but all were of the opinion that the fees should be substantially increased, some even going so far as to affirm that £25 per annum should be the fee to be paid for a general permit. It was decided eventually that the sum of £2 should be paid for a general permit, 5/- for a single permit, the same sum being charged for an agreement.

In past years unsuccessful attempts have been made to arrive at a uniform basis upon which the Government subsidies to Missions should be based, and after going into the matter very fully, I was able to recommend a per-capita system, which received approval in June last, and was to come in force on the 1st July 1917. Briefly the system contemplated the payment of a per capita allowance on behalf of every child cared for by any Mission at the request of the Department, the Missions being divided into two classes, those holding Government land, and those to whom no such land had been granted. The per capita payment in respect to the Northern Missions holding land was fixed at £5, and in the South £7, while to those not holding land, and therefore not in a position to become self-supporting on this account, £14 per annum per head was allowed. On working out the payments on this basis, it was found that the sum to be distributed amongst the various missions would be slightly in excess of that previously paid, providing that the Department was prepared to accept as the care of the State those children and indigents then in the various institutions. A detailed inspection of the inmates of all Missions was thus rendered necessary, and this inspection was already under way before the close of the year. Payments under the new system, as compared with the old one of making promiscuous grants to those institutions setting up the best case, or pleading most successfully with the Minister of the day, lay in the fact that before any increase could be made, the institution

would/



would require to show that it had taken in a corresponding number of children or indigents who would otherwise have become the care of the Department, or who, in other words, had been "franked" by the Department; also that upon the demise of any such natives, or upon their leaving the institution for any cause whatever, the per capita payment would automatically cease.

Details in respect to the foregoing matters will be found in the following, but I should here like to express my regret that this report appears so long after the close of the financial year, a fact which, however regrettable it may be, is so far as this Department is concerned quite unavoidable, in view of the limited mail service from Northern ports, and the difficulty experienced in obtaining the necessary particulars from the remoter outstations within my control.

#### LABOUR CONDITIONS.

The following statement shows the number of natives employed under permit, giving the place of issue and nature of the permit granted :-



Place of Issue	Nature of Permit issued & number of natives authorised to be employed thereunder.				Total.	
	General	No. of natives	Single	No. of natives.	Permits	Natives
Albany	2	15	1	1	3	16
Beverley	3	5	6	6	9	11
Broome	34	665	138	171	172	836
Bunbury	-	-	3	3	3	3
Carnarvon	31	182	3	3	34	185
Cue	49	328	7	7	56	335
Derby	100	1351	36	39	136	1390
Esperance	1	9	-	-	1	9
Eucla	-	-	5	9	5	9
Fremantle	1	3	15	18	16	21
Geraldton	7	22	7	7	14	29
Halls Creek	28	179	6	6	34	185
Junction	25	309	-	-	25	309
Katanning	-	-	2	2	2	2
La Grange	10	95	-	-	10	95
Laverton	2	7	4	4	6	11
Leonora	3	15	-	-	3	15
Marble Bar	19	152	1	2	20	154
Menzies	-	-	2	2	2	2
Moora	8	16	-	-	8	16
Mt. Morgans	2	4	-	-	2	4
Narrogin	6	15	-	-	6	15
Northam	11	29	13	13	24	42
Norseman	1	4	-	-	1	4
Nullagine	20	150	11	11	31	161
Onslow	28	279	1	1	29	280
Perth	4	53	9	12	13	65
Port Hedland	26	349	4	4	30	349
Roebourne	52	525	8	8	60	533
Sandstone	5	16	6	7	11	23
Shark Bay	5	31	-	-	5	31
Violet Valley	16	107	1	1	17	108
Wiluna	4	30	1	1	5	31
Wyndham	11	52	23	32	34	84
Yalgoo	6	40	1	1	7	41
As Police Trackers	1	46	-	-	1	46
Totals 1916-17	521	5079	314	371	835	5450
Totals for year 1915-16	269	2401	151	157	420	2558

It will be seen that the number of natives in employment during the previous financial year was 2,558, whereas for the period under review as shown in the table the number was 5,450, considerably more than double the number. This remarkable result has been chiefly brought about by the new permit system initiated last year, ensuring that every person employing aborigines shall do so in accordance with the provisions of the



Aborigines Act. No doubt, also, as employment was plentiful, more natives secured work than is usually the case. Only 225 natives were employed under permit and agreement, these mostly being engaged as domestic servants in towns.

It is becoming more and more evident that it is necessary to introduce a system to regulate the payment of wages to natives, as indicated in my report of last year, and while I have not yet sufficient information to enable me to make a definite recommendation in this respect, inquiries which I have made in my travels throughout the State indicate that a state of affairs is growing up which before long will require the earnest attention of the Department. Numerous instances have come before me where natives have not received the full reward promised for their labour, or where, having done so, the money received has been immediately squandered, often at the instance of unscrupulous persons. As I have previously stated, I consider that a system is required providing that wages earned by natives should, at all events in part, be paid to the Department in Trust on their account, to be devoted to the upkeep of the wage earner's dependents in a properly regulated manner, ensuring also that a stipulated wage shall be paid under prescribed conditions in certain appointed districts, and that the pernicious and growing practice of enticing a native away from lawful employment by the offer of greater inducements, monetary and otherwise, shall be put a stop to.

The demand for native labour has been considerably in excess of the supply, and wherever an able-bodied native or half-caste has desired to work, he has been able to find suitable employment.

The protection of half-caste girls over the age of 16 years in employment has received my careful attention. Many people, even including Police Officers and Protectors, appear



to be under the impression that a female half-caste over 16 years of age need not be engaged under permit. This of course is incorrect, as Section 17 of the Act is very clear in this respect, and further provision for the care of such girls is laid down by Section 27. As a matter of fact, it is just when these girls attain the age of 16 or thereabouts that the protection of the Department is most required, and it is proposed to give close attention to their welfare in future.

RELIEF.

The following particulars show the average number of natives rationed monthly throughout the State, and the cost of rations, during the year under review and the previous year :-



<u>Place</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>By whom supplied.</u>	<u>Supervised</u>
<u>SETTLEMENTS AND</u>			
Carrolup River Native Settlement	Bulk Supplies	Aborigines Department	Manager
La Grange Bay Feeding Depot	" "	"	"
Moola Bulla Native Settlement	" "	"	"
Violet Valley Feeding Depot	" "	"	"
Beagle Bay Mission Feeding Depot	" "	"	Father-in-Charge
Lombadina Mission Feeding depot	" "	"	"
Sunday Island Mission Feeding Depot	Payment for supplies @ 9d. per day.	"	Missionary
<u>PER CAPITA</u>			
Bangemall	1/- per day	C. Glass	Police
Brooking	9d. per day	C. Blythe	"
Carnot Bay	6d. " "	J. F. Johnston	"
Catabody	1/- " "	B. Cooper	"
Deeside	6d. " "	T. Muir	"
Ellensbrook	8d. " "	E. Bussell	"
Grasspatch	2/- day to December, 1/- day from Dec. 31st.	G. Thompson	"
Gullewa House	6d. per day	T. Mitchell	"
Israelite Bay	" " "	H. Dimer	"
Mandra Bella	" " "	H. Talbot	"
Marble Bar	2/6 " "	Police	"
Meka	9d. " "	H. Pearse	"
Thangoo	6½d. " "	A. Edgar	"
Wandering	6d. " "	E. Sewell	"
Weedong	8d. " "	Bell & Male	"
Winning Pool	5/- weekly	J. Powell	"

Carried forward



by	Average No. of natives per month		Total Cost.		Remarks.
	1915-16	1916-17	1915-16	1916-17	
<u>FEEDING DEPOTS.</u>					
	59	84	453: 3: 3	350: -: -	
	54	50	464: -: -	410: 8: -	
	100	119	623: 9: 2	1005:14: 6	
	90	91	609:12: 8	1092: 3: 5	
arge	77	67	458: 7: 2	553: 5: 6	Exclusive of grant to Mission, see page 32.
	90	74	342:16: -	501: 2: 3	
	19	21	235: 2: -	252: 5: 3	do.
<u>ALLOWANCE.</u>					
	13	18	180: 3: -		A/cs. not to hand for 1916-17.
	4	5	49:10: -	72:18: -	Ceased 30/6/7
	11	-	76:11: 4	--	" 31/1/6
	1	-	4:12: -	--	" 1/10/5
	6	-	22:19: -	--	" 1/12/5
	4	2	31:13: 6	24: 9: 6	" 1/3/17
	1	1	19:16: -	26:19: -	" 20/6/7
	2	-	12: 4: -	--	" 1/3/16
	4	2	25:15: -	6: 3: -	" 31/8/6
	6	9	9: 6: -	28: 8: -	" Aug. 7 6
	7	-	237:13: -	--	"
	3	-	25: 3: 3	--	" 1/4/16
	16	16	162:19: 2	163: 3: -	
	2	1	8:17: 6	2:16: 6	"
	7	-	46: 9: 4	--	" 15/1/6
	3	2	29: -: -	26: -: -	
rd	579	562	4129: 2: 4	4515:15:11	



<u>Place.</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>By whom supplied.</u>	<u>Supervised</u>
			Brought fo
<u>BY CONTRACT UNDER POLICE O</u>			
Albany	As per contract	Contractor	Police
Barrambie	"	"	"
Barramine	Bulk supplies	Aborigines Department	Barker & H
Beverley	As per contract	Contractor	Police
Bolgart	"	"	"
Bridgetown	"	"	"
Brookton	"	"	"
Broome	"	"	"
Bullfinch	"	"	T. Man Police
Bunbury	"	"	Police
Burtville	"	"	"
Busselton	"	"	"
Carnarvon	"	"	"
Claremont	"	"	"
Collie	"	"	"
Coolgardie	"	"	"
Cranbrook	"	"	"
Cue	"	"	"
Derby	"	"	"
Duketon	"	"	"
Eucla	"	"	C. Dor
Geraldton	"	"	Police
Goomalling	"	"	"
Gnowangerup	"	"	"
Guildford	"	"	"
Gum Creek	"	"	A. Burr
Junction	"	"	Police
Kanowna	"	"	"
			Carried fo



by.	Average No. of natives per month.		Total Cost.		Remarks.
	1915-16	1916-17	1915-16	1916-17	
rward	579	562	4129: 2: 4	4515:15:11	
<u>DEPARTMENTAL SUPERVISION.</u>					
	1	--	3:10: 5	--	Temporary relief only.
	15	7	106:15: 8	75: -: 8	
utchins	10	5	11: 2: 2	13:13: 9	
	25	7	209:12: 3	121:15: 6	
	2	2	11:18: 2	18: -: 8	
	1	1	5:13: 5	14:19: 9	
	3	3	26:13: 5	18:12: 2	
	10	5	57: 8: 3	43:12: 5	
n }	2	2	23: 5: 7	37: 1: 2	Now supervised by Police
	2	2	19: 9: 5	29:10:11	
	17	15	152: -: 6	135:17: 3	
	14	--	63:14: 4	--	Ceased 1/4/16
	1	--	1: 1: 4	--	Tempy. relief
	4	1	48: -: 4	12:15:11	
	1	7	2:10: 6	19: 8	" "
	11	3	62:11:10	37: 7: 1	
	1	-	7: 1: 8	--	Ceased
	1	-	1: 9: -	--	
	2	3	21:17: 6	1: 6:11	
	-	10	18: 2: 3	26: 2: 2	Bulk supplies
an	26	20	244: 7: 2	170: 3: 2	
	4	5	27: 9: 8	37:10:10	
	3	4	21: 8: 7	30:16: 6	
	21	-	87: 7: 8	--	Ceased
	19	8	153:14: -	110:12:10	
ows	5	10	50:10: -	109: 8: 4	
	9	5	119: 5: -	60:15: -	
	10	5	58:12: 1	3: 4: -	
		2 mths.			
rward	799	692	5745:14: 6	5625: 2: 7	



<u>Place.</u>	<u>Rate.</u>	<u>By whom supplied.</u>	<u>Supervised</u>
Katanning	As per contract	Contractor	Brought fo Police
Kellerberrin	"	"	"
Kojonup	"	"	"
Kookynie	"	"	"
Kurnalpi	"	"	"
Laverton	"	"	"
Lawlers	"	"	"
Leonora	"	"	"
Linden	"	"	T. Corcora
Mandurah	"	"	Insp. Lawr
Marble Bar	"	"	Police
Meekatharra	"	"	"
Mingenew	"	"	"
Mount Barker	"	"	"
Mount Magnet	"	"	"
Moora	"	"	"
Morgans	"	"	"
Mullalyup	"	"	"
Mullewa	"	"	"
Mundaring	"	"	"
Narrogin	"	"	"
New Norcia	"	"	Abbot of Norcia
Norseman	"	"	Police
Northampton	"	"	"
Nullagine	"	"	"
Nungarin	"	"	J. Rowan
			Carried fo



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by.	Average No. of natives per month.		Total Cost.		Remarks.
	1915-16	1916-17	1915-16	1916-17	
ward	799	692	5745:14: 6	5625: 2: 7	
	34	1	157: 4: 6	3: -	
	18	-	117:12: 3	--	Ceased
	6	-	24:17: 5	--	" 1/2/16
	8	7	51:14: 7	43: 6: -	
	14	-	38: 2: 3	--	" 1/1/16
6 mths					
	17	20	143:18: 5	154:12: 9	
	9	10	77: 2: -	103:18: 2	
	13	13	85:14: 2	75: 6: 2	
n	12	-	76:16:10	--	Ceased. Transferred to Burtville.
ence	1	-	3:13: 3	--	Ceased 1/10/15
	2	1	19:13: 5	14:17: 6	Tempy. relief
	10	12	102: 4: 6	129: 5: 9	
	2	5	14:11: 6	18:18: 3	
		5 mths			
	1	1	2:15: -	1:12: 8	
		3 mths			
	14	12	72:16: 6	63: 7: 5	
	9	5	68:19: 8	48:19: 1	
	1	1	3: 7	3: 3: 4	Tempy. relief
	1	1	12: 5: 4	21: 3: 3	
	4	4	39:16: 4	32:19: -	
	2	-	12:12: 7	--	Ceased 1/3/6
	7	6	44: 6: 6	34: 4: 5	
New	7	2	72:12:11	19:14: 1	
	8	8	81:13: 4	91:16: 2	
	19	13	126: 7: 2	81: -:11	
	24	21	239:10: -	198:18: 4	
J. P.	14	30	97: 9: 1	186: 9: 6	
ward	1056	865	7530: 7: 7	6948:18: 4	



<u>Place.</u>	<u>Rate.</u>	<u>By whom supplied.</u>	<u>Supervised</u>
			Brought Forward
Onslow	As per contract	Contractor	Police
Ongerup	"	"	"
Peak Hill	"	"	"
Perth	"	"	Chief Protection
Pinjarra	"	"	Police
Port Hedland	"	"	"
Quairading	"	"	"
Roebourne	"	"	"
Sandstone	"	"	"
Tableland	Bulk supplies	Aborigines Department	Res. Magistrate Roebourne
Tambellup	As per contract	Contractor	Police
Toodyay	"	"	"
Tuckanarra	"	"	R. Searle
Wagin	"	"	Police
Wallal	Bulk supplies	Aborigines Department	C. Somerset
Whim Creek	6d. per day	Pilbarra Trading Co.	Police
Wickepin	As per contract	Contractor	"
Wiluna	"	"	"
Wyndham	"	"	"
Yalgoo	"	"	"
Yardie Creek	Bulk supplies	Aborigines Department	Holst & Campbell
Youanmi	As per contract	Contractor	Police



by.	Average No. of natives per month.		Total Cost.		Remarks.
	1915-16	1916-17	1915-16	1916-17	
ard	1056	865	7530: 7: 7	6948:18: 4	
	-	2	--	15:13:11	
	2	-	15: 4:10	--	Ceased 1/11/5
	10	12	104: -:10	153:16: 9	
tor	1	1	1: 6: 2	3:19:10	Tempy. relief
	2	2	26: 9: 7	29:10: 9	
	4	1 6 mths	79: 7: 7	13:13: 3	Up to Decem- ber.
	8	8 2 mths	68: -: 3	25:14: 2	
	3	3	21:12: 9	62:11: 5	
	9	8	66: 8: 7	59:15: 1	
ate	25	25	203:11: 6	177:10: 1	
	1	-	8: 6	--	Tempy. relief
	2	2 8 weeks	29: 1: 4	1: 9: 8	
	12	16	136: 2: 4	149:10: -	
	4	3	28: 6: 7	21:16: -	
	30	20	110: 3: 3	90: 5:11	
	8	4	69: -: 3	49: 6: 6	
	2	-	17: 3: 6	--	Ceased 1/3/16
	11	14	96:15: 8	161:11: 2	
	1	1 2 mths	6: 2: 6	7: 1	Tempy. relief
	8	11	64: 1: 3	64: 6:10	
	5	7	57: 5: 9	11:18: 7	
	1	7	6: 5: 5	60: 7: 7	" "
	1205	1012	8737: 6: -	8102: 2:11	



The average number of indigent natives maintained monthly has decreased by 193, and the cost of provisions is approximately £635 less than for the previous year. As a matter of fact, the actual cash saving is more than this, as included in the return under feeding depots is the value of cattle supplied from the Moola Bulla Station for feeding the natives there and at Violet Valley Feeding Depot, the estimated value of which has been increased for bookkeeping purposes by 10/- per head in each case, equalling £274. Thus, in two years the ration bill has been reduced by nearly £2,000, and yet the natives requiring sustenance appear to be as well fed now as they were two years ago, but waste has been eliminated. A few rationing stations have been closed, and the natives transferred to one or other of the settlements or missions, while in several cases bulk supplies have been substituted for the old and unsatisfactory method of making per capita payments. Only three per capita stations now remain, and arrangements for closing these are in progress.

Blankets and clothing at a cost of £1,340:15: 6, as compared with £1,088:10: 4 for the previous year, have been distributed in approximately seventy different districts, as follows :-

		(Previous year)
		( 1915-16. )
Blankets, ...	1,373	1,426
Dresses, ...	803	634
Shirts, ...	764	573
Undershirts, ...	593	481
Trousers, ...	701	607
	-----	-----
	4,234	3,721
	-----	-----

Practically all these goods were purchased during the year, tenders being called locally, the old practice of entering into a three years' contract being impossible under existing circumstances. We were unfortunately obliged to substitute cotton for flannel shirts, as the cost of the latter was prohibitive, added to the difficulty of securing suitable material. Prices advanced/



advanced considerably all round, and we had to pay approximately 3/- more for every blanket, 4/3d. more for every dress, and nearly 1/- more for every pair of trousers than during the previous year. As it is apparent that in the near future it will be impossible to obtain the required quantities of some of the garments, and owing to the increased cost of such garments as may be procurable, it appears to me to be essential for the Department to manufacture what is required for the natives, at its own settlements. I see no reason why this should not be done, and have at Carrolup already demonstrated the fact that shirts and children's clothing can be made for considerably less than they can now be purchased elsewhere.

HEALTH.

Except for one or two more or less serious epidemics of measles and pneumonia, the health of the natives has been generally good. A serious outbreak of measles occurred amongst the Guildford natives in September, which was complicated in many cases by the addition of bronchitis and pneumonia. Although forty natives were attacked, only one child succumbed. Medical attendance was provided, extra rations issued, and everything done to assist those suffering. The condition of the Guildford camp, which is not on an Aborigines Reserve, has several times been reported to be deplorable, and is certainly not conducive to the welfare of the natives. It will be a good thing for all concerned when the indigents can be removed to the Mogumber settlement, and the camp, which has been a source of trouble for years be broken up.

There was an outbreak of pneumonia amongst the natives at Peak Hill, resulting in the death of two indigents. Measles also broke out at our own settlement at Carrolup, having been carried there by one of the Guildford natives, but thanks to careful nursing and proper food, all the patients rapidly recovered. The same disease also appeared at Goomalling and Whim Creek, while influenza occurred at Mount Magnet, dengue and

pneumonia/



pneumonia at Reebourne. Medical attendance, apart from the cost of treatment of indigents at public hospitals and expenditure in connection with the Lock Hospitals, amounted to £170:7:9.

The number of deaths reported was 152, and the following table sets out the causes thereof, as reported to the Department:-

<u>DEATHS.</u>			
Accident,	...	...	2
Asthenia,	...	...	1
Beri-beri,	...	...	1
Blood poisoning,	...	...	1
Cold,	...	...	5
Consumption,	...	...	6
Consumption of the bowels,	...	...	1
Convulsions,	...	...	2
Drowning,	...	...	1
Fits,	...	...	1
Gangrene,	...	...	1
Granuloma,	...	...	1
Gastro-enteritis,	...	...	1
Heart disease,	...	...	11
Hodgkins disease,	...	...	1
Hydatids,	...	...	1
Influenza,	...	...	2
Meningitis,	...	...	2
Measles,	...	...	5
Natural causes,	...	...	37
Obstetrical confinement,	...	...	1
Premature birth,	...	...	4
Pneumonia,	...	...	16
Paralysis,	...	...	2
Pleurisy,	...	...	1
Rheumatism,	...	...	1
Result of confinement,	...	...	2
Stillborn,	...	...	2
Senile decay,	...	...	21
Spear wound,	...	...	1
Stoppage of the bowels,	...	...	1
Snake bite,	...	...	1
Tribal murders,	...	...	3
Tuberculosis,	...	...	5
UnKnown,	...	...	1
Venereal sores,	...	...	1
Lock Hospitals,	...	...	6
			<hr/>
			152
			<hr/> <hr/>

The number is 37 in excess of the figures for the previous year, and as the table has been compiled under the new system of reporting instituted last year, the figures are probably fairly accurate, certainly much more so than those submitted during previous years. It is doubtful, however, whether all deaths/



deaths are even yet reported to the Department, as employers do not seem to be aware of their obligation under Section 32 of the Aborigines Act, to immediately report to the Chief Protector the death of any aboriginal or half-caste in their employ forwarding at the same time such particulars as will enable the deceased to be identified. Venereal disease is still said to be prevalent in certain districts, particularly in the Kimberley Division, but information to hand from all sources seems to emphasise the fact that the disease is not now nearly so prevalent as it was a few years ago, or that previous reports have been exaggerated. No doubt the establishment of the Lock Hospitals has had a considerable effect in the direction of diminishing the amount of venereal existing in the North-West, many districts having been practically cleaned up by this means, but everything now points to the fact that the upkeep of such expensive institutions as Dorre and Bernier Island Hospitals is no longer justified. The expedition which went out in March 1916, in charge of Mr. G.S. Olivey, finished its work early in January 1917. Commencing at Marble Bar, it traversed the whole of the Marble Bar, Port Hedland, De Grey, Nullagine and Roy Hill districts, and returned along the Fortescue River and through the West Pilbarra District to Roebourne. In all 513 natives were examined for venereal, and only 32 of these were considered fit subjects for the Lock Hospitals, although 24 other mild cases were treated and cured by the leader of the expedition, and returned to their country. Of the 32 sent to the Lock Hospitals, many were returned to their districts within a few weeks. It will be seen, therefore, that the disease in this, generally considered the worst district in the State, was not nearly so prevalent as had been expected. The same can be said of the result of the previous expedition in 1912, occupying 16 months, which traversed the Ashburton, Pilbarra and Roebourne Districts,

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and also of that through the Gascoyne in 1915. Whether the methods hitherto adopted in searching out existing cases has not been sufficiently effective is perhaps questionable, but the fact remains that the number secured on each of the expeditions sent out has not been nearly so great as the Department had been led to believe, proving fairly conclusively that the disease was not nearly so prevalent as was supposed, at all events in those districts traversed by the expeditions.

As regards the position of the Lock Hospitals, which were established for the treatment of a large number of natives, it was found practically impossible to get those suffering from the disease to the islands, as the steamers on the coast refused absolutely to carry them from port to port. In one or two instances the Department was able to arrange conveyance by lugger at special rates, but at the end of the year the islands had practically become the permanent residence of approximately 50 chronic cases, and the cost of upkeep was out of all proportion to the benefit derived from the expenditure. Six deaths occurred at the Lock Hospitals, all of whom were females. Fourteen males and thirtytwo females were admitted, while eighteen males and twentytwo females were discharged.

At the request of the natives in several places, I was able to arrange to supply periodical progress reports as to the condition of their friends or relatives in the hospitals, to natives in all the districts from whence the patients came, an arrangement which gave much satisfaction, and the absence of which was causing much trouble when attempting to examine the healthy, and inducing the sick ones found inland to journey to the coast, or to the nearest District Medical Officer for examination.

CRIMES.

The crimes committed by aboriginals as reported to the Department during the year numbered 244, but the report of

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the Commissioner of Police shows that the figures are not complete, as was expected to be the case, in view of the fact that the reporting system, previously referred to in the case of deaths, was not properly in force during the whole year. According to the Commissioner of Police, offences committed by aborigines brought to trial numbered 365, being an increase of 73 as compared with the preceding year.

Drunkenness and receiving liquor account for no less than 115 of the convictions reported. There were thirtythree convictions in Perth alone under these heads. The practice of supplying natives with liquor appears to be increasing, despite the vigilant efforts made to bring offenders to justice. Twentyseven persons other than natives were convicted for various breaches of the Aborigines Act, of whom twentytwo were convicted for supplying liquor. Fines ranging from £5 to £100, totalling £690, were imposed, while in one instance the defendant, having several previous convictions against him, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment without the option of a fine. The following table indicates the nature and number of the crimes reported to the Department during the year :-



Habitual drunkenness, . . .	83
Stealing, . . .	18
Receiving liquor, . . .	32
Cattle killing, . . .	18
Disorderly, . . .	21
Assault, . . .	10
Unlawful possession, . . .	2
Escaping custody, . . .	10
Murder, . . .	1
Carrying firearms, . . .	3
Resisting arrest, . . .	2
Unlawfully on premises, . . .	1
Cruelty to animals, . . .	2
Living on proceeds of prostitution, . .	1
Supplying liquor, . . .	4
Wilful exposure, . . .	1
Obscene language, . . .	4
On prohibited area, . . .	2
Fighting, . . .	2
Idle and disorderly, . . .	7
Breach of Railway Act, . . .	1
Loitering, . . .	3
Indecent conduct, . . .	1
Obtaining goods by false pretences, . .	1
Breach of Bush Fires Act, . . .	1
Vagrancy, . . .	1
Deserting, . . .	8
Damaging property, . . .	1
Neglected child, . . .	1
Using threatening language, . . .	1
Removing Pearl Shell without a license, .	1
	<hr/>
	244
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CERTIFICATES OF EXEMPTION.

Certificates of Exemption under Section 63 of the Aborigines Act were applied for by ten natives or half-castes. Six were refused, one was deferred, and two were not finally dealt with at the end of the year, whilst the remaining application was from a person whom it was found upon inquiry was not deemed to come within the scope of the Aborigines Act. Practically all of the exemptions were applied for merely to permit the holders to enter licensed premises and obtain liquor, and were on that account refused.

I have drawn the attention of the Government to the conflict existing between the Licensing and Aborigines Acts in respect to the supplying of liquor to natives and half-castes,

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and trust that before long it will be possible to introduce an amendment which will have the effect of removing the anomaly now existing, making it an offence under one Act to supply liquor to certain persons, which the other Act permits. I consider that only those natives or half-castes holding certificates of exemption granted in accordance with the provisions of the Aborigines Act should be entitled to obtain liquor, and in other respects have all the privileges of the white man.

RECOGNISANCES.

Permits were granted in the terms of Section 9 of the Aborigines Act to 60 persons to remove 87 natives to other districts, in every case recognisances being entered into for the return of the natives to their own districts. Particulars are as hereunder, and it has been necessary to continue to give close attention to the due observance of this section of the Act, in order to prevent natives being stranded in districts far removed from their own.

	<u>Recognisances.</u>	<u>No. of natives.</u>
Broome, ...	11	11
Derby, ...	8	8
Hall's Creek, ...	2	2
Norseman, ...	1	1
Onslow, ...	3	6
Perth, ...	11	20
Port Hedland, ...	1	1
Roeboorne, ...	16	17
Wiluna, ...	3	14
Wyndham, ...	4	7
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	60	87
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GOVERNMENT SETTLEMENTS AND FEEDING DEPOTS.

MOOLA BULLA CATTLE STATION, EAST KIMBERLEY :- Although it had been intended to incur some expenditure on improvements, it was found that owing to the scarcity of labour in the district contracts could not be arranged, and it subsequently transpired that/



that the money authorised in this connection was required for other purposes. Consequent upon the visit to the station of Mr. H.C. Castilla, one of the engineers attached to the Water Supply Department, a comprehensive report as to the conservation of water was submitted. During the year, also, Mr. Tindale, the Engineer for the North-West, visited the station and subsequently conferred with Mr. Castilla as to the conclusions arrived at. It was then too late in the season to make a start to give effect to the proposals, but a certain sum was noted for the following Estimates, with which to make a commencement and some of the work is now in hand. The scheme contemplates the expenditure of a considerable sum of money, and I am hopeful of being able to provide on the Estimates a substantial sum yearly for the next two or three years in order that the work may be carried to completion. There is no doubt whatever that the property justifies the expenditure, and when the work is finished, the station should be able to carry more than double the number of cattle than is the case at present.

As indicated in my last report, I recommended that the operations of the station should be excluded from the Government Trading Concerns Act, 1912, and in this I was successful. Following upon this decision, it was agreed that the books of the station should close on the 30th June in each year, instead of 31st March, the date decided upon when the station was treated as a trading concern. This had the effect of closing the station accounts on the same date as all other Departmental accounts - a much more satisfactory arrangement from the Departmental point of view. It had, however, the effect of extending the period under review to fifteen months.

The season was an exceptionally good one, consequently we had a record branding, no less than 4,072 calves being added to the herd. The breeding stock purchased during the year included two bulls and ten heifers, bought from Mr. Murray Prior,



of Marroon, Doonah, Queensland. These were pedigree shorthorn cattle from Mr. Murray Prier's well known herd, of which he has been a successful breeder and exhibitor for many years, and should go a long way to improve the Noola Bulla herd. They have been very favourably commented on by the Queensland Stock Authorities and other experts who have seen them, and the price paid was considered very reasonable. The yearling bull "Nigel 3rd" is a particularly fine youngster, whose sire is the Angus bred bull "Duke of York 14th". A calf by the same bull took first prize for calves under 12 months at the last Brisbane Exhibition, and an offer of five hundred guineas was refused for him.

Another Jack donkey was purchased from Mr. S.P. Mackay. This animal is by Mr. Mackay's imported Spanish donkey out of a picked mare, and is a handsome animal. Although purchased during the year, none of the stud stock referred to arrived at the station until after the close of the financial year.

The transport of stores via Derby and Fitzroy instead of over the Wyndham-Hall's Creek route has proved successful, and is certainly cheaper.

I am pleased to be able to report that the station shows a profit of £565:10:6 on trading for the fifteen months, and the total loss carried forward from previous years now stands at £467:6:11. At the same time it must be borne in mind that interest and Departmental charges, amounting to a considerable sum, have been paid throughout, although this has not entailed any out of pocket cash expenditure. Moreover, the reserve fund of £1,500, though never yet required, still stands as a liability, and the cattle on the run are valued at 30/- per head, which must be regarded as a particularly low valuation, in view of the present price of cattle. With a large number of saleable cattle on hand, the position may be regarded as very satisfactory.



The following is a report on the working of the station, and the condition of the natives at Moola Bulla and Violet Valley, by the Manager, Mr. Arthur Haly :-

I have the honour to hand you my report concerning Moola Bulla Station for the financial year (15 months) ending 30th June, 1917.

IMPROVEMENTS. Although about seven hundred pounds were authorised for further improvements, owing to the scarcity of labour in the district, contractors could not be obtained to go on with the work.

In May, 1916, Mr. H.C. Castilla, Engineer for Water Supply, visited the station and spent some two months traversing the run with a view of reporting on the possibilities of water conservation. A scheme has been formulated, and a recommendation made that a certain sum of money be expended each year in water conservation, and I trust that this will be carried out.

CATTLE. Early storms having fallen in October, and a good average rainfall recorded each month up to and including March (over 28 inches were registered in the six months) the cattle have done remarkably well, and there has been a record calving. The rain was splendid "grass rain", but as there were no heavy falls, we did not have the usual floods which flush out the holes in the rivers and the billa bongs, and insure a good supply of water. Consequently, I anticipate a shortage of water at the end of the year, and will have to shift most of the herd out on to the Rocky River where water is plentiful, but feed scarce. With a record branding, and as yet no sale of bullocks for forward delivery, there are more cattle on the run now than at any time previously, and we are in reality overstocked as far as waters are concerned. On 1st April, 1916, there were on the station 12,417 head of cattle. During the year 4,289 calves were branded, making a total of 16,706. From this must be deducted 527 bullocks sold, 273 cattle sent to Violet Valley, 462 head killed for rations and indigents and 772 head written off for mortality, leaving a balance of 14,672 on the run on 30th June, an increase of 2,255 for the period under review. At present there are over 1,500 marketable bullocks on the station, and I trust we will be able to dispose of them early next year.

HORSES. With the wonderful growth of grass caused by the protracted wet season, horses did very well, and we had a record foaling. Unfortunately, during the latter months of 1916, an epidemic of "strangles" or rather influenza, broke out amongst the horses, and although only a few of the grown horses succumbed, the death rate in the foals was heavy. Notwithstanding this, the foal branding was in excess of any previous year.

A draft of 16 geldings was sold to a Fitzroy buyer, and inquiries made for more, but we were not able to supply. Nineteen head were sold to the Police for remounts. These were a very fine lot, and were much admired by outsiders. In all, 46 horses have been sold at an average of £14:14:0.

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With the terrible wastage of horse flesh in this war, it is the opinion of experts that after the war, there will be a world shortage of horses. In years past I have advocated the extension of our horse breeding, and would again point out the necessity of more stallions, and, if possible, some well bred mares. As pointed out before, we have excellent horse breeding country capable of rearing thousands of horses, and an almost unlimited market close at hand in West Kimberley, where the mortality from Kimberley disease each year is exceptionally heavy. The thoroughbred stallion "Gurkha" met with an accident to his foot, and we were deprived of his services during the stud season. All the other stallions have done well, and the Suffolk Punch, "Homebush Conran", is furnishing into a fine horse. The station team has again been put on the road carting supplies from Fitzroy Crossing, and a number of fillies by the Clydesdale stallions have been broken in, and are doing splendid work. The Jack donkey purchased from Mr. S. Mackay has been mated with twenty mares, and good results are anticipated. A further effort in mule breeding is to be made at Violet Valley as soon as a paddock is completed. The public still continue to avail themselves of the chance of improving their horse stock by sending mares to the various stallions, and over £100 has been collected in stud fees. Over fifty colts and fillies have been broken in.

GENERAL. Owing to the general hand leaving in January, and no one being available to take his place, I was compelled to take away the tanning hand to run the engine and do general work. However, he has found time to continue tanning a limited number of hides, and we still have leather for sale. Over £100 worth of leather has been sold during the year, and all leather goods required for station use have been made from our own material.

The usual permanent hands have been employed, and casual labour put on as required. An average of 35 natives have been employed in the general working of the station.

CONDITION AND TREATMENT OF ABORIGINES ON MOOLA BULLA AND VIOLET VALLEY. During the period under review - fifteen months - 275 head of cattle were killed for the indigent natives on Moola Bulla and 273 head were sent to Violet Valley.

For some unexplained reason, the natives have not visited Moola Bulla in such numbers as in former years, the monthly average being only 112. This is in part probably due to Messrs Vesty Bros. at their Ord River, Flora Valley, and other stations, adopting the principle of encouraging the natives to remain at the homesteads by killing cattle for them to prevent their wandering to and fro across the runs. Without doubt the natives on some of Messrs Vesty Bros. stations have been well cared for, and the firm are to be commended for their humane treatment of indigent natives. In former years the Flora Valley and Turner (Ord River) natives have visited us in large numbers, but this year we have seen very few. At Violet Valley, on the other hand, the numbers visiting there have greatly increased, and many from Bedford Downs side who occasionally came in here, have this year confined themselves to Violet Valley.

A new tribe have recently visited Violet Valley and evidently travelled some considerable distance as they were unknown to the local tribes who referred to them as



"Salt Water Blacks", intimating that they came from near the coast. These natives wore no article of clothing whatever, not even the usual loin cloth, and could not understand English.

Fortunately we have again escaped any epidemic in the camps, not even the usual influenza or "dog disease" being prevalent this year, though a number have suffered from severe colds. It is generally understood that the natives are a dying race, but this is not so at Woola Bulla and Violet Valley, where the percentage of young children is remarkable. The deaths have been very few.

Employment has been found on the settlements for as many natives as possible, where it has been found that their labours would in some way pay for the feed and clothing. An average of 47 have been employed on Woola Bulla and eight on Violet Valley.

(Sgd) ARTHUR HALY,  
Manager.

VIOLET VALLEY, EAST KIMBERLEY :- The decision to place the control of this feeding depot directly under the Manager of Woola Bulla Station has resulted successfully. Mr. Haly has paid many visits to the Depot, and, although the place can never be self-supporting, it is hoped to make good use of it as a breeding station.

The natives visiting Violet Valley for food have increased, which is contrary to our experience at Woola Bulla, where for the reasons stated by Mr. Haly, there has been a decrease in the numbers. Many of the natives frequenting this place have scarcely yet come into contact with civilisation, and it is most interesting from an Ethnological point of view to observe the way in which the hitherto hostile tribes intermingle when on neutral ground, sitting down together in the most friendly manner, joining in each other's corroborees, and the natives have learned to regard these settlements as common ground where all may enter and remain without fear or injury, under Government protection. Probably this result could not have been effected under any other system.



LA GRANGE BAY, BEACLE BAY, LOMBADINA AND SUNDAY ISLAND, KIMBERLEY DIVISION :-

At these depots, only one of which, (La Grange), is under the immediate control of the Department, an average of 212 indigent natives were fed throughout the year, at a cost of £1,716, particulars being found on page 9.

CARROLUP RIVER, SOUTH WEST DIVISION :- Satisfactory progress has been made at this settlement, though the wet winter hindered building operations. It has become necessary for the temporary buildings to be replaced by permanent structures as soon as possible, as the former are becoming dilapidated, and were never intended to last longer than a couple of years. A new stone school has, however, been finished, and was opened by the Hon. Colonial Secretary on the 2nd June, 1917. A sick ward and staff quarters are under construction of the same material, after which it is intended to replace the temporary dormitories in a similar manner.

The placing of a trained nurse at the Institution has had a considerable effect upon the health of the inmates, and the improvement made by the children is astonishing, due no doubt to careful nursing and good food.

Owing to the excessively wet winter, the camp natives suffered somewhat, and it became necessary to supply tents to take the place of the insanitary and leaky mias which the natives are accustomed to erect for themselves. I hope, before next winter, to be able to erect structures which will at least keep the natives dry and warm during the wet months.

Before the end of the year, arrangements were made to appoint a school teacher, the number of children having increased to over 50, and it was therefore no longer possible for the Matron to conduct school, as was the previous practice.

The population here is steadily increasing, but there are still many more indigents to be brought in.



Following is the report of the Superintendent, (Mr. W.J. Fryer), upon the year's working :-

In presenting my report for the year ending 30th June 1917, I beg to state that the work has continued as fast as it was possible to cope with the growing needs. It would be impossible to write fully of all doings, but the following may suffice :-

BUILDINGS. Our attention was first devoted to those in the compound, which now consist of superintendent's residence, dormitory each for boys and girls, dining room, bakehouse and oven, work room, formerly used as school also, bath rooms, laundry and new school, ration shed and cart shed. Most of the children's buildings are of a temporary nature, but the laundry and new school were built of stone and brick, walls 14 inches in thickness. The laundry is 20 x 12, fitted with two 20-gallon coppers, 2 cement wash-tubs and cement floors. The school is 40 x 25 x 12ft. walls, and plastered inside, with high ceiling, and raised platform for teacher. The stone was got on the place. Bricks were also made. The stone work meant a big job for our men. Another horse and tip dray was supplied to cope with the building trade. A stonemason and carpenter were supplied to do the buildings, the native men doing the labouring work. The sick ward was commenced, but the rain prevented completion during the year. We were in hopes of staff quarters being built. Although we have several buildings erected, still there are many more to meet the needs of the settlement. The area of the compound had to be enlarged, fenced and cleared of all stumps, etc. When wire becomes cheaper we hope to net same all round. Ornamental trees have been planted, but the pines have been mostly unsuccessful.

CLEARING AND CULTIVATION. We were able to get about 20 acres more cleared. Most of this has been sown with oats, etc. for hay. Of course same had to be fenced, which meant post cutting and carting of same. The last harvest resulted in about 4 tons of hay. Of the 12 acres sown, half of this area was sown late, and the ground being new, we could not expect great things. Still the hay was of good quality. The balance was fed off by horses and sheep. About one acre of maize was put in, but results were poor. Most of the other crops, such as melons, marrows, carrots, mangels, and other vegetables, grew to success on new ground. A cow was purchased late in the year. About 2 acres were netted in for garden purposes. There is every reason to believe that we can grow more vegetables than we can use. We could sell any quantity of vegetables now if we had same, but like many other things that are in the future, results are to come. Every branch of work has its growing need. About 80 or 100 acres were fenced in for a grass paddock for the horses, two wires only.

SHEEP. The success of lamb raising has not been the best. The first year's lambs resulted in 50 maturing. 27 of these were ewe lambs. The wether lambs were killed for mutton. This year we expect to raise 60 lambs from 100 ewes. Two rams were sent down from Perth. One of these was unfortunately lost after being here one week. The sheep were shorn, 7 cwt. and 1 qr. of wool, to the value



of 250 being secured. They were also dipped. One hundred and fiftyfour were killed for use on settlement. The skins were disposed of from time to time, which meant that mutton cost about 6d. per lb. Many wethers were bought for meat. We sustained some loss through sheep being lost and poisoned.

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES. There were no births. There were several deaths amongst the old folk from July to November in 1916. Since then there have been no deaths. The health of inmates has improved very much. One man was sent to the Woodroo Sanatorium, and died some months later. Dr. Pope, of Katanning, paid a few visits to the settlement, and inspected any natives not feeling well. It seems that the regular meals and dry sleeping is telling for good on the young life. Sick natives must have been much neglected in the past, with no one to care for them. The first marriage took place during the year, which proved a great novelty.

CONDUCT. This has been fair all through. A few rows took place among the camp natives. A Police Officer from Katanning or Kojonup has visited the settlement every month. We believe that very little drink came to the settlement. Only once was a man seen under its influence.

POPULATION. Last year the monthly average was about 50. This year 80 would be near correct. The men come and go. Shearing is a big attraction for them. Still, we always have a fair supply of working men. One month we had over 100. The children total nearly 60 now. 50 or more of these are of school age, 40 being in the compound. The indigents were supplied with tents this year, so they look more homely and contented. Many natives have been sent in from various places, Snowangerup, Bunbury, Esperance, Narrogin, Kellerberrin, Limestone, Guildford, Victoria Park.

SCHOOL. No teacher being supplied, we have had to do the best we could, half days school. The morning was taken up in sewing, patching, raffia, new garments, shirts, boys' suits, girls' dresses, women's dresses, and general housework. The boys took part in sewing also. The learning has been fair, considering the absence of a permanent teacher.

VISITORS. There have been many visitors to the settlement. Much surprise was expressed at the progress made in such a short time.

The year under review has been one of much hard work for everyone. While many of our men could have done better, yet many did well, and deserve credit, as much of the work is new to them. It is impossible to do all we would like to do, but our short time and experience, combined with the drawbacks, go so show that one day this place can be profitable to the Department, as well as to the natives. We have not had to fight to get our requirements, but rather to work harder to use them up as they came along. We have commenced the new year with fresh energies to try and accomplish much more of the task before us.

(Sgd) W.J. FRYER,  
Superintendent.



MOORE RIVER, NOGUMBER, MIDLAND DISTRICT :- The excessively wet winter prevented us from progressing as fast with the work of establishing this settlement as I had hoped. Moreover, as there is no made road to the site, it is only possible for teaming work to be undertaken in the driest months of the year. Nevertheless, a good deal of preparatory work has been carried out, some of the best river flats having been cleared and cultivated, and a site for the settlement prepared.

I decided not to proceed with the building until the area had been definitely gazetted an aborigines reserve, and this was not possible during the year, owing to the fact that certain C.P. land already alienated, together with two homestead farms, had to be resumed, and the owner compensated, the negotiations, due to the absence at the front of one of the lessors, being considerably protracted. The Lands Department have now resumed all the required land, and the reserve has been gazetted under the Land Act, and will shortly be proclaimed a reserve under the Aborigines Act. Thus we will be enabled to proceed as fast as the money at my disposal will permit. It is urgently necessary that this place should be established before next winter. The condition of the native camps at Moore and Guildford, especially the latter, are bad in the extreme, and it is quite time that the natives were removed from both these places. There are, moreover, several families awaiting accommodation at Moore River, whom it is hoped to establish there before the rains set in.

Owing to the immense volume of water flowing down the Moore River in the winter months, I found it necessary to establish the settlement on the south bank, instead of on the north, where it was previously suggested it should be placed. There is a track from Nogumber Station leading to the south side, but it is impossible to approach the northern part of the Reserve with carts carrying any load during the wet weather.



MISSIONS.

Hitherto it has been the custom for the authorities of the Various Missions to forward lengthy reports of their doings, and these, while of great interest to myself and useful from a Departmental point of view, are too voluminous to embody fully in the Annual Departmental Report. I have, therefore, this year compiled a statement from information supplied by the Mission authorities, and that available in the Department, which I think will meet the case, together with a few brief extracts from reports received, covering the work of the period under review. A request which I made that a statement of receipts and expenditure, showing how the State subsidy has been expended, should be sent in, met with little response, only two Missions forwarding any definite information in this regard.

The health of all inmates at Missions appears to have been fairly satisfactory. There was an epidemic of measles at New Hercia, and influenza at Sunday Island, while mumps broke out at the Swan Native and Half-caste Mission, and three cases of diphtheria at Dalhi Gunyah. Three children at Southern Missions proved to be tubercular, while there were isolated cases of pneumonia, bronchitis and dysentery. A case of venereal was removed from Sunday Island. At only two of the Missions was a medical man called in.

Beagle Bay authorities report a good season after a very dry one in 1916, when a number of cattle died. The blacksmith's shop was burnt down, and many useful tools destroyed. This was followed by a willy-willy, which blew down the school and did other damage. The Mission schooner "Namban" was also badly damaged. Owing, possibly, to the heavy rains, several horses died.

Mr. Hadley of Sunday Island reports that the trocas shell is becoming depleted, and his takings consequently much smaller./



smaller, while on the contrary the price of rice has considerably risen. Cypress pine has been obtained from the other side of King Sound, with which to build a cottage for the schoolmaster, and for the roofing of the other buildings, this timber being nearly white ant proof. Thirty children are in constant attendance at school, and good progress has been made.

At Manover Bay the completion of the removal of the buildings from the old site to one further inland was effected, a larger and speedier boat has been secured for the service between the Mission and Broome. A few head of stock have also been obtained. Inadequate supplies of flour and rice necessitated slowing down, and many able-bodied men and women were turned into the bush to fend for themselves, development thus being retarded.

No report has come to hand from Drysdale River.

The Manager of the Swan Native and Half-caste Mission reports that an outbreak of measles in the early part of the year necessitated the closing of the school for some time; nevertheless the progress has been good. The school was inspected on the 7th December 1916, and on the 19th June 1917, both reports being very favourable.

The Matron of the Salvation Army Girls' Home, Kalgoorlie, states that five girls have been sent out to service, and all are doing well. Two girls have been sick during the year, but the others are all well.







## N O R T H E R N.

	<u>BEAGLE BAY.</u>	<u>LOMBADINA.</u>	<u>WARRALE RIVER.</u>	<u>FORREST RIVER.</u>
Name of Governing Body	Pious Society of Missions	Pious Society of Missions	The Community	Australian Board of Missions
Land occupied, and nature of tenure	10,000 acres freehold, 80,000 acres leasehold, 40 acres town lot. Use of Aborigines Reserve 700,000 acres.	Nil. Situated leasehold not by Mission.	10,000 acres for 49 years from July 1st 1900, 50,000 acres pastoral lease.	100,000 acres reserved for Mission purposes within Aborigines Reserve of 4,000,000 acres.
Area under crop, in process of cultivation, etc.	10 acres garden, 15 acres farm.	Nil	particulars available	10 acres
Stock owned by Mission at 30th June, 1917 :-				
Cattle	4,100	-	No particulars available	-
Horses	22	-	available	9
Sheep	-	-		-
Donkeys	1	-		6
Mules	22	-		-
Goats	300	90		350
Figs	20	-		-
General Improvements, (not all effected within the year.)	New store, blacksmith's shop, saddle store, sewing room, laundry, wells and windmills attended to.	School and dormitory of bush timber for boys erected.	No particulars available	Ten houses, horse paddock, wells, dams, fencing grounds.
Special efforts to make Mission self-supporting	Stock raising	Attempt to manufacture buttons	No particulars available	Sales of garden produce. Cattle and sheep being obtained
Average number of natives under influence of Mission.	M. 61 ) F. 43 ( 231 C. 127 )	40 ) 50 ( 120 30 )	particulars available	189 ) 167 ( 389 33 )
Directly supported (Indigents by State at Mission (Children	48 19	50 20	Nil "	Nil "
Government grant exclusive of cost of rations for indigents, <u>1915-16</u> , <u>1916-17</u> .	£400 £400	- -	- -	- -
Cost of rations supplied to Mission by Aborigines Department, <u>1915-16</u> , <u>1916-17</u> .	£458 £553	£343 £501	- -	- -
Average school attendance,	64	20	No particulars available	29
Births,	8	-	-	1
Deaths,	4	3	-	1
Marriages,	-	2	-	2



S O U T H E R N.

<u>HANOVER BAY.</u>	<u>SUNDAY ISLAND.</u>	<u>NEW NORCIA.</u>	<u>DULHI GUNYAH, VICTORIA PARK.</u>	<u>SWAN NATIVE AND HALF-CASTE MISSION</u>	<u>SALVATION ARMY HOME, KALGOORLIE.</u>
General Assembly of Presbyterian Church of Australia.	Sydney Hadley	Benedictine Community of New Norcia	Australian Aborigines Mission W.A. Branch.	Diocesan Trustees Church of England	The Salvation Army
58,000 acres for Mission purposes.	50 acres freehold. About 25,000 acres held for Mission purposes.	5,000 acres freehold, 13,000 perpetual pastoral lease and certain grazing leases.	10 acres freehold.	60 acres freehold	Nil
No particulars available	2 acres garden. 3 " rubber.	500 acres under crop 1,400 cleared	Nil	6 acres under crop 7 " orchard	Nil
No particulars available	16 - - - 75 -	110 70 3,000 - - 150	1 1 - - - -	8 - - - - -	- - - - - -
No particulars available	Stone dwelling-house, store, new school, matron's cottage, dormitories and offices, cattle yards, wells etc.	New buildings for boys and girls.	----	----	----
No particulars available	Trocas shell, beche-de-mer, tortoise shell and pearl shell. Contract for freight to Robinson River.	Stock breeding and cropping	Various kinds of fancy work, machine knitted woollen garments and silk	Produce grown and consumed, valued at £225, produce sold £90.	A little fancy work and plain sewing.
No particulars available	41 } 48 ( 135 46 )	13 ) 13 ( 93 67 )	25 children	29 children	14 children
No particulars available	23 -	Nil "	15	20	9
£100	£150	---	£438	£433	£189
£100	£ 75	---	£395	£353	£177
---	£235	---	---	---	---
---	£252	---	---	---	---
---	25	53	21	23	8
---	5	---	---	---	---
---	2	---	---	1	---
---	3	---	---	---	---



FINANCIAL.

Embodied in this report will be found the usual Statement of Receipts and Expenditure on all accounts for the year under review, also the Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss and Trading Accounts of the Moola Bulla Native Settlement. In addition to the annual sum of £10,000 set aside under Section 5 of the Aborigines Act, 1905, further sums amounting to £15,699: 2: 9 were provided for disbursement, not including receipts from Moola Bulla Station, amounting to £3,574: 8: 6, paid direct to revenue and therefore not available. The total expenditure on all services was £25,165: 9: 5, an increase of £580:14: 9 as compared with the previous year, but £533:13: 4 below the amount provided.

It seems impossible to further curtail the expenditure if existing services are to be maintained. On the other hand, it is possible to increase the revenue, as indeed has already been the case. I have, however, made certain recommendations with a view to reducing the cost of the Department, which I trust may be acceptable to the Government.

In concluding my report, I should again like to refer to the excellent service rendered to this Department by the Commissioner of Police and his officers, the continual call which it has been necessary to make upon the services of the Police having been responded to cheerfully and willingly by all concerned.

(Sgd.) A. O. NEVILLE,

25th January, 1918.

CHIEF PROTECTOR OF ABORIGINES.



## ABORIGINES DEPARTMENT.

## RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 1916-17.

Receipts Balance forward,	£166:16:10			
To grant under Sec. 5 of Aborigines Act 5 Edward VII No. 14,	10,000: - : -			
To amount provided on Estimates 1916-17,	14,672: 1: 7			
*Receipts,	860: 4: 4			
		<u>Salaries.</u>		
		Chief Protector,	312: - : -	
		Secretary,	156: - : -	
		Clerks, etc.,	399: 5: 6	867: 5: 6
		<u>Salaries - Relief Stations, etc.</u>		
		Carrolup, Superintendent,	150: - : -	
		" " Wages,	366:13: 1	
		Violet Valley,	339:15: 2	
		La Grange,	100: - : -	
		Mogumber,	36:17: 1	
		Collection of diseased natives,	469:14: 1	1,462:19: 5
		<u>Relief to Natives.</u>		
		Blankets & Clothing,	1,328:16: 5	
		Provisions,	4,745:11: 1	
		Medical fees & medicines,	170: 7: 9	
		Violet Valley Relief Station,	100: 3: 5	
		La Grange,	431: 2: 1	
		Lombadina,	493: 8: 4	
		Beagle Bay,	553: 5: 6	
		Mogumber,	44:16: 6	7,867:11: 1
		<u>Leprosy.</u>		
		Provisions,		200:16: 7
		<u>Lock Hospitals.</u>		
		Salaries & Wages - Medical Officer,	400: - : -	
		Nurses, etc.,	817: 6: 9	
		S.S. "Venus",	665:18: 8	
		Provisions,	1,090: 3: 8	
		"Venus" upkeep & repairs,	667:14:11	
		Collection of diseased natives and return to their districts,	446: 9: 2	
		Medical fees & medicines,	207: 4: 1	
		Furniture,	84: 2: 3	
		Freight and wharfage,	40: 2: 4	
		Miscellaneous,	113:11:10	
		Bedding and clothing,	338: 2: 1	
		Travelling,	94:13: 4	4,965: 9: 1
		<u>Grants to Missions.</u>		
		Dulhi Gunyah Home, Victoria Park,	435:19: 2	
		Beagle Bay,	400: - : -	
		Hanover Bay,	200:16: 6	
		Salvation Army Home, Kalgoorlie,	205: 7: 6	
		Sunday Island,	75: - : -	
		Swan Native and Half-caste,	400: 9:10	
		Lombadina,	72: - : -	
		Broome Convent,	93:15: -	1,883: 8: -
		<u>Carrolup River Native Settlement.</u>		
		Rations,	350: - : -	
		Freight and cartage,	59: - : -	
		Purchase of Stock,	127: - : -	
		Buildings and Building Material,	453: - : -	
		Farm Requirements,	170: - : -	
		Incidentals,	186: 7: -	1,345: 7: -
		<u>Moola Bulla.</u>		
		Salaries and wages,	1,542: 2: 6	
		Improvements and upkeep,	3,419:19: 1	4,962: 1: 7
		<u>General.</u>		
		Freight and cartage,	336: 2: 8	
		Travelling,	189: 7: 4	
		Transport of natives,	316: 7: 7	
		Entertainment,	187: - : -	
		Defence of natives,	50:17: 7	
		Burials,	66: 3: -	
		Miscellaneous,	189: 5: 6	
		Amount credited in error 1915-16 transferred to Chief Protector of Aborigines 1916-17,	309: 6:10	
			1: 2: -	1,603:16: 8
		Balance, being excess of receipts,		25766 533:13: 4
	£25,699: 2: 9			£25,699: 2: 9

25 156  
10 860  
14 306

\*Exclusive of Moola Bulla Revenue, amounting to £3,574:8:6, paid direct to Treasury and therefore not available.



MOOLA BULLA STATION.  
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE 15 MONTHS ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1917.

<p>June To <u>Balance brought down</u> 30. £10:17: 8</p> <p>" <u>From Tanning A/c. (Return C)</u> £823:15:11</p> <p>" <u>Salaries</u> 1,029:15: 6</p> <p>" <u>Wages</u> 1,641: - : 7</p> <p>" <u>Station Provisions</u> 167: 8: 6</p> <p>" <u>Clothier Station Natives</u> 146:15: 6</p> <p>" <u>Travelling Expenses</u> 39:14: 7</p> <p>" <u>Shoeing</u> 428:17: 7</p> <p>" <u>Repairs and renewals</u> 53: 1:11</p> <p>" <u>Unkeep of motor car</u> 65:13: 9</p> <p>" <u>Sundry working expenses</u></p> <p>" <u>Postages, telegrams and stationery,</u> 7:13: -</p> <p>" <u>Depreciation :-</u> £256:16: 4</p> <p>Buildings, Windmills and tanks, 221: 7: 1</p> <p>Motor car, 43: 7: 3</p> <p>Plant and tools, etc. 144: - : 5</p> <p>665:11: 1</p> <p>" <u>Balance (profit)</u> 5,069: 7:11</p>	<p>June By <u>Balance brought down :-</u></p> <p>    <u>Cattle A/c. (Return A)</u> £7,029: - : 2</p> <p>    <u>Horses A/c. (Return B)</u> 310:17: 2</p> <p>    " <u>Sale of Goats</u> 15: - : -</p>
<p>7,354:17: 4</p>	<p>7,354:17: 4</p>
<p>To <u>Estimated services rendered by Government Departments :-</u></p> <p>Rent of leases 334: 1: 3</p> <p>Accountancy 125: - : -</p> <p>Chief Protector of Aborigines and staff 125: - : -</p> <p>Audit 18:15: -</p> <p>Stores Department 37:10: -</p> <p>Rent of buildings 6: 5: -</p> <p>Balance carried down 646:11: 3</p>	<p>By <u>Balance</u></p> <p>2,274:11: 9</p>
<p>1,628: - : 6</p> <p>2,274:11: 9</p>	<p>2,274:11: 9</p>
<p>To <u>Interest (Colonial Treasurer)</u></p> <p>Balance (net profit) 1,062:10: -</p> <p>565:10: 6</p> <p>£1,628: - : 6</p>	<p>By <u>Balance</u></p> <p>1,628: - : 6</p> <p>£1,628: - : 6</p>



MOOLA BULLA STATION.  
BALANCE SHEET. 30TH JUNE, 1917.

LIABILITIES.

Colonial Treasurer  
Loan Fund A/c.  
Revenue A/c.  
Interest  
Reparational Charges  
Reserve A/c. (against contingent  
losses on stock)  
Sundry Creditors  
Petty Cash Advance

£20,000: - : -  
4,785: 8: -  
5,713: 6: 7  
2,322: 5: -  
1,500: - : -  
224: 1: 8  
20: - : -

ASSETS.

Cattle and Horses  
on station as per Returns.  
Cattle (Return A.)  
Horses (Return B.)  
Station A/c.

£21,158: - : -  
2,976: 1: 8  
24,134: 1: 8

Buildings  
Windmills & tanks  
Wells and bores  
Fencing  
Stock Yards  
Tannery

1,295: 6: 6  
1,288: 9: 10  
733: 15: 2  
2,437: 12: 3  
1,046: 8: 8  
133: - : 7  
6,928: 13: -  
495: - : 5  
6,433: 12: 7

Less Depreciation

Plant, Tools etc.  
Steam Engine and Boiling Plant.  
Hot Air Plant, etc.

526: 14: -  
346: 17: 11  
73: - : -  
204: 12: 6  
94: - : 3  
29: 9: -  
119: 1: 3  
20: - : -  
1,413: 14: 11  
170: 10: 8

Less Depreciation

Stores on hand and in transit  
Hides and leather  
Sundry debtors  
Cash Commonwealth Bank  
Petty Cash in hand  
Profit and Loss

121: 19: 5  
3: 11: 9  
125: 11: 2

Balance brought forward from  
31st March 1916,  
Less Profit on trading for 15 months  
to date,

1,025: 17: 5  
565: 10: 6  
460: 6: 11

£34,565: 1: 3

£34,565: 1: 3



MOOLA BULLA STATION.CATTLE ACCOUNT, 30TH JUNE, 1917.

<u>1916.</u>	To <u>Cattle on hand,</u>	12,417 head,		£18,710:10: -
April 1.	" <u>Purchases.</u>			
	2 head,		8:14: -	
<u>1917.</u>	12 " (stud cattle)		<u>706: -: -</u>	714:14: -
June 30.				
	By <u>Sale of Stores and Fats.</u>			
	805 head,		3,506:15: -	
	<u>Less droving and dipping charges,</u>		<u>55: 5: -</u>	3,451:10: -
	" <u>Sale of Hides</u>			227:14: -
	" <u>Cattle killed for rations.</u>			1,617: -: -
	Station use	201 head		
	Indigent Natives,	<u>261 "</u>		
		<u>462</u>		
	" <u>Cattle on hand.-</u>			
	1/4/16 (as above)	12,417		
	Purchases	14		
	Natural Increase	<u>4,272</u>		
		16,703		
	<u>Deduct :-</u>			
	Sales	805		
	Rations	462		
	Mortality 5%	<u>771</u>	<u>2,038</u>	
			<u>14,665</u>	
	<u>Valued as under :-</u>			
	50 Bulls		290: -: -	
	50 "		370: -: -	
	10478 head @ 30/-	15,717: -: -		
	4075 calves @ 20/-	4,075: -: -		
	12 stud cattle in transit from Queensland	<u>706: -: -</u>		
	14665			21,158: -: -
	To <u>Balance carried to Profit &amp; Loss A/c.</u> being appreciation after allowing for purchases and natural increase, and for sales, rations and mortality.			7,029: -: 2
				<u>£26,454: 4: 2</u> <u>26,454: 4: 2</u>



MOOLA BULLA STATION.HORSES ACCOUNT - 30TH JUNE, 1917.

<u>1916.</u>			
April 1.	To <u>Horses on hand</u> 380 head,		£3,339:10: 5
<u>1917.</u>	" <u>Purchases</u> , 2 head		24: -: -
June 30.	By <u>Sales</u> 48 head,	£707: -: -	
	<u>Less Horse breaking fees</u> <u>and droving charges,</u>	<u>91: 2: 1</u>	£615:17:11
	" <u>Stud Fees</u>		82: 8: -
	" <u>Horses on hand :-</u>		
	1/4/16 (as above)	380	
	Purchased	2	
	Natural increase	128	
		<u>510</u>	
	<u>Deduct :-</u>		
	Sales	48	
	Mortality	<u>38</u>	<u>86</u>
	<u>Balance</u>		<u>424</u>

Valued as under :-

1 Thoroughbred "Gurkha"	66:18: -
1 " "Prince of Fashion"	98: 5:11
1 " "Comet"	59: -: 7
1 " "Mithras"	104:19: -
1 Colt ex "Mhubarb"	160: 8: 4
1 Jack Donkey,	12: -: -
1 " "	11: 5: 1
1 " "	39:19: 4
1 Suffolk Punch	171:11: 6
3 Working Horses	<u>39: 2: 8</u>

763:10: 5

Less Depreciation  
10% p.a.

95: 8: 9

668: 1: 8

284 head @ £7

1,988: -: -

128 foals @ £2:10:-320: -: -424

2,976: 1: 8

To Balance carried to Profit & Loss A/c.  
being appreciation after allowing for  
purchases and natural increase and  
for sales, mortality and depreciation  
of blood stock,

310:17: 2£3,674: 7: 73,674: 7: 7



MOOLA BULLA STATION.TANNING ACCOUNT - 30th JUNE, 1917.

<u>1916.</u>			
April 1.	To <u>Leather on hand</u>	£108: 8: 6	
<u>1917.</u>			
June 30.	" <u>Sundry Materials from stores</u>	23: 1: 10	
	" <u>Hides</u>	60: -: -	
	" <u>Wages</u>	61: 1: 7	
	By <u>Sales of Leather</u>		£95: -: 9
	" <u>Leather used on Station</u>		26: 8: 6
	" <u>Hides and Leather in Stock.</u>		120: 5: -
	" <u>Balance (Loss)</u>		10: 17: 8
		<hr/>	
		£252: 11: 11	252: 11: 11
		<hr/>	



NOOLA BULLA STATION.STORES ACCOUNT, 30th JUNE, 1917.

<u>1916.</u>			
April 1.	To <u>Stores on hand and in transit</u>		£1,263:12: 1
<u>1917.</u>			
June 30.	" <u>Purchases</u>		1,455:18: 3
	" <u>Cost of transport to Station</u>		1,022:19: 3
	<u>Stores Issued :-</u>		
	By Sundry Sales,	£84:11: 4	
	" Station Rations,	964:10: 9	
	" Relief to Natives,	72: 8: 6	
	" Additions and repairs to buildings and plant,	655: 1: 5	
			1776:12: -
	" <u>Balance being stores on hand and in transit,</u>		1965:17: 7
			<hr/>
			£3742: 9: 7    £3742: 9: 7
			<hr/>