

1956.

---

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

---

THE NORTHERN TERRITORY.

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REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD

1st JULY, 1953, to 30th JUNE, 1955.

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By Authority :

A. J. ARTHUR, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.  
(Printed in Australia.)

F.6964/56.

## INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

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Although there is no statutory requirement for the presentation of an annual report on the Northern Territory, it has been the practice for many years to prepare such reports and table them in the Commonwealth Parliament. There have been occasions when the annual sequence has been broken, for example, during the war and again between 1949 and 1953. The last report was a consolidated report for the period 1st July, 1949, to 30th June, 1953. The present report brings the record up to date, covering the two financial years, 1st July, 1953, to 30th June, 1955.

This report presents the activities of the period covered in a general historical and economic setting. Matters dealt with in previous reports in close perspective have been merged into the background against which current activities are reviewed.

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### Adult Education.

Evening classes for adults in craft and vocational subjects are provided at Darwin and Alice Springs with enrolments totalling 180. In addition, classes in English are conducted for New Australians at Alice Springs and Batchelor.

## CHAPTER 13.—NATIVE WELFARE.

### Aboriginal Policy.

The policy of the Commonwealth Government is so to direct and encourage the re-establishment of the aborigines that they will eventually be assimilated as an integral part of the Australian community and will not be merely a group who are in contact with that community, but not accepted by it on a basis of social and economic equality.

The legislative basis for the carrying out of this policy is contained in the *Welfare Ordinance* 1953, the passing of which represented the most important single step yet taken in the approach to the aboriginal problem. Under Section 8 of the *Welfare Ordinance*, the Director of Welfare has the specific duty in relation to the aboriginal population "to promote their social, economic and political advancement for the purpose of assisting them and their descendants to take their place as members of the community of the Commonwealth". The Ordinance thus abandons the merely "protective" approach of the *Aboriginals Ordinance* in favour of a positive "welfare" policy; it abandons the method of defining such terms as "aboriginal" and then making classes of persons covered by the definition subject to special legislation unless they obtain exemption from it. It assumes that aborigines as well as other Australians in the Territory have full citizenship as a right and that this right is to be withheld only in cases where an individual is in need of special care and assistance.

The Ordinance provides for an appeal to an independent tribunal by any individual against committal to the care of the State as a ward.

Provision for measures for the gainful employment of persons declared as wards under the *Welfare Ordinance* is made in the *Wards Employment Ordinance* 1953, which was assented to by the Governor-General-in-Council on 22nd September, 1953. Further details of this Ordinance are given in the Section headed "Employment".

Before the *Welfare Ordinance* can be commenced, it is necessary that a Register of Wards be prepared. This represents no easy task, bearing in mind the scattered nature of the aboriginal groups, their semi-nomadic habits and the difficulties associated with the naming and identification of aborigines. Much of the basic data has been obtained, however, and this must now be checked before the Register is finally promulgated.

### Administration and Control.

Pending the coming into operation of the *Welfare Ordinance*, native affairs in the Territory continue to be administered by the Native Affairs Branch under the provisions of the *Aboriginals Ordinance* 1918-1954 and the regulations made thereunder.

Steps have already been taken, however, to adapt the organization of the Native Affairs Branch to enable it to deal with the various new phases of the general welfare programme.

In November, 1954, a newly appointed Director of Welfare took up duty in the Territory and proceeded with the development of an enlarged and decentralized departmental organization. (The same officer was also appointed to the post of Director of Native Affairs to enable him to exercise the functions vested in that office by the *Aboriginals Ordinance*.)

In February, 1955, a Chief Welfare Officer was appointed and in May, 1955, appointments were made to the positions of Assistant Director of Welfare, Administrative Officer (Employment) and District Welfare Officer at Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs. Two works and services officers were also appointed early in 1955.

An enlarged establishment for government settlements has been under consideration and an increased drive has been made to provide settlements with health and education services and staff accommodation.

Special training courses are being developed through the Australian School of Pacific Administration at Mosman, New South Wales, and within the Administration itself for all field staff, including settlement staff, to give them, among other things, an insight into the native and basis of native traditions and tribal structure. It is hoped that, as a result of such training, officers will bring a greater understanding to the task of facilitating the process of assimilation and that the transition from native life and tribal structure to integration in the Australian community will be achieved in a way which is readily acceptable to the aboriginal.

### Population.

The aboriginal population is estimated to have remained fairly constant over the past few years, although there are indications at present of a gradual increase. A recent estimate puts the total at a little less than 14,000 full-blood aborigines. Of these some 3,489 are estimated to be in full employment—about 2,400 on pastoral properties and the rest divided between urban employment, government settlements, mining, marine activities, buffalo shooting and agricultural holdings. About 4,380 are under the regular influence of missions; 3,029 reside on Government settlements and depots; and about 600 remain as truly nomadic. The balance represents mainly those aborigines too old to work and others who are congregated on pastoral and agricultural areas as dependants of the aboriginal workers.

Further details regarding the distribution of aboriginal population are given in Appendix XXVII. The figures shown are largely estimates, although the work so far done in compiling the Register of Wards has enabled a more accurate estimate than has hitherto been possible to be made in many districts. When the Register of Wards is complete the compilation of accurate figures for the aboriginal population of the Territory will be possible for the first time.

The movement of population into the Darwin and Katherine areas in the north, and to a lesser extent into Alice Springs in the centre, continues. A survey of the Darwin area reveals that the present population was drawn from the following areas:—

Arnhem Land—			
Blyth and Liverpool Rivers	..	..	90
North-east Arnhem Land	..	..	70
North-west Arnhem Land	..	..	22
South Arnhem Land	..	..	18
			— 200
Melville and Bathurst Islands	..	..	130
Daly River	..	..	80
Delissaville	..	..	50
Katherine and Pine Creek	..	..	50
Local Groups (Larrakeyah)	..	..	35
And others	..	..	25
			— 570
Total	..	..	..

The drift from the Blyth and Liverpool Rivers district continues but measures to arrest it are under consideration.

There has been increased movement of natives in the Katherine district, chiefly into the town area of Katherine and the Beswick Creek Settlement. This settlement is a gathering place for tribal groups from the surrounding district, and also for groups from South and Central Arnhem Land who have moved into the settled areas. Up to 500 natives have been seen on the settlement at times



of intertribal ceremonies. It is estimated that 30 per cent. of the native population of the Katherine district are semi-nomadic.

The native population of the pastoral, mining and agricultural areas remains fairly stable.

During the years ended 30th June, 1954, and 1955, registered births of aborigines exceeded registered deaths by 254 and 141 respectively. While these figures serve to some extent as an indication of population growth and reflect the emphasis now being placed on health, child welfare and the care of mothers on missions and settlements, they do not accurately demonstrate the degree of natural increase among the aboriginal population of the Territory.

More and more of the seriously ill natives in the areas mentioned are being brought in for medical treatment with the result that deaths at centres where registration is effected have increased. There has not yet been a corresponding increase however, in the number of registrations of births in those areas, as unreported births are still occurring in outer areas largely to the same extent as before.

#### *Reserves.*

The Administration has set aside seventeen areas as aboriginal reserves for the benefit and use of the aboriginal people. The total areas of these reserves is approximately 67,000 square miles.

The area of reserves was increased during the period by 1,250 square miles when the Daly River Reserve was extended to include the country bounded by the Wingate Mountains to the east and the Fitzmaurice River to the south. This area contains useful grazing country for the expansion of the Port Keats Mission pastoral project. A further extension will be provided when an area surrounding the new Warrabri Settlement site is declared.

It was found necessary to reduce the Beswick Reserve by approximately eleven square miles in order to exclude mining tenements on that part of the Maranboy tin-field which is known as Northfield. These tenements had been held for many years by their lessees, and their inclusion in the reserve area would have resulted in the miners having to vacate them.

Areas within the Arnhem Land Reserve where there are congregations of natives outside the influence of existing missions were visited by a patrol which carried out a survey of the Bulman—Wilton area north of Mainoru and a special patrol to investigate a killing in the Caledon Bay area. A third area within the reserve which will receive special attention in the near future will be the Liverpool-Blyth River district.

#### *Settlements.*

There are thirteen government settlements in the Territory; twelve are located on aboriginal reserves, while one, Delissaville, is not a proclaimed reserve. Population figures for the various settlements are given in Table 3 of Appendix XXVII.

At all settlements rations are provided when necessary and at all except Phillip Creek and Hooker Creek there are canteens, at which trade is increasing.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the major developments on settlements over the past two years:—

*Bagot.*—This settlement is on the outskirts of Darwin and provides both for natives in transit and for natives employed in the town or by the defence services. About 250 natives are living on this settlement.

The agricultural area was considerably extended; a survey was made with a view to the establishment of live-stock, and pig pens were erected. An area for future development as a dairy project was examined and favorably reported on by officers of the Animal Industry Branch. The area selected is being planted with various pasture grasses on the advice of the Plant Industry Branch.

*Delissaville.*—This settlement is situated on the western side of Darwin Harbour in fair agriculture country. Its population is between 120 and 150. A garage and workshop, cool-room, and a building to house the generating set were erected; in addition, further native huts were erected to a stage where all natives here now have satisfactory accommodation.

Areas under pineapples, citrus, paw paw and bananas were maintained and the garden area was extended. Some losses were sustained by the garden area through heavy flooding in February, 1955. The people here are mainly of Waigait affinity.

*Snake Bay.*—This is the only government settlement on Melville Island. It is delightfully situated on the shore of an attractive bay with good fishing, timber and farming prospects. It has 180 to 200 people of the Tiwi tribe.

The superintendent's residence, garage and storeroom are in course of construction.

A new farm area to accommodate the live-stock including pigs, goats, geese, ducks and poultry was selected and the beginnings of banana and pineapple plantations were made in the same area.

Following a survey by the forestry officer, some preliminary plans have been made to develop small forest stands in selected areas on Melville Island. The settlement already has a useful sawmill from which some cypress pine is supplied for various projects.

*Beswick Creek.*—This settlement of 305 people is about 250 miles south-east of Darwin and east of Katherine across one of the main native routes into Arnhem Land. It has agricultural and some pastoral possibilities.

A kitchen-mess unit, including a coolroom and a residence for a single teacher, was erected. Provision of a new storage tank and of reticulation systems enabled planning for extension of agricultural work. Some preparations were made also in connexion with the development of live-stock projects including pig-raising on this settlement. Beswick Creek is in Jauan tribal country, but is now mainly occupied by emigrants from Southern Arnhem Land, Ngalkbuns and Rembarrugas.

*Hooker Creek.*—This settlement which has 140 natives lies in an isolated position in Northern Wailbri country on the Southern flank of the Victoria River District. It has some pastoral and subsistence farming possibilities.

Residences for an assistant superintendent and teacher, a school building and cool-room were erected.

With the extension of the garden area the settlement's needs in fresh vegetables can now be met during the dry season; the sinking and equipping of a second bore will assure a water supply to the extended garden area and will enable this objective to be achieved during each dry season.

Preliminary surveys were made by officers of the Animal Industry Branch to assess more accurately the pastoral potential of the Reserve and sites for new pastoral bores were also selected.

With the small herd maintained on this settlement, young natives continued to receive some training in stock work.

*Areyonga.*—This settlement lies near the eastern boundary of the large aboriginal reserve which occupies about 8,000 square miles midway between Alice Springs and the Western Australian border. The 180-mile road to it from Alice Springs passes the Hermannsburg Mission. The country has pastoral possibilities and grows vegetables well under irrigation. Its people numbering 274 are of the Luridja and Pitjanjara tribes.

Using rock quarried locally the settlement superintendent has constructed a number of buildings, including a garage and a shed for a cool-room, and has under construction an infirmary.

For most of the year the garden on this settlement meets the bulk of its vegetable requirements. Some success has also been had with the cultivation of citrus fruits. With the development of further water supplies in this area, it is proposed to extend the garden and to plant further citrus and stone fruits.

Some preliminary work has been done also in selecting areas for future development as a small pastoral project and sites for two new pastoral bores have been selected.

*Haasts Bluff.*—This settlement of 415 people lies in the same aboriginal reserve about 50 miles north-west of Areyonga. There is no settlement whatsoever beyond it to the west. It has good pastoral possibilities.

Apart from a cool-room no building was possible at this settlement over the period. This means that Haasts Bluff with Borrooloola and Hooker Creek are the only government settlements where schools have not been established.

A second bore was sunk in the settlement area and on analysis the water proved to have too high a sulphate content to be fit for human consumption. Analysis of the first settlement bore also revealed that the sulphate content was too high for human consumption. Resulting inquiries as to the availability and cost of treatment plants to enable sufficient quantities of water to be prepared for cooking and drinking purposes revealed that the capital and operating costs would be too high and some preliminary survey work has therefore been done to select a new site for this settlement. A tentative site at a bore on the other side of the range has been selected. The people of this settlement are of the Luridja tribe.

*Jay Creek.*—This small aboriginal reserve of 116 square miles, a few miles west of Alice Springs, has 172 people. This is Aranda country with an admixture of Wailbri and Luridja emigrants.

A third residence and a kitchen unit were erected on this settlement. A further attempt was made to solve the water supply problem and as boring, up to the present time, has mainly yielded large quantities of highly salted water, it would now appear that the solution rests with the erection of a retaining wall and the development of a large dam.

A small pastoral project on this settlement has been maintained and further fences have been erected.

*Phillip Creek.*—Owing to water problems this settlement of 225 people is in the process of being transferred to the new Warrabri site situated approximately 25 miles south east of Wauchope. Two bores were sunk at Warrabri producing excellent water for drinking and agricultural purposes and in May, 1955, laying out the settlement area and erecting the first four staff residences was commenced.

One bore has now been equipped, work has commenced on the clearing and levelling of an aerodrome, and roads from the Stuart Highway and in the settlement area have been graded.

This is a Warramunga area, but the settlement has a mixture of Warramunga and eastern Wailbri people.

*Yuendumu.*—This settlement, which is in Southern Wailbri tribal country, occupies a reserve of about 850 square miles on the fringe of pastoral settlement 175 miles north-west of Alice Springs. Its 460 people are in comparatively early stages of contact. Under irrigation the soil is fertile and the reserve has possibilities for cattle raising.

A preliminary survey was made of the Mt. Doreen and Mt. Allen boundaries with a view to fencing these areas so that a small pastoral project could be developed. A survey of the pastoral area was made by an officer of the Animal Industry Branch and several sites selected for pastoral bores.

A kitchen-mess unit and a new residence for a superintendent were completed.

The garden produced the bulk of the settlement's vegetable needs during the dry season, although set-backs were experienced through a grasshopper plague shortly after planting in 1954; some success has been experienced with the growing of citrus fruits and grapes in this area. It is proposed to extend the areas under cultivation to include larger areas of these crops.

*Bungalow.*—This settlement on the outskirts of Alice Springs provides for 253 people. It is in Aranda country, but has also some emigrants from other tribal areas. It serves for transit purposes and the accommodation of natives employed about Alice Springs.

An alternative site for the Bungalow settlement was selected between Emily Gap and the Todd River about eight miles from Alice Springs. Several bore sites have been selected and preliminary boring has begun.

### Education.

It is estimated that there are at least 2,400 aboriginal children of school age in the Northern Territory. About 1,600 are being educated in the special schools which have been established to meet particular needs and which are conducted by three groups—the government, the missions and certain pastoralists.

The government schools are conducted by the Commonwealth Office of Education which has acted since July, 1950, as the agent of the Administration in this field. The number of schools has risen from six to ten with the establishment of new schools at Jay Creek in July, 1953, Snake Bay in July, 1954, Hatches Creek in April, 1955, (in the buildings previously used for European education) and the reopening early in 1954 of the school at Beswick. Average weekly enrolments at 30th June in each year have steadily increased from 253 in 1953 to 352 in 1954, and 483 in 1955. The total teaching staff has increased to 21, including a relieving teacher, a teacher of vocational subjects, and a teacher at a school at Murray Downs Station.

There are thirteen schools on mission stations (including the non-denominational station at Umbakumba) with approximately 1,000 pupils. These schools receive a grant at the rate of £750 per annum for each trained teacher employed, and are assisted with supplies of special readers and of syllabuses, and in other ways.

During the period under review a new policy has been approved in order to provide schooling for the large numbers of aboriginal children living on the pastoral properties of the Territory, a group for whom education has previously not been available. For each school established by a pastoral management, the Administration now pays an annual subsidy of £450 if the average enrolment is less than twelve and of £750 if the average enrolment is twelve or more, and will also provide the cost of buildings where necessary. Where there is an assured average enrolment of twenty or more the Administration will provide a full government school. Although this scheme is only in its early stages, schools have already been established at Murray Downs, Lake Nash, Narwietooma and Elkedra Stations. The particular value of this new policy is that it will enable aboriginal children to receive suitable education at a high standard on the pastoral properties where they live and where most of them are likely to find their happiest and most satisfactory fields of employment.

The special aboriginal schools are looked upon as an interim measure, designed to bring the children to a level where they will be able to attend the same schools as other children in the Territory.

Except in the earliest stages of education in some mission schools, English is the language of instruction. The use of native languages is impracticable on account of their variety, the absence of any native tradition of literacy and the lack of linguistic studies in this field, and in any event the total assimilation policy provides a strong



bias towards the use of English. Special techniques for the teaching of English have been developed by the Commonwealth Office of Education and a special series of readers and supplementary readers has been prepared for the schools.

An important advance was the provision at the beginning of the 1954 school year of the first section of the revised course of study, providing syllabuses in language, arithmetic, social studies and natural sciences. The new curriculum has been the subject of research for the past three years and is set out in seven stages, each of which may be completed in one year. At the end of the course the child will have covered the essentials required to proceed to a normal secondary school course.

Attention has been given to manual work in the schools. The teacher of vocational subjects has visited all the government schools and schools on pastoral properties and a number of mission schools, and has advised on a wide variety of subjects ranging from the planning of handwork programmes for infants to the principles involved in making mud huts for adult natives.

The approach towards teaching in the schools is one designed to encourage experimentation and teachers are expected to be actively concerned with the development of new methods of teaching.

Every effort is made to encourage the interest of the adults in education, and the success of the schools will depend to a large extent on the overall adjustment of the aboriginal communities to the European way of life. Adult classes are conducted at many of the schools in the teaching of oral English and reading and in craftwork wherever possible. Another aspect of this part of the work is the employment in the schools of aboriginal assistants. Some of these assist with teaching while others are concerned with laundry and other activities related to the school, and they have all proved valuable in assisting the development of their schools.

Statistics relating to aboriginal education are given in Appendix XXVII.

#### *Health.*

A very close watch is being kept on the health of the aboriginals and the Commonwealth Department of Health has begun a systematic medical survey which is planned ultimately to encompass every native in the Territory. Increasing medical aid is being given, and, where necessary, complete hospitalization is provided at Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs hospitals. Medical supplies are provided free to missions, settlements and employers. The services of the aerial medical ambulance are always available for medical evacuation. Regular visits by a flying sister are paid in northern areas where there are the largest congregations of natives, and from time to time medical officers also visit them.

A dietary survey has been made and a model diet scale, adapted to local resources, has been issued to the superintendents of settlements and missions.

Among the aborigines the most serious diseases continue to be hookworm, malaria, tuberculosis, leprosy and trachoma. Hookworm causes concern because of its intensity in the north and because of its spread south into areas hitherto considered too dry to support the larvae. Infected natives have now been found as far south as Hooker Creek and Phillip Creek.

A very high incidence of hookworm occurs above the eighteenth parallel, and it is reported that in the higher rainfall areas most natives can be assumed to be suffering from this disease. Although this is a debilitating rather than a lethal disease, the intermingling of infected natives with the white population constitutes a menace to all. The remedies lie in hygiene and effective sanitation.

The dry season of 1955 was marked by outbreaks of malaria, which, though mild, exceeded in numbers of cases those of any season since the early 1930's. Yirrkala had 25 clinical cases with 4 positive films. Roper River Mission had approximately 50 clinical cases with approximately 21 positive films, and odd cases occurred on Nutwood Downs, Beswick Station and Groote Eylandt.

The incidence of infectious diseases among the aboriginal population, and the difficulties of eradicating tuberculosis and leprosy in particular among a people living the way aborigines live in the primitive, nomadic and transitional stages of their social development, must provide cause for concern and special effort on the part of those responsible for the health and welfare of the community.

An X-ray survey was commenced for the first time among the northern missions early in the dry season of 1955. From the early results of this survey, sufficient information was obtained to allay fears that tuberculosis had become widespread through the native centres.

At one mission, two fresh cases only were detected and at two other missions no fresh cases were found. Mantoux and B.C.G. campaigns were carried out, and it is hoped that they will be repeated annually. In September and October, 1954, all natives at Phillip Creek were Mantoux-tested and all positive reactors X-rayed.

In May, 1955, Sir Harry Wunderly, Director, Division of Tuberculosis, Commonwealth Department of Health, Canberra, visited missions and settlements in the Southern Division at Hermannsburg and Jay Creek. He examined as many tuberculosis patients as possible, inspected facilities for diagnosis and treatment and read some 140 X-ray films taken by the mobile unit at Port Keats Mission.

The number of known active cases of leprosy has not altered materially over the past three or four years, remaining at less than 300. It is felt that progress has been made in the control of this disease. It is hoped by the health authorities that the B.C.G. campaigns carried out primarily for control of tuberculosis will assist in controlling the spread of leprosy. A survey was made by a medical officer in March, 1954, of Bathurst Island, Oenpelli, Elcho Island, Milingimbi and Yirrkala Missions.

At 30th June, 1954, there were 197 patients on Channel Island, of whom 167 were aborigines. The number of patients at 30th June, 1955, was 192. The new leprosarium near Darwin was nearing completion at 30th June, 1955.

In the hot dry areas the incidence of trachoma is high. This disease has largely died out in settled white communities, but lack of hygiene among the aborigines is a predisposing cause. It causes a great deal of blindness.

The services of the Reverend Father Frank Flynn of Darwin, formerly a prominent eye specialist, were made available in 1953 by the Catholic Church authorities and fairly extensive surveys were made. The incidence and distribution of treating it can only be effectively tackled when infirmaries and resident sisters are a feature of every mission and settlement, and when medical facilities are available on the larger pastoral properties. A nursing sister has been visiting cattle stations and settlements carrying out intensive treatment. An indication of the incidence is furnished by figures from Phillip Creek and Newcastle Waters; of 189 natives examined at Phillip Creek during 1954-55 82.5 per cent. were found to be positive sufferers and of 100 examined at Newcastle Waters, 77 were positive. Natives at Rockhampton Downs were also found to have trachoma but to a lesser extent than those quoted above.

A small epidemic of diphtheria occurred in February, 1955, in an aboriginal family at Banka Banka Station. Measures to prevent the spread to surrounding areas were instituted, and immunization of approximately 600 aborigines on adjacent stations was performed.

During the period hygiene schools were conducted at both Alice Springs and Darwin for selected natives from missions, settlements and pastoral properties. Most of those trained have now returned to their respective locations to work as native hygiene assistants.

A course of instruction in camp sanitation and tropical hygiene was conducted in February, 1955, by Dr. C. E. Cook, the Deputy Director of Health, and by medical officers of the Commonwealth Department of Health in the Northern Territory, for all superintendents of missions and settlements in the Territory. The results of this school can be seen in the development of more adequate sanitary facilities and in attention to tropical hygiene and native houses both on missions and settlements.

Dr. Cook undertook an extensive survey of the Northern Territory with particular emphasis on hygiene and sanitation generally and native health in particular. He visited Hooker Creek and Snake Bay settlements and Roper River, Yirrkala, Milingimbi, Oenpelli, Bathurst Island, Groote Eylandt, Elcho Island, Goulburn Island, Croker Island and Garden Point Missions in the north and Hermannsburg, Haasts Bluff, Areyonga and Yuendumu in the south.

Routine surveys and medical visits were made by officers of the Commonwealth Department of Health to all missions and settlements throughout the Territory.

Early in the dry seasons of both 1954 and 1955 the mobile dental units left Darwin to visit all stations on the Barkly Tablelands and the Kimberleys area. The native population of these stations received treatment. Settlements included in these surveys were Borroloola, Phillip Creek, Hooker Creek and Beswick Creek. Dental treatment was also given at the Channel Island leprosarium, Roper River, Groote Eylandt, Umbakumba, Rose River, Port Keats, Bathurst Island, Garden Point, Croker Island and Goulburn Island missions and at Snake Bay settlement.

In the Alice Springs District the dental unit visited and completed all necessary work at Areyonga, Haasts Bluff and Yuendumu settlements and at Santa Teresa and Hermannsburg missions. Most cattle stations in the southern division were also visited and the native population given treatment.

In order to safeguard the health of natives on reserves, all persons wishing to obtain permits to enter the reserves must now obtain a health clearance from the Department of Health before the permit is granted. Settlement and mission staffs are to be similarly examined before returning to duty after absences on leave. In the interests of the health of members of settlement staff who regularly contact natives, arrangements have been made with the Health Department for their medical examination at least once a year.

#### *Employment.*

The employment of aborigines is governed by the Aboriginals Ordinance and its regulations which set out minimum wage rates and statutory rations and living conditions. Since the inception of the pastoral industry, aboriginal employees have played a very important part in its development and the majority of employed aborigines are still occupied in that industry.

Of those employed outside the pastoral industry, the majority are engaged in domestic work, in various government services and instrumentalities, and in such seasonal occupations as droving, while a few are engaged in buffalo shooting and agricultural, mining and marine industries.

During the war over 1,000 aborigines were employed by the armed services in timber-getting, camp hygiene services, general labouring, and in some cases in the motor

transport workshops. This experiment showed that the aborigines could carry out many types of work, and it also hastened the process of their assimilation into the European economic system.

The popularity of the aboriginal artists centered at Hermannsburg mission continues. The Aranda Arts Council, a voluntary organization, arranges exhibitions of work and the sale of paintings, and makes advances and holds balances on behalf of a number of aboriginal artists.

In 1954 a scheme was commenced to establish aborigines based on the Finke River Mission (Hermannsburg) as independent pastoralists—the mission advancing stock and equipment. Although lack of permanent water has hampered their efforts, three men show promise of becoming permanent settlers; it is interesting to note that aborigines can now tender as pastoralists for the supply of cattle for beef for native settlements.

Figures compiled at 30th June, 1954, and 30th June, 1955, revealed a decline in the number of aborigines employed in urban areas, government departments, the armed services, domestic duties, &c., agriculture, marine work and the mining and buffalo shooting industries over that period. This decline was, however, more than offset by increases in the numbers of aborigines employed in the pastoral industry and on government settlements with the result that the total number of aborigines employed rose from 3,224 at 30th June, 1953, to 3,271 at 30th June, 1954, and still further at 30th June, 1955, to 3,489 which represents approximately 57 per cent. of the Northern Territory's adult aboriginal population. Details of employment in the industries referred to are given in Table 2 of Appendix XXVII. The demand by drovers and pastoral managements for aboriginal labour from Phillip Creek, Hooker Creek and Borroloola, which are the main centres of recruitment for the pastoral industry, increased sharply. As a corollary, the wages offering for aboriginal labour from those centres also increased and during the 1955 season some aboriginal drovers working with stock were receiving as much as £10 per week and full keep.

In September, 1953, the Legislative Council passed the Wards Employment Ordinance. This legislation, which was assented to by the Governor-General-in-Council on 22nd September, 1953, will replace those provisions of the Aboriginals Ordinance which relate to the employment of aborigines and the Regulations made under it will replace the Aboriginals Regulations and the Aboriginals (Pastoral Industry) Regulations. The commencement date for the Wards Employment Ordinance will depend upon the completion of the Register for Wards which is now being compiled.

The Ordinance provides *inter alia*, for the establishment of an Employment Advisory Board with the Director of Welfare as Chairman. The functions of the Board are to advise the Administrator on all matters relating to—

- (a) the vocational training of wards;
- (b) the placing of wards in employment;
- (c) the apprenticeship and training under agreement of wards;
- (d) the promotion and development of industries and activities that will afford employment opportunities for wards; and
- (e) the regulation of conditions of employment of wards.

The Ordinance also gives the Administrator power to make grants of up to £1,000 to assist wards to engage in or carry on and develop a trade, business or other undertaking. Amounts in excess of £1,000 may be granted with the approval of the Minister.

In order to acquaint employers' and employees' organizations and other interested bodies with the provisions and ramifications of the Wards Employment Ordinance and

the government's policy in regard to assimilation, particularly with respect to employment, conferences were held with—

- (a) the Northern Territory Pastoral Lessees' Association;
- (b) the Centralian Pastoral Lessees' Association;
- (c) the Mica Miners' Association;
- (d) the Darwin Chamber of Commerce;
- (e) the Master Pearlery Association;
- (f) the Country Women's Association;
- (g) the Katherine Farmers' Progressive Association;
- (h) the Amalgamated Engineering Union; and
- (i) the North Australian Workers' Union.

The representatives of these bodies indicated that the government can expect their support and assistance on the Employment Advisory Board and other phases of assimilation which embrace employment.

#### Missions.

There are seven mission authorities functioning in the Territory. Four of these conduct a total of twelve mission stations and there is also a non-denominational station at Umbakumba, Groote Eylandt. These stations keep in regular contact with over 4,000 full-blood aborigines and some 320 part aboriginal children who are committed to their care. Population figures for the various stations are given in Table 4 of Appendix XXVII. In addition four mission authorities including two of those conducting mission stations, provide establishments in the Territory for the care of part-aboriginal children; one of these also has an establishment for part-aboriginal children in Adelaide, South Australia. Details of these establishments are given in Table 5 of Appendix XXVII. Representatives of three missions (including the Home Mission Board of the Baptist Union of Australia which has a representative at Yuendumu) are stationed at three government settlements.

The mission stations in the northern part of the Territory are all situated near the sea or rivers. The missions are as follows:—

*Daly River.*—This is in the planning stage by a Roman Catholic missionary order. The site is about 50 miles up this large river and has a great agricultural potential on the stretch of river flats which it contains. It is cut off from Darwin by road during the wet. It will mainly serve Malak Malak and Brinkin tribal people.

*Port Keats.*—Founded in 1934 by missionaries of the Sacred Heart Order on the coast between the estuaries of the Victoria and the Daly Rivers in Nanagu and Muramba country, this station has a population of 360. It has possibilities for subsistence agriculture and cattle-raising as well as fishing.

*Bathurst Island.*—This station, with 738 Tiwi people, is the largest mission station in the Territory. It was founded by Father (later Bishop) Gsell of the Sacred Heart Order in 1911 on the sheltered south coast of Bathurst Island near Anslay Strait. The people engage in agriculture and fishing.

*Oenpelli.*—The Church Missionary Society of the Church of England operates this fertile station of 200 square miles on the East Alligator River, about 40 miles from the sea. It has great pastoral as well as other farming possibilities. Its 255 people are mainly Gunwinugu. There is a dry season track into Oenpelli from Pine Creek through Goodparla.

*Goulburn Island.*—The Methodist Overseas Mission established this station. It has 244 people who, besides engaging in fishing and subsistence agriculture, are producing artifacts of quality. Their working of hard native

woods is skilful and attractive. The people are Maung in tribal affinity.

*Milingimbi.*—This is another Methodist Overseas Mission Station. It is situated on a small island of the same name about midway along the north coast of Arnhem Land between the Blyth and Goyder Rivers. It has 495 people of Gubaruingu tribal affinity.

*Elcho Island.*—This Methodist Overseas Mission Station lies about 50 miles east of Milingimbi just off the Arnhem coast. It has 370 people of a variety of tribes for whom Gubaruingu is being made the *lingua franca*.

*Yirrkala.*—Occupying the north-eastern corner of Arnhem Land between Melville Bay and Port Bradshaw, this Methodist Overseas Mission Station has 360 people. They are similar to the Elcho people.

*Umbakumba.*—This is a non-denominational settlement in the charge of Mr. F. H. Gray. It lies on the north coast of Groote Eylandt the whole of which is an aboriginal reserve. Its 205 people who are of the Andiljaugwa tribe are engaged in fishing, hunting and gardening. This settlement has trochus and pearl shell resources which could be developed. The people are noted for their craft-work in shell.

*Groote Eylandt.*—The Groote Eylandt Mission which covers 200 square miles is operated by the Church Missionary Society of the Church of England. Its 307 people are mainly of the Andiljaugwa tribe. It has good water and has possibilities for pastoral activity. A considerable amount of subsistence gardening is carried on here. The station has its own sawmill and has provided all its own timber and there is scope for further forestry activity.

*Rose River.*—This Church Missionary Society Station lies on the east coast of Arnhem Land opposite Groote Eylandt between Caledon Bay and the Roper estuary. It is a very recent station with a population of 129 but is capable of considerable development. The people are of the Nungubuju tribe.

*Roper River.*—A few miles up the Roper River this Church Missionary Society Station of 230 square miles is located in the extreme south-east corner of the Arnhem Land Aboriginal Reserve. It is the most easterly of all the mission stations on the mainland. In addition to fishing and gardening activities, there are possibilities for pastoral development. Its 265 people are of the Mara and other tribes. During the dry season this station is accessible by road up the Roper Valley to Mataranka on the Stuart Highway.

In the southern part of the Territory there are two mission stations, Hermannsburg operated by the Finke River (Lutheran) mission, and Santa Teresa one of the stations established by the Roman Catholic Order of the Sacred Heart.

*Hermannsburg.*—This mission lease of 1,524 square miles of Centralian cattle country lies roughly west of Alice Springs on the road to Areyonga. It is the oldest of the mission stations having been established on the 4th June, 1877. In addition to cattle raising, it has some gardening and processes some hides. It was here that the distinctive water colour work of the Arunta artists began. Its population of 450 are of the Aranda tribe.

*Santa Teresa.*—This mission of the Sacred Heart Order was formerly located at Arltunga, but during the period under review was moved to its present location on the Phillipson block south-east of Alice Springs, where it holds a lease of 480 square miles of pastoral country. Its 205 people, who are mainly of the Aranda group, are busy in establishing the station.

Greater attention is being paid to the material aims of the native welfare policy, and food production from agricultural and pastoral pursuits is increasing. Practically all missions are now operating canteens or trading stores where aborigines can purchase their requirements and



receive value for their wages or money earned from hunting or handicrafts. There is an increasing production of mats, baskets, woodwork and shell ornaments for which there is a ready market. This increasing attention to the material needs of aboriginals, which is being fostered to further the broad aim of Commonwealth policy—to develop natives ultimately to the stage where they may be assimilated into the Australian social and economic pattern—has involved missions in financial burdens beyond their resources.

While the primary interests of missions are spiritual, they have accepted responsibilities as agents of the Government in regard to educational, health and economic programmes, and the financial relationship of missions and the government has been placed on a basis of payment for agreed services. Subject to certain general conditions, for each teacher, nurse, agriculturalist and pastoral instructor whom a mission provides, the government pays £750 per annum. For each aged or infirm person a mission maintains, the government pays the mission the same amount as it pays pastoralists for the same service under a special agreement, currently about 25s. per week. For each eligible child it pays to the mission child endowment plus an additional 2s. 9d. per week. In addition, the Government gives financial assistance for approved economic projects. The missions are able to supplement income from these sources with production from the mission stations and to budget ahead with confidence.

The new system of financial assistance operated for the first time during 1954-55 and was appreciated by all the missionary societies working in the Territory. The financial aid offered under the new policy enabled the missions to develop agricultural and economic activities and to increase their staff. However, many are experiencing difficulty in recruiting the number of trained personnel required to attract the maximum amount of subsidy available under the new system. This has resulted in overcrowding in schools through shortages of teachers and, in some instances, insufficient nursing staff to cater for the native population. However, the missionary societies are endeavouring to overcome the shortage of trained staff.

The cost of government assistance to missions has increased sharply, reflecting the response of the missions to the incentive to improved educational, health and economic services. In 1952-53 the cost was £125,898; in 1953-54 it was £143,426; in 1954-55 it was £166,244.

During the period under review, two important developments in missionary activities occurred, the first being the move of the Roman Catholic mission from Arltunga, east of Alice Springs, to the Phillipson block, south-east of Alice Springs. This was effected in July and August of 1954 and the new mission was named Santa Teresa. It is situated in good grazing country and it is proposed that the main activity of the mission will be in the pastoral industry. A small herd of breeder cows and bulls has already been established, and the mission is being developed along sound lines.

The second milestone was the commencement in early 1955 of the establishment of a new mission on the Daly River. This has been undertaken by the Roman Catholic missionaries of the Sacred Heart, who already operate at Bathurst Island, Port Keats and Santa Teresa. This is the second attempt to establish a mission in this area, the first having been abandoned following an extraordinary flooding at the turn of the century. The first mission was attempted by the Jesuit Fathers.

Considerable success has been obtained in agricultural activities, particularly at Groote Eylandt, Milingimbi, Oenpelli and Bathurst Island, whilst at Roper River mission an increase in acreage is planned for their agricultural project.

The problem of native housing is receiving attention on most missions, emphasis having been given to this important aspect of hygiene at the school conducted for mission and settlement superintendents by Dr. C. Cook, of the Commonwealth Department of Health. At Santa Teresa the Superintendent, the Reverend Father Dixon, followed a new mode of construction using local stone and mortar. These cottages are designed to provide for extensions as required and when erected will present a most pleasing appearance. At Milingimbi, the adobe brick method of construction has been adopted with considerable success, whilst on Groote Eylandt bark slab walls with iron roofs have continued to be used as the means of constructing native cottages.

At Bathurst Island an attempt is being made to establish native villages in areas away from the main mission site. This will, it is hoped, result in the complete evacuation of natives from the beach area. In this experiment there has been encouraging success with native families developing small agricultural plots round their cottages.

Steady progress was made with the establishment of the new Church Missionary Society Mission at Rose River on the Gulf of Carpentaria. A new hospital and second residence were commenced, being constructed of locally milled cypress pine timber. Extensive stands of cypress pine have been located at a short distance to the east of the mission site, and may represent a potential source of income for the native peoples of the area. The Rose River mission is most strategically placed from the point of view of control of the pearling vessels from Thursday Island which operate in the Gulf of Carpentaria waters each year.

Regular visits by air were made by the Superintendent of Elcho Island mission to points around the Buckingham Bay and Caledon Bay areas of Arnhem Land. There are considerable congregations of natives in these areas and through construction of airstrips at various points, regular contact is maintained.

Most of the northern missions continue to expand and develop the natural talents of the coastal natives in weaving and wood-carving. These crafts have been developed to a high degree of proficiency and skill at Goulburn Island mission, and a ready sale is found for the products.

There is an encouraging trend towards the manufacture of articles of utilitarian value rather than the manufacture of the curio type of article. On Goulburn Island no tool handles have been purchased for some years, these having all been made by native craftsmen at the mission. Examples of design in carving and coloured clays were submitted in the 1955 Leroy Alcorso Design Competition, and one submitted by a native from Yirrkala was in the final eight to be considered by the judges.

#### *Finance.*

The total expenditure by the government for native welfare, excluding expenditure by the Department of Health, was £354,266 in 1953-54 and £413,833 in 1954-55, the latter being an increase of approximately 48 per cent. over the expenditure in 1952-53.

## APPENDIX VII.—continued.

## DEPARTMENTAL ORGANIZATION—continued.

Branch.	Classified Position.	No.	Salary Range (Standard).		Positions filled.	
			£	£		
<i>Commonwealth Public Service—continued.</i>						
<i>Accounts Section—continued.</i>	<i>Permanent—continued.</i>					
		Accounting Machinist, Grade 1 .. .. .	2	354-654	2*	
		Accounting Machinist, Grade 2 .. .. .	2	684	1*	
		Accounting Machinist, Grade 3 .. .. .	1	724	1	
		Typist, Grade 2 .. .. .	1	684	1*	
		Typist, Grade 1 .. .. .	2	354-654	2*	
		<i>Temporary—</i>				
		Clerk .. .. .	12	369-903	2 + 10*	
		Accounting Machinist, Grade 1 .. .. .	2	354-654	2*	
		Clerical Assistant, Grade 1 .. .. .	5	339-758	1* 5*	
		Accounting Machinist, Grade 2 .. .. .	1	684	1*	
		Typist, Grade 1 .. .. .	2	354-654	2*	
		Junior Assistant .. .. .	1	339-586	1*	
Native Affairs .. .. .	<i>Permanent—</i>					
		Director of Welfare .. .. .	1	2,383-2,713	1	
		Assistant Director of Welfare .. .. .	1	2,108-2,273	..	
		Chief Welfare Officer .. .. .	1	1,888-2,053	1	
		Administrative Officer .. .. .	2	1,668-1,833	1	
		District Welfare Officer .. .. .	4	1,443-1,623	2	
		Welfare Officer (Female) .. .. .	2	749-839	1	
		Clerk .. .. .	1	1,353-1,533	1	
		Patrol Officer .. .. .	8	903-1,353	4 + 1*	
		Clerk .. .. .	2	993-1,173	2	
		Clerk .. .. .	4	369-903	2 + 2*	
		Clerk .. .. .	1	903-1,083	1	
		Clerk .. .. .	3	813-993	1 + 2*	
		Cadet Patrol Officer .. .. .	4	369-903	..	
		Typist, Grade 1 .. .. .	6	354-654	1 + 5*	
		Superintendent .. .. .	11	908-1,058	8 + 1*	
		Assistant Superintendent .. .. .	8	828-868	8*	
		Senior Sister .. .. .	10	694-734	1 + 6*	
		Typist, Grade 2 .. .. .	2	684	1	
		<i>Temporary—</i>				
		Manager .. .. .	1	908-938	1*	
		Superintendent .. .. .	1	908-1,058	1*	
		Clerk .. .. .	5	369-903	5*	
	Typist, Grade 1 .. .. .	1	354-654	..		
	Storeman .. .. .	1	718-758	1*		
	Assistant Superintendent .. .. .	1	828-868	..		
	Works and Services Officer .. .. .	2	1,188-1,268	2*		
General Services .. .. .	<i>Permanent—</i>					
		Director .. .. .	1	2,218-2,493	1	
Special Services† .. .. .	<i>Permanent—</i>					
		Chief Fire Officer .. .. .	1	1,048-1,078	1	
		Station Officer .. .. .	1	938-968	1	
		Fireman .. .. .	2	808-938	2*	
		Curator, Parks and Gardens .. .. .	1	1,668-1,833	..	
		Transport Officer .. .. .	1	1,443-1,623	1*	
		Foreman Mechanic (Motor Repairs), Grade 2 .. .. .	1	1,188-1,218	1	
		Storeman, Grade 2 .. .. .	1	778-798	1*	
		Clerk .. .. .	1	1,083-1,263	1	
		Clerk .. .. .	1	369-903	1*	
		Accounting Machinist, Grade 1 .. .. .	1	354-654	1*	
		Clerk .. .. .	1	813-993	1	
		Harbourmaster .. .. .	1	1,353-1,533	1	



## APPENDIX XXVII.

## NATIVE AFFAIRS.

## 1. ESTIMATED DISTRIBUTION OF ABORIGINAL POPULATION AT 30TH JUNE, 1954 AND 1955.

	30th June, 1954.	30th June, 1955.
In regular contact with Missions .. .. .	4,298	4,383
In regular contact with Settlements and Depots .. .. .	2,793	3,029
In pastoral, agricultural, mining and town areas, &c. .. .. .	5,881	5,950
Nomadic, not in contact with Missions or Settlements .. .. .	750	600
	13,722	13,962

## 2. NUMBER OF ABORIGINALS EMPLOYED, BY INDUSTRY, AT 30TH JUNE, 1954 AND 1955.

Industry.	30th June, 1954.			30th June, 1955.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Pastoral .. .. .	1,500	530	2,030	1,741	697	2,438
Urban (Government Departments, Services, Domestic, &c.) .. .. .	310	140	450	221	112	333
Government Settlements .. .. .	215	91	306	262	114	376
Buffalo Shooting .. .. .	45	..	45	41	..	41
Agriculture .. .. .	110	70	180	127	11	138
Mining .. .. .	160	..	160	83	..	83
Marine .. .. .	60	..	60	21	..	21
Miscellaneous .. .. .	40	..	40	59	..	59
Total .. .. .	2,440	831	3,271	2,555	934	3,489

## 3. POPULATION OF GOVERNMENT SETTLEMENTS AT 30TH JUNE, 1954 AND 1955.

Settlement.	30th June, 1954.			30th June, 1955.		
	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.
Areyonga .. .. .	102	74	176	158	116	274
Bagot .. .. .	222	44	266	212	39	251
Beswick Creek .. .. .	210	40	250	218	87	305
Beswick Station .. .. .	50	15	65	52	16	68
Borroloola .. .. .	62	24	86	45	22	67
Bungalow .. .. .	128	93	221	145	108	253
Delissaville .. .. .	100	53	153	71	51	122
Haasts Bluff .. .. .	280	157	437	254	161	415
Hooker Creek .. .. .	100	47	147	101	39	140
Jay Creek .. .. .	128	56	184	122	50	172
Phillip Creek .. .. .	136	84	220	138	87	225
Snake Bay .. .. .	140	31	171	147	36	183
Yuendumu .. .. .	264	153	417	259	201	460
Total .. .. .	1,922	871	2,793	1,922	1,013	2,935

APPENDIX XXVII.—*continued.*NATIVE AFFAIRS—*continued.*

## 4. POPULATION OF MISSION STATIONS.

Mission Station.	1953-54.			Total.	1954-55.			Total.
	Resident and Regular Visitors.		Infrequent Visitors.		Resident and Regular Visitors.		Infrequent Visitors.	
	Adults.	Children.	Adults and Children.		Adults.	Children.	Adults and Children.	
Church Missionary Society (Church of England)—								
Oenpelli .. .. .	92	58	100	250	105	70	80	255
Rose River .. .. .	186	181	20	387	65	64	..	129
Roper River .. .. .	142	139	..	281	122	123	20	265
Groote Eylandt .. .. .	142	139	..	281	160	147	..	307
Lutheran Mission—								
Hermannsburg .. .. .	182	209	48	439	186	216	48	450
Methodist Overseas Mission—								
Goulburn Island .. .. .	144	60	30	234	147	67	30	244
Milingimbi .. .. .	261	184	50	495	260	185	50	495
Elcho Island .. .. .	154	171	40	365	156	174	40	370
Yirrkala .. .. .	170	162	25	357	173	162	25	360
Roman Catholic Mission—								
Bathurst Island .. .. .	481	243	..	724	487	251	..	738
Port Keats .. .. .	217	140	..	357	218	142	..	360
Santa Teresa .. .. .	122	56	31	209	114	60	31	205
F. H. Gray (Non-Denominational)—								
Umbakumba Settlement .. .. .	88	102	10	200	90	105	10	205
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>2,239</b>	<b>1,705</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>4,298</b>	<b>2,283</b>	<b>1,766</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>4,383</b>

## 5. PART-ABORIGINAL CHILDREN IN CARE OF MISSIONS (EXCLUDING CHILDREN ON MISSION STATIONS).

Mission.	Number of Children.	
	30th June, 1954.	30th June, 1955.
Australian Board of Missions (Church of England)—		
St. Francis House, South Australia .. .. .	24	23
St. Mary's Hostel, Alice Springs .. .. .	68	65
Aborigines Inland Mission—		
Retta Dixon Home .. .. .	101	98
Methodist Overseas Mission—		
Croker Island .. .. .	86	89
Roman Catholic Mission—		
Garden Point .. .. .	128	93
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>368</b>

APPENDIX XXVII.—*continued.*NATIVE AFFAIRS—*continued.*

## 6. TEACHERS IN SCHOOLS FOR ABORIGINAL CHILDREN.

				30th June, 1954.			30th June, 1955.		
<b>(a) Government Schools—</b>									
(i) On Settlements—Head Teachers .. .. .				5			5		
Teachers-in-charge .. .. .				4			4		
Assistant Teachers (Male) .. .. .				..			2		
Assistant Teachers (Female) .. .. .				4			6		
Teacher—Vocational Subjects .. .. .				1			1		
Relieving Teacher .. .. .				..			1		
(ii) At Industrial Centres—Teacher-in-charge .. .. .				..			1		
(iii) On Pastoral Properties—Teacher-in-charge .. .. .				..			1		
Total .. .. .				14			21		
<b>(b) Subsidized Schools—</b>									
(i) On Pastoral Properties—Teachers .. .. .				..			2		
(ii) On Missions—Teachers .. .. .				18			21		
Total .. .. .				18			23		

## 7. ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE AT GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS FOR ABORIGINALS DURING 1953–54.

School.	Enrolments.									Average Daily Attendance.			Average Daily Attendance as a Percentage of Average Weekly Enrolments.		
	Gross.			Net.			Average Weekly.			Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.
	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.						
Areyonga .. .. .	73	61	134	44	39	83	25.2	24.4	49.6	20.2	20.6	40.8	80.2	84.4	82.3
Bagot .. .. .	39	17	56	35	16	51	25.4	11.5	36.9	23.9	10.4	34.3	94.1	90.4	93.0
Beswick .. .. .	25	18	43	21	15	36	17.7	8.8	26.5	13.1	7.0	20.1	74.0	79.5	75.9
Bungalow .. .. .	39	56	95	29	50	79	20.4	28.3	48.7	18.2	25.3	43.5	89.2	89.4	89.3
Delissaville .. .. .	20	12	32	17	10	27	13.6	9.0	22.6	13.4	8.8	22.2	98.5	97.8	98.2
Jay Creek .. .. .	61	64	125	29	36	65	14.0	19.1	33.1	12.9	17.6	30.5	92.1	92.1	92.1
Phillip Creek .. .. .	29	14	43	29	14	43	27.9	13.2	41.1	27.6	12.8	40.4	98.9	97.0	98.3
Snake Bay .. .. .	9	8	17	9	8	17	9.0	8.0	17.0	9.0	8.0	17.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yuendumu .. .. .	89	71	160	66	58	124	38.9	38.1	77.0	33.9	33.4	67.3	87.1	87.7	87.4
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>705</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>192.1</b>	<b>160.4</b>	<b>352.5</b>	<b>172.2</b>	<b>143.9</b>	<b>316.1</b>	<b>89.6</b>	<b>89.7</b>	<b>89.7</b>

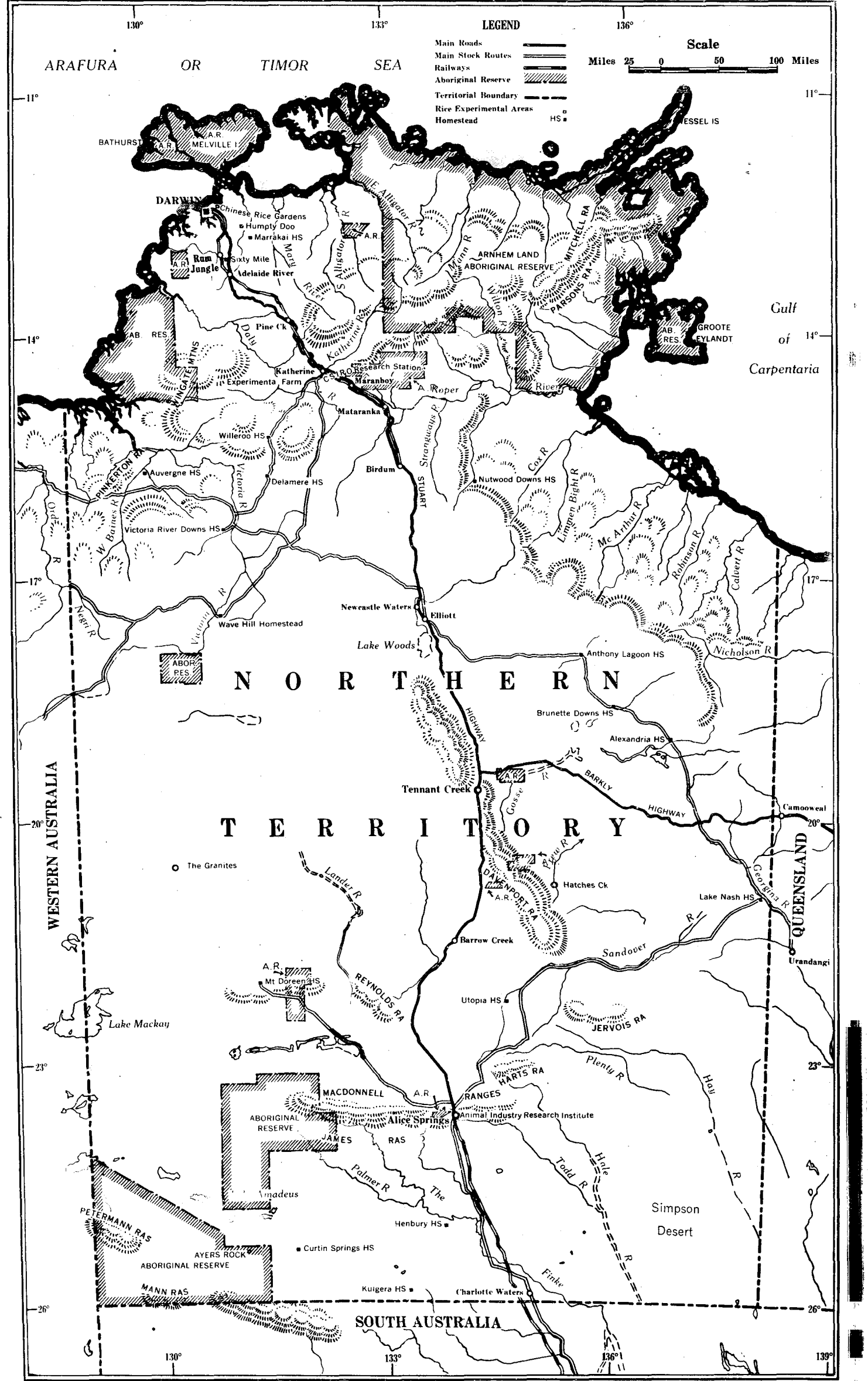
## 8. ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE AT GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS FOR ABORIGINALS DURING 1954–55.

School.	Enrolments.									Average Daily Attendance.			Average Daily Attendance as a Percentage of Average Weekly Enrolments.		
	Gross.			Net.			Average Weekly.			Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.
	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.						
Areyonga .. .. .	50	50	100	42	41	83	33.9	32.9	66.8	32.7	30.8	62.5	93.5	93.6	93.6
Bagot .. .. .	32	18	50	31	17	48	22.9	11.0	33.9	21.7	10.6	32.3	94.8	96.3	95.3
Beswick .. .. .	39	30	69	30	24	54	22.8	18.8	41.6	19.8	17.1	36.9	86.7	90.6	88.5
Bungalow .. .. .	43	66	109	35	62	97	26.3	42.6	68.9	24.9	41.1	66.0	94.9	16.5	95.9
Delissaville .. .. .	18	16	34	17	14	31	15.3	10.6	25.9	15.2	10.3	25.5	99.2	97.0	98.4
Hatches Creek .. .. .	26	6	32	26	6	32	16.8	5.6	22.4	11.2	3.3	14.5	66.9	58.2	64.8
Jay Creek .. .. .	28	35	63	21	32	53	14.1	23.0	37.1	13.1	21.1	34.2	92.7	91.7	92.1
Murray Downs .. .. .	26	32	58	26	32	58	13.0	16.8	29.8	12.3	15.7	28.0	94.7	93.2	93.9
Phillip Creek .. .. .	38	26	64	37	26	63	29.4	18.8	48.2	29.1	18.5	47.6	98.8	98.0	98.5
Snake Bay .. .. .	11	9	20	10	9	19	10.9	9.0	19.9	10.9	8.7	19.6	99.8	97.5	98.8
Yuendumu .. .. .	79	73	152	75	65	140	44.9	43.4	88.3	39.1	39.1	78.2	87.0	90.1	88.5
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>678</b>	<b>250.3</b>	<b>232.5</b>	<b>482.8</b>	<b>229.0</b>	<b>216.3</b>	<b>445.3</b>	<b>91.5</b>	<b>93.0</b>	<b>92.2</b>

APPENDIX XXVII.—*continued.*NATIVE AFFAIRS—*continued.*

## 9. EXPENDITURE ON ABORIGINAL EDUCATION DURING THE YEARS 1953-54 AND 1954-55.

	1953-54.		1954-55.	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Cost of Administration—</b>				
<b>(a) Administrative costs under the Commonwealth Office of Education Vote.</b>				
Salary of Senior Education Officer and staff .. .. .	2,273	..	2,486	..
Travelling and removal expenses of Administrative staff .. .. .	363	..	1,092	..
Posts, telegraph and telephone expenses .. .. .	47	..	69	..
Office requisites and equipment .. .. .	6	..	7	..
Incidental expenses .. .. .	269	..	417	..
		2,958		4,071
<b>(b) Administrative costs under the Department of Territories Vote.</b>				
Posts, telegraph and telephone expenses .. .. .	305	..	854	..
Stationery, printing and advertising .. .. .	350	..	856	..
Packing, postage, and freight charges .. .. .		655		1,710
<b>Cost of Co-Ordinate Activities—</b>				
Subsidies to schools on pastoral properties .. .. .	401	..	39	..
		401		39
<b>Costs of Instruction—</b>				
Salaries of teachers .. .. .	14,915	..	21,116	..
Allowances for teachers of vocational subjects .. .. .	397	..	..	..
Costs of lecturer's fees for training courses .. .. .	139	..	436	..
In-service training school .. .. .	593	..	48	..
Cost of education equipment .. .. .	2,280	..	3,410	..
Preparation and production of Readers .. .. .	1,080	..	490	..
Free text books .. .. .	190	..	13	..
		19,594		25,513
<b>Operation of School Plant—</b>				
Cleaning materials .. .. .	25	..	2	..
		25		2
<b>Maintenance of School Plant</b> .. .. .	26	..	47	..
		26		47
<b>Auxiliary Costs—</b>				
Transfer, removal and travelling allowance of teachers .. .. .	938	..	1,980	..
Reimbursement of fares for teachers' recreation leave .. .. .	190	..	465	..
		1,128		2,445
<b>Capital Expenditure—</b>				
New furniture and fittings .. .. .	843	843	3,320	3,320
<b>Total</b> .. .. .		25,630		37,147



**LEGEND**

- Main Roads
- Main Stock Routes
- Railways
- Aboriginal Reserve
- Territorial Boundary
- Rice Experimental Areas
- Homestead

**Scale**

Miles 25 0 50 100 Miles

ARAFURA OR TIMOR SEA

Gulf of Carpentaria

**N O R T H E R N  
T E R R I T O R Y**

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

QUEENSLAND

**S O U T H A U S T R A L I A**