

1902.
—
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

ABORIGINES DEPARTMENT.

R E P O R T

FOR

FINANCIAL YEAR

ENDING

30TH JUNE, 1902.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command.

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ABORIGINES DEPARTMENT.

Report for Financial Year ending 30th June, 1902.

TO THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Perth.

SIR,

I beg to submit my Report on the working of the Aborigines Department for the year ended 30th June, 1902, and the general condition of the aborigines throughout the settled portions of the State. Our knowledge has been further increased during the year, not only by the ground traversed by the Travelling Inspector, but also by the return of the survey expedition through the Northern Kimberley district under the command of Mr. F. S. Brockman.

The general condition is satisfactory, as I will show later from the reports sent to me by Magistrates, Police Officers, and others from various districts.

The principal efforts of the Department have, as usual, been devoted to the proper and efficient relief of all natives reported to be aged, crippled, or destitute through other causes; and, as I foretold in previous annual reports, we have had applications from many new places as the country is brought more under settlement, and the knowledge of the Department's existence is more widely known. This, of course, entails more expenditure, and, as the prices of all commodities have risen during the last year or two, I have had to represent to you recently my conviction that to properly carry out the work entrusted to me, the vote should be larger than heretofore.

The expenditure of the Department has been £10,687 17s. 11d. The statutory vote of £5,000 was increased by a Parliamentary vote of £5,000, and by the sum of £354 0s. 5d. standing to our credit from last year's vote, and by certain contributions and refunds amounting to £97 18s. 6d., of which £25 10s. was not disbursed. A sum of £261 9s. was obtained by an excess vote at the end of July.

The Balance-sheet, as necessary by statute, is herewith submitted for the information of Parliament.

The system of relief, by the aid of settlers and squatters, has been continued where police officials are not available. All claims require to be fully substantiated by good evidence before being recognised; accounts having to be sent in on Form shown after Table F.

Correspondence.—Twelve hundred and sixty-one letters were received, and 928 forwarded, exclusive of several circulars and numerous memoranda received and sent *re* blankets and small matters unrecorded.

One of the special points that has engaged my attention during the past year was the condition of the half-castes. Agreeing as I do with the expressions frequently heard, that it is a most undesirable thing for *Half-castes* to be allowed to grow up uneducated, and in all the wandering habits of their black mothers, which can only end in their becoming not only a disgrace but a menace to our civilisation, I have been doing all I can, first to ascertain their numbers, localities, and general condition; and second, to get the consent of their parents to their being brought into institutions for their benefit and education. Without any special authority by law much can be done by persuasion, but, so far, the natural affections of the black mothers have stood much in my way. One of the matters which I recommended for legislation on my last year's report was the "future dealing with half-castes." The number of half-castes reported in the recent tour of the travelling inspector, viz., the whole of the State South of latitude 26 is roughly 86; 44 males and 42 females. This, however, does not include those at New Norcia, Swan, Ellensbrook, and a few places in the Eastern districts, and the South-Western farming districts, concerning whom I am inquiring this year.

In February I forwarded a circular to the Resident Magistrates, asking them to ascertain and inform me of any half-caste children in their districts who could be induced to enter one of the institutions now existing within the State. In course of time I received replies from 24 different magisterial centres, and learned of a few only whose parents were willing to give them up, and some of these have been settled, and arrangements are being made gradually for others. The details, as far as I am able to give them at present, will be found in Table F.

I have also requested the magistrates to find out and inform me of the number of natives and half-castes now under indentures in their various districts, but I have not yet sufficient information, as it is a matter of some difficulty for many of them; records apparently have not been strictly kept in their offices in past years.

The tour of the *Travelling Inspector* commenced at Yalgoo; from thence he worked North-Eastward as far as Peak Hill, using a bicycle to visit the stations which flanked the main route. He then made Eastward to Lawlers, making from that place a flying trip Northward to the Lake Way district, then Eastward again to Erlistoun and then generally zig-zagging Southwards through all the Eastern goldfields until he reached Esperance. He then took ship to Eucla, and made his way back from there on his bicycle, visiting numbers of stations and camps; and on arriving again at Esperance, drove Westwards near the coast and up the Pallinup River, crossing the Great Southern Railway at Broomehill, and then Westwards *via* Kojonup and the Williams to Perth. His tour in all covered about 4,200 miles. His reports are published in the appendix, and with those of last year will make a very complete review of the state of the natives, and their relations with the whites throughout the settled parts of Western Australia. A perusal will show how satisfactorily the work has been performed, and the cost has not been a heavy one. It seems to me well proven from these reports that the general treatment of the aborigines in this State cannot be found fault with. Much charity is given spontaneously; the habits of the natives are not rudely interfered with; there are few instances of cruelty, and many of their own peccadilloes, which must be very annoying to the white settlers, are leniently passed over. It is not to be supposed that kindness is always observed by the whites; but, as far as squatters go, it seems to me that any departure therefrom is not looked upon with favour among them. The immorality is rarely ever accompanied with any cruelty or injustice, when we consider that the native is generally a consenting party for the personal benefits which temporarily accrue. At the same time I do all in my power to check it, and, when possible, to remove the natives from the locality where I find it to exist; but, without legal power, I cannot do much. The immorality at the centres of population is, however, as great, if not greater than I have before reported, and it is here where I think legal powers should especially be given me to interfere.

Otherwise, the health of the aborigines has been rather better than during the past year. There have been no serious epidemics of disease, although influenza has been prevalent on the Murchison, and fever for a time in the Fitzroy and LaGrange Bay, as usual, during certain seasons. Full supplies of medicine and instructions for its use were promptly available, and those on whom the duties of the administration fell, behaved in a most humane manner.

Hospitals.—The erection of the proposed native hospital at Esperance has been postponed, but the native hospital at Katanning, the brick building erected by the old Aborigines Protection Board, has been kept in a state of efficiency, and has not only been used for the care of half-caste women, but for a time was found available for an isolated case of diphtheria in a white girl, no natives being ailing at the time. There are a large number of natives and half-castes in the Katanning district, so that this hospital is likely to be always useful.

Blankets.—The usual distribution was made as soon as possible after their arrival, the number being 1,912, details of which will be found in Table E. I am happy to say that the red-white-and-blue blankets, which have now been in use for two seasons, have become so well-known as "native blankets," there is little or no misappropriation of them; they are visible at sight for a long distance, and are unique in pattern. I sent one to the Protector of Aborigines in South Australia, and he informed me that he considered it a most suitable article, and would like to introduce it into that State. Possibly it may ultimately become the recognised article throughout the Australian States.

Institutions.—The Swan Native and Half-caste Institution is now under the management of the Rev. A. E. Burton, the girls and infant boys being still under the care of the Misses Mackintosh. There are 42 children in charge, 38 being at cost of this Department, the rest being above age, and everything seems to be carried on in the same kind and thoughtful manner. A report has been furnished me, which is found in Appendix 1.

The New Norcia Mission is now under a new superintendent, the Rev. Father Torres. He exhibits the same willingness as his predecessor to take the charge of and improvement in the unfortunate waifs who are sent to him. The numbers of the children are as follow:—Boys 19, girls 23, and a short report has been sent me. (See Appendix 2.)

Beagle Bay Mission.—The compact made by the Government with Bishop Gibney at the initiation of this scheme has now been concluded, the necessary improvements, to the value of £5,000, having been done, and 10,000 acres of land in trust for the institution have been granted. The new manager, Father Walter, assisted by Father White, is working a complete and beneficial change, and making the institution a valuable one towards civilising the natives. The number stationed at the mission, attending Christian services and instruction, was in January about 70, and there are a good many old, blind, and infirm people who are relieved by the Fathers—from 20 to 25. The Fathers complain very much of the evil influences of the Asiatics working with the pearling fleets during the laying-up season, suggesting that a constable should be stationed there during that period. I believe this has been acceded to by the Police Department.

Father Walter is of opinion that the measures suggested in my report last year are absolutely necessary to carry out successfully any permanent work for the moral and social welfare of the aborigines. He agrees with my recommendations to make it punishable for blacks to frequent the creeks where the pearling boats lie up, and for white and coloured men to be found in the camps of the blacks.

In May, through the kindness of the Education Department, I was able to comply with Father Walter's request and forward several dozens of reading books and primers, and a few other educational articles which that department could spare from its used stock. Father Walter informed me in May that he had also bought some, and that the progress of his school was very satisfactory, the regular attendance being 25, and a few more expected.

In one of his letters he gives a very interesting description of their Xmas festivities. The principal features were cricket, racing, jumping, boomerang and spear throwing, prizes being given in tobacco and sweets, and a magic lantern show in the evening, with some comic character sketches even, by the boys. It will be seen from this what good civilising influences these Fathers are extending among the wild tribes around Beagle Bay.

Fifty blankets were also sent to them for issue.

I regret to say that news has come of a fire, which burnt down nearly one-half the mission, entailing a great loss.

The *Sunday Island Mission*, a private venture by Mr. F. S. Hadley, is still being carried on, and the latest reports seem very satisfactory. In the early part of the year a difference arose, by which Mr. Hadley lost the aid of Messrs. Ormerod and Ketchler, his first assistants. I made a close investigation, lest there might be any reason for recommending the closing of the Mission, but have been quite unable to find grounds for such a supposition; but I went so far as to tell Mr. Hadley that I did not consider things could be satisfactory in all people's opinion for him to run the Mission entirely by himself, and, unless he could get some approved assistance, I should be compelled to inform you that reports were not satisfactory, which would have endangered Mr. Hadley's tenure of the islands. I am very glad to say that Mr. Hadley has secured the assistance required, and that the reports I received from officials have been much in his favour, and, judging from his own letters, he seems to be not only making progress for the bodily benefit of those in his charge, but also elevating their minds. In February Mr. Hadley reported that he had twenty regular attendants at the school, who were all well forward in their writing, but the reading was not so good, as the imperfect knowledge of their language hampered him in his teaching. Their general health was good, though heavy rains had been falling. This enabled him to plant out vegetables, and he was trying to interest the young married men by giving them garden plots for themselves, with seeds and banana cuttings. He was continuing to erect small houses for the married couples, and the natives appreciated much all his efforts for their comfort and improvement.

In June, while on a trip to Broome, Mr. Hadley advised me that he had got the assistance of a Mr. Jones, from Derby, who, during the absence of his wife and three children in North Wales, had come to assist the Mission. He had also with him a Mr. Thompson, an elderly man, who had undertaken outside work, so as to leave Mr. Hadley free to carry on the school, etc. He says:—

There has been a great improvement in the general tone amongst them (the natives) the last two or three months, since the departure of the pearling boats from Cygnet Bay. Several more little girls have come over to the mission from there, and I hope will stay permanently. I have given out 19 of these blankets you sent, for which I attach the vouchers, and have now 11 left. I have had several losses lately of goods in the steamer, amounting to over £15, which is a serious item to me; and there appears to be no redress. On my return I started the school again, and shall keep open for twelve weeks, when I give them one month's holiday. I am employed in all spare time in putting up frame houses and thatching them for the married couples, and they appreciate them. Could you advise me if I could get from the Agricultural Department a small sample of tobacco seeds, as I think they would grow well here, and be a saving to me of at least £10 a year.

I was able, through the kindness of the Agricultural Department, to send him three packets of tobacco seed. It will be a good test whether such an industry would not be a profitable employment generally throughout our Northern districts, and possibly give occupation to numbers of vagrant natives, and keep them out of the mischief which idleness drives them to.

From the above extract it seems to me that Mr. Hadley is performing a good work and should be encouraged. The only assistance he now gets is the free tenure of the islands and a parcel of blankets. He also acts for the Department in relieving five decrepit old natives.

The *Ellensbrook Farm Home* is being carried on in the most satisfactory manner by the lady in whose charge the eight inmates are placed. There have been three admitted during the last year, one boy and two girls. I visited the place in June, and found them all in the best of health; inspected the reading and writing of some of them, and found them all learning to be useful for their future lives, and, in fact, better off than they had ever been before. The average cost to the Department is 8½d. per day. The illustration shows these children with Miss Bussell's assistant, Miss Griffiths, who teaches them their letters. The group represents a mixture of British, Chinese, Malay, and aboriginal blood.

THE DISTRICTS.

Kimberley District.—I attach a report from the officer in charge of police (Appendix 3). By this it will be seen that generally throughout the district, away from the coast, the natives are either left to their original lives or are being utilised and kindly treated by the pastoralists. The principal difficulty is the fondness of natives for beef, and the impossibility of preventing their raids upon the cattle herds, or even of bringing to justice all the offenders. In such an immense area the only chance is to make examples of those whom the few police scattered throughout the district are able to apprehend. The worst punishment the natives receive is incarceration, which by the new criminal law cannot now exceed six months. The Sub-Inspector touches upon the question of sexual intercourse on the coast, and of this I have several other reports from other sources. One correspondent urges me to take steps at once to amend the intercourse existing among natives and Asiatics at LaGrange Bay and vicinity.

A great deal of business is carried on by the pearlers at La Grange Bay and Whistler's Creek, and there seems to have been a good deal of sickness and suffering there recently. My agent, the Telegraph Station-master, Mr. Tuckett, is most assiduous in his attentions, and I supply him with a considerable quantity of drugs, bandages, etc., and he seems to be expert and kind in his treatment.

At *Wyndham* the Resident Magistrate, in August, reporting on the natives around the town, states that he found strong and able men living upon the immorality of their women, and speaks as follows:—

I am determined to put a stop to this sort of thing in the town of Wyndham. I want Wyndham to be a clean town, and I wish the people in it to be respectable and healthy-living residents. You may depend that any deserving case will have my prompt attention. Old and decrepit natives will be looked after and attended to in the usual way, but young demons who live on the prostitution of their unfortunate women shall receive no quarter at my hands, and I have instructed the police to take immediate steps to rid the town of such pests.

This is the right way to talk, and it is worth every effort when it is reported by the Resident Medical Officer that—

The natives in these parts are a superior type, and if trained on special stations, in a systematic manner, might be made to contribute largely to the general prosperity.

Inland from Wyndham I have agents at Turkey Creek and Argyle Police Stations. At each of these places a few old natives are relieved, and medicine has been forwarded, owing to slight epidemics at times. A good many natives in this part suffer from the absence of the men who are arrested for cattle-stealing, but this is a trouble which we must face until conditions alter.

Argyle Police Station.—Constable McKellar sent me a good report in June, stating that natives were gradually coming in to the station in small lots from outside parts—women only, and principally aged and weak—apparently suffering from cold and hunger at times, the game at this time of year not being very plentiful, and the natives having heard of some of their people having been relieved here. He suggested a large reserve being made for aboriginal purposes, which would be a good thing not only for the natives but for the district generally, as it would be the means of keeping the natives under continual supervision of police, and away from the stocked or cattle country, thus being an advantage to the various landholders. He states that he has had conversations with owners and managers of stations, and thinks they would contribute so many head of cattle each annually for the support of the aborigines if there were some kind of depôt made. He says that there are miles of unstocked country east of the station which the natives could hunt over. This is a valuable suggestion, and I will ask the Travelling Inspector when he goes there to consider it well and report.

Another agent at *Turkey Creek* (Mr. Tate, the Postmaster) is most assiduous for the natives' welfare, and relieves some when he is not able to persuade them to keep to their districts. In January he reported: "There was no serious disease throughout this district. Influenza in a mild form exists, but no deaths. Many bush natives have paid several visits lately. Have heard of no depredations." This gentleman takes a large interest in all native matters, and has supplied me with a most interesting report on the manufacture of stone implements by the natives, to be illustrated with photographs of each step in their construction. I am told that no detailed description of this work has ever been published, and, as our natives are almost the last representatives of the stone age, such a paper should be valuable.

In the *West Kimberley District* my agents are at Fitzroy Telegraph Station (Mr. Annear) and the Manager of the Oscar Range Telegraph Station (Mr. Collins) and Mr. Rose, of Leopold Downs Station. Mr. Annear writes, last November, that there is no game in the Oscar Range country, except a few kangaroo, and very little natural food; he was therefore obliged to relieve them, but would endeavour to send them back when the rain fell. He reports that many suffer from an affection of the eyes, which might lead to blindness. In May the usual epidemic of fever peculiar to these parts attacked the natives, but Mr. Annear was able to cope with it with the medicine supplied. He and Mr. Collins, of Oscar Range, work together to do all they can for the destitute and aged; but the natives are continually going from one place to the other, owing to the difficulty at certain seasons of getting their natural food. Police Constable O'Neill, in reporting on the Oscar Range country in April, says:—

There is no game on this side the range (Leopold). . . . I do not wonder at the natives preferring to remain at Oscar Range, as Mr. Collins killed a bullock, and the old women came to the stock yard, and each was given a large supply of meat. Mr. Collins also has a fine vegetable garden, in which he grows an abundance of vegetables. The natives get as much as they can eat daily. I saw, myself, during my stay there, and the natives said Mr. Collins always gives them "plenty food."



GROUP OF HALF-CASTES, WITH THEIR TEACHER, AT ELLENSBROOK FARM HOME.

Mr. Collins, in a letter of June, says :—

Press criticisms are severe, both regarding the Protector of Aborigines and the squatter; but, I think, many of those who write know little of what they try to criticise. Anyone taking an interest in these matters can recognise the difficulty the Government has to contend with the native question, though few know the efforts of the Government through your Department are practically all that is needed, providing you had all the aboriginal population centralised—an impossibility. During my 20 years in this district, I have constantly seen the well-intended efforts of your office thwarted by the difficulty of securing a reliable method of distributing stores; and am afraid, until agents can be found possessed of more philanthropic and less commercial principles, you will always be subjected to adverse criticism. The cost of providing rations for natives is covered by one shilling per day, although we cart our stores 200 miles at a high rate.

Mr. Rose, who lives at Leopold Downs, which is the farthest out of any station in the Fitzroy district, said, July last year, that he had been suffering a great deal of trouble amongst the cattle :—

It is not so much the number they kill to eat as the number they wound, which die from the effects, and the harm they do the whole herd by frightening them to that extent that they become almost unmanageable. I have tried my best to gain the confidence of the natives here by killing beef for them and supplying them with tobacco and pipes. They have an open invitation to come in for supplies whenever they like. Sometimes as many as 100 turn up at the one time. All my efforts of kindness seem to be thrown away. The innate instinct to kill predominates in this race, and is too strong to be altered in one generation, or, I am afraid, in many. There are a great number of natives about here, running into hundreds; how many exactly it would be hard to say, as they come in from the other side of the Leopold Range. I have to deal with these natives in their wild state, the majority of them never having seen a white man before I came here, four or five years ago. I must say they are much easier dealt with in this state than semi-civilised; one can place more dependence on them, and they are not so treacherous.

Mr. Rose, writing again in August, says :—

The bush natives till recently, or I may say, till the interference of their depredations by the police, have been killing cattle and even the milkers. Not being satisfied with the sport of killing on the run, they have gone into the business systematically, by erecting two slaughter yards.

This shows the difficulties of pioneer settlers, and the considerate way in which they generally behave to the natives. The police, however, are on the alert, and I read in one of their reports of October :—

It has been the endeavour of the police in this district to protect the property of the settlers throughout and at all times, and if depredations be committed offenders are smartly brought to justice; in fact, patrols have been continually kept up, by which journals forwarded will show. The police are always on the move, hence the good order now maintained in this division (Fitzroy).

The condition of the natives of *Broome, La Grange Bay, and Wallall* is not a very happy one. The two former places are much frequented by the pearling fleets, and I have reports of most demoralising practices which take place there, and at other little creeks where the boats put in for watering purposes. In Broome townsite a very large number of natives congregate and mix with Asiatics. The general treatment they receive from them is intended for kindness, but the immorality brings about serious results in consequence. I have been in correspondence with Broome Board of Health, who, being informed of the tenor of my recommendations for further legislation, write me that "being persons of years of experience in these parts," my proposed regulations "met with their entire and unanimous approval." There is a great deal of sexual disease among the natives in these parts, and I have had to forward large parcels of drugs, etc., for their use. I have had the most able assistance from Mr. Tuckett, the Telegraph Station-master at La Grange Bay.

On the *Pilbarra Goldfield* there seems to have been a particularly cold season, and many blankets have been asked for and sent up. Mr. Isdell informs me the syphilitic disease is spreading very rapidly among natives of all ages and both sexes, and it is a distressing thing to see how they suffer. He says, last July :—

I have been long prepared to see such a state of affairs, owing to the lax laws regulating the intercourse and morality of natives and whites.

Elsewhere in the North-Western districts I hear of little distress, beyond the ordinary claims of the aged and crippled, which are regularly attended to. I have regular reports from P.C. Hulme, in the *Ashburton district*. In traversing these, Mr. Holmes, Police Inspector of the district, refers to matters which have been unfavourably reported upon with regard to the collection of women at certain sheep camps, but it appears this is to their benefit; he says :—

These women and girls are signed and sent to these camps to prevent them from running about the country amongst diggers and others, and eventually becoming prostitutes.

At one camp, where a native named Harry has charge of a good many, at a place about seven miles from Ashburton Downs Station, he says :—

Will you believe me when I tell you that this native Harry has complete control of 8,000 sheep, and several shepherds under him. Rations are sent out to him in bulk, and are distributed by him as necessary to his shepherds; and, what is more, he cuts, tails, brands, and counts his sheep regularly, and if any are lost he goes away and finds them; he does the work of a white man, and more reliance can be placed on him than on most white men holding similar positions. This being so, I now ask, "Is this the sort of man the Chief Protector would interfere with and send back to his country?" I say, "No, surely not." Natives in which such implicit confidence can be placed should be encouraged, and I hope that such a step will not be taken. I consider that those who had a hand in bringing this native to such a state of civilisation should be commended.

Further on he says :—

I notice with regret that the native question is being raked up through the press lately, but the writers, I feel sure, are not writing from what they have seen, but merely from what they have heard, and consequently know nothing about the question. Of course we know there have been cases of cruelty, but they are isolated ones, and I think the records will show that in nearly every instance the offenders have been brought to justice and punished.

At *Onslow*, the Resident Magistrate reported to me in January that he had been informed that repeatedly children are taken by passing diggers, and the parents come and complain. I referred this matter to the Law Department, and was informed that child-stealing, being a felony, was punishable with seven years' penal servitude. I think, however, that it would be very advisable to adopt the recommendations I have made dealing with this matter, to make them specially applicable to natives in my proposed legislation. Mr. Sharpe, of Wooleen, on the Murchison, has also called my attention to the fact that "several white men are living with native women, and the drovers are carting them up and down the road."

The *Gascoyne* district has received special attention from me during the last year. In August, September, and October I made a tour through a considerable portion of it, with the kind assistance of Mr. Donald McLeod, the recent purchaser of Minilya Station from Mr. Julius Brockman. Mr. McLeod and his wife—the latter especially—are very experienced and wise trainers of the native race. A large number of natives congregate at this station, and no wonder, for they have found out that under the new management they receive kindness and justice, with liberality. The children are clothed, and all the natives are compelled to wash themselves and their clothes, and to keep their hair short, and to appear weekly in a thoroughly clean condition. Their appreciation of this—quite a new sensation, I should fancy—appears quite evident. The children are taught every day not only their letters and sums, but in everything which tends to civilise and Christianise them, and the parents seem very grateful for the kindness shown to the children. Mr. McLeod does not let his efforts be any burden to the Department, but I think it is only due to him to supply him with a certain amount of drapery stuffs to assist him in clothing neatly so large a number. I also visited Boolathanna, where very few natives are employed, the owners preferring white labour; also Middalya, Wandagee, Williamberry, and Booloogooroo, where I found the treatment of the natives most considerate; they are well fed and induced to do many of the duties pertaining to sheep stations; they are good shearers, cattle drovers, fence menders, and water drawers, etc. The relief is given to them mainly in a gratuitous manner by the station owners, only a few being charged to the Government. Plenty of holidays are given, and the country at times abounds in vegetable food, and there are a good many birds and small animals; turkeys and emu abound, and there are fish in the pools. The natives seem a contented and happy lot. Any tribal rites of a cruel nature are suppressed, if possible, by the settlers, and there seem to be a good many young children, which is a healthy sign. I regret time did not permit me to travel Eastwards from Carnarvon; though, from reports, police and otherwise, the condition of the natives seems tolerably good, until we get almost to the source of the river in the Mt. Augustus district. Here there was a very hard season, and the manager of Mr. Phillip's station reported a good deal of distress. The kangaroo had died of a disease, and the vegetation was scarce. A good many deaths were reported. I have learned, however, that recent rains have been of much benefit to natives and squatters alike. I have had some of these natives sent for relief to Bangemall, where Mr. St. Barbe-Ayliffe has for some time been a considerable help to me.

In the *Murchison*, and all districts to the Southward, matters are in the usual condition. The contract system of hire, which is so necessary in the North, is not resorted to so much as one gets towards the Southward, and the further South one gets the more isolated are the native families, until, in the Blackwood and Nelson districts, they are almost extinct, being represented, however, by a considerable number of half-castes; these nearly all get employment.

The Goldfields.—The settlement of the Eastern Goldfields being a matter of comparatively recent occurrence, the dealing with the almost barbarous natives thereon is a question of much solicitude on my part, especially as they are of a more poor degraded nature than those towards the coast. They have very little idea of work, and there is hardly any pastoral industry in which their services could be utilised. The consequence is that they wander about in a starving condition from one mining centre to another; their own water-holes appropriated by the white race, the few animals completely destroyed, and therefore nothing but grasses and insects for them to rely on. This leads to complete beggary, and, although the mining people are, as a rule, very liberal to them, they are considered as a nuisance, and feel themselves to be such, therefore they are on the continual migration. It is very difficult for me to establish any permanent depôts for their relief: I can only give general instructions, and those requiring help most frequently slip out of my ken; they are gone before arrangements are made for their succour. Luckily for the Government purse, they are not very numerous, but still so numerous that should they be collected in reserves, the support of them would come to a good round sum—more than I can set apart out of my present votes. But yet some steps must be taken, and that soon, to meet the difficulty, and to this I am closely applying myself during the coming year. The Kalgoorlie Clerical Association, with whom I have had considerable correspondence, suggests the appointment of a local protector, stating that the condition of the aborigines is most deplorable. This would lead one to suppose that nothing is being done, but as a matter of fact relief is being given at Kurnalpi, Wiluna, Lake Way, the Phillips River, and indeed wherever it is reported necessary; over five hundred blankets also have been distributed.

A regrettable instance occurred at Eristoun; a native was reported to have been shot by a white man. The travelling inspector, Mr. Olivey, arrived soon after and took prompt measures to have the case brought to court. Through some little want of supervision, he says, the witnesses came in contact with



A NATIVE RESERVE AT WELSHPOOL.

those interested in the case, the consequence being that the evidence before the magistrate was not so convincing of the crime as that which he had obtained himself. The case was therefore dismissed, but to his astonishment one of the honorary justices actually took upon himself to make some very disparaging remarks concerning the way the Department, through the inspector, had interfered. In my opinion, the inspector had done his duty fearlessly, and it is not encouraging when he finds that his conscientious efforts are so frustrated by those placed in irresponsible authority.

At *Esperance*, and along the South coast, large numbers of natives appear to exist and find employment, so that the expenditure for relief is not very great in these parts. The coming of the rabbits, looked at with so much apprehension by the squatters, may be to the natives a cause of great rejoicing. In this connection, I have made inquiries whether it would not be possible to induce natives to devote their whole attention to the slaughter of these unwelcome rodents, and the collection by the Department of the skins, paying the natives a small amount for them; but I find that these skins are only commercially valuable when taken from the carcase in a peculiarly expert manner, and, so far, I have not seen my way to getting the natives taught to do it properly, but I mean to do so as soon as possible.

The "Esperanza" Society, formed by women of Esperance for the improvement of the condition of natives, has written to me with regard to the attendance on sick and destitute natives at that place. They recommend "That the natives be placed on an industrial mission station where they could be cared for like children." They also touched on other matters, among others the extension of the laws of the protection of white women and girls to the aborigines. They told me that they are seeking the co-operation of several other societies to bring about united action on the part of Australian women for the prevention of ill-treatment of natives, especially on the North-West coast. For some months, however, I have not heard what action has been taken, and fear that the diminishing population of Esperance, for the time being, has stifled their efforts. My agent, however, the Resident Magistrate and Medical Officer, is quite alive to all the duties expected of us, and, although there are some whose solicitude has caused them to make complaints of neglect, etc., my inquiries satisfy me that the authorities at Esperance do all they can to assist the natives and relieve their sufferings.

During the visit of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, in July, as many of the aborigines as wished to come were given an opportunity of seeing the celebrations, and they behaved in a very exemplary manner; contrary to expectation, not a single complaint was made against them for loitering about the city or becoming troublesome. There were no fewer than 110 accommodated at the site of the natives' camp, on the Old Guildford Road, about half-a-mile out of town. I had huts specially built for them, and four special constables, selected for me by the Police Department, were appointed to look after them. The natives were provided with firewood and straw, and they obeyed all my injunctions to camp there and conduct themselves in a proper manner. They had plenty of food provided for them, and they held several corroborees and generally enjoyed themselves. They saw everything that was to be seen, and were taken over in a body to visit the Zoological Gardens, and having witnessed the departure of the Duke and Duchess from the town, were quietly sent back to their different districts. I much regret that the Celebrations Committee did not view with favour my proposal to get up a grand corroboree, but they very kindly erected a long staging on the route, from which the natives were able to see their Royal Highnesses and be seen by them.

There are a good many natives, not only on relief about Perth and Guildford, but also earning their own living by labour on the farms near Guildford. They are camped here and there in small coteries, and in Guildford there has been some difficulty in getting a suitable camping place where they will not be a hindrance to the inhabitants, the ground nearly all round that town being private property. I have, however, found one place where there is water where they can pitch their camps.

At the Welshpool Reserve, some nine miles from Guildford, and also from Perth, under the Ranges East from Cannington, I have begun a small settlement, where I have located three or four couples, some of whom have children. It is a *sine qua non* that at least one of each couple shall be a fit subject for relief, so that healthy natives who can find their own living by work do not find a home there. Each family is allotted a few acres of land, and assistance is given them to start with by ploughing the land, which they themselves clear, giving them a small quantity of seed and some wire to strain on to fence posts, which they themselves have split. The three families now residing there promise success to this scheme, and I have no doubt I shall get a few more similar cases. One family who went there had to leave on account of the husband getting work some distance off, and his invalid wife and large family of children preferred to go and live with him. I have given an illustration of the residence and its surroundings of the pioneer of the settlement. I look forward to this reserve being a comfortable and safe home for many of the old natives who have faithfully worked for white settlers, and are cast off when of no further use. The place is within easy reach of supervision by the police and by myself. It is also easy to supply rations there, and the hills at the back will for a long time give harbour to small native game, and water is found at about 16ft. The land is very favourable for gardening, and even for grain crops, and there is plenty of wood, and I have had a good well sunk, with windlass and bucket.

With reference to Crime: All convictions being reported to the Crown Law Department are forwarded to me for perusal. It has also been arranged recently that a *précis* of every case in which a native or half-caste may be interested shall also be forwarded direct to me by the magistrate hearing the case. Wherever it appears necessary, legal defence is secured for the protection of the native charged. During the past twelve months there have been 194 convictions—the largest number, as usual, being for killing cattle. A number of native prisoners who escaped from gaol last year have been retaken, a few of whom have had extra sentence in addition to the completion of their original sentence. Nine only have been sentenced for absconding from service, the number last year having been 15. A comparative statement will be found in Table "B."

A letter from a Mr. Malcolmson, published in the London *Daily News*, was forwarded by the Secretary of State for explanation. In my reply I stated that it was like every attack that had been made from time to time on this Government and the Northern residents by people who indulged in speaking generalities without making themselves acquainted with recent facts or giving particulars of the charges made. The points touched on were a diatribe against the laws and Acts in force here; another reference to the old case of cruelty at Bendhu Station; some objections to the use of the prison cat-o'-nine-tails; the usual accusation about slavery; and some remarks attributed to the Anglican Bishop of Perth. The answers to all these were very obvious, as most of them have been frequently answered before, and it appears that the Secretary of State has so far been satisfied that Mr. Malcolmson's charges are frivolous and ancient.

In conclusion, I beg you will allow me to express my appreciation of the valuable assistance rendered me by the Police Department, by many of the Stipendiary Magistrates, and by many of the settlers throughout the State, in furthering my efforts for the welfare and protection of the aborigines.

I have, etc.,

HENRY C. PRINSEP,
Chief Protector of Aborigines

Perth, 21st October, 1902.

ABORIGINES DEPARTMENT.

TABLE A.

Details of Relief to Aborigines and Half-castes in Western Australia, not including those in Institutions.

District.	Station and Owner or Police Officer in Charge.	Blind.		Aged, diseased, or crippled.		Destitute or otherwise prevented from gaining living.		Total Natives.	
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
KIMBERLEY, EAST ...	P. Gibbons, R.M., Wyndham ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
	Keddall, F. J., Hall's Creek ...	1	1	2	5	...	...	3	6
	Buchanan, Gordon Bros., Flora Valley ...	1	2	2	1	...	...	3	3
	O'Brien, P.C., Argyle Station ...	...	1	1	4	1	1	2	6
	Tate, G. B., Postmaster, Turkey Creek ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1
	Hadley, F., Sunday Island Mission ...	...	3	1	2	...	...	1	5
	KIMBERLEY, WEST...	Annear, C. J., Telegraph Station, Fitzroy ...	2	9	3	3	1	2	6	14
Felstead, C. E., Telegraph Station, Wallall ...	2	3	...	5	3	1	5	9	
Tuckett, F. W., La Grange Bay ...	1	8	5	12	...	...	6	20	
Roe, G. H., Thangoo ...	1	3	...	2	...	...	1	5	
Collins, J., Oscar Range ...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	10	
Daley, H. T., Derby ...	2	...	3	2	...	...	5	2	
Rose, J. F., Leopold Downs ...	1	...	...	1	5	3	6	4	
NORTH-WEST ...	Grant, Anderson, & Edgar, De Grey ...	...	...	...	...	25	25	25	25
	Brockman Bros., Corunna Downs ...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Percy, P.C., Port Hedland ...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	2
	Breen, Corporal, Police Station, Marble Bar ...	1	2	3	6	...	...	4	8
	Robinson Bros., Mt. Florence ...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	3
	McRae, Straker, Croydon ...	...	3	2	3	...	1	2	7
	James, P.C., Table Land ...	3	...	1	4	...	...	4	4
	Padbury & Loton, Millstream...	1	1	1	1	...	...	2	2
	Meares, J. G., Sherlock ...	...	3	2	...	...	...	2	3
	Gillam, A. C., Chiritta ...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
	Lockyer, A. B., Springs Station...	1	2	...	2	...	...	1	4
	N.W. Mercantile Co., Cossack and Roebourne ...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	4
	Hester, M. A., Woodstock ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	1
	Matthews, W., Balla Balla ...	...	...	1	3	...	...	1	3
Brown, C. J. H., Pt. Hedland...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	
ASHBURTON and GASCOYNE	Radley, P.C., Onslow ...	...	1	...	6	...	...	...	7
	Hulme, P.C., Mt. Mortimer ...	1	...	1	2	...	...	2	2
	Carter, T., Point Cloates ...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	2
	McLeod, D., Minilya ...	...	...	1	14	...	...	1	14
	Lefroy, G. W., Yanyearreddie ...	...	3	1	...	...	...	1	3
	Campbell, R., Booloogoaroo ...	...	...	3	1	...	...	3	1
	Bush, R. E., Clifton Downs ...	...	5	1	2	...	...	1	7
	Ayliffe, St. Barbe, Bangemall ...	...	...	9	7	...	...	9	7
	Binning, P.C., Junction Police Station ...	2	1	3	7	...	2	5	10
	Rogers (P.C.), Sharks Bay Police Station ...	...	...	1	4	...	...	1	4
	Thompson, R. J., Hamelin Telegraph Station ...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
	Spry, P.C., Thomas Police Station ...	...	...	3	10	...	...	3	10
	Baston, G., Carnarvon ...	...	...	11	12	...	...	11	12
	Masters, D., Wooramel ...	...	...	3	5	...	...	3	5
Munro & Hogarth ...	...	...	1	3	...	...	1	3	
Fitzpatrick, E. E., Dairee Creek ...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	6	
MURCHISON ...	Byrne, P.C., Police Station, Peak Hill ...	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	2
	Turner, P.C., Police Station, Mt. Wittenoom ...	1	...	3	11	...	...	4	11
	Gordon, P.C., Police Station, Mt. Gould ...	4	2	2	5	...	...	6	7
	Dixon, E., Nannine ...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1
	Wittenoom, F., Boolardy ...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Davis, G., Yarra Yarra ...	...	2	1	2	...	...	1	4
	Smith, E., Meeka ...	...	...	1	3	...	...	1	3
	Carlyon, R. J., Yuin Reef ...	...	...	2	3	...	...	2	3
	Daly, E., Milly-Milly ...	...	...	2	2	...	...	2	2
	Sharpe, J., Woolleen ...	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	2
	Ogilvie, A., Murchison House ...	1	...	...	2	...	...	1	2

TABLE A—continued.

District.	Station and Owner or Police Officer in Charge.	Blind.		Aged, diseased, or crippled.		Destitute or otherwise prevented from gaining living.		Total Natives.	
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
VICTORIA ...	Pollard, P.C., Police Station, Yalgoo ...	2	2	1	7	...	...	3	9
	Hardy, P.C., Police Station, Gullewa ...	...	1	1	6	...	...	1	7
	McGuinness, P.C., Police Station, Field's Find ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
	Broad, Robt., Wydgee ...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
	Stone, H. E., Geraldton ...	...	...	2	3	...	...	2	3
	Woolf, Isaac, Northampton ...	...	...	4	5	4	1	8	6
	McCarthy, J., Pindah ...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
	Mitchell, S. H., Geraldine ...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
EASTERN GOLD-FIELDS	Cable, Lardner Jones, Kurnalpi ...	...	...	...	...	2	14	2	14
	Smith, P.C., Wiluna ...	...	2	4	4	1	1	5	7
CENTRAL ...	Chitty, C., Badbatting ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
	Smith, C. C., Beambine, Pingelly ...	1	1	2	1	...	2	3	4
	Heal, C. & J., Corolin ...	1	...	...	...	1	1	2	1
	Edwards, C., York ...	...	...	...	...	3	4	3	4
	Leake Bros., Mooranoppin ...	...	...	4	2	...	...	4	2
	New Norcia Mission ...	...	...	...	...	3	1	3	1
	Adams, J., Mangowine ...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	2
	Drummond, J., Yere Yere ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...
	Wells, E., Bindoon ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
	Smith, H., Beverley ...	...	...	2	1	...	...	2	1
	Clarkson, B. D., Newcastle ...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1
	Parker, W. B., Mt. Stirling ...	...	...	4	6	1	3	5	9
	Ryan, M., Badgin ...	...	...	...	...	1	7	1	7
	Blechynden, G., Oakdale ...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1
	Perth ...	...	...	5	4	6	13	11	17
	Padbury, Wm., Guildford ...	...	...	4	10	5	3	9	13
Molyneux, C., Northam ...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	2	
SOUTH-WESTERN ...	Horley, A. G., Moodiarrup ...	...	...	1	2	...	...	1	2
	Piesse, F. and C., Wagin ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
	Guerin, E., Busselton ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
	W. Spencer & Sons, Bunbury ...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1
	Russell, E., Ellensbrook ...	...	...	...	...	4	2	4	2
	Brockman, F. L., Vasse ...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1
	Harris, C. A., Katanning ...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
	Jones, J. & W. T., Kojonup ...	...	1	3	2	...	...	3	3
	Lockhart, E., Busselton ...	...	...	3	1	...	...	3	1
	Moore, J. W., Kenenup ...	1	...	3	7	...	2	4	9
	Muir, Thos. Deeside ...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	3
	Spratt, M. A., Arthur River ...	...	...	1	3	4	7	5	10
	Hamersley, E., Williams ...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
	Tuckey, C., Mandurah ...	...	...	2	3	2	4	4	7
	Brown, C. F., Arthur River ...	...	...	1	2	...	3	1	5
	Farmer, E. Hotham ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
	Cooper, M. A., Pinjarra ...	...	...	2	...	2	4	4	4
	Barnett, E., Albany ...	...	...	3	3	...	...	3	3
	Hassell, A. Y., Jerramungup ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Warburton, E. G., Yerriminup ...	...	...	...	...	1	4	1	4	
Lowe, S., Capel ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	
SOUTH-EASTERN ...	Daw, F. J., Esperance ...	...	...	2	...	...	2	2	2
	Gorman, P., Postmaster, Bremer Bay ...	...	...	3	...	4	3	7	3
	Kennedy & McGill, Mandra-Billa ...	...	...	5	1	6	3	11	4
	Taylor, C., Lynburn ...	...	...	1	3	2	2	3	5
	Moir, J., Cape Riche ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
	Ponton Bros. & Sharpe, Balladonia ...	...	...	2	1	...	1	2	2
	Dimer, H., Israelite Bay ...	...	...	1	2	2	3	3	5
	Dunn Bros., Phillips River ...	...	...	1	3	...	...	1	3
	Dempster, W. E., Esperance and Fraser Range ...	...	...	...	...	10	20	10	20
Barnett, E., Hopetoun ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	
Total ...	33	76	157	275	104	165	294	516	

TABLE B.

Convictions of Aborigines, 1901-1902.

Offence.	No. of cases.	No. in 1900-1901.
For killing cattle and taking the flesh (Kimberley district)	111	48
For stealing, burglary, etc.	14	22
For assault, threatening, etc.	9	7
For absconding from custody	31	14
For absconding from service	9	15
For drunkenness, vagrancy, etc.	18	12
For abduction	1	...
For breaking insulators	1	...
For supplying liquor to aborigines ... ..	...	1
For spearing herse ... ..	...	1
Total	194	120

TABLE C.

List of Natives and Half-caste Children at the various Institutions.

Institution.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Anglican Mission (Middle Swan)	17	21	38
Benedictine Mission (New Norcia)	19	23	42
Trappist Mission (Beagle and Disaster Bays)	1	...	1
Deaf and Dumb Institution, Perth	4	4	8
Ellensbrook Farm Home ... ..	...	...	...
Totals	41	48	89

N.B.—The Salvation Army have, with their usual readiness, given assistance to the Department by the occasional care of children and women in sickness.

TABLE D.

List of Half-castes in Central and Southern Districts (excluding those in South-West Settled Areas)

(Compiled from the Reports of the Travelling Inspector).

District	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Quadroons.	Total.
Victoria and South Murchison ... ..	...	2	12	8	...	22
Eastern Goldfields ... ..	...	1	10	7	...	18
Southern Coastal	9	8	13	14	5	49
Totals	9	11	35	29	5	89

TABLE E.

Statement as to Distribution of Blankets.

District.	No.
Kimberley	216
North-West	131
Ashburton and Gascoyne	177
Murchison	119
Eastern Goldfields	533
Victoria and Southern	736
Total	1,912

TABLE F.

Information supplied re Half-caste Children for Education.

Northam	...	None	
Yalgoo	...	None	
Norseman	...	None	
Coolgardie	...	None	
Collie	...	Some	But parents will not give up.
Pinjarra	...	1	But parents will not give up.
Harvey	...	2	Attend school and live with parents, who would not give them up.
Bunbury	...	6	Attend school at Wellington Timber Mills; parents would not give them up.
Do.	...	1	In Bunbury in charge of a lady.
Blackwood	...	None	At Donnybrook.
Do.	...	None	At Greenbushes.
Do.	...	1	At Bridgetown; parents will not give up.
Kanowna	...	1	Too young; and two their mothers will not give up.
Kalgoorlie	...	None	In Kalgoorlie or Boulder.
Menzies	...	2	But mothers refuse to give up.
Carnarvon	...	1	Now at Ellensbrook.
Do.	...	Some	At Minilya, being taught well.
Wyndham	...	2	But parents will not give up.
Rosbourne	...	2	Mother willing; proposed to send to Swan Orphanage.
Do.	...	1	Now at Ellensbrook.
Derby	...	None	
Mt. Morgans	...	2	Mothers will not give up.
Guildford	...	Some	But cannot get parents' consent.
Day Dawn	...	None	
Lennonville	...	None	
Mt. Magnet	...	2	Parents will consent when arrangements can be made.
Nannine	...	None	
Cue	...	2	In charge of the Nuns at Cue Convent.
Marble Bar	...	6	Five now at Swan Institute; others to come.

Form in which all Claims for having distributed Relief are required to be made.

Date.*		Particulars.						Amount.	
*Not of rendering Account, but of performing Service.		At Relieving Station.....							
Period.		Name of Native.	Age.	Sex.	Condition.	Rate Each day.	No. of days.		
From	To								
Remarks, including scale of provisions allowed to each native per week :—									
								£	

We certify, in terms of Section 14 of the Audit Act, that the amount charged in this Voucher as to computations, castings, and rates, is correct; that the Service has been faithfully performed; and that the expenditure is duly authorised.

.....
Accountant or other Officer.

Appendix No. 1.

*Report on the Native and Half-caste Institution, Middle Swan.**To the Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.*

SIR,

I have the pleasure to report as follows upon the Swan Native and Half-caste Mission :—

There are 42 at present under our care. Your Department maintains 38 of these.

The health of the inmates has been excellent during the last 12 months. Measles broke out about a year ago, but through the care and skill of the Misses Mackintosh the attack was successfully combated, and no ill effects have been left.

The work done at the institution is, of course, still mainly the ordinary work of the house and garden. All the girls work readily and vigorously with spade and fork; and those who milk are experts at this important work. The results from the mission cows reflect great credit upon both the matron and the girls who tend the stock. The best evidence of the amount of work done by the girls is shown by the fact that the whole staff consists of the two ladies above-mentioned.

Since my appointment as manager in March last, I have sent out four girls to carefully selected places. These girls were all over 19 years old; two in fact are over 21. I have made arrangements for monthly reports to be sent to me from both mistress and servant, and I hope to visit those at a distance, though I cannot do this regularly. One is at Midland Junction, where I can easily see her. She is very highly spoken of by her mistress, and expresses herself quite happy and contented. Another is at York, and her mistress writes as follows :—

I am very pleased with Maggie, and find her very capable. She is a little slow, but I find her very thorough, and I think too much praise cannot be given to Miss Mackintosh for the care she has taken in training her.

I am sorry to say that the health of both the Misses Mackintosh has been bad during the year. The Matron was seriously ill for some months, during which time Miss Grace Mackintosh took her place, and at present the teacher, Miss J. Mackintosh, acting under the doctor's orders, is confined to her room. These illnesses have been a serious drawback to the girls, but we regret the more on the ladies' account who have done so much for the welfare of the children under their care.

The buildings are in need of improvement in many ways, and I hope that, as soon as the Bishop returns to the diocese, we shall be able to consider the whole question of greatly improving the accommodation.

I am, etc.,

A. BURTON,
Manager.The Rectory, Middle Swan,
2nd September, 1902.

Appendix No. 2.

To Henry C. Prinsep, Esq., Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

SIR,

Western Australia, New Norcia, 1st September, 1902.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of yours, dated 16th ultimo, and now, in compliance with your expressed desire, I am happy to forward you herein stated the following epitome, or General Report, respecting the number of aborigines and half-caste natives who did reside in this charitable institution from 1st January, 1901, to 30th June, 1902.

Married men and women, aboriginal and half-caste	No.
... ..	44
Their own children, male and female	38
Other native boys, under 14 years of age	19
Adult do. do. over do. do.	13
Aboriginal and half-caste girls, under 14 years of age	23
Adult native girls, over 14 years of age	12
Aboriginal widows 2, and 1 half-caste widow	3
Aboriginal widowers	2
An aboriginal man, aged over 70 years	1
Total	155

1. With regard to the relief received from the Aborigines Department (outside of the £450 annually granted to this mission), as far as we know, only £18 15s. has been kindly allowed to two widows and children.

2. The number of aboriginals and half-castes sent to New Norcia through the aforesaid Department, both adults and children, during the same period has been eight, according to our entry.

3. We do not remember that any native was ever sent from this Mission to the Perth Hospital. The only one aboriginal I lately requested you to let him be admitted in the aforesaid hospital he is here at present, almost perfectly well cured.

I have, etc.,

T. TORRES,
Superior.

Appendix No. 3.

The Commissioner of Police.

Police Department, Sub-Inspector's Office,

Derby, 1st July, 1902.

I respectfully forward, for your information, a Report on the Aborigines in the Kimberley District, for the year ending 30th June, 1902.

The approximate number is given at 5,000, of which 1,500 find employment on the various stations, where they prove themselves very useful amongst stock; a few also find employment on the pearling luggers.

Having just completed a tour throughout the district, I have had an opportunity of seeing a large number of these natives, and have no hesitation in saying that they are well treated by their employers; their condition is good, and they look happy and contented.

Sickness among the natives (considering their mode of living) is confined to a very few, who, with the old and infirm, are receiving Government relief at the various relieving camps formed throughout the district. The natives in the Broome District are becoming more and more demoralised every year, and their number rapidly decreasing, which is due to their coming in contact with the Asiatics, who encourage the males in laziness by giving them food and clothing, and in return get the use of the females for immoral purposes. Through this immorality venereal disease has a strong hold amongst those natives, causing great damage.

Crime.—Of offences committed, 88 offenders were brought to trial and convicted for cattle-killing; only a small percentage of these offences was actually reported, the police having detected the larger number when on patrol. Five cases of tribal murder were reported during the year, for which five persons were arrested and committed for trial; warrants are issued for two others in connection with these offences, and one case of murder is being inquired into. The percentage of minor offences is very small, there only being a few, such as common assaults and disorderly conduct. In the West Kimberley District only two offenders are at large; warrants, however, are issued for their arrests, both being charged with tribal murder. A number of desperadoes are yet at large in the East Kimberley District, principally on the Sturt Creek, where they are doing great damage amongst stock, but with constant patrolling by the Hall's Creek Police I hope the ringleaders will soon be brought to justice. Eighty-two cases of escaping from gaol have occurred during the year (this being due to the ineffective state of the gaol buildings); 48 have, however, been recaptured, 34 being still at large. During the year there have been three murders committed on aborigines by white men, and two by Asiatics; two of the former were shot and burnt by a stockman named McLoughlin, near Turkey Creek, who has evaded arrest, and is said to have left the State. The third was said to have been shot and burnt by a stockman who was arrested for the offence, but, owing to unreliable evidence, was acquitted. He was also charged with shooting with intent to kill two other natives, for which he was committed for trial.

A charge of common assault was brought against another white man for assaulting a native woman, for which he was fined £5 and costs. There is also a case against a white man for assaulting two native women being inquired into.

The number of natives throughout the district is decreasing, with the exception of the more civilised tribes on the Fitzroy, which are said to be increasing of late years.

J. DUNCAN,
Sub-Inspector.

Appendix No 4.

Reports on Stations Visited by the Travelling Inspector of Aborigines, from 1st July, 1901, to 1st June, 1902.

To the Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

YANDANOOKA.—Owned by Mr. S. J. Phillips.

At this station I saw 16 adult natives and three children. Three of the former were apparently only visitors, and said they were going back to Dandaragan.

- (1.) Chigenagoo, *alias* Swampen, male, 55. This native has been working in the district for some years, and is now only able to do light work.
- (2.) Culligie, *alias* Caroline, female, 40; says she came here nine months ago from Broad's. Her man having died, she now lives with "Swampen." Is apparently strong and well able to work.
- (3.) Jankera, *alias* Johnny, male, 70; comes from Hill River; has been about here for years droving for many people.
- (4.) Tarraminah, *alias* Jinnie, female, 50; says she has a son of 30 working for Mr. Phillips. Her man died last summer; says that they have both worked here for some years. She has another son of 12, Gilbill, *alias* Joe, who should be employed. I believe he can ride, etc.
- (5.) Jugilliah, *alias* Fanny, female, 35; strong, able-bodied woman, very fat, has a man working on the place; one son of 20 working for Macpherson, of Carnamah.
- (6.) Iagilgarrah *alias* Milly, female, 30; man also working here; no children. Woman fat and strong.
- (7.) Wabby Goorah, *alias* Sambo, male, 55; used to work for Clinch, of the Plains; has a son working for him now.
- (8.) Enginah, *alias* Bidy, female, 50; also worked at Clinch's; both say they intend to go back to Clinch's after shearing.
- (9.) Oilbimah, *alias* Mary, female, 45; used to work at Macpherson's; has a son working at Arrinoo; says she will return to Broad's.
- (10.) Walourah, *alias* Jinnie, female, 55; man dead; no children; nearly blind.
- (11.) Mollanadhu, *alias* Walkaway Jimmie, male, 60; blind in one eye; says he has been here one year; came from Walkaway; seems a smart old chap, and quite able to do any light work.
- (12.) Kateroo, *alias* Bidy, female, 30; strong, able-bodied woman; has four children, three boys and one half-caste girl; boys working, one for Mr. Phillips. Half-caste girl of seven, Fanny, appears nearly white, and should be removed. There is another half-caste girl in this woman's care, Lena, four or five years, her mother being dead. Bidy says she has been working here many years.
- (13.) Cokurngoo, *alias* Billie, male, 60; working here many years.

Of the above, No. 2 (Caroline), No. 4 (Jinnie), No. 7 (Sambo), No. 8 (Bidy), No. 9 (Mary), and No. 12 (Bidy) should be able to earn their own living, if any work were to be had. Nos. 7 and 8 say they intend to return to Clinch's after shearing; No. 9 (Mary) also says she will return to Broad's. No. 12 (Bidy) is a smart-looking woman; P.C. Buttle tells me she has anything but a good character. She has one half-caste girl with her, Fanny, seven years. This girl should certainly be removed. Another half-caste girl of four or five, Lena, appears to be in her charge also. Bidy said she had been working here a long time. Of the others, Nos. 1, 3, 10, 11, and 13 are entitled to relief, the country around being very inhospitable for natives. As regards the others, it would be as well to obtain more information from Mr. Phillips, also Messrs. Clinch and Broad, as natives are not to be relied on to speak the truth. There may be work for some of them; failing this, I think we shall have to feed these natives, otherwise they will flock to the nearest townships. I only saw three children of the eight on your list. Two of these, Fanny and Lena, are entitled to relief, but I think the boy, Joe, should be made to work for his living. A boy of that age could be made very useful on any station. The two girls (5 and 6) are kept by the station.

Unfortunately Mr. Phillips was not here during my visit, he having to go to Perth; consequently I was unable to obtain all the information necessary *re* these natives. No doubt you will be able to get further particulars from Mr. Phillips. There can be no doubt Mr. Phillips feeds and clothes his natives well. All those I saw were in splendid condition and well dressed, with plenty of blankets, etc.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Geraldton, 14th July, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

GABYON STATION.—Owned by Messrs. Moloney and J. Hearn; managed by the latter gentleman.

This station has recently changed hands; four (4) natives were on relief under the old management, only two (2) of them were on the station at the time of my visit, viz. :—

- (1.) Muggamina, *alias* Monkey, male, 55; a smart old chap with one arm;
- (2.) Goondeyer, *alias* Maggie, female, 55; apparently not very strong.

Monkey was doing a little light work, and Mr. Hearn said he did not intend to charge for either of these old people, but would feed them; he only asked for blankets, which I promised to obtain, hence my wire from Murgoo. No one seemed to know what had become of the other two formerly on the list; they had cleared out somewhere. Five men, 25 to 55, and seven women, 22 to 55, employed; seven children, six boys from 12 months to 10 years (two of them half-castes, three and six), and one girl five years. All these natives were very fat and well clothed, and have

evidently been well looked after. No natives are rationed out at present, all being fed either at the homestead or at the out-camp visited.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Yalgoo, 8th August, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

YUIN STATION.—Twelve miles from Yuin Reef; owned by Mr. W. Burges, and managed by Mr. F. Turnbull.

Very few natives are employed on this station.

Four men, 16 to 37, and two women (one a half-caste), 23 and 35; one half-caste boy, 10, nearly blind; one girl, 10. These natives are well fed and clothed, and are apparently well treated.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Yalgoo, 8th August, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth

YUIN REEF.—I visited this mining camp from Gabyon on my bicycle on the way to Murgoo, and saw five (5) of the seven (7) natives on relief, as follows:—

- (1.) Miningurra *alias* Mickey, male, 60; broken knee-cap, unable to work. He has a young woman who formerly belonged to his tribal brother.
 - (2.) Jinaloo *alias* Caroline, female, 60; infirm.
 - (3.) Mimicootharra *alias* Jacob, male, 70; blind, and very feeble.
 - (4.) Workagie *alias* Dickey, male, 55; sick, rheumatic.
 - (5.) Coolya Coolya *alias* Judy, female, 45; often sick; now fairly well. Has a half-caste boy, four years, in her charge. Her own daughter, half-caste, eight years, I saw doing odd jobs (knife cleaning, etc.), at one of the houses.
 - (6.) Dowcloo, female, 50; said to be infirm.
 - (7.) Charlie, male, 50; said to be blind.
- I did not see these two, they being away.

The natives seen all had blankets, Mr. Carlyon having given out six of the seven received, having one left to be given to Dowcloo. These natives appear to receive a good ration for the amount allowed: 50lbs. flour, 2lb. tea, 12lbs. sugar, 14lbs. meat, 1 tin baking powder, rice, matches, and tobacco, divided amongst them per week. They all appeared contented, and had plenty of food in their camps when visited. I also saw at this camp the following natives:—One woman of 20, who does odd jobs about the camp; one girl of 16, daughter of Coolya Coolya; one man, 26, working for Mr. Carlyon, who pays him 10s. per week and his food; one man, 35, also working; one woman, 35, was washing at the same house at which the young half-caste girl was working.

I believe some of these natives came from Yuin and other stations in the neighbourhood. These small mining camps are a great attraction to natives, young and old, and I think there can be little doubt they often obtain liquor, there being a public house here and no police for many miles. The relief appears to be properly administered by Mr. Carlyon.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Yalgoo, 8th August, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

MURGOO.—Mr. H. M. Moloney, owner and manager.

Not many natives employed here now. All that are in the employ are well found in every respect, and should be well contented with their lot.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Yalgoo, 8th August, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

BOOLARDY.—Owned by Mr. F. Wittenoom; managed by Mr. G. Thompson.

There are four natives on relief here. One, Erathinga, died two months ago; when Mr. Thompson fed another woman, Jerryginga, *alias* Mary, 55, nearly blind, in her place. Mr. Thompson informed me that his accounts have not been paid for some considerable time. I advised him to send all particulars to Mr. Wittenoom, who could see you on the matter, and get it satisfactorily settled. The natives here, as at Norbawarra, an out-station belonging to this run, are well looked after (particularly the children), fed, and clothed.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Yalgoo, 8th August, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

BERINGARRA.—Messrs. Darlôt Bros.; managed by Mr. A. E. Barnes.

No natives on relief. The natives here are well fed and clothed. In the camp I saw one man of 35 or thereabouts apparently suffering from syphilis, and on my return to Yalgoo sent some medicine to the manager for him. All the natives seen appeared to be well supplied with blankets.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Yalgoo, 8th August, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

MT. WITTENOOM POLICE STATION.—Corporal Turner in charge.

There are 13 natives on relief here, 10 of whom I saw on my way through to Meeka; the other three had been allowed to go away for a few days. These natives are well fed by Corporal Turner. Kindly send a supply of eucalyptus oil and pain-killer to this station *via* Yalgoo, for use amongst the natives.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Yalgoo, 8th August, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

MEEKA.—Messrs. W. S. and G. Pearse; managed by Mr. Edward Smith.

There are five natives on relief here, at 9d. per day.

- (1.) Gnungbung, *alias* Jonah, male, 60, unable to walk;

- (2.) Ingina, *alias* Bidy, female, 50, paralysed and infirm;
 (3.) Eignegarry, female, 70, blind;
 (4.) Booryimgoo, *alias* Nellie, female, 55, blind in one eye and infirm;
 (5.) Yungarry, female, 55, infirm.

These natives are all fit subjects for relief, and get a good ration for the amount allowed, viz.: 12lbs. flour, 2lbs. sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. tea, 2 sticks tobacco, per week.

I considered the rate allowed somewhat high at this station, and suggested cutting it down to 6d., but Mr. Smith did not care about undertaking the job at less than 9d.; he told me he was able to give them a shirt now and again at the present rate. Of course these natives could be removed to Mt. Wittenoom, but this would entail a considerable amount of trouble. They would probably refuse to go, and nothing would be gained, 9d. being the rate there also, so it is as well to let the matter remain as it is. They evidently get well fed where they are, and that is the main consideration.

Natives employed, etc.:—14 men and boys, 14 to 60; 11 women, 25 to 55; two girls, 10 years; one half-caste boy, 9 years, son of a man named Pearce, who is married to the boy's mother. This woman does the cooking for all hands. This pair have three half-caste children alive: one boy of 9, one boy (13) at Warradjeminda (J. J. Morrissey's), and one at Norseman with the Warden of that place. The boy of 13 at Warradjeminda I saw on my way to Gullewa. This woman cooks for seven white shearers, five other whites, and all the natives.

Scale of rations: 14lbs. flour, 2lbs. sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. tea, 12lbs. meat, 3 sticks tobacco, man and woman, per week.

Mr. Smith informed me these natives were very unreliable; they are certainly well fed, and had plenty of clothes and blankets. There has been a great deal of trouble with the dogs. Meeka appears to have been a general rendezvous for numerous parties when holiday making, and many of them leave their dogs on the run when returning to work.

I have, etc.,
 G. S. OLIVEY,
 Travelling Inspector.

Yalgoo, 8th August, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

MELLENBYE.—Messrs. H. & J. Broad.

Only three natives (men) employed on this station, 18 to 24. I met Mr. W. Broad at Gullewa. As he had one native with him, and there was only one other at this station, I did not visit it, P.C. Hardy informing me the natives were well treated, fed, and clothed.

I have, etc.,
 G. S. OLIVEY,
 Travelling Inspector.

Yalgoo, 8th August, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

GULLEWA.—On my arrival at this mining camp, I found all the natives were away. P.C. Hardy had given them a week's rations on the 20th ultimo, and they had not returned at the time of my visit. It appears these natives are constantly on the move, sometimes at one place, and in a few days many miles away. I advised the constable not to give any of them more than a week's rations at a time, as if they do not come in they cannot require feeding very badly. I regret not having seen these natives, but have

every reason to believe the relief is administered properly. Should they return before I leave the district, I may yet be able to see them.

I have, etc.,
 G. S. OLIVEY,
 Travelling Inspector.

Yalgoo, 8th August, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

BARNONG.—Mr. C. Mitchell; managed by Mr. J. Miles, J.P.

Only six men, 17 to 45, and three women, 20 to 40, employed here. Three children, eight months to six years. All above fed from homestead. From the appearance of the natives seen, there can be no doubt they get plenty of everything, clothes included.

I have, etc.,
 G. S. OLIVEY,
 Travelling Inspector.

Yalgoo, 8th August, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

THUNDELARRA STATION.—Mr. Beaton; 55 miles from Yalgoo.

Only one man and woman employed here shepherding; man 45, woman 40; one girl, five years.

The native informed me they had plenty of food and clothing, etc., and certainly looked well. Mr. Beaton was away when I passed through here on my way to Field's Find.

I have, etc.,
 G. S. OLIVEY,
 Travelling Inspector.

Yalgoo, 10th August, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

WYDGEE, 50 miles East of Field's Find, owned and managed by Mr. Robert Broad.

At this station I found two out of the three natives mentioned on my list:—

- (1.) Illedgo, *alias* Tinpin, female, 65. Infirm.
- (2.) Pyalgojinney, *alias* Bully Combe, female, 67. Infirm.

Munnion, male (one leg), was away, and has not been charged for lately. In case he comes back, he will be fed and charged for while on the place. The two old women are certainly deserving of relief, and get well fed for the amount allowed. They potter about during the day after a few goats, but are unable to do any actual work.

Five men, 20 to 60, and five women, 20 to 50, are employed principally shepherding.

One boy (12 years), two boys (12 months and four years), and one girl (seven years). One boy (18 years) died of decline last summer. These natives are well fed and clothed, and from what I saw am assured are thoroughly well treated.

Scale of rations:—18lbs. flour, 10lbs. meat, 3lbs. sugar, 6oz. tea, 3 sticks tobacco per week, man and woman. The men also have guns and ammunition.

A white man, shepherding, has a native woman living with him, and has five children (half-castes): one girl, of

13 years (now at Mr. Clinch's, some 35 miles West), and four sons, two to 10 years. I saw the girl, but not the other children.

Another man, now fencing on this station, also has a native woman living with him. They have no children.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Yalgoo, 16th August, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

KIRKALUCKA STATION.—Mr. C. Fogarty.

This station, situated some 30 miles from Wydgee, I did not visit, being informed I should probably find no one there. I believe Mr. Fogarty employs two men (30 and 32), and two women (18 and 25), three boys (seven, five, and two years).

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Yalgoo, 16th August, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

YALGOO.

On arrival in this township I could not help noticing the number of natives—men, women, and children—loafing about the hotels. Two boys appear to do good work at one the hotels also a few of the women. The remainder appear to loaf about the greater part of the day, and, apparently knock about the hotels indiscriminately.

I visited the native camp with constable Pollard, and saw 21 adult natives (men and women) from 16 to 60. There were others working in the town, so that altogether, as a general rule, there must be from 30 to 40 natives about Yalgoo. The majority of these natives are fat and sleek, those employed in and about the township evidently getting all they require in the way of food and clothing.

Of the nine natives mentioned on my list, I find one Belingar, male, died in May last. I have seen all the others. Some of them could do light work, as shepherding, etc., but have probably left the stations, being attracted by the easy living to be made in towns. All the same I cannot advise cutting any off the list. On the contrary I feel bound to place two more on, now making a total of 10, as follows:—

- (1.) Ningadar, *alias* Annie, female, 50, feeble.
- (2.) Yitina, *alias* Jinny, female, 50, feeble and ill.
- (3.) Madinyarra, *alias* Jack, male, 60, infirm.
- (4.) Pulgicaira, *alias* Mary, female, 55, infirm.
- (5.) Kiting, *alias* Julia, female, 45, fairly active.
- (6.) Guamance, female, 50, blind.
- (7.) Willbarra, *alias* Judy, female, 50, fairly active.
- (8.) Undangarra, *alias* Statue, male, 55, could do light work.
- (9.) Munganny, *alias* Judy, female, 50, infirm, from 1st August, 1901.
- (10.) Woningyah, *alias* Maudie, female, 50, nearly blind, and feeble, from 1st August, 1901.

These natives get a good ration from P.C. Pollard, as follows:—8lbs. flour, 1½lbs. sugar, ¼lb. tea, 2 sticks tobacco, 1 box matches, per week.

I feel certain that if these natives were away back from any township, some of them at least would not be able to obtain their own living. There are six half-castes amongst the camps, as follows:—

- (1.) Half-caste woman of 20, with child 2 years, said to be by a white man.

(2.) Half-caste girl, 3 years.

(3.) Half-caste girl, 9 or 10, should be removed to a mission.

(4.) Half-caste boy, 6 years.

(5.) Half-caste boy, 5 years.

(6.) Half-caste girl, 4 years.

I believe a few of these natives come from Mount Magnet. One man and woman, with one child (a half-caste girl, 3 years), had no less than four blankets between them, said to be given to them by the Mount Magnet Police. I will inquire into this on my arrival there. I took two or three photos of these natives, also one of seven or eight of the old people. I hope they will turn out well. On Friday last a native named Governor, about 30, who used to work at Meeka Station, was brought in here in a dray by a Queensland native. He had been shot through the thigh. It appears these boys were sandalwood cutting some miles out. On the previous evening Governor was sitting on the tail of the dray, the loaded gun being in the cart at the time, and from what I could gather the jolting sent it off, but I think from the position of the wound the boy might have been drawing the gun towards himself by the muzzle; at all events it must have been very close to him, as the powder scorched his leg at the wound of entrance. The whole charge entered, as a bullet struck the femur, and shattered it badly, coming out almost directly opposite. The Queensland boy had bandaged up the thigh very tightly, placing bare pieces of board next the flesh. No doubt this saved the boy from bleeding to death, but the consequences would have been somewhat severe had he been allowed to travel to Geraldton in this manner. I at once examined the leg, but found it too much smashed to do anything but place it in hastily improvised splints, with a good supply of cotton wool, and bind it up tightly. Fortunately the boy arrived here in time to go down by Friday's train to Geraldton, where he was despatched in charge of P.C. Smith, who was taking a prisoner down by the same train. This constable returned to-day, and informed me Dr. Elliott had hopes of saving the leg, and had made some flattering remarks upon the manner in which I had fixed the leg up.

Something should certainly be done to prevent the natives loafing about this town as they do at present. This state of affairs only emphasises the urgent necessity for legislation in this direction. Some of the neighbouring squatters tell me they cannot keep natives on their places at all. They all flock to the townships when anywhere near. One in particular told me he had on one occasion to send a boy into Yalgoo on horseback, and had eventually to come in himself to bring the horse and saddle back. There can be no doubt that the natives in these towns get drink, and once they get a taste for it they will do almost anything for more.

This town loafing should be put down with a strong hand, and the sooner the better. It is ruining the natives, who are becoming utterly useless, and in the near future are bound to become a burden on the State.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Yalgoo, 19th August, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

WOGGA WOGGA.—Messrs. H. and J. Broad.

Only two natives employed on this station, both men of about 25 years. They appear to be well treated, fed, etc., and should be happy and contented.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Wiluna, 30th September, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

PINDA.—Mr. J. J. McCarthy.

There are two natives on relief here, both women, viz. :—

- (1.) Youerda, female, 40; has only one foot, the other having been burnt off some years ago; she can only get about on her knees.
- (2.) Gualjoogie, female, 70; formerly at Wydge; a fit subject for relief; quite unable to obtain her own living.

The first of these women has a man employed on the place, but she being quite useless is rather an encumbrance to him, he having to carry her when shifting camp, etc., and, as she has only been with him a few years, I deemed it advisable to let her remain on the list. Both these women have blankets, and get a fair ration, viz. :—12lbs. flour, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. tea, and 2lbs. sugar per week.

Two men (45 to 50) and three women (17 to 40) employed; one half-caste boy, three years.

The natives I saw on this station looked well, being fat and well clothed, and are given a little money, but there appears to be a little friction between them and Mr. McCarthy at times, generally caused through liquor being on the place. Otherwise I think the natives are well treated on the whole.

Scale of rations: 24lbs. of flour, 4lbs. sugar, meat, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. tea, and three sticks of tobacco, man and woman, per week.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Wiluna, 30th September, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

YOWERAGABBIE.—Mr. A. J. Watson.

No natives on relief here.

Seven men, 22 to 40; five women, 15 to 40; one half-caste girl, three years; one girl, three years.

Scale of rations:—18lbs. flour, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. sugar, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. tea, meat, 2 sticks tobacco, 2 boxes matches per week per man and woman. Dogs are also allowed the natives.

From the general appearance of these natives, there can be no doubt they are well fed and clothed, and appear to be contented. Mr. Watson informed me that now he only had very few natives. Formerly there were many more employed by him, but they had gradually drifted away to the goldfields townships and become utterly useless.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Wiluna, 30th September, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

MT. MAGNET.—Just prior to my arrival here a large mob of natives left and went down to Yalgoo by train, consequently I did not see them. I only saw six women, from 22 to 50. They appeared to be all right, and were camped not far from the slaughter-yard, where no doubt they obtained a good deal of food. Two women were working there.

I was pleased to find the police keep the natives out of the actual township, consequently there were none to be seen hanging about the hotels, etc., as in Yalgoo. The officer in charge of the police informed me there were

generally 45 to 50 natives in the district, camped somewhere outside the township. There are no natives on relief here.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Wiluna, 30th September, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

CUE.—I proceeded to Cue on my bicycle, intending to go direct from Mt. Magnet to Lawlers and thence to Wiluna by bicycle, but hearing the road was good from Cue, with plenty of feed and water, decided to go direct in the buggy. Sub-Inspector Orme took me out to a native camp to see an old woman, but she had apparently been shifted by her mates, not being anywhere about. Sergeant O'Halloran told me most of the Cue natives were now away up at Abbots, and those camps where there were no police. They appear to give very little trouble in the Cue district, and none are to be seen hanging about the towns of Cue and Day Dawn. I called on Warden Hicks and brought before his notice the state of affairs at Yalgoo, and trust he may take steps in the matter shortly.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Wiluna, 30th September, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

WILUNA, LAKE WAY.—On my way from Wiluna to Lawlers, at a well some seven miles North of Kathleen Valley and 50 miles from Lawlers, I encountered a mob of 20 natives, 11 men and nine women with three children, on their way back to Wiluna; there were three old men amongst them, one of 65, the other two about 55 or 60, all able to get about.

The men's ages ranged from 18 to 65, women 22 to 55, and children, two girls three years, one boy two and a-half or three.

These natives were of much better physique than I was led to expect, and with one or two exceptions looked in good condition, the women and children being very fat. Two women suffering from venereal disease I treated at the time; they all started for Wiluna towards evening. Some of these natives on arriving at my camp demanded rations, but finding they had an old hand to deal with did not attempt any bounce. A day or so previous to this, a traveller informed me that three men, swagsmen, had been stuck up by a mob of these natives, who demanded tucker, and eventually obtained all the men had. I cannot vouch for this, but heard it from two or three different people, and from the way they accosted me, can quite believe they obtained the rations by bouncing the men. On arrival at Lawlers I reported this affair to Sergt. Pilkington.

It appears to me these natives prowl about from one place to another, seldom doing any hunting and little or no work; a few of them do odd jobs at such places as Kathleen Valley and Sir Samuel, but I think the majority live on the women and what they can get by bounce. I asked one of these women to do some washing for me and promised her some flour, but she refused. At this well there is a quantity of native food, in the shape of nalgoes, but they did not trouble to obtain many of them.

On arrival of these natives at Wiluna, P. C. Smith will probably apply to have two or three placed on the relief list. I would suggest in future that any more relief being applied for it should be granted only through the Wardens

at this and other centres; the rates would then be fixed at a fair thing.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Lake Darlôt, 26th October, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

KATHLEEN VALLEY.—I saw a few natives at this camp when passing through; most of them come in from Mt. Harris well, five miles on the road to Sir Samuel. I camped at this well and saw three women and three men there, one of the former suffering from venereal disease. I made up some medicine for her, which she refused to take. From this well the natives go both ways, some to the Valley, others to Sir Samuel. I also saw one child, a boy, about four years.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Lake Darlôt, 26th October, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

MT. SIR SAMUEL.—P.C. Pitman informed me there were generally about 20 natives about this township, nearly all camped at Mt. Harris well. The constable told me these natives get plenty of food, and are generally quiet and well behaved, giving little or no trouble. No children.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Lake Darlôt, 26th October, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

LAWLERS.—There were very few natives about Lawlers during my visit, and none on relief. I only saw 10 natives, six women and four men; no children. All were in good condition and apparently well, with the exception of one woman who had been badly burnt a few days previous to my seeing her. I obtained some carron oil and took it out to the camp the following morning, but found all the natives had left; later on I saw some of them in the town and left the oil with one of them, with instructions as to its use.

Some of these natives do odd jobs about the town and appear to get any amount of food. I believe there are never very many natives about, 20 or 30 at the most.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Lake Darlôt, 26th October, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

LAKE DARLÔT.—On arrival at Lake Darlôt I was informed there were about twenty (20) natives in and around the township and camps, and after hunting about for a day or two succeeded in finding their camp, seeing most of them there. There were twelve (12) men, 18 to 60, fourteen (14) women, 18 to 60, and one child (female) 4 years. The majority of these natives were in good

condition, and evidently obtained plenty of food somewhere. From information supplied in the township it appears the men do little or nothing; occasionally one or two may do odd jobs for a few days, but never remain long; the younger women hang about the camps and town doing a little legitimate work, but more often living by prostitution. I had some difficulty in getting any of these natives to visit my camp for the purpose of being attended to. Some of the women were very bad. At this place and Lawlers the absence of children is very striking. I think there can be little doubt the constant prostitution keeps down the birth rate, and even when children are born they are killed on arrival, the mothers not caring to be hampered with children. I would suggest that a supply of 20 or 30 blankets be sent to the Warden, at Lawlers, for distribution to the natives in and around Lake Darlôt before next winter; the weather is bitterly cold in these parts during the winter months.

The death of an aged native (man) occurred during the time I was at Lake Darlôt.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Seven-Mile Well, near Laverton,
10th October, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

ERLISTOUN.—There were very few natives at the Erlistoun when I passed through on my way to Laverton. I only saw 10 altogether—one man (General), 40; one man, 22; one man, 18; four women, 14 to 30; two boys, 10 and seven; one young child.

Three of the above natives were seen at the townsite, and were employed by the publican, Reid. On my arrival at the townsite, I was informed there were some natives at a camp close by, but only found one there, General by name, who told me he had been shot by a white man. I inquired into this affair and eventually took action, but through want of evidence the case was dismissed, as you will have seen from my full report on the case. There appears to have been another native shot in the neighbourhood not very long ago but he had gone away back, and was not to be got at. There are also one or two other men living with native women in this district. It appears strange that the Laverton police know absolutely nothing about these shooting affairs, although they took place four weeks before my visit. I would suggest that the district be regularly patrolled from Laverton. The butcher, Mr. Cox, employed the two boys, 10 and seven, and a couple of women.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Niagara, 7th December, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

LAVERTON.—At Laverton I struck a big mob of natives, certainly the most impudent and degraded lot I have yet come across; they appear to have been utterly spoilt by the whites, and are now absolutely useless; they mostly hang about the town during the greater part of the day, obtaining tucker for which they do very little work of any kind; the women do a little now and again, but not much. I found two cases of venereal disease amongst the women and treated them; no doubt there were others, but it is a very hard matter to get them to own up.

Mr. Robinson, J.P., informed me he had on more than one occasion given medicine to the natives, not knowing where to obtain any; as he appeared anxious to do anything he could for the race generally, I requested you to send him a supply and was able to leave him a little to go on with. The natives seen numbered about 60; they were all in good condition, fat and sleek, with the exception of the two that were sick. Their ages ranged from 11 to 56. I did not see any old ones amongst this lot. They appear to come from all around and seldom remain in one place long, but are continually cruising about from one town to another, and appear to do no hunting at all, existing on what they can gather in these towns and on the prostitution of the women. There were two half-caste children, one boy three years, one girl two; also two black children of four and six. The dearth of children in all these towns is very noticeable, and can only mean that the race is fast dying out on the fields. In a few years there will not be many left in these districts. As the surrounding country is almost destitute of game and native food generally, I cannot advocate keeping these natives out of the townships, unless they are fed by the country. As regards blankets, I would suggest that a certain day, say *new* or *full* moon in April, be fixed as a day of distribution for all these goldfields; by that means there is little chance of any double-banking, whereas given out in the promiscuous fashion as at present, natives can easily go from one township to another and obtain blankets at each place.

Although it is somewhat difficult to fix a certain day in the natives' mind, by making the distributing day either *new* or *full* moon in a certain month (April, for instance), the natives about the townships could easily be made to understand, by the police, that one month from the full moon in March, blankets would be distributed at the several centres where there are police. There might be a little trouble the first year, but the natives would soon get to know almost the exact date of distribution. By the above means a systematic distribution would be accomplished, and the chances of more than one blanket being given to the same native considerably lessened.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Niagara, 7th December, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

BURTVILLE.—I visited this township while at Laverton, but found there were no natives there at all.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Niagara, 7th December, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

MORGANS.—At this town I saw 20 natives; 10 women 30 to 55, six men 20 to 40, two half-caste boys 5 and 3, and two boys 14 and 12.

There appeared to be no disease amongst these natives. There were only two half-caste children amongst this lot. Children (black) are very scarce. These natives exist in the same manner as at other centres, and appear to do well.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY.

Niagara, 7th December, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

KOOKYNIÉ.—Ten men 16 to 55, eight women 20 to 45, one girl 12, one half-caste boy, six years, and one of two years. These natives camp about three miles out to the west of the township, and all looked well and hearty. I could hear of no disease amongst them. They come into the town during the day, going round the houses getting tucker, etc. To thoroughly get in touch with these natives I should be camped somewhere on the fields, and be able to constantly get about amongst them, then I think much good could be done in attending to them when sick and diseased. Under existing circumstances, I am too short a time amongst them to obtain their confidence, consequently they will not own up to being sick.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Niagara, 7th December, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

FOUR MILE (Niagara).—A day or two previous to my arrival here, a large mob of natives went down by train to Menzies, so that I only saw one man, 35, three women, 30 to 45, two children (half-caste girl three, and one black girl five years). There were one or two others in the camp, but they cleared into the bush on our approach. I could hear of no disease amongst these natives. I would like to express my hearty thanks for the kind assistance given me by the police of Kookynie. P.C. Malone (in charge) gave me a horse and sent a constable round with me to track up the natives.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Niagara, 7th December, 1901.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

COOLGARDIE.—At Coolgardie I only saw a few natives. Three men (3), two 35 and one 60, one half-caste woman, 20, and one boy, 10 years; these being the only ones in the camp at the time of my visit. Sub-Inspector Sellenger informed me there were sometimes a good many about, but very few just then. At Bonnievale, where I had fixed my camp, there were some natives the day before I arrived, but they left the same day that I arrived, consequently I did not see them. All these natives appear to be constantly moving about from one place to another and live in the usual manner on the fields, sometimes doing a little work, principally the women; they often, I learned, would do little or nothing unless they obtained liquor in payment, which I have no doubt they get in many instances. The Sub-Inspector was of the same opinion as myself as regards fixing a day for the distribution of the blankets.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 27th January, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

KALGOORLIE.—I visited Kalgoorlie from Coolgardie by train and called on Inspector Brophy, who informed me there were often a number of natives in this district, and that he was constantly receiving complaints from people

about the natives taking water, and in many cases intimidating women on the outskirts, using bad language, etc. The people do not appear to object to giving the natives food, but they strongly resent their taking water, which is a very expensive item on these fields. The Inspector suggested that water should be provided for the natives at one or other of the condensers on the outskirts of the town, and said no doubt an arrangement could be come to with the owner of a condensing plant to provide natives with water at a fixed rate. This appears to be a good suggestion. I certainly consider something should be done to provide the natives with water. The public can hardly be expected to find it for them. I saw a few natives in Kalgoorlie, but did not visit any camps there. Was informed there had been a big camp out Boulder way, but they had left quite recently, going towards Norseman. Inspector Brophy and the sergeant of police both consider the idea of fixing a day for the distribution of blankets a good one.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 27th January, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

BULONG.—There were not many natives at Bulong at the time of my visit. I saw the following:—Four women, 18 to 25; one half-caste boy, two years; two men, 26 and 30; one girl, four years. The above were well dressed, and, as usual, dodging about amongst the houses. One man and his woman were employed at the hospital. There had been a much larger camp here a week or so before, but they had nearly all left, going Southwards. I visited this place on the bicycle from Kalgoorlie, returning by Kanowna.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Esperance, 27th January, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

KANOWNA.—At Kanowna I interviewed Warden Troy and Sergeant Bishop. There were no natives here at all, and the sergeant informed me there were never very many there.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 27th January, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

WIDGIEMOOUTH.—At this place I missed the natives, they having gone through to Norseman a week or two previously.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 27th January, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

NORSEMAN.—There was a large assembly of natives in and around Norseman from all quarters—Coolgardie,

Kalgoorlie, Boulder, Bulong, Esperance, Balladonia, and other places. I myself saw at least 70 at different times, amongst them being 11 children, 10 black and one half-caste: Seven girls (two to six), one half-caste girl (three years), three boys (two to seven). The adults ranged from 16 to 65, none of them too old to get about all right. Two men of 60 and 65 came from Balladonia and Esperance. The majority of these natives were looking well and hearty although small of stature and poor physique generally; they evidently got plenty to eat. I believe some of the men did a little hunting at times; there being such a large number in and around Norseman, and only a handful of whites, they could not all expect to get food by cadging. As rabbits are said to be very plentiful around Norseman I would suggest that a certain sum be given per skin, and its equivalent in rations be given to all natives bringing in rabbits or their skins. I say skins advisedly, as no doubt a price is obtainable for them which sum would help to pay the amount given for the animal. By adopting some such system, the natives could be made to earn an honest living and also help to check the advance of the rabbits, but they (the natives) must be kept outside the town, otherwise they will certainly not attempt to hunt for their own food while they can obtain it without working at all. Sergeant McAttee has some 34 blankets, and will not require any more this season. Most of these natives will probably return to their own districts before the winter. While awaiting the return of Warden Gibbons, I visited Fraser's Range and Balladonia on the bicycle. Had there been decent feed in Norseman I should probably have gone right on to Eucla from the latter place, but I certainly could not afford to feed my horses all the time, with chaff at 8s. per bag. As it was, I had to feed them for 10 days.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 27th January, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

FRASER'S RANGE.—Owned by Messrs. Dempster Bros. Managed by Mr. Watson.

I visited this station from Norseman by bicycle and found only a few of the natives at home; many were away holiday-making. Those seen were well clothed, fed, and treated. Mr. Watson told me they were always on the move, and were very little good after having been at the fields any length of time. A few of these natives were employed, but the remainder appeared to do very little. There were no natives on relief. Ten men, from 20 to 50, three boys (seven to 10), one girl (four years), 10 women from 14 to 40, one half-caste girl (two years).

Scale of rations: $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. tea, 12 lbs. flour, half sheep, 2 lbs. sugar, 2 sticks tobacco, man and woman per week.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Esperance, 30th January, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

BALLADONIA STATION.—Messrs. Ponton Bros. & Sharp. Managed by Mr. Bijon.

There are seven natives on relief at this station, as follows:—

- (1.) Chardah, F., 75, old and helpless;
- (2.) Quorimba, F., 60, old and helpless;

- (3.) Coodercowin, F., eight, orphan;
- (4.) Weeorn, F., nine, orphan;
- (5.) Cutterbin, F., nine, orphan;
- (6.) Dinduru, F., seven, orphan;
- (7.) Bob Ray, M., nine, orphan and a cripple.

This relief is administered under the supervision of the postmaster at Balladonia, Mr. Creagh, who appears to be a conscientious, careful man, and I feel convinced it is well carried out. The natives are fed at the homestead and camps; some of the orphans I saw at the former place. The old women were away at one of the camps. Twelve men, 18 to 47; four children, females, eight to 12; nine women, 30 to 45.

A half-caste, Tommy Tucker, 21, a smart young fellow, is employed here, and is in receipt of wages. I saw him in Norseman in charge of two racehorses. *His wife, a half-caste, is also a paid servant.* They were married by the Rev. Burton in April, 1898, and have *one son, a boy of two years.* The woman, Hetty Tucker, is clean and tidy, and was cooking at the time of my visit. These natives are well fed and clothed and evidently well treated; they got bread and tea three times a day, with meat at mid-day.

Here, as at Fraser's Range, the white employees live with native women.

Kindly send to Mr. Creagh, Balladonia, by steam from Albany to Port Malcolm:—3 doz. eucalyptus oil; 3 doz. painkiller; 4oz. sulphate of zinc; 2oz. laudanum; 4oz. iodoform.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Esperance, 30th January, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

EUCLA.—On arriving at Eucla I was surprised to find so many people on the jetty. There must have been at least 50 or 60, mostly resident in the district, besides a fair number of natives.

Mr. McGill was at Eucla, and as he was leaving the following morning for "Mundrabella," I had to get through my work somewhat hurriedly, not wishing him to arrive at the station much before me. There were three camps of natives at this place, as follow:—First, in charge of J. Rees, a S.A. half-caste of 30, who is employed kangarooing by Mr. G. Scott. There were seven natives working under this man; those I saw were well clothed, and evidently got all they required. There was one half-caste girl, 13, in this camp. Rees said she was his cousin. These natives are included in my report on Moodeny, owned by Mr. G. Scott. There were three or four S.A. natives here also, some aged, but all strong and hearty. Six or seven natives and women were employed at the telegraph stations, some by the W.A., others by the S.A. staffs, all being well fed and clothed.

At one camp, close to the telegraph station, there was one woman with a half-caste child, 12 months old. I saw another S.A. half-caste, he being employed carting sandalwood; he has a half-caste woman and four children. One woman, Carlidoobadgie *alias* Nellie, F., 36, a strong, healthy-looking woman, now employed at the telegraph station, was on relief at McGill's up to a few months ago. She came to Eucla with a native, her own man being dead; she has three children on the list at McGill's. There appeared to be no sickness amongst these natives. While at Eucla I interviewed the P.M., Mr. Ryan (W.A.), and Mr. Beere, storekeeper. The former informed me he has frequently urged the necessity of a constable being stationed here for many reasons. At present, there being no police

nearer than Esperance Bay, a distance of at least 500 miles direct, there is no check; fortunately the residents in the district appear to be well behaved for the most part; but there can be no doubt the presence of a policeman would have prevented the misuse of much public money. A constable with a good knowledge of stock would be of great value as stock inspector. I am told a large number of stock comes across the border every year from South Australia. I was informed that a vast number of kangaroos are being killed weekly along this coast. Consequently they must be becoming thin, and unless protected for two or three months per year, are likely to be exterminated within the next few years. A close season will go a long way to prevent this, but police would be necessary to enforce the law. There are several kangarooing camps along this coast, a great many natives being employed amongst them, and as far as I could gather they all appear to be well conducted, the natives getting plenty to eat and drink, and for the most part being very well dressed. Should the kangaroos become extinct, or so few as to make hunting unremunerative, some of these natives will be thrown on the Government, but none of them should starve, there being any quantity of rabbits all along the coast, and I am told for some distance inland. Mr. Beere also urged the necessity of police at Eucla. He said there were only a very few natives in the district that should receive relief. There was plenty of work for all those able to do anything, but while able-bodied natives were being fed by Government they naturally would not work for their living. Mr. Beere considers the kangaroos are not decreasing to any great extent. On my way westward I passed two teams driven by natives, who were accompanied by their women, all four in splendid condition and well clothed. They were employed by Mr. Scott. A few miles farther on I met two more natives carrying rifles. They were not quite so well clothed as the former. They were also working for Mr. Scott. I would like to express my thanks to the W.A. staff at Eucla for their kindness.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 12th March, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

NOONERA.—Mr. Beadon.

Mr. Beadon employs nine men, 30 to 45, nine women, 18 to 40, five boys, 4 to 8, one girl, 11 years. One native was ill, probably consumption. I have asked Dr. Farmer to send some medicine for him to Israelite Bay, and from there go on by first chance. These natives all looked contented and happy, and were well fed and clothed. They are employed catching kangaroos and rabbits, also in obtaining sandalwood and other work. Most of these natives are signed.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 12th March, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

MADURA.—At this old station a kangaroo hunter named Dave Boxer has camped and employs two men of 46 and two women, 34 and 45. There are two half-caste children, 4 and 7. I did not see these natives.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,

Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 12th March, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

CLIFTON DOWNS (Eucla District).—Messrs. Talbot, Budge, and Anderson. Three men, 19 to 25; and one boy, 15. Three women, 22 to 35; and one girl, four or five.

The natives are employed at ordinary station work and are well fed, clothed, and treated generally. One woman does the cooking for Mr. Talbot and seems to be a very fair cook.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 12th March, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

MOODENY (Mr. G. Scott). Mr. Scott employs 60 natives, 31 men and 29 women, aged from 15 to 60. There are also 12 children from 15 months to 12 years. The majority at camps, along the coast, are engaged in kangaroo-hunting and obtaining sandalwood. There are two half-caste men in charge of camps, each about 30 years, one a South Australian; one half-caste girl, 12 or 13 years; one half-caste boy, 12; and a man of 26 years.

There can be no doubt these natives are all well treated, fed, and clothed; many of them are paid from 25s. to 30s. every two or three months. The physique and general appearance of all these coast natives is far ahead of those inland, around the Eastern Fields; they also seem much better workers and a better class in every respect. There appears to be employment along this coast for all the natives about.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 12th March, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

ENDINDA.—Mr. F. H. Schult.

Mr. Schult employs one woman (30), two men (30 and 35), also one man, Sambo, (40), and woman, about same age. I did not see these two, but left word with the other natives that they must not expect any relief, both being well able to earn their own living. One woman, Cudiaboo *alias* Fanny (28 or 30), suffering from syphilis. I have asked Dr. Farmer to send this woman some medicine as soon as possible. A woman, Lucy (about 32), has lived with Mr. Schult for the last 12 years, and has a half-caste boy of four. Mr. Schult intends to send his son to school shortly, and said that anything he left behind would go to the boy.

These natives are employed kangarooing, etc., and were evidently well treated in every way.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 12th March, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

EYRE'S SAND PATCH.—There was only one small native boy of eight at this station; one other boy employed as linesman's assistant was away. Having to await a reply

to my telegram, I stayed here two days and a half, receiving much kindness from Mr. and Mrs. Graham.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 12th March, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

MUNDONIA.—Mr. John Cook.

I did not visit this station, but met Mr. Cook when on my way to Israelite Bay, and obtained the following particulars:—Two men (30 and 35), two women (22 and 30) and one girl (six months) are employed.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 12th March, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

Shortly after leaving Balladonia I arrived at Mr. James Cook's camp, a horse dealer. This man employs one man, 25, and one woman, 25.

John Hatfield, a kangaroo hunter, camped with Cook, employs one man, 21, and two women, 30. As usual with kangaroo camps, these natives live exactly the same as the whites, and were all well dressed.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 12th March, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

SOUTHERN HILLS.—Messrs. Talbot, Budge, and Anderson.

I did not visit this station, but obtained the following particulars from a drover employed on the station:—

Two men, 30 and 50; one woman, 24; one boy, nine. These natives looked well and were well dressed.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 12th March, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

BALBINIA.—Mr. Brooks.

Five men, 22 to 70; five women, 15 to 60, one girl about five years.

These natives were employed out on the run shepherding, consequently I did not see them, but am certain from what I saw and know of Mr. Brooks, they are well treated in every way. More natives are employed at shearing time, but most of them clear out afterwards, preferring to go kangarooing, etc., to working continually on a station.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

12th March, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

TOOKJINNA.—Mr. Vincent.

Mr. Vincent employs four men, about 30, six women, 15 to 50, principally kangarooing; these natives appear to do pretty well as they please, and get all they require.

At this camp there was another kangaroo hunter, J. Keough, then on his way inland. This man employs one man, 25, and one boy, 10 years, and would give employment to others could he get them.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 12th March, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

LYNBURN (Thomas River).—Messrs. Dalgety and Co., formerly owned by Mr. C. Taylor; managed by Mr. A. J. MacKay.

On this station there were seven natives on relief, as follows:—

- (1.) Wooderey, *alias* Biddy, female, 50.
- (2.) Dickeyman, *alias* Fanny, female, 40, mother of the four children.
- (3.) Minnie, female, 11.
- (4.) Guearbie, *alias* Topsy, female, 5.
- (5.) Cowaneat, *alias* Charlie, male, 8.
- (6.) Boyaneat, *alias* Dick, male, 4.
- (7.) Tabitol, *alias* Gilbert, male, 60.

No. 2, Dickeyman, has a man working on the place, and apparently a good native, so that in future, from the 1st inst., the station will keep this woman, and shortly Mr. MacKay will employ the girl Minnie, who is quite able to do housework. The other children are not yet able to do much. The old man, Gilbert, I met on my way to Esperance. He had been for a spell, Mr. MacKay having given him rations and an order on a storekeeper for a further supply. These natives get a very liberal ration, certainly fully the amount allowed, besides getting clothes, etc. Three men, 30 to 45, and one woman, 30, are employed, and all well fed and treated.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 12th March, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

ISRAELITE BAY.—Mr. H. Dimer.

Unfortunately Mr. Dimer was away at the time I visited the Bay, and as the relieved natives were some distance out I did not see them either, but the postmaster, Mr. Barwick, informed me they were all in order and got a fair thing.

One of the natives on your list is dead, viz., Yagawah. Another, a boy, Billy, has been working for Dimer of late, and a half-caste girl, Lucy, is now at New Norcia.

Kindly send a supply of pain-killer and eucalyptus oil; also pot. permanganate (4oz.), flowers of sulphur ($\frac{1}{2}$ lb.), and lint. Above had better be sent to Mr. Barwick for distribution as required.

Mr. Dimer employs the following natives:—

- Jacob, half-caste, 11.
Dicky, 20, and woman, 20.
Coffee Pot, male, 24, and woman.
Long Ben, male, 33, and woman.

Mr. Barwick suggested that some clothes be sent up for the natives on relief. I advised him to tell Mr. Dimer to write you on the subject.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 12th March, 1902.

ESPERANCE STATION.—Messrs. Dempster Bros. Managed by Mr. W. Dempster.

On interviewing Mr. Dempster he informed me, much to my surprise, that he received from the Department four tons of flour per year for the Fraser Range station, and two tons for the Esperance station. In my report on the former station I stated the manager informed me that there were no natives on relief, neither did I see any entitled to it, all there being well able to obtain their own living, with perhaps one exception, a woman who was ill at the time; hence my surprise. Mr. Dempster explained by saying he could not keep a lot of natives about the place who did little or no work, and thought it only a fair thing that his firm should have some of the money expended by Government on the aborigines, etc. I naturally could not agree with this, and said I must recommend that the allowance be discontinued. Since this interview I have again been in the Balladonia district, some 78 miles from Fraser Range, and have come across men who were only too willing to give natives employment could they get them. More than one such complained that there were natives at the Range, but they, being fed by Government, refused to work for them, and were mostly loafing. As regards the two tons of flour allowed this station (Esperance), Mr. Dempster said this was obtained to feed the women and children of men employed by him carrying rations, etc., and that he could not keep the former doing nothing. It appears last year Mr. Dempster complained about so many natives being fed by Government in Esperance, in consequence of which he could not get enough to work his station. I informed Mr. Dempster that he must not expect this sort of thing to be continued, and that I should certainly recommend the allowance to be discontinued in future. Rumours had reached me that some of the natives employed on the station were constantly seen with relief blankets. I also mentioned this matter, when he said that natives were very fond of exchanging, etc. I then insisted on his working natives being warned against taking these blankets from their rightful owners. I have seen no natives at Esperance station or at Fraser Range who were entitled to relief or blankets, therefore in future I strongly advise that no relief in any form be given to these stations unless recommended by a reliable person. As regards the unemployed natives at Fraser Range, there is plenty of work to be had if they like to do it, and any amount of game can be obtained, including rabbits, but while the natives are well fed and do nothing for their living, they naturally will not look for work, and induce others who are employed to loaf also. In case any natives or children should require relief in future, it should only be granted in the usual manner, that is, through the Resident Magistrate, to whom the police could report any deserving cases. The same thing applies to blankets. I informed Mr. Dempster yesterday that I should recommend that the flour be

discontinued, and certainly have not seen any cases where blankets should be given, although there may be a few children having a claim to consideration, but they can be seen and reported on by the police. I saw one woman yesterday suffering from syphilis, and have arranged that medicine shall be given to her.

Thirteen men and boys (15 to 50); Nine women (18 to 40); 11 children; one half-caste man (47); one half-caste woman (33), married to a white man, with three quadroon children (7, 2, and 6 months); one quadroon boy (14); two half-caste boys (8 and 10), living with their father; and one quadroon boy (18).

Rations—14lbs. flour (man and woman); 2lbs. sugar, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. tea, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. sheep, per week; also powder, shot, and gun.

There can be no doubt these natives are well treated in every respect.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Esperance, 13th March, 1902.

ESPERANCE BAY.—On arrival here some time back, I found there were no natives in the neighbourhood, all except those employed by Messrs. Dempster Bros. being away. Strange to say the majority of these natives return here in the winter months and clear out inland during the summer, rather reversing the proper order of things; it would be much better in every way if they remained near the coast during the summer and went inland during the winter, when there is plenty of water about.

As there appears to be a good deal of sickness amongst the natives here during the winter months, I would suggest that a plain, rough building be erected somewhere close to the hospital, where any sick natives could be housed and treated by the doctor. In former years they were camped all over the place, and in some cases took a considerable amount of finding. In the event of natives being in hospital, an attendant would be required to look after them and see the treatment ordered was carried out, it being a most difficult matter to get the ordinary native to remain long enough in any building to benefit by treatment, but by having an attendant the natives could be kept to themselves and under the direct eye of the medical man, instead of being at the mercy of misdirected kindness. This building would require to be a good size and open under the eaves so that smoke could escape, as the native will not remain in a building any time unless he has a fire. Dr. Farmer has already spoken to the Government architect, Mr. Bird, who paid Esperance a visit recently, about such a building, and he tells me there are old Government buildings not now in use that could be removed and do duty for a native hospital. I think the erection of such a building as above will have good results in putting a stop to a good deal of the friction that now exists in this town, as well as being of some little use to the natives.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Esperance Bay, 13th March, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

FANNY'S COVE.—Owned and managed by Mr. W. Moir.

There are no natives actually employed on this station; two white men (shepherds) are living with native women

on the run, one having a daughter (black) of six or seven. I did not see either of these women.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Perth, 6th May, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

CARLINGUP (near Ravensthorpe).—Owned Mr. W. Moir, managed by Mr. L. Moir.

A half-caste man of about 26, with a native woman of 25, are the only natives employed here, the former, on wages, does the shepherding.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Perth, 6th May, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

RAVENSTHORPE (Phillips River).—There were no natives at this township at the time of my visit, all having gone to the coast. The police constable informed me there were never very many about this place.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Perth, 6th May, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

COCQANARRUP.—Mr. J. Dunn.

Mr. Dunn employed one or two boys some time ago, but has not done so lately. No relief has been distributed here since December, 1901.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Perth, 6th May, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

JERRAMONGUP.—Mr. A. Y. Hassell. Managed by Mr. J. Hassell.

There are three (3) natives on relief here, as follows:

- (1.) Gnarbein or Junga, *alias* Pelly, F., 70, unable to work;
- (2.) Chaea, F., 13, a Chinese half-caste } Orphans.
- (3.) Gratchen, F., 8 }

A parcel of seven blankets, received by Mr. Hassell, 12 months ago, without any instructions. I opened the package and gave out three for above natives, remainder will be held until required next year. Mr. Hassell said he did not recognise the claim of working women having relief blankets. Their men were paid and should be able to find the women in clothes, etc. It is quite refreshing to meet a gentleman with these views. In many cases employers of native labour endeavour to obtain all the assistance possible from the department.

Eleven natives from 19 to 50, six women from 20 to 40, two girls (one and two years), six boys three weeks to 13 years, three half-castes six months to 12 years.

Scale of rations: 10lbs. flour, 2lbs. sugar, 4ozs. tea, 8lbs. meat, per week.

One death, two years ago, an old woman. One girl (22) died last year, probably from consumption. Three births in last two years.

Six other natives employed at intervals, now in the bush kangarooing, etc.; one white man living with half-caste woman, 45, having nine children, four months to 22 years; eldest son (22) lives with a native woman who has a baby two weeks old. Most of the natives constantly employed are signed and receive wages. The men about the place appeared to be good workers, and were employed chaff-cutting, etc., at the time of my visit. They are well fed and clothed, and appear contented and happy. A native woman signed to Mr. Hassell absconded some few weeks ago. She was living with a white man in Mr. Hassell's employ, and left six or eight weeks after agreement was made. Mr. Hassell applied for a warrant, but the R.M., Albany, told him the woman could not be prosecuted on this agreement. This seems strange, as the woman took a mare and foal, saddle, bridle, hobbles, and bell when clearing out, these being recovered through the agency of Corporal Wall, at Ravensthorpe. If magistrates will not issue warrants in such cases, the agreement does not appear to be of much use.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Perth, 6th May, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

BROOME HILL.—Mr. R. H. Jones.

One native, Jannuc, male, 60, having a wife and six or seven children (from a few months to 23 years) is in receipt of relief, which is administered rather irregularly, the man sending in at intervals and getting three or four weeks' supply. This family, being away many miles in the bush and being unable to obtain any reliable information as to their exact whereabouts, I did not see. There are very few natives employed in this district.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Perth, 6th May, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

PALLINUP ESTATE, Broome Hill.—Owned by Mr. J. F. Hassell. Managed by Mr. T. McGuire.

Only one boy of 16 is actually employed by Mr. McGuire; he is paid £1 10s. per month and his board.

Four men, 20 to 55; two women, 21 and 50; and three children (boys), 18 months to seven years, are also on the run. These natives are kangarooing, etc., and are paid for their skins, buying their own rations and clothing. Other natives are employed shearing, for which they receive payment.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Perth, 6th May, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

KATANNING.—On visiting Katanning from Broome Hill, per bicycle, I called on the R.M., Dr. Black, and the police

constable, obtaining a good deal of information from them on native matters. P.C. Foulkes informed me there were about 80 natives in this district, including children.

There were four natives on relief at this town, as follows:—

- (1.) Wiberoo Puding *alias* Fred, male, 35, crippled arm.
- (2.) Paddy, male, said to be at Carrolup, and unable to get into Katanning.
- (3.) Williebung *alias* Judy, female, 60, unable to work or get about much.
- (4.) Palburn *alias* Nadrey, female, 60, unable to work or get about much.
- (5.) Towah *alias* Nardoo, male, 61, infirm; this native placed on list April 23, 1902.

The above natives are now supplied with rations by Mr. W. J. Rogers, and get 2lbs. flour, 5oz. sugar, and 1oz. tea per day. They come in once a month, as a rule. On making inquiries, I ascertained that Wiberoo *alias* Fred was temporarily employed by Messrs. Piesse Bros., and in receipt of £1 per week for shepherding, in the absence of another native. I at once struck this native off the list, and told him he must get his own living in future. The constable told me he also had employed him as a tracker at odd times, but did not know he was in receipt of relief at the time. In the place of Wiberoo, I placed another native, Towah *alias* Nardoo, male, 60, infirm, on the list, from 23rd April, 1902. This native is certainly unable to do much in the way of obtaining his own living. The two women I saw are certainly fit subjects for relief; their camp, some little distance out of Katanning, was well supplied with food and clothing, etc. The native, Paddy, I did not see; he was said to be out on the Carrolup River, and unable to get in for his rations; but as Wiberoo had been in the habit of taking possession of these, I deemed it advisable to stop the supply unless the native came in himself, as he has not been seen for some time. In this action Dr. Black concurred, and sent an order to Mr. Rogers to that effect. When at Kojonup I rode out to Carrolup on the bicycle, and endeavoured to trace this native Paddy, but failed to do so. No doubt if he has been in the habit of receiving his rations regularly he will soon appear at Katanning after the supply has been stopped awhile. I do not think Wiberoo is to be trusted. In Katanning district there are some 50 or 60 half-castes—men, women, and children—amongst them being a dozen girls between ages of 8 and 14, these being half and three-quarter caste. About 10 half-caste men are employed on farms in the district clearing and shepherding, opossum hunting, etc. Some of the half-castes have bought blocks of land. There are some large families—4, 5, 6, and 7 children in some. About Christmas time 200 natives congregate at Katanning to play hockey. Some of the natives are also employed by the settlers occasionally burning, etc., but only at odd times; they prefer to earn a living by hunting generally. The present law allows the half-caste to obtain liquor at hotels; often this finds its way into their camps and amongst the natives, and a disturbance is the result. All through these districts I consider the distribution of blankets should be on the same day.

I have, etc.,

G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Perth, 6th May, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

KOJONUP.—I did not see any of the natives relieved by Mr. Jones at this place; they were all away, and only come in once a month for their rations.

I feel satisfied this relief is well administered by Mr. Jones.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Perth, 6th May, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

MOODIARRUP (Arthur River).—Mr. A. G. Horley.

I visited this station from Kojonup, per bicycle, and saw three of the four natives on relief, as follows:—

- (1.) Majar *alias* Billie, male, 60, nearly blind and infirm.
- (2.) Bilan *alias* Hoppy, female, 50, lame.
- (3.) Corum, female, 65, infirm, away for a week and seen at Arthur.
- (4.) Mudder *alias* Dickie, male, 70, active, and now shepherding for Mr. Horley, and not on list since 1st January.

Of the above I saw three at the Arthur Bridge: Nos. 1 and 2 being on relief at present, and No. 4 employed by Mr. Horley. The other woman, Corum, I saw at Miss Spratt's, on the Arthur; she was on leave for a while.

This relief is well administered by Mr. Horley.

Kindly send by mail to Moodiarrup, *via* Wagin:—1doz. Eucalyptus oil, 1doz. Painkiller, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Epsom Salts in ounce packets, and $\frac{1}{2}$ doz. bottles Eye lotion.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Perth, 6th May, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

ARTHUR RIVER.—Miss M. A. Spratt.

There were five natives on relief here at the time of my visit, as follows:—

- (1.) Wagram, female, 40, with six children, away.
- (2.) Lame Poll, female, 60, paralysed (at Arthur).
- (3.) Junnie Nondun, male, 41, cripple, wife and three children, away.
- (4.) Collorant, female, 14, sickly.
- (5.) Poll Jupiter, female, 57, dropsy, away at Williams, and not rationed since January last.

Billie Malun, male, 55, sick and unable to work; now suffering from an accident; placed on list temporarily while sick, 23rd April, 1902. Wonyery *alias* Annie, female, 55, above man's woman; does not appear to be fit to do much; placed on relief 23rd April, 1902. The natives are so scattered about that it is almost hopeless trying to find them when away from the relieving station. At this

camp there were some other natives, a man and woman of 40 or 45, one half-caste woman living with a white man, and a woman came in from Moodiarrup. I found the native Billie Malun ill; a tree fell on him some years ago, breaking one or two of his lower ribs. He stated a few weeks back he was lifting a log and has been unable to do anything since. I examined this man, finding him very tender over his floating ribs, but think he will get all right again after resting awhile. In the meantime, I deemed it advisable to put him and his woman on relief at 6d. per day from 23rd April, 1902, and gave Miss Spratt an order to this effect. The natives are so scattered about on account of the scarcity of water that this distribution is somewhat unsatisfactory, but I believe it is honestly administered. The woman Poll Jupiter I did not hear of at the Williams; she has not been relieved at the Arthur for some time.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Perth, 6th May, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

MT. BROWN (Arthur River).—Mr. C. F. Brown.

I visited this station, per bicycle, from the Arthur, but did not see the natives; they were all away, but I have every reason to believe the relief is properly administered. Mr. Brown had written to the Resident Magistrate, Katanning, asking to have the amount increased. I considered his request reasonable, and authorised him to charge another 3d., making the total amount 1s. 3d. per day for the following natives: Caroline and three children, Ernie, Lena, and Grace. The man Tommy Albert has not been charged for since 31st October, 1901, he having been absent and not drawing rations from Mr. Brown. I gave Mr. Brown an order on the police at Wagin for four blankets.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Perth, 6th May, 1902.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

WILLIAMS.—I visited Mr. E. Hamersley at this place, also Mr. W. Cornwall. There were no natives on relief at either place, and none had been relieved for some few months previously; it appears they only come in occasionally. I called on the R.M., but he being out, I did not see him.

I have, etc.,
G. S. OLIVEY,
Travelling Inspector.

Perth, 6th May, 1902.

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