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WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Commissioner of Native Affairs

for the

YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1945

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Annual Report of the Commissioner of Native Affairs.

The Hon. Minister for the North-West.

In observance of the direction in subsection (6) of section 72 of the Native Administration Act, 1905-1941, I submit the Statement of Receipts and Payments, and other statutory statements, duly audited, together with the following abridged report on the condition and welfare of the natives, and the transactions of the Department, for the year ended 30th June, 1945.

ADMINISTRATION AND THE WAR.

The administrative strain continued throughout the year, especially in respect to the difficulty of obtaining competent staff for settlements and outstations. This was particularly noticeable in regard to qualified nurses. Usually they were unobtainable. This applied also to married nurses and their husbands, who seemed unwilling to accept country employment as married couples. They are preferred for welfare reasons, but there was a dearth of them in the earlier months of the year under review. This was due to the opportunities of city employment. Towards the end of the year, however, it was not so difficult to fill male positions, and unqualified married couples became easier to obtain, but the shortage of nurses and other types of female labour was still evident at the 30th June, 1945. Though this was so, the staffing problem was not so serious as in the precarious war years, and to this extent there was some relief administratively. It was momentary in effect, however, because of my serious illness which commenced on the 5th December, 1944, and continued for four months, during which time the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. C. L. McBeath, J.P., administered the Department as Acting Commissioner, assisted by Mr. G. A. W. Ash, A.F.I.A., as Acting Deputy to the Commissioner.

Preceding these events there was criticism of the Department. It was mainly in respect to alleged happenings at the Settlements in previous years. Criticism of this type was difficult to refute due to the exaggeration of alleged episodes and because the criticism usually arose when officers had left the service of the Department. In some instances their whereabouts were unknown. Because of this they were unaware of the criticism, but there was little basis for the allegations and alleged misdeeds. There was no doubt, either, that the criticism was being fostered in some quarters and missionary circles. Apart from this, it appeared that the objective was to discredit Government institutions as against the merits of missionary institutions. There is room for both, and experience has shown that a unitary policy of Government and missionary institutions is preferable in Western Australia. However, the criticism was discussed in Parliament, and after a debate during which some facts were revealed from the standpoint of the Department, which hitherto had been silent, the trend of opinion was that the war with its shortages of staff and materials was to some extent responsible for disabilities in services and facilities, but these were contingent on assistance from the Commonwealth Government, and a motion was passed that the Commonwealth Government should be requested to assist to the amount of an annual grant of £50,000 for three years. This resolution was confirmatory of the evidence tendered by me to the Select Committee on the Commonwealth Powers Bill, and the views expressed on other occasions, that Commonwealth assistance is required for the extra facilities necessary for native welfare in this State, on the basis of £2 of Commonwealth money for every £3 of State net expenditure based on the mean expenditure of five years,

WAR AND ITS EFFECT ON THE NATIVES.

The war had monetary advantages, and few disadvantages for the natives. These were apparent during 1944-45. The income of the native soldiers and their dependents was consistent and high in comparison with pre-war earnings in types of seasonal employment.

During the war it was easier to discern the good soldier types from those that were indifferent and unsuitable for soldiering due to their native disabilities. These latter classes were easily distinguished from the good native soldiers who served honourably overseas with their white brethren. It will be interesting to watch the effect of this association. Some people believe that the association will not endure into full social companionship, as doubtless the native soldiers will mostly return to their native friendships and social circles. There is some evidence of this already. Unquestionably, too, the good types of native soldiers show traits of mental development from their companionship with white soldiers. This is a pleasing aspect as regards the observance of civil standards, and it supports the view expressed in my last report that the social outlook of our southern natives is changing to white standards.

Some of the soldiers' wives, however, did not seem to do well in the absence of their husbands. Some of the women did not re-act favourably to the income arising from Military service. Quite a number of them were of native outlook and lived accordingly. From this it appeared that the presence of native husbands was often essential for the well-being of a native family as regards living standards. This comment is not made for marital welfare reasons, but only because of living standards, and because it seems to me that the happiness and welfare of a native family is enhanced by its compactness.

The native workers at home did particularly well during the war period, and more so after Japan entered the war. Many natives obtained employment in workshops of all descriptions and earned white rates of pay. They also secured white rates in the farming districts, and since they also have Child Endowment they have had every opportunity to uplift themselves so far as monetary aspects and social benefits are concerned. As a people they do not look ahead. They have little sense of husbandry for the morrow. The ordinary types of natives usually need assistance so soon as they are affected by unemployment. At the 30th June, 1939 (two months before the war) the employment and rationing figures were:—

Natives employed	..	..	..	3,918
Number of permits	..	..	..	1,411
Indigents rationed	..	..	..	1,458
Cost of rationing	..	..	..	£11,607

For the 30th June, 1945, the figures were:—

Natives employed	..	..	..	5,351
Number of permits	..	..	..	2,364
Indigents rationed	..	..	..	289
Cost of rationing	..	..	..	£3,741

These figures only refer to outside natives. They do not cover institutional natives at settlements, missions, etc. The 289 natives rationed during the year ended June last were aged and infirm natives, with a few unemployables. From the figures given in the last table it will be seen that the employment position is fairly satisfactory,

NATIVE INSTITUTIONS AND MISSIONS.

As in previous years, it was difficult to make engagements for the staffing of a native institution. This, however, did not apply to the religious institutions. Usually they were able to keep their staff personnel up to required numbers by volunteers from their circles of religious adherents. Happily this was so throughout the war years, except in respect to the Beagle Bay Mission, which lost the services of some of its religious workers. The other native missions were mostly untroubled with staff difficulties during the war. In consequence, they had energetic and enthusiastic staff for the accomplishment of their programmes, but materials were not readily obtainable. However, they were easier in supply during 1944-45, and although reports are not to hand from all the missions it is evident that they were able to undertake a great deal of necessary institutional work.

This was noticeably so at the Norseman Mission of the Churches of Christ. Various buildings were completed or erected, and generally speaking the mission was put on a firm footing.

The Pallotine Mission also made headway. It is situated south of Hall's Creek, and south of the Billiluna Station. The mission is well located, but remotely, and since it is on the edge of the desert country the missionaries encountered great obstacles in the transport of materials and stores. These have been overcome, and good and solid buildings have been erected. As yet, however, the mission has not succeeded in locating a good water supply. This is a handicap to its activities, but it is already running over 1,000 sheep on the native reserve. The Government is assisting the mission with subsidy payments for 30 indigent natives. This assistance is necessary because the local natives and the natives from the adjacent desert country are of very poor physical condition and standard generally.

Substantial progress was also made at the native mission farm at Roelands. This mission is well staffed, and it is able to carry on various branches of mixed farming for the support of and training of the children, of whom there are 37. For these a school room was erected and an electric plant was put in.

At the Lombadina Mission of the Pious Society of Missions a building was erected for a half-caste family, and a stone well was provided. New lavatories were also built and a kitchen was erected as well, in addition to which there were many maintenance repairs effected and some fencing was erected.

The United Aborigines' Mission at Mount Margaret always has something good to report each year. This year it succeeded in effecting general improvements to the staff quarters and native cottages. One staff house was enlarged by 450 square feet of extra flooring. In addition the mission buildings were painted, two slides and two giant strides were erected for the children; four chains of fencing were put up, and a large cement tank for the storage of 22,000 gallons of water was constructed.

Progress was also made at the Sunday Island Mission. It is faced with formidable difficulties due to the barrenness of the island except for a garden area of one and a half acres. However, the mission house was renovated, a stone tank stand was erected, and the store was rebuilt. A bake oven was provided for the children's home, and lavatories were erected as well.

GOVERNMENT SETTLEMENTS, DEPOTS, ETC.

Good work was also achieved at the Government Settlements, Depots, etc. Their staff shortages were severe, but they managed to do well as regards ameliorative work and the maintenance and erection of buildings, etc. These results are too lengthy to record here. Space is not available for this, but the officers concerned know of my appreciation of their efforts, and inspection will satisfy anyone that the settlements, depots, etc., were progressively improved, and the officers concerned richly deserve the thanks of the Department.

Welfare considerations at the settlements were improved as well. These improvements covered foodstuffs, clothing and nursing, but they also extended to all

features of native welfare. Additional expense was involved, but it was justified, and as there was also substantial expenditure on account of Child Endowment, it can be said that the settlements are carried on at high standards of humanitarianism.

Illustrative of improved conditions is the report of Dr. W. S. Myles, who visits and attends the natives at the Moore River Native Settlement. He is not a Government official, and for this reason his remarks should have some acceptance. Many problems face an institution such as the Moore River Native Settlement. These mostly concern its aridness and general unsuitability, shortages of staff, types of inmates, etc., but it has its good qualities. The general unsuitability of the situation of the settlement is not due to any shortening of the present officers of the Department, or to the various superintendents of the settlement and their staffs. Unthankfully they have endeavoured to meet the disabilities of the situation, and are doing fairly well. However, it should be noted that the selection of the settlement was a reflection of public opinion to the Native Question at the time, and the nature of the treatment which was generally accorded to the natives. The settlement has a superbness in its aspects of aridness and general unsuitability, but it has the good qualities of healthiness and isolation, and these are important considerations.

Speaking of the present situation at the settlement, Dr. Myles has this to say:—

The impression gained on the occasions of my professional visits during the year under review to the Moore River Native Settlement has been that the appearance of those living there, especially the children, suggested a marked improvement in general appearance and health.

This in my opinion suggested two things:—

- (a) Increased care.
- (b) Increase of resistance, probably due in no small measure to better diet.

The general infectious diseases have been conspicuous by their absence, although there has been cases of whooping cough and diphtheria in the surrounding districts.

I consider the action of the Department in agreeing with my suggestion for prophylaxis against this illness has been justified. Pneumonia is still the big bugbear, and my experience over several years at the settlement leads me to the belief that the aboriginal and half-caste have little resistance as far as this disease goes.

One disquietening feature is the apparent increase in V.D.G. among the younger teen age people. Active syphilis was not so much in evidence, though quite a number have been treated for it. There are always some cases under treatment for this disease, many of which cases are sent to the settlement.

During the year visits other than the usual monthly one were called for, but I must say thanks to the intelligence and co-operation of the nursing staff I had not been called unnecessarily.

Hygiene and sanitation have on the face of things been satisfactory, but there is room for considerable improvement, but constant changes of staff is a disadvantage.

During a recent visit I arranged with the Acting Superintendent, Mr. Poole, with whom I discussed various matters, to make a thorough investigation of the Moore River Native Settlement, with the object of seeing what can be done in the best interest of the settlement.

Milk.—As I have not been satisfied with the milk facilities, we discussed this matter and he suggested a milking machine, and this was a good and useful idea for thus the milk would be less likely to be contaminated.

Roads.—Mr. Knight suggested some time back on my complaining of the difficulty of quick access from Mogumber on the occasions of urgent calls, especially during winter weather, that a roadmaking machine in the hands of persons accustomed to road making, could give much help, especially with a previous survey of the proposed road.

Finally, the small trained nursing staff has done a good job, but by no means what they would wish in the interests of patients to accomplish, but I appreciate their help under difficult conditions, more especially in connection with the medical cases.

Possibly an annual prophylaxis against colds might do much to reduce the number of cases of pneumonia and save lives—a suggestion I place before the Department for consideration.

(Sgd.) W. S. MYLES, M.B.

There is nothing glowing about Dr. Myles' remarks, but they are worthy of publicity as they indicate that the well-being of the settlement, apart from its sand-plain country, is reasonably satisfactory.

NEW SETTLEMENT REQUIRED.

Inquiries are still going on, but as yet a suitable site has not been found to implement the decision to set up a new settlement for the education, training and welfare of the better types now at the Moore River Native Settlement. The new settlement should be about 100 miles from Perth, and not more than 10 miles from a railhead. It should have not less than 1,500 acres of timbered land, with a good proportion of good land to permit of all types of training in agriculture along the lines of the Narrogin School of Agriculture, and it should have a good water supply. These are the requisite features of the proposed new settlement, and they have been endorsed by the Minister for Agriculture (Hon. J. T. Tonkin), who is also the Minister for Education. He is especially pleased with the feature that the education and training of the native children should continue on in to a school of agriculture in the same native atmosphere.

Some action must be taken in the near future to solve this difficulty of selecting a suitable site for the new settlement, as it would be more desirable to provide better school buildings, staff quarters and other institutional buildings at the new site instead of incurring the expenditure at the Moore River Native Settlement.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIERS' NATIVE MISSION, WANDERING BROOK.

The issue of an authority for the establishment of this mission was a notable event in the history of native welfare. It took place on 14th April, 1944, but no public announcement was possible at the time, nor was it possible to note the fact in the preceding report, because certain inquiries were necessary before action could be taken for the proclamation of the site of the mission as a native reservation under the Native Administration Act, 1905-1941. The area extends to 9,670 acres and comprises properties which previously belonged to the Agricultural Bank, and other areas as well. The details of these took some time to arrange, and it was not until the 9th September, 1944, that His Grace the Archbishop of Perth (Dr. Prendiville) was able to make a public announcement of his decision to establish the mission for the welfare of the natives in the Great Southern District. Commenting on the outlook for the half-castes he said the State had a "very real problem" which had to be faced. Even in peace time there were many obstacles in the way of establishing such a mission, and in times of war these obstacles were multiplied. Nevertheless he resolved last year to proceed with the establishment of a mission, and commenced preliminary investigations and negotiations with the Government."

Continuing, His Grace stated that as far as possible "the mission would need to be self-supporting, and considerable work would have to be found for the natives to help provide for their material needs, and also because suitable employment was necessary to assist in their general rehabilitation."

The work of establishing the mission is now proceeding apace. Buildings have been erected and the expenditure at the date of this report was approximately £3,000. The mission should be functioning in a few months, when doubtless it will be able to admit the 33 voluntary applicants now awaiting admission. Vocational guidance and the rehabilitation of natives not gainfully employed will be the policy of the mission. Further, His Grace has declared that the mission will

provide trained teachers to instruct native boys in motor mechanics, building and farm work in all its branches. Native girls will also have opportunities of advancement. They will be instructed in domestic science and needlework, but every opportunity is to be given the boys and girls for individual ability, and children who show promise will be given higher education.

CONTROL OF NATIVES BY THE COMMONWEALTH.

This question, together with other proposals for the transfer of legislative powers to the Commonwealth Parliament, was rejected by a Referendum of the people of Australia on the 19th August, 1944, but was carried in Western Australia.

Subsequently, on the 6th December, 1944, the Legislative Assembly resolved as follows:—

Inasmuch as the reforms and improvements necessary for the better education and the moral and physical uplift and care of natives are substantially dependent on the availability of ample money, the Commonwealth Government should, this House considers, make available to the State a sum of not less than £50,000 per annum for three years to supplement the present expenditure by the State, and enable necessary reforms and improvements to be put into effect.

The resolution was conveyed as directed, and the Prime Minister replied stating that the matter had been given careful consideration, but it was "regretted, in view of the heavy obligations of the Commonwealth in regard to post-war requirements, that the desired financial assistance cannot be provided."

Previously, when the Commonwealth Powers Bill was under discussion, the State Parliament decided that control was not to pass to the Commonwealth Parliament, but that the welfare of natives should be a matter for co-operation between the Commonwealth Parliament and the Western Australian Parliament.

EVACUEE COLONY, BEAGLE BAY.

The numbers of rationed natives in the Evacuee Colony totalled 132 at 30th June, 1945, as against 169 at the 30th June, 1944. These people were removed from Broome in March and April, 1942, when the fear of invasion existed. Some of them, especially the married couples, have been allowed to return to Broome and take employment there, subject to the requirement of good behaviour and subject to the stipulation that the women are not to associate with Asiatics. Generally speaking, however, it is clear that the coloured people who previously resided at Broome must be trained and rehabilitated to other means of livelihood. In pre-war days they lived in association with the pearling industry, and there was much unsavouriness at Broome due mostly to illicit sexual intercourse between the Asiatics and native women, and numerous polyglot children came into existence as a consequence. Attempts were made to suppress the prostitution, but little success was achieved. This continued until the entry of Japan into the war, and action was then taken for the removal of all natives to a special camp at Beagle Bay, and the townsite of Broome was declared a prohibited area for natives not in lawful employment. After this there were no further complaints respecting the misbehaviour of Asiatics and native women. The position is still satisfactory, but if the pearling industry is revived the sordidness is likely to re-assert itself, since the Asiatics are not allowed to have their Asiatic women with them.

UDIALLA STATION.

For some time it has been realised that a native institution for the West Kimberley District was necessary. At present there is no Government institution in the Derby and Fitzroy Districts for the reception of coloured people as distinct from full-blood. In the past it has been usual to send coloured children over to Moola Bulla Native Station, near Hall's Creek. This was unsatisfactory because Moola Bulla is really a full-blood institution. For this reason and because a modern type of institution was required for the education and training of the Broome coloured people to other means of live-

lihood away from the pearling industry and its Asiatic influences, it was decided to purchase the Udialla property from Mr. Darcy Ryder. This was arranged on the 27th December, 1944, but Mr. Ryder is to carry on the property for the present. The purchase was made on a walk in—walk out basis, and included 1,600 sheep. The property is 58 miles from Derby and 130 from Broome. More precisely it is on the south bank of the Fitzroy River, and consists of 3,083 acres 3 roods 32 perches. The property is ideally situated, and it comprises mainly black soil of great fertility. This is very suitable for vegetable growing and for sheep raising, and it is proposed to carry on these industries in the training of native children and natives generally. A feature of the property is the nearness to the surface of good spring water and surface springs which flow into the billabongs.

The next step is to set about the erection of buildings for the establishment of a native institution on the property. This is being attended to, and approval has been obtained for the preparation of a layout plan for a modern institution, and action is being taken for the erection of the first building, viz., the home-stead.

STATE NATIVE POLICY.

This was referred to briefly by the Hon. Minister in Parliament during the debate in 1944 on native matters. He maintained that a native policy must necessarily extend to many aspects, but the central principles of the policy in this State are:—

Non-interference with full-blood tribal natives except in respect to medical attention or assistance as may be necessary. No objection to be raised to the establishment of mission posts on native reserves as centres of relief or medical attention, provided the mission posts are under the control of accredited mission boards of the principal churches. Such mission posts must work in harmony with tribal customs, and they are not to celebrate legal marriages contrary to the provisions of the Native Administration Act and contrary to the social laws of the natives.

Nondescript missionaries will not be approved.

The development of remote native reserves, of which over 38,000,000 acres exist, is not necessary, since in principle the outback reserves are for the undisturbed native life, and must be reserved for the nomadic and tribal natives and for hunting opportunities.

Missions in occupation of native reserves to be permitted the right of rural and pastoral pursuits on such reserves as hitherto, and their development, provided the freedom of tribal life on outback reserves is not interfered with except in respect to medical considerations or other assistance as may be necessary in the preservation of tribal life.

Detribalisation is inevitable. Already this is substantially so in Western Australia, and for this reason the outlook must be towards the education and industrial training of detribalised natives, because their future is now mainly an economic one since their means of livelihood will depend on our industries and their mental development should be along these lines. Even so, we must lay a steady hand on undue interference with tribal life by protecting tribal natives from molestation as far as possible, except to medical attention and food assistance as may be necessary when bush food is scarce through bad seasons.

Detribalised natives should be encouraged to industrious habits by training in farm and pastoral work, and elementary instruction in trades of interest to such industries, together with education along the lines of the Queensland system as outlined in the Hendren report. It is also necessary that there should be spiritual and moral guidance, and whilst we must be thoughtful of the views of anthropological experts as well, especially in regard to tribal natives, the outstanding fact is that detribalisation is substantial, and for this reason our policy must have an economic bias through a unitary system of official and missionary effort.

Extremism or hysteria in anthropology or Christianity are unnecessary.

Missions should be dual-purposed, that is, besides their religious teachings they must undertake the mental development of detribalised and semi-detribalised natives, by education and training in order to fit them—at least the detribalised natives—as economic units.

In general principle, the admission of destitute or orphan children to missions and settlements is advisable, but the removal of children generally into missions and settlements will not be agreed to except when the children are living under unsatisfactory conditions. The dismemberment of full-blood tribal families is not desirable, however, even for education or Christianity. Christianity can be taken to full-blood tribal natives, but it is not necessary to disturb their families for this, or for any other purpose.

So far as education is concerned, our aim is to educate the children of detribalised natives who live in or near white centres of population, and our object, too, is to subsequently bring them into employment which will not bring them into economic or social conflict with the white community.

Semi-civilised full-blood natives can be kept under benevolent supervision in regard to employment and social and medical services in their own tribal areas, and education is not particularly necessary for them. Nor is education necessary for tribal or uncivilised natives. They should be safeguarded in their tribal areas, and there is a doubt in my mind as to whether it is even necessary to disturb their social state by attempts at Christianity.

Rural and pastoral pursuits are considered to be the most suitable avenues of employment for native labour. Socially they appear to be much happier in country districts. This applies also to native domestics, who seem to be better placed on farms or stations, or at country hospitals, or with the wives of country doctors.

There are many other aspects of policy, but the foregoing are the main principles.

INSPECTIONS OF NATIVES.

The Inspector of Natives for the North (Mr. L. O'Neill) travelled 11,760 miles on inspections during the year. This mileage was covered by motor car in his district, which extends northwards of the 26th parallel of South Latitude. He also made two aerial trips.

The Acting Inspector for the South (Mr. J. H. Bisley) carried out inspections to a mileage of 3,529 by motor car. This inspector's district extends southwards of the 26th parallel of South Latitude.

HEALTH OF NATIVES.

As will be seen on referring to the Medical Inspector's Report (Appendix I.), the health of the natives was satisfactory during the year, except in the Kimberley area. The Medical Inspector of Natives (Dr. L. A. Musso), inspected 2,826 natives in that area, and he found the following types of cases:—Leprosy, 32; granuloma, 28; yaws, 16; gonorrhoea, 4, and miscellaneous, 30. Elsewhere the health of the natives was good. For the year ended 30th June, 1945, the Medical Inspector found 32 cases of leprosy, but it will also be seen that 68 lepers were admitted to the leproserium for the year ended 31st December, 1944. At this date there were 228 lepers under treatment, but the number increased to 244 at the 30th June, 1945.

The Medical Inspector examined 3,599 natives in all throughout the year, including the Kimberley examinations previously mentioned. Approximately only 150 natives were found to be in need of treatment, the main types of cases being granuloma 31, yaws 16, gonorrhoea 4, leprosy 32. There were also 39 cases of a miscellaneous nature. These figures are satisfactory in their incidence, except for the number of leprosy detections.

During the year 1,386 patients were treated at the native hospitals at Port Hedland, Broome, Derby, Wyndham, the Moore River Native Settlement, and the Carolup Native Settlement, and the clinics at Moola Bulla and Munja Native Stations, as against 1,460 patients in the previous year, and it is pleasing to record that of 1,386 there were only 136 cases of venereal disease.

Some hundreds of natives were also treated as out-patients for minor causes.

During the year 1,053 patients were discharged as cured from the native hospitals, 26 were unrelieved (including 24 removed to other hospitals), 213 were relieved (including five transferred to other hospitals), 28 absconded, 40 died, and 10 were transferred to the leprosarium at Derby, leaving 116 still under treatment as in-patients at 30th June, 1945.

Granuloma and yaws are still occurring amongst the northern natives, but the scourge of leprosy is the most serious anxiety. Otherwise there was little change in the health of the natives during the year.

Evidence exists of the presence of a number of lepers in the Prince Regent River area, near the Kunmunya Mission. This has been verified, and there is reason to believe that an unusual number of lepers and escapees are in the district. This news is disquietening indeed, and it is a further setback to any favourable impression as regards an improvement in the leprosy outlook. Nothing has been decided as yet as to the nature of the action to be taken. The natives are in an area which is difficult of access and looked on as inaccessible even to patrol parties, but there is a probability that efforts will be made to collect the lepers by organised Police parties working in association with a medical officer. If so, the parties will be required to patrol on foot, since most of the country is strewn with rocks, and unsuitable for mounted patrols.

Due to the continued seriousness of the leprosy position, the Commonwealth Government has been requested to provide an assistant doctor for leprosy detection work in the Kimberleys. There were two medical men on the work from 1939 to 1941, but since it appears that the numbers of cases are not diminishing, it is unquestionably clear that a second medical man is urgently needed for the Kimberleys alone. Any doubt as to the reasonableness of this statement will be removed by a perusal of the leprosy figures in the Medical Inspector's Report at Appendix I.

There is a need, too, for the Commonwealth Government to inaugurate a medical inspection service for the Northern Territory, to work in co-operation with the service on this side of the border. The incidence of leprosy is rising rapidly in East Kimberley, especially near the border. Because of this, regular inspections have been made along the border by this State, but no similar inspections by a medical man have been made by the Commonwealth authorities on the Northern Territory side. From this it will be seen that the State Native Medical Service is taking care of the infection foci within its borders, but the Commonwealth Government is neglecting the Northern Territory foci, and so we are left to battle with the scourge on the boundary of the Commonwealth's own territory. Leprosy is a national menace, and for this reason the neglect in the Territory is strange in view of the pretensions of the Commonwealth as regards the national control of natives.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

The treatment of gonorrhoea and other venereal ailments at our Native Hospitals represented only 10 per cent. of the treatment given for all diseases and ailments during 1944-45. During 1941-42 the percentage was 11.2, for 1942-43 it was 8.8, and for 1943-44 it was 8 per cent. Figures are not available for the native cases of venereal disease treated at Government and Committee Hospitals throughout the State. Therefore it is impossible to say how the percentage of venereal cases, concerning natives treated during 1944-1945 throughout the whole State, stands in relation to all native complaints and illnesses treated during the year under review.

DENTAL ATTENTION.

The Senior Dental Officer (Mr. A. G. McKenna), and Dental Officer (Mr. C. J. Cole), spent five months in the Northern areas during 1945. They examined and treated whites and blacks, and of the children examined 238 were white, 230 half-caste, and 65 full-bloods. Percentage of bad teeth per child was: White, 5.31; half-caste, 2.96; and full-blood, 2.1. Of the adults

examined, 222 were white, 61 half-caste, and 20 full-blood. From these figures it will be seen that children with the most black blood had better mouths than the white. Mr. McKenna's report also stated, *inter alia*, that he had examined 189 full-blood natives, of whom 88 had all sound teeth with none missing. Continuing, Mr. McKenna reported that the other 101 "either had had teeth taken out at some time, or had one or more decayed teeth at the time of examination. Most of the people suffered to some extent from gum disease, in fact only 61 were free of it, and 16 of these had badly stained teeth which would probably be associated with bad gums later on; that leaves only 45 whose mouths were perfect, sound teeth, healthy gums and no dirty stains. The majority of these, by the way, came from the Marble Bar District, and it was certainly a pleasure to see their beautifully clean sound teeth, and pink healthy gums. Probably I would have seen many more of these if it had been possible for me to have visited more inland districts, and it certainly seems feasible to conclude that the more natives come into contact with civilization the more their teeth deteriorate (whatever may be the reason), although not to a great degree—and the hereditary factor seems to intrude here."

CERTIFICATES OF CITIZENSHIP.

The Government secured the passage of the Natives (Citizenship Rights) Act during the 1944 Session. This action was taken because it was realised that an enlightened policy was desirable in respect to those natives who by reason of character, standards of intelligence, and development, were deserving of consideration in connection with the acquisition of citizenship rights. These views found ready acceptance in Parliament, and it is pleasing to say that the Bill was passed into law. It permits any adult person who is a native within the meaning of the Native Administration Act, 1905-1941, to make application for a Certificate of Citizenship to a Resident Magistrate. An applicant must sign a declaration that he wishes to become a citizen of the State, that for the two years prior to the date of the application he has dissolved tribal and native association except with respect to lineal descendants or native relatives of the first degree, and that (a) he has served in the Naval, Military or Air Force of the Commonwealth, and has received or is entitled to receive an honourable discharge; or (b) that he is otherwise a fit and proper person to obtain a Certificate of Citizenship.

When applicants lodge their applications with Clerks of Courts they must attach two references from reputable citizens certifying to the good character and industrious habits of the applicant. The application is then listed for consideration by a magistrate whose decision is final, but he must satisfy himself that (a) for the two years immediately prior the applicant has adopted the manner and habits of civilised life; (b) the full rights of citizenship are desirable for and likely to be conducive to the welfare of the applicant; (c) the applicant is able to speak and understand the English language; (d) the applicant is not suffering from active leprosy, syphilis, granuloma or yaws; (e) the applicant is of industrious habits and is of good behaviour and reputation; (f) the applicant is reasonably capable of managing his own affairs. If the magistrate is satisfied as to these requirements he then issues a Certificate of Citizenship, and the holder is deemed to be no longer a native or aboriginal, and has all the rights, privileges and immunities, and is subject to the duties and liabilities of a natural born or naturalised subject of His Majesty.

This is a most modern piece of legislation, and it is well worthy of sympathetic interest and understanding since it enables our native soldiers and other well-behaved natives to acquire the rights of citizenship.

Many detribalised natives served honourably as soldiers.

Some of them died for Australia, and since some of them also endured the hardships of being prisoners of war for some years, and have returned to Australia, they are deserving of the rights of citizenship subject to the qualification of an honourable discharge. There were some failures as soldiers, but the good types recognised their responsibility and thus measured up to civic requirements as soldiers, and since they were good

enough to fight for Australia in its struggle for national existence, they should be accorded the rights of citizenship.

Others also rendered wonderful service on the home front. They responded well, and many of them did particularly well in the production of foodstuffs and munitions. Of course they were paid for their services, but they also displayed a high degree of civic standards. Due to this and subject to the consideration of other qualifications and behaviour, they are now eligible for consideration for advancement to full citizenship.

CERTIFICATES OF EXEMPTION.

(Section 71.)

Certificates of exemption to the number of 400 have been issued since the system was established. Since then there have been 82 revocations, 2 voluntary surrenders of certificates and 17 deaths of certificate holders, leaving a net total of 299 certificates in existence at the 30th June, 1945. In most cases the certificates also cover the wives and children under 14 years of age of the certificate holders. Sixty-six new certificates were issued during the year 1944-45. It was a record year for the issue of certificates, and shows that many detribalised natives are now substantially along the transitional path to white standards. This is due to the better economic circumstances of the natives, and because of more remunerative employment and the extension of social benefits, which enabled them to live under better conditions.

LEPROSY PRECAUTIONS LEGISLATION.

(Section 9A.)

During the year 14 Leprosy Precaution permits were issued under section 9A of the Native Administration Act. These permits covered the employment of natives engaged on the droving of stock from areas north of the 20th parallel of south latitude to areas south of that line. All of these natives have since returned to their former domicile in accordance with the inflexible conditions to this effect.

Since the inception of this precautionary legislation 18 permits have been issued to enable natives, for certain reasons, to travel south of the 20th parallel of south latitude, and 31 permits have been issued in respect to natives working on droving plants.

DEATHS.

Two hundred and fifty-five deaths were recorded for the year 1944-45, representing 194 adults and 61 children. Compared with the figures for 1943-44 there was an increase of 38 adult deaths and 14 more children's deaths. Of the total number of deaths for 1944-45, 195 were full-bloods (173 adults and 22 children), and 60 of various castes (21 adults and 39 children), *vide* Appendix VII. One hundred and eleven of the deaths in full-bloods were of natives over 50 years of age, comprising 60 males and 51 females.

CHILD ENDOWMENT.

Perusal of the separate report at Appendix VIII will show that the value of child endowment paid in respect to detribalised natives in this State was equivalent to £49,549 10s. for 3,034 children at the 30th June, 1945, as against £30,732 for 2,828 children at the 30th June, 1944. The former amount of £49,549 10s.—covers the payments to missions and Government native institutions and to native parents. For the twelve months ended 30th June, 1945, the missions received £12,655 10s. for 649 children, inclusive of 121 children at the Children's Cottage Home, Queen's Park (Sister Kate). Parents living away from missions and away from Government native institutions were paid £30,108 for 2,046 children, and £6,786 was received by the Department on account of 348 children in Government native institutions.

An examination of Child Endowment Income and Expenditure accounts for the years 1943-44 and 1944-5, in respect to children at Government Native Institutions, reveals that for the year 1943-44 an amount of £3,660 was expended from the gross income of £4,345, equal to an expenditure of 84 per cent., whereas for the year 1944-45 an amount of £4,336 was expended from the

gross income of £4,135, equal to an expenditure of 105 per cent. A further comparison between these two years reveals that during 1944-45 the gross income decreased by £400, due to a drop in the number of endowed inmates at the Departmental Native Institutions during 1944-45, and expenditure increased by £676. The balance of income over expenditure at the 30th June, 1945, showed an excess of £3,498 as compared with £3,699 as at the 30th June, 1944. The Receipts and Payments Account which contains only actual cash receipts and disbursements for the year, showed an unexpected balance of £4,342 15s. 5d. as at the 30th June, 1945, as compared with £3,296 18s. 5d. as at the 30th June, 1944.

The substantial difference between these figures is due to the fact that during 1943-44 Endowment payments up to the 21st February only had been received at the end of the year, whereas during 1944-45 Endowment payments to the 17th April had been brought to account by the 30th June, 1945.

The expenditure of Child Endowment moneys at Government Native Institutions is supplementary to the moneys set aside by the Treasury for such Institutions. This principle is rigidly observed, and care is taken to see that the Child Endowment moneys are spent on extra considerations to the native children in Government Institutions, apart from the usual Treasury expenditure on institutional needs. In consequence of this, and as it is often impossible to obtain goods and materials due to national shortages and the fact that Child Endowment is not paid until the expiration of each quarter, there is usually an accumulation of moneys in the trust fund. The balance in the fund is the reserve amount as it were. The expenditure from the fund is approximately at the same ratio as the current income. However, the main consideration is that the moneys for the Government Institutions are spent economically and wisely, and all moneys are held in trust funds.

There were only four cases under supervision at the 30th June, 1945, covering sixteen children in all. It was intended to place more cases under supervision, but these proposals were not put into effect owing to my long illness and the arrangements were delayed as a result. The need for this supervision has been decided on by the Commonwealth Government in consultation with the State Government, and the scheme will be put into operation so soon as the necessary staff is available and the arrangements can be made for the essential forms and procedure directions. The native parents are spending their money in a fairly reasonable manner, but unfavourable reports are on hand respecting some cases of abuse in expenditure, and these will be put under supervision in due course. So soon as this is opportune it is proposed to cancel the right of these native parents to receive cash payments. Instead the moneys will be collected by the Department, and the parents will receive orders on local storekeepers for stores and materials. This scheme should rectify matters, but probably it will not be successful with some unsatisfactory individual parents. If this happens consideration will be given to the removal of their children to Missions and Government Institutions.

Even though there may be some criticism about cases of abuse in the expenditure of Child Endowment moneys, the fact remains that Child Endowment to natives means £49,000 of Commonwealth money to the State, and so far as natives are concerned the money reaches business and trade circles, and this is a good thing for the State's industries.

OCCUPATION OF HOUSES, AND ATTENDANCE OF NATIVE CHILDREN AT STATE SCHOOLS.

In some places there have been criticisms of the actions of natives in occupying houses in townsites, and against their children attending State Schools. These instances of criticism are few, and this would indicate that the public is not so colour-conscious nowadays. Many natives occupy houses in the metropolitan area, and they seem to be able to observe the requirements of hygiene, and there is no reason to believe that they are not able to do so elsewhere as well. However, complaints

have been made in a few instances of natives occupying houses here and there, but these have been matters for attention by Health Authorities. There were also requests against the attendance of native children at a few State Schools. They attend over 100 State Schools and their conduct is generally satisfactory. In a few instances, however, attempts have been made to exclude native children due to antipathy to colour, but the Education Department has directed that no discrimination is to be exercised against native children for colour reasons.

The detribalised native people are now in better economic circumstances. They have plentiful employment, and since their earnings are now much higher as against their previous seasonal earnings, and as they are drawing Child Endowment as well, many of them are trying to improve their social conditions, and this they are doing by renting houses and by sending their children to school in accordance with civic requirements. They are to be commended for this, and they should be encouraged in their own ameliorative efforts since they are endeavouring to help themselves.

Native workers are taxpayers, and they are entitled to humanitarian consideration as such. To-day it is considered that any human being is entitled to consideration irrespective of the colour of his skin, that is, if he wishes to live under civilised conditions. Some people think otherwise, but they are of minority opinion. This is said in no critical sense. It just happens to be so. It can also be said that segregation or racial exclusion policies in respect to towns are a negation of business acumen, since the wage spending power of the natives is now upwards of half a million pounds a year in Western Australia. This is one aspect of the matter, but judging by the passage of the Natives (Citizenship Rights) Act, 1944, and the trend of public opinion which is against the exclusion of our natives, the outlook for the future is that the barriers of racial discrimination or segregation against well-behaved detribalised natives will be broken down gradually.

It should be an offence to advocate racial discrimination as regards civics in so far as our detribalised natives are concerned. We must inculcate a non-racial broadmindedness and modern levels of living for our detribalised natives.

SOCIAL SERVICE LAWS.

In my last report there was a reference to a communication received by Mr. H. S. Seward, M.L.A., from Senator Fraser, the Minister for Social Services, stating that he was giving consideration to the preparation of Social Service legislation, and he expressed the hope that it would be possible to make some amendments to the existing laws which would relieve the present disabilities so far as the native population is concerned. As yet nothing has been done. This is unsatisfactory and there is much resentment among the natives as regards the discriminatory features of the Commonwealth Social Laws concerning the exclusion of persons with a preponderance of native blood who are detribalised from all social benefits. The Commonwealth Parliament often speaks feelingly of the full-bloods yet it refuses to treat detribalised full-bloods who live under decent conditions as human beings, but it is considerate to such benefits being bestowed on the half-castes. This is contradictory to that which we have been led to believe about the alleged desire of the Commonwealth Government to help full-bloods, and it is hardly understandable. However, the detribalised full-bloods and persons with a preponderance of native blood, who both pay taxes and so help to keep white people, are not eligible themselves for social benefits except Child Endowment. The disqualification is against all detribalised full-bloods and persons with a preponderance of native blood except when they possess Certificates of Exemption. Such certificates should be unnecessary if such persons live under conditions comparable to white standards of civilised life. Accordingly it is considered that the Commonwealth Social Laws should be amended to permit of the admission of claims for benefits from persons having a preponderance of native blood if such

claims are recommended by the Department of Native Affairs of the State concerned. This system applies in some States, but it is not so in Western Australia since we have the enlightened system of Certificates of Exemption. So it amounts to this, that the State is discriminated against as compared with those States which have backward native legislation and do not possess systems of Certificates of Exemption, since in those States detribalised full-bloods and persons with a preponderance of native blood can obtain all social benefits provided their applications are recommended by the State Native Authority. For some years the Department has been agitating against this discrimination, and if a few of our critics would help us in the matter, and bring pressure to bear on the Commonwealth Parliament, they would be doing something worth while for the truest Australian, the full-blood native. At present women with a preponderance of native blood are not eligible for Maternity Allowances. Similarly natives with a preponderance of native blood are not permitted to receive Old Age or Invalid Pensions, yet taxes are collected from them for the financing of the social laws to benefit the white. These embargoes also apply unless the natives possess Certificates of Exemption. In effect, therefore, natives with a preponderance of native blood are not eligible for social benefits, except Child Endowment, unless they surrender their native status. Many of them are not prepared to do so, since they wish to retain their native affiliations. There is also the further complication that many of them are not suitable for Certificates of Exemption. Very often a detribalised native with a preponderance of native blood lives under better conditions than a half-caste, yet a woman of the latter blood is eligible for a Maternity Allowance while the woman with a preponderance of native blood is not eligible, even though her husband may be a taxpayer, as is mostly so in these days of high earnings, and in some instances the husbands of the disqualified wives are soldiers.

MAINTENANCE ORDERS.

In recent years energetic action has been taken to secure Maintenance Orders against the fathers of illegitimate children by native women. At the end of June, 1945, twenty-four Court Orders were current against 18 white men, 5 natives and 1 Asiatic. In addition, at the same date the Department held thirty-nine voluntary undertakings from 17 white men, 19 natives, and 3 Asiatics, to pay maintenance for illegitimate children.

This firm line of action places native women on a legal footing in respect to obtaining maintenance orders for the support of their children, and it should be beneficial in the restrictive sense in regard to the incidence of illegitimacy especially as it concerns the offspring of illicit intercourse between white men and native women. Separate action is always taken against white men for illicit intercourse with native women, and maintenance orders are subsequently obtained as may be necessary for the support of any offspring.

NATIVES' MEDICAL FUND.

The financial position of the Fund showed a decline at the 30th June, 1945. For the seven years ended 30th June, 1944, there was an estimated surplus of £323 7s. 9d. Due to the late arrival of outstanding accounts totalling £2,770 8s. (estimated in 1943-44 to total £1,500), the estimated surplus at the 30th June, 1944, was converted to a loss of £947 0s. 3d. The estimated loss on the fund at the 30th June, 1945, *vide* Appendix II, is shown as £1,617 0s. 2d., or actually a further decline of £669 19s. 11d. on the adjusted figures when a comparison is made with 1943-44.

As disclosed in the separate report and financial statements attached as Appendix II, the contributions totalled £4,571 2s. 6d. or £211 11s. 10d. more than 1943-44. Cash expenditure during 1944-45 totalled £6,261 10s. 11d., or the highest on record. However, this figure is misleading because outstanding claims total-

ling £2,770 8s., and not received during previous years, came to hand during 1944-45, and had to be paid. These outstanding claims are summarised as under:—

	Doctors.		Hospitals.		Sundries.		Total.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1940-41	..	..	12	6	..	..	12	6
1941-42	8	18 6	126	12 1	7	6	135	18 1
1942-43	107	4 0	163	12 10	9	9 0	280	5 10
1943-44	333	14 10	1,819	1 8	200	15 1	2,353	11 7
	£449	17 4	£2,109	19 1	£210	11 7	£2,770	8 0

After making these adjustments to the respective years' figures, it was found that the actual cash expenditure for 1943-44, amended to £4,628 15s. 11d., was really the highest on record, the 1944-45 cash expenditure having been reduced from £6,261 10s. 5d. to £3,491 2s. 5d. Therefore the saving in cash when the two years are compared was £1,137 13s. 6d. in favour of 1944-45, but when estimated outstanding claims at 30th June, 1945, viz., £1,750, are allowed for, this saving is turned into an excessive cash expenditure over 1943-44 of £616 6s. 6d., which means that the estimated expenditure for 1944-45 is increased to £5,241 2s. 5d., or the highest since the inception of the Fund in 1937-38.

EDUCATION.

The schools at the Moore River and Carrolup Native Settlements were re-opened and staffed with qualified teachers of the Education Department as from the 30th January, 1945. This means that the schools have been transferred to the control of the Education Department. They had been closed for many months because of the inability of the Department of Native Affairs to secure teachers at the rates offered, which were far below the professional rates of the Education Department. One hundred and seven children are in attendance at the school at the Moore River Native Settlement, and the school is staffed with four teachers. There are forty-six children at the school at the Carrolup Native Settlement, under two teachers. This decision to staff the Settlements' schools with teachers of the Education Department was a notable advance in the cause of native education in Western Australia. It is now on the highest possible plane in that native children now enjoy teaching and educational opportunities of the same standards as white children.

The latest, but incomplete, figures in regard to native children attending State and other schools, are as follows:

State Schools (at 7.3.45)	..	636	children
Carrolup Native Settlement	..	46	"
Moore River Native Settlement	..	107	"
Broome Convent School	..	75	"
Native Missions	..	448	"
Derby Leprosarium	..	20	"
Holy Child Orphanage, Broome	..	44	"
		1,376	(incomplete)

POPULATION.

The tabulation at Appendix vi. discloses that the estimated native population totalled 25,639 souls at the 30th June, 1945. Summarised the comparative position was as follows:—

	30th June, 1944.	30th June, 1945.
Full bloods	11,532	10,891
All others (mixed bloods)	5,520	4,748
Unclassified, and beyond the confines of civilisation	10,000	10,000
	27,052	25,639

These figures are purely guesswork. They may be understated or overstated. It is thought that the figures have been always overstated in some districts. They have been reduced for this year, but generally speaking there has been no alteration in the numbers of the native people. However, as previously indicated,

the figures are of doubtful value, and definitely do not represent the true position, because no one is able to say whether they are understated or overstated, and the statisticians are unable to advise how we might be able to reach more reliable figures, so we rely on the guesses or estimates of local Protectors, and since they are unable to make accurate counts it naturally follows that the figures are not reliable as giving an accurate census of the natives in the State. Although reductions in the figures have occurred, when comparing them with those shown as at the 30th June, 1944, it is still felt that the figures in the North-West and Murchison areas are a little high, but there is also the probability that they are low as regards some other districts.

There may also be an overstatement of the supposed number beyond the confines of civilisation, viz., 10,000. It is an arbitrary figure. Someone fixed it in the years of yore, and it has remained so ever since.

However, relying on the figures given in the table for the 30th June, 1945, a comparison with those for the previous year show a "reduction" of full-bloods by 641, and the other castes by 772. The latter may not be so, but it is arrived at by a tabulation of the Protectors' estimates, and so it is given for what it is worth.

Of the 10,891 full-bloods, it was estimated that 1,788 were children under the age of 12 years (941 males and 847 females), whereas of the 4,748 mixed bloods, 2,101 were said to be children (1,009 males and 1,092 females). A comparison with the "estimate" for the year ended 30th June, 1944, indicated that full-blood children under 12 years of age had increased by 50, and children of mixed blood had decreased by 358.

Dividing the State into three sections for the purpose of comparison, and still relying on the figures in the table, it was estimated that there were 6,190 natives in the Kimberleys (3,051 males, 2,213 females, 459 male children and 467 female children); 3,564 in the North-West and Murchison Districts (1,468 males, 1,135 females, 494 male children and 467 female children); and 5,885 on the Goldfields, and in the South-West Coastal Districts (2,263 males, 1,620 females, 997 male children and 1,005 female children). All these figures were exclusive of the full-blood natives outside the confines of civilisation, which total has been assessed for many years past at 10,000.

No accurate figures are available for the natives in the Services. In any case they have been omitted from the above figures. This would account for some reductions, and of course the numbers of natives are gradually reduced by the numbers of Certificates of Exemption granted each year, and as these certificates mostly cover full families of natives, it follows that the issue of such certificates represents inroads into the native population each year.

MOOLA BULLA NATIVE STATION.

Progress has been made at this Station, and the cattle herd has increased under Mr. George's management from 16,487 head at the date of his appointment to 26,679 head at the 30th June, 1945. This is satisfactory, but there is a great need for Institutional activities. These are almost lacking at present. There are 176 natives at the station, including 66 mixed bloods. Ninety-five of the natives are working on the station. Sixty of them, including 14 half-castes, are employed at stock work, pumping, wood-cutting, and general station duties. In addition there are 35 native women, including 10 half-caste girls, and these are employed in and around the station homestead.

These people are in need of accommodation and welfare facilities. There is no doubt as to the necessity for these considerations, but the space at the present site of the homestead is inadequate and unsuitable for the proposed buildings. The existing homestead is hemmed in by water courses, breakaways, and stony ridges, and there is no room for expansion, besides which everything in the way of debris and refuse is washed into the homestead, instead of away from it. For these reasons, and as the buildings at the present

site are old and ant-eaten, it was considered it would be inadvisable to spend money at the present homestead on rectifying the shortages of Moola Bulla, but to seek a new site. This idea was submitted to the Public Works Department, and ultimately an engineer and architect were sent to Moola Bulla to investigate and report on the problem as to where the proposed Institutional buildings should be put up. They recommended that no further buildings should be proceeded with on the present site, but that the station buildings and Institutional buildings should be re-sited at Gnewing Paddock, which is eight miles from the present homestead. This proposal has been approved, and action will be taken to set the whole plan in motion so soon as a bore has been put down to prove the water supply. In anticipation a layout plan of the proposed homestead area has been prepared. It provides for a modern Native Institution. It will be expensive to erect the buildings, but since the present homestead buildings are of little value, and as extra buildings are needed for the welfare of the natives, the expenditure is inevitable, and the State will have better value at the new site for the expenditure involved.

As a cattle station, Moola Bulla is now a valuable asset to the State. It is also a good example of placing Native Settlements and stations on fair to good country instead of dumping them on arid wastes such as the Moore River Native Settlement. Today, as previously stated, the herd totals 26,679, and the annual take-off for the Wyndham Meatworks is 2,100. Therefore the station is worthy of the proposed buildings for its evolution to the standard of a modern Native Institution.

RESERVES.

During the year the Lands Department set aside 1,009,679 acres in certain areas for the use of the natives. The acreage of native reserves now stands at 38,685,941 in our records. Attempts have been made to reconcile these figures with those of the Lands Department, but finality has not been reached.

COURTS OF NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Four Courts of Native Affairs were convened during the year for the trial of indictable offences by natives against natives. The trials were as follows:—

A full-blood native named Cunghowie alias Peter was charged with the manslaughter of a full-blood native named Duldulgie alias Benny at Fossil Downs Station on or about the 3rd or 4th March, 1944. This trial took place on the 18th September, 1944, at Fitzroy Crossing by a Court of Native Affairs for the West Kimberley Magisterial District. The Resident Magistrate of Broome (Dr. D. J. Oldmeadow) presided as Chairman, and Dr. L. A. Musso was a member of the Court as my nominee. Police Constable W. Andrews prosecuted for the Crown, and Mr. W. N. MacDonald, J.P., of Fossil Downs Station, appeared for the defence. The accused was found guilty of manslaughter, and was sentenced to six months' imprisonment to date from the day of his arrest. The deceased native died from a fractured skull caused by a blow from a stick delivered by Cunghowie alias Peter.

Sallala, alias Judy, a full-blood native female, was fined for the murder of a full-blood native woman named Toogoodi, alias Topsy at Ruby Plains Station on the 9th July, 1944. This case was taken at Hall's Creek on the 18th December, 1944, by a Court of Native Affairs for the East Kimberley Magisterial District. The Resident Magistrate of Derby (Dr. I. M. Roberts), presided as Chairman, and Mr. M. Willick, J.P., of Nicholson Station, was a member of the Court as my nominee. Constable I. W. Stewart of Hall's Creek prosecuted for the Crown, and Mr. A. A. George, J.P., manager of the Moola Bulla Native Station, appeared for the defence. The accused was acquitted. The medical testimony disclosed that the deceased died from a fractured skull.

The next Court of Native Affairs was at Bunbury on the 8th and 9th January, 1945, when the half-caste native, Fossil Dickie, was charged with the unlawful killing of his half-caste woman, Marjorie Ugle, alias Dickie, at Roelands, on the 23rd November, 1944. The

trial was before a Court of Native Affairs for the Forrest Magisterial District. The Stipendiary Magistrate of Bunbury (Mr. K. J. Dougall), presided, and the Acting Inspector of Natives (Mr. J. H. Bisley), was a member of the Court as my nominee. Police Sergeant Washer submitted the case for the Crown, and the accused was defended by Mr. C. E. Jenour, barrister, of Bunbury. The accused was acquitted. Ugle's death resulted from a compression of the brain from a left sub-dural haemorrhage.

There was also a Court of Native Affairs for the Avon Magisterial District. It sat on the 21st February, 1945, for the trial of a half-caste native who was charged with the murder of his half-caste wife, Mary Wimmer, whose death occurred on the 16th December, 1944, at Quairading, as the result of a blow from an axe. The Stipendiary Magistrate of Northam (Mr. E. E. A. Bateman), presided as Chairman of the Court, and Mr. L. M. Baikie of Quairading acted as my nominee. Detective Winning submitted the evidence for the prosecution, and Mr. Fred Curran, barrister, of Perth, appeared for the defence. The accused was found guilty and sentenced to death. The Court also decided that the crime did not arise out of a tribal custom. In the circumstances of the case, however, the Court considered that the accused should be recommended for Royal Mercy as regards the judgment of death which was entered on record under section 657 of the Criminal Code. Subsequently the sentence of death was commuted to a sentence of imprisonment for life.

An addendum record is required to the particulars of cases as reported on in my last report. A case took place at Laverton, but the particulars were inadvertently omitted from the report for 1943-44. This omission is now adjusted by the publication of the particulars as follows: A Court of Native Affairs sat at Laverton in the Collier Magisterial District on the 25th May, 1944, for the trial of the full-blood Mundayat, alias Reggie for the murder of the full-blood native Dumberoo, alias Jumberoo, whose death occurred in the Laverton Hospital as the result of spear wounds received in a tribal fight at the Cosmo Newbery Feeding Depot on the 30th April, 1942. The Acting Magistrate of Kalgoorlie (Mr. T. H. Hannah), presided as Chairman of the Court, and Mr. C. C. Porter, J.P., of Eristoun Station, Laverton, was my nominee to the Court. Police Constable A. F. Anderson prosecuted for the Crown, and the accused was defended by Mr. A. J. Donegan, a Protector of Natives. The accused was found guilty of murder and sentenced to six months' imprisonment at Kalgoorlie Gaol, the sentence to date from the time of arrest, viz., 15th April, 1944.

RELIEF.

The average number of natives rationed throughout the year 1945-45 was 1,021, or 124 less than in the previous year. The majority of these natives were inmates of native institutions. They were mainly children, women and old and infirm natives. The total cost of rationing for all Government Institutions and outside indigents was £14,427 0s. 3d., or £109 8s. 11d. less than the previous year 1943-44.

CHRISTMAS CHEER AND GIFTS.

The Lotteries Commission again made available a sum of £300 for the purchase of extra foodstuffs and gifts for the natives at Christmas. The donation was distributed to 48 centres at which the natives enjoyed Christmas parties and functions, and sports as well. "The Daily News" Orphans' Fund, and the Economic Stores Ltd. also donated £50 and £10 10s. respectively. A further £3 3s. was also received from the Economic Stores Ltd. to be allocated especially to the inmates of the Carrolup Native Settlement. The gratitude of the Department and the thanks of the natives are due to the donors for the kind donations as stated.

In addition there were donations from many kind people to the Christmas parties at the various places where natives are located, and at Native Institutions, particularly at the Moore River Native Settlement. For these gifts my appreciation is recorded, and my thanks have been conveyed to the people who were so thoughtful of the happiness of the natives at Christmas time.

EMPLOYMENT.

The employment of natives was still satisfactory. There is a bias to rural and pastoral pursuits in the Department's policy. For all types of employment, however, 2,364 permits were issued to cover the employment of 5,351 natives. Compared with 1943-44 the permits showed a decrease of 89, and a corresponding decrease of 274 was recorded in the engagements effected. However, many Certificates of Exemption were issued during the year. The holders of these do not work under permits, and these are not necessary either for the employment of half-castes over 21 years who live to superior standards.

To a large extent the excellent employment figures were due to the splendid co-operation of Police Protectors, and the general assistance rendered at all times by the Police Department.

In the South-West 1,406 permits were issued for the employment of 1,607 natives, as against 1,431 permits covering the employment of 1,663 natives in 1943-44.

The employment of 5,351 natives during 1944-45 was satisfactory. The total for the previous year was 5,625. They are good figures indeed, and are records for the State. The figures also indicate that the native is "worthy of his hire." There are a few shiftless natives, of course, but the majority do well in employment. The figures also prove that the natives are generally enjoying plenty of employment. This means, too, that their circumstances must be fairly satisfactory, and that no destitution exists since the occasions for the issue of rations are few in number. Another satisfactory aspect is the rates of pay. These are mostly white rates, at least for the Southern areas. Nowadays the natives have plenty of money. This arises from the good rates paid in the settled areas of the State, and because most detribalised native families also collect Child Endowment. It is another thing, however, to say that the natives spend wisely. As a people they do not. Every endeavour is made to instil thrift, but they mostly like to handle their earnings, and since they have little regard for needs of the morrow they spend freely, yet usually they have little to show in the way of comforts or living conveniences for their earnings, and because of this there is criticism of the administration. Sometimes compassion can be misplaced. This is often so with the natives. They are deserving as a people, and since we occupy their lands we have a duty to them, but the earnings of some natives are very good and when these earnings are recklessly spent or thrown away on gambling, and the natives continue to live on in poor camps, there is no doubt that they are deserving of some sternness and disciplinary correction for any such instances of shiftlessness instead of sympathy and assistance, which spoils them but on which they often "trade."

Some natives, however, have taken advantage of their monetary circumstances, and are endeavouring to live in dwellings. There has been some criticism of this but the Child Endowment moneys are given to enable people to live to better standards, and this is the desire of a large number of natives and they are to be commended for this. These types of native people have acquired better living habits and have become accustomed to better food standards, and since they appear to have become more stable as a people probably they will do well in post-war years.

COMMONWEALTH UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS ACT.

Detribalised natives who live under European conditions are eligible under section 19 of the above Act for the Unemployment and Sickness Benefits, subject to the qualifications and tests applicable also to European claimants, and provided also they satisfy the Director-General of Social Services that they are, by reason of their character, standard of intelligence, and development, persons who may reasonably receive the benefits specified in the Act.

These provisions are satisfactory. They do not exclude persons who possess a preponderance of native blood. This restriction applies in other Social legislation, except Child Endowment, and natives with a preponderance of native blood are not eligible under the other Acts unless they possess Certificates of Exemption.

WARRANTS.

During the year, 195 Warrants were issued under section 12 of the Native Administration Act, for the removal of 262 natives from districts to Native Settlements, Missions, and Hospitals (including the Wooroloo Sanatorium). The removals covered 54 males, 133 females, and 75 children. In many instances the males were the husbands of the females mentioned in the warrants, and their children were removed as well. These warrants were necessary because of the indolent habits of the menfolk, and because of unsatisfactory living and camping conditions of the families. Usually the warrants were not executed if the menfolk obtained work and rectified their former mode of living.

Native women were a problem about the Metropolitan Area as in the previous war years. They were attracted to the Metropolitan Area by the presence of Allied coloured servicemen. These women were removed as quickly as possible by warrants to Settlements. This action was preferable to Police Court action, as sentences of imprisonment would only bring the native women into association with the worst types of white women. Very frequently the native women absconded from the Settlements, and returned to the Metropolitan Area for association with the coloured servicemen in question. The native females were removed again by warrants, and this accounts for the number of warrants issued against them, as sometimes two or three warrants were issued against the same female. This was expensive because of the escort expenses, but from the welfare standpoint it was a better line of action as against Police Court action, and terms of imprisonment with dissolute white women.

MARRIAGES.

Up to the 30th June, 1945, and since records have been kept, there have been 120 marriages celebrated between whites and natives. In three instances the wives were white women. For the year 1944/45 no objection was offered to 25 legal marriages of natives to natives, or to the marriage of two white men to native women. Other marriages to which no objection was raised concerned one white woman to a native in law, and two native women to quadroons not deemed to be natives in law.

MATERNITY ALLOWANCES.

Advices were received from the Maternity Allowances Office showing that 249 applications were received during the year from native women. Of these 174 were granted and 52 rejected because the applicants possessed a preponderance of native blood. The balance of 23 were under consideration at the 30th June, 1945. Detribalised native women possessing a preponderance of native blood were usually bitter about the rejection of their claims by the Maternity Allowances Office. The Minister for Social Services (Senator Fraser) promised some time ago to consider this aspect in connection with proposals for amending Social legislation, but this has not been presented as yet, and the unfortunate embargo still obtains towards all native woman with a preponderance of native blood if they do not hold Certificates of Exemption from the provisions of the Native Administration Act. Some of the women with a preponderance of native blood are married to soldiers who have fought overseas, and to native taxpayers, but their wives are ineligible because they possess a preponderance of native blood and are not exempted from the Act. Surely the wives of native taxpayers and native soldiers should be eligible without qualification. If the husbands were married to other types of coloured women from overseas origin, the latter would receive maternity allowances.

CHILDREN'S COTTAGE HOME—QUEEN'S PARK.

This worthy place is usually known as Sister Kate's Home. It is under the leadership of Sister Kate, assisted by Miss Lefroy, and a staff of earnest workers. There is no more deserving home in the State. It undertakes the care of quadroon children, and rears them according to white standards. During the year six quadroon children were admitted to the Home, making a total of 152 admissions since the Home was

established. Fourteen of these have been withdrawn for various reasons, mainly because of their unsuitability, and seven of the older children are now paid assistants at the Home. In addition to these alterations, one child has been adopted, four are in the Forces, and nine are in outside employment leaving a total of 117 at the Home at the 30th June 1945 exclusive of the seven paid assistants. Of the 117 inmates 86 were supported by subsidies from the Department, 12 were maintained by the Child Welfare Department, six were supported entirely by the Home, and 13 were maintained by parents, either by Court Maintenance Orders or by voluntary payments.

OFFENCES BY NATIVES.

Reports on the conviction of natives for 471 offences were received, as against 337 offences for the year 1943/44 and 327 offences for 1942/43. The 471 offenders were made up of 119 full-bloods and 352 other castes. The 119 full-bloods covered 106 males and 13 females, while of the 352 other castes, 295 were males and 57 were females. Forty-one of the offenders were under 18 years of age, viz., nine male full-bloods, 29 male and three female other castes. These juvenile offences when compared with the previous year 1943/44 showed an increase of 25 (24 males and one female), and revealed that juvenile delinquency was increasing. The juvenile offences included:—Breaking and entering, 6; stealing and receiving, 13; and unlawful possession, 5.

Most of the offences by natives were due to indulgence in intoxicating liquor. It is the tragedy of native welfare. Natives are unfitted to withstand the effects of alcohol, but they will pay extortionate prices to obtain it, and will deny themselves and families the necessities of life in order to do so. The types of offences such as drunkenness, receiving liquor, and being on licensed premises, represented 42 per cent. of the total offences by natives and curiously enough the same percentage applied for the years 1942/43 and 1943/44.

Earlier it was mentioned that the full-bloods were responsible for 119 offences of the total offences for the year. Thirty-eight per cent. of the full-blood offences were due to intoxicating liquor. The percentage for the previous year of 1943/44 was 43 per cent., so there was improvement with full-bloods. For the other castes the percentage for the same types of offences was 43 per cent., or the same as for 1943/44. From these figures it will be seen that the vice of intoxicating liquor is still very serious and a menace to the good behaviour of natives, especially the half-castes.

Other principal offences by natives were:—Disorderly conduct, 49; breach of Section 42 (Prohibited Area), 26; stealing, 38; and unlawful assault, 29.

Liquor offences alone totalled 198, viz., 42 male and three female full-bloods, and 122 male and 31 female other castes, out of the whole total offences of 471.

OFFENCES AGAINST NATIVES.

Forty-two persons were convicted in the year as against 14 convictions for 1943/44, and 25 convictions for 1942/43. Although 198 natives were convicted of liquor offences during the year, only 17 white persons were convicted of supplying intoxicating liquor to natives. Convictions of this type of offence are difficult to obtain since usually the natives will not reveal the sources of supply of intoxicating liquor. Of the 17 persons convicted of supplying intoxicating liquor, 15 were fined amounts ranging from £20 to £50, and one person was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and another to 14 days' detention.

There were 18 convictions for employing natives without first obtaining permits. For these offences five people were fined amounts varying from 10/- to £6, while two others were cautioned.

The offence of being found in native camps contrary to Section 39 is serious, and for this there were three convictions and fines of £5 each.

Breaches of Section 46 (sexual intercourse with native females) accounted for 10 convictions. For this offence one person was fined £5, another £7, while three

convicted persons were fined £25 each, and a fine of £20 was imposed on another offender and two were cautioned. Another person received nine months' imprisonment, and a similar sentence was imposed on a white woman named Ethel May Walker for the despicable offence of procuring native girls for negro servicemen of the United States.

For harbouring natives a person was placed on a £10 bond of good behaviour for six months, and another person was sentenced to three years' imprisonment for attempted rape on a native woman in a railway train, and there were also two convictions for being on native reserves, one for £10 and the other for £20.

LOTTERIES COMMISSION.

In addition to my indebtedness for its annual donation of £300 to the Natives' Christmas Cheer Fund, my thanks are due to the members of the Commission for a donation of £10 to enable the inmates of the Carrolup Native Settlement to visit the Katanning Show.

FINANCIAL.

A Statement of Receipts and Payments on all accounts will be found at Appendix (iii). The statement has been certified as correct by the Auditor General as required by Section 72 of the Native Administration Act, 1905-41. An examination of the statement will disclose that the expenditure increased by £6,988 13s. 10d. during the year when compared with the previous year of 1943/44. This increase was due to additional expenditure from Consolidated Revenue Fund of £6,070 8s. 0d., plus an increase in capital (Loan) expenditure of £918 5s. 10d. All receipts are paid to the Treasury for crediting to the Consolidated Revenue Fund, and compared with the receipts for the previous year there was a decrease of £12,463 0s. 4d. This decrease was mainly due to less revenue from sales of cattle from the Moola Bulla Native Station, since the bulk of the revenue did not come to hand in time for inclusion in the statement.

TRUST ACCOUNTS.

There were 569 Savings Bank Accounts in existence at the 30th June, 1945. They mainly belonged to natives sent out to employment from Government Settlements. The system has the advantage of encouraging thrifty habits in natives, and through it, too, the Department is able to assure itself that wages transactions between trainee natives from Settlements and their employers are satisfactory. It would be as well for similar arrangements to apply to trainees sent out to employment by Missions. Experience teaches us that natives will squander their earnings unless they are required to save by direction of the Department. They do not like this, and the Missions do not generally advise the Department of the employment of their trainees from Government Settlements. However, it is pleasing to disclose that the Savings Bank Accounts carried balances totalling £4,470 4s. 11d. In addition, the sum of £6,741 was invested in securities on behalf of certain natives, and the interest is paid to their Savings Bank accounts. With the exception of £350 invested with the Perth Building Society the investments represent holdings in Commonwealth Loans and the securities are in safe deposit at the Commonwealth Bank at Perth.

The Department also held at the 30th June, 1945, unclaimed balances amounting to £137 5s. 10d., belonging to natives whose whereabouts are unknown. There is a Special Bank Account for these balances, but every effort is made to trace the natives to whom they belong.

There is another trust account. It has a credit of £384 12s. 3d., which has been built up from unclaimed estates for which no next of kin existed. The money is held by virtue of Section 35 and it will be spent in due course for the benefit of the natives generally. A further sum of £14 14s. 4d. is held under Section 64. This comprises various unclaimed balances from transactions other than estates, and the money is held at the State Treasury.

ESTATES.

During the year nine deceased natives' estates were reported, bringing the total on hand or in action to 12. Finality was reached in respect to nine of these, and there were only three estates under consideration at the 30th June, 1945.

APPRECIATION.

My thanks are due to you, sir, for your helpful advice and kindly consideration in the administration of the Department.

To the Deputy Commissioner (Mr. C. L. McBeath, J.P.) I am indebted for his valuable and painstaking assistance, and particularly for his services as Acting Commissioner during my absence on sick leave for four months.

To the Clerk-in-Charge (Mr. G. A. W. Ash) and the Officers of the Department, I extend my appreciation. Their assistance was a great help. This applies as well

to outstation officers, as their efforts were praiseworthy, especially as they often had to carry on with reduced staff personnel.

My gratitude is also extended to the Missions, their workers, and the Protectors of Natives, for assistance in the field.

Foremost in my co-helpers are the Commissioner of Police and his officers. They were ever present, and ever ready to assist the Department and the natives. They gave freely of their ability and time throughout the year in their parental efforts to help the natives, and to assist me generally, and my thanks are particularly recorded to the Commissioner and his sympathetic officers accordingly.

F. I. BRAY,
Commissioner of Native Affairs.

1st April, 1946.

Appendix (i).

MEDICAL INSPECTOR OF NATIVES (L. A. MUSSO, M.B., B.S.)—REPORT OF.

The following is the report of the Medical Inspector for the twelve months ending 30th June, 1945. As in the previous annual report the country covered can be divided into three zones as follows:—

Zone I.—This embraces the country from Broome to Wyndham to places accessible by road. Beagle Bay and Lombadina Missions were included, but no visit was made to the places on the road to Billiluna Mission. This was necessitated about 4,200 miles by car. In the last month of the previous year natives were examined in the coastal area from Hedland to Broome, and only a few additional natives not examined then have been included in this report.

I wish to record here the very great difficulties under which the Medical Inspector laboured in connection with car travel. No driver is provided and driving a car under the present conditions of roads is very tiring work so that a rest is what is required when he pulls up at a station rather than setting out to perform medical examinations. Mental concentration has to be particularly alert so that important diseases are not missed in the bulk of natives who are apparently healthy. Mechanical faults mean that often repairs have to be effected by oneself with consequent dirtiness of clothes, fingers and hands, making it difficult for me to do anything requiring asepsis, e.g., dental extractions.

In the previous report, it was mentioned that there were no facilities then available to visit the Northern third of the Kimberleys, and this year it was arranged through the courtesy of the R.A.A.F. to visit by plane the places in this part of the Northern area. The Northern third of the Kimberleys includes the coastal places Munja, Kunmunya, Drysdale Missions (2), Forrest River Mission, and inland places Bedford Station, Karungie Station, and district, Gibb River Station, Mt. House and Tableland Stations. However, the plane was suddenly withdrawn to its base after reaching Drysdale Mission so that the rest of the tour was not completed, but Kunmunya, Munja and Drysdale natives were examined.

Zone II.—In this zone stations in the Port Hedland, Roebourne, Tableland and a small part of the Onslow districts were examined, requiring 1,150 miles of car travelling. These examinations completed within a twelve months' period, the examination of the country North of a line just South of Bulloo Downs and Three Creek, North of the Hamersley Station and just South of Red Hill and Peedamulla Station and then into Onslow. The total number of natives examined in both examinations is 1,235 and this figure would represent 85 per cent. of the natives in this area.

Zone III.—Travelling was considerably restricted in this zone due to my absence of six weeks on leave, plus the long delay in getting repairs done to my car. A

visit was made by plane to Norseman Mission with a view to investigating the position of alleged tuberculosis amongst these natives and no cases of tuberculosis were found among 64 natives examined. Visits by car were made to Moore River Native Settlement (2), Carrolup Native Settlement, Gnowangerup Mission, South Borden, and to Badjalling Mission.

The following tables indicate the number of natives examined, the total of patients found and the types of disease in each of these zones:—

TABLE I.—ZONE I.

Number examined, 2,826. Total of patients found, 110.

Types of Diseases—

No. of cases found:—Leprosy, 32; granuloma, 28; Yaws, 16; Gonorrhoea, 4; Miscellaneous, 30.

TABLE II, ZONE II.

Number examined, 943. Total of patients found, 12.

Types of Diseases and Number of Cases Found—

Leprosy, nil; Granuloma, 3; Yaws, nil; Gonorrhoea, nil; miscellaneous, 9.

In Zone III, 280 natives were examined. These consisted of examinations for venereal disease, scabies, notation of progress of cases of various diseases already under treatment, etc. In cases where treatment was indicated the necessary instructions were given.

Some General Comments on Native Health During the Year.

Towards the end of the previous twelve months there was an outbreak of typhus fever at Beagle Bay allegedly due to infection from rats brought up in ships from Fremantle. During April-September, 1944, there was an epidemic outbreak of an unusual febrile illness at Moola Bulla about three hundred and thirty miles inland from Beagle Bay. It was decided after consultation with Dr. Kingsbury, Acting Commissioner of Public Health (an authority on typhus) that this outbreak was not due to typhus fever although one native definitely had typhus fever having a Weil Felix (X19) test positive to a titre of 1/800 about ten days after the start of the illness. How this man became infected is not clear. A native from the Leprosarium who had resided at Beagle Bay for two days during the epidemic there also had an illness like typhus fever but the titre of the Weil Felix test (X19) was about 1/100. As it is not uncommon for lepers to give such a reaction to this test, it was concluded that he was not a case of typhus. Scabies has been a disease very common in part of the South-West portion of the State for many years. This year it has made its presence felt in the Kimberleys and Port Hedland districts as well as out from Wiluna. Scabies is a parasitic disease which in natives frequently becomes impetiginized producing multiple scabby and raised sores mostly on buttocks, thighs, knees, elbows,

forearms, fingers and hands, and except for the presence of these sores they often seem to be quite placid about things. Routine treatment with sulphur ointment, though effective, is difficult unless there is adequate control of the patients. Scabies is a notoriously difficult disease to control in institutions and this has been our experience. Treatment in England with a chemical called "tetmosal" added in varying strengths to ordinary soaps has given very good results from curative and preventive points of view, but such a soap was not available in Western Australia for treatment of scabies. It is used in the same manner as ordinary soap and no other treatment is required. Its value in native communities is thus obvious.

Sandy Blight in various stages is a common disease amongst natives. Many cases received treatment at the various Native Hospitals with very good results. One of the distressing end results of this disease is ingrowing eyelashes of the upper eyelid with pain on movement over the sensitive cornea, inflammation of the margins of the eyelid of chronic nature producing reddening with constant watery discharge and a "sleepy" appearance of the affected side. About ten cases of

this condition have had an operative repair for this condition with quite good results. Unfortunately, leaflets have not yet been drawn up in regard to the treatment of common eye diseases but it is hoped that this will be done in the near future. While on the subject of eye conditions, it should be noted that some elderly natives have senile cataracts which in some cases should receive operative treatment. At present except in one case it has not been possible to provide this facility.

As it has been remarked in previous annual reports, many natives need dental attention. This year the Medical Department proposes to send two dentists to do dental work for white school children and adults and natives from Carnarvon to Derby. This will be the first time that suitable dental treatment will be available for natives and although only touching the fringe of the problem, it is a step in the right direction.

There were sixty admissions to the Leprosarium during the year compared with sixty-six in the previous year. It may be of interest here to digress for a moment and give some idea of what happens to the patients after they enter the Leprosarium.

Annual periods ending 31st December of each year.	Total Admissions.	Of all admissions admitted to the Leprosarium in the twelve months ending 31st December in each year, the future progress of the patients is indicated as follows:—				
		Died.	Discharged as Cured.	Discharged subsequently as Non-Leper and still at Large.	Discharged as Non-Leper but Re- Admitted later as Lepers.	Still Patients.
1935*	66	28	5	16	5	12
1936*	20	6	9	...	...	5
1937	14	6	2	1	...	5
1938	48	23	14	...	...	11
1939	60	25	13	3	...	19
1940	70	27	8	6	4	25
1941	38	13	2	2	...	21
1942	33	7	1	4	...	21
1943	72	9	2	11	1	49
1944	68	2	1	5	...	60
Total	489	146	57	48	10	228

* In regard to the years 1935 and 1936 admissions are considered from the data available as though they were admitted in those periods if the Leprosarium had been open then.

This table shows that of 489 natives admitted to the Leprosarium:—

- 146 or 29.4% have died since admission.
- 57 or 11.7% have been discharged as cured or in a few cases as non-infectious.
- 58 or 11.9% have been discharged as non-lepers with about 16% of these being later readmitted as lepers.
- 228 or 47% remain at present patients, although 17 of these are at large having absconded from the Leprosarium.

In conclusion, there have been no outbreaks or epidemics of influenza or similar type of illnesses in the last twelve months.

Progress of Leprosy Control in the Kimberleys During the Year.

It was not possible for the Medical Inspector to visit all the places in the Northern third of the Kimberleys, but Munja, Kunmunya and Drysdale were visited. During the year, information as the result of a police patrol, confirmed that there were likely to be many cases of leprosy in the Prince Regent River area near Kunmunya Mission, but it will not be possible to deal with this matter this year.

An application has been made to the Commonwealth Health Authorities to get an assistant doctor for leprosy detection work in the Kimberleys as additional

medical services are needed. This assistance would be along the lines when an additional medical man was appointed to help the previous Medical Inspector (Dr. A. P. Davis) from 1939 to 1941. So far, however, no such man has been appointed.

Another aspect of the problem which received attention this year was the need for patrolling of the stations adjoining the W.A.-N.T. border in the Kimberleys. Regular patrols have been made on the W.A. side of the border since 1936 with the exception of 1942, but no similar inspections by a medical man have been made by the Commonwealth Authorities on their side of the border. Since 1936 on the W.A. side of the border, there has been a considerable increase in the number of cases found. The Commonwealth Authorities were unable to do anything in the matter this year.

Transport of lepers by walking over long distances has been unfortunately necessary in the past. This practice as a permanent one is greatly undesirable from a number of points of view, and the solution is transport by plane for lepers situated in many of the out of the way places. Plane transport of the positive bacteriologically lepers has not been possible as yet, but it will be possible to transport negative neural cases and ordinary non-leper cases to Derby. A certificate will be required from the attending medical man that such cases are non-infectious and not in any way a danger to the travelling public. Suitable plane transport for

the Medical Inspector has not yet been obtained, but when the Flying Doctor Plane returns to the Wyndham base, it will help very considerably in this matter as well as provide transport for lepers positive bacteriologically to Derby when the need arises.

Finally, a report was written emphasising the need for some modification in the direction of relaxation of the Leprosy Precaution Act (No. 4 of 1941). The rigid enforcement of this Act creates in some cases hardships out of all proportion to the good which it may achieve. It was not proposed that no control should be exercised over the movements of natives in certain areas but there should be means whereby injustices created by rigid enforcement of the law can be remedied.

Native Housing in the North-West and Kimberleys.

I have found that the present standards of native housing vary very considerably and what is adequate for one class of natives need not be adequate nor desirable for another group of natives.

Purely tribal natives living in desert areas under primitive but healthy hygiene laws have reached only a low standard of civilization, and as most of these natives are outside our control no further mention is needed for them.

Full-bloods living on stations or other institutions including the partly detribalised natives on reserves, ration depots, etc., have advanced a step forward in the housing direction from the purely primitive, but their personal and domestic hygiene has lacked the same advancement. In regard to these particular natives, the following simple rules are necessary:—

1. All burnable rubbish is burnt once weekly.
2. All non-burnable rubbish is buried once weekly.
3. The interiors and surroundings of their humpies be swept with bush brooms at least once weekly.

Lavatories for many of these natives are not of much use, and unless there is a properly regulated pan removal, the position with lavatories would be worse than without them.

Natives who are of the better type though not exempt but living after the white manner of life, require better standards of housing. The essentials of this subject for Missions, Government Institutions and Stations have been impressed upon the authorities concerned and it should not be long before substantial improvements are made.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Commissioner of Native Affairs and his staff for their courtesy and help extended to me during the year. My thanks are also given to the various Native Hospital and Native Settlement Staffs, the police for their co-operation, the various District Medical Officers and the staffs of the various Missions.

(Sgd.) L. A. MUSSO,
Medical Inspector of Natives.

Perth, 28/2/46.

Appendix (ii).

THE NATIVES' MEDICAL FUND.

Annual Report for the Financial Year 1944-45.
Officer-in-Charge, D. G. Lewis.

This is the eighth annual report on the activities of the Natives' Medical Fund and covers the period from the 1st July, 1944, to the 30th June, 1945.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

Altogether 2,364 permits covering the employment of 5,351 natives were granted and recorded during the financial year ended the 30th June, 1945, representing a decrease of 89 permits and 274 natives employed under permit when compared with the previous financial year ended 30th June, 1944. This decrease of permits issued and natives employed under permit will no doubt be caused by the increasing number of servicemen being discharged and returning to civilian employment, and thus replacing natives who had not been employed in civilian industries previous to the war years.

Even though the number of permits issued and the number of natives employed under permits showed a decrease, the contributions to the Fund for the year 1944-45 showed an increase of £211 11s. 10d. over the 1943-44 year contributions. An amount of £22 was refunded to contributors for various reasons, while an amount of £116 was received prior to the 30th June, 1945, to cover a number of natives during the 1945-46 financial year. The actual claims paid, viz., £6,261 10s. 5d. exceeded the contributions received, viz., £4,571 2s. 6d. by £1,690 7s. 11d., whereas for the 1943-44 year the contributions exceeded the claims by £632 13s. 2d.

The number of permits issued and the amount of contributions received for the 1944-45 year is compared with all previous years, as shown hereunder:—

Year.	No. of Permits Issued.	No. of Natives Covered.	Contributions Received.		Refunds.	
			£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1937/38	1,071	3,665	2,209	10 0	147	0 0
1938/39	1,442	3,949	2,531	15 0	24	5 0
1939/40	1,538	4,075	3,075	0 0	59	5 0
1940/41	1,724	4,138	3,484	16 6	39	15 0
1941/42	1,914	4,366	3,826	5 0	9	0 0
1942/43	2,198	4,628	3,905	6 0	31	15 0
1943/44	2,453	5,625	4,359	10 8	84	18 0
1944/45	2,364	5,351	4,571	2 6	22	0 0

CLAIMS PAID.

Of the 5,357 natives covered under the fund (including six voluntary contributors) for the financial year ended the 30th June, 1945, only 1,000 natives were recorded up to the 30th June, 1945, as having entered hospital or having been afforded medical treatment by doctors. However, since that date advices have been received that an additional 273 natives received medical attention during 1944-45, making a total of 1,273 in all.

Included in the amount of £6,261 10s. 5d. being the total claims paid during the year 1944-45, were certain claims which related to natives who were afforded medical treatment prior to the 1st July, 1944, but claims were not received until after the 1st July, 1944. The statement hereunder discloses how the claims were allocated:—

Year.	Doctors.		Hospitals.		Sundries.		Total.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1940/41			12	6			12	6
1941/42	8	18 6	126	12 1	7	6	135	18 1
1942/43	107	4 0	163	12 10	9	9 0	280	5 10
1943/44	333	14 10	1,819	1 8	200	15 1	2,353	11 7
1944/45	363	8 3	2,830	17 5	296	16 9	3,491	2 5
	£813	5 7	£4,940	16 6	£507	8 4	£6,261	10 5

Owing to the delay in claims being submitted to this Department, particularly by some doctors, there will always be the unavoidable necessity of a proportion of the claims incurred in any one financial year being carried over to the following financial year.

At the 30th June, 1945, it was estimated that outstanding claims for the year 1944-45, in addition to claims passed as correct but not actually paid at the 30th June, would bring the total commitments at the 30th June, 1945, up to £1,750, *vide* attached statement No. 1.

The financial statement also reveals an accurate comparison during the financial year 1944-45 of claims paid in relation to the contributions received together with similar details in respect to each previous financial year since the inception of the fund. These figures are based on actual cash receipts and payments, and during the first seven years' existence of the Fund it will be noticed that the losses which accrued to the 30th June, 1944, totalled £947 0s. 3d.

The amount charged against the Fund from the inception and up to the 30th June, 1945, covering the treatment of natives suffering from venereal disease is shown hereunder:—

Year.	Doctors.		Hospitals.		Sundries.		Total.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1937/38	2	13 0	450	11 0	1	5 0	454	9 0
1938/39	25	16 0	1,281	12 6	10	5 0	1,317	13 6
1939/40	31	17 0	1,321	9 6	19	8 7	1,372	15 1
1940/41	78	5 6	1,768	6 2	4	5 6	1,850	17 2
1941/42	12	0 0	502	6 8	1	1 2	515	7 10
1942/43	17	15 6	317	11 1	7	3 4	342	9 11
1943/44	18	2 0	540	3 11	66	17 2	625	3 1
1944/45	19	0 0	856	9 9	16	3 5	891	13 2
	205	9 0	7,038	10 7	126	9 2	7,370	8 9

During the year ended 30th June, 1945, the Flying Doctor gave a good deal of attention to sick natives by either transporting them in the Flying Doctor plane to hospital or by flying to various hospitals or places of employment where sick natives required emergency medical attention. For the Flying Doctor's attention, the Flying Doctor Service has rendered accounts of which a total of £254 14s. 6d. has been paid from the Natives' Medical Fund during the year ended 30th June, 1945. This amount covers an amount of £203 14s. charged in transporting 13 sick natives to hospital, an average of £15 13s. 5d. per sick native and an amount of £51 0s. 6d. charged for seven occasions on which the Flying Doctor flew to a hospital or place of a native's employment, to give emergency medical attention, an average of £7 5s. 9d. per trip. These amounts are separate from any accounts paid from the Native Affairs Administration Trust for the transport of sick indigent natives to hospital or for the Flying Doctor's emergency trips to hospitals to attend sick indigent natives.

During the year 1944-45, the financial stability of the Fund has very much retrogressed. The accumulated loss to the 30th June, 1944, which was £947 0s. 3d. has been further increased and at the 30th June, 1945, there was an estimated loss of £1,617 0s. 2d. after making provision for estimated claims still to be received in respect of the year 1944-45 of £1,750.

The credit balance brought forward at the beginning of the financial year, viz., 1st July, 1944, was £1,823 7s. 9d. The amount in credit carried forward

at the end of the financial year, viz., 30th June, 1945, was £132 19s. 10d. a decrease of £1,690 7s. 11d.

During the year 1944-45 the four Native Hospitals operating in the northern part of Western Australia, viz., Broome, Port Hedland, Wyndham and Derby, have been fully staffed and have been kept busy in treating the numbers of native patients sent in from outlying districts.

The revenue earned by the four native hospitals, which is mainly derived by fees paid from the Natives' Medical Fund in comparison with the total costs of running each hospital is shown in the following table:—

Native Hospital.	Revenue Earned.			Cost of running and maintenance including salaries.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Derby	1,219	12	3	1,686	19	0
Broome	210	0	8	1,204	9	3
Port Hedland	1,527	13	1	1,587	12	1
Wyndham	161	15	7	1,277	12	4
	£3,119	1	7	£5,756	12	8

The revenue earned for 1943-44 was £2,599 18s. 8d. and costs of running and maintenance were £6,675 5s. 11d. Therefore, it will be seen that our costs were reduced to the extent of £918 13s. 3d. while revenue increased by £519 2s. 11d. during the year 1944-45 when compared with the year 1943-44.

(Sgd.) D. G. LEWIS.

5/3/46.

Statement No. 1.

Details.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.	Total.
Contributions received	£ 2,209 10 0	£ 2,531 15 0	£ 3,075 0 0	£ 3,445 1 6	£ 3,826 5 0	£ 3,905 6 0	£ 4,359 10 8	£ 4,571 2 6	£ 27,923 10 8
Less Claims actually paid to:—									
30th June, 1938	970 0 8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	970 0 8
30th June, 1939	1,370 7 3	1,360 9 1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,730 16 4
30th June, 1940	75 6 8	1,782 13 5	1,559 0 1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,417 0 2
30th June, 1941	12 7 6	81 3 11	1,470 9 9	2,030 19 3	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,595 0 5
30th June, 1942	22 10 0	211 19 11	365 18 0	1,709 13 8	1,775 10 3	.....	.....	.....	4,086 0 10
30th June, 1943	.....	9 15 0	78 16 5	286 14 8	832 13 8	1,795 4 9	.....	.....	3,003 4 6
30th June, 1944	.....	.....	3 15 0	23 13 0	179 2 2	1,245 3 0	2,275 4 4	.....	3,726 17 6
30th June, 1945	.....	.....	.....	0 12 6	135 18 1	280 5 10	2,353 11 7	3,491 2 5	6,261 10 5
	£ 2,450 12 1	£ 3,446 1 4	£ 3,477 19 3	£ 4,051 13 1	£ 2,923 13 2	£ 3,320 13 7	£ 4,628 15 11	£ 3,491 2 5	£ 27,790 10 10
Credit Balance as per Control Card as at the 30th June, 1945....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	132 19 10
									£27,923 10 8

Actual loss on these figures for the first seven years to 30th June, 1944, total:—

	£	s.	d.	Loss.	Profit.	£	s.	d.
1937-38	Loss	241	2	1	
1938-39	Loss	914	6	4	
1939-40	Loss	402	19	3	
1940-41	Loss	606	11	7	
					2,164	19	3	
1941-42	Profit	902	11	10	
1942-43	Profit	584	12	5	
					1,487	4	3
1943-44	Loss	269	5	3	
					269	5	3	
Net Loss	947 0 3
					£2,434	4	6	£2,434 4 6

During the current year the position is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Contributions	4,571	2	6
Less Claims paid	3,491	2	5
Actual profit on year 1944-45, less Estimate of Claims still to be received for the year 1944-45	1,080	0	1
Estimates loss on year 1944-45	669 19 11
Loss accrued to 30th June, 1945 since inauguration of the Natives' Medical Fund	£1,617 0 2

Appendix (iii)—continued.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIVE AFFAIRS—continued.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 1944/45
UNDER SECTION 72 OF THE NATIVE ADMINISTRATION ACT, 1905-41—continued.

<i>By Native Hospitals—continued.</i>			
<i>Broome:</i>			
Salaries	530	17	6
Provisions	341	8	8
Medical Supplies	20	1	10
Miscellaneous	312	1	3
			<u>1,204 9 3</u>
<i>Moore River Native Settlement:</i>			
Salaries and Wages	2,899	6	10
Stores and Provisions	4,713	1	2
Bedding and Clothing	273	10	2
Medical Supplies	274	1	1
Freight and Cartage	389	14	0
Forage	140	1	9
Furniture and Hardware	443	4	3
Upkeep Truck, Tractor and Car	262	7	4
Miscellaneous	1,770	19	1
			<u>11,166 5 8</u>
<i>Carrolup Native Settlement:</i>			
Salaries	1,717	7	4
Stores and Provisions	2,371	3	1
Bedding and Clothing	259	14	3
Medical Supplies	178	9	0
Freight and Cartage	296	9	7
Forage	74	0	7
Furniture and Hardware	366	4	3
Upkeep Truck, Car, etc.	209	10	2
Miscellaneous	1,228	14	5
			<u>6,701 12 8</u>
<i>„ By Native Stations—</i>			
<i>Moola Bulla:</i>			
Salaries and Wages	2,059	7	9
Improvements and Upkeep	5,657	19	6
			<u>7,717 7 3</u>
<i>Munja:</i>			
Salaries and Wages	976	15	9
Improvements and Upkeep	940	10	4
			<u>1,917 6 1</u>
<i>Udialla:</i>			
Improvements and Upkeep	137	0	5
			<u>137 0 5</u>
<i>„ Relief Depots—</i>			
<i>La Grange:</i>			
Salaries			
Provisions, etc.	535	1	2
			<u>535 1 2</u>
<i>Cosmo Newbery:</i>			
Salaries	432	10	0
Provisions, etc.	1,158	5	1
			<u>1,590 15 1</u>
<i>Wallal:</i>			
Provisions, etc.	102	0	6
			<u>102 0 6</u>
<i>Cundeelee:</i>			
Salaries	261	10	4
Provisions, etc.	182	12	2
			<u>444 2 6</u>

Appendix (iii)—continued.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIVE AFFAIRS—continued.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR, 1944/45
UNDER SECTION 72 OF THE NATIVE ADMINISTRATION ACT, 1905-41—continued.

		<i>By Relief Depots—continued.</i>	
		<i>East Perth Girls' Home:</i>	
	Salaries	263 15 2	
	Provisions, etc. ..	423 11 6	
			687 6 8
		<i>„ Grants to Missions and Homes:</i>	
	W.A. School for Blind Port George IV. (Kunmunya)	4 17 6	
	Beagle Bay	84 19 2	
	Sunday Island	167 0 6	
	Drysdale River	161 11 8	
	Forrest River	120 0 0	
	New Norcia	114 9 6	
	Broome Convent School Children's Cottage Home, Queen's Park	102 7 4	
	Mt. Margaret	153 12 2	
	Norseman	907 16 1	
	A.I.M. Fitzroy Crossing	2 10 0 Cr.	
	Roelands	74 8 5	
	Lombadina	11 11 10	
	W.A. School for Deaf and Dumb	74 19 2	
	Incidental	71 5 0	
		7 18 0	
		5 18 6	
			2,060 4 10
		<i>„ Loan Works—</i>	
		<i>Item 41:</i>	
	Moola Bulla Engine for Water Supply	300 0 0	
	Moola Bulla Water Supply	596 4 11	
	Moola Bulla Boring Plant	11 17 11	
	Moola Bulla Improvements	73 3 8	
	Moola Bulla Post and Rail Yard ..	333 19 5	
	Udialla Station	100 0 0	
			1,415 5 11
		<i>Item 42:</i>	
	Carrolup Removal Kilburn School ..	15 0 0	
	Cosmo Newbery Establishment of Settlement ..	4 0 0	
	Carrolup Purchase Shearing Plant ..	94 6 6	
	Derby Native Hospital Mortuary ..	65 16 5	
			179 2 11
		<i>Less Credit:</i>	
	Moore River Detention Yards ..	41 19 1	
			137 3 10
		<i>„ Balance on Hand 30th June, 1945—</i>	
	Ex Consolidated Revenue Fund ..	236 2 9	
	Ex General Loan Fund	16,497 19 8	
			16,734 2 5
			£79,684 5 7
			£79,684 5 7

I certify that this Statement is correct according to the books and documents produced.

10th January, 1946.

(Sgd.) W. NICHOLAS,
Auditor General,

MOOLA BULLA NATIVE STATION.

Appendix (iv.)

Statement of Receipts and Payments for Year ended 30th June, 1945.

		RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.			
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.			£	s. d.
To Sales—									
	Cattle	1,774	13 8			By Salaries		594	0 0
	Horses	112	0 0			„ Wages		1,465	7 9
	Wool	100	8 5			„ Stores and Provisions		1,466	16 0
	Stores	98	9 3			„ Bedding and Clothing		452	17 3
	Meat (beef)	67	1 0			„ Fuel, Light and Water		960	15 7
	Sheepskins	32	8 11			„ Freight and Transport		1,264	18 4
				2,185	1 3	„ Furniture and Hardware		374	13 3
	„ Hire of Plant			60	0 0	„ Travelling Expenses		24	6 6
	„ Welding Work			17	6 7	„ Drugs, Medicines, and Appliances		147	13 11
	„ Maintenance of half-caste children			65	3 6	„ Machinery and Implements		18	12 6
	„ Stud Fees			6	0 0	„ Carts and Harness		207	8 0
	„ Refunds—					„ Repairs and Renewals		125	15 0
	Accommodation	18	9 7			„ Printing and Stationery		2	7 10
	Telegrams	9	13 1			„ Upkeep Motor Vehicles		142	14 2
				28	2 8	„ Fencing		248	18 3
	„ Balance, being in excess of expenditure over receipts			5,355	13 3	„ Subsidy Hall's Creek Hospital		25	0 0
						„ Postage and Telegrams		39	17 0
						„ Insurance and Premium on Stallions, Malus and Heremitta		10	0 0
						„ Advertising		3	2 6
						„ Wireless License		1	0 0
						„ Forage		8	13 9
						„ Droving Expenses (Cattle for Sale)		719	16 6
						„ Horse Breaking		35	0 0
						„ Rent Oxy Cylinders		3	15 6
						„ Newspaper Subscription		1	7 6
						„ Marriage Fee paid to Registrar, Hall's Creek		2	4 6
								8,347	1 7
						Less Refund of Child Endowment		629	14 4
				£7,717	7 3			£7,717	7 3

Appendix (v.)

MUNJA NATIVE STATION.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for Year ended 30th June, 1945.

		RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.			
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.			£	s. d.
To Sales—						By Salaries		568	10 8
	Peanuts	253	10 4			„ Wages		408	5 1
	Stores	18	12 8			„ Stores and Provisions		496	10 7
	Beef	15	0 0			„ Freight and Transport		279	8 5
				287	3 0	„ Carts and Harness		66	19 0
	„ Refund—Telegrams			7	14 4	„ Postage and Telegrams		30	11 1
	„ Balance, being Excess of Expenditure over Receipts			1,622	8 9	„ Furniture and Hardware		22	8 11
						„ Fuel, Light and Water		9	17 8
						„ Bedding and Clothing		6	6 6
						„ Seeds and Manures		3	5 8
						„ Repairs and Renewals		4	17 3
						„ Drugs, Medicines, and Appliances		1	16 5
						„ Printing and Stationery		1	14 3
						„ Wireless License and Repairs		16	14 7
				£1,917	6 1			£1,917	6 1

NATIVE POPULATION—DISTRIBUTION AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1945.

District.	Estimated Population.									Grand Total.
	Full Blood.			Other than Full Blood.			Totals.			
	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.	
Albany	4	6	3	2	...	...	6	6	3	15
Bassendean ... ..	...	...	...	5	7	21	5	7	21	33
Beaconsfield	1	...	...	2	5	4	3	5	4	12
Beverley	3	2	2	33	21	44	36	23	46	105
Billiluna Mission	71	72	78	3	2	3	74	74	81	229
Boddington	1	...	...	12	...	...	13	...	...	13
Bridgetown ... ..	...	2	...	2	8	2	2	10	2	14
Brookton	1	1	...	24	11	21	25	12	21	58
Broome	329	190	126	118	48	89	447	238	215	900
Broomehill ... ..	...	...	...	2	4	6	2	4	6	12
Broome Native Hospital	10	8	2	...	5	...	10	13	2	25
Bruce Rock ... ..	...	...	...	12	11	18	12	11	18	41
Bunbury	2	...	...	25	15	8	27	15	8	50
Russelton	1	...	...	7	9	2	8	9	2	19
Carnamah ... ..	...	...	...	7	4	5	7	4	5	16
Carnarvon	39	38	48	30	24	102	69	62	150	281
Carrolup Native Settlement	6	2	1	26	51	47	32	53	48	133
Causeway ... ..	...	...	...	4	6	27	4	6	27	37
Claremont ... ..	...	...	...	1	3	4	1	3	4	8
Collie	2	...	...	20	13	19	22	13	19	54
Coolgardie	12	14	...	5	4	...	17	18	...	35
Cosmo Newbery Rationing Depot	114	66	50	3	...	...	117	66	50	233
Cottesloe ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Cue	19	10	5	5	3	16	24	13	21	58
Cundeelee Native Rationing Depot	160	75	25	3	...	5	163	75	30	268
Cunderdin ... ..	...	...	...	3	6	10	3	6	10	19
Dalwallinu	7	6	11	...	...	...	7	6	11	24
Derby	288	237	71	4	7	5	292	244	76	612
Derby Leprosarium	109	94	8	12	15	6	121	109	14	244
Derby Native Hospital	12	6	1	...	3	3	12	9	4	25
Dongarra ... ..	...	...	...	1	1	4	1	1	4	6
Drysdale River Mission	125	125	20	...	...	1	125	125	21	271
Dumbleyung ... ..	...	...	...	9	3	3	9	3	3	15
East Perth Girl's Home ... ..	...	...	...	...	6	4	...	6	4	10
Esperance	4	3	...	2	...	...	6	3	...	9
Fitzroy Crossing	612	457	200	10	7	10	622	464	210	1,296
Forrest River Mission	59	54	43	1	2	13	60	56	56	172
Fremantle	1	2	...	2	1	...	3	3	...	6
Gascoyne Junction	61	54	46	12	2	...	73	56	46	175
Geraldton	2	1	...	19	14	31	21	15	31	67
Gingin ... ..	...	...	...	3	1	3	3	1	3	7
Goomalling	2	...	...	10	12	13	12	12	13	37
Gnowangerup	20	17	21	57	55	135	77	72	156	305
Guildford	1	...	...	16	19	24	17	19	24	60
Gwalia ... ..	...	...	...	1	...	4	1	...	4	5
Hall's Creek	334	179	11	13	5	22	347	184	33	564
Inglewood ... ..	...	...	...	4	3	9	4	3	9	16
Jigalong Native Feeding Depot	45	36	29	...	...	...	45	36	29	110
Kalgoorlie	91	70	20	12	12	17	103	82	37	222
Katanning ... ..	...	...	...	14	12	18	14	12	18	44
Kellerberrin ... ..	...	...	...	24	15	51	24	15	51	90
Kojonup	1	...	...	26	30	61	27	30	61	118
La Grange Feeding Depot	24	33	4	...	...	...	24	33	4	61
Laverton	116	13	71	...	...	...	116	13	71	200
Lawlers	16	7	13	8	...	...	24	7	13	44
Leonora	40	40	40	15	8	7	55	48	47	150
Marble Bar	281	201	98	40	26	21	321	227	119	667
Margaret River ... ..	...	...	...	2	3	...	2	3	...	5
Maylands ... ..	...	...	...	9	7	12	9	7	12	28
Meekeatharra	80	50	18	15	12	26	95	62	44	201
Menzies	17	16	2	...	...	...	17	16	2	35
Merredin	4	1	...	2	...	...	6	1	...	7
Mingenew	1	...	...	9	3	7	10	3	7	20
Moola Bulla	64	48	27	9	15	32	73	63	59	195
Moora	6	4	...	137	55	84	143	59	84	286
Moore River Native Settlement	22	18	13	67	86	115	89	104	128	321
Morawa	4	2	3	...	...	...	4	2	3	9
Mt. Barker	2	...	...	21	16	26	23	16	26	65
Mt. Magnet	19	11	7	24	12	22	43	23	29	95
Mt. Margaret Mission	50	30	34	50	30	84	100	60	118	278
Mullewa	36	29	13	15	10	44	51	39	57	147
Carried forward	3,331	2,330	1,165	1,029	768	1,370	4,360	3,098	2,535	9,993

NATIVE POPULATION—DISTRIBUTION AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1945—continued.

District.	Estimated Population.									Grand Total.
	Full Blood.			Other than Full Blood.			Totals.			
	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.	
Brought forward ...	3,331	2,330	1,165	1,029	768	1,370	4,360	3,098	2,535	9,993
Mundiwindi ...	11	6	...	...	...	...	11	6	...	17
Munja Native Station ...	45	30	13	...	...	2	45	30	15	90
Narcmbeen ...	...	...	...	6	6	7	6	6	7	19
Narrogin ...	1	...	...	35	26	48	36	26	48	110
New Norcia Mission ...	2	6	6	46	45	48	48	51	54	153
Norseman ...	43	25	11	1	1	1	44	26	12	82
Northam ...	...	...	...	17	16	37	17	16	37	70
Northampton ...	6	1	...	14	16	73	20	17	73	110
North Fremantle ...	...	...	...	1	3	...	1	3	...	4
Nullagine ...	218	179	95	4	3	12	222	182	107	511
Nungarin ...	4	3	4	...	...	...	4	3	4	11
Onslow ...	73	60	48	25	20	27	98	80	75	253
Perenjori ...	5	1	...	16	7	16	21	8	16	45
Perth ...	3	...	...	2	4	3	5	4	3	12
Perth Institutions ...	12	3	...	32	11	2	44	14	2	60
Pingelly ...	...	...	...	16	10	27	16	10	27	53
Pinjarra ...	7	1	...	17	18	21	24	19	21	64
Port George IV. Mission ...	70	50	13	1	1	5	71	51	18	140
Port Hedland ...	118	110	37	47	47	88	165	157	125	447
Port Hedland Native Hospital ...	5	12	3	1	...	1	6	12	4	22
Quairading ...	1	...	...	40	40	70	41	40	70	151
Roebourne ...	127	108	112	40	23	55	167	131	167	465
Roelands Mission Farm ...	...	...	...	...	...	37	...	...	37	37
Sandstone ...	4	2	1	6	2	7	10	4	8	22
Shark Bay ...	7	10	...	...	...	...	7	10	...	17
Southern Cross ...	15	7	2	12	11	7	27	18	9	54
South Perth ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Subiaco ...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	2
Sunday Island Mission ...	36	36	31	1	5	...	37	41	31	109
Tambellup ...	6	2	...	4	3	3	10	5	3	18
Three Springs ...	3	...	...	11	9	16	14	9	16	39
Toodyay ...	1	...	...	3	2	1	4	2	1	7
Turkey Creek ...	270	270	73	6	...	2	276	270	75	621
Wagin ...	...	...	...	12	11	26	12	11	26	49
Wallal Feeding Depot ...	14	23	3	...	1	...	14	24	3	41
Warburton Range Mission ...	220	150	50	...	...	...	220	150	50	420
West Perth ...	...	...	...	1	5	12	1	5	12	18
Wickepin ...	4	2	6	...	...	...	4	2	6	12
Williams ...	23	24	26	...	...	...	23	24	26	73
Wiluna ...	155	135	59	5	2	2	160	137	61	358
Wongan Hills ...	...	...	...	3	4	2	3	4	2	9
Wyndham ...	397	197	...	10	5	9	407	202	9	618
Wyndham Native Hospital ...	8	4	1	...	3	2	8	7	3	18
Yalgoo ...	37	23	19	18	10	32	55	33	51	139
York ...	6	3	10	12	14	30	18	17	40	75
Totals ...	5,288	3,815	1,788	1,404	1,153	2,101	6,782	4,968	3,889	15,639
Unclassified and beyond the influence of civilization (full-blood natives) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,000
GRAND TOTAL ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25,639

DEATHS, 1944-45.

Based on 1938 Revision of International Lists as Causes of Death.

	Full-bloods.				Other Castes.				Total.		Grand Totals.
	Adults.		Children under 16 years.		Adults.		Children under 16 years.		M.	F.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	P.			
CLASS I.—Infective and Parasitic Diseases—											
Tetanus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
Pulmonary T.B.	5	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	9
Tuberculosis ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Leprosy per se	3	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	3	6
Septicaemia	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Influenza ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Encephalitis	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Typhus ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1
Hydatid cyst of liver ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Dysentery	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Ulcerating Granuloma Pudendi ... ..	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
CLASS II.—Cancer and other Tumors—											
Cancer of the Mouth ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Cancer of the Nose ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Carcinomatosis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Cancer of Breast ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Malignant Cyst of Ovary ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Osteogenic Sarcoma ... ..	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Tumor Involving Lumbar Vertebrae ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1
Brain Tumor ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
CLASS III.—Rheumatism, Diseases of Nutrition, etc—											
Rheumatic Fever	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
Diabetes Mellitus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1
CLASS VI.—Diseases of Nervous System and Sense Organs—											
Meningitis Pneumococcal	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	4	1	5
Cerebral Thrombosis	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
Epilepsy	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	2
Mastoiditis	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Insanity ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
CLASS VII.—Diseases of the Circulatory System—											
Subacute Endocarditis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Heart Failure	16	9	...	...	3	2	...	1	19	12	31
Diseases of Coronary Arteries	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	7
Arteriosclerosis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
CLASS VIII.—Diseases of the Respiratory System—											
Acute Septic Laryngitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1
Bronchitis ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Broncho-Pneumonia	1	1	...	...	1	3	...	...	4	2	6
Pneumonia (including Lobar)	12	7	3	1	1	2	1	6	17	16	33
Abscess of Lung ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
CLASS IX.—Diseases of the Digestive System—											
Acute Pharyngitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	1	...	...	2	...	...	1	1	2	3	5
Appendicitis ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1
Chronic Colitis ... ..	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Intestinal Obstruction ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Retroperitoneal Abscess ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Cause Unknown	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
CLASS X.—Diseases of Genitourinary System—											
Chronic Nephritis	4	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	1	6
Hypertrophy of Prostate	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Stricture (Urethral)	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
CLASS XI.—Diseases of Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Puerperal State—											
Spontaneous Abortion ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1
Ectopic Gestation ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	2
Puerperal Infection ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Pelvic Infection ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Injuries at Childbirth ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Childbirth—Cause unknown ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1
Carried forward	65	47	7	6	7	11	8	11	87	75	162

DEATHS, 1944-45—continued.

Based on 1938 Revision of International Lists as Causes of Death.

	Full-bloods.				Other Castes.				Total.		Grand Totals.	
	Adults.		Children under 16 years.		Adults.		Children under 16 years.					
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Brought forward	65	47	7	6	7	11	8	11	87	75	162	
<i>CLASS XV.—Diseases of First Year of Life.—</i>												
Premature Birth ... ..	...	...	1	2	...	...	1	3	2	5	7
Still Birth ... ..	...	...	1	2	...	...	3	5	4	7	11
<i>CLASS XVI.—Senility—</i>												
Senility	24	20	...	...	1	...	...	...	25	20	45
<i>CLASS XVII.—Violent or Accidental Deaths—</i>												
Suffocation by Bed Clothes ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
Spear Wounds	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
Head Injury	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	2	3	5
Gunshot Wound	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Internal Injuries	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	2
Poisoning	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Drowning	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
<i>CLASS XVIII.—Ill-defined causes of Death—</i>												
Causes Unknown	5	2	...	2	1	...	5	1	11	5	16	
Total	103	70	9	13	10	11	18	21	140	115	255	
	195				60							
	255											

Summary.

	Adults.		Children under 16 years.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
<i>Full-bloods—</i>				
Adults ... ..	...	...	...	...
Adults over 50 years	60	51	...	...
Children under 16 years	43	19	9	13
<i>Other Castes—</i>				
Adults	10	11	...	...
Children under 16 years ... ..	...	...	18	21
	113	81	27	34
	194		61	
	255			

Appendix (viii.)
CHILD ENDOWMENT.

Report for Year Ended 30th June, 1945.

Officer-in-Charge—J. B. Crooks.

Unsupervised Payments.

At the 30th June, 1944, the Commonwealth Social Services Department had recognised the claims of 462 native mothers or guardians and Child Endowment was being paid at the rate of 5/- per week in respect to the children concerned, which totalled 1,456, after the first child had been omitted. Actually after taking into consideration the first child in each case, a total of 1918 children was involved. Commonwealth expenditure of £1456 every four weeks or £18,928 per annum was needed to meet the above claims.

During the year ended the 30th June, 1945, Endowment was granted to 37 new claimants involving 49 children; 10 claims were cancelled for various reasons including removal of children to Native Institutions, deaths and children reaching the age of 16 years. Old claims totalling nine, were revived due to the birth of an additional child, or on the transfer to the parents of children either in institutions or with relatives. Variations in claims were accounted for as follows:—

Additions.		Children.
New Claims .. .. .	.. .. .	49
Births .. .. .	.. .. .	115
From Institutions .. .. .	.. .. .	39
From Relatives .. .. .	.. .. .	4
Additional Child Maintained .. .. .	.. .. .	1
		208
Deletions.		Children.
Deaths .. .. .	.. .. .	23
Reached 16 years of age .. .. .	.. .. .	56
To Institutions .. .. .	.. .. .	48
To Relatives .. .. .	.. .. .	4
To Employment .. .. .	.. .. .	1
		132

The position at the 30th June, 1945, is that 498 native mothers or guardians are receiving Child Endowment and the children concerned number 1532 after the first child has been omitted. Including this child in each case, the total number of children is 2,030. On the above claims the Commonwealth Government at the 30th June, 1945, is committed to an outlay of £2,298 every four weeks, or £29,874 per annum.

Supervised Payments.

(a) *Departmental Institutions.*—The Child Endowment Authorities have recognised four of the Department's Institutions as institutions under the Child Endowment Act and claims are submitted every twelve weeks in this regard. The Institutions concerned are Moore River Native Settlement, Carrolup Native Settlement, Moola Bulla Native Station, and the Native Girls' Home, East Perth. At the 30th June, 1944, Endowment was being paid in respect to 397 children at the above institutions, and at the 30th June, 1945, the number is 348. Comparative institutional figures are:—

	30th June, 1944.	30th June, 1945.
Moore River Native Settlement ..	192	174
Carrolup Native Settlement ..	129	91
Moola Bulla Native Station ..	74	77
Native Girls' Home, East Perth	2	6
	397	348

These institutional figures are equivalent to an annual approximate expenditure by the Commonwealth Government of £5,161 and £6,786 respectively.

The total cash received and placed to the credit of Child Endowment Trust during the year was £5,022 19s. 4d. and payments £3,977 2s. 4d. After taking into consideration an unexpended balance of £3,296 18s. 5d. as at the 1st July, 1944, the unexpended balance as at the

30th June, 1945, is £4,342 15s. 5d. Receipts (to the 17th April, 1945) and payments are detailed in the Receipts and Payments Statement attached.

The Income and Expenditure Account indicates that Endowment received in cash was £3,348 8s. 3d. and with the amount outstanding at the 30th June, 1945, £786 19s. 7d., is equal to a total income for 1944/45 of £4,135 7s. 10d. compared with £4,534 11s. 5d. for 1943/44. The decrease in the available income is accounted for by the previously indicated drop in children at Departmental Institutions, from 397 at the 30th June, 1944, to 348 at the 30th June, 1945.

Expenditure for 1944-45 totals £4,336 4s. 10d. as compared with £3,559 14s. 6d. for 1943/44. Of the 1944/45 expenditure, £3,621 2s. 5d. has already been met in cash and the balance of £715 2s. 5d. is represented by outstanding accounts. Unexpended balances as at the 30th June, 1944, and 1945, respectively, are £3,698 12s. 11d. and £3,497 15s. 11d.

(b) *Missions.*—The number of native institutions recognised as institutions under the Child Endowment Act, 1941, as at the 30th June, 1945, excluding the four Departmental Institutions mentioned previously, is 15, housing 649 children, as compared with 14 at the 30th June, 1944, housing 508 children. Included in the figures is Sister Kate's Children's Cottage Home with 121 children as at the 30th June, 1945.

For all Missions the Commonwealth Government is committed to an outlay of £12,655 10s. 0d. per annum as compared with £6,604 per annum as at the 30th June, 1944.

(c) *Native Endowees.*—At the 30th June, 1944, two native women with five children were under supervision representing an amount of £3 a month being received at this office for disbursement by local orders. Little change was noticeable at the 30th June, 1945, when the number of native endowees had increased to four with 16 children equal to monthly disbursement by local orders of £18.

Up to the date of this report, it was impossible for the Department to undertake to any extent the supervision of Endowment being paid direct to native mothers by the Endowment Authorities, despite the fact that such supervision was most essential. Lack of staff and facilities due to the exigencies of the war were the main factors but these difficulties are being overcome and it is expected that the scheme of supervision will commence about the 1st November next.

SUMMARY.

As at the 30th June, 1944, the Commonwealth Government was expending £29,751 10s. 0d. per annum in Child Endowment on children of native extraction in the State of Western Australia. The annual commitment at the 30th June, 1945, is £49,549 10s. 0d. A comparative statement including the total number of children concerned and the Child Endowment payable, is submitted as follows:—

	30th June, 1944.		30th June, 1945.	
	Child- ren.	Annual Child Endowment Commitment.	Child- ren.	Annual Child Endowment Commitment.
Unsupervised Endowees ..	1,918	£ 18,928 0 0	2,030	£ 29,874 0 0
Supervised Endowees ..	5	39 0 0	16	234 0 0
Departmental Native Institutions ..	397	5,161 0 0	348	6,786 0 0
Other Native Institutions ..	508	6,604 0 0	649	12,655 10 0
	2,828	£30,732 0 0	3,043	£49,549 10 0

In the above statement, the columns enumerating children include all children under 16 years of age. After excluding the first child, for which no cash payment is made, the respective totals will be 2,364 and 2,541. It should also be remembered that Child Endowment was subject to a Statutory Increase from 5s. to 7s. 6d. per child per week as from 26th June, 1945.

(Sgd.) J. B. CROOKS,
Social Services Officer.

19/3/46.

CHILD ENDOWMENT TRUST FUNDS.

DEPARTMENTAL NATIVE INSTITUTIONS.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for Year ended 30th June, 1945.

RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.				
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To <i>Unexpended Balance</i> carried forward from 1943/44					By <i>Disbursements—</i> 1st July, 1944, to 30th June, 1945—			
1st July, 1944—					<i>Moore River Native Settlement—</i>			
Moore River Native Settlement	1,527	2 0			Stores and Provisions	1,565	13 11	
Carrolup Native Settlement	756	13 4			Bedding and Clothing	48	14 4	
Moola Bulla Native Station	958	8 1			School Books and Social Amenities	29	17 8	
Native Girls' Home, East Perth	54	15 0			Extra Meat (Fresh)	124	6 0	
			3,296	18 5	Wages (Native) ..	69	15 0	
To <i>Endowment Contributions—</i>					Furniture and Fittings	31	9 6	
1st July, 1944 to 30th June, 1945—					Purchase Livestock	24	0 0	
Moore River Native Settlement	2,559	4 4			Kindergarten Fence	32	14 11	
Carrolup Native Settlement	1,373	13 2			Sundries	8	7 7	
Moola Bulla Native Station	1,055	8 6						1,934 18 11
Native Girls' Home, East Perth	34	13 4			<i>Carrolup Native Settlement—</i>			
			5,022	19 4	Stores and Provisions	1,172	9 10	
					Freight	6	11 7	
					Bedding and Clothing	37	14 6	
					School Books and Social Amenities	22	6 7	
					Extra Meat (Fresh)	55	17 5	
					Wages (Native) ..	31	15 0	
					Furniture and Fittings	29	19 9	
					Purchase Livestock	12	0 0	
					Entertainments	8	0 0	
								1,376 14 8
					<i>Moola Bulla Native Station—</i>			
					Stores and Provisions			629 14 4
					<i>Native Girls' Home, East Perth—</i>			
					Stores and Provisions	18	15 8	
					Bedding and Clothing	5	3 11	
					School Books and Social Amenities	13	1	
					Child's Pram and Bath	8	18 6	
					Entertainments	2	3 3	
								35 14 5
					„ <i>Unexpended Balance</i> carried forward to 1945-46—			
					Moore River Native Settlement	2,151	7 5	
					Carrolup Native Settlement	753	11 10	
					Moola Bulla Native Station	1,384	2 3	
					Native Girls' Home, East Perth	53	13 11	
								4,342 15 5
								£8,319 17 9
			£8,319	17 9				£8,319 17 9

CHILD ENDOWMENT TRUST FUNDS—DEPARTMENTAL NATIVE INSTITUTIONS.

Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended the 30th June, 1945.

INCOME.				EXPENDITURE.				
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
1st July, 1944, to 30th June, 1945—				1st July, 1944, to 30th June, 1945—				
<i>To Disbursements—</i>				<i>By Balance of Income over Expenditure transferred from 1943/44:</i>				
<i>Moore River Native Settlement:</i>				<i>Moore River Native Settlement ..</i>				
Cash Payments ..	1,883	0	6	2,240	3	7		
Commitments ..	366	8	1	Carrolup Native Settlement ..	1,169	11	10	
			2,249	8	7			
<i>Carrolup Native Settlement:</i>				<i>Moola Bulla Native Station ..</i>				
Cash Payments ..	1,327	13	2	1,009	8	1		
Commitments ..	250	0	0	Native Girls' Home, East Perth ..	59	5	0	
			1,577	13	2			
<i>Moola Bulla Native Station—</i>				<i>Less Adjustment 1943/44 Income and Expenditure Overstated:</i>				
Cash Payments ..	374	14	4	<i>Moore River Native Settlement ..</i>				
Commitments ..	96	16	10	451	15	5		
			471	11	2			
<i>Native Girls' Home, East Perth:</i>				<i>Carrolup Native Settlement ..</i>				
Cash Payments ..	35	14	5	198	17	7		
Commitments ..	1	17	6	Moola Bulla Native Station ..	118	8	11	
			37	11	11			
<i>„ Balance of Income over Expenditure—</i>				<i>Native Girls' Home, East Perth ..</i>				
Moore River Native Settlement ..	1,688	3	9	10	13	8		
Carrolup Native Settlement ..	445	3	9					
Moola Bulla Native Station ..	1,315	8	4					
Native Girls' Home, East Perth ..	49	0	1					
			3,497	15	11			
				<i>By Balance of Income over Expenditure 1943/44 after adjustment:</i>				
				<i>Moore River Native Settlement ..</i>				
				1,788	8	2		
				<i>Carrolup Native Settlement ..</i>				
				970	14	3		
				<i>Moola Bulla Native Station ..</i>				
				890	19	2		
				<i>Native Girls' Home, East Perth ..</i>				
				48	11	4		
						3,698	12	11
				<i>„ Endowment Contributions—</i>				
				<i>Moore River Native Settlement:</i>				
				<i>Receipts to 17/4/45</i>				
				1,728	14	2		
				<i>Endowment due to 30/6/45</i>				
				420	10	0		
						2,149	4	2
				<i>Carrolup Native Settlement:</i>				
				<i>Receipts to 17/4/45</i>				
				867	16	5		
				<i>Endowment due to 30/6/45</i>				
				184	6	3		
						1,052	2	8
				<i>Moola Bulla Native Station:</i>				
				<i>Receipts to 17/4/45</i>				
				721	19	11		
				<i>Endowment due to 30/6/45</i>				
				174	0	5		
						896	0	4
				<i>Native Girls' Home, East Perth—</i>				
				<i>Receipts to 17/4/45</i>				
				29	17	9		
				<i>Endowment due to 30/6/45</i>				
				8	2	11		
						38	0	8
						£7,834	0	9

Appendix IX
MISSIONS AND MISSION WORKERS--LIST OF.

Situation of Mission.	Name of Mission.	Controlling Body.	Number of Missionaries.
New Norcia	New Norcia Mission	Benedictine Community of New Norcia	19
North Kimberley	Drysdale River Mission	do. do.	4
Wyndham District	Forrest River Mission	Australian Board of Missions (Church of England)	8
Near Cape Leveque, North of Broome	Lombadina Mission	Pious Society of Missions	5
North of Broome	Beagle Bay Mission	do. do. do.	13
Near Billiluna, South of Hall's Creek	Pallotine Mission	do. do. do.	2
Warburton Range area	Warburton Range Mission	United Aborigines' Mission	2
Morgans	Mount Margaret Mission	do. do. do.	8
Quairading	Badjaling Mission	do. do. do.	4
Gnowangerup	Gnowangerup Mission	do. do. do.	4
Kellerberrin	Kellerberrin Native School	do. do. do.	2
King Sound, North-West Kimberley	Sunday Island Mission	do. do. do.	4
Port George IV., North-West Kimberley	Kunmunya Mission	Presbyterian Church in Australia...	4
Roelands	Native Mission Farm, Roelands	Native Mission Farm, Roelands, Inc.	10
Norseman	Norseman Native Mission	Federal Aborigines' Mission Board of Churches of Christ in Australia	3
Wandering Brook	St. Francis Xavier's Native Mission	Catholic Church in Archdiocese of Perth	1
			93

Annual Report of the Commissioner of Native Affairs for the year ended 30th June 1945

Corporate Author: Western Australia. Chief Protector of Aborigines

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