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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

## Commissioner of Native Affairs

for the

### YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1951.

28 AUG 1963



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# Annual Report of the Commissioner of Native Affairs.

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*The Hon. Minister for Native Affairs.*

*Sir,*

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year ended 30th June, 1951, as provided by Section 73 (6) of the Native Administration Act, 1905-1947 (as reprinted), together with a duly audited Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 30th June, 1951.

The year under report has been marked by several important developments in welfare work amongst the natives of Western Australia. It witnessed the first real trial of strength between two sections of the white community—that which, for reasons that may be economical or prejudicial, or both, insists on natives being “kept in their place” which means, in effect, keeping them socially ostracised and under-privileged, and the other which is equally insistent that our native minority shall receive better treatment and a reasonable measure of equality with whites. I refer particularly to the establishment of a hostel for native girls in Perth, a place now known as Alvan House. The project created widespread interest and the controversy which followed the announcement of our intention to establish the hostel was marked by considerable heat and bitterness, something which could be reconciled with our national and racial acceptance of what is commonly known as the “democratic way of life” only by the manifested freedom of speech and opinion. Fortunately the Government stood behind the Department in the matter and, by so doing, probably earned more admirers and friends than political enemies.

Alvan House was officially opened in January, 1951, when the first girl inmates were admitted. In every way since then the project has been an unqualified success and the native girls, most of whom are students attending High Schools or receiving special technical training have, by their excellent behaviour, good appearance, and social attainments, become very popular. It may be claimed with conviction that the success of the Alvan House experiment has advanced public recognition of the potentialities for good of native people generally in this State by at least a decade.

A similar hostel for boys is being sought and will be established as soon as suitable premises are made available to the Department.

Another important decision was made in respect to Government Institutions. In my last year's annual report I pointed out that an important requirement for a solution of the problem of the “half-caste” was “a departure from any existing policy, official or otherwise, that postulates isolation and segregation” and, in Section “B” covering “Departmental Institutions” I opined that the system of maintaining Government controlled isolated Settlements within the general framework of a large white community is repugnant to the accepted policy of assimilation. During the year under report this principle was put into practical effect when it was decided that the Moore River Native Settlement be closed down as such, and the inmates dispersed. Owing to the splendid co-operation of the Mission-controlled bodies, girls of school age had been transferred from the Moore River and Carrolup Settlements to Missions, according to their religious affiliations during the previous year as was reported in my last year's annual report. A large number of adults, some with families and others receiving medical or reformatory treatment had, however, remained at Moore River, many of them blatantly exploiting the institution by leading a life of nearly complete idleness whilst being fed, clothed and cared for at Government expense—something that appears to be a feature of institutions of similar type everywhere. During 1951 those who were employable and free of disease or other physical disability were directed to employment; by arrangement with the Public Health Department the inmates requiring medical treatment were instructed to report to the nearest doctor or hospital in the district in which they normally resided, and mental defectives were transferred to Heathcote or Claremont Asylums where they are now receiving modern and effective treatment and are visited regularly by the Department's welfare officers. Only a few old pensioners and orphaned children were left on the institution and, at the close of the year under review, arrangements were in hand for these and the institution to be taken over by the Methodist Overseas Mission whose work in the Pacific Islands, the Northern Territory, and the Far East is so well and very favourably known. The move has resulted in no repercussions, and no cases of hardship.

The Carrolup Settlement was similarly treated excepting that the residue of inmates were boys and youths of above school leaving age who had either been committed to the care of the State by the Children's Courts or were orphaned or abandoned by unmarried parents. It is hoped that these will provide the foundation of a good class, well-equipped farm training school for native boys; with this end in view its name has been changed from Carrolup to “Marribank,” and the property is being equipped and developed accordingly.

No attempt has ever been made, not even under the old "dole and control" system of administration, to keep records of the earnings of natives, banking transactions, etc., consequently such statistics are not available. Natives in this State are quite free to earn and spend or save money according to their own desires and requirements. Deductions are not made from their wages for any purpose by this Department but their income is taxed at the source under the Commonwealth Taxation legislation. A serious anomaly exists here in the fact that whilst natives with a preponderance of aboriginal blood in their veins may have tax deducted from their wages throughout the whole of their working lives they are not eligible for such Social Services benefits as Old Age or Invalid Pensions, Widows' Pensions or, in the case of a woman, the Maternity Allowance. The discriminatory clause is contained in the Commonwealth Social Services Consolidation Act, and frequent attempts to have it amended have not been successful.

My Department is seriously hampered in its welfare work because of this and similar legislation which is inexplicable and not understood by natives or, indeed, by many whites. The State Electoral Act, for example, precludes people "of the half blood, or with a preponderance of aboriginal blood" from exercising the franchise. In many instances degrees of caste, because we are now dealing with the third, fourth and even fifth generations in some instances of mixed blood natives, are now expressed in fractions as small as  $1/128$ ths; thus it has happened that natives have been declared ineligible for the above-mentioned social services benefits, and for enfranchisement, because he or she may have that fractional proportion of preponderance of aboriginal blood. The plain truth is that in attempting to discriminate between black and white or near-white, the architects of Federal and State legislation and their successors have created a hopelessly muddled situation, one that has already required the services of the Full Court of Appeal to unravel in some circumstances. Amending legislation was introduced in the Legislative Council during the year, but has not yet been discussed in the House. No real progress can be made until all legislation affecting natives and their welfare has been completely overhauled, amended and brought up to date with the trend of modern thought, opinion and administrative practice.

The Department's activities during the year have been ably and amply covered by the reports of the Officers and Missionaries who have been doing the actual work. Extracts from their reports which are considered to be relevant and informative are set out in the following pages.

## Section "A."

### District Welfare Reports.

Due to the death of the District Officer, Mr. D. L. Pullen, in March, and the Department's inability to provide suitable relief other than the appointment of a comparatively inexperienced junior officer to "hold the fort," an annual report for the Northern District (East and West Kimberleys) is not available this year.

Extracts from the District Officers' reports covering the other three major districts are subtended :—

#### Central District.

B. A. McLarty, Esq., Acting District Officer.

The Central District includes all that part of the State south of the 26th parallel of latitude, with the exception of the Southern District, comprising the Great Southern Area.

It is divided into three sub-districts—Central, Murchison, and Eastern Goldfields, each normally under the administration of an Assistant District Officer of Native Affairs. Headquarters are located at Perth (District Office and Central Sub-district Office combined), Mullewa, and Kalgoorlie. For a short period in February and March, 1951, a Patrol Officer was stationed at Meekatharra.

There are approximately 6,000 natives in the district and they include all gradations of custom and colour from primitive nomadic desert full-blood tribes to readily assimilable near-white families who are almost comparable with the average white family in everything but their legal status. The native population of this district presents a fair cross section of the State as a whole and may be broadly classified into three groups. These are the tribal full-bloods, whose contact with civilisation is slight; the detribalised or partially detribalised full-bloods, whose culture contact has been largely conditioned by the pastoral economy; and the growing host of dislocated and unsettled caste hybrids who present an increasingly urgent problem in social welfare.

#### *Visit of Earl Russell.*

In August, 1950, Lord Bertrand Russell visited Perth. He expressed interest in the condition of Australian natives and visited native families in the Bassendean-Bayswater area. Lord Russell, having seen for himself the sorry plight of these people, and having heard the Departmental policy and aims for them, expressed the view that we were following the right course, but that he could not see how we could overcome the colour prejudice that existed. In a subsequent broadcast in Sydney Lord Russell said that while the treatment of aborigines was rapidly improving, there still seemed to be room for considerable advance. The people seemed unwilling to grant aborigines elementary rights of justice.

#### *Missions and Institutions.*

The following are institutions within the district :—

##### *Central.*

*Alvan House, Mount Lawley.*—After a storm of public controversy a residential property in Mount Lawley was purchased in September, 1950, for use by the Department to bring superior native girls to Perth for advanced education and vocational training and to give them an enhanced occupational opportunity. It is called Alvan House. After a period of structural renovation it was ready to be occupied and the first native girl took up residence on the 17th January, 1951. Since then the number of girls has been increased to eight.

Since its inception lack of publicity has enabled this experiment to prove an outstanding success and it offers a particularly strong argument in favour of creating a similar hostel for native boys.

*Moore River Native Settlement.*—A Departmental institution which at the end of the year was in process of being transferred to the Methodist Church for operation as a church mission.

*New Norcia* (Benedictine Community of W.A.).—The native institution comprises St. Joseph's Orphanage for Girls, St. Mary's Orphanage for Boys, and a reserve containing cottages for Mission employees.

*United Aborigines Mission, Kellerberrin.*—Situated near a native reserve to cater for the spiritual and educational needs of natives thereon. An Education Department teacher conducts a school at the Mission. During the year a new dormitory was completed and the Mission began to admit child inmates voluntarily placed by their parents. Unfortunately, this Mission has very few resources and is very restricted in the amount of welfare work it can accomplish. The eastern wheatbelt offers a huge field of endeavour for a well-equipped and financially strong mission body and creates a need which is far from being adequately met at present.

*Badjaling Mission, Quairading.*—This Mission is conducted by two ladies who act as friends and advisers of several native families who regard that locality as their home territory. There are no accommodation or other facilities for inmates.

##### *Murchison.*

*Pallotine Mission, Tardun.*—This is perhaps the most notable native institution in the whole district, and the progress achieved in three years is little short of remarkable. It is well situated on good farming property and the institutional buildings, school, hygiene, dormitory, and recreational facilities are excellent. Children of both sexes are admitted and the atmosphere of the whole institution is a happy one.

##### *Eastern Goldfields.*

*Cosmo Newbery Native Settlement.*—A Departmental institution north-east of Laverton. The current year saw a change in the policy and functions of this settlement, which was not facilitated or made any smoother by the frequent changes of staff due to resignations, etc. At the beginning of the year it attempted to serve the

dual purpose of being a centre of contact for tribal natives and a holding centre for criminal or intractable adult natives. Offences of violence, a series of abscondences and lack of adequate staff and facilities demonstrated the utter futility of using the institution in the role of an ill-equipped semi-prison which, in any case, is foreign to the proper function of this Department. Latterly it has served as a reformatory institution for juveniles who, having been found incorrigible or unmanageable in other institutions, have been committed thereto by Children's Courts. Its success or otherwise in this role is yet to be proved.

*Warburton Ranges Mission.*—This Mission caters for tribal natives of the Warburton Ranges by providing educational and medical facilities. Bulk rations are provided by the Department.

*Mount Margaret Mission, Morgans.*—A subsidised institution which admits child inmates and also caters for a large number of adult natives who radiate around the district to station employment.

*Norseman Mission* is of a similar nature to Mount Margaret Mission.

*Australian Aborigines Evangelical Mission, Cundeelee.*—This Mission is a feeding depot, supplied with rations by the Department, and it was hoped that its creation would draw off from the Trans Line and from Kalgoorlie the desert nomads who were wont to frequent those places for the purpose of begging. I do not know a great deal of this institution, but I feel that it could well do with an infusion of practical and positive purpose.

As the above institutions submit their own reports these notes are necessarily brief, but they have been included to give a complete picture of the district as a whole. They form the background for much of the field officer's work and many phases of his welfare activities, particularly in regard to children, must be co-ordinated with them. Without any discrimination it can be said that they are making a positive and valuable contribution to native welfare.

#### *Protectors of Natives.*

Sufficient has already been said and written of the anomalous and, generally speaking, unsatisfactory system of appointing Police Officers as Protectors of Natives to require no further emphasis here. Whilst there are some Police Officers whose interest in natives is genuine and goes beyond mere statutory requirements, there are many who regard a Protector's duties with exasperation or indifference, and it is a moot point which is the worse. Natives who, in the past, had little or no other avenue of approach than policemen are now tending to refer their worries and inquiries directly to field officers or by correspondence to this office. An average number of 15 town and country natives is interviewed each week at Head Office.

The obvious alternative to Police Protectors is the appointment of suitable persons who have the interests of natives at heart, and during the year the number of lay Protectors, excluding the staffs of Missions and honorary appointments, was increased to nine. It has been the policy in this District to limit the duties required of these people to representation of the Department in Courts and to specific instances of a purely welfare nature. No attempt has been made to burden them with routine administrative requirements. I consider that to go beyond the limits mentioned would be an unjustifiable imposition on the good nature of those who are anxious to help the Department in its work.

It is impossible to find a suitable volunteer in every country town so, with the increase in the number of lay Protectors, there has been a gradual withdrawal from Police Protectors of Departmental duties which have increasingly remained in the hands of field officers. In most cases Police Protectors are required to do little more than such routine duties as the issue of employment permits, submission of statistical crime, death and birth records, etc.

#### *Patrols.*

Organised patrolling is without doubt the most important feature of district administration. The multitude of minor administrative requirements necessitated by our legislation in its present form are becoming an increasing burden on field officers as the use of Police Protectors is being restricted. Until the legislation is revised to conform with modern trends and is considerably streamlined, the only method of coping with the volume is frequent patrolling.

This, however, is relatively unimportant compared to the necessity of learning to know the natives intimately and of becoming familiar and acceptable to them. No measures for their advancement can be really successful unless they have the active participation and co-operation of the natives themselves. The ideas of "come and be done good to" and "you must be cruel to be kind" are archaic and dangerous, as they tend to nullify any benefit by creating not only a natural indignation, but active hostility and resentment. A moral and psychological regeneration is required and the officer who can best help to accomplish it is he who is welcome in a native family as a familiar and trusted friend. To hope for a complete change of outlook in a short time is beyond all reasonable expectation, but a change is beginning to be noticeable in the signs of hopefulness and individual endeavour and the dawning awareness that assistance by this Department has a wider, deeper significance than the handing out of rations, blankets, cash advances, and small loans.

During the year under report 23 patrols covering a total of 14,027 miles were carried out in the Central District at the modest cost of £570.

#### *Reserves.*

Apart from native institutions there are 39 native reserves in the district. The nature and purposes vary from the huge reservation embracing the Warburton Ranges, which shields tribal natives from the impact of white civilisation other than that of the Warburton Ranges Mission, to selected areas in the vicinity of country towns which are used as temporary camping sites for visiting natives or those whose avenues of employment necessitate their moving about rural areas.

As far as possible the permanent settlement of native families on reserves has been discouraged and it is hoped that eventually the need for them will disappear altogether. That time, however, is not in the immediate future, and their retention at present is necessary, even if they are only to serve as alternatives to the sanitary depots, rubbish tips, or desolate stony ridges which are usually made available as camping grounds near country towns. Until native families can be established in their own homes a certain amount of permanent residence on reserves must be tolerated, but it is not encouraged.

During the year considerable attention was given to hygiene and ablution facilities on reserves, notably in the Central and Murchison Sub-districts, and the installation of ablution and laundry facilities and sanitary services was either completed or arrangements were well in hand. Attention to this matter was long overdue and, though over the whole district the provision of adequate facilities is by no means complete, it is satisfying to feel that a start has been made. It has been noted that wherever action of this kind has been taken or contemplated, our relations with local government authorities have perceptibly brightened.

#### *General Administrative Functions.*

During 1950-51 there was a substantial increase in the amount of detailed routine administrative work undertaken by field officers, and some changes in administrative procedure were originated by this office. This, of course, was in line with the policy of decentralised administration and was to be expected. No statistics are available this year and there is little point in enumerating all the facets of ordinary administration which have been undertaken; but the main impact of

this necessary evil was felt in relation to accounts matters, notably in relation to sundry debts, medical and funeral accounts. The administrative procedure required in connection with the Natives' Medical Fund was unwieldy and exasperating and it was a tremendous relief to receive, about the end of the financial year, approval for the adoption of a new streamlined procedure.

Detailed reports in connection with applications by natives for various Social Services benefits formed a considerable volume of work during the first half of the year, but with the cessation of the policy of so-called "supervised" Child Endowment, there was a noticeable slackening off in this regard. At the same time, following conversations with an officer of the Registrar General's Department, there has been an increase of activity in assisting that authority to effect the registration of native births.

The issue of permits of employment, collection of Medical Fund contributions, etc., has been largely left in the hands of Police Officers. There was a decrease in the issue of railway ticket orders, ration orders, and cash advances to natives.

#### *Public Relations.*

It is a great satisfaction to report that there is an awakening of public interest in native welfare, and an indication of growing public support for the policy and aims of this Department. There have been many indications of this—requests for talks and information, offers of assistance, formation of discussion groups, debates on native affairs, etc., but perhaps the most notable was the strong, widespread support that was aroused when the proposed establishment of Alvan House met with some sectional opposition. This tendency is most noticeable in the metropolitan area, but it is becoming evident in country areas as well and offers the most hopeful sign that the wall of colour prejudice can be broken down.

#### *Vital Statistics.*

The detailed personal census which was begun early in 1950 was continued in the Central and Murchison sub-districts. No census records are yet available from the Eastern Goldfields. As the census is not complete and as statistical data has not been recorded at this office over the whole period, the provision of tabular statistics (relating to births, marriages and deaths) would be misleading and will not be attempted in this report. The chief value of the census at present is that it provides, at ready reference, information as to personal and marital relationships, de facto unions, family groups, dates of birth and religion of natives.

The Central Sub-district census has recorded 1,550 names of an estimated 1,600, and is therefore 97 per cent. complete. The Murchison Sub-district, from the last available figures (5-12-50) listed 638 names of an estimated 2,400. Since that date four patrols were completed but the census book has not been forwarded for copying. The estimated number of natives in the Eastern Goldfields Sub-district is 1,900.

The 6,000 natives of the District comprise all classifications of caste and vary considerably as to type, standards of living, and social advancement. They are distributed mainly as follows:—

*Central.*—The main concentrations are:

- Moora area (including New Norcia and the Miling-Toodyay line) about 400;
- Eastern Wheatbelt (east of Northam-Wongan Hills line and York to Bruce Rock) about 900
- Murray District (Pinjarra, Armadale, Mandurah) about 200; and
- Metropolitan area, about 100.

Of this number, 90 per cent. are people who possess some degree of white descent, many with the proportion of white almost as high as three-quarters, yet their legal status, as defined by our legislation, is almost equivalent to that accorded to an inhabitant of the Warburtons who wears no clothes and who, to satisfy his hunger, hunts a goanna with a stick.

For the most part they are living in a state of bewildered and sometimes resentful confusion on the fringes of a society on which they are dependant for a livelihood and a model for behaviour, but which refuses to accept them. The small percentage of full-bloods are distinguishable from their hybrid counterparts only by their colour, their mode of life and social status being precisely the same. Almost all vestige of native law, custom and beliefs have disappeared and I would be exceedingly surprised to learn of even ten who have aboriginal names.

*Murchison.*—This sub-district contains a complete range of natives, including bush tribes east of Wiluna, detribalised, but reasonably static, full-bloods on pastoral properties and caste natives grouped around the main towns. The growing percentage of caste natives (who are mostly in the same condition as those in the Central Sub-district) offers a forewarning of the social problem which is likely to exist in this area in another generation. Of the total number of natives in the Murchison, about 58 per cent. are of white descent. They are located principally in the Geraldton-Northampton area, the Midland line, the Mullewa-Wongan line, and the main towns between Mullewa and Meekatharra.

*Eastern Goldfields.*—No detailed information is available, but of the total of 1,900 approximately 80 per cent. are full-bloods. These figures are probably an underestimate, as in all likelihood no proper account has been taken of the tribal nomads east of the pastoral areas or of the pitiful relics who were wont to frequent the Trans line.

#### *Health.*

No statistical information is available, nor is any general survey of native health from a qualified source, and I hesitate to make generalizations on this subject. From the volume of medical accounts which have passed through this office it is quite obvious that the Department's agreement with the British Medical Association has achieved its intention of ensuring that natives readily receive medical attention when necessary. It is also satisfying to report that employers of natives on pastoral properties are honouring their obligations to sick employees or their dependants sometimes beyond statutory requirements.

#### *Education.*

This also is a matter on which it is unwise to generalize. It is intended to devote more particular attention to it in the next year.

It can be said, however, that although it is compulsory for native children to attend school, not many have progressed beyond about Standard V. This is due partly to the fact that the enforcement of compulsory attendance has been practised only for a few years, and partly to bad attendance records occasioned by the itinerant nature of the children's family life. No child has much chance of scholastic progress when his education has been conducted periodically in a series of State Schools and Mission or Departmental institutions as has often been the case. Here is another strong argument in favour of stabilising native families in communities by provision of satisfactory living conditions.

Some teachers and headmasters who take an active and sympathetic interest in the welfare of their native pupils have become known to field officers and the progress of outstanding native pupils is being watched.

### *Native Labour and Employment.*

(a) *Availability to Natives.*—The great majority of employable natives earn their incomes in rural employment, as stockmen on pastoral properties or at unskilled labour (Road Boards, factories, etc.) in the towns. Of those employed on farms, few are permanently retained, most farmers offering employment only at peak seasonal periods.

In between these times the natives resort to clearing and fencing contracts, rabbiting or dead wool picking. There is no actual scarcity of work available, but it is not as abundant as is generally supposed and it is not easy for many natives to be earning for much more than a total of 9 or 10 months of the year.

(b) *Industry of Natives.*—It is not surprising that the nature of the work offered to natives together with the disparaging attitude towards them which they feel is exhibited by the white community generally, have bred in them a lack of responsibility to their work and their white employers. This, of course, has earned them the reputation of being unreliable and unworthy of employment except when no other labour is available. In many cases, I must admit, this is true, but despite all assertions to the contrary I am convinced that it is not an inherent quality in natives but a logical and natural development of the treatment of them. The remedy is the removal of those causes.

The thoughtless opinion is often expressed that natives will not work whilst "they can live on the child endowment." I was once quoted a family who received £15 a month in child endowment and naturally the father "would not work with that much coming in." No thought, of course, was taken for the fact that to receive £15 a month he would need to have eight children under 16 years of age. Let any person attempt to feed and clothe himself, his wife and eight children on £3 15s. a week in these days.

(c) *Wages and Working Conditions.*—Where employment is offering good wages can be obtained by natives, even in unskilled work. Award rates were being paid throughout the Central and lower Murchison areas. Shearing last season was up to £5 12s. 6d. a hundred for flock sheep (shed hands were receiving up to £13 a week), contract prices for clearing and fencing were high and even dead wool soared with the rest.

Working conditions vary. Some progress has been made on Murchison pastoral properties with the provision of quarters and facilities for native employees, but in the Central Sub-district, particularly on farms and in the Swan vineyards they are very poor. Unfortunately, the majority of natives in this area are caste hybrids and enforcement of regulations relating to working conditions is extremely difficult whilst the present legislation regarding permits (particularly the caste provisos in Section 19 of the Act) remains in force. The sooner the permit system is replaced by the proposed system of registration of employers, the sooner can positive steps be taken to ensure that employers provide accommodational facilities which are only just and reasonable.

(d) *Employment Services or Agencies.*—The need for the organisation of a native employment service is great, but with a small staff it presents great difficulties. Some achievements were made.

On the basis of his close knowledge of the Murchison District, his familiarity with pastoral and agricultural working conditions and his acquaintance with property owners or managers, the Assistant District Officer was able to build a quite effective employment agency which served the needs of many natives. He was limited by lack of clerical assistance but his efforts in this sphere were worthy of note.

Mr. Marchant (Cadet Patrol Officer) established a useful link with the Commonwealth Employment Service in Perth who have given greatly appreciated assistance in conducting aptitude tests on natives and in directing them to suitable employment.

Claude Parfitt, a 15-year old native of Bassendean, had left school in Standard VI. His headmaster reported that he was an average pupil, but a good type of lad. The boy's mother was anxious that he should not drift into an unskilled labouring job with his father. He was interviewed in February this year and showed an interest in bicycles. He was psychologically tested at the Commonwealth Employment Service and found employment at Aussie Cycles, Ltd., Perth.

Eddie Wilkes, who had been apprenticed to Rendle Scientific Glassware in March, 1950, is still employed there and his employer has given good reports of him. This lad is attempting to overcome a serious handicap in his home environment, and efforts are being made to find accommodation for him in a home near his place of work. He has been assisted by the Department by provision of railway season tickets from Bassendean to Daglish.

Barry Loo, Parnell Dempster, and Reynold Hart, were all native boys who had been given an occupational opportunity by the Department. All failed because of their unstable background and widespread success in this field cannot be expected for a few years. Barry was a junior clerk in the District Office, Parnell a messenger at Head Office (from October to December, 1950) and Reynold was apprenticed as a painter to the Public Works Department from 1st November, 1950, to 21st December, 1950. All three were former students of the Carrolup State School, where, under the tuition of Mr. N. White, they became very proficient at crayon painting.

### *Crime.*

Departmental officers, particularly in the metropolitan area, had a busy year representing the Department as Protectors of Natives in lower Courts. Perusal of the types of offences indicates that apart from drunkenness and receiving liquor, convictions on other offences are almost negligible. Of a total of 351 convictions, 236 were for drunkenness and 58 for receiving liquor, leaving 16 other types of offences represented by 57 convictions. It is interesting to note that since Departmental officers have been contesting charges of being in a prohibited area (where the natives have been lawfully employed, or where they were not given adequate warnings by the Police) not one conviction has been secured on this charge.

### *Native Welfare.*

This is a title which could really be applied to the whole of the report as it sums up in a phrase the aims, policy and functions of the Department and every subject dealt with in the report has a direct relation to it. I cannot, therefore, enumerate any particular measures taken in this regard, but will confine myself to general remarks and to the mention of some aspects which have not been dealt with elsewhere.

The abandonment of the policy of amelioration and protection had been promulgated and this has been the guiding principle of the policy in this district. The change over from negative or static measures to positive cannot be effected rapidly and an intermediate stage must be passed. It should never be forgotten that we are not dealing with cold statistics but with living people and their co-operation and understanding must be secured. The withdrawal of protective measures and means of direct assistance has caused a great deal of confusion in the minds of natives and considerable personal effort has been directed into helping them understand the change that is taking place and assisting them to develop a sense of self reliance. Such a complete and fundamental change of outlook cannot be accomplished in a hurry, but I feel that we have given them the dawning of hope. This is the intermediate stage and it has characterised the year under review.

### *Child Welfare and Delinquency.*

There is a tremendous avenue of work in this field alone and an approach has been made to it in the light of developing Departmental policy. The chief limiting factors have been the lack of adequate institutional accommodation and shortage of staff, but a start was made. It was a forward step to abandon the use of the warrant of removal (authorised by Section 13 of



the Act) in favour of action through Children's Courts. The effects have been threefold. A legally constituted authority outside the Department makes the committal order, the danger of misusing the committal warrant is obviated and the native parents tend less to regard with antipathy and distrust the officer who brings the application before the Court than formerly when they knew he had, in effect, the power of indiscriminate removal.

Wherever native children have appeared before children's courts for having committed an offence Departmental Officers have, when possible, been present at the hearing to give the Magistrates the benefit of their knowledge of the accused children and to make suitable recommendations for the disposal of them.

The advice and assistance of officers of the Child Welfare Department, particularly the ready and sympathetic guidance of Mr. E. B. Arney, S.M., when officers were going through the "growing pains" of becoming familiar with children's court procedure, have been greatly appreciated and are acknowledged with gratitude.

#### *Extra-Departmental Activities.*

Exclusive of the valuable work being carried out by religious missions there have been direct contributions to native welfare by persons and authorities outside this Department which are worthy of special mention. Most of their activities have been directed towards the natives of Bassendean.

Foremost among them are Mr. Geoff. Marcus and Miss Irene Hart whose work has been carried on in a quiet, unassuming manner with a complete absence of publicity or public attention. In giving them this deserved mention it is hoped that their anonymity will remain undisturbed.

Miss Hart has for many months conducted Sunday School classes for natives at Bassendean and has taken a close interest in the children. Mr. Marcus, who is a member of Toc H., has been instrumental in making amenities services available to natives. Films have been shown with the assistance of Mr. Nelson, headmaster of the Eden Hill State School, who has allowed the school buildings to be used. Mr. Marcus's most useful activities, however, have been related to the young native people of Bassendean. He was mainly responsible for the apprenticeship of Eddie Wilkes at the glassware factory; he has closely associated with Ron Kickett and has had the satisfying achievement of developing him into a fine example of citizenship. He has organised the formation of the Mudalla ("Playground") Youth Club, whose members comprise boys and girls of the native community. The club was formed about May, 1951, and all office bearers on the committee are natives.

The Student Christian Movement of the University of W.A. began to take an interest in Native Affairs through the efforts of Mr. S. Davey who organised a team of engineering undergraduates and students from other faculties to provide a well for the natives at Bassendean. They have since formed a University Society for the promotion of Native Welfare.

The World Council of Churches has formed a sub-committee for native welfare. The first meeting was held on 5th June, 1951, and another on 27th June. It is an extremely representative body and its first concerns are support of a programme for native housing and the establishment of a boys' home at Guildford.

All encouragement possible has been given to these persons and organisations, not only because of their contribution to native welfare, but because they offer the best type of competition to other bodies whose suspected political complexion renders their motives subject to doubt.

#### *Projects.*

*Native Housing.*—The importance of proper housing of natives and its relation to native welfare, health and the proper care of children has so often been stressed that it needs no further emphasis than to state that it constitutes the most urgent basic need of a very large proportion of the natives in the Central District.

The history of our endeavours to overcome this problem has now reached the exasperating and almost discouraging stage where we can see clearly the need and implications of a large-scale, well organised building programme and are prevented by lack of finance and technical means and by Government indifference from seeing our recommendations implemented.

In 1949 a country Police Sergeant pitted his personal efforts against a huge social problem and began to assist a native to build a cottage from mill face cuts. At the same time the Department created a Mobile Work Unit to continue the work, which was being undertaken at Pinjarra. Lack of qualified and otherwise satisfactory staff and an unsuitable and at times mechanically unsound vehicle caused a series of holdups which delayed the work to a serious degree. By September, 1950, two cottages had been completed on private blocks of land and two had been almost completed on the reserve. These, though requiring further work, were habitable and were occupied in August.

During the months that this was in operation field officers continued to conduct a survey of native housing conditions principally in the Central Sub-district and began to prepare the natives for the part they would have to play. They were told that an effort was being made to erect homes for them and they were urged to save their money and purchase building lots. Their reaction was one of immediate interest, but we could not capitalise on it effectively for two reasons. For the most part local authorities would not agree to a relaxation of building by-laws and we could not produce an acceptable plan for the natives to see and, secondly, we were unable to answer their immediate inquiries: "What will it cost? How do I have to pay?" With no definite object to save for, they mostly neglected to save. Their interest still exists, however, because their need is still there. Many have bought blocks of land and are now waiting for us to implement the promises that were made.

Long before August, 1950, it had become obvious that the Mobile Work Unit experiment was a costly failure; but even in its failure it was not without some value. It gave the impetus to a survey which disclosed the enormity of the task and jolted the natives out of their apathetic and hopeless attitude. It demonstrated beyond any doubt that the actual construction of native homes was quite beyond the financial and technical means of this Department. This realisation, together with information obtained from field officers' dealings with natives, led the then District Officer on the 4th August to present an appreciation of the position together with detailed recommendations as to the steps which should be taken. This was brought to the notice of Cabinet.

Four aspects are principally concerned:—

- (a) *Finance.*—Special funds would need to be allocated.
- (b) *Technical means and building materials.*—The former are not possessed by the Department and qualified authorities should meet this need. The Department has no special access to the latter and an allocation would need to be made.
- (c) *Land.*—Building sites would have to be procured and the co-operation of local government authorities would be essential.
- (d) *Native Tenants.*—The task of organising and classifying the natives would fall to the Department.

The only result was a suggestion that six to eight selected families, who complied with stipulated provisions, could apply to the State Housing Commission. This did not, of course, strike at the real need but the offer was not spurned. Applications were forwarded on behalf of three native families in Geraldton and two at Doodlakine.

Although no visible improvement has been effected over the past 12 months, some progress has been achieved and there are three rays of hope. The natives are beginning to rouse from their apathy, the attitude of local authorities is beginning to change from scepticism or obstinate obstruction to support and public interest is coming increasingly to bear on this most important matter.

#### *Conclusions.*

On the whole 1950-51 can best be described as a formative year. Administrative procedures have been abandoned, altered or developed; initial steps have been taken into various phases of field activity, and a clearer pattern of administrative policy has begun to emerge. It has not been conspicuous, perhaps, for lauded successes and spectacular achievement, but some patient groundwork has been done and it has not been devoid of interest.

(Sgd.) B. A. McLARTY,  
Acting District Officer—Central District.

### **Southern District.**

C. R. Wright Webster, Esq., J.P., District Officer.

Since my last Annual Report the extent of the District has not varied and still comprises the Great Southern and South-West, as they are generally known.

Population statistics, however, because of the manner of their compilation are in my opinion far from accurate. Figures of population in their respective jurisdictions are received from Police Officers and these figures are collated to make up the District total. Whilst some Police Officers take pains to get the figures correct, others do not, and some even fail to supply any figures, so the figures in the lattermost instances can only be very rough estimates.

The population figures for this District for the year under report are, by the above methods, computed at 2,001 natives including full-bloods and caste natives; of this figure 218 are full-bloods. Separate detailed statistics have already been submitted.

However, a detailed census is being taken in the District by field officers whilst on patrol and this census is approximately 80 per cent. complete. When complete this census will provide a reliable estimate of the native population of the District. It is anticipated that in two years this census will be complete in every detail. The information available through this census has proved most valuable to field and office staff alike, and is almost daily made use of.

#### *Patrols.*

The same patrol areas have been retained as reported in my last Annual Report. They are the Northern, Southern, and South-West patrol areas. Each patrol area is visited in turn by the District Officer. Some patrol areas were visited three times and others four times during the year.

During the year under report the total mileage travelled on patrol by the District Officer was 11,125 and the number of days and part days spent on patrol was 97. The Cadet Patrol Officer having resigned, his particulars of mileage and days spent on patrol are not available.

The patrol system has proved of inestimable value. Besides bringing the field staff into close contact with the natives themselves, it provides means of contact with their employers and with local authorities, school teachers and welfare groups in the general community, thus providing a ready means of educating the native as to what is required of him and of putting before the community what is required of it in regard to one of Australia's gravest social problems.

Already, though in this District the system as it now exists is only in its second year, there is a most noticeable awakening of the native mind as evidenced by the several inquiries by natives re purchasing their own blocks, acquiring houses of their own, and requests to find them permanent jobs where decent accommodation is available. On the other side there is in some instances the interest of certain local authorities in the living conditions of natives in their jurisdictions, the increased interest amongst school teachers in their native charges at the various State Schools visited by me from time to time—in some cases a distinct leaning towards the native children—and from welfare groups requests for information re the Department's policy of native welfare and how best they can assist. Employers, too, as a result of contact with the Department's field staff during patrols have come to appreciate that the old policy of "anything will do" for the native as regards accommodation for and fair treatment of natives whilst in their employ is now outmoded and that there is a Government Department definitely and militantly interested in assuring fair play not only from the employer to the native but also vice versa.

#### *Living Conditions.*

Living conditions have altered little in the year that has elapsed since my last Annual Report but there is a remarkably altered attitude amongst a large section of the native people of this District to their mode and condition of living. It seems that after two years of exhortation by the field staff to be up and doing something in this matter, there is an awakening amongst the caste people with a view to seeking better living conditions.

Many have requested assistance in obtaining materials such as iron and timber to construct better accommodation than they have; not a few have purchased and are taking steps for the purchase of their own blocks of land with a view ultimately to having a house of their own. To several of the better type of natives the Department's existing scheme for housing of natives offers a ray of hope for better things to come. This scheme prepared with the co-operation of the State Housing Commission holds out definite promise of providing pre-cut houses to be erected by building contractors to a specific plan for individual deserving families. The District Officer's task is to seek out, encourage and then recommend suitable families. Already more than a dozen families in this District are interested and anxious to participate in the scheme. The names of two have been forwarded to Perth and sent to the Housing Commission with very strong recommendations. One native (who has since obtained Citizenship Rights) with the Department's backing obtained a permit to build from the State Housing Commission—the first case in this District.

This scheme, however, at first can only benefit a chosen few, those who because of their existing standards will know how to live in a house and who because of their being in regular or permanent employment will be in a position to pay their rent regularly. But what I find to be a very bright augury for the future is the very noticeable movement of native families away from Reserves to living on the properties of employers. Several employers are in a position to offer good accommodation to native employees—generally four or five roomed cottages—and many natives have made it a practice to seek out such employment with their families and are at present housed in such cottages. Some farmers, who are appreciating the worth of native employees who are prepared to remain permanently in their employ, have constructed quite satisfactory homes

for their native employees. The most promising feature of all this is the appearance of the desire for better living conditions. I feel that when two or three houses under the new housing scheme are actually occupied by native families in the District an incentive will have been provided to others to strive to make themselves worthy of getting their names on the list for a house. The field staff of this District are during patrols fostering and encouraging this desire amongst natives for better living conditions.

Meanwhile for those who will continue to live on Reserves attempts are being made, and in some cases arrangements are in hand, for providing essential facilities such as water and sanitary convenience. Scarcity of water, a commodity in notoriously short supply in the Great Southern, is the main bugbear, for without a piped water supply to Reserves ablutional facilities cannot be provided. Besides, local authorities in those country towns which depend on a meagre town scheme for their supply of water are reluctant to connect the native reserve to the town scheme alleging that natives are very wasteful of water.

However, some progress has been made during the period under review. The new Brookton reserve has been provided with three water tanks kept filled by arrangements made by the local protector with a local carrier. Two conveniences have also been provided at this reserve.

At Woodanilling Reserve a 1,000 gallon tank has been provided by the Department and the Local Authority have undertaken to keep it filled with water. Two conveniences from the old school grounds are in the course of being acquired for this reserve.

At the Katanning Native Reserve, where good sanitary facilities already exist but where there is no water supply, the Department has obtained Treasury approval for the supply of piped water to the reserve and the work has been placed in the hands of the Road Board on behalf of the Public Works Department. The question of an ablution block on this reserve is also being taken up with the Road Board.

At each of the Borden and Ongerup native reserves two conveniences and a 1,000 gallon water tank have been provided. These towns have no water supply schemes of their own but at Ongerup a local gentleman has very generously undertaken to keep the tank filled by carting water from a dam in his own vehicle. At Borden the natives have themselves undertaken to arrange for water storage on the reserve.

At Busselton, where good potable water is available only a few feet under ground level, the Secretary of the Road Board has agreed to provide a spear-well on the new reserve and also to set up three conveniences on the reserve.

At Mount Barker a new reserve is contemplated after sale of the old reserve and dam, if approved by the Government, to cover the costs of the new project. The new project is to include a dam on the reserve and sanitary and ablutional facilities supplied with water raised from the dam by windmill. This project, recommended by me after discussion with the Road Board, has been discussed between the Lands Department and this Department, but is held up pending certain information from the Plantagenet Road Board. This Board has offered to assist with providing some of the materials locally and to arrange to carry out all the work required, the Department to pay for labour and materials.

Only one Local Authority actively opposed plans to improve natives' living conditions in its area. At a conference at which the Commissioner of Native Affairs and the District Officer were present the townspeople of an outlying portion of the local authority's jurisdiction expressed their desire to permit native families to live within the townsite area provided these families, six or seven in number, were suitably housed. It was agreed that, if available, Nissen huts would be the most suitable form of housing in the prevailing circumstances. But, later, the local authority advised that it would not approve of the scheme in its area as it considered Nissen huts to be sub-standard for housing purposes.

It will be seen, therefore, that during the year under review something concrete has emerged in regard to improving living conditions for the native people of this district. The most encouraging feature is the hope that is held out for the future, particularly when one looks back to very recent years when there was not even a plan or a scheme embracing native housing or improvement of living conditions on reserves.

#### *Education.*

Of equal importance, in my opinion, as better living conditions for natives is the provision of facilities for education and vocational training. These already exist in this District. Our task is to ensure that the existing facilities are properly availed of. The State Schools and the three Missions at Roelands, Wandering and Gnowangerup provide education and the Marribank Farm School vocational training.

On all patrols by District field staff the schools are visited and the progress of native children at school inquired into. My personal experience, and a most gratifying one during the time I have held charge of this district, is that as a body and as individuals the teachers, especially the head teachers, of schools with natives on the rolls are solidly behind this Department in its efforts to ensure education and opportunities for the native child.

It is not difficult to interest teachers in the native cause. A short explanation of existing Departmental policy and the importance of educating the younger generation of natives as part of this policy soon elicits full co-operation from the headmasters and head teachers of schools. I have always found headmasters and head teachers very strongly co-operative in stamping out prejudice towards natives amongst their charges wherever this monster rears its head. Fortunately, amongst children colour and anti-native prejudice is not often found.

In all the schools of this district teachers are, at my request, on the lookout for promising children. When I call around on patrol the names of such children are noted with a view to meeting their parents to exhort them to keep their children attending regularly and with a view also to fostering in the parents an interest in their children's schooling and future prospects.

The effect of the field staff's frequent and regular visits to State Schools and the subsequent warnings to parents of children with bad attendance records or whose standard of personal hygiene and cleanliness at school leaves much to be desired is to be seen in the considerably improved record of school attendance and in the high standard of turn-out of native children going to school.

Vocational training within the district is provided at Marribank Farm School where boys between the ages of 14 and 18 are trained in the various branches of Agriculture and Animal husbandry. Training includes windmill maintenance, mechanical training (motor) and carpentry. This institution, though geographically in the district, is not part of the district administratively. It is administered from the Department's Headquarters at Perth, though, for purposes of district administration, I maintain liaison with the Superintendent of the institution.

I have not been able to persuade any boys between 14 and 18 years to enter Marribank for training. There are two reasons for this—(1) the stigma, in the native mind, attaching to the institution while it was Carrolup Native Settlement, referred to wrongly by the natives as a "penal settlement" because many of the former inmates were sent there against their or their parents' will, as neglect cases; (2) because fathers approached to send their young sons leaving school at 14 to Marribank for training in every case have retorted that they themselves can train their lads at farm work by having their boys work with them on the job.

Vocational training for girls is provided by sending suitable or promising girls to Alvan House and the East Perth Girls' Home.

One cannot overestimate the advantages to be obtained by schooling and educating coloured children in the same schools and alongside white children. If the native is to be assimilated he must learn from his earliest years to associate with his white counterpart. His appreciation of a white standard of living must be inculcated during his school days where his education lays such stress on personal hygiene, cleanliness and a moral code. The older generation who never went to school and seldom had the opportunity of associating with white persons, except perhaps in an employer-employee relationship, will find assimilation much more difficult than the present generation who in a decade will be able to say to the white man, "What's the difference between you and me, I went to school with you, studied the same things, played the same games—probably better—passed the same exams. Why shouldn't I be entitled to better treatment than at present in the way of jobs and housing conditions." Yet there are some who still suggest segregation and separate schooling for native children. Fortunately their voice is small and unheeded and, in these times of advanced thought on such subjects, has only a nuisance value.

#### *Employment and Wages.*

The labour market in the Southern Districts continues to be dominated by native labour. Natives generally now receive the basic wage and in very many known instances, well over the basic wage. There a. e, however, still to be found instances in which natives are being underpaid for work performed. Such instances, happily, are very few.

The main avenues of employment are bush clearings, involving cutting down and burning off of trees for new wheatlands, fencing new paddocks, crutching and shearing of sheep, general farm work, roadwork as labourers for Road Boards and rabbit trapping. All these occupations yield profitable returns.

With the demand for labour so great no native need be out of employment for any length of time. Farmers, in order to encourage reliable native employees to remain with them, besides offering good wages, in many instances offer good accommodation, too. Many natives have availed themselves of these offers. Some, on the strength of improved living conditions in these circumstances, have applied for and obtained Citizenship Rights.

In the field of domestic employment there is an ever-increasing demand for female domestics. Here, too, the demand is greater than the supply. In the South-West, particularly where native domestics have given and are still giving a very satisfactory account of themselves, more and more women, mostly the wives of well-to-do farmers, are asking for native domestics, having before their eyes evidence of the satisfactory service given by the native domestics to their employers. In all cases where girls are sent out to domestic employment by the Department they "live in," that is, they are housed in the employer's own house. Reports indicate that these domestics conform entirely to white standards of living, especially in regard to personal hygiene and cleanliness. Many native domestics are reported by employers as being in advance in these respects of some white domestics previously employed.

Apart from the above there is considerable employment of a casual nature of native women and girls in the towns in the Great Southern. Some do a half day's work every day of the week and others on fixed days in each week for various employers at the rate of 3s. an hour. Some earn from 7s. to £1 a day. Here, in Narrogin, I know of cases in which some women are booked five days a week, morning and afternoon, to work for different employers. Being really good at washing and ironing, cleaning and polishing, their services are so much in demand they have to turn down offers of employment because each morning and afternoon throughout the week they are booked up.

There is plenty of scope for girls and single women in the Southern portion of the State; hospitals, laundries and private homes can absorb all the native domestic labour offering. Unfortunately, only a small proportion of the girls and women who should be working are prepared to come forward for this type of work.

#### *Health and Medical.*

The half-caste is becoming increasingly health conscious. In the two years I have been in charge of this district it has become evident that greater use is being made of the medical facilities available to natives. One very rarely finds an ailing or sick native in a camp nowadays. Relatives are not lacking who will convey the sick natives to the doctor or the hospital. The very large number of forms for treatment of native patients being received in this office from all over the district indicates that the native is alive to the benefits to be derived from prompt and regular medical attention to himself and his family.

In actual health the native of the South is no worse than his white brother. More native children than adults seem to be requiring treatment but this is only to be expected, since children are more susceptible to the illnesses of childhood such as mumps, measles, whooping cough, etc. An unsatisfactory feature of the health of the native is the number of cases coming to notice which seem to indicate that even now there are native mothers who do not know the principles of correct infant feeding. From time to time cases of malnutrition come to light, often after the infant has died, and subsequent investigation discloses that the mother has been feeding the child insufficiently (in one case only three times a day) or quite incorrectly (condensed milk and biscuits).

The Medical Fund provides for the cost of medical treatment of those natives (and their dependants) who are either employed under permit or have voluntarily joined the Medical Fund by paying a subscription of £1 per annum. Hardly a day passes without accounts being received in the mail from somewhere in the District for medical attention to natives. The Department foots the bill in the first instance and then, if the native is not covered by the Medical Fund, undertakes to collect the cost of the treatment from the native. This is extremely difficult to do.

Personally I would like to see this system abolished because it is a form of "protection" for the native and the Department has now discarded this policy of "protection," aiming instead at a policy of positive welfare. There is no reason why the native of the South—the half-caste—should not pay his own way for medical attention to his family and himself, or join one of the many approved Health Benefit Funds. Wages are good and he can afford to do so. Often natives have said to me, when I have handed them their Sundry Debts account showing amounts owing to the Department, that they would rather pay their own medical accounts to the doctor treating them than do so through the Department. Of course, because of the present agreement with the B.M.A. and the Health Department, the doctors prefer the present arrangement whereby their accounts for treatment of natives are guaranteed by the Department.

#### *Protectors.*

In view of the publicity being given to the work of the Department in the press and on the radio there is an increasing interest being taken in the welfare of the native people by well-meaning persons and groups. As a result it is not difficult generally to find persons prepared to act as Protectors of Natives. This to a great extent diminishes our dependence on Police Officers to fill the role of Protector and thus continue an anomaly. However, in many places lay protectors are not available or forthcoming, and this Department has to depend on the local Police Officer to fill the role even though in a very restricted manner.

The proposed amending legislation suggesting abolition of the permit system to be replaced by a system of registration of employers not having materialised, this Department has to fall back on Police Officers being made Protectors for the purpose of issuing permits in those areas where there is no lay protector. It being an offence to employ a native without a permit

it behoves the Department to have a Protector at some convenient centre in those areas where native labour is available so that employers can fulfil their obligation under the law. Where no lay protector is available the most convenient centre in any district is the police station, hence it seems our dependence on Police Protectors is, in circumstances, inevitable.

I must record, however, that though the appointment of Police Officers as Protectors does not seem to be desirable as a general principle, there are several Police Officers in my district who as Protectors are performing very valuable service not only to the Department but also to the native. I could name three Police Officers in the Southern District who have the absolute confidence of the natives and who are trusted by them, and who as protectors are doing a very fine job. But generally Police Officers do not like the job of Protector. Lay protectors generally dislike the paper work involved which in some areas is fairly considerable arising from the issue of permits and receipts and banking of moneys. If it could be arranged that these matters could be dealt with by the Police without their having to be Protectors it would not be too difficult to obtain a lay protector in most areas where a protector is necessary.

#### *The Natives.*

It is too much to expect that, in the long-term policy of native welfare and uplift to which this Department is committed, much can have been achieved in this District in the year that has elapsed since my last Annual Report was submitted. The present is essentially a period of planning and definition of policies. There has been considerable progress in these directions, progress to which much publicity has been given in the press and on the air.

It is surprising how closely the native community has followed published reports of what is being done in their interests. Field Officers on patrol are closely questioned by natives seeking information on steps being taken by the Department and the Government towards improving their lot. A pathetic question often directed at me is "when are we going to come under The White Act." Then again I have been told by other natives, "we see something is to be done to help us to get better living conditions, how soon do you think it will be before we can secure some form of housing through the Department." The pleasing feature of such and similar questions is that the native population of the District are awakening to the fact that the future does hold in store for them better things. Field staff always take pains to explain to the natives that without their own efforts nothing can be achieved.

The position now is very different to two years ago when the District Office was inaugurated at Narrogin. Then apathy and dejection was evident on every side. Now there is re-awakened interest and a new hope. The natives know that the Department and its officers are on their side as well as an important section of the community in whom interest has been infused by the Department's public relations activities.

There are definite signs that rehabilitation has begun amongst the Southern natives. The earlier efforts of the field staff are now showing results; it is only occasionally that one finds in a camp or on a reserve an adult native who should be working but is not. Formerly, visits to camps and reserves disclosed a number of natives, mostly younger males, sitting around with some excuse or other for not working. In the year under review there has been a most noticeable change. I am convinced that the Southern native now realises that he is expected to remain in more or less regular employment and does genuinely try to do so. This is reflected in the improved standard of dress amongst both men and women. Inquiries by field staff on patrol as to how Child Endowment is being utilised has also resulted in a very considerably improved standard of dress amongst the children too.

A further sign of this rehabilitation is the quite definite interest being taken by many parents in the education of their children. This is resulting in more regular attendance at schools with the consequent emergence of some quite promising children in the lower age groups, who, if encouraged, will in time provide the nucleus upon which the Department can draw for admission to Alvan House and its counterpart for boys when it is established.

There is one aspect of native life in which there could and should be room for improvement. I refer to recreation or rather the lack of it. It is truly remarkable that there should exist amongst us today a community so deprived of recreational facilities as the native community of the South. All the more remarkable is the fact that the unreasonable prejudice of sections of the white community is responsible for the half-caste community of this District being denied the simple forms of recreation which would make such a difference in their lives. Generally throughout my administrative jurisdiction—there are rare exceptions of course—natives are debarred from attending Trotting and Race meetings held only a few times a year, and are also denied admission to cinema shows. In the football season natives are debarred by most Country associations from participating. A game at which most native youths excel is denied to them because of what can only be termed blind colour prejudice. Instead, natives spend their Sunday afternoons—the football afternoon in the country—playing two-up at their camps. What an indictment against the white Australian community who like to think of themselves as a fair-minded and sport-loving people.

Efforts made by me to obtain some of these facilities for the coloured population have met with little success. In view of certain recent developments, however, I am more hopeful of being able to report some success in my next Annual Report.

#### *Public Relations.*

The setting up of a district office, from which the field staff operate visiting parts of the district in rotation, serves to bring field officers into contact with the public in all walks of life. Interesting and quite useful contacts are made which enable the Field staff to assess public opinion on what has come to be generally known as "the native problem"; these contacts also enable the views of the public as to the Department's efforts in regard to native welfare to be ascertained. These views vary considerably according to the speaker. Generally, the large body of opinion is in favour of the Department and feels that we are admirably attacking a very difficult problem. Some think we are too progressive and want to give too much too soon to the native. Others think assimilation cannot be achieved and is not worthwhile persevering with. Some are appalled at the thought that all natives should get Citizenship Rights and so have unrestricted access to liquor. A very few say frankly they have no time for the native and his problems and favour a policy of strict segregation.

At all times, though, where a discussion on native administration and policy takes place, I have found the most profound interest in the subject. People generally are always prepared to listen reasonably and in the end to admit that there is a case for the betterment of the native people and that the amelioration of existing conditions is long overdue. Once the full purport of assimilation is explained to them it is generally always conceded that the solution of the problem lies in assimilation which hitherto they took to mean something entirely different.

A pleasing feature of my public contacts is that amongst thinking people—clergymen, schoolteachers, members of welfare groups and those with better than an average education—the consensus of opinion is that at last there seems to be a genuine attempt by a Government Department to meet a difficult assignment with constructive planning and a definite policy. Such persons readily appreciate our difficulties and their appreciation of our endeavours on behalf of the unfortunate native has a very heartening effect and provides the encouragement to carry on in our work despite setbacks, failures and very often personal insults.

There will, of course, always remain a hard core of prejudice to be battled against, prejudice against the native—sheer colour prejudice—and against the Department especially from those who think that they know the solution to the native problem and who miss no opportunity to point out to us how to handle this complicated question. Such persons or groups are beneath contempt; their existence is the incentive for us to persevere with the policy that three successive conferences at Canberra of Commonwealth and State Authorities on Native Affairs have laid down.

(Sgd.) C. R. WRIGHT WEBSTER,  
District Officer, Southern District.

**North-West District.**

J. J. Rhatigan, Esq., J.P., District Officer.

There have been some improvements generally towards the betterment of the natives in the above District, but by comparison with that yet to take place, this a mere drop in the ocean.

The Department's policy of assisting to increase the subsidy to Missions is an excellent one, and long overdue. Every effort should be made to encourage Missions to open where the Department considers a Mission necessary, and to my mind the most neglected district north of the twenty-sixth parallel is Roebourne. I strongly urge that every assistance possible, financial or otherwise, be given to a Mission Body to become established at this centre, and so halt the present system of natives growing into manhood without the opportunity of an education.

Naturally we must be prepared to expect strong opposition from stations to the establishment of a Mission at Roebourne, as some employers prefer to keep the natives in their old ignorant state, and as a consequence the native is entirely at the mercy of the stations for his very existence. I do not wish to give the impression that natives are badly treated on the stations; on the contrary I think station employment is nearer to their natural life than any other form of employment, but the time has come when education is of paramount importance and those showing signs of a flair for any particular subject or trade should at least have the opportunity of proving his or her worth at manual training centres established in the North.

Great credit is due to the Missions for the excellent work they are doing, and when these children leave the missions to seek employment outside I consider the Department would fail in its duty if it did not insist on conditions of employment being at least similar to those existing at the mission at which the child was educated.

The only mission in my district which I have had the opportunity of visiting during the period with which this report deals is the Church of Christ Mission, Carnarvon, and too much credit cannot be given to this Mission Board, staff and helpers who have worked so tirelessly to make this mission as well equipped as it is today, and as the good work is continuing I predict that it is only a matter of time before it will become the most advanced mission in the North.

It is regrettable that due to the housing position, or should I say lack of it, the Department has not found it possible to fill all positions in the North, and I would suggest that as soon as possible the North be fully staffed with trained or experienced men. After all, the natives are entitled to their own on the spot representation, and this can only be given them by the provision of suitable accommodation for officers of the Department. In fact, I consider it the direct responsibility of the Government to provide quarters for married officers on a rental basis similar to that which apply in the North to Resident Magistrates, school teachers, resident engineers and Police officers.

Each year an increasing number of half-castes are employed in shearing teams and are accepted on the same basis as white shearers. These chaps do a good job, and account for a big proportion of straggler shearing which, without their labour, pastoralists would find difficulty in completing, as most teams have by then moved southwards.

Half-caste families with and without Citizenship Rights living in and around towns are not as well housed as they should be, and in many cases overcrowding is quite common. However, until materials become more plentiful I cannot see any answer to this distressing factor.

The natives and the Department suffered a sad loss in the death of Mr. Dave Pullen. It was my privilege to meet the late Mr. Pullen at the Derby aerodrome on his arrival by air, and I soon realised his sterling qualities, his sincerity, soundness and quiet friendly attitude, all combined to make him the gentleman that he was.

In conclusion, I desire to express my appreciation of the kindly treatment received from you, Mr. Commissioner, and to the office staff my thanks for their co-operation which is so essential to an outside Officer.

(Sgd.) J. J. RHATIGAN,  
District Officer, North-Western District.

## Section "B."

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### Departmental Institutions.

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#### La Grange Bay Ration Depot.

The Superintendent, Mr. W. de Grys, and his wife, who commenced duty at this Depot in November, 1950, began a school, for the first time, for native children. Eleven boys and two girls attend the school and are very keen.

The total number of native inmates is 89. Their health has been generally good. Minor complaints such as coughs and colds, carbuncles, etc., have been attended to at the depot or by the doctor in Broome. Two children suffering from malnutrition were cared for and are now fully recovered. Three adults died, and one baby was born during the year. Additional small huts have been erected for the inmates.

This depot, set up for the relief of desert natives, is gradually becoming a centre for health and education.

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#### East Perth Girls' Home.

Miss H. E. Markey, Matron in Charge.

During the year 120 separate persons were accommodated at the Home. Over 40 of these were girls employed as domestic workers in the rural areas, spending holidays in Perth or on transfer. Thirty-four children were inmates of the Home for varying periods. Many of these were receiving medical attention.

The health of inmates in general has been fair. Their conduct has been very good.

Improvements during the year include the installation of a new stove, the removal of trees, and planting of flowering shrubs.

Christmas provided an opportunity for a social function, which was most successful.

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#### Marribank Farm School (Carrolup Native Settlement).

In December, 1951, following the resignation of Mr. V. H. Sully, Superintendent, it was decided to alter the functions of the Carrolup Native Settlement.

Firstly, because of unsavoury features, the girls had been transferred to Missions, and the Settlement became a Boys' Institution. It was soon found undesirable to have young and older boys thrown together in an institution such as this. There was evidence that the majority of school-aged children were well under standard for age, and they appeared to be mostly interested in drawing, which subject had received a great fillup during the previous year. In the interests of all concerned the school-aged boys were transferred to Missions, and the Institution became a farm school for boys above school leaving age.

On the 17th June, 1951, the name of the institution was changed to "Marribank Farm School," and a Farm Advisory Committee consisting of local farmers was formed. This committee maintained a keen interest in the project and provided much expert advice on farm requirements. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

During this period Mr. K. A. Hall was Superintendent, and carried out improvements on both the farm and institution.

Farm produce for the year was as follows:—

At the close of the year the following stock was on hand:—Sheep, 759; Cattle, 41; Horses, 11; Pigs, 10; Fowls, 679.

A new area of 160 acres was burnt off for pasture.

At the close of the year under review there were 20 inmates.

Whilst the success of a farm school in this location would be a boon to the farming industry and the natives, it is too early to predict how successful it will be.

### Moore River Native Settlement.

In his final report on this institution, after he had been advised that the Methodist Mission would take over the work, Mr. A. L. Ethell, the Superintendent, stated :—

“ . . . . The Church, I feel, is the logical answer to the Institutional problem, and the Missionary will succeed where the Government will fail.”

He explained that in two and one-half years he had been unable to obtain and retain satisfactory staff. This, of course, is the real stumbling block in non-missionary institutions. It seems that only in a Mission can be found a team of workers with a vocational approach to the task.

The closing down of the Settlement was gradual. A few natives and a skeleton staff remained until the Methodist Mission took over.

During the year under review maintenance and improvements continued. Buildings were improved and painted. A four-pedestal septic system was installed at the hospital. The water supply was augmented by sinking and concreting a 20ft. well which yielded approximately a thousand gallons of excellent water per day.

From 1½ acres of garden land the following crops were harvested :—2cwt. turnips, 2cwt. potatoes, 1½cwt. swedes, 26cwt. cabbages, 23cwt. cauliflowers, 10lb. carrots, 10lb. onions. The lucerne, half an acre, is firmly established. Of 125 citrus trees planted, all but four struck ; however, in January only 75 were alive. The new water was found in time to keep them alive. The *Pinaster* pines planted about 1949 had dwindled through drought and wind to 1,400 trees. Because of an exceptionally dry winter no transplanting to a permanent position could be carried out. They now number 1,200, and are over 2ft. high.

On 14th July, 1950, a stud of Saanen goats was established. Introduced from New South Wales they consisted of one registered buck and eight does. The does dropped a total of 12 kids, of which seven survived and five died at birth or were stillborn. The high mortality was put down to the hardship suffered by the herd when travelling. During the primary lactation period, seven milking does yielded 234 gallons of milk whilst still rearing their kids. The goats are to be transferred to Moola Bulla, but some of the young bucks will be sent to Cosmo Newbery and Missions.

The poultry produced 1,200 dozen eggs for the year.

In August, 1950, the Murra-Murra Co-operative canteen was opened and functioned successfully until April, 1951, when it was closed as part of the general closing down of the settlement.

The institution was handed over to the skeleton staff on the 13th August, 1951.

### Moola Bulla Native Station.

The Superintendent-Manager of this station, Mr. C. L. McBeath, places great emphasis on the success of education of natives during the year.

With an increase of six children the number attending is 59. Enthusiastic Education Department teachers, Mr. and Mrs. Gill, are responsible for the excellent progress of the children. Evening classes are held for natives up to 21 years of age, but some older ones attend. All are keen to learn. These teachers presented the first school concert on 29th December, 1950. This concert was a huge success. Mrs. Ivy Carter, a half-caste, instructs in the sewing classes.

An outbreak of influenza in July, 1950, caused a number of deaths in the district but, although as many as 50 influenza patients were confined to bed at one time no deaths occurred at the station. Health officers who inspected the natives at this station include Dr. Myntzko, M.O., and Dr. P. Gibson of Perth Chest Clinic. The trained nurse on the station staff attended 10 midwifery cases.

The inmate average was 230, of which 26 are indigent. On 30th June, 1951, the inmates population was :—

<i>Half-caste</i> —Male adults 21, Female adults 16, Children 41	....	....	....	....	....	Total	78
<i>Full-blood</i> —Male adults 60, Female adults 53, Children 41	....	....	....	....	....	Total	154
						Grand Total	232

Thirty-six of the half-castes are employed on the station.

Vital statistics for the year are as follows :—

<i>Births</i> — <i>Full-blood</i> —Males 5, Females 3	....	....	....	....	....	Total	8
<i>Half-castes</i> —Males 3, Females 3	....	....	....	....	....	Total	6
						Grand Total	14

<i>Deaths</i> —Males 1, Females 2	....	....	....	....	....	Total	3
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*Marriages*—1.

On the institution two cottages of moulded cement were completed and are occupied by two half-caste families. An ablution block housing two lavatories, eight showers, and two plunge baths, had been completed, and this is for the use of males.

A bathroom at the girls' dormitory and a rear verandah of the boys' dormitory have been rebuilt.

A good spinifex shed was constructed for the junior school classes.

A station cemetery was selected and fenced.

The Manager-Superintendent advised that the re-timbering of the Old Station and Five-Mile wells completed by native staff effected an improvement valued at £750, whilst the planned new stockyard, of which one section has been completed, is valued at a minimum of £700.



Five bores were sunk but only three struck water. These supply 400 to 500 gallons per hour each.

Up to the time relief rains fell in October, 1950, drought conditions prevailed. During the year 128 cattle were killed for station use, whilst 88 were slaughtered to provide beef for the indigents. A total of 461 horses is maintained. Of the 30 mules, 20 were broken in during the year.

Cattle sold at the Wyndham Meatworks numbered 1,591.

The natives in the area are encouraged by the educational facilities offered to their children and an improved approach to their welfare. Perhaps their response to these improvements can be gauged by the fact that no police action at the station was necessitated during the year. It is a credit to them that such a large concentration of people can be so law abiding.

### Alvan House for Girls from October, 1950, to 31st May, 1951.

Mrs. B. Hastings, Welfare Officer.

The residence now known as Alvan House situated at the corner of Alvan House and Queen's Crescent, was officially granted to this Department in October, 1950.

The purpose of Alvan House is to provide accommodation for coloured girls whose scholastic records show that they are worthy of higher education or special training according to aptitude, with a view to their eventual assimilation into the white community.

Once approval was given, no time was lost in the furnishing of one room and on 16th October, the Officer-in-Charge and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Lyall, moved in so that they would be there to take delivery of the balance of the furnishings, etc., as delivered from day to day.

The house consists of five bedrooms, lounge, entrance hall, dining room, kitchen, pantry, bathroom, laundry and verandahs on three sides. One room is furnished as a bed-sitting room, with wall to wall feltex and is occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Lyall. One very big bedroom is occupied by four girls, another smaller one by three girls, and the two smaller bedrooms will accommodate two girls each. If necessary one of these rooms will take three girls. Each girl has a single bed, combined wardrobe and dressing table, small table and chair. Each bed-room is done in a different colour scheme, with bed covers, curtains and floor rugs to match. The lounge is furnished with individual chairs, writing desk, wireless set, etc. The dining room has small tables, each to accommodate four girls. The kitchen is a large airy room, but until a new gas stove is installed, the serving of meals is rather hampered. At present there is an old stove in a small room off the kitchen and it is very inconvenient. The same difficult conditions prevail with the toilet arrangements. There is only one bathroom and toilet, but it appears that the Public Works Department has not any labour available for this work. Until the alterations and additions have been completed it is unwise to bring any more girls to Alvan House—Public Health Regulations probably would not permit it. (The improvements have since been made. S.G.M.)

#### Inmates.

At present there are eight girls there. The first three arrived from Mount Margaret Mission on 20th January, and others followed at intervals. They are as follows :—

*Lorraine Atkinson*, aged 20 years, attending full Commercial Course at Technical College. Hopes to secure a position in Perth later as a typist. (Since qualified and employed in the Departmental Head Office. S.G.M.)

*May Miller* born 20th May, 1933, attending Perth Girls' High School for one year, then it is proposed to appoint her a monitor at a State School for a year, and eventually she returns to Mount Margaret Mission to teach in their kindergarten.

*Laurel Johnston*, born 9th March, 1934, attends dressmaking classes at Technical College three half-days each week, but I am awaiting word that she can attend five mornings each week.

*Phyllis Brockman*, born 20th March, 1933, attending dressmaking classes at Technical College in mornings, and working for Miss Strathearn at Hollywood in the afternoons.

*Rosemary Birch*, born 15th May, 1936, a pupil of outstanding ability at Girdlestone Girls' High School.

*Joan Dick*, born 10th November, 1932, working in Departmental Head Office as a receptionist and telephonist. Learning typing and singing.

*Eva Smith*, born 31st March, 1930, attending dressmaking classes at Technical College.

*Phyllis Polac*, born 15th February, 1932, trainee domestic at Alvan House.

#### Recreation.

The tennis court has been put in order and is very popular. Never a fine day goes by without it being used. Some of the girls are very good players, and those who could not play are being coached by the others. For indoor recreation there is a table tennis set and a radio set donated by the W.A. Charities Commission.

At the request of Miss Angus, Divisional Captain of Girl Guides, the girls have formed their own Guide Company and hold their meeting every Monday at Alvan House. Four of the girls have been chosen for the choir to sing in the Jubilee Celebrations in July.

It has been found that the girls have been so much in demand that restrictions have been put on their social activities. Every week we get requests for them to be allowed to attend some function, but unless it is something specially important they are not allowed out during the week. They have their home studies to attend to.

#### Remarks.

Alvan House is not being run as an Institution. It is functioning as any ordinary middle-class private home and the girls are being trained as daughters in a large family, and each has her own chores to do. Each girl makes her own bed, and the occupants of each room keep it tidy and each girl does her own laundry at the weekend. She cuts her own lunch each day, and has her chores to do before going to work or school. They work to a roster at night for washing and wiping up.

At each meal Grace is said, taken in turns, including the Officer-in-Charge.

For several weeks while the girls were settling into an entirely new life rather constant supervision was necessary, but now Alvan House is functioning smoothly and I find a visit there about once a month is all that is necessary. Despite the neighbours' heated opposition to the plan originally, some of them have been gracious enough since to commend the Department and the general opinion is that the girls' behaviour cannot be faulted. I have found that when I approached anyone on any matter regarding Alvan House the response has been spontaneous. One instance—one of the girls, at my suggestion, was anxious to have her voice trained, and when I contacted a white singing teacher she, at some inconvenience to herself, readily agreed to give the girl lessons on Saturday mornings.

Alvan House has now been functioning for four months and the girls living there are a credit to the Missions they came from, and to their parents. They are anxious to make the most of this opportunity. Every girl realises that she is fortunate to be there.

(Sgd.) B. HASTINGS,  
Temporary Inspectress.

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### Cosmo Newbery Native Settlement.

Mr. H. H. J. Coate, Officer-in-Charge.

Cosmo Newbery contains an area of 1,115,435 acres, and is situated 60 miles north-east of Laverton.

This institution was originally established as a Departmental ration outpost for the nomadic natives who inhabited the desert areas as far east as the South Australian border. In later years the depot was transformed into an institution where recalcitrant type natives from the Southern regions of the State were sent for minor reformatory and occupational treatment. Because of its location Cosmo Newbery was ideally situated for this function. However, as this ran parallel to the work of the Prisons Department its function was changed to that of a rehabilitation centre for juveniles, and later in the year, to cater for only juvenile males.

The institution is reasonably well served with accommodation for the staff and nine inmates at the time of writing. Twenty-eight natives were being rationed at the close of the year, although at times the number considerably exceeds this figure.

The cattle are pastured over a wide area owing to the nature of the country. Sheep will fare well in this area but the depredations of dingoes and the lack of suitable fencing make it unsuitable to convert the major occupation from cattle to sheep raising. However, from the total revenue of the institution (£817 1s. 11d.), £631 14s. 11d. came from the sale of wool.

Although four changes of superintendence occurred over the year the major task of rehabilitating the committed inmates progressed with a reasonable measure of success.

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## Section "C."

### Missions.

One still hears much criticism of Missions but, quite apart from their inestimable value in the humanitarian and welfare field of their endeavour, there is no doubt about the fact that they are of very great administrative aid to any Government concerned with natives.

Even an atheist, if he were sincere in his appreciation of the work of missionaries, would have to admit that Christianity was of tremendous value and importance as a civilising influence and an aid to the assimilation of natives into the framework of a white community.

The natives of Western Australia, with very few exceptions, have lost or are fast losing what little religion they had, in the face of an advancing civilisation that has been greatly accelerated by the post-war increased immigration programme of the Commonwealth Government.

History and a study of the peoples of the World, including the most primitive known to science—and, parenthetically, the Australian aboriginal should not be included under this category—has proved conclusively that we all must have a religion in some form or other; take that away and you leave a spiritual vacuum which would be soul and body destroying if its place were not taken by another and a better religion. Christianity has served our own people faithfully and well for two thousand years—can any of us argue, with any conviction, that it is likely to be harmful in any way to our aborigines?

Generally, the criticism of missions springs from some meaner motive which is usually not disclosed, but in nine cases out of ten is obviously based on economic expediency. A certain type of employer prefers that natives be kept ignorant and unenlightened; those who are, because of mission education and training, in a position to recognise the value of their own services and able to barter them for more money and a consequential better way of living, are branded by that type of employer mentioned as adjectival rogues, "bush lawyers," etc., and are often refused employment.

Missionaries are invaluable, also, as advocates for the native. The Government can hardly do this because it has to be impartial, and even the Department of Native Affairs, largely because of strong political pressure that is frequently brought to bear upon it, is impotent to help the native in some circumstances when he needs friends to stand up for him and express his point of view. An examination of the discriminatory clauses contained in the existing Commonwealth and State legislation provides ample evidence in support of my contention. The white man generally can look after himself. He has his newspapers to which he can write, his local Member of Parliament, who is usually ready and willing to give him a hearing, he can express himself in various ways; but the native has only a very limited access to these facilities and, consequently, the danger of the native side of the question being lost altogether is a very real one. Unless the native has someone to act as his advocate and speak up for him, he is in a position of very great disadvantage. The missionaries can and do act in this way.

Critics of missions are usually men whose experience of native life is confined to such contact with them as may be had in the course of pastoral, rural or mining activities. At the end of a working day, the native receives his lump of bread or damper, another of beef, and a panikin of black tea, well sugared, and repairs to the wood-heap or camp for his evening meal, and from then until early next morning when the same ration issue signifies the opening of the "daily round, the common task," he temporarily goes out of the lives of "the boss" and his family and white workers. There are, of course, some employers who may be excepted, but not many. The educational, medical and welfare work of the missionary demands of him or her a full working day seven days a week, and the value of this work and their quiet influence on the lives of natives, the young ones especially, which comes from the examples of clean and honourable lives, cannot be estimated in terms that are readily understood by the general public.

The life of a missionary is not an easy one and those who go out to the mission field are not going to an easy life. It is a life that takes all their pluck and all their endurance and all their courage. There can be no doubt whatever in the mind of any man who seriously thinks about the question, that missions exert a most important influence for good and by their noble, educational and spiritual teaching and training contribute in a very material way towards the economy of this State.

The native girl or youth whose character has been stabilised by lengthy Mission influence is usually found to have a sense of responsibility and duty, provided that their education and training is recognised and appreciated by their employer, and consequently is a more reliable and efficient worker than the average native of the camp environment; thus they should, and undoubtedly will, become an economic assets to the State.

I regard Missions as being valuable and important administrative adjuncts of this Department, and missionaries as being vitally essential to the welfare of the native race.

In faithful conformity with the spirit of co-operation with this Department being manifested by the Missions in this State, the Superintendents of Missions have provided me with detailed, useful and interesting reports on their activities for the year. Unfortunately, space restrictions do not permit me to submit them herewith in toto, and extracts bearing on normal administration and education, health and other welfare aspects of their activities only are subtended for your information.

Annual Reports were not received from the following missions :—Gnowangerup (U.A.M.), St. Francis Xavier, Wandering, (R.C.), New Norcia (R.C.), Warburton Ranges (U.A.M.), Jigalong, (Aborigines Rescue Mission), White Springs (R.C.), Tardun (R.C.), Lombadina (R.C.), and Drysdale River (R.C.).

### United Aborigines Mission.—West Australian Council.

Mr. A. E. M. Henderson, Hon. Secretary.

There have been several noticeable features of the work since our last Annual gatherings. One has been *Expansion*. At Kellerberrin after several years of planning, buying up building material, collecting bedding, crockery and furniture, the Notley Home for Native Children was opened. Beginning with two boys and a girl, they have increased to nine in all, filling up the small re-erected school building ; now two other buildings have been brought to the site for erection, and more children will be given into our care as soon as we can receive them.

Gnowangerup has been extending its children's work, too. They have 21 now, and with two babies to be cared for a Nursery is the next move. New ventures for our Mission are the lending of two missionaries to Native Affairs Department to serve as station managers. Mr. Howard Coate is at Cosmo Newbery, some 60 miles out of Laverton, and Mr. Preston Walker at Fitzroy Crossing, 180 miles inland from Derby. The Department needed men for its special work, and felt that missionaries would be able to bring both earnest service and a love to the natives under their care, in a way that others could not do. We are happy at once to co-operate with the Administration thus, and to find wider opportunities for our own special service.

This leads me to a second feature—*Co-operation*. The wise and energetic Commissioner of Native Affairs has shown very practically that it is his desire to work with and through the Missions wherever possible. A windmill and engine at Warburton Ranges and half the cost of a new truck ; a former schoolhouse at Kellerberrin and another at Gnowangerup ; much more generous supplies of rations for indigents and children—these have been some tangible signs of his desire to work with Missions. We are thankful to Mr. Middleton and his department—and give thanks to God for raising such a man to such a position.

A third feature of the year was *shortage of workers*. One by one and sometimes all together, the stations have faced larger work with fewer staff. Furlough, illness, sometimes epidemic, have intensified this need. For months the still difficult need at Sunday Island was almost desperate ; at Gnowangerup our hospital is without a sister, and native mothers are excluded from the town hospital by lack of nurses.

Now to touch briefly upon the stations. The year has been very difficult at Sunday Island. With strong plans for consolidating the work by building suitable dormitories for children Mr. and Mrs. Lupton have been thwarted by lack of helpers. Miss Allen was called away to an aging parent ; Miss Langley conducts the school single-handed under very great odds ; Mr. Weis leads the men in trocas shelling voyages and maintains the vegetable supply. Mr. and Mrs. Roy Nash, of Warburton Ranges, with two new recruits, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Devenish, are proceeding there very shortly ; we trust that they may have the joy of accomplishment flowing from the efforts and preparation of those who have gone before. Out from Derby, Mr. Faulkner and Mr. Walker have journeyed to the Inland some five weeks around the cattle stations, holding 27 meetings with 636 people, giving the Christian message to white and coloured folk alike. This has opened the way for the new venture at Fitzroy Crossing where Mr. Walker is now, feeling the heavy weight of responsibility for varied works. Builders are needed, a school teacher and a married couple.

Warburton Ranges are rejoicing that the big new Diesel truck will carry double loads faster. They have had severe trial by epidemic sickness, patient nursing on a 24-hour roster, deaths by pneumonia, yet beginning a new church-school building, taking eight half-days for concentrated prayer, gathering (and I mean gathering) up to 150 at morning service under the mulga trees, taking in two orphaned babies ; these are some highlights. Messrs. Jones and Cotterill are back from furlough ; Miss Jones, worn out by night nursing and responsibility, has only just left Kalgoorlie Hospital.

After years of stress Mount Margaret is now expecting to be fully staffed. The school and hospital and store and post office and savings bank and employment bureau and women's work room and boys' woodworking class and girls' and boys' Homes and church services and Endeavour Societies and water scheme should then be all working yet more smoothly and efficiently. Mount Margaret is a township of native folk, happy, busy, prospering, beginning to give trained young native missionaries, nurses, Christian family groups, even trainee teachers and business girls studying in Perth.

I have already told of the work at Kellerberrin. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell have been handicapped by her ill-health, but the work has gone on ; Mr. and Mrs. Power hold on by faith in a difficult task ; the early stages call for patience and effort ; they are helped by Mrs. Payne in the ordinary tasks of making bread, sewing, etc.

Our two ladies at Badjaling, Miss Belshaw and Miss Cox, tell of a movement back to Badjaling. This year native folk have been buying land in the so-called townsite to settle on their own block, a good move we feel, and bringing them more under missionary care, with effects seen in better church attendances and Sunday school, better opportunities for home visiting. Some have shown deeper interest in spiritual things.

The pattern at Gnowangerup is changing. Families are leaving camp and reserve to work further afield. The missionaries are following by truck to Borden, Ongerup, Beejonup, while taking in children at Gnowangerup for Home care. Miss Stokes finds the single-handed running of the school a heavy task. Miss Goodfellow is convalescing in Victoria after a serious operation. The combined efforts of Mission and Public Health Department have not yet located a Sister to care for native mothers.

At a meeting with the Council of the Roelands Native Mission Farm it was agreed that the two Missions should work in closest association ; our aims and methods and missionaries are indeed part of one work. Thus, Mr. Bell presided at our Annual Meetings ; supplies of fruit on a generous scale have come to our stations from the Farm through the years ; and we want it known that the two bodies work in full harmony. There are 85 boys and girls now cared for at Roelands ; their

graduates are doing well in such fields as electrical work, dairying, and preparation for nursing. Ten young folk were baptised into Christian fellowship this year. Schooling and farm training help to prepare the children for useful adult life in the white community.

Federal Council has been active over in Melbourne, keeping us in touch with Australia-wide effort; providing trained workers; passing on gifts from the many over there who are interested in the coloured folk of W.A. Behind the scene have been the women of our city and elsewhere who sew, and give for missionaries and people. Thank you one and all for your ministry of love.

(Sgd.) A. E. M. HENDERSON,

Hon. Secretary.

### Mount Margaret Mission—United Aborigines Mission Board.

Superintendent—Mr. R. S. Schenk.

*"I will give unto thee the keys." Matt. 16:19.*

It gives me pleasure to give you a short account of the year's work at Mount Margaret, and if we all had more time it would give me more pleasure to do so.

#### *Women's Arts and Crafts.*

During the past year the number working has varied greatly, most workers being away with their husbands during the busy mustering and shearing season on the stations, but for some months before Christmas, numbers were home, and the workrooms were full every morning.

During the year hundreds of articles were sent away, including poked and hand-painted texts or mottos, silk raffia brooches, promise baskets, seagrass shopping baskets and work-baskets, and there is a good stock of some articles on hand towards Christmas orders. Some capable and experienced women took work away with them, but even then, at certain periods, it has been difficult to fill orders received. There are, of course, always new workers coming in to be taught from among the camp nomads, but these women work slowly for quite a while, and need constant supervision.

#### *Homes.*

In the girls' Home there are 55 girls of all ages and sizes and temperaments.

Four of our girls went to Alvan House, Perth, at the beginning of the year to finish their education. Eight new girls have been added to our number.

During the Christmas holidays our children had whooping cough, and one died. All the others are well now.

The children take a keen interest in their school work. Often in the evenings you will see little groups around the table learning sums so that they can get them right the next day.

The children had their first visit from the dentist in the school holidays. They were very interested in all the different things done to their teeth. They found Mr. Smith was more than kind to them; in fact, I am sure they were sorry when the time came for him to depart.

It was a big joy at Christmas to have Sadie from Melbourne, Gladys from Roelands, and Dora from Warburton Ranges, to see us. What a joy it will be when others among our number go out to help their own. Five of our senior girls help each Sunday in the Kindergarten Sunday School.

*Boys' Home.*—The boys have attended their usual meetings over the year—band practice, Junior, Intermediate and Y.P. Endeavour, with Church and Sunday School on Sundays.

I would like to thank the many kind friends who remembered the boys from time to time in gifts of fruit, clothing, etc., also those who are helping to make clothes through the "Shuttle Service."

#### *Medical.*

Sister Ball writes—During our time without a full-time Matron in our hospital, I have carried on, and have learned to love these dark people with an even greater love, if that were possible. Daily contact, especially in cases of sickness, helps us to know these people probably better than in any other way on the mission field.

One of our native men, Roger, was ill for some time. He had been in Perth Hospital and, knowing they could do nothing more for him, they sent him back to us. During the few months he was spared he was a living witness in the camp, and looked forward to the time when he could go home to be with Jesus. Instead of the wailing that usually follows a death, there was a marked silence. His wife came and said he had gone to Heaven. One man who used to be a witch doctor was very ill. Since his recovery he always comes for medicine, and has been very grateful for any little service rendered.

#### *School.*

Mr. Milnes reports as follows:—Looking back over the years one can see the benefits derived from Education. The school is a wonderful place for character training, and this is infinitely enhanced when it is Christian education. We do not merely desire the schooling the children receive to be for their material benefit, though this, of course, naturally follows. One boy in Standard 5, Ronnie, undoubtedly realises that a good education brings social and material advantages. We were discussing the poem, "Clancy of the Overflow," by Banjo Patterson, and his remark, "Anybody can be a drover. All you have to do is hop on a horse to call yourself a drover!" makes this evident. However, our primary aim is that the education of these children will be a definite asset to their Christian lives. Reg. Johnstone, a pupil of Mount Margaret School when Mrs. Bennett was teacher there, lately said this to a white man who was an unbeliever. "Don't you know that God is omnipresent?" He then went on to explain what "Omnipresent" means. Recognising a word in a sentence is one thing, but using a word correctly as part of one's vocabulary is another. Reg's education was certainly an asset to his Christian life in this instance. Then, again, at the beginning of this year three of our girls went to Alvan House, Perth, to further their education. One of these girls, May Miller, has had a definite call to full time service, and is now undertaking studies so that she may later return as a missionary-teacher. The other two are doing dressmaking and stenography, and reports on their progress are very good.

We could also mention Sadie Corner in Melbourne, now in her final year nursing. She is looking forward to the time when she will be able to use this training in missionary service. Her service will be all the more acceptable because of it, but had she not been educated, her ambitions would have had to remain a dream.

Miss Gladys Vincent, an accredited teacher at Roelands Mission, is also one of our girls, and her desire for service could not have been realised apart from education.

We are trying to run the school on modern lines, using as many worthwhile aids as possible. The use of the School Broadcasts conducted by the A.B.C. is enjoyed by the children. The last period of every morning is devoted to various numbers of games and activities. The children are most enthusiastic about these playway methods, and it has given them added confidence in their arithmetic.

#### *School Sport.*

Without several of our bigger boys and girls who had left, our football and basketball teams did not fare as well as last year. However, the children showed a fine sporting spirit, and though lacking in size and age, battled to the end.

In the Inter-school Sports our school again gained second place, after starting with the second heaviest handicap. Our children brought home three of the eight championship cups. However, the real value of these outings is the social benefit gained by the children, doing a great deal to overcome their inferiority complex, and establishing friendly relations between them and the white children whom they will eventually meet in adult life. An outing has been planned with the Laverton School—Sports afternoon to be followed by a concert in the evening, of which our children will supply half the items—and the children are eagerly looking forward to it.

#### *Kindergarten.*

Mrs. Morgan writes of these little tots—

Another happy year has passed in the Kindergarten. Ten children left at the end of last year to go to school—two of whom were the Thomas twins who are now attending the Laverton State School.

At present there are 16 children, all of whom are from the Graham Homes, and whose parents are nomad bush people.

The usual activities of painting, clay, cutting and pasting, etc., have kept the children happy and occupied.

#### *Sloyd Classes.*

Mr. Morgan has taken my place as carpenter of the compound, and besides the general carpentry he has the Sloyd classes. We have four benches, each bench having two shadow boards with a set of tools hanging up on it. The boys spend an afternoon a week on manual work. They have had much practical work in painting and carpentry on mission buildings. Their greatest pride and joy was erecting an engine room off the side of the class room preparatory to the installation of an engine for our lathe. They are looking forward to using the planes, chisels, etc., in making models from all the boxes and crates they have pulled apart this year.

#### *Aural Music Classes.*

Mrs. Morgan and Mrs. Milnes conduct these classes, and they prove to be no small key to the uplift and happiness of the pupils.

Aural music classes had been in abeyance last year owing to lack of staff, but we have been pleased to re-commence again this year as part of the school curriculum.

The Senior Class, consisting of 16 children (eight boys and eight girls), average age of 11 years, have one hour's lesson a week. They have continued with notation and time which they commenced in Junior classes previously. New work has included key signatures, staff notation, solfa singing and ear work. Percussion band once a month is a great incentive to learning.

The Junior Class consists of 25 children (13 boys and 12 girls), average age nine years, having an half hour lesson a week. Their work this year has mainly followed on from their early rhythmic training of skipping, walking, running, etc., and this year they have been learning to correlate this to the names of taa, taa tai and so on. They have also been learning to beat time preparatory to rhythm work. The Junior Class is giving a percussion band item at a concert in which they will be participating at Laverton. They are very enthusiastic about it. They also have percussion band once a month.

It is from the Aural Classes that promising children are chosen to learn instruments. This year five children have been having lessons on the mandolin, and have now joined the Minstrel Band. Another older lass is doing well on the piano accordion, and a boy has stepped into the band also to play the kettle drum.

#### *New Regime.*

We cannot help but praise God for the new policy of the Native Affairs Department. Mr. Middleton, the Commissioner, gives the missionaries full scope to preach and uplift.

(Sgd.) R. S. SCHENK,  
Superintendent.

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### **Sunday Island Mission—United Aborigines Mission Board.**

Mr. H. C. Lupton, Superintendent.

Although it has not been possible to accomplish as much as desired for the past year, some solid progress has been made and good foundation work completed that will speed the work here during 1951.

#### *Staff.*

From July to November, 1950, our staff on the island numbered five. Two in the schools, two in general and administration work, one caring for the girls and having the oversight of the women's work.

#### *Industry.*

The main means of livelihood for the people is the gathering of trochus shell. During the year about nine tons of shell was gathered by the people. This weight of shell is lower than is usually gathered owing to our boat being used for the transporting of building material and other necessities for the developing of the work. During the year our landing barge

reached that stage where it was beyond repair so had to be scrapped, this now leaves us with one boat, our lugger "Balfour Matthews." This meant the people had to rely more on their log canoes and native rafts to get to the surrounding islands to gather shell and some of the best shelling grounds were not reached by them as it needs the lugger to travel the more open sea.

Our women continue to do fancy work and in this way can earn quite an amount of cash. This work is mostly orders sent in by friends and supporters of the mission. They send along their stencilled work and cottons. Our ladies do the needle-work and do it excellently, and are paid according to the amount of work done.

#### *Building.*

All existing buildings have been maintained and some renovated throughout. Another small worker's cottage with all conveniences has been completed during the year. Many of the native people's iron camps have been improved. Some enlarged as material has been available and allowed; others have added a stove and 14 or 15 have been whitewashed within and without. Still others have made higher walls giving greater head room. Many more would improve their living quarters but the lack of building material is the hindrance.

A water scheme to bring an abundant supply of water to all is well in hand. A two-inch centrifugal pump capable of delivering 140 gallons per minute to a head of 180 ft. if required has been purchased and is now installed. Ample two-inch water piping is on hand. Some of this is laid out ready to be screwed together to complete our first water line. A tank stand is ready on the hill near workers' quarters and 130 ft. above the native huts. This scheme will be in operation shortly.

#### *School.*

Thirty-five children have been in attendance at school throughout the year. We had two teachers, Miss Allen and Miss Langley. This made it possible to give our children full time schooling equal to a white child. Miss Allen being transferred South in March of this year left Miss Langley with the whole school, classes ranging from infants to standard 5, but she carried on full time schooling till just recently when she felt it was becoming too much of a burden with the approaching hot season, so now has the older ones in the morning and lower classes in the afternoon. This arrangement will go on for another month when we anticipate the arrival of another teacher. Full time schooling will then be continued.

#### *Spiritual.*

Despite all other activities the spiritual work amongst our people has not been neglected, because we know that any real change and uplift comes from within. A change of heart and not from external things alone. Some of our best working and most reliable men and women and those who are reaching out for a better way of life are amongst the christians, therefore regular meetings and services for preaching and teaching the precepts as given in the Scriptures have been maintained on Sundays and mid-weekly. The children particularly are showing the most marked results in spiritual things.

Each worker on the island is first a missionary and therefore all contribute to the build-up of the spiritual life and work of the people in their various departments.

#### *Health.*

The general health of adults and children has on the whole been much better than last year. Amongst the children only an odd case of scabies and the usual seasonal colds have been the only bother. The adults, even the older people, have been much healthier than last year and only about one case was taken to Derby Native Hospital.

Our staff also has enjoyed good health and been free from any serious accident, for which we are very thankful.

#### *Births and Deaths.*

Three births have been registered for the year, two male and one female. Two deaths, both old men, have also been recorded.

(Sgd.) H. C. LUPTON,  
Superintendent.

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### **Kellerberrin Mission—United Aborigines Mission Board.**

Mr. R. Mitchell, Superintendent.

#### *"Notley Home" for Native Children.*

Early October we commenced receiving children and now have a total number of nine inmates. Two others who had been admitted had to be discharged owing to failure to return from their Christmas holidays. All of these have been received in on a voluntary basis, *i.e.*, as the parents are persuaded to leave them till they are of school-leaving age.

It is no empty boast that a marked change is noted in the children for the better in behaviour, manners, cleanliness, physical condition, health, and even ability to learn; the Government schoolteacher himself testifies to this. Bad habits hard to change are ceasing to be, and the general spirit of content and happiness is an adequate testimony to the worthwhileness of the "Home."

We have had our troubles with the parents, mainly in regard to rights which they surrendered when placing the children in our care, but in the main they have come to recognise the new order.

It must be admitted though that some difficulty is being experienced with the parents in making them keep good faith in respect to returning the children when allowed to go home on holidays, and in honouring their agreement to leave the children in our care till they are of school-leaving age. They can, quite without any qualms of conscience, deny that they ever agreed to anything in this respect. It must be said, too, that it appears that those placed in our care have been left because it is convenient for the parents, allowing the wives to travel around with their husbands, the fact that they are in a better environment has had very little influence; which attitude I believe applies to the majority of natives in this area. The logical

conclusion is that it is only those for whom it is convenient who will leave their children in our care. For this reason we are very keen to have children passed on to us through the Department who have been committed to them through the Child Welfare Department, as the numbers we will be able to receive locally will, we feel, be limited.

Our accommodation capacity is at present eighteen, but a considerable increase in this number will be made with the immediate provision of another dormitory, which we expect will be possible.

Improvements during the year are the provision of a tennis court for the use of the children, an addition of an Illawarra shorthorn cow thus providing a plentiful milk supply for the children, as well as improvements to buildings. We expect during the forthcoming year to do some extensive clearing to a 500-acre block of land 10 miles distant through which will be able in time to come give useful training to the boys.

Our staff at present numbers five, including the Superintendent, Mr. R. Mitchell and Mrs. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Power, in whose care are the children, and also Mrs. B. Payne who helps in the work of the "Home."

#### *Natives in the District.*

After six years close contact with these people we believe that unless something drastic is done a terrific problem will present itself within a very short time. There are large numbers of natives who have already had an adequate State School education who still live in the same camp conditions as their parents. Space forbids comment to any large extent, but briefly what is lacking is home-training under Christian influence, proper environment, good housing conditions, and domestic science training for the women, and occupational direction for the men.

We recognise that in the past the big stumbling block has been finance, and it is my contention that a state of national emergency exists and that finance must be provided. I believe that opportunity should be given to every native family to live under good conditions with their children, but in the large number of cases even this would be useless unless there is proper supervision and training in cleanliness and domestic science to the women, *i.e.*, weekly classes held to which all should be compelled to attend.

I am not optimistic enough to say that even with all this provided all would measure up to what is required. There would still be those who would prove untrainable, and I say that because of the intimate contact I have had with them personally over the years.

Where parents fail to measure up to requirements after adequate training, then they should be compelled to place their children in the care of Missions, always bearing in mind that the object is not to destroy the parents' affection for the child, but for the necessary welfare of the child itself; a system such as this would be just and fair to everybody, one to which no one could raise any real objection.

I do trust the thoughts of this report will be helpful in formulating any future decisions.

(Sgd.) R. MITCHELL,  
United Aborigines' Mission, Kellerberrin.

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### **Beagle Bay Mission—Pallottine (Roman Catholic) Order.**

Rev. Father Roger McGinley, Superintendent.

I very much regret the long delay in furnishing this year's report. The recent illness of our bishop and other members of the staff have prevented me from attending to matters sooner.

#### *Staff.*

Towards the end of January one of our old brothers died and another later, in June. This has handicapped us considerably in the stock and garden work. The present staff consists of three priests, seven brothers and five sisters. One brother is unable to work being old and infirm and another has been on loan to Balgo Mission for some months.

#### *Work.*

Despite these difficulties, however, the results achieved have been very gratifying and satisfactory. Many improvements have been carried out in the vegetable gardens and we now have a good supply of greens for the natives. Many repairs have been made to the various buildings and some new ones will shortly be erected. A new bore has been sunk on the premises and it is proposed to put up two large tanks and an electric pump to service the station with a more convenient water supply. Septic tanks will also be installed.

#### *School.*

One sister teaches the two higher grades while a young and intelligent native woman teaches the little ones. There are 53 children attending every day and their conduct has been satisfactory. Many have shown a marked improvement in several subjects, such as arithmetic, spelling and drawing.

#### *Health.*

The general health of the children and people over the past 12 months has been good. A trained nurse is in charge of the hospital which is well equipped with drugs and instruments. Recently a new refrigerator was procured for medical purposes. There was no serious epidemic of any sickness and the children received frequent supplies of milk and fresh fruit.

The present District Medical Officer of Broome has been most helpful in his work and makes regular visits to the Mission to attend to patients and examine the people.

(Sgd.) ROGER MCGINLEY,  
Superintendent.



### Balgo Mission—Pallottine (Roman Catholic) Order.

Rev. Father A. Bleischwitz, Superintendent.

During July and August, 1950, we saw Rev. Fr. E. Worms of the Society of the Catholic Apostolate here, who is a renowned authority in linguistics and ethnology. He was interested particularly in the tribe of the Gogodja coming from the vicinity of Lake White. He was satisfied with the result achieved.

In September the T.B. Survey Party arrived at the Mission. Over 80 natives were tested and the result was very good.

An addition to the home of the native girls was completed. Ten native girls are in the dormitory, but there are 25 children altogether permanently living at the Mission. Another 10 to 15 are still with their parents leading a nomadic life.

New lavatories were put up for the children and later on also a shower bath. A dining hall became more and more a necessity, but so far we have only succeeded in erecting the framework. A dormitory for boys will be a pressing demand for the near future.

The conduct of the resident natives has been more satisfactory. Employment has been offered to boys and accepted.

Health has been good though lately there have been found cases of yaws among grown-ups and children, particularly among the natives from Lake White.

The mission endeavours to continue in the same policy as outlined in last year's report which seems to have positive results in the young generation.

(Sgd.) A. BLEISCHWITZ,  
Superintendent.

NOTE.—Balgo Mission is situated at the remote North-east corner of the Central "desert." Its work is mainly of an ameliorative nature in respect to the physical needs of the desert nomadic tribes in that area.—S.G.M.

### Kunmunya-Wotjulum Mission—Presbyterian Church.

Mr. J. H. Duncan, Acting Superintendent.

During the last 12 months negotiations and preparations have been made towards a transfer of the work of the Presbyterian Church of Australia amongst the aborigines in the North-West from the old Kunmunya Station to another site to be called Wotjulum. The latter name means "Running Waters" in the Umeda tongue, and not only is there an abundant supply of water with arable land, but the site will be within 12 miles of our loading terminus at Yampi and offers brighter prospects generally. The staff and a number of natives are already settled at the new site and the task of transporting materials and rebuilding is under way.

The native population have been informed that both Kunmunya and Munja Reserves as well as the Temporary Wotjulum Reserves will be retained for the benefit of those who desire to return for periods of "walkabout" to their own particular "horde" country. Munja is being operated as a stock outcamp visited periodically by lugger with supplies for employees and rations for those indigents who are on "walkabout."

#### *Report on Native Population.*

The natives associated with this Mission include remnants of the Worara, Wungarinjin, Wuambul, Djodjabiaa and Umeda tribes and number 140 including 20 children. Of the 61 males and 59 females (adults), 70 only are considered to be capable of work and light duties or bush and seafaring, whilst 50 are listed as infirm and invalid for various reasons. Indigent subsidy is claimed for 68 natives whilst the remaining 52 are employed for wages and/or make sufficient from beachcombing, dog-scalping, or other pursuits to purchase requirements.

#### *Health and Medical Care.*

We have been grateful for two medical parties to visits us during 1950.

*T.B. Survey—Dr. Alan King and Dr. Gibson.*—The majority of the people were tested and though a 50 per cent. Mantoux reaction was discovered, the X-ray gave an "All clear" result.

*Hookworm and Leprosy Survey—Dr. Moritzco.*—One hundred and twenty-five natives were examined and no hookworm was detected. However, 20 smears were taken for leprosy from suspects and as a result eight natives have been transported to the Derby Leprosarium. There are many neural type lepers still at the Mission and others who may at any time prove to be positive and give symptoms of being so. We are particularly concerned that there has not been a careful and systematic effort in the past to isolate and check the inroads of this disease upon the population. A large number have been sent to Derby over the years but unless drastic measures are taken we can only expect that the babies now coming on will be the next victims.

*Various.*—Treatment has been given for influenza, yaws, ringworm, open sores and cuts, burns and other ailments, whilst a case of carcinoma and several cases of granuloma were sent to Derby Hospital.

*Medical Supplies.*—Our trained Sister has been particularly pleased with the medical supplies and equipment forwarded upon request by the Department of Public Health.

*General Health.*—Apart from the above the natives are generally in good health and one doctor remarked that they are the "finest physically developed along the North-West coast."

#### *Education.*

Due to shortage of staff and preparations for a move there has been no continuous schooling since August, 1950. Some of the younger ones have had kindergarten work. We hope to resume schooling at the new station. In accordance with a policy of training for adults and children, additional staff with technical qualifications are now at the Mission.

*Enterprises to make Natives Self-Supporting.*

Throughout the year the natives have hunted turtle for their shell, beachcombed for pearl bailer, conch and other shell or hunted for dingo scalps. A limited market for native curios and crafts has been found and for all these we have traded on a cash basis. Some of the younger lads have been engaged in the manufacture of tortoise shell articles for sale.

*Gardening.*

Some vegetables were grown and approximately one acre of sweet potatoes proved very useful additions to the diet. Small quantities of tomatoes, beans, lettuce, watermelon and squashes were produced. Four acres of peanuts were planted but due to late rain the harvest was not up to expectation.

*Pastoral.*

Some cattle work was attempted last year but the horse plant of 25 includes less than one dozen good stock horses and is equal only to working small areas on the less rugged country. It has been found that the northern area of the reserve is unsuited for horses and the horses have been returned to Munja where a stock camp is established and a small mob of "coaches" are in hand.

Sheep were tried at Kunmunya but the country proved unsuitable and only thirty remain. Contrary to expectation the natives did not care for the task of shepherding and their carelessness gave the dingoes many opportunities.

*Births, Deaths and Marriages.*

During the period one baby boy was born. In the same period there were seven deaths which included three aged men, three aged women and one baby boy. All these were reported to the local registrar. There were no marriage ceremonies conducted.

*Admission or Departure of Wards.*

Arrived from Derby.—Native child, Betty, aged three with guardians from hospital	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Native child, Richard, with mother from hospital	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
									2

Departures.—Native girl, Mabel, @ Djo-unbun aged 13 returned to Kimberley Downs or Napier Downs Station.

*General Remarks.*

It has become increasingly evident that the era of "pioneer work" of the Mission is passing and there must be a meshing of gear to meet the changing conditions. It is appreciated that to prepare the natives with trades and skills which enable them to take their place as respected members of society in the shortest time possible is the obvious practical contribution.

The generous assistance of the Native Affairs Department towards the care of the natives in our charge is gratefully acknowledged. We expect that the Missions can and will play an important role in co-operation with the Department. Here at our new site of Wotjulum we plan to build a station and a work worthy of Him "who went about doing good."

(Sgd.) J. H. DUNCAN,  
Acting Superintendent.

### Roelands Native Mission Farm, W.A. (Inc.).

Mr. K. G. Cross, Superintendent.

In accordance with your request, I have pleasure in reporting on the activity and progress of the Native Mission Farm, Roelands, W.A. (Inc.), for the year ended 30th June, 1951.

*Policy.*

The policy of the Mission in accepting native children into the Mission Home at Roelands and providing them with suitable training to equip them for their future life in the community has been successful. For this purpose the Mission has provided training in the Christian Life as revealed in the Message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, scholastic subjects, experience for the girls in domestic duties, training for the boys in farm work, including repairs, maintenance and building construction. Encouragement has also been given to those children who show promise and keen aptitude to enter into higher grades of education.

*Amelioration.*

Excellent reports continue to be received from employers of the young people who have left the Mission.

During the year one boy entered into an apprenticeship agreement with an electrical engineer of Naremben. Reports received from his employer indicate that he has proved reliable and competent in his job.

One of the older girls has passed her entrance examination set by the Nurses' Association, and she has applied and has been accepted for training by the Bethesda Hospital of Melbourne. She is now awaiting advice concerning the commencement of the next training school.

For the young people who have completed their training and are away working in various parts of this State, a Convention and re-union was arranged during January of this year. I am pleased to report that this re-union and also the holiday periods spent by the young folk at the Mission, which they call "Home," proved an inspiration and a sense of accomplishment to the Mission Staff as they again met the young people and noted the manner in which they have, in most cases, maintained the Mission training standard, and to some extent have improved their acceptance into the community.

*Children.*

To the total of 74 children who were at the Mission Home at the beginning of the year, 11 boys have been received from the Carrolup Settlement, and two girls from Moore River Settlement. Discharges during the year included one girl who accepted domestic employment in a home at Bridgetown, while another girl journeyed to a place of employment at Pintharuka.

The introduction of the boys from Carrolup has necessitated the development of a new Junior Boys' Section.

*Health.*

With the exception of common colds and minor ailments and accidents, the health of the children has been good. During the month of June an outbreak of mumps developed.

The health and bodily development of the children, their happy state and bright faces, have been commented upon by visitors during the year. We consider that this happy and healthy atmosphere has been brought about by the training and Christian teaching given to the children, particular care paid to diet, due thought given to their recreation and organised sport, and the provision of helpful occupation.

*Education.*

The education of the 77 children of school age has been carried on during this year by a staff of four. The 14 infants are taught by Miss G. Vincent, while Miss V. Foley teaches 14 children in 1st and 2nd Standards. Both of these teachers are natives, Miss Vincent being from Mount Margaret and Miss Foley from Carnarvon Mission. Mrs. Brown has 15 senior girls doing 5th-7th Standard work, while the 3rd and 4th Standards, totalling 34 children, are taught by Mr. Brown.

Our numbers were further increased at the beginning of the year by the admission of 11 junior boys from Carrolup.

One of the senior girls, who has received all of her education at Roelands Mission, has passed the Nurses' Entrance Examination. Two other senior girls have expressed their desire to become nurses and are conscientiously studying 7th Standard lessons in preparation. Others also wish to become missionaries, school teachers, and dressmakers.

The children did particularly well in the Inter-School Sports at Harvey, school trophies being won for highest points, both handicap and straight-out points against nine other small schools. Points gained by our children totalled 114, the average of total points being awarded was 48. Individual trophies won were for Junior Boy Champion, Senior Girl Champion, who was also Senior District Girl Champion, competing against big and small schools.

*Farm Activity.*

The first consideration in the farm activity has been to supply the Mission, including personnel, with farm produce such as milk, cream, butter, eggs, meat, vegetables, walnuts, honey, and fruit. The farm not only provides training for the boys, but it also contributes to the health and well-being of the community.

Our principal source of revenue has come from the grapefruit crop, and we are pleased to report that the export market was maintained during the year and proved a valuable contribution to the Mission finance.

*Improvements.*

Under the supervision of Mr. Maston Bell, a building drive was organised for the purpose of erecting a new dormitory for the boys, together with suitable accommodation for a Missionary Supervisor. This building, comprising 24 squares and containing two dormitories 20 ft. x 18 ft., a common room 20 ft. x 18 ft., front verandah 40 ft. x 9 ft., together with two bathrooms and ablutionary facilities and missionary's quarters, was erected by a voluntary building team in twelve working days plus a further period of four weeks' work performed by two or three men who remained after the initial venture. On the Saturdays teams of men from Busselton, Bunbury and Harvey came to assist and make their contribution to the Mission development.

Towards the cost of the building, which was £1,550, we wish to express our appreciation to the Native Affairs' Department, who supplied the sum of £1,400. The erection of a Nissen hut donated by the Department also provided temporary facilities for which we were thankful.

*Staff.*

Because of advancing years Mr. and Mrs. Beard have signified and made provision for their withdrawal from the Mission staff. Miss H. Styles, who applied to the Mission Council for extended leave, has not been able to return to the Mission and take up her past duties as Supervisor of the Junior Boys' Section. Her responsibility in caring for an aged parent has necessitated this delay. As already reported, I do consider that the ability, witness, and consistent Christian lives lived by the Missionaries amongst the boys and girls have proved a big contributing factor in the uplift and training of the children placed in the Roelands Mission Home.

*Finance.*

During the year increased costs of maintenance has greatly added to the Mission's financial responsibilities, but this has been alleviated, to some extent, by increased Departmental assistance and we are quite aware that in the future this assistance will be further raised.

The maintenance of the Mission standard has only been possible through the voluntary services of the Missionaries, together with the value of the produce received from the Farm.

*General.*

General pleasure and enjoyment was expressed by the children during their annual camp at Dunsborough Beach. This camp which is arranged during the Christmas holidays, included swimming, fishing, a visit to Yallingup Caves, periodical trips to the township of Busselton to enjoy a picnic on the green lawn.

Helpful and encouraging reports received from people who have met the trainees from the Mission have been most encouraging, and it has created an incentive in the hearts and minds of the Mission personnel to continue the work of witness and training in the Mission Home.

An atmosphere of progress has pervaded the Mission during the year, no doubt caused by the increased building activity and also through further children being admitted into the Home.

We would like to take this opportunity of conveying to you, the Commissioner of Native Affairs, and your Department, our grateful thanks for the practical assistance and co-operation rendered during the year.

In facing the future, we do so with confidence, because to some degree we have proved the effectiveness of the Mission policy. Given the same opportunity as white children, Christian teaching and encouragement, and a more sympathetic attitude on the part of the community, I am sure these young people will make a valuable contribution to the maintenance of a Christian Life and assist in the development of this country.

(Sgd.) K. G. CROSS,  
Superintendent.

### Norseman Mission—Churches of Christ.

Mr. E. H. Park, Superintendent.

This year has been one of steady development in every aspect of the work. Our staff was increased during the year by the coming of Mr. and Mrs. Pearson. Mr. Pearson's main work is to look after the poultry and garden, which takes approximately half his time, the other being spent in general mission work, and he being a carpenter finds much that can be done. Mrs. Pearson, after six months' service, had to have medical treatment, but expects to be back in October. Mr. Johnston, another carpenter, has also been with us for about three months, and as well as his carpentry helps in the care of the boys. Miss Schurmann continues in her task of feeding the mission family, and training the girls in kitchen work. This she combines with craft work for the girls and boys, as it can be fitted in. Some craft work was sent to South Australia for a display of Aboriginal work, together with some school work.

#### *The School.*

This was taught by Miss Rule until January, and is now being taught by Mr. Felton, who is putting much time into it, with a good response from the children. The Correspondence Course for country children is still being followed, and classes range from infants to 5th Standard. Test papers are written once a month to check up definitely on progress. The children took part in the local inter-school sports, competing against two schools of approximately the same size, and gained three cups and the shield.

There are a number of children in the district of school age, but whose people seem not to want them to come into the Mission. Their actual reason is not known to me. One mother has her girl on correspondence, but I am doubtful if the results are the best.

#### *The Home.*

We have had two mild epidemics during the year. First came chicken-pox, and then mumps. There were no serious complications, but some of the children went to hospital for precaution. One girl had an appendicectomy. Last January the children over four years were x-rayed by the Mines laboratory for T.B. Two showed signs of infection, and are to be x-rayed again this week on the advice of the Health Department.

The oldest Mission girl, who has been employed at the mission for two years, went to domestic service with the local doctor's wife, and is highly thought of by them. One boy went out to work at Naremben on a farm. He is the fourth boy from here to go there. Tom and Bernan Bullen have been with their employers three and two years respectively. Two of our older girls are now paid helpers. Elsie Wagagi assists Mr. Felton in the school, and Grace Dimer helps with the care of the girls in their dormitory.

Our Sunday School anniversary was a success. The children sang and acted creditably to a congregation of seventy townspeople. There are thirty-six in the home, including the two girls who help.

#### *General.*

The poultry is still proving a great asset to the mission funds, and to the meals, as also is the garden. For most of the year we get a good supply of goat's milk.

A new engine subsidised by your Department is proving a great success as a time-saver, against the old one we had which demanded much time to keep it going. We use power for washing and ironing, and propose to have a saw in use soon, as well as other small machines.

Additions to buildings are a cottage for Pearsons, a fowl-feed shed, and a new bathroom for the girls.

We contact the older natives as they visit Norseman. There are not a great number in the district at present. Several have been treated by the local doctor this year for social disease.

The children in the House were all immunised against diphtheria in March. The school dentist visited us in the May vacation, and attended to the dental needs of the children.

Last January all the children were taken to the Coast for a holiday of three weeks.

(Sgd.) E. H. PARK,  
Superintendent.

### Carnarvon Mission—Churches of Christ.

Mr. S. H. Reeson, Superintendent.

The following is a report on the conduct and working of the Carnarvon Mission for the twelve months ending 30th June, 1951.

An increasing standard of work, cleanliness and efficiency among the children is noticeable but this is only to be expected as the period of their training increases. A satisfactory standard of discipline among the inmates has been maintained also; in fact over the last six months there has been a decided improvement in discipline particularly among the adolescents. This is mainly attributed to the strict enforcement of every disciplinary measure and the encouragement that goes with organised sport and recreation in the evenings before bedtime. This has been made possible with the new mission dining room now in use which will be referred to later.

The school work under the entire supervision of Mrs. Brenchley is progressing most encouragingly. Mrs. Brenchley's love for the native children, together with her teaching ability, is leaving its mark upon the character and outlook of the children. At the time of writing she has 68 children in the school in six classes. However, the strain of teaching has not been without some cost to herself for she is not a young woman, indeed only a woman of mature experience could cope with the task.

There seems to be no limit to the number of children entering the Mission for training. At the time of writing there are 78 inmates, two of these being girls over 16 years of age. It is pleasing to note the increasing popularity among the parents. We, however, are strained to the limit in providing accommodation but we are reluctant to turn any away. The two dormitories that were built in 1948 to hold 24 children each now have 37 and 30 respectively. A makeshift kindergarten section has been put in use to cope with the young children and babies that have come in. However, this is unsuitable for a work of a high standard and I would recommend the early construction of a kindergarten section so that the impressionable years of children's lives may be spent in conditions conducive to character building.

The older boys and girls are doing a worthwhile work outside of their school period. The girls' duties are mainly in the kitchen and under the supervision of the Missionary in charge are showing an aptitude for cooking and general dining room work. On one occasion when the attendant was delayed in town the girls of 13 and 14 years of age cooked a hot dinner with pudding and served up 70 dinners and rang the washing and dinner bells on time. When the attendant returned the washing up was proceeding in the usual manner. The older boys during their out of school period are showing an ability for agricultural work. The construction of many hundreds of yards of fencing by these boys has been particularly noteworthy, also their work in the construction of the Mission water scheme. At the time of writing the Mission has a banana plantation of 500 stools which is providing interesting occupation for the boys. It should come into production in the middle of next year. The land is prepared for a citrus orchard and vegetable growing, also it is hoped that an area of two acres of lucerne will be laid down within the next few months.

In connection with the boys I am recommending the construction of a suitable building to enable manual work to be included in their mission training. There are now fifteen boys of suitable age that could be instructed in carpentry and joinery, metalwork and motor mechanics, plumbing, boot repairing, etc., and there is the possibility that a tradesman carpenter will be joining the staff at an early date. The menfolk at present on the staff are endeavouring to increase their knowledge and ability of motor mechanics by theoretical and practical experience.

During the past year two major achievements have been carried out. A large dining room and kitchen block of 22 squares completely lined and ceiled and fitted out with cupboards and cooking annexe was constructed. This has made possible a much higher standard of living among the inmates. The dining room and kitchen floors are polished and tablecloths are used on all tables. There has been a decided improvement in the demeanour of all the inmates since these better-class conditions were introduced. The building of the dining room was made possible by the organising of a building drive in which 24 men participated on a voluntary basis; five of them came from Victoria and South Australia. During the drive a cottage was also erected and the old dining room was moved to a new site to be used for other purposes. The entire working programme was completed inside three weeks and the men returned to their homes.

The second major achievement was the completion of the water scheme during the year. This makes possible the carrying out of plans for our major agricultural development. It is our aim to make the mission self-supporting, at the same time providing a high standard of training for the inmates. The pumping plant is substantially built and is capable of delivering 150,000 gallons of water through the four-inch main to the Mission one and a quarter miles from the Gascoyne River, every 24 hours. The recent heavy rains have replenished the water supply assuring an adequate supply for the next two years.

The health of the inmates throughout the period has been satisfactory. An outbreak of mumps spread eventually throughout the Mission but was not serious.

Fourteen of the senior girls were taken by truck to Perth last Christmas to spend a month's vacation there. This holiday was in the nature of an experiment. Their reactions at the time and since have been watched. It is my opinion that it would be beneficial to make this trip an annual event for both girls and boys, giving them an experience of a higher standard of life which would not soon be forgotten.

In conclusion I feel that we can be justly proud of what has been achieved during the past year. Every Missionary is conscious of the guiding and sustaining hand of our God in the work so that we can face the new year's work with determination and resolution. We desire to thank the Native Affairs Department for their assistance and co-operation in the work.

(Sgd.) SYD. H. REESON,  
Superintendent.

### **Cundeelee Mission—Australian Evangelical Mission.**

Mr. R. Stewart, Superintendent.

The Australian Aborigines Evangelical Mission workers at Cundeelee are happy to report the following progress at this Native Mission during the past year.

We would like to first express our gratitude to all our friends of the Department of Native Affairs, Department of Health, the Police Force, Hospital, Road Board, and private businesses in and around Kalgoorlie, who have graciously co-operated with us in our various needs for the benefit of the natives.

There are eight native children in the Home. Seven of these are of school age and are progressing very nicely. The Correspondence Class lessons are being followed as a guide.

A home for the children has been erected and thus far is used only as their sleeping quarters and school room; however, furnishings are coming in and we trust ere too long they shall be living in it.

Some of the adult people have shown a surprising willingness to learn and aptitude for the tasks given to them. We are most happy to be able to teach them anything that will help them to be self-supporting and are always appreciative of any co-operation given by the white population. We believe that no matter how well trained they might be it is of no benefit unless the prejudice against them is broken down. Some of them have expressed the desire to build a house for their family. We believe this will come to pass in time; with our people raising their own livestock and growing their own vegetables.

The Mission is enlarging and developing the herd of goats and chickens.

The abundant rains during June and July have been a great blessing in every phase of the work. A year ago having to purchase and cart water from Zanthus, sometimes three times a week left very little time or finances to do anything else but to care for the many sick natives. It seemed that about Christmas time the tide turned, sickness abated, rains came, supplies were made available, and our building programme has steadily progressed.

All our visitors have been amazed to see as they arrive on the hilltop the new buildings, well constructed and made inhabitable within one year. We have three homes for missionaries, a children's home, an iron covered ration house, several small temporary buildings, two 5,000 gallon tanks erected. One of these tanks catches water here over the children's home, the other is full of water pumped from the reservoirs. As all the water we have is surface catchments at the present, we plan to enlarge and cement all the reservoirs as soon as possible. We are doing all we can to find a subterranean supply.

The natives on the whole are in better health this year and we are very thankful. We now have a sending and receiving wireless set. This has been the means of saving much time and money, as this enables us to contact the Flying Doctor and in a very few minutes have all the needed advice to care for the sick party. We believe many lives have been saved already. We hope to see in the near future a much needed Church and school building. The materials having been applied for already.

(Sgd.) ROBERT STEWART,  
Superintendent.

### Forrest River Mission—Australian Board of Missions (Anglican).

Rev. K. Coldrake, Superintendent.

This station being a Christian Mission, it is logical that our primary aim should be to teach the inhabitants Christian living as a whole and particularly Christian morals. But only those few who have laboured here over the years can know how difficult it is to make any progress in giving effect to this aim, so many are the obstacles of a practical nature. It is hard even to consolidate what little progress is made from time to time and to prevent backsliding from taking the place of progress.

I can name two factors as being well to the fore in causing us the bulk of our worries. Firstly, there is the continual shortage of staff (seemingly a common complaint among missions) which means that those who do remain have added work and worry heaped upon them, baulking largely their efficiency and effectiveness. Secondly, there is the annual migration of the best of our people to outside jobs. This means that those who have made the most of the Mission's training go off to give of their best elsewhere when we are hoping that they will stay and contribute to the efficiency of the Mission generally and to the training of the young folk particularly. There is no doubt that the Mission is generally regarded as being a good labour mart, and I know that a good deal of soliciting takes place in the early part of the year. I can say, however, that the practice has lessened over the past two years as I have been trying to combat it in Wyndham. Few natives benefit by employment in the township, and the lot of a family man is considerably harder by comparison. The conditions, the type of work sometimes, and the attitude towards the native on stations and in Wyndham, are not conducive towards a policy of facilitating a sort of racial gravitation over the years to come. Furthermore the offspring of these workers, the rising generation, get no schooling, and are subject to the influences of, usually, an indifferent environment. In my opinion it is better that the families should stay where all the members are better off materially and physically, and wait until they are better able to rub shoulders and hold their own with white settlers in the district, and where the children can get positive training and good schooling.

Department of Native Affairs field officers could help in this regard if the Department were to adopt the attitude that the majority of inmates on missions such as this one—in semi-tribalised areas—are better off to remain than to gad about chasing seasonal occupations. For a father to leave a family behind and go off alone is no solution. On the contrary I think it would be quite wrong.

However, in spite of the foregoing ; as a result of the faithful service of the few who do remain on the staff here, and with the increasing assistance of the Department of Native Affairs, we manage to keep our heads up and press on, striving to improve the fabric of the institution and to build up the moral and spiritual life of the inhabitants.

#### *The People.*

Our numbers have decreased slightly owing to the departure of four families to Wyndham from the village. Three of the best families on the place were among them, twenty-one persons in all.

It is a rule here now that if any native goes off to an outside job, he or she must take any family with him or her and stay for one year at least. Exceptions are sometimes made, particularly where hardship would ensue if the rule were enforced. But on the whole the rule is strictly applied and has produced good results, both by causing the natives to think hard and weigh the pros and cons of going or staying and by helping the employers to retain their services for a reasonable period. A measure of stability is thus encouraged. One good result of this system is that those young bloods who had been in the habit of going off droving or mustering in March (equipped with a swag), and returning in September, destitute, unsettled, riotous and full of bad behaviour, have been pulled up short and the life of the mission has been more harmonious as a result. Some of them now stay and work off their saddle and spur enthusiasm in our own stockcamp ; others work full time outside and return for a fortnight's holiday at Christmas time.

The "esprit de corps" is quite noticeably on a high plane throughout the mission, and there exists a very real respect and affection for the white staff.

#### *Health.*

I am pleased to report that a tremendous improvement has taken place in the health of the people in the past twelve months. In August last year it was found that hookworm was prevalent on the mission, and a subsequent survey by the Wyndham Medical Officer showed that 37 per cent. of the natives were infected. A course of treatment was given immediately, and steps were taken to improve the sanitation, and to induce a more thorough sense of hygiene in the people. Another course of medicine was given to all the natives in June last, and more tests are to be taken within a few weeks. It can be stated quite definitely that a vast improvement in the general health of the natives has taken place as a result of this anti-hookworm campaign. The succession of infantile deaths in 1950 was undoubtedly due to the anaemia caused by these parasites.

Two old men were taken to Derby this year and were admitted to the Leprosarium there. It is obvious that leprosy is still rampant in this part of the Commonwealth as one hears of patients being picked up at the rate of dozens per year. The State Medical Department is open to much criticism for its inadequate methods of detection and control of the spread of this disease.

In the period being reported on there have been two deaths—both old people—and eight births, seven of them being fullbloods. Four more babies have been born to mission natives at present domiciled in Wyndham.

*Education.*

After six months without a white teacher, we were able to reopen the whole school in July. For the first six months of this year only the junior half of the school operated, all the teaching being done by a 17-year old aboriginal girl. At present there are 20 children attending five hours each day, and 10 in the beginners' class attending two hours a day, 30 in all. It has been my desire to give a standard of schooling to these children that will approximate the state school primary standard in at least reading and writing and social questions or general knowledge. These youngsters must be better equipped than in the past if they are to take and use opportunities of bettering their own position and be able thereby to give a measure of uplift to the race as a whole. It is sad to have to ignore offers of public school education for native children simply because there are none sufficiently advanced to send South in response to invitations from good public schools there.

*Works.*

*Building.*—One new house has been built for a native family during the year. We are adopting a new style incorporating two rooms. The walls are of pise brick as usual, but the roof is of part iron and part grass.

A qualified carpenter has joined us for six months, and a special grant has been secured from Sydney to enable us to erect some much needed staff quarters. Most of the timber used will be turned out from our own sawmill as usual. With a little encouragement some of the native men have erected fences around their houses, and gradually all will do this.

*Stock.*—We are still killing only one bullock each week for beef. The new holding paddock has helped a lot in the mustering and quietening of some of the wilder cattle that were numerous on the outskirts of the run.

We have only four horses left and two mules, and unless we can procure horses very soon we shall be in a difficult position by next season.

Twenty milkers calved last wet, and some young heifers by the pedigreed dairy shorthorn bull are due to come into milk very shortly. Mr. Eric Durack, of "Argyle" Station, has presented the Mission with four young herd bulls of the polled Shorthorn breed. These are excellent young stock and it is with great pleasure that we have turned them out into the herd which has had no imported blood for over fifteen years. I would estimate that we have 600 head of quiet cattle and another two hundred head of rogue and wild cattle on the mission block.

An attempt was made in May to purchase 100 head of store bullocks and 50 head of heifers from Moola Bulla Station, but it was not possible to get a drover to bring them to Wyndham. This was a great disappointment as we will have to stock up in this way if we are to provide an adequate amount of beef for the people here. We should kill at least 75 head a year and we are only killing 50 at present.

The goat herd now numbers 190 and is slowly increasing.

*Water.*—At date of writing, 25th August, there is only eighteen inches of muddy water left in the bottom of our small dam and drinking water is being used from the rain storage tanks. When these run dry water will have to be carted five miles until the storms replenish the tank supply. This is an annual performance. Fortunately, the piping for a new water scheme has at long last arrived, and the next annual report should contain the details of its operation. This scheme includes domestic supply, stock, and irrigation of five acres.

Some vegetables were grown between May and August, but the place is too dry this year for good results.

*Transport.*

A second-hand launch was purchased in Perth in August last and sent up to Wyndham for us. This was to replace the vessel we lost twelve months previously. In the interim much inconvenience and hardship was experienced through lack of transport. Some of the natives built a twenty foot boat from bush timber, but it was only able to do a few trips as it was a very leaky vessel. The Meatworks launch made one trip for us with stores, but the river is so hazardous that the manager could not risk his boat on any other occasions. The only alternative was to fly in supplies by charter plane. Five planes in all were chartered, three of the trips being made by the Air Beef Bristol freighter. This method cost us £10 per ton for our stores.

*Difficulties.*

Apart from the difficulties mentioned at the outset of this report, there is the matter of clothing for the natives. We keep them in the briefest possible garments for health reasons and keep the issue of clothing down to a bare minimum for economic and staff reasons. Even shorts and shirts and pinafore type frocks take a lot of material and time in the making. They are too expensive to buy ready-made.

Nothing will be gained by harping on the perennial difficulty of water shortage, but it is worth repeating that with the advent of the new water scheme a new lease of life will be procured for this Mission.

(Sgd.) K. COLDRAKE,  
Superintendent.

## Section "D."

### Head Office Administration.

#### *Financial.*

The total Departmental expenditure increased from £139,008 in 1949-50 to £153,704 in 1950-51. The increase was due mainly to expansion of welfare work in the field and increased expenditure for improvements long overdue at Departmental Institutions. Inflation spiral contributed to the increased costs without adding materially to the benefits obtained.

The average amount spent per native during 1949-50 was £8.48 and the corresponding figure for 1950-51 was £10.18.

Relief to natives was categorised as a separate item in the year under review. In previous years this item was included in the classification "Generally" and for 1949-50 the amount expended was £34,154 as compared with the amount for the year under review £41,883 (total of "Generally" and Relief).

Grants to Missions have increased from £15,929 to £24,038. (See Appendix "4.") Emphasis is now being placed on the welfare of native inmates in such Institutions which are situated in most instances far from the centres of civilisation. It is realised that the benefits, both spiritual and material, to natives through the efforts of these Missions are better by far than those obtainable in Departmental Institutions. The value of Missions has been appreciated to such an extent that plans for the 1951-52 year envisage larger subsidy payments.

The expenditure on the Departmental Institutions, Moola Bulla Native Station, Carrolup and Moore River Native Settlements, has been reduced by £10,844.

During the year under review two new establishments were opened, Alvan House and Fitzroy Crossing. Alvan House, an establishment for native girls in the metropolitan area, has been proved to be a successful venture, and Fitzroy Crossing in the Kimberleys will ultimately care for the education and general welfare of natives and their children in that area. The expenditure involved in setting up these new Institutions has been amply compensated by the facilities now available to the natives.

Loan Fund expenditure increased from £7,734 in 1949-50 to £16,224 in the year under review. This increase was covered by purchase of more Nissen huts for institutions and out-station offices, as well as the finance required to establish the Alvan House and Fitzroy Crossing projects.

#### *The Natives' Medical Fund.*

In the year under review 2,650 permits were issued to legalise the employment of 5,677 natives. This was a decrease of both permits and numbers employed during the previous year. There was a corresponding decrease of £294 3s. 9d. in contributions to the Natives' Medical Fund, the total amount being £4,357 11s. 9d.

A record payment of £6,768 12s. 5d. was made from the Fund during the year, and it is seen that the excessive payments over contributions received has a most adverse effect on the financial position of the Natives' Medical Fund.

A Statement of Receipts and Payments shows the small credit balance of £534 15s. 5d., but with the carry-over of accounts at the close of the year this balance is totally inadequate to meet the legitimate claims on the Fund. The heavy increased payment is brought about by the fixation of an annual sum to be paid to the Department of Public Health for all natives who are considered to be Medical cases, and treated. The payment of this £3,000 grant is roughly two-thirds of the total contributions received.

On the 1st March, 1950, at a conference with the State Health Council, it was agreed that the Department would meet doctors' claims for treatment to natives on the same basis as that charged under the Workers' Compensation Act. This Schedule of charges afforded doctors a justifiable increase in fees, but as the contributions by employers to the Natives' Medical Fund remained the same, it is understandable that the resources of the Fund are strained to their utmost.

Consideration is being given to having the rate of contribution to the Natives' Medical Fund increased to meet the extra demand made upon the Medical Fund.

#### *Trust Accounts and Investments.*

As at the 30th June, 1951, a total of 346 Commonwealth Savings Bank Pass Books were held in this Department on behalf of natives. Of these 324 were Trust Accounts with the Commissioner as Trustee, 18 were Moore River and Carrolup School Accounts, and four were Private Accounts. A total of £3,536 8s. 11d. was held in these Accounts at the end of the financial year. The number of accounts held and the total credit varied throughout the financial year with many deposits and withdrawals.



At the close of the financial year Investments to the total value of £6,796 were also held on behalf of 56 natives. These comprised of Commonwealth Bonds at varying rates of interest, and War Saving Certificates. These Bonds and Certificates were held in safe custody by the Commonwealth Bank, Perth.

Bond Registers and Bank Pass Books are checked regularly by Government Auditors.

#### *Relief.*

As at the 30th June, 1951, there were eleven centres where bulk dry rations were issued supplying rations to 269 adults and 82 children. These native full-bloods, totally indigent, are mostly desert nomads. The centres of rationing fringe the inland deserts of the Nullarbor Plains, Warburton Range, and the Northern Areas. Such rationing centres, being under the control of Departmental Officers, Missions, or Police Officers, are subject to a strict accounting of rations issued.

The ration scale in operation has been drawn up by competent dietitians and affords the necessary calories essential for a balanced diet.

In the Southern part of the State where no feeding stations exist, Departmental Officers and Protectors of Natives authorise the supply of rations from local store keepers to incapacitated, aged and indigent natives as required. Pauperisation is firmly discouraged and only necessitous cases are rationed. In that area of the State between Albany and Peak Hill there are 18 centres where it is necessary to issue contract rations to 103 natives, including 22 adults over 65 years and 17 children under 13 years. Of the remainder only eight natives, being incapacitated, are permanently rationed. Natives on walk-about and natives visiting relatives in the towns from the bush and desert form the majority of natives who received rations on a temporary basis.

Wherever possible indigent and homeless natives are encouraged to reside in Departmental institutions where adequate rations, clothing, health and recreational facilities are available.

In most cases able-bodied natives in direct contact with civilisation have availed themselves of the abundance of work available as stockmen, rural workers and trappers, and are thereby supporting their families and dependants without the need of Departmental rations.

#### *Christmas Cheer.*

It was again possible to distribute small gifts of food, tobacco, toys, beads, etc., amongst the natives during the Christmas, 1950, festive season, through the generosity of the Lotteries Commission, The "Daily News" Orphans' Christmas Fund, and the Economic Stores, Ltd. Six hundred pounds was received from the Lotteries Commission, £20 from the "Daily News" fund, and £21 from the Economic Stores, Ltd. Approximately 4,000 natives participated in the distribution of the total sum of £641. The Department wishes to place on record its sincere appreciation of these generous donations.

#### *Estates.*

The Commissioner may obtain letters of administration of the estate of any deceased native under Section 36 of the Native Administration Act.

During the year ended 30th June, 1951, a total of 26 Estates were dealt with, their total value being £518 3s. 4d. Distribution is made in accordance with the provisions of a Will or of intestacy.

#### *Maintenance.*

Maintenance orders are handled by the Department for native mothers but only in cases where the father is other than a native. As at 30th June, 1951, this Department was handling 66 cases, 55 against white men and 11 against natives.

Orders against putative fathers of illegitimates and the fathers of children committed to the care of the State are obtained in the Children's Court and some orders against fathers who have deserted their families are obtained in the Married Women's Court.

Efforts are made to assist native mothers (who desire such assistance) in securing maintenance orders against the fathers of their children, but against such native father the original complaint must be lodged by the mother.

#### *Lotteries Donations.*

During the year, the Lotteries Commission donated £7,798 11s. 8d. to Native Institutions. Of this amount, £6,165 0s. 2d. was granted to Missions, £1,270 to Departmental Institutions and £363 11s. 6d. to Native Hospitals under Medical Department control.

On behalf of the Missions and natives concerned, it is wished to express sincere thanks to the Chairman of the Lotteries Commission for the welcome grants made for the benefit of natives.

#### *Reserves.*

There are 151 native reserves throughout Western Australia totalling 33,405,603 acres in area. Four new reserves were added during the year and eight reserves of no further use were relinquished.

Reserves vary in size, the largest approximating twenty million acres and the smallest being that of a townsite block. Native Missions throughout Western Australia are situated usually on land which has been declared a native reserve, thus giving them protection against violation.

#### *Health.*

Matters affecting the health of natives are wholly in the hands of the Medical Department. Throughout the State natives receive medical treatment at hospitals and from doctors equal to that given to white people.

In the north of the State four native hospitals are maintained by the Medical Department and where the Government District Medical Officer supervises the health of the whole district. In the southern portion of the State natives are medically attended at the public and district hospitals, and at private surgeries. Doctors treating patients at Departmental expense are remunerated at the same rate as patients under the Workers' Compensation Act and whilst this affords the native patient exactly the same treatment as white people, the heavy cost has to be met by this Department or the Medical Fund in the majority of cases.

The attention afforded to natives by doctors, nurses and staff alike is most praiseworthy and deserving of the highest credit. Natives requiring specialist attention are brought to centres where such facilities are available, but in most cases the patients are brought direct to the major Perth hospitals.

The Department maintains nursing sisters at two of the farthest stations, Moola Bulla and La Grange. Both Sisters function under the direction of the local District Medical Officers by means of pedal wireless and telephone.

#### *Deaths.*

Known and recorded deaths during the year show that a total of 224 deaths occurred. Of this total 147 deaths were of the full-blood natives and 77 of other castes.

Unfortunately, comparison with the birth rate cannot be obtained as the necessary vital statistics are not available. Action is being taken in the field to complete a census and so overcome this lack of data.

#### *Education.*

Education remains in the hands of the adequately constituted authority, the Education Department.

Of the six Departmental Institutions, only at Moola Bulla and Moore River Native Settlement are authorised schools maintained for the education of the native children. Many of the adults at Moola Bulla who were not given an opportunity of an education are most enthusiastic, and are taking the opportunity to learn.

At La Grange Bay the Superintendent and his wife conduct a school for the children of the nomads.

A census of native children attending State Schools has been supplied by the Education Department. A total of 2,218 children are registered as pupils at the State Schools and are being co-educated with the white children of the particular districts. The Missions of the various denominations also have schools, but for the purpose of statistics their pupils have been included in the total mentioned above.

Native pupils are defused in schools throughout the entire State, and through the excellent co-operation and intense interest of the various State School teachers, it is most pleasing to add that special consideration is afforded the native pupil. The leeway in their lack of education is being gradually made up by this concentration of effort by the various teachers.

Facilities for higher education, which are available in Perth through the provision of a girls' hostel, has brought a ready response from school teachers who are recommending native pupils above the average, so that they may receive the benefits of both secondary and tertiary education.

In education it can be said that the assimilation process is carried out to its full extent through the excellent co-operation of both the Education Department and the individual teachers throughout the State.

#### *Employment.*

The field of native employment remains unaltered. There is more work available than natives to fill the vacancies in the settled parts of the State. Very few employable natives are unemployed, although seasonal workers in some areas experience difficulty in obtaining employment during the off seasons. On the fringe of the desert the majority of nomadic natives are unsuitable in the few avenues of employment available.

In the southern part of the State native workers usually enjoy almost the same wage conditions as their fellow white workers.

In the Kimberleys the payment of wages to natives has been a marked success. Employers have advised that relationships between employer and native employees have never been better. Natives have responded well to their personal handling of portion of their earnings. However, whilst most of them remain illiterate it will be incumbent upon the employer to arrange for the maintenance of the employees and their dependants.

There is a wide range of opportunity open to natives in various trades, mainly because of their adaptability and willingness to live in remote places. With improved education an increasing number of natives will become eligible in this sphere and assist to overcome one of the obstacles found outside the metropolitan area in this State.

Native women and girls are still in great demand as domestics. It has been decided to increase and improve training facilities for girls wishing to enter this occupation.

#### *Population.*

A year to year comparison of the native population statistics will show a decreasing full-blood population and an increasing caste figure.

It must be stated, however, that until a detailed census of every field area is taken population figures and comparisons thereof are to be treated with reserve. Each field officer is now taking a detailed census of the various districts and within the course of a few years a reliable population statement will be published. Similarly the estimate of unclassified natives will also be the subject of attention and the figure of 6,000 "unclassified" is most likely to be reduced.

#### *Citizenship Rights.*

During the year 74 applications were received for Citizenship Rights, making the total applications received to the 30th June, 1951, 645. Of these, 478 have been granted to native applicants, and 95 applications have been dismissed by Magistrates. Sixteen cases have been withdrawn for various reasons, 31 have been adjourned by the Magistrates for varying reasons. Twenty-five applications were under notice of hearing at the close of the year.

Of the above number of certificates issued, five have been cancelled by Magistrates.

An amendment of the Citizenship Rights Act was passed in Parliament during the current year making it possible for responsible parents to make application to Magistrates to have the names of their children under 21 years of age inserted upon their Certificates of Citizenship. This was most important to many families because it overcame the anomalous situation whereby the native children of Citizenship Rights holders were still regarded as natives in law while their parents were non-native. Also it had effect on the people and children North of the leprosy line in that children of Citizenship holders were debarred from travelling South with their parents.

That natives value the privilege of full citizenship is exemplified in the small numbers of certificates which have been cancelled since the inauguration of the parent Act.

#### *Certificates of Exemption.*

The close of the year revealed that 297 certificates were in existence. Thirty-six certificates were issued during the year, and 28 were cancelled, 18 of these cancellations being due automatically on the granting to the recipient of a Certificate of Citizenship.

There is a tendency by Magistrates to encourage natives to first obtain Certificates of Exemption so that a period of probation can be observed before such natives make application for Citizenship Rights. However, it is evident that the desire of the majority of natives is to obtain full citizenship and their applications are concentrated in that direction in preference to the graduated stage of firstly obtaining Exemption.

#### *Native Courts.*

Under Section 64 of the Native Administration Act four "Courts of Native Affairs" were constituted by the Governor during the year to hear the undermentioned charges for offences by a native against another native. This Section of the Act provides for a Court to be constituted with a nominated Special Magistrate as Chairman of the Court and the Commissioner, or Protector nominated by the Commissioner, as the other members. Such Court has exclusive jurisdiction in connection with the trial of the offence, but shall take into consideration any tribal custom which may mitigate the offence. The headman of the tribe is called for any required assistance.

The charges brought before the Court were as follows :—

- (1) 6-7-50 at Katanning, Lewis Angus Wallam was charged with inflicting grievous bodily harm on Fred Winmar. The charge was proven and Lewis Angus Wallam was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.
- (2) 16-8-50 at Marble Bar, Minjie was charged with the wilful murder of native Amy at Warrawagine Station. The accused was found not guilty and the case was dismissed.
- (3) 13-9-50 at Moora, Colin Calyun was charged with unlawful assault on Violet Myroodah. The verdict was one of not guilty and Calyun was released from custody.
- (4) 22-6-51 at Cue, Maitland Colbung was charged with unlawful assault of native Evelyn Donnelly. The charge was proven and Colbung was sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour, with a recommendation that he be kept under observation by a psychiatrist during his term at Fremantle Prison.

*Crimes and Offences.*

A total of 616 natives were charged on 712 counts in the Police Courts throughout the State. Drunkenness and the charge of receiving liquor amounted to 560 of these charges. It is noteworthy to record that only 22 of the natives charged were under the age of 18 years.

Offences by persons other than natives against the Native Administration Act, amounted to 47 charges. Of these 32 were charged with supplying liquor to natives, and eight for co-habitation with native women. Offences against natives decreased in comparison to the previous year.

*Warrants.*

At the 30th June, 1951, 61 natives were resident in Missions and religious institutions or supervised employment under the provisions of either Ministerial warrants issued under the authority of Section 13 of the Native Administration Act (12 cases) or of the authority of Court Committal Orders (49 cases). The total number under warrant decreased considerably during the year in accordance with the policy of abandoning as far as possible the use of Ministerial warrants.

The majority of cases now under warrant are native children under 18 years of age committed through Children's Courts as neglected, destitute or uncontrollable children, and handed over by the Child Welfare Department to this Department for supervision.

Delinquent adolescent types constitute a problem to this Department although their numbers are not great. The problem is concentrated in the more closely settled South-West and Southern area of the State. The Department controls the Murrumbidgee Farm School at Katanning, where training in farming for male State wards is provided, also the Cosmo Newberry Native Depot at Laverton, where the recalcitrant type of male adolescent is sent for rehabilitation. However, facilities for dealing with female State Wards are inadequate, and it is not possible to exercise proper supervision over girls committed through Children's Courts.

*Maternity Allowances.*

Claims referred to this Department by the Commonwealth Social Services Office where women possessing Australian native blood made application for a maternity allowance revealed that 234 claims were granted and 58 claims rejected.

The cause of rejection was mainly due to the predominance of native blood inherited by the applicants. The iniquitous Commonwealth legislation applicable to natives making application for maternity allowances has been subject of criticism in previous annual reports, but the legislation still remains unchanged, despite assurances of amendment given at the 1951 Canberra Conference.

*Child Endowment.*

At the 30th June, 1951, knowledge was had of 872 native endowees whose claims had been recognised.

Seven Departmental Institutions were registered and received Child Endowment. At the expiration of that year these Institutions were drawing the benefit for 157 children under 16 years of age. The amount of Child Endowment received for these institutions during the year was £4,816 11s. 10d. Alvan House, Mount Lawley, was approved as an establishment for Child Endowment purposes.

During the year all the school children were transferred from Carrolup Native Settlement to Missions to be educated, thereby reducing the number in Departmental Institutions for whom endowment was received. The endowment is applied for the maintenance, training and advancement of the children at these Institutions as directed by the Social Services Consolidation Act and is credited to the general Departmental monies appropriated for these institutions.

Twenty-three denominational Missions (including the Derby Leprosarium with 14 children) were approved for Child Endowment purposes, and were receiving endowment for 1,101 children at the end of the year. All native missions operating in the State are receiving child endowment.

The supervision of individual child endowment cases by this Department was totally discontinued as was intended when the last report was published. There are no indications that this move has been derogatory in any way.

The initial payment of endowment for the first child was made on 18th July, 1950, and accordingly claims for endowment by individual natives increased considerably.

*Old Age Pension.*

Five applications for Old Age Pensions by natives were brought to the notice of this Department during the year. Four were granted and one applicant was rejected on the grounds of the native possessing a predominance of native blood. There are now 81 natives recorded as recipients of the Old Age pension.

*Invalid Pension.*

During the year four applications for Invalid Pension were granted to natives. There are now 41 native invalid pensioners and in 10 cases the wives of the recipients receive the statutory wife's allowance.

*Unemployment and Sickness Benefit.*

Of the two applications for this benefit brought to the notice of this Department, both were successful.

*Widow's Pension.*

Five applications for Widow's Pension came to the notice of the Department during the year, and all were granted. There are now 29 known cases of recipients of this pension.

*Conclusion.*

I desire to place on record, on behalf of the native people and my Department, the valuable assistance and co-operation rendered by other Government Departments, the Press and Broadcasting Stations, the Churches and Missions, the welfare groups and interested members of the Public.

In particular I wish to express my appreciation and thanks to those who rendered loyal and willing service to the natives and the Department throughout the year under review. Natives need the help of these Officers because there can be no contradiction of the fact they have been and are being deliberately kept in an under-privileged and backward state. Perhaps, then, it would not be out of place here to remind those responsible, of John Stuart Mill's words that "a State which dwarfs its men, in order that they may be more docile instruments in its hands even for beneficial purposes, will find that with small men no great thing can really be accomplished."

17th June, 1952.

S. G. MIDDLETON,

Commissioner of Native Affairs.

## Section "E."

## APPENDIX I.

## DEPARTMENT OF NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure, 1950-1951.

RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.							
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.		£	s. d.	£	s. d.		
<b>NATIVE AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATION TRUST.—</b>				<i>Alvan House—</i>							
Balance brought forward ex General Loan Fund at 1st July, 1950			25,691	2	9	Stores, Provisions and Meat	239	7	2		
1950-1951 Transfer ex General Loan Fund			20,000	0	0	Improvements to Grounds	17	19	11		
Grant under Section 5, Native Administration Act, 1905-1947			10,000	0	0	Education and Amenities	24	11	0		
Amount provided from—						Travelling Expenses	10	8	8		
Consolidated Revenue Fund			130,000	0	0	Freight and Cartage			14	9	
Treasurer's Advance			13,704	0	10	Medical	10	11	6		
Receipts from Child Endowment Fund—						Blankets and Clothing	18	19	1		
Direct Credits			2,947	4	7	Miscellaneous	14	3	9		
Credit Fund Rebates—Native Affairs			9,177	15	1	Light, Water and Sanitation	49	5	1		
						Maintenance and Improvements to Buildings	75	5	5		
						Furniture and Household Uten- sils	128	12	7		
						Tools and Hardware	10	10	0		
						General Office Expenses	24	17	6		
						Salaries and Wages	644	9	4		
									1,269	15	9
						<i>Marribank Farm School—</i>					
						Stores, Provisions and Meat	5,798	11	7		
						Cash Sales			17	15	11
						Farm Operations	2,978	6	3		
						Education and Amenities	39	18	9		
						Travelling Expenses	250	3	2		
						Freight and Cartage	765	8	2		
						Medical	143	12	8		
						Blankets and Clothing	762	14	10		
						Miscellaneous	19	9	9		
						Light, Water and Sanitation	1,066	16	0		
						Maintenance and Improvements to Buildings	1,761	6	0		
						Furniture and Household Uten- sils	2,193	11	0		
						Hardware and Tools	265	1	7		
						Motor Vehicles, Petrol, etc.	2,065	0	10		
						General Office Expenses	193	5	11		
						Salaries and Wages	5,840	7	10		
									24,161	10	3
						<i>Cosmo Newbery Native Settlement—</i>					
						Stores, Provisions and Meat	1,341	5	10		
						Farm Operations	226	10	3		
						Education and Amenities	13	11	2		
						Travelling Expenses	158	17	11		
						Freight and Cartage	742	19	5		
						Medical	57	8	10		
						Blankets and Clothing	303	3	2		
						Miscellaneous	1	0	0		
						Light, Water and Sanitation	203	7	6		
						Maintenance and Improvements to Buildings	1,290	15	5		
						Furniture and Household Uten- sils	543	15	8		
						Hardware and Tools	125	13	4		
						Motor Vehicles, Petrol, etc.	913	11	1		
						General Office Expenses	26	17	11		
						Salaries and Wages	2,214	14	7		
									8,163	12	1
Carried Forward			£211,520	3	3	Carried Forward			£33,594	18	1

APPENDIX I.—*continued.*

## DEPARTMENT OF NATIVE AFFAIRS.

*Statement of Receipts and Expenditure, 1950-1951—continued.*

RECEIPTS— <i>continued.</i>				PAYMENTS— <i>continued.</i>			
£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Brought Forward	.....	211,520	3 3	Brought Forward	.....	33,594	18 1
				<i>East Perth Girls' Home—</i>			
				Stores, Provisions and Meat	383	11	3
				Education and Amenities	1	15	3
				Freight	.....	14	2
				Medical	3	14	0
				Blankets and Clothing	5	1	4
				Miscellaneous	13	2	5
				Light, Water and Sanitation	24	19	11
				Maintenance and Improvements to Buildings	18	9	11
				Furniture and Household Utensils	56	17	6
				Hardware and Tools	5	11	6
				General Office Expenses	15	10	3
				Salaries and Wages	658	9	8
						1,187	17 2
				<i>Fitzroy Crossing Native Depot—</i>			
				Stores, Provisions and Meat	104	5	6
				Education and Amenities	.....	.....	.....
				Travelling Expenses	104	17	4
				Freight and Cartage	240	18	6
				Medical	2	13	9
				Light, Water and Sanitation	6	14	2
				Maintenance and Improvements to Buildings	.....	.....	.....
				Furniture and Household Utensils	5	19	3
				Motor Vehicles, Petrol, etc.	123	2	0
				Salaries and Wages	297	0	5
						885	10 11
				<i>La Grange Bay Native Depot—</i>			
				Stores, Provisions and Meat	2,184	4	0
				Farm Operations	16	3	0
				Education and Amenities	26	4	6
				Travelling Expenses	224	2	7
				Freight and Cartage	558	19	2
				Medical	58	6	7
				Blankets and Clothing	32	10	1
				Miscellaneous	20	8	5
				Light, Water and Sanitation	56	11	2
				Maintenance and Improvements to Buildings	92	12	1
				Furniture and Household Utensils	111	16	7
				Hardware and Tools	86	19	4
				Motor Vehicles, Petrol, etc.	390	18	1
				General Office Expenses	16	2	0
				Salaries and Wages	1,427	19	10
						5,303	17 5
				<i>Moola Bulla Native Station—</i>			
				Stores, Provisions and Meat	2,764	8	8
				Station and Farm Operations	1,289	6	10
				Education and Amenities	14	10	8
				Travelling Expenses	552	12	6
				Freight and Cartage	3,995	2	0
				Medical	263	8	8
				Blankets and Clothing	1,265	8	3
				Miscellaneous	6	17	2
				Light, Water and Sanitation	779	3	2
				Maintenance and Improvements to Buildings	1,610	10	1
				Furniture and Household Utensils	513	4	8
				Hardware and Tools	109	13	2
				Motor Vehicles, Petrol, etc.	801	17	10
				General Office Expenses	53	14	7
				Salaries and Wages	5,385	7	10
						19,405	6 1
Carried Forward	.....	211,520	3 3	Carried Forward	.....	60,377	9 8

## APPENDIX I.—continued.

## DEPARTMENT OF NATIVE AFFAIRS.

## Statement of Receipts and Expenditure, 1950-1951—continued.

RECEIPTS—continued.				PAYMENTS—continued.					
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Brought Forward ....			211,520	3 3	Brought Forward ....			60,377	9 8
					<i>Moore River Native Settlement—</i>				
					Stores, Provisions and Meat ....	6,527	11 11		
					Farm Operations ....	592	5 3		
					Education and Amenities ....	89	2 0		
					Travelling Expenses ....	186	16 3		
					Freight and Cartage ....	547	17 2		
					Medical ....	635	11 9		
					Blankets and Clothing ....	690	7 1		
					Miscellaneous ....	3	8 0		
					Light, Water and Sanitation ....	609	18 8		
					Maintenance and Improvements to Buildings ....	1,781	0 3		
					Furniture and Household Uten- sils ....	624	4 1		
					Hardware and Tools ....	195	12 9		
					Motor Vehicles, Petrol, etc. ....	661	1 0		
					General Office Expenses ....	190	17 11		
					Salaries and Wages ....	6,464	2 4		
								19,799	16 5
					<i>Head Office and General Administration—</i>				
					Salaries and Wages—				
					Commissioner....	1,161	0 6		
					Deputy Commissioner ....	849	9 3		
					Head Office Staff ....	14,118	7 3		
					General Assistance ....	367	16 5		
					Inspectress ....	458	6 11		
					Travelling Expenses ....	766	16 1		
					Motor Vehicles, Petrol, etc. ....	179	4 10		
					Advances and Repayments—				
					Credit ....	179	14 6		
					Printing and Stationery ....	372	16 9		
					Insurance ....	374	0 1		
					Miscellaneous ....	502	7 0		
					Light, Water and Sanitation ....	12	15 7		
					Maintenance and Improvements to Buildings ....	63	18 7		
					Furniture and Household Uten- sils ....	188	11 5		
					General Office Expenses ....	1,296	10 2		
								20,532	6 4
					<i>District Office Administration—</i>				
					Salaries and Wages ....	10,978	19 9		
					General Office Expenses ....	1,374	5 8		
					Travelling Expenses ....	4,640	10 7		
								16,993	16 0
					<i>Mobile Units—</i>				
					Hardware and Tools ....	29	14 7		
					Motor Vehicles, Petrol, etc. ....	136	6 8		
					Salaries and Wages ....	8	15 0		
								174	16 3
					<i>Relief to Natives—</i>				
					Stores and Provisions ....	3,134	16 5		
					Education and Amenities ....	29	9 2		
					Freight and Cartage ....	750	8 3		
					Medical Supplies ....	2,502	18 7		
					Blankets and Clothing ....	12,493	16 7		
					Boarding Out ....	23	5 0		
					Defence of Native Prisoners ....	82	4 2		
					Burials ....	944	16 7		
					Transport of Natives ....	2,215	1 0		
					Improvements to Reserves ....	1,735	17 10		
								23,912	13 7
Carried Forward ....			211,520	3 3	Carried Forward ....			141,790	18 3



## APPENDIX I—continued.

## DEPARTMENT OF NATIVE AFFAIRS.

## Statement of Receipts and Expenditure, 1950-1951—continued.

RECEIPTS—continued.				PAYMENTS—continued.					
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Brought Forward	...	...	211,520	3 3	Brought Forward	...	...	141,790	18 3
				<i>Assistance to Missions—</i>					
				A.I.M. Hospital, Fitzroy Crossing 53 17 3					
				A.I.M. Hospital, Hall's Creek ... 25 0 0					
				Beagle Bay Mission ... 917 8 5					
				Broome Convent School ... 125 0 0					
				Holy Child Orphanage ... 671 9 5					
				Carnarvon Mission ... 2,088 3 0					
				Cundelee Mission ... 1,496 19 7					
				Deaf and Dumb School ... 59 3 9					
				Drysdale River Mission ... 410 14 6					
				Forrest River Mission ... 1,363 19 1					
				Gnowangerup Mission ... 80 16 0					
				Kunmunya Mission ... 698 1 9					
				Lombadina Mission ... 240 16 3					
				Mt. Margaret Mission ... 1,179 8 4					
				New Norcia Mission ... 94 9 9					
				Norseman Mission ... 263 9 0					
				Balco Mission ... 242 4 10					
				Roelands Mission ... 2,460 3 9					
				Sister Kate's Homes ... 675 0 1					
				Sunday Island Mission ... 169 3 6					
				Tardun Mission ... 434 3 5					
				Wandering Mission ... 3,369 0 9					
				Warburton Mission ... 917 13 3					
				White Springs Mission ... 4,001 11 4					
				Jigalong Mission ... 2,000 5 3					
				<u>24,038 2 3</u>					
				<i>Settlements (1)—</i>					
				Item 74/49-50—Marribank					
				Electric Light ... 50 4 4					
				Item 173/45-46—Wyndham					
				Electric Light ... 478 4 6					
				Item 91/48-49—M.R.N.S.					
				Septic Tanks ... 99 8 6					
				Item 151/49-50—M.R.N.S.					
				Electric Light ... 116 1 8					
				Item 53/50-51—Alvan House					
				Purchase ... 7,155 0 0					
				Item 84/50-51—Alvan House					
				Furniture ... 1,310 11 8					
				Item 220/49-50—Nissen Huts 596 11 3					
				Item 57/50-51—Nissen Huts 1,918 0 0					
				Item 121/50-51—Fitzroy Cross-					
				ing, Initial Expenses ... 1,447 7 1					
				Item 171/45-46—Electric Light 334 2 3					
				<u>13,505 11 3</u>					
				<i>Moola Bulla (2)—</i>					
				Item 2/45-46—Sinking two					
				Bores ... 779 18 2					
				Item 221/49-50—Cool Chamber 1,116 13 2					
				Item 57/50-51—Nissen Huts 822 0 0					
				<u>2,718 11 4</u>					
				Balance Carried Forward to					
				1951-52 ... £29,549 17 11					
				<u>£211,603 1 0</u>					
				Total ... £211,603 1 0					
				<u>£211,603 1 0</u>					

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

8th January, 1952.

(Sgd.) W. NICHOLAS,  
Auditor General.

## APPENDIX 2.

## THE NATIVES' MEDICAL FUND.

Statement showing Receipts and Payments for the year ended June, 30th, 1951.

RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.			
1950—				1950—			
July 1—	£	s.	d.	July 1 to June 30, 1951—	£	s.	d.
To Balance brought forward			2,945 16 1	By Payments:			
July 1, 1950 to June 30, 1951				Doctors	1,828	4	9
To Contributions received	4,368	16	9	Hospitals	4,659	17	4
Less Refunds		11	5 0	Sundries	280	10	4
			4,357 11 9				6,768 12 5
				June 30—			
				By Balance carried forward			534 15 5
			£7,303 7 10				£7,303 7 10

## APPENDIX 3.

## NATIVE POPULATION AT 30TH JUNE, 1951.

District.	FULL-BLOODS.				OTHER BLOODS.				GRAND TOTAL
	M.	F.	C.	Total.	M.	F.	C.	Total.	
Northern—									
East Kimberley	881	770	254	1,905	74	46	117	237	2,142
West Kimberley	1,085	988	406	2,479	127	136	251	514	2,993
North-West—									
Pilbara	731	646	346	1,723	150	107	81	338	2,061
Gascoyne	248	179	74	501	102	69	80	251	752
Central—									
Central	51	27	64	142	365	315	740	1,420	1,562
Eastern Goldfields	461	391	248	1,100	193	140	241	574	1,674
Murchison	270	209	109	588	416	358	545	1,319	1,907
Southern—									
Great Southern	48	46	74	168	542	491	800	1,833	2,001
	3,775	3,256	1,575	8,606	1,969	1,662	2,855	6,486	15,092
Unclassified—Beyond the Confines of Civilisation				6,000					6,000
									21,092

APPENDIX 4.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO MISSIONS.

Mission.	1948-1949.				1949-1950.				1950-1951.			
	Subsidy.	Grants in Aid.	Other.	Total.	Subsidy.	Grants in Aid.	Other.	Total.	Subsidy.	Grants in Aid.	Other.	Total.
Aborigines Rescue Mission, Jigalong ....	£ 905 13 4	£ .....	£ 252 12 3	£ 1,158 5 7	£ 1,843 1 4	£ .....	£ 780 13 2	£ 2,023 14 6	£ 2,000 5 3	£ .....	£ 599 4 0	£ 2,599 9 3
Aborigines Evangelical Mission, Cundeelee (late Madura) .....	.....	.....	97 1 0	97 1 0	66 10 1	300 0 0	214 4 0	580 14 1	1,498 19 7	166 1 5	530 10 10	2,193 11 10
Beagle Bay Mission .....	557 8 9	.....	230 4 0	787 12 9	1,217 5 0	.....	348 4 2	1,563 9 2	917 8 5	.....	605 5 0	1,522 13 5
Carnarvon .....	206 3 5	.....	56 14 0	262 17 5	292 9 11	1,000 0 0	218 14 0	1,511 3 11	415 3 0	1,673 0 0	147 17 8	2,236 0 8
Forrest River .....	241 10 6	.....	129 2 8	370 13 2	357 10 5	1,500 0 0	179 19 11	2,037 10 4	1,363 19 1	1,000 0 0	317 8 0	2,681 7 1
Gnowangerup .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20 16 0	60 0 0	21 3 6	101 19 6
Kellerberrin .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28 10 9	28 10 9
Kalumburu (ex Drysdale) .....	243 18 5	.....	151 18 0	395 16 5	417 13 4	.....	133 1 0	550 14 4	410 14 6	.....	297 2 4	707 16 10
Holy Child Orphanage, Broome .....	236 10 8	.....	56 7 9	292 18 5	210 4 6	.....	67 8 9	277 13 3	278 9 5	393 0 0	138 11 2	810 0 7
Lombadina .....	173 11 0	.....	99 6 0	272 17 0	219 1 6	.....	110 18 4	329 19 10	240 16 3	.....	138 7 9	379 4 0
Mt. Margaret .....	400 17 11	.....	101 1 10	501 19 9	724 4 5	250 0 0	142 18 1	1,117 2 6	929 8 4	250 0 0	740 19 2	1,920 7 6
New Norcia .....	101 8 0	.....	50 8 0	151 16 0	124 16 0	.....	.....	124 16 0	94 9 9	.....	76 2 0	170 11 9
Norseman .....	153 12 2	.....	.....	153 12 2	223 12 0	.....	.....	223 12 0	263 9 0	.....	.....	263 9 0
Pallottine, Billiluna .....	287 16 0	.....	107 13 3	395 9 3	312 0 0	.....	159 14 7	471 14 7	242 4 10	.....	186 10 6	428 15 4
Pallottine Mission School, Tardun .....	.....	.....	100 16 0	100 16 0	140 16 8	.....	77 3 6	218 0 2	434 3 5	.....	360 1 0	794 4 5
Roelands .....	163 16 1	.....	.....	163 16 1	283 9 6	279 13 10	.....	563 3 4	804 3 9	1,656 0 0	273 9 10	2,733 13 7
St. Francis Xavier's, Wandering .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	71 15 3	.....	.....	71 15 3	369 0 9	3,000 0 0	242 16 4	3,611 17 1
Sunday Island .....	167 5 2	.....	70 13 0	237 18 2	211 7 1	.....	109 9 1	320 16 2	169 3 6	.....	352 8 4	521 11 10
Warburton Range .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	102 9 3	.....	297 4 4	399 13 7	737 13 3	180 0 0	1,206 12 6	2,124 5 9
White Springs .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18 15 0	3,000 0 0	.....	3,018 15 0	1 11 4	4,000 0 0	118 18 2	4,120 9 6
Wotjulum (previously Kunmunya) .....	115 14 3	.....	147 6 9	263 1 0	854 5 1	1,200 0 0	340 13 5	2,394 18 6	693 1 9	.....	820 3 10	1,518 5 7
Australian Inland Mission Hospital, Hall's Creek .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25 0 0	.....	.....	25 0 0	25 0 0	.....	.....	25 0 0
Australian Inland Mission Hospital, Fitz- roy Crossing .....	45 0 0	.....	.....	45 0 0	34 5 1	.....	.....	34 5 1	53 17 3	.....	.....	53 17 3
Broome Convent School .....	132 15 0	.....	42 0 0	174 15 0	125 0 0	.....	.....	125 0 0	125 0 0	.....	57 1 6	182 1 6
Deaf and Dumb School .....	52 0 0	.....	.....	52 0 0	52 0 0	.....	.....	52 0 0	59 3 9	.....	.....	59 3 9
Incidental .....	134 19 10	.....	.....	134 19 10	19 1 0	.....	.....	19 1 0	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sister Kate's Home .....	776 8 6	.....	8 8 0	784 16 6	452 14 1	.....	.....	452 14 1	675 0 1	.....	25 7 4	700 7 5
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>£5,096 9 0</b>	<b>£1,701 12 6</b>	<b>£6,798 1 6</b>	<b>£8,399 6 6</b>	<b>£7,529 13 10</b>	<b>£3,178 6 4</b>	<b>£19,107 6 8</b>	<b>£12,826 2 3</b>	<b>£12,378 1 5</b>	<b>£7,284 11 6</b>	<b>£32,488 15 2</b>	

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