



# REPORT OF THE ABORIGINES' PROTECTION BOARD FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1949

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Aborigines Protection Board, Adelaide,  
1st September, 1949.

To His Excellency, Lieutenant-General SIR CHARLES WILLOUGHBY MOKE NORRIE, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., M.C.,  
Governor in and over the State of South Australia, and its Dependencies in the Commonwealth of Australia.

May it please Your Excellency—

We do ourselves the honour to submit the annual report of the Aborigines Protection Board for the year ended 30th June, 1949.

During the year 15 meetings of the board were held. The regular attendance of the members of the board indicates keen interest in the welfare of the aborigines, and a strong desire to afford adequate protection for the remaining tribal natives, and also to assist and encourage those living in the settled areas to become useful and worthy citizens of South Australia.

The secretary of the board, Mr. W. R. Penhall, who has had many years of practical experience in an administrative capacity on aboriginal stations, and also as head of the Aborigines Department, was appointed a member of the board to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of the Reverend Canon S. T. C. Best.

The Aborigines Act provides that the secretary of the board shall be the permanent head of the department, and shall be responsible for the administration of the department.

At the request of the board the secretary presented at each meeting of the board an interim report dealing with the many and varied problems that arise in the administration of the department. The following extracts from interim reports indicates the wide scope of departmental activities, and also the degree of assistance and supervision afforded the aborigines :—

1. One young woman from Point McLeay Station had expressed a desire to become a nurse. She was appointed housemaid at the local hospital for aborigines to enable her to obtain experience in domestic hygiene, and to acquire some knowledge of nursing practice before transferring to the training centre at McBride Hospital, Medindie. As the young trainee would be required to share a room with white girls also being trained as nurses, it was felt she should have clothing equal in quality to that worn by the other trainees, consequently the welfare officer purchased the necessary clothing, including uniforms. The parents of the young woman contributed £15 toward the cost. A similar procedure was adopted in relation to another young woman from Point Pearce. There are now three nurse trainees at the McBride Hospital, all of whom are rendering excellent service and receiving a sound course of training.

2. A telephone message had been received from the police officer at Hawker, indicating that an aboriginal child, who was very seriously ill in the Hawker Hospital had been ordered to the Adelaide Children's Hospital. Arrangements were made for an ambulance to proceed to Hawker to convey the child to Adelaide, and she was admitted to hospital within a few hours. The cost of this service was borne by the department.

3. The patrol officer at the Woomera Rocket Range, Mr. McDougall, who was appointed to protect the natives in that area, reported to the secretary by telephone that he had been informed that a native woman left in charge temporarily at a station homestead 40 miles away had been molested by two white men. He was instructed to seek the assistance of the nearest police officer, and to proceed to the scene of the crime. The two offenders were arrested and conveyed to Port Augusta, and sentenced after trial in the local police court.

4. A young man from Point Pearce had been charged in the Criminal Court with burglary. The secretary of the board attended the court proceedings, and recommended that the defendant be released on a bond. This course was adopted, and the young man was placed under the direction of the secretary. He was required to engage in such work as was provided, to abstain from drinking liquor, and to be of good conduct for a period of three years. A position was secured for him on the north-south railway line as a fettler. His work and conduct were subjected to a friendly supervision, and the young man is now a ganger on the line, receiving good wages, and in charge of a number of men. He recently came to the office while on recreation leave, and his appearance and demeanour suggested that he had made the best use of the opportunity provided in the terms of the bond, and that he would become a useful member of the community.

## EXEMPTIONS FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE ABORIGINES ACT.

During the period under review, an unconditional declaration of exemption from the provisions of the Aborigines Act was made in respect of four children, the father being a white man and his wife a quadroon. The children are fair in colour, and bear little resemblance to aborigines. Unconditional exemption was granted also to 24 persons who had completed satisfactorily a probationary period of three years. In addition 19 persons were exempted on probation. Applications for exemption from 21 others were not entertained, as it was considered they were not likely to achieve success as members of the general community.

The limited declarations of exemption previously made in respect of 10 persons were revoked for the following reasons :—

Excessive indulgence in intoxicating liquor .....	4
Wives and children of the foregoing .....	6
	<hr/>
Total .....	10
	<hr/> <hr/>

One family of exempted persons were unable to obtain housing accommodation, and an appeal was made to the board for assistance. Employment was secured for the husband, and the wife and children were provided with accommodation at Point Pearce Station for several months until the family was able to secure a place of residence.

Assistance in the form of gifts of iron and timber was also provided to enable several exempted families to build small cottages in country districts.

#### HEALTH SURVEY.

For many years the board has taken vigorous measures to ensure the health of the aboriginal population in every part of the State. During the year under review every person displaying symptoms of serious illness was sent to hospital for observation and treatment. A considerable number of patients were referred to the clinic at the Royal Adelaide Hospital for the purpose of examination by X-ray. Although the aborigines are regarded as being susceptible to diseases of the chest, only a very slight percentage of the large number examined proved to be positive cases of tuberculosis. These were admitted to hospital, and, as the infection was in most cases of comparatively recent origin, the patients appear to be responding satisfactorily to treatment.

One of the principal causes of ill-health, particularly amongst children, is the irregular and inadequate meals provided by some of the mothers, who are incompetent and neglectful. No doubt such children would enjoy better health, and be much happier if placed in institutions provided by missionary organizations, and in some cases action along these lines has been taken. The board desires, however, as far as possible, to preserve the family life intact, and, with this object in view, the welfare officer, Sister McKenzie, and the nurses and helpers on aboriginal stations and missions are busily engaged advising and encouraging the parents to raise the standard of living in their homes. While in some homes reasonably good use is made of the family income, it is obvious that in many cases there is an appalling incompetence in the management of money. The endowment income in such cases is brought under the control of the department with a view to ensuring that the children are properly fed and clothed.

#### SOCIAL SERVICE BENEFITS.

At the conference of aboriginal authorities held at Canberra on the 4th February, 1948, the following resolution was adopted :—

This conference is of the opinion that full benefits under the Social Services Consolidation Act of the Commonwealth should be available to all aboriginals except full-blood aboriginals living under primitive or nomadic conditions, and that Commonwealth legislation should be amended accordingly.

Unfortunately, no action has, as yet, been taken to amend the Act to enable aborigines living after the manner of Europeans to participate in social service benefits. This is manifestly unjust, as all aborigines, irrespective of the degree of aboriginal blood, are required to pay income tax, and a considerable number of aborigines do in fact pay income tax, including the social services tax.

The particular section of the Act which adversely affects aborigines, and causes much discontent, is that which precludes a mother in whom there is the slightest preponderance of aboriginal blood receiving the maternity allowance. All aboriginal mothers, whose standard of living is equivalent to the average in the district, and who accepts the same obligations and responsibilities as other women in that district, should have access to the maternity allowance. The test of eligibility should not be the degree of aboriginal blood, but the standard of life maintained by the mother concerned.

Aborigines applying for invalid, age and widows' pensions are required to leave their homes on aboriginal stations or missions, where they have lived and worked all their lives, and where all their interests lie, and, if aboriginal blood preponderates, they must also be exempted from the provisions of the Aborigines Act in order to qualify for the benefits. The board urges that this anomalous condition be remedied as soon as possible.

#### GRANTS TO MISSIONARY ORGANIZATIONS.

Soon after the board was appointed, it was decided that the operation of mission stations could be carried on more effectively by religious organizations than by the establishment of departmental institutions, and that financial assistance should be made available to the organizations engaged in caring for and training aborigines. In pursuance of this policy the South Australian Government has made grants of money toward the cost of housing, water supply, schools, etc., on the various mission stations.

During the year under review the sum of £500 was made available towards the cost of additions to the school building, and the installation of the telephone at the Finnis Springs Mission.

Recommendations have been made by the board for financial assistance for the ensuing financial year for the following undertakings :—

		£
Ernabella Mission .....	Kitchen-dining hall .....	375
	Improved water supply .....	250
United Aborigines Mission—		
Gerard .....	Improved water supply .....	725
	Dormitory building .....	700
Oodnadatta .....	Dormitory building .....	800
Finniss Springs .....	Improved water supply .....	300
	<hr/>	
Total .....		3,150
		<hr/> <hr/>

Advances have also been made to individual aborigines during the year under review to enable them to engage commercially in the fishing industry, and to purchase furniture, tents, etc.

A weaving loom was provided to enable the young people at the Finnis Springs Mission to learn the art of weaving. Under a competent instructor, the young people are rapidly becoming expert in this work.

### FUTURE OF OOLDEA MISSION.

A serious problem engaging the attention of the board at present is the unsuitability of the reserve at Ooldea as a home for the aborigines, and particularly as a training centre for the young people. Included in the reserve is the Ooldea water hole situated in an arid region, which has been for countless generations a ceremonial ground for aborigines. The scarcity of firewood, native game, and other natural foods, has resulted in the semi-detribalized natives of this area going further afield in search of game. Under these conditions they cannot be properly supervised and cared for by the mission staff.

There is also an urgent need to find employment for the younger men and women when they leave school. Ooldea is too far removed from good farming and pastoral country for the young folk to be placed in work under supervision, and also to be able to maintain contact with their own people by periodical visits at week-ends and during holidays.

The board is endeavouring to secure a pastoral holding or a large farm with a permanent water supply, where the young men can be instructed in pastoral work and sheep husbandry, including shearing, so that they may become useful members of the community. If suitable land can be secured in an area where there is native game, the older men will be able to continue to hunt to supplement their rations, and thus maintain their main interest in life.

### EMPLOYMENT OF ABORIGINES AT WARRENS GORGE MAKING THE FILM "BITTER SPRINGS".

When a request was received by the board from Ealing Studios for permission to employ a large number of aborigines in making a film "Bitter Springs" at Warrens Gorge, very careful inquiries were made as to the nature of the story to be filmed, and also as to the probable effect on the aborigines of close contact with life in the settled areas.

The information received indicated that, with effective safeguards and efficient supervision, the aborigines would probably profit very considerably by the experience. The board, therefore, acceded to the request of Ealing Studios, and appointed Mr. H. E. Green, Superintendent of the Ooldea Mission, to the position of Camp Superintendent, and Mr. H. E. Reichenbach, a former missionary at Ooldea, as Assistant Superintendent.

That the experience has been most helpful to the natives employed is indicated in the reports received from the Director of Ealing Studios and members of the staff, extracts from which are set out hereunder:—

Mr. Ralph Smart, director of the film, who went to Ooldea before the production commenced in order to meet members of the Ooldea tribe, stated the Ooldea and Koonibba natives who took part in the Ealing Studios production of "Bitter Springs" have now left Quorn, much to the regret of all the other artists and the technical staff on the production. During their several weeks' stay in camp at Warrens Gorge, 14 miles from Quorn, they endeared themselves to everybody. We learn that they have much more intelligence than they are generally given credit for, a great sense of humour that rarely deserts them, and quite a number have shown surprising initiative.

The early days with the natives on the film were not altogether encouraging. When making a film, it is necessary to rehearse each scene several times to enable the technicians to photograph it to the best advantage. When making early scenes with the natives, we explained through a translator the contents of the scene, and then commenced rehearsals. After the first rehearsal the natives would sit down, and, when asked to repeat the scene, they would laugh and become embarrassed, as they had done what had been asked of them, and, from their point of view, it seemed unnecessary to repeat the action. After a great deal of coaxing, they would rehearse once or twice again, and then passively refuse to go any further. At the time I was most concerned, as I had heard that the natives soon get tired of any kind of occupation, and I wondered what would happen in a few weeks, or perhaps a few days even, when they tired of filming. Then one day with a hidden microphone, we were recording the conversation of the natives on discs. After making a recording it was played through the loud speaker in the sound van to check the quality. The natives recognised their voices, and in a moment they were all crowded around the sound van intensely interested. We then decided to give the natives a picture show of the scenes they had been taking. We had a projector transported to Warrens Gorge, and provided them with an open air picture show after dark. For the first time they realised what we were trying to do, and from that time their whole attitude towards the film changed. Instead of hesitating when playing in scenes, and all trying to keep in the background, they were now competing for the important parts. It was about this time that we began to photograph scenes with the white actors in the film. When the natives saw us rehearsing again and again, and the white actors taking it as a matter of course, the natives changed their attitude towards rehearsing. At the end of a week or two they were doing much better than I had ever expected.

In the past I have made documentary films in which I have used ordinary people who were not actors to play parts, and now, having worked with the natives, I must say that I find that there is a greater percentage of natural actors among the natives than there is among white people.

The enthusiasm of the natives has grown all the time, and they will rehearse a scene as many times as we wish, and, just as trained actors will, they put in new touches and improve their performance with each rehearsal. Probably the training the natives get in their corroborees helps to make them such good actors.

Now that the film is finished, and that they are doing so well, I only wish we had another story which they could help to film. They are good natured, cheerful people, who rarely sulk and soon forget their differences. We found them good companions, and pleasant folk to work with. Possibly the most interesting and helpful aspect of the natives from Ooldea was that among their number were some who were comparatively sophisticated, and who spoke excellent English, whereas the majority were completely "bush" and full of the gaiety and friendliness of their kind. The sophisticated natives were able initially to help us gain the confidence of the others, and later became our chief actors and leaders.

When the film "Bitter Springs" is completed, it will undoubtedly gain friends for the natives both in their native land, and in countries far removed from it.

We have recorded some very interesting native songs, and it is considered necessary that these records should be preserved, as it is likely the next generation of natives will only be able to sing songs of our civilization, and that their own, which have been handed down from generation to generation, will be gone forever.

On one occasion when the stock man in charge of the horses was ill in bed, and the animals had broken loose, and had gone bush, one of the aborigines undertook to ride out and find them. This man travelled about 25 miles from his camp through country which was absolutely unknown to him, as he had never traversed the area previously, but he succeeded in tracking the stray horses, although no one knew in which direction they had gone, and bringing them back in a few hours.

On another occasion two of the natives noticed some visitors getting into their car at Warrens Gorge one Sunday when the unit was not working there, and that they were taking with them spears and other native weapons which were the property of Ealing Studios. These weapons had undoubtedly been stolen from the store tent. The two natives were so incensed at the behaviour of these white visitors that, although knowing

very little English, they demanded the return of the property, and, what is more, they managed to obtain possession of the weapons again for us.

The general opinion of the unit and the artists is that the natives are well worth caring for and educating, and that, if this job is tackled the right way, many of them will in time become useful citizens, taking their rightful place in the community, yet retaining what is best in their own culture.

#### WELFARE WORK AND SERVICE.

No effort is spared by the board to ensure the physical, mental, and moral welfare of the aborigines.

Ration depots have been established at all missions, institutions, pastoral stations, and camping places throughout the State. Rations are distributed by missionaries, pastoralists, police officers, and other interested people.

In large centres of aboriginal population, medical practitioners are retained for the treatment of sick aborigines, and patients from remote areas are conveyed to the doctor for attention. Medical supplies are provided at all aboriginal missions and institutions, and also on pastoral stations.

Blankets and clothing are provided as required.

Special schools for aborigines are to be found in many parts of South Australia. Teachers in some instances are appointed by the Director of Education, and in other schools the instruction is given by missionaries. In addition to the usual subjects in the curriculum, handicrafts of various kinds are taught so as to provide a useful and profitable means of employing leisure hours. School books and other requisites are provided by the board.

Departmental officers and missionaries are giving good service, and missionary organizations are contributing funds to provide moral and religious instruction for the native people. The board desires to thank all who are assisting the native people in their efforts to become worthy citizens of Australia.

#### VOCATIONAL TRAINING.

The scheme under which the Salvation Army provides training in domestic science for selected trainees continues to operate. During the time the scheme has been in operation a large number of girls have passed through the Fullarton School, and many of these have married, while others are still employed as domestic helps in institutions and private homes. At present there are eight girls at Fullarton.

Training is also provided at the various missions, not only in domestic science, but also in weaving, dressmaking, etc.

On departmental stations a number of "learners" are employed each year in the shearing teams employed in shearing station sheep, and also sheep brought to the stations by surrounding farmers for shearing purposes.

There are, in addition, at departmental schools classes for instruction in domestic science, cooking, woodwork, etc.

#### REPORTS FROM POLICE OFFICERS, MISSIONARIES, AND STATION MANAGERS.

Police reports indicate a slight reduction in the number of aborigines convicted in the police court. Nearly all offences committed by aborigines were in contravention of the Licensing Act, or arising from excessive indulgence in alcoholic liquors. A number of convictions were obtained against white men for supplying liquor to aborigines.

Police officers have rendered excellent service in exercising a friendly supervision of the natives, and also in distributing rations on behalf of the board to those in need. The board desires to thank the Commissioner of Police and his staff for the assistance rendered during the year.

Rations were distributed by police officers and managers of pastoral stations to all old, infirm, and temporarily unemployed aborigines.

#### PRESBYTERIAN MISSION, ERNABELLA (SUPERINTENDENT, REV. R. M. TRUDINGER).

Reports from Ernabella indicate steady progress in all sections of the work of this important mission.

The new school building, which combines the most modern features of lighting and ventilation, has been completed and is now in use, Miss Baird being in charge of the school. The wisdom of teaching both in the native language and in English will become more apparent as these bi-lingual children grow to maturity, understanding and appreciating the best in their own culture and in the elements of civilization derived from their contact with teachers whose sole aim is the welfare of their scholars.

A commodious new workshop has been built and equipped with modern hand and bench tools.

The framework of the new kitchen-dining hall is in course of erection. Simple but effective equipment will be provided to ensure hygiene training, and to facilitate the preparation and serving of plain wholesome food for the old and infirm, the working people and the children. There are 91 workers on the paysheet at present.

A new well was sunk to obtain water for the establishment of a people's garden. An adequate supply of good water was obtained, and a windmill, auxiliary engine, and irrigation plant will soon be installed.

Four new wells have been sunk by qualified native workmen on various parts of the mission to permit the use of extensive grazing areas. The sheep industry is flourishing, the shearing and shepherding of sheep being done by the natives. The financial returns from the sale of wool were most satisfactory.

Women and girls are receiving instruction in wool spinning, weaving, and other handicrafts.

The missions store trade is increasing in volume, the natives purchasing the goods they need, and tendering their wages cheques from surrounding stations in payment.

The mission hospital and dispensary is under the care of Sister Dawkins.

The general health of the natives has been satisfactory, few serious cases of sickness being reported. There were five births and two deaths during the year.

#### UMEEWARRA MISSION, PORT AUGUSTA.

Matron K. M. Simmons and members of the staff are rendering outstanding service to the aborigines in that, when called upon, they take into the mission dormitory children who have spent their early years in aboriginal camps in the bush, and have not attended school, nor enjoyed any of the privileges well known to children who have always lived in the settled areas. There are 35 children living in the mission home at present.

The special school for aboriginal children associated with the mission is also under the control of Matron Simmons and Miss Cantle.

The old and infirm aborigines living on the reserve nearby are cared for by the mission staff, receiving medical attention and rations, including a hot meal each day. Visiting aborigines from far afield live on the reserve while receiving attention at the Port Augusta hospital, and they are cared for also by members of the staff.

Several boys leaving school at the end of the year will be sent to suitable places of employment.

## LUTHERAN MISSION, KOONIBBA.

The activities of the Koonibba Mission cover a large area in the western district of South Australia. Several families formerly associated with the mission have settled in railway towns where the men are employed as fettlers, or in coastal towns where they obtain casual work as wharf labourers. A number of men whose families have been exempted from the provisions of the Aborigines Act are working regularly at Port Lincoln.

The regular work of the mission has proceeded as usual during the year. Many children are provided with a home in the children's dormitory, where they live under kindly supervision.

Mr. Bruggemann reports considerable progress in the school, where visual education is now being provided. Arrangements have also been made for correspondence lessons to be furnished regularly by the Education Department to enable the teachers to keep in touch with modern methods. Two sewing machines and a knitting machine will soon be installed to provide training in dressmaking, etc. for the girls in the upper grades of the school. All scholars are given hot cocoa to drink at recess time each day.

The Mission Board is endeavouring also to secure playground equipment for use by the children during leisure hours.

A good year is reported with regard to the farm and station work, a new area of land adjoining the station having been acquired recently.

Rations, medical attention and medicines, school books and blankets, etc., were provided by the board at a cost of £1,022.

The work and influence of this important mission is steadily increasing.

## UNITED ABORIGINES MISSION.

The work of the United Aborigines Mission has been maintained as usual at the various mission centres during the year.

*Finnis Springs.*—The missionary-in-charge, Mr. A. J. Pearce, reports a very favourable and progressive year. A number of adults and young people have been received as members of the local church, and this is regarded as a vital factor in the good conduct of the natives residing on the station.

At the special school for aborigines girls and boys between 13 years and 15 years old, having completed the ordinary course of lessons, are now taking a course of handicrafts. The subjects in this course are weaving, dressmaking, laundry, and cooking for the girls, while the boys receive instruction in woodwork, etc.

A considerable improvement in the standard of living is also apparent. Native mothers are spending their child endowment income wisely in purchasing nourishing food and good clothing for their children. The health of the people has been very satisfactory. The work of the Flying Doctor in this area is of great importance, and prompt and efficient service is rendered when appeals for assistance are made.

The policy of families living on the mission while the menfolk work on surrounding stations is thoroughly sound.

*Gerard Mission, Berri.*—Mr. Southwell reports that there are 11 children in the dormitory, one boy having left during the year to go to a position in which he is doing well.

Twenty children receive instruction in the special school for aborigines.

Two additional cottages were erected during the year, but more houses are urgently needed to provide for the increasing population at the mission.

Several hundred trees were planted in the mission orchard, and 20 acres of land cleared to permit further extension. A new sprinkling system for the garden is being installed. Some of the native residents are establishing home gardens, and they are receiving the encouragement and support of the mission. Voluntary working bees are arranged periodically, and during the year a new road was built by this means for a distance of nearly five miles by the native men.

All able bodied people are working at the mission, or at adjacent orchards and packing sheds.

*Oodnadatta Mission.*—A home for orphans and neglected children was established at Oodnadatta during the year with Mr. N. B. Wiley in charge. Twelve children are now in residence, some of whom have never previously enjoyed the comfort of a good home with nourishing food and decent clothing. Three of the children attend the Oodnadatta public school; the remainder, whose knowledge of the English language is very limited, receive instruction at the mission school.

Services are conducted by Mr. Wiley also at the camp occupied by local aborigines. It is hoped the influence of the Oodnadatta Mission on the camp natives in this district will encourage these people to adopt a higher standard of living.

*Nepabunna Mission.*—Mr. F. Eaton reports an increasing demand for native labour in the district. In some cases the families accompany the men employed on surrounding pastoral stations, but the general practice is for the women and children to remain at the mission to enable the children to attend the local school for aborigines conducted by members of the staff.

A number of men are employed at the Leigh Creek coal mine, thereby contributing to the industrial prosperity of the State.

Rations are distributed to old and infirm aborigines, and medical attention has been provided by Dr. Shepherd at Copley and Leigh Creek.

*Colebrook Home, Eden Hills.*—Matron Hyde reports that there are 50 children in the Colebrook Home. A number of young people who found a home in this fine institution are occupying positions of responsibility in the community. Miss Nellie Lester is the matron of the Gumeracha Hospital, and Miss Muriel Brumbie a member of the nursing staff.

Nancy Brumbie and Amy O'Donoghue are teaching in kindergarten schools in the metropolitan area. Two young girls attend the Unley Technical School, while education of the younger children is provided for at the school associated with the home.

## POINT McLEAY STATION.

*Population.*—The number of native residents on the 30th June, 1949, was 325, 171 males and 154 females.

During the year there were 24 births and 4 deaths.

There has been an increased demand for aboriginal labour, resulting in many natives, and in some cases their families also, being absent from the station for long periods. Although sometimes causing their employers trouble because of indulgence of alcoholic liquor, the native workers appear to be giving satisfactory service, particularly in the fruit, grape picking, and shearing industries.

*Health.*—There have been very few cases of serious sickness during the year under review, and the general health of the natives has been satisfactory. Nevertheless, the medical staff has been kept busy in the hospital dealing with midwifery cases and outpatients, and also visiting patients in their homes.

The liberal use of D.D.T., which has almost eliminated the house fly, is largely responsible for the improved standard of health. Efforts are being made to provide all cottages with wire doors and window screens.

It is considered that the free issue of hot milk at the school also assists in building up the physique of the children.

The system of sanitation has been revised with the object of making all outbuildings fly proof. It is felt that this is another step in the direction of a healthier community, particularly in relation to infants and young people. In spite of the progress made on the station, there is still much to be done to educate the natives in maintaining a reasonable standard of cleanliness within and around their homes.

*New Buildings.*—An additional two rooms are in course of erection at each of two cottages. The walls have been built, and the houses will be finished when timber and iron are available. Although little building has been undertaken during the year, a considerable amount of maintenance and repair work has been carried out on the existing cottages, and most of them present a pleasing appearance. Much needed structural alterations cannot be undertaken on account of the shortage of skilled labour and material.

*Dairy.*—Satisfactory results were obtained at the dairy, although a difficult time was experienced on account of the dry summer months, and the resultant lack of paddock feed and summer pastures.

Rabbits were present in plague form, and this factor, combined with the dry summer, caused a serious deterioration in the pastures. Every effort is made each year to control rabbits by means of fumigation, trapping, ploughing, and filling warrens.

A comparatively small area was cropped last season, but a fair return of hay was obtained. The area sown for barley yielded rather poorly, but the paddocks sown with evening primrose and veldt grass produced very satisfactory results and provided valuable grazing.

A six unit milking machine with diesel engine and steaming plant has been installed, and is giving excellent service under hygienic conditions. The records disclose that 19,181 lb. of cream were sold during the year, and 132 lb. of cream issued to sick natives on the authority of the medical officer. In addition to the cream produced, free milk was issued to each native family, the daily average of milk issued being 231 lb. Of this amount 40 lb. to 50 lb. are issued to the school children each day. The receipts for cream sold amounted to £1,013 18s. 8d.

*Pigs.*—The policy of keeping breeding stock only and selling all young pigs has been continued because of the partial failure of the barley crop sown for pig feed. During the year 173 pigs were sold, realizing £247 8s. 4d. An extension of the pig farming industry will be undertaken as soon as fencing materials are available.

*Sheep.*—A particularly good lambing was experienced last year, 91·4 per cent being obtained. Some fat lambs were sold, realizing 33s. 4d. per head. Five hundred and sixty-four sheep were slaughtered to provide meat for the native residents, and the skins, when sold, averaged 12s. each. These values are slightly better than those obtained last year, reflecting the abnormally high wool values. The average price obtained at the wool sales was 22·13d. per lb., and the total income received from the sale of wool was £1,472 3s. 5d.

*Water Supply.*—Owing to the shortage of pipes it has not been possible as yet to commence work on the installation of the new and larger water scheme. There is an increasing demand for water for farming, gardening and domestic purposes, and it is hoped that, during the ensuing year, the new scheme will be completed and in operation.

It is intended also to continue planting gums and other trees when additional water is available.

*General.*—The educational and religious work has been maintained at the usual high standard. The young people of the station are given every opportunity to acquire a sound education, and also to receive instruction in moral standards.

One feature deserving special mention is that an effort made in response to the United Nations Appeal for starving children resulted in the sum of £45 being raised on the station for this worthy purpose.

#### POINT PEARCE STATION.

*Population.*—The manager of the station reports that a census taken on the 30th June, revealed a total population of 381, consisting of 189 males and 192 females. Included in this number there are 208 children under the age of 16 years.

*Health.*—The general health of the natives has been good. Although very few cases of serious sickness occurred, it was necessary to convey 32 patients to the public hospital at Wallaroo, including a number of midwifery cases. Amongst the children there were slight outbreaks of whooping cough and measles. Unfortunately it was impossible to secure the services of a trained nurse for a period of five months during the year, but an appointment has now been made, and it is hoped that Sister Kelly will be able to continue her work for a long period.

The shortage of materials for building has precluded the erection of the local hospital planned some time ago. When the hospital is in operation, it is probable that very few cases will be sent to the hospital at Wallaroo.

With a view to eliminating sources of infection, the sanitary system was re-organized, and all buildings and plant renovated. There is a covered rubbish bin provided for every cottage, but it is difficult to obtain the co-operation of householders in maintaining cleanliness in the village as well as in the cottages.

*Assistance to Fishermen.*—During the year assistance was provided to enable three fishermen to engage commercially in the fishing industry. There are now eight natives earning their living as fishermen independently of the station.

*Housing.*—It has not been possible to undertake the erection of new cottages, or to add to existing buildings, but repairs have been effected to 47 of the native cottages during the year, the repairs consisting of a number of new windows, door frames and doors, plastering and painting, etc.

*General Repairs and Improvements.*—In addition to the ordinary farm and institutional work, there was a general overhaul of all plant and fittings. A new pipe line was laid from the source of the water supply near the beach to the station; one 20,000gall. stone tank was built; five new windmills (replacing worn-out plant) were placed in position, and a good deal of fencing was renewed.

#### LIVESTOCK.

*Sheep.*—There were 3,378 sheep on hand at the end of the year, including 783 lambs. Eight hundred and seven sheep were slaughtered to provide meat for local residents, and the skins sold returned £586 2s. 9d. The wool clip was very satisfactory, the average yield of wool per sheep being 11·37 lbs., valued at £1 12s. 10d., the total value of wool sold for the year being £3,720 6s. 1d. The lambing was not as good as usual, because of the exceptionally dry conditions prevailing at the station.

*Pigs.*—There were 185 pigs on the station at the end of the year. One hundred and eighty-three pigs were sold during the year, the returns from this source amounting to £1,035 7s. 6d.

*Cattle.*—A milking herd of approximately 25 cows is maintained on the station for the purpose of assuring a milk supply for the local residents. Free milk is distributed to each householder, and is provided also for the school children. Thirty-six head of cattle were sold during the year for the sum of £524 17s. 6d.

In spite of the uncertain rainfall in this area, efforts are being made to establish permanent pastures so as to ensure a greater quantity of high grade milk for local consumption.

*Farm.*—Seven hundred and twenty acres were sown with wheat during the year under review, the work being done by native sharefarmers with station plant. The crop returned 2,260 bags of wheat, or slightly more than 9 bush. per acre.

A large area was sown with barley to produce pig feed, but the crop was almost a total failure due to the absence of late rains.

The oat crop also was very poor, only 1,163 bales of hay being harvested.

The conditions on the farm at present are rather unsatisfactory, due to prolonged dry weather, the shortage of feed has rendered it necessary to hand feed the stock, and the absence of rain has seriously affected the water supply for livestock.

*Social Activities.*—The weekly picture entertainment has been conducted throughout the year, and a number of successful dances held. At the Victory Ball, which was arranged to celebrate the success of the Point Pearce Football Team in winning the premiership in the Yorke Valley Football Association, a large number of visitors from surrounding districts were present.

The Ladies' Guild under the presidency of Mrs. L. B. Young with Mrs. Eileen Hughes as secretary, has had a most successful year. Knitting and dressmaking competitions, which are both useful and profitable to the natives, were most successful.

The Youth Club and the Girls' Club are still functioning, but the lack of co-operation on that part of the young people is most disappointing.

*Educational.*—The church services have been continued throughout the year, and also the Sunday School. The church services are provided by the Methodist and Lutheran Churches, and each of the Ministers report increased attendances. The Sunday School is conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Young. Mr. Don Hall, proprietor of the local picture shows, gave a benefit picture entertainment, the proceeds being used to provide equipment for the Sunday School.

The attendance at the special school for aborigines has been very good, but staff shortages have made the position very difficult for the Head Teacher, Mr. Porter.

Repairs were effected to the school porch; a new floor was placed in the shelter shed, and new out offices erected in the school grounds. It is intended to re-decorate the school building internally during the Christmas vacation.

A statement of receipts and expenditure of the department, and income and expenditure statements of the Point McLeay and Point Pearce Stations are appended.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient servants,

M. McINTOSH, Chairman,	} Aborigines Protection Board.
J. B. CLELAND, Deputy Chairman,	
CONSTANCE M. COOKE,	
A. M. JOHNSTON,	
LEN. J. COOK,	
GORDON ROWE,	
W. R. PENHALL, Secretary.	

## STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1949.

1948. £	AMOUNTS RECEIVED AND PAYMENTS MADE ON ACCOUNT OF EXPENSES IN CARRYING OUT THE FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT ARE SHOWN HEREUNDER :—	£	1949. £
	<b>ABORIGINAL WELFARE—</b>		
	<b>Payments on account of expenses were :—</b>		
3,252	Administrative officers .....	3,567	
451	Medical, dental, nursing and welfare officers .....	666	
487	Payroll tax for child endowment .....	529	
107	Portion of superannuation pensions met by the Government .....	128	
7,775	Provisions, blankets, clothing, medicines, fares and transport of aborigines, allowances, and office expenses .....	8,997	
87	Aborigines Home, North Adelaide—Maintenance of .....	139	
364	Development of reserves for aborigines .....	468	
150	Assistance to aboriginal fishermen .....	117	
266	Training half-caste girls for domestic service .....	246	
	<b>Grants—</b>		
500	United Aborigines Mission—Towards cottages .....	—	
600	Ernabella Mission—Towards new school .....	—	
—	Finnis Springs Mission—		
—	Towards cost of additional school buildings .....	400	
	Towards cost of erecting telephone line to Alberrie Creek Railway Station.	100	
14,039		15,357	
219	Less refund of rail fares, etc. ....	135	
13,820			15,222
	<b>POINT PEARCE STATION—</b>		
	<b>Expenditure—</b>		
7,766	Salaries, wages and allowances .....	7,974	
6,837	Rations, farm stores, implements, and sundries .....	6,748	
6,079	Trading store—Purchases and expenses .....	5,426	
20,682		20,148	
	<b>Receipts—</b>		
10,440	Sales of produce, etc. ....	11,657	
5,572	Store sales .....	5,817	
16,012		17,474	
4,670			2,674
	<b>POINT McLEAY STATION—</b>		
	<b>Expenditure—</b>		
7,278	Salaries, wages, and allowances .....	7,866	
5,812	Rations, farm stores, implements, and sundries .....	5,999	
42	Rent—Hundred of Baker .....	42	
527	Purchase of truck .....	—	
5,389	Trading Store—Purchases and expenses .....	5,185	
19,048		19,092	
	<b>Receipts—</b>		
4,432	Sales of produce, etc. ....	4,490	
4,757	Stores sales .....	5,510	
9,189		10,000	
9,859			9,092
£28,349	<b>COST OF ABORIGINES TO THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 30th JUNE, 1949</b> .....		£26,988

1st September, 1949.

W. R. PENHALL, Secretary Aborigines Protection Board.



## POINT PEARCE AND POINT McLEAY ABORIGINAL STATIONS.

REVENUE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1949.

1947-48. £	THE EXPENDITURE INCURRED AND THE INCOME EARNED BY THE UNDERTAKINGS FOR THE YEAR WAS :—	£	1948-49. £
	<b>ABORIGINAL WELFARE—</b>		
	<b>Expenditure incurred in maintaining the Institution for the welfare of aborigines was :—</b>		
1,861	Administration costs, including salaries, pay roll tax for child endowment, travelling, and office expenses .....		1,396
10,776	Rations, firewood, medical services, and maintenance expenses, including wages paid to aborigines .....		13,149
64	<b>Against which rent of officers' residences and school buildings returned .....</b>		<b>437</b>
12,573	<b>Net expenditure on aboriginal welfare .....</b>		<b>14,108</b>
	<b>MIXED FARMING OPERATIONS—</b>	£	£
	<b>Earnings for the year were :—</b>		
14,876	Sale of farm produce, meat and livestock (including value of natural increase) .....		14,414
	<b>Expenditure incurred in earning that amount was :—</b>		
2,949	Management expenses, including salaries, pay roll tax for child endowment, travelling, and office expenses .....	3,586	
11,313	Farm working expenses, including wages, fertilizers, seed, farm stores, rent, and insurance .....	14,489	
			<u>18,075</u>
614	<b>Deficit on Mixed Farming Operations .....</b>		<b>3,661</b>
11,959	<b>Net expenditure on Aboriginal Welfare and Mixed Farming ..</b>		<b>17,769</b>
	<b>TRADING STORES—</b>		
	<b>Earnings for the year were :—</b>		
10,993	Sale of groceries and clothing amounted to .....	11,400	
	<b>Expenditure incurred in earning that amount was :—</b>		
10,397	Groceries, clothing, wages, pay roll tax for child endowment, and expenses of operating and maintaining the trading stores .....	10,912	
596	<b>Surplus from the Trading Stores .....</b>		<b>488</b>
£11,363	<b>RESULTING IN A NET COST FOR THE YEAR OF MAINTAINING ABORIGINES AT THE STATIONS..</b>		<b>£17,281</b>

W. R. PENHALL, Secretary Aborigines Protection Board.

1st September, 1949.

**POINT PEARCE AND POINT McLEAY ABORIGINAL STATIONS.**

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1949.

1948.	NATURE AND SOURCE OF FUNDS EMPLOYED.	1949.	1948.	FUNDS EMPLOYED ARE REPRESENTED BY—	1949.
£		£	£		£
	<b>FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE STATE TREASURER—</b>			<b>FIXED ASSETS—</b>	
	<b>For Capital and Other Purposes—</b>			Land, cottages, and station buildings (at cost) . . . . .	44,961
369,922	From moneys made available by the State Government out of General Revenue . . . . .	383,606	44,961	Fencing, water supply, and farm improvements (at cost) . . . . .	15,614
			16,048	Implements and vehicles (less depreciation) . . . . .	6,216
	<b>For Special Purposes—</b>		6,788	Furniture and hospital equipment (less depreciation) . . . . .	936
2,229	From general funds to finance the outlay on stores and services, which outlay is recoverable . . . . .	1,513	866		
					67,727
372,151	<b>Total Net Funds provided by the State Treasurer . . . . .</b>	385,119	7,236	<b>CURRENT ASSETS—</b>	
	<b>Less Cost of maintaining the stations—</b>		10,605	Stock of materials and stores . . . . .	5,284
274,987	Cost to 30th June, 1948 . . . . .	286,350	738	Livestock . . . . .	10,258
11,363	Cost for year ended 30th June, 1949 . . . . .	17,281	650	Sundry debtors—Sale of stores and produce . . . . .	634
			391	Advance to Accounting Officers . . . . .	650
		308,631		Cash in hand . . . . .	145
85,801	<b>BALANCE STATE TREASURER'S FUNDS IN THE UNDERTAKING AT THIS DATE</b>	81,488			16,971
	<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES—</b>				
2,482	Sundry Creditors—Stores and Services . . . . .	3,210			
£88,283		£84,698	£88,283		£84,698

The value of 17,800 acres at Point Pearce, and 4,145 acres at Point McLeay reserved for the use of aborigines is not taken into account in this balance-sheet.

1st September, 1949.

W. R. PENHALL, Secretary Aborigines Protection Board.

## POINT McLEAY ABORIGINAL STATION.

REVENUE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1949.

1947-48. £	THE EXPENDITURE INCURRED AND THE INCOME EARNED BY THE UNDERTAKING FOR THE YEAR WAS :—	£	1948-49. £
	<b>ABORIGINAL WELFARE—</b>		
	<b>Expenditure incurred in maintaining the station for the welfare of aborigines was :—</b>		
1,016	General administrative costs, including salaries, travelling and office expenses . .	664	
4,225	Rations, firewood, fares, and medical services supplied to aborigines, and station maintenance expenses . . . . .	6,257	
5,241		6,921	
	Against which rent of officers' residences was . . . . .	185	
5,241	Net expenditure on aboriginal welfare . . . . .		6,736
	<b>MIXED FARMING OPERATIONS—</b>		
	<b>Expenditure for the year was :—</b>		
1,642	Management expenses, including salaries, travelling and office expenses . . . . .	2,022	
5,497	Farm working expenses, including wages, fertilizers, seed, farm stores, rent and insurance . . . . .	7,068	
7,139		9,090	
	<b>Total expenditure for the year on account of mixed farming . . . . .</b>	<b>9,090</b>	
	<b>Against which income earned was :—</b>		
3,997	Sale of farm produce, meat and livestock (including value of natural increase) . .	4,315	
3,142		4,775	
	<b>Deficit on mixed farming operations . . . . .</b>		<b>4,775</b>
8,383	<b>Net expenditure on aboriginal welfare and mixed farming operations . . . . .</b>		<b>11,511</b>
	<b>TRADING STORE—</b>		
	<b>Earnings for the year were :—</b>		
5,452	Sale of groceries and clothing . . . . .	5,450	
	<b>Expenditure incurred in earning that amount was :—</b>		
5,242	Purchase of groceries and clothing and wages and expenses of operating and maintaining the Trading Store . . . . .	5,505	
(Surplus) 210			55
	<b>Deficit from the Trading Store . . . . .</b>		<b>55</b>
£8,173	<b>RESULTING IN A TOTAL NET COST FOR THE YEAR OF MAINTAINING ABORIGINES AT THE STATION.</b>		<b>£11,566</b>

W. R. PENHALL, Secretary Aborigines Protection Board.

1st September, 1949.

**POINT McLEAY ABORIGINAL STATION.**

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1949.

1948.	NATURE AND SOURCE OF FUNDS EMPLOYED.	1949.	1948.	FUNDS EMPLOYED ARE REPRESENTED BY	1949.
£		£	£		£
	<b>FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE STATE TREASURER—</b>			<b>FIXED ASSETS—</b>	
	For Capital and Other Purposes—			Cottages and station buildings (at cost) . . . . .	23,818
	From moneys made available by the State Government out of General		23,818	Fencing, water supply and farm improvements (at cost) . . . . .	6,115
207,571	Revenue from 5th January, 1916 . . . . .	217,587	6,040	Implements and vehicles (less depreciation) . . . . .	3,458
			3,895	Furniture and hospital equipment (less depreciation) . . . . .	399
	For Special Purposes—		353		
1,499	From general funds to finance the outlay on stores and services, which		34,106		33,790
	outlay is recoverable . . . . .	1,174			
209,070	<b>Total Net Funds Provided by the State Treasurer . . . . .</b>	<b>218,761</b>		<b>CURRENT ASSETS—</b>	
	Less net cost of maintaining the aborigines at the station—		2,645	Stock of materials and stores . . . . .	1,796
160,313	Cost to 30th June, 1948 . . . . .	168,486	3,837	Livestock . . . . .	3,938
8,173	Cost for year ended 30th June, 1949 . . . . .	11,566	522	Sundry Debtors—Stores and produce . . . . .	524
168,486		180,052	300	Advance to Accounting Officer . . . . .	300
			366	Cash in hand . . . . .	29
40,584	<b>BALANCE OF STATE TREASURER'S FUNDS IN THE UNDERTAKING</b>		7,670		6,587
	<b>AT THIS DATE . . . . .</b>	<b>38,709</b>			
1,192	<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES—</b>				
	Sundry Creditors—Stores and services . . . . .	1,668			
£41,776		£40,377	£41,776		£40,377

The value of 4,145 acres of Crown lands reserved for aborigines residing at Point McLeay is not taken into account in this balance-sheet.

W. R. PENHALL, Secretary Aborigines Protection Board.

1st September, 1949.

## POINT PEARCE ABORIGINAL STATION.

REVENUE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1949.

1947-48. £	THE EXPENDITURE INCURRED AND THE INCOME EARNED BY THE UNDERTAKING FOR THE YEAR WAS :—	£	1948-49. £
	<b>ABORIGINAL WELFARE—</b>		
	<b>Expenditure incurred in maintaining the institution for the welfare of aborigines was :—</b>		
845	General administrative costs, including salaries, pay roll tax for child endowment, travelling, and office expenses .....		732
6,551	Rations, firewood, medical services and maintenance expenses, including wages paid to aborigines .....		6,892
7,396			7,624
64	<b>Against which rent of officers' residences and school building returned .....</b>		252
7,332	<b>Net expenditure on aboriginal welfare .....</b>		7,372
	<b>MIXED FARMING OPERATIONS—</b>	£	£
	<b>Earnings for the year were :—</b>		
10,879	Sale of farm produce, meat and livestock (including value of natural increase) .....		10,099
	<b>Expenditure incurred in earning that amount was :—</b>		
	Management expenses, including salaries, pay roll tax for child endowment, travelling, and office expenses .....	1,564	
7,123	Farm working expenses, including wages, fertilizers, seed, farm stores, and insurance .....	7,421	
			8,985
3,576	<b>Surplus on mixed farming operations .....</b>		1,114
	<b>TRADING STORE—</b>		
	<b>Earnings for the year were :—</b>		
5,541	Sale of groceries and clothing amounted to .....		5,950
	<b>Expenditure incurred in earning that amount was :—</b>		
5,155	Purchase of groceries and clothing, wages, pay roll tax for child endowment, and expenses of operating and maintaining the Trading Store ..		5,407
386	<b>Surplus from the Trading Store .....</b>		543
4,142	<b>Net surplus from mixed farming operations and Trading Store .....</b>		1,657
£3,190	<b>RESULTING IN A NET COST FOR THE YEAR OF MAINTAINING ABORIGINES AT THE STATION....</b>		£5,715

W. R. PENHALL, Secretary Aborigines Protection Board.

1st September, 1949.

**POINT PEARCE ABORIGINAL STATION.**

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1949.

1948.	NATURE AND SOURCE OF FUNDS EMPLOYED.	1949.	1948.	FUNDS EMPLOYED
£		£      £	£	
	<b>FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE STATE TREASURER—</b>			<b>FIXED ASSETS—</b>
	<b>For Capital and Other Purposes—</b>		21,143	Cottages and station buildings (at cost) . .
162,351	From moneys made available by the State Government out of General Revenue from 1st January, 1916 . . . . .	166,019	10,008	Fencing, water supply, and farm improvem
	<b>For Special Purposes—</b>		2,893	Implements and vehicles (less depreciation)
730	From general funds to finance the outlay on stores and services, which outlay is recoverable . . . . .	339	513	Furniture and hospital equipment (less dep
163,081	<b>Total Net Funds Provided by the State Treasurer . . . . .</b>	166,358	4,591	<b>CURRENT ASSETS—</b>
	<b>Less cost of maintaining the aborigines at the station—</b>		6,768	Stock of materials and stores . . . . .
114,674	Cost to 30th June, 1948 . . . . .	117,864	216	Livestock . . . . .
3,190	Cost for year ended 30th June, 1949 . . . . .	5,715	350	Sundry Debtors—Sale of stores and produ
		123,579	25	Advance to accounting officer . . . . .
45,217	<b>BALANCE STATE TREASURER'S FUNDS IN THE UNDERTAKING AT THIS DATE . . . . .</b>	42,779		Cash in hand . . . . .
	<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES—</b>			
1,290	Sundry Creditors—Stores and services . . . . .	1,542		
£46,507		£44,321	£46,507	

The value of 17,800 acres of Crown lands reserved for the use of aborigines residing at Point Pearce is not taken into account in this ba

1st September, 1949.

W. R.