

1953

No. 5

(SECOND SESSION)

PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES



20 SEP 1963

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REPORT
OF THE
ABORIGINES WELFARE BOARD
FOR THE
Year ended 30th June, 1952

BY COMMAND

Ordered to be printed, 15 September, 1953

Wholly set up and printed in Australia by
A. H. PETTIFER, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES.

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[1s. 6d.]

Report of the Aborigines Welfare Board, New South Wales, for the Year ended 30th June, 1952.

Presented to The Honourable Christopher Augustus Kelly, M.L.A., Chief Secretary, pursuant to Section 19B of the Aborigines Protection Act, 1909-1943.

I. THE BOARD.

Personnel and Meetings.

Eleven regular meetings of the Aborigines Welfare Board were held throughout the year. The appointed members of the Board remained unchanged, being as follows:—

Mr. C. J. Buttsworth (Chairman).
Professor A. P. Elkin.
Police Superintendent R. H. Blackley.
Dr. J. Grahame Drew.
Mr. J. P. Glasheen.
Mr. H. S. Groves.
Mr. A. W. G. Lipscomb.
Mr. Michael Sawtell.
Mr. E. Wetherell, M.L.A.
The Honourable E. G. Wright, M.L.C.

Mr. C. J. Buttsworth continued in office as Chairman, in accordance with the provisions of the Act, which specify that the Chairman shall be the permanent Head of the Chief Secretary's Department for the time being. Professor Elkin was again elected to the position of Vice-Chairman.

A further effort was made to appoint a full-blood aborigine as a member of the Board, as provided for in the Act, but, despite two extensions in the time for submission of nominations, no full-blood aborigine was nominated.

Policy.

The early Acts passed by Parliament throughout Australia, for the care and protection of aborigines, were designed to apply to the original inhabitants, namely, the full-bloods. As time advanced, half-castes appeared as a result of white settlers coming in contact with the aborigines, and those people remained in the aboriginal camps, they too being classified as aborigines. Despite the fact that, over the years, they have clung to aborigines' environment, these mixed caste people have been associates of the white rather than of the black; this association grows closer throughout the years. Their mentality, disposition and outlook are more closely in accord with the white rather than with the true aborigine, and it is logical to assume that they should eventually come fully under the law governing the white population.

This point of view was endorsed by the Conference of Commonwealth and State Government administrators at the conference held at Canberra, in 1937, and since then, the New South Wales Government has developed its policy along the lines of the ultimate absorption of the aboriginal people of New South Wales into the social and economic life of the general community.

As stated previously, the principle leads to the logical conclusion that the coloured people of this State—most of whom are mixed with castes—should not be regarded as a race apart but as part of the general community, as soon as they are able and ready to demonstrate their ability to live according to our standards.

In presenting this Annual Report, the Board desires to impress the fact that every means to achieve the objective referred to above is being followed. The aboriginal people are being led to understand and appreciate the value of such things as education, employment, independence of thought and action, hygiene, sanitation and, above all, a proper relationship to the social and cultural life of the community to which they should aspire to belong.

In this State, throughout the years, it has been apparent that there is a prejudice and distrust by the dark people for the white, and vice versa. The Board is doing its utmost to break this down by the personal influence, particularly with its Field Staff. Whites as well as coloured people have to learn the meaning of tolerance and forbearance, and each must do his best to help the other. It is gratifying to report that the attitude in this State is improving year by year, and the Board records, with pleasure, the fact that there are now manifestations of goodwill and mutual understanding between

the white and the dark people. The ways by which this is becoming manifest will be dealt with in special sections of the report.

Visits by Board Members to Aborigines.

One of the important duties of the Board is to develop and maintain personal contact with the aboriginal people, by frequent visitations to Stations and Reserves. By such personal contact a closer tie between the Board and the aboriginal people is maintained. During the year, the Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare paid visits not only to Stations and Reserves, but also to many aborigines living privately. A number of tours were also undertaken by members of the Board, when most of the Stations and Reserves in the North Western District and the North Coast area were visited. Six Board members comprised the party who visited the North Coast, and the opportunity was taken to include visits to schools, Councils and other organisations, as well as to the aboriginal people themselves. One important aim in making these official visits, is to develop and maintain cordial relationships between the aboriginal people and the local white community.

Staff.

The staff generally throughout the year showed devotion to duty, and their loyal service is recorded with appreciation.

The staff strength at Head Office and in the field was maintained at its usual numbers, there being 15 officers attached to Head Office and 67 persons employed in the field. Head Office staff comprised the Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare, Secretary, 2 inspectors, 2 male clerks, 1 male attendant, 4 typistes, 1 Assistant Welfare Officer, and 3 Trainee Welfare Officers. The staff employed in the field was made up of 3 Area Welfare Officers, 19 Managers, 19 Matrons, 2 Assistant Managers, 2 Assistant Matrons, 7 Supervisors and 15 Homes Staff. The general staff establishment remained at its usual level, there being no variation in the strength of the individual Station Settlements and Homes.

General Expenditure.

Expenditure on behalf of aborigines welfare for the year 1951-1952 amounted to £230,974, and represented an increase of £47,786 on the previous year. The amount of £126,084 represented expenditure by the Board, directly or indirectly on recurring needs, and this amount was £28,393 in excess of the previous year. The higher expenditure is a reflection of higher costs of materials, commodities, salaries, etc.

The cost of rations for aborigines, which forms a large proportion of the general expenditure, increased by 25 per cent. though the scale remained unaltered. The increase in the rates payable to Administrative and Field Staff and in the basic wage was reflected by an increase of £17,677 for salaries and wages. From the General Loan accounts, £104,890 was spent on the erection of buildings, mainly in the provision of new and improved housing for aborigines, and major alterations and additions to buildings. The amount expended for this purpose was £19,393 in excess of that of the previous financial year.

Acknowledgments.

The work of the Aborigines Welfare Board is closely linked with a number of other Government Departments, both State and Commonwealth. It has been necessary from time to time throughout the year to seek the advice and co-operation of these Departments, and the Board expresses thanks for help received.

Many individuals and local groups throughout the country have also displayed practical interest in the welfare of their aborigines, and the Board is grateful for that manifestation. A special word of thanks is recorded here to Church groups, at places such as Taree, Bowraville, Wellington, Woodenbong, Walgett, Cootamundra and Coonabarabran, for the practical interest that they have displayed and their efforts for both the material and spiritual welfare of the local aborigines.

II. FEATURES OF ADMINISTRATION.

Housing of Aborigines.

The erection of modern type cottages which provide similar amenities to those enjoyed by the general community is one of importance, and this factor, together with regular supervision, helps in the attainment of a higher standard of living and in a quicker space of time than would otherwise be the case.

By the provision of this type of housing, many aborigines adversely accommodated in shacks and tin humpies, generally situated on the outskirts of towns, can be moved into a better environment and, in consequence, their mental outlook which reflects their mode of living and physical bearing, is considerably enlightened.

The Board's programme of housing could be regarded as parallel but in a minor way to that undertaken for the white community, where slums and sub-standard dwellings are being demolished and the residents moved, either into cottages situated in the outer suburbs, or into modern self-contained flat units erected on the area previously occupied by the sub-standard dwellings.

Shortage of materials has prevented the general community from achieving rapid progress in the rate of some home construction, and the Aborigines Welfare Board has, of course, been placed in similar circumstances. However, good progress was made during the year, and the following works were completed and occupied—

- 18 cottages at Cowra Station.
- 12 cottages at Cabbage Tree Island Station.
- 15 cottages at Wallaga Lake Station.
- 16 cottages at Jervis Bay Station.
- 18 cottages at Tabulam Station.
- 12 cottages at Nambucca Heads Reserve.

The following projects are nearing completion and occupation is anticipated at an early date:—

- 24 cottages at Moree Station.
- 14 cottages at Wilcannia Reserve.

In addition to the cottages erected for aborigines on Stations, Staff residences, medical treatment units, administrative buildings, halls, and churches have also been provided and, in two instances, single men's quarters.

The present trend, however, is for the provision of individual home units on the outskirts of country towns rather than for the establishment of group settlements. Due to a number of circumstances, however, the matter of acquirement of building blocks for homes cannot be completed at this present stage. Efforts will be made next year for more home sites to be secured.

When funds are available for the implementation of such a scheme, consideration will also be given to the construction of home units for aborigines who are either in possession of their own block of land, or able to make a reasonable contribution towards the cost of the building.

All tenants of the newly completed cottages are required to pay a nominal rental as a means of impressing upon them their need to acquire domestic responsibility and that this was a procedure necessary to all persons occupying a dwelling. On some Stations, the aboriginal tenants are meeting their rent commitments very satisfactorily. On other Stations, however, there has developed an attitude of defiance and refusal to pay rent, and this attitude is causing considerable concern to the Board, not so much because of the lack of income, as because of the psychological reaction it has caused in the reasoning of this defiant minority.

Gratuitous rentals and rentals on a reduced basis will continue to be applied to the aged and invalid aborigines.

Welfare and Educational.

(a) Establishment of "Dawn" Magazine.

For some years past, the Board has given earnest consideration to a proposal that steps should be taken to establish a special magazine or journal in the nature of a monthly issue for circulation among the aboriginal people of New South Wales. The Board was unanimous in the view that such a publication, if carefully edited, and with much of the material contributed by the aboriginal people themselves, would help to bring the aborigines into a more personal and more friendly relationship with the Government, the Board and the white community generally. This in turn would play an important part in the ultimate objective of assimilating the aboriginal people with the white community.

Funds were made available by the Treasury this year, to meet the cost of employing a part-time Editor and also the recurring printing costs. It was decided to give the title "DAWN" to the publication since it represented the dawn of a new forward movement in aboriginal welfare, and the aboriginal people themselves could fittingly regard their present opportunities and way of life as the dawn of a new era, wherein the old tribal life of their ancestors is giving place to the adoption of our western habits and customs.

The first issue of "Dawn" was published in January, 1952, and the six issues that were circulated to the end of the financial year showed improvement month by month, not only in the nature of the contents but also in the popular reception by the aboriginal people. The younger generation, in particular, look forward to receiving their copies month by month, and they are inundating the Editor with letters and news items. The magazine, which is issued free of cost to every aboriginal family residing in New South Wales, already has a circulation of 2,200 copies each month.

(b) Education.

Further progress was made this year in implementation of the policy of providing every facility available within the State for aboriginal children in the matter of education. It becomes more apparent year by year that the future of our aboriginal people and their acceptance as social equals to the white community is wrapped up in educating the younger generation so that they may have the opportunity of taking their place in the social and economic life of the community generally. It is admitted that many of the dark people are not availing themselves to the full of this opportunity, but the same can be said also of a section of the white people. Some parents, unfortunately, are not prepared to allow their children—some of whom are intelligent and well qualified—to proceed to secondary schools for higher education, preferring that they should leave school and go to work as soon as they reach fifteen years of age.

The Education Department fully recognises the right of the aboriginal children to be taught in up-to-date schools and by well trained teachers, and it is recorded with satisfaction, that the new schools that have been built over the past few years for aboriginal children are modern buildings, well provided with proper facilities and teaching aids.

Another very important and most desirable departure from the old order which the Department of Education is co-operating in most wholeheartedly, is the gradual closing of special primary schools for aboriginal children. This old established manifestation of the "segregation" system is now giving place to the absorption, where possible, of aboriginal children into "white" schools. The arrangement has already been put into practice at Collareumbri, Muirgindi, Forster and Dubbo, where special schools previously existed, and other centres have been noted for similar action at the beginning of 1953.

At the termination of this year, 57 children from aboriginal Stations and Homes were enrolled at High Schools, no less than 17 being from Quirindi Aboriginal Station. These numbers have no reference to aboriginal children whose families live independently of the Board's direct supervision. It is known that there is a considerable number belonging to that category. The Board has followed the practice for some years past of granting a number of bursaries year by year in the sum of £50 each, per annum for three years to selected children who possess the requisite educational standard to continue a secondary education but whose parents are not able to afford the cost of maintaining them at school for that further period. During the year four such bursaries were awarded, bringing the total of current bursaries to seven. Two children completed their secondary school studies during the year and the availability of their bursaries ceased. This year one bursar will sit for the Leaving Certificate Examination.

(c) Educational Officers.

In previous reports it was mentioned that a limited number of selected young persons were to be trained as teachers at the Teachers' Training College for eventual appointment of Educational Officers under the Aborigines Welfare Board. These Officers would be required to undertake welfare and recreational organisation among the young people on selected Aboriginal Stations or Reserves in addition to teaching duties. Applications were invited from white or aboriginal persons to train for these positions but the response has not been encouraging, and up to the present time only two appointments have been made. It is of interest to note that both of the appointees are persons of aboriginal extraction, one being a young man and the other a young woman, and both were accepted for teacher training because of their very satisfactory passes at the Leaving Certificate Examination. The young man, James Stritzel, has completed his training and is now an assistant teacher at the Burnt Ridge Aboriginal School, Kempsey. The young lady, Evelyn Robinson, received her secondary school education at the Grafton High School, and is now in

her second year at the Sydney Teachers' College, and is acquitting herself with credit. The Board feels that such appointments as these will assist materially in carrying on the welfare work among the younger aboriginal people, and it is hoped that further appointments will be made from year to year.

(d) *Welfare Work.*

The Board considers that the whole crux of the problem of preparing the aboriginal people for their eventual assimilation in our social and economic structure is by personal guidance and influence. The continuous activity of selected welfare workers who are trained to understand the personal problems and reactions of the people must inevitably bear fruit, and the Board's policy is now directed to helping the aborigines to stand on their own feet and to aspire to the high ideals of citizenship, rather than merely to provide them with material needs. The after care of aboriginal wards and welfare work generally among women and girls is the special responsibility of the Lady Welfare Inspector attached to Head Office. This Officer has had long experience in this special aspect of the work and is the confident and friend of the young people, especially the young women, who turn to her for help and advice. During the year she visited every female ward in employment, in some cases two or three times, and in addition she visited the majority of the Stations throughout the State and met the womenfolk and children in their homes. Her advice also to Managers and Matrons on special problems has always been a feature of her visits. During the year she also visited many aboriginal homes in the Metropolitan Area, principally at Redfern, Waterloo and La Perouse, and personal interviews in her office have been an almost daily occurrence.

Attendance at the Children's Court and Central Police Courts to advise on cases affecting aboriginal welfare has been another feature of the activities of the Lady Welfare Inspector.

Progress has been made with the work of training and building up a team of district Welfare Officers whose activities will eventually form the basis of social welfare work among the aborigines. The Board's objective is to divide the State into at least eight districts, each to be supervised by a Welfare Officer who will promote the interests of the aboriginal people within his area, and to help and advise them in every possible way. They will also endeavour to improve the personal relationships between the white and the dark people, wherever and whenever possible.

Two trainee Welfare Officers completed their training during the year and were appointed to districts, bringing the total number of Area Welfare Officers to four. Each Officer has been allotted an area with headquarters at an appropriate centre within his area. The areas now being served are as follows:—

Area.	Headquarters.	Name of Area Welfare Officer.
Upper North Coast ...	Coff's Harbour	Mr. J. H. McBean
North-West Slopes and Plains.	Moroe	Mr. J. K. Burless
Central West Slopes and Plains.	Dubbo	Mr. P. E. Felton
South Coast and Southern Slopes.	Nowra	Mr. P. M. Sephton

Subject to the availability of suitable Officers for training, it is intended to continue the present practice of making further appointments until a full complement of Welfare Officers has been reached. Two trainee Welfare Officers are at present attached to Head Office, and are attending lectures at the Sydney University and Teachers' College in conjunction with their employment as Temporary Clerical Officers.

(e) *Summer Seaside Camp for Aboriginal Children.*

In December, 1950, the Board organised its first Summer Camp at the seaside for aboriginal children from the Far West and from the Children's Homes at Coofamundra and Kinchela. The object of this Camp is to give the outback children an opportunity of having a seaside holiday, and at the same time to broaden their education and outlook.

The Camp was arranged again this year (December, 1951) and on this occasion, the children from the Homes and from the Far West districts had their holiday at Collaroy and were accommodated at the Salvation Army Holiday Camp. From the two Homes, 80 children were brought to Collaroy and they occupied the Camp from 24th November to 6th December. They were followed by the children from the Far West who were in Camp from 7th December to 28th December. The cost of running the Camps for the two groups was approximately £1,865 which included cost of rail fares and general transport, employment of workers and subsistence costs.

The children from the Far West, comprising 98 in number—in the 10 to 15 years age group—were selected from various centres on a quota basis, preference being given to those who did not attend the Camp held in the previous year.

The two Camps were successful from every point of view, the children taking part in organised tours around Sydney and environs in addition to attending picture shows, the Zoo and other points of interest around the City.

Medical and dental inspections were provided by the School Medical Service, Department of Public Health.

(f) *Christmas Party for Metropolitan Aborigines.*

A special effort was made this year to win the confidence and goodwill of the aboriginal people, who live within the City and the inner Metropolitan Area. The number of aborigines who have come to Sydney from the country in the post-war years and have made their homes in congested suburbs such as Redfern, Waterloo and La Perouse, has been constantly increasing, and it is estimated that there are now close on a thousand aborigines living in the inner Metropolitan Area. They have been drawn to the city because of the attractive pay and conditions in industrial employment, but, unfortunately, they gave no thought to housing needs and, in consequence, gravitated to tenements, having already over-crowded conditions. The Board has been powerless to stem this drift, but has offered the helping hand in matters affecting their welfare.

During Christmas week of last year a party celebration was organised by the Board's Lady Welfare Inspector (Mrs. English), to which all aborigines living in Sydney were invited. The function was held in the Alexandria Town Hall and about 500 aborigines, including children, attended. The party was voted a most happy function and, apart from its conviviality, it served a useful purpose by bringing the people into a more cordial relationship with the Board and establishing a better spirit of trust.

(g) *School Milk.*

During the year under review, the Commonwealth Government granted free milk to all school children throughout the Commonwealth up to 13 years of age on the basis of ¾ pint per child per day. The scheme has been extended to include all Aboriginal Schools and whereas the Board provided milk in the past as part of the mid-morning lunch for all aboriginal schoolchildren, the cost of milk supplied is now recouped from the Commonwealth Government.

(h) *Colour Prejudice.*

It is pleasing to note that the breaking down of the anti-pathology of the white people to the aboriginal race continues. The general need for labour requires that men of aboriginal blood work side by side and this position has been accepted without question. Sporting organisations continue to accept aborigines as members and in the public and high schools children of aboriginal blood have participated in the same sports and recreations as their white class-mates. In many centres it is quite usual for aboriginal persons to attend social functions connected with Church and similar organisations and to be received without any distinction due to colour.

A complete assimilation demands, however, that the aborigine concerned must be educated to take his place in the general social structure and learn to adapt himself to the customs and principles of the white man. For example he must have acquired tolerance, a way of life calling for the habits of ordinary hygiene and a knowledge of the value of money, and the policy of the Board is directed to this end.

III. THE INSTITUTIONS.

Kinchela Boys' Home.

The Kinchela Aboriginal Boys' Training Home is situated on the banks of the Macleay River, 16 miles distant from Kempsey, and occupies approximately 33 acres of excellent dairy country. A further 11 acres is situated five miles from the Home and is known as the "Creek Paddock".

Inmates of the Home range from six to sixteen years. Apart from their general education, they are given a thorough training in farm duties and domestic work. Particular attention is given to training in manners and general behaviour. A certain standard of discipline is maintained, but it is emphasised that this discipline is one of respect and not of fear. New arrivals soon settle into the routine of the Home, and great improvement is noted in their general standard of behaviour and manners after a short time.

The number of inmates resident in the Home as at the 30th June, 1952, was 42 boys, as compared with 46 boys at the corresponding date in 1951. During the period, two new boys were admitted and six boys were discharged. Of this latter six, two were returned to their parents, one was apprenticed to the painting trade, and three were placed in rural employment.

The staffing throughout the period under review numbered nine, and comprised the Manager and Matron and several assistant staff.

The institution buildings are of simple design, but are well provided with the necessary facilities for a residential institution. The buildings were somewhat damaged by the various floods throughout the past few years and a certain amount of repair and renovations needs to be carried out. Sanitary arrangements are adequate but somewhat primitive for an institution of this size. Consideration might be given in the near future to the construction of a septic tank.

The Home is dependent on its own water supply and, owing to the prolonged drought during the last six months of the year, drinking water had to be rationed very carefully. Drinking water is supplied from tanks, but the water used for cleansing, bathing and laundry purposes has to be drawn from underground seepage wells. This water is not suitable for drinking purposes and during dry periods tends to dry up. Consideration might have to be given in the near future to the provision of more house tanks.

The health of all inmates throughout the year has been good. Every boy was subjected to a complete medical examination by the Government Medical Officer during the year. His report indicates that all the boys were in excellent condition. Mr. A. G. Swan, Dental Surgeon of Kempsey, attended the Home during the year and carried out an examination of all the boys' teeth and he performed the necessary treatment where required. Sixteen patients were admitted to the Kempsey District Hospital during the year for various complaints. The Education Department maintains a public school in the Home grounds with Mr. C. Foster, Headmaster in charge, and Miss Higgins, Assistant Teacher.

The school choir won first place in the Kempsey Eisteddfod held at Kempsey in November, 1951, in their own particular choral section. Four boys are attending Kempsey High School from the Home, and one boy in particular, namely, Harry Penrith, is making creditable progress in his studies, as well as taking a prominent part in the sporting and social life of the High School.

The recreation of the boys receives constant attention. No effort is spared to keep them actively interested in some recreational pursuit, a balanced programme being maintained at all times. Gymnastic classes are held regularly, cricket and football are sports followed and all boys are taken periodically for walks, picnics, fishing expeditions, etc. Regular evening screenings of popular films are given every Saturday. The boys also find great interest in a first-class library consisting of approximately 200 books. The lads are also very fond of boxing and swimming and eight boys have been accepted as members of the South West Rocks Surf Life Saving Club. These boys are being trained in life saving and it is anticipated they will eventually qualify for their Bronze Medallions. Eight boys are members of the Smithtown Rugby Football Club. They attend training evenings every Friday and three of them have been selected in the "Under 18 Team". Six boys are members of the Junior Farmers Club of New South Wales (Kinchela Branch). They maintain their own vegetable gardens and attend social evenings with the Club members.

On a number of occasions boys who have been trained in the School attended the Kinchela Public Hall to give concert items. They have been very well received by large audiences and much favourable comment has been passed by the local community on their behaviour, demeanour, cleanliness and dress, and also on their magnificent singing qualities.

The House system is in operation at the Home, there being three Houses with an equal number of boys in each House. Awards are made on points secured for performance of duties, cleanliness, sport, etc. During the year all boys spent a fortnight's holiday at Collaroy. This Camp was held in conjunction with the Girls' Training Home at Cootamundra and the boys had the opportunity of mixing with and playing with the girls as companions. Daily excursions were made and visits paid to the Zoo, Harbour cruises, etc.

Religious instruction is provided in the Home by the Church of England Chaplain weekly, Methodist monthly and, on occasions, a party of boys is taken to their own particular denominational church for further instruction.

The production of milk, butter, vegetables and farms products has received special attention and has been very satisfactory. Practically all the requirements for the Home have been met by Home productions. Very satisfactory qualities of lucerne, saccharine and corn were produced during the year to provide fodder for stock in dry seasons.

The atmosphere and spirit of home life at Kinchela is the aim of the Board in an endeavour to overcome the generally accepted environment of an institution. The efforts of the staff at Kinchela have met with creditable success in this regard as abscondings from the Home are now a very rare occurrence—during the year under review there was none at all.

The admission of the boys into local organisations such as the Surf Life Saving Club, Football Club, Junior Farmers Club, has stimulated general interest among the white youths belonging to the Clubs concerned. Comments have all been favourable and it is felt that from this small beginning the position will eventually be that the boys will regard the establishment as a home in every sense of the term. A trial of allowing senior work boys of a trustworthy nature to visit the cinema in Kempsey and the meetings of other organisations unescorted was made and in each instance they returned to the Home in a perfectly natural manner, the reports of their behaviour were excellent and the boys themselves felt proud to know that a certain trust had been placed in them.

Much has been done to vary the diet and remove the monotony which must necessarily be experienced in the virtualing of an institution such as Kinchela.

Cootamundra Girls' Home.

The Cootamundra Girls' Training Home is situated about 1½ miles from the town of Cootamundra. The area occupied by the Home, which was originally the old Cootamundra Hospital, is not of sufficient size to permit of any large scale development. The number of inmates at the Home remained static throughout the year and at 30th June there were 34 girls in residence. There were three discharges to employment during the year and four girls were admitted. The ages of the children range from 5 to 16 years.

Owing to the succession of wet periods throughout the year the results of the vegetable garden were not as satisfactory as in previous years. Nevertheless, through the summer months there were ample supplies of certain vegetables and for a short period the products of the vegetable garden were sufficient to obviate the necessity for purchasing outside.

On 30th June, 1952, there were two cows and two heifers at the Home. It had not been necessary to purchase milk during the whole of the year. Each year a local interested resident has presented the Home with 26 chickens and mothers. This very generous assistance has had the result of continually keeping the Home supplied with eggs.

The fruit from the orchard, apricots, peaches, quinces, apples, plums and figs, has been used to make jam, most of the jam used at the Home during the year being made on the premises.

The general health of the girls during the year can be said to have been satisfactory, although four girls have received continual treatment for ear trouble. One girl was operated on for appendicitis.

The spiritual welfare of the girls at the Cootamundra Home is well looked after. The local Churches all send their representatives to the Home and the Sunday School is conducted regularly by teachers who come from town. All the girls attend Church once on Sunday and prayers and Bible readings are held in the Home regularly. Twelve girls were confirmed in the Church of England during the year.

Twenty-eight girls attend the Public School in the town of Cootamundra. One of these is in her third year of Secondary School, three are in their first year. The children travel to and from school each day by a special bus which calls at the Home and returns them in the afternoon. Happily, the girls do not experience any embarrassment in regard to their colour; they are received by their classmates without question and their teachers speak very highly of their conduct.

The children's recreation consists mainly of organised games, reading and such other recreations as one would associate with a Home. In addition they attend the local picture theatre regularly as guests of the management. The school-girls go with their school teams for sport at Tumut, Harden and Temora. Hikes and swimming at the local baths, concerts in the Home and entertainment by interested district organisations also form part of the children's amusements.

Aboriginal Stations Generally.

At the close of the year under review the Board was maintaining 20 Aboriginal Stations, two of these, however, Cumeroogunga and Pilliga, had reached the stage where the continuance of them as settlements under managerial supervision ceased to be economical and it is proposed to close them as Stations as early as practicable.

The Aboriginal Stations are located on areas reserved for the exclusive use of aborigines and form community settlements. They have in charge a Manager whose wife has the position of Matron. Many of these Matrons are trained and certified nurses.

The Stations provide amenities for the residents which are not so readily available on other reserves or at other centres. These include school, medical treatment room and, in many instances, particularly where the Station has been newly established or rebuilt, a Church and recreation hall. Each Station has its own water supply, except Cowra which is connected to the town reservoir.

While the main purpose of the Aboriginal Station is to cater for those aborigines and their families who are unable to fend for themselves, it has been found that the acute housing situation which is existent throughout the State has compelled families to remain in residence on the Stations who, in ordinary circumstances, would be fit and proper persons to make their homes in the general community.

The provision of a modern class of home on Aboriginal Stations has had as its aim the education of the aborigines to an appreciation of better living conditions. It is felt that the changes from a home of a sub-standard nature to the home comparable to that occupied by the "white" citizen will eventually lead the aborigines, many of whom may now only be children, to the ambition of living on a similar level.

During the period of practically full employment which has existed in recent years, the issue of rations on the Stations has been confined to the aged, infirm and indigent. The last named would be represented by deserted wives and those incapable of entering any class of employment. These ration recipients are also provided with medical necessities, blankets, clothing, tobacco and other comforts.

A special task allotted to each of the Matrons is to exercise a special supervision and care over expectant mothers and nursing mothers and those with young children. Correct and regular feeding is carefully watched and, where practicable, steps are taken to see that advice given is carried out.

In appendix "A" of this Report the total population of all Stations as at 30th June, 1952, is shown as 2,903. This represents an increase of 223 over the twelve months as compared to a decrease of 23 for the previous year.

The births, deaths and marriages on the Stations during the year were as follow. Figures in respect of the previous year are shown in brackets:—

Births	125 (98)
Deaths	40 (31)
Marriages	33 (16)

The following is a summary of the populations of Stations:—

Over 200 residents	5 Stations.
100 to 200 residents	10 Stations.
Under 100 residents	5 Stations.

Valuable assistance has been afforded to the Board by the Officers of the Department of Agriculture in making available information and advising in respect of livestock. This particularly applies to those Stations where a dairy herd is maintained to provide an adequate supply of milk for the residents.

Unfortunately, agricultural activity on the Stations cannot be practised to any great extent owing to the fact that employment being so readily available outside, little labour is available on the Stations. Community vegetable gardens are in existence at five Stations and the results are satisfactory, but the people prefer to develop their own gardens. Every encouragement is given to the aboriginal residents to follow this example but, on the whole, the results have been far from satisfactory.

The Board continues to provide a mid-morning meal to all children on the Station up to school-leaving age. The children have showed the benefit of this institution which is intended to augment their usual diet and not to be regarded as a substitute.

Brief reports on each of the Stations and organised Reserves follow.

Bellbrook.—This is an old Station and the question whether is should continue as such is at present receiving consideration. The Supervisor of the Station is also the school teacher.

The employment situation is sound at the present time. All able-bodied men are working, although in several cases workers are required to travel up to 15 miles to secure it. In these cases the aborigines return to the Station at the weekends. The class of employment available consists of cattle droving, fencing, bush work, corn pulling and general farm work.

Owing to its isolation, Bellbrook is 35 miles from Kempsey, there is little social activity. The only building available for dances is the school building, but this is inadequate.

In sport, however, the Station has a good name. Four of the men play cricket in a local competition and an aboriginal team plays social games in the weekend. In football too, separate teams are fielded, one of which won a District competition last season. The expenses of the teams, including their attire, are defrayed from the proceeds of social functions.

The school children are good swimmers and enjoy the local creek in summer months. They are also fond of athletics and have a reputation for good sportsmanship.

Boggabilla.—The population of this Station, which is situated on the banks of the Macintyre River, is 254.

The health of the residents has been reasonably good. During the summer months gastro-enteritis was prevalent amongst the children but prompt treatment prevented any fatal cases. Outbreaks of whooping cough and measles occurred, but suitable action was taken. Actually, the two deaths which occurred on the Station were of aborigines suffering from a chronic heart condition.

The employment position is not so bright at Boggabilla as in other centres. Employers are reluctant to employ aborigines owing to the unreliability of some of them. The class of employment offering in the district includes tobacco picking, shearing, fencing and general Station work.

There is very little social life on this Station as there is no adequate recreation hall. One house on the Station, however, is being converted into a recreation room which, although small, will at least be a meeting place. A football club has been formed and the boys and girls from the school have teams of football and softball. These teams have played against other school teams with success.

Brewarrina.—The Brewarrina Station is located about nine miles from the township of Brewarrina. Situated on the banks of the Barwon River, from which it draws its water supply, it presents, on approach, the pleasant picture of a prosperous village on the plain.

Actually, the cottages at this Station are not of a modern type and their replacement has a high priority in the Board's building programme. The general appearance of this Station is, however, good; fences around dwellings have been kept in repair and yards cleaned weekly. It is not possible to repair many of the houses owing to their poor condition.

No hall is available for the organisation of any social functions as Brewarrina is one of the old Stations and was constructed originally without provision for this amenity.

Most of the men are in employment and in many cases make a genuine attempt to improve their homes.

The health of the residents is generally good and the serious trachoma and conjunctivitis which was prevalent on this Station some years ago now appears to have been overcome. It is always possible, of course, that a long period of dry warm weather will cause a "flare-up".

The aborigines have been well supplied with vegetables and fruit from the community garden and orchards.

The teachers at the Station school report a pleasing general scholastic improvement on the part of the children, largely attributed to regular attendance due to the absence of serious illness.

Burnt Ridge.—A large Station just outside Kempsey is Burnt Ridge with a population of 274 aborigines housed in 33 dwellings.

The health of the residents has been reasonably good during the year with only the usual seasonal illnesses prevailing.

The greater percentage of able-bodied males are employed, the local sawmills providing work for the majority of them. It is, however, practically impossible to procure employment for women and girls.

Social and recreational activities are recognised as an important phrase in the assimilation of the aboriginal people. Stimulus has been given to this policy at Burnt Ridge by the inauguration of such outlets as the participation of boys in the Boy Scout Movement, table tennis tournaments in the Recreation Hall and the exhibition of films. The schoolboys participate in the local school football competition. Alterations have been carried out on the Recreation Hall to provide a soft drink and ice cream bar and a larger floor for the dances which are frequently held.

Burra Bee Dec.—Burra Bee Dec is one of the oldest established Aboriginal Stations. The population is only 61, due to the fact that quite a number of families have left the Station over the years to settle in Coonabarabran. A certain amount of supervision is exercised in regard to these latter by the Manager of the Station.

The housing on Burra Bee Dec Station is not of a very high standard, but as in all other centres this condition is controlled to a large extent by the availability of funds. Although the town aborigines are living under sub-standard conditions, they are making a genuine effort to assimilate themselves. Any feeling of antagonism towards the aborigines on the part of the general community is decreasing, due to the efforts of the Board's officers, the Returned Soldiers' League, local interested citizens and the Police.

The health of the residents throughout the year has, in general, been very good. The employment position has been very satisfactory for adult males, but youths and women have not been so fortunate. Nevertheless, at 30th June, 1952, all able-bodied aborigines on the Station were employed with the exception of one.

There have been some very creditable efforts in the conduct of private gardens but the water supply is not sufficient to ensure the maintenance of good supplies.

The aim of the Board here is to establish as many as possible in the town of Coonabarabran under comparable conditions and to reserve Burra Bee Dee only as a shelter for those whom it may not be possible to assimilate.

Cabbage Tree Island.—During the year the rebuilding of this Station continued, twelve new cottages being completed and handed over by the contractors. The Recreation Hall is also being completed. The population of the Station is 156 and they are housed in these new cottages in addition to six old houses and six shacks.

Whilst the health of the residents is regarded as satisfactory, many of the children suffer from hookworm. This is a prevalent complaint in certain districts of the North Coast and a careful and continual watch is kept in an endeavour, if not to stamp out the disease, to relieve unfortunate sufferers.

During the cane harvesting season full employment was found for all men. Local farmers spoke well of the industry of the aborigines and absenteeism was kept to a minimum. After the cane harvest, employment of a casual nature was found on the farms. At a meeting of the local farmers it was agreed to give preference to the aborigines from Cabbage Tree Island Station and to allot them the best cane run—a privilege they have never enjoyed before. An assurance has been given by the farmers that if the aborigines stand up to the test and give satisfaction by regular attendance and abstinence from drink, the preferential treatment will be accorded them every year in future.

Five of the residents maintain their own private vegetable gardens. Other residents who have recently taken up occupation in new houses enclosed by a fence have now shown industry in this direction.

The social life of the residents of the Station has improved considerably. Weekly matches played by the football team are well attended by residents who make the events the occasion of an "outing." With the completion of the Recreation Hall there will be a real opportunity of doing more to improve the social life of the residents who must now necessarily seek their amusement elsewhere.

Religious activity is mainly conducted by the Seventh Day Adventists who attend the school fortnightly. It is hoped that the new Recreation Hall will encourage other denominations to visit the Station.

Cowra.—There has been little alteration in the population of Cowra which at 30th June was 145. This Station has been rebuilt and at the end of the year 21 new cottages were occupied. In addition, a Church and Recreation Hall were erected and also administrative offices.

The health of the residents has been good throughout the year.

There was a slight deterioration in the employment position during the last three or four months of the year under review and it is becoming increasingly difficult to find employment for the mediocre workers.

An effort has been made to improve the social life of the residents of Cowra Station. The "Erambie Progress Club" functions for the sponsoring of the general social activities. The Club organises monthly dances and concerts and a Mothers' Sewing Circle meets weekly.

The prevalence of drinking, however, presents a major problem. Youths commence drinking at an early age and, although dances, concerts, gymnastics and tennis have been organised, there are many who will not attend unless under the influence of drink and when stopped they do not appear at all.

The school children again took part in the Cowra and District School Sports and won a cup for the most points gained by a country school. Their appearance and conduct was a credit to their teacher.

Jervis Bay.—Jervis Bay Station is situated about 24 miles from Nowra, and is in Federal Capital Territory. The Station is administered by the Board on behalf of the Federal Government and is part of the Departmental Administrative structure.

The employment position of this Station is a difficult one as the men depend mainly on the fishing industry and part-time work during the tourist season at the guest houses. There is also a limited scope for employment in the timber industry.

An active Parents and Citizens' Association operates on this Station and they are working towards the general improvement of the school grounds and general amenities.

A Sports Club has been commenced and steps have already been taken to form a Cricket Team to become affiliated with the Shoalhaven Cricket Association.

Moonahcullah.—Moonahcullah is situated about 34 miles from Deniliquin and, due to its isolated position, a proposal has been made that the Station be closed. It has not, however, been possible to implement this proposal as funds made available to the Board have necessarily been applied to more urgent aspects of the building programme in other parts of the State. The population is 63 only; the Station is in charge of a Supervisor who is also the teacher at the school.

Shearing, crutching, dipping and other work connected with the maintenance of sheep stations in this district has been the main avenue of employment for most men on the Station. Fencing, gardening and general laboring work has kept the men in employment during the "off" season.

There has been a marked improvement in the care of home gardens; many of the residents have been very successful in the growing of vegetables and flowers.

Owing to its isolation there is little social life at Moonahcullah but fortnightly visits are paid by missionaries and on these occasions Church services and Sunday School are well attended.

Moree.—This is a new Station and will be in the final stages of completion at the end of the year.

The Station replaced the old Moree Reserve and is intended to cater for the previous residents and also some of those who at present are living within the Municipality or environs of Moree.

The health of the residents has been particularly good and the proximity of the Moree District Hospital is regarded as a contributing factor.

When the Mobile Anti-T.B. Unit visited the Station and X-rayed practically the whole of the population, there were no positive reactions. A programme was begun towards the close of the year of immunising against diphtheria every aboriginal child on the Station and those living with their parents off the Station. The scheme has not yet been completed.

One child from the Station is attending the High School in Moree. Other children are eligible to attend but, owing to the apathy of the parents, they remain at the aboriginal school.

At 30th June, 1952, the employment position was not so promising as it had been earlier in the year. This is due to the growing reduction in the demand for unskilled labourers.

The social life of the residents has been well developed, a distinct softening up of the fierce prejudice of the aborigines is noticed in the attitude of the Moree people. At the end of 1951 the Social Club was enabled by its efforts to purchase a radiogram which was installed in the Recreation Hall.

Murrin Bridge.—This is one of the Board's new Stations and when opened in 1949 absorbed the population of the Station previously located at Menindee. These people who, at Menindee lived in sub-standard structures, are quite happy in their new homes and a contented air exists on the Station. The majority of the houses have lawns and gardens.

The year under review was not a good one for employment; a record flood was experienced when it was necessary to vacate all inhabitants to Lake Cargelligo and to place them all on rations. Services have been held regularly in the Murrin Bridge Church by nearly all denominations.

The Recreation Hall was put to good use for the football club, functions to augment school funds and for funds to provide a children's playground. These functions in the Recreation Hall were attended by aborigines from Euabalong and Condobolin as well as the local residents. During the winter months there is at least one dance, which is usually well attended, held each week. The Station entered a float in the annual Town Celebrations, and won a special prize as a reward for their efforts. Other social and sporting activities were engaged in during the year.

In general, Murrin Bridge Station appears to be making good progress.

Pilliga.—At the commencement of the year under review the population of Pilliga had been very considerably reduced, one of the factors being the severe flood which engulfed the Station earlier in the year, but there has been a gradual return and at the end of the year there was an increase to 50. Nevertheless, it has been decided to close the Station and, if funds are made available, to transfer the cottages to sites in the town.

The Station is situated about five miles from the Public School and the transport of the children to and from the school each day is a duty which engages a great proportion of the time of the Officer-in-Charge. So far as these children are concerned, although their attendance at the Public School has been of short duration, their conduct and educational progress have been very satisfactorily commented upon by their Teacher.

Quirindi.—Quirindi Station, population 147, is situated about 1 mile from Caroona and 19 from Quirindi. This Station was rebuilt in 1950, one of the early projects under the Board's post-war building programme. At the end of the year the installation of electric light in the administrative building and streets was under way.

The health of the residents throughout the year has been uniformly good and there have not been any epidemics. Cases of serious illness would be transferred to the local district hospital without any objection being raised. Practically all of the residents subscribe to the local ambulance scheme and contribute freely to appeals by various organisations.

The school enrolment is approximately 45 at the Station Primary School, and 17 at the High School. Pupils attending the High School travel to and from Quirindi School daily by bus.

The men of Quirindi Station work principally in Railway construction work, but a number also work on surrounding pastoral holdings. The fullest advantage has been taken of the improved economic situation, no man is without work and no rations are issued.

In many instances very creditable gardens are cultivated by the residents during the spring and autumn seasons. The Station area itself, however, is not suitable for economic farm cultivation. A good dairy herd of pure to high grade A.I.S. cattle is maintained, which grazes on the 200 acres of grazing land available.

Quirindi is a live Station as regards social activities. Church services are held twice monthly in the Church, an active Parents and Citizens' Association is in operation, a football club is functioning with an unbeaten record for the current season and regular dances and picture shows are conducted in the Recreation Hall. Two Red Cross Bazaars held in the Hall this year netted £54.

Roseby Park.—This is one of the old Stations on the South Coast, situated near Greenwell Point, about 10 miles from Nowra. It is fairly isolated and for this reason it was decided some years ago to discontinue it as a Station when such a step became practical.

Apart from the usual outbreaks of influenza, colds and other illnesses due to the weather, the health of the residents has been reasonably good.

The position regarding employment during the year under review has been generally good, the aborigines being employed principally as crop pickers and on a share basis with local fishermen. The construction of the Naval Aerodrome a few miles from Nowra has also provided work for Roseby Park men.

The social life of the residents is carried out elsewhere than on the Station; the people attend most sporting fixtures and visit the pictures at Nowra. They attend but do not appear to be greatly interested in conducted social gatherings at the Station.

Taree.—In 1949 this Station was rebuilt, being one of the first post-war projects. Taree also was one of the first Stations where the aboriginal residents were called upon to pay rent in the new cottages which replaced their old sub-standard dwellings.

The experience at Taree was that whilst the tenants were willing enough to pay in the early stages, possibly to ensure tenancy, they have lost all sense of responsibility in regard to the payment of rent. Without exception the tenants are all now heavily in arrears.

The health of the residents has been good throughout the year, the incidence of serious complaints being remarkably low.

The water supply at Taree Station is from rain catchment on the buildings and is adequate. In the summer of 1951, when drought conditions in other parts of the State prevailed, the position was not serious at Taree.

The employment position at this centre is not so satisfactory. Local industry can absorb only a small fraction of the aboriginal labour available; the main industry being dairying; the small farms are worked by family units. The Railway provides the best opportunity for the able-bodied men but only 50 per cent. of the able-bodied men on the Station can be said to have been permanently employed during the year. The balance have, however, been employed casually or temporarily.

At Taree much has been done to improve the relations between the aborigines and the white community. Aborigines in increasing numbers are joining and actually taking part in various social activities in the town. The sports and social club is still functioning satisfactorily; the football team within the Club has not lost a match this season.

Forty-six children attend the school. It is proposed to transfer the upper division to the Public School in Taree, and when this is done the position will be considerably eased for the one teacher.

Walgett.—The population of Walgett Station, situated about six miles from Walgett, increased by four to 139 during the year.

The health of the residents has been generally good; the Station is visited regularly by a local medical officer.

Employment has been good during the year. Sheep and Station work, fencing, etc., are the usual types of employment available. The behaviour of the residents has been satisfactory.

Wallaga Lake.—This Station is situated on the South Coast near Bermagui. The Station has been rebuilt since the war, but in January, 1952, a disastrous bush fire swept through the Station and destroyed the newly erected Manager's residence, Treatment Room, Office and other administrative buildings.

The employment position in the district has been very good and in spite of a severe winter nearly 95 per cent. of the able-bodied residents of the Station have been employed. A Recreation Club has been formed and dances are held weekly. A special monthly dance has been patronised by aborigines living in the district, some of them coming from considerable distances.

A Baby Health Clinic is run once a fortnight by the Matron and has proved a great success. A marked improvement has been noticed in the health of the babies.

Woodenbong.—The population of Woodenbong Station is 173, housed in 24 dwellings. The general health of the residents is satisfactory, although during the year there was an epidemic of influenza in a bad form and several cases of meningitis. The Bush Nursing Association has a centre at Woodenbong and the Sister has continued to assist with medical attention to the residents, when necessary.

The employment position is reasonably satisfactory, but during the past few months there has been a falling off in demand at the local timber mills and farm work generally, but good workers are in constant demand.

The Parents and Citizens' Association which operates at Woodenbong Station conducted a number of functions for the provision of a tennis court, the poles for which were donated by a local resident. The men's football team plays in the local competition, but otherwise the lack of facilities militates against the organisation of effective social work.

Aborigines Reserves Generally.

Throughout the State there are a number of aborigines' reserves which differ from the Stations, inasmuch as there is no residential management, nor is there any organised supervision of amenities. In some instances, however, non-residential Supervisors have been appointed. This applies in the cases of Condobolin, Karuah, Nambucca Heads, Brungle, Coraki and Ulgundahi Island. In the cases of Condobolin, Karuah and Nambucca Heads the teacher in charge of the school combines the duties of supervising with his teaching duties. These Officers are regarded by the Board as part-time officers.

The position at La Prouse is somewhat different. Here we have a Reserve with a population of 160, close to the city and, therefore, the attraction for tourists and other visitors. The settlement has only in recent years been rebuilt and the twelve modern cottages are occupied by families who take a great pride in them, pay their rent regularly and are indeed an example to all others. A resident Supervisor is in charge of the Reserve.

On those Reserves where there is no supervision by Officers of the Aborigines Welfare Board, an arrangement with the Commissioner of Police provides for control by local Police Officers who oversight the Reserves within their Patrol and report regularly regarding progress. The Board is very appreciative of the assistance rendered by these Police Officers.

A general oversight of all Reserves within his district comes within the scope of the duties of an Area Welfare Officer, but the infrequency of his visits to certain centres where aborigines are congregated does not make it possible for him to oversight those places without the assistance of the Police.

Schedule "B" of this Report details the inhabited Reserves showing population and other vital statistics. The aggregate population of the Reserves to 30th June, 1952, was 2,464, showing an increase of 197 on that as at 30th June, 1951.

At the close of the year under review the erection of homes to replace sub-standard structures at Wilcannia Reserve was well in progress and it was anticipated that the homes would be occupied before the end of 1952. Similar projects at Yass and Coff's Harbour mentioned in the previous Report had not been commenced.

Karuah.—Karuah Reserve, situated on the shores of Port Stephens, has a static population of about 60. Good employment is always offering and the people here have taken full

advantage of the improved conditions in recent years. Employment is available mainly at the Masonite Works and Courtauld's Mills. Timber cutting, oystering and fishing are also sources of income to the aboriginal residents.

The conduct of the residents at Karuah has always been favourably reported upon and their young men are accepted in the local football and cricket teams where they have done very well for themselves.

Ulgundahi Island.—Ulgundahi Island itself is not popular as an Aborigines' Reserve. The area is subject to floods and these have been disastrous in past years, so much so that many of the previous residents now live in the Village of Ashby, and some have moved to Yamba.

There has been full employment during the year, the men finding work on local farms, cane harvesting and sawmills. There is, however, little participation in local sport.

La Perouse.—La Perouse is situated on the shores of Botany Bay and close to the City of Sydney, and must necessarily be the object of visits by a large number of tourists.

The male residents of this Reserve are practically all employed in big industries operating within reasonable distance of the Reserve and these men receive good wages. The women take pride in their homes which are always clean and tidy.

Three girls living locally are attending the Maroubra High School. Other children attend the Yarra Bay Public School and the manner in which the aboriginal and other children study and play together is one which has been commented upon very favourably from time to time. When a portion of the Yarra Bay School was opened at the commencement of the 1952 school term, the Superintendent and other representatives of the Department were invited to be present and to take part in the function.

There is no organised sport or social activity at this Station as the men play with teams in the district and the women attend social functions connected with nearby organisations.

IV. DISTRICT WORK BY WELFARE OFFICERS.

North Coast. (Area Welfare Officer, Mr. J. H. McBean.)

I have covered the whole of my area during the eight months that I have been stationed on the North Coast.

I have found that some areas, especially around Lismore, require more frequent visits than other centres.

Stations, Reserves and most settlements have been visited on more than two occasions. I have endeavoured to be at my centre every Saturday morning as, apart from numbers of aborigines waiting to interview me, I find that to be absent from my centre for a long period presents problems with the accumulation of official mail.

I find that there are very few districts where the white population are not sympathetic towards the problems of the aboriginal people. The problem, however, still remains that the aborigines in general are reluctant to give up their old slothful ways and face up to the responsibilities of life.

Drink and gambling are still the main cause preventing the aboriginal people to rise up to a better standard of living. The majority of them have little idea of the value of money and see nothing wrong with wasting pounds on taxi fares, even when a cheaper means of public conveyance is available. I have lectured individuals and groups repeatedly over such stupid spending. In many ways it would be an advantage to have control over their wages, but this would increase staff problems and would defeat the purpose of making them self-reliant.

It is encouraging, however, to find that a few of the coloured people are endeavouring to lift themselves up to the living standards of the general community.

I have found that, where the aboriginal children are attending the Public Schools with white children, they encourage their people to attend public functions. I am pleased to report that in all cases where such children are attending Public Schools that the teaching staffs give them a very favourable report and take a keen interest in their well-being.

It is realised that with the difficulty of accommodation in some Public Schools that it is impossible to abolish Aboriginal Schools and send these children to mixed schools. I consider, however, that it is only where the coloured children mix at school with the white children that we shall make a true start with an assimilation policy. I have heard it stated that the aboriginal children are happier when mixing with their own kind. I do not altogether agree with this argument, as I have seen these children playing in school playgrounds with white children and showing every appearance of being happy as they are when playing in aboriginal schools.

Unfortunately, it is when school is over that a barrier is set up. This, however, can be overcome when these children go home to an environment equal or near equal to that of the white children.

It is encouraging to find the keenness that exists to obtain a home where homes are being built by the Board. This applies mainly to the womenfolk and is an indication that they are anxious to have their children enjoy living under better standards than they themselves were compelled to live under.

I find that the aboriginal people are generally too immersed in their own problems to take much interest in the social, cultural or civil life of the general community. It is only rarely that one finds one who will break away from the crowd and want to live and take an interest in events outside their own little circle. Those men who play football with white teams always drift back for companionship with their own people. This is not surprising, as irrespective of the sympathy and feelings of the white community to the aborigines, a closer relationship is still regarded with suspicion. I consider, however, that when the living standards of the aborigines are raised and they live within the white community, this barrier will disappear.

I have been disappointed to see a number of youths who were reared and educated at the Kinchela Home, return to living under the sub-standard conditions of encampments. I have tried to encourage these youths, who are in fairly constant employment, to bank some of their money, to clothe themselves decently and to keep themselves clean. I have even asked them to let me find them some cheap accommodation when they come into town at the week-end. They will always agree with me, but I find that they do nothing to alter their way of life or improve their personal hygiene. I have, however, insisted on one youth banking most of his Trust Account, and, as he voluntarily left his bank book with me, my lectures may be of some account. I will, however, have to try and break him away from his present associates.

I find that I have had very good co-operation from medical men and hospitals in their treatment of the aborigines. It has been found necessary, however, in most cases to segregate them from other patients in the Hospitals. The reason being that most aboriginal patients are filthy in their habits generally. I have had reports of cases where they expectorate on the floor near their beds and also one case, who was not mental, where she constantly got out of bed and performed her excretions on the floor.

With such a wide circulation as the magazine "Dawn" now covers, an article on behaviour in Hospital and their responsibility to pay doctors consulting fees where they are earning good wages, would pave the way for a much better understanding and would assist doctors and nursing staffs in their treatment of the aboriginal people.

Employment is becoming more difficult to obtain. This applies in all centres and every effort should be made by the aboriginal people to establish themselves in one district so that they can become known and will then obtain work when it is offering. I have advertised in the local paper asking for employers to register with me. So far I have only received one response for casual garden work.

Where individual aborigines show a desire to go in for agricultural work, every effort should be made to start them on old reserves or pieces of available Crown Lands. There are indications that in most cases they do well in these pursuits, especially in market gardens and banana growing.

In conclusion, I would like to add that I consider the Board's building programme to be the most important uplift for the aboriginal people. I would, however, like to see, where possible, homes built for some of the better types away from Stations and Reserves. I consider it is essential, even to the point of reducing accommodation, to provide laundry and bathroom facilities. Without this encouragement to cleanliness and personal hygiene, much of the advantages of better housing will be lost.

North-West District. (Area Welfare Officer, Mr. J. K. Burlless.)

It is difficult to give a general outline of the situation in the North-West Area as the position can and does alter radically from town to town.

Broadly speaking, it is possible to see improvement in the far eastern sector slowly decreasing as one travels west. This is, nevertheless, too general a survey to be strictly accurate. For example, the situation in Bourke is better than that existing in Walgett.

As a general rule it is correct to say that prejudice increases, proportionately to the ratio of white to coloured residents of a town, saturation point being fixed at about fifteen per cent. Invariably, a town with a Station close at hand is more prejudiced than a community of the same size with only a few aboriginal families resident. Moree and Walgett are typical examples of saturated towns, whilst Bourke or Armidale provide an ideal working ground for the Area Welfare Officer.

I would assert that there has been some progress made during the year under review. I feel, however, that it has been slow and a view of work put into the field, disappointing. It is felt, however, that the current year will prove more productive.

The present scheme for housing those aboriginal families purchasing land as a sign of good faith and security, is excellent and, if implemented without delay, will accomplish much.

The aboriginal people have, on the whole, applauded the idea. One disadvantage in practice is the determination of those families willing to accept the scheme to live in the town of their birth, despite strong prejudice within that town. Usually the reason given is that the husband is known and secures his employment there, resultantly it would be stupid to leave. In fact, they cannot bear the thought of leaving relatives, completely severing themselves from old associations and serving as pioneers in a new and, as far as they know, hostile community. It is this deference for the past and the determination to stick together, not unmixed perhaps with the white population's efforts to drive them together, that constitutes the greatest barrier to effective work on the part of the Welfare Officer.

What is badly needed in my area is a little pioneering spirit, however foreign to the aborigines mental constitution (primarily due to the white population's theft of his initiative) and results will be slow until I am able to locate a series of leader families.

White/aboriginal relationship is intrinsically dependent upon the factors outlined in the preceding paragraph and it should be obvious that this relationship is a present unsatisfactory purely because there is no give or take on either side.

The grazier of the north-west deprecates the aborigine's lack of enterprise as an employee. He will do as he is told and no more.

If, says the grazier, he would mend the broken fence he passes on the way to muster a sheep paddock, as directed, that would show initiative. The aboriginal does, of course, see the fence but takes the attitude that he is not being paid for fencing. This may have passed during the land boom of 1951 when the aboriginal tried to repay old scores with the employer, but this year aboriginal labour is harder to sell. Of course, for years the grazier has frustrated the aborigines' initiative and he, too, pays the penalty resultant from this.

It is into this problem that the Welfare Officer must delve if he wants to improve relations. The methods used are immaterial but the solution lies in convincing the employer of the need to revalue his point of view from a realisation that he is reaping the sins of his father and assuring the aboriginal of his importance as a member of society.

Personally, the methods I use lie in directly approaching grazier friends and outlining the problem to them, then attempting to include the aboriginal in the social activities of the community and convincing him that at least I recognise his worth.

Generally, the inclusion of aborigines in the civic and cultural activities of their towns is slow. Armidale represents at least one substantial success in this field. The problem is not so much including but interesting them in these activities. This is difficult. In the first place few white people are really interested. It is peculiar that in a country town cultural and civic movements are the monopoly of just a few residents. The aboriginal may be more easily introduced through the back door of sport, provided the risk of "typing" his abilities is calculated and found worth the chance.

V. ABORIGINAL LIFE AND CONDITIONS.

Vital Statistics.

The last figures supplied by the Commonwealth Statistician relating to the aboriginal population of New South Wales were those taken in the General Census on 30th June, 1947. The numbers then were:—

Caste.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Full-blood	546	407	953
Mixed-blood.....	5,498	5,103	10,607
Total	6,044	5,516	11,560

The population of 2,903 aborigines on Stations and 2,464 on Reserves indicated that the balance of the aboriginal population numbering approximately 6,200 live outside the Board's direct control. Of the latter, many live independently

and have been fully assimilated into the general community. Others, however, have set up small unofficial communities within the vicinity of country towns.

Labour and Employment.

The Board employs a handyman and, in some instances, a sanitary man also, on each of its Aboriginal Stations. Other male residents have no difficulty in obtaining employment outside the Station in the particular industry appertaining to the district. In this regard, having continued to receive the assistance of Welfare Officers and Managers there has also been close co-operation on the part of the employers in the employment of aboriginal men.

Hereunder is a comparative table of employment of able-bodied aborigine men on the Aboriginal Stations:—

Period.	Able-bodied men on Stations.		
	Number in Residence.	Number in Employment.	Percentage in Employment.
April-June, 1950	533	510	96
April-June, 1951	566	485	95.5
April-June, 1952	531	404	76.07

The rates of wages paid to aborigines compare favourably with those paid to other workers; where applicable, they enjoy similar rights and privileges under Industrial Awards and where no awards exist, such as in the agricultural sphere, they do not suffer on that account.

Aboriginal Wards.

During the year, 17 aboriginal children were committed by the Children's Court to the care of the Aborigines Welfare Board. In each instance the reason for committal was the neglect or destitution of the child concerned. These children were—

- (a) Admitted to Kinchela Boys' Training Home 1
- (b) Admitted to Cootamundra Girls' Training Home
- (c) Admitted to Denominational Homes
- (d) Boarded out with approved aboriginal families
- (e) Placed in domestic service under Regulation conditions

Two children were brought under control under Section 11D (1) (a) and were placed as follows—

- Admitted to Bomaderry Children's Home
- Boarded out

Action against children which has the effect of bringing them under the control of the Board is taken under Section 13 of the Aborigines Protection Act, which has been framed on similar provisions in the Child Welfare Act. The Board's powers, however, are only implemented in extreme cases and only after the parents have been given every opportunity of caring for their child or children in a proper manner. The Board is pleased to report a good measure of success in this regard, due to the activities of Welfare Officers. In the case of orphans there is no option but to bring the children under control to ensure their future proper treatment.

Committed children are maintained by the Board until they are 16 years of age, whether as inmates of an institution or as boarded-out wards with foster parents. As shortly after their fifteenth birthday as practicable, they are placed in employment but they remain wards until they reach the age of 18 years.

Although at 18 years of age a ward ceases to be the responsibility of the Board in the personal sense, he/she is by no means neglected. Welfare Officers, both in the country and the city, continue a supervision which has as its object the welfare of the individual young person. They are encouraged to bring their personal problems to the Board through its Welfare Officers and sympathetic consideration is always given to them.

At the 30th June, 1952, 15 girls and three boys were in employment under conditions set out in Regulation 21 which provides, *inter alia*, for portion of their earnings to be credited to the Board's Trust Account.

Commonwealth Social Services.

Child Endowment.—It is pleasing to note that during the year the number of endowments payable to aboriginal mothers administered by the Board has decreased, due to an increase in the number of cases transferred to direct pay.

The Board's policy in this regard is to reduce, as far as possible, the number of endowment cases which it administers. To this end all mothers are encouraged to qualify for a recommendation from the Board to the Director-General of Social Services that they receive their endowment direct. They can do this by improving their home conditions and demonstrating that they can be relied upon to care for their children in a satisfactory manner. Unfortunately, in many instances the conduct and mode of living of one, or both, of the parents precludes any possibility of any administration of the endowment other than by the Board.

When the Board has accepted the administration of the endowment, the Manager of the Station on which the endowee is resident, or the local Police, supervises the manner in which the endowment is expended. This is done by the issue of orders to local trades people, the claims being paid from the endowment which is paid to the Head Office of the Board and credited to a trust account.

This system works very satisfactorily and undoubtedly ensures the expenditure of endowment money in the direction which it was originally intended, namely, for the benefit of the children in respect of whom it is paid. The following table indicates the variation in the number of cases administered during the period:—

Year ended 30th June.	Amount Received from Commonwealth for Administration.	Number of cases administered at beginning of Year.	Subtract.		Add.		Cases administered at end of Year.
			Cases expired, etc.	Cases changed to direct pay.	Cases reverted to Board's Control.	New Cases.	
1950	£ 12,868	176	15	44	9	12	138
1951	12,645	138	4	11	9	16	148
1952	10,534	148	8	29	5	13	129

The Board also administered two War Pensions. As the recipients of Age, Invalid and Widows' Pensions must necessarily reside other than on an Aboriginal Station or Aborigines Reserve, no action is taken by the Board to administer any of such pensions granted, assuming that residence away from direct control constitutes a measure of independence which is worthy of respect.

Disqualification for pension payments imposed by the Commonwealth Government on aborigines, otherwise qualified, who reside on Stations and Reserves still continues. This has led in many instances to the aborigines concerned leaving the Board's control to take up residence outside and thus qualify for the pension payment. Others, by reason of their strong home ties or infirmity, have elected to remain with their people and to these the Board has extended additional benefit by way of rations and clothing, where necessary, to compensate for the pension he/she is unable to receive.

The Board has not ceased in its efforts to have this restriction on the payment of pensions removed. The provision for the issue of Certificates of Exemption does not altogether overcome the difficulty as many of the aborigines concerned could not comply with the whole of the conditions under which Exemption Certificates are approved and could not qualify for the issue.

Hospitalisation.—The Board has continued to receive the co-operation of the hospitals throughout the State in the treatment of aboriginal patients. Although the Commonwealth Hospital Benefits apply equally to aborigines as an ordinary citizen and the former are justly entitled to equivalent treatment, the Board is appreciative of the kindness extended to aboriginal persons at all times. The readiness of the hospitals to receive patients is particularly marked in maternity cases, thereby bringing about a great improvement on earlier years when it was customary for the aborigine women to be confined in their homes, not always under hygienic and satisfactory conditions.

Relief and Benefits Provided by the Board.

As has always been the case, the Board provided relief to the aged, infirm, indigent and incapable aborigines in the way of rations, clothing and blankets. It was customary in former years for an aboriginal on becoming unemployed to seek temporary relief from the Board. The aboriginal who is genuinely unemployed, that is to say, whose opportunity to follow his usual calling is temporarily removed, may now apply and be issued with the Commonwealth Unemployment and Sickness Benefit and, as this takes the form of a cash payment, is more popular than the earlier system of a ration issue.

The casual worker who oftentimes is not entitled to claim the Commonwealth Benefit, due to the circumstances leading to his employment, may seek rations from the Board, but if he is resident on a Station, is required to give some of his time in developmental work in exchange.

Housing.—The Board continues to provide aboriginal families with homes comparable to white standards. As mentioned before in this Report, it is felt that the improved housing now provided for the aborigines is a forward step in their education towards assimilation. Speaking generally, the aborigines who have been provided with new homes have shown their appreciation, although the experience in regard to the payment of rent has not been happy.

Rations.—The ration scale which operates throughout the State, and has done so for some years, was originally determined by the Department of Public Health as a well-balanced ration. These rations are supplemented by home-grown vegetables and milk on those Stations where these additional items can be made available.

Appendix "A" of this Report shows the number of rations issued on the various Stations at the beginning and end of the year under review. Appendix "B" furnishes similar information in respect of Reserves.

In the case of Stations the increase in the number of ration recipients—59—is not in proportion to the increase in the number of residents on Stations—223. This would appear to be due to the marked increases in certain localities where the position would be governed by the employment situation. In the case of Reserves there was a decrease in the number of ration recipients of approximately 8.5 per cent. in the population to 30th June, 1952, compared with that at 30th June, 1951.

Medical Attention.—The Matron of each Aboriginal Station is in charge of a treatment room and dispensary and is available for the treatment of minor ailments and general first-aid. In some instances, where the Matron is a certified nurse, the treatment afforded is to a greater extent, but in either case the services of a medical officer are requisitioned when the treatment of the patient is beyond the capabilities of the Matron. Drugs, dressings and medicines for Station treatment are supplied to aborigines without charge.

Clothing.—The following table indicates the number of clothing outfits issued during the year ended 30th June, 1952, compared with issues made in previous years. The indigent aborigines entitled to the issue receive two outfits, one for the summer and one for the winter.

Outfits.	Year ended 30th June—								
	1950.	1951.	1952.	1950.	1951.	1952.	1950.	1951.	1952.
	Male.			Female.			Total.		
Summer Outfits	106	106	64	167	140	140	273	252	204
Winter Outfits	98	69	61	130	137	101	228	206	162
Total	204	175	125	297	283	241	501	458	366

Blankets are issued only in necessitous cases and every care is taken by the Board's Officers to see that the issue is not abused by the misuse of blankets. The following is a comparative table of issues over the last three years:—

Issued from—	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.
Stations	389	353	298
Reserves	167	199	185
Total	556	552	483

Baby Outfits.—Baby outfits are now supplied free of cost only to full-blood mothers as they are ineligible for the maternity allowance by reason of their caste. Should the mother, however, receive a maternity allowance she is required to pay for her baby outfit, and in order to enable her to do this she furnishes an order which authorises the Director-General of Social Services to pay the allowance to the Board. When the cost of the baby outfit has been deducted the balance is paid to the mother.

Christmas Cheer.—The provision of Christmas Cheer, consisting of plum pudding and tobacco, has been one of the features of the Board's administration for many years. The provision of a breaking-up party for the children of aboriginal schools is of more recent origin, but, nevertheless, dates back at least a quarter of a century. Both of these amenities were made available for Christmas, 1951, and in every instance, to the material contribution by the Board was added the enthusiasm and support, moral and financial, of the Board's Officers and local interested people. All centres reported that the aborigines, both adults and children, had a full round of enjoyment at the festive season.

The Christmas festivities at the Children's Homes were particularly bright. The Cootamundra Home for Girls is close to the town, and naturally, attracts the interests of local organisations and trades-people, all of whom have contributed generously in the past to the Christmas celebrations. The Christmas of 1951 was no exception. The Kinchela Home is not so fortunately placed, but the Board made ample provision for the festivities. The boys and girls at the two homes naturally shared in the special grants for all aboriginal children at this time and the Board added special foodstuffs appropriate to the occasion.

Throughout the State wherever aborigines are congregated the same spirit of goodwill was exhibited at Christmas time. The local organisations came forward and joined with the aborigines themselves to ensure that everybody, young and old, was remembered.

At La Perouse, members of the City of Sydney Branch of the R.S.S. & A.I.L.A. again organised a party for the aboriginal children, providing refreshments and toys. Local organisations were also to the fore in the metropolitan area to provide Christmas cheer for the aboriginal children. The Board expresses its sincere thanks to all of those who assisted.

Health and Hygiene.

The reports received from the various Stations and Reserves indicated that the health of the aborigines throughout the State during the year can be said to have been generally good. The organisation which exists on the Aboriginal Stations, mentioned previously in this Report, and the constant visitations from the Board's Officers provide a safeguard in the event of any serious outbreak of disease. The usual epidemics of colds, influenza and other seasonal diseases prevailed, but in every instance prompt remedial action was taken.

The health of the aborigine continues to be carefully watched. Where practicable, steps are taken to arrest any deficiencies. Strict supervision is maintained, particularly on the Aboriginal Stations, of the cleanliness of homes and sanitary conveniences. The impracticability of constant supervision of this nature on the Reserves, however, militates against a full implementation of the Board's aims. Nevertheless, in those districts where Welfare Officers are operating, marked improvements have been reported.

In the new homes which have been provided since the war, facilities are provided for bathing. These were, unfortunately, absent in the older type of cottages, but in some instances community bathrooms have been erected and good use has been made of these.

As previously stated, aborigines requiring hospitalisation receive no different treatment to that afforded to members of the general community, but there is often present a feeling of isolation on the part of the aboriginal, which is not necessarily due to discrimination or unfair treatment; regular visits by the Board's Officers go a long way to overcome this state of affairs.

Social, Sporting and Recreational Activities.

The sporting activities engaged in by residents on the various Stations have been dealt with in the sectional reports on the year's activities of the individual establishments.

It is pleasing to note the readiness with which, almost without exception, aborigines are received in local sporting organisations. This particularly applies to football. The aboriginal is a keen footballer, and, wherever they have fielded a team, they have always acquitted themselves well in district competitions.

The readiness with which the older lads of Kinchela Home have been accepted by the South-West Rocks Surf Life Saving Club for training as Life Savers is particularly pleasing, the only regret is that the lads invariably leave the Home at an age when their services as Life Savers would be very acceptable. Unfortunately, also they usually go to employment in areas where clubs do not operate, but the training they have received is very valuable.

Exemption Certificates.

A comparison of the numbers of Certificates exempting aborigines from the provisions of the Act granted by the Board during 1950-51 and the year under review follows:—

	1950-51.	1951-52.
Granted	71	51
Deferred	7	2
Declined	2	NIL.

During the year two Certificates were cancelled.

The 1943 amendment to the Aborigines Protection Act empowers the Board to issue Certificates of Exemption and the first of these were approved during the year commenced 1st July, 1944. In the eight years which have since elapsed, approximately 400 Certificates have been issued, and it is pleasing to note that of this number it has been found necessary to cancel 9 only. A Certificate is cancelled only in extreme circumstances, where the holder has demonstrated that he is not a fit and proper person to be exempted.

Expulsion Orders.

During the year the Board approved of the issue of one Expulsion Order only. The operation of two Expulsion Orders in existence was suspended. Although in many instances the behaviour of certain residents, particularly of the young men, was not always all that could be desired, and in some cases action under the Regulations was necessary, the policy adhered to has been to give a defaulting aborigine every opportunity to mend his ways.

Even in those instances where Expulsion Orders have been issued a lenient view is always adopted if the person concerned indicates that he is anxious to rehabilitate himself.

VI. CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, the Board expresses again its thanks for the assistance and co-operation it has received from other Government Departments, outside organisations and interested persons, in its efforts for the welfare of the aboriginal population of New South Wales and the implementation of the Government's policy in regard to these people.

For and on behalf of the Aborigines Welfare Board in pursuance of the Board's resolution, dated this nineteenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-three.

C. J. BUTTSWORTH, Chairman.

APPENDIX "A".

LIST OF ABORIGINAL STATIONS VITAL STATISTICS AND RATION RECIPIENTS.

Station.	Area.	As at 30th June, 1951.		As at 30th June, 1952.		Statistics for year ended 30th June, 1952.		
		Population.	Ration Recipients.	Population.	Ration Recipients.	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.
	Acres.							
Bellbrook	96	119	13	135	9	4	1	2
Boggabilla	457	244	32	254	49	10	2	2
Brewarrina	4,638	123	23	153	28	6	2	...
Burnt Bridge	613	315	22	274	22	14	4	2
Burra Bee Dee	473	50	8	61	5	4	...	2
Cabbage Tree Island	125	134	16	156	20	4	...	...
Cowra	31	152	16	145	18	5	...	2
Cumeroogunga	2,600	49	...	46	...	...	...	...
Jervis Bay	100	129	13	127	25	7	6	3
Moonahcullah	232	63	...	63	1	1	...	...
Moree	200	257	10	281	30	15	7	3
Murrin Bridge	937	177	35	207	42	9	2	2
Pilliga	150	...	...	30	5	...	1	...
Quirindi	220	153	1	147	...	8	2	4
Roseby Park	66	110	14	106	9	6	1	2
*Tabulam	53	66	23	108	...	...	...	...
Taree	51	206	17	226	21	12	1	...
Walgett	337	144	24	139	24	9	1	2
Wallaga Lake	341	109	12	72	13	6	5	1
Woodenbong	126	146	14	173	13	5	5	6
Total .....	...	2,746	293	2,903	329	125	40	33

* Previously classified as a Reserve.

APPENDIX "B".

LIST OF ABORIGINAL RESERVES—PARTICULARS OF RATION RECIPIENTS.

Reserve.	Area.	As at 30th June, 1951.		As at 30th June, 1952.	
		Population.	Ration Recipients.	Population.	Ration Recipients.
	Acres.				
Balranald	142	47	...	49	...
Baryulgil (Settlement only)	40	89	...	107	5
Bourke	34	121	...	32	...
Bowraville	36	140	4	136	4
*Brungle	357	47	...	62	...
Collarenebri (Camp only)	50	149	...	134	...
*Condobolin	16	83	6	191	6
Coraki	10	58	10	60	4
*Cubawee (late Tuncester)	24	70	...	88	...
Darlington Point	25	37	...	57	...
Dubbo (Talbragar)	18	42	...	52	...
*Forster	19	72	...	62	...
Goodooga	80	90	1	98	1
Goolagong	80	21	...	21	...
*Gulargambone	52	71	...	72	...
*Karuah	50	61	1	62	2
Kyogle	111	15	...	14	...
La Perouse	6	157	...	160	...
Macksville (Eungai)	20	27	...	10	...
*Moree	200	110	5	124	2
Mungindi	100	118	...	110	2
*Nambucca Heads	70	126	...	106	...
Quambone	43	20	...	...	...
Rye Park	140	...	...	8	...
Tibooburra	100	6	2	2	2
*Tingha (Long Gully)	15	39	...	80	...
*Ulgundahi Island (Maclean)	44	37	3	40	3
Uralla	100	14	...	11	...
*Walcha (Summer Vale)	107	38	5	38	5
*Wellington (Nanima)	100	49	10	180	31
Wilcannia	75	182	12	239	3
*Yass	9	65	...	59	2
Total .....	...	2,267	82	2,464	70

* Signifies Aboriginal School on Reserve.

APPENDIX "C".

STATEMENTS OF EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1952.

Expenditure incurred by the Board—

Payable from Consolidated Revenue Fund—

	£	£
Salaries and Wages	59,433	
Maintenance of Buildings	3,262	
Transport Expenses	12,189	
Maintenance of, and assistance to, Aborigines	34,340	
Other Charges	1,948	
Purchase of Plant and Equipment	2,526	
	<u>113,698</u>	

Payable from General Loan Account—

New Buildings, Station improvements and Land Purchases	104,890	218,588
	<u>104,890</u>	

Expenditure incurred by other Departments on behalf of the Board—

Government Stores Department, for purchase of clothing, stores, stationery, and other supplies	6,721	
Department of Public Health, for medical fees, etc.	605	
Department of Public Works, for telephone services, etc.	1,296	
New South Wales Real Estate Office, for sanitary services	3,461	
Government Printer, for printing and bookbinding	303	
	<u>12,386</u>	
Total		<u>£230,974</u>