

1919  
—  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

(OMITTING CERTAIN RETURNS)

OF THE

## CHIEF PROTECTOR OF ABORIGINES

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 1918.

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

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Southern Missions were concerned, was comparatively simple, and began to operate during the year, but in the case of the Northern Missions, matters were somewhat delayed. As the result, however, of my inspection and subsequent reports to the Government, everything was in order by the end of the year, and the Northern Missions brought into line as from the 1st July, 1918. The new system was fully explained in my report for the previous year, but, briefly, it may be stated that the unequal method of making grants on no definite basis has given place to a method under which the Department is definitely committed to subsidise a fixed amount for each child or indigent supported by a Mission who would otherwise be the care of the State. While some of the Missions have thus suffered a reduction in the financial aid rendered by the State, others have received an increase. The system is working satisfactorily, and is fair to all, ensuring the receipt of a fixed income which, under the old system, was liable at any time to be withdrawn. As the result of the close inspection of the inmates at all Missions there was bound to be some adjustment, and the Department is

now satisfied that it is doing all that is necessary for the care of the individuals placed at the Missions at the request of the State.

In some districts the unlawful carrying of guns by natives has occasioned concern, and it has been necessary to take firm steps to check this practice by confiscating all rifles and prosecuting some of the offenders. It is hoped that the steps taken will tend to diminish the present dangerous practice of supplying firearms to natives not holding licenses under the Aborigines Act, by kangaroo hunters and others, who, in so doing by specious promises, often entice natives away from their lawful employment on stations. There are very few gun licenses at present in force, and if the present abuse continues it may be necessary to cancel these and issue no others until it is possible to ensure that the regulations in this respect will be complied with.

#### LABOUR CONDITIONS.

The following statement shows the number of natives employed under permit, giving the place of issue and the nature of permit granted:—

Place of Issue.	Nature of Permit issued and Number of Natives authorised to be employed thereunder.				Total.	
	General.	No. of Natives.	Single.	No. of Natives.	Permits.	Natives.
Albany ... ..	1	3	2	2	3	5
Beverley ... ..	1	5	6	6	7	11
Broome ... ..	23	338	98	141	121	479
Bunbury ... ..	...	...	3	3	3	3
Carnarvon ... ..	15	155	4	4	19	159
Cue ... ..	35	311	46	46	81	357
Derby ... ..	53	1,206	34	38	87	1,244
Esperance ... ..	1	10	4	4	5	14
Eucla ... ..	...	...	6	10	6	10
Fremantle ... ..	...	...	7	7	7	7
Geraldton ... ..	3	23	18	18	21	41
Hall's Creek ... ..	20	234	17	17	37	251
Junction ... ..	13	204	4	4	17	208
Kalgoorlie ... ..	2	13	1	1	3	14
Katanning ... ..	1	2	1	1	2	3
La Grange ... ..	7	100	2	2	9	102
Laverton ... ..	...	...	9	9	9	9
Marble Bar ... ..	11	142	19	19	30	161
Menzies ... ..	...	...	3	3	3	3
Moora ... ..	...	...	4	4	4	4
Mt. Morgans ... ..	...	...	2	2	2	2
Narrogin ... ..	1	4	6	6	7	10
Northam ... ..	2	12	13	13	15	25
Norseman ... ..	3	24	...	...	3	24
Nullagine ... ..	19	195	3	3	22	198
Onslow ... ..	13	177	...	...	13	177
Perth ... ..	6	63	18	20	24	83
Port Hedland ... ..	22	370	6	9	28	379
Ravensthorpe ... ..	...	...	1	1	1	1
Roebourne ... ..	31	464	36	37	67	501
Sandstone ... ..	1	3	11	11	12	14
Shark Bay ... ..	1	22	7	8	8	30
Violet Valley ... ..	9	100	3	3	12	103
Wiluna ... ..	3	14	3	4	6	18
Wyndham ... ..	10	67	35	36	45	103
Yalgoo ... ..	24	184	5	5	29	189
As Police Trackers ... ..	1	46	...	...	1	46
Totals, 1917-18 ... ..	332	4,491	437	497	769	4,988
Totals for year 1916-17 ... ..	521	5,079	314	371	835	5,450

On comparing the figures for the previous year, it will be seen that the total number of natives employed was 462 less during the year under review. The Broome district is responsible for practically

the whole of the decrease, several permits covering the employment of a large number of natives not being renewed. The number of single permits has increased as against a decrease in the general per-

mits. This was to be expected in view of the higher fee charged for a general permit, a number of natives hitherto being engaged under the general permit being now signed on individually.

As during the previous year, any native requiring work was easily able to obtain it, and there was an increasing demand for the services of half-caste girls over the age of 16 as domestic servants.

In former years a number of half-caste girls, on attaining the age of 16, have left the various Missions and secured employment, mostly in the metropolitan area, and as it became evident that it was necessary that some control should be exercised over them, and the conditions of their employment regulated, I decided to enforce compliance with the Act in this respect, which for some reason or another had not previously been the case. The resultant inquiries have shown how necessary the exercise of this control is, and a considerable improvement has since taken place in the condition of these girls, and also in the terms under which they are employed. We were too late, unfortunately, in some cases to effect much improvement, but now I think these young women appreciate the fact that the Department is anxious for their welfare and to lend them a helping hand in pursuing their way through life, always a difficult task for the coloured girl.

We established, also, a definite rule that in future no more half-caste or native girls should be allowed to be brought from the country and placed in situations in the metropolitan area.

Numbers of natives sought the assistance of the Department in adjusting their claims with employers, and their cases were taken up and satisfactorily settled. There is still, I am sorry to say, a good deal of exploitation in respect to employment and wages, and I regret that I have not yet been able to put before the Government the system which I intend to propose to regulate the payment of wages as outlined in my report of the previous year. The omission to submit these proposals has been occasioned by my inability to prosecute my inquiries in certain directions with the object of obtaining definite information on certain points.

Applications have been received from ten persons to adopt half-caste or native children, and in five cases I have delegated my authority as guardian, to suitable employers, while one has been refused and the others are pending. In all cases the children are satisfactorily placed, and reports as to their welfare are received periodically.

#### BLANKETS AND CLOTHING.

The subjoined figures indicate the number of blankets and garments distributed during the year under review and the previous year:—

	1917-18.	1916-17.
Blankets .. ..	1,185	1,373
Dresses .. ..	689	803
Shirts .. ..	611	764
Under-shirts .. ..	565	593
Trousers .. ..	562	701
	<u>3,612</u>	<u>4,234</u>

It will be noticed that there has been a substantial decrease in the quantities supplied to the natives, but it should be explained that this has been brought about mainly by the establishment of the settlements, and consequent concentration of the natives at these places, enabling supplies to be more economically distributed.

Included in the issues were a number of blankets supplied free to the Department by the Military Authorities.

Blankets and clothing costing £749 11s. 7d. were purchased during the year, and in addition, material costing £236 13s. 4d. was procured and sent to Carolup River Native Settlement for making up into garments. The generous gift, through the instrumentality of the Minister for Defence, of 460 unserviceable blankets enabled a substantial saving to be made in the purchase of such goods, and also enabled us to obtain the material to be made up to meet future clothing requirements. Nearly 1,000 additional blankets were received from the Defence Department at a reduced rate.

#### DEATHS.

The attached statement shows the number of deaths reported and the causes thereof. The number is 158, as against 152 during the previous year:—

Accidental .. .. .	5
Aneurism .. .. .	1
Asthma .. .. .	3
Bronchitis .. .. .	9
Childbirth .. .. .	2
Cancer .. .. .	2
Cirrhosis of Liver .. .. .	1
Dropsy .. .. .	3
Drowning .. .. .	1
Exhaustion .. .. .	1
Epileptic Fit .. .. .	1
General Senile Inanition (decay) .. .. .	1
Heart failure .. .. .	1
Heart disease .. .. .	2
Influenza .. .. .	5
Intestinal obstruction .. .. .	1
Leprosy .. .. .	1
Murder (tribal) .. .. .	1
Measles .. .. .	2
Mania (acute) .. .. .	2
Not specified .. .. .	7
Natural causes .. .. .	22
Ovarian cyst .. .. .	1
Poisoning, accidental .. .. .	3
Paralysis .. .. .	1
Pneumonia .. .. .	6
Premature birth .. .. .	1
Phlegmasia alba dolens .. .. .	1
Peritonitis .. .. .	4
Stillborn .. .. .	1
Senile decay .. .. .	25
Scrofula .. .. .	1
Septicæmia .. .. .	1
Rheumatic Endocarditis and Syncope .. .. .	1
Tetanus .. .. .	1
Tribal fighting .. .. .	5
Thirst .. .. .	2
Tuberculosis .. .. .	14
Venereal (including 8 deaths at Lock Hospitals) .. .. .	16
	<u>158</u>

#### RELIEF.

The following particulars give the average number of natives rationed throughout the State, together with the cost during the year under review and the previous year:—



Bulk supplies issued as necessary.

Duketon Eucla	Bulk supplies As per contract	Aborigines Department Contractor	do. ... Manager, Telegraph Sta- tion	10 20	10 27	26 170	2 3 2	30 187	1 11 6	6 6	Bulk supplies issued as necessary.
Fitzroy Crossing	do.	do.	Police	...	28	37	10	31	16	0	
Geraldton	do.	do.	do.	5	5	10	10	23	10	3	
Goomalling	do.	do.	do.	4	3	30	16	2	19	3	
Guildford	do.	do.	do.	8	5	110	12	86	9	1	
Gum Creek	do.	do.	do.	10	9	109	8	98	17	11	
Junction	do.	do.	A. Burrows Police	5	3	60	15	35	16	6	Temporary relief.
Katanning	do.	Aborigines Department... Contractor	do.	1	16	0	3	0	17	4	Ceased.
Kanowna	do.	do.	do.	5 (2 mths.)	15 (5 mths.)	3	4	42	13	6	do.
Kookynie	do.	do.	do.	7	10	43	6	60	3	11	
Lavlers	do.	do.	do.	10	8	103	18	83	3	11	
Laverton	do.	do.	do.	20	16	154	12	127	19	10	
Leonora	do.	do.	do.	13	3	75	6	31	13	2	
Marble Bar	do.	do.	do.	1	7	14	17	50	14	1	
Meekatharra	do.	do.	do.	12	11	129	5	92	2	10	
Mingenew	do.	do.	do.	5	1	18	18	11	10	0	
Mt. Barker	do.	do.	do.	1	...	63	7	39	4	6	Ceased.
Mt. Magnet	do.	do.	do.	12	...	3	3	...	...	...	Ceased.
Mt. Morgans	do.	do.	do.	1	...	48	19	66	6	4	
Moora	As per contract	Contractor	Police	5	7	32	19	32	1	7	
Mullewa	do.	do.	do.	4	3	21	3	19	17	10	
Mulleypup	do.	do.	do.	1	1	34	4	...	...	...	Ceased.
Narrogin	do.	do.	do.	6	...	19	14	98	3	2	
Norseman	As per contract	Contractor	Abbot of New Norcia	2	3	91	16	53	3	7	
Northampton	do.	do.	Police	8	8	81	0	2	3	3	Temporary relief.
Northam	do.	do.	do.	13	...	186	9	124	8	9	
Nungarun	do.	do.	do.	...	20	198	18	159	19	9	
Nullagine	Bulk Supplies	Aborigines Department... Contractor	Police	21	16	15	13	15	9	10	
Onslow	As per contract	do.	do.	2	3	153	16	179	6	9	
Peak Hill	do.	do.	do.	12	16	3	19	5	11	10	
Perth	do.	do.	Aborigines Department Police	1	2	29	10	19	1	0	
Pinjarra	do.	do.	do.	2	1	13	13	13	9	2	
Point Cloates	Bulk supplies	Aborigines Department	W. H. Farrar	...	5	25	14	139	5	0	Ceased.
Port Hedland	As per contract	Contractor	Police	1	...	62	11	24	5	0	
Roebourne (lepers) (indigents)	do.	do.	do.	8	6	59	15	41	15	0	
Sandstone	do.	do.	do.	3	1	177	10	129	2	0	
Tableland	do.	do.	do.	8	24	1	9	...	...	...	
Toodyay	Bulk supplies	Aborigines Department	do.	25	...	149	10	138	0	0	
Tuekanarra	As per contract	Contractor	do.	2	...	21	18	4	9	11	Temporary relief.
Wagin	do.	do.	Police	16	7	90	5	92	11	3	
Wallal	Bulk supplies	Aborigines Department	C. Somerset	3	17	49	6	11	9	6	1st July, 1917 to 30th November, 1917.
Whim Creek	As per contract	West Pilbarra Trading Co.	Police	20	3	161	11	136	0	8	
Wiluna	do.	Contractor	do.	14	11	0	7	...	...	...	
Wyndham	As per contract	Contractor	Police	1	...	64	6	22	16	9	Ceased. Natives transferred to Point Cloates.
Yalgoo	Bulk supplies	Aborigines Department	Holst & Campbell	11	4	11	18	...	...	...	Temporary relief.
Yardie Creek	As per contract	Contractor	Police	7	...	60	7	0	15	8	
York	As per contract	Contractor	Police	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Younani	As per contract	Contractor	Police	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
				1,021	1,035	8,102	2	7,313	3	10	

It will be seen that while practically the same number of natives have been rationed as during the previous year, the cost has been £789 less.

The per capita stations at Bangemall and Thangoo have been closed, leaving only one such station still being maintained, where there is only one native to support. The ration station at Yardie Creek has been closed, the natives being moved to Point Cloates and placed under the care of Mr. Hebden Farrar, Protector for the district.

A new station has been established at the Fitzroy, and the natives previously supported at Brooking Station transferred there, together with a number of old people from the vicinity who were in a very bad way and required help. The station is in charge of the Police. At Tableland the Police have resumed control; the Police Station which had been closed since November, 1915, having been re-opened. Rationing has ceased at Kookynie and Kanowna, arrangements having been made to maintain the natives elsewhere.

The great decrease in the cost of provisions during the last three years, now approximately £3,000, has been brought about partly by the establishment of the Carrolup and Moore River Native Settlements, and partly by the most careful inspection of the work at ration stations and the abolition of the per capita system. While though the natives have, of course, to be fed at the new settlements, this can be done much more cheaply and expeditiously, in addition to which food is being produced by the labour of the natives themselves in increasing quantities.

#### HEALTH.

The health of the natives throughout the State has been good, and with the exception of an outbreak of mumps at Carrolup River Native Settlement and a little influenza here and there, there have been no epidemics. The greatest cause of mortality, other than old age, was tuberculosis, for which one or two districts were mainly responsible. The Department has done what it could to remedy matters in this direction, several natives and half-castes being removed to the Sanatorium, and other members of their families to our own settlements, where they could be properly looked after, the old camps and all the effects of the inhabitants being destroyed by fire.

Medical attendance upon natives outside our own settlements, excluding the treatment of indigents at public hospitals and the Lock hospitals, amounted to only £56 15s. 1d.

The prevalence of venereal diseases has been reported from various centres, though generally speaking the cases have been mild and, taken early, susceptible to treatment. The Department has made every effort to ensure that every native suffering from venereal disease in any form should be presented for treatment to the nearest District Medical Officer. Only two natives were admitted to the Lock Hospitals during the year, while 26 were discharged cured and eight died, leaving 24 under treatment at the end of the year, these being mostly chronic cases.

#### CRIMES.

The crimes reported to the Department during the year numbered 303, as compared with 244 during the previous year. This year, however, 44 natives were convicted for cattle killing, as against 18 for

the previous year, which accounts for much of the increase. There were 132 convictions for drunkenness and receiving liquor, as against 119 reported the previous year. In spite of all attempts to suppress it, the illicit supply of intoxicating liquor to the natives still goes on, 28 convictions having been obtained under this head, in respect to which the fines imposed amounted to £659 12s. 6d. The fines ranged from £5 to £100 and costs, and in one instance six months' imprisonment was imposed. There were only six convictions for other breaches of the provisions of the Aborigines Act by persons other than aborigines.

With regard to cattle killing, practically all the cases occurred in West Kimberley, and in this regard I have suggested that for this and other reasons the establishment in West Kimberley of a native settlement on similar lines to Moola Bulla Station is desirable, and deserves earnest consideration. I pointed out that to keep these 44 convicted natives in our gaols for two years, the usual term of their sentence, would cost the State approximately £4,500, a sum which would go a long way towards establishing a station such as I speak of, and it must be remembered that similar numbers are being convicted annually in this part of the country.

The following table indicates the nature and number of the crimes reported:—

Refusing to obey order under Section 12 of the Aborigines Act .. .. .	1
Disorderly conduct .. .. .	30
Enticing inmate to leave Native Settlement .. .. .	1
Drunk .. .. .	78
Attempted rape .. .. .	1
Unlawfully on premises .. .. .	6
Rogue and vagabond .. .. .	1
Stealing .. .. .	19
Receiving liquor .. .. .	52
Carrying gun without license .. .. .	15
Habitual drunkard .. .. .	2
Absconding from service .. .. .	4
Causing bodily harm .. .. .	3
Assault .. .. .	7
Resisting arrest .. .. .	4
Vagrancy .. .. .	2
Supplying liquor to other natives .. .. .	2
Lunacy .. .. .	1
Escaping from custody .. .. .	8
Refusing to move from hotel .. .. .	1
Removal of natives .. .. .	1
On prohibited area .. .. .	3
Idle and disorderly .. .. .	2
Native murder .. .. .	2
Unlawful possession .. .. .	7
Cattle killing .. .. .	44
Found in gaming house .. .. .	1
Insulting language .. .. .	2
Obscene language .. .. .	1
Unlawfully using horse .. .. .	1
Offence not stated .. .. .	1
	303

#### CERTIFICATES OF EXEMPTION.

Seventeen applications for exemption under Section 63 of the Aborigines Act were applied for, but only four were granted during the year. Nine were definitely refused, two did not come within the scope of the Act, while two were pending at the close of the year. These applications, as I have previously pointed out, are merely made in order that the holder may obtain intoxicating liquor, and I regret that so far no definite steps have been taken to introduce a

Bill to alter the conflict existing between the Licensing and Aborigines Acts in respect to the supply of liquor to natives and half-castes, and to which I have drawn attention on more than one occasion. The statistics appearing under the heading "Crimes," coupled with the knowledge that practically all native crimes can be traced to drink, surely indicate the necessity for the absolute prohibition of the supply of liquor to any half-caste or aboriginal unless in possession of a certificate of exemption, and it is well known that the half-caste about whom the doubt at present exists is frequently the means of conveying the liquor to the aboriginal.

#### RECOGNISANCES.

Permission was granted, under Section 9 of the Aborigines Act, to 55 persons to remove 89 natives from their own to other districts.

A great deal of trouble is still being experienced with drovers and others removing natives without permission and leaving them stranded in districts far removed from their own. It is the intention of the Department to enforce compliance with the section of the Act dealing with this matter, in order to prevent as far as possible this abuse. A good deal of the trouble is no doubt due to carelessness on the part of employers, and it should be remembered that an extension of the terms of a recognisance can always be sought, subject to the willingness of the native to remain away from his district. A little attention paid to this matter in the first instance may be the means of avoiding considerable trouble later on.

#### GOVERNMENT SETTLEMENTS AND FEEDING DEPOTS.

*Moola Bulla Cattle Station, East Kimberley.*—The profit on the year's transactions amounted to £4,315 12s. 10d., the most substantial since the establishment of the station, and, given ordinary average seasons, it should henceforth be a well paying concern. The total profit since inception now stands at £5,353 5s. 11d. The cattle are still valued at £1 10s. per head, calves £1, a very low valuation in the light of recent sales. The reserve fund of £1,500 against contingent losses in stock being no longer regarded as necessary has, with the approval of the Auditor General, been written back.

Preparations were made to proceed with the water supply extension scheme previously decided upon, several trial bores being made. One good well was sunk, and the necessary tanks, windmill, etc., duly erected. It had been intended to proceed with the construction of a concrete weir at Carrington Springs, but owing to the heavy cost of cement and transport, the project had to be abandoned.

Breeding stock included the purchase of the imported Percheron stallion "Invincible" from Mr. M. Corbett, of Gnowangerup. This animal arrived at the station in June in good condition. The pedigree shorthorn cattle purchased from Mr. Murray Prior, of Queensland, consisting of two bulls and ten heifers, and the Jack donkey purchased from Mr. Sam Mackay, all arrived at the station early in the year without mishap and in good condition, the

stud cattle being transported *via* Port Darwin. The wet season was a short one, and though the branding was fairly good, it did not come up to the previous season, when a record was established.

An event of considerable importance to the residents of Hall's Creek and vicinity, which includes Moola Bulla Station, was the establishment at Hall's Creek of a nursing sister supplied by the Presbyterian Inland Mission. I was pleased to be asked to place the proposition before the Hon. Minister for the North-West, with a view to enlisting financial assistance, and the ready manner in which the Government lent its aid in this direction, and permitted the use of the old Miners' Institute buildings as a hospital, was received with the greatest satisfaction by all concerned.

The following detailed reports on the working of the station and the condition of the natives at Moola Bulla and Violet Valley have been submitted by the Manager, Mr. Arthur Haly:—

I have the honour to hand you my report concerning Moola Bulla Station for the financial year ending 30th June, 1918.

*Improvements.*—With a view to increasing the water supply by wells and windmills, three sites were selected and hand boring operations started to find water. Unfortunately on none of the sites were we able to get water. A well was then sunk at Shepherd's Yard, and water struck at 11 feet from the surface. At 17ft. 6in. the inflow of water was so great that the contractor was unable to sink deeper, although the contract was let to 20ft. This well has been equipped with a 12ft. Alston windmill, three 10,000-gallon squatter's tanks, and 100ft. of troughing, the well and equipment costing £180 6s. 8d. It supplies water to one end of the bullock paddock, and also to stock outside. By utilising two miles of existing fence on one side and a range of mountains on the other side, the erection of four miles of new fencing has enclosed an area of over 2,500 acres to form another stallion paddock. Contracts were let for the erection of two "bronco" yards, but through illness the contractor was delayed, and by the end of the financial year only completed portion of one yard. Payments for the remainder of the work must be carried over to next year.

With the yearly increase in the cattle it is absolutely necessary that we make provision for further water supplies, if we are to avoid very serious losses, should we encounter a dry season; therefore I trust that a large sum of money will be made available during the ensuing year for conservation of water.

*Cattle.*—Although about the average number of inches of rain fell during the twelve months, the wet season of 1917 was a very short one, and ended in March. Consequently towards the end of that year the grass became very dry, and water dried up early, causing the deaths of a number of breeders. This has necessitated increasing the percentage of mortality from 5 per cent. to 7 per cent. On the 1st July, 1917, there were 14,672 cattle on the run; 1,305 head were sold, 157 head were sent to Violet Valley for use of natives there, and 270 were killed at Moola Bulla for indigent natives and station use. 3,143 calves were branded. After allowing 1,125 for mortality, it leaves a balance of 14,958 now on the run, an increase for the year of 286. In addition there are two stud bulls and ten heifers, purchased in Queensland, and landed on the station in September. These are all stud-book cattle, and will form the foundation of a stud herd and allow of us breeding our own bulls.

*Horses.*—I regret to say the period under review has been a very bad one for horses. During the wet season we were visited with an epidemic of strangles in a very severe form, which carried off a number of foals, and we only branded 51, as against 75 the previous year. Since January we have lost a number of horses through Kimberley disease. These are the first losses through that dreaded complaint for over five years. All the stallions have done well, and there has been no sickness with them. During the twelve months we sold 17 horses at an average price of £15 9s. 5d. I had num-

erous inquiries for more, but having sold our geldings down to young ages, I was unable to supply. Moola Bulla horses claim attention of station managers in West Kimberley as showing breeding and standing hard work well.

The magnificent Percheron stallion, "Invincible," was purchased in May, and arrived in good order at the station in June. This stallion will prove a wonderful acquisition to the horse stock of the district. Forty-eight head of colts and fillies were broken in. The draught fillies have been broken in to the wagon and the station team has carted all the loading from the Fitzroy Crossing. Thirty-six horses have been written off as dead or missing, leaving a balance of 430 (inclusive of mules) now on the run, being one less than last year.

*Mules.*—From now on mule breeding should be a feature of the station. We sold three (two and a half years old) to the Police Department at £25 each. Six mules were broken in. There are now eleven mules, including foals, on the station. The Jack donkey purchased from Mr. S. P. McKay, of Port Hedland, arrived in August last, and has been placed at Violet Valley.

*General.*—During the year very little was done in the way of tanning. A number of hides that were put in were taken out and dressed, but only eight fresh hides were put in. No difficulty was experienced in selling our surplus stock of leather. Leather to the value of £133 15s. was sold, and £29 9s. worth of leather was used on the station. The latter is booked at cost price. The usual six permanent hands have been employed. A blacksmith, a man to attend hot air engines and windmills and look after bullocks in the bullock paddock, also a teamster, have been employed temporarily. An average of 40 natives have been employed, the boys doing stock work and the women house and general work round the homestead.

*Condition and treatment of aborigines on Moola Bulla and Violet Valley.*—I have the honour to hand you my report concerning the condition and treatment of aborigines on Moola Bulla and Violet Valley during the year ended 30th June, 1918. At Moola Bulla 270 cattle were killed for the natives, and 230 at Violet Valley. There has been a good deal of sickness at both places. An epidemic of influenza, or "dog disease," as it is locally called, visited the camps, and a large number of natives, especially the old ones, were very ill, but fortunately no deaths occurred. The natives employed at the stations and in the stock camp also suffered, and for a time it was difficult to get sufficient hands to carry on the work. Several cases of venereal have been treated at Violet Valley and one at Moola Bulla; the latter is a bad case, and the patient is required at Wyndham as witness in a native murder trial, after which I trust he will be placed under medical treatment. A native woman, "Frogghollow Nellie," died in childbirth on 31st December, 1917. This woman was employed at the Tannery. A native stockboy, "Warloo Tommy," was fatally injured on the 28th May by a horse falling with him. He lingered unconscious until his death on the 3rd June. No complaints have been received from stations in this district as to natives killing cattle.

The usual number of natives have been employed on the station. Every effort is made to keep as many employed as possible, where it is found that their labour will in some way recompense for the cost of feeding and clothing them. In this way they are kept out of mischief.

The usual Christmas sports were held, and the prizes provided, knives, tomahawks, razors, belts, handkerchiefs, combs, beads, looking-glasses, lollies, etc., were greatly appreciated. After the sports the bulk of the natives dispersed for their usual "walk about" during the wet season; when they are able to visit country which is inaccessible to them in the dry time of the year.

One hundred blankets were distributed at Violet Valley and one hundred and fifty at Moola Bulla. All the old male natives received in addition a shirt and a pair of trousers, and the aged females a dress. One stick of tobacco a week has been allotted to each adult native.

(Sgd.) ARTHUR HALY,  
Manager.

5th July, 1918.

*Violet Valley, East Kimberley.*—At this depôt an average of 144 natives monthly were supplied with meat, and clothing where necessary. With the object of making more use of the reserve, some four miles of fencing was erected in order to enclose a paddock for a stallion and mares. The Clydesdale stallion, "Comet," and twenty mares were sent from Moola Bulla, also the Jack donkey purchased at Port Hedland. Some twenty-three calves were branded, these being the progeny of the cows sent to Violet Valley as killers. During the year 157 head of killers were sent from Moola Bulla and 203 head were killed for the natives.

The officer in charge and his assistant have established a thriving garden, and a small block has been fenced, in which to plant lucerne for the working horses and milking cows. A good stock of bush hay has also been cut.

The depôt, which is some 100 miles distant from Moola Bulla Station, is under the supervision of the manager of the latter station, and has been visited by him several times during the year. After visiting Violet Valley in 1916, I pointed out that this place could never be self-supporting owing to the small area of country which constituted the reserve. Early this year an opportunity was offered of substantially increasing this area by the exchange of country with the owner of Cartridge Springs Station. Should this exchange come about, nearly 32,000 acres will be added to Violet Valley, which will render it possible to make the property self-supporting. The matter is pending at the time of writing.

*La Grange Bay, Beagle Bay, Lombadina and Sunday Island, Kimberley Division.*—At these depôts, only one of which (La Grange) is under the immediate control of the Department, an average of 193 indigent natives were maintained throughout the year, at a cost of £1,880, particulars being found on page 6.

*Carrolup River, South-West Division.*—Good progress has been made with the establishment of this settlement. The sick ward and staff quarters, both built of local stone, were completed and opened by the Hon. Minister for the North-West in March. A two-roomed jarrah cottage for the farm assistant was commenced, and arrangements made to proceed with the erection of the new stone dormitories, as well as a jarrah sewing room, and store and office. Each new building has its separate laundry, bath and E.C. as required, and a commencement was also made with proper lavatory accommodation for both boys and girls. The temporary canvas structures used as dormitories having become unfit for use, arrangements were made for the girls to occupy the school, and the teaching is now being conducted in the hospital building, which has fortunately not yet been required for its original purpose. The boys were moved to the temporary sewing room, which was boarded with jarrah weatherboards prior to their occupation. An improvement was also effected in the arrangements for the temporary washing accommodation.

The farming operations included the planting of an orchard of 200 trees, and the further clearing of land for the plough, some 150 acres being under cultivation at the end of the year. One hundred additional breeding Crossbred ewes were purchased, as well as

three young Merino rams, while additional pig and poultry pens were erected.

A cemetery site some two and a half miles distant from the settlement was declared.

Excellent progress was made with the teaching of the children. School was only commenced in October, 1917, but by the end of the financial year practically all the children could read and write in some degree. The kindergarten method has been followed with great success. Difficulty has been experienced in respect to some of the bigger girls absconding, but this is perhaps not to be wondered at in view of the fact that we have at the institutions several older girls recently reclaimed from the bush, whom only the closest confinement could prevent from attempting to regain the freedom which they had previously enjoyed. Moreover, the absence of proper accommodation has accentuated the difficulty in this respect, but this want is rapidly being overcome. I hope shortly to be in a position to take charge of some of the subsidised Mission children, having several times been asked to do so.

Generally speaking, this settlement has made excellent progress, and the natives appear to be happy and contented, and now realise the purpose for which the establishment exists. Five weddings were celebrated during the year, emphasising the necessity for the provision of some cottages for these young couples who wish to make their permanent home at the settlement.

*Moore River, Mogumber, Midland District.*—Following upon the resumption of certain homestead farm areas in March last, the proclamation of the reserve, comprising 9,600 acres, received the assent of Executive Council on the 10th April, 1918. Nevertheless, prior to this date a good deal of preliminary work had been accomplished. The site for the settlement had been cleared and other land prepared, in addition to the twelve acres cultivated prior to resumption. No time was lost in erecting a building which could be used as a temporary store and dwelling house, and which would eventually be the farm assistant's cottage pending the erection of the manager's residence, commenced later. Both these buildings were practically completed before the end of the year. A camp site for the natives was chosen and cleared, and everything was in readiness to receive the indigent natives from Guildford and Moora at the end of June. Plans were also prepared for the erection of a children's dormitory early in the following year.

Mr. E. C. Mitchell was appointed manager of this new settlement, and took up his residence on the 25th March last, Mrs. Mitchell and family following at a later date. This officer submitted his first report in May, and I am pleased to say that after thoroughly inspecting the property he concurred with me that no more suitable site could have been chosen for a native settlement. I am looking confidently towards the future of this settlement, which has been begun on good lines, with the experience of Carrolup to guide us. Added to the fact that the site known to the natives as "Palm Flats" is an old meeting ground for the tribes, it is a most picturesque and beautiful spot, presenting many possibilities in the direction of mixed farming, which should in a few years' time enable the community to become entirely self-supporting.

## MISSIONS.

Beyond supplying the usual particulars required annually for Departmental purposes, only one or two of the Missions have submitted a brief account of the year's work. Generally speaking, matters at all the Missions have pursued their usual course. Mr. Hadley, of Sunday Island, reported that owing to the difficulty in disposing of trocas shell he was finding it hard to continue to support the number of natives maintained by his Mission. Although I was unable to personally visit Sunday Island Mission when in the North, I arranged for our officer at Beagle Bay, Mr. F. H. Watson, to do so, and he reported that everything was most satisfactory, all the natives appearing to be happy and contented. I personally inspected the inmates at Beagle Bay and Lombadina, finding their condition good, and submitted detailed reports to the Hon. Colonial Secretary on my return.

The Presbyterian Mission at Hanover Bay recorded a change of management, the Rev. W. J. S. Rankin taking the place of the Rev. R. H. Wilson. A number of cases of syphilis were reported here last year, and I was asked to remove them. I requested that the patients should be brought down in the Mission lugger to Broome Hospital, where arrangements had been made for their reception and treatment.

The supply of foodstuffs to Missions was discontinued as at the end of the year, as a result of the inauguration of the new Mission subsidy system referred to elsewhere.

## FINANCIAL.

The usual statement of receipts and expenditure on all accounts, also balance sheet, profit and loss and trading accounts of the Moola Bulla Station are attached hereto. In addition to the annual sum of £10,000 set aside under Section 5 of the Aborigines Act, 1905, further sums amounting to £17,127 16s. 1d. in all were available for disbursement, not including the sum of £8,628 5s. 5d., being receipts from Moola Bulla Station paid direct to Revenue, and therefore not available.

The total expenditure on all services was £25,469 15s. 7d., an increase of £304 6s. 2d. over the previous year, but £1,668 0s. 6d. below the amount available for expenditure. The expenditure would have been considerably less had it been possible to close the Lock Hospitals within the year, and, as a matter of fact, provision for this service was only made on the estimates for six months, necessitating an excess being applied for. There was other unforeseen expenditure in connection with Moola Bulla Station.

It is gratifying to report that many changes have been made, which will have the effect of substantially reducing the expenditure in the near future, and that on the other hand the revenue of the Department is increasing from a negligible amount to a substantial figure.

I cannot conclude my report without expressing my gratitude to the Commissioner of Police, the Resident Magistrates, Protectors of Aborigines, and Police throughout the State for the valuable services which they have rendered on behalf of the Department. The increasing call upon the valuable time of these officers has been cheerfully responded to by all concerned.

A. O. NEVILLE,  
Chief Protector of Aborigines.

19th December, 1918.





## MOOLA BULLA NATIVE STATION.

*Cattle Account.*

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1917.							
July 1.—	To Cattle on hand, 14,665 head .. .. .	21,158	0	0			
	„ Sale charges .. .. .	173	15	2			
1918.							
June 30.—	By sale of Stores and Fats, 1,462 head .. .. .				8,506	0	0
	„ Cattle killed for rations—						
	Station use .. 116 head						
	Indigent natives 154 „						
		270			945	0	0
	„ Sale of hides .. .. .				166	3	2
	„ Cattle on hand—						
	1/7/17 (as above) 14,665						
	Natural increase .. 3,143						
		17,808					
	Deduct—						
	Sales .. 1,462						
	Rations .. 270						
	Mortality 7% 1,125						
		2,857					
		14,951					
	Valued as under—	£					
	50 bulls .. .. .	270					
	50 „ .. .. .	350					
	12 pedigree cattle .. .. .	670					
	2,923 calves at £1 .. .. .	2,923					
	11,916 head at £1 10s. .. .. .	17,874					
					22,087	0	0
	To Balance carried to Profit and Loss Account, being appreciation after allowing for natural increase and for sales, rations, and mortality	10,372	8	0			
		£31,704	3	2	£31,704	3	2

## MOOLA BULLA NATIVE STATION.

*Tanning Account.*

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1917.							
July 1.—	To Hides and Leather on hand .. .. .	120	5	0			
1918.							
June 30.—	To Hides .. .. .	5	0	0			
	„ Wages and stores .. .. .	10	5	1			
	By Sales of leather .. .. .				204	11	9
	To Balance (profit) .. .. .	69	1	8			
		£204	11	9	£204	11	9

## MOOLA BULLA NATIVE STATION.

*Stores Account.*

		£	s.	d.	30th June, 1918.		£	s.	d.		
To Stores on hand at 30th June, 1917, as per ledger account .. .. .		1,965	17	7	By Stores issued—						
„ Purchases to date .. .. .		1,369	13	8	Station rations .. .. .	796	10	8			
„ Cost of Transport to Station .. .. .		725	1	7	Relief to natives .. .. .	83	1	2			
					Additions and repairs to buildings and plant .. .. .	479	3	5			
					„ Sundry sales .. .. .	197	8	11			
					„ Stock on hand and in transit, as per stock sheets .. .. .	1,209	14	4			
					„ Stores Suspense Account, being bal- ance of Stores Account the allo- cation of which has not yet been received from station .. .. .	1,294	14	4			
		£4,060	12	10					£4,060	12	10

## MOOLA BULLA NATIVE STATION.

		<i>Horses Account.</i>					
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1917.	July 1.—To Horses on hand, 424 head	..	..	..	2,976	1	8
1918.	June 30.—To purchases, 2 head	..	..	..	462	10	4
	By sales, 20 head	..	..	..	£338		
	Less horse breaking fees	45					
	Stud fees	..	..	..			293 0 0
	Horses on hand—						101 17 0
	On 1/7/17 (as above)	424					
	Purchases	..	..	..	2		
	Natural increase	..	..	..	51		
					477		
	Deduct—						
	Sales	..	..	..	20		
	Mortality	..	..	..	36		
					56		
	Balance	..	..	..	421		
	Valued as under—				£	s.	d.
	1 Thoroughbred, "Gurkha"	..	..	..	66	18	0
	1 Thoroughbred, "Mithras"	..	..	..	104	19	0
	1 Thoroughbred, "Surebarb"	..	..	..	160	8	4
	1 Clydesdale, "Prince of Fashion"	..	..	..	98	5	11
	1 Clydesdale, "Comet"	..	..	..	59	0	7
	1 Jack Donkey	..	..	..	12	0	0
	1 Jack Donkey	..	..	..	11	5	1
	1 Mule	..	..	..	39	19	4
	1 Suffolk Punch, "Home- bush Conran"	..	..	..	171	11	6
	3 working horses	..	..	..	39	2	8
					763	10	5
	Less 10 per cent.	..	..	..	76	7	0
					687	3	5
	1 Stallion, "Invincible"	..	..	..	400	0	0
	1 Mule	..	..	..	26	5	0
					1,113	8	5
	51 foals at £2 10s.	..	..	..	127	10	0
	356 head at £7	..	..	..	2,492	0	0
							3,732 18 5
	421						
	To Balance carried to Profit and Loss Account, being appreciation after allowing for pur- chases, natural increase, and for sales, mor- tality, and depreciation of blood stock	..	..	..	689	3	5
					£4,127	15	5
					£4,127	15	5

Annual Report (omitting certain returns) of the Chief Protector of Aborigines  
for the year ending 30th June 1918

Corporate Author: Western Australia. Chief Protector of Aborigines

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