

1913.

—  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

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# REPORT

ON THE

## WORK OF THE ABORIGINES DEPARTMENT

DURING THE YEAR ENDED  
30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 1912.

TOGETHER WITH

INFORMATION REGARDING THE CONDITION  
OF THE ABORIGINES OF  
THIS STATE.

~~~~~  
*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command.*  
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1913.

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## REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE ABORIGINES DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1912.

*The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.*

Sir,

I have the honour to submit, for your information, the following report on the work of the Aborigines Department during the year ended 30th June, 1912, together with information regarding the condition of the Aborigines of this State.

### FINANCIAL.

Additional to the £10,000 provided by Section 5 of "The Aborigines Act, 1905," and yearly placed at the disposal of the Department for the welfare of the Aborigines, further sums to the extent of £25,713 15s. 7d. were available, making in all a total amount from all sources for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1912, of £35,713 15s. 7d., details of which are as follows:—

<i>Receipts.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Grant under Section 5 of the Aborigines Act, 1905, 5 Edward VII. No. 14 ..				10,000	0	0
Amount provided on Revenue Estimates, 1911-12 ..	17,995	0	0			
Colonial Treasurer's Advance ..	3,080	0	0			
Colonial Treasurer's Advance ..	1,086	0	0			
	22,161	0	0			
Less Balance on Advances ..	0	5	11			
				22,160	14	1
Amount provided on Loan Estimates, 1911-12 ..	989	0	0			
Less Balance on Vote ..	2	10	5			
				986	9	7
Departmental Receipts ..				2,566	11	11
				£35,713	15	7

### *Expenditure.*

The total expenditure incurred by the Government for all services for the financial year 1911-12 in connection with Aborigines was £35,713 15s. 7d., being £10,224 11s. 8d. less than that expended for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1911. For this period, however, it must be remembered that the sum of £21,447 8d. 3d. was expended on the purchase, preliminary improvements, and upkeep of Moola-Bulla Station, as against £6,646 0s. 7d. for salaries, improvements, and upkeep on that station for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1912. The expenditure during this period, apart from any capital expenditure in connection with Moola-Bulla Station, is the largest expenditure ever incurred in Western Australia in any twelve months for the general maintenance and welfare of the original occupants of the territory.

In the appendices will be found the balance-sheet as on the 30th June, 1912, and profit and loss account for the twelve months ended that date, of the Moola-Bulla Station.

After providing interest on loan moneys invested and 5 per cent. depreciation on buildings, windmills, tanks, fencing, stock yards, etc., and 15 per cent. depreciation on plant, tools, etc., a profit is disclosed on two years' working of £368 8s. 5d., wiping out the loss on the first year's operations of £742 16s. 6d.

As the figures only include one sale of cattle (as the second sale was not brought to account until July, 1912, and could not be included in the figures), the position may be considered, from a financial standpoint, satisfactory.

Dealing with the Aborigines expenditure generally, the principal increases as compared with those of the previous year are as follows:—

Salaries, general—£716. This amount is more than covered by the additional expenditure, incurred under the head of Travelling Protectors and Assistants, of £720. The expedition under the charge of Mr. G. S. Olivey, collecting fit subjects for the Lock Hospitals, and giving relief *en route* to the minor cases of venereal, in the Ashburton, Roebourne, and Pilbara Districts, is responsible for this increase.

The "Relief to Natives," generally, shows an increase of £1,437. The expenditure incurred in provisions and the establishment and maintenance of the Violet Valley Relief Station in the East Kimberley, and La Grange Bay Relief Station in the Broome District, is responsible for the additional expenditure of £1,793.

The Lock Hospitals, including the maintenance and upkeep of S.S. "Venus," show an increase of £1,361.

"Grants to Missions" show an increase of £425, but this includes the sum of £61 11s.—grants to the Convent of St. John of God, Broome, and Lambadina Mission, which hitherto have not been included under this head.

Under the head of "General and Incidental Expenditure" is shown an increase of £136.

The increased cost of "Provisions," generally, is due to the severe drought which existed for some time in the various parts of the State, more especially in the Mt. Margaret and East Murchison Districts, where large numbers of natives have been driven into civilisation in a starving condition, and had to be fed, owing to the complete lack of water and native game in their tribal districts. Many of these natives had never before seen a white face, which shows the severity of the conditions existing.

Excluding the money expended on the maintenance, improvements, and upkeep of Moola-Bulla Station, the sum of £29,067 was directly expended on the welfare of the aborigines for the twelve

months, and shows an increased expenditure of £4,576 on the sum expended during the previous year.

#### MOOLA-BULLA NATIVE SETTLEMENT.

I am pleased to report that this native settlement scheme has passed its experimental stage, and I am satisfied that it has proved the success that I and many others anticipated when recommending its adoption by the late Government.

From a financial standpoint, notwithstanding that the initial expenses in getting the station in working order have been very heavy, the balance-sheet discloses a sound position.

A report on the twelve months' work done on the station, by the manager, Mr. Haly, appears in appendix.

The station was taken over in August, 1910, and 11,357 head of cattle and 283 horses were delivered, and on the 30th June, 1911, there were 11,666 cattle on the station. After deducting 656 fat cattle sold and 431 killed for indigent natives and station use, and also allowing a 5 per cent. reduction for mortality, the total number of cattle on the run on the 30th June, 1912, was 12,819.

As the stock was badly in need of fresh blood, 50 young bulls were bought from the Cogo Station, West Kimberley. These, in a few years time, should make a considerable improvement to the herd.

On June 30, 1911, there were 328 horses on the run. During the year 85 foals were branded and four head purchased, 42 were sold, and 5 deaths were recorded, leaving a total of 370 at the end of the year under review. Two blood stallions have been sent to the station—"Gurkah," a chestnut colt by Goya (imp.) from Mira by Malvolio, and a 4-year colt, "Mithras," by Malster from Grandove by Grand Flaneur. Two draught stallions were also sent up—a bay colt, "Comet," rising 3 years, by Prince Albert II. out of a Stanley mare, and a bay colt, "Prince of Fashion," so that in a few years' time there should be a marked improvement in the stock.

A large scope of the country belonging to the settlement is in every way suitable for breeding horses, and, compared to other parts of the district, we have but few losses from the dreaded Kimberley disease, which is fatal to so many horses every year. The Nicholson Plains are, roughly speaking, 40 miles by 20, and nearly every acre is heavily grassed with many varieties, among which the Mitchell and Flinders predominate. An analysis of some hay from these grasses, brought down by the Commissioner of Tropical Agriculture, gave returns almost equal to wheat hay, and as this country is full of limestone it is some of the best horse-breeding country in the State.

Substantial improvements have been made during the year, consisting of buildings at the homestead, fencing, branding and tailing yards, well-sinking, etc., particulars of which will be found in the Manager's report.

Moola-Bulla was established with the main object of trying to put a stop to depredations by the natives among the herds of the pastoralists, for which so many aborigines were sent to gaol and kept there for certain periods at a very large expense to the State. The result has, up to date, been in every way

a success, and, compared with the past, the natives coming within its influence have committed but few offences in the above direction. Our Manager reports that neighbouring settlers may lose an odd beast when natives are passing through their herds *en route* to the settlement, but he gives a direct denial to the statement that has gained ground that the natives are causing serious trouble among the Moola-Bulla cattle.

Roughly speaking, there are 500 or 600 unemployed natives belonging to the one tribe claiming the native settlement as part of their country, and it is encouraging to note, by the Manager's report, that nearly every one of these natives has some time or another visited the station. Some trouble was experienced at first in keeping them a sufficient length of time to make them realise that the settlement was their home, but this trouble is gradually disappearing, and their "walk-about" are now less frequent than when they made their first visits.

During the year a total of 327 head of cattle were killed for the bush natives, one beast per day killed for every hundred in camp.

As many natives as the station can find employment for are engaged in stock work under the supervision of the overseer, and their women-folk find employment in domestic and other duties about the homestead. The year's work has in every way been satisfactory, and the result has been a complete contradiction to those who adversely criticised the settlement scheme when first adopted by the Government.

#### VIOLET VALLEY.

Acting under instructions, Travelling Inspector Isdell selected Violet Valley, some 12 miles distant from Turkey Creek Police Station, as the most suitable site to start a native feeding depot, and, with the approval of the Government, the work of erecting a paddock to hold drafts of killers from our Moola-Bulla herds was started, and the depot is now firmly established.

A large number of unemployed natives make this their home whenever they feel so inclined. Over 200 have at times been camped there, and were regularly fed with beef. Not only are they being supplied with the necessaries of life, but those suffering from common ailments have all been medically treated with beneficial results.

There is every reason to believe that the establishment of this depot has been the success that was anticipated. Far less depredations among the herds of the surrounding settlers have been committed during the past year than previously.

#### CATTLE-KILLING BY NATIVES IN EAST AND WEST KIMBERLEY.

I regret to report that notwithstanding the establishment of Moola-Bulla native settlement, and feeding depots in other localities, this offence still continues. Under the provisions of the Aborigines Act Amendment Act, 1911, no native can be convicted of cattle-killing by the admission of his own guilt, and it requires far more evidence since the Act came into operation than it did in the past to put a native in gaol for cattle-killing. In consequence of this it is reported that owners cannot, or will not, afford the



Moola Bulla  
STATION  
HORSES.

Chief Protector

in the Field.

TYPE OF COUNTRY. MOOLA BULLA.

LILY POOL, MOOLA BULLA.

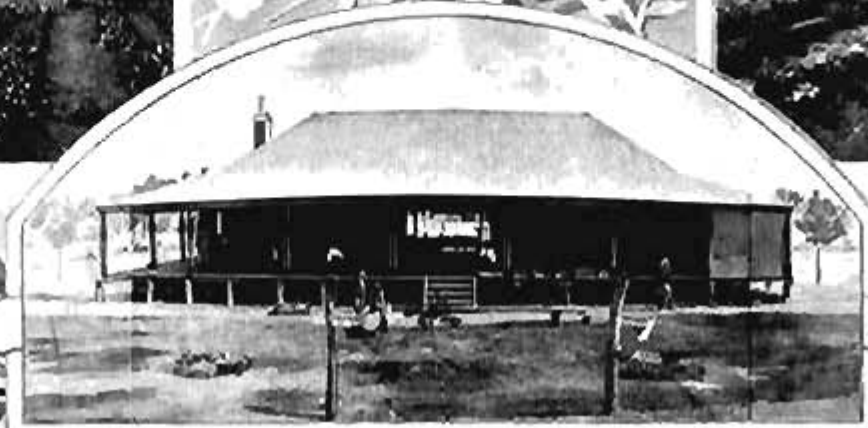
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*Portion of Vegetable Garden, Moola Bulla Station*



*Vegetable Garden, Moola Bulla Station.*



*Manager's Quarters*

*Moola Bulla Station*



*Natives handling Carcass of Bullock.*



*Native Employees, Fossil Downs, West Kimberley.*



time and trouble of prosecuting and gathering sufficient information to obtain convictions, and I am afraid that the impression is likely to gain ground in the minds of the aborigines that they are practically safe from punishment for killing cattle whenever they feel so inclined. I am not for one moment saying, or thinking, that the Government scheme of native settlements is in any sense a failure—far from it, as it has been proved that those natives coming within their influence do not commit the same amount of depredations as in the past.

The Kimberley division embraces a very large scope of unoccupied country, where natives are living in their wild state. These people are the biggest offenders, and cattle-owners who are on the fringe of such country suffer the most, and depredations are committed in many cases with impunity. This constant killing of stock without punishment must eventually lead to future trouble.

Taking them as a whole, the aborigines of our State are like a lot of irresponsible children, and should be treated as such, and the sooner they are taught that they must obey our laws, the better it will be for themselves and those who are developing the cattle industry of our far North.

The gaoling of natives has, at great cost to the country, been proved a failure so far as it being a deterrent to crime, and moneys uselessly spent in the past should find their way to other channels in the hope of trying to solve what has always been—and still continues—a difficult problem.

The following figures, received from the Comptroller General of Prisons, for the last six years represents the actual cost of transport after conviction, feeding, and supervising native prisoners while in gaol for cattle-killing, but does not include the cost of arresting and escorting prisoners and witnesses to and from the nearest court:—

	£
1907 .. .. .	6,841
1908 .. .. .	8,516
1909 .. .. .	9,128
1910 .. .. .	8,550
1911 .. .. .	2,600
1912 .. .. .	380

The Aborigines Act Amendment Act came into force on the 16th February, 1911. During the year ending June, 1910, 218 natives prisoners convicted of cattle-killing were discharged, the following year 118 were released, and up to the 30th June, 1912, 39 more finished their sentences, leaving only 3 natives in gaol on that date. It is obvious by these figures that the amended Act has been the means of a very large saving to the country, as the total expenditure incurred during the year under review in the above direction was only £380 as compared with £8,550 for the year before the Act came into operation. At the same time it must be remembered that the releasing of these prisoners means hundreds of able-bodied natives are turned loose into the bush to hunt for their living, and after having been used to regular feeding on a very liberal ration allowance, it is only reasonable to suppose that if they cannot get supplies for the asking they will help themselves to meat from the herds of the pastoralists. It has been clearly proved that where we have established feeding depots depredations have practically ceased among the surrounding herds, and I feel sure that if the system was ex-

tended still better results would obtain. With the present Moola-Bulla herd, two more feeding depots could be supplied with killers, in addition to Violet Valley, without touching breeders and marketable bullocks, and I have no hesitation in commending the suggestion of extending our operations in this direction to the Government's favourable consideration. Having once established these depots where unemployed natives could get all the meat they required for the asking, the question of punishing those who killed for themselves would have to be seriously considered. Depredators are generally led by a few bolder than themselves, and the possible solution of the trouble appears to me to be in the breaking up of these gangs of cattle-killers by arresting the ring-leaders and deporting them, their wives, and families, out of the district. The necessary power to do this is contained in the Aborigines Act, 1905, and the amended Act of 1911.

#### MISSIONS.

The total number of full-bloods and half-castes receiving education at aboriginal institutions subsidised by the Government was 320, being a slight increase over the figures of last year—

New Norcia .. .. .	41
Beagle Bay .. .. .	131
Swan River and Half-Caste .. .. .	32
Salvation Army Girls' Home .. .. .	14
Sunday Island .. .. .	61
Australian Aborigines' Mission .. .. .	12
Ellensbrook Home .. .. .	5
Lambadina .. .. .	24

The total expenditure incurred during the year in subsidising these institutions was £2,749 9s. 6d.

In my last report I mentioned that, with the assistance of the Government, the Beagle Bay Mission was experimenting with the sisal hemp plant. I am pleased to say that a fairly good start has been made, and although the suckers brought down from Port Darwin suffered extensively before reaching their destination, some thousands of them were planted out and are, from reports, thriving splendidly. This is very encouraging, and should be an incentive for further efforts in the direction of eventually establishing an industry which will give employment to all the inmates of the Beagle Bay Mission.

The other Missions are doing good work in training the girls to become useful domestic servants, and the boys, after leaving school, find employment in our agricultural areas.

Efforts have been made by the Department to encourage some industry that would give light employment to the inmates of the several Missions. Cabbage-tree palm leaf from New South Wales has been at the disposal of managers, with a view of teaching hat-making. All the necessary instructions in this direction have been supplied by the Department, but with the exception of the Australian Aborigines' Mission Society, nothing has been attempted. This is somewhat discouraging, but I hope for better results in the future.

Owing to the successful result from an experiment tried a few years ago to grow rubber trees on Sunday Island, Mr. Hadley, the Superintendent, is now turning his attention to rubber planting on a larger scale, and judging by the rate of growth of the first trees, there appears every reason to anticipate success in his undertaking.

Reports from Superintendents of different Missions will be found in the Appendix.

#### LOCK HOSPITALS.

During the year 52 native patients suffering from venereal disease in its various forms were admitted into the Dorre and Bernier Island Hospitals. I am pleased to report that during the same period 120 natives were discharged by the Superintendent Medical Officer as having been cured, and were sent back to their respective homes, leaving a total of 57 patients on the islands at the end of the year under review.

Since the Hospitals have been ready to receive patients, a total of 405 have been under treatment, of which number 245 have been discharged, and 103 deaths have occurred. Although the death-rate appears very heavy, it must always be remembered that a large proportion of the cases was practically hopeless before reaching the Hospitals.

During the year a total expenditure of £5,883 3s. 6d. was incurred in the staffing, maintenance, and general upkeep of the Hospitals.

Mr. Olivey, who was an officer of this Department some years ago, was in the early part of the year appointed Travelling Protector to take charge of an expedition to collect aboriginal patients, fit subjects for the Lock Hospitals, throughout that portion of our State between the Ashburton and the Pilbara districts. According to advices received from various quarters, it was anticipated that a large number would be collected, but it is gratifying to report that after travelling over 4,296 miles of country, and visiting all stations *en route*, only 109 natives were discovered suffering from disease which would necessitate their segregation on the islands. Of this number, 44 were cured under Mr. Olivey's treatment and sent back to their homes, 18 were detained by the District Medical Officer of Marble Bar, and 74 were sent to the Lock Hospitals.

Much yet remains to be done in the direction of endeavouring to clean other portions of our State not yet examined. With the inception of the Lock Hospital scheme for our aborigines, the Government embarked on an undertaking of a costly character, but, nevertheless, the necessary large expenditure incurred has been fully justified by the results obtained.

#### LEPROSY.

During the year an expedition was sent out to collect aborigines, fit subjects for our Lock Hospitals, and it was also thought desirable to examine all the natives for signs of leprosy.

Dr. Moloney, who was the first medical man to diagnose this disease amongst natives at Mardie Station, in the Roebourne District, was appointed to join the expedition and investigate. Starting from Carnarvon, he examined all the natives possible between there and Roebourne, and it was not until he came to the locality where the outbreak first occurred that he found any natives with any suspicion of the disease. It is gratifying to note this, proving that there has been no spread of leprosy to other districts. One case was discovered on Karratha Station and sent to Bezout Island, and subsequent bacteriological examination of specimens confirmed Dr. Moloney's diagnosis.

Stations to the East and South-East of Roebourne were also visited, and the natives examined, but were found free of the disease. Apparently, leprosy is confined to an area which Mardie, Karratha, and Chirrata Stations embrace.

Periodical examination of these stations will be made by a medical man, with a view of segregating suspects, and there is a hope that the disease will before long be stamped out.

On the 30th June, 1911, two lepers were receiving treatment at the Lazaret Island, two were admitted during the year, and one death occurred, leaving three natives only suffering from leprosy at the end of the year under review.

During my visit to Roebourne I made an inspection of the island and patients. Every care is given to these unfortunates to make their lives as comfortable as possible. A store house and shelter shed have been erected, a regular boat service under the supervision of the Water Police Constable is maintained, and a plentiful supply of rations, wood, and water is provided.

#### INDIGENT NATIVES.

During the year 2,456 natives have been receiving rations; many are on the permanent relief list; others only receiving help when required.

The above figures show an increase of 607 natives relieved compared with the number of indigents appearing in the register for the previous twelve months. This increase is accounted for by large numbers of natives being driven into settlements from the interior owing to continuous dry seasons. In all cases where reports received warranted relief being given, bulk supplies of flour, tea and sugar have been sent for distribution, and my thanks are due to those who have undertaken the work of relief and kept a proper check on rations received and forwarded returns to this office, without looking for any remuneration for services rendered. As soon as the drought breaks, most of these natives will return to their own country, where bush food is plentiful during ordinary good seasons.

During my journey down the coast from Broome, I made special inquiries into the relieving station at La Grange Bay, where for years past the Department has been paying a per capita grant for relieving indigent natives, and on my return, recommended an alteration of the system, in consequence of which a Departmental relieving station has been formed, and a paid officer appointed to distribute rations, which are forwarded from Broome in bulk. Not only is this system a saving to the Government, but it is more satisfactory in every way. Relief on the same system at Lambadina under the supervision of Father Nicholas Emo still continues.

The total cost of rations distributed to those in want during the year, supplying them with blankets, clothing, and medical attention when required, was £11,122 5s. 7d., an increase of £1,437 13s. 9d. over the preceding year.

2,992 blankets, 1,092 dresses, 938 shirts (men's), 919 undershirts (women's), and 858 dungaree trousers have been distributed among the old and infirm, and other deserving cases,





"Captain" has the first mount



Native Patients on route to Lock Hospital.



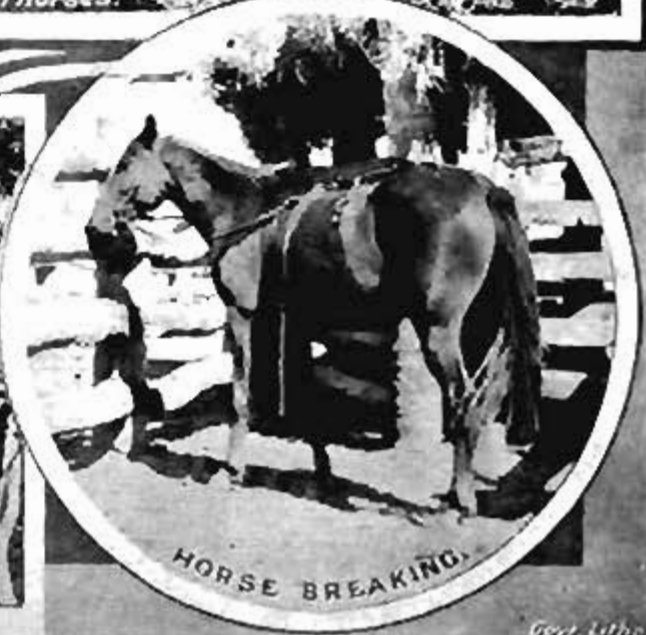
Moola Bulla Station Horses.



MUSTERING CAMP



Moola Bulla Cattle.



HORSE BREAKING.

Geoff. Litho.

### DEATHS.

Ninty-five (95) deaths have been officially reported during the year, being a decrease of sixty-two (62) on the number reported during the previous twelve months.

### GENERAL.

During the year I made a lengthy journey throughout that portion of our State westward and southward of Broome, finishing up at Roebourne. I visited as many places as I could, covering altogether about

March 1st, 1913.

1,000 miles of country, and I am pleased to report that the general conditions existing between European employers and native employees are satisfactory, and my observations confirm the police reports received in the same direction.

The thanks of the Department are due to the Commissioner of Police and his officers for the supervision of the general welfare of the native race, and the enforcement of the provisions of the Aboriginal Acts throughout the State.

I have, etc.,

C. F. GALE,  
Chief Protector of Aborigines.

ABORIGINES DEPARTMENT.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1912.

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	PAYMENTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
To Grant under Section 5 of Aborigines Act, 5 Edwd., VII., No. 14..	..	..	..	..	10,000	0	0	Salaries generally—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Amount provided on Revenue Estimates, 1911-12 ..	..	17,995	0	0				Chief Protector ..	..	..	..	..	538	0	0		
Colonial Treasurer's Advance ..	..	3,080	0	0				Secretary ..	..	..	..	..	237	4	2		
Colonial Treasurer's Advance ..	..	1,086	0	0				Clerks ..	..	..	..	..	575	5	9		
		22,161	0	0				Travelling Protectors and Assistants ..	..	..	..	..	1,083	5	10		
Less Balance on Advances ..	..	0	5	11				Messenger ..	..	..	..	..	55	8	3		
					22,160	14	1	Cleaner ..	..	..	..	..	33	3	8		
Amount provided on Loan Estimates, 1911-12 ..	..	989	0	0				Relief Stations—	..	..	..	..					
Less Balance on Vote ..	..	2	10	5				Tableland ..	..	19	11	5					
								Violet Valley ..	..	44	10	0					
Departmental Receipts ..	..				986	9	7	LaGrange ..	..	26	1	0					
					2,566	11	11						90	2	5		
								Leper Attendant (Broome) ..	..				19	5	0		
															2,621	15	1
								Relief to Natives—	..	..	..	..					
								Blankets and Clothing ..	..	..	..	..	2,104	19	4		
								Provisions ..	..	..	..	..	7,883	3	10		
								Medical Fees and Medicines ..	..	..	..	..	275	3	2		
								Native Shelters ..	..	..	..	..	33	13	3		
								Violet Valley Relief Station ..	..	..	..	..	554	1	5		
								La Grange Relief Station ..	..	..	..	..	271	4	7		
															11,122	5	7
								Lepers—	..	..	..	..					
								Provisions, etc. ..	..	..	..	..			502	19	11
								Lock Hospitals—	..	..	..	..					
								Salaries—Chief Medical Officer..	..	571	2	5					
								Nurse-in-Charge ..	..	131	7	11					
								Nurses and Domestic Staff ..	..	1,199	3	2					
													1,901	13	6		
								Provisions ..	..	..	..	..	3,981	10	2		
								S.S. "Venus"—Wages ..	..	689	16	6					
								Upkeep ..	..	1,877	3	11					
													2,567	0	5		
								Collection and Transport—Diseased Natives ..	..	..	..	..	1,386	5	11		
															9,836	10	0
								Grants to Missions—	..	..	..	..					
								Beagle Bay ..	..	..	..	..	1,073	0	0		
								New Norcia ..	..	..	..	..	379	3	4		
								Swan Native and Half-Caste ..	..	..	..	..	565	9	2		
								Salvation Army Girls' Home ..	..	..	..	..	242	0	0		
								Sunday Island ..	..	..	..	..	250	0	0		
								Australian Aborigines ..	..	..	..	..	134	17	6		
								Ellensbrook Home ..	..	..	..	..	43	8	6		
								Convent of St. John of God (Broome) ..	..	..	..	..	24	1	0		
								Lambadina ..	..	..	..	..	37	10	0		
															2,749	9	6

	<b>Moola-Bulla Station—</b>								
	Salaries .. .. .							1,917	12 1
	Improvements and Upkeep .. .. .							4,728	8 6
								<u>6,646 0 7</u>	
	<b>General—</b>								
	Freight and Cartage .. .. .							421	3 3
	Travelling .. .. .							229	19 2
	Transport of Natives .. .. .							370	1 6
	Postages and Telephones .. .. .							185	8 9
	Stationery .. .. .							76	5 11
	Legal Defence of Natives .. .. .							22	6 0
	Burials .. .. .							257	8 0
	Provisions—Discharged Prisoners .. .. .							12	7 11
	Miscellaneous .. .. .							659	14 5
								<u>2,234 14 11</u>	
								<u>£35,713 15 7</u>	



MOOLA-BULLA STATION—PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1912.

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
1911.								£	s. d.
July 1.—	To Balance brought forward .. .. .				742	16	6		
1912.									
June 30.—	To Salaries .. .. .	556	16	7					
	„ Wages .. .. .	503	7	0					
	„ Interest .. .. .	686	4	9					
	„ Depreciation of Buildings and Plant .. .. .	340	3	8					
	„ Station provisions .. .. .	577	1	2					
	„ Transport—total cost .. .. .	935	15	0					
	„ Less transferred to Stores Account .. .. .	800	0	0					
					135	13	0		
	„ Travelling Expenses .. .. .	35	2	11					
	„ Repairs and Renewals .. .. .	220	12	5					
	„ Clothing Station Natives .. .. .	98	8	2					
	„ Incidental .. .. .	38	0	0					
	„ Shoeing .. .. .	39	11	10					
	„ Postages, Telegrams, and Stationery .. .. .	13	15	6					
	„ Sundry Working Expenses .. .. .	79	18	2					
					3,324	15	9		
	„ Profit for the Year .. .. .	1,111	4	11					
	„ Less Balance brought forward as above .. .. .	742	16	6					
					368	8	5		
					£4,436	0	8		
								£4,436	0 8

(Sgd.) J. R. CAMPBELL,  
Accountant.

(Sgd.) C. F. GALE,  
Chief Protector of Aborigines.







ANNUAL REPORT OF MOOLA-BULLA STATION FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1912.

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*The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.*

Sir,—

I have the honour to hand you my Annual Report concerning Moola-Bulla Station for the year ending 30th June, 1912.

IMPROVEMENTS.

At the commencement of the year all improvements in the way of buildings, fencing, yards, etc., necessary for the foundation of a homestead, were nearing completion. The protracted undertaking of sawing the timber for the Manager's residence was completed in July, and the steam engine was hauled back to the Station and bedded in position for pumping purposes.

In addition to the Bookkeeper's cottage, store and kitchen, previously completed, a substantial Manager's residence, dray shed, beef house, blacksmith's shop, and blacks' humpy have been added to the homestead buildings. A large stone and ant-bed supply tank, with a holding capacity of 23,000 gallons, has been erected in an elevated position, and water is pumped into it from the well by means of the steam engine. From the tank, water is gravitated by means of piping to the various buildings, to the vegetable garden, and to troughs for watering stock in three paddocks. A small, but very substantial set of horse yards have been erected, in which foals are branded and young stock broken. To those are attached killing yards and yards for milking.

Thirteen miles of three-wire fencing have been erected forming four paddocks—two paddocks for stallions, one for cattle for killing, and a spelling paddock. Other paddocks are urgently required.

A tailing yard has been erected at Sandy River, and another at Dugald's Well. These have greatly facilitated the mustering of branders. A large branding yard is now in course of erection at Dawson Downs, and when completed, will be of incalculable benefit and save the driving of stock 23 miles as was formerly necessary.

A windmill and 7,000-gallons galvanised iron supply tank has been put on the existing well at the old Station, and supply water to two sets of troughs—one inside the paddock and one outside. Dugald's Well, twelve miles north of the homestead, was deepened a further 20 feet, making a total depth of sixty feet, and a splendid supply of water struck. A windmill and tank have also been erected here, and now a large area of the best horse-breeding country which was previously useless through want of water is made available.

A contract was let to sink another well 20 feet near Shepherd's Soak. Water was struck at 13 feet, and at 18 feet the contractors were unable to bail the water to sink deeper. In November last, this water level sank, so, to ensure a permanent supply, a contract has just been let to sink it a further 10 feet, but the contractors report they are unable to cope with the inrush of water. A further attempt will be made at the end of the dry season. A windmill, 10,000 gallons Metters' tank, and 60 feet of troughing have been installed, and a further area of splendid country, which was previously unavailable, is now being utilised.

Last season was one of the driest ever known in these parts, and the water levels in all the wells receded. Although the Station well contained a good supply of water, it was not sufficient for constant pumping with the engine, so I had the well sunk a further 20 feet, and now there is an almost inexhaustible supply.

CATTLE.

As previously stated, we experienced a very dry time at the end of 1911, and although our losses in stock were not heavy, a good percentage of old and weak cows perished.

Good rains fell in November and continued up to the end of March, when about 20 inches of rain had been registered. This is about the average rainfall, and had we got the storms which generally fall in April, it would have been a splendid season. However, we are comparatively well off, and with two wells available to shift stock on to, we will not be compelled to crowd the cattle on to the Rocky River until late in the season.

On the 30th June, 1911, there were 11,666 cattle on the Station. To these must be added 66 head purchased, and 2,847 calves branded. After deducting fats sold (655), killed for consumption (431), and 5 per cent. allowance for mortality (647), it leaves a total of 12,819 on the run, or a net increase for the year of 1,153 head. Included in the cattle purchased, are 50 bulls which were bought from Gogo Station, West Kimberley. These were a fine draft, and will do a lot towards improving the herd. A mob of 595 fat bullocks were sold in August and shipped to Fremantle.

A depôt for feeding natives has been established at Violet Valley, and cattle for killing will be supplied from Moola-Bulla. The first lot of 60 killers was despatched to Violet Valley in May. Four hundred and eighty-five (485) cows have been spayed during the year, and as they fatten will be killed for the natives, leaving all bullocks available for sale. The brandings during the next ensuing year will be much larger, and provision will have to be made to cope with the increasing herd by sinking more wells, and opening up large areas of the best country which is at present only available to stock for a few months during the wet season.

HORSES.

As I have frequently pointed out, Moola-Bulla comprises some of the finest horse-breeding country in the two Kimberleys, and by the expenditure of a moderate amount of money in more paddocks, wells and stallions, a very large number of horses could be bred. A ready market is always available in West Kimberley, where large numbers of horses die each year from Kimberley disease.

On 30th June, 1911, there were 328 horses on the place. During the year, 85 foals were branded and four head purchased. Forty-two head were sold and five died, leaving a total of 370, or a net increase of 42 head for the year.

Seventy colts and fillies have been broken in, and of these 21 colts were sold to go to West Kimberley.

The foals by the thoroughbred horse "Gurkha," and the Clydesdale "Comet," show great promise. Another Clydesdale stallion "Prince of Fashion," and a blood horse "Mithras," have been purchased, and in a few years there should be a marked improvement in the quality of the horse stock. A young Jack donkey

has also been purchased with a view of experimenting in the breeding of mules.

Numerous applications were received last year from the neighbouring settlers for permission to send mares to the stallions, but not having sufficient stallions for the Station use, I was reluctantly compelled to refuse the majority. I took four mares at two guineas each. Now that there are more stallions, I have notified settlers that I am prepared to take a limited number of mares at £3 3s. each to the blood horses, and £2 2s. to the Clydesdales, and have already had about twenty mares promised. The service fees are low, but it will give the settlers an opportunity of improving their stock. I have also had applications for draught colts, but do not consider the mares here class enough to keep the colts entire.

#### GENERAL.

While all the improvements were going on, twelve men were constantly employed, not including those doing contract work, but by November things were so far completed that all temporary hands were dispensed with except one carpenter, who, being a thorough tradesman, and hard to get in this outback part, was retained to complete the various buildings, and construct necessary furniture, tables, etc., which, if obtained from the South, would be apt to get broken in transit by wagon or camels. The carpenter will be paid off about the end of August, and then there will only be the permanent staff of five employed, with the addition of a musterers' cook, whom it has been found necessary to employ owing to the increased work amongst the stock.

I have, etc.,  
(Sgd.) ARTHUR HALY,  
Manager.

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BEAGLE BAY MISSION FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1912.

##### *The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.*

At the end of the year under review there were 131 native children in the Beagle Bay Native Institution. These 131 children—under 16 years of age—are trained and managed at the Mission, under supervision and with the assistance of the Government. Of this number, 57 are boys—29 full-blood and 28 half-caste—and 74 girls—25 full-blood and 49 half-castes. Of these children, 87 attend school regularly. Thirty-three receive industrial instruction, and attend only afternoon school. Eleven children are under four years of age and come under the kindergarten class. The results in the school are very satisfactory, only a few of the children having shown much backwardness in some of the matters taught.

Two of the boys have to do most of the work in the bakery, as the brother is often occupied with well-sinking and similar work. Nearly every day these boys have to bake twice, and well do they perform their task. Three boys are very proficient at carpentering. They do all the repairing to the many buildings of the Mission. In all five new little buildings have been erected, all for the natives, by native labour. The carpenter boys are doing their work well, and they feel pleased when they can say

to the other boys that they have made anything by themselves without the assistance of the training brother. At the blacksmith's the brother in charge has three native assistants, and it is surprising how many articles they can turn out, and how many others must be repaired. Their work is very satisfactory and promises great results in the future. The saw mill does not run all the time, but only for a few days in the week when timber is required. Three of the senior boys and some of the adults have learned the running of the machinery and are quite proficient. At the tailor's one of the senior boys assists the brother with the work. Later it is intended to train more of the boys at the same time. For the moment part of the boys' tailoring is done by the girls. For the future the boys will also have to make their own clothes. Each of the children now has three or four suits of clothes. Nearly all the butchering is done to the best satisfaction and with the greatest cleanliness by two of the boys; others give a hand when work is pressing. Their work is deserving of unbiassed praise. Twice or three times per week they kill big cattle. Small stock is killed according to circumstances. There are some more training offices as saddlers, shoemakers, pharmacy, etc. In all of these some of the boys are trained to be helpful and proficient. The stockman has always need of half-a-dozen boys, who in the minor duties of stock work receive early training. After a few years these boys turn out good stock boys. They can well manage and sit a young horse, and know a bit about saddlery, fixing tanks, windmills, etc.

The garden covers about ten acres, and the farm about fifteen. The appearance of 5,000 head of cabbage and kohl-rabi present a fine sight to anybody in the North-West. Pumpkins and water melons are plentiful. Tomatoes, rock melons, celery, radishes, and lettuce are doing well, and will amply repay the labour. The trees and the sisal hemp suckers give everybody a fair amount of work, 14,000 sisal hemp suckers forming a small plantation by themselves. Last season was very successful.

In conclusion may I take the liberty of offering the sincerest thanks of all at the Mission, to the deserving Government, which has given many proofs of help and assistance, especially in regard to the children of our native institution.

I have, etc.,  
(Sgd.) FATHER THOS. BACHMAIR,  
for Pious Society of Missions (incorporated),  
Beagle Bay.

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LAMBADINA MISSION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1912.

Sir,—

The actual state of this Mission, thanks to your care, and the help of the Palatine Fathers, is satisfactory.

The complete supply of provisions and tobacco received from the Department, with the appendix of some vegetables and meat afforded at times by the owners of this Station, in keeping the old and infirm natives, as well as all the children, in a more regular healthy state is, no doubt, the prime factor of the atmosphere of content and peace to be seen irradiating all round here.



*Coast View between Derby & Wyndham*



*Pool, Fitzroy River.*



*Baobab Tree & Grave, Camden Sound.*



*Cockatoo Island*

*Wild Nor-West*



*Natives' Country, Wild Nor-West.*

*Genl Litho.*

The number of old and infirm natives collected and nourished here three times daily, including the children of the school, is 50.

The number of aboriginals in the camp is changeable. At present there are 71, including the children of the school and the babes.

Twenty-four children attend school—12 boys and 12 girls.

I have, etc.,

(Sgd.) FATHER NICHOLAS MARIA EMO,  
(Missionary.)

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SUNDAY ISLAND  
MISSION FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30<sup>TH</sup>  
JUNE, 1912.

Sir,—

Please find here the report of the last 12 months' progress at this Mission.

During the year there have been four children, all males, admitted into the Mission, their country being the East side of the Sound, and we have had five female children born during the year, one of whom was a half-caste. I am sorry to say we lost three children from an epidemic of measles in the early part of this year, and one very old woman from old age. Mr. Peebles has had 40 children, viz., 23 girls and 17 boys, under his charge at school during the whole time, the subjects being reading and writing, arithmetic, geography, drawing, and general knowledge. Fourteen of the older girls carry on the ordinary domestic work of the Mission, cooking, washing, ironing, milking, etc., and the older boys have all learned to be boat hands, two of them sail makers, two carpenters, and three bakers. They have to bake two bags of flour a day, and they make the best of bread.

The adult natives have been employed during the whole year in the gathering of Trocas Shell, of which we obtained some 30 tons, also in general boat work to Derby, with occasionally freight carrying to the Robinson River.

The women have done the cleaning and packing of the Trocas Shell, also in conjunction with the men they have been employed in the clearing and grubbing of a small lot of ground in a valley on the East side of the Island, which I am using for the planting of Corea rubber, and of which I have every hope to make a success.

I have, etc.,

(Sgd.) SYDNEY HADLEY,  
Superintendent.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SALVATION ARMY  
GIRLS' HOME, KALGOORLIE, FOR YEAR  
ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 1912.

To Mr. Gale, Chief Protector of Aborigines, Perth.

Sir,—

At the end of June 30th, 1911, we had 16 girls in the Home, 15 half-castes and one full-blood. During the year we received two half-caste girls, one age 3 years from Cue, and one from Kurrawang, age 9 years. During the year four half-caste girls have left the Home; one was transferred to the Swan Orphan-

age, two went out to situations in Kalgoorlie, and one died 13th December, 1911, of pneumonia.

There are at present in the Home twelve half-caste and one full-blood. They are attending school and are taught domestic duties, sewing, etc., and trained generally for situations. Through the year they have attended several picnics, picture shows, etc. They are all in good health and are very happy.

I have, etc.,

(Sgd.) JENNIE WARD,  
Matron.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF SWAN NATIVE AND  
HALF-CASTE MISSION FOR YEAR END-  
ING 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 1912.

Manager—Rev. J. W. Armstrong.

Superintendent—Mr. J. Jones.

Matron—Mrs. Jones.

Teacher—(till May) Mrs. A. Collins.

(From May) Miss L. Mowday.

During the year ending 30th June, 1912, 42 children have been receiving tuition at the Mission. Four new inmates were received during the year, two were discharged, and I regret to report two deaths occurred from tuberculosis.

No new buildings have been erected, but the dormitories have been re-arranged and provision made for better lighting and ventilation.

A large amount of work has been done in the orchard and garden, and a plentiful supply of vegetables has been grown throughout the year.

The conduct of the children has been, as usual, good, and they are evidently very happy in their home and surroundings.

The children were examined individually by the Government Medical Officer in May, and all who were notified as requiring medical or dental advice are being treated at the Children's Hospital and the school Dental Clinic.

The school was examined by Inspector Robertson on 15th December, 1911, and his report is as follows:—

"The children did satisfactory work in the subjects examined. They appeared to be bright, and well contented, and certainly were very well behaved.

"They only take school subjects in the afternoon, as the boys spend their mornings at manual and the girls at domestic work."

Nine certificates were awarded.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) J. W. ARMSTRONG.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUSTRALIAN  
ABORIGINES MISSION FOR YEAR ENDED  
30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 1912.

President—Mr. George Filmer.

Hon. Sec.—Mr. E. V. Radford.

Sir,

In presenting this report you will allow us to make mention of the care which Divine Providence has had over the work in which the above Mission has been interested. A number of children have been

taken from evil surroundings, and placed under the care of loving and Christian women. This in itself is surely a good work. But we trust that the children in the Orphanage will also prove as the years pass to have so benefited by the teaching and training they receive that they will be stronger men and women, and more fit to take their place worthily in the country to which they belong.

Eleven children have been admitted during the year ending June the 30th, 1912.

There are at present 26 children in the Home.

During 1911 it was found necessary, owing to the growth of the work, to obtain new premises. Eventually a house and grounds situated about a mile west of the Victoria Park tram terminus were procured on mortgage, and the children installed in the new quarters. Ample means for the support of the children have come to hand during the whole year, although there has never been a large credit balance. The support, apart from the 10d. per day maintenance allowed by the Department for 16 of the children, has altogether come from voluntary subscriptions.

What education has been received by the children has been given by one of the Missionaries in charge. This has amounted to 80 days or, counting by half-days, 108 half-days. The Council, feeling that justice could not be done under the circumstances to the children, and believing that the Government were in a measure responsible for their education, have addressed a memo to your Department on the subject.

The children have been tolerably free from serious illnesses during the year, though they have had their share of those ailments common to children.

In concluding their report, the Council desires to take the opportunity to thank your Department for the consistent attention given by all concerned to matters which have been brought before you by us in the course of the year; we trust that your efforts on behalf of the natives of this soil may meet with the success they deserve. We should have mentioned that during the year another worker, Miss Telfer, has been added to our staff, Miss Lock having taken up work amongst the natives in the Great Southern District.

I have, etc.,

(Sgd.) E. V. RADFORD,

Hon Sec. Australian Aborigines Mission,  
W.A. Branch, Perth.

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#### SUMMARY OF POLICE REPORTS ON THE CONDITION OF ABORIGINAL NATIVES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1912.

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*Albany.*—No aboriginal natives in this district.

*Bridgetown.*—Condition and treatment of the natives here have been very good. Ten natives are in receipt of Government relief.

*Broad Arrow.*—There have not been more than 20 natives here for the past eight or ten months. They all are fairly well clad, healthy, and well looked after. Only seven applied for blankets—none for clothing.

*Broome.*—All aboriginal natives in this sub-district are well cared for, and no complaints of ill-treatment have been received.

*Broomehill.*—No aboriginal natives residing permanently here. Now and then a few come in from other places to do clearing, etc. These are thoroughly civilised, and command the same wages as white men. No crimes, sickness, or destitution.

*Bunbury.*—The natives are well treated in this district, and their conduct has been very good. No crimes. Two old natives receive Government relief. One death (old age).

*Busselton.*—Most of the natives here are in employment. Only two convictions this year (for disorderly conduct), but the Police have to keep a strict look-out to prevent them being supplied with liquor by white men.

*Burtville.*—220 natives here—100 males, 70 females, and 50 children—who are in fair condition and healthy. Owing to drought game is scarce, and 24 receive Government relief. General conduct very good. Two deaths from old age. No disease.

*Carnarvon.*—The natives in this district are nearly all in employment, and are all satisfied and have no complaints against their employers. Only one indigent native receives Government relief. Owing to vigilance of Mounted P.C. McGowan a good few convictions against persons supplying liquor have been obtained.

*Collie.*—Only four aboriginal natives in this sub-district. They are all in employment and exceedingly well treated.

*Coolgardie.*—No natives here except those *en route* to other places, who all appear well fed and clothed.

*Cossack.*—There are only seven aboriginal natives in Cossack, four of whom receive Government relief—two males and two females. The other three are in employment, and are well cared for.

*Cue.*—Between 60 and 70 natives in this sub-district, 15 of whom are employed on stations and well fed and clothed. A few old and decrepit women receive Government rations, blankets, and clothing. The remainder get their living by hunting and bartering skins for provisions. They seem happy, contented, well fed, and well behaved, and are not troublesome to the settlers.

*Davyhurst.*—Approximate number of natives here 10. Native food very scarce. Five receiving Government relief. No disease, crimes, or deaths during year. Conduct and health good.

*Day Dawn.*—There are no natives regularly employed here, but those who come into Day Dawn from back country stations appear to be in good condition and health, and well treated.

*Denmark.*—No aboriginal natives here.

*Derby.*—The aboriginal natives in the Derby and Robinson Police patrol districts during the past year have been very well treated by the station managers and all persons who employ them. They are all in good health, and only a few deaths from natural causes have occurred.

*Dongarra.*—No natives here.

*Donnybrook.*—Only one native here, who is in employment. He is civilised, and well conducted and cared for.

*Dumbleyung.*—There are only three natives here who are in employment, and are well treated, and free from disease.

*Esperance.*—There are about 150 to 160 aboriginal natives in this sub-district, most of whom are located around Eucla and Balladonia. A large number are in employment and are well treated and contented.

A good number receive Government relief at Eucla and Balladonia, but none at Esperance. They all appear healthy, and their conduct is good.

*Fremantle.*—There are about five male aboriginals at Fremantle, all in good health, and working as stockmen and grooms. No natives in Jarrahdale or Dwellingup. A few natives in Pinjarrah; three or four receive Government relief, the remainder are employed by farmers, and appear well treated and contented.

*Geraldton.*—There are only three natives here, two of whom are in employment, and are well cared for. One old native receives Government relief. No crimes.

*Greenbushes.*—No aboriginal natives here.

*Guildford.*—The health of the natives here has been very fair, and their condition and treatment good.

*Hopetoun.*—There are no aboriginal natives in this district.

*Junction.*—There are 19 stations in this district employing aboriginal native labour, and in all cases the natives are well treated, happy, and contented. Eighteen old natives receive Government relief—nine at Bangemall and nine at Junction.

*Kalgoorlie.*—Very few natives come into Kalgoorlie from the bush. Blankets and clothing have been distributed to any in need. No illness or crimes.

*Kanowna.*—No natives resident here, but tribes *en route* to other places stay for a few weeks—four or five times during the year, and are supplied on application with rations, blankets, or clothing. They all appear well and contented.

*Katanning.*—There are only a few natives in this district. With the exception of the aged and crippled (who receive Government relief) they are all in employment, and are healthy, well clothed, and exceptionally well treated by the people in this sub-district.

*Kojonup.*—Very few natives in this district. They are mostly in employment, and are very well treated by the settlers. During the year rations and blankets have been supplied to a few old and indigent natives.

*Kookynie.*—Approximate number of natives here 70. Native game is very scarce, and 12 receive Government relief. No crimes.

*Laverton.*—350 natives here. Native game is very scarce owing to drought. 120 receive Government rations (Laverton and Beria 60, and Erlistoun 60). General conduct good. Only three convictions (stealing) against natives this year. Five deaths from senile decay and pneumonia.

*Lawlers.*—Approximate native population, embracing Lawlers, Lake Darlot, Sir Samuel, and Kathleen Valley, about 75. Native game very scarce through drought. Four receive Government relief. Conduct and health fair. One death (senile decay).

*Leonora.*—There are only a few natives here, mostly in employment, who are all well treated, healthy, and contented. Conduct good. No disease or deaths.

*Marble Bar.*—The condition and treatment of natives in this sub-district is excellent, and all that could be desired. Most of them are in employment, and a number of indigent natives who have done good service to the squatters in the early days are fed and clothed by them. Six indigent natives receive

Government relief. Five deaths (principally of old age).

*Meekatharra.*—The health of the natives here has been exceedingly good during the year. Game has been very plentiful, and the natives able to hunt have had a good time. Only three convictions (drunkenness).

*Menzies.*—Eleven natives here—five males and six females. Very little crime or illness during the year. Only one death.

*Mingenew.*—There are about 40 aboriginal natives and half-castes in this sub-district. With the exception of four who receive Government relief they are all in employment, being paid in most instances the same wages as white men, and are well treated, contented, and healthy. Two deaths—one from old age and the other through an accident.

*Moora.*—The conduct, treatment, and health, etc., of the natives in this sub-district have been exceptionally good.

*Morgans.*—There are on an average 40 natives here. Nine aged receive Government relief. Native game and food very scarce. Three deaths (cause unknown) during year. General conduct good. No crimes.

*Mt. Barker.*—About 60 natives here, mostly in employment, and well treated. About 10 receive Government relief. No disease. One death.

*Mt. Magnet.*—Approximate native population 50. Of these about 30 adults are employed on surrounding stations; the remainder (20) are either too old or too young to work. Six old natives receive Government relief, whilst others, who have outlived their usefulness as station hands, are fed and clothed by the station owners for their past services. Their treatment in general has been kind, and their health exceptionally good. Two deaths (old age). No serious crimes.

*Mt. Wittenoom.*—The natives here are mostly employed on stations, and their condition and treatment are fair. There has been no crime reported against them, and they have made no complaint against their employers. Seven indigent natives receive Government relief. No deaths.

*Mullewa.*—Very few natives in this district. One woman receives Government relief, but all the others support themselves taking contracts, etc., and are practically on the same footing as the whites. Conditions very satisfactory.

*Narrogin.*—There are not more than 12 aboriginal and half-caste natives in this district. They are well behaved and well treated, and easily find employment. Three natives from surrounding districts died in the Narrogin Hospital. During the year 20 blankets were distributed to visiting natives, and rations issued to four.

*Norseman.*—About 150 natives here. All healthy and well fed. No disease among them. No crimes.

*Northampton.*—The condition and treatment of natives here are good. The full-blooded natives remaining in Northampton are nearly all old and in receipt of Government relief. The remainder work on the stations and receive good wages. There are a fair number of half-castes about, who are all very steady and industrious workmen, and neither they nor the full-bloods are troublesome.

*Nullagine.*—Estimated number of natives here between 400 and 500. They are all well cared for, and

their treatment, condition, and conduct throughout the whole of the district are good and satisfactory. The natives here are now regarded as the most law-abiding met with above the Murchison. There has been no cattle-killing or crimes of any description during the year. About 35 (mostly old and infirm) natives receive Government relief.

*Onslow.*—The condition of the natives at Onslow for the year has been good, and they have been well treated by settlers and others in the district. Generally speaking, they are well conducted, and seem happy and contented.

*Peak Hill.*—The native population of this sub-district is approximately 300. All of these natives appear to be a temperate and law-abiding class. Those in employment are well treated, clothed, and rationed.

*Port Hedland.*—There are about 250 natives in this sub-district, the majority of whom are at work on outlying stations, only a few being employed in Hedland. There are about 100 on the DeGrey Station, many of whom are old and infirm, but are kept on the station in return for past services. The general treatment and condition of all natives in this sub-district are good.

*Ravensthorpe.*—There are very few natives here, and they are all in employment and well cared for.

*Roebourne.*—There are about 400 natives in this district, who are mostly in employment, and are well cared for, and satisfied.

*Sandstone.*—There are about 150 natives here, but owing to drought native game is scarce. Eleven natives receive Government relief. General conduct good.

*Sharks Bay.*—The condition of the natives here is good. They are all well treated by their employers.

*Tableland.*—About 300 natives in this district. Twenty-five are old and in receipt of Government relief. A few natives are leading their usual nomadic life, preferring to roam from station to station rather than settle down and become regular workers. About 250 are in constant employment on surrounding stations, and their general treatment by employers is all that could be desired, being well supplied with adequate food, clothing, and medicines, and the labour exacted in return being of a very light and easy nature. Harsh or brutal treatment is unknown in this district.

*Tambellap.*—There are no natives actually living in this sub-district, but shearing time brings a lot in from Katanning and other places for a short time. They are well treated, and there has been no complaint. One death (pneumonia).

*Three Springs.*—There are about 50 natives in this sub-district, inclusive of half and quarter-castes of all ages. The adult natives are all employed, earn fair wages, and appear to be well treated and healthy.

*Wagin.*—There are about 40 natives here (including half-castes and children), who are mostly in employment. They are intelligent, truthful, and honest, and speak excellent English. Their conduct generally has been good. Eight helpless and infirm natives have received Government relief. Very little sickness during the year.

*Whim Creek.*—The condition of natives in this sub-district is fairly good, and their general treatment satisfactory.

*Williams.*—There are two full-blooded aboriginal natives and about 50 half and quarter-castes here, who live by contracting, and are well treated.

*Wiluna.*—The condition of natives here is good, and there is a marked absence of crime. At present there is no disease amongst them. There are about 25 old and infirm natives receiving Government relief.

*Wyndham.*—Estimated native population of this district 650. As far as can be learned these are well treated by the settlers. Native food is abundant.

*Yalgoo.*—There are about 100 aboriginal natives and 23 half-castes in this district, mostly in employment on sheep stations; they are very well treated by the pastoralists. About 20 of the old and infirm receive relief. Only one death (accident).

*Yarloop.*—There is only one native in this sub-district. He is in employment, and is well treated, and quite content.

*Youanmi.*—During September and October a number of aboriginals in a starving condition through lack of native game and food (owing to the dry weather) came into town, and were fed and looked after until February, 1912, when they went away—some to Magnet and others to Sandstone. They were very well treated by the residents, and their conduct was good. Only one old native at present receiving Government relief.

Report on the Work of the Aborigines Department during the year ended 30th June 1912

Corporate Author: Western Australia. Chief Protector of Aborigines

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