

1939

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Commissioner of Native Affairs

for the

YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1938.

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1939.

Annual Report of the Commissioner of Native Affairs.

The Hon. Chief Secretary.

In conformity with section 72 (6) of the Native Administration Act, 1905-1936, I beg to submit herewith my report on the condition and welfare of the natives and transactions of the Department throughout the State for the year ended 30th June, 1938.

As this, my twenty-third Report, may be the last I shall submit in my present capacity, I venture to amplify it by including therein a few brief observations in relation to the value of such reports and other aspects of the question generally. Firstly these reports are of some historical value, because they contain a running record of the Department's doings and struggles in the cause of a depressed people, and they include fairly comprehensive statistical data, particularly during the last decade. The worth of these records will be more appreciated in years to come, but by way of contrast it may be pointed out that the departmental files prior to 1915 are so deficient and fragmentary as to be almost useless, and but for the existence of annual reports back to 1898, when the Department was created, our recorded knowledge would be scanty. True, the old Aborigines Protection Board issued reports, which, however, as far as those I can find disclose, display a very limited knowledge of native affairs. In my reports I have always endeavoured to show the condition of the people throughout, and the measures necessary and taken to improve their position. I have not neglected from time to time to indicate the seriousness of their case, or minimise the disabilities from which they suffer, but mine, I fear, has been to some extent "a voice crying in the wilderness." The present Government, however, has always shown sympathy and understanding of the position, often to practical effect upon our finances. This is disclosed by our expenditure returns. During the year under review £51,019 18s. 5d. was available for the services of the Department as against £27,238 14s. 5d. for the year ended 30th June, 1933, and, moreover, last year's figures are the highest recorded in any one year previously. The responsibility for the control of matters within the legislation limits prescribed by Parliament and the annual provision on the Estimates, is, under the powers contained in the Act, the Commissioner's under the Minister, and within those limits some good work has been done. Beyond that, however, and having reported the facts the responsibility for any failure to appreciate or relieve the position is surely not mine.

It is difficult to insure that my Annual Report reaches Parliament when in session, but even if it is of necessity a few months belated when issued, it nevertheless discloses the approximate existing position, and the Commissioner cannot be blamed if the serious purport of its contents is not appreciated by those for whose benefit it is produced.

The future of the native race here is at stake, not only as it affects the natives but also ourselves; time is passing and we are too slow in appreciating the real position and amending it.

Personally, I still hold the views which I expressed in evidence before the Royal Commission on the Constitution of the Commonwealth in 1927, that the care of our natives throughout Australia ought to be a national responsibility. There should be uniformity in the application of laws and policy of finance to insure equitable treatment throughout Australia. The example of the other great Dominions of the Empire might well be followed in this respect. As an asset alone these native people are generally underrated. Out of seventy-seven thousand natives, full-blood and coloured, young and old, in Australia nearly one quarter are workers and many more might be, given suitable education and training, instead of their being compelled to live, as they do for the most part, the subjects of relief and compassion at our hands. There would be little need of charity in time to come if the ordinary amenities of life were provided for those able to use and enjoy them, though perhaps we might have to insist upon their use.

There has been a good deal of criticism of the Department during the past year, and criticism and publicity from the point of view of the position of the natives is all to the good, because it attracts public interest to the conditions under which the people are compelled to live. Nevertheless, much of the criticism is ill-informed, biassed, without real foundation and voiced without a full knowledge or consideration of the facts, and mostly without the Department's view having been sought or the information within its possession being examined. Such criticism does no good and is definitely hurtful to the cause of the natives. Besides creating tension between the Department and interested outside Organisations, Missions and Institutions it tends to embitter the officials appointed to carry out the provisions of the law. It is apt to create enmity between them and the very people they are there to safeguard and serve within the legal limits provided, thus inevitably increasing their difficulties and lengthening the time which must elapse in giving effect to the policy laid down for the guidance of the Department, with the consent of the Government and franked by the Canberra Conference, a policy of enlightenment and advancement for the coloured people, for which the Western Australian Native Department claims to be responsible and has sought to put into effect during recent years. As was stated at Canberra, it is a long-range policy, and it may be many years before its beneficial effects are really seen, and longer still if some of our critics have their way. To push the policy too rapidly would only

have disastrous effects upon the very people we are hoping to advance.

Some of our critics are not very particular about their methods. Definite untruths have been published and even the spread of propaganda amongst the natives themselves has occurred, with the evident intention of antagonising the Department and the natives. The plan of attack which seems to be most favoured is to publish some incorrect or misleading information in the expectation that it will draw the Department into a retort. It seems to me that the method employed clearly shows that those responsible for these attacks are not mainly concerned with the welfare of the natives at all. If they were they would soon learn by co-operating with us where the real difficulties lie and help us to overcome them.

There have been many references to the creation of a Board to administer the Department, and there have been references to the Report of Mr. Moseley, who sat as a Royal Commissioner on the Native Question in 1934, and who expressed the opinion that the State should be divided into three separate territories for the purpose of administration. As regards the former, there have been Boards not only here but elsewhere to administer native matters, and there is no doubt that they have not achieved the expected success. There was a Board in Western Australia which the Department superseded in 1898. One has only to study the history of that Board to realise the disabilities from which it suffered and its ineptness. A Board could do little good, except perhaps in a general advisory capacity. Even then its usefulness from the very fact of its probable constitution might be largely negligible as far as the Department was concerned. There is such an advisory Board in South Australia, but I have been told that inevitably it is the judgment of the head of the Department which is eventually accepted.

The head of the Native Department is in daily touch with matters which concern the native population throughout the State, he is required to give important decisions many times daily, decisions which may contemplate the expenditure of considerable sums of money. He is actually and practically in touch with thousands of natives, he knows a great many of them personally, he is able to weigh up matters bringing him to immediate decisions. He is in continuous touch with all his officers throughout the State, who advise and provide him with information. A Board which met once a month, or even once a week could not but accept the advice of the head of the Department, because he needs must present the Board with accomplished facts for their deliberation. What could they do but accept his findings or report what they considered his errors in their judgment to the Minister? Whose advice is the Minister going to take? Assuming that there were a responsible chairman of such a Board, how could the head of the Department apply many times daily to such a chairman for decisions? Again, whose advice would the chairman be likely to take? A Board, I fear, would only hamper the activities of the Department, and create delays which again would react against the Department and the natives. The Royal Commissioner advised against such a Board.

As to the division of the State into three sections, Mr. Moseley visualised a permanent administrative officer in each of the three divisions, North, Middle, and South, who would carry out the policy of the

Government directly under the Minister, but in the lower, or Southern division, the head official concerned was also to be the Secretary of the Department. That system to be carried out effectively would impose altogether too great a strain upon the Minister in charge. It would involve three separate clerical staffs, offices, and accounting systems. Unless there were money to burn such a position is impracticable. There might even be three contending policies, thus rendering it impossible for the Minister to co-ordinate the whole matter with any degree of satisfaction, and then it would again resolve itself into a case of the views of the Secretary, whoever he might be, predominating. It would of course be his duty to defer to the Minister, who in a sense would be the head of the Department as well as the controlling Minister. Thus an impossible position for the Minister would arise. The differing methods in the various States to-day surely afford an example of the desirability of avoiding measures tending to emulate such disunity.

The alternative system, and that which the Department is adopting, is that of having District Inspectors, who later might possibly be endowed with the powers imposed upon Deputy Commissioners. These receive from the Commissioner all necessary instructions regarding the accepted policy of the Department as approved by the Government, to be carried out as a united whole and report to him as necessary of their doings within that policy. Under this system there is a consistent policy on all points, however controversial they might be.

Of course the Commissioner must know his State thoroughly. He must know the conditions which obtain throughout the State, or he must accept the advice of his District Inspectors, but he should be in a position to finalise all matters throughout of his own knowledge and experience. A united policy (Australia wide if possible) is the only policy which will eventually solve the problem. It should be borne in mind that there was a period of six years within the last twenty years when this State was divided into two sections for native administrative purposes. Looking back over that period the least one can suggest is that the division of duties created difficulties from which to-day we are still suffering, and moreover it destroyed to some extent the essential continuity of policy.

PREVAILING CONDITIONS.

Throughout the year there was comparatively little sickness amongst the native people and there was less loss of life than during the past seven years, no doubt due to the special measures taken to restore health throughout by the provision of increased hospital and medical attention and the power given under the Act to enforce treatment where necessary.

Though the recorded figures disclosed that there was slightly less employment this year, actually there was very little difference as explained later in this Report. Indigence did not increase to any appreciable extent.

The condition of the coloured people of the South-West showed no improvement and this matter is referred to later under the heading of Settlements.

NATIVE ADMINISTRATION ACT— SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS.

It has become evident that one or two sections of the Act should be amended if we are to fully carry

out the intention of those who framed and passed it. There are a few minor matters which I will not refer to here, but propose to confine myself to the more important amendments which I have recommended.

Section 51.—This section reads: “In every prosecution for an offence against this Act or the regulations, the averment in the complaint that any person referred to therein is a native shall be deemed to be proved in the absence of proof to the contrary.”

In two or three recent cases we have gone to Court in the full knowledge that the accused persons are natives within the meaning of the Act. Contrary verbal evidence, some of it of extremely doubtful veracity, has been given, and cases have gone against us, yet at the same time we have been in possession of documentary evidence of such a nature as to completely refute the verbal evidence given, but this has not been acceptable. Since the cases I have referred to were dealt with I have received legal advice which would appear to render this amendment unnecessary. I am advised that the law of evidence already provides for the admissibility of documentary evidence as secondary evidence when the Court is satisfied that primary oral evidence is not available. In the hope that the Courts will accept this documentary evidence in future there seems to be no need to press for this amendment. I would point out, however, that it is a serious matter for the Department if the questionable oral statements of natives in Court are to be accepted against the incontrovertible documentary evidence of the Department.

Section 62.—This section reads “Every person who is charged with assaulting a native shall be summarily tried by a stipendiary, police, or resident magistrate.”

The object of that section was to abolish juries in such cases and leave the matter entirely to the magistrate. It has been ruled that the offence of assaulting a native within the meaning of this section is what is known as a common assault, and is a less serious form of assault punishable under Sections 313 and 321 of the Criminal Code. If, however, the assault is more serious and comes within any of the sections 314 to 318 of the Criminal Code, then section 62 of the Native Administration Act does not apply. Under the Criminal Code an offence of the nature under discussion is punishable with three years' hard labour and much more serious than a common assault. Consequently if taken under the Criminal Code a jury would be empanelled and our object would be defeated. It was my view that Section 62 of the Native Administration Act should be amended to enable the word “assault” to include any act of assault not causing the death of the person assaulted, and if thought advisable add that the punishment inflicted for similar offences under the Criminal Code might upon conviction be imposed. The object of the section in the Native Administration Act was to do away with juries when trying such cases, but if cases of this nature are to be taken under the Criminal Code then that object is nullified. The provision in our Act, on the assumption that it implies this, has received favourable comment throughout Australia and in England.

Section 63 (4).—The last sentence of this subsection is as follows:—“Provided the wife of an accused native shall not be a compellable witness.”

It was ruled by a Magistrate in a case which came before the Criminal Court that the tribal wife of a native was not his legal wife. Counsel for the Defence objected, but the point was upheld by the Crown Law Department. I have recommended that the word “wife” should have the meaning it was intended to have in the Act whether the parties were legally married according to the laws of the State or otherwise. Moreover it should be no more possible for a wife to give evidence against her husband than for a husband to give evidence against his wife. Furthermore, I consider the natives standing to each other in the relation referred to should not be compellable witnesses in any action where natives are tried for assault upon or killing any person, whether dealt with before a Native Court or otherwise.

Section 71.—This section enables the Minister to issue to a native who in his opinion ought not to be subject to the Act a Certificate in writing under his hand that such native is exempt from the provisions of the Act, and from and after the issue of such Certificate such native shall be so exempt accordingly, etc. It has been ruled by the Crown Law Authorities, following on a decision of the Magistrate at Carnarvon when an exempted native was proceeded against for an offence against Section 46 of the Native Administration Act, that exemption does not destroy a native's entity; in other words that being still a native he is not subject to punishment for a breach of the Native Administration Act, wherein a native is expressly described as not being subject to any particular section. We have always considered that an exempted native is privileged to enjoy the rights enjoyed by any other person in the community who is not a native, and it is my view that he should be subject to the provisions of the Native Administration Act as though he were not a native. The position otherwise is absurd, and is bound to militate against natives being exempted, because having been exempted we could not penalise them for interfering with or still more or less living as natives. I think there should be a proviso or an amendment to the following effect:—

Any native exempted under this section shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of citizenship enjoyed by persons other than natives domiciled in Western Australia, and shall be subject to the pains and penalties provided for a breach of the provisions of the Native Administration Act notwithstanding any other law or Act to the contrary.

I may add that this would give an exempted native the privilege of exercising the franchise, which a clause in the Electoral Act debars him from doing at the present time, whether exempted or otherwise.

ACT AND REGULATIONS.

The new Act in general is a vast improvement upon the Aborigines Act of 1905, but it has hardly yet been tried out. Such an Act contemplates, as is clearly shown by section 68, the provision of suitable regulations to enable the machine to work, so to speak. If this “lubrication” is denied it, the Department must perforce take action directly under the relevant sections of the Act, often a difficult and irksome proceeding, irritating to all concerned, coloured or otherwise. Therefore regulations, especially necessary where human beings and their relations towards one another are involved, are essential. With-

out them the Department must inevitably be charged in some respects with failing to do its job. It would be accused of imposing restrictive provisions, failure to assist individuals, cumbersome methods, and what not. Few people know or study the Act, but a knowledge of those regulations of particular interest to individuals is easily acquired.

If there were to have been no regulations, the sections of the Act might have been rendered much more expansive or comprehensive. As it is, Parliament provided a section with no less than seventeen subsections enabling regulations to be made covering every possible contingency. In the early part of the year a new set of regulations was drafted remodeling and including at the same time many already in existence. These new regulations were carefully framed in the light of many years' experience, some being based upon those in use in Queensland and certain other States of Australia, while those made under the Child Welfare Act were extensively drawn upon as a model. Actually these regulations became law in April, 1938, but within the period covered by this report had not been presented to Parliament.

POPULATION.

The statement at pages 24 and 25 supplies details of the native population throughout the State as at the 30th June last. Summarised the comparative position is as follows:—

30th June, 1937.		30th June, 1938.	
Full-bloods ..	12,118	Full-bloods ..	11,882
All others ..	4,209	All others ..	4,602
Unclassified and beyond the influence of civilisation ..	10,000	Unclassified and beyond the influence of civilisation ..	10,000
	<u>26,327</u>		<u>26,484</u>

This indicates that there has been an increase of 157 in the total as compared with the previous year. The full-bloods have decreased by 236, and all other coloured people have increased by 393. To 11,882 full-bloods there are 1,761 children under twelve years of age, whereas to 4,602 coloured people there are 1,955 such children. The indications are that in the case of these unclassified people beyond the confines of civilisation the sparsity of children is still more marked.

In that portion of the South-West extending from Geraldton to Esperance westwards of a line drawn between Mullewa and the last-named place, ten years ago there were 1,647 coloured people. To-day there are 2,950. Full-bloods in the same area during the same decennial period have decreased from 719 to 648. In the whole State ten years ago there were 2,754 coloured people. To-day, as stated, there are 4,602. There are to-day more than five times as many coloured people in the State as there were thirty-four years ago.

The increase noted in certain families is marked. For example, a little less than twenty years ago we admitted to Moore River Native Settlement a man and his wife, with a family of ten ranging from twenty years of age downwards. Some of the sons and daughters married inmates of the Settlement, and all, including the parents, subsequently left to earn their living in the country. Already the number of grandchildren of the original couple is no less than thirty-five, and of the whole family none has died. There

are many other similar instances of fertility, and there is one family group that I know of, though I have not the exact details, where the grandchildren and their children now must number at least one hundred.

Dividing the State into three sections for the purposes of comparison, it will be seen that there were 7,169 natives in the Kimberley, 4,368 in the North-West and Murchison, and 4,947 on the Goldfields and in the South-west, including South Coastal Districts, all exclusive of those outside the confines of civilisation.

RESERVES AND PROHIBITED AREAS.

The total area devoted to Reserves for Natives in Western Australia was, at the 30th June, 1937, 30,859,857 acres, 6,137,540 additional acres having been gazetted during the year. The extension of Reserve 17614 accounted for 5,793,400 acres of this increase.

Reserve 17614, which is the large area lying along the State's eastern boundary contiguous to similar reserves in South Australia and the Northern Territory, was extended westwards to junction with Reserve 21471 (Warburton) so that the whole might be embraced in one area comprising 19,809,400 acres. New Reserves of 146,000 acres in the Laverton district and 198,000 acres in the Marble Bar district were declared during the year. Several smaller areas were likewise set aside for the use of natives.

In view of developments at Yampi Sound the areas known as Coekatoo and Koolan Islands were declared by Proclamation issued on 9th November, 1937, to be prohibited areas for natives.

In February, 1937, we were approached by the late Dr. Charles Chewings, of Adelaide, on behalf of the proposal to despatch to this State a scientific expedition sponsored by Professor Frobenius of the Frankfurt Museum, Germany. On the matter being further pursued and the Commonwealth Authorities raising no objection to the entry of such a party for a period of twelve months or longer if necessary, the arrangements were finalised by the Native Affairs Department. The Government here approved of the proposal in August, 1937, but it was not until March, 1938, that the party reached the State. This party, led by Dr. Helmut Petri, included Mr. Douglas Fox, Dr. Andreas Lommel, Frau Agnes Schulz and Fraulein Gerta Kleist. It was the intention of the party to proceed to the Northern Kimberley area with a view to studying the social systems and culture of the natives as well as the rock paintings and native art galleries to be found throughout that district, and the ladies of the party, being artists, to make reproductions of the drawings. The necessary bond having been provided by a prominent German resident of Sydney, a permit in accordance with the Regulations was issued by the Hon. Chief Secretary. This permit while granting permission to the party to enter native reserves and take photographs and moving pictures and collect ethnological specimens therein, limited such collection and stipulated that a third of the objects secured were to be retained for the Perth Museum. The usual safeguards in regard to the taking and publishing of photographs were likewise applied. At the end of the period covered by this report the party was still in Kimberley and was by arrangement making the Department's Munja Native Station its headquarters.

Permission was sought by the Western Australian University to accord a similar privilege to Mr. P. Pentony who, it was agreed, should accompany the Frobenius party. While Mr. Pentony was accorded permission to take photographs, it was not deemed desirable to permit any further collection of native objects concurrently with the permission already given to the other members of the party, particularly as arrangements had already been entered into for the local Museum to benefit therefrom.

In May last permission was accorded Dr. A. Capell, M.A., science worker under the auspices of the National Research Committee (Anthropological Sub-Committee) to enter reserves in the North. Dr. Capell is carrying out research in linguistics and is still so engaged in the North.

Mr. P. Hasluck of the "West Australian" newspaper was again granted permission to enter reserves and camps in the South-West.

INSPECTIONS.

The Medical Inspector, Dr. Davis, continued his travels mainly in the North, and altogether traversed about 9,818 miles conducting examinations and arranging the hospitalisation of the sick and diseased.

Mr. A. T. Woodland, Manager of Moola Bulla Native Station, who was also appointed Acting Inspector in March, 1937, continued to travel within his district with excellent results. Unfortunately Mr. Woodland found the work rather too much for him and requested to be allowed to resume his former duties. This was agreed to and while he still continues to carry out inspections in East Kimberley as required, it is intended shortly to appoint a full time Inspector for the North. I am also asking that a similar appointment be made for the South and Goldfields.

My own inspections were confined to Southern parts and Goldfields generally wherein I traversed nearly 7,000 miles within the year.

HEALTH.

The health of the people was generally good, there being no outbreak of an epidemic nature. There is, however, probably a greater degree of malnutrition amongst our coloured people than amongst any other section of the community. Trachoma and other eye affections give a good deal of trouble. The infectious nature of the former demands the exercise of increasing vigilance to detect affected cases, as the natives themselves seldom report such matters.

The power given under the amended Act to compel sick natives to receive medical treatment has proved of great value. Some natives, having been brought in, have decamped only to be recovered more than once until complete cure has resulted. These, although objecting so strongly to treatment in the first instance, have usually expressed gratitude to us in the end.

Free dental attention has been provided in a large number of instances, and the provision of dentures in many cases has been very much appreciated and has no doubt led to improved health.

Following is the Report upon the health of the natives, submitted by Dr. A. P. Davis, Medical Inspector:—

During the year 1937-38 examinations of natives have been continued on various tours in substantially the same parts of the State as set out in detail in the last

Annual Report. On account of the continued prevalence of leprosy in the Kimberley Division searching examinations have been warranted and this being the case, more time has been devoted to this region than to other districts.

But the Port Hedland, Marble Bar, Nullagine, Roebourne, Tableland and Eastern Goldfields areas as well as parts of the Ashburton, Gascoyne and Murchison districts have also been visited, so that it has again been possible this year to make a fairly wide survey of those parts, in which experience has taught us disease is known to exist.

As this report is written on tour without all my data available to me, I am not able to particularise nor to give statistics and figures. I would make the general statement that the health of natives in some districts has improved, whilst in others it remains much the same. For instance, venereal disease has definitely decreased in the Port Hedland and Marble Bar districts, and in the Eastern Goldfields I have not found the same number of cases as in previous years. In the Kimberleys the position has not greatly altered, for leprosy is still fairly prevalent and cases continue to show up. Here also an interesting medical problem has arisen.

Because of the establishment of the Commonwealth Laboratory at Broome, it has been possible to carry out more blood tests than heretofore, mainly for the purpose of investigating obscure lesions of doubtful origin. These tests have brought to light the interesting fact that positive reactions suggesting either hereditary or latent syphilis have been obtained in apparently healthy natives, and also in natives whose complaints did not have the imprimatur of clinical syphilis. Now it is also a fact that the same positive reaction is given in yaws and we know that yaws is present in this country on account of the fact that "boomerang" legs and other evidence of it is frequently met with. Without going too deeply into detail, it is very important that we should know which, if either, of these diseases is giving the reaction or whether there is some factor in the blood of the native which is upsetting the test. Again, as the reaction is given in cases which are frankly suffering from granuloma, we must know whether granuloma itself will give a positive Wasserman reaction. This then is the problem which is in process of being solved. If it be yaws, it is not of such great consequence, but if it be syphilis it is fraught with grave consequences and may in that event, be found to be one of the reasons for the non-reproduction of the race.

Leprosy.

This disease continues to be present in the Kimberleys and about thirty cases have been discovered this year. They have been drawn from the same regions as previous cases indicated by the map in last year's report. There is no reason to believe that the area of incidence has spread, for whilst one or two cases have been drawn from East Kimberley, the great majority are from the West Kimberley coastline and the basin of the Fitzroy River. No cases were detected in the Roebourne-Onslow districts this year.

Venereal Diseases.

Generally speaking, granuloma is on the decline, whilst gonorrhoea remains very little altered in incidence. The recent introduction of more advanced methods of treatment in the various native hospitals on the coast has had a material influence in lowering the number of cases of granuloma, in that a certain proportion which recurred previously and therefore increased the spread, are now permanently cured. But the new methods have not yet been sufficiently long in practice to have the fullest effect.

Other Diseases.

I have also met with the usual variety of illnesses which appear in the hospital returns. Ocular diseases are still fairly prevalent. Blindness seems slightly less mainly because it is usually seen in the aged and indigent, some of whom have died during the year. Malaria has not been prevalent, the seasons being against it, and epidemics of colds and influenza have not been as severe this winter and have not accounted for as

many deaths as in some acute years. In conclusion, the health of natives remains for the most part uniformly good, and the percentage incidence of sickness as I see it has not materially altered.

The native hospitals and various native clinics continue to gain the confidence of the natives and to do uniformly good work, those in charge being unflinching in their efforts to alleviate the illnesses of their charges. It is sincerely to be hoped that funds will be available to give the Roebourne Tableland district a native hospital and to so extend the chain of these coastal institutions which have been such a great benefit further north.

The Table next following indicates the number of natives examined during the year under review by the Medical Inspector, where these examinations took place, and what they disclosed. Omitting blindness, it will be seen that the inspection reveals that only about 8 per cent. of the natives examined were affected by any illness at all, and of the diseases venereal diseases predominated. Minor temporary affections are not included.

Place of Examination.	No. of Natives examined.	Leprosy.	V.D.	Blind.	Other.
Broad Arrow	8				
Bardock	2				
Bohemia Station	16				
Balfour Downs Station	19			3	
Bungallow Station	30		1		3
Broome (Interior)	8			2	
Brooking Springs Station	26	2		1	
Belele Station	12				
Bulla Downs Station	7				
Calwynyardah Station	7				
Coolgardie (Woodline)	8				1
Cherabun Station	38		2	2	1
Chestnut Bore Station	4				
Christmas Creek Station	22				
Cunje Park Station	7				
Coolgardie	80			1	4
Cox's Find, via Laverton	45				1
Cardawan Station	3				
Coamarina Station	4		1		
Darlot	5				1
Dampier Downs Station	22	1		1	
Denham River Station	32		1	1	
De Grey Station	25				2
Erlstoun Station	7				
Ethel Creek Station	26				1
Ellendale Station	14	2	1	1	
Etrick Station	4				
Fossil Downs Station	71	1	2		2
Fitzroy Crossing Camp	27	2	1	1	
Fitzroy Crossing Hotel	16				
Fitzroy Crossing (Post Office)	7	1			
Gifford Creek Station	10		1		
Greenvale Station	3				
Hill Station	10				
Hall's Creek Town	17				
Ida H. via Laverton	6				
Jigalong Depot	45			5	1

Place of Examination.	No. of Natives examined.	Leprosy.	V.D.	Blind.	Other.
Jubilee Downs Station	33		1	2	
Kirkalocka Station	1				
Karonie	106		6	1	9
Kellerberrin	13				3
Koolan Island	2		1		
Kimberley Downs Station	13				
Louisa Downs Station	28				5
Lulugi Station	8		1		
La Grange	35				2
Laverton	46				1
Leinster Downs Station	4				
Mulvie Station	12				
Murrumbidgee Station	6		2		
Mundiwindi	12				
Meekatharra	12		3		1
Mt. Windarra Station	1				
Mt. Weld Station	3				
Mt. Margaret Mission	74				12
Munarra Station	2				1
Menzies	9			1	
Margaret Station	7				1
Myroodah Station	28	1	1		1
Mt. Amberst Station	24	1	1		
Millwindie Station	10	2		1	
Mt. House Station	34	1	1		
Munia Native Station	87	5	11	2	
Mulye Etrick	11		1		
Mulye Station	10		1		2
Muean Station	16				1
Mundabullangana	22		1		2
Mardie Station	11			1	
Mia Mia Station	7				
Middalya Station	4		1		
Minnie Creek Station	10		1		1
Mt. Augustus Station	8				
Mulgul Station	6				
Mt. Vernon Station	13	1	3		
Margaret Downs Station	24	1			1
Mabel Downs Station	9	1			
Nullagine	56		1	4	2
Norseman	49			1	5
Nannine	11			1	1
Noonkanlah Station	52			2	1
Payne's Find	3				2
Peedamulla Station	13				
Pardoo Station	24		3		1
Peak Hill and Horseshoe	9			2	
Pollele Station	4				1
Roebuck Plains Station	33	1	1		2
Rockhole Station	6				
Southern Cross	53			3	4
Turkey Creek	15				
Tareoola Station	1				
Turee Creek Station	17				4
Talawanna Station	7				
Thangoo Station	27		2		
Upper Liveringa Station	18	2	1	1	
Wyndham Town	37				1
Wyndham (20-mile)	4				
Warralong Station	33				2
Walgan Station	8				2
Wiluna	13				
Weebo Station	5				
Warrawagine Station	31			1	3
Wanalgee Station	1				
Williamburg Station	10			1	
Woodlands Station	4				
Wogarno Station	1				
Wongan Hills	9				
Yarrle Station	9			1	
Yarraloola Station	14			1	1
Yampf Sound	13				
Totals	2,050	25	54	48	90

Statement showing the Total Number of Cases of Sickness and Disease discovered by the Medical Inspector to 30th June last in the various parts of the State so far examined.

Division.	No. of Examinations.	Leprosy.	Venereal Disease.	Blindness.	Other Complaints.
Kimberley	4,863	66	173	68	85
North-West	2,172	2	67	22	94
Eastern	894	1	28	19	57
South-Western	53				
Totals	7,982	69	268	109	236

The difficulty of dealing with the question of leprosy in the Far North in that portion of the Kimberleys beyond the Leopold Ranges has been emphasised of late in various ways. Our Medical Officer has visited Munja Station annually and found there assembled a number of natives whom he has examined and amongst whom he has invariably found a few lepers. The difficulty at once arises of holding these lepers until transport can be arranged. If the

patients are well enough to undertake the overland journey to the leprosarium it is sometimes possible to send them off with other natives to look after them on the way, and this has been done successfully on at least two occasions. This course, however, only partly meets the position. Others, upon discovering themselves to be afflicted, have fled into the interior.

I would here add that our Northern Native Hospitals are not equipped with suitable holding com-

pounds or isolation wards where patients afflicted with leprosy can be held pending transport to the leprosarium being arranged for them. I have asked for the appropriation of a sufficient sum of money on this account.

At Munja Native Station there is no compound or other such structure within which native patients can be confined until transport is available or can be arranged. Transport by sea, which is certainly the best course, cannot be undertaken in certain months of the year, and only with difficulty and at great expense at other times. The Kunmunya Mission vessel which for nine months of the year conducts a regular service to Broome, calling at Munja, conveying mails, cargo and passengers, is not available for the transport of lepers, consequently special arrangements require to be made to this end. It has been stated more than once lately that there is a good deal of sickness amongst the natives throughout this territory, but we are not in a position to know whether it is leprosy, yaws, venereal disease, or something of a less serious nature. At present we depend upon natives suffering from disease presenting themselves at our Munja Station, at Kunmunya Mission or the few private stations in the District, but we know by experience that some are too timid to do this and there is every probability that disease exists of which we are not at present aware. Thus there is a feeling of uncertainty in this regard which is having a deleterious effect upon the community generally, although the community is an extremely small one. If this territory is to be rendered clean with every hope of future settlement, something more efficient and drastic should be immediately undertaken. For the sake of the natives I consider steps should be taken as soon as possible to ensure that every native in the area is examined, and if found to be diseased brought in for treatment. There should be no escape from this examination. It is my opinion that during the next dry season two well-equipped parties should traverse this country from end to end, get in touch with every native within it, and either have them brought into places where they can receive attention, or be examined on the spot. I think the former course would be the best one because, if examined on the spot and released again, confusion would be likely to arise. I do not think the numbers are very great, and the project seems to me to be feasible, but it would represent a fair amount of expenditure which, however, would be quite justified in the long run in the interests of the community generally. The sooner something of this nature is undertaken the better, and it would be followed by a restoration of confidence throughout the Kimberleys. It stands to reason that even after that, leper natives will turn up, because there must be some already infected, but the position by that time would be well in hand and sporadic cases easily dealt with.

Midlands District Hospital, Moore River.—Admissions for the year numbered 257, which, in addition to 25 patients already in hospital, brought the total up to 282. Of these, 254 were discharged cured, 4 died, and 3 absconded, leaving 21 patients in the hospital at the end of the year.

The following report has been submitted by Dr. W. S. Miles, of Moora, who is the visiting medical officer:—

I now enclose my Annual Report, which I trust may be of some information to you.

I am pleased to have seen a year so free of infectious and contagious diseases.

During the period under review a total of 16 visits were made to Moore River Native Settlement, 4 being special visits urgently called for to serious cases.

Records show 354 cases were examined, though many others were seen and examined where records were not considered necessary, such as, amongst others, the infants in the kindergarten block. It is possible to report a clean sheet in so far as the chronic sores once so prevalent are concerned.

This latter result in my opinion has been the fruit of a more liberal milk supply, vegetables, fruit, as well as measures taken to deal with bugs, which played no small part in conveying infection. These insects during my examination of the sleeping quarters have been much less in evidence.

A very gratifying feature noticed was the great improvement in the general health of the younger inmates. This is not only my opinion, but has been observed by others who have several times visited the settlement and who were qualified to express such an opinion.

There have been no epidemics of infectious or contagious diseases—a very marked contrast with previous years.

Dealing with the question of epidemics, the desirability of immunisation against diphtheria should be stressed.

The erection of the kindergarten block has already proved an admirable step in the interests of the younger children, and the work of Miss Marshall, who is in charge of the kindergarten, is deserving of much praise for the good results shown. It is to be hoped that before long the present hospital may be found of use for some other purpose, and that a building more approaching a hospital will replace it.

It is with regret this suggestion has to be made, because the present well and strongly built cool hospital is nothing like what it should be to give help to those who have been and will be admitted. It is too dark and unsuitable for the purpose.

The need of a larger number of double-certificated nurses is felt, especially where so many midwifery cases are confined. There is a risk to such cases being attended to in a ward with all classes of patients when only two large wards are provided. There are still and most likely will be more or less always a very considerable number of chronic sore eyes when the inmates come from all over the State.

The general improvement to be noticed reflects very greatly to the care and attention of the Superintendent, Matron and staff generally.

My professional work has been made considerably easier as a result of the splendid co-operation of the Superintendent, Matron and nurses on the occasions when my visits have been made. A matter of no little help is the assistance of the Commissioner of Native Affairs in readily supplying such requirements as have been found necessary, including drugs, which in many instances are expensive but are necessary, and to him I desire to express my thanks for much help in such matters.

It shows that in such matters, and in all matters where anything can be done to help the inmates, help is readily given.

P.S.—I overlooked stating that inspections of dining halls, outbuildings, sleeping quarters and the recently-erected cottages are periodically made by me.

Port Hedland Native Hospital.—There was an increase in the number of patients admitted, these being 123 as compared with 104 in the previous year. There were 17 patients in the institution at the close of the previous year, making the total number treated 140. Of these, 115 were discharged cured, 8 died, leaving 17 patients in the institution at the end of the year.

The following report has been submitted by Dr. Allan R. Vickers, Medical Officer to the Hospital:—

I beg to submit my report on the operations of the native hospital for the year ended 30th June, 1938.

Complaints for which patients were treated were as follows:—

General—86 (Medical 45, Surgical 37, Midwifery 4 (including 17 operations—7 major and 10 minor)).

Veneral—52 (Gonorrhoea 30, Granuloma 18, Syphilis 4).

For Observation—4 (nil abnormal detected).

Of the eight deaths which occurred, all were due to general causes, none being due to venereal disease.

A pleasing feature of these figures as compared with those of last year is the decrease in the number of venereal cases coming for treatment. Most of the venereal cases that one sees now come in at an early stage and respond well to treatment. I feel sure that the amount of venereal disease amongst natives in this district is definitely declining.

There is a marked increase in the number of general cases admitted. This, I feel sure, does not indicate that the natives are less healthy, but rather that the hospital has their confidence, so that they come in without hesitation whenever they become ill. This desirable state of affairs is in no small measure due to the kind and efficient management of the hospital staff, Mr. and Mrs. Bisley.

Derby Native Hospital.—There were 12 patients in this hospital at the beginning of the year, while the number admitted during the year was 64, making a total of 76 undergoing treatment. Of these, 52 were discharged cured, 4 died, and one absconded, leaving 20 patients in the hospital at the close of the year.

The following report has been submitted by Dr. H. F. Hustler, Medical Officer to the Hospital:—

Please find attached a list of medical activities conducted at the Derby Native Hospital for the year ending 30th June, 1938.

Diseases Treated at the Derby Native Hospital from 12th June, 1937, to 30th June, 1938.

12/6/38—16 patients were taken over	..	16
Admitted to 30/6/38	.. ..	65
Total patients treated	.. ..	81

Complaints Treated.

Granuloma	.. .. .	18
Syphilis (or Yaws)*	.. .. .	11
Accidents	.. .. .	10
Teeth extractions	.. .. .	7
Ring Worm	.. .. .	4
Conjunctivitis	.. .. .	4
Impetigo	.. .. .	2
Rheumatism	.. .. .	2
Influenza	.. .. .	1
Cardiac failure	.. .. .	1
Confinement	.. .. .	1
Pneumonia	.. .. .	1
Gastritis	.. .. .	1
Leprosy (transferred)	.. .. .	1
Operations (as under)	.. .. .	11

Operations.

1. Incision and curettage of sinus in ankle.
2. Sequestrectomy.
3. Suprapubic drainage of bladder.
4. Excision of scar tissue.
5. External urethrotomy.
6. External urethrotomy.
7. Excision of perineal abscess and repair of urethra.
8. Circumcision.
9. Excision of granuloma.
10. Dilation of urethra.
11. Trephine for fracture of skull.

Deaths.

1. Senile decay.
2. Uraemia and syphilis.
3. Cardiac failure.
4. Fractured skull.

* These patients showed a positive Wassermann reaction. There is some difficulty in distinguishing between the two diseases.

A number of syphilitic patients had granuloma also, and a number of cases treated for other diseases were also treated for ring worm.

The following interesting remarks are extracted from a report by Mr. H. Ulrich who, with his wife, in the capacity of Officer-in-Charge and Matron, respectively, are in charge of this Institution:—

Herewith an outline of work done at the Native Hospital, Derby, from the date of taking over to the 30th June, 1938.

Our very fine theatre has been a great boon, as you will see by the number of operations performed during the year.

We are very pleased to state that some of our patients have asked to be brought into hospital for treatment of their own free will. Upon being discharged, one man who had had two operations promised to return if his complaint got bad again. He kept his promise, was operated on once more, and has now been discharged again in a better condition than he has been in for years.

There have been a number of improvements to the hospital since we took over.

The biggest benefit to the hospital is the beds, which have proved very necessary, especially for the clean nursing of all very sick and operation cases.

Many people seem to think that the natives would never use beds. We have found that they prefer beds, especially when really sick, and do not like having to give them up for more urgent cases.

For the patients who are well enough and prefer to sleep out in the open on the ground, we have two large bush shelters, well protected from the weather by good wind breaks. These shelters are used during the day by all patients.

Every Sunday morning Mrs. Ulrich holds a short Sunday school service for the girls, and any of the patients wishing to attend may do so. I am pleased to say that most of the women attend and occasionally some of the men. The service seems to be enjoyed by all, especially when she uses the gramophone for the hymns, as all natives love music.

Native Help.—Some of the patients have at times been very useful workers around the place. The outstanding male of last year was Waddy, of Udialla Station. This boy was a very willing worker and could do almost anything and be left to do the work himself.

The outstanding woman of last year was Maggie, alias Gunjawarla, of Napier Downs. This woman was a great help to Mrs. Ulrich in the care and nursing of Nallan, her husband. She watched Nallan day and night after his serious operation, calling Mrs. Ulrich at all times if she thought her man was worse or uncomfortable. Her care went a long way in saving Nallan's life.

The natives on the whole are easily managed. They never try to avoid their treatment, as they are usually anxious to be cured of their trouble.

We find that the majority of the natives are clean when given the opportunity to be so, bathing once a day, and keeping their clothes clean and tidy. Of course there are exceptions, but when told to bath or wash their clothes will always do so.

The average native we have had in hospital is reasonably honest. Very little pilfering has been done by them, but they will barter their clothes, etc., away for any old rubbish, if not watched.

Our aim while treating the natives here has been to gain their confidence so that they will always return here of their own free will when they become ill again. To a great extent I believe we have done so, as a number have already returned for treatment for a second time.

Wyndham Native Hospital.—There were 16 patients in hospital on 1st July, 1937, and up to the 30th June following 143 more were admitted. Of these

132 were discharged, 9 absconded, and 4 died, leaving 14 still in hospital.

The following report has been submitted by Dr. A. J. King, Medical Officer to the Hospital:—

I am enclosing a record of patients treated at the Wyndham Native Hospital for the year ending 30th June.

It can be seen that the provision of the hospital was fully justified. Further bed space is, however, required for the more seriously ill patients, and the completion of the verandah around the existing treatment block is justified for this purpose.

It has been gratifying to see that even "bush natives" have recently been coming into the hospital of their own accord for treatment. This has no doubt been largely due to the extreme kindness in treatment they receive at the hands of the Sister-in-Charge, Mrs. J. Harrison.

It is my opinion that with the continued operation of the hospital the spread of disease, venereal disease in particular, will be checked, and in a few years minimised in this area.

Total number of patients admitted—143.

Classification—

A.—General—

(a) Surgical:

Major operations	19
Minor operations	12
Minor surgical cases (infected wounds, etc.)	26
	57

(b) Medical:

General	19
Yaws	12
Tuberculosis	2
Leprosy, transferred to Derby	2
	35

B.—Venereal—

Granuloma inguinale	36
Gonorrhoea	10
Syphilis	2
	48

C.—Midwifery—

Cases	3
	3
	143

Deaths.

Venereal disease (granuloma)	2
General:	
Tuberculosis	1
Carcinoma	1
Myocardial failure	1
	5

Broome Native Hospital.—This hospital started in active operation on 26th July, 1937. The number of patients admitted to 30th June, 1938, was 108; of these two patients died and 88 were discharged as cured, leaving 18 in hospital at the end of June, 1938.

The following report has been submitted by Dr. F. R. Wallace, Medical Officer to the hospital:—

The Broome Native Hospital admitted its first patient on 26th July, 1937. From that date to 30th June, 1938, much work has been done in the treating of natives, and also on improvements to the hospital. As this is the first year in the life of the hospital, I would like to give a brief account of the number of cases treated and the type of disease encountered.

The patients treated come from a very large area, extending as far south as Frazier Downs Station and north to Kunmunya Mission, inland to Jeegully, about 80 miles from Broome.

Number of Patients Treated.

In-patients	108
Intravenous injections	244
Intramuscular injections	31
Deaths—2 (one at hospital; one an out-patient at ration camp).	

Nature of Cases Treated.

Medical—

Appendicitis	1
Aged and infirm	2
Boils	1
Cystitis	1
Cerebral syphilis	1
Centipede bite	1
Corneal ulcer	1
Dysmenorrhoea	1
Diabetes	1
Dietetic adjustment for infant	1
Bacillary dysentery	1
Granuloma	15
Gonorrhoea	7
Papilloma of nose	1
Hookworm	2
Lymphadenoma inguinale	1
Influenza	15
Malnutrition	1
Nocturnal enuresis	1
Pyelitis	1
Lobar pneumonia	1
Rheumatism	3
Salpingitis	1
Stomatitis	1
Trachoma	1
Tropical ringworm	1
Varicose veins	1
Tertiary syphilis (treated at White Hospital)	1

Surgical—

Bartholin abscess	1
Burns	1
Bead in ear	1
Dislocated shoulder	1
Fractured clavicle	3
Fractured tibia	1
Fractured humerus	1
Compound fractured jaw	1
Fibroid uteri	3
Head wounds	1
Severe head and body wounds	1
Osteomyelitis	2
Breast abscess	1
Septic hands and feet	8
Traumatic arthritis	1
Retroverted uterus	1

Observations—

Query appendicitis	1
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Examinations—

P.V. and general	4
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Midwifery—

Births	2
Leprosy held pending transfer	3

Operations at Native Hospital.

Circumcisions	3
Surgical removal of bead from ear	1
Excision of papilloma of nose	1
Reduction dislocated shoulder	1
Incision of infected hands	3
Tooth extractions (patients)	6
Granuloma cauterised	7

Operations at White Hospital.

Appendicectomy for acute appendicitis (one quarter-caste)	2
Hysterectomies	2
Laparotomies	2
Drainage of Suppurative arthritis of elbow joint	1
Excision of thyroglossal fistula	1
Tonsillectomies	2
Number of outpatients treated	56

Nature of cases treated.

Medical.	
Boils	3
Bites (insect and dog)	2
Chicken pox	1
Constipation	1
Diabetes	1
Diarrhoea	1
Elbow injury	1
Influenza	10
Balanitis	1
Ophthalmia purulent	2
Conjunctivitis	1
P.V. examination	1
Quinsy	1
Stomatitis (thrush)	1
Retention of urine	1
<hr/>	
Inpatients	109
Outpatients	56
<hr/>	
Total treated	165
<hr/>	
Surgical.	
Abrasion of ankle	1
Circumcision	1
Discharging fistula	1
Gonorrhoea (injections)	1
Septic limbs, etc.	6
Scalp wound	1
Removal of needle from forearm	1

From the above account it can be seen that the types of disease approximate very closely to what is found in a white community. The results of treatment have been very good, due mainly to the good nursing attention received from the staff.

The hospital is at present suffering from a great lack of accommodation particularly felt in the rainy season and the cold south-east weather. Electric light would be a very helpful adjunct as it is hardly possible to work at night under the existing conditions, namely, hurricane lamps.

As there is a fair amount of surgical work done and on account of a better type of half-caste patient existing here more surgical, medical and theatre accommodation is required, which I believe is receiving consideration.

As regards treatment, one interesting factor has been brought to light, that is if granulomas are treated with a paquein cautery besides the routine course of injections, the condition is found to clear up much quicker.

Many improvements have been made around the hospital since its inception; all the outbuildings have been taylorited, the outside of the staff quarters has had two coats of paint applied and also the whole of the interior has been painted by the staff. Lawns have been planted in the front and back of the staff quarters. A considerable amount of scrub has been cleared and a six-wire fence placed around the staff quarters and outbuildings. All this work has been done by the staff, who take a keen interest in the smooth and efficient working of the hospital. I would like to mention that a storeroom for the ration supplies is very urgently needed as at the present moment these cannot be kept rat and vermin proof.

Considering the disabilities that we have had to work under and also the fact that we have been feeling our way in establishing a new institution, I feel that the standard of work is very satisfactory, the results excellent, and the confidence established in the natives as regards this hospital very satisfactory. As conditions improve I feel that the results will be even more satisfactory.

Deaths.—The total number of deaths reported to the Department was 186 as indicated in the following statement. This was 5 less than for the previous year and the lowest for seven years.

Of the total, 131 were full-bloods and 55 of various castes.

As usual, debility or senile decay and pulmonary complaints account for the majority of the deaths.

DEATHS, 1937-38.

	Adults.		Children under 16 years.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Abortion	1				1
Accident	6				6
Arteria Sclerosis	1				1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	2	1			3
Carccnoma of face	1				1
Cancer	2				2
Convulsions			1		1
Debility	30	20	2		52
Diabetes	1				1
Fits	1				1
Fever	1				1
Gastro-Intestinal Affections	2	2	1	3	8
Heart Failure	3	2	1	2	8
Internal trouble	2	2			4
Kidney trouble	1				1
Leprosy	3	1			4
Myocarditis... .. .	2				2
Meningitis			1	1	2
Nephritis	1	1			2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3		1		4
Premature Birth			2	3	5
Pericarditis			1		1
Respiratory Affections	23	9	8	11	51
Stillborn			4	4	8
Snake Bite	1				1
Tetanus				1	1
Tonsillitis	1	1			2
Toxaemia	1		2		3
Tribal Affrays	2				2
Uraemia	1				1
Veneral Disease	2	4			6
<hr/>					
	85	52	22	27	186
<hr/>					
	137		49		
<hr/>					
					186

NATIVES' MEDICAL FUND (VOLUNTARY).

At pages 26 and 27 will be found statements covering the operation of the above Fund for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1938.

These statements have been prepared on the basis of actual receipts and payments for the twelve months and other amounts which should be taken into account when reviewing the position of the Fund are brought to notice in the following explanatory notes.

Contributions.—A total of 1,071 permits covering 3,665 natives were recorded to 30th June and of this number 713 employers covered 2,532 natives under the Fund contributing a gross total of £2,356 10s.

When the statutory fund was discontinued, owing to the regulations framed under Section 36 being disallowed by the Legislature and the voluntary Fund was instituted, it is pleasing to record that only 18 employers who held permits to employ 113 natives withdrew their contributions from the Fund. The average per native contributed for works out at 18s. 8d. Three hundred and fifty-eight employers who were granted permits to employ 1,133 natives did not make any contribution, rendering 33.3 per cent. employers and 30.9 per cent. natives not competent to receive benefits under the Fund. At the end of the year there was an amount of £61 5s. in contributions outstanding but most of this amount has since been accounted for by a reduction in the number of natives originally covered under permit and these adjustments were made prior to taking out the statement.

Claims Paid.—The summary affords an interesting comparison between the total amount of contributions received and claims paid at the various permit issuing centres.

In the majority of instances the contributions made in each district were more than sufficient to meet the claims received for sick natives in the same district but there were three districts where this did not obtain, viz., Port Hedland, Munja and Lake Grace.

However, this does not prove anything of great value for the scheme is a co-operative one for the whole State and the contribution was not fixed on a district basis.

Of 2,532 employed natives covered, only 306 entered hospital or had occasion to seek medical aid, representing 12 per cent. of the total.

Claims on behalf of these 306 cases were paid as under and the average per native has been given also:—

	£	s.	d.	=	£	s.	d.	
Doctors	..	56	5	0	=	0	3	8 per native.
Hospitals	..	896	18	8	=	2	18	7 " "
Sundries	..	16	17	0	=	0	1	1 " "
		<u>£970</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8</u>	=	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4 " "</u>

Since the close of the financial year other claims arising within the year amounting to £381 16s. 9d. have been included and were these all paid also claims would amount to £1,351 17s. 5d. which equals an average cost of £4 8s. 4d. per sick native.

The average individual cost for the total number of natives covered under the Fund works out at 7s. 8.34d. per native on the basis of claims actually paid but when the abovementioned adjustment is made the average rises to 10s. 8.14d.

At time of writing it is very difficult to arrive at the contingent amount of claims yet to be received on account of the year just closed but £250 is considered a conservative estimate.

The statement which indicates to whom claims have been paid is interesting and proves that the application of the Fund is not yet fully understood by doctors and hospitals not in close touch with the Department.

This is not accounted for by our omission to supply information as the British Medical Association (Perth Branch) approved of the scale of charges under the Fund and assisted by circularising every registered doctor throughout the State whether a member of the B.M.A. or not. Even doctors who are maintained by the State at towns in the North have failed to render accounts in many instances.

Hospitals, generally, more particularly those controlled by this Department, have not been remiss in rendering accounts against the Fund but in many instances committee hospitals in various districts have not rendered legitimate accounts. Here again it cannot be attributed to lack of information for the Department of Public Health fully explained in two circulars issued during the year, the manner in which accounts for treatment of natives were to be dealt with.

As is but natural a number of claims rendered against the Fund have been declined on the grounds that the natives were not covered by the Fund, their employers having failed to make a contribution, or that the sick natives were sent in by Missions or were indigent.

No record of the amount involved has been kept. In the former instance employers have been debited

and in the latter when rendered by Governmental or Governmentally assisted hospitals the accounts have been written off.

When this section of my report was compiled the balance in hand had been greatly reduced and the position was as under:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance in hand at end of year	..			1,239	9	4
Less—						
Claims paid and awaiting attention	..	381	16	9		
Estimate of claims still to be rendered, say	..	250	0	0		
				<u>631</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>9</u>
Estimated balance	..			<u>£607</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>7</u>

In view of the contingent liability the Fund carries for Workers' Compensation claims, a balance of £607 cannot be deemed unreasonable and I have no doubt that during the forthcoming year a greater number of claims will be rendered.

As is common with all Funds every claim cannot be rendered and met in the year in which it is incurred, and consequently a balance is inevitable, but this applies more particularly to our Fund which is State wide.

The Fund has only completed its first year and it is a little too early to arrive at any definite deductions, but there is nothing to suggest that the rate of contribution should be altered at present.

No administrative costs have been debited to the Fund.

General.—In previous years employers when taking out permits have applied to cover an approximate number of natives only, but with the institution of the Fund closer attention has been given to this matter and as a result the number of employees covered under permit has been reduced from 4,135 in 1936-37 to 3,665 in the current year 1937-38.

In many instances the reduction in the number of natives so covered has been queried and, although all cases have been adjusted for the year under review, many stations have been listed for inspection at a later date.

On the other hand the reporting of the illness of natives has led to increased vigilance in following up all cases where natives are employed with a view to seeing that permits have issued, and as a result the number of permits granted this year exceeded those issued during the previous year by 38 per cent.

It is noticeable that a greater number of cases of accidents sustained by natives have been reported. Some of these have been dealt with under the Workers' Compensation Act, 1912-1924, because the employers concerned were not contributors to the Natives' Medical Fund, a notable case being that of the loss of an eye in which the Department secured £300 compensation for the employee.

A total of 53 accidents was reported for the twelve months and in all these cases early medical attention was given.

While the incidence of illness among natives was not very marked during the past year, there is a possibility that, owing to employers being required by law to defray the cost of the transport of sick natives to hospital, only those who are seen to be seriously ill have been sent in for treatment.

It might be worth considering raising the contribution so as to permit the Fund to defray transport costs as well as medical expenses; there would then be no excuse for natives requiring medical attention not being sent in to a hospital or doctor.

During the year many minor problems raised by protectors and employers have been sympathetically dealt with, and at the close of the first year it may be said that the Fund has been successful and gives promise of being of great benefit to those concerned. It may also be said that the Fund seems to be appreciated by employers generally.

While it must be obvious that from the employers' viewpoint the Fund offers considerable advantages, an anomalous position arises so far as the natives are concerned. This will continue until the Fund becomes a statutory one as contemplated by the Act. As it is, while the native employees (and their dependants) of those employers who contribute to the Fund are provided for so far as medical attention and hospitalisation only are concerned, the employees of those who do not contribute to the Fund for whose medical attention the employer is responsible, are placed in a better position as regards compensation in addition. This should be rectified. If no compensation is to be paid it should be clearly so stated by legislative enactment. If, on the other hand, native workers are to receive any compensation at all, then all should be treated similarly. If the Fund becomes statutory, I think its term might be limited to a period, say, of five years because I feel sure that as time goes on the calls upon it to indemnify employers against payment of compensation will prove more than its resources can provide.

Meantime, the benefits which native employees and their dependants are deriving because of the existence of the Fund far exceeds any such provision made for them before its establishment.

NATIVE COURTS AND TRIALS.

Only one Native Court was held during the year. This Court sat at Marble Bar to hear a charge of murder. The Resident Magistrate presided and with him was Mr. J. Bisley, Officer-in-Charge of Port Hedland Native Hospital, who was nominated by myself. In view of the mitigating circumstances the prisoner, who was adjudged guilty of unlawfully killing, was sentenced to be banished to Moola Bulla Native Station, there to be detained during the Governor's pleasure.

Because of certain tribal repercussions likely to arise, I deemed it advisable to send the prisoner's wife and children with him for their own protection.

RELIEF.

The average number of natives rationed monthly throughout the year was 2,012, being 167 more than for the previous year. The cost of the rations supplied was £17,116 19s. 11d., being £1,673 17s. 11d. more than for the previous year. The meat ration was increased during the year which accounts for approximately £500 of this.

Of the increased numbers requiring relief, 95 were admissions to Moore River Native Settlement and these, of course, were not in a position to provide for themselves. The increase of indigents otherwise in the South-West only amounted to 20 while it was 52 elsewhere. Coolgardie and Laverton together

accounted for increases of 54, doubtless due to dry weather conditions.

The assertion made, therefore, that the Department's insistence upon the carrying out of the employment provisions of the Act has contributed to an increase in indigence is not borne out by fact.

The return at pages 28 and 29 supplies all relevant particulars in this connection.

My grateful thanks are once more due to the Lotteries Commission for the provision of a sum of £300 to be devoted to Christmas Cheer for the natives throughout. This is £100 more than in previous years. At 77 centres, therefore, natives received extras in the shape of food and gifts at Christmas which were kindly augmented by local residents who also assisted in its distribution. Acknowledgment is also due to the management of the Economic Stores and the proprietors of the "Daily News" for gifts of £5 5s. and £5, respectively, to be expended upon Christmas Cheer for the inmates of Moore River Native Settlement. This, added to the provision available from the Lotteries Commission donation and many gifts in kind, enabled the inmates of Moore River to have a royal time at Christmas, where also each year a Christmas tree is arranged for them by the staff.

EMPLOYMENT.

Permits to employ issued numbered 1,071, an increase of 406 as against the previous year while the number of natives employed thereunder decreased by 538. This apparent anomaly is due to the inauguration of the Medical Fund and puts the position more accurately than for years past. In the South-West 415 permits were issued for the employment of 660 natives as against 179 permits covering 309 employees in the previous year. The increase of 170 permits elsewhere in the State covered 187 fewer employees. In the past the general permits issued covered an approximate number of employees only and usually more than the actual number required. Now, where an employer contributes to the Medical Fund on account of each employee he sees to it that only the actual number of employees required is covered and that his permit is taken out accordingly. Another effect the Fund has had upon employment is seen in the increased number of permits issued—in other words the employment conditions of the Act are being observed.

At Head Office 55 engagements of girls in domestic service were finalised, most of these being girls trained at Moore River Native Settlement and the Girls' Home in Perth. There is still a far greater demand for these girls than we can supply, and sixty-eight girls are at the moment in service under the supervision of the Department. The boys were not quite so readily placed, though there was a fair demand for their services. However, 25 of these lads are now in constant work.

The return at page 30 supplies the usual particulars respecting the issue of permits and the number of natives employed thereunder.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

Thirty-five warrants under Section 12 were issued for the removal of 54 persons, 37 of whom were women and children destined for the Moore River Native Settlement. There were in addition nine children admitted from outside the South-West.

Twelve children were received from Kimberley Stations and placed at Moola Bulla, while 12 others, all half-caste of the first cross, were located during the year.

Our records now disclose that 84 marriages between whites and natives have taken place.

During the year a record was kept of the number of applications for the Maternity Allowance, and during that time out of 75 lodged 49 had been granted and 13 rejected, the balance being under consideration at the close of the year. The resolution of the Canberra Conference in this regard has not yet been given effect and I have heard no more of it, but we are assisting the Commonwealth Authorities as far as we are able in the interests of the native mothers.

One half-caste infant was with the mother's consent legally adopted by a white man and his wife.

In seven instances the maintenance of native children was arranged with the fathers.

No objection was raised to the marriage of 29 native women to native husbands, one male native to a quarter-caste woman, seven native women to white men. One appeal against my objection to a marriage between a native woman and a white man went against the Department.

The Children's Cottage Home, Queen's Park, received fourteen additional children from us during the year, making a total of sixty-eight sent in.

It has been stated that these children are mostly the offspring of our trained girls sent out to service and returned to us in trouble. Such a statement is hopelessly incorrect to say the least of it. The fact is that these children come mainly from pastoral stations and have been gathered in often with their mothers to give the little ones a better chance in life than their mothers have had. Amongst these are nine families having two to four children in each. There are only nineteen children who are the offspring of mothers who have been in service over a period of eight years, during which period these youngsters have been born. Now as there is an average of some seventy girls in service it can be seen how far from the truth have been the statements I have referred to.

The Department subsidises forty-nine of these inmates and ten are being supported by maintenance secured through the Department's efforts.

One hears talk of the great dearth of domestic labour and certainly judging by the demand for our native girls this would seem to be borne out. All that we can supply from Moore River are out earning their living and giving a good account of themselves. I am quite proud of them because they compare favourably with their white sisters in their capacity for work and good behaviour. The somewhat harsh assertions sometimes made by ill-informed people as to the character of our trained girls are not borne out by fact. Considering the temptations they survive and their own comparative unsophistication, there is little to cavil at in this respect. Generally speaking, their employers are kind, and some even indulgent, and take a keen personal interest in the girls. They enjoy regular holidays, and many of them are permitted to accompany their mistresses to the sea-side whenever the family takes holidays. Also under our system their wages are regularly collected and banked for their use and

enjoyment. Last year wages paid to account plus interest totalled something like £2,000, while withdrawals and investments represented nearly a like amount. While many of them draw all their earnings some are thrifty and content to save all they can for the future, or perhaps to purchase their trousseaux! Under the guidance of the ladies of the Department the girls dress well and tastefully and learn how to use their means to advantage.

As to the dearth of domestic labour, surely given the means and opportunity, this Department could supply the want to some extent. There are in our Southern native camps alone over three hundred girls between six and twenty-one years of age now on rations—let alone many others supported in a fashion by their parents—who might be turned to useful account. There is little future ahead of these as it is, except to emulate their mothers, and most of us knows what that means.

OFFENCES BY NATIVES.

There was some increase in the number of offences by natives, 178 being recorded as against 136 for the previous year. The reason for this is to be found in the number of charges due to the supply of liquor, there being 62 convictions owing to this cause.

Statement showing Offences by Natives.

Assault	5
Assisting escaping natives	3
Abseonding from an institution	4
Breaking and entering	1
Disorderly conduct	16
Drunkenness	21
Driving motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor	1
Driving an unlicensed motor vehicle	1
Entering prohibited areas	27
Escaping legal custody	4
Enticing a female from an institution	1
Found in a common gaming house	3
False pretences	1
Idle and disorderly	3
Murder	3
Possession of unlicensed dogs	1
Possession of unlicensed firearms	2
Receiving liquor	39
Resisting arrest	1
Stealing	31
Supplying liquor to other natives	1
Sheep killing	2
Unlawfully on licensed premises	2
Unlawful possession	2
Unsound mind	3
Total	178

OFFENCES AGAINST NATIVES.

There was likewise an increase in convictions for offences against natives, there being 39 as compared with 21 for the previous year. Several of the convictions were brought about through the provisions of the amended Act.

There were 6 convictions under Section 46 (sex offences) involving penalties ranging from a caution to £50 or 150 days. One was a third offence of a like nature. For supplying liquor there were eleven convictions with fines ranging from £20 or 60 days to £50 or 150 days. For employing natives without a permit nine persons were convicted.

CERTIFICATES OF EXEMPTION.

At present 87 persons are exempted from the provisions of the Native Administration Act. There

were six applications for exemption from the provisions of the Act under consideration at the close of the previous year, while 32 have since been received, making a total of 38 to be dealt with. Of these, 15 were granted and 3 were not recommended, 17 were pending, and the balance not proceeded with. Only one was cancelled. Of the 94 persons in all who have been exempted seven have died in recent years.

When the Native Administration Act became law it was contemplated that the privilege of exemption would be extended and such has been the case. There is a danger, however, of this going too far due to the efforts of well intentioned persons who would like to see exemption extended, to my mind, beyond the point of reason and commonsense. Applications so prompted are received from natives quite unfitted to be exempted and because I feel that exemption would do no good in such cases I find myself compelled to recommend accordingly. The onus falls upon me because the native feels aggrieved, when he ought never to have been induced to apply. Then there are some few natives who scorn to even apply for or accept exemption because they claim, and it is a doubtful claim usually, that they have already qualified to live as whites and the suggestion that they should be granted the privilege is felt to be an insult! Without exemption, however, they still come under the Native Administration Act whether they like it or not and when its provisions have perforce to be applied they resent it—but that is surely no fault of mine. Again it does not occur to some natives that they are much better off as natives than they could ever be attempting to live up to white standards to which they could never attain. I have referred to a possible legal remedy in my remarks under the section in this Report dealing with the suggested amendments to the Native Administration Act.

Exemption should be a valued privilege granted only to the really deserving, prepared to live according to decent white standards—but when once granted it should bestow upon the recipient all the benefits we ourselves enjoy as citizens of the State. It should also carry the obligations such citizenship entails.

It is of interest to note that because they could not attain to white standards three quadroons were declared during the year to be natives. This was at their own request.

RECOGNISANCES.

Permission was granted under Section 9 of the Native Administration Act to remove 42 natives from one part of the State to another. Bonds for the return of these natives were entered into in every case and 10 were finalised before the end of the year. One girl was taken by her mistress to England and is still there. She has written me a glowing account of her experiences.

DEPARTMENTAL STATIONS, SETTLEMENTS AND HOMES.

Capital expenditure is required in many directions and, while I appreciate the difficulty in arranging the necessary financial provision, I am nevertheless bound to point out what in my opinion is needed. I have for years pointed the way, but I do not control the means, and can do no more than persistently show where provision is most necessary, and existing conditions are most adversely affecting the people. The

plea for the supply of bedrock necessities has completely eliminated any possibility of claims being put forward for assistance which could by any stretch of imagination be termed frivolous.

It was announced towards the close of the financial year that the Government intended to resume the old Carrolup Native Settlement which lies between Katanning and Kojonup. The resumption of approximately 5,000 acres of the original area was thereafter immediately proceeded with. After much time and trouble expended in investigating alternatives, the conviction was borne upon us that this was the best possible proposition offering. Carrolup was first established in 1917; it was abolished in 1922. The total area of the reserve was then some 10,000 acres. The substantial stone buildings which had been completed at date of abandonment are still standing, and most of them have been fairly well preserved.

Since this Settlement was abandoned in 1922 the native population of the Southern Districts has practically doubled. It is obvious, therefore, that one such settlement cannot cater adequately for the needs of the people requiring to be accommodated throughout that area. In addition the old tribal instincts and boundary limitations are still in the minds of the people to the extent that those in certain areas will not willingly enter an institution situated outside what they consider the limits of their particular district. I have therefore urged that plans be formulated for another place to be situated somewhere in the Eastern Districts, and so situated as to assist the native inhabitants of towns adjacent to the goldfields railway east to Southern Cross, and southwards to Quairading and Brookton. To this end inquiries were instituted with the object of securing such a site, but so far no success has been attained. With two properly equipped settlements thus strategically placed to cater for the Southern districts, seconded by the Gnowangerup Mission for the South-East, and a few native schools here and there, the people could be reasonably well catered for. While funds for the reconditioning of Carrolup will be forthcoming, the balance of the programme outlined implies the necessity of additional financial provision being made to carry it out.

The successful working of the junior house and kindergarten at Moore River Native Settlement, officially opened by the Hon. Chief Secretary on December 11 last, has confirmed my view of the advantages of this type of training centre for native children, but there should now follow the founding of a middle school on similar lines. Given new staff quarters so urgently needed, this could be arranged. It cannot be to the best interests of the ex-kindergarteners to have to pass into the mixed dormitories and dining rooms where all and sundry have to be catered for, none of whom have had the advantage of the early training such as is provided in the junior block. Retrogression is therefore possible and should be avoided at all costs.

The Trustees of the Jubilee Appeal for Youth and Motherhood allowed us the sum of £100 towards the fitting up of the infants' quarters and the Lotteries Commission provided a minipiano. From the Principal of the Kindergarten Union of Perth very excellent advice and assistance was rendered.

The white staff at Moore River are very indifferently accommodated, and more consideration should be

given to the comfort of a small but hard-working unit so disadvantageously placed as regards the amenities of life generally available to hospital and similar staffs elsewhere.

The funds provided for the initial establishment of the new village at Moore River enabled me to provide six cottages, a cookhouse and a recreation room for men and boys. The cottages were suitably furnished by the Department and allotted to deserving inmates on condition that cleanliness and care should be the deciding factor as regards their continued occupation. I am glad to say my faith in the people to adequately fulfil these conditions has been fully justified. Gardens and dividing fences are already in evidence, showing that the people are prepared to help in making the village what I hope it may become. Kind friends helped me to furnish the recreation room, and I specially wish to mention the Ladies' Auxiliary of Subiaco 'Toe H, which provided most of the games and amusements. This activity is governed by a committee of inmates under the presidency of the Superintendent, and so interested are its members in its welfare that they have made a voluntary monthly levy upon their meagre wages with which to establish a fund for the provision of additional things of this kind.

The provision of a further series of cottages for the native inmates of the Settlement is essential.

Funds were provided by the Lotteries Commission for the duplication of the electric lighting plant and this enabled all the recent additions, including the new cottages, to be connected up.

Moola Bulla Native Station is fast assuming an institutional character due to the compulsory accommodation there of increasing numbers of half-caste children. It was in 1929 that we first appointed a school teacher for the twenty-four children then present. To-day we have sixty-one youngsters to care for and a number of others have yet to be brought in. At this rate there must soon be a hundred children there. To accommodate these additional buildings are urgently necessary. Urgent representations have been made to the Government, plans prepared for dormitories, etc., and I am in hopes of being able to proceed with the matter during the coming season.

The Department has long recognised that the moral and spiritual training of youngsters should go hand in hand with secular training, and established many years ago the principle of having accredited missionaries stationed at its settlements. There has always been one at Moore River, and while Carrolup was in being the same system prevailed. Long ago a promise was given to the Presbyterian Church authorities that should we ever establish a missionary at Moola Bulla, that Church should receive the first opportunity of supplying one. This culminated in June last in an agreement being entered into between the Department and the Board of Missions of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in Melbourne to send someone to fill this office. It was agreed that a minister and his wife should be stationed there and that the entire charge of the spiritual side should be placed in the minister's hands, the Church also undertaking that he and his wife would take charge of the school. It is hoped that before this report is published finality will be reached in this matter.

Since we established our experimental flock at Moola Bulla Native Station there has been a progressive increase in the wool yield per head of sheep

shorn. From an average of 5.64 lbs. in 1934 the increase has grown to 7.04 lbs. in 1938. The average price secured this season, however, was only 9.13 pence per lb. as against 15.5 pence last season. In spite of drought losses we regard our experiment in sheep husbandry as quite a success and capable of considerable expansion.

The Ruston Proctor steam engine used for pumping, saw milling, etc., at the Head Station supplied in 1926 having become worn out and dangerous, another reconditioned engine of the same type was supplied. The old engine was secondhand when we got it and can therefore be said to have performed excellent service.

The peanut market seems to be glutted and the Munja crop has been difficult to dispose of. Queensland nuts seem to be preferred to those grown in the north of this State or even the Northern Territory, though it is not easy to appreciate the reason why.

At Port Hedland Native Hospital, thanks to a grant from the Lotteries Commission supplemented by funds from the Treasury an electric lighting plant has been installed. The Lotteries Commission also presented us with an operating table and a complete set of stainless steel surgical instruments—most acceptable gifts.

A plan and an estimate of a new homestead for Violet Valley have been prepared, and it is hoped likewise that the new building will shortly take the place of the ramshackle, ant-eaten structure at present serving as a home for our representative and his wife at that place.

The Native Girls' Home, East Perth, is proving of immense value in the care of our girls in training and service, and a home twice its size would not be too big for our purpose. I am in hopes of seeing this accomplished before long.

Moola Bulla Native Station, East Kimberley.—A statement of receipts and payments and other statistical returns will be found at page 31.

While the payments exceed the receipts by £925 13s. 2d. the favourable balance between debtor and creditor accounts indicated a surplus for the year of £1,542 2s. 11d.

The steady depreciation of book values is not in my opinion a true indication of the worth of the assets and I consider that a complete revaluation should be made. The statement clearly shows the property to be much undervalued.

Mr. A. T. Woodland, J.P., Manager, reports:—

The average number of native men, women and children was 189 per month. Of these, sixty-six are working and forty going to school. There are forty-eight other than full-bloods, twenty-four boys and twenty-four girls. Of these twelve are working.

The general health of the natives has been very good.

Season.—The season has been a bad one, the rainfall at the homestead being 1,273 points as against 2,268 points the previous year. No winter rains fell at all and the wet was spread, with light gaugings. The position for feed is reasonably fair and the water position is not as bad as it was last year. Most successful steps have been taken during the year to improve supplies.

Herd cattle.—On the 1st of July, 1937, these numbered 16,462. Brandings are 2,212 to date and still not finished. Cattle sent to Works 674, killed for Station beef 98, killed for indigents 136, killed for stock camp 55, making a total of 1,038; 2,920 have been written off for mortality, leaving a balance of 15,094 at the end of June, 1938. The cattle sent to the Wyndham Meat-

works averaged 616.31 lbs. and the percentage freezers was 69.55 per cent.

Sheep.—The flock numbered 1,834, including 16 rams, at 1st July, 1937. Deaths from various causes to the end of December were very heavy, being 15.9 per cent. ewes, 86.5 per cent. male lambs, 100 per cent. female lambs, and 100 per cent. female hoggets, the total loss being 23.3 per cent. A further loss of 54 wethers and three rams has occurred to date. Since November the ewes have been closely watched by natives camped in the paddock and poison has been laid with the object of dealing with the dogs, eagles and crows. I expect to have a good marking of lambs this year and am deferring this to allow them to get strong enough to stand it. At present the flock is made up of 784 ewes, 553 wethers, and 13 rams, a total of 1,350.

Wool.—The clip this season including rams totalled 9,509 lbs. from the 1,350 shorn; average per sheep was 7.04 lbs.

Goats.—At 1st July, 1937, these numbered 272. There was an increase of 119. Sixteen were killed for rations and 15 died. The number on hand now is 360.

Mules.—The bang tail muster disclosed only two mules on hand.

Donkeys.—No change in these; 172 as at 30th June, 1937.

Horses.—At 30th June, 1937, these numbered 381; brandings for the year were 31, purchases 36, making a total of 438. Ten were sold. In my last report I pointed out that losses among horses had been severe and that exact figures could not be supplied until a bang tail muster had been held. This has just been completed and losses determined. The total is now 333, deaths being 105; this latter figure really covers deaths spread over a number of years.

School.—There are 46 children on the school roll, 25 girls and 21 boys. Of the girls, 6 are full-bloods, and 19 other than full-blood. There are 6 full-blood boys and 15 other than full-blood. The school room is overcrowded. Eleven additional children have joined the classes during the year.

Clinic.—The confidence of the natives in the clinic has been established. Altogether 169 cases have been treated during the year. Several lying-in cases have been sent to the Native Hospital at Wyndham and the A.L.M. Nursing Home at Hall's Creek.

Improvements.—A new and more commodious beef house has been erected on higher ground; a shade for the half-blood girls has been built, the garage re-erected on another site, the stock camp headquarters rebuilt on another location, the lavatory accommodation and drainage improved. New heads on windmills have been installed at the Nine Mile and Sheppards Well. One hundred and twenty feet of new cattle troughing has been erected at the Five-Mile, serving the four paddocks there. At Broken Dam a new bore has been equipped with mill tanks and troughing. At Ra Roy a new supply has been located a short distance away from the old site to which the mill tanks and troughing have been moved, this involving the erection of a mile of new fence. The troughing at Sheppards Well has been reconditioned and arranged to advantage.

Station Water Supply.—The pumping arrangements for the homestead domestic supply, garden and the four paddocks fed from it have been a source of considerable anxiety and I am pleased to know that the present plant will be replaced forthwith. For a considerable time the pumping arrangements have been improvised.

Transport.—Tenders were again called, resulting in the same contractor securing the two-year loading contract commencing in April last. The accepted rate was ten shillings lower per ton than last year, with all back-loading free.

Employees.—Ten permanent hands have been employed during the year including teacher and nurse and musterers' cook for a time.

Tannery.—This has been carried on by the natives under supervision. Leather to the value of £45 has been sold and two hundred and twenty-five salted hides sent to London.

Station oversight.—For the period July the 1st to November the 11th, Mr. H. W. Hall acted as Acting Overseer during my absence on inspection duties. From November the 12th to April 2nd Mr. H. Reid, Manager

of Munja Native Station, directed the Station's activities as Acting Manager. I returned to the Station in mid-April.

Munja Native Station, North-West Kimberley.—A statement of receipts and expenditure shows that the cash deficiency amounted to £1,573 13s. 10d. for the year. This added to the difference between sundry creditors and debtors made a loss of £2,336 14s. 3d., being £362 15s. 5d. less than during the previous year. Of the creditors £647 2s. was owing to Moola Bulla Station for stock. Under existing conditions this station cannot become self-supporting.

Mr. Harold Reid, Manager, reports as follows:—

Natives.—The health of the natives, generally, has been good. The Medical Inspector, Dr. Davis, visited Munja and you have the details of natives examined by him. With the exception of a few granuloma patients, who are all responding to treatment, there has been very little sickness.

Had two deaths on the Station, one an old man of senile decay and one a young babe with abscess on the brain. The addition to our staff of a trained nurse is going to be of considerable benefit to the natives; it does not matter how willing an untrained person may be or how much experience such an one may have had, he certainly cannot do as much for a sick person as a nurse trained in medical affairs. The natives on Munja are good and willing workers, although they do not come in in such numbers as they formerly did. This is due to their fear of being medically examined and sent to Derby or Broome for treatment. They fear being proclaimed lepers, which disease they refer to as "lump-sickness." I tried to get at their line of thought in this matter and an intelligent native gave me the following explanation: "Blackfellow get lump-sick boss send him hospital, can't come back, lose country, wife and pieceminny belong him, got nothing, finish." A native's outlook is purely personal. Perhaps future generations, as they become more civilised may be trained to consider the community welfare as well as their own side of things.

I would like to remark on the good behaviour of the natives in this area for the past twelve months.

Agriculture.—Land ploughed and cultivated approximately 40 acres. The rainfall this year was insufficient for needs and all crops suffered accordingly.

Peanuts.—Approximately 35 acres planted, of which 14 acres gave no return as there was not sufficient rain in the growing period for the plants to develop. The remaining 21 acres produced a light crop. Three hundred and forty-four bags of nuts were harvested; of these 224 bags, weight 6 tons 6 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lbs., have gone forward to market; 85 bags, approximate weight 2 1/3 tons, yet to go and 35 bags retained for seed.

Maize.—An experiment was made with this crop, but it was a failure.

Cow-pea.—A fair crop of cow-peas was grown and 5 cwts. of peas stored for native food. There was an abnormal growth of weeds this year, as often is the case in light seasons. This to a certain extent also affected the quantity of products harvested.

Vegetable Garden.—The garden this year was late owing to the first parcel of seed failing to germinate. However, there is now a splendid garden containing tomatoes, 200 plants cauliflowers, cabbage, over 1,000 head, several large beds of silver beet, beetroot, raddish, turnips and sweets, kohlrabi, carrots, cucumbers, eschallots, egg-fruit, pumpkins, iron bark and bugle, watermelon, rockmelons, beans (snake, red climber and butter) and a number of young paw-paw trees coming on. Most of the vegetables grown are used by the natives. Bananas, pineapples and one mango tree are also growing at spring 1 1/2 miles from Station.

Stock.—Stock of all kinds got a bad doing at the end of last season and the mortality was heavy. This was also a bad year for cancer and there were several deaths amongst the horses. Six head of horses also failed to turn up in the muster. The cattle muster is not yet completed, 140 calves being branded to date. Munja has been working short-handed for some time and all repairs to improvements not yet completed, but yards, fences, etc., are in fair working order.

Improvements.—A new machinery shed has been erected. This is a good building and a credit to the carpenter who did the job. This building was badly needed on Munja and has already partly paid for itself, inasmuch as we were able to use it to house peanuts during the unseasonable rain experienced this year. Approximately 15 acres of nuts were dug and drying in the field when the rain threatened. All hands worked hard and got them into the shed just as the rain started. I estimate that having this shelter saved approximately £200 worth of peanuts.

General Remarks.—I omitted to mention that 96 head of male cattle were killed on the station this year, the whole of this beef, less that consumed by 5 whites and 3 children, being issued for native requirements. The natives burned out the country hunting kangaroos in the vicinity of the Station towards the end of last year; in consequence horses and stock had to travel for feed to keep them alive. There are only two foals left to brand after our bad year and one of these motherless. We are very short of horses at present, not having sufficient to work the Station properly. This of course means that those we have are overworked to a certain extent, and suffer accordingly. All properties have suffered heavy losses during the last few bad years and Munja has been no exception.

Violet Valley Native Station, East Kimberley.—Mr. A. T. Woodland, supervising this Station, reports as follows:—

Natives.—The average per month in the bush camp has been 50, and 18 are employed doing stock and other work about the Station. The health of the natives generally has been good.

Season.—This has only been fair. From the 1st November to the end of April we had 1,512 points of rain. The feed and water at the present is good, but we will be short of water at the end of year.

Cattle.—At the 30th June, 1937, these numbered 564 and 52 were purchased from Moola Bulla; 151 were branded, making a total of 767; killed for rations 64 and 101 were written off for mortality, leaving a balance of 602 at 30th June, 1938.

The cattle at present are in good condition.

Horses.—At the 30th June, 1937, these numbered 169, 27 were branded during the year, making a total of 196; 36 were sold to Moola Bulla and 28 written off as dead, leaving a balance of 130 at 30th June, 1938. These are all in good condition.

Mules.—These number 2, the same as last year.

Goats.—These are in full milk and supplying ample milk and cream for butter.

Moore River Native Settlement, Midlands District.—Mr. A. J. Neal, J.P., Superintendent, reports as follows:—

Health.—The health of the inmates of this Settlement has been good, with the exception of a small outbreak of chicken pox which was very quickly got under control. The worst other cases have been colds and other slight ailments.

Water.—This supply is permanent and there is plenty of it. We have now had several dry years in succession and the supply in the well has not gone down one inch. I consider there is abundance of water for all time.

Native Village.—The whole of the new buildings are now occupied.

At first the natives were not keen to take up residence in them, owing to certain regulations with which they had to comply before they could take over a cottage. That feeling very quickly faded out and now they are all clamouring for a cottage. As time goes on more cottages will be built and all natives housed in them, and the old and unsightly shacks will disappear for all time.

The new kitchen is a very up-to-date affair fully equipped. Water is laid on from the main storage supply. A pipeline is laid down along the back of each row of buildings, and there is a stand pipe for every two buildings. Electric light has been installed. There are two lights in each cottage, and also a light at each end of the street.

A double row of Marlock trees have been planted on either side of the main road. In a few years' time when the trees get up, this should be a very picturesque village.

Pines.—I have now sixty thousand pines growing. These range from 40 feet high down to this year's planting. This country appears very suitable for the growing of pines.

Kindergarten.—This is a very up-to-date building with an overall length of 125 feet. It comprises a dormitory for children under six years of age, each with a separate cot. It is a kindergarten room equipped second to none in the State. It is under the control of Miss J. Marshall, a very efficient trained teacher. Miss Marshall took over and opened the kindergarten on the 11th January and the results up to date are really wonderful, and I consider would compare very favourably with any kindergarten in the State.

There is also a domestic science room well fitted out where all the food for the little ones is prepared and cooked under the supervision of a member of the white staff. There is also a manual training room under the same roof set up with a full range of carpenters' tools.

This building, especially the kindergarten portion, has filled a long-felt want, and is in my opinion the foundation of a new start of the native problem. If this scheme is extended to other parts of the State and suitable carry on arranged, and the money provided, in the next decade the native problem should be well in hand.

School.—This branch of the Settlement is far from satisfactory and should be re-organised. Buildings are very unsatisfactory for the work that has to be done. I consider a male teacher should be provided, one capable of teaching manual work.

Sports.—Cricket and football in season. Also sports of various kinds. There have been several visits from teams outside coming in to play our boys. Our boys have won every game except one.

Milk.—There has been a plentiful supply of milk during the year.

Farm.—This is situated 10 miles from the Settlement. I had a good crop of hay of about two tons per acre. I have a stack of hay about 35 tons carry over. This is always handy in case of a bad season. There was a good supply of vegetables grown and consumed by the inmates. Fences were repaired after a bush fire had swept through the country. I brought another piece of summer ground into use, but owing to not being able to get rabbit netting to enclose same, I lost thousands of cabbage, cauliflower and other vegetable plants.

Christmas.—We had the usual Christmas Tree on the 19th December. This was well patronised, as you can imagine. There was a huge tree laden with all sorts of toys for the little ones, and more useful articles for the adults. Christmas dinner was a great event. This consisted of roast meats, pickles, sauces, fruit, puddings, sweets, and soft drinks to satisfy the most exacting.

Births, from July 1st, 1937, to 30th June, 1938, **Deaths** and **Marriages.**—Births, 26; Deaths, 6; Marriages, 15.

Native Girls' Home, Perth.—The Matron, Sister Wilkinson, reports as follows:—

The number of girls and children accommodated in the Home during the year shows an increase of 107 more than last year. At times the accommodation has been severely over-taxed, the dormitory and dining room need enlarging to cope with the increasing number.

The girls return from time to time for holidays, and it is remarkable how they improve after they have been out to work for a little while, not only in their behaviour but in their style of dressing, some showing quite good taste. The Native Pass System has only been resented by one girl since it has been in operation but the system has stopped the undesirable native men and boys from hanging around the Home, and bothering the girls.

There are fewer complaints regarding the white men molesting the girls in the streets.

Many of the girls' employers come here and in nearly every case I hear good reports. I have seen some of the white children cry bitterly when a girl is left here for her holiday, which speaks for itself.

During the year 356 girls and children were accommodated, 10,313 meals served and 3,523 beds used.

Trainees.—A number of girls have been trained as in previous years and sent to domestic work and given satisfaction. The school girl attending East Perth School is showing marked ability and good reports are given regarding her studies and behaviour.

Medical.—Very few girls have needed medical attention; their health on the whole is good. A record number attended the dental clinic for extractions and dentures.

Religious Services.—The girls attend Church regularly.

Entertainment.—The Charities Christmas Cheer and extras from the Department enabled us to have several picnics and parties during the holidays. The seventh picnic was a great success. Miss Simpson arranged a picnic by car to Como and a picture show in the City. Sister Dorothy arranged a river trip for the New Year. Frequent visits are made to the nearby picture palace.

Conduct.—Good.

Gifts.—On behalf of the girls I wish to thank Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Whittaker, Mrs. Carlisle, Mrs. Neal and Mr. Burnell for fruit. Mr. McLeod, lawnmower and flowers. Miss Simpson, china and picnics. Mrs. Clements and Miss Campbell, books. Sisters of the East Perth Rectory for parties and gifts at Christmas and the Department for all the extras during the year.

Buildings.—Repairs have been done from time to time and a new lavatory attached to the sewer system has been built.

La Grange Bay Feeding Depot.—Mr. E. Lockett, the Officer-in-Charge, reports as follows:—

Attendance.—The average weekly attendance at this Station for the past year was, adults 40, children 3. This number is considerably less than in former years.

Health of Natives.—One rather serious outbreak of influenza occurred early in this year which resulted in the death of two aged natives. Very few natives in the district escaped this epidemic. There was also one case of tonsillitis at about the same period. Other cases attended to were burns, sore eyes, bites, cuts, headaches. Three natives are suffering with cataracts and are partially blind. One aged native was removed to the Broome Native Hospital where he died very shortly after admission. There have been four deaths at this Station during the year, all aged natives. Mrs. Lockett has always attended to all cases of sickness and has done much work in this connection.

The Medical Inspector, Dr. A. P. Davis, has paid us several visits, but no serious cases of sickness were found.

General Remarks.—The conduct of the natives has been good throughout and all have shown themselves willing to help when required.

Stock.—An additional 100 goats were purchased during the year. The number of goats on hand at June 30th was 188. This does not include the new season's kids.

Meat Supply.—Except for the purchase of 20 sheep last November, the goat herd has supplied all our requirements. Two or three goats are killed each week.

Vegetable Garden.—The garden is only fair this year as pests have been very bad. Three lemon and three orange trees have been planted and these have taken well. Two dozen banana suckers were obtained from Carnarvon and these are making very good progress. One mango tree is making headway and some paw-paws have been planted. A plot of lucerne is coming on well.

Improvements.—During the past year a considerable number of improvements have been carried out. A 6-ft. Southern Cross windmill on a 25-ft. tower was erected over the well. This mill serves a 1,000 gallon tank on a 9-ft. jarrah tank stand. Water is laid on from this tank to the house, the kitchen and bathroom being served. There is also a tap in the garden. The tank stand is enclosed as a shower room and has a concrete floor, the floor from the old bathroom having

been lifted in sections and relaid. The well was timbered during the year, this particular work being done by a local contractor.

At the house a 2,000-gallon rainwater tank was installed. This tank is mounted on a 4-ft. stone stand and has a tap in the kitchen as well as one outside. In the quarters a fly-proof sleep-out was enclosed on the front verandah, the remainder of this verandah being enclosed to a height of two feet. All verandahs are fitted with canvas blinds. The kitchen was made considerably larger and a large shutter built on one side. A sink was also fitted. Next to the kitchen, on the same verandah, a fly-proof dining room was made. This was done by enclosing the verandah with weather boards and fly-netting. A portion of the inside store room is now utilised as a bathroom, it having a plunge bath and a shower.

Outside a new store room was built of jarrah and iron, the measurements of the floor being 12 ft. x 12 ft. This building is erected on 1-ft. studs.

A bush fence has been erected around part of the garden to break the easterly winds.

The goat yard has been made much larger and the trough moved into the yard. A large bough shed was built over the trough.

In conclusion we would like to thank the Department for making possible all the improvements carried out during the year. The installation of an Electrolux kerosene operated refrigerator was greatly appreciated.

Karonie Native Feeding Depot.—Mr. A. J. Carlisle, Officer-in-Charge, reports:—

I have the honour to submit a report on the operations of the Karonie rationing depot for the year ending 30th June, 1938, together with the field work which is necessary in the more remote portions of my district.

The number of natives receiving sustenance at Karonie during the last year has been exceptionally large. This is in some degree accounted for by the addition of the coast natives from Eyre, which were brought here in May, 1937, and have remained here ever since. Incidentally all of these who are eligible and able are working under permit to various employers in the immediate vicinity.

The number rationed weekly during the year has approximated 100 with a maximum of 178.

Employment has been a little above normal throughout the district and employers have, generally speaking, observed the law pertaining to the employment of natives in a commendable manner.

Improvements.—I did not consider it judicious to advocate the addition of improvements to any great extent as the removal of our Depot to a more suitable site was contemplated. However, one small building was erected and the necessary wood and iron for the purpose promptly supplied by the Department.

Health.—Regarding sickness, we have fortunately escaped anything in the nature of an epidemic. Amongst such a large number of natives it is only to be expected there will be cases of sickness, but these were isolated and principally dealt with by ourselves and a few extreme cases taken to Hospital in Kalgoorlie. Extraction of teeth has been effected at the Depot as we have been supplied with a really first class set of dental forceps for use in cases of need.

There were only two deaths during the period under review, one baby and one old man.

General.—Travelling excursions sometimes involving several hundreds of miles have been undertaken during the year, resulting in a first hand knowledge of the conditions under which natives live or are being employed throughout the district. It is also of value that these isolated natives should be visited and have some practical assurance that their guardians and Protectors have their welfare at heart and cater for them in every conceivable and possible way for there are some who would endeavour to delude them to an opposite belief.

Blankets and clothing have been supplied in sufficient quantities to permit of all necessitous cases being supplied. In regard to the clothing it is greatly appreciated by these simple folk that some of their own tribe or colour are largely instrumental in the manufacture of the garments they wear, which in their opinion enhances their value. Rations according to the usual scale are

given them. Meat is purchased from butcher and is cooked for them in the form of stews, for which purpose the Department has provided large quantities of two different appetising and nutritious cereals. This, I think, is an innovation but was readily acceded to at my suggestion and is proving a highly appreciated and valuable addition to the ordinary ration.

Water has also to be purchased here, which is a further unavoidable expense.

MISSIONS.

In addition to supplying the usual statistical information to be found at pages 33 to 35 reports of their doings have been received from four mission institutions. Extracts from these follow, and as in the case of reports of the officers of our own institutions I regret that lack of space prevents my including them in full.

Consequent upon the decision arrived at and referred to in my last year's report, that the proposal to transfer the Forrest River Mission to the Nulla Nulla site was not to be proceeded with, the Mission Authorities desired to terminate the arrangement covering the acquisition of the cattle then running on that country. It was consequently arranged that my Department should take over this stock and despatch it to Munja Station in North-West Kimberley. This has now been effected, the drover safely delivering 868 head. I think it is a matter of regret that the Mission has lost this opportunity of acquiring this cattle.

Another arrangement between the Government and a Mission was abrogated. In 1933 the United Aborigines' Mission Authorities were granted the use of a reserve of 122,400 acres on the mainland on the North-Eastern shore of King Sound, and the Mission formerly domiciled at Sunday Island was transferred thereto. The actual site chosen was unfortunately near Yampi Sound, and as matters turned out, most unsuitably placed. The missionaries themselves chose the site for the mission, and it was not that which was suggested by the Department. When activities at Yampi Sound bid fair to assume considerable proportions, and following certain recommendations by an officer of the Surveyor General's Department, and conferences between the Mission Authorities, the Under Secretary for Lands and myself, it was deemed advisable in February last to give the United Aborigines' Mission Council six months' notice of the termination of the lease of the mainland reserve. However, the Mission had made little progress up to that point, and since then it has been decided by the Council to re-occupy the old site on Sunday Island. The position is not altogether satisfactory from the Department's point of view, and further investigations are to be made.

I have elsewhere mentioned the arrangement with the Presbyterian Church in respect to placing a missionary at Moola Bulla Station.

Two inmates of the United Aborigines' Mission at Gnowangerup achieved fame during the year! Under the auspices of the Victorian Uplift Society a competition known as the "John Batman Aboriginal Child Essay" was announced, and out of 136 entrants from all over Australia the winners were Maisie Loo, aged 10, and Bertie Coyne, aged 14, who each received a very handsome silver cup. Both are pupils of the Gnowangerup Mission School. The essays, which referred to H.M. Queen Elizabeth and the Princesses, were forwarded to His Majesty the King, and were duly acknowledged with the intimation that His

Majesty appreciated the expressions of loyalty to which the essays gave expression.

The Rev. J. R. B. Love, Superintendent of Kunmunya (Presbyterian) Mission, writes:—

Native Population.—One full-blood birth and two full-blood deaths took place. The number under Mission influence remains about 250, with a weekly average at the homestead of about 100.

Health.—Granuloma is serious. Leprosy is alarming. There are two men here at present who are certified lepers and several others who would, I think, prove to be lepers if tested. It is difficult to get these sufferers to hospital for treatment. They fear the hospital and as long as they can hunt for their food in the bush they will not willingly forgo their freedom.

A cause for much gratitude, however, is the recent establishment of a Government Native Hospital in Broome. Patients who have been there and returned to Kunmunya speak well of their treatment and it is to be hoped that the more serious diseases may gradually be cleared by sending to this hospital.

Epidemics of colds are annual and disastrous.

Boils are epidemic and cause much suffering and disability. Sore eyes usually yield to treatment at the Mission. An unusual complaint at present is that of a man badly mauled by a crocodile. He was brought to the Mission and is recovering. Toothache is not unknown and one extraction has been made since my return.

Financial.—The statement of receipts and expenditure is forwarded separately. It shows a total receipt of £1,316 12s. 9d. for the year. Liabilities exceed that amount by £59 5s. This amount of £59 5s. is now covered by produce—peanuts, beche-de-mer and tortoise shell sent for sale, proceeds not yet to hand, so I can report that the Mission is solvent.

Industry.—Agriculture has produced 2 tons peanuts for sale, in excess of a store kept for food for our people; a good crop of sweet potatoes, which are now proving valuable in the feeding arrangements; fair crops of Egyptian and Madras durra for meal for porridge; very good supplies of plantain bananas for food, giving a substantial fruit ration for almost all the year; a few sugar bananas, mostly devoted to staff use; a poor crop of pineapples this year; cabbages, tomatoes and the usual garden vegetables for kitchen use in the cooler months; melons and pumpkins were destroyed by beetles.

The lugger "Watt-Leggatt" has continued to give fine service under the able command of Alfred Brown (half-caste skipper), supplying the needs of the Mission as well as those of several of our neighbours, notably the Government Native Station of Munja, our next neighbour, Mr. Merry of Sale River Station, and several casual beachcombers.

The expenses of the "Watt-Leggatt" amounted to £308 14s. 4d. and her earnings to £385 12s. 9d. The old lugger, "W. S. Rolland" went to pieces during the year and was replaced by the purchase of the lugger "Eagle" from Messrs. Robison and Norman of Broome. At the suggestion of the Board this new lugger is to be named the "Balfour Matthew," honouring Mr. H. R. Balfour who is such a sterling friend of Kunmunya and Rev. H. C. Matthew, our much loved secretary. This new boat was purchased by consent of the Board from the boat repair and renewal fund, without making any fresh demand on our Church people for donations. She has been in commission since the wet season this year. So far her finances show earnings of £30 16s. 3d. and expenses £70.

School.—There are 16 full-blood children attending the school and also the families of Alfred and Harry (half-castes on the staff). School is taught in the mornings by Mrs. MacDougall and has a great influence in the building up of the characters of the children. Mrs. MacDougall has also led packs of "Cubs" and "Brownies" which are keenly enjoyed by the children and have a very good influence.

Care of the Sick.—Is a daily duty and is rewarded by a good measure of success. This involves feeding the patients, a heavy obligation that falls to the Mission, and one that is costly. For the medicines that we

have used we have to thank very heartily the ladies of the P.W.M.U. again for their generosity in sending up cases of goods at Christmas time.

I think we may feel that the work of the Church is going on at Kunmunya happily and prosperously. In the spiritual realm we may all thankfully acknowledge the blessing of God on this enterprise of the Church.

The Rev. Father Huegel, Superior of Beagle Bay Mission writes:—

On receipt of your letter re 502/38 I am forwarding the enclosed annual return and at your request I add a report on the operations of this Mission for the benefit of the natives here.

The number of the population has kept much the same in spite of a comparatively high number of people coming or leaving the place.

The general health of the natives has been good. Re leprosy, this place has improved considerably. Since 30th June of last year only one positive case has developed, a half-blood boy of 11 years. This great change is due to the untiring efforts of Drs., Mrs. and Mr. Betz who have devoted their services to this Mission for 20 months and have tried by every means to banish this terrible disease from Beagle Bay as well as from Lombadina. When leaving last year in August there were only nine more or less suspicious persons left of whom only the abovementioned case has become positive. We, therefore, deeply regret that both doctors had to leave on account of ill health of Dr. Betz. All the more we appreciate the arrangement of the Health Department to have the Medical Officer of Broome visit our Mission every second month. Since November last year the present doctor has paid these visits regularly. On this occasion I wish to express my deep gratitude to Dr. Wallace who spared neither pains nor time to look after the health of the big population of our place. I was very pleased to be assured by him on his two last visits that the state of health of the natives here is satisfactory and leprosy is almost extinct.

Regarding the conduct of the natives here, I am glad to state that with very few exceptions the behaviour of all has been good. Even very old camp people have made themselves useful by doing little odd jobs. In the different workshops good work has been done, likewise in the two large gardens.

Though being short of heads of the different departments of work, a lot of improvements have been made on the different buildings. Two bores were re-opened on the Convent ground which supply the Convent and the adjacent girls' dormitories with good and plentiful water.

A Diesel engine was acquired for producing electric power and light; also carpenter and blacksmith shops were furnished with new machinery.

The last rain season was fairly good; though the rainfall has not reached the average there is good and sufficient grass on the run for the stock. It is not as plentiful as in other years, but better in quality. Grasshoppers, however, have done considerable damage to the two gardens so that certain vegetables, such as beans, cabbages, etc., had to be planted three and four times. The finances of this place are entirely controlled by our headquarters in Broome.

The Rev. G. V. Johnston, Superintendent of Forrest River Mission, writes as follows:—

During the year building has continued apace both for staff and mission people. Quite a town has sprung up and now that we can mill our own timber and have a truck to cart the same, much progress has been made. All buildings, with the exception of the school, are in good repair and are of a permanent nature. The girls' new dormitory is exceptionally fine whilst the boys' dormitory has also had additions made to it. The Mission launch "Hovenden" is in good order.

The bore was continued to 54 feet without success and the rock hole was proved useless. Further storage of rain water was made by adding 15,000 gallons. Advice was given by a contract borer on the water question, but the cost proved to be too much to tackle this year. Several miles of fencing have been done, fencing in the Daddaway water hole and giving us a large holding paddock. The windmill is in order and

water is now pumped from Daddaway into troughs. A patent scoop is on its way and we hope to do much silt scooping during the coming year.

Nulla Nulla continues to give anxiety though a settlement is expected shortly. The herd is in good condition, apart from branding difficulties and should produce 100 fat bullocks this year. The proximity to Wyndham still causes anxiety and conditions there alienate large numbers for a long period of the year; their influence on return is anything but good.

Mr. R. S. Schenk of the United Aborigines' Mission, Mount Margaret, supplies the following:—

The year under review has been one in which we have encountered many difficulties, having several breakdowns at the battery and needing to purchase another truck, etc. Notwithstanding these difficulties and a general uphill fight for the natives, we have had rather a prosperous year.

Health.—There have been many serious cases during the year and our account for drugs and medicines of £61, in addition to all other hospital expenses for in-patients and out-patients, was heavy. We have been very thankful for Matron's knowledge and ability in being able to diagnose all complaints. Some internal complaints were of such a serious nature that we sent them on immediately to the doctor for major operations. These are all now doing well.

Dr. Davis, the Departmental Medical Officer, visited us and advised that seven of the children have to have their tonsils removed. We are very thankful to the Department for arranging this and are happy to say the children show improved health.

As regards hospitals for natives and medical treatment of natives, the Missions are placed at a great disadvantage. An ordinary hospital for white people in a small township is subsidised by the Government £ for £ donated. The white patients are able to give donations. Moreover, for extra buildings and equipment the State Lotteries Commission gives large donations such as at Moore River Government Settlement. We praise God that He has given us a conscience forbidding us to receive donations from this source, even though they have been offered to us. Our native people are not able to pay for treatment so we do not receive this help, but as our Christian friends supply the donations needed to carry on the medical work we think the Government should supply £ for £ as they do for a white hospital.

The Native Department send us a few cases of drugs, something under £20 per annum and for this we are grateful, but against that our Christian friends supply £61 worth of drugs and medicines per annum besides maintenance of a qualified matron, a nurse and all equipment.

Matron has had 38 in-patients including six pneumonia cases and eight confinements.

School.—Mrs. Bennett continues her wonderful work in the school, and this year she has had the faithful assistance of Miss Morahan. Teachers and all equipment are supplied by the Mission, and we still think that the maintenance of a native school should not fall upon our Christian friends but upon the Government.

The number of children in school at the end of June, 1938, was 51. Of the 23 boys, eight boys are full-blood aborigines, and of the 28 girls, six girls are full-blood aborigines, the rest being half-castes. In all classes where there are full-bloods the full-blood aborigines are to be found in the lead; nevertheless, the half-castes also show alertness and perseverance.

Two teachers teach seven classes between them. School is held from 8.15 a.m. to 12 a.m. and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The standards, curriculum, and examinations are those of the Education Department of Western Australia Correspondence Courses.

The children's performance is in a ratio to the time and attention that are given to them. Every year sees them improving in a greater measure and at an accelerated pace. The aborigines could learn in nine years' school life to take their place alongside of us. It is only opportunity to learn that is withheld from them. They have every ability with alertness of mind and responsiveness.

Industries.—We wish to state that in this district there is not enough work offering among whites for our natives and therefore if they are to be kept from a life of mendicancy it is necessary for something to be done to make them reproductive. After the mustering season especially, there are numbers of young men and women needing an avenue for work. For this cause we continue with the industries, gold mining, etc.

Regarding the gold mining, I think our men deserve help and praise. Last report we were able to state that the men had, by dry blowing and crushing at the battery, earned over £600. This year, ending 30th June, they have produced £960 worth of gold. This, of course, spread over twenty families and with cost of gear and gelignite, does not leave much per head per week, but we are pleased with their efforts knowing that if we had a bigger plant then they could do better.

Spiritual.—All the missionaries join heartily in the spiritual work, one sowing, another watering and all rejoicing in the reaping and increase. We have 11 different meetings weekly.

FINANCIAL.

A Statement of Receipts and Payments on all accounts will be found at pages 36 and 37. It will be observed that this is certified by the Auditor General as correct, as contemplated by Section 72 of the Native Administration Act.

The expenditure showed an increase of £10,800 12s. 6d. over the previous year. Capital expenditure on additions and improvements accounted for £5,568 0s. 3d. of the increase, the balance being spent upon maintenance embracing additional hospital services, increased food prices, extra meat and extra blankets and clothing.

With the consent of the Auditor General and the Under Treasurer, certain changes were made in the bookkeeping methods of the Department in order to conform more closely to the provisions of the governing Act in treating the Trust Fund in the manner intended by Parliament. A further innovation is the grouping of the whole of the expenditure from Consolidated Revenue Fund under one heading for submission with the annual Estimates to Parliament.

There were open at the 30th June last 331 Trust Accounts carrying balances totalling £2,740 11s. 6d. In addition, the sum of £5,205 is invested in securities on behalf of the Department's charges. Unclaimed balances amount to £457 13s. 2d.

Of twenty-three Estates of deceased natives requiring administration, eight were finalised during the year. In addition the claims of seventeen natives in other estates were receiving attention.

APPRECIATION.

I am most appreciative of the assistance rendered to me by the staff of the Department throughout, and I also wish to express my thanks to the Commissioner of Police, all Police Officers, and Honorary Protectors for the work they have done in connection with the Department. I am sure all have done their best in circumstances of increasing difficulty.

I regret the delay in the production of this Report due to causes quite beyond my control and which are well known to you.

A. O. NEVILLE,
Commissioner of Native Affairs.

1st March, 1939.

STATEMENT SHOWING POPULATION ACCORDING TO DISTRICT, AND OTHER PARTICULARS.

District.	Estimated Population.						Totals.			Increase or Decrease noted for the Year.	Condition and Health.	Epidemics.	Venereal.	Conduct.	Employment: If plentiful and if natives disposed to accept.	
	Full-blood.			Other than Full-blood.			M.	F.	C.							Grand Total.
	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.										
Albany	9	6	15	1	...	...	9	7	15	31	...	...	...	...	...
Bassendean	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Belmont	2	3	5	2	...	...	2	2	4	4	...	...	...	...	...
Beverley	9	7	16	17	12	...	19	24	43	60	...	...	...	...	...
Big Bell	3	2	5	...	...	...	5	6	11	16	...	...	...	...	...
Bridgetown	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Boyup	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Brookton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Broome	550	422	972	126	23	...	671	548	1,219	1,404	...	...	...	...	...
Broome Hill	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bunbury	3	1	4	5	4	...	13	6	19	23	...	...	...	...	...
Buckland Hill (S.A. Girl's Home)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Busselton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Carmanah	45	45	90	17	58	...	66	62	128	227	...	...	...	...	...
Carmanah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Charnvon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cherment	2	1	3	1	6	...	2	2	4	10	...	...	...	...	...
Collie	12	11	23	4	2	...	16	13	29	42	...	...	...	...	...
Coogardie	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Corrigin	10	8	18	12	15	...	23	22	45	60	...	...	...	...	...
Cue	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cunderdin	2	2	4	3	3	...	5	3	8	11	...	...	...	...	...
Dalwallina	568	430	998	8	8	...	16	456	474	1,132	...	...	...	...	...
Derby	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dongarra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dowerin	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dumbleyung	5	6	11	1	3	...	7	1	8	11	...	...	...	...	...
Esperance	6	3	9	...	...	...	6	3	9	13	...	...	...	...	...
Fremantle	815	716	1,531	3	6	...	835	719	1,554	1,700	...	...	...	...	...
Fitzroy Crossing	132	102	234	20	15	...	161	122	283	338	...	...	...	...	...
Gascoyne Junction	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Geraldton	1	...	...	12	26	...	14	12	26	52	...	...	...	...	...
Greenbushes	14	10	24	120	87	...	158	130	288	421	...	...	...	...	...
Groswater	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Goomalling	5	1	6	15	18	...	20	15	35	53	...	...	...	...	...
Guilford	257	223	480	23	24	...	28	26	54	78	...	...	...	...	...
Hall's Creek	92	46	138	2	1	...	95	47	142	160	...	...	...	...	...
Kalgoorlie	3	5	8	31	75	...	33	36	69	145	...	...	...	...	...
Katanning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kellerberrin	1	1	2	13	11	...	14	11	25	38	...	...	...	...	...
Kojonup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lake Grace	1	1	2	26	20	...	26	20	46	102	...	...	...	...	...
Laverton	400	300	700	20	70	...	420	320	740	960	...	...	...	...	...
Lawlers	7	3	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Leaderville	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Leonora	34	17	51	4	17	...	42	21	63	90	...	...	...	...	...
Manjimup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Marble Bar	375	244	619	80	68	...	455	308	763	1,049	...	...	...	...	...
Margaret River	2	2	4	...	...	...	5	2	7	12	...	...	...	...	...
Meekering	60	60	120	11	23	...	73	71	144	191	...	...	...	...	...
Meekatharra	20	11	31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Menzies	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Merredin	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Midland Junction	2	...	...	2	15	...	13	9	22	27	...	...	...	...	...
Mingenew	74	60	134	11	28	...	83	71	154	195	...	...	...	...	...
Moola Bulla Station	5	4	9	31	64	...	40	35	75	144	...	...	...	...	...
Moora	30	20	50	98	164	...	80	113	193	270	...	...	...	...	...
Moore River Settlement	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Morawa	8	4	11	8	6	14	28	Increasing	do.	Nil	do.	Yes
Mount Barker	17	10	16	7	10	14	39	Decreasing	do.	do.	do.	Yes
Mount Magnet	12	8	18	7	12	11	48	Increasing	do.	do.	do.	Yes
Mullewa	39	55	14	10	20	30	72	Normal	do.	do.	do.	Yes
Munja Native Station	39	55	14	10	39	15	109	Increasing	do.	Heavy colic	do.	Scarcer than usual. Natives willing to accept.
Narawatin	3	3	6	20	30	41	94	Normal	do.	Nil	do.	Yes
New Norcia	5	3	20	20	28	65	118	Stationary	do.	Influenza	do.	Yes
Norseman	30	22	20	18	30	20	72	Decreasing	do.	Nil	do.	Yes
Northern	35	19	12	18	17	21	56	Increasing	do.	Nil	do.	Not much work, but taken where possible.
Northampton	35	19	12	18	28	54	135	Stationary	do.	do.	do.	do.
North Perth	221	179	14	6	182	14	423	Normal	do.	do.	do.	No
Nuligin	2	1	35	7	82	4	9	Decreasing	do.	Severe colic	do.	Yes
Nungah	98	85	7	4	89	45	234	Stationary	do.	Nil	do.	Yes
Onakerr	145	108	10	2	153	112	278	Fluctuates	do.	do.	do.	No
Parkerville Home	3	3	14	16	3	6	3	Normal	do.	do.	do.	Employed as trackers.
Peak Hill	3	3	14	16	3	6	3	Stationary	do.	do.	do.	do.
Perth	16	5	2	18	20	21	57	do.	do.	do.	do.	No
Perth Institutions	2	1	2	18	20	21	107	Increasing	do.	Nil	do.	Yes
Pingelly	4	2	113	6	9	8	97	do.	do.	do.	do.	No
Pinjarra	127	113	6	50	60	41	171	do.	do.	do.	do.	Yes
Port Hedland	5	5	6	62	52	7	505	do.	do.	do.	do.	Yes
Quairading	2	5	146	4	172	11	65	do.	do.	do.	do.	Yes
Queen's Park Home	184	126	4	35	46	169	543	Stationary	do.	Influenza	do.	Very slight
Ravensthorpe	1	1	43	46	56	202	17	Slight increase	do.	Chicken pox	do.	do.
Roebourne	7	3	6	23	26	26	5	Decreasing	do.	do.	do.	Yes
Sandstone	23	17	6	43	26	17	104	Increasing	do.	do.	do.	Yes
Shark's Bay	1	1	1	3	1	6	49	Decreasing	do.	Colic	do.	do.
Southern Cross	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	do.	do.	Nil	do.	do.
South Perth	10	7	10	2	3	3	8	Normal	do.	do.	do.	Work scarce but taken where possible.
Subiaco	10	7	10	2	17	21	60	do.	do.	do.	do.	do.
Tambellup	4	2	1	7	3	1	8	Decreasing	do.	do.	do.	do.
Trayning	5	3	0	7	5	8	24	do.	do.	do.	do.	do.
Three Springs	455	300	45	3	302	47	807	Normal	do.	do.	do.	Yes; natives not willing to accept.
Turkey Creek	19	23	8	3	19	23	50	Fluctuates	do.	do.	do.	Yes
Violet Valley Station	1	1	1	27	23	63	116	Half-castes increasing	do.	do.	do.	Yes
Wagin	616	417	60	13	629	42	1,153	Decreasing	do.	do.	do.	Yes
Wyalkatchem	9	1	10	16	12	23	42	do.	do.	do.	do.	No
Wyndham	4	1	6	46	23	46	186	do.	do.	do.	do.	Yes
Wickepin	38	33	3	47	51	49	91	Increasing	do.	Influenza	do.	Fairly good
Williams	2	1	1	1	10	43	5	Normal	do.	do.	do.	Yes
Wiluna	65	35	22	45	110	65	252	Decreasing	do.	Nil	do.	No; but natives willing to accept any offering.
Wongan Hills	5	4	3	7	12	9	43	Normal	do.	do.	do.	Employment not plentiful; natives willing to accept.
Yalgoo	5	4	3	7	12	9	43	Decreasing	do.	do.	do.	No
York	5	4	3	7	12	9	43	Increasing	do.	do.	do.	do.
Yotanni	4,394	1,761	1,381	1,268	7,108	3,716	16,484	do.	do.	do.	do.	do.
Totals	5,727	1,761	1,381	1,268	7,108	3,716	16,484	do.	do.	do.	do.	do.

COMPARATIVE RETURN SHOWING NUMBER OF INDIGENT NATIVES RATIONED AND COST OF RATIONS ISSUED, WITH OTHER PARTICULARS.
1ST JULY, 1936, TO 30TH JUNE, 1938.

Place.	Rate.	By Whom Supplied.	Supervised by:	Average No. of Natives Rationed.		Meat (1936-37).	Total Cost (1936-37).	Stores and Provisions (1936-37).	Meat (1937-38).	Total Cost (1937-38).
				1936-37.	1937-38.					
Eye Feeding Depot* (a)	Bulk Supplies	Department of Native Affairs	Officer-in-Charge	11	95	£ 6 18 0	£ 171 10 0	£ 6 18 0	£ 171 10 0	
Karone Feeding Depot*	do.	do.	do.	76	566	94 12 4	660 1 9	94 12 4	660 1 9	
La Grange Feeding Depot*	do.	do.	do.	58	41	78 6 3	649 14 8	78 6 3	649 14 8	
Moola Bula Native Station	do.	do.	do.	92	121	338 0 0	492 18 11	338 0 0	492 18 11	
Moore River Native Station	do.	do.	Manager	273	366	1,099 12 2	3,450 18 10	1,099 12 2	3,450 18 10	
Munja Native Station	do.	do.	Superintendent	97	94	2,351 6 8	2,229 17 4	2,351 6 8	2,229 17 4	
Native Hospital, Derby	do.	do.	do.	9	5	156 10 0	229 17 4	156 10 0	229 17 4	
Native Hospital, Port Hedland	do.	do.	Officer-in-Charge	15	9	92 4 1	234 4 10	92 4 1	234 4 10	
Native Hospital, Wyndham	do.	do.	do.	3	13	99 0 8	206 8 8	99 0 8	206 8 8	
Native Hospital, Broome	do.	do.	do.	3	3	3 1 5	49 8 1	3 1 5	49 8 1	
Violet Valley Native Station*	do.	o.d.	do.	56	35	72 0 0	345 16 2	72 0 0	345 16 2	

BY CONTRACT UNDER POLICE OR DEPARTMENTAL SUPERVISION.

Abydos Station (Wodgina)	Bulk Supplies	Department of Native Affairs	F. A. Leeds	6	3	7 0 0	89 15 2	7 0 0	89 15 2
Albany	Contract	do.	Police	10	8	11 15 3	62 9 2	11 15 3	62 9 2
Beverley	do.	do.	do.	3	4	19 10 4	16 0 2	19 10 4	16 0 2
Brookton	Bulk Supplies	Department of Native Affairs	do.	9	9	87 2 1	87 2 7	87 2 1	87 2 7
Bruce Rock	Contract	Contractor	do.	48	44	187 7 3	187 7 3	187 7 3	187 7 3
Bunbury	do.	do.	do.	1	1	0 2 7	0 3 8	0 2 7	0 3 8
Carmamah	do.	do.	do.	2	2	12 6 6	14 5 8	12 6 6	14 5 8
Carmarvon	do.	do.	do.	13	27	96 8 3	96 8 3	96 8 3	96 8 3
Collie	do.	do.	do.	34	34	34 11 7	196 11 9	34 11 7	196 11 9
Coalgardie	do.	do.	do.	16	48	82 0 10	152 14 7	82 0 10	152 14 7
Cue	do.	do.	do.	7	7	80 15 0	81 4 0	80 15 0	81 4 0
Dampier Downs	Bulk Supplies	Department of Native Affairs	J. R. Secombe	11	9	36 1 6	36 1 6	36 1 6	36 1 6
Derby	do.	do.	Police	1	1	2 3 0	10 11 2	2 3 0	10 11 2
Dunblayung	Contract	Contractor	do.	11	25	15 9 7	71 13 2	15 9 7	71 13 2
Esperance	do.	do.	do.	1	1	9 5 5	9 5 5	9 5 5	9 5 5
Fitzroy Crossing	Bulk Supplies	Department of Native Affairs	do.	29	28	168 12 1	168 12 1	168 12 1	168 12 1
Gascoyne Junction	do.	do.	do.	2	4	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0
Gerakton	Contract	Contractor	do.	10	8	41 14 0	41 14 0	41 14 0	41 14 0
Giralia Station	Bulk Supplies	Department of Native Affairs	W. H. Dawe	2	2	58 3 5	58 3 5	58 3 5	58 3 5
Goemalling	Contract	Contractor	do.	16	16	81 9 3	88 6 5	81 9 3	88 6 5
Gooswagrup	do.	do.	C. E. Flinders	20	18	123 4 11	142 6 10	123 4 11	142 6 10
Guildford	Bulk Supplies	Department of Native Affairs	H. W. Wright	13	12	44 17 0	70 17 0	44 17 0	70 17 0
Ivanhoe	Contract	Contractor	Police	2	2	3 13 6	3 13 6	3 13 6	3 13 6
Jambolie Station	do.	do.	M. P. Durack	69	60	274 1 3	274 1 3	274 1 3	274 1 3
Jingalong	Bulk Supplies	Department of Native Affairs	T. J. Driscoll	31	42	130 8 8	143 5 1	130 8 8	143 5 1
Kalamang	Contract	Contractor	do.	19	31	89 13 10	96 2 1	89 13 10	96 2 1
Kellerberrin	do.	do.	do.	1	1	0 14 0	0 14 0	0 14 0	0 14 0
Kojonup	do.	do.	do.	1	1	0 5 4	0 6 5	0 5 4	0 6 5
Lake Grace	do.	do.	do.	2	2	18 16 2	24 19 11	18 16 2	24 19 11
Laverton	do.	do.	do.	1	1	0 8 5	0 8 5	0 8 5	0 8 5
Leonora	do.	do.	do.	1	1	44 16 11	63 17 11	44 16 11	63 17 11
Mardie Bar	Bulk Supplies	Department of Native Affairs	do.	11	11	110 4 10	132 2 10	110 4 10	132 2 10
Menzies	Contract	Contractor	do.	1	1	0 7 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	0 7 0
Mingenew	do.	do.	do.	1	1	13 19 6	13 19 6	13 19 6	13 19 6
Moora	do.	do.	do.	3	3	11 8 8	11 8 8	11 8 8	11 8 8
Mount Barker	Bulk Supplies	Department of Native Affairs	do.	1	1	610 8 8	610 8 8	610 8 8	610 8 8
Mount Magnet	do.	do.	do.	122	122	214 14 10	214 14 10	214 14 10	214 14 10
Mount Margaret Mission	Contract	Contractor	F. S. Schoenk	23	17	130 10 7	130 10 7	130 10 7	130 10 7
Mount Narryer	Bulk Supplies	Department of Native Affairs	do.	19	19	173 5 9	173 5 9	173 5 9	173 5 9
Mount Vernon	Contract	Contractor	W. A. McHugh	10	10	188 19 11	188 19 11	188 19 11	188 19 11
Mudwandi	Bulk Supplies	Department of Native Affairs	Police	20	13	17 7 7	156 7 6	17 7 7	156 7 6
Nannine	Contract	Contractor	R. J. Coekram	13	13	112 19 2	112 19 2	112 19 2	112 19 2

Narogin	do.	do.	do.	do.	66	316	5	7	55	8	3	371	13	10	343	16	3	69	1	7	412	17	10
Norseman	Bulk Supplies	Contract	Department of Native Affairs	do.	24	71	7	8	16	2	8	87	10	4	128	9	5	36	3	0	164	12	5
Northam	do.	do.	do.	do.	3	2	8	3	...	...	...	2	8	3	39	16	6	9	13	0	49	9	6
Nulaghe	Bulk Supplies	Contract	Department of Native Affairs	do.	27	175	5	10	51	11	0	226	16	10	213	2	11	76	13	1	289	16	0
Nungarin	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Onslow	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Peak Hill	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Perth	do.	do.	do.	do.	10	251	17	1	17	16	2	99	13	3	111	4	1	34	8	11	145	13	0
Pingelly	do.	do.	do.	do.	27	173	15	11	36	16	3	210	12	2	107	17	11	26	1	9	133	19	8
Pingarra	do.	do.	do.	do.	94	363	16	6	83	1	4	446	18	0	139	9	2	79	15	4	219	4	6
Pulgaroo Station	do.	do.	do.	do.	6	48	3	7	13	0	9	61	4	4	37	19	3	11	11	10	49	11	1
Quairading	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ravensthorpe	do.	do.	do.	do.	45	226	0	6	45	7	3	271	13	9	285	5	6	106	0	6	391	6	0
Roebourne and Tableland	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shark Bay	Bulk Supplies	Contract	Department of Native Affairs	do.	43	193	11	10	43	18	0	237	9	10	32	4	0	116	2	0	446	7	7
Southern Cross	do.	do.	do.	do.	29	222	2	9	53	0	10	273	2	10	219	2	11	45	10	7	266	13	6
Tamborap	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Three Springs	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Walter	Bulk Supplies	Contract	Department of Native Affairs	do.	7	7	12	1	7	4	1	8	11	2	23	13	3	7	6	10	3	1	1
Warrin	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wickham	Bulk Supplies	Contract	Department of Native Affairs	do.	63	307	8	11	76	0	6	383	18	1	405	17	6	18	13	6	469	19	9
Williams	do.	do.	do.	do.	15	16	0	9	5	11	4	21	12	1	14	6	9	64	2	3	14	6	9
Willunga	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wongan Hills	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wyndham	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Yalgoo	Bulk Supplies	Contract	Department of Native Affairs	do.	15	64	10	5	9	2	0	73	12	5	129	14	0	5	18	6	129	14	0
York	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
York	Contract	do.	do.	do.	9	3	0	9	0	11	8	3	12	5	52	3	8	11	14	8	63	18	4
Freight	...	...	...	...	1,845	10,797	4	6	3,060	9	2	13,857	13	8	12,050	1	2	3,565	0	8	15,615	1	10
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,585	8	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,501	18	1
	...	...	...	...	1,845	10,797	4	6	3,060	9	2	15,443	2	0	12,050	1	2	3,565	0	8	17,116	19	11

* Including white employees. † Exclusive of approximately 1,076 inmates of Missions, of whom 888 are supported at Mission cost and 188 subsidised by Government. (a) Amalgamated with Karorie.

MOOLA BULLA NATIVE STATION.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for Year ended 30th June, 1938.

RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.			
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Sales—							
Cattle	2,732	7	4	By Salaries	548	16	6
Wool	615	2	11	Wages	1,275	1	10
Mules	126	0	0	Stores	1,620	5	4
Stores	120	5	5	Transport on Stores	841	5	4
Hides	107	14	9	Driving Cattle for Sale	282	16	0
Horses	24	0	0	Travelling Expenses	58	11	10
Leather	19	10	0	Workers' Compensation	25	17	9
Beef	0	6	8	Shearing Expenses	26	5	3
				Postage and Telegrams	19	2	6
				Insurance Premiums on Vehicles and Stock	16	11	2
.. Maintenance of Half-caste Children and School Fees			38 13 6	Freight on Hides for Sale	9	8	4
.. Refunds—				Printing and Stationery	8	13	9
Freight Charges	10	5	4	Charges on Wool for Sale	6	15	0
Stores Purchase	5	13	3	Newspapers and Journals	1	5	0
				Expenses, Purchase of Stallion	0	16	9
Board and Lodging			12 0 0				
Stud Fees			4 0 0				
Balance being excess of Expenditure over Receipts			925 13 2				
			£4,741 12 4				£4,741 12 4

MOOLA BULLA NATIVE STATION.

Statement of Interest on Loan Capital as at 30th June, 1938.

1937-38.	£	s. d.	for 12 months at 4½ per cent. per annum ...	£	s. d.
July 1 to June 30 ...	25,343	9 7	462 17 4 for 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum ...	1,077	1 11
				23	2 10
	25,806	6 11		1,100	4 9
			Interest accrued to 30th June, 1937	25,068	11 9
			Interest for year ended 30th June, 1938	1,100	4 9
				£26,168	16 6

MOOLA BULLA NATIVE STATION.

Value of Assets on Station as at 30th June, 1938.

	30th June, 1938.	30th June, 1937.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Buildings	804 18 8	847 6 1
Fencing	1,981 0 2	2,085 5 5
Stock Yards	1,508 10 8	1,587 18 7
Engine and Boiler	65 0 0	243 11 5
Boring Plant	449 11 0	494 17 6
Water Supply Plant	3,500 11 7	3,812 16 10
Tannery Building	1,674 19 5	1,763 2 7
Carts and Buggies	137 15 11	145 1 0
Saddlery and Harness	225 14 6	250 19 6
Tools, Brands and Equipment	547 13 8	561 15 1
Furniture and Household Effects	266 5 6	263 18 10
Office Furniture and Fittings	17 4 4	17 9 1
Cattle	21,768 10 0	25,299 10 0
Horses	2,588 4 3	2,954 7 0
Sheep	1,222 5 0	1,424 16 2
Mules	40 0 0	240 0 0
Donkeys	1,458 0 0	1,548 0 0
Goats	360 0 0	272 0 0
Shearing Plant	163 2 4	163 2 4
Motor Truck	176 16 2	221 0 3
Tannery Leather on hand	69 14 0	76 6 0
Stores	974 3 2	1,265 3 3
Clinic Building	394 17 9	415 13 5
	£40,394 18 1	£45,954 0 4

MOOLA BULLA NATIVE STATION.

Sundry Debtors as at 30th June, 1938.

	Other.	Government.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Munja Native Station		647 2 0
Department of Native Affairs (for indigent rations)		179 18 11
Premier's Department		10 13 6
Government Stores		3 15 0
Sundry Persons	87 17 8	
Estimated surplus distribution on 751 bullocks sent for sale to Wyndham Meatworks	1,998 7 4	
Estimated proceeds from disposal of Wool	330 0 9	
Estimated proceeds from 225 Hides sent to London for Sale	109 9 5	
	£2,525 15 2	£841 9 5
Grand Total		£3,367 4 7

MOOLA BULLA NATIVE STATION.

Sundry Creditors as at 30th June, 1938.

	£	s. d.
Government Stores Department	323	2 3
Wyndham Meatworks, Stores	57	17 10
Violet Valley Native Station—		
Balance of Purchase Money on Horses	27	13 9
Commission and Charges	32	3 7
Sundry Persons	259	17 9
The Hon. Treasurer	198	13 4
	£899	8 6

MUNJA NATIVE STATION.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for Year ended 30th June, 1938.

RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.					
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Sales—									
Peanuts	412	8	6				524	12	11
Stores	31	19	11				360	6	1
				444	8	5	733	12	7
„ Refunds—							165	15	6
Board and Lodging	15	11	6				140	9	5
Telegrams	1	5	3				71	0	2
				16	16	9	18	0	6
„ Balance, being excess of Expenditure over Receipts				1,573	13	10	12	6	7
							12	6	7
							3	19	6
							1	9	9
							1	5	0
							1	0	0
							1	1	0
				£2,034	19	0	£2,034	19	0

MUNJA NATIVE STATION.

Statement of Interest on Loan Capital as at 30th June, 1938.

1937-38.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1st July, 1937, to 30th June, 1938	7,112	10	2	302	5	7			
	9	0	0	0	7	6			
	189	19	3	7	2	6			
	37	4	11	1	4	10			
	35	9	2	1	0	8			
	51	3	5	1	5	7			
	65	5	10	1	1	9			
	14	1	3	0	2	4			
							314	10	9
	£7,514	14	0						
Interest accrued to 30th June, 1937				3,107	17	8			
Interest for year ended 30th June, 1938				314	10	9			
							£3,422	8	5

MUNJA NATIVE STATION.

Value of Assets on Station at the 30th June, 1938.

	30th June, 1938.	30th June, 1937.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Stores	625 13 8	535 4 0
Saddlery and Harness	7 12 7	7 12 5
Sundry Plant	310 10 8	304 15 0
Musterers' Plant	272 15 11	235 12 6
Household Effects	293 5 7	288 8 6
Buildings	1,108 3 10	1,166 10 4
Yards	225 15 11	237 13 7
Fencing	37 10 4	37 6 1
Agricultural Implements	253 11 0	253 18 6
Wireless	111 8 6	93 17 8
Clinic Building	213 16 1	225 1 2
Dinghy	34 13 6	38 10 7
Machinery Shed	417 10 0	...
Carpenters' Plant	41 11 10	41 11 10
Cattle	2,467 10 0	2,367 10 0
Horses	280 0 0	328 0 0
Donkeys	161 0 0	153 0 0
Mules	210 0 0	210 0 0
Goats	59 12 0	64 4 0
Poultry	15 17 3	15 17 3
Peanuts	242 12 9	528 6 4
	£7,390 11 5	£7,132 19 9

MUNJA NATIVE STATION.

Sundry Debtors as at 30th June, 1938.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sundry Persons	50	14	11	0	10	6
	50	14	11			
Less	0	10	6			
				£50	4	5

MUNJA NATIVE STATION.

Sundry Creditors as at 30th June, 1938.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Government Stores Department				75	16	5
Sundry Persons				57	6	3
The Hon. Treasurer				33	0	2
				£166	2	10
Sundries as above	166	2	10			
Moola Bulla Native Station (Transfer of Stock)	647	2	0			
	£813	4	10			

MISSIONS.

	Lombadina.	New Norcia.	Forrest River.
Name of governing body	The Pious Society of Missions	The Benedictine Community	Australian Board of Missions
Brief description of land held and nature of tenure	Use of temporary Native Reserve of 197,050 acres	Agriculture and pasture property and lease	100,000 acres held for Mission purposes within which is 1,000 acres freehold, all within a Reserve for natives of 3,320,000 acres
Live-stock owned by the Mission at 30th June, 1938:—			
Cattle	1,500	Over 60	2,000
Horses	....	30	18
Sheep	....	Over 1,000	....
Donkeys	36	....	400
Mules	8	6	14
Goats	400	....	27
Pigs	....	40	20
Area under crop or in process of cultivation, clearing, etc.	20 acres vegetables, pumpkins, beans, sorghum, watermelons, etc.; 4 acres sweet potatoes, a failure for want of rain	Over 700 acres	Vegetable garden, second year of drought
General improvements effected during the year ended 30th June, 1938	Flooring new school: new stock yard for cattle	Cultivation and sheep breeding	See separate report
Special efforts to make the Mission self-supporting during year under review	Increasing stock for selling and killing, also goats for killing and milk; gardening; fishing; hunting kangaroos	Wheat growing, olive oil, etc.	Cattle to Meatworks. Second year of drought; agriculture impossible
Average number of natives within the Mission's influence	M. 70 F. 85 C. 65 Total. 220	M. 15 F. 18 C. 95 Total. 128	M. F. C. Total. 250
Number of inmates supported at the cost of the Mission	21 38 50 109	18 15 77 110	40 60 38 138
Number of inmates subsidised by the State, exclusive of above	8 14 21 43	.... 5 3 8	5 6 13 24
Average number of children under sixteen years attending school daily	Full-blood M. 17 F. 9 Other 2 4	Full-blood M. 4 F. 2 Other 33 24	Full blood.... M. 21 F. 9 Other
Number of children received at the Institution since 1st July, 1937, giving age, sex, whether full-blood or other, also district whence received	One half-caste boy from Bulgln, 7 years of age	Full-bloods—1 female; Others—3 males, 3 females; Districts—Moora, Mingnew, Victoria Plains, Northam, New Norcia, Pinjarra	....
Number of children discharged from Mission and placed in situations or otherwise disposed of, giving brief particulars, including name, age, sex, if full-blood or other, wages to be paid or other consideration for services	One boy, full-blood, 21 years of age, went to stock work at Beagle Bay Station; 2 girls, half-caste, 21 years and 18 years, placed in Broome for house work, during night in Convent of Sisters	9 males and 2 females	....
Particulars of births, deaths and marriages	Births. Deaths. Marriages. Full-blood 2 1 1 Other 1 ....	....	Births. Deaths. Marriages. Full-blood 4 3 6 Other
Health—			
(a) Number of inmates ill from any cause during the year	Four sent to doctor, Beagle Bay, Broome	....	....
(b) Enumerate diseases from which inmates have suffered	The usual colds, heart trouble, rheumatic fever, sore eyes, otherwise no sickness worth mentioning	Colds, nothing special	Influenza, fever and usual complaints
(c) Number of visits by Medical Officer	Nil	From local doctor when required	Four

MISSIONS—continued.

	Beagle Bay.	Mount Margaret.	Badjaling.	Drysdale River.
Name of governing body	The Pious Society of Missions	The United Aborigines' Mission	The United Aborigines' Mission	The Benedictine Community of New Norcia (Roman Catholic)
Brief description of land held and nature of tenure	10,000 acres freehold ; 149,000 acres leasehold ; use of 700,000 acre Reserve for Natives	6,000 acres lease ; 200 acres Reserve for Natives	Reserve for Natives of 72 acres	150,000 acres for Mission purposes ; 2,000 acres freehold
Livestock owned by the Mission at 30th June, 1938 :—				
Cattle	2,999	4	....	....
Horses	....	....	....	....
Sheep	....	....	....	....
Donkeys	45	....	....	....
Mules	56	....	....	....
Goats	500	150	....	....
Pigs	20	....	....	....
Area under crop or in process of cultivation, clearing, etc.	10 acres ; garden	....	....	....
General improvements effected during year ended 30th June, 1938	New buildings ; many repairs ; new bores sunk and windmills erected ; new paddock opened	Installed Cyanide plant, including 2 vats, 1 overhead tank, 1 shed with zinc box, etc., 20ft. x 12ft., 1 sump tank, 1 small return pump, 1 small Diesel engine and 300ft. piping ; also installed small Diesel engine for return pump to battery ; building erected, 60ft. x 18ft., which we hope to use for technical instruction ; another four-roomed cottage for native family ; shed, 32ft. x 22ft., for sanitary wagon and pans ; new 6 cylinder Chevrolet truck ; new lavatory for girls, 12ft. x 10ft. ; verandah, 35ft. x 10ft., at back of one staff cottage ; new fence with 3 cyclone gates around "Graham" Home ; one staff cottage trellised back and front ; second tennis court made and enclosed	....	No particulars to hand.
Special efforts to make the Mission self-supporting during year under review	Stock ; garden ; ricefields ; handicraft	Raffia ; stencilling ; Poker work ; spinning ; weaving ; mining	....	....
Average number of inmates within the Mission's influence	M. 106 F. 98 C. 131 Total. 395	M. 100 F. 100 C. 100 Total. 300	M. 53 F. 35 C. 82 Total. 170	....
Number of inmates supported at the cost of the Mission	271	50 50 60 160	....	M. 6 F. 18 C. 2 Total. 26
Number of inmates subsidised by State, exclusive of above	64	None, but indigents and some children rationed	....	....
Average number of children under 16 years attending school daily	Full-blood M. 26 F. 10 Other 15 23	Full-blood M. 8 F. 6 Other 15 22	Full-blood M. 7 F. 6 Other 7 6	....
Number of children received at the Institution since 1st July, 1937, giving age, sex, whether full-blood or other, also district whence received	3 half-castes from Broome....	Two full-bloods, one male and one female, received from Laverton ; two half-castes, one male and one female, received from Laverton	....	....
Number of children discharged from Mission and placed in situations or otherwise disposed of, giving brief particulars including name, age, sex, if full-blood or other, wages to be paid or other consideration for services	One boy sent to Derby Leprosarium, 7 years old	One full-blood female, 16 years married ; one half-caste male, 16 casual work at Stations	....	....
Particulars of births, deaths and marriages :—	Full-blood. Other.	Full blood. Other.	Full-blood. Other.	....
Births	4 4	3 7	.... 11	....
Deaths	3 1	3 1	.... 5	....
Marriages	1	1 ....	.... 2	....
Health—				
(a) Number of inmates ill from any cause during the year	Average 10 a day	38 in-patients. Average of 40 out-patients daily	....	....
(b) Enumerate the diseases from which inmates have suffered	Various	Various	....	....
(c) Number of visits by the Medical Officer	....	Three	One	....

MISSIONS—continued.

	Kunmunya.	Gnowangerup.	Wotjulum.	Warburton Range.
Name of governing body	Board of Missions, Presbyterian Church	United Aborigines' Mission	United Aborigines' Mission	United Aborigines' Mission
Brief description of land held and nature of tenure	Reserves for natives of 245,000 acres; estimated country can carry 750 to 1,000 cattle; about 100 acres of arable land when all cleared	190 acres Mission property under purchase	Whole of Sunday Island; also Native Reserve of 122,400 acres on mainland	Low-lying ranges mulga scrub; gum creeks; use of Native Reserve of 650,000 acres
Live-stock owned by the Mission at 30th June, 1938:—				
Cattle	200	4	...	...
Horses	2	1	...	...
Sheep	...	...	...	...
Donkeys	50	...	...	...
Mules	2	...	...	...
Goats	160	...	50	37
Pigs	...	...	...	also 12 camels
Area under crop or in process of cultivation, clearing, etc.	50 acres	11 acres under crop; 50 acres fallow; over 100 acres cleared	...	...
General improvements effected during the year ended 30th June, 1938	New lugger procured in place of old lugger, "W. S. Rolland," for beach-combing	60 acres cleared and 50 acres fallowed; 25 chains fencing; 1 building, 24ft. x 10ft., erected; concrete underground tank, capacity about 7,000 gallons; dispensary and carpenters' shop completed; also concrete floors put in three buildings	All work ceased	Large mud brick children's home and dormitory with workers' quarters adjoining in course of erection
Special efforts to make the Mission self-supporting during the year under review	Cultivation: peanuts, sweet potatoes, bananas, paw-paws, vegetables, corn; fishing for food, beche-de-mer and turtle shell; cattle for meat and milk	Most of the people are self-supporting	Beach-combing and crochet work	Vegetables grown milking goats bred
Average number of natives within the Mission's influence	M. 125 F. 125 C. 17 Total. 267	M. 72 F. 59 C. 133 Total. 264	M. 30 F. 35 C. 26 Total. 91	M. 100 F. 100 C. 100 Total. 300 (approx.)
Number of inmates supported at cost of Mission	Average 50 daily	Nil	Approximately 73	50
Number of inmates subsidised by the State, exclusive of above	M. 11 F. 19 C. 1 Total. 31	None subsidised, but Government rations supplied when required	18	Nil
Average number of children under 16 years attending school daily	Full-bloods. M. 8 F. 9 Others. M. 4 F. 4	Full-bloods. M. 1 F. 1 Others. M. 13 F. 9	...	Full-bloods. M. 16 F. 15 Others. M. ... F. ...
Number of children received at Institution, since 1st July, 1937, giving age, sex, whether full-blood or other, also district whence received	One male full-blood, age approximately 7, brought from Collier Bay	One full-blood female	...	Ten full-blood boys aged 9, 8, 3 at 5, 2 at 4, 3 at 3; 2 full-blood girls aged 9 and 3
Number of children discharged from Mission and placed in situations or otherwise disposed of, giving brief particulars, including name, age, sex, if full-blood or other, wages to be paid or other consideration for services	Nil	Nil	One, Nancy, quarter-caste, 15 years, placed in Derby as domestic	Our eldest girl taken away and married to her tribal husband
Particulars of births, deaths and marriages:	Birth Deaths.	Births. Deaths. Marriages.	Births. Deaths.	Births. Deaths. Marriages.
Full-blood	1 2	1 2	1 1	18 6
Other	...	1	2	...
Health—				
(a) Number of inmates ill from any cause during the year	50	No record kept, but health rather good	7	No serious sickness during the year
(b) Enumerate diseases from which inmates have suffered	Stomach-ache, colds, burns, cuts, wounds, tooth ache, granuloma, sore eyes, boils, convulsions, ringworm	T.B., V.D., rheumatic fever, sore eyes	V.D.	Minor troubles, sore eyes, burns, etc.
(c) Number of visits by Medical Officer	Nil	No record kept, but doctor comes when required	Nil	Nil

DEPARTMENT OF NATIVE AFFAIRS.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 1937-38 (UNDER SECTION 72 OF NATIVE ADMINISTRATION ACT, 1905-1936).

RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
To Grant under Section 5 of Native Administration Act, 1905-1936 ...			10,000	0	0		By <i>Salaries—Departmental—</i>
„ Receipts paid to Trust Fund* ...			3,473	14	3		Commissioner of Native Affairs, Medical Inspector and Head Office Staff ...
„ Amount provided from Consolidated Revenue Fund for 1937-38 ...			25,201	12	7		Relief Distribution ...
„ Amount provided from Consolidated Revenue Fund for—							„ <i>Relief to Natives (General)—</i>
Munja ...	2,034	19	0				Provisions ...
Moola Bulla ...	4,741	12	4				Freight and Cartage ...
			6,776	11	4		Blankets and Clothing ...
„ Amount provided from General Loan Fund—							Medical Supplies ...
Item 46 ...	402	3	10				Burials ...
Item 47 ...	5,165	16	5				Transport of Natives ...
			5,568	0	3		Travelling Expenses ...
							Miscellaneous ...
							Motor Car Upkeep and Travelling (Medical Inspector, Travelling Inspector and Commissioner of Native Affairs) ...
							„ <i>Native Hospitals—</i>
							<i>Port Hedland :</i>
							Salaries ...
							Provisions ...
							Medical Supplies ...
							Miscellaneous ...
							<i>Broome :</i>
							Salaries ...
							Provisions ...
							Medical Supplies ...
							Miscellaneous ...
							<i>Derby :</i>
							Salaries ...
							Provisions ...
							Medical Supplies ...
							Miscellaneous ...
							<i>Wyndham :</i>
							Salaries ...
							Provisions ...
							Medical Supplies ...
							Miscellaneous ...
							„ <i>Moola Bulla Clinic</i> ...
							„ <i>Munja Clinic</i> ...
							„ <i>Moore River Native Settlement—</i>
							Salaries and Wages ...
							Stores and Provisions ...
							Bedding and Clothing ...
							Freight and Cartage ...
							Forage ...
							Furniture and Hardware ...
							Upkeep Truck, Tractor and Car ...
							Miscellaneous ...
							„ <i>Native Stations—</i>
							<i>Moola Bulla :</i>
							Salaries and Wages ...
							Improvements and Upkeep ...
							<i>Munja :</i>
							Salaries and Wages ...
							Improvements and Upkeep ...
							<i>Violet Valley :</i>
							Salaries ...
							Stores and Provisions, etc. ...
							„ <i>Relief Depots;</i>
							<i>La Grange :</i>
							Salaries ...
							Provisions, etc. ...
							<i>Eyre :</i>
							Salaries ...
							Provisions, etc. ...
							<i>Karonie :</i>
							Salaries ...
							Provisions, etc. ...
							„ <i>East Perth Native Girls' Home—</i>
							Salaries ...
							Provisions, etc. ...
							„ <i>Grants to Missions and Homes—</i>
							Kummunya ...
							Beagle Bay ...
							Wotjulm ...
							Drysdale River ...
							Forrest River ...

*Exclusive of £3,815 19s. 2d. derived from Moola Bulla Native Station and £461 5s. 2d. from Munja Native Station paid direct to Treasury and therefore not available.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 1937-38, ETC.—*continued.*

RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.			
£		s. d.		£		s. d.	
				<i>By Grants to Missions and Homes—continued.</i>			
				New Norcia	56	0	0
				Broome Convent School	93	15	0
				Children's Cottage Home, Queen's Park	577	8	10
				Swan Boys' Orphanage	7	0	0
				.. <i>General Loan Fund (Item 46)—</i>			
				Munja Machinery Shed, etc.	402	3	10
				.. <i>General Loan Fund (Item 47)—</i>			
				<i>Moore River Native Settlement :</i>			
				Native Cottages Kindergarten, Domestic Science			
				Buildings and Equipment, Native Huts ...	2,327	6	1
				<i>Wyndham Native Hospital :</i>			
				Buildings and Equipment	2,072	16	1
				<i>Broome Native Hospital :</i>			
				Quarters and Holding			
				Wards	615	4	3
				<i>La Grange Relief Depot :</i>			
				Water Supply	126	5	0
				<i>Mullewa Native Reserve :</i>			
				Water Supply	24	5	0
				.. <i>Adjustments of Collections</i>			
					5,165	16	5
					54	8	9
					51,019	18	5
					51,019	18	5

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

(Sgd.) S. A. TAYLOR,
Auditor General.

Annual Report of the Commissioner of Native Affairs for the year ended 30th June 1938

Corporate Author: Western Australia. Chief Protector of Aborigines

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