
NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Information contained in Report
of Director of Native Affairs
for the Twelve Months ended
30 June, 1951.

Native Affairs—Annual Report of Director of Native Affairs for the Year ended 30th June, 1951.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit Annual Report under “*The Aborigines Preservation and Protection Acts, 1939 to 1946,*” and “*The Torres Strait Islanders Acts, 1939 to 1946,*” as at 30th June, 1951.

POPULATION.

The estimated population of aboriginals, half-bloods, and Torres Strait Islanders is:—

Aboriginals	9,529
Half-bloods	6,846
Torres Strait Islanders ..	5,000

Aboriginals and half-bloods are to the extent of 44 per cent. located on Government Settlements and Church Missions. The areas and approximate population of these Institutions are:—

	Area.	Full-blood.	Half-blood.	Total.
	Acres.			
Palm Island Government Settlement	15,510	620	630	1,250
Cherbourg Government Settlement	26,765	189	768	957
Woorabinda Government Settlement	54,800	344	298	642
Yarrabah Mission (Church of England)	39,710	171	498	669
Lockhart River Mission (Church of England)	588,400	297	3	300
Edward River Mission (Church of England)	554,880	300	1	301
Mitchell River Mission (Church of England)	616,320	675	14	689
Mapoon Mission (Presbyterian)	860,800	117	168	285
Aurukun Mission (Presbyterian)	1,216,000	651	8	659
Weipa Mission (Presbyterian)	1,600,000	151	..	151
Mornington Island Mission (Presbyterian)	245,120	325	36	361
Monamona Mission (Seventh Day Adventist)	4,318	169	112	281
Doomadgee Mission (Brethren)	57,600	303	40	343
Hope Valley (Lutheran)	71,000	247	..	247
Hammond Island .. .. .	..	..	70	70
	5,951,223	4,559	2,646	7,205

The remainder—viz., 4,970 full-bloods, 4,200 half-bloods—are located on country reserves and camps in country towns and on cattle stations where they are employed. The total also includes nomads.

The foregoing figures have been based on the records of the Sub-Department of Native Affairs, and can be accepted as reasonably accurate.

ADMINISTRATION OF ACTS AND POLICY.

The administration of the Aborigines Preservation and Protection Acts and the Torres Strait Islanders Acts has been smoothly and efficiently effected.

These Acts emphasise the ideals and principles on which the Queensland Government's policy of protection has been determined. The Sub-Department of Native Affairs is the machinery which implements that policy.

It is maintained that the policy of advancement of the aboriginal and the Torres Strait Islander is second to none in any Australian Administration. Years of experience have enabled an appreciation of the requirements of the native population, and no effort has been spared in an endeavour to attain the end visualised.

There has never been any desire by the Queensland Administration to convert its coloured people into a poor type of white. The aim is to create in the coloured man an appreciation of his race, his history, and his worth, and thereby ultimately enable him to take his place in the general community as a useful and respected citizen.

The practical application and creation of education, decent living standards, health control, industrial training, and domestic tuition is, year by year, placing the Queensland aboriginals on the road to self-determination. It cannot be expected that the maximum result can be achieved in one generation of these people, but it is maintained that the progress over recent years has been sufficiently commendable to warrant a continuation of that policy.

It is neither desired nor intended that the Queensland aboriginal should continue to be a burden on the taxpayer and gradually by his own ability to provide for himself he is proving such.

The war years showed to what extent aboriginal labour could be used on the home front. With the war years gone, that same spirit of determination for betterment and self-support animates the Queensland native. The extent to which these twenty thousand people now contribute to their own maintenance is indicated by statistics appearing in this report.

Prominent amongst them are:—

Gross earnings by aboriginals over the year total	£290,382
Gross earnings by Torres Strait Islanders over the year total ..	£325,000
Savings Bank deposits by Torres Strait Islanders total	£279,822
Savings Bank deposits by Queensland aboriginals total	£217,787
Savings Bank withdrawals by Torres Strait Islanders total	£287,320
Savings Bank withdrawals by Queensland aboriginals total	£188,029
Value of marine produce won by Torres Strait Islanders of their own boats	£91,280
Value of produce produced on various Government Settlements	£26,565
Number of aboriginal and Island teachers, clerks, trainee nurses, artisans, &c., employed mainly in native administration	1,100
Number of men employed in essential industries in Queensland	4,500
Number of men in the marine industry	1,200
Every aboriginal and Island worker in Queensland is covered by the State Workers' Compensation Acts.	

These Islanders and aboriginals as part of the industrial life of Queensland are advised and directed in their working. The funds standing to their credit are theirs, as is indicated by the deposits and withdrawals from savings bank accounts.

Surely, these facts and figures must dispel the erroneous opinion that the Queensland native population is without a future. Likewise, they should dispel the oft-times published statements of unsympathetic treatment and lack of appreciation of the native mind and future.

EMPLOYMENT OF ABORIGINALS AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS.

Here it is necessary to reiterate the statements made in reports year after year to the effect that demands for labour both male and female far exceed the available supply. This fact bears out the Department's contention that the aboriginal is an excellent worker and well worthy of his hire.

The pastoral and agricultural industries are the main callings and 60 per cent. of the male labour would be engaged in this work throughout the State, the remainder accepting positions in various trades and on works as skilled workers. Approximately 4,500 aboriginals were fully employed throughout the year.

Torres Strait Islanders experienced a successful year in the pearl-shell and trochus-shell industries, their own boats alone winning marine produce to the value of £91,280. Approximately 1,000 men are engaged in these industries.

In addition to the foregoing, aboriginal labour greatly assisted the harvesting of seasonal crops, mainly in the sugar and peanut industries.

Whatever the calling, aboriginal and Torres Strait Island workers gave satisfactory service and have again materially assisted in the industrial development of Queensland.

HEALTH.

During the year Dr. Macken, of the Department of Health and Home Affairs, completed a tuberculosis survey extending from the Islands of Torres Strait to the Gulf Missions, far northern towns, and the Government Settlements. The value of this extensive survey cannot be too highly stressed, as on the advice offered many corrective measures were introduced in an endeavour to control the spread of the disease. Natives diagnosed as sufferers were sent to the Waiben Hospital, Thursday Island, for treatment, while other cases were admitted to the Cairns, Townsville, and Brisbane Base Hospitals.

In the Gulf Missions and outback areas, the field of examination was not limited to tuberculosis as a general medical survey was carried out with beneficial results.

Other surveys conducted were:—

- (a) Visits to the Government Settlements and far northern towns by the Chief Microscopist of the Queensland Hookworm Campaign.
- (b) A dental survey of Torres Strait and Gulf Missions by Mr. Hoole, Superintendent of the Brisbane Dental Hospital.
- (c) Visits to many centres by a qualified optometrist

The value of the foregoing surveys need not be stressed as it is sufficient to say that the work conducted greatly contributed to the physical wellbeing of the native communities visited.

Generally, the health of the coloured people of the State is reasonably sound and it is pleasing to report that no serious epidemics were experienced during the year, which can in no



Torres Strait Islanders in Jubilee Procession, Brisbane. 30th April, 1951.

small measure be attributed to the medical facilities and advice available to the aboriginal population.

The period under review saw the transfer of the Cherbourg Settlement Hospital to the control of the South Burnett Hospitals Board, the Woorabinda Settlement Hospital to the Rockhampton Hospitals Board, and the Palm Island Settlement Hospital to the Townsville Hospitals Board. By reason of the transfers, these hospitals have now become a definite part of the State's hospitals system.

JUBILEE YEAR CELEBRATIONS.

The Queensland programme in commemoration of the Commonwealth Jubilee year gave a further opportunity to the Torres Strait Islanders and mainland aboriginals to show their ability as entertainers.

In April, fifty Torres Strait Islanders and a concert party of aboriginals including spear and boomerang throwers were brought to Brisbane. Decorated floats were planned and entered in the procession held on the 30th April, 1951, the highlight being the precision marching of the Torres Strait Islanders. These men, dressed in their respective Island costumes and head-dress, truly depicted the virility of the Torres Strait race, their marching and proud bearing being much appreciated.

Concerts were arranged in the Brisbane City Hall and open air shows were held at the Brisbane Exhibition Grounds. These concerts and displays were unique to Brisbane, as the appearance of the Torres Strait Islanders was

the first in the capital city. Each group of islands was represented and their spectacular and expressive dances were performed to the beat of drums with beautiful rhythm and sense of timing.

Other successful entertainments were:—

Arts and Crafts Display, Brisbane City Hall.

Flood-light football—Cherbourg v. Palm Island.

Inter-Settlement boxing tournaments.

Exhibitions of spear and boomerang throwing.

In addition to Brisbane, the party performed at Ipswich and Cairns.

The celebrations were not confined to Brisbane but were State wide and aboriginals from the Government Settlements took part in the various programmes at Murgon, Rockhampton, Mackay, Townsville, Charters Towers, and Cloncurry. A party of twelve aboriginals proceeded to Melbourne to take part in that city's Jubilee Year Celebrations and, judging by newspaper reports and comments, their performance was a credit to themselves and the State.

INDUSTRIAL OPERATIONS.

Cattle Raising.—The following cattle are depastured on the three Settlements, the value of this livestock as a Departmental asset being £111,065. The figures quoted are as at 31st March, 1951.

Settlement.	Beef Cattle.								Dairy Cattle.				Horses.			
	Bulls.	Breeders.	Speyed Cows.	Steers.	Helpers.	Weaners.	Bullocks.	Total.	Bulls.	Cows.	Helpers.	Weaners.	Total.	Drayht.	Saddle.	Total.
Cherbourg ..	25	668	251	18	134	..	70	1,166	..	..	..	..	..	14	33	47
Aboriginal Training Farm ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	83	17	27	130	2	2	4
Woorabinda ..	60	1,824	80	568	445	..	174	3,151	..	75	..	..	75	43	105	148
Foleyvale ..	..	8	..	..	..	..	1,492	1,500	..	8	..	..	8	..	..	..
Palm Island ..	3	61	..	22	54	64	27	231	..	..	..	..	..	20	15	35
	88	2,561	331	608	633	64	1,763	6,048	3	166	17	27	213	79	155	234

In addition to the supply of meat for local requirements, the following cattle were surplus and were disposed of:—

455 fat bullocks £14,462

Cattle Transfers.—

From Cherbourg to Foleyvale—140 steers, valued at £1,960.

From Woorabinda to Foleyvale—462 bullocks and 448 steers, valued at £15,512.

To view returns from cattle-raising operations in their true perspective, to the above figure must be added £8,226, representing the value of cattle killed for local consumption on the Settlement. Accordingly, sale returns for the period under review amount to £22,688. Excellent seasonal conditions were experienced and apart from normal checks no major setbacks were

encountered, the Settlement herds maintaining good progress throughout the year.

Foleyvale Reserve since its acquisition has been a big factor in the Department's cattle industry, as the first quality land permits the growing of all fodder requirements. Here the cattle are stored and fattened prior to sale. The cattle sold during the year were brought to Brisbane and publicly auctioned. Bidding was keen and all beasts were sold as export beef.

DEVELOPMENT OF SETTLEMENTS AND CHURCH MISSIONS.

Difficulty was again experienced in obtaining supplies of piping, building materials, &c., which did not permit of the full works programme for the year being completed. However, with the supplies received, it is possible to report progress in all projects.

Hereunder is a brief summary of the major works:—

PALM ISLAND.

Water Supply.—The domestic water supply concrete reservoir with a 1,000,000-gallon capacity was completed, as also was the work of reticulation to the dormitories and administrative buildings. Materials for connection to staff and native houses are now on hand and this work is in progress.

Electric Light.—Although installation was expected to be completed early this year, unforeseen delays in supplies did not permit. The remaining work now lies in the power-house installations and the next two to three months should see the completion of the work.

One of the two 20 K.V.A. 240/415 generator units has been commissioned and is at present supplying power loads to the dormitories, school, and picture show.

WOORABINDA.

Water Supply.—Work is progressing according to schedule. This scheme necessitates the construction of a reinforced concrete water tower of a 30,000-gallon capacity with an overall height of 40 feet, the provision of filtration, chlorination, aeration, and softening plants and a completely new reticulation system.

Installation is under the supervision of the Department of Local Government and the work performed during the year has been to the complete satisfaction of that Department.

Telephone.—The erection of a new telephone line between the township of Duaringa and Woorabinda Settlement is in progress.

Native Cottages.—With the return of the ex Cape Bedford Mission natives to the new Lutheran Mission, Cooktown, the housing problem eased somewhat and the opportunity is being taken to gradually demolish the old shanty-like homes and replace them with comfortable native cottages. Five new cottages were erected during the year.

CHERBOURG.

Water Supply.—Work on the new water-supply scheme has been deferred to permit the Department of Local Government, the installing authority, to concentrate on the Woorabinda domestic water supply installation. However, all preliminary plans have been completed and the work when commenced should proceed without any major setbacks. Incorporated with the water-supply scheme will be an entirely new and hygienic system for the disposal of waste water.

Buildings.—Steady progress was made in building and carpentry work, details of which are given in the Superintendent's Report.

Road.—The necessity for reconstruction of the 4-mile stretch of road between Murgon and Cherbourg has long been felt and survey for a new bitumen surfaced road was completed during the year. Work on the new road will commence in the near future.

CHURCH MISSIONS.

The various churches controlling Aboriginal Missions in Queensland have continued to evince a very lively interest in the welfare and future

of the people under their control. To these Mission workers on the established Missions, isolated from the general amenities of life, a debt of gratitude is owing. Naturally, it can be appreciated that church funds are inadequate to meet the requirements of an advanced policy of aboriginal care and protection which the State Government is demanding.

Apart from the payment of subsidies by the State to Missions, particulars of which appear in the Departmental estimates of expenditure, very considerable assistance has been rendered to the Missions in the supply of materials.

A survey of all Missions in the Gulf area last year resulted in the supply of cold-rooms and equipment for better water supply—viz., wind-mill, piping, tanks, &c.—and these have been gladly acknowledged by the Missions concerned.

An Austin truck and jinker supplied to the Aurukun Mission will materially assist in the timber-getting activities there.

In Loan Funds provision is made as material is available for recreation facilities, afforestation, greater agricultural development, cattle dips, domestic water supply, and staff and native housing.

The State Government is accepting in no small measure its responsibility for the furtherance of Mission development.

EXEMPTIONS FROM THE PROVISIONS OF "THE ABORIGINALS PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION ACTS."

In keeping with Departmental policy of encouraging natives both full-blood and half-blood to aspire to independent life, 110 applicants were considered to possess the necessary qualifications to live entirely without control and were granted exemption certificates. These qualifications in the main embrace education, conduct, working ability, mode of living, and general demeanour.

Experience over the past 20 years has indicated that the policy of education and general trade training is definitely one of progress and the fact that very few exemption certificates are revoked or handed in bears out this contention, and proves that the aboriginal, with the correct training and amenities, is quite capable of managing his own affairs.

Children are not included in the figure quoted, as their names are indicated on the mother's certificate.

EDUCATION.

Primary.—Schools are established and operating on the 3 Government Settlements, 12 Church Missions, 16 Torres Strait Islands, and 4 Aboriginal Reserves. Like most schools throughout Queensland to-day, accommodation is becoming somewhat strained, particularly at the Settlements, due to increased attendance.

The Settlement and Coastal Mission schools follow the syllabus used by the Department of Education, while the Torres Strait Islands and Gulf Mission Schools follow a specially prepared syllabus. The pupils are classified in the usual preparatory grades, and then progress up to Grade 4. Higher grades are taught as required, but normally the procedure is to arrange for

promising students to attend Church schools outside the Settlement or Mission. Reports submitted by the various head teachers disclose that scholastic progress during the year has been more than average.

In addition, each Settlement school, and to a lesser extent, the Church Mission schools are equipped and qualified to teach all branches of manual and rural training, domestic science, and cultural art. Music is encouraged, and at Cherbourg several pupils are receiving tuition in pianoforte.

During the year Woorabinda school was equipped with a 16 m.m. film projector, and

now joins Cherbourg, Palm Island, and Palm Island Convent schools in the field of visual education. In time, it is hoped to extend this branch of learning to all Departmental schools.

Manual Training and Domestic Science.—Boys of the senior grades, under the manual training scheme, receive tuition in cabinet-making, carpentry, plumbing, tinsmithing, saddlery, &c., while older girls are taught cooking, sewing, and general domestic science.

The number of children receiving primary education is 2,332, and the following table indicates the enrolment at the various Settlements, Missions, and Torres Strait schools:—

ABORIGINAL SCHOOLS.

Description of School.	Name.	Enrolment 31st. March, 1951.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Settlement	Cherbourg	150	147	297
Settlement	Palm Island	100	75	175
Settlement	Woorabinda	68	69	137
Reserve	Cowal Creek	19	19	38
Aboriginal Mission	Aurukun	42	42	84
Aboriginal Mission	Doomadgee	36	44	80
Aboriginal Mission	Lockhart River	36	24	60
Aboriginal Mission	Mapoon	27	45	72
Aboriginal Mission	Mornington Island	46	53	99
Aboriginal Mission	Mitchell River	31	32	63
Aboriginal Mission	Monamona	44	34	78
Aboriginal Mission	Weipa	16	16	32
Aboriginal Mission	Yarrabah	88	89	177
Island Mission	St. Michael's R.C., Palm Island	22	24	46
Island Mission	St. Paul's, Moa Island	35	27	62
Inland Mission	Normanton	9	8	17
Torres Strait	Island Schools	400	358	758
Reserve	Mutee Heads	23	20	43
Reserve	Red Island Point	6	8	14
	Totals	1,198	1,134	2,332

Secondary Education.—The following table shows the number of aboriginal pupils attending secondary schools in Queensland:—

All Souls' College, Charters Towers—4 boys.

Mt. Carmel College, Charters Towers—3 boys.

St. Mary's Convent, Charters Towers—2 girls.

St. Saviour's Convent, Toowoomba—1 girl.

End-of-term reports show that the progress of these children is comparative to the work of their white brothers and sisters. One pupil, Paul Burns, of Palm Island, is studying for the Senior Examination which takes place at the end of the present year.

It might be said that the native children attending such schools in comparison to population is very small, which is indeed true, but the aboriginal has always more or less been a practical man, and as a result, theoretical subjects must present difficulty. However, the existing Departmental system furnishes the opportunity for higher study, and in the not too distant future more children will be receiving secondary education.

ABORIGINAL ACCOUNTS.

As shown in the following table of deposits, withdrawals, and balances, the total amount held in trust in the savings bank accounts of aboriginals is £469,754 7s. 9d. Every facility is provided for aboriginals to withdraw within reason against their savings bank accounts.

TRANSACTIONS FOR TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1951.

	Total.		Savings Bank Balance as at 30th June, 1951.	Commonwealth Stock.	Total Funds.
	Deposits.	Withdrawals.			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cherbourg	26,757 19 11	25,914 3 4	3,853 12 5	1,000 0 0	4,853 12 5
Palm Island	27,340 8 3	25,216 9 8	6,140 19 2	16,000 0 0	22,140 19 2
Woorabinda	21,038 19 7	23,053 9 2	3,288 0 8	4,000 0 0	7,288 0 8
Various Protectorates	156,697 7 0	125,789 11 11	67,614 11 7	248,000 0 0	315,614 11 7
Torres Strait Islands	279,822 16 6	287,320 15 8	69,857 3 11	50,000 0 0	119,857 3 11
£	511,657 11 3	487,294 9 9	150,754 7 9	319,000 0 0	469,754 7 9

The balance, £469,754 7s. 9d., represents the savings of aborigines from their earnings. A separate account for each individual is kept by the Director of Native Affairs, and the current Commonwealth Savings Bank rate of interest is credited annually to each account.

Duplicates of these accounts are kept by the Protector of Aborigines in the district in which the aborigine resides, thus allowing the latter to operate on the account in his home town.

These savings-bank deposits are entirely the property of the individual aborigine, the Director of Native Affairs being the trustee of the accounts. Only the aborigine owner or a person authorised by such owner in writing can withdraw money from his account.

In the case of the deceased aborigine, immediately following death being reported, action is taken to distribute the estate amongst the next-of-kin. The number of estates so administered was 48 and the amounts made available to next-of-kin were £2,670 18s. 9d.

No aborigine is precluded from operating on his savings-bank account for his immediate needs and innumerable cases can be quoted of—

- (a) Aborigines receiving their exemptions from the provisions of the Act and receiving their savings in a lump sum to set them up in business suited to their calling;
- (b) Homes being built for aborigines from their savings;
- (c) Plant and equipment being provided from savings to allow the aborigine to improve his industrial status;
- (d) Funds made available for aborigines to enjoy a holiday at the seaside.

CHILD ENDOWMENT ACCOUNTS.

The Commonwealth Government child endowment is paid to aborigine mothers at the rate prevailing for white mothers. The payment of this endowment has proved of immeasurable benefit to aborigine children, in that it allows the purchase of luxury foodstuffs, better type clothing, &c., than was possible before its inception.

A close check is made on every individual account to which child endowment is credited to ensure that the expenditure by parents is in keeping with the purpose for which the payment is made. The number of aborigine parent endowees in the State is—

	Endowees.
Country Protectorates ..	332
Cherbourg Settlement ..	150
Woorabinda Settlement ..	82
Palm Island Settlement ..	89
Torres Strait Islands ..	701
	1,354

The annual payments on account of the children of these endowees totalled £72,942 5s. 10d.

When aborigine children are wholly maintained in Mission and Government Settlement institutions the endowment is paid to the institution funds. These funds are utilised

solely for the benefit of the children by providing luxury foodstuffs, better type of clothing, all forms of sporting and general recreation equipment, library books, and reading material.

The following table reveals the number of children in institutions for whom child endowment is collected :—

	Number.
Fantome Island	4
Woorabinda Settlement ..	40
Cherbourg Settlement ..	119
Palm Island Settlement ..	269
Hope Vale	9
Daintree Mission	10
Doomadgee Mission	111
Monamona Mission	141
Mitchell River Mission ..	80
Aurukun Mission	166
Mapoon Mission	134
Mornington Island Mission ..	165
Weipa Mission	53
Yarrabah Mission	338
	1,639

APPRECIATION

The loyal assistance forthcoming from all officers of the Sub-Department of Native Affairs is gratefully recognised.

The Under Secretary, Department of Health and Home Affairs, the Director-General of Health and Medical Services, the Commissioner of Police, the Manager, State Stores Board, and the staffs of their Departments have always readily afforded any assistance and advice needed.

The various police officers appointed as district protectors have carried out their arduous duties most capably. It would be impossible for the protection policy of the Department to function smoothly and efficiently were it not for these country police protectors.

The Superintendents and staffs of the Church Missions also deserve commendation for their self-sacrificing labours, often in difficult and trying conditions.

Reports of the Settlements and the Missions and in respect of Torres Strait Islanders are attached as appendices.

Appendix 1 ..	Palm Island Settlement
Appendix 2 ..	Cherbourg Settlement
Appendix 3 ..	Woorabinda Settlement
Appendix 4 ..	Torres Strait Islands and Peninsula
Appendix 5 ..	Island Industries Board
Appendix 6 ..	Yarrabah Mission
Appendix 7 ..	Doomadgee Mission
Appendix 8 ..	Monamona Mission
Appendix 9 ..	Lutheran Mission, Cooktown
Appendix 10 ..	Mornington Island Mission
Appendix 11 ..	Aurukun Mission
Appendix 12 ..	Mapoon Mission
Appendix 13 ..	Weipa Mission
Appendix 14 ..	Mitchell River Mission
Appendix 15 ..	Lockhart River Mission
Appendix 16 ..	Edward River Mission
Appendix 17 ..	Hammond Island
Appendix 18 ..	St. Paul's Mission

C. O'LEARY, Director.

APPENDIX I.

PALM ISLAND ABORIGINAL
SETTLEMENT.

(Superintendent, Mr. G. Sturges.)

OFFICIAL VISITORS.

The Honourable the Minister for Health and
Home Affairs, Mr. W. M. Moore, M.L.A.

Mr. T. Rasey, M.L.A.

Mr. R. J. Gardner, M.L.A.

Mr. I. Marsden, M.L.A.

Mr. K. McCormack, Private Secretary to the
Hon. the Minister for Health and Home
Affairs.

Mr. C. O'Leary, Director of Native Affairs.

Mr. R. J. J. Hart, Visiting Justice.

Mr. P. J. Richards, Deputy Director of Native
Affairs.

Mr. V. G. Sellwood, Public Service Inspector.

Dr. Johnson, Deputy Director General of Health.

MARRIAGES.

Fourteen.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

The medical officer's report covers this
important subject in detail.

NATIVE NURSES.

As pointed out by the medical officer in his report, lectures to the native trainees have, of necessity, been suspended owing to shortage of trained white staff. For some months the white staff has been reduced to the matron only. However, the native trainees have ably assisted to such an extent that all hospital services have been carried on successfully, which speaks for the initial training they have received and their desire to carry out their duties.

BABY WELFARE.

It can now be said that Palm Island mothers are "clinic conscious." They co-operate in every way required. The Baby Welfare Centre building is not entirely adequate for the work performed but it is anticipated that within the next few months a commencement will be possible on a new building which is designed to give every convenience and therefore allow the clinic to give even better service than at present.

EDUCATION.

As is the position throughout Queensland to-day, the head master's report indicates the serious position in respect to staff. Nevertheless, progress has been maintained.

In keeping with the Government's policy of placing higher education at the disposal of aboriginals, children from this Settlement are attending the following secondary schools:—

All Souls' College, Charters Towers—4
boys.

Mount Carmel College, Charters Towers—
3 boys.

St. Mary's Convent, Charters Towers—
2 girls.

One of the students, Paul Burns, will sit for the Senior University Examination this year.

Three children are attending the School for Blind and Deaf, Brisbane.

SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT.

The 1,000,000-gallon reinforced-concrete reservoir has been completed and is being tested. The maximum number of white officers employed on this job was two, all other labour being aboriginals, mainly from this Settlement, with several from Cherbourg Settlement.

The ability of the natives employed on this job can be gauged when it is noted that the work has been completed under the estimated cost. This fact also reflects great credit on the constructing authority, the Department of Local Government.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

It was found necessary to considerably enlarge this project. As a consequence, it is not quite completed. However, great progress has been made and it is anticipated that the project will be brought into full commission in August this year.

STAFF QUARTERS.

The transfer of the superintendent's quarters from the now closed Fantome Island Lock Hospital and re-erection as nurses' quarters at this Settlement has been completed. The quarters are connected to the hospital by a covered and protected gangway. The lay-out has been redesigned to give accommodation for a matron and four sisters, each having their own separate bedroom and a lounge. The quarters have new furnishings throughout and are most comfortable.

Material shortages have prevented a commencement on new staff quarters. However, materials are now beginning to come forward and it is anticipated that work on one staff cottage will commence shortly. One of the existing staff quarters was divided into two flats. This has eased staff accommodation to some extent.

NATIVE HOUSING.

Here, again, material shortages have prevented an extensive building programme. However, existing buildings have been maintained.

RAINFALL.

Rainfall was such that for many months implements could not be put on the land. This, coupled with the severe flooding and the fact that the Settlement was without the services of a farm overseer for some time, greatly retarded production.

FARM PRODUCE.

Lettuce	2,400 head
Radish	21 sacks
Chinese cabbage	51 sacks
Marrow	120
Cucumber	3,400
Eschalotte	15 sacks
English cabbage	707 head
Tomatoes	44 cwt.
Sweet potatoes	45 cwt.
Pumpkin	70 cwt.
French beans	10 cwt.
Silver Beet	9 sacks
Carrots	8 sacks
Khol Rabi	5 sacks
Beetroot	2 sacks
Peas	3 sacks
Turnips	7 sacks
Watermelon	1,019
Bananas	15 bunches
Pineapples	286
Rosellas	4 cwt.

DAIRY.

Milk produced—6,044.75 gallons.

STOCK.

On hand at 31-3-51—3 bulls, 61 dairy cows, 64 weaners, 54 heifers, 22 steers, 27 working bullocks, making a total of 231.

Three bulls and thirty heifers were purchased on the Atherton Tableland and transported to the Settlement. All were good grade animals. Selection was made by officers of the Department of Agriculture and Stock.

HORSES.

Horses on hand 31-3-51—20 draught, 15 saddle.

Many of the horses are aged and need replacing. Funds are available for the purchase but, unfortunately, the transport has so far proved difficult. It is hoped, however, that during the winter when the weather is fair transport will be successfully arranged.

PIGS.

On hand 31-3-51—2 boars, 6 sows, 72 stores, and suckers.

Sixty-eight pigs were killed for rations during the year.

SOCIAL AND WELFARE ASSOCIATION.

The many and varied activities of this association are detailed in the President's report.

Year by year the native residents through the Social and Welfare Association are taking a more active part in many branches of Settlement affairs. The association is financially sound and provides many amenities which otherwise would be the responsibility of this Department. The association is a voluntary organisation and all who are associated with it give of their very best. Both staff and natives are to be highly commended.

BOY SCOUTS AND GIRL GUIDES.

Both organisations suffered temporary setbacks during the year. However, they are again functioning and both boys and girls are keenly interested.

EMPLOYMENT.

The demand for native labour especially for domestics is high. Every effort is made to meet the demand. Very few natives are returned as unsatisfactory.

Native cancutters from this Settlement cut 10,401 tons of cane and earned £3,834 2s. 1d. in wages. Advice is to hand that native cutters will be required in the Herbert River area for the 1951 season.

Natives generally are happy and contented in their employment.

CONDUCT OF NATIVES.

On the whole, conduct and behaviour has been good.

GENERAL.

As mentioned above, it is anticipated that an early start will be possible on the Baby Welfare building. However, the material supply posi-

tion is still far from good. Consequently such important works as native housing, domestic science building, manual training building are still in the blue-print stage.

In conclusion, I desire to express through you my appreciation to the Honourable, the Minister for Health and Home Affairs, The Under Secretary, the Director of Native Affairs, yourself and Head Office staff, staff of this Settlement, district protectors (police), without whose assistance administration would be much more difficult and to all those who have contributed to the wellbeing and smooth organisation of this Settlement.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

(Dr. R. Hilyard-Smith.)

In-patients—Male, 461; female, 427; total, 888.

Births—Male, 23; female, 17; total, 40.

Deaths—Male, 14; female, 16; total, 30.

Owing to an unfortunate accident to my person, the medical affairs of the Island for the latter half of this year have not been under my control. In consequence of this, for the past six months there has been loss of continuity of medical routine. For three months there was no resident medical officer here and the nursing staff had been reduced to one white sister for the whole hospital, during the last two months of the year, and the hospital is normally staffed by a matron and three white nursing sisters.

There has been a good deal of sickness during the year, the hospital admissions numbering 888 persons—422 more than last year. The increase was caused chiefly by epidemics of whooping cough, gastro-enteritis, and influenza. A number of cases, in the months of November and December, were reported by matron as German measles.

Births.—There were 40 children born on the Island during the year, 23 male and 17 female. In the 40 confinements interference was required in 5 cases. We had one stillbirth, following forceps delivery, and three deaths resulting from premature birth. One mother was lost through obstetrical shock, following manual removal of the placenta. Gross adhesions were present.

Deaths.—Thirty deaths occurred during the year, 14 male and 16 female. Of these deaths, 10 were children under 2½ years of age, being the victims of gastro-enteritis and whooping cough, or the complications of these diseases.

Native Nurses' Training School.—The school is now in its fourth year. It is a great cause for regret that owing to the acute shortage of staff sufficient time cannot be devoted to teaching the trainees. The lectures and test examination papers, *pro tempore*, have had to be abandoned.

Tuberculosis Survey.—The full survey report is not yet to hand, but following the survey (Mantoux testing with X-ray of all positive reactions) it was decided to undertake treatment of all those in whom definite abnormality was detected. With this in view, it was decided to send four patients to Brisbane and six



Palm Island Launch "Wondi."



New Nurses Quarters, Palm Island.

patients to Townsville for further treatment. Patients numbering five were admitted to the hospital here for treatment with streptomycin and P.A.S.

The request that 13 other cases be admitted to hospital here for bed rest and further investigation indicates a too-optimistic attitude to the bed position in the hospital. It would be difficult to find beds for these patients unless more accommodation is provided and the full complement of nursing staff maintained.

The staff position has been and still is very acute. Over the February-March period the entire responsibility for supervising the hospital rested on one white sister—an impossible position for efficiently managing a native hospital of 60 beds.

Baby Welfare Clinic.—Out-patients visits numbered 7,233. There are 196 children under 5 years of age attending the clinic at present. Much more illness than usual has occurred this year among the children and owing to the overcrowded hospital, every effort was made to treat the children as out-patients where possible. The shortage of a nursing sister at the baby clinic has made this a heavy burden for the baby welfare officer.

Ante-natal Clinic.—702 visits were recorded for the year. The women have accepted the weekly visits to the clinic for advice and examination as a normal thing now and this department works smoothly and well.

Dental Clinic.—411 patients were treated for various dental disorders this year. It is expected that more frequent visits by the dentist will be organised next year.

Fantome Island Leprosarium.—The treatment of Hansen's disease by the drug sulphretone has now been in operation just over two years. It is heartening to report that results are beginning to be seen and the discharge of patients is taking place. Several patients have recently been discharged and it is hoped that several more will be ready for discharge shortly. In a recent survey for tuberculosis among the 80-odd patients at Fantome Island not one case of tuberculosis was found.

Hygiene and Sanitation.—This important work has been carried out temporarily by Mr. Garrett, acting hygiene officer. All routine work has been attended to regularly and outbreak of disease from such sources (as far as can be estimated) has not been demonstrated.

The outstanding improvement of the year has been the introduction of brick pits for disposal of nightsoil. These are an improvement on the old type of pit which was likely to subside in the wet season, built as they were on sandy soil.

PALM ISLAND ABORIGINAL SCHOOL REPORT.

(Head Teacher, Mr. F. A. Krause.)

As in previous years, staffing still is the major problem here. This school was one assistant short all last year and for the early part of this year was two teachers short.

This has considerably increased work. Mr. McCarthy, of Cherbourg Settlement, was acting head teacher for six months, during which period I was on long service leave. Native teachers, too, were in short supply, but this has now improved as two young girls taken from last year's senior classes are being trained as monitresses.

The children were graded as follows:—

Class.	Boys.	Girls.
IV.	10	9
III.	7	10
II.	22	8
I.	13	12
Prop.		
IV.	7	8
III.	12	13
II.	13	4
I.	17	12
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	101	76
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The attendances were reasonable, wet days, of course, being the main reason for any drop in the attendance.

Progress.—The progress has not been as marked as one would have hoped, but this can only be expected under existing circumstances. Every effort is being made to give these children as broad an education as possible and the film and wireless play a very big part in this school's curriculum.

Talkie films as well as filmstrips are extensively used and subjects handled in this way conform to Education Department requirements. Quite a library of filmstrips is steadily being built up and these supplement the movie in many instances. In addition, I had many hundreds of colour slides taken while on tour last year and many of these are proving most useful when teaching Australian geography and history as well as nature study.

The educational background that is slowly being built up through visual education is really surprising. Children now have a wider knowledge and are better able to compose their composition lessons.

The use of the school-wireless broadcasts are proving a great boon and the classes look forward to these lessons. The tiny tots get much enjoyment from the daily kindergarten sessions, while the senior girls enjoy the folk-dancing broadcasts.

The school library has been added to and many of the books on this occasion were specially selected for the preparatory grades. It is essential to cultivate a love of reading in the preparatory grades if we want them, as older children, to enjoy it and continue as members of the adult library when they leave school. For this reason clear, large type and easy-reading books have been selected for the younger children. There is always a feeling of achievement when a child can proudly proclaim he has read a book, no matter how small or large that book may be.

I find that the keenest readers also are good at self-expression and this associated with the wireless and the visual education is doing much to lift the shackles off the education of our native children.

In addition to the usual academic instruction, vocational training plays a big part in educating our natives to become industrious and includes manual training for the boys and domestic science for the girls.

There is a great need for vocational training buildings apart from the school so this class of training can be more effectively performed. Then, too, a fully qualified manual training teacher is most essential if these boys are to be trained properly. My experience with native teachers is that they cannot exercise the same authority as a white teacher, and they lack the ability to give sufficient attention to the finer details so necessary when training these young lads.

At present the manual training classes are conducted under the Primary school, and when these can be transferred to a separate building this space can be utilised and fitted out as a class room as conditions are getting rather cramped in the infant room, where four classes totalling 91 children are housed in a room 40 feet by 18 feet. Effective training cannot be carried out under such conditions.

Project work includes fish curing and making desiccated and shredded coconut by the senior boys.

A little gardening is also carried out by the boys in the middle grades.

Sports and recreational training receives constant attention and the usual playground games are encouraged.

With an improvement in the staffing position more progress can be made.

Conduct and discipline though reasonably satisfactory can be improved.

PALM ISLAND CONVENT SCHOOL REPORT.

(Priest in Charge—Rev. Father M. Donovan.)

During this period, in addition to the enrolment of 47 children in academic work, there was a group of kindergarten children and a domestic science class. Two girls from the latter are in training in the local hospital and two others found employment on the mainland. All are giving satisfaction. The two boys and three girls, who are continuing their studies at Charters Towers, are progressing favourably.

The school is under the direction of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary. The academic work is conducted by two teachers; a third devotes her time to the domestic science class.

During the past year the attendance was good and steady progress attained. In the domestic science class sewing, cooking, laundering, and gardening are the main interests of the girls, but the finer arts of embroidery and rug-making are not neglected. Several pieces of artistic work have been produced. As in the past years, the junior girls attend the sewing class one afternoon a week.

Gymnastics, games, and music form part of the programme as in previous years. The Australian Cantata executed at the breaking-up concert gave the large audience an occasion to judge their progress.

Interest in the annual show was very keen, the pupils carrying off 40 prizes.

The senior boys, under the direction of Rev. Father Donovan, receive training in carpentry, plumbing, fencing, and gardening. Ground has been levelled and converted into a good garden and fences erected around the Mission.

SCOUTING.

(Scoutmaster, Mr. F. A. Krause.)

During my absence the scout troop went into recess for almost six months. Prior to that meetings were regularly held and Mr. Gray, who acted as scoutmaster, was largely responsible for their progress. Unfortunately, he was transferred the same time as my own departure on long leave and though the native assistant scoutmaster tried to keep the movement functioning, it was with some difficulty this was partly done.

Since my return the troop is being reformed and we hope soon to be back to our usual standard.

GIRL GUIDE MOVEMENT.

(Captain and District Commissioner—Mrs. G. E. Krause.)

The girl guide company here has suffered a set-back. Their captain, Mrs. Waite, found it necessary to retire and the company was temporarily disbanded.

Since my return from extended leave I have reopened the movement and am temporarily looking after them until another captain can be obtained. There are 14 girls in the movement at present. During the time the company functioned they made quite good progress. The reduction in numbers has been largely due to several of the older girls leaving the Settlement to go to employment on the mainland, while a few have lost interest. The three patrols seem keen and eager and most of them are preparing for their second class tests.

Dances were held and stalls conducted and the proceeds from these have helped us along financially.

SOCIAL AND WELFARE ASSOCIATION.

(President, Mr. F. A. Krause.)

It gives me great pleasure to present to you this report of the activities of the Palm Island Social and Welfare Association for the twelve months ending 31st March, 1951. During the period under review I was absent for six months on long-service leave and my duties as welfare president were taken over temporarily by Mr. Duffill, to whom my sincere thanks are due.

Committees.—There are nineteen committees functioning, each comprising ten to twelve members with a member of the staff as its chairman. Each committee elects its own native secretary, and one of its members, who is their representative on the executive committee. The various committees meet whenever occasion requires.

The executive committee meets regularly each Monday night. Other members of the community may attend these meetings and may even take part in any of the discussions under debate,



Administrative Buildings, Fantome Island.



Patients Quarters, Fantome Island.

but only the executive representatives have the right to vote. Quite a number of the public regularly attend the executive committee meetings and by so doing are getting a better working knowledge of the Association's activities and can better explain to the general public what actually is taking place for their betterment.

Some of the committees have a comparatively easy job while others function all the time. Those shouldering the greatest responsibilities are the football, boxing, pictures, the show, library, dancing, and stalls.

Some committee members, though not often called into conference, do a splendid job working on steadily week after week. I refer mainly to the transport committee, whose members work early or late as circumstances require of them.

Arts and Crafts Show.—The show committee has easily the heaviest task to perform, for not only has it to organise this Settlement's show but it also has been responsible for arranging displays for Cherbourg and Woorabinda shows as well as for the Townsville show. Although the number of entries last show did not quite come up to the previous show, the quality of the exhibits was of equal standard.

To encourage exhibitors to bring along their exhibits a trophy was donated by a Townsville firm to be given to the exhibitor who brought along the greatest number of exhibits. The winner had just over one hundred exhibits, while the runner-up was only a few behind that number. These were both magnificent efforts and the Welfare Association presented a trophy to the runner-up as well. A further inducement is made by giving a special prize to the exhibitors who gain the most number of points in any one section, while another trophy is given to the one who wins the greatest number of prizes in the whole show.

The women's sections—cookery and needlework—were again well patronised and were easily the most heavily contested sections in the show.

The highlight of this year's show was the inter-settlement competition for the Jones Shield. All 3 Settlements put forth mighty efforts and Palm Island was successful in gaining first place at all three shows. This has placed us slightly in the lead on the two years' contests.

The show was officially opened by the Honourable the Minister for Health and Home Affairs, Mr. Moore, and the attendances of visitors from Townsville and Lucinda on both days was very encouraging.

The native sports, conducted during the period the visitors were ashore, were much enjoyed by them.

An official dinner was tendered to the Honourable the Minister and his official party, and others present were members of the staff, visiting delegates, and representatives from Woorabinda and Cherbourg Settlements, as well as our own show and executive committees.

Football.—Football is still very popular and the committee has quite a big task conducting its own premierships, which were won by the Hornets in both the junior and senior grades.

Our representative team played at Townsville, Ingham, and Charters Towers, and good first-class football was witnessed on each occasion.

Dancing.—The dancing committee also has a very busy time, as competitions are conducted extending almost over the whole of the year and teams have also accompanied the footballers on trips to the mainland, where they have always been very popular.

Boxing.—Boxing still is very popular and usually draws a large audience. Some promising boys have been seen in action and some of these have visited Charters Towers, Ingham, and Mareeba.

Stalls.—This Association depends very largely on the proceeds of our stalls—soft drinks and curios—for its main source of revenue. On picture nights and again on Saturday nights soft drinks, peanuts, and occasionally ice creams are on sale.

During the tourist season the Association handles coral, shells, and Pandanus articles, which are purchased by this Association from the natives and sold at a very small profit to the tourists. This method is working very well and provides the native with ready cash for his curios. The demand for these goods is increasing each year.

Fishing Contests.—A few fishing competitions have been held and these give the natives an opportunity of getting some enjoyment as well as providing a welcome addition to their diet. On these occasions some of the fish caught are sent along to the local hospital for the patients.

The "Palm Island News".—This paper still continues to enjoy a wide circulation and is eagerly sought after by both natives and whites alike. Copies are sent overseas as well as all over the Commonwealth and quite a number of local residents are regular subscribers.

During my leave the photographic section of the paper was not exploited but we hope soon to be able to use this to better advantage. Since my return heavy pressure of work has prevented me from including any pictures or photographs in the "Palm Island News," but I am hopeful of eventually training a native or two in this branch of the work so that photos of general interest might be printed more often.

The Gestetner machine which is used in this office has proved its worth over and over again as, not only do we print and publish the "Palm Island News," but we produce our own stationery heads, print various forms in use on this Settlement, and even bind some of these into books. This latter work is now done by a 15-year-old boy.

Library.—The public library, which is free and open to all natives on the Settlement, is becoming more patronised, as from 60 to 80 young people come along each Friday night to spend a pleasant hour or two reading.

Many periodicals, including "Walkabout," "Wild Life," "People," "Pix," as well as women's papers and numerous others, now are received regularly at this library. Books of fiction and travel are available for borrowing whilst a most up-to-date reference section is being built up. These lastmentioned books are not taken away but can be seen and extracts copied from them at any hour of the day on any day of the week.

New books have been added to it and to the children's section and the number of lending books would now approximate 1,000.

Pictures.—The open-air pictures are screened once a week, usually on Wednesday nights, and are very well patronised.

This year we are receiving a better class of programme, although occasionally a second-rate picture comes along. News reels are being supplied and these are proving very educational to both children and adults. More of this type and such films as "Unusual Occupations" are more desirable.

A serial picture was introduced to our programmes and these seem to be very popular, if not always very elevating.

Our filmstrip library is steadily building up and this type of picture is proving very beneficial in the school.

Projects.—This Association is most anxious to have its own brass band and the band committee is doing all it can by its own endeavours to raise the necessary finance through the sale of trochus shell gathered around the shores of this Island.

The Association is in a sound position financially, and with the growing popularity of the Island as a tourist attraction it should soon develop quite a business in coral and shells and other curios that should bring in a reasonable return.

Before concluding, I would like to place on record my deep appreciation of the interest shown by the Honourable the Minister, Mr. Moore, the Director of Native Affairs, Mr. O'Leary, and the Deputy Director, Mr. Richards.

I would also like to express my thanks to the Superintendent, to Mr. and Mrs. Duffill, and to those members of the committee, staff, as well as natives who have given their services which have contributed to the success of the organisation throughout the year.

FANTOME ISLAND LAZARET.

Health.—Some few years ago little hope for complete recovery was given to sufferers of Hansen's disease and it is now a definite pleasure to report that over the last 12 months several patients who fulfilled every test required of them were discharged from the Institution. This success in treatment can be definitely attributed to modern drugs, particularly sulphrestone, which was introduced some 2 years ago. Careful nursing and hygienic living conditions were also big factors.

All patients at Fantome Island were examined for tuberculosis during 1950-51 and the number of negative results to tests was 100 per cent.

Discipline and general behaviour is really good, the patients, despite their affliction, being happy and contented and the sisters in charge, the Franciscan Sisters of Mary, are to be congratulated on the fine work performed by them.

Development.—The major work in progress at Fantome Island is the installation of electric light, and while this work is more or less secondary to the Palm Island installation, all wiring of buildings and reticulation has been completed.

In the very near future work will commence on the Fantome Island power house in which will be housed the 20 K.V.A. 240/415 generating unit.

Incorporated with the electric-light scheme is a public address and wireless broadcast system, which will be of added benefit to both the staff and patients of the Island.

APPENDIX 2. CHERBOURG ABORIGINAL SETTLEMENT.

(Superintendent, Mr. H. M. Sidgwick.)

HEALTH.		Males.	Females.
Number of patients in hospital first day of year	17	..	17
Number of patients admitted to hospital	427	..	533
Number of patients discharged from hospital	431	..	552
Number of births	20	..	29
Number of deaths	8	..	9
Patients in hospital last day of year	25	..	18
Patients' days	8,568	..	7,854
Daily average of patients	23.47	..	21.51
Doctor's Visits—			
Number of visits .. .. .	..	..	54
Outpatients treated .. .. .	..	..	7,394
X-rays at Wondai			
Hospital .. .. .	..	..	38
Teeth extracted .. .. .	..	..	478
Major operations .. .. .	..	..	5
Minor operations .. .. .	..	..	62
Staff employed at Hospital—			
Matron .. .. .	..	..	1
Sisters .. .. .	..	..	3
Experienced nurses .. .. .	..	..	1
Native Staff—			
Ward Girls .. .. .	..	..	13
Ward Boys .. .. .	..	..	4
Domestic Staff .. .. .	..	..	15
Yard Boys .. .. .	..	..	2
Causes of Death, Cherbourg Hospital—			
Senile myocardial degeneration .. .. .	..	..	1
Congenital cardia failure .. .. .	..	..	1
Pulmonary tuberculosis .. .. .	..	..	2
Broncho pneumonia .. .. .	..	..	5
Pneumonia .. .. .	..	..	1
Shock due to fracture of humerus .. .. .	..	..	1
Virus pneumonia .. .. .	..	..	2
Intra cranial haemorrhage .. .. .	..	..	2
Volvulus of small intestine .. .. .	..	..	1
Congestive cardiac failure .. .. .	..	..	1

MARRIAGES.

Eighteen.

EXEMPTIONS.

Exemption certificates were issued to eight males and three females throughout the year. The holders of these certificates are now entirely free from Departmental control.

TRANSFERS.

From Cherbourg	27
To Cherbourg	20

EMPLOYMENT.

Number of Employees under Agreement—110.

During the year men and women have been casually employed by local employers on harvesting of seasonal crops and day labour, the harvesting consisting of peanuts, potatoes, onions, maize, and peas, while others were engaged for fencing, ringbarking, and general work. Labour has also been supplied to the metropolitan area and near areas, such employment being supervised by the Office of the Deputy Director of Native Affairs, Brisbane.

SAWMILL.

	Super ft.
Sawn timber recovered	204,194
Logs cut	741 = 432,484
Forwarded to Palm Island	14,213
Forwarded to Thursday Island	12,381

The sawmill operated very satisfactorily during the year, supplies of logs have been consistent, subject to weather conditions, the carting and snagging contractor giving good service.

In January the No. 1 sawbench was completely rebuilt, being converted from bronze bearings to ball bearings, and since then the bench has been 100 per cent. satisfactory. Owing to the abnormal wet January and February and a hold-up in obtaining bearings for the bench, the mill did not commence operating until the end of February, and had several broken weeks thereafter. Our bench hands have had the satisfaction of breaking the mill record output on two occasions this year, the record stands at 8,344 super. feet recovery for a 40-hour week. The new 30-h.p. boiler is not yet in service but when parts required come to hand it will be in operation in a few days. It is hoped by the end of 1951 we will have our planing machine in operation but it requires new bearings throughout and is a job few machine shops will undertake.

BUILDING AND CARPENTRY.

Over the year three gangs were fully employed, two on house building and one on repairs and maintenance, plus, at the latter part of 1950, two 2-men gangs on special jobs for short periods.

Work performed was as follows:—

- One staff house completed.
- Six native cottages completed.
- One native cottage demolished and rebuilt at the Aboriginal Training Farm. This was completed in 26 days—1,100 sq. feet house.
- Fifty-eight native cottages repaired.
- One small cottage built.
- Three garages built.
- Four native cottage extensions completed.
- Three staff cottage alterations and extensions.
- Three native cottages under construction.
- Alteration and repairs to nurses' quarters at the hospital.

The carpentry gangs also erected seats for the boxing, the welfare hall, and constructed hay sheds, built two road ramps, rebuilt ninety sanitary cabinets, as well as many small jobs, including truck bodies. The carpenter gangers, under Leslie Clements, are to be congratulated on the quality of their work, which more than compares with outside trade work.

All maintenance works are up to date and it is hoped to complete 2½ native cottages per month for the rest of the year, subject to supplies of nails and iron. The type of native cottage now being built can be put up by a gang of 6 men in approximately 18 days. In certain instances, persons who are interested enough in a new house are contracting to dig and put in stumps in their own time which, besides saving three days labour, also ensures quicker occupation of the home. Any householder who desires to line or ceil his home and is prepared to carry out the work can do so under the supervision of the head carpenter, the material being supplied. A number have taken advantage of this offer. The majority of houses constructed or under construction are on the back area of the Settlement.

PAINTING.

Competent painters are very hard to obtain, but an average of four men have been working most of the year. Work has been done on the hospital, dormitories, and staff houses. In June one gang will commence on the dormitory line of administration buildings and another on staff houses. Two staff houses fell vacant this year; they have been painted inside and out.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE.

Cement storm water channelling has been put down on all the main streets, the benefit of which was felt last wet season. A total length of nearly a mile was laid. Overseer, Mr. Hanley, and his gang are doing good work in keeping the roads in order.

WATER SUPPLY.

Recent chlorination plant installation to the existing water supply has been of great benefit. The present supply is far from adequate and the new system, plans of which have been drawn up, will greatly add to the Settlements town amenities.

HYGIENE.

The general standard of hygiene is good. This summer no large outbreak of disease which could be attributed to flies was experienced, which denotes the work performed during the year. The hygiene officer, Mr. N. S. Garvey, resigned in March last, and since that date until the appointment of Mr. A. G. Anderson his duties were capably carried out by native worker Bob McGowan.

RELIGIOUS BODIES.

The Church of England and Aboriginal Inland Mission conduct services in their churches every Sunday and hold meetings two or three times a

week. The Catholic priest from Murgon holds periodical services in the school buildings. These three bodies also give religious instruction to the school children on one afternoon of each week.

SPORT.

Football, cricket, boxing, and vigoro are outstanding sports at which the Settlement teams more than hold their own with local teams. Three of our boxers won awards in Brisbane at the last Jubilee Celebrations. In school sports, our children have again scooped the pool in the district sports carnival. Settlement teams visit the local towns from Toowoomba to Bundaberg, playing the majority of sporting games.

GENERAL.

During the year a new 4-ton International motor truck was purchased, a 15-cwt. utility transferred from Woorabinda Settlement, the latter replacing the Ford utility. Extensive repairs were carried out on the two 3-ton Ford trucks, and when a new engine is installed in one of them the Settlement will have three good trucks on strength. One truck is used almost full time on wood-carting and one assigned to the carpenters. The International is doing the general Settlement work. Firewood is a problem, the areas on the Settlement proper being almost cut out. Shortly it will be necessary to cut off the Forestry Reserve, which will allow the cutting of more timber and the use of better roads. It is understood that the Cherbourg—Murgon road is in course of reconstruction and will be surfaced with bitumen. Cherbourg vehicles collectively cover 1,000 miles monthly over this road, and the advantages of a good all weather road can readily be visualised.

DORMITORIES.

Girls' dormitory, average, 100; Women's dormitory, average, 22 women, 27 children; Boys' dormitory, average, 35 boys, 10 men.

Condition of all three dormitories is very satisfactory. Some painting has still to be done at the boys' dormitory. Brick built-in coppers have been installed in all laundries and minor repairs carried out. Built-in wash hand-basins are required but are unobtainable. Louvre frames are on hand and will be fitted to the women's and girls' verandas, improving living conditions.

With the advent of cold weather, hot meals will be again provided for the school children.

MEAT ISSUE.

During the year 145 beasts were killed for rations, but as the annual transfer of speyed cows from Woorabinda did not eventuate this year, it was not possible to increase the weekly killing rate. During the winter months an extra cow will be killed for soup and issued weekly.

Hides.—Sale of hides realised £183 15s., while a quantity of cow hair brought £32 16s.

STOCK.

The cattle generally are looking very well and the good work done by the heavy culling over the past years is showing results, this year's

crop of calves was particularly good, being record in numbers. Owing to the particularly wet season, worm infestation occurred amongst stock but systematic drenching over the last three months had good effect, and no further trouble is expected until green feed comes again. The paddocks are showing a very heavy growth of grass and with the advent of frost is very dry but all stock should carry their condition over the winter and quickly pick up after the first rain; 140 weaner steers were transferred to Woorabinda this year. The 1949-50 crop of heifers were heavily culled and 121 speyed, the bulk of the remainder will not be joined till 1952.

Owing to the lush season the bulls were left in the herd for 3 weeks longer this year. A very close watch is being kept on the young calves, and it is hoped to wean a big percentage this year. Dingoes are troublesome, and to eradicate the pest a programme of poisoning has been pursued.

Mr. J. McRae resigned in January, and the position of head stockman is being filled by a native. Mr. McRae's reliever is performing excellent work.

As soon as supervision can be obtained, a programme of ring-barking and suckering will be started on the Settlement paddocks, which will tend to improve the grass. Fences are in good order and several subdivisions will be put up during the winter and all fences repaired as required. Bulls are in good condition.

SETTLEMENT FARM.

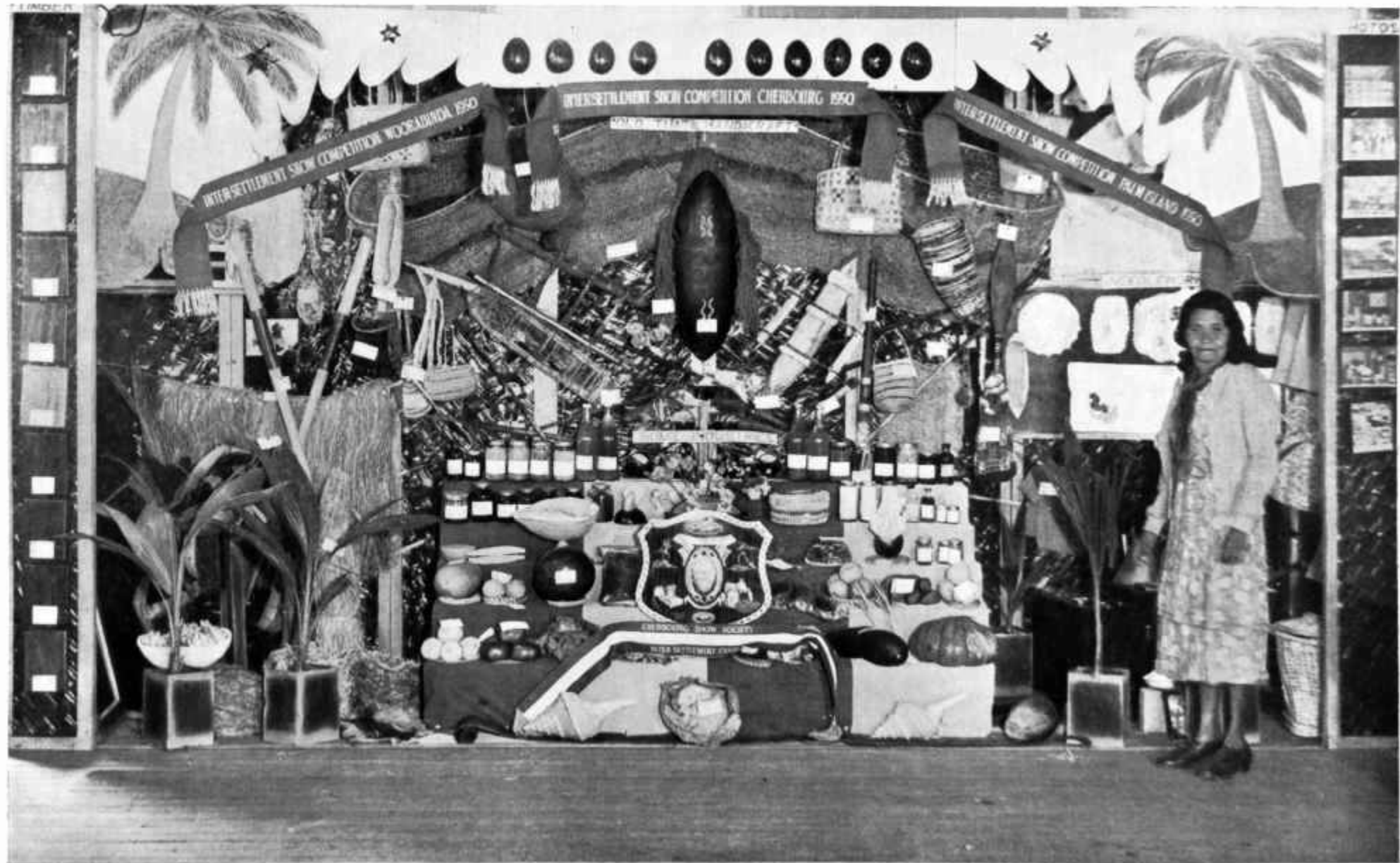
A good crop of tomatoes was grown during the year, with small supplies of cabbage and lettuce in season, all of which went to the dormitories and hospital, any surplus being distributed to native families. A small irrigation plant has been installed, capable of watering several acres, and it is hoped that later on in the year considerable supplies of green and root vegetables will be available for general issue.

It is intended to build up a portable irrigation plant, which will permit the growing of certain crops on portion of the Settlement home paddock which can be covered by irrigation and thereby extend our fodder-growing area.

STAFF AND APPRECIATION.

Mr. L. G. McDonald, who acted as superintendent from September, 1949, was transferred to Brisbane in December, 1950. Mr. J. A. McRae, head stockman, resigned in January. Mr. N. S. Garvey, hygiene officer, and Mrs. J. Waldock resigned in March. Mrs. Waldock was replaced by Miss C. Brewer. The position of head stockman has not yet been filled; however, it is understood that the vacancy will be filled before the half year, thus making a full staff.

I would like to place on record and express appreciation of the co-operation and assistance I have personally received from the retiring superintendent, Mr. McDonald, and from all members of the Cherbourg staff on my taking over the position of superintendent, and also the consideration and assistance extended to me by the Brisbane Office.



Palm Island Exhibit, Cherbourg Annual Show.

CHERBOURG SETTLEMENT SCHOOL.

(Head Teacher Mr. R. T. Crawford.)

Enrolment.—The enrolment for the year varied from 278 to 294. The mean quarterly enrolment was 292.

Attendances.—The attendances for the year were 26,191 boys and 27,222½ girls, a total of 53,413½. The average daily attendance for the year was 125.9 boys and 130.8 girls, a total of 256.7. The average attendance was affected by wet weather on occasions throughout the year, by colds during the winter months, by a "flu" epidemic during the latter portion of the year, and by a visit of the health doctors conducting X-ray examination and treatment where necessary. Generally speaking, the average attendance was very satisfactory.

Conduct.—The conduct of the children attending school has been quite satisfactory. Manners generally are quite well observed, and the children have been reasonably obedient and diligent.

Progress.—Taking all factors into consideration progress has been satisfactory. During the first half of the year the staffing shortage and uncertainty militated against reasonable progress, but with the increased and stable staff during the latter half of the year progress has been more like normal. As the staffing position appears to be stable now, the coming year is awaited with confidence, and it is anticipated that the progress will be consistent and even throughout the year.

Domestic Science.—This section has operated quite satisfactorily throughout the year. As usual, the children attending have shown a great interest and keen enthusiasm for the work, and all have made satisfactory progress. The enrolment varied from 35 to 39 girls. 40 girls from the middle grades of the Primary section attended here for needlework instruction. An average of 300 scones were baked twice weekly as a contribution towards the primary school children's lunch at 11 a.m.

Work was prepared for display at the various Settlement Shows and at Murgon Show. Girls from this Section prepared and served luncheon to Official visitors to the Settlement Show. Passengers on the Pioneer Tourist Coaches are given an opportunity to inspect the work of this section during their visit to the Settlement.

Manual Training.—This section has operated satisfactorily throughout the year. The enrolment, apart from the 30 Primary School boys undergoing instruction, varied from 7 to 15. The primary section attend on two days per week for instruction and have shown fair progress. The cabinet-makers shop is still attached to this section. Boys attending generally show keen interest and enthusiasm. Work for display at the various Settlement shows was prepared and exhibited. The Display stands required were prepared and erected by the boys.

A list of completed work appears at the end of this report.

Staffing.—Until the latter half of the year staffing was not stable. The school re-opened this year with two white teachers and two

experienced native teachers. Mr. N. Burns has not yet returned to duty and Miss G. Pohlmeier left on transfer on 16th June, 1950.

The Head Teacher was absent on extended leave until May. Misses J. Bell and L. Trappett commenced duty on 19th June, 1950. From the beginning of July the staffing position has been satisfactory and stable. The native staff have all given very fine service and are to be commended on their devotion to the duty required of them.

All members of the staff have been regular and punctual in attendance and have applied themselves earnestly to the duties allotted them.

Cleaning.—All cleaning operations were performed by the school children. Classrooms, other offices and equipment were cleaned regularly and in a satisfactory manner.

Accommodation.—As previously obtained, all accommodation is at a premium. Classrooms are taxed to the limit and do not permit of conditions that lead to self-reliant work. Organisation and administration continues to be a problem and will be so until all the primary school children are housed in the one building. It is requested that further attention be given to the provision of a new building that will overcome the present difficulty.

General.—The school was closed on—
26th April—Special Holiday—Nanango Centenary.

18th May—Special Holiday—granted by the Hon. the Minister for Mines and Immigration.

19th May—Holiday for Murgon Show.

21st August—Special Holiday granted by the Hon. the Premier of Queensland in honour of the birth of daughter to H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth.

25th August—District School Sports.

8th September—Cherbourg Show.

In the athletic field, considerable prowess has been shown by winning, for the seventh year in succession, the "A" schools' Championship at the South-east Burnett District Schools' Sports. Teachers, both white and native, gave much of their spare time to the training of the children to ensure continued success in this field.

The primary, domestic science, and manual training sections submitted numerous entries in all available classes at the Cherbourg Show, and were highly successful. A display from the school formed part of the general Settlement display at the Murgon Show.

The film projector continues to operate satisfactorily and much general knowledge is obtained by the children from this course. Our thanks are extended to the Department of Public Instruction for the regular supply of films. The usual breaking-up festivities were held on the last day of the school year. Children were entertained with various games during the morning, and luncheon was served in the school grounds. The afternoon was devoted to a special screening of suitable pictures in the Settlement Hall where all the children were guests of the Welfare Association. A very enjoyable day was spent.

It is desired to record the ready co-operation of the teaching staff, both white and native, in all matters affecting the school, both during school hours and other time. My thanks is extended to them.

Our thanks are extended to the Director of Native Affairs, the Deputy Director and his Staff, the Settlement Superintendent and his Settlement Staff, the Settlement Welfare Association, the natives generally and to others concerned for their kind and ready assistance throughout the year.

LIST OF GOODS COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR 1950.

Manual Training Section.—

WOODWORK.

14 tables
39 chairs
3 stools
3 kitchen cabinets
1 kitchen cupboard
3 occasional tables
1 sink cabinet
1 wash basin stand
1 linen press
1 combination wardrobe
1 dormitory press
4 card boxes
1 X-ray stand for radiologist

CABINET WORKSHOPS.

1 desk
1 tea tray
1 trinket box
3 tool boxes
2 stepladders
2 shaving cabinets
2 seats for Settlement trucks
2 dinner waggons
1 wooden suitcase
3 pairs easements
1 notice board
2 sets fixtures and 3 drawers

also: the usual exercise work including salt boxes, towel rollers, soap boxes, key racks, &c.

Show Exhibit Stands were prepared and erected at Wondai, Murgon, Woorabinda, Palm Island, and Cherbourg Annual Shows.

Much repair and renovation work was undertaken during the year, including various jobs at the Hospital, dormitories: steps at the Primary School, sparrow proofing at the Infants School, renovation of hearse and the making of stand for same; framing prepared for float for May Day procession.

Coffins were made as required.

A new workshop addition to the Manual Training section was cut out and frame erected. Some of the workmen of this section prepared and erected a projection box and screen housing at Woorabinda Settlement.

SHEETMETAL.

Apart from the usual exercise work, a number of tubs, buckets, cake tins, funnels, pannikins, dustpans were made when required. Various small repair jobs per performed in workshop and on Settlement.

LEATHERWORK.

3 pairs stirrup leathers
8 pairs reins
2 pole straps
2 hame straps
1 leather mail bag
1 riding crop
1 plaited whip
1 pair leggings

and the usual exercise work. Various repairs were effected as required.

SOCIAL AND WELFARE ASSOCIATION.

(President Mr. E. H. Goodchild.)

I have much pleasure in submitting the 6th Annual Report of the Cherbourg Social and Welfare Association, for the year ending 21st January, 1951.

Meetings.—During the year, regular meetings were held. Average attendance of members of the executive was 9. This is satisfactory, but could be much improved on. This Association welcomes the attendance of any member of the Administrative Staff, and any member of the Native community, at any meeting of the Association.

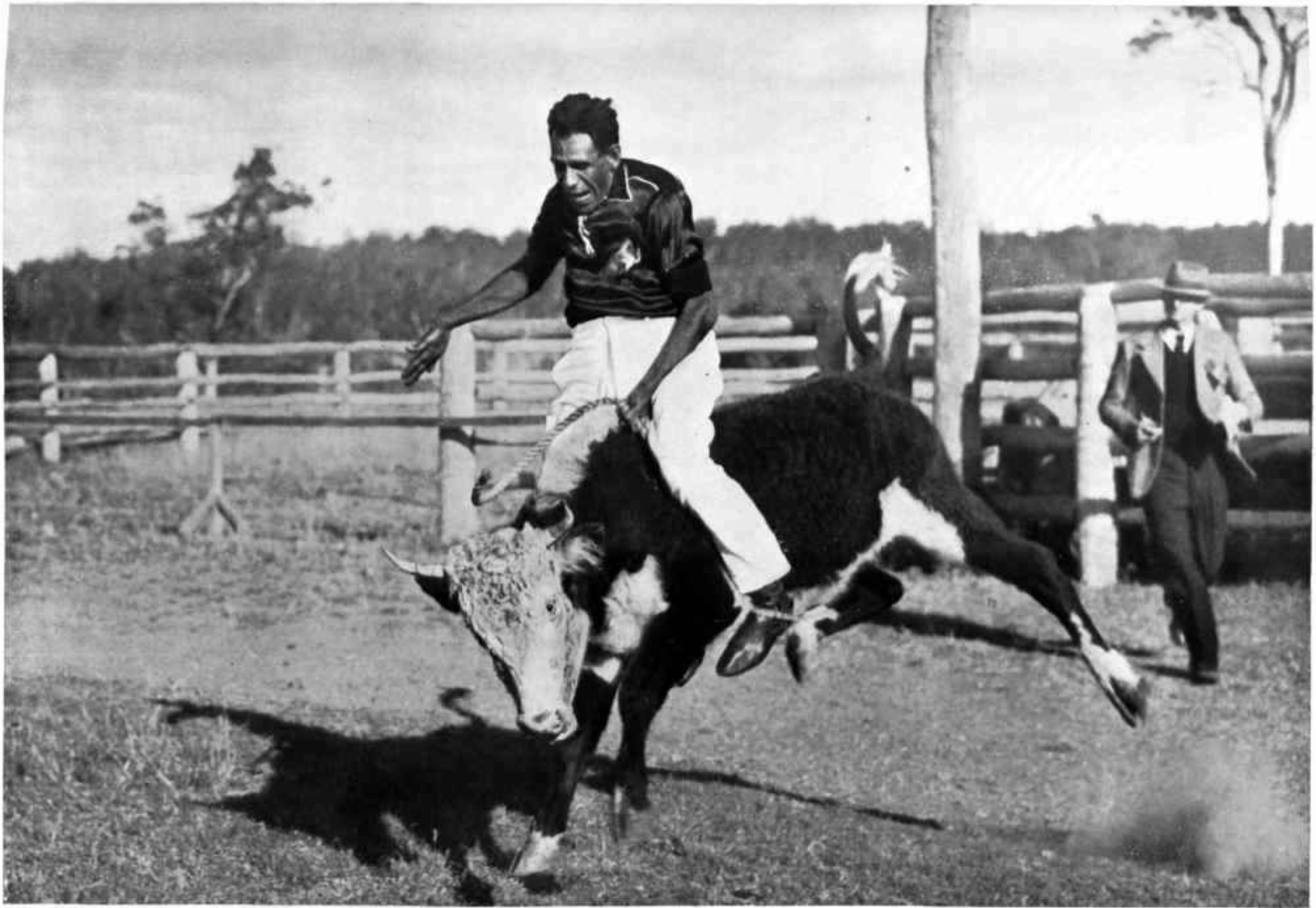
Finance.—The financial position of the Association is still sound. The Treasurer's report which will be submitted later shows that during the term of office of the retiring committee—

	£	s.	d.
Receipts for the year were	3,155	10	3
Expenditure for the year	3,146	0	1
Balance in Trading Account	9	16	2
Plus War Bond	100	0	0
Value of Assets	6,505	1	8
Amount paid off Loan	600	0	0
Amount owing Director	1,309	8	10

General.—Throughout the year the Association has successfully discharged its duty to the community. It has further added to the assets of the Association, and has given every encouragement and assistance to all sections controlled by the Association. Each section has been active, and a fair measure of success has attended their various efforts.

Sporting activity has been extended over a much greater area, and due to full programmes, many invitations for competition in sporting activity had to be declined.

Social activity continues to compare favourably with that of communities of a similar size, and visitors comment favourably on conduct and general demeanour at the many functions organised by the Association during the year. Outstanding functions during the year were, the Welfare Association Dinner, and the Debutante Ball, held in conjunction with the Annual Show. The Hon. the Minister, Mr. W. Moore, M.L.A., received eight debutantes. Among the Debutantes were two girls from Woorabinda, two from Palm Island, and four from Cherbourg. Other visitors for the Annual Show included representatives of the Federal and State Parliaments, Professor Wilkinson, Dr. Winterbottom of the Queensland University, and the Chairmen of the Murgon and Wondai Shire Councils. The Broadcast of the Official Opening was again done by 4SB. Prior to the



Steer riding, Cherbourg Annual Show.

opening, 4SB took a microphone around the pavilion and described the inter-settlement exhibits and other displays over the air. In addition, the manager of Station 4KQ, Brisbane, together with his technicians, recorded the Official opening, the Official Tour of the Settlement by the Ministerial Party, and also the presentation of the Debutantes. These recordings were broadcast from Brisbane and received very favourable comment. Station 4KQ also included Cherbourg in their Suburban and Country Talent Quest during December last. The recording made on this occasion was broadcast from Brisbane on the 26th of December. This Association takes this opportunity of thanking the management of 4KQ for its publicity of the work of the Association, and the work being carried out by the Administration in general.

During the period under review, we have welcomed Mr. H. M. Sidgwick as Superintendent of this Settlement. Mr. Sidgwick has already shown a keen interest in the affairs of the Association, and we feel that, working in close co-operation with the Administration, many further improvements will be effected during the coming year.

Delegates from Cherbourg attended the Woorabinda and Palm Island Shows, and we thank our sister organisations for the hospitality extended to our representatives. We were pleased to entertain delegates from both the above organisations during our Annual Show.

Inter-settlement sporting activity was undertaken during the year, with football and boxing teams visiting Woorabinda for their Annual Show, and Woorabinda returning these visits during our Show. These visits created great interest on both Settlements. Cherbourg won the football games, but Woorabinda evened events by winning the boxing.

The hearse purchased by the Association has been put into commission, and with the good type coffins being made at the Rural School, funerals are now conducted with fitting dignity. This association has also made arrangements for the proper care and maintenance of the Cemeteries which will be put into operation shortly.

Recreation Hall.—The Recreation Hall is fully serving its purpose, as the centre of Social activity for this community. During the year a new piano was purchased. The old piano has been sent to Brisbane to be reconditioned by the Department, with a request that it be handed over to the School when finished. New projector heads were purchased and installed during the year. In addition to the screening of pictures, a weekly dance is held, and regular Boxing Tournaments.

During the year, 147 programmes were screened, each programme consisting of one Newsreel, one Short, one Serial Chapter, and two Features, making an approximate average length of 16,000 feet. Pictures have been screened regularly each week for four years, and during this period the Association has admitted 200 indigents, free of charge. This

Association screens a special programme, one each month, proceeds of which are set aside to pay electric light and power charges for the Association and the village area.

Christmas Festivities.—Under the direction of the Welfare Officer, Mr. E. H. Rees, on the night preceding Christmas Eve, Father Christmas distributed over 600 gifts to all children on the Settlement, and to indigent elderly people. Our thanks are due to the Department for assistance, and to the Welfare Officer who purchased the gifts on behalf of the Association, and for his untiring effort in making the night the success that it was. The New Year Night Celebration again took the form of a Dance, proceeds of this function being donated to the local branch of the Q.A.T.B. This is the Annual Benefit night for the Ambulance.

Welfare Officer.—The Welfare Officer continues to spend many hours attending to Association affairs. He has coached the Concert Party, Corroboree Party, and arranged floats for Processions at Brisbane and the Centenary Procession at Murgon last year. Our thanks are due to Mrs. Rees also for her interest in Association affairs, and for the work she has put into Association functions during the year.

Show Society.—The Fourth Annual Show was held on the 8th and 9th of September last year. The Show was officially opened by the Honourable the Minister for Health and Home Affairs, Mr. W. Moore, M.L.A., who was accompanied by representatives of the Queensland Parliament. The Honourable the Minister expressed pleasure at the quality of the exhibits in the pavilion, and stated they would compare favourably with those of any country show.

Show time presents an opportunity for the native residents of this Settlement to demonstrate to visitors that improvements, and a higher standard have been attained in their arts and crafts and way of living. The pride of the pavilion was the Inter-Settlement Competition for the Jones Shield, which was won by Palm Island. The sale of members' tickets was disappointing. This Association feels that all members of this community should give full support at all times to their Show Society.

Our thanks are due to the Show Committee for their untiring efforts during the year. To the Superintendent, Judges, Stewards and Exhibitors we express our sincere thanks, and look forward to greater effort in making the 1951 Show, a Show worthy of Australia's Jubilee Year.

Cricket.—Under the Presidency of Mr. J. McRae, Cherbourg Cricket has functioned smoothly and efficiently. Mr. McRae has now left Cherbourg and Mr. W. Ahlstrand has taken over the Presidency of the Club. This year the Club has again affiliated with the Murgon and District Cricket Association. During last year, Cherbourg was successful in winning the District "A" Grade Premiership.

This season, Cherbourg has three teams affiliated with the District Cricket Association, one "A" Grade team, one "B" Grade team, and one Saturday afternoon team. At this

stage, Cherbourg has a slight lead in the "A" Grade competition. The "B" Grade team and Saturday team have met stiff opposition. Our teams have nevertheless given a good account of themselves.

In the District team that went to Brisbane to compete in the Country Week Cricket Carnival, Cherbourg was represented by three players. Nomination fees and expenses were met by the Welfare Association. Cherbourg has also received good representation in District teams for inter-City and inter-District matches. The Welfare Association is arranging for the laying down of a Turf Wicket, subject to the procuring of a suitable area. It is felt that with the standard of play and the keenness of those participating, the laying down of a first class wicket is desirable and necessary.

A pleasant function was arranged during the year by the Welfare Association, when the President of the Murgon and District Cricket Association was invited to Cherbourg to present the Premiership Shield and Honour Caps to the Cherbourg Cricket Team. The Cricket Caps were supplied by the Welfare Association.

Due to the extra teams organised this year, further material was procured at the beginning of the season, together with two dozen new balls. Our thanks are due to Mr. J. McRae, Mr. W. Ahlstrand, Members of his Committee, and to all players, and we wish them every success. Our thanks are also due to the Superintendent for making transport available during the season.

Football.—Under the Presidency of Mr. E. H. Rees, the Cherbourg Rugby League had another active season. Matches were played at Too-womba, Gympie, Gayndah, Kingaroy, Manumbar, Murgon and Woorabinda. In addition to Inter-District Football, three Clubs conducted a Football competition on the Settlement, fielding Senior and Junior teams. The Clubs were Rovers, Kookooburras, and Hornets. Cups for competition were donated by Mr. and Mrs. Rees. The Senior competition was won by Rovers, and the Junior by Kookooburras.

An outstanding football event during the year was the visit of the Cherbourg team to Woorabinda during their Annual Show, and a return visit from Woorabinda to our Annual Show. Our thanks are due to Mr. Rees, Members of his Committee, and to all players for their interest in football during the year.

Boxing.—Under the Presidency of Mr. B. A. Smith, Boxing was enthusiastically supported during the year. Many tournaments were held on the Settlement, and Boxers from Cherbourg have taken part in tournaments held at Gympie, Kilcoy, Kingaroy, Gayndah, Mundubbera and Murgon, and have been frequently matched at the Brisbane Stadium.

One of the outstanding boxing events of the year was a tournament arranged during March last year. Two of Brisbane's leading trainers, Mr. Snowy Hill and Mr. Dick Cullen, brought teams of boxers from Brisbane. The Brisbane Stadium was represented by Mr. Pat Hill, Stadium Referee, who officiated in that capacity for the night. The main attraction was the appearance of the Australian Bantam Champion, Elly Bennett (a Cherbourg lad), who

gave an exhibition spar against Jack Harrison. A house packed with visitors from all Districts voted the tournament the best seen outside city areas. A team of boxers visited Woorabinda for their Annual Show, and Woorabinda returned the visit during our Annual Show. At the Tournament held at Cherbourg on this occasion, the main attraction was a bout between Fred Clay, an ex Palm Island lad, and Dan Sutton of Gympie.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Smith, Members of his Committee and all boxers for their interest during the year.

Concert Party.—Under the guidance of Mr. E. H. Rees, the Concert Party with which is included the Corroboree Party were very active during the year. Corroborees and Displays were given in Brisbane on Foundation Day and Labour Day of last year, in addition to the presentation of Floats for these occasions. Concerts and Displays were given at Ipswich, and at the Nanango Centenary Celebrations. Concerts were given at Murgon and Wondai. These parties, under the direction of Mr. Rees, look like having a very busy time during this year in keeping with Jubilee celebrations. Our thanks are due to Mr. Rees and all members of his party. We wish them every success during the coming year.

Vigoro.—Under the Presidency of Mrs. Rees, the Vigoro Club had further successes during the year. This season, however, the Cricket Club has been using the Sports Ground almost every week-end. When the new Civic Centre is laid out, ample playing areas for Vigoro, Tennis, Basket Ball, &c., is being provided for. Our thanks are due to Mrs. Rees and her contribution to competitive sport on the Settlement.

Inter-Settlement Exhibit.—The Inter-Settlement competition for the Jones Shield is entering its third year. The first round was won by Woorabinda, the second round last year was won by Palm Island. At the beginning of this year I appealed to all native residents to make a special effort to fully co-operate with the organisers and endeavour to bridge the leeway in points. If everybody gives of their best, there is every reason to expect Cherbourg to win this coming round.

Children.—During the year the Association again subsidised an advance of pocket money for all institutional children attending the Murgon show. It also assisted with transport, &c., for school children attending the Annual District School Sports. Assistance was also given to Cherbourg children who went to Brisbane for the Annual School Sports. Piano tuition for selected children is still continuing, and as referred to earlier, the Association has given the old piano to the School. The Association also arranged a special Free Picture Programme for the children for their Breaking-up Party.

Honour Board.—This Association considers that some tribute should be given to those previous and present men of Cherbourg who served in the 1914-18 War, and the 1939-45 War. Having this in mind, the Association has placed an order with a firm in Brisbane for an "Honour Board." Your committee has selected the design. This Board is almost complete



Ballet Girls, Cherbourg Concert Party.

and should come forward within the next few weeks. During the 1914-18 War, 29 members of this community enlisted, and 19 members in the 1939-45 War. Some of these men are buried in foreign soil. We trust that the memory of the deeds of these men will be an inspiration and example to the growing members of this community.

Cafe and Library.—The Association is making every effort to procure building material for an extension to the Recreation Hall to house a Cafeteria and Library, and your committee will keep you informed of any developments in this direction.

Seaside Home.—A further effort is being made to procure a suitable area at the seaside for the setting up of a seaside home where members of this community can enjoy a holiday or recuperate after illness. This matter is being passed on to the incoming committee.

Appreciation.—Our thanks are due to the Honourable the Minister for Health and Home Affairs, Mr. W. Moore, M.L.A., the Under Secretary, Mr. Robinson, the Director of Native Affairs, Mr. O'Leary, the Deputy Director, Mr. Richards, the Superintendent, Mr. H. M. Sidgwick, Mr. McDonald, and to all departmental officers who have shown an interest in Association affairs. To the Murgon Shire Council, the Murgon Show Society, the Wondai Shire Council, the Secretary, and to members of all committees for the work they have done, and to Mr. Rees who has accepted innumerable Association responsibilities.

Conclusion.—The incoming committee should have the full support and co-operation of every member of this community. Each member of this community should observe the laws of good conduct and general demeanour, give every assistance to the Superintendent, and to this Association in bringing about further improvements in all branches of Social and Recreational activity, and the living conditions of this community.

HYGIENE OFFICER'S REPORT.

(Hygiene Officer, Mr. N. S. Garvey.)

Infectious Diseases.—The general health of natives was closely watched and any person requiring medical attention was directed to report to the hospital.

Veneral Diseases. All patients suffering from these diseases receive treatment as directed by the Medical Officer, the number treated being five males and six females.

Hookworm Campaign.—Since Mr. S. Thompson, microscopist in charge of this campaign left Cherbourg Settlement to return to his headquarters in Cairns last year, over 70 specimens were obtained and forwarded to Cairns for examination. These specimens were obtained from personnel who were not available whilst the campaign was being conducted on Cherbourg, thereby bringing it up to date. Further, a supply of empty specimen tins was left with Vincent Law at the office, to be handed out to any untested persons immediately on their return to Cherbourg, as any arrival's first duty is to report to Law.

It is recommended that consideration be given to the suggestion that a suitable microscope and testing apparatus be purchased for use on Cherbourg for this work. The preparation and examination of hookworm samples is very simple. An operator could be easily trained and the microscope could be used for other similar purposes.

Drainage System.—The following works have been affected:—

- (a) Head stockman's premises—This additional system has been completed.
- (b) Mr. Ahlstrand's old premises—This house now being vacant, work has commenced on this drainage system in order to instal a more hygienic system. If this task is carried out on the lines laid down, a much more satisfactory result will be achieved.
- (c) Aboriginal Training Farm—Grease trap at the end of each open drain (piggery and dairy) installed.

Dogs.—Four dogs were destroyed in February and three in March.

Anti-Fly Campaign.—It is pleasing to be able to report that the new solution (7.5 per cent. D.D.T. and 2 gallons Gammazane to 44 gallons) appears to be effective. After the first general application of the solution throughout the area, absence of flies was remarkable—the three dormitories (previously badly infested) and most of the cottages being completely free of flies. However, some of the houses and huts nearest the rubbish depot showed some fly infestation. This situation will improve as the fly-breeding in this depot is being gradually brought under control. It was intended to re-spray the dormitories and cottage area just prior to my leaving the Settlement, but this was prevented by the wet weather. However, 44 gallons of the solution and three tins of 95 per cent. D.D.T. powder were on hand on the 22nd March.

A further measure in this campaign which was introduced was the weekly spraying of all lavatories.

Sanitary Service.—Again it is pleasing to be able to report that all sanitary cabinets in use on Cherbourg are in good condition. In addition there are thirty-four new and nine rebuilt (forty-three) on hand at present. This happy situation was brought about by the receipt of twelve new cabinets from Brisbane and by a few Settlement carpenters working a mere seven days repairing the old cabinets.

It was intended to have all pans tarred by this juncture, but shortage of transport for firewood prevented this.

Horses.—Treatment of and injections to sick horses carried out as directed by the two veterinary officers from Kingaroy.

ABORIGINAL TRAINING FARM

(Farm Manager, Mr. A. V. Wessling.)

During the 12 months from 1st July, 1950, to June 30th, 1951, the Aboriginal Training Farm has progressed and improvements have been effected. Fencing has been done which is of much benefit, and a paddock has also been fenced for holding of bulls from the herd.

Dairy Produce.—The gross value of cream sold to the butter factory will total approximately £850, in addition, approximately 1,344 gallons of milk was supplied to the Settlement Hospital, and another 1,680 gallons of milk was used by employees on the farm. Had this amount, which totals 3,024 gallons, been sold, approximately £200 would have been realised.

Dairy Herd.—There are 130 head of cattle on the farm, 83 of which are cows. There are several of these which will be culled within the next month. Some of these animals are aged, and others have been infected with mamitis. It is intended to cull these, and so build up the herd as to obtain the best results and to get the maximum production from the herd.

The time has arrived to give consideration to the purchase of new herd bulls, as two of the present animals, while still giving good service, could be considered as aged. The older animals are now being used to service the dairy herd, while the younger ones are reserved to serve heifers.

Plant and Machinery.—It is suggested that a complete new and modern milking machine be purchased, the present plant in use not being efficient. Quite a considerable amount of trouble has been experienced with this machine, uneven milking of cows, especially those which are heavy milkers is noticeable, with the result that cows are not properly milked and mamitis is often caused through inefficient milking.

Pigs.—The piggery has been carried on successfully and although an attack of pneumonia was experienced, this has now been cleared up. By decreasing numbers and alternate spelling of pens, this disease seems to have been checked and should help to prevent to some extent further recurrence. One hundred and sixty pigs had been sold to the Darling Downs Co-operative Bacon Association at the end of June, 1951. The average price per pig sold, has been approximately £10 10s. Some of the old breeders have been sold and six young breeders have been selected.

It is intended to extend by fencing more runs and erecting more sheds for brood sows and stores. Portion of existing pens will also be cemented. This has become necessary after much use and wet conditions. Any further improvements which may be necessary to increase production, numbers, and quality will be carried out.

Farming.—Farming operations have been carried out as efficiently as possible but weather conditions have curtailed growing of crops to some extent. Broom millet which was harvested, was of good quality, although the yield was not great. Potato and onion crops were spoilt to some extent by wet weather. Fodder crops were grown such as poona peas, millet, oats, cape barley and wheat. Lucerne, oats and wheat have been cut and stored for winter fodder. Pumpkins and sweet potatoes were also grown and used as fodder for pigs. It is intended to plant experimental plots of artificial grasses to ascertain which variety can be used to improve pasture and which will also be suitable for this particular type of country.

Orchard.—Citrus orchard is now reasonably well established and most trees are growing well. A power spray plant has been purchased and this will enable spraying to be done whenever necessary. Poona peas were planted and ploughed in, and fertilizer will also be applied during July, so as to improve the food value of the soil for the trees.

Improvements.—Improvements, such as hayshed, silos, and feed stalls for cattle and horses are to be erected in a convenient position so as to enable feeding to be done as easily and efficiently as possible.

APPENDIX 3.

WOORABINDA ABORIGINAL SETTLEMENT.

(Superintendent, Mr. R. W. Naggs.)

HEALTH.

The general health of the people remains very satisfactory. Dr. F. Macken carried out a complete X-ray examination of the population for tuberculosis, and further examinations of suspicious cases is being arranged. The visiting Medical Officer, Dr. A. Burke-Gaffney, has left Baralaba to take up practice at Coorparoo, Brisbane. Camp area hygiene, sanitation, drainage, and fumigation has been carried out by the Hygiene Officer with satisfactory results.

Hospital Statistics.—

	Males.	Females.
Patients in hospital, March, 1951	6	10
Patients admitted throughout year	234	294
Number of births during year ..	14	19
Number of deaths during year	3	3
Patients discharged during year	246	304
Patients in hospital last day of month	5	16
Total number of patient days ..	2,062	2,397
Daily average number of patients	5.6	7.1
Outpatients	23,011	
Operations, minor	20	
Doctor's visits	43	
Total visits	26,055	
Special visits	8	

General Cases.—Sixteen cases sent to the General Hospital, Rockhampton, for further treatment.

Veneral Diseases Clinic.

Gonorrhoea ..	7 cases
Syphilis	30 cases reduced to 12 cases

Immunized against whooping cough	224 children
Immunized against diphtheria ..	18 children
Hookworm	13 cases treated

Fractures—

1 compound
5 simple

Chest Clinic.—Rockhampton examined 17 patients. After Dr. Macken's tuberculosis survey, 15 children were admitted to the Woorabinda Hospital for treatment.

Deaths.—

No.	Cause.
1	Whooping cough
1	Pneumonia and meningitis
2	Tuberculosis
1	Malignant
1	Asphyxia from prolonged labour



Debutantes. Cherbourg Annual Ball.

Died in Camp.—One infant and one elderly man. Also one patient from Woorabinda died in Rockhampton.

Maternity Section—

	Males.	Females.	Stillborn.
Births ..	14	19	2

One stillborn infant 8/52 premature. In the other case, the mother gave a history of a fall. She had never attended Ante-Natal Clinic.

Maternal and Child Welfare—

Children under six months—			
Wholly breast fed			32
Wholly on artificial food			2
			<hr/>
			34
			<hr/>
Children 1-2 years			52
Children 2-5 years			9

Number of Attendances during the year—

Males.	Females.	Total.	Daily Average.
829	1,159	1,988	39.76

Expectant and Nursing Mothers—

Total Visits.	Daily Average.
1,543	15.4

Children receiving extra food—

Average ten each month.

Layettes given out 33

POPULATION.

The return of the ex Cape Bedford natives to the newly established Lutheran Mission, Cooktown, reduced the number of inmates in the settlement by 137. Population of Woorabinda now stands at 642.

EMPLOYMENT.

The number of aboriginals, particularly males, employed under agreement during the year was much smaller than previous years owing to the transfer of 137 natives to their home Mission at Cooktown, and the fact that the Settlement Works Programme required the retention of all male labour at the settlement.

NATIVE HOUSING.

The year saw the completion of 5 new houses, each with a floor space of 750 square feet, containing 4 rooms and a sleep-out. The houses, erected on high blocks, contain a laundry and bathroom built beneath the house. On the older buildings, all necessary repairs have been effected.

GARAGE.

Electric welding plant has been added to the garage equipment, thus enabling more repair work to be carried out on the settlement, which, without the addition of the plant, would have necessitated the performance of the work elsewhere. Two natives are now employed full time in the garage.

SAWMILL.

Log hauling throughout the year has been very troublesome because of the excessive wet weather, but nevertheless the timber cut was slightly in excess of requirements for the building programmes on Woorabinda and Foleyvale. Eighteen thousand superficial feet of timber were supplied for form making and scaffolding for the erection of the new water supply.

WATER SUPPLY.

Very extensive and satisfactory progress has been made with the erection of the new water tower and tank for our water scheme. The gravel for this job, 150 cubic yards in all, had to be hauled from the McKenzie River, and the round trip with each 3 yards, required 114 miles over some of the worst roads in the district.

POWER HOUSE.

Light and power is now supplied continuously over the 24 hours. Only very minor breakdowns have occurred during the year, and all troubles have been attended to by the staff of one white engineer and three natives.

RAINFALL.

Rainfall for the period has been an all-time record, 77 wet days yielded 555.27 inches.

FARM.

The exceptionally wet year has greatly retarded farming operations. From 120 acres of peanuts stooked, we were only able to obtain 50 bags, the remainder being ruined by excessive rain.

The unduly wet season also prevented the planting of the crops for this year at the required time, but a late plant of 70 acres is now completed.

Vegetables grown and free issued were satisfactory, but not up to previous years. Summary of quantities are as follows:—

Cabbage	7,252	head
Lettuce	259	cases
Rockmelons	96	
Beans	146	bushels
Squash	5	tons 14 cwt.
Sweet potatoes	5	tons 2 cwt.
Beetroot	2½	tons
Eschalot	16½	cwt.
Turnips	5½	tons
Cauliflower	2,395	head
Watermelons	2,650	
Cucumbers	61	bushels
Tomatoes	266	bushels
Carrots	2	tons 2½ cwt.
Radish	4½	cwt.
Onions	2	tons
Pumpkins	10	tons

DAIRY.

Supplies of milk have been very reasonable throughout the year, estimated production being 4,200 gallons. Milk sold to officers amounted to £25 1s.

PASTORAL.

Cattle held at Woorabinda on 31st March numbered 3,226 head. 866 calves were branded during the period—446 males and 420 females.

910 head of male cattle were transferred to Foleyvale. Included in this number were 140 head of steers held at Woorabinda after transfer from Cherbourg until they could be taken over to Foleyvale.

Cattle for rations totalled 310 head. The sale of 307 hides realised £402 1s. 7d. Sale of meat to officers amounted to £210 8s. 6d.

Horses.—Horses now total 148 head, 43 draughts and 105 saddle horses. Brandings for the year were 3 draughts and 20 saddle horses. Six saddle horses and one draught were broken in.

Pigs.—Pig raising at Woorabinda is not a successful venture and in the near future it is intended to transfer the piggery to Foleyvale Reserve, where the terrain lends itself to the growing of suitable food crops.

FOLEYVALE RESERVE.

Over the financial year, Foleyvale Reserve experienced a record rainfall as a result of which severe flooding, the second highest on record, occurred and retarded programme of improvements and reduced the usual agricultural operations. Despite such adverse conditions, farming results were considered highly satisfactory under the circumstances in that 900 bags of grain sorghum were harvested and 920 bags of wheat, the latter crop being the first grown in the district. Results achieved will encourage further efforts in wheat growing which will be undertaken in this financial year.

The programme of improvements included a considerable extension of ring-barked scrub, the clearing for cultivation of approximately 200 acres of land, the building of a new residence for the overseer, and the completion of a telephone line, the latter entailing the erection of 5½ miles of line.

Livestock operations for the year were highly satisfactory; 1,500 head of male cattle are now run on Foleyvale and will be sold when fattened. Sales of bullocks for the year, all of which were bred and grown on the Aboriginal Settlements of Woorabinda and Cherbourg, totalled 455 bullocks, which were sold at public auction for £14,462. A higher number of disposals and greater returns are expected during this financial year, despite adverse seasonal conditions.

It is intended to undertake the growing of irrigated crops at Foleyvale on a substantial scale and with this end in view officials of the Department of Irrigation and Water Supply have selected a site and made the necessary surveys. It is hoped that the plant will be purchased and in operation before the end of the financial year.

WOORABINDA SETTLEMENT SCHOOL

(Head Teacher, Mr. W. S. Jarrett).

The number of pupils enrolled at the end of March, 1950, was 84 boys and 92 girls, a total of 176 pupils. During the following twelve months (the period now under review) the numbers diminished, due mainly to the departure of the Cape Bedford people for their northern home. At the end of March, 1951, the boys numbered 68 and the girls 69—a total of 137. The difference between the two years was 39 pupils.

Classification of Pupils.—At the end of the year ending 31st March, 1951, the classification of pupils was as follows:—

Classes.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Grade V.	1	0	1
Grade IV.	0	4	4
Grade IIIA.	4	7	11
Grade IIIB.	7	7	14
Grade IIA.	5	7	12
Grade IIB.	9	7	16
Grade I.	14	10	24
Grade Prep. 3	10	7	17
Grade Prep. 2	7	8	15
Grade Prep. 1	11	12	23
Totals	68	69	137

Additional Children.—In addition to the children enumerated above there are four white children, sons and daughters of officials employed on the Settlement.

Staff.—The staff consists of two white teachers and four female monitors; also a coloured man who teaches vocational work to the boys.

SCHEME OF WORK

The full curriculum is attempted with vigor and enthusiasm on the part of the staff above-mentioned. In addition to the primary syllabus, vocational work for boys and also for girls is taught.

The girls are taught syllabus requirements in all branches of needlework and the boys are instructed in tinsmithing, wood-work and leather work.

Cultural Subjects.—In art are included black and white drawings, pastel drawings and modelling in plasticine. Some of the children show pronounced talent and many of their drawings are displayed in glassed frames upon the school room walls.

Vocal Music.—The quality is really outstanding. Part-singing is a feature of the school.

The use of an Estey organ, the property of the Head Teacher, made possible the acquisition by the pupils of a greater treasury of remembered songs. It is a matter for general satisfaction that the Department of Native Affairs has placed an order with the State Stores Board for a piano.

Shows.—At all the Settlement Shows held in Queensland, this school exhibits samples of primary work and vocational work.

Inter-Settlement competitive school displays during the year resulted as follows:—

Locality.	Cherbourg.	Palm Island.	Woorabinda.
	Marks.	Marks.	Marks.
At Woorabinda Show	60	69	75
At Palm Island Show	75½	75	82½
At Cherbourg Show	76½	77½	78½
Totals	211½	221½	235½

Night Classes.—In November, 1945, the Head Teacher inaugurated night classes for adults and the older school children and people of intermediate ages.

The following subjects (among others) are taught:—

Arithmetic, Physiology and Anatomy, Literature and Esperanto (an international language).

WOORABINDA SOCIAL AND WELFARE
ASSOCIATION

(President, Mr. C. Jensen)

It is with pleasure that I submit this, the Sixth Annual Report of Woorabinda Welfare Association. The period under review has been a successful one, many things having been achieved.

All officials and native committees connected with the Association have given noble support, their services being available when called upon for any activities.

Recreational and social events have been continuously conducted throughout the year.

Football.—Matches have been played against various centres on both our home ground and away from home, including Cherbourg, Rockhampton, Theodore, Baralaba and Duaringa. It is expected that many more matches will be enjoyed before the current season concludes.

Cricket.—This sport continues to be popular amongst inmates of this Settlement, many enjoyable games having been played and long distances travelled. One of our players participated in Country Week Carnival at Rockhampton and performed very creditably, both with bat and ball. All cricketers are looking forward to forthcoming season.

Boxing.—This Association continues to foster this sport and bouts were successfully conducted against Cherbourg, Mt. Morgan and Rockhampton. A troupe also visited Brisbane for Jubilee Celebrations and performed very creditably there.

Basket Ball.—This sport continues to provide interest for the ladies who have defeated Baralaba, Theodore and Craew this season.

Concert Party.—The concert party has been revived and is functioning very well. A splendid production was staged for Ministerial Party during Show. The services of George Hill, the blind one-armed musician and Australian Amateur Hour top scorer, are sadly missed, he having passed away recently. Vale George Hill.

New Year's Day Sports.—A highly successful sports and rodeo was conducted on New Year's Day, the highlight of which was the Mimosa Cup which took the form of a Draught Horse Derby ridden by women and was won by Alice Barnes, an old stager of the Settlement.

Annual Show.—The 1951 Settlement Annual Show was in the nature of a Jubilee Celebration and was opened by the Minister, Department of Health and Home Affairs, the Honourable W. Moore, M.L.A., Mr. J. Clark, M.L.A.; and Mr. P. Whyte, M.L.A., also visited the Settlement for the Show.

A procession which depicted the development of Woorabinda Settlement from the early days at Taroom up to the present days was held, suitable floats being entered.

A notable visitor was Mr. H. C. Colledge, a former Superintendent at Taroom and Woorabinda.

Talkie Screenings.—Our own plant has now been installed and has been functioning successfully for some time. A variety of suitable programmes have been shown including Western and thrilling serials. Flood lights and foot lights on stage from theatre have greatly assisted at concerts.

Racecourse.—A racecourse has been laid down and a meeting held recently was greatly appreciated by residents and visitors alike. These meetings will be repeated when technical difficulties have been overcome.

Public Address System.—A Public Address System has been purchased and has proved a very valuable help at all functions.

In conclusion, I would like to express thanks to the Minister (Honourable W. Moore), The Director of Native Affairs (Mr. C. O'Leary), the Deputy Director of Native Affairs (Mr. P. J. Richards), the Superintendent (Mr. R. W. Naggs), the retired President (Mr. J. Ranie), all officials and native committee who have rendered assistance during the past year, and look forward to a highly successful future for this Association.

APPENDIX 4

TORRES STRAIT ISLANDS AND
PENINSULA.

Marine Industry.—Naturally, to a people who look to the ocean of Torres Strait and the East coast of the Peninsula for their livelihood, the price of marine produce viz., M.O.P. Shell and Trochus Shell is a particularly important matter.

As with most primary products, fluctuations in market prices can spell prosperity or dismay to 1,200 Torres Strait Islanders and Aborigines employed in this industry. It is pleasing to be able to record that for the year under review the prices have been satisfactory and weather conditions favourable for good catches.

Prior to the war with Japan, Trochus Shell was marketed mainly in that country, but now the American market for Trochus Shell is probably the strongest in the world and the same remarks apply to the M.O.P. Shell.

At the commencement of every season, which is the month of January, awards governing wages and working conditions are prepared in the form of Agreements or Regulations. Payment to workers under these Agreements or Regulations is based on the ruling price at the time and the anticipated rise or fall as the fluctuation in markets occur.

In both sections of the industry, the period January to June, 1950, saw a very considerable increase in the price of Trochus Shell over last



Loading Trochus Shell to "Melbidir."



Patrol Vessel "Melbidir."

Such bonus to be apportioned, as follows :—

Two (2) diver boat—

2nd diver	One quarter of the above
1st tender	One quarter of the above
2nd tender	One eighth of the above
Engineer	One eighth of the above
4 crew	One quarter of the above to be equally divided among them.

Three (3) diver boat—

2nd diver	2 shares
3rd diver	2 shares
1st tender	2 shares
2nd tender	1 share
3rd tender	1 share
Engineer	1½ shares
4 crew	3 shares to be divided equally

Four (4) diver boat—

2nd diver	2 shares
3rd diver	2 shares
4th diver	2 shares
1st tender	2 shares
2nd tender	1 share
3rd tender	1 share
4th tender	1 share
Engineer	2 shares
5 crew	3 shares to be divided equally

9. The following grounds are not regarded as F.A.Q.—

East Coast, Darnley Island, waters on Papuan side of a line drawn from the Merrie England Shoal to Deliverance Island and thence to Boigu Island Reef along the maritime boundary of Queensland to the 144 degree of longitude.

Waters on the South side of the Batavia River in the Gulf of Carpentaria.

10. When vessels are being fitted out for work as diving boats, the owners will provide her with masts, spars, rigging, engines and compressors, sails, blocks, ropes, anchors, chains, cooking utensils, helmets and corselets, piping, lifeline, dinghy, approved medical kit, one set diver's clothing per diver and any other gear necessary to carry out working. Any replacement due to any of the above wearing out (except diver's clothing) to be supplied, but any replacements due to carelessness on the part of the diver or his crew to be paid for by the diver, provided that nothing in this section shall refer to the diver's responsibility for replacements or repairs or any work whatsoever required to the engines. In this case, Engineer's liability for damage shall be assessed by two approved engineers.

11. Any pearls won are the property of the diver and in the case of Islander divers the pearls shall be handed to the Director of Native Affairs direct or to the owners for sale on behalf of the diver. Owners shall not sell pearls without prior approval of the Director of Native Affairs.

12. Nothing contained in this Agreement is to be construed as conferring any title of ownership on the divers in the vessel or any gear or plant thereon.

13. The diver agrees to work the vessel without any undue loss of time.

14. This Agreement may be terminated at any time at the owners option without giving any reason therefor.

15. The owners may make advances on wages due up to 50 per cent., subject to accounts being in credit and with the prior approval, where required, of the Director of Native Affairs. The initial amount to be paid to crews on sign on not to exceed £2 per man. Bonus will not be paid until termination of this Agreement.

16. At the termination of the Agreement or sooner if the diver leaves the vessel, the vessel may be slipped, cost of necessary repairs caused by ordinary wear and tear to be paid for by the Owners. Repairs caused by carelessness to be paid for by the Diver.

If on slipping, it is shown that no repairs caused by the Diver's negligence are needed, the slipping costs shall be the owner's responsibility; provided that by arrangement with the Director of Native Affairs and owners, an amount of £100 shall be held in a special Trust Account by the Director of Native Affairs to meet slipping fees where applicable, and repairs through carelessness of the Diver. At the termination of the slipping all unused funds in the Trust Account shall be returned to the Diver. No claim will be recognised after the vessel leaves Thursday Island.

Where the Diver is other than a Torres Strait Islander or Aboriginal the owner shall retain the slipping reserve. In the event of no charge being made by the owner against the reserve within a period of six (6) months from the termination of previous season, all monies held shall be returned to the Diver.

TROCHUS REGULATIONS.

Minimum wages payable to Islanders and Aborigines employed on vessels licensed and working in the Trochus shell industry will be— Captain—Islander or Aboriginal—£20 per month and food; Islander member of crew—£15 per month and food; Aboriginal member of crew—£12 10s. per month and food:

Provided that crews shown to the satisfaction of the Director of Native Affairs to be other than able-bodied or experienced, to have their wages determined by a reduction of up to 20 per cent. of the above rates. Provided further that in addition to these prescribed minimum wages rates a bonus payment shall be made to the captain and crew of every vessel. Such bonus rates of payment shall be based on the season's production as follows for every vessel engaged in the industry:—

—	Up to 59 tons.	59 tons to 70 tons.	70 tons and over.
	£ s. d. per ton.	£ s. d. per ton.	£ s. d. per ton.
Captain	12 0 0	16 0 0	20 0 0
Chief Officer	6 0 0	8 0 0	10 0 0
Crew	2 0 0	3 0 0	4 0 0

Provided that bonus will not be paid in the event of any vessel not producing on the average 4 tons per month over the period of working, but in the event of that average being reached over the period of working, then full bonus payments shall be made as above.

The trochus fishing season for the purposes of these Regulations shall be regarded as commencing on the first day of February in any one year or on the date the boat commences work, whichever is the earlier, and expiring on the 31st day of January, of the succeeding year.

All crews shall be signed on before the Shipping Master at Thursday Island and, irrespective of the location of recruitment of crews, they shall be discharged at Thursday Island unless otherwise agreed to by the Director of Native Affairs.

The Director of Native Affairs will issue permits to recruit Aborigines on the East Coast of the Peninsula north of Cooktown and on the West Coast of the Peninsula and where such Aborigines are secured, the Director of Native Affairs may permit them to work for a period of 90 days before signing Articles at Thursday Island, conditional that the wages set out in paragraph (a) of this Regulation shall operate from the day that the Aborigine joins the vessel.

Aborigines recruited at Cooktown shall be discharged at Cooktown and wages paid to the Protector of Aborigines, Cooktown. Aborigines discharged at Cairns shall be paid wages in the presence of the Protector of Aborigines, Cairns, or his accredited representative. Aborigines discharged at ports south of Cairns shall be paid off in the presence of the Protector of Aborigines in that town or his accredited representative.

Employers engaged in the Thursday Island area shall report to the Director of Native Affairs and the Shipping Master there when any member of the crew leaves the vessel in circumstances other than on discharge from Articles before the Shipping Master. Any failure to advise the Director, in writing, of such absence or desertions will make the employer responsible for payment of wages during the absence of such member of the crew from the vessel.

Employees engaged at ports other than Thursday Island shall similarly advise the Protector of Aborigines at those ports. Aborigines engaged at southern ports shall be returned to their home ports on discharge, otherwise their return would be a charge against the employer.

TORRES STRAIT ISLAND BOATS.

During the year, 25 luggers and cutters, owned, captained and manned by the Torres Strait Islanders, produced produce as shown:—

	Tons.	Value.
M.O.P. shell	96	£ 40,018
Trochus shell	429	51,261

The total production, therefore, was 525 tons valued at £91,279. These production figures are a considerable improvement on last year, when the totals were 321 tons with value £52,186. The increased production was anticipated in last year's report and the increase of 203 tons indicates the improved industry of the Islanders.

Particulars of the individual boats' production appear in Schedule 3.

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS.

Torres Strait Islanders were enthusiastic in accepting the invitations by the Queensland Government to participate in the Jubilee Celebrations in Brisbane with aborigines from the various Government Settlements.

The display by the Islanders in Brisbane was unique in that it was the first occasion on which many of them had the opportunity of visiting the capital city.

Apart from the entertainment which they were pleased to give the people of Cairns, Cooktown and Brisbane, the visit was of inestimable value to the Islanders from an educational aspect. They were pleased and happy to co-operate in the display with mainland aborigines and it is felt that these men from Torres Strait left in Brisbane and Cairns a record of good conduct and spectacular display that will be remembered for many years.

The absence of the sixty men who proceeded to Brisbane did not militate against the enthusiasm of the Jubilee Celebrations in Thursday Island, and on the Islands of Torres Strait and the various church missions. The Jubilee Celebrations on Thursday Island were an outstanding display due mainly to the activities of the Islanders.

WELFARE.

On every island in Torres Strait, welfare clubs are established to provide entertainment for the people and recreation for both young and old. Regular concerts are presented on neighbouring Islands and in Thursday Island where excellent financial results are a fitting tribute to outstanding displays presented.

The following are the credit balances in these welfare funds controlled by the Director of Native Affairs and operated on by the Native Affairs Committees:—

	£	s.	d.
Badu School Benefit Fund	38	19	5
Coconut Welfare Club	88	3	2
Darnley "Kazoo" Welfare Club	177	12	5
Darnley School Welfare Club	8	17	10
Dauan School Welfare Club	2	5	7
Dowar "Southern Cross" Welfare Club	39	13	1
Mabuiag School Welfare Club	142	12	0
Mabuiag Welfare Club	23	18	6
Murray Welfare Club	142	1	1
Murray School Welfare Club	1	10	7
Mutee Head Welfare Club	115	19	3
Saibai Welfare Club	69	19	1
Saibai School Welfare Club	7	12	2
Yam Island Welfare Club	65	5	11
Yam Island School Welfare Club	13	7	0
Yorke "Seagull" Welfare Club	83	0	10

EDUCATION.

In the Torres Strait islands, apart from Mission Schools at St. Paul's, Moe (Anglican), and Hammond Island (Catholic), 18 departmental schools are established for the education of 853 children.

White teachers are appointed at Badu, Mabuiag, Murray and Darnley Islands and these teachers in their isolated locations give excellent service for the education of the people.

On the other neighbouring islands, native head teachers are in charge and as with all schools native assistants render a service commendable under the circumstances of their education and tuition.

Already representations have been made to the Honourable, the Minister for Education, for assistance in the establishment of a better educational system than is operative at present and indications are that improvements will be forthcoming. The aim is to provide refresher courses for native teachers and manual training for boys to assist them to a greater measure of efficiency as employees in the marine industry, and as native artisans in the district. Schedule 2 details the established schools and attendances.

UTILISATION OF ISLAND LABOUR.

Even to a greater extent than applies in southern areas, lack of competent labour for administrative purposes militates against the progress which it is desired to achieve.

Because of the scarcity of efficient male clerks, it has been necessary to experiment with Torres Strait Island youths and men to carry out routine clerical work in the office of the Director of Native Affairs and the office and stores of the Island Industries Board. The success which has met this experiment is most gratifying and gradually, with the tuition of this type of labour, the difficulties previously obtained are being overcome.

When it is remembered that on the various islands of Torres Strait, Torres Strait Islanders manage branch stores and assist as native teachers, it must be appreciated that this material is worthy of the encouragement which it is receiving. Generally, in their various capacities as nurses, clerks, storekeepers and teachers, the Islanders are reliable and accept the responsibility placed on them. Similarly, Torres Strait Islanders are being trained as artisans, viz., shipwrights, carpenters, plumbers, truck-drivers, etc. Without this labour, the administration could not function and the building programme implemented would be impossible without them.

HEALTH.

Generally, the health of the Torres Strait Islanders and Peninsula Aborigines has been satisfactory and no serious epidemics were recorded.

The Thursday Island Hospital continues to deal with all cases from the Torres Strait Islands and Peninsula Missions, but, as recorded in last year's report, there still remains the urgent necessity for more regular medical patrols of the islands and the Peninsula Missions. The inability to make these patrols and services is due solely to the lack of medical officers adequate for such extensive undertaking.

The Waiben Isolation Hospital, established for the treatment of infectious cases, particularly Tuberculosis, has functioned satisfactorily throughout the year.

The assistance in the administration, rendered by approximately 20 Torres Strait Island trainee nurses, has been appreciated. Generally, their conduct has been good and their services satisfactory. It is understood from the Medical

Superintendent that more extensive training will be undertaken next year to enable these girls to attain a greater degree of efficiency than is possible at present.

An indication of the work being carried out in the Thursday Island Hospital, the maternity section thereof and the Waiben Isolation Hospital, is revealed by the following statistics for the month of May, and it can be taken as an average over the twelve months under review:—

MAY STATISTICS.

—	T.I.H. Gen.	Maternity.	Waiben.
Admissions and Discharges.—			
Remaining in hospital, 30-4-51 ..	65	7	47
Admitted during May	49	19	6
Treated during May	114	26	53
Discharged during May	49	18	5
Deaths during May	2	..	..
Remaining in hospital, 30-5-51 ..	63	8	48
Daily average ..	64	6.9	48.2
Combined daily average ..	119.1	..	..
Maternity and Birth Statistics.—			
Confinements ..	15	..	..
Single births, living	15	..	..
Total births	15	..	..
Born before admission (including one set twins) ..	3	..	..
Outpatient Department.—			
Total number of new registrations	234	..	..
Number of re-visits	518	..	..
Total visits made	752	..	..
Daily average (6-day week basis) ..	27.8	..	..

These figures are quoted in that the majority of the patients dealt with are Islanders or Aborigines.

Schedule I. provides statistics of the small hospitals established in the Torres Strait area. These hospitals cater for cases not warranting removal to the Thursday Island General Hospital. This schedule also reveals statistics of births, deaths and marriages in the area. The excess of births over deaths 134 to 75 is a pleasing factor.

ACCOUNTS.

Particulars of accounts controlled by the Director of Native Affairs in the Thursday Island office, as apart from the accounts administered by the Brisbane office, are—

—	Accounts.	Balance.
		£ s. d.
Islanders	3,884	101,757 4 9
Aborigines	874	32,901 16 3
Child Endowment ..	969	8,871 14 6
Island Fund and others	66	12,393 13 1
	5,793	£155,924 8 7

For the period 1949-50 and for comparison purposes, the balances were £71,432, £25,710 4s. 1d., £9,075 6s. 11d. and £10,472 9s. 6d. respectively.

These increases in savings are a fitting and answerable reply to the critics of the Torres Strait Islanders that they are spending their money foolishly. There is practically no restriction, other than helpful advice and encouragement, with the Islander in depositing his surplus earnings into his savings bank account. Many of the men earning high wages have voluntarily placed large sums into special reserve accounts to be operated on at their request for the erection of homes, purchases of boats and for those essential requirements of

life which necessitate provision for the rainy day.

Withdrawals against Child Endowment are not restricted and the credit balances indicate a desire by parents of children for whom endowment is paid to conserve funds in a manner similar to the attitude adopted by their men folk.

Transactions on the above accounts for the twelve months ending 31st March, 1951, are as under.—

	Number of Accounts.	Deposits.		Withdrawals.		Balance, 1-4-50.		Balance, 31-3-51.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Torres Strait Islands and Missions	5,793	295,821	16 1	256,587	8 0	116,690	0 6	135,924	8 7
			Investments Commonwealth Loan				..	20,000	0 0
						£		155,924	8 7

DEVELOPMENT OF CAPE YORK PENINSULA AREA.

In July, 1948, the Government acquired an area of 44,500 acres of the Cape York Peninsula for the purpose of providing accommodation for Torres Strait Islanders and Aborigines, particularly the former, whose living conditions on the islands are not, in some instances, satisfactory.

Naturally, the acquisition of an area of virgin country such as this entails a very considerable amount of developmental work and such has progressed satisfactorily during the year under review.

The Superintendent, Mr. G. H. Thomas, has spared no efforts under the most difficult working conditions to convert this area into a small township capable of accommodating his white staff, native workers and people to be transferred there.

Since the work actually commenced in January, 1949, a varied programme of building, farming, timber getting, fencing and general development has been undertaken with the following results:—

Building.—Six staff cottages have been completed and one staff cottage is now nearing completion. These cottages of modern type and design provide good accommodation and amenities for the staff. Without such accommodation, it is impossible to expect white officers to reside in this isolated area. That these officers continue to work satisfactorily and to live contentedly is a tribute to them and to Mr. Thomas, who has spared no effort in their interests.

Contemporary with the erection of accommodation for whites, native accommodation has also been undertaken to the extent that six native cottages have been completed and six are nearing completion. These native cottages are an improvement on buildings erected for Aborigines and Islanders elsewhere in the area and indicate the determination of the Government to improve living conditions and standards of the people under its control and protection. In addition, a motor garage has been built and a workshop and storeroom completed. Water tanks have been built to enable water to be connected to the staff houses. None of these

improvements could have been effected without a small sawmill, which records an output of approximately 400 super feet of timber per day.

An area suitable for farming has been selected and thirty acres of land cleared. At present 10,000 pineapples are in growth; 300 citrus trees have been planted; 600 banana plants are showing promise and 150 pawpaws have also been planted. Peanuts and vegetables are occupying approximately 1½ acres.

Now that fencing is nearing completion, it has been possible to secure seven head of stock.

The intention is to develop the pig industry on the Peninsula by the importation of good quality boars and the utilisation of sows selected from the innumerable herds of wild pigs running on the property.

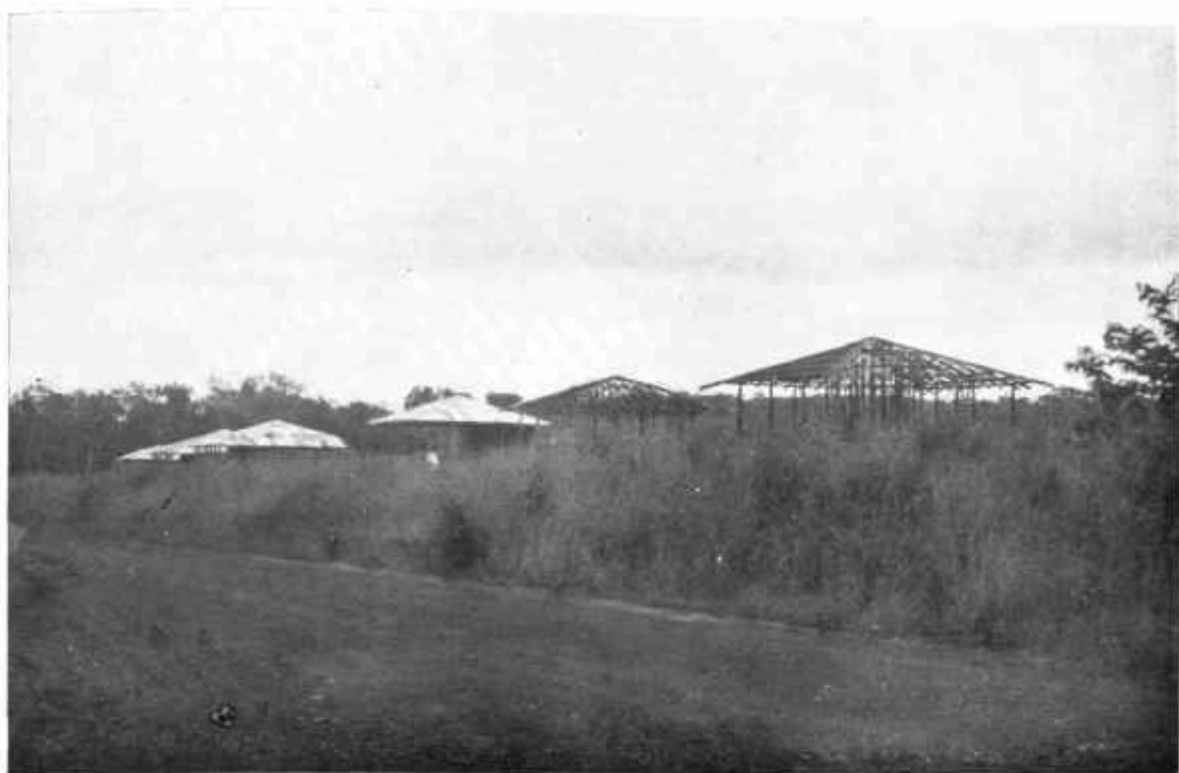
To cater for the needs of the people, white and coloured, a small store has been erected and is controlled by the Island Industries Board.

On the Somerset area, an adjunct to the Cape York area, a windmill has been completed.

Thursday Island is dependent to some extent on the Cape York area and will be to a greater extent as development proceeds. Already the Thursday Island General and Isolation Hospitals are dependent on the Peninsula for firewood, and 200 cords were supplied last year. In addition, the following was supplied to the Sub-Department of Native Affairs:—

300 house blocks
14 electric light poles
50 fencing posts
1,000 feet of rough timber
2,000 feet of boat timber

The future policy of this area aims at greater development of general farming and vegetable and citrus production. It is hoped to have early in August, a visit from Mr. S. E. Stephens, Horticulturist, Department of Agriculture and Stock, Cairns, whose advice and assistance will be of value to the Superintendent in determining the maximum production possible.



Islander Cottages under Erection, Cape York Area.



Banana Nursery, Cape York Area.

Preliminary action has already been taken for the acquisition of stock to build up the dairy herd and it is expected that next year such will be well established.

A particularly large and important undertaking is the erection of a weir across Nona Creek which should provide ample water for all irrigation purposes and a water supply for all householders now and in the future. Already a temporary irrigation plant is operating on the farming area.

Generally, the progress on the Cape York Peninsula has been speedy and satisfactory and to persons who have visited the area and who are capable of expressing an intelligent opinion the developmental work carried out over the last two years has been amazing.

PATROL VESSEL "MELBIDIR."

This vessel rendered excellent service throughout the year. In the early portion she proceeded to Rockhampton for overhaul of hull and engine and, since return to Thursday Island, she has been almost continuously at sea.

In addition to carrying stores to all Islands in Torres Strait, visits have been made to Lockhart River on the East Coast and to Gulf Missions on the West Coast of the Peninsula. Two trips were made to Cairns for urgently required stores and particularly timber. The vessel was used to transport the Torres Strait Island Jubilee party to Cairns en route to Brisbane and the cost of that trip was more than met by the return loading from Cairns.

The "Melbidir" is capable of carrying 150 tons and is the only vessel in Thursday-Island with sufficient hold and deck space to carry heavy cargo such as machinery, piping, &c.

During the year, the "Melbidir" patrolled a distance of 7,522 miles. The manning of the vessel is—1 Captain, 1 White Engineer, 10 Torres Strait Island Crew. The Torres Strait Islanders fill positions as engineer's assistants, boatswain, and deckhands.

The vessel carries all necessary life-saving equipment, a power dinghy and a two-way wireless service operates through the Department's Thursday Island installation.

RADIO SERVICE.

(Engineer-Operator, Mr. J. McKenna.)

Base Station—Thursday Island.

Out Stations—19.

Two additional outstation installations have been completed namely Edward and Mitchell River Missions and supplies of equipment are awaited for proposed installations at Hope Valley Lutheran Mission and Coconut Island, Torres Strait.

A set of portable equipment has been constructed for use of officials visiting the smaller islands where standard outstation equipment is not provided to allow them to maintain contact with Thursday Island.

Tests with a low-powered dry battery-operated transceiver are about to be commenced with a view to extending the service to small Islands where needs do not warrant installation of the larger and more expensive standard sets, but where some form of radio communication is desirable.

Twice daily traffic schedules are maintained and special schedules are arranged for medical or other urgent traffic. Traffic handled approximates 70 messages daily representing 2,500 words per day.

In co-operation with Medical Officers of Thursday Island Base Hospital, diagnosis of sick cases in the area is carried out per radio. Two polio cases from Gulf Missions were diagnosed and arrangements made for their evacuation by Cairns aerial ambulance. As the situation now stands practically every resident of Torres Strait has the means of obtaining advice from doctors at Thursday Island.

SCHEDULE 1.

HOSPITAL STATISTICS—YEAR ENDED 31-3-51.

—	Yorke.					Badu.					Saibai.				
	Monthly Average In-patients.			Out-patients Monthly.		Monthly Average In-patients.			Out-patients Monthly.		Monthly Average In-patients.			Out-patients Monthly.	
	M.	F.	Total.	No.	Treatments.	M.	F.	Total.	No.	Treatments.	M.	F.	Total.	No.	Treatments.
April, 1950	216	250	1.6	1.5	3.1	257	628	..	..	..	105	115
May	193	230	2.9	2.6	5.5	326	538	..	..	..	154	281
June	379	400	2.0	2.2	4.2	227	405	0.6	1.5	2.1	204	459
July	208	25	1.6	3.2	4.8	172	308	..	..	..	171	171
August	156	107	3.5	2.9	6.4	210	345	..	..	..	191	236
September	396	110	2.3	3.7	6.0	236	383	0.3	..	0.3	157	191
October	193	162	2.3	2.1	4.4	248	562	..	..	..	154	192
November	132	93	0.4	2.1	2.5	237	604	..	..	..	177	253
December	164	114	3.2	3.0	6.2	362	598	..	..	..	135	164
January, 1951..	300	255	1.0	2.7	3.7	215	438	..	..	..	234	394
February	345	315	1.2	3.0	4.2	198	366	..	..	..	314	341
March	290	258	1.5	1.0	2.5	76	226	0.3	..	0.3	218	361
	In-patients daily average					In-patients, daily average 1.78					In-patients, daily average .09				
	Out-patients, number treated 3,165					Out-patients, number treated 2,764					Out-patients, number treated 2,214				
	Out-patients, number of treatments 1,736					Out-patients, number of treatments 5,401					Out-patients, number of treatments 3,158				

SCHEDULE 1.
PERIOD 1-4-50 TO 31-3-51.

Place.	Births.	Stillbirths.	Deaths.	Marriages.
Thursday Island Hospital..	66	5	34	..
Thursday Island	4	..	4	14
Badu Island	4	1	2	5
Boigu Island	4	..	2	1
Coconut Island	1	..	..	..
Cowal Creek	4	..	5	..
Darnley Island	10	1	1	1
Dauan Island .. ..	..	..	..	..
Dowar Island .. ..	..	..	1	..
Mabuiag Island	4	..	1	1
Murray Island	12	2	5	4
Naghir .. ..	..	..	..	..
Rennell Island .. ..	..	1	..	..
Mutee Head	5	..	1	1
Saibai Island	13	1	6	4
Stephen Island .. ..	..	..	1	..
St. Paul's Mission	5	..	..	2
Kubin Village	2	1	3	4
Yam Island .. ..	..	..	2	1
Yorke Island .. ..	..	..	3	2
At sea .. ..	..	..	2	..
Total	134	12	73	40

SCHEDULE 2.

SCHOOL STATISTICS—YEAR ENDED 31-3-51.

School.	White Teachers.	Native Teachers.	Classes.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Badu Island	1	5	5	43	32	75
Boigu Island .. ..	..	4	4	19	13	32
Coconut Island .. ..	..	3	5	11	20	31
Cowal Creek .. ..	..	4	5	19	19	38
Mutee Head .. ..	..	3	5	23	20	43
Darnley Island	1	5	5	36	38	74
Dauan Island .. ..	..	2	6	10	8	18
Kubin Village .. ..	..	3	5	17	22	39
Mabuiag Island	1	4	6	27	24	51
Murray Island	1	7	8	55	60	115
Naghir Island .. ..	..	1	4	5	5	10
Rennell Island .. ..	..	1	3	6	1	7
Saibai Island	1	5	4	30	17	47
St. Paul's Mission	3	2	7	35	37	72
Stephen Island .. ..	..	1	2	4	..	4
Yam Island .. ..	..	3	5	14	19	33
Yorke Island .. ..	..	3	4	18	19	37
Dowar Island .. ..	..	2	6	10	5	15
Thursday Island	3	..	6	95	75	170
Red Island Point .. ..	..	1	4	6	8	14

SCHEDULE 3.

BOAT CATCHES, YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1951.

Name of Vessel.	M.O.P.	Value.			Trochus.			Value.			Blacklip.			Value.			Value Total Production.			
		£	s.	d.	T.	C.	Q.	L.	£	s.	d.	T.	C.	Q.	L.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Petta ..	25 2 0 6	10,543	4	2.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,543	4	2	..	..	..
Adelphi ..	22 5 0 18	9,353	19	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,353	19	5	..	..	..
Nainanga ..	12 7 1 7	5,201	12	11	10	17	2 2	978	16	7	..	..	..	..	6,180	9	6	..	..	..
Millard ..	..	..	..	..	53	0	1 16	5,765	3	10	..	..	..	..	5,765	3	10	..	..	..
Cessa ..	14 2 3 24	5,711	6	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,711	6	3	..	..	..
S. S. Dona ..	..	..	..	..	47	15	2 19	4,368	7	7	..	..	..	..	4,368	7	7	..	..	..
Adiana ..	..	..	..	..	30	16	1 15	3,849	18	8	0 0 1 10	0 19 0	..	..	3,850	17	8	..	..	..
Mosby ..	6 6 2 5	2,571	19	8	9	12	2 18	866	19	5	..	..	..	..	3,438	19	1	..	..	..
Maria ..	0 14 2 25	353	5	5	25	15	3 3	2,938	11	1	0 0 2 9	1 12 6	..	..	3,293	9	0	..	..	..
Cathorino R.	..	..	..	..	35	4	0 1	3,256	19	0	..	..	..	..	3,256	19	0	..	..	..
Gloria ..	..	..	..	..	23	3	1 16	3,188	17	0	0 1 2 23	4 15 6	..	..	3,193	12	6	..	..	..
Thoran ..	0 8 1 21	155	3	4	29	0	1 5	2,902	9	2	..	..	..	..	3,057	12	6	..	..	..
Loyalty ..	..	..	..	..	33	5	1 24	3,014	7	6	..	..	..	..	3,014	7	6	..	..	..
Adai ..	..	..	..	..	10	5	0 10	2,775	10	10	..	..	..	..	2,775	10	10	..	..	..
Nancy ..	2 19 2 8	1,196	14	2	9	17	2 12	1,472	17	0	0 1 0 2	2 17 0	..	..	2,672	8	2	..	..	..
Kismet ..	0 18 1 8	335	14	4	11	7	1 24	1,890	14	11	0 0 1 2	0 15 0	..	..	2,227	4	3	..	..	..
Rebecca ..	..	..	..	..	21	3	3 22	1,914	8	11	..	..	..	..	1,914	8	11	..	..	..
Tymapi ..	4 3 2 26	1,803	4	10	0	4	1 19	59	16	3	..	..	..	..	1,863	1	1	..	..	..
Caroline ..	2 16 3 21	1,112	5	10	6	5	1 27	746	4	3	..	..	..	..	1,858	10	1	..	..	..
Yaza ..	2 6 2 5	923	14	3	2	14	0 8	623	4	1	..	..	..	..	1,546	18	4	..	..	..
Zunal ..	..	..	..	..	6	2	0 19	831	10	0	..	..	..	..	831	10	0	..	..	..
Cape York ..	..	..	..	..	2	19	0 22	284	11	5	..	..	..	..	284	11	5	..	..	..
Mabuiag ..	0 16 1 11	281	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	281	1	3	..	..	..
Danie ..	..	..	..	..	0	12	3 26	175	13	10	..	..	..	..	175	13	10	..	..	..
Wadumo ..	..	..	..	..	0	8	3 26	40	8	4	..	..	..	..	40	8	4	..	..	..
Dinghy ..	0 18 3 19	442	8	6	57	18	0 15	9,315	16	5	0 7 2 22	21 11 0	..	..	9,779	15	11	..	..	..
Total ..	96 7 2 8	£39,985	14	4	428	11	0 13	£51,261	6	1	0 11 2 12	£32 10 0	..	..	£91,279	10	5	..	..	..

APPENDIX 5.

ISLAND INDUSTRIES BOARD.

(Acting Manager, Mr. C. O'Leary, Director of Native Affairs, from 1st January, 1950.

CONSTITUTION.

Island Industries Board is a Corporation created under "The Torres Strait Islanders Act of 1939." During the year under review, Board members were:—

Chairman—Mr. C. O'Leary, Director of Native Affairs.

Members—Mr. P. J. Killoran; Mr. H. A. Galloway to 31st March, 1950; Mr. C. R. M. Clelland from 24th February, 1951.

Secretary—Mr. J. C. Robertson.

Under its constitution the board may—

1. Carry on the business, trade, or occupation, as the case may be, of banker, blacksmith, builder, carpenter, commission agent, common carrier (whether by land or water), dealer (wholesale or retail), engineer, exporter, factor, farmer, fisherman (including fishing for pearl-shell, trochus shell and beche-de-mer), forwarding agent, freight contractor, general merchant, grazier, importer, iron worker, joiner, labour agent, lighterman, manufacturer, mine owner, money lender, plumber, shipping agent, ship's chandler, ship-broker, timber merchant, tinsmith, trustee, warehouseman, wharfinger, or other trade or business incidental or ancillary to any such business, trade, or occupation as aforesaid, or which in the opinion of the board can be effectually carried on in connection with any such business, trade, or occupation.

2. Acquire from time to time and at all times and either by construction, purchase, lease or otherwise all such buildings, premises, plant, machinery, equipment, and stock as may in the opinion of the Board be necessary or desirable for the carrying on by the board of any such business, trade, or occupation as aforesaid.

3. Acquire and distribute information relating to or as to the best manner of carrying on any such business, trade, or occupation as aforesaid and undertake the education, instruction, and training of Islanders or other persons in any such business, trade, or occupation and for that purpose establish, maintain, and conduct all such schools and classes as the board may deem necessary and enter into contracts of apprenticeship with any such person as aforesaid.

4. For the purpose of carrying on any such business, trade, or occupation as aforesaid have and exercise all such powers, authorities, and discretions and do all such acts and things as a private person carrying on business in Queensland might have or exercise or do.

5. Cause investigations to be made and from time to time report and make recommendations to the Director upon all or any of the following matters:—

(a) Any question relating to radio, commerce, or business carried on by or in which Islanders are interested or engaged.

(b) Market for goods produced or manufactured by Islanders and trade with other countries in and the method of marketing such goods.

(c) Generally, as to how the trade industries, and commerce of Islanders can be best encouraged, developed, and protected.

6. Finance any such business, trade, or occupation as aforesaid and for that purpose raise money on loan from the Governor in Council, the Treasurer, the Director, the Corporation of the Bureau of Rural Development or any bank or financial institution or person and mortgage or assign property of the Board (including contracts between the board and Islanders or other persons relating to or arising out of any such business, trade, or occupation as aforesaid).

TRADING.

In accordance with the Constitution, Island Industries Board owns and controls—

- (1) Twenty retail and one bulk store. The turnover through these stores for the year was £141,963.
- (2) A marine produce store where pearl-shell and trochus shell won by Islanders are received for sale. The sale of this produce realised £100,990. Of this figure £8,700 represents shell won last year but sold this year.
- (3) A slipway on which the 25 luggers and cutters owned by Torres Strait Islanders are repaired.
- (4) A cargo and passenger-carrying vessel which regularly services all retail stores totalling 18 in the Torres Strait.
- (5) A staff of 16 whites and 73 Islanders.
- (6) Assets to the value of £138,166.

In elaborating on the foregoing it can be recorded that Island Industries Board caters for approximately 6,000 Torres Strait Islanders and Aborigines through its 18 branch stores established on every inhabited Island in Torres Strait and on the Cape York Peninsula. The Thursday Island retail store and the 18 branch stores on the Islands and Peninsula are in the charge of Torres Strait Island Branch Manager. It is the responsibility of the Branch Managers to regularly through letter or the Sub-Department of Native Affairs radio, advise the Board's Manager of store requirements. Such orders are then conveyed by boat to the various stores and in the absence of adequate landing facilities it is necessary to unload all cargo by dinghy. Under these circumstances there must be losses in handling and damage by salt water. These losses naturally have to be met by the Board.

In effect Island Industries Board is a co-operative organisation which gives to the Islanders food-stuffs, clothing, hardware, &c. at a price which can compare favourably with Thursday Island prices plus, of course, handling charges which are naturally high. The following table indicates the turnover at all stores for the year together with cash and stock held:—

Islands.	Turnover.		Cash.		Stock.		Total.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Badu Island	15,824	14 10	211	3 8	2,554	16 2	2,765	19 10
Bamaga Village	506	2 10	124	16 9	534	15 1	659	11 10
Boigu Island	3,529	10 11	187	2 10	814	4 6	1,001	7 4
Coconut Island	4,460	13 3	135	4 10	1,396	5 5	1,531	10 3
Cowal Creek	10,073	10 11	8	7 11	702	12 8	711	0 7
Darnley Island	8,297	0 5	134	3 8	1,899	16 1	2,033	19 9
Dauan Island	3,464	1 11	205	18 2	762	13 7	968	11 9
Dowar Island	2,780	1 7	25	17 4	497	16 11	523	14 3
Kennedy	23,771	12 10	2	0 0	17,915	19 9	17,917	19 9
Kubin Village	6,574	18 3	140	13 4	1,169	4 3	1,309	17 7
Mabuiag Island	10,832	13 8	219	7 4	1,460	16 8	1,680	4 0
Murray Island	10,355	15 9	69	8 11	1,383	13 8	1,453	2 7
Mutee Head	4,030	5 0	54	18 11	310	14 6	365	13 5
Naghir Island	2,021	18 8	67	1 11	619	18 11	687	0 10
Rennel Island	1,159	10 10	74	1 7	615	6 2	689	7 9
Saibai Island	7,508	7 3	174	12 8	1,532	0 10	1,706	13 6
Stephen Island	2,488	9 1	123	13 6	729	0 6	852	14 0
Thursday Island	30,453	3 4	20	0 0	4,898	17 11	4,918	17 11
Yam Island	5,786	11 7	48	19 10	1,409	11 5	1,458	11 3
Yorke Island	4,474	1 2	33	9 11	1,466	10 8	1,500	0 7
Bulk Store .. .. .	..	..	..	..	20,844	19 11	20,844	19 11
	£	158,193 4 1	2,061	3 1	63,519 15 7		65,580 18 8	
Less Transfer of Goods not actually part of turnover		16,229 6 3						
	£	141,963 17 10						

Continuous supervision and inspection of the books and accounts of all branch stores operates; such inspection is the responsibility of one of the Board's officers. Where shortages occur beyond which the Board regard as reasonable a separate investigation is instituted but over the last twelve months it is pleasing to note that the necessity of such special investigations has arisen on three occasions only.

The following table reveals that of the actual turnover of £141,963, an overall shortage of £385 exists. This overall shortage is the difference between shortages and surpluses. Figures to be established by the Auditor-General will reveal that the turnover is as shown with an overall shortage of £585. However, since the close of the financial year on the 31st March last collections on account of the shortage recorded against Cowal Creek has reduced that shortage by £200. Therefore, on a turnover of £143,963 an overall shortage of £385 has occurred representing .27 per cent. When it is remembered that over the previous year on a somewhat similar turnover a shortage of £1,922 was revealed it can be appreciated that a very considerable effort has been made during the past year to have the stores operate on a more satisfactory basis.

It is maintained that no organisation situated similarly to the Island Industries Board could have improved materially on the recorded figures having in mind the limited business experience of the Island Branch Manager and the transport difficulties already mentioned.

Cowal Creek.—The shortage of £250 2s. 3d. has already been reduced by £200.

Mabuiag Island.—The shortage of £345 14s. 8d. cannot under any circumstances be reduced in that following this discovery the branch manager took sick, was taken to hospital and has since died.

Thursday Island Retail Store.—This shortage was subject to several investigations but without result. The officer responsible was dismissed.

	Shortage.			Surplus.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Badu Island				93	5	7
Bamaga Village				8	18	6
Boigu Island				17	10	8
Coconut Island				122	15	8
Cowal Creek	250	2	3			
Darnley Island				61	8	11
Dauan Island	31	5	2			
Dowar Island	14	5	0			
Kennedy Store	18	15	4			
Kubin Village	57	5	2			
Mabuiag Island	345	14	8			
Murray Island				22	6	5
Mutee Head				18	8	5
Naghir Island	24	7	8			
Rennell Island	80	2	8			
Saibai Island				76	4	6
Stephen Island				61	7	7
Thursday Island	330	19	1			
Yam Island	52	8	0			
Yorke Island				25	14	10
Bulk Store				112	2	11
	£1,205	5	0	£620	4	0

MARINE PRODUCE.

Apart from its functions as a storekeeper, the board accepts the responsibility of disposing of all marine produce won by the Torres Strait Islanders' fleet, controlled and managed by the Director of Native Affairs. Therefore, the board acts as selling agent for the Director of Native Affairs and as such is required to satisfy him that the best market is obtained for the Islanders' produce. In keeping with this responsibility, the board has regular contact with local and overseas buyers in America, England and the Continent. The board claims that the price which it received for this year's marine produce, viz., mother-of-pearl shell and trochus shell, compares favourably with any local producers, and by reason of its success in this direction it holds the confidence and appreciation of the Island worker.

Hereunder are contracts entered into by the Board with the Otto Gerdau Company of New York for the disposal of pearl shell and trochus shell for the 1951 season.

PEARL SHELL AGREEMENT.

This agreement between Island Industries Board (hereinafter called "the Vendor") and the Otto Gerdau Company of New York (hereinafter called "the Purchaser").

Whereas it has been agreed between the Vendor and the Purchaser for the sale and purchase of certain mother-of-pearl shell on the terms and conditions as herein set forth.

1. The Vendor shall sell and the Purchaser shall purchase all the mother-of-pearl shell produced, purchased, controlled or otherwise handled by the Vendor during the three annual seasons ending 31st January, 1952, 31st January, 1953, and 31st January, 1954.

2. The price to be paid for the said mother-of-pearl shell shall be as follows:—

(a) For the season ending 31st January, 1952:—

Grades AA, A, B, and C ..	£600 Australian currency per ton F.O.B., Thursday Island
Grade D	£480 Australian currency per ton F.O.B., Thursday Island
Grade E	£325 Australian currency per ton F.O.B., Thursday Island
Grade EE	£225 Australian currency per ton F.O.B., Thursday Island

This price shall include the cost of grading and packing as customarily carried out by the Vendor.

(b) For the seasons ending the 31st January, 1953, and 31st January, 1954, such price shall be mutually agreed on or before the 15th January, 1952, and 15th January, 1953, respectively.

3. Payment for the said shell is based on shipments by the Vendor f.o.b. Thursday Island and on notification by the Vendor of pending shipments the purchaser will arrange within thirty days of telegraphic notification by letter of credit in Australian currency to be opened with the National Bank of Australasia, Thursday Island, for payment against shipping documents. Drafts to be drawn at sight to be embodied in the clause of the letter of credit.

4. This contract shall be considered to be null and void in the event of there being no agreement as to the price to be paid for the said mother-of-pearl shell as provided in clause 2(b) above.

TROCHUS SHELL AGREEMENT.

This agreement between Island Industries Board (hereinafter called "the Vendor") and the Otto Gerdau Company of New York (hereinafter called "the Purchaser").

Whereas it has been agreed between the vendor and the purchaser for the sale and purchase of certain trochus shell on the terms and conditions as herein set forth.

1. The Vendor shall sell and the Purchaser shall purchase all live trochus shell as fished excluding grubby shell produced, purchased, controlled or otherwise handled by the Vendor during the three annual seasons ending 31st January, 1952, 31st January, 1953, and 31st January, 1954.

The season ending 31st January, 1952, will be deemed to commence on the 5th February, 1951.

2. The price to be paid for the said trochus shell shall be for the season ending 31st January, 1952:—

- (a) £300 Australian currency per ton f.o.b. Thursday Island.

This price shall include the cost of double bagging, as customarily carried out by the Vendor.

- (b) For the seasons ending 31st January, 1953, and 31st January, 1954, such price will be mutually agreed on or before the 15th January, 1952, and the 15th January, 1953, respectively.

3. Payment for the said shell is based on shipments by the Vendor f.o.b. Thursday Island and on notification by the Vendor of pending shipments the Purchaser will arrange within thirty days of telegraphic notification by letter of credit in Australian currency to be opened with the National Bank of Australasia, Thursday Island, for payment against shipping documents. Drafts to be drawn at sight to be embodied in the clause of the letter of credit.

4. This contract shall be considered to be null and void in the event of there being no agreement as to the price to be paid for the said trochus shell as provided in clause 2 (b) above.

SLIPWAY.

The Board has established a slipway for the overhaul and repair of the Torres Strait Islanders' fleet and the following vessels were slipped during the year:—

	Gross tons
Tymapi (Launch)	20
Sania (Cutter)	12
Vymar (Launch)	12
Adai (Ketch)	24
Nancy (Ketch)	20
Yanna (Ketch)	23
Bini-Bin (Launch)	7
Daphne (Launch)	10
Reggie P. (Launch)	35
Caroline (Cutter)	12
Sania (Cutter)	12
Gonah (Ketch)	22
Wandumo (Cutter)	7
Swingle (Launch)	35
Adelphi (Ketch)	22
S.S. Dona (Ketch)	22
Yanna (Ketch)	23
Reggie P. (Launch)	35
Danie (Cutter)	7
Torres Herald (Ketch)	23

In addition to slipping and repairing of luggers and cutters dinghies of all types are built as part of the equipment of vessels engaged in the marine industry. The number of dinghies supplied was twelve.

During the past twelve months and as indicated in the foregoing table, approximately 383 tons gross of shipping was slipped. Vessels from seven tons up to thirty-five tons of various types of build were slipped either for a complete rebuild or general repairs.

Repairs to vessels such as cutting, measuring, dressing and fitting is done by Torres Strait Island boatbuilders. There are on an average twenty such men employed. Four of this number are apprentices. The latter are taught to build and repair rowing dinghies, sail boats and motor launches, even to the installation of engines.

Six new dinghies, three sail boats and one motor boat have been constructed. Repairs to dinghies number fourteen. Many orders for sail boats and dinghies have been placed, but owing to shortage of dinghy planking from the South, it is difficult to meet such orders.

Of the employees 75 per cent. are Saibai Islanders. Men from other islands in Torres Strait have been recruited and much time and patience expended endeavouring to interest them in the art of boat building. A measure of success has resulted but not to the same extent as applies to the Saibai Islanders who appear to have an aptitude for this type of work and desire to learn all that can be taught them in the shipbuilding trade.

Classes are held twice weekly during working hours to enable the apprentices to learn the theoretical side of their work. Two leading coloured hands are taught the responsibility of leading men in this work. Saw sharpening, maintenance of machinery and slip cradles is performed regularly each week. Wire rope splicing, strapping blocks and rigging is carried out and fitted on different types of vessels.

Each coloured employee is a member of a registered industrial union. Award wages and overtime are paid to these Islanders in accordance with the award. In fact, their working conditions, wages, &c., are similar to those given whites.

More than half of the twenty coloured boat builders have spent four years of their time learning the arts and crafts of ship building and are qualified enough to take up a position in any southern shipyard.

GENERAL TRADING.

For its supplies of foodstuffs, clothing, ship's chandlery, hardware, etc., Island Industries Board is dependent on the State Stores Board, Brisbane, with local purchases where essential. Despite the difficulty in obtaining many lines, a regular flow of trade has been maintained and, generally, customers are satisfied with the treatment received. A comparison of trading figures, over the past three years, is revealed in the following:—

	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.
	£	£	£
Stock (end of year) ..	38,355	50,456	51,974
Sales	120,844	145,030	145,444
Purchases	94,510	104,062	98,886
Charges (Freight, Insurance, &c.) ..	20,554	30,116	28,907
Stock (beginning of year)	26,531	38,355	50,457
Gross Profit	17,604	22,953	19,168

APPENDIX 6.

YARRABAH MISSION.

(Superintendent, Major L. V. Wakefield).

Staff.—Mr. H. R. Moxham, Mr. G. Gretton (store), Mr. N. Brown (farms), Mrs. L. V. Wakefield (Curios and Office), Miss E. V. Odom (Office), Miss Z. Rae (School), Sister M. Stanley (C.A.) (Hospital), Mrs. J. Haycraft, Matron (Girls' Dormitory). Arrived 22nd March, 1951, to take the place of Mrs. A. Weber who left on that date.

Statistics.—Births 25, Marriages 7, Deaths 20.

Official Visitors.—The Honourable W. M. Moore, M.L.A., Minister for Health and Home Affairs, accompanied by Mr. C. O'Leary, Director of Native Affairs, a party of Members of the Legislative Assembly and the Superintendents of Palm Island Settlement, Edward River and Mitchell River Missions visited this Mission on the 17th July, 1950.

Mr. P. J. Richards, Deputy Director of Native Affairs, accompanied by Mr. Sturges, Superintendent, Palm Island Settlement, Mr. F. G. Stephens, Department of Agriculture and Stock, Mr. M. de Turnoer, Mr. Arnold, Forestry Service (retired) and Mr. C. E. Smith, Diocesan Secretary, visited the Mission on the 23rd April, 1951.

Health.—Generally good. One patient admitted to Cairns Hospital on 29th April, 1951, was diagnosed poliomyelitis on 2nd May, 1951. Another patient admitted to Cairns Hospital on 18th April, 1951, was diagnosed Scrub Typhus on 28th April, 1951, and discharged on 4th May, 1951.

Tuberculosis Survey.—During the course of a T.B. survey, Dr. Macken visited the Mission in December, 1950. 403 people were X-rayed and 23 persons were found suspects. Of these 6 were admitted to the Cairns Hospital on January 4th, 1951, and 4 were discharged on February 9th, 1951. Two were diagnosed T.B. cases on February 18th, one patient being transferred to Westwood Sanatorium on 25th April, 1951, while the other is still in the Cairns Hospital. Another suspect was admitted to the Cairns Hospital on March 9th, 1951, and was notified as a tuberculosis case on the 21st May, 1951. One suspect sent to Cairns Hospital on May 11th, 1951, was X-rayed and returned same day with report "No trace of T.B."

Dental.—During the year the visiting dentist carried out four inspections, 119 patients being treated for extractions while 8 full sets and 2 half sets of dentures were provided. Between visits, 36 patients were treated at the Mission.

Education.—Miss Z. Rae joined the Mission staff on the 14th July, 1950, and took over control of the school.

Number on roll 31st March, 1951.—

	Kindergarten	Primary.	Total.
Boys	68	20	88
Girls	59	30	89
	127	50	177

Daily average attendance, 150.7.

To deal with this number of children, the Head Teacher has the assistance of one adult native and five trainee teachers.

Additional buildings are required. The recreation hut is being utilised for overflow at present. It is proposed to construct a bush hut of plaited palm in the school compound as a temporary measure.

Launch.—The rebuilt kerosene engine on the launch "Ernest Gribble" finally broke down on December 8th, 1950. Since that date transport has been provided by native owned launches. Two of these have now been refused licenses for carrying passengers and only one (licensed for seven passengers) has been available since 29th March, 1951. A new engine for the "Ernest Gribble" has been obtained and installation will be effected at an early date.

The Cairns Harbour Board has given great assistance by making a boat available for cargo transport and urgent needs and we are greatly indebted to them for their kind help.

Owing to the shallow water in the Bay a shallow draught powered boat would be of great assistance in landing passengers and cargo when tides are unfavourable.

Water Supply.—Mr. Engineer Turnbull of the Department of Local Government visited the Mission from the 8th to the 11th August, 1950, and completed investigation of the water supply. No further action has been taken due to the short supply of 2 inch piping and repairs to the existing system must remain in abeyance until this material is obtainable.

Rainfall for 1950—14,950 points.

Farms.—Subsequent to the arrival of mechanical equipment and the reinforcement of the staff in November, 1950, by Mr. Noel Brown, it has been possible to progress in agricultural operations. Twenty-two acres which had been left uncultivated for some years have been again brought into use.

Areas under crops are :—

15 acres	Maize
7 acres	Cowpeas (being harvested)
3½ acres	Cassava
¼ acre	Tomatoes
¼ acre	Mixed Root Crops—Carrots, Turnips, Beet-root
¼ acre	Sweet Potatoes
½ acre	Pumpkins
7 acres	Bananas
1 acre	Pineapples (Rough)
4½ acres	Cowpeas—just planted
2 acres	Prepared waiting arrival of pineapple suckers
3 acres	Under preparation for maize (next spring)
½ acre	under preparation for vegetables
2 acres	being cleared
100	papaw trees

	Acres.
Total area under crops	35½
Total area awaiting planting	2
Total area under preparation	5½
	—
	43 acres

Three miles of new fencing was erected during the year, bush pole fences being erected as wire could not be procured. This type of fence requires considerably more labour than wire fences and construction involves delay in other activities.

Production for 1950-51 :—

Bananas ..	496	bunches
Watermelons ..	289	
Granadillas ..	106	
Papaws ..	339	lb.
Tomatoes ..	452½	lb.
Pumpkins ..	116	lb.
Pineapples ..	120	lb.
Cassava ..	23	bags
Marrows ..	60	
Squash ..	12	
Shell grit ..	262	bags

Water melons, pumpkins, marrows, and squash suffered severely from adverse weather conditions or much bigger returns would have resulted.

The above produce was taken into the Mission store and issued as required. Also quantities of Chinese cabbage and other vegetables were issued direct from farms to settlements and dormitories. Privately-owned gardens were responsible for the production of a considerable quantity of vegetables.

Keen interest was taken in a garden competition at Head Station and outsettlements, judged by Mr. E. G. Stephens, Department of Agriculture and Stock. Considerable improvement on the previous year was evident.

Stock.—The stock muster made in December, 1950, showed 76 horses and 122 cattle.

Industrial Operations.—Machinery purchased through the State Stores Board and paid for from Loan Funds provided by the State Government consisted of tractor, 2 furrow plough, disc harrows, saw bench and scoop. These arrived in October, 1950. A trailer for use with tractor and an Austin Utility A40 were received in January, 1951.

These are all proving advantageous in aiding the farming and transport activities of the Settlement.

The sawmill has been out of action since July, 1950, owing in the first instance to engine breakdown. Engine repairs have been effected but the mill in its present state is unsafe for workers. A new layout and breaking down saw is required.

Boys' Dormitory—An Army Hut has been erected to take the place of the old building which was constructed some years ago of black iron when the then existing building was destroyed by fire.

New lavatories and bathhouses for boys' and girls' dormitories are in the course of construction with bush timber and plaited palm walls. The old buildings have reached the stage where they are beyond repair.

The office building has been repainted.

Church repairs have been carried out and roof painted.

Bridges on roads to outsettlements have been constructed to facilitate motor transport, now available, in wet season.

Repairs to existing native houses have been effected so far as materials obtainable will allow.

On outsettlements cottages of bush timber and grass have been built.

The universal shortage of materials causes much delay.

Employment.—Applications for native labour (stock and station hands and domestic servants) exceed the supply available. Thirty cane cutters were out in season 1950 and a number on field work. On 31st March, 1951, 36 males and 12 females were employed on Agreement.

Wages collected for Savings Bank accounts for the twelve months ending 31st March, 1951, aggregate £5,124 16s. 11d. Credits to Aboriginal Provident Fund amounted to £877 14s. 11d.

General.—Sports meetings for adults and children have been held and concerts given by school children and adult residents. All functions were well attended and enjoyed. Football and cricket are played in season.

We are much indebted to the Director of Native Affairs and all officers of his Department for the assistance and advice they have so freely given throughout the year.

APPENDIX 7.

DOOMADGEE MISSION.

(Superintendent, Mr. M. G. Read.)

STAFF.

Assistants.—

- Mrs. M. G. Read (returned from furlough, 15th August, 1950).
 Mr. John Talbot (Accountant).
 Mr. Thomas Weeks (joined staff, 29th August, 1950).
 Sister Isa Black (Medical).
 Miss Pearl Roberts.
 Mr. Allan Hockey (School teaching. Joined staff, 10th April, 1951).
 Mrs. Allan Hockey (School teaching. Joined staff, 10th April, 1951).
 Mr. Murray Graham (Engineer—temporary service. Joined staff, 28th November, 1950).
 Mr. Thomas Bartlett (on furlough since 12th December, 1950).
 Mr. Douglas Potter (on furlough since 18th March, 1951).

HEALTH.

Births 10. Deaths 7.

Dr. Macken of the Department of Health and Home Affairs conducted tuberculosis examinations, X-raying all inmates, during August. No definite active cases reported. Nine natives, some aged, are to be watched and checked from time to time.

The Flying Doctor has made several visits during the period and we have had one visit from the Cloneurry Hospital dentist. A visit was also made by Dr. Abrahams of the Department of Health and Home Affairs on the 27th June, 1950.

Epidemics.—Nil.

Accidents.—Fifteen. Two cases fractured arms and thirteen minor injuries.

Infections.—Fifty-two. Some cuts, &c. Mostly grass-seed infection.

Skin Diseases.—Forty-seven cases.

Dysentery.—Three cases.

Pneumonia.—One case.

Fever.—Three cases.

Osteomyelitis.—Three cases.

Heart Case.—One. Cause—Rheumatic Fever.

Convulsions.—One.

Dental.—Forty extractions by Mr. Cross of Cairns Dental Clinic in June.

General.—Usual cuts, bruises and colds treated but, on the whole, general health has been good.

Hygiene.—Dormitory inmates bath daily and use daily changes of clothing. Lessons are given on the subject and improvement has been noticed. Camp inspections are made from time to time.

Social.—Marriages, 8. Discipline, Good. Absconders, Nil.

Living Conditions.—The standard is at least as good as the natives will enjoy anywhere else in the district. Natives are all well clothed and fed, but accommodation is still very short of the standard aimed at. As building work progresses and electric lighting and refrigeration provided, other improvements will surely follow in consequence.

Clothing.—Friends of the Mission send up a good deal of gift clothing but most of the clothing used for dormitory inmates and indigents is made on the reserve. During the period, 374 girls' sets (frock and underclothing) and 253 boy's outfits have been manufactured. Recently we have added two more sewing machines to our plant for this work and expect to acquire a Taylor's machine shortly.

Education.—Staff—Mr. and Mrs. Hockey have now taken over the school work and will be able to give their full time to it. A separate section for kindergarten work is under the care of Miss Roberts. A full curriculum is maintained but we still look forward eagerly to the promised provision of a school building.

Number of days school was conducted—135 days.
 Total attendance—10,350.
 Average attendance—77.

Classification—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Kindergarten	15	10	25
Prep. 1	10	9	19
Prep. 2	5	7	12
Prep. 3	3	9	12
Grade 1	3	9	12
Totals	36	44	80

Manual Instruction.—Boys—General Stock and Station work, practical workshop and building experience. Girls—General domestic training, sewing, &c.

Industrial.—The demand for labour exceeds the supply available.

Livestock.—Rainfall over the period was good at 19.24 inches and grass has been good in consequence and cattle fat. However, as summer rains came very early, really early in the spring, our usual mustering season was cut very short and brandings were lighter than would otherwise have been expected.

	Head.	Head
Cattle on hand, 30th March, 1950	925	
Less natural losses	47	
		878
Brandings for year		183
Killings for consumption		72
Stock on hand, 31-3-51		989
Horses—Mission owned	approximately	85
Native owned		30
Goats		50

Fencing.—No new work was completed owing to lack of material. Indeed we cannot expect to make much more real progress in stock work till fencing, i.e., paddocks, are made available. Old fencing has been kept in repair.

No new stock yards were built. Original ones in repair.



Monamona Mission Choir.

Agricultural.—The area available for agriculture is 67 acres but during the year 15 acres only were used. Rats played such havoc that harvests have been much lower than expected. It has not been worth while planting during the past six months. Most of the fruit trees planted in 1950 have been lost and due to ring-barking many of the citrus trees planted in 1949 are dead or dying.

Harvest—	Tons, cwt. qr. lb.			
Sweet Potatoes	19	2	1	21
Pumpkins	8	6	2	0
Tomatoes	1	11	3	12
Beans	1	16	2	8
Cabbage	1	1	0	21
Turnips	0	17	0	3
Squash	0	1	2	20
Kole Rabbi	0	5	2	10
Carrot	1	7	2	0
Sweeds	1	14	1	22
Total vegetables	36	4	3	3
Melons	0	19	3	10
Citrus	1	1	1	15
Papaw	0	8	1	11
Bananas	5	7	2	19
Canteloupes	0	4	3	16
Mangoes	0	10	1	16
Pineapples	0	10	1	16
	9	2	3	19

Total harvest—45 tons 7 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb.

Equipment and Plant.—All equipment has been kept in working order. The Fordson Mobile Welder is down for repairs now. Other engines and machines have had their annual overhaul.

New plant includes—

- 1 Barrel-type Orchard spray.
- 1 20-disc Harrow for tractor.
- 1 Trailer Fertilizer Distributor.
- 2 Singer Sewing Machines.
- 1 Jumbo Concrete Mixer.

Aerodrome.—No further work has been done as promised and air services seem to be farther off than ever.

Building Improvements.—Additions since 1950 report are as follows:—

One building of 4 rooms 10 feet by 10 feet in line for native accommodation. Construction steelframe, galvanised corrugated iron covering and concrete flooring.

Four buildings each of 2 rooms 10 feet by 10 feet with kitchenette verandah at rear. Construction as above.

We now have two of the former and six of the latter in use. We were due to put up two more of the latter this year but the steel is not yet to hand. All are incomplete, but joinery to finish the work has just come to hand.

Sanitary Conveniences—Three single cubicles built.

Concrete Power House and Chilling Rooms 54 feet by 12 feet.—We have gone as far as we can go until we get cement. Only half the flooring is down but the rest of the building is ready for joinery, &c.

More building progress would have been possible if steel angles and cement were readily available.

Recreation.—Bush outings, hunting, fishing, &c., are still popular and indoor and field games enjoyed by all. When we have the electric light on we will be able to do more for them in the way of evening social activities.

Religious.—Meetings have been well attended throughout the year and the interest shown has been very satisfactory, a number having been added to those in christian fellowship after proving their sincerity.

General Remarks.—Building Progress—Of the buildings listed for construction and covered by the Loan Fund Allocation made available in April, 1950, only two, 2-roomed native dwellings remain to be erected and these will be put in hand as soon as the steel angles ordered by State Stores Board arrive. In addition, there are the power houses and chilling rooms being constructed under the direction of the engineering staff of the Department of Health and Home Affairs. The first and largest of these is well on the way to completion and the other is not a big job. It will be understood then that we should be ready to go on with the programme listed in our application for Loan Fund assistance 1950/51 by the time such funds are granted and materials available.

At present two of our male staff are away south and I am still restricted by a plaster suit, made necessary by a nasty fall, but we expect to have a full staff ready for the bigger programme when the time comes.

We would close with a word of appreciation of the helpful co-operation extended towards us by members of the staff of the Sub-Department of Native Affairs throughout the past year.

APPENDIX 8.

MONAMONA MISSION.

(Superintendent, Pastor G. Peacock).

HEALTH.

Births 13. Deaths 6.

With better housing and general care the health of the people generally has greatly improved. Hookworm cases are almost a thing of the past and with the assistance of the Cairns Hookworm Clinic, we diligently attend to this trouble hoping to completely eradicate it from the Mission.

We wish to place on record our deep appreciation for the attention of the medical staff at the Mareeba Hospital for general medical attention, as we have a monthly visit from them when a medical officer is available. The Cairns Dental Clinic has given us the best of attention and we greatly appreciate the kind and efficient service that has been rendered from this source.

There have been six deaths for the year, four from senile decay and two babies who were weaklings from birth.

Smears from leprosy suspects have been taken regularly but none have been removed for this trouble. We have not had any cases of V.D. We have had two visits from those representing the campaign against tuberculosis but so far we have only had one case who has to receive treatment. We have had the usual epidemics such as influenza, colds and measles. These as well as sores, cuts and wounds were all cared for in our local dispensary by two trained nurses with native assistants.

Marriages—Seven.

Conduct and Discipline.—The conduct and discipline on the Mission has been very good and has improved as time has gone on. There is a very fine respect for authority and the whole work and management of the Mission is handled without difficulty. The work of the people has been all that could be desired and they continue to improve.

Education.—There are 80 children attending the school here filling grades from 1 to 7. The conduct and attendance is excellent and the interest in all the exercises of the school work is very much appreciated. Two white teachers and four native assistants control and teach the school.

As a part of their education they are taught music, singing, wood-work and needlework and arts of many kinds. We have a few who are doing an art course and getting on very well. We are keeping before them many of their native crafts for, not only are they useful to them, but they are also of great interest to people who visit these areas.

We are in need of a new school and we are hoping to have it in the near future. There is a great need of a domestic science course for the sake of the usefulness of the women folk and for the general health of the people.

Choir and Brass Band.—Among the special interests on the Mission is the Choir and the Brass Band. Though only in their infancy they have created a great impression with the outside public and have brought the native people before them in a new and interesting way. It also allows them to take part in public functions such as Anzac Day, Jubilee Day, &c. Even on the Mission, the people are never tired of listening to singing and the band playing.

Buildings.—We have had a very busy building year. One European cottage was completely rebuilt and renovated. This was entirely done by native labour and as it took in paper-hanging and panel linings, the work demonstrates just what some of these native people can do if rightly trained and inspired. We have partly erected a new sawmill driven by a steam plant. While the building is not completed, the plant is being used and is giving satisfactory service.

We are at the present time erecting several native cottages and a Big Girl's Dormitory and these will fill a long felt need as a part of our Mission housing.

Many picket fences have been erected to serve in protecting gardens and homes.

Agriculture.—We are gradually but surely proving that agriculture will prove the main stay of the Mission. With right management and proper cultivation and water, the country will produce abundantly. We have been blessed with good harvests of corn, sweet potatoes and all types of vegetables in general.

We have put in a pumping plant which gives us 30,000 gallons per hour. A Fordson tractor with a rotary hoe and two ploughs have been added to our list of agricultural implements. We have planted new fields of bananas and have already planted about 9,000 pineapples and we expect to increase these to 30,000 before the end of the year.

Our poultry farm has proved a real blessing to the people in the way of food and we have added to our acreage of fallow so that we can provide food for these.

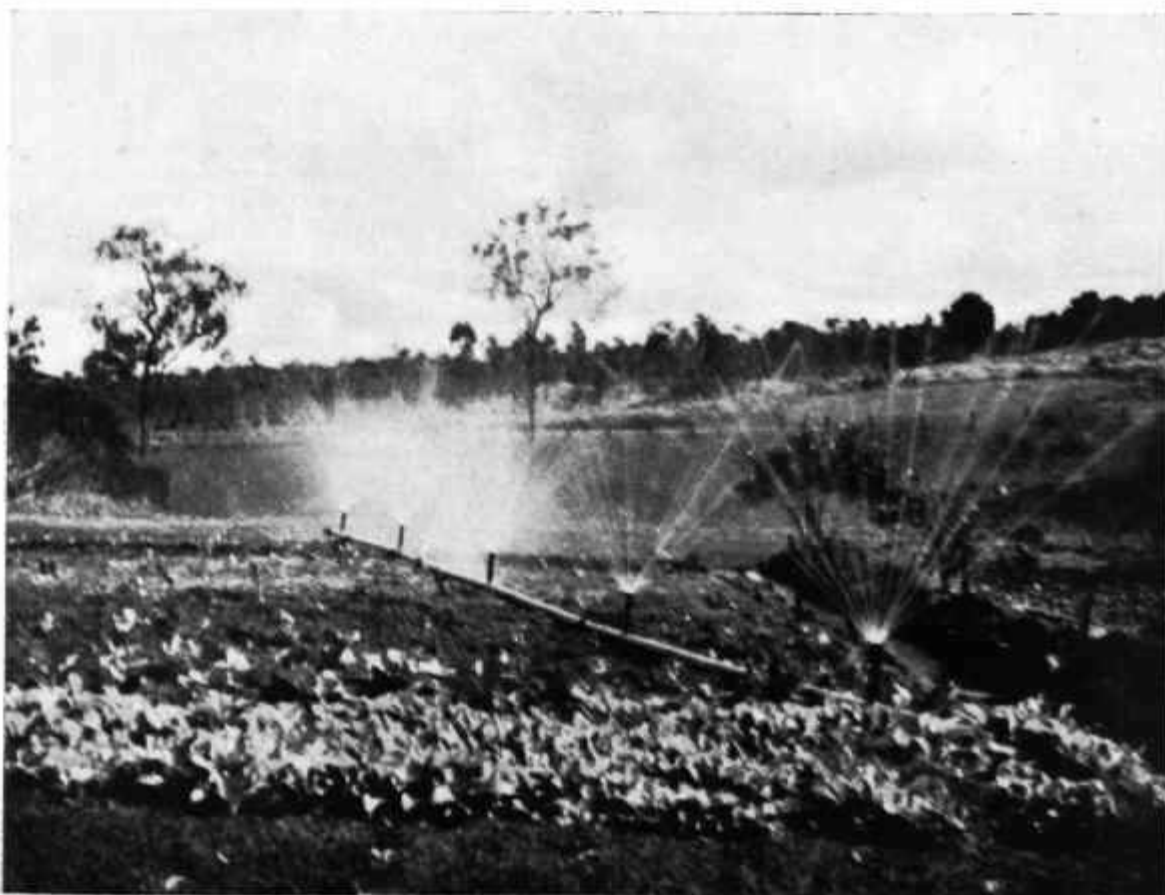
Cattle.—We have greatly strengthened our dairy herd as well as our killing herd on the Mission. Our dairy herd is tested for T.B. by the authorised Government officers from time to time. We have introduced new blood into the dairy herd by Jersey bulls from New South Wales and we have put new blood into our other herd by new Shorthorn sires and one Zebu Cross sire. From our herds also, we are able to maintain two bullock teams that are used to draw timber for our sawmill.

Goats.—We have increased our goat herd and it is still playing its part for the good of the people. We have partly built a house and yard to begin in a real way a herd for milking. The dry year has not been the best for these animals but they have proved a great help to the Mission people.

Religion.—Religious services are conducted each morning and evening and on Tuesday and Friday evenings a special service. On the Sabbath three meetings are held; the afternoon meeting is for the young people where many of them take part. There is also one period of religious instruction per day in the day school.

Recreation.—“All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.” This is believed by all the inhabitants at Monamona Mission. Because of this we have organised sports at intervals during the year. Football and cricket are perhaps the favourites, but rounders and many other games are all appreciated in their turn. In the evening indoor games and other entertainments are provided for the people.

Exemptions.—During the year, twenty individuals received certificates of exemption from the Aborigines Preservation and Protection Act.



Irrigation, Monamona Mission.

APPENDIX 9.

LUTHERAN MISSION COOKTOWN.

(Superintendent, Rev. V. F. H. Wenke.)

Two years ago, the present site of "Hope Vale" was still a forest of trees and the ground covered with dense growth of blady grass. Within a period of twenty-three months, a small township has been built. There are at present fifty buildings on the Mission, consisting of the following:—

1 missionary's residence, 1 manager's residence, school, boys' dormitory, girls' dormitory, boys' mess room, store, machinery shed and 42 native dwellings.

Due to the delay of materials such as joinery and interior lining, some of the permanent buildings are still awaiting completion. In order to meet the greater portion of building materials for the construction of a teacher's residence, hospital, church, enlarging of present store and the building of permanent houses for the natives, a saw bench has been set up as well as a machine to plane timber required for the interior of buildings.

During the past 12 months, the population of our Mission has been increased from 79 to 247 natives. Groups of about 40 natives, originally belonging to the old Cape Bedford Mission, were returned to the new Mission at "Hope Vale" from Woorabinda Settlement. Naturally, with an increased population, the responsibilities of the staff members have increased considerably. However, wherever possible, the older natives who have proved trustworthy are being trained to assist the staff in maintaining discipline and order.

Apart from the building programme, much time and labour has been spent on clearing land for the production of food. Last year a total of 9 acres of land was cleared and planted. Three and a half acres of sweet potatoes yielded 416 bags. From 1½ acres, 5 tons of pumpkins were harvested and from a late sown 3 acre cotton crop, 2 bales were picked. During the early part of this year, pineapples and banana trees, planted last year, bore abundant fruit.

Owing to the delay in our seed planter and Farmall M tractor arriving and the wet season ending sooner than usual, our planting this year has been much less than anticipated. Under crop at present we have 4 acres of sweet potatoes, 10 acres of peanuts, 10 acres of cotton, 1½ acres of pumpkins and ¼ acre of maniochs. In addition to our crops, 500 banana suckers and an extra 1,000 pines, as well as 200 odd papaw trees, were planted. Apart from the above community plots, every native family has his own garden consisting of tropical fruits and vegetables.

At the present time, three 4,000 gallon tanks are being constructed and erected so that the natives in future will have a regular supply of water for their homes and gardens. The water stored in the 12,000 tank system will be used for our community garden where a skinner system irrigation plant will be used.

Recently, Mr. Bechtel, Chief Advisor in Agriculture, Department of Agriculture and Stock, Brisbane, visited the Mission and gave much helpful advice and encouragement to the staff and natives. Upon his advice, we are contemplating to grow kapoek, coffee, pop-corn and broom millet.

At the end of April this year, the Mission was able to purchase a 41 ft. fishing boat at Innisfail. The acquisition of this boat will enable the natives to catch fish, gather trochus shell and catch dugong. We are planning to harbour our boat at Elim, a place approximately six miles above Cape Bedford. The distance from Elim to the Mission is 16 miles. Last year, 8 miles of this road were constructed and this year we are hoping to have the remainder of the road built. From Elim, supplies of fish will be transported to the Mission. A cold room has been built to keep any surplus of fish and meat.

At present, we have 66 head of cattle. Included in this figure are 12 calves branded last April. Every effort has been made locally to purchase 50 cows for breeding but without success.

Health.—The health of the natives has been fairly good. Natives who are in need of medical examination are transported to Cooktown every fortnight where a visiting doctor from Cairns attends to them. In the near future, a triple certificated sister in the person of Miss Ruth Rohde will attend to patients on the Mission.

The following table will indicate the number of treatments given to the natives on the Mission and at the Cooktown hospital:—

Month.	Mission Patients.	Hospital Treatments.	Hospital Cases.
1950—			
July	318	16	..
August	468	14	..
September ..	525	31	3
October	598	27	2
November ..	645	28	5
December ..	572	30	9
January, 1951	642	22	6
February ..	394	30	6
March	479	28	12
Totals ..	4,641	226	43

HOOKWORM PATIENTS.

September, 1950	No. treated by Mission	7
November, 1950	No. treated by Mr. S. Thompson ..	178
March, 1951 ..	No. of specimens taken by Mission	58

Result of treatments—33 positive cases of Hookworm.

Cooktown Natives.—Since the natives at Cooktown are to come under the care of our Mission, efforts have been made, together with the local Sergeant of Police and the assistance of the Director of Native Affairs, to provide water facilities. After three attempts, an abundant supply of water was found about half a mile from the native camp.

The well, approximately 17 feet deep, has been slabbed. Materials for the erection of a windmill, 2,000 gallon tank and piping are arriving. When a qualified man can be employed, the Mission will assist in constructing the water scheme.

Native Affairs - Information contained in Report of Director of Native Affairs for the Twelve months ended 30th June 1951

Corporate Author: Queensland Dept. of Health and Home Affairs

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