



1914

DEPARTMENT OF COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS, ET

CHIEF PROTECTOR OF ABORIGINALS.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PROTECTOR OF ABORIGINALS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30TH, 1914.

Aboriginals Department, Adelaide, September 21st, 1914.

Sir—I have the honor to submit my report on the working of the Aboriginals Department for financial year ended June 30th, 1914.

As the Royal Commission on aborigines is still in existence I must simply supply figures with comment, as was done last year.

POPULATION.

On June 30th, 1913, the estimated aboriginal population was—

Blacks .....	4,000
Half-castes .....	836
Total .....	<u>4,836</u>

The births and deaths for the year ended June 30th, 1914, reported—

Births .....	Full-bloods, 28; half-castes, 32; total, 80.
Deaths .....	Full-bloods, 72; half-castes, 13; total, 85.

The two years 1913 and 1914 show a decrease record of 72 full-bloods and an increase of 38 half-castes.

MISSION STATIONS.

Name of Station.	Number of Blacks in District.	Number of Half-castes in District.	Total.	Number of Children (included in total).	Births.	Deaths.	Cost of station to the Department (including grants-in-aid).
Point McLeay .....	66	301	367	171	6	7	£ 2,346 0
Point Pierce .....	19	169	188	53	12	6	20 0
Killalpaninna .....	110	10	120	25	1	7	641 0
Koonibba .....	119	47	166	40	7	1	220 0
Total .....	314	527	841	289	26	21	3,227 0

The financial returns from these stations show :—

Voluntary subscriptions—	£ s. d.
Point McLeay, £121 5s. 6d.; Point Pierce, nil; Killalpaninna, £416 7s. 4d.; Koonibba, £762 1s. 4d. ....	1,300 8 2
Amount of Government grants-in-aid—	
Point McLeay, £1,250; Killalpaninna, £500 .....	1,750 0 0
Proceeds of produce sold—	
Point Pierce, £8,342 15s. 6d.; Point McLeay, £2,323 7s. 10d.; Killalpaninna, £2,006 17s. 5d.; Koonibba, £2,103 8s. ....	14,776 8 9
Wages paid to Aborigines—	
Point Pierce, £2,105 5s. 10d.; Point McLeay, £717 3s. 11d.; Killalpaninna, £197 17s.; Koonibba, £511 16s. 9d. ....	3,532 3 6

CRIME RECORD FOR THE YEAR.

The number of aborigines charged with offences was :—

Drunkenness .....	27
Disorderly and indecent behaviour .....	3
Wilful damage .....	1
Vagrancy .....	3
Assaults .....	4
Murder and attempted murder .....	3
Unlawful possession .....	1
Unlawfully on premises .....	1
	<u>43</u>

Nineteen persons were convicted for supplying liquor to aborigines.

amount voted by Parliament for the year was £6,515, and the amount expended was :—

		£	s.	d.
Rations, blankets, clothing, &c. ....	—	2,805	0	3
Grants-in-aid to Aborigines' Friends' Association .....	£1,250 0 0			
"    Lutheran Synod, Killalpaninna .....	500 0 0			
		1,750	0	0
Rent of Land for Aborigines' Friends' Association .....	—	43	12	0
Salaries .....	—	415	5	7
Medical attendance, medicines, and comforts .....	—	182	11	9
Burial charges for Aborigines .....	—	40	18	0
Transport and agency charges .....	—	520	9	7
Telephone charges .....	—	6	0	2
Postage stamps and telegrams .....	—	7	2	6
Printing and stationery .....	—	8	15	4
Donation to Adelaide Hospital .....	—	10	10	0
Clerical services in Protector's office at Port Augusta .....	—	12	0	0
Boats, guns, &c., for Aborigines, and repairs to same .....	—	36	2	10
Firewood for old, sick, and infirm Aborigines .....	—	10	6	0
Sundries and travelling expenses .....	—	43	1	11
Board and lodging for sick and travelling Aborigines .....	—	80	8	5
Typewriting machine .....	—	25	4	0
Loans to Aborigines .....	—	55	0	0
		£6,052	8	4
Recoup to revenue .....		£529	1	5

During the year I visited the Far Northern country as far as Innamincka and Birdsville (Q.), leaving railway line at Farina and returning to Hergott, having covered 900 miles by coach, camels, and horses. and that the natives had greatly decreased in numbers in this country, and fear that but few of them be in existence in 20 years' time. The absence of children is remarkable, and goes to prove that communicable diseases are rampant amongst them there.

I recommend that a medical gentleman should be sent through this district to treat cases met with, and report on the causes of death.

The natives are kindly treated by the settlers, who are doing all they possibly can for their welfare. They are supplied by the department in all localities where required.

Much credit is due to the staffs of the Adelaide and Port Augusta Hospitals for their untiring care and treatment of the aborigines while under their charge.

The Commissioner of Police and his officers have rendered valuable assistance in carrying out my duties.

#### NORTHERN TERRITORY.

The usual supplies of stores have been forwarded to the depôts from Charlotte Waters to Tennant's Creek, costing the Commonwealth Government about £1,000.

I have, &c.,

W. G. SOUTH, Chief Protector of Aborigines.

The Honorable the Commissioner of Public Works, Adelaide.